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Summer/Autumn 2016



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Welcome!

WELCOME to the first edition of Eastwood Connect.

Our popular series of Connect magazines are brought to you by Newsquest Clyde and Forth and Herald and Times Magazines, the publishers behind trusted titles such as Barrhead News and High Flyer. Eastwood Connect is your community magazine, keeping you in the loop with news and events from the local area.

Our first issue is packed with stories. From updates about the new Eastwood Care Centre (page 18 and 19) to our what's on guide on page 16, there's plenty inside to keep you in the loop with what's happening locally.

We'd like to extend a big thank you to everyone who has supported our first edition, we hope you enjoy.

**Until next time,
Team Connect**

Cover image courtesy of East Renfrewshire Culture and Leisure Trust

Contacts

Editorial

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Advertising

To find out how the magazine can help your business connect with new customers, contact:

kelly.henry@heraldandtimes.co.uk
0141 302 7033



The keys to Eastwood's new care centre. Turn to page 18 for more.

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Community Contacts

Police and Emergency Services

Police Scotland:

101 (999 in an
emergency)

Council contacts

East Renfrewshire Council General

Enquiries:

0141 577 3001

Council Tax

Payment:

0141 577 3002

Pest Control:

0141 577 3001

Housing Services:

0141 577 3714

Councillors

Councillor Jim

Fletcher (Labour):

0141 639 0265

Councillor

Gordon Wallace

(Conservative):

07486 060028

Councillor Vincent

Waters (SNP):

07703887170

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0141 577 4976

Eastwood Recreation Centre:

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Giffnock Soccer

Centre:

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(Giffnock) Scout

Group:

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Are you the type to save a life?



EASTWOOD residents are being urged to pay it forward this November at a blood donation drive.

Locals will have the chance to take a moment and give back at the next session on Wednesday, November 30.

The Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service (SNBT) will set up shop in the village's Church of Broom on Broom Road East.

The event will offer the ideal opportunity for people to pay it forward and make a real difference not only in their own community, but the whole of Scotland.

The first session will kick off at 2pm and run until 3.45pm before resuming at 5.15pm until 7.30pm

The process of giving blood is quick and simple.

After filling in a donor health check questionnaire and having a check up from a nurse, a donor's haemoglobin (iron) level will be tested to ensure they can actually spare a pint of blood.

Once everything is checked and in order, they will then make their donation.



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A lesson in space and time

A GIFFNOCK student is amongst 10 youngsters who embarked on a trip to infinity and beyond.

The youngsters made the trip to NASA'S Johnson Space Centre in Houston, Texas with the University of Strathclyde Faculty of Engineering's Scottish Space School in October.

Connie Edgar from St Ninian's High School joined other Scottish pupils, who earned their place on the trip after a

week-long Space School event at the University of Strathclyde to inspire young people to consider careers in engineering.

They were offered a rare opportunity to meet astronauts, engineers and scientists working on the space programme.

Speaking ahead of the adventure Gordon McVie, outreach coordinator with Strathclyde's Faculty of Engineering, said: "The Scottish Space School has been

attended by many young people who have since progressed to successful careers with links to their experiences with us.

"The trip to Houston is a fantastic opportunity for this year's pupils to see for themselves some of the world's leading professionals in science and engineering. They showed great promise at the Space School and will be shown the vast range of possible careers open to them."

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Who do you think you are?

EASTWOOD residents will have a chance to unearth their family history thanks to a free course at their local library.

An Induction to Ancestry will offer locals the chance to delve deep into the archives and discover who they really are as well as the opportunity to dust off any skeletons that may be lurking in the closet.

Thanks to popular TV show *Who Do You Think You Are*, more people are interested in finding out more about who they are and how their families came to be than ever before.

However, there's no escaping that finding the tools or indeed just knowing where to start can



be easier said than done.

With that in mind, the team at Mearns Library and Giffnock Library will guide participants through the process of searching their family tree, offering access to a range of free resources on their doorstep.

