



edlife



**Going the
extra mile**





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Don't dump - pass it on



Contents

Welcome to the summer edition of **edlife** - East Dunbartonshire Council's magazine for local communities, residents and businesses.

It's a packed issue again with a range of features and articles focusing on East Dunbartonshire.

On page 3 (opposite) you can find out all about our latest new schools - Holy Trinity in Kirkintilloch and Thomas Muir in Bishopbriggs.

Meanwhile, turn to page 5 for a preview of the 2017 Kirkintilloch Canal Festival, which offers a treasure chest of fun attractions and activities.

Pop star and personality Michelle McManus helped launch Scotland's Big Fit Walk recently at Kirkintilloch Leisure Centre. Turn to pages 8 and 9 for full details and photos from the day.

Creative pupils have helped to brand a new active travel route next to Bishopbriggs Relief Road - check out the details on page 11.

Turn to page 12 for information on support services for businesses and news of export success for a local firm.

Page 13 contains contact details for local elected members, while page 14 offers information on things to do with the family this summer.

We hope you enjoy this latest issue of **edlife**. For the latest news, follow us on Twitter @EDCouncil, like us at www.facebook.com/edunbartonshirecouncil or visit www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk

Did you know there's a way you can donate unwanted bulky items instead of sending them to landfill?

Over the past 12 months, the Council has diverted more than 100 special uplift requests destined for landfill to local charities via Zero Waste Scotland's Re-use Line.

The service connects people with items to pass on to local charities and social enterprises who collect goods to sell on - supporting the work they do in the community.

Thomas Glen, Depute Chief Executive - Place, Neighbourhood & Corporate Assets, said, "The Council recognises that everything we use and throw away is a resource and has taken a pro-active approach in moving away from landfill dependency.

"Anything that helps reduce the amount of waste heading to landfill is great news as it reduces costs and the damaging effects to the environment.

"If your item is still in good condition, why not check and see if Zero Waste Scotland's Re-use Line could collect it for free?

"They can accept a range of bulky items, including furniture in a re-useable condition, soft furnishings such as sofas, mattresses and armchairs that have fire-regulation labels attached, and electrical items such as washing machines, fridges and cookers in good working order."

INFORMATION

Call 0800 0665 820 between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday, or donate online anytime at www.reusephoneline.com

Contact us

To contact the Council, whatever your enquiry, simply call Customer Services on the following number:

0300 123 4510

Customer Services can also be contacted in person at Kirkintilloch Community Hub or at one of the two interim Hubs in Bishopbriggs Library or in Brookwood Library in Bearsden. You can also email:

customerservices@eastdunbarton.gov.uk

In addition, you can find out a wide range of information on the Council on our website, and also carry out a number of transactions. To find out more, visit:

www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk

Local pupils pipe up on pupil engagement



Pupils from Castlehill Primary in Bearsden took centre stage at an event in Strathclyde University when they spoke to undergraduate teaching students about pupil engagement.

Youngsters gave a presentation on 'pupil voice' to a packed auditorium about how their 'school groups approach' means every pupil has a say in, and some responsibility for, some aspect of the working of their school.

Castlehill Primary Headteacher Suzanne Kenney said, "The groups set their own agenda and share their work with pupils

and families. The information and opinions which we uncover through this approach can be surprising at times.

"It is successful because children and staff are working closely together and we also benefit from the input of parents who attend monthly meetings."

Strathclyde University's Evelyn Hart said, "Thanks to all the great children for coming in and delivering their very informative presentation on Castlehill's committee structure. The students were very impressed and it was very relevant to what they are working on."



Holy Trinity and top right



Cleddens Early Learning & Childcare Centre. Right : Thomas Muir Primary

First-class celebrations at two new schools



Pupils and staff of two new schools and a nursery in Bishopbriggs and Kirkintilloch recently celebrated the official opening ceremonies of their brand new buildings:

- Thomas Muir Primary School and Cleddens Early Learning & Childcare Centre (CEL&CC) opened just after Easter, with everyone marking the official opening of the £12.4m development in June.

- Similarly in Kirkintilloch, the new £8.7m Holy Trinity Primary has been open for business since Easter and marked its formal opening with a ceremony in June.

Chief Education Officer, Jacqui MacDonald, said, "Celebrating with staff and pupils at these three excellent facilities at their official

opening events was a lovely way to end the academic year.

"Holy Trinity Primary and Thomas Muir Primary are the third and fourth new schools to be built in East Dunbartonshire through the Primary School Improvement Programme (PSIP) and feedback continues to be overwhelmingly positive.

"These modern buildings are providing our young people with excellent environments in which they can learn and thrive."

Meanwhile in Bearsden, construction work is underway on the new £10m school to replace St Andrew's Primary and St Joseph's Primary in Milngavie. It is expected to open in 2018.



