

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all our residents



# The View

All the news from YOUR South Lanarkshire Council

DECEMBER 2017

## IT'S A WRAP



**A TIME FOR GIVING:** Christine Slowey, commercial officer at Chatelherault Country Park, with some Christmas gift ideas

CHATELHERAULT Country Park is getting into the Christmas spirit with loads of festive fun planned for all the family over the coming weeks.

An outdoor Christmas market will take place at the park Sunday, 17 December from 12noon until 4pm. Stall holders will be showcasing a variety of unique

Christmas gifts and seasonal food and drink.

Santa himself will also be based at the park and for anyone wishing to visit with their children the advice is to book first to avoid any disappointment.

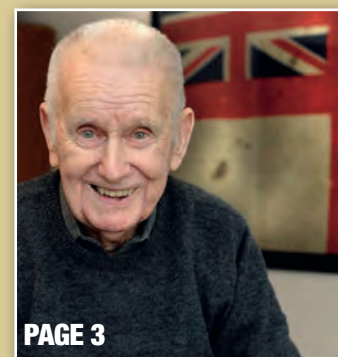
Other events taking place include Christmas parties, little elf's winter

workshops which feature gingerbread and hot chocolate cone decorating, Lego workshops and a special Xmas Factor treat.

■ For full details on the Christmas fun, including prices, go to [www.sllisureandculture.co.uk](http://www.sllisureandculture.co.uk) or call 01698 426 213.

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War time stories and memories from veteran William, 95

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Communities encouraged to be ready for winter weather

### HUNDREDS CELEBRATE



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Visitors, volunteers and staff enjoy 50th birthday of Low Parks Museum

# AMBITIOUS PLAN AIMS TO IMPROVE LIVES ACROSS AREA

**A FIVE year plan has been agreed which is designed to “improve the lives of everyone in South Lanarkshire”.**

That is the vision at the core of Connect, South Lanarkshire Council’s Council Plan for 2017-22. The plan also sets out the council’s values and ambitions, as well as 11 ambitious objectives.

Those objectives will be delivered working in partnership with local communities, which have already given

the thumbs-up to the plan in a consultation exercise that saw agreement come from more than 95% of residents.

Council Leader John Ross described the plan as “one of the most important documents prepared by the council”.

He added: “It sets out what we hope to achieve in order to improve the lives of local people and clearly states how we will serve local people and work with our local communities over the next few years.

“As such, Connect is the platform on which the council will build during the current term. It will help us deliver on

the promises that were included in the manifesto that local people elected us on, a manifesto that was designed for people and communities.

“This means we will strive to lift children out of poverty, we will encourage every young person to fulfil their potential, and we will give every citizen a stake in South Lanarkshire’s future.”

The new Council Plan was endorsed by the Executive Committee, which agreed to refer it to the full Council for formal

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SOUTH  
LANARKSHIRE  
COUNCIL

# Council's vision to improve local lives

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approval this week.

The council's Chief Executive, Lindsay Freeland said: "There is a good deal of continuity in the new plan, because it builds on earlier versions which have shared the same vision and aspirations to improve local lives and outcomes in our communities.

"Our aim remains to ensure that South Lanarkshire remains a great area for our residents to live, an attractive place for others to visit and a place where businesses will invest and flourish. The plan makes clear how we will work together with our communities and partners to do exactly that."

The plan was developed in consultation with communities, the council's partners, and with council staff.



**BUILDING:** Connect will be for people and communities

In a consultation exercise the approval levels for the vision and objectives varied between 95% and 99% of agreement or strong agreement.

To see the plan go to: [www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/connect](http://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/connect)



**CARING:** One of the objectives is to improve later life

## It's good to talk about justice in the community

A GREAT deal of talking is being done about Community Justice in South Lanarkshire – for all the right reasons.

Following a successful Community Justice Conference in the summer, at which delegates discussed national issues in a local context, an event was held to bring together faith and belief groups in this area to examine the challenges facing people who can be helped by the Community Justice system and those who seek to help them.

Under the title of The Hope Within, the conference heard from people working to help others to turn their lives around, both within the justice system and in its aftermath, and brought together in discussion representatives of a



**SHARED GOAL:** Representatives of a number of faiths were at the conference variety of faiths, all working towards a similar goal.

At the same time, an online newsletter, believed to be the first of its type in its field, has been launched to pass useful information to people in South Lanarkshire and beyond from the point of view of those who, like them, are living a life where

Community Justice assistance can be invaluable.

