



the **BLACK** *bitch*

ISSUE 56 MARCH 2018 £1.00

Linlithgow's news by Linlithgow's people



**REED BAND
CONCERT
WILL BE A
FAMILY
AFFAIR**

P8

**100%
LOCAL**



The Youth of Today
Linlithgow Grange Rotary 5



Annabel Skuse
Scotland U21 Curling 14



F1 Racing Team
Linlithgow Academy 18

PLUS

The Arts, New Hopetoun Gardens, Burgh Beautiful, Town Centre BID/Mill Road BID, Scottish Youth Parliament, Police Scotland, LAMP, Rosie Crowe, Book Review...



FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE OUR WEBSITE

www.linlithgowcommunitymagazine.co.uk

CONTENTS

- 4 **Folk Fae Lithgae**
Jess Purbrick - take note!
- 5 **Rotary, 'Today's Youth - On the Up'**
- 6 **Alice Ferguson MSYP**
Campaigning hard
- 7 **Police: *New***
Neighbourhood Watch
- 8 **Reed Band**
The Family Band
- 9 **What's in a Name**
The Black Bitch Tavern
- 10 **LAMP *Les Miserables***
a class act
- 11 **Class of '68**
Linlithgow Academy
- 12 **Burgh Beautiful**
A cat and a competition
- 13 **Rosie Crowe 2018**
Who needs Glastonbury?
- 14 **Annabel Skuse**
Gliding to success at Scotland U21 Curling
- 15 **Hopetoun Gardens**
A Favourite 40 friends
- 16 **Linlithgow TC BID *Videos, Air quality & Parking***
- 17 **Linlithgow MR BID**
Recruiting Board members
- 18 **Accelerate Academy**
team to represent Scotland
- 19 **Who was Brigadier Hope?**
Asks Bruce Jamieson
- 20 **Eagles**
Australian Rules OK!
- 22 **The Arts *Royal Scottish Academy in Linlithgow***
- 24 **Virtue Money**
Spring Clean - Finances
- 25 **Vet - *Fingal the Coolest of Cats***

Contact the Black Bitch

For editorial and to advertise: on.a.lead@gmail.com
Editor: David Tait, 07767 713024



Copy deadline for next issue is 11 April 2018



**A COLOURFUL DISPLAY –
IN LINLITHGOW?**

SEE PAGE NINE.



WIN
A BOTTLE OF
JURA MALT

BURGH BEAUTIFUL
SPOT THE DIFFERENCE - GO TO PAGE 27

**GOOD LUCK WITH OUR
COMPETITION.**

Email the editor at: on.a.lead@gmail.com.
Well done **Myra Cunningham**,
Winner of the 'January' Competition.

The Linlithgow Community Magazine (aka The Black Bitch) is
a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO): SCO42542
Find us on Facebook, Follow us on Twitter. The paper we are using is FSC approved.
Images: A big thank you to all our photographers who support the magazine throughout the year.

Black Bitch magazine design & production: www.cghcreative.co.uk



Linlithgow- a Great Visit!

www.linlithgow.com

Download the Linlithgow App Today!

Pride & Passion
LINLITHGOW

Pride & Passion Linlithgow. Financially
protected by Alan Steel Asset Management
Linlithgow's National Award Winning IFA
www.linlithgow.com/pride_passion.htm



WHAT'S ON - MARCH...

***Note:** These event will run consecutively over several weeks or have weekly sessions confirmed. Check website for further details.

March

Sun 18 Folk Session, 2:00pm at the Black Bitch Tavern*

Thu 22 Linlithgow Keep Fit Club, 7:00pm - 9:00pm, Linlithgow Academy - Small gym*

Sambalistic, 7:30pm - 9:45pm at the Linlithgow Academy*

Sun 25 Transition Linlithgow meeting, 7:30pm - 9:30pm, The Old Pavilion

Tues 27 Community Council, 7:30pm - 9:00pm, Burgh Halls

April

Mon 2 5Rhythms Dance, 10:00am - 11:30am, McKinnon Hall*

Wed 4 Blackness SWI, 7:15pm Blackness Community Hall

Thu 5 Folk Session, 8:00pm at the Black Bitch Tavern*

Sat 14 Concert and AGM - Escocia Duo Linlithgow Arts Guild's, 7:30pm - 10:00pm, Linlithgow Primary School

Sun 15 Folk Session, 2:00pm at the Black Bitch Tavern*

Thu 19 Linlithgow Keep Fit Club, 7:00pm - 9:00pm, Linlithgow Academy - Small gym*

Tues 24 Community Council, 7:30pm - 9:00pm, Burgh Halls

Sun 29 Transition Linlithgow meeting, 7:30pm - 9:30pm, The Old Pavilion

May

Wed 2 Blackness SWI, 7:15pm Blackness Community Hall

Thu 3 Linlithgow Keep Fit Club, 7:00pm - 9:00pm, Linlithgow Academy - Small gym*

Folk Session, 8:00pm at the Black Bitch Tavern*

LINLITHGOW RAMBLERS WALKING CALENDAR



With so many exciting walks pencilled in across the monthly calendar why not check out www.linlithgow.info for details on the type of walk, duration and your meeting point.

Linlithgow Film Society



Monday 19th March 7.30pm, Hunt for the Wilder People (2016) Linlithgow Academy Theatre.



LINLITHGOW KEEP FIT

Meets every Thursday from 7pm - 9pm in the gym at the rear of the Academy. Contact Brian Gallacher: 07984 930235



Linlithgow Burgh Halls - Seasonal Events 2018

Wedding Fair, FREE ENTRY
Sunday 25 March, 12noon-4pm.

Meet a wide range of local wedding suppliers and Receive 20% off room hire for all weddings booked on the day.

Easter Egg Hunt, FREE ENTRY
Sunday 1 April, 12noon-3pm.

Take part in our Easter egg hunt and roll your eggs in the beautiful Rose garden. Follow the clues to find the hidden treasure.

For more details and more events visit the **what's on** page at www.linlithgow.info

WEDDINGS • EVENTS • PORTRAITS

UNIT 7
BRAEHEAD ROAD
EH49 6EP
(opposite Linlithgow Rose F.C.)

01506 671700
www.paulgavin.co.uk

Gift Vouchers on sale now
Appointments available 7 days

MPA
Qualified MHA15K Photographer

PAUL GAVIN
PHOTOGRAPHY

Folk Fae Lithgae

JESS PURBRICK



Seventeen year old Jess Purbrick has a great passion for music. She is currently studying for the Advanced Higher at Linlithgow Academy and her ambition to become a music teacher received a tremendous boost recently when she was given an unconditional offer to study for the Bachelor of Education (Music) at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (RCS) in Glasgow.

Jess had a very demanding interview and audition at RCS and when I asked whether she would be taking up the offer, she replied excitedly:

“Yes, I’m accepting it! It came as a surprise, because I didn’t think I would get in!”

Jess’s musical journey began with piano lessons at the age of eight and she continues to play every week, with her Grade 7 exam looming large on the horizon.

In Primary 7 at Springfield school, the Council’s Instrumental Music Service gave her the opportunity to learn the tuba. She told me:

“We got a letter saying they had bought two new tubas and would like people to audition for them, so I went along. At first, the music teacher thought the tuba was too big for me and she gave me a euphonium, but then they got another tuba and gave it to me.”

Her piano-playing experience and

ability to read music meant that Jess made quick progress and was already sitting her Grade 3 exam when she arrived at Linlithgow Academy in August 2012.

Her S1 music teacher, **Lex McDowell**, invited her to come along to the **Reed Band**, which he conducts. She first went to the Beginners’ section, but soon moved on to the Training Band, where she came under the wing of **Brian McSherry**, whose daughter Theresa, was the conductor:

“It was Brian who spurred me on and taught me techniques I still use to this day”, Jess told me. *“He and Tony Drennan looked after me in the Training Band.”*

Promotion to the main Reed Band then followed and for the start of the marching season in 2014, they purchased a three-quarter size tuba, which Jess could carry on the march.

Jess is constantly striving to improve as a musician. Joining her former mentor, Brian McSherry, in the **Broxburn and Livingston band** has given her a valuable insight into brass banding, and the intensity of the build-up to the Scottish championships on March 10th was a whole new experience for her.

Last month, Jess continued her involvement with the UK-wide **National Youth Orchestra (NYO)** at a weekend course in Liverpool.

Jess has come full circle with the Reed

Band and now leads the Beginners’ section. At the **Spring Concert on April 29th**, conducting the novices, playing percussion for the Training Band, and doing a tuba solo for the main band means that Jess will be involved in all three ensembles.

Mindful of her own experience, Jess has been an active campaigner against Council budget cuts, which would threaten the Instrumental Music Service (IMS). Along with her friend, Connor Osborne, Jess organised a petition with over 2,000 signatures, and presented it to the Council meeting on February 13th.

She explained:

“Our aim was to stop the cuts to the IMS staff. If this wasn’t possible, we proposed that a small fee towards lessons could be introduced. This method is being used throughout Scotland and is working effectively. So far, we haven’t had a response.”

One Councillor who attended the meeting told me:

“The presentation at the Council budget meeting was outstanding – it put us and the officers to shame. It was probably the best I’ve heard in the Council chamber, really first class. They were both a credit to the school.”

Murdoch Kennedy



'Kids Were Better in My Day!'

The often overheard mantra of many a parent can be mistaken for fact when school performance statistics are quoted out of context.



Today's schools may look different following the upgrades and new-builds of recent years and the curriculum may seem strange in comparison to yesteryear. However, today's youngsters have their minds stretched beyond the 3R's in ways many of us have yet to comprehend. Some of this has been evident in the performance of individuals and groups in the competitions held over the past year by local Rotary clubs. From inter-school quizzes, essay writing and photography to team events such as the 'Young Technologist' and 'Rotary Youth Leadership Awards' (RYLA) the youth of today have been seen to excel. Although not exhaustive of all the opportunities here are some examples.

Around Linlithgow there are 10 primary schools that feed Linlithgow Academy and these are grouped together as a 'cluster'. This allows interaction between the teaching teams and the opportunity for pupils to 'meet and compete'. Outside the formal schools events, Linlithgow Grange Rotary Club organises and runs the 'Junior Writer' competition with individuals submitting contributions of around 500 words for the 'Jim Clark Memorial Plaque'. Contributions over the last 10 years have ranged from short stories to poetry aimed at a theme devised each year by the Rotary club. The 2017 event received 90+ entries and posed a significant marking challenge to the judges. The winner received an individual award of £25 in book tokens along with a supplementary prize of £200 for their school.