INFORMATION

For more information visit the PISP page on www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk

This document can be provided in large print, Braille, or on audio cassette, and can be translated into other community languages. Please contact the Council's Communications Team on 0300 123 4510.

本文件可按要求翻譯成中文，如有此需要，請電 0300 123 4510。

اس دستاویز کو درخواست کرنے پر اردو زبان میں ترجمہ کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ براہ مہربانی فون نمبر 0300 123 4510 پر رابطہ کریں۔

ਇਸ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਦਾ ਮੰਗ ਕਰਨ ਤੇ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਵਿੱਚ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ। ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ 0300 123 4510 ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।

Gabhaiddh an sgriobhainn seo cur gu Gàidhlig ma tha sin a dhith oirbh. Cuiribh foin: gu 0300 123 4510

अनुप्रास करने पर यह दस्तावेज हिन्दी में भाषांतरित किया जा सकता है। कृपया 0300 123 4510 पर कॉल कीजिए।

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Home(care) is where the heart is...



Members of the Homecare team

A service providing care and support to people in East Dunbartonshire has been highly praised by inspectors and service users.

The Homecare Services – Mainstream Team was found by the Care Inspectorate to offer a high standard of care and support which is focused on the needs and preferences of each person.

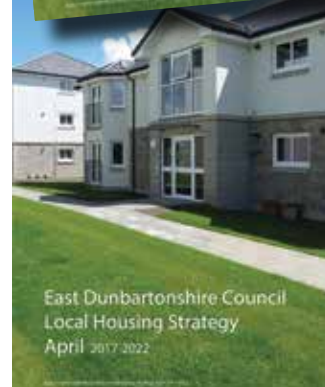
The service provides care at home and housing support to older people, people with physical and sensory impairments, people with learning disabilities and people experiencing mental health problems.

Service users who were interviewed by inspectors described staff as “excellent, friendly and efficient”.

One service user said, “Without the support of the care service, I couldn’t have my relative at home. He is much happier at home being part of the family. Long may it continue.”

Another added, “I have nothing but praise for the Homecare services and the staff are amazing. They are always patient, kind and considerate.”

Susan Manion, Chief Officer of the East Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP), said, “This is a fantastic report and highlights the excellent work provided by the Homecare Services team. I would like to offer my congratulations to all of the team members - this really is well deserved.”



Key challenges for new housing strategy

The Council's new Local Housing Strategy (LHS) is now available online.

The plan - which covers 2017-2022, has been produced in partnership with tenants, residents, registered social landlords, elected members, service providers and other statutory bodies.

The purpose is to address key housing challenges faced by the Council.

It sets out five strategic priorities:

- Enable a suitable, efficient and affordable supply of housing
- Enhance the role of housing options in preventing homelessness
- Encourage independent living
- Address housing condition, fuel poverty and regeneration
- Improve service delivery, quality and value for money.

Karen Finlayson, Team Leader - Housing Strategy & Development, said, “This is the third local housing strategy for East Dunbartonshire. It builds on the progress and outcomes of

previous strategies and reflects the new and emerging challenges that influence housing - both at a local and national level.

“This strategy lays out East Dunbartonshire’s priorities in relation to housing for the next five years. It sets out how the Council and its partners will address imbalances in the local system, and how we deal with housing need and demand in the area. It also looks at how and where money is invested to improve housing services.

“These are all important issues and there were significant contributions from tenants and others to develop the strategy to make sure it is the right one for the area.

“Our ultimate aim is to ensure everyone in East Dunbartonshire has access to affordable, suitable, good-quality housing and this strategy plays a vital part in helping us achieve that.”

INFORMATION

The new Local Housing Strategy can be found on the Council's website - www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/residents/housing

New-look town hall is taking shape

New life is being breathed into Kirkintilloch Town Hall as progress continues to restore and transform the iconic building.

The new town hall - which will be functional, flexible and fit for the 21st century - is due to open in late summer. Recent milestones include a magnificent new reproduction ceiling.

New ceiling cornices were moulded from the original designs then remade by a Kirkintilloch contractor - the Reproduction Plaster Company.

Work is progressing on external stonework and windows, while the new extension is rapidly taking shape.

The Council has been working with development partner hub West Scotland, contractor CBC and



East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture Trust to develop the design since the start of 2015.

Support has been secured from the Heritage Lottery Fund and other external funders.

Plans include: ground-floor event space; new entrance, reception and vestibule; first-floor heritage display; new office and

community space; and kitchen, store room, toilets and locker room.

The aim is that the new facility is flexible enough to cater for a range of uses - such as performances, events, weddings, heritage displays, receptions and meetings.

The restored building will

have a potential seating capacity up to 300.

