

BLACKHALL BULLETIN

June 2017

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

No. 148



Mission Rescue

HOLIDAY CLUB

at

BLACKHALL St COLUMBA'S CHURCH

Scottish Charity No SCO08756

Monday 7th to Friday 11th August

From 10:00 to 12 noon

For children of Primary 1-7 age

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APPLICATION FORM FOR "Mission Rescue" HOLIDAY CLUB

CHILD'S NAME

ADDRESS

TEL NO. DAY TEL.NO

DATE OF BIRTH

PRIMARY CLASS CHILD GOING INTO IN AUG 2017

MEDICAL CONDITIONS (e.g. asthma)

MY CHILD MAY BE INCLUDED IN A GROUP PHOTOGRAPH

Yes/No

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

SECURITY NOTE: PLEASE NOTE THAT PARENTS/GUARDIANS WILL BE ASKED TO SIGN THEIR CHILDREN IN AND OUT EACH DAY.

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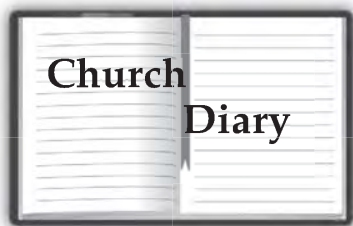
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Flowers in Church

June 2017

This month the flowers will be donated as follows:

- 4th Mrs E. Watson
- 11th Mrs M. McArthur
- 21st Mrs P. McLeod
- 25th Miss S. Scrimgeour

Mrs P. McLeod and Mrs A. Hewat will be delivering the flowers.

JUNE

- 4th 9.30 am Early Family Service
11.00 am Morning Worship
- 11th 11.00 am Challengers Promotion Service
- 18th 11.00 am Morning Worship
- 25th 9.30 am Early Family Service with
Sacrament of Communion
11.00 am Morning Worship with
Sacrament of Communion
- 27th 4.00 pm Tuesday Service at Strachan
House

JULY

- 2nd 9.30 am Early Family Service
11.00 am Morning Worship
- 9th 9.30 am Early Family Service
11.00 am Morning Worship
- 16th 9.30 am Early Family Service
11.00 am Morning Worship
- 23rd 9.30 am Early Family Service
11.00 am Morning Worship
- 30th 9.30 am Early Family Service
11.00 am Morning Worship

July 2017

This month the flowers will be donated as follows:

- 2nd Mrs J. Lowe
- 9th Miss A. Burton
- 16th Mrs P. Welsh
- 23rd Mrs R. Mitchell.
- 30th Mrs E. Walker

Mrs E. Watling and Mrs I. Robertson will be delivering the flowers.

Violet Troup
(Flower Convener)



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How to gain some balance in life

Dear Friend,

Imagine life as a game in which you are juggling some five balls in the air. You name them - **work, family, health, friends and spirit** and you're keeping all of these in the air. You will soon understand that work is a rubber ball. If you drop it, it will bounce back. But the other four balls - **family, health, friends and spirit** are made of glass. If you drop one of these, they will be forever scratched, marked, damaged or even shattered. They will never be the same. You must understand that and strive for balance in your life.

But how can we do that? Let me share the following 12 ways:

1. Don't undermine your worth by comparing yourself with others. It is because we are different that each of us is special.
2. Don't set your goals by what other people deem important. Only you know what is best for you.
3. Don't take for granted the things closest to your heart. Cling to them as you would your life, for without them, life is meaningless.
4. Don't let your life slip through your fingers by living in the past or for the future. By living your life one day at a time, you live ALL the days of your life.
5. Don't give up when you still have something to give. Nothing is really over until the moment you stop trying.
6. Don't be afraid to admit that you are less than perfect. It is this fragile thread that binds us each together.
7. Don't be afraid to encounter risks. It is by taking chances that we learn how to be brave.
8. Don't shut love out of your life by saying it's impossible to find. The quickest way to receive love is to GIVE; the fastest way to lose love is to hold it too tightly; and the best way to keep love is to give it wings.
9. Don't run through life so fast that you forget not only where you've been, but also where you are going.
10. Don't forget that a person's greatest emotional need is to feel appreciated.
11. Don't be afraid to learn. Knowledge is weightless, a treasure you can always carry easily.
12. Don't use time or words carelessly. Neither can be retrieved. Life is not a race, but a journey to be savoured each step of the way.

As you reflect on the above points, let me encourage you to seek to do what is right, to love what is best and to trust in God who can give you what you truly need. Don't let circumstances or cynicism rob you of His peace and joy. As the Bible promises, **"God is our strength and shield, an ever present help in times of trouble."** (Psalm 46)

Wishing you and yours God's blessing.



Benjamin
(Minister)

Prayer Corner



Each one, as a good manager of God's different gifts, must use for the good of others the special gift he has received from God. 1 Peter Ch4 v10

There is something very comforting in coming together in the company of people who have the same interests at heart whatever the interests may be. Not only is it comforting but it is also very satisfying, especially coming in the name of Jesus. He promises to be with us when two or three are gathered together, helping us to grow in Him, realising more and more how much He loves us. May you experience the love of Christ though it is so great you will never fully understand it. Then you will be filled with the fullness of life and power that comes from God. (Ephesians 3v19)

That's a lot to take in. How can and how does that happen? Bit by bit? Step by step? Prayer by prayer? We are asked to encourage one another, to 'show and tell' what the Lord has done and is doing in our lives.

There is a big wooden cross at the roundabout at Davidson's Mains on which is written "Let's talk about Jesus". I personally get really excited when I first saw it. I still do, thankful to the people who had the courage to put it up. To build up one another can make a huge impact on a person in a situation and we are capable of doing this. That special word spoken at just the right moment can be enough to keep us going, the difference between giving up and breaking through. The comfort of a hug, the taking and holding of a hand, not forgetting the 'wee prayer' offered at the point of almost giving up and about to crumble, collapse and fall, can do wonders. In coming together relationships are formed and unforgettable conversations happen. Yes, God does use ordinary folks like you and me to touch and bring comfort to one another as we walk the pilgrim's way. What a difference can be made just by having a conversation with someone. 1 Timothy 4 v6 tells us "You will be a good minister of Jesus Christ nourished in the words of faith and good doctrine which you have carefully followed."

