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## Welcome

**WELCOME to the summer 2018 edition of Newton Mearns Connect.**

Our popular series of Connect magazines are brought to you by Newsquest Clyde and Forth and Herald and Times Magazine Group, the publishers behind trusted titles such as Barrhead News and High Flyer.

Newton Mearns Connect is your community magazine, keeping you in the loop with news and events from the local area.

Our latest issue is packed with stories. From thought-provoking primary pupils' artwork on page six, to the green light given to a new 'retirement village' on 18, 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 this edition and we hope you enjoy.

**Until next time,  
Team Connect**



*Local pupils sea change through art on page 6.*

### Contacts

#### Editorial

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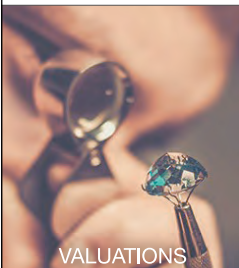
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### Police and Emergency Services

#### Police Scotland:

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### Council contacts

#### East Renfrewshire Council General

##### Enquiries:

0141 577 3001

##### Council Tax Payment:

0141 577 3002

##### Child Protection:

0141 577 8300

##### Pest Control:

0141 577 3001

##### Housing Services:

0141 577 3714

### Councillors

#### Newton Mearns South:

Councillor Caroline Bamforth (SNP):

07388 859264

Councillor Barbara Grant

(Conservative):

0141 639 3809

Councillor Jim McLean

(Conservative):

07388 859263

Councillor Jim Swift (Conservative):

07534515159

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Councillor Tony Buchanan (SNP):

07976 360398

Councillor Charlie Gilbert

(Conservative):

0141 639 2948

Councillor Paul O'Kane (Labour):

07718697115

### Community

#### Mearns Library:

0141 577 4979

#### 28<sup>th</sup> Glasgow (Giffnock) Scout Group:

0141 638 0282

#### East Renfrewshire Centre:

0141 258 5959

### Schools

#### Mearns Primary School:

0141 570 7220

#### St Cadoc's Primary School:

0141 570 7340

#### Mearns Castle High School:

0141 577 2300

#### Eastwood High School:

0141 577 2200

#### Isobel Mair School:

0141 570 7600

#### Kirktonholme Nursery Mearnswood:

0141 639 5292

### Churches

#### Broom Parish Church:

0141 639 3528

#### Newton Mearns Parish Church:

0141 639 7373

#### Newton Mearns Baptist Church:

0141 616 2362

#### Mearns Kirk Church Hall:

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#### St Cadoc R C Church:

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## Student's artwork marks a turning tide

**Primary pupils have shown their hidden depths after producing artwork that has been selected for an exhibition on the rubbish littering the world's oceans.**

Isobel Mair School in Newton Mearns was chosen as the winner in a competition which asked schools across the country to conjure up a piece of art that represents their thoughts on how 80 per cent of litter in our seas comes from land.

The students' winning entry is a jellyfish made from plastic cups and bags, inspired after they learnt how some sea creatures can mistake everyday plastic shopping bags for the stinging, tentacled ocean dwellers.

Some of the pupils who took part in the art project said: "We created a jellyfish using plastic to highlight the issues of plastic pollution and marine litter which is a huge problem we all need to play a part in reducing.

"In our school, the plastic cups making up our



jellyfish are no longer in use as we helped eliminate single use plastic with our #oneuseisnouse campaign.

"We are going to do our best to continue the fight against marine litter and plastic pollution."

The competition was organised by Blair Drummond Safari Park in collaboration with environmental charity Keep Scotland Beautiful.

Catherine Gee, the finance

and corporate services director of the charity, said: "I would like to congratulate the pupils from Isobel Mair School for their outstanding entry.

"All of the exhibits have managed to capture the problem and present solutions in a creative and engaging way."

The artwork was displayed at Blair Drummond Safari Park to coincide with World Oceans Weekend.

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# Newton Mearns Connect



## Your community needs you!

**Keen to take a more active role in local issues? The Crookfur, Greenfarm and Mearns Village Community Council always welcomes new members and meet on the second Thursday of every month at 7pm in the Fairweather Hall.**

Residents are encouraged to attend and learn about what's happening in their area. Among the issues the community discuss are planning, which allows residents to express an opinion on any major proposed developments in the local area.

At the latest meeting there was an in-depth discussion on East Renfrewshire's proposals for the current leisure facilities at Eastwood Park. There were four proposals offered:

1. Carrying out essential maintenance only which could lead to failure of the swimming pool within the next 5 years.
2. Refurbish the current facilities at a cost of £11million and upgrade the theatre, gym and other areas. This would extend the life of the building by 10 years and would require the facility being closed for 12 months.
3. Redevelop the current site and put new facilities in place. This would cost £16 million and would extend the life of the site by 10/15 years. Again, the site would be closed for 12 months.
4. Build a new leisure centre on an alternative site within Eastwood for £25-30million.

