



MUIRKIRK NEWS

ISSUE 9 - OCTOBER 2017

PRINTED ON BEHALF OF MUIRKIRK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Quiz

Questions:

- 1 What is the verdict unique to Scots Law?
- 2 Where is Scotland's first Privately run prison?
- 3 What is the name of Scotland's oldest surviving journal?
- 4 Which castle in Scotland is regarded as one of Robert Adam's finest achievements?
- 5 Which architect designed the Glasgow School of Art?
- 6 What were the names of the two men who founded the Scottish Labour Party in 1888?
- 7 Where was the oldest coal mine in Scotland?
- 8 What is the name of the Scottish loch associated with Kippers?

How did you do? Find the answers on page 20

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RW, Muirkirk

What are you waiting for? Don't get caught out in the cold!

Chairman's Update

We had a very active month during September and it is looking similar this month.

The MEG Group took over the running the Community Library at the beginning of September and have now 47 registered members which is excellent from a standing start. The Contractor started on the alteration works to the Day Centre on the 26th September and is looking to finish in December.

We have been successful in getting 3000 daffodil & narcissi bulbs gifted to us and are busy with the planning and planting of these at this time. In the main they will be planted in the three road entrances to the village which hopefully come the spring when they are in bloom will give a good impression to anyone passing through the village and to the residents alike.

The planning of the sixty years Kames Disaster Commemoration is well underway and the order of the event will be as follows. It will start at 2pm with a joint service in the Parish Church followed by a wreath laying ceremony in the Heritage Park and thereafter a buffet tea in the Community Hall at the School. Relatives of people killed and those who have travelled a distance will have first preference for the tea as the hall is limited to 120 persons. However, teas, coffees will also be available in one of the Community Rooms. There will also be an audio display and photographic display.

We held a Public meeting on the 20th September where two members of East Ayrshire Council gave a presentation on how to access the money from Galawhistle Wind Farm which becomes available in the spring of 2018. This is an annual sum of £31,250 which is for use for qualifying Projects in Muirkirk & Glenbuck for the next ten years. Thereafter it is reduced by 50% for another fifteen years. For an award in May of next year the applications must be in by the end of January 2018.

Assistance will be given by East Ayrshire Council Renewable Fund administrator to applicants who require help. The Community Council will also be give able to give advice in this regard. Application Forms and qualifying criteria information is available in the Community Library.

Tickets for the Murder Mystery Show in St Thomas's Hall on the 3rd November are now on sale in the Nearly New Shop. It is being promoted by the Gaiety Rural Touring Group with support from the Scottish Government so hopefully this will be a successful event as they are looking to put another show on next year probably in the new Community Hall.

The Council held a recent public event to hear local residents views on what ought to be done with the void properties which are proving difficult to let. This problem is not only an issue in Muirkirk as a number of other rural villages have a similar problem. Following this consultation the Council will come back with their proposals and we will further update in due course.

Finally, we are looking to have Stagecoach representatives at our next Community Council Meeting on the 6th November for as you are no doubt aware there are numerous complaints about poor bus service. In particular no early morning bus to allow people to get to work on time and also the connecting services. So if this is something that is important to you please come along to our next Meeting you will be made most welcome. Also, represented at this meeting will be SMRT Scottish Mining Restoration Trust who will give a presentation on and answer questions on the restoration of the local opencast.

Written on behalf of Muirkirk community Council by David McLatchie

Daffodil Planting

We have (at date of printing) planted 30 Bags, in the heritage car park, and along the Cumnock Road, to the sign posts, up the Glasgow Road, to the sign posts, and out the Douglas Road, at the sign posts and on the roadside banks. We still have 11 bags left to plant. We would like to thank all the volunteers that have gave up their time to help with the planting.

Muirkirk Juniors FC

Managerial Appointment

The club have moved swiftly to fill the vacant managerial post at Burnside Park.

Manager	- Kevin Muirhead
Assistant Manager	- Brian Roberts
Coach	- Mark O'Neill
Physio	- Laura McCardle

Manager Kevin Muirhead has been busy assembling an almost totally new squad for our club. It is understandable some players wish to leave once a manager has left but not to the extent anyone expected. The committee and hopefully the Kirk support will support the new manager fully in what will be a massive rebuilding job. Signings will be announced in due course.

