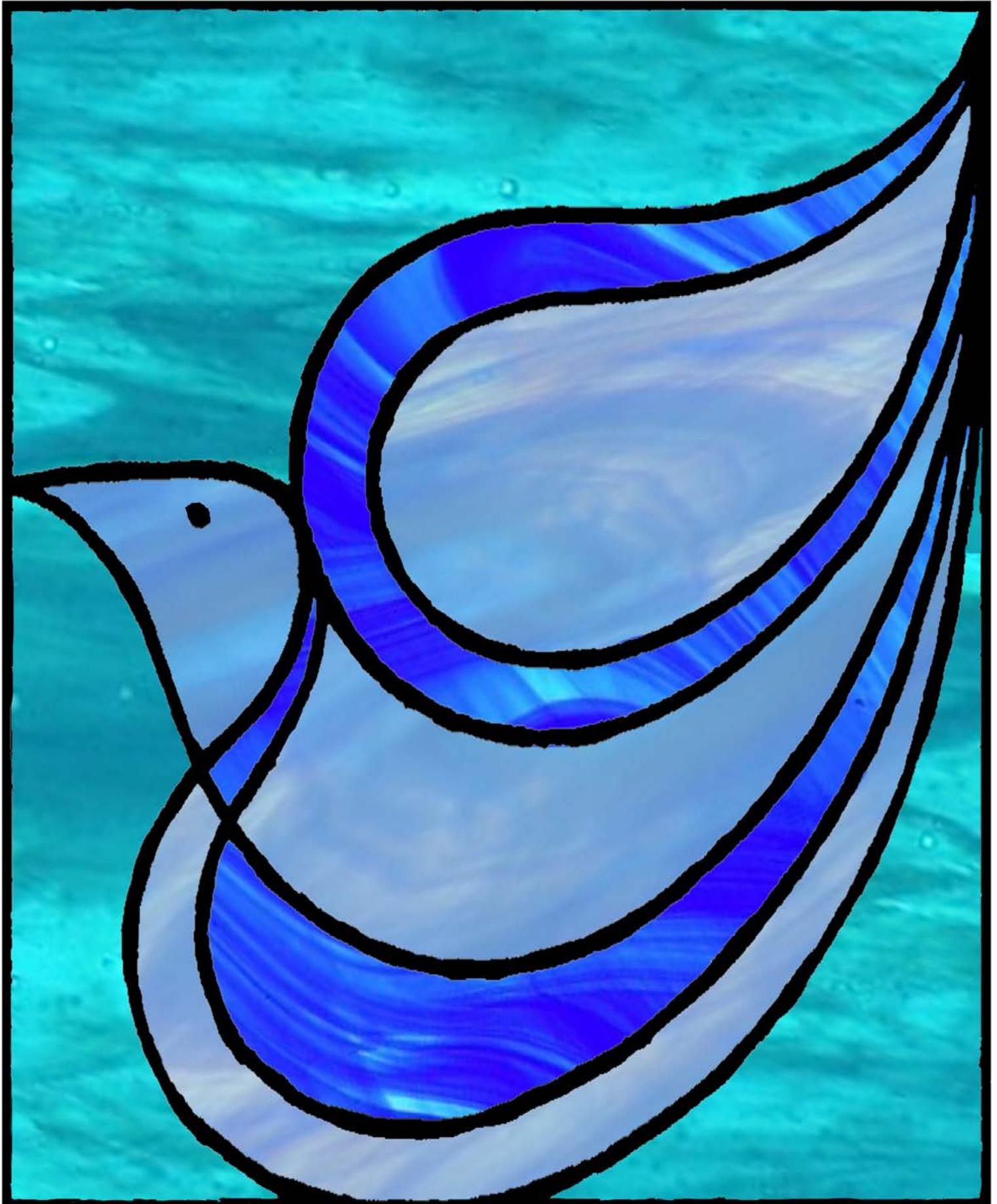


# BLACKHALL BULLETIN

March 2020

PRODUCED BY BLACKHALL ST. COLUMBA'S CHURCH FOR THE COMMUNITY

No. 159



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## ‘GO ON, SPOIL YOURSELF’



The Temptations were a sixties pop group, weren't they? Or were they a chocolate selection box by Cadbury's or Terry's? The word 'temptation' seems to hold little sense of fear or threat for us today. It's another word that has been taken over by the world of advertising and publicity and so has become part of the culture that offers seemingly endless opportunities for personal indulgence. We are encouraged to give ourselves a treat, to 'pamper' ourselves, have a good time, feel good, forget the stress, by eating or drinking or spending money on our own gratification. Once the ideas behind them would have been regarded as negative, for they are really promoting selfishness, extravagance, gluttony, excess, and consumption. Taken too far, they might lead us into debt, bad company, addiction, illness, even crime.

Our ancestors would have recognised the lures that are baited by such temptations, mainly because they were severely taught to look out for them. They had a fear of giving in to physical and emotional appetites and stimuli which they had been told could only lead to ruin in one way or another. Nowadays we live in more libertarian times. Nevertheless, trends nowadays are towards more and different warnings and not just about global warming, but slave labour and exploitation, evaluation of the origins of foodstuffs and acquiring information to enable informed choices. It's true that many threats have been apparently removed; many past sanctions proved hollow, and some doubts were resolved. But still dangers lie in forgetting about the dangers involved in drugs, sex, diet, ambition, speed, shopping. All these and more are the temptations that still beset human nature. All of us still have to face temptations and putting back the fear of giving in is not the way to defeat them. They cannot be controlled by the passing of laws of state or religion, which will only create dangerous repression as we can see when we look at the world scene. Recognising a temptation is the first step towards dealing with it sensibly.

Two musical approaches are found to temptation: one is in the song 'With a little bit of luck...' Stanley Holloway sang from 'My Fair Lady', ("when temptation comes. you'll give right in!"); the other is in the old mission Hymn, 'Yield not to temptation' ("ask the Saviour to help you"). They don't give answers but they do have clues to finding ways of living in balance and moderation.

The season of the Christian year we are now in - what we call LENT - with Ash Wednesday on February 26<sup>th</sup>, reminds us that Jesus was tempted in every way as we are (Hebrews 4:15 \*). True, we may think that His temptations were serious compared to ours, but those temptations that do face every one of us have their own dangers and risks that should be weighed up.

Don't just think of resistance, but of consequences.  
Use your judgement before you spoil more than yourself.

With every good wish from

Gordon Farquharson  
Locum minister

\* *'He's been through weakness and testing, experienced it all - all but the sin.*

*So let's walk right up to Him and get what He is so ready to give.*

*Take the mercy accept the help'*

From The Message by Eugene H Peterson



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Find us on  

# We have a new minister!

On Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February Mr Fergus Cook preached as sole Nominee to become the new minister of Blackhall St Columba's. The congregation voted unanimously to elect him to be appointed as our new minister. Mr Cook will be joining us soon.

## A bit about Mr Cook.

He has recently completed his probationary period and has yet to be ordained.