Liam Purdie, Chair of the South Lanarkshire Community Justice Partnership, said: "There is a huge amount of work being done in this area to help people who have been through the justice system or who are in danger of being drawn into

## 11 objectives in the Council Plan

■ Improve later life.

■ Protect vulnerable children, young people and adults.

■ Deliver better health and social care outcomes for all.

■ Improve the availability, quality and access of housing.

■ Improve the road network, influence improvements in public transport and encourage active travel.

■ Work with communities and partners to promote high quality, thriving and sustainable communities.

■ Support the local economy by providing the right conditions for economic growth.

■ Support our communities by tackling disadvantage and deprivation, and supporting aspiration.

■ Improve achievement, raise educational attainments and support lifelong learning.

■ Ensure schools and other places of learning are inspirational.

■ Encourage participation in physical and cultural activities.

The plan spells out how these objectives will be pursued, through "next steps" to be taken by the council's five Resources.



it, but just as important as doing the work is letting people know about it.

"The online newsletter is so important – the people behind it have lived the life of the people they want to help through it, and so everything they say is relevant and credible."

In creating the online newsletter, entitled Talking Justice, the Partnership has worked with the members of the East Kilbride Women's Hub.

The newsletter – which can be found at [www.talkingjusticeblog.wordpress.com](http://www.talkingjusticeblog.wordpress.com) – showcases activities that the Hub members have benefited from and which they think would be of interest to others in their situation, as well as general information.



# SHIP'S FLAG REMINDER OF WILLIAM'S HEROICS

**E**NTERING anyone's house is a window into their life, with photographs of happy times and mementos they have amassed throughout the years.

But when sheltered housing officer Theresa McNair first visited tenant William Paton she was astounded to see war medals and a flag displayed on the wall – bullet holes and all.

She said: "In all my years I've never seen anything like this flag and when I asked Mr Paton about it he was more than happy to tell me."

William, 95, said: "Yes, the ship's flag certainly brings back some memories. I was presented with it as I had brought the craft back home to safety during the Second World War.

"It was in the middle of the Mediterranean in 1943 and the craft got into bother. There was a major problem with the engine and even the dedicated engineer couldn't fix it. I was the last hope so rolled my sleeves up and got to work. I managed to patch it up so we could return to shore and I'm told it would inevitably have sunk had it not been for my actions.

"I was always very proud of this and when the craft was decommissioned, the captain gave me the ship's flag as a memento.

"My wife nagged me to get it cleaned but that would have been bad luck, so you can now see the flag exactly as it was – bullet holes and all."

William has lived in Needle Green Sheltered Housing complex, in Carlisle, for the past three years and is enjoying it very much. He said: "I love having some outside space so I do what I can to make sure it looks nice and I feed the birds on a daily basis. The neighbours are fantastic and the staff are all very friendly. Theresa comes in at least once a day to make sure I'm OK and I thoroughly enjoy our chats.

"It's great to hear all of William's war time stories and he also speaks very fondly of his wife who sadly passed away a few years ago"



"I tell her all about my days at sea and some of the situations I got myself into. I was shot in the shoulder in Italy while I was trying to help a friend get to safety so ended up in hospital for that."

Theresa said: "It's great to hear all of William's wartime stories and he also speaks very fondly of his wife who sadly passed away a few years ago."

"Even though it was during the war the Patons had a lavish wedding and they even managed a wedding cake

despite the rationing."

Theresa continued: "It's great to build up a rapport with our residents and William is always on good form when I visit. He is very proud of his war time past and quite rightly so."

William's granddaughter, Catherine Brown, said: "The flag was kept safe for many years and I thought it should be on display more prominently so got it framed for my grandfather. It's certainly the topic of many conversations."

**CALM:** William's actions saved the ship from sinking

## RESIDENTS URGED TO HAVE THEIR SAY ON BUDGET

LOCAL residents are being urged to have their say on the latest budget proposals from South Lanarkshire Council.

The proposals are designed to try to protect key frontline services as far as possible, despite a warning that as much as £23.529 million will need to be saved from the council's budget next year.

As a result of these pressures, South Lanarkshire Council has already been forced to find more than £100m in efficiencies in recent years, and Council Leader John Ross said it was a real challenge to find yet more savings for 2018/19.