Remember "I can do all things through Jesus Christ who strengthens me". Philippians 4 v13
Dear God, thank you for exposing our limitations so we can experience your strength. Truly we can boast in our weaknesses knowing your power works through them. Amen.
DM



By the time you read this Christian Aid week will have passed. But you can give at any time. This is a bit of the background to Christian Aid week.

Not turning our backs

Read: Acts 2:42-47

For Christian Aid supporters and staff, the month of May brings the familiar cycle of preparing for and taking part in Christian Aid Week. For many churches, it is an integral part of their calendars, a moment when they look outwards – into their own communities as members collect door-to-door, and beyond to our global neighbours overseas who struggle against the bonds of poverty, violence and injustice.

I wonder though how many people know why Christian Aid Week happens in May? This year sees the 60th anniversary of Christian Aid Week, and to celebrate, we are marking the dedication and ingenuity of some of our **diamond supporters**.

A few of these dedicated supporters took part in that first appeal in 1957, but the tradition of churches holding an appeal in May actually goes back further to the end of the Second World War. In the latter stages of the war, a group of Christians outraged by the devastation and displacement of people in Europe came together through the British Council of Churches.

With the coming of peace, they saw an opportunity to hold an appeal on the first Sunday after VE Day to raise money for the relief and resettlement of some of those millions in Europe who were displaced and destitute. It is because of this that Christian Aid Week happens when it does – and it is the longest continually running fundraising campaign in Britain.

Reflecting on this story, I am always struck by how Christians in this country were willing to give readily and generously, despite the immense hardship that faced them locally, to aid their former enemies. A contemporary report, now in the Christian Aid archive, states how this 'gave rise to the hope of our genuine understanding and concern for [the people of Europe], and of our desire to join with them in an effort to make Christ King amidst a world in ruins'.

I find a strong parallel here with the reading from Acts, where believers in Christ gave to all as they had need, and praised God, having the goodwill of all the people.

Today, as the world faces the greatest refugee crisis since 1945, it falls to our generation to respond.

What will you do with your old £1 coins?

You have until 15th October to dispose of your 'old' £1 coins. What will you do with them? Many charities are hoping that as you find the old coins, you will donate them to the charities.



A very warm welcome to the people from Dean Parish Church who have recently become part of the parish of Blackhall St. Columba's Church

Dear Friends,

I am writing to you as the Minister of Blackhall St. Columba's Church. I trust you will enjoy the Blackhall Bulletin, which is distributed four times a year to every household within our parish boundary.

The Bulletin seeks to give you relevant information as well as letting you know what is going on within our Parish. Our Church has been within Blackhall for the last 117 years, offering faithful service through all the various generations and stages of life. As a congregation we are here for you, whether you are young or old, single or within a family setting and we wish to offer our sincere best wishes and friendship.

Our Church facilities are widely used by various organisations and those within our boundary. Our Church service is held every Sunday at 11:00 am. You are most welcome.

Enjoy the Bulletin!

Wishing you and yours every blessing,

Benjamin
Minister



St Columba's Scottish Country Dance Club



The Scottish Country Dance Club has now finished for the summer break. We had our end of term party on Thursday 6th April which, as usual, was a great success. Many thanks to our own members for providing the usual delicious supper and for helping with the setting up and clearing up of dishes etc.

We said our farewell on 30th March to our teacher for the past two years, Ruth Goudie, and thank her most sincerely for looking after us over this period. We do not as yet have a replacement for Ruth but the Club will continue to function using our 'in-house' resources! Again, a big thank you to Alastair Wood for coming along to the party on 6th April and providing excellent accordion music which adds to the whole atmosphere of the evening.

If the hall bookings are confirmed, we hope to start the autumn term on Thursday 21st September at 7.30 pm in the large hall. Do come along and join us, you will be made most welcome. Meantime we wish all our members a happy and relaxing summer. See you in September!

Margaret Brown 332 5957

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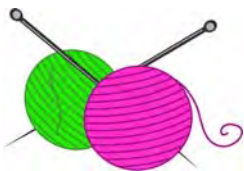


We are just about to deliver some jumpers, cardigans, hats, blankets, soft toys and dolls clothes including these lovely dressed teddies to the Early Years Centres at North Fort Street and South Queensferry. We have also got some dolls clothes for Liberton Nursery as we found out from Marie Abeledo that the poor dolls there have been feeling the cold. We were able to give Fresh Start three blankets and a donation of some pillows. So as you can see we are all kept very busy. If you would like to come and join us on Monday evenings, we'd be delighted to see you and would be able to pass on even more to these groups.

Our last evening this session will be June the 26th and we will recommence on September the 25th.

For further details please contact
stcknntnatter@gmail.com or 332 4842

Lilian Cockburn



Fresh Start

"I was totally overwhelmed by the generosity of other people. As I watched bag after bag was brought in, tears were running down my cheeks in total gratitude and not as previously tears of desperation. Thank you so much Fresh Start, God bless you for the wonderful work you are doing, I hope to volunteer in the future."

This is a quote taken from a Starter Pack feedback form we received from Sarah (name changed). One of the questions we ask people on the feedback forms is if they would like information on the other services we offer. Sarah indicated she would be interested in volunteering, as she is unable to work due to health problems. The good news is that Sarah has been volunteering for one month now and is enjoying it. All of this from a Starter Pack!

Thank you to everyone who continues to bring household and food donations for Fresh Start on a Friday morning. Thanks also to the volunteers who are in the church halls on a Friday between 10am and noon to receive any donations. At the moment your donations mean that we are taking two carloads of goods a month to Fresh Start's warehouse. These items make a huge difference, as can be seen in the feedback above from one of Fresh Start's clients.

We will not be able to receive goods in the halls on 21st, 28th July or 7th August but will start back on 14th August.

As well as providing Starter Packs, Fresh Start can also provide PAT testing for your business and speakers for your group. They also have volunteering opportunities. You can find out more by visiting their website at www.freshstartweb.org.uk or watching their video at www.youtube.com/watch?v=CT7ohuL4nek

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Email From Pirie



Yahoo Margaret never since I came to Pirie have I ever seen such attendance! The Church was overflowing, there was no space, people were outside and the spirits were very high. I have some photos that I will send to you with regard to this.