INFORMATION

Kirkintilloch Town Hall was opened in July 1906. It closed its doors in 2004 and since then efforts have been ongoing to see it revamped and reopened.

Rocking and rolling at Kirkintilloch Canal Festival

A swashbuckling mix of family fun, boat trips, live music, roller-skating and fireworks will ensure the 2017 Kirkintilloch Canal Festival is another splash hit.

This year's programme is being finalised, with a range of local performers, partners, shops, hostellers and groups involved.

Kirkintilloch Canal Festival runs from Monday 14 August to Sunday 20 August - culminating in the entertainment and excitement of Saturday night's firework display and Sunday's fun-packed gala.

The annual event - organised by East Dunbartonshire Council - attracts thousands of visitors to the town centre and Marina area. Highlights include:

- Boat trips and Story Week - Monday 14 - Friday 18 August - including storytelling trips for younger children, and excursions for adults - such as a Bubbles & Breakfast trip, whisky tasting with Spirit of Alba and the Ghiloni's Friday night Fish Tea.
- Get Active Saturday - featuring live music from Big City, Shardlake and Emma and the

Ragmen, fireworks, Marina Food Court, roller-skating, cycling, arts and crafts, archery, canoeing, stone-carving sessions (with Trails and Tales) and fun for all the family at New College Lanarkshire - Kirkintilloch Campus.

- Gala Sunday - featuring classic cars, market stalls, roller-skating, meet the pirates, spin art, Jump 'n' Jive, children's art activities, stilt walkers, funfair and carousel, walk on water, canoeing, Kennedy Cupcakes, model plane flying, Dunbartonshire Concert Band, Kirkintilloch Male Voice Choir, Coppers on the Canal and much, much more.

For more information, visit www.kirkintillochcanalfestival.org





Neigh way you can miss the new gate

Kirsty is pictured with her horse Cedric (Whataman), while Laura McKinnon is pictured on Leggy (The Legacy).

Horse riders will be able to access local countryside more easily thanks to work by East Dunbartonshire Outdoor Access Forum and the Council.

A new horse gate has been created at Blairskaithe - behind Torrance - on a route used by ramblers, horse riders, mountain bikers and more to access areas such as Lennox Forest.

The Council galloped into action to help the forum access funding from the British Horse Society.

Local horse rider Kirsty Logue, who represents the British Horse Society on the access forum, said,

"The gate wasn't level before and was difficult to open. It's definitely a big improvement."

Alistair Kyle, Resource Generation Officer at the Council, helped to oversee the project.

He said, "Horses are allowed access to the countryside just like anybody, but they are sometimes seen as quite destructive and often discouraged from access."

"Being able to do something which is an improvement for that group is a good thing because their opportunities can be limited."

On the trail of Marvellous Mud Snails



Schools, groups and local volunteers are being invited to get involved in a new project, Marvellous Mud Snails.

Over the next two years, the organisation Buglife Scotland will be working to promote and protect the pond mud snail (*Omphiscola glabra*), currently found at only five known sites in Scotland - including East Dunbartonshire.

For more information, visit www.buglife.org.uk/local/marvellous-mud-snails

INFORMATION

For more information visit www.fairtrade.org.uk and www.facebook.com/eastdunbartonshirefairtrade further.

Fairtrade status means we remain in the Zone

East Dunbartonshire's appetite to help has been recognised again - with the area's status as a Fairtrade Zone renewed for another two years.

This is the sixth time East Dunbartonshire has been declared a Fairtrade Zone - guaranteeing the honour until 2019.

The "exemplary" efforts of East Dunbartonshire Fair Trade Steering Group have been praised by the Fairtrade Foundation, which also hailed "remarkable" work with schools, nurseries and the local community.

In addition, the Foundation commended the Council's "amazing" support despite budgetary pressures and ongoing challenges.

Adam Gardner, Communities Campaigns Manager at the Fairtrade Foundation, said, "We're very pleased that East Dunbartonshire has renewed its Fairtrade status and laid out clear, exciting goals to take Fairtrade further."

"Thanks to the ongoing support of the public and campaigners, an increasing number of farmers in developing countries are now selling their products on Fairtrade terms, bringing them a stable income, and the chance to trade their way out of poverty."

Lairdsland Primary pupils, in Kirkintilloch, learned about Fair Trade recently and created artwork. P6 pupils are pictured with Council Policy Adviser Kirsty Anderson (second from left) and members of the Steering Group.

The Council - which recently approved a resolution supporting Fair Trade locally - works with groups in Lenzie, Bearsden and Milngavie.



Work begins at Bishopbriggs Library

Work has started on the £2million project to transform Bishopbriggs Library.

The development, which is due to be completed in December, involves enhancing current library facilities through a full refurbishment and upgrade.

Library facilities and a full range of Council services are operating from Bishopbriggs War Memorial Hall on Balmuildy Road while work is being carried out.

