

The Portobello REPORTER

Quarterly: Summer 2005
Delivered in and around Portobello; circulation 12,500

INSIDE THIS ISSUE	• Bobbies on Beat	P2
	• 5-A-Side site latest	P3
	• Hist Soc 21st	P4
	• Young Achievers	P7
	• Triathlon Champs	P8

The independent voice of Portobello

Your Community Newspaper produced by local people.

WE DID IT! Superstore Appeal Refused.

COMMUNITIES do not often win, but the people of Portobello and Joppa gained an important victory on 26th May. After a public inquiry, the reporter dismissed the appeal by Duddingston House Properties against the council for not granting planning permission for a huge superstore on the old Scottish Power site.

The battle had seemed unwinnable at one point when Friends of the Earth (FoE) told the Portobello Campaign Against the Superstore group that we would need £20,000 to pay for expert witnesses at the inquiry. Our supporters dug deep in their pockets and, through many fund-raising efforts, money was found to mount an effective opposition to the developers. We had many high profile supporters, such as Joanna Blythman, and backing from MSPs, MP and councillors, but the real support came from the community, 96% of whom opposed this development.

The fear is that a superstore on this site would destroy the High Street as a pleasant place to shop. Not only would many traders have difficulty existing with its predatory pricing, but the extra traffic generated would create more congestion, pollution and parking problems. We still need to be vigilant.

Among the many highs and lows of the campaign, perhaps the highest point was the magnificent turnout of local residents to the public inquiry in the British Legion at Baileyfield Road. It is a tribute to the way local people view this town that so many attended, and not just the hard core who attended every day in 'Say NO to the Superstore'



Photo by Lesley Reid

T-shirts. Many public inquiries are misnamed, as no one from the public actually attends and sterile arguments are made by professionals with no long term interest in the outcome. That cannot be said for the fervent, heartfelt arguments put forward by many local people, few of whom had any public speaking experience.

Before the inquiry, and through it, we were guided by Siobhan Samson from FoE. We would have struggled without her experience and advice, but were we right to employ our own retail and traffic experts? Those who witnessed how the council's independent traffic expert was gagged by a legal technicality did not doubt the wisdom of that decision: he could not question the capacity of the surrounding roads because the council's traffic officer had said there could be an engineering

solution to the 1100 extra cars expected per hour. Interestingly, the reporter said she was unclear as to how the council had arrived at this judgement.

The decision is what we wanted, as the two main reasons for refusal - traffic congestion and adequate linkage to the rest of the town - remain serious obstacles to the developer. The second is the reason why the future use of the Pitz site has to be carefully considered, with full consultation with the community. Was this just one battle in the war against the developer? Why can't Duddingston House listen to what the community wants and deliver an exciting, modern development that really will contribute to the liveliness and sustainability of Edinburgh's distinctive seaside town? We await their next move.

Stephen Hawkins, Chair, PCATS

NEW TREES FOR THE HIGH STREET



Photo by Peter Ross

THERE is a lot of landscaping work going on at the moment on Portobello High Street. The area in front of the flats at the west end will be grassed and replanted as part of the Council's Town Centre Improvement Programme, which will improve the visual impact of the approach to Portobello.

The next phase of the work will involve the reshaping of the treescape and pavements on the south side, from Rosefield Avenue to Brighton Place, and Portobello Amenity Society (PAS) members met the architects to discuss the trees, in particular. The flowering Cherries here are a feature in spring, but unfortunately all but one are in poor health. It was felt that work on the pavements would disrupt the roots and lead to a more rapid decline, so all but the healthy tree will be removed. At the same time, the Maidenhair trees (Ginkgo biloba) outside the Bank will be re-sited with those at the corner, and the two Rowans will be removed.

New trees will be planted, however, in a straight row from Kitcheners Deli to Brighton Place, leaving the Town Hall frontage clear. PAS have suggested upright ornamental apple (Malus tschonoski), which have grey foliage in spring and summer and brilliant orange and red autumn colour, or 'The Dawn Redwood' (Metasequoia glyptostroboides), an interesting deciduous conifer, which has fresh, green ferny foliage in spring and summer, and hints of yellow, orange and pink in the autumn leaves.

George Anderson

25 YEARS REPORTING LOCAL NEWS

IN JUNE 1980 a group of local people issued the first *Portobello Reporter*, with the aim of "serving the interests of the people of Portobello ... reporting on the people and events in the news locally ... and to bring you Portobello's reminiscences and history". Founder member Nick Child says: "The *Porty Reporter* is THE key signpost of a great community to live in. Like Groucho, I didn't want to live in a community that wasn't worth living in! That was my motivation for getting involved and now, years after others took over, getting the paper through our door is an abiding pleasure!"

This issue marks 25 years of following those aims. Many people have been involved, and some of the major events covered have included:

Portobello's biggest story yet: the determined campaign by PCATS, with massive local support, against the building of a superstore on the old Scottish Power site. In every issue from Autumn 2003, we have given this front page publicity and are delighted that we can now report a successful outcome.

Further back, the Portobello Bypass (Sir Harry Lauder Road) was opened in December 1986. In 1989 it was reported: "Edinburgh District Council are to build a multi-purpose sports facility, suitable for skateboarding, on the south side of the Open Air Pool site. Young skateboarders ... are ecstatic". In 1994 an Indoor Bowls Centre was built instead, despite angry public protests.

In 1992 there were celebrations of what was held to be the 250th anniversary of the building of Portobello's first house on the Figget Whins; to mark this, a full Council meeting was held in the Town Hall. In the same year Joppa Pumping Station was opened by TV presenter and actor Paul Young, resulting in cleaner seawater, and Portobello finally appeared on the Edinburgh Tourist Board map.

1996 marked the Centenary of Portobello's incorporation into the City of Edinburgh; in 2003 a portrait of the last Provost of Portobello, Alexander Brand, was purchased and now hangs in the Library.

In the summer of 1998 the refurbished Portobello Baths were

re-opened after fierce local opposition overcame the council's plan to demolish them.

Portobello won the Calorgas Scottish Urban Community of the Year award in autumn 1999.

We've also covered the achievements and personal stories of local people, as well as events and personalities from Portobello's past in the Local History pages.

Local businesses continue to fund the production of The Reporter by advertising, and if they were hit by supermarket competition, the future of the paper could also be threatened; adverts in back issues indicate how our shopping centre has already changed over the years.

Moving into the 21st century, the paper was awarded a Lottery grant in 2001 for desktop publishing software, and now the design and layout are done 'in-house'. Some recent copies can be seen on the community website, and all back copies have been bound and can be read at the Library; they provide a fascinating insight into Portobello's previous 25 years.

Brenda Molony

COMMUNITY GARDEN FOR PADDLING POOL SITE

AFTER a prolonged delay, the paddling pool site on the Prom is to be cleared, the stanchions removed and a garden created; the Council, which is funding the project, has given an assurance that work will start in June. Before their removal, the much maligned stanchions were used to mount a display of decorative sails by art student Linda Thompson.

Following public meetings in February and March 2005, a plan of the garden was displayed in Portobello Library. The limited funds provide for a simple design which will allow future additions. The bigger and more costly original plan (about £450,000), drawn up by public consultation in 2001, could not be achieved because applications to the Lottery, WREN and other grant-

giving agencies by the City Council, Portobello Community Council and Portobello Amenity Society were unsuccessful.

The current plan will use ground-up rubble from the old paddling pool as the basis for a central grassy mound, with seaside shrubs at the back of the garden and seats with protection from the wind at the John Street corner. There is space for the Coade Stone pillars, removed from the grounds of Argyle House many years ago, once funding from the Lottery or other such source is secured for their re-erection. The walls and the John Street entrance will be retained and there will be plenty of walking space within the garden, which will be open to the Promenade.