Fergus is 54 years of age and has followed his calling into the ministry after completing 30 years police service. He is married to Shona and they have three daughters. He lives on the south side of Glasgow – Waterfoot, by Eaglesham.

Fergus retired from the police with the rank of Inspector and was for a number of years the Chief Firearms Instructor for Strathclyde Police.

He has had a long involvement with the Church – he was ordained an Elder in 2003 and has held a number of posts, including Clerk to the Congregational Board.

From September 2018 until recently he was Probationary Minister at Williamwood Parish Church, Glasgow

He is keen to be out and about in Blackhall and get to know everybody and the area. So if you see him, you'll know who it is and be able to welcome him to Blackhall and St Columba's.



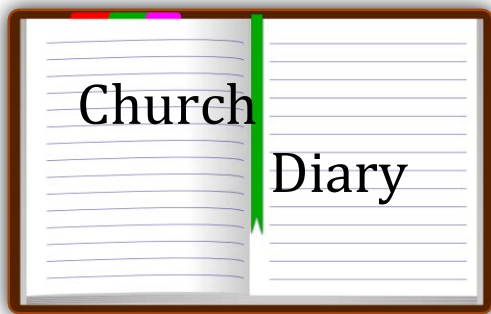
On Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February members of the Blackhall Suzuki String Group joined with the congregation for the Family Service.

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## MARCH

1 <sup>st</sup>	10.30am	Youth Sunday Service
4 <sup>th</sup>	12 noon	Mid-Week Service followed by light lunch
8 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Morning Worship
15 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Morning Worship
18 <sup>th</sup>	12 noon	Mid-Week Service followed by light lunch
22 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30am	Morning Worship followed by Stated Annual Meeting
24 <sup>th</sup>	4pm	Strachan House Service
29 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Morning Worship followed by Short Communion

## APRIL

5 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Palm Sunday Service
9 <sup>th</sup>	7pm	Maundy Thursday Service
10 <sup>th</sup>	7pm	Good Friday Service
12 <sup>th</sup>	8am	Early Rise Service in Ravelston Park
12 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Easter Day Family Service
15 <sup>th</sup>	12 noon	Mid-Week Service followed by light lunch
19 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Morning Worship
26 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Morning Worship followed by Short Communion
28 <sup>th</sup>	4pm	Strachan House Service
29 <sup>th</sup>	12 noon	Mid-Week Service followed by light lunch

## MAY

3 <sup>rd</sup>	10.30am	Morning Worship
10 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Morning Worship
13 <sup>th</sup>	12 noon	Mid-Week Service followed by light lunch
17 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Morning Worship
24 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Morning Worship
26 <sup>th</sup>	4pm	Strachan House Service
31 <sup>st</sup>	10.30am	Morning Worship followed by Short Communion



## FLOWERS IN CHURCH MARCH 2020

This month the flowers will be donated as follows :

1 <sup>st</sup>	Susan Scrimgeour
8 <sup>th</sup>	Muriel Morton
15 <sup>th</sup>	Christine McGowan Smith
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Phyllis King
29 <sup>th</sup>	May Williamson

Joan and Brian Duffin and Alison Hewat will be distributing the flowers.



## BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

The work in the Sanctuary continues apace. In fact, it is on time and on budget, which is very good news and which is not something every project of this size can say at this stage! The underfloor heating has now been installed and the floor has been re-laid. This means that the major tasks have been completed. There is, of course, a lot left to be done involving electrics, audio visual, external doors, fittings and so on. However, it does mean that we can look ahead with confidence to getting the Sanctuary ready for use. We are hoping and expecting that the contractors will have completed their work shortly after Easter.

The end product will show a real transformation of the Sanctuary space. Not only will it have a changed appearance – it will be much lighter and much less austere – but it will also provide real scope for new ideas for its use, both in the context of services and also through the rest of the week. This is not strictly speaking the remit of the steering group but ideas are already being shared, again with a sense of optimism and excitement at the possibilities.

Once the contractors have completed their work there will then need to be a period of about four weeks while we get the Sanctuary ready for use again and planning for moving back has begun. This involves having another look at the inventory, which was drawn up before moving out, and assessing where things are now. When the inventory was drawn up provisional decisions were made about whether and where each individual item would be used or stored. This list needs to be gone over again in detail because inevitably priorities change. This is quite a laborious task but it is also exciting. It means that the end is very much in sight and that the original dream is about to become reality.

The progress of the work is being shown on the church's website, [www.blackhallstcolumba.org.uk](http://www.blackhallstcolumba.org.uk) where the latest addition to the virtual reality tour shows some of the flooring in place. You can find this by going to the website, clicking on *Building for the Future* and then on *Virtual Reality Tour of the Works* on the drop-down menu. It is worth a visit.

When we get back into the Sanctuary it will all have been worth it. However, there is no doubt that it has been quite trying for everyone on the way through. The setting out and putting away of the chairs for worship in the Large Hall each week has been laborious and time consuming but the system has worked well and we have been able to maintain a good atmosphere in the Hall and a good spirit in the congregation. The hall users have had their sessions interrupted from time to time and there have been limitations of space, particularly for storage. On top of that, there have been problems with heating both on Sundays and during the week. This has been due to the work which has had to be done in the Sanctuary and that has now almost been completed. For a while we had to make do with temporary heating, which was not really adequate for the space. Now we have heating without control – which is better but still less than ideal! The final phase of work on the electrics is to reconnect the halls to the timer system and that will be done soon. All things considered, everyone has been very understanding of the inevitable disruption of the project and their forbearance has been greatly appreciated.

**Finally, we are turning our thoughts to the re-dedication service. This will be held on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June and we hope to see as many people as possible there. There will be more information in due course but in the meantime it is a date for the diary.**

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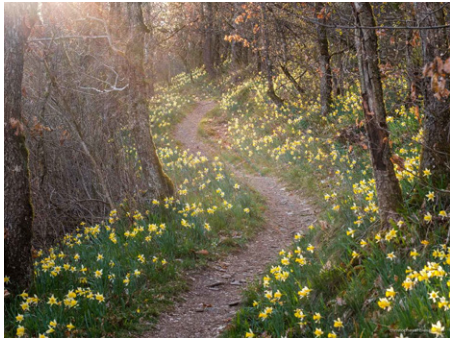
## "Each Little Flower That Opens..."

As spring approaches, Blackhall, no longer decorated with the festive lights of Christmas, now takes on a new brightness that is not electric or battery-powered but comes from the earth itself.



Throughout January, more and more tiny green shoots stood out against the dark soil and now, in February, those beautiful snowdrops are appearing, the first of the flowers to come through and survive even the frosty nights that still lie ahead. By the time you read this, of course, crocuses, daffodils and tulips will be filling your garden with colour. (As a flat-dweller now, I am grateful to the gardeners in the houses around my area for making my outlook so beautiful!)

Even the wooded areas, where we enjoy walking or cycling, become transformed with clumps of yellow flowers among their green stems. New life emerges from among the long-dead leaves that have lain since last year; fragile shoots penetrating the heavy soil, feeding from the bulbs buried there. Even if the resolutions and promises of the New Year have now been forgotten, amid the busyness of everyday life, the reality of new beginnings as the seasonal cycle continues can be an encouragement to each of us, whatever our hopes and aims for 2020 may be.



