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Welcome

Welcome to the first 2017 edition of Woodside Connect.

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

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

This issue is packed with stories. Inside we have news of this year's cultural highlights including the Glasgow International Comedy Festival and aye write book festival, as well as a what's on guide to keep you in the loop with local happenings.

We've also brought updates from the community to keep up to date with what's occurring in your area.

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

Until next time. **Team Connect**

0141

576 8865

Editorial

If you have a story you would like to be included in a future issue of Woodside Connect contact:

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If you would like your organisation, club or society included in this handy numbers page, don't hesitate to get in touch. Email maxine.mccreadie@ newsquest.co.uk or nicola. brown@newsquest.co.uk and we'll pop it in a future edition.







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Accolade recognises true community spirit

LOCAL heroes from communities across the north west of Glasgow ended 2016 on a high at the Community Champion Awards.

Held in Partick Burgh Hall in October, the event was a showcase of the cream of the community crop, celebrating the hard work and dedication of those who are proud to support the area in which they live.

However, it was Woodside man Robert Alston who shone the brightest on the night taking home the Senior Award in recognition for his volunteering efforts following the passing of his beloved wife Valery.

Honouring Valery's exceptional community work, Mr Alston proudly took on her community spirit offering his services to projects across the area.

As well as volunteering on the canal every Monday and taking on the role of co-chair of Woodside Community Council (WCC), Robert also runs music lessons for people of all ages as part of registered charity Eiger Music.

Speaking to our sister title the Evening Times, he said: "Valerie was a great community worker, she did so much for others.

"When she died, I wanted to continue her good work."

He continued: "I have lived in Glasgow for 45 years, since I moved here from America.

"Doing all this for the people I have come to know as part of



Senior Award winner Robert Alston with Graham Shields. Photo by Mark F Gibson / Gibson Digital

this wonderful community is a chance for me to give something back.

"None of it is a chore - I am just happy to help."

Fellow Woodside Community Council chair Jacqueline McKie shared her delight of Robert's accolade on the community council website.

She posted: "Bob has proven, by his actions, to be a committed, dedicated and selfless community contributor and I for one can wholeheartedly endorse Bob as who has someone alwavs supported not only the WCC and in particular, myself, within my role as chair.

"I can wholeheartedly state there is no better example of genuine community engagement than Bob Alston."

Neighbourhoods across the north west turned out in force

to support the men, women and children who make a difference to their local areas.

Event host, singer Michelle McManus – who rounded off the evening with a roof-raising performance - said it was a privilege to be part of the longrunning awards series.

"As a Glasgow girl, I know the good work that's done all over the city, and I'm proud to be part of tonight," she said.

Evening Times editor Graham Shields said: "We have just launched a new series in the Evening Times called Thanks for the Memories, which encourages locals to share their stories of Glasgow's rich past."

"There are so many examples of wonderful citizens, working hard for the benefit of their communities, and it's a privilege to hear all about their experiences."

Representatives of our Community Champions partners, Glasgow City Council, Glasgow Community Planning Partnership, Glasgow Housing Association, Scottish Fire and Rescue and Police Scotland, were also full of praise for the winners and runners-up.

Bailie Allan Stewart of Glasgow City Council added: "Glasgow was made by people coming together and the same is true today."

"I'm proud to be part of this city and everyone here tonight should be proud of the difference your contribution makes."





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Advertisement Feature



Community Central Hall

A year of celebrations will help mark the 40th anniversary of Community Central Hall (CCH).

The local charity based on Maryhill Road will commemorate 40 years of providing essential services for all ages. Responsible for the operation of the 24,000 sq ft building, they offer a range of classes and clubs covering babies to the elderly.

From pre-school Nursery to youth work, activities aimed at older people and even a print shop, over the years CCH has become a pillar of the community. Providing a vital space for local groups, it's also home to wide range of extracurricular activities, such as Zumba classes, Tai Chi, Chinese Opera, Slimming World and even ballroom dancing.