Celia Butterworth

PORTY PROFILE No. 19 IAN S. WOOD

HISTORIAN Ian Wood has lived in Portobello since 1973. He is married to Helen and they have three grown-up sons. Ian was born in London prior to the Second World War, while his Scottish father was stationed near there with the army. When, sadly, he was killed early in the conflict, the family moved to Edinburgh to stay with relations.

Ian studied History at Edinburgh University before embarking on a career in teaching and research, beginning with four years at Ross High School in Tranent, followed by three years at Strathclyde University. In 1968 he took up a post at a Further Education College in Edinburgh, which evolved to become part of Napier University; he retired from there in 2002. He still teaches History at the Open University, however, and says: "I'm very proud to have worked for the OU since it first started".

Meanwhile, from 1974-88 Ian found time to edit *The Scottish Labour History Journal*. From 1980-2000, as Ian S. Wood, he also wrote for *The Scotsman* on Northern Ireland, thanks, he says, to Jim Seaton (later the editor) who was aware of his special interest in the situation and encouraged him to make frequent trips there and send back reports.

Ian has also written and edited seven books: on the Labour Movement in Scotland; two on Winston Churchill; and, just finished, *Crimes of Loyalty - A History of the UDA*, based on interviews - "Not for the squeamish", he says.

In his leisure time Ian is a keen hill climber and walker and has 'bagged' some Munros; he also swims regularly. To say he is a committed Hibs supporter is to understate the case: he goes to all their home games and some away games too, often with two of his sons and their friends, after which they "take a refreshment in the local pub", especially if Hibs have won!

B.M.



Photo by Brenda Molony

SHOP FRONT IMPROVEMENTS

THIS scheme has now been extended beyond Portobello High Street to allow shops in Bath Street, Brighton Place and the Prom to apply for a grant in this financial year from Scottish Enterprise Edinburgh and Lothian. The maximum grant is for 75 per

cent of the cost, providing the shop fronts are well designed and use quality materials. Shops that have already taken advantage of this scheme include The Portobello Bar, CostCutter, Chinese Take-away 108, Mulberries, Deli 194 and d.b.Studios.

GAVIN STRANG, Member of Parliament for Edinburgh East, would like to thank the readers who voted for him at the recent general election. He pledges to represent ALL his constituents in the House of Commons to the best of his ability.



The best way to contact Gavin Strang is to write to
**Gavin Strang MP
Constituency Office
54 Portobello High Street
Edinburgh
EH15 1DA**

Or to make an appointment, Tel. 0131 669 6002
or email: gillana@parliament.uk

James Scott
—(PORTOBELLO)—
Funeral Director

314 Portobello High Street, Edinburgh EH15 2DA
Tel: 0131-669 1285 or 0131-669 6333
24 HOUR SERVICE
Pre-funeral planning available on request

Member of National Association of Funeral Directors



LOCAL BUSINESSES GO ONLINE

THE Portobello Online website has recently launched a business directory. Local shops, cafes,

restaurants, pubs, guest houses, nurseries, even local musicians are listed, demonstrating the diversity of quality goods and services on our doorstep.

Stephen McIntyre of The Mortgage People is one of many local traders who have welcomed this opportunity to promote their business: "I think the directory is a great idea and we are delighted to support this initiative", he says. "It encourages people to shop locally and that has to be good news for everyone."

A listing costs just £20 per annum and includes the business name, address and telephone details, as well as email and website addresses where applicable. Traders also have a free text area to promote their business. All the money raised will be used to promote the community website, and has already paid for the banner that recently appeared on the Town Hall balcony.

Local guest houses in particular will benefit, as the directory will enable visitors from all over the world to find local accommodation. A Google search on 'Portobello' currently places our website fourth from 750,000 results!

To find the directory, go to www.porty.org.uk and follow the link.
Bob Jefferson

BOBBIES ARE BACK ON THE BEAT

THE management of officers at Portobello Police Station has been restructured and we now have community officers for every beat, who will focus on the management of the problems on their 'patch'. Some may say this is going back to local bobbies on the beat, but I would suggest more 'back to the future'.

I am acutely aware of the escalating problem of youths congregating on and around the Promenade at various locations. Whilst their numbers can be intimidating, their anti-social behaviour, fuelled often by alcohol, also results in vandalism, minor assaults and disorderly conduct, which give greater cause for concern for the local residents.

In response to the recent considerable concerns of residents at the Joppa end of the Prom, I arranged for officers to target these youths, particularly at the weekend. A number of them, mostly from the immediate area, were found in possession of alcohol and cigarettes. They were taken home to their parents and warned accordingly, and I am pleased to add that the parents concerned were very receptive to the officers and concerned about the behaviour of their children.

This short term measure was effective and, where permitting, we shall endeavour to provide a presence in these areas. I would, however, support long term measures to prevent these gatherings, such as CCTV and better lighting.

Insp. Norman Ward

DALRIADA

Bar and Restaurant



Edinburgh's restaurant on the beach with panoramic sea views.

Sample fine cuisine prepared from fresh produce, created by our Head Chef Iain Young and his team.

Excellent range of Real Ales, wines and spirits available in the seaside beer garden and patio.

Children welcome up to 8pm. Smoking & non-smoking areas.

We also cater for Christenings, Funerals & special occasions.

Open from 12 o'clock every day.

Food served 12-3pm & 5-9pm Monday - Saturday,
12-5pm Sunday. For reservations call (0131) 454 4500.

77 The Promenade, Portobello
Edinburgh EH15 2EL

ESTIMATES FREE



**DOUGLAS BROWN
& SON**



Plumbers & Gasfitters
24 hour service

22 Lee Crescent, Edinburgh EH15 1LW
Tel: 0131 657 1655 Mob: 07973 678961

NEWS IN BRIEF

ADVICE FOR LANDLORDS:

Landlords are facing a new housing Bill, which will focus on the condition of all properties and have a direct impact on private landlords, as it will reform the repair obligations for private rented property.

In response, the Council's Housing Service has launched the Letwise Team to work with private landlords through training, advice, briefing sessions and local landlord forums. The forums will promote good practice in renting, forge better links with local housing offices and keep private landlords abreast of developments in their areas.

The service is free and all private landlords in Edinburgh will be most welcome. For further information contact Letwise on 0131 529 7454 or e-mail letwise@edinburgh.gov.uk

SUPPORT FOR BREAST-FEEDING MUMS:

Café Ba!, launched on 9th May, is part of the Portobello Parenting Network. It offers a relaxed and welcoming café-style meeting place and support for women who wish to breastfeed their babies, and their families. Cathy Rilly, local Health Visitor says: "Breastfeeding is one of the most important contributors to infant health. Given that there is often hostility to mothers who breastfeed in public, social support is necessary, and our café will fulfil this need". The café is open every Monday from 1pm in St Philip's Church Hall, Brunstane Road North. For further information call 657 8924 or email HV.s70639@lothian.scot.nhs.uk

WANTED - MUSIC CENTRE:

Does anyone have a music centre in working order that plays vinyl and tapes, and that they are willing to donate to a good cause? If so, Portobello's Sunshine Club would be grateful to receive it. The club, which caters mainly for older folk in the area, holds dance sessions three times a week, but is without reliable equipment at the moment. Please contact *The Reporter* on 669 3466 and we will pass your message on.

PLANNING GUIDELINES in Conservation Areas: Portobello Amenity Society has arranged a display in the window at the Library, from 6th to 19th June, featuring alterations to property, including extensions, replacement windows, satellite dishes, painting of shop fronts etc.

"DAYBREAKS", part of the Health and Social Care Department, is a new project providing small group day care for older adults in an ordinary home environment, where they can meet and enjoy ordinary things, such as sharing a meal or going out and about.