The beauty of creation lifts our spirits and may even encourage us to look beyond ourselves in Blackhall to something - someone - greater. Many have found a new spiritual awareness when taking in the spectacular view from a Munro summit, or looking out over a tranquil loch-side scene. But perhaps we can also be stirred by the simple design of a snowdrop or the intricacy of a fuchsia blossom.

Whatever our beliefs, however, much pleasure is gained from the giving and receiving of flowers - and Spring offers so many extra opportunities. Whether it's a red rose for Valentine's Day, a mixed bunch of flowers for Mother's Day or daffodils and lilies at Easter time, each flower comes with its own message of love; and receiving flowers when we are unwell or grieving reminds us so tangibly that someone cares.

This month, do make time to be mindful of the colourful signs of new life all around us - and perhaps take a moment to be thankful to the Creator for his sustaining hand from season to season. M S

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# SPRING CLEANING? REMEMBER FRESH START

Fresh Start is always happy to receive items in good condition, which will turn someone's first tenancy after homelessness into a home. Dinner or side plates, duvet covers, saucepans and small electricals (kettles, toasters) are just a few of the items on their list for starter packs. A full list can be found on the Fresh Start website <https://www.freshstartweb.org.uk/goods> or on the notice board in the halls' corridor. Goods can be taken directly to Fresh Start's warehouse (22-24 Ferry Road Drive) or brought to the church halls on a Friday morning between 10am and 11.30am. Unfortunately only goods which feature on the starter pack list can be accepted as there is limited storage in the warehouse.



**FreshStart**  
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**F**or those who have been homeless, they have no belongings. When they move into a flat, they cannot make a cup of tea, light a lamp, shut their curtains or snuggle up under their duvet. **YOU** can help.

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-  **Pots and Pans** • Soup Pots • Frying Pans • Milk Pans • Cooking Utensils • Can Openers • Potato Peelers • Wooden Spoons
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# THE WATCH COMMITTEE

## THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT

The charities chosen by the WATCH Committee for 2019 were Beach Wheelchairs Portobello and Kindred, a family support group based at the Sick Children's Hospital.

We would like to thank all who supported and contributed to the fundraising events during 2019. The Summer Coin collection, the Craft Coffee Morning in October, the Christmas Fair at the end of November and donations from other groups and individuals raised a total of £8,220.

At the service on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2020 we were delighted to present cheques for £4,110 to each of the charities represented by Alison Brown from Beach Wheelchairs Portobello and Sophie Pilgrim from Kindred.



WATCH Committee

---

## BUSINESS DONATIONS TO CHRISTMAS FAIR 2019

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## Blackhall St. Columba's Art Club

Our small Exhibition held at Blackhall Library over Christmas and New Year was very successful with five paintings sold. We are now beginning to work on paintings and cards for our annual Exhibition in the Church Hall in May, which although may seem a long way off will certainly creep up on us as things do! We hope you will come along and have a browse over a cup of coffee or tea, donate to our chosen charity (yet to be announced) or maybe even make a purchase. Dates for your diaries are Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May.

From time to time we arrange social lunches for our Monday and Tuesday members to get together, and in January 25 members went to the newly refurbished Scottish Engineer pub in Telford Road for a very congenial couple of hours with good food and chat.

We welcomed several new members this session and although we have a small waiting list things do change, so if you would be interested in joining please get in touch with our Membership Secretary, Anne McLennan on 336 4327.

## TUESDAY TOPICS

Tuesday Topics is held in the Small Hall of Blackhall St Columba's Church on alternate tuesdays at 7.30 pm with a talk/presentation, then coffee, tea, biscuits and a chat. All are welcome and visitors pay £2 each visit.

**In March**, on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, we have our annual theatre outing. We are returning to the King's Theatre to see the Southern Light Opera's production, which this year is 'Anything Goes'.

**In April**, on the 7<sup>th</sup>, Fred Daniels is revisiting us, this time with the second part of his presentation 'Goldan America – South Dakota to Yellowstone'.  
On the 21<sup>st</sup> we hold our A.G.M. and then enjoy a quiz.

**In May** our last meeting is on the 5<sup>th</sup> and is a surprise outing, with details nearer the time.

For further information about Tuesday Topics, and our full syllabus, details can be viewed on the Church website [www.blackhallstcolumba.org.uk](http://www.blackhallstcolumba.org.uk) under Community Activities, and/or you may contact: Jacky Cowie, secretary 332 1066 or Eleanor Lowrie, President 332 4827

## EDINBURGH FLORAL ART CLUB

Our meetings are held once a month at Blackhall St Columba's Church Hall from 2-4pm. Visitors are always welcome at a charge of £7 a meeting. For further details please contact Mrs Liliias Hoskins, Chairperson, on 0131 477 0245

Our next meetings are:

### Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March

Demonstrator John Dalton from Carlisle  
Title: "Spring is in the Air"

### Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

Demonstrator – Shamima Hasan from Glasgow  
Title: "Memory Lane"

### Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May

Demonstrator – Esther Kuck from Edinburgh  
Title: "Transition Spring to Summer"

## KNIT and NATTER

Unfortunately our numbers were down over the weeks that there were issues with the heating, but thankfully the halls are nice and toasty again so we are pleased to welcome anyone back who has been worried about this. Of course anyone who would like to join us is most welcome on a Monday evening from 7.30pm.

We were pleasantly surprised as to how much we have actually produced and will soon be distributing it to the Early Years Centres at South Queensferry and The Fort.



As we were in the halls for all our Christmas services we decided to present the church with a knitted Nativity scene. Many thanks to whoever took the time to arrange them beautifully in a proper setting, it made such a difference.

If you would like to know more about our group, please contact Lilian Cockburn through [stknitnatter@gmail.com](mailto:stknitnatter@gmail.com)



# CAMEO (Come And Meet Each Other) Club



The Christmas Lunch at the Holiday Inn on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2019 was well attended and much enjoyed by all.

The first meeting in the New Year was early – 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2020 ! However, we had a large turn-out of members and helpers when we had a special invitation to visit the Northcare Suites on Telford Road. The staff provided sandwiches, scones, cakes and tea or coffee in the attractive dining room on the first floor, which has spectacular views of Edinburgh Castle and the Pentland Hills. Although it was a bright sunny morning but very cold, a few ventured out on to the veranda to admire the view. Our sincere thanks to Margaret and her staff for their warm welcome and hospitality.



If you would like to come along to the Cameo, meeting fortnightly on a Friday morning from 10.30 – 12 noon, enjoy a natter over a cuppa and a scone or pancake then give one of us a ring. Transport can be arranged.

Margaret Brown      332 5957  
Fiona Drinnan      343 6762

## NORTH WEST HERITAGE GROUP

**Wednesday 18 March at 7.30 pm** Davidson’s Mains Parish Church Hall “**William Speirs Bruce, Scotland’s Polar Explorer**” Speaker: Simon Bendle,

**Wednesday 22 April at 8 pm** St. Columba’s Church, Blackhall. “**Edinburgh’s Water Supply**” Speaker Douglas Lowe (Currie & District Local History Society) followed by AGM.