Thanks to The Big Lottery Celebrate fund awarding CCH £4,100, the milestone commemoration will be a year-long affair with events, giveaways and competitions helping to mark the occasion.

You can keep up to date with the anniversary celebrations as they are announced, by following @CCHMaryhill on Facebook.

For locals with a few hours to spare each week, CCH are inviting volunteers to sign up and help the hall thrive. A variety of different roles are available to suit everyone, including but not limited to child care, helping out in the kitchen, repairs, assisting at events and admin.

Volunteering offers an excellent chance to meet new people within the community whilst helping to carry out important work.

To register your interest and find out more information, call 0141 331 7676 or send a message via Facebook.

Find Community Central Hall at 304 Maryhill Road, Glasgow, G20 7YE.







This year sees 40 years of activities and being at the heart of the community for one of Glasgow's most loved community venues- to celebrate we have secured Big Lottery funding for a programme of activities - like us on Facebook to hear and learn more!

We are looking to collect pictures of your memories of the Halls (either as Community Central Hall) or further back when it was the Central Methodist Hall send your photos into Jackie Donaldson at CCH



Hear the latest classes, events and other news at the Halls by liking our Facebook page and keeping up-to-date with all our activities and services.

www.centralhalls.org





Susie McCabe has had another date added after a sell-out show

A laughing matter

This March the Glasgow Live International Comedy Festival comes to town and the Stand Comedy Club is right at the heart of things.

This year some of the biggest names in comedy from the UK and beyond will be making the city laugh for the 15th year in a row.

From 9-26 March Glasgow's favourite comedy club will host a jam-packed schedule of big names and rising new talent. Established names such as Josie Long, Fred MacAulay and Simon Munnery feature alongside fresh new talent such as Susie McCabe and award winning Richard Gadd to name just a few.

Regarded as the best open-mic night in the country Red Raw gets the Festival treatment as

the BBC presents the best of Red Raw. Anything can happen with Red Raw and you never know which comedy star might turn up!

Festival Club is also back for its 12th year offering the best late-night comedy every Saturday during the festival. It's not just comedy for grown-ups! There are family and kids shows a plenty with Gary Dunn's Monkey Magic, Gunge! The Song of Fergus And Kate, Blabbermouths and many more. Tickets are on sale now www. thestand.co.uk

After Susie McCabe's first show sold out a second night has been added. For more information visit www.thestand.co.uk/show/28297/ susie_mccabe_lets_get_physical





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Read all about it

Embrace the rich literacy heritage of Glasgow and beyond at this year's aye write festival.

The city's annual book festival will take place from 9-19 March, with tickets on sale from 27 January. 200 authors will spread across three venues for the festival, which offers a programme filled with author talks, poetry events, debates, workshops, music events, young people's book discussions and creative workshops.

Previous stars involved in the festival have included author of The Men Who Stare at Goats, Jon Ronson, Kevin Bridges and a former winner of the Great British Bake Off.

This year's festival is set to once again celebrate Glasgow as a creative city, set in venues including the Mitchell Library (pictured).

Keep up to date with events as they are announced by following @AyeWrite on Facebook or visiting www.ayewrite.com.





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to find out more information about how to get involved.

BREAKTHROUGH is on Monday-Wednesday evenings 6-8pm at the Youth Base in CCH.



Youth Club has something for everyone to enjoy

YOUNGSTERS from across the Woodside area are invited to catch up over activities and workshops at the weekly Wednesday Youth Group.

Taking place in the Windsor Hall each week, youngsters will have the opportunity to meet new people or hang out with friends in a safe and fun environment.

As well as keeping in with their social groups, kids will

also have the chance to enjoy a range of activities including arts and crafts, computer and board games and trips to the park to name just a few.

And what's more, children will also have the chance to learn about the benefits of a positive and healthy lifestyle thanks to healthy eating workshops and more.

Entry to the group costs 50p per child and includes a snack of toast and fruit.