Mark Grant, General Manager of East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture Trust, said, "We are still offering a full service at our temporary home, where there is a selection of popular lending stock for adults and children, WiFi, photocopying and a small number of laptops for public use."

"The Trust's children and families events and activities programme - and other regular activities such as tablet tips and reading groups - are also continuing as normal."

"Library users are welcome to use any East Dunbartonshire

library and can also access a range of free online digital services at www.edlc.co.uk/libraries/24-7-library."

The new Community Hub at Bishopbriggs Library will bring together Council, library, leisure and cultural services in a single building.

It will also contain a multi-purpose room for children's activities and reading groups, private rooms for confidential business and an enhanced heritage space which will incorporate the Thomas Muir Museum.

The on-site customer services team will make it easier for residents to access information about a variety of different Council services and make payments in just one visit.

The combined £3million investment in the area will see the completed War Memorial Hall and new Library and Community Hub building available to the local community in winter 2017.



Paul Curran, Strategic Lead - Neighbourhood Services, and Jackie Gillespie, Streetscene Project Officer



Fairytales come true at Bishopbriggs Park

If you go down to Bishopbriggs Park today you're sure of a big surprise... as a number of fairytale characters have been spotted hiding out there!

The Three Little Pigs, Little Red Riding Hood and the Big Bad Wolf, a Fairy Dell and a sleeping Dragon can all be found in the park following work to transform it into a magical world of make-believe and fun for all the family.

The newly-created wooden carvings are the work of talented Iain Chalmers, of Chainsaw Creations, who was commissioned by East Dunbartonshire Council's Streetscene Technical Support Team to create a Fairytale Trail.

It is just part of a number of improvements which have taken place at Bishopbriggs Park over the past year - following the award of an £8,000 grant from the Tesco Bags of Help programme.

Gillian Telfer, Streetscene

Technical Support Team Leader, said, "This is a lovely project and the Fairytale Trail is already a big hit with children whose imaginations have been fired by seeing their favourite fairytale characters come to life."

"I am sure the carvings will bring lots of pleasure to local children and their families for many years to come."

The grant meant that some much-needed environmental improvements could be carried out by the Council and volunteers, including the planting of a wide variety of trees - ranging from cherry, oak, beech, and holly and hazel whips to Japanese Maples - with their glorious autumn colour.

The Countryside Rangers also worked with pupils from Balmuildy and Wester Cleddens Primary Schools to plant 5,000 pot-grown wildflowers.

Walk a way to get

people moving



Scottish entertainer Michelle McManus kicked off Scotland's Big Fit Walk campaign at Kirkintilloch Leisure Centre on Friday 26 May.

The singer and presenter helped Scottish charity Paths for All officially launch their national walking campaign in a bid to get Scots active, in partnership with East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture (EDLC) Trust and East Dunbartonshire WALK project.

Each June, the Big Fit Walk supports communities, schools, groups and workplaces across Scotland to organise their own walk and experience the physical, mental and social benefits of being active.

The national launch event attracted a record crowd of over 150 people, who put their best foot forward as they joined Michelle for a scenic two-mile walk around Kirkintilloch.

Michelle told edlife, "I'm always happiest when I'm keeping active and I love walking, especially with my friends and family. I find it such an easy way to keep my mind and body healthy.

"That's why I'm excited to be launching the Big Fit Walk this

year, it's all about celebrating the benefits of a fun, sociable walk."

The event was a boost for the WALK project, which now regularly attracts over 150 people a week on its Health Walks in East Dunbartonshire.

WALK Development Officer, Andy Lynch, one of the driving forces behind the successful event, said, "The WALK project in East Dunbartonshire was honoured when Paths for All selected us to host the launch of the Big Fit Walk – it was a real recognition of the great strides that we have been taking as a project.

"It was amazing to see so many of our volunteers, walk leaders and local partners coming out to support the launch – and it was just as well, as we ended up with a record turnout of over 150 walkers on the day!

"Behind the success of the project and the launch event, there is an impressive network of partners and local services - all going that extra mile to enhance the health and wellbeing of our community.

"It was great to have been a part of this fantastic event and I hope that you are all inspired to get out and organize your own Big Fit Walk or come along to one of our local Health Walks."

Andy Lynch (right) and the Big Fit Walk-ers



A wide range of information about local health and social care services is now available at just the click of a mouse.

All of these services, from information about health visitors to details about care at home, are now on a dedicated section of East Dunbartonshire Council's new-look website.

East Dunbartonshire Council and NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde (GGC) now jointly provide services to the public through the East Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP). The website also has details about the HSCP Board members and what the Partnership and the Board do.

The HSCP Board was set up last year to administer certain services which were provided by the Council and NHSGGC. These are: adult community health and social care services, NHS community children's services, children's social work services and criminal justice social work services.