Councillor Ross said: "I am grateful that council officers have worked hard to identify potential savings we could make as we set to work ensuring that we meet our requirement to deliver a balanced budget for next year.

"These proposals are now with all councillors for their consideration and I am sure that everyone will have a view about what is acceptable and what is not. However, everyone needs to understand that the budget has to balance so any savings that come out have to be replaced with something else."

The proposals are included in a report that was presented to the council's Executive Committee this week. This included

an estimate of the level of grant the council is expected to receive from the Scottish Government, though the final figure is not expected to be known until later that month.

Residents can get more information on the budget proposals by visiting the council's website: [www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/savings](http://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/savings) and there is a dedicated email address - [savings@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:savings@southlanarkshire.gov.uk) – for the submission of comments and suggestions. Representations will also be welcomed by post, to: Savings Consultation, South Lanarkshire Council, Almada Street, Hamilton ML3 0AA.



**VIEWS:** Councillor Ross wants to hear from residents

## SPORTING SUCCESS FOR SCHOOL

A PRIMARY school in Clydesdale has been recognised with a prestigious national award for innovation and achievement in delivering physical education and extra-curricular sport.

Underbank Primary School was presented with the sportsScotland Gold School Sport Award by Karen McNally, an Active Schools Manager with South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture.



**PROUD:** Pupils, staff and volunteers are delighted with the Gold Award

Stewart Harris, Chief Executive of sportsScotland, said: "Congratulations to all the staff, pupils and parents at Underbank Primary - they should be extremely proud of this fantastic achievement. Not only have they put physical education and sport at the heart of their school and local community, but they have managed to do so in a way that encourages all pupils to engage in physical activity

whilst having fun at the same time."

Margo Millar, Head Teacher, from Underbank Primary said: "It's an honour to be awarded the sportsScotland Gold School Sport Award.

"Our staff, parents and many partners, including Active Schools, work incredibly hard to deliver a wide variety of activities for pupils across our school."



# BE READY FOR W



**SUPPLIES:** The council has more than 35,000 tonnes of grit ready for the cold weather

## We're prepared – are you?

**T**HE council's winter fleet and 24/7 teams are already on full standby ready for the winter but Gordon Mackay, Head of Roads and Transportation Services, wants to take the opportunity to encourage the wider community to also get ready.

He said: "Our winter plan includes gritting 52% of the road network when ice or snow is forecast as well as town centre footpaths. These gritting routes include roads giving access to hospitals, ambulance depots, fire stations, police stations and schools, A and B class roads and distributor roads in urban areas. In our rural areas we will also grit roads which provide the only way in or out of a community. As a rule, however, gritting routes do not include residential roads and paths.

"And, as winter increasingly brings high winds and heavy rainfall we are also on high alert around the clock for problems caused by flooding or fallen trees."

But there is so much more we can all do to ensure we are winter ready, with just a little forward thinking.

### Top tips include:

#### In the car

- Ensure your car is topped up with anti-freeze and screenwash.
- Consider keeping an emergency kit in the car with a blanket, water, snacks, a torch and a shovel, don't forget sunglasses can be vital to combat glare from the low winter sun.

#### Cyclists

- Make sure bikes are in good working order and lights/reflectors are clean.
- Always wear fluorescent and reflective materials and a helmet.

#### At home

- Have a snow shovel to clear your path or drive and if possible the footpath outside your home.
- Have a stock of salt and torches with charged batteries in easy to reach places.
- Think of older or less able neighbours – perhaps you could help them prepare.

There are more than 1900 grit bins around South Lanarkshire to help neighbourhoods grit roads and pavements around their homes.

The council's roads team is on standby 24/7 throughout the winter (usually until the end of March) and plans its precautionary gritting schedule based on up to date forecast information.

During the winter alert period, the council will issue up to date information, including severe weather alerts and advice regularly through its website [www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk](http://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk) as well as through twitter @southlancouncil and @slcroads and on its new South Lanarkshire Council Facebook page.



## GEARING UP FOR WINTER

**S**EPTEMBER may have brought the last of the summer sunshine but South Lanarkshire Council's Roads Service was thinking ahead for the colder, darker months to come.

This was when 40 gritters, 66 snowploughs, one snowblower, 19 tractors and five loaders were wheeled out of summer storage for a 'dry run' to ensure they are ready for the winter ahead.

Road workers set out on the priority gritting routes which cover 52% of

South Lanarkshire's road network – above the Scottish average of 48%.