Youngsters aged between five and eight-years-old are invited to enjoy the club between 5pm and 6.15pm before the club for youngsters aged between nine and 12 kicks off.

For further information contact Nicola McGrath on 0141 589 7435 or NMcGrath@qcha.org.uk.

Alternatively to keep up to date with events taking place across the local area, including Job Club and more, visit www. qcha.org.uk.



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What's on

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Get the New Year off to a good start by checking out the upcoming events taking place in the local area. From book fairs to comic exhibitions, a makers market to comedy shows, there's plenty happening to keep busy throughout winter.

EVENT: Red Raw

Date: Every Tuesday Time: 7.30-8.30pm Location: The Stand, Glasgow Price: £3

What's on: Regarded as one of the best open mic nights in the UK, head along to the Stand's Red Raw night to catch up to ten new acts, some treading the boards for the very first time. See the stars of tomorrow and watch out for older hands dropping by to test new material too. Book tickets online at www.thestand.co.uk or be there for doors opening to try your luck getting one of the 100 tickets kept for sale on the night.

EVENT: Book Fair

Date: Saturday 11 February – Sunday 12 March Time: 10am-4.30pm Location: Glasgow Botanics, Hopkirk Building Price: Free What's on: Browse from a large selection of books, both new and old.

EVENT: Creative Conversations - Fiction Writer Linda Cracknell

Date: Monday 6 March Time: 1-2pm Location: University Chapel, University of Glasgow

Price: Free

What's on: Linda Cracknell is an awardwinning writer of fiction, radio drama and creative non-fiction. She won the Macallan/ Scotland on Sunday short story competition and has since published two collections of short stories. She was shortlisted for the Scottish First Book Award for her story collection Life Drawing and the Robin Jenkins Literary Award for environmental writing. Hear her speak in one of a series of public creative conversations. Find out more at www.gla. ac.uk/events/lectures.

EVENT: Byres Road Makers Market Date: Saturday 25 February

Time: 11am-4pm Location: Hillhead Library Price: Free

What's on: A market on the last Saturday of the month, pop along to peruse and buy handmade crafts and work by Scottish designers, artists and crafters.

EVENT: Frank Quietly – The Art of Comics Date: Saturday 1 April – Sunday 1 October 2017 Time: opening times Location: Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum Price: tbc

What's on: Marvel at all your favourite superheroes in an exhibition celebrating the work of comic artist, Frank Quietly. Renowned for this involvement depicting iconic characters including Superman, Batman and the X-Men, the Glasgow born artist has carved a name for himself on the world stage. The exhibition promises to excite comic book lovers of all ages. Visit www.glasgowlife.org.uk for more information.



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New foodbank centres highlight growing demand

Two new Glasgow North West foodbanks opened their doors at the end of 2016 to cope with rising demand in the area.

It is hoped that the two new distribution centres will mean more people in need can get to the centre and benefit from the emergency food packages made available.

The current foodbank is in Blawarthill and the two new facilities are in Maryhill and Ruchill.

In six months this year the food bank gave out 2500 three



day supply parcels - an increase on 30 per cent on the previous year. Some people were finding it difficult to travel to the foodbank either for disability reasons or lack of direct public transport.

The Trust hopes the new centres will make it easier for more people who are referred to get help.

Due to the difficulty of location for some, the foodbank volunteers have done home deliveries for those unable to attend in person.

For more information about how to donate to the local foodbank, visit www.glasgownw. foodbank.org.uk



Woodside residents are in for a lot of laughs this March, as the Glasgow International Comedy Festival (GICF) swoops into town from 9-26th.

With a packed line-up of household names including Jimmy Carr, Stewart Lee, Sue Perkins and Bridget Christie, 2017's festival will celebrate the 15th year of bringing world-class comedy to Glasgow.