This would increase the facilities available and there could also be a theatre with studio facilities and a cafe for an additional £4 million.

**The Community Council agreed to support option 3, giving the following reasons:**

1. Too many green areas in Newton Mearns have been given up to housing and we were reluctant to support a proposal which would use up more green areas.
2. Options 1 and 2 were just short-term proposals which would be of little benefit to the area.
3. Option 4 was a greater cost but not a substantial improvement in facilities available.

**If you would like to help shape future decisions made for the community, email [cgmvccommunitycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:cgmvccommunitycouncil@gmail.com) or pop along to the next meeting.**



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# Newton Mearns Connect

## WHAT'S ON

Keep abreast of events and activities taking place throughout summer to ensure no one complains of boredom over the holidays.

### EVENT: **POKEMON SWAP SHOP**

Date: Wednesday 20 July  
Time: 12-1.30pm  
Location: Waterstones, Newton Mearns  
Cost: Free

#### WHAT'S ON:

Kids (or the young at heart) who are trying to catch 'em all are invited to a summer swap shop. Take your doublers, treblers or unloved Pokemon cards and trade with fellow Pokemon trainers to help complete your Pokedex.

### EVENT: **TREE-MENDOUS TALES**

Date: Sunday 29 July  
Time: 10.30am - 1pm  
Location: Dams to Darnley Country Park  
Cost: Free

#### What's on:

Head out on a walk through the country park with the rangers and explore fascinating folklore associated with some of the most common trees. Find out more about how our ancestors used them for many different things. Meet at the World Buffet restaurant car park in Darnley. Booking is required; call 0141 557 4053 or 0141 577 4054.

### EVENT: **BIG BUTTERFLY COUNT**

Date: Sunday, 12 August  
Time: 2-4pm  
Location: Dams to Darnley Country Park  
Cost: Free

#### What's on:

Join in with this national survey led by Butterfly Conservation and try to count as many butterflies as possible with the rangers. Learn more about these fascinating insects. Meet at Parkmanor Green, off Parkhouse Road. Booking is required; call 0141 557 4053 or 0141 577 4054.

### EVENT: **FUNDAY SUNDAY AT THE AVENUE**

Date: Friday, 29 July  
Time: 12-4pm  
Location: The Avenue Shopping Centre  
Cost: Free

#### WHAT'S ON:

Funday Sunday is a monthly event featuring a whole host of free family activities. From Get Crafty, Hart-beeps and face painters, to caricatures and balloon modellers, there is fun for all the family. Newton and Fearn will be dishing out balloons and other goodies too.

### EVENT: **SUMMER ROCKSCHOOL**

Date: Wednesday, 25 July  
Time: 10am-2.30pm  
Location: Broom Parish Church of Scotland  
Cost: £15 per class

#### What's on:

Without help and inspiration many children stop playing and practising their instruments the minute lessons stop at the end of term. The aim of these classes is to inspire young people to learn a new musical instrument and/or improve on and maintain current playing skills. Suitable for ages 6-13 beginners and children who already receive lessons on guitar, ukulele, keyboard and piano at all levels. Call 07939 353921 for more information.



## Tuck into authentic flavours

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No two regions of Italy are the same - each with its own unique flavours and dishes. Dimora aims to share the culinary delights of Campania - think Naples, Sorrento and the Amalfi Coast and their best and brightest dishes with exceptional produce.

The restaurant has a contemporary design; a palette of greys and creams against exposed stone walls and industrial style lighting. It has a relaxed yet cosy atmosphere. Adjoining the restaurant is a comfortable wine bar area where you can enjoy a



coffee, drinks or cocktails any time of the day. The restaurant also has free-to-hire event or party space which can comfortably accommodate up to 40 people - The Conservatory (including outside Terrace space) and The Balcony areas. You can also hire the whole restaurant for that

bigger function.

Situated on the Southside of Glasgow in Newton Mearns, it is conveniently located on the main bus route and is two minutes' walk from Newton Mearns Shopping Centre.

Dimora offers a daily market lunch and early evening menus as well as an a la carte menu offering daily special dishes.

The restaurant also has a programme of events running throughout the year which celebrate Italian food and wine.