In February the Primary Schools came together for the annual quiz, a hotly contested event run over a morning. In 2018 Torphichen Primary, one of the smallest in the group with only around 100 pupils, acted host following their win at last year's event. The competition involving teams of 4 answering 8 rounds of questions on and around the school curriculum with



The RYLA programme involves students spending 7 days at an outdoor adventure activity centre with 30 others from schools across Central Scotland.

added general knowledge, again showed the strength and knowledge of the youngsters with the lead changing hands several times. The winners, Low Port, nudged ahead in the final round to become the 2018 champions. They go forward to the next round involving schools from Falkirk and Bo'ness and ultimately a final covering schools from the South and East of Scotland.

As individuals, senior students are invited to compete for the 'Young Writer' or the 'Young Golfer' awards, both of which enable the local winner to progress to similar events across the South and East of Scotland. For those interested in sports, the club offers 'Sports Bursaries' a cash investment to help those aspiring to stretch themselves. Recent years have seen the awards given to fencers, golfers, kayakers and bowlers some of whom have gone on to compete for Scotland.

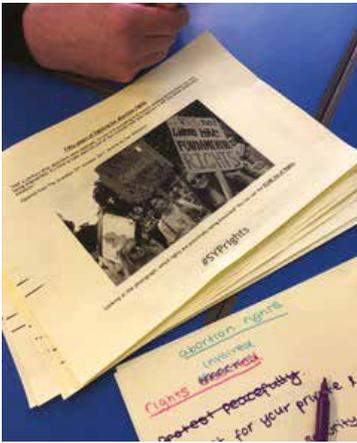
Interpersonal skills have over the past few years assumed a significant importance when students look to progress to the world of work. This was recognised some time ago within Rotary and several key training programmes were developed to help and train the senior grades. The RYLA programme involves students

spending 7 days at an outdoor adventure activity centre with 30 others from schools across Central Scotland. Here they are grouped into teams and set physical and mental tasks that they must compete as a 'team'. With mentors on hand to ensure a safe learning environment and offer help and guidance, the week is nothing short of a 'full on experience' with little time to rest. When interviewed at the end of the course the step change in skill level for all the students is almost breathtaking to behold.

For those with a more business or scientific bent, the Rotary club organises a 'Challenge Enterprise' weekend and 'Young Technologist' challenge. Again these involve team-based activities from business games to practical challenges akin to the 'Great Egg Race'.

For those privileged to speak to and hear the 'before and after' students, one can only say that Yes! The kids of today are better.

Rotary 
Club of Linlithgow Grange
Phill Ratcliffe



CAMPAIGN FEEDBACK MARCH 2018

... Linlithgow Academy pupils have been learning about their rights, rights of others, and the rights of the disabled

... the proposal to cut instrumental music tuition was removed from WLC budget cut proposals

ALICE FERGUSON MSYP

- > **RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW** CAMPAIGN
- > **FREE INSTRUMENTAL TUITION** CAMPAIGN

MEMBER OF THE
SCOTTISH YOUTH
PARLIAMENT FOR
THE LINLITHGOW
CONSTITUENCY

Hi, my name is Alice Ferguson and in March 2017, I was elected as a Member of the Scottish Youth Parliament for the Linlithgow constituency. Last year I celebrated my 15th birthday, meaning I am in fourth year of secondary school at Linlithgow academy. I got involved in SYP through the school council, from there I attended many meetings with members of the council in preparation for the March 2017 election. I am pleased to have this opportunity to write for *The Black Bitch* and to explain how I hope to engage young people in my constituency during my term (two years) as a MSYP.

The last month has been busy. From instruments to fox deterrents I have been involved in a lot! For a start, to those who currently aren't aware the proposal to cut instrumental music tuition was removed from budget cut proposals. This was directly attributed to all the campaigning done in various different forms. However, the budget for the service has been cut by around half.

Right Here, Right Now SYPs national campaign for 2017/2018 has been heavily discussed in presentations and workshops at Linlithgow Academy. Pupils have been learning about their rights, rights of others, and the rights of the disabled. The response has been fantastic! One of the main topics discussed at these workshops was the use of fox deterrents and mosquito devices. As far as my research goes, I have found we are lucky in Linlithgow to not have any mosquito devices.

These devices are often used as anti-loitering instruments to keep groups of young people away. This is done by the devices emitting a high frequency noise, which is only heard by the young ear, and as a result they hurt the young people that can hear them.

You may have heard about them in recent news as it has been a highly discussed topic in SYP and the media – *Scotrail*, who were found to be using them, have issued a blanket ban on mosquito devices, as a result of campaigning by many young people. Linlithgow has, however, been found to have fox deterrent devices. Many of my constituents have raised their concerns to me about these. These devices have a similar function: by emitting a high frequency noise they are used to keep the likes of foxes and cats away from gardens etc. This noise is painful to the young people who walk past them every day. It was concluded in the discussions we had as young people during the rights workshops that we can only hope that owners of these devices consider this issue and question their ownership of their cat/fox deterrents.

During March, I am excited to be attending SYP65 in North Ayrshire. This is an event which occurs three times a year in different locations around Scotland. MSYPs all over the country will meet to debate and vote on member's motions. For example, we will be debating on the motion that 'The Scottish Youth Parliament believes that Religious Education and school assemblies in non-denominational secondary schools should include material from a variety of different belief systems in order to help promote and teach pupils about these and their cultural traditions' and 'The Scottish Youth Parliament believes that high

quality, robust training on how to identify and support young people experiencing mental health difficulties should be a mandatory component of teacher training'

We will also participate in workshops and listen to keynote speakers including **Judith Robertson**, who is the full time Chair of the Scottish Human Rights Commission. I am greatly looking forward to meeting with all the other MSYPs again and representing my constituents!

Alice Ferguson MSYP

You can keep up to date with my work and how to get involved by following my social media or browsing my website!

Twitter - @aliceMSYP

Instagram - @alicemsysp

Facebook - @aliceSYP

Website - <https://aliceruby.wixsite.com>



THE THIN BLUE LINE IN LINLITHGOW



IF YOU WANT TO REPORT SOMETHING ANONYMOUSLY CALL CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555 111

First of all let me introduce ourselves. We are Constable Andrew Murray and Constable Neill Drummond. We are the two community officers based at Linlithgow Police station. Between us we have over thirty years police service. We are keen to get involved in local community issues and want to hear your views and opinions on these issues. We will be publishing an article in the magazine every edition covering ongoing community issues which we are keen to address within the ward.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCOTLAND

We would like to take this opportunity to increase public awareness of the existence of Neighbourhood Watch Scotland and their Alert system.

Police Scotland is one of many partnership agencies who are working alongside Neighbourhood Watch Scotland in order to develop and promote the Alert system.

This system allows users to receive alerts from Neighbourhood Watch and Police Scotland. The idea being that if there has been a recent crime trend, then officers from Police Scotland can send an alert to all users who may be effected or who may have an interest in the crime.

> **Crime Trends – recent crimes that have occurred in their area, housebreakings etc.**

> **Missing Persons – Details of High Risk missing persons can be broadcast to specific areas.**

Members of the public can register online and the registration process is very simple. You can register as an individual or an association such as a residents association or community council / community group... Or both!!!

The key to the Neighbourhood Watch Alert system being a success is YOU, we require the public to register online; the more people who register the better.

You can register at:
www.neighbourhoodwatchscotland.co.uk
And follow the link to JOIN.

ANTI-SOCIAL USE OF VEHICLES IN LINLITHGOW AREA

We are continuing to receive reports and information regarding drivers who drive carelessly and dangerously in the Linlithgow area, not only puts the lives of the themselves and passengers at risk, but also the lives of other road users and pedestrians.

It is our intention to continue to provide a local, visible presence and maintain a level of enforcement.

We would like to thank the public for their support in relation to this issue

Anyone have has concerns regarding anti social driving or use of any motor vehicle contact Police on 101.

Be warned, enforcement will continue !!!!

LINLITHGOW COMMUNITY POLICE SURGERY

Due to the positive response these surgeries have received more are currently being planned.

Once again the public will be invited to drop by, meet their local officers and chat through any concerns they have or highlight any areas they feel we should be giving further attention to. Alternatively if you want to discuss an issue which may require more privacy, arrangements can be made to speak with them another time at a police station or at your home address.

If we don't know then we can't fix it!

To find out details of future Linlithgow Community Police Surgeries please log on to [West Lothian Police Facebook page](#) or [Linlithgow Facebook Page](#) for future dates or check local press for details.

YOUR VIEW COUNTS SURVEY

Do you have an opinion on what your local police should be targeting?

Do you want highlight areas of concern in your local community?



If so then go online, complete the 'Your View Counts' survey, and have your say on policing in your area.

101 NON-EMERGENCY NUMBER

101 is the new number to contact the police when it's less urgent than 999.

The 101 non-emergency number will make it quicker and easier for you to contact the police when you don't need an emergency response,

for example to:

- > Speak to your local police officer
- > Report a crime that's already happened, such as a theft or damage to property
- > Get crime prevention advice
- > Make us aware of any policing issues in your area

101 provides one easy-to-remember number to contact the police wherever you are in Scotland, or elsewhere in the UK.

The 101 non-emergency number is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It costs a flat rate of 15p per call from both landline and mobile networks, no matter how long you are on the phone or what time of day it is.

When you dial 101, the system will determine your location and connect you to the service centre covering your area.

By having one easy to remember number, 101 should make the police more accessible while reducing pressure on the 999 system.

In an emergency always dial 999 - when a life is in danger, a crime is in progress or a suspect is nearby.



You can get more advice on a range of topics on the [Police Scotland website](#).

Alternatively you can email LinlithgowCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk or pop into the station and ask to speak to our Community officers, PC's Murray and Drummond.

Regards,
Your Local Community Police – Linlithgow
Website: www.scotland.police.uk
Twitter: [@policescotland](https://twitter.com/policescotland)
Facebook: www.facebook.com/policescotland

Sun
29
Apr

REED BAND CONCERT WILL BE A FAMILY AFFAIR

This year's Linlithgow Reed Band Spring Concert on Sunday April 29th will be a real family affair. Twelve sets of parents will be performing alongside their offspring, with a similar number of sets of siblings and even some cousins getting in on the act.

The band's flourishing development wing, which meets every Sunday night in the Longcroft Hall, continues to attract many budding young musicians. Inspired by the fun that their youngsters are having, numerous parents have joined in, with some returning to playing instruments they perhaps first experienced at school. Others are taking the opportunity to learn a completely new skill.

The Spring Concert in the Academy Theatre at 7pm will see over one hundred and thirty musicians of all ages from the Beginners' Band, the LRB Training Band and the main Reed Band take to the stage in the first event of the

63rd season, where the band will play at over a dozen engagements before the end of June.

The Beginners' Band will be conducted for the first time by Linlithgow Academy musician, **Jess Purbrick**, who plans to study music after she leaves school this year. She has received excellent support from her music teacher, **Lex McDowell**, who leads the LRB Training Band and the main band.