Information about these services, including clinic times and what help is available, is now

New home for health and social care information

all in one place on the Council's website.

Susan Manion, Chief Officer for the HSCP, said, "We know that it is important for people to have access to information at any time of the day or night, and the new website makes this possible."

"The pages are in the process of being finely tuned, so please contact the Council if you have any comments."

INFORMATION
Visit www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/health-and-social-care for more information.



Casting the 'net' for Leisure and Culture Trust services

It's now even easier to find out more about local sport, libraries, arts and heritage following the launch of East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture Trust's new and improved website.

The site, which is now live, offers a wealth of information on events, projects and things to do in the area, such as health and fitness classes, and arts programmes, as well as all the

facilities and services the Trust has to offer - including sports centres, libraries, museums and more.

A wide range of Trust services can be accessed online 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week, making it easier to search for and book health and fitness classes, while library users can easily browse, reserve or renew books online.

Mark Grant, General Manager of East Dunbartonshire Leisure

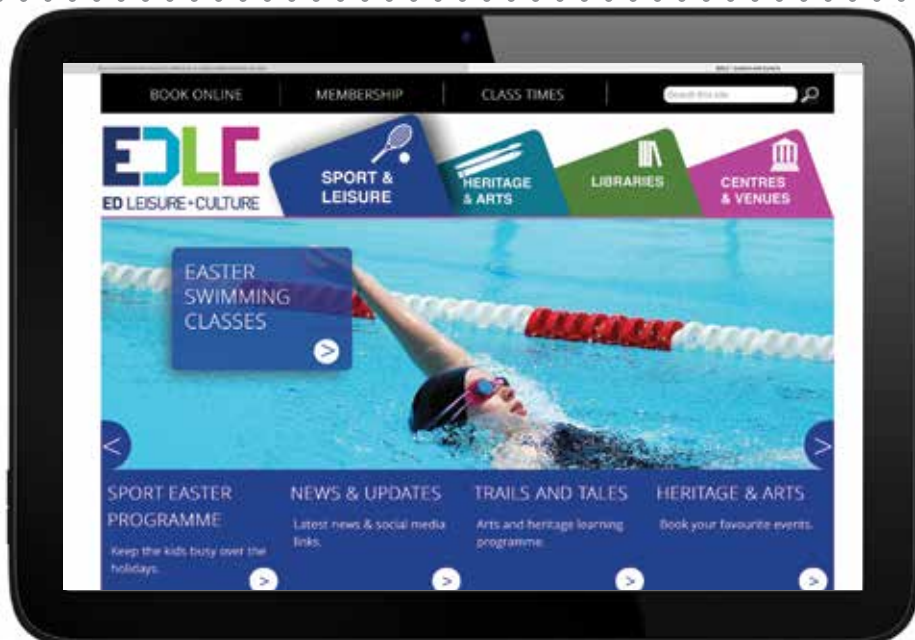
and Culture Trust, is delighted with the new look, saying, "This new website is a one-stop-shop for anyone who wants to find out about all the services that EDLC offers."

"It has been designed to be easy to use, with the most popular services easily accessible."

"By designing the new website to be effective on mobile devices as well we are making

sure that people really can engage with us online at a time and place that suits them, any day of the week."

INFORMATION
Visit www.edlc.co.uk to see the new look for yourselves and watch out for updates as new online services are introduced.



Pedal power makes Meadowburn top class

Hundreds of energetic youngsters got on their bikes - and scooters - in East Dunbartonshire as part of The Big Pedal 2017.

Meadowburn Primary was the top performing school locally - with 44% of pupils using active travel to get to class.

The Big Pedal - which took place between 20 and 31 March - encourages children to cycle or scoot to school.

The Bishopbriggs school finished 17th in Scotland and 196th in the entire UK.

Liz McGrath, support for learning assistant, helped to co-

ordinate Meadowburn's efforts, along with the school's Junior Road Safety Officers (JRSOs).

More than 400 pupils attend Meadowburn Primary and nursery - including both Gaelic and mainstream.

Mrs McGrath said, "Well done to everyone who took part and inspired parents, grandparents and families to also get active on the school run."

"This is the third year in a row we've finished first in East Dunbartonshire. Every year we've improved our position nationally."

The school is keen to promote active travel, with Walk to School

Wednesday, Bikeability sessions for P6 pupils and scooting with Donald Macdonald from Sustrans. The school has even used scooters for orienteering.

Mrs McGrath said, "The boys and girls are doing an amazing job, inspired by our JRSOs. The number of children we have cycling and scooting to school is increasing year on year, which is great."

The JRSOs help provide assembly input to raise awareness of initiatives such as The Big Pedal - encouraging children and parents to think about how they travel to school.