# BLACKHALL COMMUNITY TRUST

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



- **Blackhall Community Trust AGM: Tuesday 24 March 7.30pm** at Blackhall Primary School. Please join us to hear the latest about our projects! BCT Members and residents are invited to join the discussion on what we do next as we make plans for Ravelston Park Pavilion
- **Kickstart your Creativity: Saturday 28 March and Saturday 9 May 1.30-5.30pm** at Blackhall Nursery. See below for more details.

### Christmas in Blackhall Village

Despite the weather's best efforts to dampen our spirits, the community came together for a lovely festive evening in early December with the tree lighting-up ceremony, stalls, food, fun and singing. Blackhall Children's Sports Committee helped BCT with the event. We are very grateful to many, many local businesses and organisations, including Craighleith Blackhall Community Council (funding for the tree), Inverleith Neighbourhood Network, Cloudberry Christmas pop-up (electricity and all-round help) and the Bruce Collie Building Company for the use of the yard, all decked out in Christmas lights. For a full list of the fantastic participating groups and businesses, please see our website [www.blackhallcommunitytrust.org.uk](http://www.blackhallcommunitytrust.org.uk)

The event raised £1001 for Alzheimer's Scotland (early onset) and £571 for Blackhall Community Trust. We've set aside funds to ensure the event can run again this year (3 December!). We'd be delighted to hear from anyone able to give up some time (three or four meetings from September onwards) to join the sub-committee!

### Blackhall Community Trust Activities and Opportunities

- **Kickstart your Creativity:** Saturday 28 March and Saturday 9 May 1.30-5.30pm at Blackhall Nursery. Thanks to funding support from the Inverleith Neighbourhood Network, we're running two free pilot workshops for those who would like to tap into their creativity through different art media. If you are interested in attending one of these workshops, please email [blackhallcommunitytrust@gmail.com](mailto:blackhallcommunitytrust@gmail.com) to book your place. Places are limited!
- **Singing Group:** Some residents have expressed interest in joining an informal singing group. We're planning to meet up for a one-off, probably on a Saturday, as a trial, to see what level of interest there is and what day/evening is best for participants. If you're interested in this, please email us.
- **Walking Group & Coffee Group:** These are both still running – email us for details.

### Progress with the Community Asset Transfer of Ravelston Park Pavilion and adjacent land

The legal process that will enable the land transfer is currently underway. We hope to have more news soon.

### Petition for Registering our Interest in some Local Land

We are still collecting signatures in support of our efforts to register our interest in some local land. Please find out more and sign the petition either at The Corner Shop or the Blackhall Primary School office. We'll also be at local events, collecting signatures.

### Blackhall Community Trust Board Needs You!

We're currently looking for new board members to help with BCT admin and events. Contact us if you can help.

**Blackhall Community Trust:** It is free to become a member of BCT – email us if you would like to join.

Or sign up for our email/mail by emailing [blackhallcommunitytrust@gmail.com](mailto:blackhallcommunitytrust@gmail.com). Visit:

[www.blackhallcommunitytrust.org.uk](http://www.blackhallcommunitytrust.org.uk) or follow us on Facebook @blackhallct or Twitter @BlackhallCT

Write to us: c/o Blackhall Nursery, Ravelston Park Pavilion, Craigmock Rd Edinburgh EH4 3RU.

# IT'S OUR 40<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY YEAR!

Yes it's true – the Blackhall Bulletin will be 40 in September! We're beginning celebrations early by now publishing in colour. We hope you like it.

But how did it start and why? Margaret McArthur, first editor of the Bulletin tells us a bit about its beginnings in 1980.

*In September 1980 the Blackhall Bulletin came into existence. If my memory serves me correctly – which it doesn't always these days – I think it came about due to the Church Reappraisal for Mission Campaign in 1979, We held a whole day Saturday Conference attended by around 100 members, who broke into smaller groups to discuss the way ahead. A visitation to all the homes in our parish had revealed that although Blackhall obviously knew that the church existed, the vast majority had never visited it or knew much about it. However, we had been greeted warmly and as a result it was decided to look into the possibility of producing a community/church magazine perhaps quarterly and delivering it to every home in the area. An ambitious scheme that we had to think about carefully. The story of the Bulletin will continue in the June Bulletin.*

Margaret McArthur

But we would like to have YOUR contributions to the story. Have you every featured in the Bulletin? Had a story printed? Had a piece written about you? Seen your work in print for the first time? PLEASE tell us about it. Tell us what you feel about YOUR BULLETIN. We want to serve the community by telling you what's going on, BUT we want to include things of interest to YOU. Here are some comments to get you started.

*During my time living in Blackhall, and (to my pleasant surprise) even after moving to Corstorphine, I've had the privilege of appearing in the Bulletin on more than several occasions whether it's been in connection with the S'up spoon, the WATCH committee or receiving my MBE. Whilst the Kirk News is great for keeping up to date with what's going on in St Columba's, the Bulletin is essential for sharing news throughout the Blackhall community and beyond. I look forward to reading it for the next 40 years!*

**Grant Douglas** (inventor of the Su'p spoon)

*I cannot give high enough praise to the Blackhall Bulletin, which I have enjoyed for the last 40 years. Articles and photos of great local interest good advertising and extremely well edited. It appeals to all age groups and is well worth continuing for the next 40 years. Many thanks to those involved.*

**Frances Douglas**

These three front pages from 80s and 90s show the development of Craigeleith Shopping Centre, starting with a plan for Sainsbury's and then the plans to extend to what we know today. The Bulletin was keeping the community informed.

## BLACKHALL BULLETIN

SEPTEMBER 1991    PRODUCED BY ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH FOR THE COMMUNITY    No. 45

### SAINSBURY'S PLAN

The Sainsbury supermarket, which has submitted plans for a multimillion pound superstore development, will be built in the new district Craigeleith Quarry. The store would have some 70,000 square feet of floor space with just over half of this being used for sales and the remainder for storage. Parking spaces for some 600 cars are also proposed, plus a bus stop with turning area, a taxi set down point and cycle racks. A coffee shop and a petrol station with its own shop are also included in the plans.

The main car access to the site would be from the junction of South Craigeleith Avenue, Coopers Ferry Road and Craigeleith Road and would involve the replacement of the existing traffic signals with a "new rotary intersection". A second access would be formed from South Craigeleith Avenue (off shoppers from the north of the site) and by service vehicles and buses. Controlled Pedestrian Crossings would be provided on all the main roads near the entrance to the site.

The conclusion of the traffic assessment was "The traffic impact of this proposal would be acceptable, and indeed traffic conditions on the surrounding road network would be improved. The new rotary intersection would reduce existing delays to road users, especially at off peak times, and the introduction of another road would probably reduce or remove traffic impact generally."

However, it is likely to be some time before we know whether Sainsbury's plans are acceptable to the District Council Planning Department and the community.