Vice-President, Seonaid Scott, commented:-

"Both conductors have chosen an exciting selection, which combines wind band classics with popular music from the movies and theatre. From Tchaikovsky to Mary Poppins, Phantom of the Opera to the Skye Boat Song, there are sure to be plenty of tunes to have the toes of all ages tapping!"

"All three ensembles have been working hard on their programmes. The band

is going from strength to strength and it is amazing to see such great numbers turning up at Tuesday and Sunday night rehearsals each week.

The most encouraging thing is that we are still recruiting lots of new players, especially adult re-starters, at our twice-yearly Open Nights, so that even with several young players going off to College and University this year, the band's future looks secure for many years to come".

Tickets for the concert, priced £6 (Primary aged children and younger free) are available from Norman Cummings, Far From the Madding Crowd or on the band website www.linlithgowreedband.org.uk

Murdoch Kennedy



WHAT'S IN A NAME?

LINLITHGOW'S BLACK BITCH PUB.

I was intrigued by an article I came across on the internet recently entitled 'The stories behind Scotland's most unusual pub names'. It stated:

"More than 1,000 pubs may have closed over the past decade north of the border, but Scotland is renowned for the variety of its pubs, inns and hostelrys"

It continued:

"While a warm welcome, good quality beer and a pleasant interior are all essentials for a successful pub, a memorable name can also set the best apart."

That statement got me thinking about our local area, where in recent years we have lost the historic moniker **The Auld Hole in the Wall**, also found in other towns, and the unforgettable **Football and Cricketers' Arms**, which was a name unique to Linlithgow. Regrettably, it has now been replaced by the bland **Linlithgow Tap**.

Thankfully, the town retains one of the most distinctive pub names in Scotland and the **Black Bitch** was top of the list in the aforementioned article, which first appeared in the Scotsman newspaper.

Since January 2016, the pub has been under the stewardship of proprietor, **Robert Lowe**, and his partner, **Elizabeth Carlin**, better known as Liz. Robert ran the popular Tolbooth Tavern in Falkirk for many years.

The Black Bitch name always sparks off great discussion with people from abroad, especially Americans.

Robert told me that he notices lots of visitors taking photos of the signs outside and some of them even venture in for a closer look. He always tries to explain the significance of the name and its place in Linlithgow's history.

"I just love the name", said Liz. "Our wee black greyhound pin badges have gone all round the world. People wear them in their baseball caps and it seems that they are always a major talking point."

Since taking over, Robert and Liz have embarked on a continuing refurbishment within the pub. This has included new gantries, flooring, furniture and the very impressive toilets.

Liz told me that one regular weekend customer was very excited by all the changes:

"A lady said, 'I can't wait to come in on a Saturday to see what you've done next!'. It was really nice to see that somebody was taking such an interest."

As well as the improvements inside, the beer garden has been completely revamped and is a mixture of traditional and modern styles, with a real Mediterranean vibe unseen anywhere else in Linlithgow. It can accommodate around 75 customers and will no doubt be popular with families.

'Mine Host and Hostess' are not resting on their laurels, however.

"On our days off and on our holidays, we go round old pubs looking for inspiration and ideas we can incorporate here", they told me.



The Black Bitch is headquarters to the Gala Day committee and various other local organisations, who regularly meet in the upstairs lounge. It is well known as the spiritual home of the Linlithgow Folk Festival Association, and the twice-monthly sessions and September Festival attract musicians from far and wide. In a new development, the pub has recently benefited greatly from the Linlithgow pub trail, which is based on the old local tradition of visiting all the pubs along the High Street and "giving everybody a turn".

Robert and Liz are delighted by the way things are going at the Black Bitch and pay particular tribute to their customers:

"Our clientele are really, really nice and the people of Linlithgow very much support the town."

Murdoch Kennedy

www.kitchenhaus.co.uk

The German Kitchen

DESIGN | EXPERTISE | GERMAN QUALITY | GREAT CUSTOMER SERVICE

**NOW
OPEN**



THE AFFORDABLE GERMAN KITCHEN

Clean lines, exquisite materials, clearly structured architecture – the distinguishing marks of our designer kitchens. Our extensive assortment of smooth flawless surfaces enable you to customise your small or large space. You will be surprised at how affordable our kitchens are! Book your free design consultation now.

Kitchenhaus Linlithgow, 33-37 High Street, Linlithgow EH49 7ED

t: 01506 845400 m: 07921 385 261 e: nicola@linlithgow.kitchenhaus.co.uk



LAMP CHILDREN'S THEATRE LES MISERABLES

The voices I heard were wonderful, in some cases spectacular, and I am sure the town will be extremely proud of the performers.

When I was a student, longer ago than I'd care to mention, the musical "Les Miserables" came from the West End up to Edinburgh on tour for the first time. I bought tickets not knowing very much about it but I was a fan of musicals and students were getting cheap seats! When I left the theatre that night I was an emotional wreck and I knew I'd witnessed a very special show. I've been a massive fan ever since, seeing the show 6 times professionally over the years. Little did I know that my 7th viewing of "Les Mis" was going to be right here in Linlithgow, brought to the stage by LAMP Children's Theatre in Linlithgow Academy from the 26th – 31st March this year.

On behalf of the Black Bitch I went along to a recent rehearsal to watch the children at work. "Les Mis" is a difficult choice for an amateur company; firstly, the music has been sung to death by everyone from Susan Boyle on "Britain's Got Talent" to concert parties and choirs. It's hard to get something new into the well-known songs so that the audience feel that they are hearing what that character is saying in a natural and authentic way. However, as the children ran Act 1 for me, I really felt that they were getting that authenticity into the music and I shed more than one tear. Rona Miller, as Fantine, has the unenviable task of singing "I Dreamed a Dream" which might be the most well-known song in the show. However, when I watched her, even in her normal clothes standing in the rugby club hall, I saw and felt the utter disillusionment and disappointment in a young girl for whom life has gone spectacularly down the wrong path. It was an extremely powerful moment. Secondly, the other issue with "Les Mis" for amateurs is that it is only allowed to be performed by groups whose members are under 19! So, you won't be seeing adult LAMP having a go at it any time soon – more's the pity for the members of adult LAMP.

"Les Mis" deals, in almost every bar, with very adult themes; crime, loss, revenge, sex, desperation, death, revolution, violence... I don't need to go on. I did wonder, as I walked to rehearsal, how these themes and emotions could be conveyed by the Children's Theatre members, as talented as I know that they are. When I was watching the rehearsal, I realised that I hadn't been thinking about their ages at all; the young people were simply putting on "Les Mis" as a group of talented actors. Nothing jarred or felt odd – they gave a strong and emotional performance.

The last thing to mention was the standard of the singing. "Les Mis" provides many large singing roles but there are also lots of opportunities for other members of the company to sing lines and verses on their own. The voices I heard were wonderful, in some cases spectacular, and I am sure the town will be extremely proud of the performers.

If you want to see the show you will have to move fast! At the time of writing, 70% of the tickets have been sold and it a reasonable assumption that the week will be a sell-out.

If you want to go along the box office details are as follows; order tickets by phone on **07949 475932** or online at www.linlithgow-musicals.co.uk/tickets I'll see you there – I'll be the one weeping and trying not to sing along!

(Les Mis main cast: Jean Valjean: Josh Ure, Javert: Gregor McLean, Thernadier: Tom Barclay, Mme Thernardier: Catherine Bain, Gavroche: Isla Paton, Enjolras: Oscar Davies, Fantine: Rona Miller, Eponine: Daisy Mackie, Cosette: Katie Rough, Marius: Paul McDonald)

Alison Train

from
26
march

ACADEMY SEEKS THE CLASS OF 1968



If you were a pupil at Linlithgow Academy in 1968, the school would love to hear from you.

Staff are currently discussing ways to celebrate this year's 50th anniversary of the new building on Braehead Road. Ideas which have already emerged include a display of photographs and other memorabilia. There has also been a suggestion that pupils and staff from 1968 could share their memories with the current crop and have these memories recorded for posterity.

The need for a new Academy had been under discussion for many years and was given greater impetus by the huge expansion of private housing in Linlithgow from 1960 onwards. The long-awaited development finally opened its doors to pupils on Monday August 25th 1968.

It would be over three months, however, before the new school received its formal official opening on Friday December 6th

1968. The following week, the Journal & Gazette reported:

"The fantastic new £750,000 Linlithgow Academy, built by a former pupil, was officially opened last Friday afternoon by another former pupil – the distinguished Sheriff Margaret Kidd, QC. The new Academy, one of the most up-to-date teaching establishments in the United Kingdom, was built by local builder James Harrison, who was present on the platform in the school's magnificent Assembly Hall."

During an eminent legal career, **Margaret Kidd** racked up a number of pioneering 'female firsts' in what was then an entirely male dominated environment. In declaring the new Academy open, she said that it was with great pride that she remembered the old Linlithgow Academy.

"But the main thing", said Miss Kidd, *"was to look to the future."*

Millionaire builder **James Harrison**, who left the Academy at the age of 14, and whose firm had been involved in much of the housing boom in Linlithgow, had teachers, pupils and the public gasping with surprise when he handed over a cheque for 1000 guineas - £17,130 in today's money.

Another former pupil was fulsome in his praise for the new school. In his Pencilings column in the Journal & Gazette, **Vic Wood** declared:

"We now have two Palaces in Linlithgow! Apart from the world-famous Linlithgow Palace, I nominate the second as the new

Linlithgow Academy, which is indeed a 'Palace' of education.

The £750,000 building... is an absolutely fantastic piece of construction and the fittings are just too wonderful for words.

I sauntered through the three-tiered Academy on Friday afternoon and was amazed at the set-up. I was so impressed that I just had to take a look on Friday evening when many parents had the opportunity of a peep at the pupils in action.

There were more electric cookers and washing machines than an Electricity Board showroom and the flat which has been luxuriously furnished in the Homecraft department, is the last word in comfort. I'll bet a luxury penthouse flat in London would have to hold some fantastic furniture before matching this one!

What a wonderful gesture it was by the millionaire Jimmy Harrison in donating a thousand quid to the school funds. I understand that Mr H. donates money to every school he opens in the county, but I'll bet this one will take some beating. And I couldn't even get a look at the cheque!"

If you think you can help the 50th anniversary celebrations in any way, please contact Linlithgow Academy directly.

Email: wllinlithgow-ac@westlothian.org.uk
Telephone: 01506 843211

Murdoch Kennedy

Wedding Fair

SUNDAY 25 MARCH 2018
LINLITHGOW BURGH HALLS
12noon - 4pm
FREE ENTRY

Meet over 30 local wedding suppliers and discover more about the stunning venue and what we can offer.

