



WELCOME BACK!

In January 1981, Chryston Community Council decided to produce a weekly newspaper that would be delivered to every home in their district.

The Beacon would contain news about large issues, such as hospital and house building, as well as smaller community events like coffee mornings, youth clubs and even bus information.

The first issue was six A4 typewritten pages, run off on a Gestetner ink copier. We're unsure how long the Beacon ran for, but the last issue we have is dated 1985 and seems to have been superseded by a community letter published by BSA promotions in conjunction with Chryston & Moodiesburn Community Councils till 1992.

RELAUNCHING THE BEACON

In October 2020 – at a virtual meeting of the Community Council – we decided to once more produce a newsletter for Chryston, Crowwood, Mollinsburn, Mount Ellen and Muirhead. We opted for a similar format to the original Beacon: shining a light on local issues and local events.

This issue has been delivered to your home, but we'll not be doing that again. Future issues will mainly be available online, with copies available in various places throughout the villages.

We hope to produce an issue quarterly, and there's more information on page 3 on how to subscribe to receive your free copy. From the site you'll be able to download and print copies to give to neighbours and friends who may not have email facilities, or those who just prefer a paper copy.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITY

We live in difficult times trying to cope with Covid 19 and all its attendant problems. That's why we're trying to bring some community activity back to our area. We're running art competitions for schoolchildren and a house/garden illumination competition for all houses in our areas.

All competitions are being run in a way that complies with current restrictions, and there's more details about the competitions on the next page.

Please do everything in your power to stay safe and, on behalf of all at Chryston Community Council, may I wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Brian Elder
Chairperson
Chryston Community Council

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EVERYTHING'S COMING UP ROSES IN GARDEN COMPETITION

2020 GARDEN COMPETITION WINNERS

Green-fingered Ron Shepherd has been announced as the winner of the Chryston Community Council Best Front Garden 2020 competition, sponsored by Bellway Homes Ltd (Scotland West). He got £100, and a certificate, for his glorious display of flowers, trees and shrubs.

The competition attracted a bumper harvest of entries with judges facing the difficult task of choosing a winner – not just because of the quality of displays but with Covid-19 restrictions.

THE VILLAGE IS BLOOMING

Steven Gladstone, CCC Secretary, said: "When lockdown began it became clear that many normal community activities were going to be cancelled. So we had to look at alternative events which could run within the restrictions imposed.

"We settled on a garden competition but realised we could only consider front gardens which judges could view without going on premises.

"Ron's garden really stood out, especially as it still looked wonderful despite the bad weather we had before judging. Congratulations also to Angela Buchanan who came in third place, and our second place winner who was too shy to give us her name."

Pauline Coates, Head of Sales for **Bellway Homes Ltd (Scotland West)**, said: "We were thrilled to help out with the garden competition – it seems like a lot of people spent lockdown in the garden as the whole village is blooming.

"Chryston has a fantastic community spirit and it is great to see how everyone has pulled together during the pandemic to keep that spirit alive."



COMPETITIONS

#1: CHRISTMAS ILLUMINATIONS

Winter is upon us, dark nights are here and social events cancelled or at risk but Christmas approaches so let's try to brighten things up.

We're running a competition for the best illuminated garden and house in our areas (Chryston, Mollinsburn, Crowwood, Mount Ellen and Muirhead).

We're looking for the best illuminated FRONT garden together with, if possible, the best illuminated house. Best illuminated house means best window display/feature and examples can be found at winterwonderland/bbcnews

Prizes: 1st: £100, 2nd: £50, 3rd: £25.

#2: CHILDRENS' XMAS ART!

Open to all school-age children resident in Chryston, Muirhead, Mount Ellen, Crowwood or Mollinsburn.

There are two categories, primary and secondary school, and the subject is 'Christmas'. Entries can be any medium, and should be at least A4, but no larger than A3. It will have to be photographed and e-mailed to the address below.

Prizes in both groups: 1st: £100, 2nd: £50, 3rd: £25.

Good luck and have fun.

All competitions close on Sunday 6 December, winners will be announced on Monday 21 December.

To enter the above competitions, email us at chrystoncommunity+competitions@gmail.com and we'll send you all the necessary details.

We'd like to say a big thank you to the generous sponsors of the above: Allanwater Homes (Illuminations Competition), Simpson Optometrists (Primary School Art Competition) and S. Collins & Son, Butchers (Secondary School Art Competition).

ALLANWATER
HOMES

SIMPSON
OPTOMETRIST

**S. COLLINS
& SON**
THE
AWARD WINNING
BUTCHER



WOODLAND CREATION PROJECT GETS A HEAD START

An exciting project to create a new area of woodland in Chryston got a welcome funding boost from Volunteering Matters Action Earth recently.