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# Newton Mearns Connect



## Forget the World Cup ... St Cadoc's under-10s have been flying the Scottish flag in Eindhoven tournament

**WHILE Scotland may not be having much luck with any national team presence at this summer's World Cup, a squad of over 30 under-10s were flying the flag last month after they set off to Europe to compete in a tournament in Eindhoven.**

A travelling party of 78 from St Cadoc's Youth Club in the south side of Glasgow, including coaches and parents, set off to take part in the competition, hosted by Dutch club SV Nevelo FC.

St Cadoc's fielded four teams in the under-9s and under-8s categories – St Cadoc's Athletic, St Cadocs Caledonian, St Cadoc's United and St Cadoc's City – led by coaches Paul Gallagher and Mitch Morley.

While under-8s St Cadoc's City lost their first game 11-0, they bounced back to beat the Germans, the Dutch and the Belgians to claim the runners up trophy. Meanwhile the under-9's closely missed out on a podium spot but did their team, club and country proud.

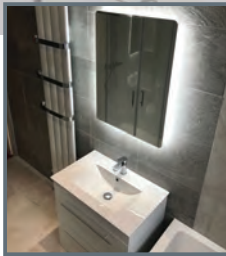
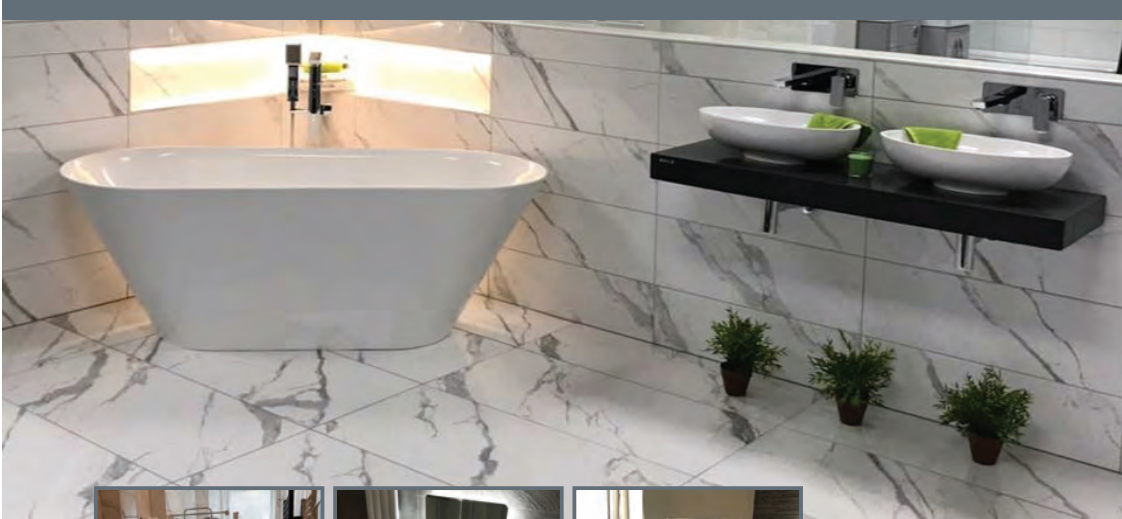
Another St Cadoc's head coach, Phil Greenwell, said: "Although our senior pros never made the World Cup, these 30-plus seven and eight year

olds showed the spirit, determination and creativity to represent Scotland heroically on the international stage."

Given that one former St Cadoc's creation, Liam Lindsay, went on to play for Partick Thistle before moving to current club Barnsley, perhaps Scotland manager Alex McLeish will be watching ...



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# Tea and conversation can help prevent loneliness

**Sunday tea parties are proving an effect way of combatting loneliness among the elderly finds a charity who are encouraging people to host and attend a meet up over tea and conversation.**

Contact the Elderly is supported by a network of volunteers, who organise monthly Sunday afternoon tea parties for small groups of older people aged 75 and over who live alone, offering a regular and vital friendship link every month.

Sunday afternoon is highlighted as a particularly lonely day of the week for older people living



alone and the charity is seeking to remedy this and transform lives over tea, chat and friendship.

Keeping its groups small, with the same individuals meeting every month, it encourages guests and volunteers to make lasting and fulfilling friendships

in the personal and welcoming environment of someone's home.

If you know someone aged 75 and over who lives alone, has little contact with friends or family and finds it difficult getting out and about, a change of scenery and regular meet ups may be just what they need.

Anyone living in Newton Mearns who would like to host a tea party or refer a guest is encouraged to visit [www.contact-the-elderly.org.uk](http://www.contact-the-elderly.org.uk).

Find local groups to join or how to set up your own tea party to help those who could use the company.