April was my last month at work; I'm looking forward to focussing on my legal profession.

The photo above with the garage is of the Mission House and the smaller house is the kitchen where we prepare food so that we don't invade the Minister's privacy at the manse.

Regards, Thobs

Last week was a very busy week for us at Pirie, since we were hosting the Youth Regional Conference, so everybody had to be there to assist with all the logistics. Our greatest challenge is that when hosting the conferences or Presbyterian meetings, we do not have the use of a friendly venue that is specifically designed for that - like a hall. Rev Gwala has suggested that we should think about building a hall so that we utilise the Church only for services like on Sundays i.e. the last day of the conference. Also for the future we should think of building some flats in the old Mission site to accommodate all the delegates who come from as far away as Queenstown & old Transkei.



Here at St. Columba's, our now annual **Quiz Night** was once again a happy and successful evening when we **managed to raise £487 for Pirie**, which will hopefully help them to achieve some more of their building plans. The winning team was Day Spring and we won't mention which team won the booby prize.

A big thank to Eddie Thorn for being such a good question master and providing all the questions. We are also extremely grateful this year to **Porteous Funeral Directors** for giving us funding for the wine and to **Waitrose** for supplying the nibbles and the napkins. And of course a big thank you to all who came along on the night, to those who supplied raffle prizes or made donations when they were unable to come. We hope you will come back next year.

We are very much looking forward to a visit from our Pirie friends possibly as soon as September.



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Blackhall Art Club



By the time you read this our Annual Exhibition will have finished and the display stands will have been packed away for another year.

We hope that many of you will have had time to pop in to visit the exhibition, to view the paintings and cards (and maybe even to make a purchase!), and to make a donation to our chosen charity this year, Maggie's Centre, Edinburgh.

The Centre provides free practical, emotional and social support for cancer sufferers and their friends and family. It is currently fundraising for a much needed extension and the proceeds from our exhibition will go towards this. **We are thrilled to tell you that with your support, we have raised £1500 for Maggie's Centre.** So our thanks go to all of you who contributed towards this.

Our thanks too must also go to our President, Valerie Gordon (and her team led by Myke Grantham) for all the behind the scenes work that goes on to ensure that everything goes to plan!

Our AGM also took place in May, and the Club will restart in September (Monday and Tuesday mornings). If you fancy joining us (whether you are an experienced artist or a terrified beginner!), please contact our Membership Secretary Anne McLennan on 336 4327 - she will be delighted to hear from you.



Well Done
Blackhall Art Club



North West Heritage

Our evening meetings have finished until the autumn although we hope to arrange an afternoon visit during the summer. Attendances at meetings have been very good and we have been have been pleased to welcome some newcomers.

Marjorie Easton

Tuesday Topics

Tuesday Topics session 2016-2017 has finished now for the summer months. We plan to restart on the 26th September 2017. Our meetings are at 7.30 in the small hall in Blackhall St. Columba's.

In the next few weeks our committee will meet to draw up a varied syllabus for the next session when we look forward to welcoming new members as well as our regulars. Our new committee has not changed much. We have a new committee member, namely Jacky Cowie, who has been a very active committee member in the past and has agreed to come and share her expertise once again. This gave Katy Millar a chance to stand down. We thank Katy for her help this year and all the previous years.

The new committee is as follows:

Diana Taylor -President [0131 336 3616](tel:01313363616)

Sheena Wilson - Secretary [0131 332 4078](tel:01313324078)

Sheila Mackintosh - treasurer

Maggie Smith - tea convenor

Joan Colquhoun

Jacky Cowie

Helen Oliver

Christine Peacock

If there are any queries please contact Diana or Sheena at the above phone numbers.

Edinburgh Floral Art Club

Edinburgh Floral Art Club meets monthly in Blackhall St Columba's Church from 2-4pm for floral art demonstrations with intriguing titles. Why not come and join us for an enjoyable afternoon?

Annual Subscription £40, visitors £5.

The new season starts on the **8th September at 2 p.m.** at Blackhall St Columba's Church Hall. Why not come along relax and watch beautiful flowers being arranged, and have a chance to win an arrangement with the raffle.

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PERFECT HARMONY CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED TO MOVE SCOTLAND'S NATIONAL MUSIC SCHOOL TO OLD ROYAL HIGH



Two of Scotland's national treasures are coming together in perfect harmony with a new campaign launched on Monday 1st May.

The *Perfect Harmony* campaign calls upon everyone in Scotland who cares about the nation's cultural and educational future to support the move of Scotland's national music school to the Old Royal High School on Calton Hill, Edinburgh.

Supported by one of the largest philanthropic arts gifts to the nation, the proposed conservation and restoration of the iconic Thomas Hamilton building as the new home of St Mary's Music School, with a state-of-the-art public concert hall and public garden, is backed by Dunard Fund. Managed through The Royal High School Preservation Trust, Dunard's exceptional gift to the nation will help protect Edinburgh's UNESCO World Heritage Site status and conserve the integrity of the neo-classical building that gave the capital the moniker, the Athens of the North.

The project, which has planning permission but is currently unable to proceed because of a rival hotel bid, will enable St Mary's Music School to position itself as a centre of youth music in the capital and significantly broaden and enhance access to music and musical education for young people throughout Scotland. It will allow the school to grow its number of pupils from 80 to 120 of Scotland's most promising young musicians, while extending its existing outreach programmes, masterclasses and workshops to more than 300 children from throughout the country.

The new 280-seat concert hall will ease the undersupply of performance space in Edinburgh and be capable of staging over 100 public performances a year, attracting audiences of over 20,000 annually and contributing approximately £110m to the Edinburgh economy over the next 30 years. The capital project is estimated to generate at least £22.6 million for Edinburgh with the ongoing contribution to the city's economy at around £1.6 million per year.

The campaign launched urges people throughout Scotland to show their support by writing to their MSP, MP or local councillor (if in Edinburgh), joining the facebook community and getting involved on twitter. Campaign t-shirts are available via the website, which has been set up to provide information about the campaign and supporters are encouraged to send in photos of themselves in Perfect Harmony t-shirts.