### "HAPPY LANDING" TO SARAH AND STEWART

Who would have thought that Sarah, when she left to live in a new position, would be heading for Bermuda? Most of us would have thought of a change in Edinburgh or at least within the bounds of Scotland – but Bermuda!

In four years since Sarah came to St Columba's as Associate Minister and it took her very little of that time to find a place in the hearts of the congregation. Her cheerful disposition and warm, commitment personality was greatly appreciated by the tick, elderly, household and beyond whom she visited so faithfully. She has an appetite for hard work and her support with the children and young folk of the Kirk was obvious for all to see.

She also brought with her a bonus in the shape of her husband Stewart who has played a strong part in Blackhall activities. His ready smile and willing helpfulness will be missed and we admit him for the steady support he offers Sarah.

Sarah enjoyed her involvement in Venture Weeks and showed a magic touch in recruiting leaders and helping to run the various clinics, quite a task when you remember that preparation starts in April for an event at the end of July.

Since the time when she sought the Kirk Session's approval to apply for a new position she has had some disappointments, so we are all the more delighted that when the opportunity came, it brought the excitement of travel, blue skies and sunshine. Perhaps the sunshine is in exchange for the sunshine she gave to us.

We wish her every success in Bermuda and she takes with her our warm thanks for her service to Blackhall St Columba's.



### CRAIGELEITH QUARRY



## BLACKHALL BULLETIN

MARCH 1996    PRODUCED BY ST. COLUMBA'S CHURCH FOR THE COMMUNITY    No. 53

### NURSING HOME TO OPEN IN MAY

The new Westminster Health Care home in Craigeleith Road will create around 150 new jobs in the area. The posts will include RCN's, RMN's, care assistants, a physiotherapist, laundry and kitchen assistants. When full, the home will care for up to 90 residents - both those who are frail and those suffering from Alzheimer's and other related conditions.

Blackhall Primary School ran a competition to name the home and when it has been approved a prize will go to the class and the individual who submitted the winning entry.

The home will be run by a Manor Manager with a team of appropriately qualified nurses and carers. There will also be a full-time Activities Organiser who will arrange outings, conferences and social and cultural events inside the home. The home will be furnished in a comfortable and homely style - the bedrooms are single with en-suite facilities - and residents will be encouraged to bring in personal ornaments, photographs and any other possessions they wish in order to make their rooms as familiar as possible. The resident's rooms in their home and, as such, their privacy is respected - no-one will enter the room without knocking first.

The home will provide excellent cuisine with attention to special dietary needs.

If you require any further information, please contact:  
**Heleen Ross, Public Relations and Marketing**  
**Westminster Health Care**  
**48 Leakeston Square**  
**London WC2E 7XH**  
**Tel: 0171 839 9302**

#### IN THIS ISSUE

- Page 2 Blackhall United Fire Church News
- Page 3 Point of Concern - Changing Social Relationships
- Page 5-6 St. Columba's Kirk News
- Page 9 Youth Organisations School Pages
- Page 11 Police Call
- Page 13 In Remembrance Vets
- Page 14-18 Community News
- Page 19-20 Blackhall Sports News & Entry Forms

### VENTURE '96???

Last year '95, the week's activities were enjoyed by over 100 five to eleven year olds. If Venture Week is to continue, we desperately need your support for the fortnight of 5th to 9th August. Without further help, there will be no Venture '96.

Please help this Christian outreach from St. Columba's. We need a full team for games, music, drama and art. What can you do?

Please complete the form below and return it to the Church Office not later than 7th April.

Venture '96, 5-9 August - Helpers

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tel: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Games  Music   
 Drama  Art   
 General

Please tick \_\_\_\_\_

### CRAIGELEITH RETAIL PARK GETS THE GO-AHEAD

Planning permission has been granted for the new £25 million Retail Park in Craigeleith Quarry on the site of Miller's former storage yard.

Homebase, a Sainsbury subsidiary company, will anchor the development. As well as selling DIY and household goods, the store will also include a garden centre. Major high street electrical, furniture and fashion chains are believed to be interested in the remaining eight units.

The development will be linked to the Sainsbury's food store by a covered walkway and there will be parking for 470 cars.

Work has already started on site and it is anticipated that the Retail Park will open in December.

## BLACKHALL BULLETIN

SEPTEMBER 1993    PRODUCED BY ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH FOR THE COMMUNITY    No. 53

### FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS AT CRAIGELEITH QUARRY

A new £6 million shopping development is planned by the Miller Construction Group for Craigeleith Quarry.

The complex would consist of one continuous building housing five retail outlets - DIY plus garden centre, electrical and furniture stores - a restaurant is also planned for another part of the site. The ground landscaping will be retained and further landscaping carried out to improve the appearance of the area, which is at present occupied by various parts of Miller's Construction business. It is also planned that the new building would be of one continuous colour rather than taking on the different hues of the new stores. There will be ample car parking.

Entry would be made along the existing road into the present Miller Complex. The Transportation Committee of Lothian Region have decided that the alterations made to the surrounding roads for the neighbouring Sainsbury Store will be adequate to cope with the expected increase in traffic.

Miller hope that the project will go before the Planning Department next month and if they are given the go-ahead, the retail park could be open for business by the end of next year.

### Have a Happy Retirement, Willie



Willie McGilchrist receives a cheque from Bill Brewster with Isabel MacDonald and Margaret McGilchrist seated on his left.

After some 60 years in the Family Post Office and Navigation business, Willie (as he is affectionately known) McGilchrist recently retired.

McGilchrist's has been a household name in this area and if one wanted any local information, the answer was "Go to Willie - he'll know".

To mark his retirement and in recognition of his service to the community, some local residents organised a collection and on 15th July, a small retirement gathering was held, when Willie was presented with a cheque and his wife, Margaret, with a basket of flowers with the best wishes of all who had subscribed.

The family business is, of course, being ably carried on by Dennis, Willie's son.



An aerial perspective of the proposed redevelopment

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Tom Scott, Rural Landscape, sold for £1,100



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## BLACKHALL CHILDREN'S SPORTS COMMITTEE ANNUAL FUNDING AWARDS ARE NOW OPEN!

Whether you are a community club who needs to purchase extra equipment or know a talented child looking for financial support to help further their sports training, Blackhall Children's Sports Committee has a funding award to help.

Each year our ambition is to support individuals and local organisations or groups that help kids of all abilities take part in physical activity whether this is through sport or recreational activities within the Blackhall community.

### What do we fund?

Does your child need support to further their sporting achievements? Or perhaps you volunteer in a local children's group who need new sporting equipment or training for coaches or assistance to take part in a new activity?

In 2019 we awarded over £6,000 to five individuals and ten groups in Blackhall. Children who benefited from the awards ranged from toddlers right up to senior school level. The types of sports and activities funded included athletics, swimming, table tennis, fencing, netball, tennis, yoga, sailing and camping.