20% off room hire for all weddings booked on the day (booking must take place before 31 December 2019).

image copyright IFS Photographic

LINLITHGOW BURGH HALLS 

Linlithgow Burgh Halls,
The Cross, Linlithgow, EH49 7AH
Tel: 01506 282720
email: burgh.halls@westlothian.gov.uk
www.linlithgowburghhalls.co.uk

 **West Lothian Council**

BURGH BEAUTIFUL LOOKS AHEAD PLUS Cat Sculpture and Competitions

Burgh Beautiful Linlithgow is gearing up for another year, trying to involve our whole community in enhancing our ancient Royal Burgh with flowers and make our town's attractions more widely known.

Britain in Bloom

Following our success in last year's Beautiful Scotland competition, where we gained a 'Gold' award and won the 'Best Medium Town' category, Linlithgow will be one of five places representing Scotland in the UK Britain in Bloom finals this year. We are competing in the 'town' category, against the eight English communities of Amersham, City of London, Immingham, Morpeth, Tewkesbury, Thornbury, Ulverston and Wimborne (all of which benefit from the assistance of their own local Town Councils).

It will be interesting to see how we compare, given that all Linlithgow's floral displays, formerly financed and maintained in part by West Lothian Council, are now, in the light of Council cutbacks, entirely a community responsibility, as recognised by last year's 'Overcoming Adversity' award from Beautiful Scotland.

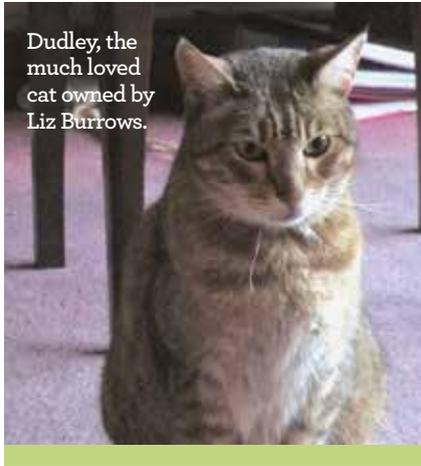
There is all to play for if we all work together.

Cat Sculpture and Environment Works at the Canal Basin

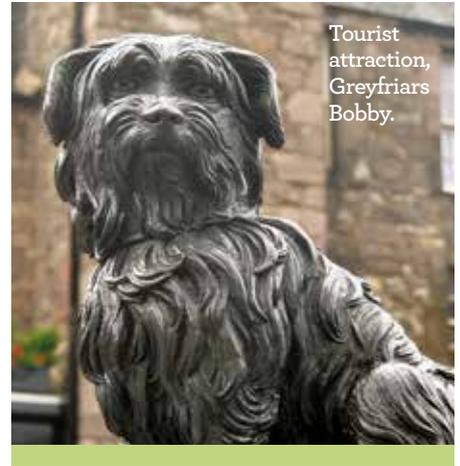
We hope that our new projects will 'wow' the judges in August – the special commemorative flower bed to commemorate those who died in World War I was covered in the last edition of this magazine. Another project is our proposal for a bronze sculpture of a cat, mounted on a granite pedestal, broadly similar in nature to Greyfriars Bobby in Edinburgh. Situated at the Canal Basin, it will reflect the interests and associations of Liz Burrows, a founding Burgh Beautiful member who kindly left money in her will for such projects. Liz lived by the canal, actively supported the Linlithgow Union Canal Society (which supports the proposal) and had a much-loved cat called Dudley.

We anticipate that the project will encourage tourism by providing a sculptural feature which we hope will become a photographic opportunity, as well as a landmark for walkers along the canal towpath and the soon-to-be-rerouted John Muir Way.

Dudley, the much loved cat owned by Liz Burrows.



Tourist attraction, Greyfriars Bobby.



Improvements to its setting are included in the scheme. Already, **British Telecom (Openreach)** has been successfully persuaded to remove an ugly, leaning telegraph pole as its (very substantial and now complete) contribution.

For the first time, we are attempting 'crowdfunding' to expedite the project, in the hope of completing a financial package which already involves generous donations from Linlithgow & Linlithgow Bridge Town Management Group, West Lothian Council Arts Fund and the Rotary Club of Linlithgow & Bo'ness.

If you would like to donate, please go to www.crowdfunder.co.uk/canalside-cat-sculpture-and-flowerbed. If you prefer to donate by more conventional means, please send a cheque, made payable to 'Linlithgow Burgh Trust', to R Smith, 4 Rivaldsgreen Crescent, Linlithgow, EH49 6BB.

If you would like to help in any other way, for example, practical help with gardening (green fingers not essential!) or sponsorship, please contact us at bbl@lbt.scot.

Ron Smith
Convenor, Burgh Beautiful
Linlithgow



New Gardening Competition for Young People

Following on the success of last year's school anti-litter competition, this year Burgh Beautiful has launched a Gardening Competition for Young People in Linlithgow. It is open to all ages. Gardens can be small or large, from salads in troughs to potatoes in bags, from garden or wild flowers grown from seed to strawberries in rows - whatever the child, or a group up to a maximum of four, wants to do. Entrants should keep a diary or scrap book to illustrate their project. Some parental help for younger children would be expected. **Judging will be at the end of August and awards made for different categories in September. Entry is free. Entry forms, guidance notes and suggestions are available at <http://lbt.scot/burgh-beautiful>**

Entry forms must be emailed by 16 April to comp@lbt.scot.

ROSIE'S TOP MUSIC FESTIVALS 2018



As most people know the mother of all festivals, Glastonbury, is taking a break this year but fret not as there are plenty of other options to choose from that cover a wide range of artists and genres. Here is my run-down of the ones to look out for this year.

TRNSMT: 29 June - 1 July and 6-8 July 2018, Glasgow

Headliners: Arctic Monkeys, The Killers, Liam Gallagher, Stereophonics

Starting as a replacement for T in the Park and now in its second year, TRNSMT festival is booking some of the biggest artists in the world. Being situated in Glasgow also gives festival-goers the chance to explore the city centre's attractions. After a thrilling debut in 2017 that saw sets from Radiohead, Kasabian and Biffy Clyro, the festival has announced it will expand to two weekends in 2018.

Wireless: 6-8 July 2018, London

Headliners: J. Cole, Stormzy, DJ Khaled

Wireless festival is hands-down the best festival in the UK for Grime, Hip-pop and Rap music. It's line-up is filled with the

biggest names in that genre of music scene and the atmosphere is irreplaceable. Pair that with fairground rides, chilled out areas and lots of attractions to keep the days filled this is a great festival for music lovers.

Latitude: 12-15 July 2018, Southwold

Headliners: The Killers, Solange, alt-J

Taking over the English countryside and, as it's tagline proclaims, it is "a lot more than just a festival". With colourful sheep roaming the fields, DJs hidden in the woods, Opera performances and swimming in the lake Latitude also boasts an onsite cinema, dance troops, a massive children's area...and so much more. Oh and there is also the small matter of a full programme of amazing music!

Boardmasters: 8-12 August 2018, Cornwall

Headliners: Catfish and the Bottlemen, The Chemical Brothers, George Ezra

If you are looking for a glorious weekend mix of sun, surf and music in Cornwall, Boardmasters is the perfect festival for a chilled-out time. It's light, friendly atmosphere makes it one of the best of the smaller festivals as everyone is hanging together and there for a good time.

Party at the Palace: 11-12 August 2018, Linlithgow

Headliners: Texas, James

Our own award-winning festival finally announced the two headliners for the Party weekend and got everyone in Linlithgow excited! Party at the Palace returns for its 5th year this summer with high expectations that they never fail to excel reflected by the fact that the festival recently won the prestigious National Outdoor Event tribute award. With each year getting better and better Party at the Palace 2018 is going to be one hell of a show! Get your tickets for a fun-filled weekend on the official Party at the Palace website.

Reading and Leeds: 24-26 August 2018, Reading & Leeds

Headliners: Fall Out Boy, Kendrick Lamar, Panic! At the Disco, Kings of Leon

Reading and Leeds are the type of riotous events that bank holiday weekends are made for. They provide a platform for rising and established indie bands, metal groups, next generation dance, hip hop and alternative pop acts. Its one big festival over two separate locations. If they ain't playing here, they ain't worth seeing!

Rosie Crowe



Scotland Ladies Under 21 Asham Slam Winners 2017-2018

James Skuse



With the Winter Olympics still fresh in our minds and the exploits of the GB Curling Teams having played out across the BBC, the eyes of the nation have been drawn towards the sport of throwing granite stones on ice.

Closer to home **Annabel Skuse**, an S5 pupil at Linlithgow Academy, has continued to progress through the ranks as Number 2 in 'Team Davie' with the ultimate dream of one day being in Team GB at a Winter Olympics.

Two years ago, it was reported here that her team had been crowned as Scottish Under 17 Girls Curling Champions. Since then the team of four have stayed together and continued to hone their skills and tactics.

Two of the team are members of Gogar Park Club who curl at Murrayfield, whilst Annabel and the team 'skip' are members of Stirling Young Curlers based at the Peak, Stirling.

They train together at the brand new NCA (National Curling Academy in Stirling) at weekends and play Division One league matches during the week. Annabel also has lessons at the Peak from Michael Goodfellow, a silver medallist from Sochi 2014.

As with any sport funding is always an issue and Annabel would wish to thank a local company, Alan Steel Asset Management (www.alansteel.com), for providing a substantial donation to the team. This has enabled them to purchase new kits for the season, as well as helped towards ice fees and competition costs.

The focus for the team since August has been the Under 21 Asham Competition that is based around four different rinks in Scotland throughout the early part of the curling calendar. A points system was in place, and points were awarded depending on the rankings after each slam event. Team Davie were thrilled to have won the competition and were presented with their trophy in Aberdeen in January. They managed to gain a place on the podium at all four events, and were ultimately the most consistent team across Scotland as shown here:

- September 15-17, Greenacres: **First place**
- September 29-October 1, Kinross: **Second place**
- November 10-12, Inverness: **Second place**
- December 15-17, Lockerbie: **First place**

As a result of winning the first event at Greenacres, the team were invited to represent Scotland as the Under 21 Girls' team at one of the Nordic Curling Tour competitions in Copenhagen between November 23-26. This was their first trip abroad and they were thrilled to reach the final, before narrowly missing out on first place after an extra end. Nonetheless the experience was invaluable.

The team also took part in an EJCT (European Junior Curling Tour) event in Braehead between November 3-5 in order to gain some experience on the European Tour circuit. Again they were delighted to gain a podium place, coming third after some really tough matches. In reality, the team will need to compete on this European Tour in order to challenge themselves at the highest level.