If you feel you have the qualities required to become part of this worthwhile and rewarding project, please contact Fiona Shand or Lorna Jones at the Short Breaks Team on 0131 525 8040. They hope to hear from you.

THE PORTOBELLO Lifelong Learning Festival will take place on Saturday 10th September from 10.30am-4.00pm, at Portobello Town Hall. If you are a local private tutor and would like to either advertise or participate in this very successful event, please contact Annie Bell at Portobello Library on 529 5560.

5-A-SIDE SITE UPDATE

A TOTAL of 16 very different bids were received for the sale of two-thirds of the Power League site; the Council will retain the rest, nearest to the Figgate Burn, where a 'linear park' is planned. The preferred offer came from a developer who proposes building 142 housing units, of which 15 per cent will be affordable housing. This proposal is conditional upon planning consent being granted.

According to Councillor Child, a Council report on the sale does not commit it to moving the Power League operation to any particular site (the south side of Portobello golf course is not the only option). Nor is it committed to relocating Portobello Library or Community Centre to the council-retained part of the sale site. All these potential moves have been widely rumoured locally, giving rise to considerable concern.

A further report will be submitted within six months addressing the wider issue of regeneration in Portobello, and in particular the replacement of Portobello High School. In the interim, a public consultation exercise will be carried out on new and improved public facilities (proposed linear public park on the site, potential upgrading of the Promenade and potential replacement of the Library, for example) through the reapplication of disposal proceeds of the sale.

BIG THINGS ON THE BEACH

BECAUSE Portobello lacks suitable public gallery space, Big Things on the Beach, a public arts trust formed by local residents, has had to turn down an opportunity to display a national exhibition that includes ideas for a contemporary recreation of Portobello's sea front as an extended Marine Garden.

The exhibition, 6000 Miles, currently on show in Glasgow at The Lighthouse, features five imaginative proposals for rethinking Scotland's social and economic relationships with its 6000 miles of coast. One proposal, by Musselborough based Wiszniewski Thompson Architects, imagines the revival of Portobello's beach and townscape (including a pier) as a place for 'delightful' consumerism where people come to enjoy the passing, ephemeral show. Inspired by the sight of the remains of spent fireworks on the beach on 6th November, and the flowery titles given to many of them, they have developed a vision of Portobello, 'Pyrotechnic Peonies', that is both playful and practical.

However, with support from the Scottish Arts Council and the City Council's East Local Development Committee, Big Things is currently selecting an artist's group to spend four weeks in the area, beginning sometime in July. Until a group is selected we won't know what form the project will take; ideas turned down, because they are too complex for a four week project, included a broadband based live contact between artists in Puerto Bello, Panama and in Porty, and the creation of a sea cinema projecting local images and driven by wind and wave power. Every household in Portobello will receive information delivered with a future Portobello Reporter. There will also be information on our website www.bigthingsonthebeach.org.uk and on www.porty-org.uk

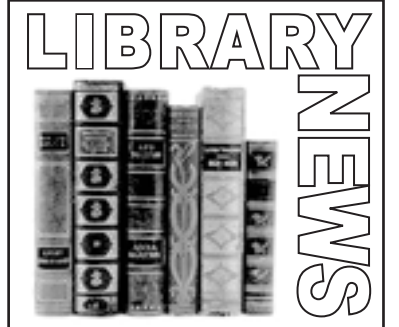
Damian Killeen, Chair, 'Big Things'



Children from Brighton Nursery turn up with confetti at the wedding of their nursery nurse Claire Howard to Steve Dawson in Musselburgh in May.

Photo by Jenny Allison

LIFT TO SECOND FLOOR: Building work to install the lift, automatic entrance doors and disabled toilet will start in the first week of July. At the moment we are busy tidying up and clearing out before the work starts. Meanwhile the job is out to tender, and once we have the contractor named, we will finalise the start date.



CATCH THE BUS: We anticipate that the library service will be run from a mobile bus parked outside for a few weeks in July, while the heavy work of installing the lift is done. Although the Bus might be a novel experience for both staff and readers, we will be keen to move back into the building as soon as possible, while the finishes are being done. From our customers' point of view, we will offer the usual book and enquiry services from the Bus, and will be able to get any books you want that are not on it.

JUST NOT PC: There will be no computers on the Bus, so for internet access in July, please use other libraries - We have lists of addresses and telephone numbers which you can use for bookings. Our computer drop-in sessions will finish in June and resume in late summer. The Community Room will be closed in July, but as we have picked the summer holiday period for the work, the disruption to regular Room users should be minimal.

THE BIG READ: Whilst we will not be able to have big events this summer, we will still run the annual Reading Scheme, with prizes and certificates for young readers who read all the books in their holidays. This will start at the beginning of July, and will be well advertised. We will also visit local schools in June, to promote the scheme.

THE MAIN EVENT: We will spend our summer holidays dreaming up a super big event for children to celebrate the end of the summer Watch this space!

PORTOBELLO OPEN DOOR (POD)

THE POD group are hoping to organize some bands and entertainment at the 'cake stand' on the Prom on Sunday 14th Aug from around 12 noon. This is the same day as the Portobello/Scottish Triathlon, which takes place in the morning. They are looking for support with this - Would anybody interested contact Joe Madden on (0131) 669 2802 or joemadden@blueyonder.co.uk

McIntyre Lewis

- SOLICITORS •
- ESTATE AGENTS •
- MORTGAGE BROKERS •
- 20 years continuous service**

"LOCAL KNOWLEDGE TO HELP LOCAL PEOPLE"

OFFERING THE FOLLOWING SERVICES

- Free No Obligation Valuation Of Your Existing Property
- Free Quotation - Give Us The Opportunity To Match Or Beat ANY Quotation You Have From Other Agents
- A Special Property Sales Package Can Be Offered
- Free Will Service With Every Conveyancing Case

MORTGAGES

(In association with Stephen McIntyre & Co Limited)

- The Best Mortgage To Suit Your Needs By A Computerised Search Of Mortgage Link
- 100% Loans For First Time Buyers And Subsequent Purchasers
- Special Discounts On ALL Mortgages

Your home is at risk if you do not keep up repayments on a mortgage or other loan secured on it, written details on request.



Come in and meet

Susan Gibson, George Sneath and the Staff

Have a cup of tea or coffee and let them take the strain out of buying or selling a property for you

10% OFF

If you wish to put your property on the market, forward this advert after you have received our quote in writing and we will reduce our Estate Agents fees by 10%. Subject to a minimum fee of £400 and not available on any other offer.

158 PORTOBELLO HIGH STREET, EDINBURGH EH15 1AH

Tel: 0131-669 7218 • Fax: 0131-669 8352

Open: Monday to Friday - 9am to 5pm
Saturday - 9.00 am to 12 noon

www.mcintyrelewis.co.uk e-mail: property@mcintyrelewis.co.uk

A local and friendly first class service



- Award winning local company • Friendly, professional staff • Free, no obligation quotes & professional advice
- A choice of in-store or home visit • Professionally trained, highly skilled fitters & joiners • Moving of furniture & uplift of existing flooring



Kristoffersen
CARPETS & FLOORING

The friendly alternative

234 High St Portobello 0131 669 9800
96 Morningside Rd Morningside 0131 447 9800
293 St. John's Rd Corstorphine 0131 334 9800
20-22 Station Rd Newtongrange 0131 660 9799

Kristoffersen AtHome 0800 378 248

www.kristoffersencarpets.com

21ST ANNIVERSARY PARTY

FOLLOWING the presentation of reports and the other business of the Annual General Meeting, as described on page 5, Portobello History Society members enjoyed a social evening and buffet to celebrate the 21st anniversary of its formation. Popular local performers Joe Madden and Dougie McKelvey along with Darren and Gillian McKinnon provided a varied programme of music and song that cried out for audience participation and got it. After their endeavours musicians, members and guests settled down for the rest of the evening to enjoy each other's company and the excellent buffet supplied by the Portobello Seaside Cooperative.