### The difference we make

Our awards make a real difference to grass roots activities and voluntary organisations in our community. This year the football teams at Blackhall primary school benefited from an award of over £800 for football strips and two sets of goal posts. The new goals will be used by every year group. The team's coach, Andy Duncan, told us that the goals would make a huge difference to the teams' training sessions in the park for years to come

### Who can apply?

The Awards are available to support any child, up to 18 years old, living in the Blackhall catchment area and any groups with a minimum of 75% of their membership living within Blackhall. There is no maximum limit on the amount that can be made, subject to our available funds, and applications are welcomed from both new and previous recipients.

### How to apply?

Applications are open from 7 February to 7 April 2020 and will be awarded during May.

Applying is simple:

- Step 1: Review the eligibility criteria on our Facebook page
- Step 2: Complete the online application
- Step 3: Submit the form before midnight on 7 April.

If you are not on Facebook please email us [blackhallcsc@gmail.com](mailto:blackhallcsc@gmail.com) to request a form.

Support is available to complete your application, please get in touch via the email address or through our Facebook page.

### UPCOMING BCSC EVENTS

SUNDAY 10<sup>th</sup> MAY – FAMILY FUN CYCLE

SATURDAY 6<sup>th</sup> JUNE – BLACKHALL CHILDREN'S SPORTS DAY

For further info on our awards or any of our events please visit [Facebook.com/BlackhallChildrensSC](https://www.facebook.com/BlackhallChildrensSC)



# Blackhall Guiding

All units are back and busy and looking forward to what 2020 will bring. From sleepovers, camps and fun days out. Everyone is busy working on different themed skill builders and unit meeting activities to help girls gain their theme award.



202 Rainbows are “Making change” by learning about helping the environment and our community. They have enjoyed learning how to protect our wild animals, and working on Interest badges such as the Recycling badge. **Nicola – 202 Rainbow Leader.**



202 and 202B Brownies started off the year with a trip around the Amazon Warehouse. They are working on the theme of 'Skills for my future' where they have been learning different techniques in the kitchen and how to use hammers and nails correctly. They have had a fantastic Lion King themed camp at Netherurd making lots of crafts, Geocaching, Caving and Archery. They are looking forward to holding a beetle drive and duck race to raise money for Charity. **Nicole - 202 and 202B Brownie Leader**



157A Guides ended the year with a trip to the Christmas Market in town. We took part in the Jingle Silent Disco and danced and sang our way round the market before having a hot chocolate and a ride on the chairplanes then catching the Bus home. We also had great fun sleeping at the bottom of the sea when we bedded down in the viewing tunnel at Sea Life Centre Loch Lomond in Feb and we're now looking forward to Pitching our tents and cooking our own food at Netherurd Camp in May. **Karen – 157A Guides Leader**



## Volunteer with Girlguiding Edinburgh?

Could you spare some time to volunteer with us? It's an exciting time to be part of Girlguiding as we get to grips with our most exciting (and biggest) programme overhaul in 100 years!

We are looking for enthusiastic adults to help with Rainbow, Brownie & Guide units city-wide,

Full training and support provided. See our website or register online for more information:

<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/become-a-volunteer/>

[GGUKBlackhallDistrict@outlook.com](mailto:GGUKBlackhallDistrict@outlook.com)



# BLACKHALL NURSERY NEWS

## SPRING TERM



Blackhall Nursery is situated within the wonderful nature resource of Ravelston Park and Woods. At Blackhall Nursery, we put the children at the heart of everything we do. We provide a safe, healthy and happy environment where children grow and develop through play and active learning.

We began this term with a focus on our 'Water' eco topic. The children learned about the effects of plastic pollution on sea animals and created a display of pictures to share their 'Save the Ocean' message - "*Orca has a bag on him hair and say 'help me, help me, there's a bag on my head!'*" and "*People in the sand and them eating crisps and them put the packet in the sea then the fish got all sad*" – what important messages for us all. The children have enjoyed more visits to Ravelston Woods exploring nature and using the equipment in their kit bags. To encourage the children to be responsible when out and about in the local community, they will take part in our Road Safety walks this month and look for safe places to cross the road. It is a busy time for our eco work as the children will be planting lots of vegetables and flowers in the Nursery garden and our Eco Team will continue taking some children along to visit their friends at Strachan House Care Home. We will also arrange another Family Gardening Day this term when Nursery families, staff and members of the local Beavers group will tidy up the garden, spread lots of bark and take care of all the little jobs to get ready for the Spring and Summer months.

Blackhall Nursery is a registered Scottish charity working in partnership with the City of Edinburgh Council. We offer funded places to eligible children aged 3-5 years on a term time basis. From August 2020, the Scottish Government will increase funded hours to 1140 per annum.

We are a feeder nursery for Blackhall Primary School and **all places are free and funded by the City of Edinburgh Council**. The Nursery enjoys an excellent reputation within the community but don't take our word for it, please take a look at the parents' comments on our Care Inspectorate report available at [www.careinspectorate.com](http://www.careinspectorate.com).

You can place your child's name on the Nursery waiting list from their 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday by downloading an application form at [www.blackhallnursery.co.uk](http://www.blackhallnursery.co.uk) or by contacting the Nursery for an application form on 0131 332 8296.

### blackhall playgroup

Blackhall Playgroup is a small friendly playgroup for children from their second birthday. Based in St Columba's Church upper hall we meet Monday to Friday from 9.00am to 11.30am during school term time and offer flexible sessions.

Our qualified staff support children's curiosity, social skills, wellbeing and learning in a play based, caring and fun environment. Playgroup is a great stepping stone between home and nursery.

'Blackhall Playgroup have created a wonderful place for little ones to find their first independence and friendships. Kids can explore, play, create in a lovely calm caring environment, both my kids have loved it and benefitted enormously from attending.' Lisa - Chair of Parent Committee

If you are interested in joining or visiting Blackhall Playgroup, please do contact us on the details below.

Blackhall Playgroup, St Columba's Church, Columba Road, EH4 3QU  
07999 514809 [blackhallplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:blackhallplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk)  
Scottish Charity Number: SC011212

# BLACKHALL PRIMARY SCHOOL

In this issue, we feature work from Primaries 6 and 7 who have been learning some very different skills.

## PRIMARY 6 FILM PROJECT

Primary 6 were lucky enough to have some film tutors who taught us about film making. P6b chose gender inequality as our theme. In our movie we go to the future and we show that gender inequality has flipped the other way, so women are getting paid more than men. Instead of Suffragettes fighting for women's rights we had the Ruffragettes fighting for men's rights. We named our movie 'The Universe that Flipped'.

We learned to use a storyboard to split our film into scenes. The equipment that we used was the clapper board, a fluffy microphone and Film Mic Pro to film it on the iPad. We used different shots for different scenes. For example, to show that a person is scared you could do an extreme close up of the actor's face.

The week after we filmed all of the scenes for the movie, we had the editing to do. We were split into groups. One group putting the movie together and two groups animating. When it was all done, we thought our movie was great.



By Aaron Schofield and Josh Turnbull.

### GENDER INEQUALITY IN P6B'S FILM

Gender inequality is when men and women are not treated the same.

Suffragettes: In the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries many women started to campaign for women's rights. The focus of their attention - The right to vote. This became known as the suffragist movement.