The £250 donated to the Northern Corridor Community Volunteers provided the materials to build a large tree bed to bring on year-old saplings to a size where they have a much improved chance of survival once they are moved to their future home. The trees are destined to be part of a new woodland creation project on land at the nearby Crowwood Golf Club which borders a well used public right of way.

INCREASING BIODIVERSITY

In a bid to reduce plastic use the new woodland will be planted in grazing exclosures using fencing and natural grazing deterrents such as hawthorn and blackthorn to prevent the new trees being grazed by the local roe deer population, this combined with the use of slightly older trees and a plan to use innovative shading techniques, soil transplants and the addition of traditional woodland floor plant species all have the potential to accelerate the woodland creation, increasing the biodiversity and carbon sequestration capacity of the new area to quickly combat the climate crisis and species loss.

ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVES AND GET STUCK IN

Claire Williams, Volunteer and Funding Officer for NCCV, said, "We were delighted to receive this funding which allowed our volunteers to build a new tree bed at our Community Tree Nursery site in Chryston. The sapling trees that have been planted will spend their first couple of vulnerable years in an area where we can care for them well and ensure the very best start for them before they move to their new woodland home.

"It's a long term project for us and we really want to get lots of the local community involved so we hope people will get in touch and be part of it."

For more information call Claire Williams, Volunteer and Funding Officer, on 07905 909797 or email nccvols@outlook.com



Artist's impression of proposed new Chryston Primary School and Health Clinic

PLANNING NEWS

For the last decade progress on the NLC local development plan has started to take shape. While we can only speculate on the impact the Covid economics will have on future house building rates, here are some updates on planning in the community.

HEATHFIELD FARM

Heathfield Farm is a large-scale development to wrap around Mount Ellen. While a total over 1,000 houses over many years has been proposed, there is currently an application of 290 submitted. Traffic, environmental and general infrastructure concerns have been raised by the Community Council on this and we suspect it will be several months before it comes before a planning hearing at NLC for consideration.

LARGE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

The two large infrastructure projects impacting on the community in our area are the new Chryston Primary School and Health Clinic, proposed to be built on Lanrig Park, and the impending decision on a replacement Monklands Hospital that is potentially being located beside the Police Scotland site at Gartcosh.

DECLINED APPLICATIONS

While it sometimes sounds like developments are inevitable, some recent applications declined have been the land of the old FEP site and along to Station Road, which was to be a self-storage container business. Additionally, a 34 unit housing application for the land between the dual carriageway lights and Belhaven was halted, with a lot of work from that community.

All significant planning developments will be posted on the noticeboards to keep you up-to-date.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Sunday 8 November

11.50am, Cenotaph, Cumbernauld Road

There will be a short service in the car park at the Cenotaph, but there will be no parade this year. Instead, one representative from each organisation (about 15 people) will lay a wreath, adhering to relevant guidelines. A lone piper will play, and the usual minute's silence will be observed.

POLICE UPDATE

In the last month 15 crimes were recorded in the area. There are no patterns or trends that should be of any concern to the community. A warrant was executed by the Divisional Alcohol and Violence Reduction Unit. A male has been reported to the Procurator Fiscal for drugs offences and a stolen vehicle was recovered.

I carried out speed checks in two locations after complaints from members of the public. This was at Main Street between the junctions on Lindsaybeg Road and Gartferry Road (no issues were identified) and Gartferry Road near the junction with Main Street, where one driver was warned regarding speed.

PC Mark Smith Q1302

Community Policing - Cumbernauld, Police Scotland
01236 503926. mark.smith5@scotland.pnn.police.uk
www.scotland.police.uk

SUBSCRIBE TO THE BEACON

To receive future copies of the Beacon, please email chrystoncommunity+suscribe@gmail.com and we'll add you to our mailing list.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

If there's anything you'd like us to consider for the next issue, or if you'd like to write a letter to the editor, please email us at chrystoncommunity+beacon@gmail.com

CCC COVID-19 VOLUNTEER GROUP

In March, in response to lockdown, we organised a group of volunteers to help anyone unable to go out for groceries, prescriptions, etc.

Following a leaflet drop and advertising almost 60 residents responded and volunteered to help. At first there was a good number of folks requiring help but, as time passed, stores and chemists got their act together with deliveries, and neighbours and family made arrangements to look after people.

There is, we're glad to say, almost no call for our services now and we hope that it remains so. The group is still ongoing and we feel we shouldn't disband it until the new year, when hopefully things will have settled down.