These routes include access roads for hospitals, ambulance and fire stations, police offices and schools, as well as roads that give the only access to rural communities and local and district distributor routes in urban areas.

John Anderson, Chair of the Council's Community and Enterprise Resources Committee, said: "The dry run in September gives our teams the chance to check all our equipment is in full working order and ensure new





# WINTER WEATHER



**READY:** Sam McCulloch, Chic Davidson, Stewart McCrone and David Kane are part of the team at the Canderside Roads Depot

## Christmas gritting

**W**HEN most people are sitting round on Christmas morning opening gifts with family – or later tucking into their festive turkey - the council's roads team will be working tirelessly to make sure that the roads are safe.

Chic Davidson, Depot Manager at the Canderside Roads Depot, said: "As in previous years we will have a team working on Christmas Day and more on standby in case of very inclement weather or if there's a major incident.

"It's just a part of the job but it can obviously impact on your enjoyment of the Christmas period."

At Canderside there is a team of 23 operatives, who will work a variety of shifts over the festive season to grit the roads network and footpaths.

The team handle it with good humour and work together to make sure the shifts are fair, for example they usually plan to work Christmas one year and then New Year the following to make sure they can get some down time with friends and family.

A typical Christmas Day for a gritter driver starts at about 4.30am. Chic says: "It's important that we make sure that the roads and footpaths are clear for everyone before they set off to visit loved ones and start celebrating on Christmas morning.

"As far as I know, none of the team has yet seen Santa delivering presents but let me tell you it's amazing who is out and about at that time in the morning on Christmas Day."



drivers are familiar with their gritting routes.

"We will have 35,000 tonnes of grit in stock ahead of the winter period and more than 200 employees trained in winter duties.

"Whilst we know the winter will bring low temperatures along with snow and rain which could be heavy at times, what we do not know is where

and when conditions will be bad enough to cause disruption.

"Our specialist weather service lets us plan how the resources at our disposal are used but if there is a big freeze or very heavy snow it takes time to plough and grit roads and to clear pavements so I would reiterate our message to residents to make sure they

are prepared and to heed any travel warnings which are issued."

■ For more information and advice see the 'Roads in Winter' pages on the South Lanarkshire Council website:

[http://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/info/200232/roads\\_lighting\\_and\\_pavements/330/roads\\_in\\_winter](http://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/info/200232/roads_lighting_and_pavements/330/roads_in_winter)



# Have a happy and safe Christmas

**W**ITH Christmas just around the corner South Lanarkshire Trading Standards are highlighting common consumer problems they see at this time of year.

The availability of low-quality consumer products is believed to be increasing considerably as unscrupulous traders aim to cash in on Christmas, and in particular to exploit people on tight budgets and looking for a bargain.

The range of fake goods on the market is very wide with a list of new phoney products including tech gadgets like mobile phones, tablets, chargers and more being added to long standing "traditional" counterfeit items like perfume, DVDs, cigarettes/tobacco and clothing.

Head of Fleet and Environmental Services, Shirley Clelland, said: "The advice to consumers is, as always, be on guard for counterfeit items in the old, familiar selling places like markets, car boot sales, pubs and door to door."

"But we would also advise to be extra aware that online outlets including fake websites, online

## FAKE CHARITIES

Many charities increase their appeals for donations at this time of year. Scammers know this too and are not above setting up fake sites to pocket these donations. Go direct to a charity site rather than through links in emails or text messages. If you want to donate to charity but are unsure of its validity use <https://www.gov.uk/find-charity-information> to make sure your donation is going where you want it to go.

## GIFT SCAMS

This time of year everyone's looking for a bargain and it's not unusual for some retailers to reduce prices as a result. Look for deals directly on retailers websites, rather than through links in emails or text messages and if you haven't heard of the retailer, do your research before spending your money.

**WARNING:** Trading Standards say beware unscrupulous traders this Christmas

auction sites and social media sites are increasingly being used and can prove very difficult to call to account as they are often based abroad."

Trading standards are warning that fakes never offer a good deal, quality is questionable and some copycat products are very dangerous, such as these:

- Unsafe chargers, for mobile phones etc, can lead to electric shocks, fires and explosions.

- Alcoholic drinks containing methanol, antifreeze and fuel, causing nausea, stomach pains, kidney or liver problems, coma or death.