It was an initiative of Portobello Community Council that brought the society into being and the council's then Secretary, the late Harry Dawson, was the prime mover. For a short time the society existed as a sub-group under the umbrella of the community council but this unsatisfactory state of affairs ended when it became a properly constituted independent organisation in 1985. It was burdened with the cumbersome title Portobello and District Local History Society and its activities were hampered by a very restrictive remit but over the years both have been changed. The society is now the Portobello



Margaret Munro presents a leather document case to retiring Secretary Archie Foley in recognition of his 21 years' service to the Society as committee member and office bearer.

History Society and its aims as stated in the current Constitution are: ...to study and encourage an interest in the history and heritage of Scotland in general and, in particular, that of Portobello in all its aspects.'

The most obvious activity of the society is its programme of monthly meetings organised from September to June, held in St. John's Church Hall, Brighton Place on the first Wednesday of each month. We have a guest speaker for most meetings and, over the years many of the topics covered have ranged far beyond Portobello.

Since its foundation the society has been busily collecting lots of maps, photographs, documents and materials of all descriptions that have a bearing on Portobello's past and perhaps this is a very important part of our activities. Nothing is too trivial and seemingly unimportant for our

archives. In recent years we have been working closely with the staff of Portobello Branch Library and some of this material can be consulted there in the local history section. Exhibitions and displays of some of our holdings have been mounted in the library, town hall and elsewhere.

Some members have carried out personal research projects that include a history of the site that was occupied by the open-air pool and an investigation of WW2 air raids on Portobello and Edinburgh. We have added, and will continue to add, to our collection of reminiscences of bygone Portobello on tape, and are carrying out a continuing photographic survey of changes in building use over the years.

The society has arguably just had its most successful year, is in excellent health and looking forward to the next 21 years.

Archie Foley

Photo by Brenda Molony

LOCAL HISTORY RESOURCE

MANY of us are used to going to a reference library to look for an item in back numbers of newspapers, either in unwieldy bound form or on hard to read microfilm. Now, we can find the sought for information using a computer. *The Scotsman* on-line Digital Archive brings access to all that newspaper's editions from 1817 to 1950 and everything is fully indexed. If you want items about Portobello all you have to do is type in that word, choose the required years and months that you want to consult and click. Here are examples of what was found in the months of November and December 1891.

There is a paragraph on page four of the issue of 3rd November reporting that some residents in Duddingston Crescent were complaining about a smell from a refuse dump that was filling an old railway cutting at Niddrie Road. On 7th November there is a larger piece on the Poetical Vagrant of Portobello. His name was Peter Sinclair and he was wont to recite his own verses each time he appeared in court. This time he had been found guilty of breaking a window of a chemist's shop in Portobello and fined £2 with the option of 10 days in jail. He left court "expressing his gratitude at the leniency of the sentence."

An interesting item that illustrates the social conditions of the time appeared in page 6 on 25th November. It was the report of the AGM of Portobello Destitute Sick Society. In the year just past the Society had given relief to 166 cases and had also run a soup kitchen which provided 4,444 dinners for the children of needy families. On a lighter note, details of a Soiree held by Portobello Cooperative Society are given on page four of the 3rd December issue.

This is not a free service and people and organisations will have to make their own minds up about whether and how to make use of it. You can get to it from www.scotsman.com.

(Research by Alistair Davidson)




"This photograph was taken in Maryfield, now demolished, in 1917. Can anyone tell us anything about the shop or family?"

Wm Morrison
(Portobello)
Auto Accident Repair Specialists
All Bodywork Repairs - Spray painting
CAR & LIGHT COMMERCIAL VEHICLES
Large and Small Jobs Welcome Reliable Advice - Free Estimates
0131 669 5544
2-4 St Mark's Lane, Portobello

HEW DEN SUMMER GIVE AWAY
WIN A GAS BBQ
19 WINDSOR PLACE EDINBURGH. **GOOD LUCK!**
DURING THE MONTHS OF JUNE, JULY, AUGUST
ALL CASH CUSTOMERS WILL BE ENTERED INTO OUR FREE PRIZE DRAW TO WIN A GAS BBQ!
HIRE ANY ITEMS FROM OUR CURRENT CATALOGUE, LAWNMOWERS, STRIMMERS, WALL PAPER STRIPPERS, FLOORSANDERS, ETC. AND YOU WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY ENTERED INTO OUR MONTHLY DRAW. ALL WE REQUIRE IS TWO FORMS OF SUITABLE I.D. AND A £50.00 REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT. SO WHY WAIT
CALL 0131 669 1333 FOR FURTHER DETAILS.
DRAW WILL BE MADE ON 30TH OF THE MONTH

COUNCILLOR MAUREEN CHILD MILTON WARD
Cllr Child is available for consultation every Monday (except public holidays)
PORTOBELLO TOWN HALL at 6PM and every Wednesday (except during school holidays)
BRUNSTANE PRIMARY SCHOOL at 7.15PM
or by appointment at another time and place
Tel 529 3268 / 669 2184
maureen.child@edinburgh.gov.uk

SUSAN DEACON MSP
Edinburgh East & Musselburgh
INTERVIEW SESSIONS



Susan Deacon will be available; on the **last Monday of each month 6pm - 7pm in PORTOBELLO TOWN HALL** and on the **first Thursday of the month 6.30pm - 7.30pm in PIERSHILL LIBRARY**. She also holds regular interview sessions at other locations in her constituency. For details please contact 0131-669 6446

PORTOBELLO STATIONERS
110 Portobello High Street
Tel/fax 0131 669 6966
"For all your Stationery & Greeting Cards"
Reams of Paper from £2.99

Epson Compatible Cartridges from £4.99

Rubber Stamps made to order

Helium Balloons now in stock
Opening Hours MON to SAT 9am to 5pm

ADAM McALPINE
Watchmaker + Jeweller
Free Estimates and advice on all watch, clock and jewellery repairs.
Watch straps and batteries fitted
190 Portobello High Street
Tel. 669 4462

CAPITAL GAS AND HEATING SERVICES
Specialists in:
• Installations and Repairs
• Landlords Reports
• Living Flame Fires
• Servicing and Plumbing
Baisi Service Agent
Insurance Work Welcome
Corgi Registered
0131-669 6462 Mob: 07831 406553
21 Brunstane Drive, Edinburgh EH15 2NF

GLOBE DECORATORS



For Commercial, Domestic, Interior and Exterior
Quotations on request
Call 0131 669 1228 or 0131 552 0262
Members of the Painters Federation

GALA DAYS



THIS photograph was sent in by Mr George Blows who is standing on the right of the front row. Other boys in the picture are David Combe and "Tucker" McLeod but we would like to know the names of as many of the other boys and girls as possible, as well as the year of this particular gala day. We have photographs from Portobello's first gala day in 1950 so that year can be excluded. Can anyone tell us how many gala days there were in the 1950s and if any records survive?

BOOK NOTICE

THE KIRK AT DUDDINGSTON THROUGH THE AGES by Agnes Parry (with W Farrell, Dr. J A P Jack and R Stewart)

This book is described "as a brief history of the [Duddingston] Kirk", and so it is, but only in the sense that it is a mere 65 pages in length. It packs a great deal of information into those pages.