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# Newton Mearns Connect



**Scotland's first gated retirement village has been given the green light to occupy the former Netherplace Works in Newton Mearns.**

The site is set to become home to a range of luxury flats and houses for the over-55s, as well as a state-of-the-art care home.

Developers, Newton Mearns Projects Ltd (NMPL), will create a bowling green, pavilion and a village centre complete with a pool, a restaurant, bar, nursery, library and shops.

Modelled on the Hogeweyk dementia village in Holland, residents will also have access to shuttle buses running to The Avenue and Silverburn, with electric carpooling available too.

Robert Booth, the agent acting on behalf of NMPL, said: "This is going to be a luxury development for which the residents will pay. It's important that we get the very best facilities.

"This has been an abandoned site since 2003 but the new project will opportunities in both employment and business.

## Retirement village given the go-ahead

"There will be a range of jobs from ground maintenance to the staff who work in the bar and shops and other facilities in the village.

"An economic impact assessment showed an £11m contribution to the East Renfrewshire economy.

"There will be a £2.8m contribution to the East Renfrewshire economy every year."

East Renfrewshire's Planning Committee raised concerns about a lack of parking – with 225 spaces planned – and the impact of new residents on health facilities in Newton Mearns.

But architect John Jewitt claimed the shuttle buses and carpooling scheme were designed to alleviate parking pressures.

Mr Jewitt pointed to the success

of Hogeweyk as his inspiration. The Dutch village offers residents a range of amenities including shops, a bar and cafes with specialist staff on-hand to help throughout the community.

But not everyone was so keen on the plans. Newton Mearns resident, Audrey Gilbride, warned that the increased traffic on Netherplace Road could lead to accidents.

She said that more trees were needed between her home and the site to protect her privacy. And she added that the stress of NHS services, such as GPs, was concerning.

The Planning Committee voted by 8-5 to recommend approval to the full council. At a full council meeting moments later, members agreed the plan, with a condition to be agreed for more trees at the site's perimeter.



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# A local cycling group help wardens get ready to pedal

**Community safety officers in East Renfrewshire are getting on their bikes to cover more ground this summer, thanks to help from local cycling group.**

The Barrhead Melo Velo group is a service set up by service users at the Barrhead Centre, a day centre for adults with additional support needs. The group is a unique cycle and repair project staffed by adults who attend the centre and was only too happy to lend a hand to the wardens.

The Council's Community Safety Service provides a visible and uniformed reassuring patrol presence to cover the community and support residents and local businesses - and with their bikes back in top condition the team is raring to go.

Councillor Colm Merrick, Convener for Community Services and Community Safety, said: "It is terrific the Barrhead Melo Velo group could give the wardens' bikes the service they required before our officers got back on their saddles this summer. This is another example of the great service provided by Barrhead Melo Velo.

"As a result of the group's hard work, the wardens will now be able to spend more time patrolling the parks and other rural spots in East Renfrewshire, which in turn will allow people to enjoy our outdoor spaces while feeling safe."

Aiming to ensure a safer and cleaner East Renfrewshire for all to enjoy, the Community Safety service responds to a variety

of anti-social behaviour issues, as well as dealing with noise complaints, litter, dog fouling and carrying out the role of a parking attendant.

The Barrhead Centre Melo Velo team have received training so that, under supervision, they can fit tyres, repair punctures, service bikes and run a safety check for a small fee. They also sell used and reconditioned cycles and new and used parts as well as hiring bikes to the public for use.

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# Newton Mearns Connect

## Donations can help save a life

**Residents in Newton Mearns can help to save lives by heading along to the next blood donation service.**

On Wednesday, September 19 there will be two sessions available for residents to attend. Head along to the Church of Broom, where the Give Blood team will set up shop from 2-3.30pm and again at 5-7.30pm.

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 you can spare a pint of blood.

Once everything is checked and in order,



volunteers will then make their donation. Each donation takes around 10 to 15 minutes and staff aim to take around 470mls of blood – with additional samples for testing.

Every day Scottish patients receive life enhancing or life-saving treatments using donated blood. Within 24 hours of a donation, blood is processed, tested and available for use.

One blood donation can save or improve the lives of up to three people. However, figures reveal that only five per cent of the population currently gives blood. To find out more, visit [scotblood.co.uk](http://scotblood.co.uk).



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# Local fundraising event was raining cats and dogs

**Animal lovers had the chance to raise vital funds for furry friends at Pets at Home Newton Mearns.**

The pet supplies retailer hosted a fun-filled event in June to help raise funds for its partner adoption charities, and colleagues from Cats Protection Giffnock and Barrhead were on hand to help.