What a season so far! After being ranked within the top two Under 21 Ladies teams in Scotland they, unexpectedly, have just received an invitation to take part in the Perth Ladies International over the Easter weekend. This is a challenging open event (ie. any age group) which is also likely to feature Team Muirhead and a number of other Olympic teams. The team feel honoured to have been asked to this event – do look out for them on the Eurosport channel or Team Davie facebook page.

Ultimately their goal is to win the Under 21 Scottish Junior Championships as the prize is to represent Scotland in the World Junior Championships. The team still has another three years to achieve this before they become too old for the Under 21 format.

Curling is a sport for all ages, whilst being very sociable and relying on sporting values. After any match won or lost, both teams will always be seen having a drink afterwards – the winner buys the round! If anyone reading is interested in having a go, there are 'Try Curling' sessions advertised on the Scottish Curling website and you just turn up. If any child between the ages of 7-18 would like more information about the Stirling Young Curlers Club then contact the information desk at the Peak, Stirling. There is also a Linlithgow Curling Club (www.linlithgowcurlingclub.btck.co.uk) who play matches on Monday evenings, and you would be most welcome to join whether as a novice or experienced curler.

Huge thanks go to their coach, **Andrew Barr** (pictured), and to **Alan Steel Asset Management** as well as to **Linlithgow Academy**, who have allowed some authorised time away for the competitions.

FAVOURITE FRIENDS & FAVOURITE PLANTS

As you walk around the town you'll see folk you know, some mere acquaintances who you will smile at and say good day to, others, closer friends with whom you may stop and have a wee blether. It's the same walking around your garden: some of your plants will demand a bit more attention than others and some will surprise you when you see how they have changed since you last looked at them. We all have our favourite friends and the same is true of our plants.

We've been thinking about our favourite plants as we are celebrating 40 years in business this year and are planning a new small garden here at New Hopetoun Gardens furnished with our favourite 40 plants. We have had quite a debate about the final short list and Lesley has been heard complaining about Dougal's ruthless editorial control... in his defence he has let her include six different *Clematis* (which she says every garden should be able to contain) as one climbing plant 'Clematis'!



Can we share three of our Spring favourites from our final selection? The first is the *Lenten Rose or Helleborus Orientalis hybrids*. There have been so many wonderful ones raised over recent years and they come in many colours from white and cream, through pinks to dusky reds and purples. Some are single flowers and others double... you need so see them in flower to choose your new best friend! They are very easy to grow and very long lived, making very good friends. They are happy in sun or partial shade but like plenty of organic material worked into the soil when planted.

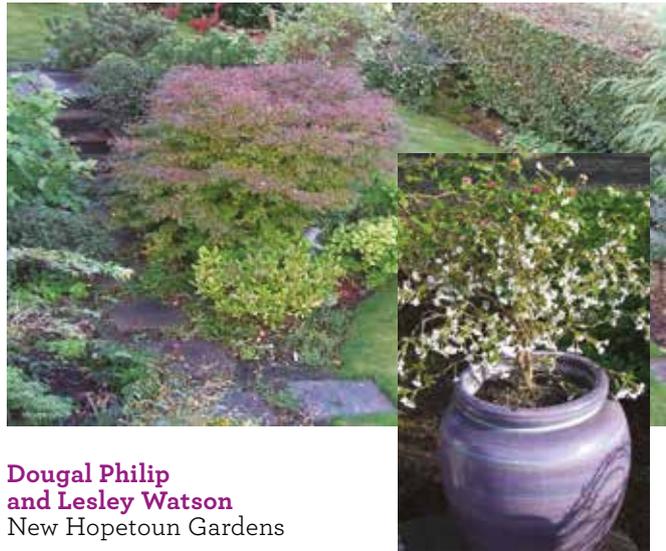
Above Pic: (*Helleborus Walberton's Pink*)



The dwarf *Pittosporum Tom Thumb* makes a neat bun shape 1 metre (3ft) across and prefers a fairly sunny place and fairly average soil. He looks his best all winter with glossy evergreen leaves burnished to a very deep mahogany colour. We used to worry that he was a bit tender but this last winter he has coped with very low temperatures and with us he is tucked away from any cold east winds. When he starts growing again in the spring his new leaves are bright green, which is fine. But then he goes through a difficult teenage period as the leaves change rather blotchily to their handsome dark mahogany. We let him get on with this quietly on his own!

Above Pic: (*Pittosporum Tom Thumb*)

Our final pal is the dwarf *Mount Fuji cherry Prunus incisa Kajo-no-mai*. This name means 'Flight of the Butterflies' and refers to her white blossoms that seem to flutter around the bush on her naked criss-crossed stems in early Spring. We think of her as female as she works hard for us all year round. In the winter the bare stems make an interesting display, after her blossom finishes she makes a pleasing green mound, either in a pot or in the ground where she can be gently pruned to stay well below 2 metres (6ft) tall. Then in the autumn she starts again as her leaves colour up before dropping off. Pics Below: (*Prunus kajo-no-mai*. One displayed in a pot and the other showing the start of her autumn colours in the ground)



Dougal Philip
and Lesley Watson
New Hopetoun Gardens

so much more
than just a
garden centre

www.newhopetoungardens.co.uk

NEW
HOPETOUN
GARDENS

ARE YOU 35 THIS YEAR?
OR DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS?
35 IS THE 'GARDENER'S BIRTHDAY'

Send us their name, date of birth and address and we will send them a **£35 Voucher** to spend here at New Hopetoun Gardens!

AIR QUALITY AND PARKING

Two vitally important issues facing Linlithgow town centre are those of air quality and access/parking, both of which we're taking bold steps to improve.

Commercial consultants **4Consulting** have been engaged to take the findings of thorough research to West Lothian Council for serious consideration, both in terms of improving our town's unacceptably poor air quality and improving access, as well as decriminalised parking enforcement.

These intertwined issues can certainly be described as "big-ticket"... and they must be tackled holistically. All research has been conducted in this spirit and Linlithgow Town Centre BID is ready to present its case at whatever level necessary to make a difference.

Since the BID's inception, member businesses have regularly been asked about the major issues facing them and, perhaps unsurprisingly, parking tops the list for most businesses! The issue has been debated since time immemorial and it is high time to argue a strongly-evidenced case with the health of not only Linlithgow's citizens, but also of the businesses that define it, at heart.



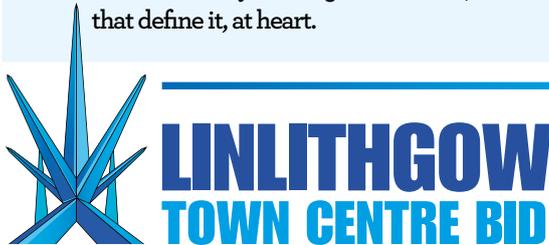
ONE-MINUTE VIDEOS

"Action"! More and more "one-minute" business videos are being published every week, letting you take a tour to find out what's new at your favourite Linlithgow outlets. See the "Linlithgow Town Centre BID" Facebook page to find the videos already produced, on the "Videos" section of that page, alongside their impressive viewing statistics. Currently in pole position is *A Wee Mindin'*, with over 7,000 views for their fantastic video.

If you'd like a video produced for your town centre business,



get in touch at info@linlithgow.info – don't get left behind! The video will even be "boosted" for a full week, to make sure you reach as many potential customers as possible.



TOWN CENTRE UPDATE

Linlithgow looks set to be welcoming plenty of new businesses...

>> *We're looking forward to welcoming Kütchenhaus and Doll House to Linlithgow's High Street in the very near future. Alongside active interest in other recently-vacated town-centre commercial property, Linlithgow looks set to be welcoming plenty of new businesses soon after.*

>> *Our new lamppost banners will soon be in place across the town centre, promoting Linlithgow's retail, service and events offering.*

>> *Last year, we welcomed Creative Workshop, Café Delights, Fenwick's of Linlithgow, Cafébar 1807, The Granary, The Fish Shop, Vaporized, 2 Feet 1st, Coffee Neuk, Crafted Merchant, Lilypond Crafts and Gifts and Zio G's. This year, we're already looking forward to Kütchenhaus opening very soon.*

>> *Linlithgow Travel is hosting a travel event in the Burgh Halls on Wednesday 28th March, 10am – 3pm. Six key tour operators will be in attendance and we'd like to encourage as many representatives of town-centre businesses as possible to attend and show support for a fellow local business, even if just briefly. The more successful the event, the more likely Linlithgow Travel will be able to build on that and make it bigger and better in future, demonstrating Linlithgow's offering in a tourism context.*

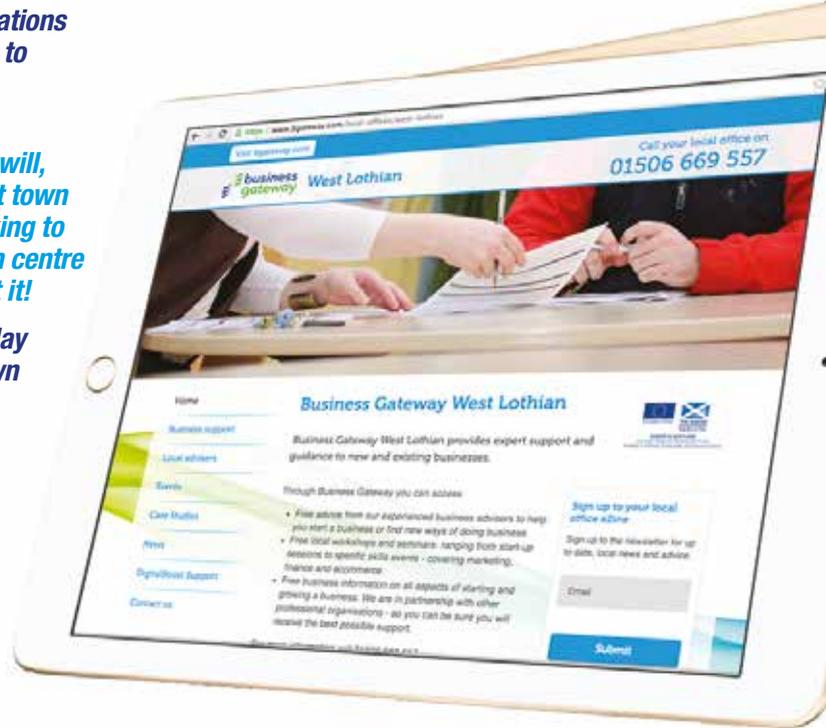
>> *Town Centre BID business forums began with the "retail charity" session held on Monday 12th March, with others to be scheduled, covering all BID member businesses, by sector and, in some cases, by location. You can always get in touch with the BID team directly by contacting info@linlithgow.info.*

>> **Linlithgow Town Centre BID is currently accepting applications for shop-front or premises improvement grants. Get in touch to find out what's involved and how much of the cost each grant could cover.**

>> **West Lothian Council's newly-published 2018/19 budget will, of course, have wide ramifications for many people, not least town centre business owners. Linlithgow Town Centre BID is working to interpret its implications and will update shortly. If your town centre business has been affected by the budget, let us know about it!**

>> **A "Cruise Forth" business seminar was held on Wednesday 14th March, aimed at engaging businesses with the BID's own efforts to promote Linlithgow as a popular destination for cruise passengers. More information to follow.**

>> **If you're looking to improve your business by getting conversant with social media, or perhaps taking steps to getting your team functioning more effectively, Business Gateway West Lothian is offering a variety of different courses in the coming weeks and months, all with a view to helping you make the most of your business. Search "Business Gateway" online for details.**



MILL ROAD BID

CCTV

The installation of Phase 2 of the estate wide CCTV system is progressing with 2 new cameras added to the network to cover the E-Net area. The cameras are a direct response to ongoing security concerns in that part of the industrial estate and aim to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour throughout the whole area. The Board are pleased with the positive working relationship between the partners involved in the installation and look forward to carrying that onto other projects. We will continue to monitor the efficacy of the CCTV system and would like to hear members' feedback.