Highlights from the city-wide event include Taggart's Alex Norton making his solo debut at the Citizens Theatre and acclaimed journalist and broadcaster Jon Ronson's Psychopath Night. Show venues will span the whole city, but some local haunts to look out for are The Hug and Pint, The Stand Comedy Club, Oran Mor and Cottiers. To peruse the programme visit www. glasgowcomedyfestival.com





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Cutting the ribbon on new Maryhill centre

The new Maryhill Health and Care Centre received its official opening in January when Cabinet Secretary for Health, Shona Robison MSP, made a visit.

The new 12.4 million state-of-the-art centre was opened to the public in September 2016, with the centre providing improved access to a range of primary care services including: three GP practices, physiotherapy, podiatry, community dental services, district nursing, health visitors, sexual health services and a large physiotherapy gym for local patients.

The centre also incorporates 'Waken into Falling Light' - an arts and environment strategy with the aim of developing opportunities that enhance both the external and internal aspects of the centre to increase wellbeing, improve



peoples' experience of visiting and encourage a sense of community ownership of the building.

During her visit, the cabinet secretary visited the therapeutic garden, physiotherapy service, Gairbraid medical practice and the community mental health team/social work team.

Shona Robison MSP said: "I'm delighted to officially open Maryhill Health and Care Centre; it's a tremendous new facility."

"A key part of our vision for the health service is to enhance our community health services.

"We want to see GPs empowered to play an enhanced role, leading multi-disciplinary teams of health professionals.

"The Maryhill Health and Care Centre is the perfect place in which this vision can become a reality and I am sure it will serve the local community well for many years to come."

John Brown, Chairman of NHSGGC, said: "I am delighted the Cabinet Secretary has officially opened this £12 million facility.

"It is a fantastic addition to the area, providing the local residents of Maryhill with a wide range of modern health and care services under one roof.

"The centre has been designed to be much more than a simple replacement of the previous facility. It is in a prominent site providing the local community with a state of the art healthcare facility fit for the 21st century."





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Locals urged to be aware of travel card changes

WOODSIDE residents are being urged to be aware of changes to free bus travel with 2017 now well underway.

Those who previously held a 'OneScotland' card must replace it with the new National Entitlement Card (NEC) to continue to get free bus travel.

The NEC - Scotland's new smartcard - allows people aged 60 and over, and people with a disability, to travel free on local or Scottish long distance buses.

Aimed at making the process of getting from A to B simpler, the NEC makes it convenient for citizens to access various public services and facilities with only one card.

As well as using the card for travel, many local authorities

across the country also offer NEC use for library and leisure membership as well as use for school services.

The card will also be of use to young people as it acts as both a Young Scot card and PASS proof of age.

In recent weeks, local authorities have been replacing old style cards used for concessionary travel for anyone aged 60 or over, and anyone who has a card on grounds of disability.

If your local authority has your current address, you should have automatically received your replacement card before 31 December 2016, with no interruption to your free bus travel.

There will no longer be an

expiry date for cards issued on the grounds of age.

Cards issued on the grounds of disability will continue to have an expiry date, and cardholders will need to provide evidence that they still meet the eligibility criteria when applying for a replacement card.

There is more information about the styles of cards, including the 'OneScotland' card that became void following 31 December 2016, and how to find your local contact on the Transport Scotland website at www.transport.gov.scot/publictransport/concessionary-travelpeople-aged-60-or-disability.

Further information about the new card can also be found at www.entitlementcard.org.uk.







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Approval of Glasgow's Housing Strategy paves the way for 15,000 new homes

A total of 15,000 new homes are to be built in Glasgow over the next five years, it was announced in January.

The news comes after Glasgow City Council's Executive Committee approved the city's Housing Strategy between 2017 and 2022.

Glasgow's Housing Strategy's long-term vision for the city's housing is founded on two main themes: increasing the supply and improving the quality of housing available to Glasgow's people, and improving access to appropriate housing for the city's people.

The strategy includes targets for new build housing - 15,000 new homes are expected to be built by 2022 - the promotion of area regeneration and actions for maintaining and improving Glasgow's existing housing stock.