The Perfect Harmony campaign will run until a final decision is made on the future of the rival hotel development, which has already been refused planning permission by the City of Edinburgh Council. The developers now have two sets of plans on the table, the most recent of which received over 3,100 objections when made public earlier this year.

William Gray Muir, Chairman of The Royal High School Preservation Trust, said:

"The Perfect Harmony campaign builds on the public support for these two national treasures to come together and to take advantage of the incredible generosity of Dunard Fund, which has agreed to gift the funds needed to renovate and conserve the Old Royal High School for the nation.

"We want everyone to come together in a chorus of perfect harmony."

For more information and how to support the campaign visit rhsp.t.org, where you can see the plans, a walk through and much more.

Blackhall Nursery News Spring Term



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

Summer term is always a very busy time in Nursery and so far the children have had thoroughly enjoyable outings to Gorgie City Farm where they fed the hens and met the excited goats and ten new piglets. Thanks to the funding we received from the Blackhall Children's Sports Committee, we were able to provide the children with Tennis & Ball Skills lessons which helped greatly in developing their balance and eye-hand coordination as well as allowing them to practise their throwing and catching skills. The summer term brings more opportunities for our 'Tuesday Trot' around Ravelston Park which as well as promoting a healthy and active lifestyle will prepare the children for the Mile A Day initiative when they move on to primary school in August. It has been great to have parents/carers and younger siblings join us on the Tuesday Trot.

Our health promotion will continue throughout June as the Blue, Yellow, Green and Red Teams compete against each other at the Nursery Sports Day, followed by a cuppa for adults and an ice cream cone for the children. By the end of term, the children's excitement will reach new heights as they take part in different sports activities, such as football, dancing, judo, Enjoy-a-Ball and parachute games during our Health Fortnight. By then, we will all be ready for the summer holidays!

Blackhall Nursery is a registered Scottish charity working in partnership with the City of Edinburgh Council. We offer places in morning and afternoon classes, providing sessions of 3 hours 10 minutes for 3-5 year olds during term time. We are a feeder nursery for Blackhall Primary School and **all places are free** and funded by the City of Edinburgh Council. You can place your child's name on the Nursery waiting list from their 2nd birthday by downloading an application form at www.blackhallnursery.co.uk or by contacting the Nursery for an application form on 0131 332 8296.

CHALLENGERS

Challengers is getting ready for summer with their annual promotion service on 11th June when those moving up to the next department will receive a Bible. On 18th June, parents are invited to coffee and croissants in the large hall from 10.15am, and then, while they go into the church service, the children and helpers will go to the park (weather permitting) for games.

Thanks are due to everyone who has helped on a Sunday, preparing and delivering material for the children. I am sure all the helpers would agree that they have enjoyed working with our wonderful young people.



BLACKHALL BABY & TODDLERS GROUP at St Columba's Church, Blackhall

Looking for somewhere to have fun with your Baby or Toddler or both that doesn't cost a fortune? Why not try Blackhall Baby & Toddler group, St Columba's Church on Tuesdays 9.30am-11.00am.

A small fee per term includes tea/coffee and biscuits for adults and a snack for the children.

If you are interested please contact blackhalltoddlers@yahoo.co.uk



THIS SUMMER AT BLACKHALL LIBRARY

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

This summer at Blackhall Library the Summer Reading Challenge returns, after the success of last year's "Big Friendly Read", with the challenge themed around Roald Dahl's centenary. This year we are getting ready for walkies, and cleaning out the litter trays for "Animal Agents". The aim of the challenge is to get children to read any six books of their choice from their library during the summer holidays. This year's Animal Agents theme encourages children to explore the wild and wonderful animal world, with materials illustrated by the UK's best-selling children's illustrator Tony Ross. The challenge is open to any children aged 4-12 with signups beginning on 17th June. Read any six library books during the summer in order to track your progress and gain rewards. Every child who completes the challenge will be entered into a prize draw at the end of the summer.

Find more information at

www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

During the summer, we will be hosting a variety of activities and events for children and young people every Friday afternoon to run alongside the Summer Reading Challenge.

BOOKBUG



Throughout the summer we will be

continuing to run our busy and bustling **Bookbug Rhymetime**

sessions. Bookbug Rhymetime

sessions are aimed at children aged 0-4, although during summer months we are happy to welcome older siblings to join in the fun. The sessions normally last about 30 minutes and are led by library staff, including rhymes, songs and stories that tie in to Bookbug packs that children receive through their early years.

Blackhall Library has sessions that take place every Friday morning at 10.30am, with no booking required.

Blackhall Library also hosts "Seinn" sessions, Gaelic language Bookbug sessions. These sessions are conducted in Gaelic alongside English, with these sessions being open to Gaelic speakers, or anyone who is interested in Gaelic. These will be returning to Blackhall Library after the school holidays.

For more information about the Bookbug scheme and Bookbug Rhymetime sessions visit

www.scottishbooktrust.com/bookbug

30 DAYS WILD

During June we will be supporting the **Wildlife Trust's "30 Days Wild"** campaign. This encourages people to think about the wildlife around them and experience nature in their day-to-day life. We will be hosting two special Wild Events on Friday 9th June and Friday 23rd June at 3pm. Throughout the month we will also be completing a number of "Random Acts of Wildness" throughout the library and inviting visitors to take part and share their "Random Acts of Wildness" too, catch up with these on facebook at www.facebook.com/BlackhallLibrary and for more information about 30 Days Wild have a look at

www.mywildlife.org.uk/30dayswild



The new 200 Airport Bus running through Blackhall



Running 7 days a week approximately every 30 minutes from 4.10 am to 23.15 pm.

The route is :

OT, Ocean Drive, Lindsay Road, Pier Place, Lower Granton Road, Granton Square, West Granton Road, Pennywell Road, Ferry Road, Groathill Road North Telford Road, Hillhouse Road, Queensferry Road, Clermiston Road North, Drum Brae Drive, Drum Brae South, Glasgow Road, Eastfield Road, Jubilee Road, Edinburgh Airport. Return outward route reversed

For further details go to lothianbuses.co.uk

BLACKHALL CHILDREN'S SPORTS COMMITTEE

Blackhall Children's Sports Committee has been active in the Blackhall community for over 100 years. Formed by local residents, its aim is to organise and raise funds for children's sports activities in the Blackhall area and support local individuals, the school and other groups in their sporting efforts.