WLC Budget

West Lothian Council has recently agreed its budget for the next 5 years. There may be implications for services that West Lothian Council deliver in the Mill Road Industrial Estate, such as street lighting, ground maintenance and gritting (particularly relevant!). Once the Board has had the opportunity to examine the proposals, we will be issuing guidance to members. Let us know if you have any questions. Whilst the match-funding agreement which sees West Lothian Council contribute to the Mill Road B.I.D budget is secure until the end of the current term (August 2019), there needs to be further discussion between the Board and West Lothian Council over any arrangements for a potential term 2 of the B.I.D.

B.I.G

A recent spate of applications for the Business Improvement Grants has seen Mill Road businesses secure funding to support projects as diverse as new I.T. equipment, employee training and new boilers. The scheme, which grants 75% of up to £1,000 for improvement projects, is open for new applications. The Board are keen to hear from members on what they would do to improve their businesses. Don't be put off by the thought of an application form - it's only 1 page of A4!

Learning Lunches

Following the success of the recent Social Media training sessions, we have looked at re-starting our 'Learning Lunches' project. Bite sized sessions over your lunch break, where you combine a great learning opportunity on topics as varied as security, social media and utility bills, and networking with neighbouring Mill Road businesses. We have several exciting experts lined up and we are working on securing a suitable venue. Is there a particular topic that you would like to see covered? Let us know!

Board

Do you want to get involved in the running of the Mill Road B.I.D? Do you have the skill set to contribute to the Board? If your business is in the Mill Road Industrial Estate and you have a few hours per month to get involved, the Board want to hear from you.

Feedback

do you have any issues that you would like the Board to discuss? The next meeting is scheduled for the 11th April, so simply

contact us to add an item to the agenda!

For more information
visit our website
www.linlithgowmillroadBID.com
or email Bridgette on
Bridgette.Kleinman@linlithgowmillroadBID.com.



We look forward to hearing from you.

Contacts:

Nicholas Gribben
Chair
nicholas.gribben@linlithgowmillroadbid.com
07956 974981
www.linlithgowmillroadbid.com

Stewart Ness BID Manager
stewart.ness@linlithgowmillroadbid.com
07717 865225

Bridgette.Kleinman@linlithgowmillroadbid.com



Nicholas Gribben & Stewart Ness





F1 IN SCHOOLS TEAM ACCELERACE

Hi, we are Team AcceleRace, a team of Linlithgow Academy pupils who are competing in the global STEM competition F1 in Schools. We have worked together over the past four months and on the 23rd of February we competed at the Regional Finals. We are delighted to have been chosen to represent Scotland at the F1 in Schools National Finals in March, held at the home of UK motorsport, Silverstone race track.

This is a competition which runs all over the world every year. As a team, we need to design and make a model F1 car which is shot down a 20-metre track traveling at around 15 metres per second. Along with this we have to produce two portfolios, a presentation and also gain sponsors and links within our community.

The team consists of our Manufacturing Engineer - Molly Ganner, Graphic Designer - Louise Murray, myself Team Manager - Louise Paterson, Design Engineer - Isla Petrie and Resource Manager - Aoife Sutton.

We started last November trying to organise fundraising which we did at school with a bake sale. We raised enough money to enter and to buy the materials needed to make the car. This is when our Design Engineer - Isla Petrie, along with our Graphic Designer,

Louise Murray started to design the car. Isla says: "being the Design Engineer, I have had to do the designs for the car and put these onto a software called CAD. It has really helped with my skills in this area and I have really enjoyed working as part of this team."

Isla started out with initial sketches and different ideas to make the car as fast as possible. These ideas were then developed with CAD, paying close attention to the competition regulations. Once the design had gone through weeks of editing, improving and testing Molly began manufacturing it, first practising using the CNC router and then with greater quality. After we had some prototypes we tested them and then they went through more changes until they were entirely finished, and we were happy with them. As much as the competition is about how fast your team's car travels down the track, it is also about the process of your team's design and enterprise. We had to produce two portfolios and a presentation to impress the judges with. We split this task between the five of us, each creating a few pages and a segment of the presentation.

On our way to the Regional Final we were working with Linlithgow company, Casra Sports who provided us with a team uniform and Inoapps, a multi-national software company, who have helped us with finance and marketing. We are extremely grateful for all of the help and support that both of these companies have given us.

Each of us have found that this has been an excellent experience and we have all

thoroughly enjoyed it.

After all of our preparations it was finally time for us to compete at the Regional Finals with teams from all over Scotland. Throughout the day we had chances where we could tell the judges about our car and how we have been preparing. These included engineer judging, a verbal presentation and pit display and enterprise judging. Of course, there was also the track racing where we raced our car down the 20m track!

After a long day of judging it was time to find out who the winners would be. Up for grabs was a chance to compete at the national finals, held at Silverstone. We were extremely excited and very surprised when our team was offered a place to compete at the national finals.

Over the coming weeks we will be preparing for Silverstone by improving our car's design and by looking for more sponsors. We are delighted to have this opportunity and are very excited for what is about to come.

Moving forward we will be looking for more sponsors to help us on our way to Silverstone and we are keen to gain links within our community. If anyone reading is interested in getting involved, please email us team.accelerace@hotmail.com and follow us on Instagram and twitter @teamaccelerace. On our social media we post updates and information along our journey.

Louise Paterson
Team Manager, AcceleRace



BOOK REVIEW FOOL'S GAME

R. M. DORN

How often does one think of phrases such as "playing your cards right", or triumphing "against all odds" or someone holding "an ace up their sleeve"? Of "luck going their way", going "all out" or being "on the losing side"? These analogies and clichés – and many more besides – channel an important rhetoric in our collective social consciousness; that life is a game where strategy, skill, fate, fortune and opportunity all have bearing on the overall eventual outcome.

"Fool's Game" is a highly imaginative novel written by R.M. Dorn, a British author who began writing fantasy fiction in earnest five years ago. She writes descriptively and skilfully to weave a

creative scenario exploring the philosophical concept that life is indeed a game. She taps into the competitiveness and spirit of adventure that all humans possess albeit in varying degrees. Dorn details characters and locations within the novel succinctly and effectively with intelligent prose.

"Only one card can win the Game, the rest will be eliminated. Which doesn't matter, the cards will be dealt again. All except the Fool, who must win, or die".

R. M. Dorn deftly establishes a complex game of cards and dice within which to propel the novel's action through cleverly mirroring the intricate, unfathomable set of rules which govern human existence (and oft haphazard consequences which follow our seemingly autonomous actions). The hands

controlling the Game are the ethereal, omnipotent daughters of Chance, Opportunity, Accident and Fortune. Mere mortals contribute towards the partnership of players on the ground.

"Nonetheless, at times, and chiefly for their own entertainment (for the daughters love to gamble), the capricious four offer someone hazards, challenges and choices whereby a doom may be avoided".

The main protagonist, Charlie Brown, has hit a low point in her personal and professional life. A series of events outwith her control have left her feeling as though the world is against her and she has limited options and a finite timescale.

Wandering aimlessly around a bric-a-brac shop one afternoon Charlie finds herself drawn to a mysterious box, decorated intricately with "iridescent mother-of-pearl that formed trails of tiny flowers in the oriental style". Upon purchasing the box - and subsequently discovering the beautiful, medieval playing

cards concealed within - Charlie unwittingly sets the events of the Game in motion.

We as reader muse upon whether the Game is a reality in Charlie's life - a true adventure where she must rely upon wit, determination and intelligence to manoeuvre her hand of cards. Or, conversely whether the Game is a metaphor for the trauma and turmoil she is experiencing in her own real life.

Whatever the answer - and whatever the final Endgame round has in store - R.M. Dorn has woven a highly enjoyable and addictively readable narrative. I would recommend "Fool's Game" as a good, escapist read and will cross my fingers and hope that one day there may be a board game to accompany the tale!

Lisa Nettleton
Lisa Nettleton is a teacher who lives in Linlithgow and enjoys reading on her daily rail commute into Edinburgh.





THE HOPE MONUMENT

2018 marks the 160th anniversary of the death of The Honourable Adrian Hope.

Between Christmas and New Year I took a group of Australians on a guided tour of Linlithgow Palace and the surrounding area. They had just left Sydney in 38°C and found themselves in bracing, sub-zero temperatures – especially when standing on the highest point of the palace – Queen Margaret’s Bower. Looking out across the loch, one of them asked about the conspicuous, obelisk standing on the ridge of Airngarth Hill. I knew a bit about it and remembered the description given by architectural historian Stuart Eydmann which I duly repeated: “It’s a three-stage, octagonal, Gothic space-shuttle with wolf gargoyles, commemorating Brigadier Adrian Hope who was killed in India in 1858.” That said, I realised that I didn’t know much more. Who was Brigadier Hope? How had he been killed – and during which conflict? I decided to do some research.



The Honourable Adrian Hope was the son of the 4th Earl of Hopetoun and in 1858 the commanding officer of the 93rd Regiment of Foot – the Sutherland Highlanders. He had sailed the year before from Crimea to India to help

control the insurgents of the Indian Mutiny and had led his regiment into action at Sikander Bagh where six Victoria Crosses were won. He then went on to take part in the relief of

Lucknow before being commanded by **Major General Robert Walpole** to lead his regiment and the 42nd Royal Highlanders (The Black Watch) in an ill-prepared attack on the “rebel-held” Fort Ruiya (there are many other spellings of this name.)

During the action, Brigadier Hope was shot through the chest. He died in the arms of Major Ross Grove who rescued the body from the battlefield at great risk to his own life. Accounts from the time report that the Major’s kilt and bonnet were riddled with bullet holes.