The informal sessions will

offer history hunters the chance to master the basics to ensure they'll be scouring through the millions of records available on the web.

Sessions are open to everyone and can be booked by contacting each library.

The first event will take place at Mearns Library on Tuesday, November 8 between 2.30pm and 4pm and can be booked by calling 0141 577 4979.

Alternatively, a second session will take place on Thursday, December 15 from 10am until 11.30am at Giffnock Library.

Anyone interested in booking should call staff on 0141 577 4976

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Festive fun for the whole family

LOCALS from across Eastwood are set to get into the festive spirit with a little help from a number of events taking place throughout the area.

Giffnock residents are being invited to spread Christmas cheer at the Giffnock Village Christmas Lights and Fireworks Spectacular this November.

The fun-filled event will offer for guests of all ages to enjoy,

including live entertainment, a visit from Hoot's Owls and a Father Christmas will pop by to join in the fun.

Families can check out the free event between 1pm and 6pm on November 12.

The following weekend locals are being urged to get ready for A Very Merry Clarkston Christmas ahead of this festive season.

The annual extravaganza will

kick off at 1pm on Saturday, November 19 offering locals and visitors the chance to get ready for the most magical time of year.

Guests can expect live entertainment, fun fair rides, a fireworks display as well as a visit from the man himself – Santa.

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Explore the colours and history on offer at Little-Persia this month and enjoy a 5% discount by showing this article.

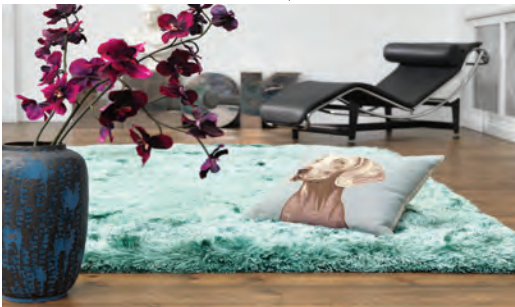
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A spotlight on Eastwood House

BUILT sometime between the 1840s and 1850s, Eastwood House sits on the grounds of an ancient forest only felled in the 18th century.

The house and the surrounding estate was purchased by Thomas Smith, a wealthy Glasgow merchant, in 1845. It then passed through the hands of many wealthy businessmen including David Tod of Tod & McGregors shipbuilding.

One of the most well-known owners was William Weir who founded the Cathcart engineers G&J Weir. His business is still around today as Weir Pumps.

During his residency Eastwood House hosted many fetes with celebrities such as Laurel and Hardy and the politician Stanley Baldwin.

In 1968, Renfrew County Council acquired the house and it was formerly reopened by Lord Lieutenant Viscount Muirshiel in 1976 after a much needed refurbishment. Eastwood House has long been used as a community space, hired out for weddings and other social functions.



Along with the other community halls, the house has come under the control of the East Renfrewshire Culture and Leisure Trust, established in July 2015. Features inside include some original cornices, a grand chandelier above a grand stairway and a tartan carpet throughout.

A stunning building, it serves as a unique wedding and events venue.

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Louise Morton, the new centre manager since June 2016, is delighted to continue to offer high quality tuition to all students.

Parent review

My daughter Heather comes here for maths tuition for S2 level with her tutor Susan. She was doing ok in Maths but lacked confidence and wanted to make sure she got to do National 5 Maths and had a few low marks in tests throughout the year. She has sailed through to Nat 5 and at parents' evening last week, her teacher said she was doing great and in the 90% range and had improved dramatically in past 6 months. We are having a break for the Summer but will definitely be back in August.

Mrs McHugh

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Eastwood Connect

What's on

STUCK in a rut for things to do this autumn? Fear not, we've rounded up some of the best events happening in the area.

Wine connoisseurs won't want to miss the monthly Wine Circle, whilst Christmas Crafts gives people the chance to get crafty ahead of the holidays.