We see this as a good way in which to bring the community together while encouraging sporting endeavours and promoting the health and wellbeing benefits of an active lifestyle.

This year's fundraising events have included:

Wine Night - a fun evening for adults only, involving wine tasting, fancy dress (by committee members), raffle, auction and dancing.

Family Fun Day - a morning for all the family spent at St Columba's Church hall and involving games, face painting, lucky dip, home baking, teas and coffees.

Quiz Night - a packed out night of quiz and curry held at The Grange cricket pavilion.

Bike Ride - our inaugural 3.7-mile bike ride from Ravelston Park to Victoria Park along cycle paths – marshalled by committee members and attended by local residents of all ages.

Sports Day - held in Ravelston Park, our largest event including kids races, rides, stalls, pipe band, highland dancing, food, drink and much more.

Proceeds from these fundraising events are awarded each year to applicants from within the Blackhall community. For more information on Blackhall Children's Sports Committee, our awards process and our upcoming events, please visit us at www.activeblackhall.com/besc or 'like' us on Facebook.



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Blackhall Guiding

It's almost summer and Blackhall Guiding have been busy taking advantage of the weather and light nights with plenty of outdoor activities and trips: Rainbows have been on trips to the beach, on scavenger hunts and grass sledging; Brownies have been tubing, horse riding and fire lighting; Guides have been camping, backwoods cooking and on ghost tours; and Senior Section have been preparing for the upcoming elections and looking forward to the Tartan Gig!



Rainbows turn 30 this year. Our Rainbows are celebrating with games, crafts, songs and parties! One of the highlights, so far, was learning about some Swedish traditions and we had the most amazing crepes with lovely toppings. Looking forward to the rest of our year!

-Pam,

Leader 157 Rainbows



Brownies had a fantastic time at PGL Dalguise at the start of April. They were busy with so many amazing activities - everyone slept very well each night! Brownies tried canoeing (where everyone got very wet!) and soaring

through the sky on the zip wire. It was so much fun we are going back in October! Nicole, Leader 202 Brownies



Senior Section held their own mini Burning Man Festival to celebrate other cultures. Burning Man is an art festival that takes place annually in Nevada which ends with the burning of a large, wooden effigy. The Senior Section's festival had the



abstract theme "Mother Nature" and ended with setting fire to all the works of art they had made! -Seona, Leader Senior Section



Guides.

Blackhall Guides

A few weeks ago, Guides & leaders took part in a ropes

course over water near Dunbar. While the Guides all conquered their fears and completed with smiling faces, even when falling into the freezing water, the leaders were far more cautious and managed not to fall in (much to all the Guides' dismay!!)

-Beth, Leader 157 Guides



Volunteers are needed to help at Rainbow, Brownie and Guide units at Blackhall St. Columba's

What do we want from you?

- Able to spare 1-2 hours a week during term time. (It's no problem if you can't make every week)
- Willing to complete a DBS check (paid for by Girlguiding)
- Enthusiasm for volunteering with children

What's in it for you?

- Great CV experience and potential for references
- Opportunities to complete qualifications including first aid
- Opportunities to go on trips and try new things
- A chance to meet new people
- Guaranteed fun every week!

Contact Alison Will on 332 8425

or blackhallguiding@gmail.com for more information



At this time of year, our thoughts and planning turn to the great outdoors and the upcoming camping season. Below is an excerpt from our 2017 Camp Brochure, which was sent to all the Scouts.

James McKenna
Scout Leader



May Camp 2017

When

Fri 19th - Mon 22nd

Where

Lochgailhead National
Activity Centre, ARGYLL.

What

This year we are heading to Argyll on the west coast to The Lochgailhead National Activity Centre. We will take part in a wide range of activities organised by qualified instructors. These will range from kayaking, open canoes, archery, Jacob's ladder, gorge walking, etc. We will stay in the relative luxury of chalets, with bunk beds and there are proper toilets/showers! We will only go to Lochgailhead once within your time in the Troop so if you like the sound of these types of activities.....BOOK NOW! It's a great rehearsal for Summer Camp.

23rd Edinburgh (Craigalmond) Scout Troop



When

Sat 15th to Sat 29th July

Where

Hilton Farm
Cardross Estate, Port of
Menteith, By Stirling

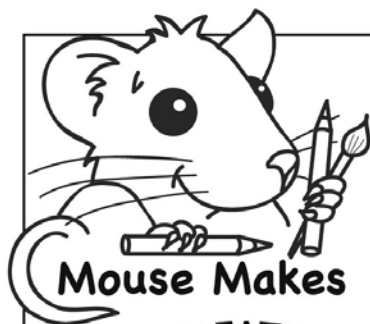
Please complete the
ONLINE
booking form

What

This year we are holding our Summer Camp at a Hilton!! Not perhaps the one you might have heard of but a farm on the Cardross Estate, near Stirling.

Summer Camp is where we combine all the skills we have learned during the year in a practical camping situation. The knotting, map & compass, pioneering, all the knowledge we have about Stormhavens and marquees are put to use in setting up camp to make sure it's as comfortable as possible for the duration of our stay. Two weeks is a long time to spend in a greenfield site, but after a day or two it feels very much like home.

23rd Edinburgh (Craigalmond) Scout Troop



"May the *grace* of
the Lord **JESUS** Christ
and the *love* of **GOD**
and the *fellowship* of
the **HOLY SPIRIT** be with you all."
2 Corinthians 13:13



GOD - THE FATHER

Can you find all the
names of the Trinity
in this 3 in 1
word search?

