

Litter



Why would anyone drop litter? Who do they think is going to pick it up? Do they not see that litter makes their own area look terrible? Well, we are asking all of our Young People to be more aware. It's not difficult to hold on to that crisp packet or plastic bottle until you are near to a bin. Parents can teach their children not to drop litter. But they already know they should not drop litter. Can you help? The first thing to do is - don't drop any litter yourself! Put it in the bin or put it in your pocket until you get into your house. Ask your parents if it's OK to pick up any litter you see lying around. We can give you a loan of a litter picker if that helps. Some people walk past litter and say : "I didn't drop it so why should I pick it up?" But it's their area, their community. It's the neighbourly thing to do. It's the right thing to do. If everyone does just a wee bit extra the place will be so much better. It's often no one's fault that there's litter at the close entrance or stuck in the bushes. But someone has to pick it up. What do you think? Can we all work together to make Blochairn better? We hope so!

Little Mix Competition



We have two pairs of tickets to give away in our Christmas Competition to see the fantastic Little Mix at Falkirk Stadium on Friday 26 June 2020. Not just any old tickets. No, these are Golden Circle Standing tickets. That means you're right next to the stage!

To be in the draw to win the tickets just answer the questions below and get your answers to us by noon on Friday 20 December.

Email answers to michael@blochairn.org if that's easier.



1. Name the four members of Little Mix.
2. What year were Little Mix formed?
3. On which TV show were they first seen?
4. What was their 'winner's single' called?
5. Their first album was released in 2012. What was it called?
6. Which song won them 'Best British Single' in 2017?
7. Who is the oldest band member?
8. Who is the youngest band member?
9. Little Mix released their 5th album in 2018. What's it called?
10. In 2014, Little Mix teamed up with Europe's biggest anti-bullying organisation. What's it called?



Blochairn Housing Association

"THE WEE ISSUE"

newsletter for Young People aged 8 - 15 years

Name
Address



**As we celebrate the birth of Jesus of Nazareth
the Committee and Staff
of Blochairn Housing Association wish you a
Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year in 2020**

Happy Holiday!



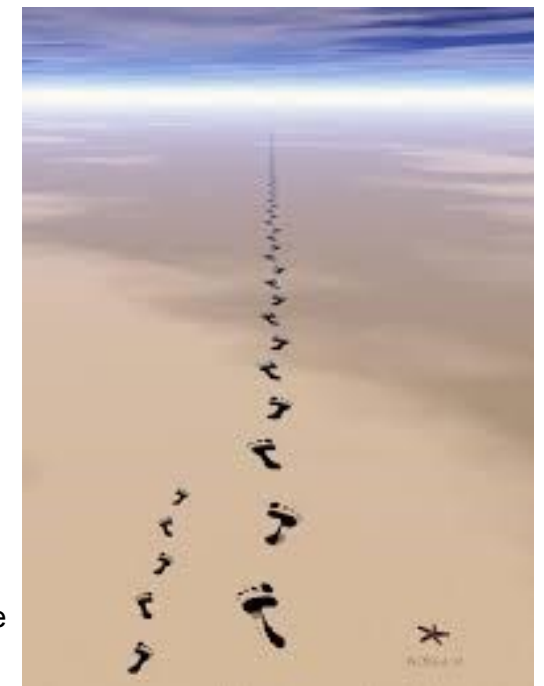
We have given a small Christmas gift to residents over 60 and under 16 years and we will deliver a 2020 calendar to every house. Just small tokens to wish folk a happy time over the holidays.



Footprints

The story of Jesus, and his message of peace and love, has inspired people for more than 2000 years. Christians believe that he was the son of God. Other religions see Him as a prophet, a messenger of God. His story has influenced the course of human history and affected the lives of billions of people. Those of no religion can respect the man who spoke for the poor and dispossessed and challenged authority. Those who find comfort in religion will appreciate this story. Maybe even those of no religion too:

'I dreamed I was walking along the beach with the Lord.
Across the sky flashed scenes from my life.
For each scene I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand; One belonged to me, and the other to the Lord.
When the last scene of my life flashed before us I looked back at the footprints in the sand. I noticed that many times along the path of my life there was only one set of footprints.
I also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times in my life
This really bothered me, and I questioned the Lord about it.
"Lord, you said that once I decided to follow you, you would walk with me all the way.
But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life there is only one set of footprints.
I don't understand why, in times when I needed you the most, you should leave me.
The Lord replied, "My precious, precious child. I love you, and I would never, never leave you during your times of trial and suffering.
When you saw only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you'.



Our Facebook page has 780 'Followers'. Posts are a mix of serious stuff and humour.

Please check it out and 'Follow' us.



New Web Site

Our new web site at www.blochairn.org has lots of useful information about the Association and its history. You can link to our Facebook page and there is a 'Noticeboard' feature. We are also working on an APP that you can download to your mobile phone. We hope you find the web site useful. Please let us know what you think.



Keep Your Building Safe!



The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service want us to think about what we would do if there was a fire in our building - to have a **Fire Escape Plan**. Nothing should block your escape. Keep common areas of your property clear. (they're not for storing things). In a smoke filled building, when you can't see, you don't want to be tripping over bikes or scooters or prams. And fire fighters need to get into the building quickly. So, please keep your things in your own house. Keep your property clear of clutter. Keep your building safe!

Congratulations to Greta Thunberg - TIME Person of the Year 2019

Greta Thunberg, the 16 year old Swedish schoolgirl, who inspired a global movement to fight climate change, is Time magazine's Person of the Year. She is the youngest person to be chosen since the award began in 1927.

At a UN climate change summit in Madrid she urged world leaders to stop using "creative PR" to avoid real action. She said, the next decade would define the planet's future.

Last year, Greta started an environmental strike by missing lessons most Fridays to protest outside the Swedish parliament building. It sparked a worldwide movement. Since then, she has inspired millions of students to join protests around the world as was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

At the UN Climate Conference in New York in September, she blasted politicians for relying on young people for answers to climate change. In a now-famous speech, she said: "You have stolen my dreams and my childhood with your empty words. We'll be watching you."

She has come in for a lot of criticism from some adults, including President of the USA, Donald Trump. But she will not be intimidated by him or anyone else.

What do you think about Greta? Are you inspired? Does Climate Change worry you? Email michael@blochairn.org and we'll print your comments in our next 'Wee Issue'



Greta let's Donald Trump knows he doesn't scare her!

Most Important People

For many years Blochairn Housing Association sent a newsletter to every Young Person in our area. Why did we do it? Because we knew that our Young People were the Most Important People in our community. They were our future. We needed their help to make the area better.

Adults are often quick to criticise Young People and don't give them the credit they deserve. But Young People are very capable of understanding Right from Wrong. We asked them to chose between doing things that helped their community or things that made it a miserable place to live. And they responded brilliantly!

Soon we had an area with no graffiti or vandalism. These pictures show what it was like 25 years ago. Imagine living in these cold, damp buildings. Look around you, at where you live now. What would you prefer?!

We could not have achieved what we have without the Young People who helped us. A big Thank You goes to everyone who has grown up in the Blochairn community and made it the place it is today. Some of those Young People are now our tenants with young families of their own. It's great to see. That's what being in a community is all about.

We stopped sending our "Wee Issue" a few years ago. To be honest, we thought we didn't need it any more. But we were wrong!

It is clear to us that we need our Young People to help us now. We want the Blochairn area to be somewhere that people want to live in and somewhere that they are proud to say they come from.



AND TO DO THAT WE NEED YOU TO HELP US!

We know that you will do all you can to help us. So we are saying Thank you in advance!