Four other officers and 112 men also died in the abortive attack. ‘Times’ reporter, **William Howard Russell** (who had covered the Crimean War) was in India and reported on the death, stating “Brigadier Hope was a man greatly loved. A gentler, braver spirit never breathed - a true soldier, a kind, courteous, noble gentleman in word and deed, beloved by his men, adored by his friends.”

Brigadier Hope was buried where he fell and still lies in a British Cemetery in Uttar Pradesh. A plaque in Westminster Abbey records his fate.



There was also a stained glass window erected in his memory but it was destroyed during World War Two. And of course there is his memorial on Airngarth Hill bearing a plaque which reads: *“Brigadier the Honourable Adrian Hope CB fell in his 38th year before the fort of Rooeah in Oude upon the 15th April 1858. A soldier who for the bravery and high promise he displayed throughout the Crimean War, the Indian Mutiny and the Relief of Lucknow was honoured by the whole British Army and by the kindness and self-devotion of his life was endeared to the hearts of his men his comrades and his friends. Admiring friends within and beyond his native country mourning his death too early for his country and his fame have raised this monument to his memory. AD 1859”.*

Bruce Jamieson



WEST LOTHIAN EAGLES

Picture the scene: 4° degrees on an astro pitch in a former mining town in the heart of Scotland. A group of athletes honing their craft, a far cry from 107,000 seat Melbourne Cricket Ground where the elite of the elite play week in, week out from April to October. These Super-athletes run further than a soccer player, hit harder than a rugby player and display more skill than an NBA basketballer.

The sport is **Australian rules football**, and is now played in Linlithgow by around 30 local men at the academy.

Michael Allan, a hydraulic engineer with four years playing experience behind him, set up shop in a field in East Calder in June 2016, the ambition to field a team representing West Lothian. Progress has been slow and steady, and as of January 2018 the club has been pencilled in for 5 games against every team in the Scottish league, with the premise being full league membership next year.

The club was formed officially on the 20th December 2017 and has never been stronger, with constant new faces showing up every week. A direct relationship with the professional AFL club the West Coast Eagles only helps matters; with kit and equipment shipped over from Australia, the “minnows of AFL Scotland” have an advantage no other team in Europe can even dream of. Not to mention a strong social media presence that dwarfs that of former champions of the league.

An influx of experienced talent has assisted founder and coach Mikey Allan; with Ross Barker (club president), Ewan McIntyre and Ryan McGuigan holding down the backline. 12-year Aussie Veteran Kevin Maxwell being the link in midfield and captain. New recruits Scott Brown, Jason Forrest and Jamie Townend have proven they are worth their salt in recent outings, showing promise for the new kids on the block.

There has never been a better time to join, with a friendly yet competitive vibe and AFL accredited coaching staff, do you see yourself joining the most hungry and driven sports team north of Hadrian’s wall?

The West Lothian Eagles train on Thursdays at Linlithgow Academy. Come one, come all. We’re flying high.



Michael Allan
 Contact: westlothianarfc@gmail.com
 Or mike on 07921 298294
 Facebook: https://m.facebook.com/wleaglesarfc/?locale2=en_GB
www.westlothianeagles.com



MORRISON
Personalised Wealth Management



Thank you!

VouchedFor Certificate of Excellence:
As voted for by our clients

01506 200580
www.morrisonpwm.com
enquiries@morrisonpwm.com

DETAIL



AVEDA
the art and science of pure flower and plant wisdom

13 HIGH STREET • LINLITHGOW • EH49 7AB
distein@detailhair.com • www.detailhair.com

TEL: 01506 670429

QWorth



Passionate About Stocking Quality & Affordable
Best of the British Fashion Brands!

Catwalk showcasing
Spring Summer 2018
COLLECTION

in store right now - Friday 30th March
7pm-9pm. 20% off only on the night.
Free Entry. Reserve your Seat Now.



207 High Street Linlithgow m. 07914845017
tel. 01506 238850 e: sales@qworth.co.uk
Visit us to experience exceptional customer service

cgh creative

BRANDING. DESIGN. WEB

+ WE DESIGN
BLACK BITCH MAGAZINE
since 2013

+ WE WORK
WITH LOCAL COMPANIES
& ORGANISATIONS
since 2010

+ WE CREATE
MOBILE RESPONSIVE WEBSITES
BROCHURES, ADVERTISING
EXHIBITIONS, SIGNAGE

call today - to discuss a project

.....
chris hamilton m: 07843 856922
www.cghcreative.co.uk

THE ARTS

“RSA IN LITHGAE!!!”

It's not quite Linlithgow but I feel that I should mention Torphichen Summer Nights.

Their first concert of the season is usually in April but I've not been able to source information yet.



As I write this article I am thinking “how is the Burgh Halls in Linlithgow once again exhibiting such an amazing exhibition?” Ages of Wonder is the largest collections exhibition that the Royal Scottish Academy has ever mounted and The Life School is one of its key exhibits. Beginning a nationwide tour at Linlithgow Burgh Halls, The Life School offers a unique opportunity to see the figurative work of Scotland's best artists of the past and present. We are talking about some very famous artists here, such as Samuel John Peploe, who is widely recognised as the leading figure of the group known as the Scottish Colourists.



Some of you may think of that pillared building at the bottom of the Mound in Edinburgh when the RSA is mentioned. It's much more than just a building - since it was established in 1826, the support and nurture of Scottish artistic talent has been at the core of the RSA's identity and collections. Between 1840 and 1932 the Academy operated a Life School and at its foundation was the teaching of figurative and anatomical drawing, and drawing from

live models. Students were also encouraged to study Old Master paintings and sculpture and make copies, thereby learning through practice. Many of Scotland's famous artists have passed through its doors as students.

There is a gallery tour on Thursday 22 March at 6.30. Tickets which include tea, coffee and biscuits cost £5 and can be booked by calling 01506 777666. The exhibition continues till mid-July so there's plenty of time to get a real dose of top notch culture.

Far From the Madding Crowd

Far From the Madding Crowd host an event on 17 March at 2pm in the Canal Tea Room. Brian Johnstone is a poet, performer and literary events organiser, and in 1998 he was a founder of StAnza: Scotland's International Poetry Festival which takes place in St Andrews each March. Johnstone's memoir Double Exposure ponders why he was never trusted with the truth and vividly evokes his post-war upbringing. Sure to resonate with baby-boomers, and anyone with an interest in family secrets and long-lost siblings, this is an event not to be missed.

Linlithgow Jazz

Linlithgow Jazz have their usual first Saturday of the month gigs on April 7th and May 5th. In April, Dick Lee's Swinget performs with Marcus Ford and Mike Nisbet on guitars, Owen MacDonald on bass and Dick Lee on clarinets. An evening of music to both relax and lift the soul! In May our local vocalist Sue McHugh will be joined by Jim Clelland on piano, Jimmy Taylor on bass and Ken Mathieson on drums, along with a special guest, award-winning trumpeter Colin Steele. Expect some standards, some less well known songs and some fun! All Linlithgow Jazz events are held in the Queen Margaret Hall, cost £9 and start at 7:30.

Arts Guild Already it's the final Arts Guild concert of the season. On Saturday 17th April the Escocia Duo perform in Linlithgow

Primary School, following the Arts Guild's AGM. Tickets include a finger buffet at 8pm, and the music is expected to start at 8.30. Tickets are available online at www.linlithgowartsguild.co.uk as well as at Far From the Madding Crowd. Reservations can be made by text or phone to 07731 614179. Entry for school pupils is free of charge but please reserve.

Chilean Guitarist Roberto Kuhn and Yorkshire violinist Katrina Lee formed the Escocia Duo whilst both studying for a Masters degree at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. As a newly established Violin and Guitar duo, they play a diverse range of repertoire including music by Paganini, Piazzolla and Bartok.



Cantilena Ladies' Choir perform in St Michael's Kirk Hall, The Cross on Saturday 28th April at 7.30. This will be an entertaining and eclectic mix of female voice arrangements with songs from shows, pop songs and inspired modern compositions. The Choir is also delighted to have West Lothian Schools Guitar Ensemble as its guests. Tickets are £5 and are available from Gillian Grant on 01506 844611.

LAMP Children's Theatre perform Les Mis in Linlithgow Academy from the 26th - 31st March, but be quick as tickets are selling fast.

The Linlithgow String Orchestra's spring concert is on 20th May at 2.30pm in the Burgh Halls. It's a concert of two halves with two conductors, a traditional half and a lighter Scottish themed half. Tickets on the door - £7/£6/£1 for children.

Line Gallery I am so looking forward to the next exhibition at The Line Gallery as I own a piece of art by Nikki Monaghan and love her very recognisable style. She is a graduate of the Scottish College of Textiles and her inspiration comes from the Scottish landscape and the everyday, creating colourful, imaginative, appealing and textured paintings. Nikki will exhibit work on a range of scale and media, so everyone will find something on which to feast their eye and which will hopefully bring a smile to their faces. Great presents too. There will also be handmade harbour scenes by Morag Lloyds.

Linlithgow Players Linlithgow Players are putting on "Ghost Writer" on 17th to 19th May (details tbc), and you can have afternoon tea with a cappella singers Quattro Voci in Cross House at 3pm on Saturday 14th April. Tickets are £8 at the door or in advance from Cross House.

Joanna Trollope

Joanna Trollope visited the town on 27 February despite the Beast from the East threat. She



was in conversation with **Lesley McDowell**, an author and critic, who writes for The Herald and the event in the Burgh Halls was sold out. Joanna shared with us some of her reasons for writing her latest book, about a later in life marriage. She has seen friends going through this and was interested in the unique set of family and financial issues that have to be dealt with. She believes that unbearable situations make great fiction! Without giving anything away Lesley told us she loved the ending of the novel, so I'm sure many present are now intrigued to finish the book quickly.

Interestingly Joanna still writes longhand before getting her work typed up and whilst she is fussy about the paper she writes on, any old pen will do. She tends to plot the first and last quarters of her books first, and then works on the story in the middle. She described writing as recording the movie going on in her head, which reminded me of how I feel reading a good book. She sang the praises of editors who she feels don't get the recognition for transforming novels into much better novels without seeming to change too much. It was an entertaining

evening and there was a buzz around the hall as she signed copies for her readers.

Here's hoping Far From the Madding Crowd continue to bring such well known authors to the town.

Finally please do email me as early as possible about your events on patswan@virginmedia.com. I've recently had requests to mention events but was advised too late in terms of the magazine delivery schedule. I check websites and facebook etc so if it's there early I'll pick it up. Our diaries fill up well in advance these days so it's good to advertise when you can, even if tickets are not yet on sale.

I hope you have time to experience some ART over the next few weeks.