Fixtures

Sat 28th Oct Scottish Junior Cup v Shotts B.A. kO 2.30pm

Names required for bus to Shotts, contact Secretary BillyTait

Lotto

14.10.17 - Jackpot not won and now stands at £1450. 3 numbers no winners 3 numbers share £60 this week.

7.10.17 - Jackpot not won and now stands at £1400. 3 numbers 3 winners £10 each - Lynsey Arthur, Marion Davidson & Andy Tanner.

Support the Juniors and join our lotto from 50p per line.

Muirkirk Enterprise Group

MEG are pleased to announce that the Scots dictionaries promised to the school have now been handed over in a school assembly on 10th October.

The community library continues to operate 4 days a week and now has 50 members.

The refurbishment of the proposed Muirkirk HUB continues apace and we expect this facility to become available in Jan 2018.

MEG are also pleased to note that volunteers from the village have been very active over the last few months, undertaking work in the Plantations to keep the paths safe, tidying up the memorial garden, and planting over 4000 bulbs. MEG would like to extend our appreciation to all these volunteers for their efforts to keep Muirkirk an attractive place to live.

The MEG shop continues to trade and at present is selling tickets for the forthcoming murder mystery night.

On the shop front new volunteers are always welcome as are donations of any unwanted items



Bookbug For Muirkirk

There is a weekly Bookbug Session in Muirkirk on a Friday morning at 10am until 10.30am, held in the Muirkirk Bowling Club.

These sessions are run by a volunteer so the more people that come the better.

Not only do I provide the Bookbug basics of songs, rhymes and a story but I also have a lending library and a colouring section for the children. On special occasions such as Halloween and Christmas there will be an added bonus for those who attend!

These sessions look to enhance your child's development and the bond that reading and singing creates with you and your child.

Public/School Holidays do not impact on the running of these sessions.

All children aged 0 – 5 years old are always welcome to attend. As are any older children who wish to tag along.

The Bowling Club is Wheelchair/Pram accessible.



If you want to get to know other parents in the village this is the group for you.

There is a Twitter Account called [@MuirkirkBookbug](#) which will be updated regularly regarding the next session and general information about Bookbug events.

Remembrance Sunday - 12th November 2017

11.30 am - Wreath Laying at the Cenotaph

12.00 noon - Service at Muirkirk Parish Church with refreshments served in the Parish Church afterwards.

All are welcome to commemorate the brave souls of Muirkirk and Glenbuck, who fought for our freedom, many of whom made the ultimate sacrifice.

Armistice Day

A number of ex-servicemen will be holding a 2 minute silence at the Victory Park War Memorial gates on Saturday 11th November at 11am. Anyone who wishes to attend is welcome.

Intimation – Towle

The Family of the late Jean Towle would like to sincerely thank family and friends for their attendance at the church service and thereafter at the cemetery and also for the many sympathy cards. A special thank you to Co-op Funeral Care and the Reverend Helen Cuthbert for the lovely service.

Intimation – Walker

In loving memory of our Father 'Alex' who died 14th November 1991.

There are many things in life
That we cannot understand
But we must trust God's judgement
And be guided by his hand
And all who have God's blessing
Can rest safely in his care
For he promises safe passage
On the wings of faith and prayer
His loving family
Joyce, Jim, John, Murray

Safe in the arms of Jesus

Samuel Kerr

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MUIRKIRK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Meeting held on Monday 4th September 2017 in Community rooms.

PRESENT: David McLatchie, Tom Bark, Judith Linton, Kathleen Hignett, David Agnew, Harry Murray, John Dempster, Ludovic Dunlop, David Norman, Gordon McGuire, Jim Higgins, William kirk, Lyn Johnstone(EAC), Maureen Drennan, PC N Saunderson, PC S Stuart, Nan Beck, Sylvia McGlynn, Morag Dempster, Cheryl Shepherd, Robert Smith, Billy Park, cllr Jim Roberts.

APOLOGIES: Cheryl Hynd, Declan Crews, Lisa Macmillan, cllr Claire Leitch.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and proposed by Tom Bark and seconded by John Dempster.