The account of the Kirk's development and changing role within the parish since its foundation in the 12th century is told in straightforward



chronological form, but the authors are careful not to ignore the influence of changing social conditions

A PORTOBELLO SON REMEMBERED

ON D-DAY, 6th June 1944 HMS had taken up position as Headquarters ship directing the landings on the Normandy beaches. At dawn on 7th June a phosphorus bomb blew a five foot hole in the foremost bulkhead of the Operations Room and four men lost their lives. One of them was my uncle, Able Seaman George Young who was a gunner. He had volunteered for the Royal Navy in 1940 and lied about his age when doing so and had already seen service in the Atlantic, Mediterranean and Arabian Sea.



George Young in 1942

George Young was born at 15 Pipe Street, the youngest child of George and Elizabeth Young (nee McDaid) and went to Towerbank Primary and St John's RC Schools. From letters he sent to my father during the war it seems he was an accomplished footballer and played representative games during his time in the Navy. I never knew him as I was born the year following his death but he lives in my memory through photographs, letters and what I was told by my late father and grandmother. She told me that when she saw the Telegram Boy coming from her window she had a gut feeling that the message was for her to say that one of her sons was dead.

My uncle was buried at sea but his name is in the Royal Navy Book in Edinburgh Castle and on the Portsmouth Naval Memorial. Just recently I was thrilled to read his entry in the Debt of Honour Register on the website of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. All of these entries give his age when he died as 23; in fact, he was not quite 21.

Archie Young, Jnr.

locally and of national political events.

The final 20 or so pages contain excellent sections on the architecture and interior design of the church, the garden created by the Doctors Neil and the history of curling on

Duddingston Loch.

This is also a sturdy, well made, book with excellent illustrations and great value at only £3.00. Contact the Session Clerk, Mr Will Farrell, 50 Ulster Crescent, Edinburgh, EH8 to get a copy.

AF



The Just World Shop
Fair-trading For A Just World
54 Portobello High Street, Tel 669 8819
For a selection of Traidcraft and other fairly traded goods including:
Tea • Cocoa • Sugar • Muesli • Dried Fruit • Nuts
Rice • Pasta • Honey • Chocolate • Sweets & Snacks
Gifts • Crafts • Jewellery • Cards • Gift Wrap
Stationary • Ecover & Recycled Products

Open: Monday-Friday 10am-12noon and 2pm-4pm Saturday 10am-12noon

T.A. Harris & Son

A FAMILY RUN COMPANY
Established 1957

CAR SALES, SERVICING, REPAIRS
MOT TESTING STATION
COMPETITIVELY PRICED
BRAKES AND EXHAUSTS



T.A. HARRIS
-A member of the tyre expert network-



LuK
Aftermarket-Service Ltd
Light Clutch Division

9-1 BELLFIELD LANE, PORTOBELLO
EDINBURGH EH15 2BL
TEL: 0131 669 5995

ROCKVILLE HOTEL

and
EASTFIELD CONSERVATORY
RESTAURANT

2 JOPPA PANS Tel 669 5418

One of the finest locations along the Edinburgh coast with magnificent panoramic views over the Firth of Forth.

New Summer Opening Hours
Lunches served Mon-Thurs 12noon-2pm
Evening dinners, Mon-Thurs, 5.30-8.30pm
Fri/Sat, now open all day, 12noon-9pm. Sunday 1pm-8pm

New menu for 2005 now being served, including lunch, evening and snack menus with extended vegetarian options.

All food is freshly prepared by our resident chefs Mark Shaw, Frank Campbell, Kenny O'Connor and Brian Tait, keeping it simple and wholesome.

Thinking of a gift idea? Why not purchase a Rockville meal voucher, starting at £10.
* * * * *

Friday night top circuit cabaret. Check out our programme on our website
www.rockvillehotel.co.uk
* * * * *

Bed & Breakfast from £30p.p based on 2 sharing.
All rooms en suite, most with magnificent sea views across the Firth of Forth.

JAMES KEANE

MASTER UPHOLSTERER

Specialist in Antique and Traditional Upholstery Work
Also Loose Covers Tailored to Fit
and Handmade Curtains

Selection of Quality Materials to Choose From
Estimates by appointment only

Tel/Fax: 0131 669 4020
Member of the Association of Master Upholsterers & Soft Furnishers

PORTOBELLO HISTORY SOCIETY NEWS

A VERY successful year for the society ended with the Annual General Meeting on 1st June. All of our monthly speakers attracted large audiences and 'House Full' notices almost had to be posted on at least a couple of occasions. Society membership very nearly doubled over the year. The most significant event was the completion and launch of the video *It Always Seemed To Be Sunny*. Sales began after copies had been given to schools, libraries, community organisations, residential homes for the elderly, the Scottish Screen Archive and the National Library of Scotland. The resulting income has been used to buy computer and other equipment that will enable the society to organise and catalogue its collections of photographs, documents and other Portobello material. Also, by storing much of this in digital form access to it will be easier as will the creation of presentations. [NOTE: copies of the video and accompanying booklet can be bought at Portobello Stationers and Mulberries and a DVD version is available at Portobello Branch Library.]

The following Office Bearers were elected at the AGM: Chairperson, Elaine Goodlet; Honorary Secretary, Margaret Munro; Honorary Treasurer, Vivienne Nisbet. Committee Members elected were Bill Nisbet, Caroline Lancaster, James Campsie, Graham Arkless and Arthur Jeffery.

Of course, as one session ends another begins and the first meeting of the new one will be on Wednesday 7th September 2005 at 7 pm in St Johns Church Hall in Brighton Place. The speaker will be Simon Fairnie whose title will be *Fisherrow, the story of a fishing community*.

For some of our members the new session will have begun on the previous Saturday evening with our skittles match against the Duddingston Trotters, but in light of previous results probably the least said about this the better.

Archie Foley

GETTING A ROUND WITH PARKINSON'S

LOCAL man John Barclay was an electrical engineer with the Civil Service for 26 years, until he was medically retired in 1987. He was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in 1980.

John has played golf since 1968 and has a handicap of 20. A member of Kingsknowe Golf Club he now plays three days a week, usually seven or eight holes. When the opportunity arises, he plays with people he meets on the course, but socialising at the 18th can be difficult when you can't take alcohol because of your medication.

John had difficulty standing or walking, but the golf has improved his health and helped him psychologically. He has won many "cups, medals and spoons" at his club, and says: "I couldn't have done all this without the support and encouragement I've received from my family, friends and golf partners". He is pictured here with two of his cups and his 'Four 2s' trophy (for completing four holes in a round in only two shots, which golfing readers will appreciate). He also enjoys bowls, swimming, bingo and quizzes, and uses weights to strengthen his arms and legs.

Over the past five years, John



Photo by Brenda Molony

and his wife Dorothy have raised £5000 for the DCN Department at the Western General Hospital, for research into the disease. Recently, £1,130 was raised by a tournament at Musselburgh Golf Club in which three people with Parkinson's took part, and a dance.

"If you want to get out and about", says John, "the Parkinson's Society has weekly activities such as golf, bowls and swimming, and there is a special Yoga Class at the Portobello Leisure Centre".

Linda Johnstone

FROM SCHOOLBOY SKETCHES TO TOP CAR DESIGN



FORMER Portobello High School pupil George Saridakis (pictured with racing legend Carol Shelby) has received much praise for his latest car design for Ford. The GR-1 has been very successful at auto shows as a high performance sports car. George was described by J. Mays, group vice-president of Global Design for the Ford Motor Company, as a "designer so masterful at visualizing every aspect of the car and its story that it literally flowed out of his pen."

George has drawn cars since he was about seven. In class at the High School, he often did sketches and believes the exercise books containing his early drawings may still be in his family home in Portobello. After leaving school, he studied at Glasgow University, Napier University and the Royal College of Art in London, where he specialised in vehicle design. He worked first with Toyota and joined Ford in 2000. George, now aged 33, lives in Detroit, Michigan and finds designing cars for Ford very fulfilling.