Pat Swan

patswan@virginmedia.com



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"life is a work of art – if you don't like what you see paint over it"



Linlithgow Physiotherapy

Local Physiotherapy Clinic.



We can help with:

- Back/Neck Pain
- Sports Injuries
- Joint/Muscle Pain
- Ante/post Natal Care
- Modified Pilates
- Bladder Problems
- Headaches
- Dizziness
- Acupuncture



26c High Street
Linlithgow
EH49 7AE

Karen Graham
Pamela Armstrong

Tel. **01506 238189**

www.linlithgowphysiotherapy.co.uk
contacts@linlithgowphysiotherapy.co.uk

Healthcare Insurers Recognised
HCPC registered

Ace Tree SURGEONS

Fully qualified arboricultural specialists

specialising in:

- * Sectional felling of dangerous trees
- * Limb removal * Hedge trimming
- * Pruning and Shaping * Stump Grinding
- * Fully Insured * 24 Hour Service
- * Seasoned hardwood firewood for sale.

For a **FREE** estimate call **(01506) 847 049** or mobile **07850 624 939**

www.acetreesurgeons.com

The News & Card Shop

Watch Batteries
(and replacement service)

£3.99

Best watch battery prices in Town

28 High Street, Linlithgow
(01506) 842155

TAKE TIME TO SPRING CLEAN YOUR FINANCES

Susan Ralston, Virtue Money



It's that time of year again when the nights are suddenly a little lighter, the snow drops are starting to flower and our thoughts go to spring cleaning our home.

Perhaps we should also take this opportunity to spring clean our finances, take stock of what we have, think about where we would like to be financially and actually make a positive difference.

Look at things like your household utility and mobile phone bills – are there savings to be made if you switch providers

DEBTS – credit cards, what do you owe and how much are you repaying each month

SAVINGS – have you taken advantage of the ISA allowance (currently £20,000 in the 2017/18 tax year) – be quick though as the allowance runs out at tax year end i.e. 5 April 2018.

What to do with the money you saved well, as regular readers will know we at Virtue Money specialise in pre-retirement. We are firm believers in alleviating the “Cost of Delay” regarding pensions. In effect this means that we advocate putting as much into a pension as you can afford as soon as you can to maximise growth.

You may want to consider helping your children and grandchildren in their retirement by starting to contribute to a pension for them now. Anyone can contribute £2,880 (£3,600 after tax relief) annually whether they have “earnings” or not.

What about you though and your pension, have you checked your annual statement recently?

Do you have an idea of how you would like your retirement to look?

We all like to have the occasional daydream where we are as smart as Stephen Hawking, as rich as Onassis or have the foretelling abilities of Nostradamus. However, there is a big difference between having a daydream and real life.

Sir Francis Bacon is attributed as saying “Knowledge is Power” and nothing is truer when it comes to your pension and future retirement. Understanding what your retirement will look like and how you can perhaps change it is hugely important. Remember “procrastination is this thief of time”, if you want to have a clearer understanding of your pension and other issues surrounding retirement then don't wait, take the bull by the horns and do something about it today.



Why not call or email to make an appointment to speak to one of our advisers, telephone 0345 034 3424 or email me at Susan@virtuemoney.com



Make the Rest of Your Life the Best of Your Life



© 2016 Virtue Money | Virtue Money is a trading style of Policy Services Limited. Registered Office – Priorsford, 75 Grahamsdyke Road, Bo'ness, EH51 9DZ. Registered in Scotland No. 230167.

Policy Services Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. FCA No. 214036.

This article is intended to provide a general review and opinion of certain topics and its purpose is to inform but not to recommend or support any specific investment or course of action.

www.virtuemoney.com e: info@virtuemoney.com t: 0345 034 3424

*Source data taken from YouGov Plc

Stuart from the Westport Veterinary Clinic tells us about some of his regular customers. This month it is Fingal Irving.

Hello
I'm Fingal Irving

Fingal is a very handsome Main Coon who has been a regular at Westport Vets for a while. When he's not at the clinic he can be found snoozing in his favourite spot – his zebra bed in front of the radiator. Fingal is a cool cat who doesn't really indulge in toys but when in the mood he will play with an exceptionally loud squeaky grey furry mouse. Of course, Fingal is an angel but if the heating is off he will quickly pinch your seat if you turn your back! His owners describe him as an absolute joy who is a shy character when meeting new people and saves all his cuddles for them!

Fingal recently underwent major reconstructive surgery. A large, aggressive tumour was situated on his right eye lid and the only option due to the size and nature of the tumour was a full removal of the eyelid and eye itself. The removal was successful and complicated and extensive reconstructive surgery followed with a skin flap taken from behind the neck and shoulders.

This story has a very happy ending with Fingal looking fabulous and enjoying life to the full with one eye after making a full recovery with no signs of cancer. It is extremely important to check your pets over for any new lumps and bumps. If you do notice something unusual, please make an appointment with the vet.

If you are concerned about your pets weight and health please make an appointment to see one of our experienced team.

TEAM WESTPORT



Truly Scrumptious

DESIGNER CAKES LTD.



Fresh
cupcakes
and treats
available
daily

Enjoy the elegance and quality of a Truly Scrumptious wedding cake. Bespoke colours and finishing touches can be created to suit your individual style.

Choosing a Truly Scrumptious Designer wedding cake includes a personal cake tasting at our shop giving you the time to discuss all your wedding cake ideas and requirements.

No 1 The Cross, Linlithgow, West Lothian, EH49 7EY
tel: 01506 671133 email: office@trulydesignercakes.co.uk
www.trulydesignercakes.co.uk

LINLITHGOW SPORTS PODIATRY & CHIROPODY CLINIC

Martin Godley BSc, MSc

Sports Podiatry & Chiropractic Clinic Linlithgow

- > General/High Risk Foot & Nail Care
- > Biomechanics & Gait Analysis
- > Custom made Orthotics
- > Foot & Lower Leg Mobilisation
- > Low Level Laser Therapy
- > Both Elite and Recreational Athletes treated



Knee, Hip,
Lower Back
Problems
Call Today

Appointments available at:

Unit 8, Braehead Business Units

Braehead Rd, Linlithgow EH49 6EP

www.podiatryscotland.co.uk Tel: 07596 954189

Email: m.g.podiatry@gmail.com



WHAT'S ON AT THE ROSE

Full Session Bingo at
8pm on Tuesday, Thursday
and Sunday evenings.

Live entertainment
every Saturday and
Sunday evening.

Domino competitions on
Wednesday afternoons
and Friday evenings.

We're open 7 days.

**MEMBER AND
GUEST NIGHT:**

**SAT 21 APRIL
FEATURING FEEVA
AND JACKIE CLARK**

plus 3 Course Dinner
£20pp, booking essential.

GRAND FINAL

2018 TALENT COMPETITION

NEW DATES: Semi-Finals: 23 March and
6 and 13 April; Grand Final: 20 April -
Ticket only £5 per person

**CONTACT: DAVID MCDUGALL ON 01506 843736
FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

A range of luxury gifts
handpicked and brought
to your High Street



View our full range
and latest offers
instore or visit
lilypondcrafts.co.uk

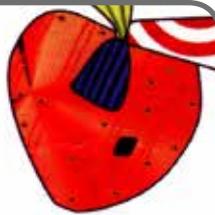


LILYPOND CRAFTS & GIFTS

Follow us on facebook to discover our latests finds

25 The High Street, Linlithgow EH49 7AB tel: 01506 840225
enquiries@lilypondcrafts.co.uk

what's new...



So Strawberry Caffé

happiness is homemade!

Soups, panini, toasties, posh sandwiches,
baked potatoes, gluten and dairy free cakes,
homemade cakes and desserts, ice creams,
smoothies & juices and speciality teas & coffees.

Remember to use your Loyalty card.

So friendly.

Open 7 Days. Outside seating
Dogs eat and drink free (outside!)

**SUPPORTING & SOURCING
PRODUCTS LOCALLY**



t: 01506 843333
3 THE CROSS, LINLITHGOW

star barber

TRADITIONAL TURKISH BARBER

HOT TOWEL SHAVES
GENTS HAIR CUTS & STYLES
BEARD TRIMS & STYLES
OAP RATES
KIDS & BOYS HAIR CUTS
PATTERN DESIGNS
HIGH LIGHTS
GIFT VOUCHERS



**WE HAVE MOVED
TO 76 THE VENNEL**



OPENING HOURS

MON-TUE-WED- 9AM-6PM & THURS-FRI 9AM-7PM & SAT 8AM-5PM

76 THE VENNEL LINLITHGOW EH49 7ET 01506237387



MATHEWSON PLUMBING

FOR ALL YOUR PLUMBING REQUIREMENTS

All Plumbing and Central Heating Work undertaken.

Installation of Full Central Heating, Combi Boilers Hot Water Cylinders, Gas Hobs and Cookers, Kitchen Sinks, Full Bathrooms and Installations, Electrical Showers, Outside Taps.

Landlord Certificates, Boiler Services and all Plumbing repairs

**WORK GUARANTEED
FREE ESTIMATES**

CALL GARY ON
01506 202878 or 07841 551096

Linlithgow Based



BURGH BEAUTIFUL SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Email the editor at: on.a.lead@gmail.com.
Editor's choice is final.



BEFORE



AFTER

COMPETITION FROM PAGE 12

Gardening Competition for Young People in Linlithgow

All children, whatever the age, are invited to participate

Grow something - big or small - in a window box, or pots or garden - it is up to you. Entry is free



For hints & suggestions check out
<http://lbt.scot/burgh-beautiful>

nutriclub

feel good weight loss



Book your
Linlithgow
Classes

Join Nutriclub
nutrition focused weight loss

With smaller classes and a motivating coach, you'll learn how to lose it, **FOR GOOD.**

Wednesdays

Longcroft Hall,
Philip Avenue
9.30am

Bowling Club,
Philip Avenue
5.30 pm

Weekly
group fee
£5.00
one-off joining fee
only £10

Book your 1-2-1 Coaching

To book your
place contact Louise:

07837 794112

nutriclub@virginmedia.com

[f nutriclublinlithgow](https://www.facebook.com/nutriclublinlithgow)

www.nutriclub.co.uk

GREENFIELD HERBALIST

BLACK ISLE & LINLITHGOW

Specialising in herbal medicine & tonics tailored
to your specific needs
www.greenfieldherbalist.com



5 Royal Terrace, Linlithgow, EH49 6HQ tel: 01506 842888 mob: 0777 3013357 email: annettegreenfield@gmail.com

We **value** more
than your home.

This is why our
clients **keep**
coming back to us.

Paul Rolfe 
SALES AND LETTING

Sell your home with Paul Rolfe

T 01506 828282

W paulrolfe.co.uk