The response from locals, not all resident in our area, was terrific. People were really keen to help their neighbours and local folk and we thank you all for your enthusiasm and kindness. Stay safe.

To contact the Volunteer Group call 07548 243272 or email chrystoncommunity+covid@gmail.com

LOCAL SERVICES and USEFUL CONTACTS

BUSINESS GROUP

Chryston & Muirhead Business Community

chrystonmuirheadbc.org.uk

Meets on the first Tuesday of each month.

CHURCHES

Chryston Parish Church (Church of Scotland)

Services stream live at 10.30am and 6.30pm on YouTube and Vimeo. Connecting as community has been difficult due to the restrictions and we've been using platforms like Zoom to allow people to keep in touch. We'd love to connect with you. To find out more, go to our website or get in touch (details below).

105-109 Main Street, Chryston, G69 9LA

0141 779 4188. www.chrystonparishchurch.co.uk

Minister: Mark Malcolm

Chryston United Free Church of Scotland

12 Church Road, Muirhead, G69 9EB. 07815 954792

www.facebook.com/Chrystonuf

St Barbara's RC Church

Elmira Road, Muirhead, G69 9EJ. 0141 779 2286

stbarbara@rcdom.org.uk

Priest: Father Kenny Campbell

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Chryston Community Council

ChrystonCommunity@gmail.com

Meets at 7.30pm on the last Monday of most months, in Cultural Centre.

COUNCIL SERVICES

To report streetlights out, fly-tipping, dog fouling, etc., and access all other Council services.

northlanarkshire.gov.uk

COUNCILLORS

Lynne Anderson (SNP)

Civic Centre, Motherwell ML1 1AB. 01698 302649

andersonlyn@northlan.gov.uk

Stephen Goldsack (Independent)

c/o Civic Centre, Motherwell ML1 1AB

01698 302073 or 07939 280069.

goldsacks@northlan.gov.uk

John McLaren (Labour)

c/o Civic Centre, Motherwell ML1 1AB

07939 280068. mclarenjohn@northlan.gov.uk

CULTURAL CENTRE/LIBRARY

Chryston Cultural Centre

Lindsaybeg Road, Chryston, G69 9DL. 01236 856281

chrystonlibrary@culturenl.co.uk

DENTISTS

Hannigan Dental Care

6-8 Station Road, Muirhead, G69 9EG. 0141 779 9274

Muirhead Dental Care

108 Cumbernauld Road, Chryston, G69 9AA

0141 779 4222. info@muirheaddentalpractice.co.uk

Spring Grove Dental Clinic

212 Cumbernauld Road, Chryston, G69 9NB

0141 779 3670. www.springgroveclinic.com

DOCTORS' SURGERIES

Jamieson Medical Practice

2 Cliffvale Road, Chryston, G69 9DW. 0141 779 2228

www.jamiesonmedical.co.uk

Nalagatla Medical Practice

110 Cumbernauld Road, Muirhead, G69 9AA

0141 779 2017. www.springgroveclinic.com

MSP FOR COATBRIDGE & CHRYSTON

Fulton MacGregor (SNP)

Coatbridge Business Centre, 204 Main Street,

Coatbridge ML5 3RB. 01236 897540

POLICE

Community Policing - Cumbernauld, Police Scotland

South, Muirhead Rd, Cumbernauld G67 1AX

01236 503926. www.scotland.police.uk

SPORTS CLUBS

Chryston & District Bowling Club

Bowling Green Road, Muirhead. chrystonbc@gmail.com

Iain Nicolson Recreation Centre

Chryston Road, Chryston, G69 9NA. 0141 779 2835

www.nlleisure.co.uk

VETS

Chryston Veterinary Clinic

3 Cloverhill Place, Chryston, G69 9DQ. 0141 779 5363

Glenbrae Veterinary Clinic

5-7 Station Road, Chryston, G69 9EF. 0141 465 8800.

www.glenbrae-vet.co.uk

ADVICE & SUPPORT

If you, or someone you know, need support you can contact the following agencies:

In an emergency dial 999

Monklands Women's Aid: 01236 432061

info@monklandswomensaid.org.uk

Lanarkshire Rape Crisis Centre: 01698 527003

support@lanrcc.org.uk

Homeless out-of-hours: 0800 953 2424

Domestic abuse & forced marriage: 0800 027 1234

Helpline@sdafmh.org.uk

Rape Crisis Scotland: 08088 01 03 02

support@rapecrisisScotland.org.uk

Male victims of domestic abuse: 0808 8010327

info@mensadviceline.org.uk

Men who have been sexually abused:

0203 598 3898. help@survivorsuk.org

Support helpline for older people:

Age Scotland 0800 12 44 222