The GR-1 is still a concept car. If Ford decides to go into production, it is expected to cost over £60,000 and George intends to be one of the first to purchase it.

Margaret Munro

WHAT'S ON THIS SUMMER

Duddingston Kirk Horticultural Society's Annual Autumn Show will be held in the Kirk Hall on Saturday 3rd September from 2.30-4.30pm & Sunday 4th September from 2.30-4pm. Admission 50p. Teas & home baking available. All Classes are open to non members and include Pot Plants, Flowers, Vegetables, Floral Art, Home Baking, Handicrafts and a Children's Section and new exhibitors are very welcome.

For schedules and further information call the Secretary on 669 8996.

In advance of the G8 summit - A MAKE POVERTY HISTORY Rally, City centre, Sat. 2nd July starting 11am - speakers, music, entertainments, stalls and a giant human band around the centre with staggered starts at 12pm, 1pm and 2pm.

EDINBURGH COLLEGE OF PARAPSYCHOLOGY presents an Evening of Clairvoyance with Mary Armour, Roberta Gordon & Angela McInnes on Sat. 16th July at the Town Hall, 7.30pm. Tickets £5. Call (0131) 220 1433.

BEACH VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT at the Swim Centre on Saturday 25 June. From 10am - 4pm.

DR. NEIL'S GARDEN, Duddingston Village, open Sat. 6th Aug. & Sun. 7th Aug. from 2-5pm. Plants for sale and Teas in the Kirk Hall. Admission £2, children free. (In aid of Multiple Sclerosis). Car park at Duddingston Rd. West.

ST JOHN'S LINKS WITH LEGHO

LINKS with the Tanzanian village of Legho and St John's Parish Church and St John's School continue to grow. A group, including former pupil Laura McGhee, will be travelling to the village on July 23rd to teach English and work with local youth groups. Fundraising events will be held throughout the summer including a stall at St John's School Summer Fair on Saturday 11th June, selling juices and smoothies, followed by a sponsored cycle from Glasgow to Edinburgh on Sunday 12th June.

PORTOBELLO AMNESTY GROUP

GROUP members are continuing work on Amnesty's world-wide campaign 'Stop Violence Against Women': a further impetus is planned for the group's programme 'Imagine a world where violence against women and girls has ended', through asking local people and groups for their support, including teachers, community leaders and local celebrities.

Action also continues on the issue of Bhopal, India, with pressure being put on Union Carbide, the company responsible for the disaster that still blights the lives of thousands of people, to clean up the site and compensate the victims.

The group will have a display on rights for refugees and asylum seekers, in the window at Portobello Library from 20th June. Meetings are held on the third Monday of each month at 7.30pm in the vestry of the United Reformed Church, Marlborough St. For more information call 669 1308.

David Turner

FOR CHILDREN

WEEK-LONG SOCCER CAMPS for 5-12 year-olds at Gracemount Leisure Centre: SFA coaches will promote skills such as dribbling, turning, passing, shooting, heading, goal keeping, etc. Start dates: July 4, 11, 18, 25; Aug. 1, 8. Cost: £20 p.w or £5 per day. Bring lots to drink, snack, sun hat and lotion OR waterproofs! To book, call 658 1940.

Portobello Old Parish Church: SUMMER HOLIDAY CLUB, 11th-15th July, 10am-12 noon. Contact Nell on 669 4351

Spiritual Research Network
 ...because many false prophets have gone out into the world. 1 John 4:1

What Do You Do when the cults invite you into their group?

www.spiritual-research-network.com
 657-3331 - P.O. Box 28817, Edinburgh, EH15 2ZD

UNDERSTAND THE TRUTH ABOUT:
 Spiritualism, Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormons, Sahaja Yoga, Christian Science, Hare Krishna, Christadelphians, Children of God, God TV Money Preachers, Baha'i, The Unification Church, Unitarian Universalism, Oneness Pentecostalism, New Age Cults, Freemasonry, Mind Sciences, Satanism, Transcendental Meditation, Scientology, etc.

Dragon Way Chinese Restaurant

10 Bath Street, Portobello & 74/78 South Clerk St.

Lunch Menu
 Over 6 Starters & Over 15 Main Courses & Sweets
 Available Monday-Saturday, 12-2:30pm. Last order 1:45pm

Happy Hour Menu
 Over 6 Starters & Over 15 Main Courses & Sweets.
 Available Monday-Thursday, 5-8pm. Last order 7:45pm

All Deliciously,
 Freshly Prepared &
 Cooked at time of Ordering

Bring this voucher and book your table on
 669 0088/669 4888/669 6697
 Or 668 1328/668 2323,
 for Newington

The Portobello Reporter is produced by volunteers, with contributions in this issue from 43 local people. If you have a story to tell or an event to publicise, or would like to advertise, call 669 3466 or email us at portobelloreporter@talk21.com
 Deadline 10th August

KITTYCARE
 In Your Home

PET SITTING SERVICE
 Single Visits to Regular Care
 Diabetic cats also cared for
 0131 620 5178 or 07818435221
 Fully Insured - References Available
www.kittycare.net

MALCOLM PARRY
Painter & Decorator
 A time served decorator from a family-run business, now a sole trader in Portobello.

For a free estimate on all aspects of internal and external decorating to a high standard call
 (0131) 620 1444 or
 07967 125 666 (mob.)

The Sheep Heid Inn
 Est. 1360 - Scotland's oldest pub

Savour our excellent selection of malts, wines, beers, coffees and soft drinks.

Call now to book the 'world's oldest skittle alley' for birthdays, office nights out, club nights or just some old fashioned fun.

Enjoy quality home-cooked food from 12 to 7.45pm seven days a week or come in at the weekends, from 1-9pm, for our summer barbecue.

Only a monsoon will stop those venison burgers from sizzling away in our newly covered garden!

43-45 The Causeway, Duddingston
 Tel 0131 656 6951 Fax 0131 656 6952
When did you last drop by?

ROBIN T. BOND
 CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

ACCOUNTS • TAX RETURNS • CASH FLOW
 VAT • BUSINESS START UP • PHOTOCOPYING

22 JOPPA ROAD TEL: 0131 669 0442

MORE AWARDS FOR TOWERBANK

TOWERBANK have won a Gold Award for their superb work on Road Safety. They have also just been awarded a Green Eco Flag for their efforts with eco initiatives. They are the first primary school in Edinburgh to receive this award and are very proud to achieve such a prestigious award, presented to schools who are eco-friendly. They are now looking forward to the presentation ceremony. They are still busy recycling paper and keeping the playground litter free, and in the wildlife garden they have a composter and bird houses.

Herbie Loening/Lauren McFarlane
(School Eco Reps and P7 pupils)

YOUNG ENTERPRISE WINNERS



Photo by Peter Ross

THIS year's Young Enterprise team from Portobello High School consisted of 18 pupils. They formed a promotions company, 'Unsigned', and organised a Battle of the Bands gig at Studio 24 in Edinburgh in February. They also produced a live CD. They made £1000, which went to the Radio Forth Help a Child Appeal.

The company has had a lot of success, and in recognition

of this they won five awards at the Young Enterprise awards ceremony for the Lothian Area Board: Best Marketing Director, Best Managing Director, Best Business Idea, Best Presentation and overall Best Company. These awards secured them a place in the Scottish finals in mid-June at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre.

Vivien Kinear,
Managing Director

RED HOT ON SAFETY!

TOWERBANK'S Senior Sevens have been working on a fire safety enterprise campaign, involving the whole school. We are focusing on four main topics: safety with matches, causes of fire, smoke alarms and a plan to escape safely.