- Cigarettes with dangerously high tar levels and contaminated with other substances.

- Make-up containing lead, copper, mercury, arsenic or cadmium can cause swelling, rashes and poisoning.

- Unofficial merchandise such as toys and dressing-up clothes posing numerous hazards with small loose parts, long cords and materials that are toxic or not fire retardant.

The message is simple and straightforward "If it seems too good to be true it probably is!"

**FAKE DELIVERY NOTIFICATIONS**  
In this scam, fake delivery notifications are sent to your email from scammers purporting to be from one of the major carriers like Royal Mail, ParcelForce, FedEx etc. It's likely to be a phishing scam, click on a link within the email and you are sent to a fake website which looks genuine enough that you can't tell the difference from the real thing. The site will ask you for your personal information and, once they have it, the scammers can do as they please with it.

**SCAM**

## FAKE MOBILE APPS

The festive season often prompts the launch of new mobile apps. Many are genuine but some can carry malware designed to steal personal data. Try to always download apps from the Google Play or Apple App store, however if you must download software from other sources, be extremely careful and make sure you research the app before you download. We also advise not to share personal data with any app or website you don't trust completely.

## Swimming success for every pupil

EVERY pupil at a primary school in Clydesdale has been participating in the school swimming programme for the first time this year.

Rigside Primary School, working in partnership with South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture and Scottish Swimming, have been taking part in a consultation with teachers, pupils and parents on the schools involvement in the South Lanarkshire School Swimming

Programme.

Particular attention has been given to how involvement in the programme develops swimming skills and water confidence.

The Minister for Public Health and Sport, Aileen Campbell MSP visited South Lanarkshire Lifestyle: Lanark recently to see the pupils complete their block of school swimming lessons and present them with certificates.

Chair of South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture, Councillor David Watson also attended.

He said: "Congratulations to all the pupils who have benefited from these lessons. You could really see how confident they were in the water and I was very impressed with their swimming skills. I am sure this will also increase their confidence and skills outside the pool."



## THUMBS UP:

Pupils and coaches joined Councillor Watson and Aileen Campbell MSP at Lanark Lifestyles



# Hundreds help celebrate Low Parks big birthday

**H**UNDREDS of visitors helped staff and volunteers celebrate the 50th birthday of the opening of Low Parks Museum and launch a year of golden anniversary events.

A packed birthday weekend programme of activities included history workshops, sold out performances by South Lanarkshire Staff Choir (featuring Hamilton Harmonics) in Hamilton Mausoleum, an open invitation to play the grand piano in the museum's Assembly Room, and lots of special birthday cupcakes.

There was also the launch of a new collection of poems and prose by the group Writers at the Museum.

The final icing on the birthday cake was the announcement that the live world premiere of a new suite of chamber music is to be staged in the mausoleum early next year.

Written by composer Francis Macdonald, who many will also know as the drummer from Teenage Fanclub, the Hamilton Mausoleum Suite was composed specifically for the unique acoustic properties of the building and recorded there with musicians from the

Museum staff are in the middle of a birthday make-over for Low Parks with several galleries being redesigned, new exhibits put on display and new exhibitions



**CELEBRATING:** Museum Officer Linda Barratt with Hamilton Grammar pupil Morven Thompson (13) and her brother Alfie (8) who attends St John's Primary, Hamilton, are big fans of the museum

Scottish Festival Orchestra.

Due for release in January, the work has already won acclaim in the world of classical music. As a special birthday gift to Low Parks Museum, Francis announced on Friday 3 November, the actual 50th anniversary

of the opening, that an audience of just 50 people will be able to attend an exclusive live premiere in the Mausoleum on Monday, 19 February 2018.

The 50 free tickets were released by South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture on a first come, first served basis and were all snapped up in one day.

Meanwhile, museum staff are in the middle of a birthday make-over for Low Parks with several galleries being redesigned, new exhibits put on display and new exhibitions planned during the half-centenary year.

Chair of South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture Councillor David Watson said: "It was a great birthday weekend at Low Parks but that is only the start of this special year for the museum and I look forward to many return visits.

"Low Parks is the museum for South Lanarkshire and I promise it offers all visitors an interesting, fun and educational experience."



**TEAMWORK:** Chair of South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture Councillor David Watson and General Manager Gerry Campbell joined staff at the Museum to celebrate the 50th anniversary

## ALL LIT UP FOR CHRISTMAS

THE festive season is now well and truly in full swing – with Christmas lights switched on in town centres across South Lanarkshire.