MATTERS ARISING: BT still working on lines for surgery. No update about railings at school, Henderson Drive seat, Heritage Lay by, Sorn Road white lines, disabled parking on Glasgow Road, manhole cover at Garronhill entrance and down pipe at Trotters building. The mobile library is starting this week.(Friday 1.30pm – 2.30pm) at Furnace Road and will be alternating between scheme in future. Victory Park flooding J Roberts will check. Flooding at school from Victory Park. (JR). ‘Wildlife’ garden has been strimmed. Economic Development group will be in information centre.

POLICE REPORT: 6 crimes reported.

COUNCILLORS: There were problems with the hand over of library. No communication with EAC. Some equipment removed without permission. River Ayr Walk – no response from South Ayrshire. No signage on walk as promised by EAC some time ago (JR) Tourist information on River walk needs updated.

Concerns were raised about transport out of village. This is a barrier for people seeking employment.

MEG: The £96 has finally been paid as per insurance claim. The weather is causing problems with dealing with Japanese Knotweed. Contractors are meeting with EAC re – Day Centre.

EA Car Club : Refurbishment of house at track. Firework display has been arranged.

Gala committee: C Shepherd asked for clarification of costs for community rooms. She was advised to contact Muirkirk Community Association . All monies raised go back into village. There will be a Halloween party for children. Next Gala day to be 10th June 2018 at car track. It was suggested that transport to and from the Gala would help with the turnout. Will be trying to arrange a Cairn Table race for locals in the future.

TREASURERS REPORT: Balance - £2307.03

CORRESPONDENCE: Private rented sector tenants conference to be held on Saturday 30th September at 9.30am – 2.30pm in St Joseph's Academy, Kilmarnock.

PLANNING: None

MUIRKIRK NEWS: This month the photo on front page was of the school. The magazines were delivered to people who filled in yellow slips. Spare copies have been left in shops along with yellow slips. This month's issue is not on line yet.

LIBRARY/ GAMES HALL UPDATE: Library is open 4 days a week with volunteers. Contractors will be allocated for work at Day Centre. There has been an enquiry about the Games hall building.

KAMES DISASTER: Contact with Mrs Stoppard for chapel. Talk with people who have memories of disaster. Need a meeting by early October with all agencies involved. Wreath laying at Heritage park, service in church then buffet at St Thomas's hall on Sunday 19th November.

WINDFARMS : Public meeting on 20th September in main hall at school. Two representatives to give a presentation. Information will be given as to how monies can be applied for by organisations.

INPUT FROM PUBLIC: Empty buildings at top of Furnace Road are considered an eyesore. Can anything be done with them?

A.O.C.B. Coalfield Community Transport leaflets were all delivered last week with Muirkirk News.

D Agnew suggested buying daffodil/tulip bulbs to be planted at all entrances of village.

EAC will hold a consultation about their housing stock. All tenants will be notified. The meeting will be on 12th September at 3-6.15pm in community rooms.

NEXT MEETING MONDAY 2nd OCTOBER IN COMMUNITY ROOMS.

MUIRKIRK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

AGENDA

MEETING OF MUIRKIRK COMMUNITY COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 6th NOVEMBER AT 7pm IN COMMUNITY ROOMS, BURNS AVENUE.

BUSINESS

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES
2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING
- 2.1 MATTERS ARISING
3. REPORTS
- 3.1 POLICE
- 3.2 LOCAL COUNCILLORS
- 3.3 OTHER GROUPS
4. PLANNING
5. TREASURERS REPORT
6. CORRESPONDENCE
7. MUIRKIRK NEWS
8. KAMES DISASTER ANNIVERSARY
9. INPUT FROM PUBLIC
10. A.O.C.B.
11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

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COACH HOUSE INN

Saturday 28th October	Halloween Party	@ 8pm
Saturday 4th November	'Young at Heart'	@ 9pm
Saturday 11th November	'Los Perros'	@ 9pm
Saturday 18th November	'Cockeroke'	@ 9pm
Saturday 25th November	'Billy Hamilton'	@ 9pm

A HUGE WELL DONE TO CAMERON MENZIES FOR GETTING TO LAKESIDE AND INVITED TO THE GRAND SLAM.

MUIRKIRK ENTERPRISE GROUP

Presentation of Scots Dictionaries to Muirkirk Primary School



Head Teacher Sally Whittet with Enterprise Group director Billy Kirk



Enterprise Group Directors Tom Bark and Billy Kirk with Head Teacher Sally Whittet along with some of the Muirkirk Primary pupils with the Scots Dictionaries

The community would like to wish Sally Whittet all the best in her retirement and good luck for the future.