Event: Stamperland Wine Circle

Date: Thursday, November 3 (First Thursday of each month)

Location: Clarkston Hall

Time: 7.30pm

Cost: Free

What's on: A must for wine connoisseurs, the Stamperland Wine Circle meets on the first Thursday evening of each month. It offers the chance for members to enjoy presentations throughout the year which are both informative and inspirational. New members can discover different wines from countries across the world and are shown how to make their own wine by the existing members.

EVENT: Wholefoods Mummies Morning

Date: Monday, November 7

Location: Wholefoods Market, Giffnock

Time: 9am-10am

Cost: Free

What's on: A chance to meet fellow mums in the area for a chat and a light breakfast every Monday in the café. The event takes place every Monday offering new mums and those who have been attending for a while to meet new and like-minded folk.

EVENT: Glasgow Farmers Market

Date: First Saturday of every month

Location: Queens Park

Time: 10am-2pm

Cost: Free

What's on: Located at the corner of Pollokshaws Road and Langside Avenue, this farmers market showcases a superb array of fresh produce from over 30 stallholders. Onsite entertainment completes the market experience.

EVENT: Renfrewshire Embroiders' Guild

Date: Monday, November 21

Location: Fairweather Hall, Newton Mearns

Time: 7.30pm

Cost: Free after first meeting then membership available

What's on: The Guild offers warm welcome to all for those interested in textile arts. Each meeting offers people the chance to share ideas, suggestions and tips for those keen to make the most of the skill. Refreshments and treats available.

EVENT: Christmas crafts

Date: Monday, December 12

Location: Albertslund Community Centre, Newton Mearns

Time: 7pm-9pm

Cost: Free

What's on: With Christmas just around the corner there has never been a better opportunity to get a little crafty. Get creative and make your own decorations – including trinkets for the tree and festive wreaths. Great fun for those with artistic flare who are looking for something a little different this year. Booking required, call 0141 577 4053.

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Eastwood Connect



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encourage more young people to take part.

First Minister Nicola Sturgeon launched the Reading Challenge in August. Schools can sign up by visiting www.readingchallenge.scot

Culture Secretary Fiona Hyslop said: "In less than two months, 60% of primary schools across the country have signed up to the First Minister's Reading Challenge,

and I would encourage more schools to get involved."

"It is encouraging children to embrace the joy of reading from an early age, and will enrich their lives as they travel on their journey through school education and beyond.

"Every child in Scotland should have an equal opportunity to experience the lifelong advantages that reading for pleasure brings."

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Eastwood Connect



The key to a more caring future

EASTWOOD residents are making the most of a wider-range of health services on their doorstep as the new £15 million Eastwood Health and Care Centre opened its doors.

Situated on Drumbry Crescent, the state-of-the-art centre welcomed patients on Monday, 8 August. It will provide the Eastwood community with access to a wide range of health and social care services under one roof for the first time.

The project is a collaborative effort delivered by East Renfrewshire HSCP, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde and East Renfrewshire Council in partnership with hub West Scotland and the Scottish Futures Trust.

The total cost for the building is £14.9 million with £9.2 million provided by NHSGGC and £5.7 million provided by East Renfrewshire Council while Gareth Hoskins Architects were the chosen architects.

On receiving the keys to the centre earlier this summer



NHSGGC Chairman, John Brown said: "I am delighted to receive the keys today on this fantastic new Health and Care Centre. Very soon it will be home to five GP practices and community health and care services including clinics, podiatry, physiotherapy, children's services, adult mental health services, speech therapy, district nursing, health visiting and social work.

"I have every confidence that the people of Eastwood will be equally pleased with the result when it opens in just under a month."

An essential information guide was issued to all households in the Eastwood area in July to let

them know how to access and contact the new centre.

Julie Murray, East Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) Chief Officer, said: "We are very excited to be moving into this beautiful new building. It offers us real opportunities to work more closely with GPs and it will also provide space for Third Sector and community groups to offer support and information to local people.

"Together with Barrhead Health and Care Centre, which opened in 2011, this provides the people of East Renfrewshire with fantastic modern facilities, fit for the future delivery of integrated health and care services."