GOD - THE SON


C R E A T O R
J O N E L H O L Y
E A I L M G N O A
H S A V I O U R H
O J M A G D I D W
V U O N H I G H E
A D F A T H E R H
H G I M Y K I N G
E T E R N A L

M E S S I A H
S J M O S T T A L
C E M N V W R B A
H S A V I O U R M
R U N O N R T E B
I S U B E D H A W
S H E P H E R D A
T A L I G H T A Y
L O R D O O R



LORD • GOD
JEHOVAH • I AM
YAHWEH • 
HOLY • ONE
SAVIOUR • KING
 ETERNAL
ALMIGHTY
CREATOR • JUDGE
FATHER • ON HIGH



JESUS • CHRIST
SAVIOUR • LORD
EMMANUEL
 SHEPHERD
LAMB
WAY • SON
DOOR • LIGHT
BREAD • WORD
MESSIAH • VINE

S P I R I T E
W I T N E S S T T
C O M F O R T E R
P T H E L P E R I
O T R U T H A N N
W I S D O M C A I
E B R E A T H L T
R I G U I D E E Y
T H O L Y R D



GOD - THE SPIRIT

HOLY • SPIRIT • COMFORTER • TEACHER • GUIDE
HELPER • TRUTH • POWER • WISDOM • BREATH • ETERNAL



Hiding in one of the puzzles is the word 'TRINITY', can you find it?

Blackhall Primary School

We have a variety of contributions from Blackhall Primary School in this issue. Primary 5 have been finding out about life in Victorian times while Primary 3 have been going on Google Expeditions and Primary 7 have been learning about Virtual Reality Headsets !

A Day in the Life of Ricky

Have just woken up at 4am. My brother Johnny woke me up and Sheila, Louise and my other brother Billy. The date is Wednesday 17th April 1862 and it is very cold and I am tired and cold. I went to get some gruel and water. I told my brothers and sisters to run to the boss before we were late.

We got there on time and the Master was shouting at me when I was up the chimney in the house. He was shouting Ricky! Ricky! Go faster. My brothers and sisters got up the chimneys really fast and I was last to get up the chimneys.

In the afternoon I did not get anything for lunch and I had already climbed 5 chimneys. I got really tired and my arms and knees were really sore and the Master put salt on them. My brothers Billy and Johnny and my sisters Louise and Sheila were very tired.

After the day had nearly ended everyone was very tired and had climbed 8 chimneys. Everybody had sore arms and knees. The Master was just going to give us our shillings but he didn't give me any because I did not do well cleaning the chimneys.

Oliver K P5A

The Story of a Coal Miner

Dear Diary, every morning I get up at six o'clock but this morning I am late! I have a sister Jane who is such a heavy sleeper and I still have to wake her up and run to the orphanage to collect my friend Sue. It is a disaster!

I work in a damp dirty and cold coal mine for 12 hours each day. It is not fair all the rich children get to go to school. Today I am not very happy with myself because I have lost my coal cart so Jane, Sue and me go to find it. Suddenly we bump into the boss and we get whipped ouch!

After six hours of hard work we finally settle down for break. It is stale bread as usual yuck! The one thing I am happy about is that it is payday even though I only get five shillings or so. After a tiring day of work me Sue and Jane start to walk home.

On the way home disaster struck we all got pick pocketed! Luckily Sue knew the person who had pickpocketed us and stopped him in his tracks. It was great we got our money back. After that we said bye to Sue and Jane and I watched her trudge slowly into the orphanage. When Jane and I got home we got tucked up in a blanket and fell fast asleep.

Amelie P5A



Virtual Reality Headsets – Google Expeditions

On Thursday 9th February 2017, P6C from Blackhall Primary School had a 30-minute visit from Google Expeditions in our gym hall.

The virtual reality experience is made with a mini cardboard box shaped for you to look through with a smartphone in each headset. There were also lenses for your eyes, which made it feel more real. They brought enough headsets for us to have one each.

We enjoyed trying the virtual reality as most of us have never tried anything like it!

On our expedition we went to lots of different places like:

Under water safari e.g. shark cages

International Space Station

The Solar System

Eras of the Earth e.g. dinosaurs and volcanoes

We asked pupils from our class how they felt. Here is what two pupils answered:

"I think it was weird, because when you looked down you couldn't see your feet" – Maddie Gee

"It was very real, I felt like I was there" – Fraser Halton.

We would just like to say a huge thanks to Google Expeditions and staff that kindly helped out.

By Anna Burns and

Klara Lemvig-Allan

Virtual Reality

On Thursday the 9th February we went on a virtual reality Google Expedition. The VR headsets were made out of cardboard and special lenses, then you slip a phone into a gap in the cardboard. Our teacher, Mrs Calder, controlled where we were going in the virtual world using a tablet.

Our first expedition was to the International Space Station.

We saw astronauts and, because it was our first time, most of us were shocked when we couldn't see our feet! Our second expedition was an Ocean Safari, where we saw a brightly coloured coral reef, great big sharks, beautiful turtles and a humongous seal!

On our third expedition we went to the Solar System and we saw a black hole at one point right below us! Which was really freaky! We also saw the Milky Way. Our final expedition was through the Eras of the Earth. We saw volcanoes and dinosaurs. My favourite dinosaur was the T-Rex.

At the end some people felt sick, including me. It was really fun and exciting and I would love to do it again.




By Isabella Grahamslaw, P6C

Primary 6
and
Primary 3
go on
Google
Expeditions

Name: Hugh Joseph Smith Date: 9/2/17

Google Expeditions 100%




A virtual reality field trip of the Polar Regions, Egypt and Under Water

First	Next	Finally
		
I liked Polar Regions because I loved being above the ice and it felt like I was going to fall.	I liked the Egypt one because with the pyramids you could compare the sizes!	I liked the under water one because it really felt like you were moving when you turned round and round.
What was your favourite part?	I liked the polar regions one because you were above ice!	

Name: Isabella Grahamslaw Date: 9/2/17

Google Expeditions

A virtual reality field trip of the Polar Regions, Egypt and Under Water

First	Next	Finally
		
I enjoyed the north pole because the girl was screaming.	I enjoy looking at pyramids and comparing them.	I enjoyed looking at the fish all around me.
What was your favourite part?	My favourite part was the under water.	

BLACKHALL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The winter session of talks and activities at 'the horti' has concluded and we are now, hopefully, busy in our own gardens as well as visiting other gardens.



In late May we visited 'The Hidden Gardens of the Royal Mile'. These gardens contain many gems including a Tulip Tree (right) which was grown from a seed brought back from America in the mid 1600s and Florentine irises (left), grown for their roots which were used in making perfume for the Scottish court. Edinburgh has a rich heritage of gardens especially in the New Town area and we hope to visit some of these as well as having a garden romp in a member's garden exchanging ideas and discussing our failures and successes while sipping an ice cool cordial.