It will be used to inform future housing investment and related services in the city.

Councillor Frank McAveety, Leader of Glasgow City Council, said: "Our homes are undoubtedly



one of the biggest contributors to our quality of life, and through this strategy, we aim to ensure that the people of Glasgow are able to find the best and most suitable housing they can.

"Over the next five years, Glasgow's Housing Strategy will play its part in our efforts to create sustainable communities with affordable homes in the city, with 15,000 new homes being built."

Research hopes to hit the right note

MUSIC lovers are being word first, will help measure called to take part in the the live music's cultural and UK's first live music census. economic value, discover what

Taking place on March 9, the event will aim to track performances in cities across the country.

From line buskers to choral performances and pub gigs to stadium concerts, the study is open to all.

It is hoped the survey, a

word first, will help measure the live music's cultural and economic value, discover what challenges the industry is facing and inform policy to help it flourish.

There will be coordinated censuses in Glasgow, Newcastle, Oxford, Leeds, Birmingham, Southampton and Brighton.

Speaking of the musical

extravaganza Professor Martin Cloonan of the University of Glasgow said: "This is the first time that there has been a census of live music in Glasgow and the wider UK. We are very much looking forward to census night and publishing our results."

People can sign up to take part at the official website: www.uklivemusiccensus.org





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Riverside museum delight at successful 'find Sid' public appeal

A public appeal to 'find Sid' has connected the Riverside Museum with the family of the original owner of a watch donated to the museum.

The curator issued a plea for information on Sidney Worrall after discovering he had not died, as thought, on board the ill-fated liner TSS Athenia, which was attacked and sunk the day World War 2 was declared in September 1939.

Sidney's granddaughter and nephew both came forward. They were reunited with the treasured watch at Riverside and introduced to the family who kept it safe for almost 80 years before donating it to the museum.

Sidney's granddaughter Cath Muir was alerted to the appeal by a family friend, she said: "What a surprise it was when by husband told me there was an appeal for information on my grandfather. I remember him as a child. He was very badly burned when the Athenia was attacked and had many skin grafts on his face and legs. He told us that they were his maps of the world.

"After returning from Galway

he was pensioned out of the Merchant Navy due to the injuries he sustained, but he returned to sea to serve in the war, he felt it was his duty to do so, but that meant he had to forgo part of his pension. After the war he worked as a hospital porter in Law Hospital, Lanarkshire and was well liked and well respected in Law Village.

"I am indebted to Gerry for keeping my grandfather's watch safe all these years and I look forward to bringing my own grandchildren to Riverside to see it on display soon."



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Are your boots made for walking?



RESIDENTS are being urged to strap on their walking boots to raise cash for Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity this spring.

Woodside locals are invited to dress to kilt and take part in the annual Kiltwalk on Sunday, April 30 in aid of the organisation.

Open to people of all ages and abilities, the event is the ideal way to put the fun in fundraising as a family or a group.

There is a Kiltwalk for everyone – from the six mile Wee Wander and 13 mile Big Stroll to the 26 mile Mighty Stride.

And it couldn't be easier to

A new exhibition chronicling the life work of renowned comic artist, Frank Quitely, will be arriving at Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum this spring.

From Krypton to Kelvingrove, the exhibition 'Frank Quietly: The Art of Comics' will bring all your favourite superheroes together. Showcasing original artwork of iconic titles such as Batman, Superman, X-Men, Daredevil, Jupiter's Legacy, Sandman and many more, it promises to be enjoyable for kids and adults alike.

Comic book heroes such as

Mark Millar, Alan Grant, Chipp Kidd and Grant Morrison will also be featured. Comic book fans should jump at the chance to marvel at these displays.

Frank Quitely is the alter ego to Glasgow born artist Vincent Deighan. Deighan took on the mantel of Frank Quitely in his early career to hide his identity while he drew for the Scottish publication Electric Soup. Now the name Frank

get involved.