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Eastwood Health and Care Centre

Opening 8 August 2016

The state-of-the-art Eastwood Health and Care Centre located in Drumby Crescent, Clarkston, will offer the Eastwood community access to a wide range of health and social care services under one roof for the first time.

Clinics, podiatry, physiotherapy, children's services, adult mental health services, speech therapy, district nursing, health visiting and social work are moving into the centre together with five existing GP practices.

The centre will also house a social enterprise café which will provide employability opportunities for people using day services across East Renfrewshire and will also be open to the public. The £15m project is being delivered by East Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership, East Renfrewshire Council and NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde in partnership with hub West Scotland and the Scottish Futures Trust.

Getting there

By bus: Travel via the 374/375 SPT bus service between Spiersbridge, Rouken Glen Road and Netherlee, Brenfield Road with a stop directly outside the new centre on Eastwoodmains Road.

By train: The centre is located just a few minutes' walk away from Williamwood train station.

By community transport: 'Your wee red bus' provides a service to medical appointments. Users need to be referred from their GP surgery. When registered, they will be given a number to contact for booking, giving at least one weeks notice.

The main reception of the centre can be contacted on 0141 451 0500 from Monday 8 August.

The five existing GP practices in the Eastwood area moving into the new centre

Dr's Morrice, Masson and Geddes

Clarkston Medical Centre, 75 Busby Road, Clarkston, G76 7BW
T: 0141 451 0620

Dr's Boardman, King, Earl and Boyd

Clarkston Medical Centre, 75 Busby Road, Clarkston, G76 7BW
T: 0141 451 0610

Maclean Medical Practice

400 Clarkston Road, Muirend, G44 3QG (Muirend site only, Eaglesham will remain open)
T: 0141 451 0670

Giffnock Medical Centre

261 Fenwick Road, Giffnock, G46 6JX (re-named Eastwoodmains in the new centre)
T: 0141 451 0630

Elmwood Medical Practice

3 Elmwood Avenue, Newton Mearns, G77 6EH
T: 0141 451 0650

If you are registered with any of the above practices, you should use the above telephone numbers and attend the new centre from Monday 8 August 2016.

From this date, the following sites will also move to the new centre; Clarkston Clinic, Clarkston Social Work Office, Eastwood Mental Health Resource Centre, HSCP Burnfield Avenue office, Lygates House, Lowndes Street office.



For more information visit www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/ehcc



Democracy by Rapture Theatre – 19th Sept 7:30pm

West Germany, 1969.

Charismatic Willy Brandt has been elected Chancellor.

However, his own political party are starting to plot against him.

As his enemies tighten the noose around his neck -and the threat of an East German spy in his own office is discovered - Brandt believes the only man he can truly trust is Gunter Guillaume, his devoted personal assistant. But in the world of political intrigue, espionage and betrayal, who can you trust?

Witty, thought-provoking and highly entertaining, Democracy is a compelling and unmissable night at the theatre.

Where the Crow Flies by In Motion Theatre Company – 21st Oct 7:30pm

Ostracised by the community she lives in, Carrie feels isolated from the word. Her husband is in prison for a crime he says he didn't commit. Can she prove his innocence? All this seems impossible, until a new neighbour moves in next door – but is the incomer all that she seems.....



The Ivor Novello Story by Classical Musicians Scotland - 17th Sept 7:30pm

Not only was he a composer of lavish musical plays, he was a film star appearing in two Hitchcock films, and a Hollywood screenwriter, recognised as coming up with the immortal phrase, "Me Tarzan, you Jane." Prepare yourself for nostalgia, romance and showbiz glamour, and a homeward journey humming tunes you thought you'd forgotten!



Lady Macbeth: Unsex Me Here by Company Chordelia & Solar Bear – 3rd Nov 7:30pm

An exciting and unique piece of dance theatre by award winning Company Chordelia Artistic Director Kally Lloyd-Jones. Marking the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death, Lady Macbeth: unsex me here explores one of Shakespeare's most complex women.