Wheely great (from left): JRSOs and P7 pupils Duncan MacDonald, Tiana Kolliatsas, Mia Owens and Lewis Fleming are pictured with Mrs McGrath.

Meadowburn's amazing efforts are also supported by Traffic Officer Caroline Hay.

JRSO Tiana Kolliatsas said, "We basically try to encourage people to scoot and cycle more often - helping to cut pollution from cars and improve safety."

Fellow JRSO Lewis Fleming added, "It also helps to make sure people outside the school can cross safely and stops people parking there."

Plans for the future include introducing younger JRSOs to help promote even more active travel at Meadowburn.



Talented pupils are wheely going places

Creative pupils put active travel on the map when they helped to brand Wester Way in Bishopbriggs - a dedicated walking/cycling route, which will be free of traffic.

Earlier this year, East Dunbartonshire Council asked primary school pupils in Bishopbriggs to create designs and suggest a name for the new route next to the latest phase of Bishopbriggs Relief Road (BRR).

The three winners have now been presented with new top-of-the-range bikes and safety helmets - courtesy of Morrison Construction, the contractor working on phase 4 of the BRR.

The winners - chosen from nearly 600 entries - were:

- Abi Lee - P7 - St Helen's Primary (design)
- Lauren Smith - P7 - Meadowburn Primary (design)
- Miriam Cody - P4 - Thomas Muir Primary.

Thomas Muir Primary (name). The winners will see their ideas turned into reality when the new route - which is separate from the road - opens later this year.

Gavin MacLeay, Senior Agent at Morrison Construction, said, "The quality of entries received was very high and I'm sure it was a tough task to narrow down the entries."

"The two designs and the name are great and we look forward to seeing the signs erected when the route is complete. Morrison Construction was happy to provide the bikes and hopes all three winners make good use of them."

Going places (pictured from left): Lauren Smith - P7 at Meadowburn Primary; Abi Lee - P7 at St Helen's Primary; and Miriam Cody - P4 at Thomas Muir Primary.

New and existing companies are being supported by Business Gateway within East Dunbartonshire Council.

Free services include practical one-to-one advice, direct links to support and funding initiatives, regular training workshops, access to market intelligence and networking opportunities.

Local Business Adviser Anne MacIntosh said, "We've been running a promotional campaign recently to increase awareness of our services. This has seen a significant increase in the number of enquiries from local residents considering setting up their own business."

"The events Business Gateway run are extremely popular and cover a wide range of subject matter, including training on cyber-crime, book-keeping, social media, recruiting and retaining

Services on offer are just the business

staff, Intellectual Property and marketing.

"Events, workshops and appointments are arranged at McGregor House in Kirkintilloch and Milngavie Enterprise Centre.

"In addition, following customer feedback, we've held breakfast and evening events in local business venues, which have proven hugely successful."

Business Gateway offices are located at McGregor House, 10 Donaldson Crescent, Kirkintilloch, G66 1XF, and Milngavie Enterprise Centre, Ellangowan Court, Milngavie, G62 8PH.

INFORMATION

For more information call 0141 578 8530, visit www.bgateway.com/local-offices/east-dunbartonshire or find Business Gateway on social media.



Sarah Main - Marketing and Sales Coordinator, Frank Duffin - Finance Director, and Stephen Mathers - Director.

Company flies the flag at export awards

A local manufacturer flying the flag for East Dunbartonshire and Scotland has scooped a dazzling double.

John McGavigan Ltd was named Scottish Exporter of the Year and Large Exporter of the Year at the HSBC Scottish Export Awards.

Thomas Glen, East Dunbartonshire Council's Depute Chief Executive - Place, Neighbourhood & Corporate Assets, said, "Congratulations to everyone at McGavigan's on their extraordinary success at the Scottish Export Awards."

"It's a terrific advert for East

Dunbartonshire and the first-class work taking place within the local economy. As an authority we are here to support all sizes of business, new and existing, to grow from strength to strength."

Established in 1861, John McGavigan Ltd is a Bishopbriggs company supplying a range of parts for the automotive industry from operations in Scotland and China.

Sarah Main, Marketing and Sales Coordinator at John McGavigan, said, "We were delighted to be recognised in the large exporter category so to also win the overall award for Scottish Exporter of the Year was very special indeed."

"It was a great to receive recognition for the company's innovative work at home and abroad."



Celebrating Business Success at Bearsden Hub

Tribute has been paid to the businesses of East Dunbartonshire at a special event.

The Celebrating Business Success evening was held in Bearsden Community Hub - attended by entrepreneurs, enterprises and traders from local towns and villages.

Guests had the opportunity to hear from a range of speakers, network and take a tour of the new Community Hub.

More than 100 people attended the event - hosted by Business Gateway and the Council - which raised funds for East Dunbartonshire Foodbank through a prize-draw raffle.