With carnival games for children (offering the chance to pie one of the staff) and a raffle for a hamper for the adults inside, there were some good reasons for pet lovers to pay a visit.

Meanwhile, members of the Cats Protection Giffnock and



Barrhead team brought along some larger-than-life feline and canine assistants to help man the donation buckets. And despite the fact it was “bucketing down”, branch co-ordinator Karen Minnery said it was a great day.

She said: “The weather was rotten, but it’s a really good event. There are lots of charities involved and every penny we get goes to help cats and kittens with food, supplies and toys.

“It helps us raise awareness of the fact we are one of Pets at Homes’ charity partners and that they support us, which is good.”





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# Newton Mearns Connect



## Keeping the community safe

**Mearns Library is among the businesses and public services which have signed up to an initiative to help keep the community safe.**

After joining forces with Police Scotland and I Am Me Scotland, East Renfrewshire Council has become involved in the award-winning national Keep Safe Campaign.

The initiative works in partnership with a network of local businesses and public services to create 'Keep Safe' places in the community for disabled, vulnerable, elderly or anyone feeling lost, confused, scared, in danger, or have been the victim of a crime.

Aiming to ensure people feel safe and can enjoy day-to-day activities when participating in

community life, 'Keep Safe' helps those in need to seek assistance, and reassurance in a safe and welcoming place. Disabled and elderly people can show their Keep Safe card which details information such as emergency contact details and health concerns to help the businesses provide the best means of support.

Councillor Colm Merrick, Convener for Community Services and Community Safety and Chair of Cabinet Fire and Police, said: "I am delighted that East Renfrewshire Council and Police Scotland are again working in partnership together with local businesses.

"This initiative will help ensure that our vulnerable people can enjoy ordinary day to day life and activities free from fear. It is

intended that it will be rolled out across East Renfrewshire in the coming months".

Mearns Library joins eight other organisations in the area, including Voluntary Action Barrhead, Eastwood Park and Giffnock Library, which have signed up to the initiative.

Organisations wishing to take part and successfully meet the training requirements are provided a Keep Safe sticker to display in the window of their premises.

Businesses looking to sign up to become a Keep Safe place should visit [www.iamscotland.co.uk](http://www.iamscotland.co.uk) to receive a criteria form to complete and send to Police Scotland who will check that their premises are suitable.

If approved, a training date will then be arranged.

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## Local dog owners urged to help keep parks pleasant

**A campaign has been launched asking visitors to the UK's best parks to keep it safe and clean by being responsible dog owners.**

Walkers using Rouken Glen Park are being encouraged to always clean up after their pet, ensuring they are kept under control at all times and that the park remains a pleasant place to visit.

As part of the East Renfrewshire Council initiative, a series of eye-catching signs will be displayed throughout the park reminding owners of their responsibilities.

The guidelines, which have been set following a range of issues being reported to park rangers, urge dog owners to keep

their dog under proper control at all times - especially near picnic areas and close to where children are playing; not allow their dog to approach ranger-led groups as members of the group may be allergic or afraid of dogs; and ensure they clean up after their dog by bagging and binning it in the nearest litter bin.

Councillor Alan Lafferty said: "Rouken Glen is a place to be enjoyed by everyone who visits, and we are committed to ensuring this remains the case.

"We urge dog owners to be responsible for their pets' actions and follow the guidelines in place when in and around the park. Community safety officers will be patrolling the park on a regular

basis to ensure visitors are aware of the expected behaviour and they will be increasingly vigilant in targeting offenders of dog fouling."

Park Ranger Katy Green added: "Rouken Glen Park is a brilliant area and we want to ensure that it continues to be enjoyed by the thousands of visitors who descend on the park each year.

"Whilst the majority of dog owners are responsible, some require a small reminder. This campaign will help push some positive action towards ensuring that every visitor gets the most from their visit."

The public are also encouraged to report any dog fouling, with offenders facing an £80 fine.



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## Newton Mearns Connect

# Relax into summer and transform outdoor spaces

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And to give those warm-weather get-togethers an even bigger boost on the feelgood front, make sure you set the scene in style. Luckily, the shops are packed with colourful summer dining and al-fresco entertaining collections right now: Here are some of our favourite finds to furnish your pop-up feast...



Four Person Fresh Greens Hamper, £59, Marks & Spencer



Rattan-style Keter Cool Bar, £43, Morrisons stores nationwide until August



Dinner Plates - Set of 2, £20, Bowls - Set of 2, £14, Napkin Ring - Set of 2, £49, Bitossi Bloom Wine Goblet - Pink, £6, LSA Basis Jug, £20, Garden Chair, £112, and matching Garden Table, £199.50, Amara

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