Our talks start again in September with a welcome back meeting at which we will have a plant swap. All gardeners like to swap plants and my own garden contains many such gifts such as Agapanthus (right), or Lily of the Nile, which I had swapped for Egyptian Tree Onions (left) – quite a suitable swap! Agapanthus have blue umbrells of flowers in late summer that attract bees, and can be a key feature in a garden (or as we could say, add structure).



There is a common agenda of gardening and cooking and in November with a talk and demonstration from Pittormie Fruit Farm, a Fife based farm shop we will learn how to successfully grow soft fruit such as raspberries, loganberries and gooseberries, and then how to make jam!

Here's hoping this summer results in bumper crops of flowers for colour and crisp crinkly lettuce, sweet tangy tomatoes, and lots of cool cucumbers. We look forward to you joining us in the small hall at St. Columba's Church at our monthly meetings, which start on 11th September at 7.45pm, and then continue monthly on the second Monday of the month.

John MacLennan, Hon President



Some time ago a copy of a Recipe Book made up by the Young Wives and Mothers group at Blackhall St Columba's was found among the papers of Mrs Nan McWilliam and given to us. Do you remember it? If you do, please let us know more about it. I hope to share more recipes in the future. Meantime if you make any of these let us know how they turn out. Ed

FLUFFY PINEAPPLE MERINGUE	Jane A. Linklater	UPSIDEOWN APPLE CAKE	Irene Simpson
1 lb tin pineapple 1 oz plain flour 1 oz margarine	4 ozs castor sugar 1 egg Milk	Syrup: 1 oz butter or margarine 1 oz soft brown sugar 3 1/2 ozs SIF. flour 1 standard egg 1 large apple	Sponge: 3 1/2 ozs butter or margarine 3 1/2 ozs castor sugar 3 1/2 ozs SIF. flour 1 standard egg
Heat oven to 450—reg. 7	Drain the juice from pineapple. Melt margarine and add flour and cook for 3 minutes. Add enough milk to pineapple juice to make 1 pint liquid. Add to fat and flour to make a sauce. Stir and boil for 2 minutes and allow to cool. Beat in egg yolk and 2 ozs of sugar. Mix in pineapple and pour into 1 1/2 pint pie-dish. Whisk white of egg (plus a little water) till stiff and fold in 2 ozs sugar. Pile on top of the pineapple mixture. Sprinkle with a little sugar on top and put in oven to cook meringue 10—15 mins.	Heat oven to 350—reg. 4	Grease and line 7" sandwich cake tin. Melt ingredients for syrup together and pour into tin. Arrange sliced apples on syrup. Make sponge in usual way and spread over the apples. Bake until golden brown and firm (20—25 minutes). Turn out into a plate and remove the paper. Serve hot with fresh cream.
COCONUT PEARS (TINNED)	Katharine Richardson	Variations:	(a) Use 1 lb brambles instead of apple (b) Make a chocolate sponge by adding 1 dessertspoon cocoa and 1 teaspoon castor sugar to sponge mixture (c) Use small tin of pineapple rings
Fill large hollows with coconut and grill until the coconut is "golden". Make a sauce with the pear juice, cornflour and a little colouring and pour over the pears.	PAVLOVA	CHOCOLATE PUDDING	I. M. H. Davies
2 egg whites 4 ozs castor sugar 1 teaspoon vanilla essence	1 teaspoon vinegar 1 teaspoon cornflour	2 ozs breadcrumbs 3 ozs sugar 1 oz butter or margarine 1 pint milk	1 1/2 ozs chocolate powder 2 eggs Vanilla essence to taste—if liked
Heat oven to 200—reg. 1	Mark a 7" circle on greaseproof paper and place on a baking tray. Beat the egg whites until stiff, then add sugar gradually, beating all the time. Fold in the other ingredients. Spread in round on the tray, making the sides higher than the centre, to form a shell. Bake for 1 hour; cool. Remove carefully and fill with whipped cream. Arrange drained fruit on top.	Heat oven to 250—275—reg. 1—1	Mix breadcrumbs, chocolate powder, sugar and margarine in a basin. Boil the milk and pour it over. When nearly cold add egg yolks and then fold in stiffly beaten whites. Bake for 1 hour in oven.
38		If served cold—place two teaspoons at bottom of dish and pour mixture over. (Half quantity sufficient for 3 people).	39

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Blackhall Ladies Probus Club 2016/17



Craigleith Men's Probus Club

As it is twenty years since the Ladies Probus Club began, the Committee felt it would be an ideal opportunity to toast the success of the Club. After the AGM, one of the founder members, Isla Greenwood, cut a cake and celebrations began. A list of all Office Bearers and Committee Members for the last twenty years was circulated which stimulated many memories. The Club still has a full complement of members with a short waiting list of six.

This year's programme of events was varied with two eagerly awaited return visits, one from Fred and Rita Daniels with Part 2 of their camper vaning experiences in Australia and the other from Dr Dorothy Steyn who shared her experiences of life as a voluntary GP in Malawi. In October Isabel Thom spoke about the work of the Red Cross from its foundation to the continuing need in today's world. In December Alison Hewat inspired members to brighten up their Christmas table, demonstrating the use of everyday items, such as empty supermarket containers that she used to help make some spectacular displays. In January two Police Constables, Sarah Hall and Wendy Walton, brought us up to date with the policing of the community, a subject which raised many questions, all of which were dealt with in a positive way. At our next meeting two legal advisers from Balfour and Manson, Catriona Torrance and Jo Downie, took us through the various means of future-proofing our Legal Affairs. Once again many questions were asked and were answered in a helpful manner. Meetings are held in the Blackhall Bowling Club clubhouse, 21 Keith Row, on the second Thursday of the month from October to April. The meetings begin at 10.30 am with coffee/tea available from 9.45am until 10.15 am.

Elizabeth Thom, Membership Secretary
Annette Armes, Programme Convenor

At our AGM in April we elected John Davis as our President, taking over from Bertie Allen. Each President has skills he can bring to the club and so while Bertie was a great planner (as a career he was involved in urban planning!) John brings his gifts of music, which will be reflected, in the programme with an outing to St. Cecilia's Hall. St. Cecilia is the Patron Saint of music and the hall, which is part of the University of Edinburgh's estate, is the oldest purpose built concert hall in the country.