Jim Hopkins - owner of Kirkintilloch-based Spirit of Alba - said it was a valuable chance for business to network.

"When people start to talk together, new ideas are born and it's good for local business," he said.

"Business Gateway have been fantastic. They opened lots of doors and gave me good contacts and great advice. I would encourage anyone to ask for their advice and help."

Local businessman Rahul Randev agreed, "In East Dunbartonshire there's a real feeling they're open for business."

"All of my businesses are in East Dunbartonshire for a reason - I feel the Council is very pro-business and very accessible as well."

Mr Randev added, "Bearsden Community Hub is beautiful, state of the art. It's really striking."

INFORMATION

Visit the Council website for more information on events and support available to local businesses and enterprises - www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/business

your local councillor

For details of Councillors' surgeries or if you would like to speak to your Councillor, please call the number above his/her photograph. To find out who your Councillor is, please check the website at www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk or call 0141 578 8086.

- Conservative (Con)
- Independent (Ind)
- Labour (Lab)
- Liberal Democrat (LD)
- Scottish National Party (SNP)

Jim Gibbons (SNP)
Ward 1 - Milngavie
Tel: 0141 578 8163
Email: jim.gibbons@eastdunbarton.gov.uk



Jim Goodall (LD)
Ward 1 - Milngavie
Tel: 0141 578 8163
Email: jim.goodall@eastdunbarton.gov.uk



Graeme McGinnigle (Con)
Ward 1 - Milngavie
Tel: 0141 578 8163
Email: graeme.mcginigle@eastdunbarton.gov.uk



Duncan Cumming (Ind)
Ward 2 - Bearsden North
Tel: 0141 578 8016
Email: duncan.cumming@eastdunbarton.gov.uk



Sheila Mechan (Con)
Ward 2 - Bearsden North
Tel: 0141 578 8016
Email: sheila.mechan@eastdunbarton.gov.uk



Rosie O'Neil (LD)
Ward 2 - Bearsden North
Tel: 0141 578 8163
Email: Rosie.ONeil@eastdunbarton.gov.uk



Denis Johnston (SNP)
Ward 3 - Bearsden South
Tel: 0141 578 8042
Email: denis.johnston@eastdunbarton.gov.uk



Vaughan Moody (LD)
Ward 3 - Bearsden South
Tel: 0141 578 8042
Email: vaughan.moody@eastdunbarton.gov.uk



Andrew Polson (Con)
Ward 3 - Bearsden South
Tel: 0141 578 8042
Email: andrew.polson@eastdunbarton.gov.uk



Paul Ferretti (SNP)
Ward 4 - Bishopbriggs North & Campsie
Tel: 0141 578 8072
Email: paul.ferretti@eastdunbarton.gov.uk



Mohrag Fischer (SNP)
Ward 4 - Bishopbriggs North & Campsie
Tel: 0141 578 8072
Email: mohrag.fischer@eastdunbarton.gov.uk



Billy Hendry (Con)
Ward 4 - Bishopbriggs North & Campsie
Tel: 0141 578 8016
Email: billy.hendry@eastdunbarton.gov.uk



Gary Pews (LD)
Ward 4 - Bishopbriggs North & Campsie
Tel: 0141 578 8072
Email: gary.pews@eastdunbarton.gov.uk



Alan Brown (Con)
Ward 5 - Bishopbriggs South
Tel: 0141 578 8016
Email: alan.brown@eastdunbarton.gov.uk



Gordan Low (SNP)
Ward 5 - Bishopbriggs South
Tel: 0141 578 8042
Email: gordan.low@eastdunbarton.gov.uk



Alan Moir (Lab)
Ward 5 - Bishopbriggs South
Tel: 0141 578 8042
Email: alan.moir@eastdunbarton.gov.uk



Rod Ackland (LD)
Ward 6 - Lenzie & Kirkintilloch South
Tel: 0141 578 8163
Email: rod.ackland@eastdunbarton.gov.uk



Gillian Renwick (SNP)
Ward 6 - Lenzie & Kirkintilloch South
Tel: 0141 578 8163
Email: gillian.renwick@eastdunbarton.gov.uk



Sandra Thornton (Con)
Ward 6 - Lenzie & Kirkintilloch South
Tel: 0141 578 8172
Email: sandra.thornton@eastdunbarton.gov.uk



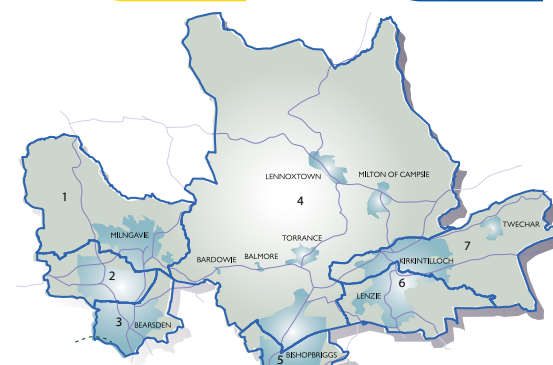
John Jamieson (SNP)
Ward 7 - Kirkintilloch East & North & Twechar
Tel: 0141 578 8016
Email: john.jamieson@eastdunbarton.gov.uk