Women's Institute

The 60th Anniversary of the founding of the Muirkirk branch of the Scottish Women's Rural Institute (as it was called then) was celebrated with a dinner for members in St Thomas' Hall, in the village on Tuesday 12th October.

Mrs Grace Cowan, President, began the evening by welcoming members and guests who were Mrs Margaret Prentice, Federation Chairperson, Mrs Anne Borthwick, Handiwives Convener and Depute Provost Councillor Claire Leitch.

Mrs Margaret Robertson cut the anniversary cake before an excellent dinner was served by members of St Thomas' Hall Committee.

Following the meal a few presentations were made by the Depute Provost, the first one being an Hon. Members Badge to Mrs Jenny Blackwood who was a founder member of our Institute. Mrs Nett Forsyth was presented with a floral arrangement as the oldest member and a gift voucher was handed over to Mrs Susann Hillditch in recognition of 17 years as secretary.

Depute Provost Councillor Claire Leitch spoke to the members and congratulated the Institute on reaching its 60th anniversary, wishing us continued strength in the future. Margaret Prentice brought the good wishes of the Ayrshire Federation to the members.

Entertainment for the evening was provided Sylvia Doole and Dale Parker. The members greatly appreciated the talents of both Dale, on the keyboard, and Sylvia who sang. There were also duets from Dale on keyboard and Sylvia on violin. Our own member, Margaret Robertson, had written a poem to commemorate our anniversary which she recited and afterwards received many compliments.

In Agnes Johnstone's vote of thanks she made special mention of MEG and East Ayrshire Provost's Hospitality Trust which both gave donations towards our celebration.

Before the evening was brought to a close the raffle was drawn and competition winners announced:

The Letter "M"

- 1st Susan Forman (mouse),
- 2nd Marjorie Currie (meercat) and
- 3rd Jenny Blackwood (mincer).