We are promoting these using music, drama and posters, having a lot of fun but getting our message across. We shared our work with many other primary schools at a Celebration of Enterprise event on 2nd June. Check your smoke alarms - Be safe!

Georgina Gibson/Ryan Stoddart, P7

HOLY ROOD GLOBE TROTTERS



AFTER a series of spectacular performances, Holy Rood High School Senior Boys basketball team emerged victorious as this year's Scottish Schools' Basketball Champions. Team coach Mr McSherry says their victory was due to "a great deal of determination, motivation, skill and bucket-loads of team spirit".

Holy Rood beat teams from all over Scotland to reach the semi-final at Meadowbank, an enthralling local derby against Portobello High School. With some great performances and outstanding individual point scores, they overcame their talented opponents to win 75-66.

The Final saw Holy Rood pitched against favourites, Arbroath High School. The game was nip and tuck in the first half, but Holy Rood led throughout, stretching their lead to 20 points in the third quarter. Mr McSherry commented that "the game was won by great team play and some outstanding performances. In particular Christopher McBrierty (captain) scored a magnificent 24 points and Troy Batten was close behind with 22. The team were spurred on by their enthusiastic supporters, pupils and parents." The final score was a nail-biting 81-78 and a well deserved victory for Holy Rood.

CATCH THE WALKING BUS

TOWERBANK'S first Walking Bus is on the move, running along the Prom and picking up pupils from P1-7 from designated 'bus stops'. It is run by volunteer parents and Graham Plumbers Merchants on Seafield Road have donated fluorescent jackets for the adult 'bus drivers' and 'conductors'. Pupils can now walk to and from school safely, have a chat on the way and learn about their environment. One of the children wore a pedometer along the full 'bus route' on launch day; it registered 2967 steps - nearly a third of the daily exercise specified in Government guidelines.

Kirsty Rosie, Deputy Head Teacher, says: "We are delighted with the support our walking bus has had. As part of our School Travel Plan and eco-school action plan, we aim to encourage more healthy means of getting to school and the 'bus' is helping pupils to do just that. I would like to thank all parents who are supporting it, especially Heather Neal, the main organiser. Well done and happy walking everyone!"



Photo by Peter Ross

YOUNG PEOPLE CARE FOR THE BEACH

PORTOBELLO Woodcraft Folk, Towerbank Primary School and Portobello High School have jointly adopted Portobello Beach under the Marine Conservation Society's (MCS) adopt-a-beach scheme. This involves quarterly beach cleans, and surveys to monitor litter throughout the year and help reduce it at source.

The High School did a survey in January, and Towerbank ran a week of beach related activities in May. Woodcraft Folk will organise a clean-up on 17th September, when litter surveys are carried out on hundreds of beaches across the UK in the MCS annual Beachwatch event, with the results analysed nationally. All members of the local community are invited to take part. For more information please call 669 5591 or email: jane@gn.apc.org

WHO ARE THE WOODCRAFT FOLK?

THIS unique progressive educational movement for children and young people - boys and girls - is designed to develop self-confidence and activity in society, with the aim of building a world based on equality, peace, social justice and co-operation. It was established in 1925 and has groups throughout England, Scotland and Wales.

Portobello Woodcraft Folk meet every Friday in term time from 6.15- 7.30pm. There are separate groups for children aged 6-10 and 11-13. For more information please contact Rachel Harrison on rachelharrison@onetel.com or Kathleen Bolt on kbolt2@rapidial.co.uk

places now available



Blossom Day Nursery | 15b/c Bath Street, Portobello 0131 657 2233 www.blossomdaynursery.com

Carlo's Fish Bar

227 Portobello High Street
Fish and Chips, Pizzas, Kebabs, Pastas
and Baked Potatoes
Delivery Service Available



0131-669 3010

NEED A MORTGAGE?

FOR A FAST, FRIENDLY, PROFESSIONAL SERVICE, WHATEVER YOUR MORTGAGE REQUIREMENTS MAY BE....

FIRST TIME BUYERS • HOMEMOVERS • REMORTGAGES
BUY TO LET • COUNCIL HOUSE PURCHASE
100%+ MORTGAGES • POOR CREDIT HISTORY

DISCUSS YOUR MORTGAGE NEEDS WITH US!
CALL NOW FOR A NO OBLIGATION APPOINTMENT

0131 468 4111

EDINBURGH INDEPENDENT MORTGAGE ADVICE

96 PORTOBELLO HIGH STREET, EDINBURGH EH15 1AN

PRE-INKED RUBBER STAMPS • NO MESS
TEXT • LOGOS • PHOTOS
UP TO 10,000 PRINTS
2 HOUR SERVICE



RUBBER STAMPS
Available from
PORTOBELLO PRINT & COPY
247 Portobello High Street
Edinburgh EH15 2AW
Tel: 0131 657 4990

CELLO TUITION

(Music theory and composition)
Beginners to advanced level
welcome.

Contact Claudia, MA(Hons) PGCE

Tel: 0131 669 6223;
mob. 07890 467185

claudia_davies@hotmail.com

KITCHENERS DELICATESSEN

CHANGE TO SATURDAY OPENING TIMES

The deli & coffee shop are now open
from 8.30am 'til 4.30pm

This allows us to increase the number of staff in the morning
to meet a greater demand from our customers
near the start of the day .

The kitchen will close for hot food at 4.15pm, but homebaking and
coffees etc will still be available up to closing time.

KITCHENERS DELICATESSEN & COFFEE SHOP 127-129 PORTOBELLO HIGH STREET 669 9290

PORTOBELLO COBBLERS

131 Portobello High Street
07977571231

- Quality shoe repairs •
- Keys cut while-u-wait •
- Name plates • Engraving •
- Watch batteries •
- Purses and wallets •
- Umbrellas • Shoe care •
- LOOK OUT FOR SPECIAL OFFERS •

OAP discounts available
NO JOB TOO BIG OR TOO SMALL

Suzanne Lampard

I.C.S.F.

Summer is just around the corner. Please come along to see our
beautiful variety of summer Bouquets and Cut Flowers.

Suzanne and her caring staff will help you
with all your requirements

Flowers by Ray

7 Brighton Place, Edinburgh EH15 1LA
Telephone: 0131-669 8883 Facsimile 0131-669 3902



SCOTTISH SPRINT TRIATHLON CHAMPS

THE third Portobello Open Water Triathlon will take place on Sunday 14th August on the Promenade, starting at 9am. Following the successes of the last two years, this year's event has been awarded the Scottish Sprint Distance Championships, which will result in an increased entry, with most of Scotland's top triathletes taking part.

As before, the triathlon will consist of a 750m sea swim from Portobello beach (at James Street), followed by a 20km cycle on roads round Portobello and a 5km run on the Promenade. Registration will take place in the Swim Centre from 7-8.30am. For further information and an entry form see www.edinburghracingcoop.co.uk or e-mail race organiser Stuart Young at stuart.young@blueyonder.co.uk

JOPPA TENNIS

THE courts will be open for Pay & Play during the school holidays, from Monday 27th June, from 1-8pm (closed 5-6pm). Cost: adults £1/hr children 50p/hr.

It is hoped to have coaching, hopefully on Friday afternoons - enquiries on 01875-811183.

OPEN PLAY TENNIS DAY is Saturday 25th June from 2pm, with coaching and a chance for everyone to "have a go". Plus Table Sale (Tables £10, enquiries on 01875-811183), Bouncy Castle, Face Painting, Barbecue.

Family Memberships at £45 are still available for year-long tennis. Reduced rates for individual membership. Members do not have to pay during the holiday period, but proof of membership will be required.

M.T.

YOUTH SCENE FORGES AHEAD

THE Thursday night Café Club at the Community Centre attracts around 35 young people aged around 14 each week.