Green ideas welcome here

ARE you brimming with ideas and tips to help your community commit to being more sustainable and environmentally friendly?

East Renfrewshire Council have launched their 'big GREEN idea' campaign and are encouraging people to speak up and share their innovative ideas for ways to go green.

The council, along with 'Think Green' want to encourage individuals, communities, groups, and schools to share their bright ideas. They even welcome sharing selfies of



yourself undertaking your idea! East Renfrewshire Council instigated the green campaign recognising it has a responsibility to balance social, economic and environmental objectives and to ensure the wellbeing and sustainability of future generations.

It has been developed to help council employees and local people get involved with sustainability, to promote their green activities, support the development of green work-practises across council services, and to inform people on how to be greener.

Think Green is also designed

to help improve upon the current duties as a council, which include:

- Promoting recycling and waste reduction.
- Improving energy efficiency in council buildings and housing.
- Addressing fuel poverty and helping local people reduce their energy consumption.
- Encouraging sustainable transport.
- Promoting and encouraging healthy activities and lifestyles across East Renfrewshire.

If you have an ingenious way of doing your bit for a greener East Renfrewshire, email the Think Green Team at thinkgreen@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk.

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SUM7 - with **FREE** Large Cherry & Almond Cake
SUM8 - with **FREE** Large Ginger Drizzle Cake

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Charity calling for support to help locals who need it most

A CHARITABLE group that provides food and toiletries to those in need across the Eastwood and East Renfrewshire areas is urging more people to lend a hand.

East Renfrewshire Good Causes wants more organisations to assist with the distribution of its gift bundles which go “over and above” welfare state and food bank provision.

The group launched its own store early last year to lend compassionate support services tailored towards 16 to 25-year-olds with no family or support network, “sparsely furnished temporary units of accommodation” and those from low income households.

Typical items offered as part of a gift bundle at the ERGC Store – the value of which exceed £30 – include dried and tinned foods, shampoo, shower gel and deodorant.

ERGC was founded by 50-year-old Russell Macmillan, a blind double transplant survivor with type 1 diabetes who wanted to honour the memory of an organ donor who saved his life nine years ago.

Russell was registered completely blind in both eyes with diabetic retinopathy when he was just 23.

An operation managed to restore five per cent vision in one eye but, as he turned 40, Russell required a life-saving kidney and pancreas transplant.

The operation cured his diabetes after years of insulin injections and, as such, Russell decided to follow his Christian beliefs and use his new organs to set up a cause which would help those who needed it most.

He said: “How do you say thank you for having your life saved?”

“To say thanks to God and honour the memory of the organ donor, I set up East Renfrewshire Good Causes knowing that the two organs would live on inside me and power the good deed of ‘loving our neighbours’ in East Renfrewshire.

“I think that when somebody deserving of a helping hand receives a store gift, it’s a lovely testament to the organ donor’s memory. It’s incredible what two organs can go on and do.”



In order to function, the ERGC Store relies on a band of loyal volunteers and generous financial contributions from members of the public, community groups and local businesses.

Six directors oversee the day-to-day running of the group which has spent £255,982 helping more than 1,400 worthy causes since its formation almost a decade ago.

Russell added: “We are actively looking for organisations in the front line to become distributors of the store gifts.

“We currently distribute through the Mormon Church and we also distribute through East Renfrewshire Domestic Project based in the undercover building in Kelburn Street in Barrhead.

“We are happy to work with other groups: priests, ministers, local groups who are aware of people in need in our community.”

Donations of non-perishable foods and household or personal cleaning products can be made into a collection bin in East Renfrewshire’s four Royal Bank of Scotland branches in Barrhead, Giffnock, Netherlee and The Avenue Shopping Centre in Newton Mearns.

ERGC founder Russell can be contacted on 0141 639 8230, 07714 293256 or by emailing info@ergoodcauses.co.uk.

More information about the ERGC Store is available by liking the ‘East Renfrewshire Good Causes’ page on Facebook.



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