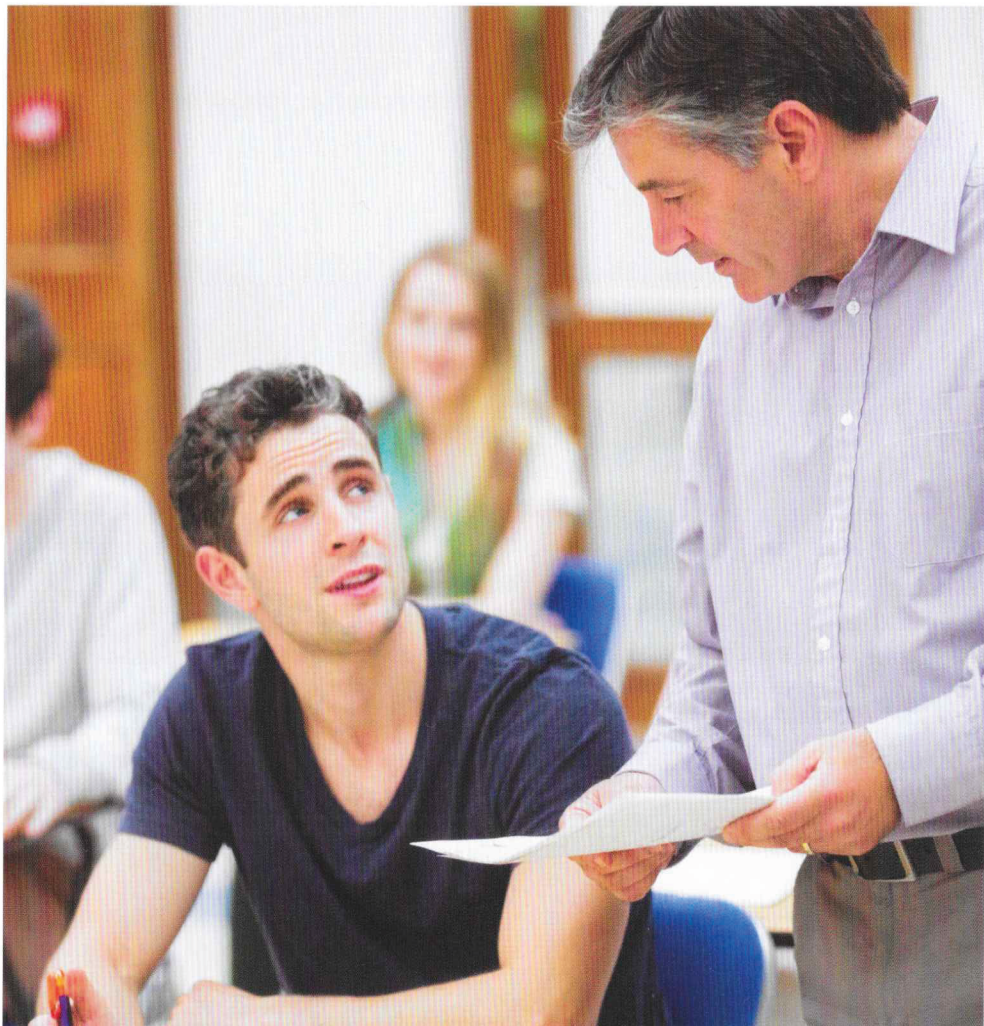
3 pieces of Tablet

- 1st Margaret Robertson
- 2nd Jenny Blackwood



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50g Melted butter
4 leeks (white)
1 medium onion
1 medium potato

Recipe

1. Chop vegetables
2. Melt butter on a low heat and add vegetables, soften for 10 mins.
3. Add 1 litre chicken or vegetable stock, bring to the boil and then simmer for 20 mins.
4. Puree and add cream and chives.

From one of Mrs June Bark's recipes.

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Muirkirk Learners' Group

The Muirkirk Learners' Group has a photography group that meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month in the Information Office at 33 Main Street, Muirkirk, from 7pm to 9pm.

A selection of the photos can be viewed on the screen at the office window.

The members judged an open competition for this newsletter and the winner and runner-up are on the opposite page.

Keep your eye out on Facebook for future competitions for the Muirkirk News.

Quiz Answers

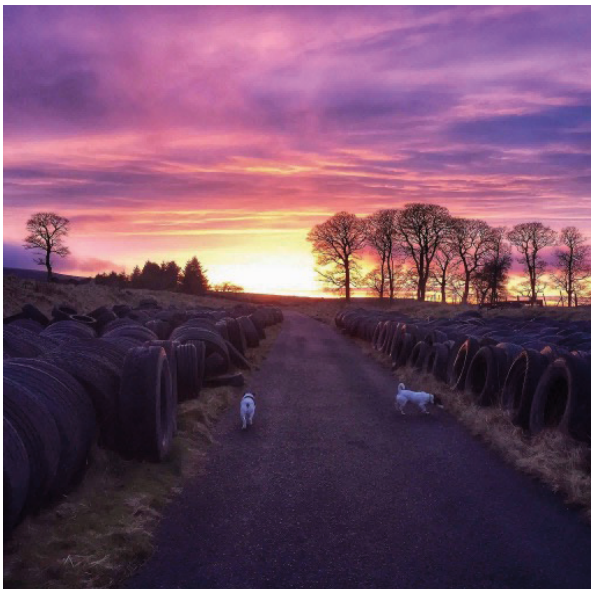
- 1 Not proven
 - 2 Kilmarnock
 - 3 The Scots Magazine
 - 4 Culzean Castle
 - 5 Charles Rennie Macintosh
 - 6 Kier Hardie and Cunningham
 Graham
 - 7 Brora
 - 8 Loch Fyne
-

Kerr & Smith would like to support community projects within Muirkirk, for further information contact news@muirkirk.org.uk.



Winner: Morag Dempster (above)

Runner-up: Brian Strickland (below)



Newsletter

The next date for submission of articles for the November newsletter is Friday 10th November 2017. December's deadline is Friday 1st December. Please send any correspondence to **news@muirkirk.org.uk**

We will be glad to accept any letters for inclusion into the news, please supply your name and address on correspondence (addresses will not be printed). We would also be happy to receive photos & recipes for inclusion into the news.

Muirkirk News is available free of charge to all households within the village and outlying areas.

Muirkirk News Advertising

Classified Adverts - £5

¼ page - £10

½ page - £20

Full page - £40

Full page (back cover) - £60

Full page (inside front & back cover) - £40

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