The members have worked hard converting an uninviting room into a Youth Base and making a community garden at the side of the building, providing more access for young people, and hopefully more clubs and youth groups. These facilities will also be available for bookings. There will be an official opening, with a BBQ, on 23rd June at 12 noon. Everyone is welcome.

A summer programme will run again this year, to include music and camping, and a few of the older teenagers have shown an interest in becoming volunteers; one of them has already undertaken accredited 'Child protection training'.

Brian Greatorex, who oversees activities, says: "The Centre and Community Council have been very supportive of provision for local youths. Volunteer helpers are always needed, however - Please call me on 661 7463".

JUNE isn't too late to start off tender crops like pumpkin, squash, melon or cucumber and/or flowers. They still need to be hardened off over a week or two and planted out when there are no frosts at night.

If you need a large space to harden off seedlings, look out for an old wooden bed frame. Take the material off and attach pieces of bubble-wrap or plastic round the sides, then use a larger sheet as a lid, attached with clothes pegs. For a smaller area, how about an old fish tank. Both these can then be used to protect tender crops like pumpkins later on. Ventilation is as important as heat and water, so leave the lid off on very hot days.

I love working in the greenhouse and I've recycled a lot of stuff for greenhouse gardening: old tables, plastic containers, even an old ironing board with a door on top makes more room for seedlings and can be easily stored. While pricking out I like to listen to the radio; one of my best investments is a wind-up/solar radio. They are expensive, but you never run out of batteries, and in the summer I've had mine on from 7am to 9pm, just running on solar power with the odd wind-up. Grow something perfumed in each season to encourage you to go to the greenhouse.

If your greenhouse is overflowing, throw out any plants that are not looking good. That space could be used to start off lettuce seeds every week for a continuous supply. If you like salad, get a packet of cut and come again, which will last for months and costs the same as a bag of mixed leaves from the supermarket. If you don't like salad, grow things you do like, but occasionally try something different, as fresh fruit and vegetables taste so much nicer.

If you have lots of house plants and are going on holiday for two weeks with no one to water them, place them in a child's paddling pool in good light (curtains drawn if in a south facing room) on wet towels, curtains or blankets. Finally, for children: buy them a carnivorous plant and encourage them to look after it during the holidays.

[Mike and Susan Burns's amazing organic garden at 39 Nantwich Drive will be open to the public on 6th and 7th August from 2-5pm. Admission is £1/50p with proceeds to HDRA, the organic association.]



with Susan Burns

PORTOBELLO SUCCESS AT YOUTH GAMES

THE S1 girls' basketball team from Portobello High School came first in the BAA Airport Youth Games at Meadowbank at the end of April. The trophy was presented by Susan Deacon MSP. [The team comprised Stephanie Graham, Ruth McKelvie, Jenny Simpson, Katie Bell, Jess Bonar, Eve Learmonth, Kate Cook, Roz Lancaster and Sam Oag].

Other local participants were Holy Rood High (volleyball), Leith Academy (girls' hockey), and Prospect Bank (multi sports). More than 850 pupils from schools across the city take part in the games every year, regardless of ability.

SLAM DUNK!

HELPED by three Portobello High School 'products' - Gareth Lodge, who scored 15 points, Mark Dudgeon, who had 14 and Colin Slow who added 13 - City of Edinburgh Kings junior men finished their season in style by defeating St Mirren 73-59 at Meadowbank to retain the RAF Scottish Cup and complete their second successive Scottish League and Cup double. Coach Jim Wright's team have also been unbeaten by Scottish opposition for the last two years, and were hopeful of improving on their sixth place last year when they left in early June for their third tilt at the Caluire Invitation Tournament in Lyons.

There was disappointment for three other of the club's teams in the cup finals: the senior men, who were also chasing their second successive double after retaining the Scottish League title, going down to Team Ayrshire Tornados and the junior and cadette women both losing to St Mirren.

Portobello High School, however, were again amongst the trophies and medals at the Scottish Schools Cup finals, the under-13 girls beating Millburn Academy, Inverness 44-31, the under-15's beating Braes High, Falkirk 93-28, and the Open girls beating Arbroath 94-64.

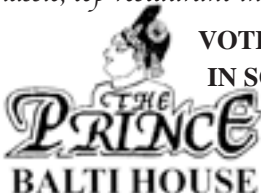
S.S.

The very best Indian Restaurant located by Portobello Beach.
The finest classic, top restaurant in Edinburgh

GOLD AWARD WINNER

VOTED BEST FOOD IN SCOTLAND

Sun-Thurs 5-11.30pm
Fri-Sat 5pm - 12am



Lunch 12noon-2pm

Bangladeshi and Indian Cuisine
Fully licensed and air-conditioned

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

25% Discount on total bill for NHS and Council staff, Lothian & Borders Police, Fire Brigade and Lothian Buses, City Card holders and Gold Card Royalty members - restaurant meals only. Also 10% discount on takeaways. Excludes any other offers or deals.

FREE home delivery (min. order £10).

Home orders over £40 receive a free bottle of house wine.

11/12 Seafield Road East, Edinburgh EH15 1EB
Tel. 0131 657 1155 Fax. 657 1122

Bringing the Bible home
verse by verse, chapter by chapter, book by book

calvary chapel radio
sky digital 906
www.calvarychapelradio.co.uk

Portobello Bible Study
Mondays @ 7pm, 48A Bath Street, 0131-657-3331

THE MORTGAGE PEOPLE

For best advice, best deals and best service
talk to
Dave Davidson and Steve McIntyre

INDEPENDENT MORTGAGE BROKERS
216 Portobello High Street
0131 620 6506 www.mpeople.co.uk

176 Portobello High St.
Edinburgh EH15 1EX
Tel: 0131 669 7575
Fax: 0131 669 5252

warners
solicitors & estate agents

Planning to Move House in 2005 ? Contact Us First !
Why not call in and ask for your free pre sale valuation now?

We can offer you:

- Fee quote detailing the fees and outlays likely to be incurred.
- Free pre-sale valuation and marketing advice for sellers.
- Legal advice on all aspects of buying and selling your home.
- Extensive local knowledge.
- Advertising in the ESPC Homepages, Website and Showroom, Warners website, Edinburgh and Lothians Property Guide and in all our branches.

All this from one of Edinburgh's leading Solicitors and Estate Agents. Call now 0131 669 7575 or e mail residential@warnersol.com for a quote.

Details of all our services and properties for sale can be found on our website www.warnersol.com

MAIN OFFICE
22 ST. PATRICK SQUARE
EDINBURGH EH8 9EY
TEL: 0131 662 4747

LOANHEAD
9 HIGH STREET
LOANHEAD EH20 9RH
TEL: 0131 440 4268

CITY CENTRE
26 GEORGE SQUARE
EDINBURGH EH8 9LD
TEL: 0131 662 4555

CORSTORPHINE
247B ST. JOHNS ROAD
EDINBURGH EH12 7XD
TEL: 0131 334 0022

ORMELIE TAVERN

44 Joppa Road, Portobello
Tel; 0131-669 3323

Opening Hours:
Mon to Sat 11am to 12 midnight
Sun 12.30 pm to 11pm

AN EVER CHANGING RANGE OF CASK-CONDITIONED ALES

Caledonian Brewery Belhaven
Timothy Taylors McEwans
Harviestoun Hadrian & Border

OVER 60 MALT WHISKIES
35ml measure

FILLED ROLLS & SNACKS AVAILABLE

LAUREN ELIZABETH
121 Portobello High Street, 0131 669 5389

NEW OCCASION WEAR COLLECTION NOW IN STOCK

PARTY WEAR EVENING WEAR

BUSINESS & CASUAL WEAR ALSO NOW AVAILABLE

FURTHER REDUCTIONS IN SALE STOCK