Ruffragettes: In the late 21<sup>st</sup> and early 22<sup>nd</sup> centuries many men started to campaign for men's rights. The focus of their attention - The right to have fair pay. This is because women are taking over the world.

By Ella MacLennan & Scarlett Seddon

### P6 NETBALL TOURNAMENT

Our P6 girls took part in a netball tournament on 13<sup>th</sup> January at Herriot Watt University. We played against several other teams from local schools. We wore Blackhall hoodies, tops and skorts. We scored lots of goals and hope to be able to do this again.

By Scarlett Seddon and Ella MacLennan, P6b

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## PRIMARY 7

Primary 7 went to Lagganlia Outdoor Centre on 9<sup>th</sup> December. We spent four nights there and tried a range of outdoor activities. From skiing to archery, canoeing to gorge walking, hiking to mountain biking... we did it all! The instructors were incredible and helped us all to learn new skills, develop confidence in ourselves and to work together. The teachers and PSAs who came with us also participated and made sure they put themselves out of their comfort zones too. The weather was varied with sunshine, rain, wind and snow thrown at us - thanks Scotland! Overall we had a brilliant trip and will be sharing our Big Books from camp with parents, keeping them as a souvenir of an amazing experience.



# BLACKHALL PRIMARY SCHOOL

## PRIMARY 6 FILM PROJECT

We had a fantastic opportunity to work with Screen Education Edinburgh to produce a movie based on a social justice theme. We chose homelessness; a very large problem in our city. We looked for more information online and found out lots of interesting facts about a café chain called Social Bite. They have a system in which customers can pay for one coffee etc. for the price of two. The other coffee is given to a homelessness person in need, for free. We were able to contact Social Bite and they kindly allowed us to use their logo in our movie.

We learned how to use camera equipment correctly and responsibly, for example: squeeze in your arms when holding the ipad/camera to prevent the camera from wobbling side to side. These tips came in handy as we were filming ourselves. We learned about different types of shot such as establishing shot and long shot. We all had turns of being the sound technician, clapper board operator and director.



When editing, we had to decide on which shots we wanted and what intro we liked. Once everything was edited and ready we were all very excited to share our movie.

Nina Watt and Charlotte Barnes

As part of our film project we found out about this amazing Edinburgh charity.

## SOCIAL BITE



Social Bite is an Edinburgh based charity that helps homeless people by giving them a job or a free meal.

There is a social Bite café and a restaurant called Vesta. Most people that work there were previously unemployed or homeless.

In the Social Bite café and restaurant, you can pay for two meals or two coffees and the second one you buy goes to a homeless person.

There is also a village where people that don't have home can live for a little while until they can afford a house.

Some famous people have visited the Social Bite café and Vesta such as prince Harry and Meghan, George Clooney and Leonardo Dicaprio.

Social Bite also holds a sleep out. It's when people come together to sleep outside overnight and raise money for the charity. There is also a wee sleep out specially for children.

You should try to go to Social Bite café or Vesta.

By Samuel Sommerville and Alasdair Robertson P6

## BLACKHALL PROBUS CLUB

The Blackhall Probus Club is part of a world-wide movement which organizes social events for retired men in the local area. With a membership of just over fifty, we meet on the first and third Thursday of the month from October through to April at the Blackhall Bowling Club on Keith Row at 10:00 to chat over tea/coffee/biscuits before listening to a talk given by experts and enthusiasts across a diverse range of subjects. We normally finish around 12:00.

By the time this Blackhall Bulletin is published we will be three quarters of the way through our fascinating programme for this session with only three talks remaining.

**March 5<sup>th</sup> Spitfire Women** – the story of the women pilots at the Air Transport Auxiliary who aided the war effort in World War II by flying Spitfires from the end of the production line to the RAF airbases.

**March 19<sup>th</sup> Bridgescapes: Scotland's Bridge Building Heritage** - With the opening of the Queensferry Crossing in 2017, it is apt to celebrate the long and illustrious history of bridges within Scotland and the contribution Scottish engineers have made to bridges around the globe.

**April 16<sup>th</sup> Location Edinburgh** – An eye opener revealing films that have been shot in Edinburgh which will be followed by our Spring Lunch at a local golf club.

Previous talks this session included:

**"From Holyrood to Hollywood - A Technical Career in Motion Pictures"**, in which Alan Masson related his interesting career from Kodak research chemist to Director of Engineering in Hollywood.

**"Technology Collections at National Museum of Scotland"** explored the current exhibits and was followed a few weeks later with a visit to the NMS vast store rooms in Granton housing items ranging from spectacular steam driven industrial equipment to motor bikes, model ships and gramophones – many of which brought back childhood memories.

**"Maps at the National Library of Scotland"** included maps of the Blackhall area illustrating how the area has developed with an online demonstration on their web site of how their systems can automatically superimpose maps from different eras or subject matter to give new combined perspective.

Christopher Blanchett, a weather forecaster with BBC Scotland, gave a talk before our Christmas Lunch entitled **"Weather you like it or not - Don't shoot the messenger!"** We were all captivated by his presence and intrigued by the behind the scenes activity and preparation that goes into 55 seconds on air.

Our "Pie, Pint and Quiz Lunch" held immediately after some of our talks have proved successful and we now plan to hold three such lunches per session. We also have an annual trip to the Pitlochry Theatre each May.

We are always pleased to welcome new members, so if you would like to join us for any of the remaining talks this session, or on 1<sup>st</sup> October for the start of the new session, do please come along to the Blackhall Bowling Club at 10:00 and we will be delighted to see you. Alternatively, please contact the Secretary for more details.

Neil McIntosh, Secretary, Blackhall Probus Club.  
Phone: 0131 312 6164 Email: [neil.mcintosh@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:neil.mcintosh@blueyonder.co.uk)  
27 Hillpark Way, Edinburgh, EH4 7ST.

## CRAIGLEITH PROBUS

The East Lothian coast is known and recognised worldwide for its bird fauna as well as its coastal flora, and, prior to our outing, we are looking forward on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March** to hearing from Stan da Prato on "the Changing Wildlife of our Coasts". Stan is heavily involved in the Scottish Ornithologists' Club, and so we are guaranteed an informative and structured talk. Of course when we visit the Seabird Centre we will also see some of Stan's input into North Berwick in Bloom, a group that has numerous years of successes in Britain in Bloom.

A fortnight prior to this, on **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March**, we are having our second charity talk of the session with the theme being 'Supporting Autism in Edinburgh & the Lothians' with Cathy Steedman Scottish Director, Autism Initiatives, explaining their work which ranges from supported living to schools, from a short break service to one stop shops, from work placements to training, clubs and activities, Autism Initiatives has a wealth of resources and expertise that support autistic people to achieve their personal goals.

Like most other Probus Clubs we enjoy the social side of being a Probarian, and we are looking forward on **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March** to our annual lunch at Bonhams.

Holding an AGM on All Fools' Day (1<sup>st</sup> April) may tempt unwise consequences especially as straight after this we are hearing a talk on the Phantom Regiment of World War Two! However this is a serious theme and their role had major input in WW2 - and while mentioning 'major', lest we forget, one of the Majors in the Phantom Regiment was the actor David Niven, who commented afterwards "These were wonderful days which I would not have missed for anything".