What better music is there when lying in a hospital bed than listening to Hospital Radio? On October 4th we look forward to welcoming Jim Ruxton who is station manager on Edinburgh Hospital Radio and has been involved in such broadcasting for twenty years or so. Other talks before Christmas include 'HG Wells' and 'Silver Darlings'. Not forgetting 'Meteorology' when on November 1st we will welcome Martyn Sunter whose career with the 'Met' office includes training the forecasters, which I am sure, will stimulate many questions!

Returning to the theme of music, at our meeting on 20th December, the theme is 'Music Therapy' and we welcome Carolyne Nurse from the charity Nordoff Robbins, who will explain the benefits of using of music, both from a clinical and emotional setting, within a therapeutic relationship. It addresses physical, emotional, cognitive and social needs of individuals. Music Therapy provides a variety of avenues for communication that can be helpful to those who find it difficult to express themselves in words.

We meet in Blackhall Bowling Club on the first and third Wednesday of the month from October to April. After a coffee our talks, which last an hour or less, start at 10.30 am. It is the ideal way of getting away from the housework as well as meeting new friends. The age of our members range from early 50s to early 90s and I can assure you that you will be made very welcome. Please just email me at: johnmaclellanuk@gmail.com for more information.

John MacLennan : Speakers Secretary

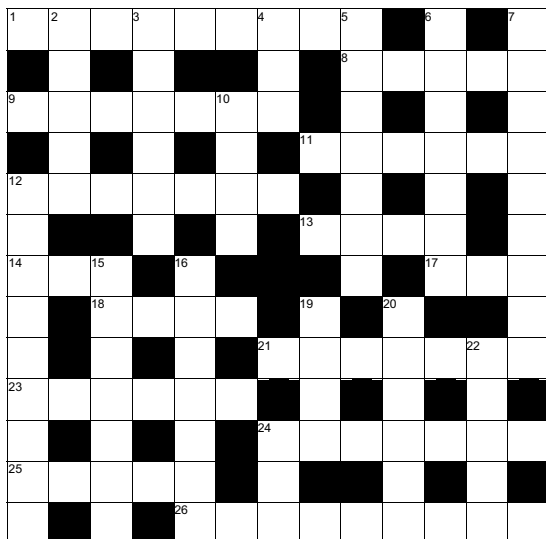
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Crossword Corner




Across

1. Weather feature in a rush (9)
8. Said to be wasted on the young (5)
9. Fish before vessel to find space for vehicles (3,4)
11. Everything in a wager for this art form (6)
12. Sounds like the name of a piece of lifting equipment (7)
13. School of doubtful tone (4)
14. Drink or meal in the afternoon (3)
17. Initial set up of Royal mail (3)
18. Irresponsible garden tool (4)
21. Tasty snack often salty rather than sweet (7)
23. Unexpected pleasures (6)
24. Slippery surface (3,4)
25. Most important person in an election (5)
26. Army concerned with charitable work (9)

Down

2. Instruction to tug of war contestants (5)
3. Explosive account of an incident (6)
4. Liquid in the kitchen sink (3)
5. American TV family show (7)
6. Sport played in 24 Across (7)
7. Not the original document (9)
10. Care about competition (4)
12. Crime investigator (9)
15. Results for 12 Down (7)
16. Traces of them can be found in 24 Across (7)
19. Powder found in hospital corridors (4)
20. Famous fictional 12 Down (6)
22. Drummer boy (5)
24. Type of wind blowing no good (3)



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When your family suffers the loss of a loved one, it can be comforting to know your funeral director. At Porteous Funeral Directors, we make every effort to be involved in our community and to create the kind of personal relationship which leads to an individual, sensitive service. The numerous letters and cards of thanks we receive daily from the families we have helped are testimony to our ongoing commitment to ensuring we offer the personal and dedicated service that you and your loved one deserve.

Family-Owned and Truly Independent

You can be reassured that Porteous Family Funeral Directors are the only completely independent, family-owned funeral directors in the Blackhall, Silverknowes, Davidson's Mains, Cramond & Barnton areas.

Blackhall - 0131 332 3609
 Juniper Green Head Office - 0131 453 4535
 Juniper Green Memorial Showroom - 0131 453 4535
 Colinton - 0131 441 6500
 Liberton - 0131 664 6745
 Also incorporating
 Bonnyrigg Funeral Directors - 0131 654 1988
 Leith Funeral Directors - 0131 554 1113



porteousfunerals.com

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Children (aged 3 – 11)	£13.50 pp
Children (Under 3)	Eat Free



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Adults	£45.00 pp
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**For enquiries or to book call
0131 311 4903**

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Blackhall St Columba's Church of Scotland, Edinburgh
Scottish Registered Charity No SC008756

Minister

Rev Benjamin J.A. Abeledo
5 Blinkbonny Crescent
Edinburgh EH4 3NB
Telephone 315 2019

Session Clerk

Eddie Thorn
158 Craighleith Road
Edinburgh EH4 2EQ
Telephone 332 5702

Church Secretary

Ms Julie Nicol
in Church Office from
Mon-Fri 10.00-12.30p.m.
Tel/fax 332 4431

DEADLINES

Kirk News – Sunday 25th June

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

Blackhall Bulletin – Sunday 30th July

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

Advertising Enquiries

Enquiries regarding advertising
should be sent to Kay Rich,
8 Queen's Ave Sth.
Home tel: 332 8502

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

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25 Voter, 26 Salvation

Down: 2 Heave, 3 Report, 4 Ink, 5 Curling, 7 Photocopy, 10 Race, 12 Detective, 15 Arrests, 16 Skaters, 19 Talc, 20 Poirot, 22 Ringo, 24 Ill

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Our new website is now live !

You can now read the Bulletin in colour – where
colour copy has been received. Take a look and let
us know what you think.

The website is at: blackhallstcolumba.org.uk

READING THE BULLETIN FOR THE FIRST TIME?

Blackhall St. Columba's Church also produces a
pack with useful information about the area -
doctors, schools, churches, youth organisations,
sporting facilities etc.

If you would like a pack please contact the church
office either by telephoning 0131 332 4431 or
e-mail secretary@blackhallstcolumba.org.uk

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