Stewart MacDonald (Lab)
Ward 7 - Kirkintilloch East & North & Twechar
Tel: 0141 578 8016
Email: stewart.macdonald@eastdunbarton.gov.uk



Susan Murray (LD)
Ward 7 - Kirkintilloch East & North & Twechar
Tel: 0141 578 8442
Email: susan.murray@eastdunbarton.gov.uk



Did you know?

Anyone can attend Council meetings at the new Headquarters in Kirkintilloch to observe what goes on and hear their local Councillor. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 21 September 2017 at 6pm.

Brush with success for talented artists

Inspirational pupils were at the 'art' of an exhibition showcasing the wealth of creative talent in East Dunbartonshire schools.

Class Acts 2017 is an annual exhibition at the Lillie Art Gallery which features a range of drawings, prints, paintings, photography, fashion, 3D art and architectural design.

The exhibition displayed around 250-300 pieces of art from pupils at secondary schools including Bearsden Academy, Bishopbriggs Academy, Bocclair Academy, Douglas Academy, Kirkintilloch High, Lenzie Academy and Turnbull High.

Mark Grant, General Manager of East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture Trust, said, "Well done to everyone who contributed to Class Act 2017.

"The quality of the art and design on show was phenomenal. East Dunbartonshire has a wealth of talented and creative young artists, and we're delighted to help showcase their works."

Meanwhile, the Council helped to organise a Pop-Up exhibition in Kirkintilloch town centre in June, showcasing works by art students at New College Lanarkshire - Kirkintilloch Campus.

INFORMATION

For more information on local exhibitions and events, visit www.edlc.co.uk

From The King to Mini Kickers - plenty of fun for everyone this summer



From Elvis Presley and Daisy the Rabbit to football and fine art, there's loads going on this summer with East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture (EDLC) Trust.

Younger children are invited to take part in the Tesco Bank Summer Reading Challenge, on until 19 August at local libraries. This year's theme is Animal Agents and there are rewards for intrepid readers.

For older children (12 and over) a summer arts programme has been organised - including:

- Animation and 3D Scanning & Printing
- Picts Printing
- Art sessions exploring negative space, creative crayons and marbling
- Traditional crafts - including ceramics and jewellery-making.

On the sporty side, the Summer Holiday Programme 2017 includes a range of sessions for

children, such as Mini Kickers, Football Centres (five to 12), Soccer Weeks and goalkeeping.

There are also girls-only sessions.

For older residents, EDLC is paying tribute to The King himself - Elvis Presley - with an exhibition at the Auld Kirk Museum. The event, on until 20 August, marks 40 years since his death and features a wealth of memorabilia and talks/presentations.

Over at the Lillie Art Gallery in Milngavie, there will be displays by Lesley Banks, Frances Corr and Marie Barbour (8 July-3 August), while the 6th Open Annual Summer Exhibition is on from 12 August to 27 September.

If you enjoy walking and reading then why not combine the two past-times with Reading Walks in Kirkintilloch, Bearsden, Milngavie and Bishopbriggs?

For more information on these highlights and many more, visit www.edlc.co.uk



New recruits needed for cracking Code clubs

Keen coders are wanted to help run innovative new Code Clubs in East Dunbartonshire's libraries - which aim to inspire the country's next generation of coding experts.

Aimed at 9-11-year-olds, the Code Clubs give young people the opportunity to learn a wide variety of digital skills in a fun environment.

Bishopbriggs, Bearsden, Lennoxton, Milngavie and William Patrick Libraries hold free monthly Code Club sessions where children can learn how to create digital games, build animations and even develop websites.

As activities are group based, they also have the chance to boost their self-esteem and develop people skills - improving their future employability.

Mark Grant, General Manager of East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture Trust, said, "Everyone is welcome, from beginners to those with some previous experience of coding. These monthly sessions are free, but booking is essential.

"The clubs are very successful and we're currently hoping to recruit some adult or teenage volunteers to help them as they continue to go from strength to strength."

Details of forthcoming Code Club sessions are in the Trust's What's On guide, which is available online at www.edlc.co.uk or pick a copy in libraries and other local venues.

INFORMATION

If you're interested in being a Code Club volunteer contact the Children & Families team on 0141 777 3036 or e-mail libraries@eastdunbarton.gov.uk



Art of the community - the schools exhibition at Lillie Art Gallery