With signs of spring the Craigleith Probarians are looking forward, on **15<sup>th</sup> April**, to their outing to visit the Scottish Seabird Centre at North Berwick.



As a Club we welcome any semi retired or retired gentlemen with the only criteria that you should be over fifty five - in fact within our Club the ages over forty years.

If transport to our meetings is an issue please just mention it to our Secretary, Bettie Allen,

or email [infocpc21@gmail.com](mailto:infocpc21@gmail.com)

John MacLennan: Past President



# BLACKHALL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



Those who attend the 'horti' can be seen now in their gardens, even in this ever changeable weather, and it is clear that their lawns already improving from the knowledge gained from Tony Garn's talk in February on 'Caring for your Lawn. Our talk on 'Vegetables' had to be rearranged into March and so we will be delighted to welcome Jess Brown at 7.45pm on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March. Jess is part of the team at Edinburgh Zoo, an award winning garden location, and we are looking forward to finding out more on how to grow more edibles in our gardens - in containers, or in the soil. It is so much better to consider 'food miles' for the salad leaves that garnish our sandwiches, or to put it another way, instead of iceberg lettuce from Spain, use doorstep grown lettuce or salad greens!

Our theme on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April is 'Community Gardening' and also a brief mention of how the 'horti' was formed just under seventy years ago. In previous editions of the Blackhall Bulletin some comment has been made of various garden related initiatives and in this talk these will be explained in more depth; however in principle how a community engages in gardening or environmental projects varies from supporting local parks via 'Friends' groups, organising litter picks, placing and maintaining planters in prime street locations, to developing ideas such as forest church, as well as supporting forest schools.



The Society's Annual Plant Sale takes place on 9<sup>th</sup> May, and always remember that there will be ample supplies of annual bedding plants (mostly half hardy), which are grown especially for us by The Scotts family at Braidwood, Carluke. The helpers will be on hand to give advice and assist you in your plant choice. Come early, join the queue at St. Columba's Church Hall with doors opening at 10am --- by noon there will be nothing left!!

For more information please email [blackhall.horti@gmail.com](mailto:blackhall.horti@gmail.com)

John MacLennan: Hon President

## Plant Sale 9<sup>th</sup> May 10am

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# BLACKHALL BOWLING CLUB



Lawn bowls is fun!

It can be enjoyed by people of all ages and levels of fitness. It gets you into the fresh air and gives you a modest but welcome level of exercise. The basics can be learnt in a day with the finer points still being worked on a lifetime later. It can be played as an individual or as part of a team.

Blackhall Bowling Club has, since its foundation in 1898, existed to further the sport in the Blackhall community. The club has been based in its current location of 21 Keith Row since the 1920s. Surprisingly few Blackhall folk are aware of it being there, as the location is discreetly hidden behind the houses that line the street.

As well as playing bowls, both competitively and socially, the club has an active social life with events scheduled on average once a month. Examples of this include Barbecue, Italian Evening, Race Night, Wine Tasting, Spice Night, Burns Supper and parties both at Christmas and Hogmanay. During the close season we have coffee mornings, bridge sessions and games nights. We also maintain close links with other local clubs and organisations such as the Probus and Tennis Clubs.

Membership is open to all who wish to enjoy the sport regardless of age, gender or any other distinction of background. Currently we have a membership of 150, evenly split between Ladies and Gents sections. For more information about us please take a look at our website [www.blackhallbc.com](http://www.blackhallbc.com) or email us at [blackhallbc@live.co.uk](mailto:blackhallbc@live.co.uk).

The playing season opens on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2020. Give Bowls a Try and come along to one of our Open Days on Sundays, 26th April or 10th May from 2:00pm, or just drop in at one of our Saturday morning coaching sessions which start at 10:30, between May and September. You will be sure of a warm welcome.

# CLOUDBERRY NEWS

It's all happening at Cloudberry. We are delighted to be moving across the road and into the corner site in Blackhall Dip. There'll be more gifts and more coffee for everyone!

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Make sure to visit the new shop which opens at the beginning of February.



## A Singing Group for people with dementia and their carers

Blackhall St Columba's Church hall

Fortnightly on Tuesdays 2-3.30pm



Refreshments and a chance to chat from 2pm

Singing from 2.30pm

Dates:

March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>

April 7<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>

May 19<sup>th</sup>

June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>

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## Croquet at Lauriston Castle

2020 is the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Edinburgh Croquet Club which plays on the spectacular lawns in front of Lauriston Castle overlooking the Firth of Forth. This year we plan a new way of introducing more people to this fascinating sport.

We will be holding free Taster Sessions on the mornings of Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April and Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April. At these sessions you will be able to try your hand at the sociable and straightforward game of Golf Croquet and we will also be giving demonstrations of the more strategic and cunning game of Association Croquet. All equipment will be provided.

If you enjoy the taster sessions you will also have the opportunity to join the club with a reduced membership fee for your first season of only £40. During the rest of the season you will be able to develop your skills at Golf Croquet at the many sessions we hold every week. We will also hold regular development sessions to allow you to learn the skills of Association Croquet.

To sign up for the taster sessions just send an email to [beginners@edinburghcroquetclub.com](mailto:beginners@edinburghcroquetclub.com) You can also find further details at the "Learn to Play Croquet With Us" section of the club's website at [www.edinburghcroquetclub.com](http://www.edinburghcroquetclub.com).

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Rev Gordon Farquharson  
26 Learmonth Court  
Edinburgh EH4 1PB  
Telephone 343 1047

**Session Clerk**  
Eddie Thorn  
158 Craigleith Road  
Edinburgh EH4 2EQ  
Telephone 332 5702

**Church Secretary**  
Ms Joy McGonigal-Paget  
in Church Office from  
Mon-Fri 10.00-12.30p.m.  
Tel/fax 332 4431

## DEADLINES

### Kirk News – Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March

Please send all items to the Editor,  
Christine Denham, c/o Church Office  
(Home tel: 336 5943) or e-mail:  
kirknews@blackhallstcolumba.org.uk

### Blackhall Bulletin- Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May

Please send all items to the Editor,  
Barbara Wilson, c/o Church Office  
(Home tel: 312 6035) or e-mail:  
bulletin@blackhallstcolumba.org.uk

### Advertising Enquiries

Enquiries regarding advertising  
should be sent to Kay Rich,  
8 Queen's Ave Sth. EH4 2BU  
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## READING THE BULLETIN FOR THE FIRST TIME?

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living here. To help you find your feet,  
Blackhall St Columba's Church website gives  
you all you need to know about activities  
happening there for young and old. From  
leisure activities like painting and dancing to our  
youth groups and junior singers. You can find it  
all at [www.blackhallstcolumba.org.uk](http://www.blackhallstcolumba.org.uk) or  
contact the office by phone (see above) or e mail  
[secretary@blackhallstcolumba.org.uk](mailto:secretary@blackhallstcolumba.org.uk) or



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