Participants can register at www.thekiltwalk.co.uk and simply select Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity from the drop down list to pledge support.

Once each registration has been processed residents will receive a fundraising pack which includes a free charity t-shirt.

By taking part in aid of Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity locals will help raise funds to support care for youngsters treated at Scotland's largest children's hospital.

Every year 160,000 babies,

children and young people are treated at the hospital.

The charity sits at the heart of the hospital, raising funds to ensure that families and patients receive the best possible care.

Donations help fund a myriad of different services and equipment from innovative play programmes to distract, teach and treat children during their stay to paediatric research.

Anyone keen to find out more about Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity and how taking part in the Kiltwalk will offer support should call 0141 212 8750.



Quitely is synonymous with iconic characters such as Superman, Batman and the X-Men. A world renowned artist in hot demand he's currently finishing off the epic story Jupiter's Legacy with fellow Scottish comic book legend, writer Mark Millar.

The exhibition will run from Saturday 1 April to Sunday 1 October, though tickets are available in advance by visiting www.glasgowmuseums.com.





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Local library is base for cancer support

WOODSIDE locals are amongst the tens of thousands of people across Glasgow who have found cancer support at their local library.

More than 10,000 attendances have been recorded at the city-wide Macmillan @ Glasgow Libraries outreach programme, since the programme launched in 2012

Offering emotional and practical support to people affected by cancer, the innovative service operates across the city's library portfolio of 32 community libraries, and the iconic Mitchell, creating a welcoming, friendly environment for all attendees.

Almost half of all attendees described themselves as a person with cancer, with a further 26 per cent identifying themselves as a family member of a person living with cancer.

The volunteer-led service provides a much needed listening ear to anyone affected by cancer, alongside access to a number of additional support services based across Glasgow, including complementary therapies, counselling, benefits advice and a range of physical activity programmes, and the team are keen to ensure that the people of Glasgow can access this service on their doorstep.

Councillor Archie Graham OBE, Chairman of Glasgow Life, said: "There are thousands of people in the city living with the impact of cancer, either directly or through a loved one.

"Thanks to a unique partnership with Macmillan Cancer Support, Glasgow Life continues to offer practical and emotional support in our 33 citywide libraries, to ensure that everyone affected by cancer has access to quality information at the heart of their community.

"We know that a cancer diagnosis can be incredibly isolating, and I am heartened to see that thousands of citizens affected by cancer have taken advantage of the skills, knowledge and friendly support offered by Macmillan @ Glasgow Libraries. This team of volunteers are a credit to our city, and I hope their passion for supporting our residents helps to ensure that no

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one in Glasgow faces cancer alone this winter."

The winter months are traditionally a difficult period for those living with cancer, and their families, with an estimated 30,000 people living with cancer in the UK saying Christmas is one of the loneliest times of the year, and approximately 50,000 saying New Year is the same, according to new data published this month by Macmillan Cancer Support.

Of the total number of people attending Macmillan @ Glasgow Libraries , 42% cited their main reasons for visiting as simply having someone to talk to, and the city-wide support service wants to remind Glaswegians that there is a network of support across the city, for those who are affected by cancer.

Janice Preston, Head of Services in Scotland at Macmillan Cancer Support, added: "The Macmillan support services have been a real lifeline to many people affected by cancer in Glasgow since the link-up with libraries launched. We know the difference it can make for people like Alan to have someone to talk to in their community and this 10,000 milestone shows how big the impact has been right across the city."

Glasgow Libraries works in partnership with Macmillan to provide a network of cancer information & support services at the heart of the community, offering emotional and practical support to anyone who is affected by cancer. To find out more, please visit: www.glasgowlife.org. uk/libraries/macmillan-at-glasgow-libraries.

Further information about Macmillan @ Glasgow Libraries can be found by contacting staff at Woodside Library on 0141 276 1609.

Alternatively, more support is available from Macmillan on 0808 808 00 00 (Monday to Friday, 9am–8pm).







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