Crowds have flocked to the fun family entertainment at the six Christmas light switch on events in Lanark, East Kilbride, Carluke, Hamilton, Rutherglen and Cambuslang.

In Hamilton, the star attraction was B\*witched, who racked up four number one hits in the late 90s and early noughties. The Hamilton event

is delivered by the Hamilton BID.

Tribute act Re-Take That or the musical extravaganza, Christmas Goes Pop, wowed the crowds at the other events.

Putting in an appearance at all six events was good old Santa Claus himself and there was also a countdown to the lights being switched on with everyone was encouraged to join in.

Radio Clyde DJ Gina McKee hosted five of the six events, with STV's Hayley Mathews doing the

honours at the Rutherglen event.

South Lanarkshire's Provost, Councillor Ian McAllan, attended four of the six events with the Deputy Provost, Councillor Collette Stevenson, attending the other two.

Provost McAllan said: "The events were a perfect way to kick off the festive season with family and friends and to support the local community.

"There were loads of things to do and I'm sure the entertainment was enjoyed by everyone."



**CHRISTMAS CHEER:** Irish favourites B\*Witched led the celebrations at the Hamilton switch on events

## NEW HOMES ARE GIVEN THE GREEN LIGHT

SOUTH Lanarkshire Council's ambitious plans to deliver 1000 new homes by 2021 have taken another step forward with the approval of a further 36 homes at two sites in East Kilbride and Blantyre.

In East Kilbride, 16 family homes will be built on the site of the former Heathery Knowe Primary School. Construction of two and three bedroom semi-detached family homes and 12 two bedroom cottage flats is expected to start before the end of April 2018.

In Blantyre, the former site of St Blanes Primary School will see the construction of 20 homes consisting of two, three and four bedroom family semi-detached homes, one and two bedroom cottage flats and three bedroom bungalows.

Councillor Josh Wilson, Chair of Housing & Technical Resources Committee, said: "We are delighted with the progress of the council's new-build housing programme with these



**DELIVERING:** Daniel Lowe and Councillor Wilson are delighted with the progress being made

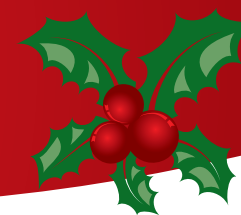
developments in Blantyre and East Kilbride forming part of the council's commitment to deliver 1000 new homes across the authority by 2021.

"As with all our developments these new homes will be built to the highest standards with enhanced insulation, modern heating systems and renewable technologies such as solar panels."

Executive Director of South Lanarkshire Council Housing and Technical Resources Daniel Lowe said: "We are committed to Our HOME+ programme which in addition to 1000 new homes will also see significant investment in existing housing stock. Residents across South Lanarkshire will benefit from improvements planned which include energy efficiency measures such as new heating systems and insulation."



# Festive Holiday Information



## Chatelherault and Calderglen Country Parks

Both parks will be closed 25, 26, 31 December and 1-2 January.

## Leisure Centres

All Leisure Centres will be closed 25-26 December and 1-2 January, with some open for reduced hours during the festive period. Please check with individual centres for opening times.

## East Kilbride Ice Rink

East Kilbride Ice Rink will be closed on 25 December and 1 January with reduced opening hours on 24, 26-31 December and 2-3 January.

## Libraries

All libraries will be closed on 24-26 December and 31 December – 2 January, with some open for reduced hours during the festive period. Please check with individual libraries for opening times.

## Sports Pitches

Ballerup Recreation Area, Tileworks, Bent, McKirdy, Newton Farm and Lanark synthetic pitches will be closed 23 December – 2 January. Hamilton Palace Sports Grounds will be closed 23-26 December and 30 December – 2 January.

## Golf Courses

Golf courses will be closed 25-26 December and 1-2 January.

## Low Parks Museum

Low Parks Museum will be closed on 24-26 December and 31 December – 2 January, with reduced opening hours from 27-30 December. Mausoleum open by appointment only through the Museum.

## Community Halls / Lifestyles Centres

Community Halls will be closed on 25-26 December and 1-2 January, with some open for reduced hours during the festive period. Newton Farm Community Wing will be closed 23 December – 2 January. Please check with halls booking offices for opening times. Carluke, Stonehouse and Fairhill Lifestyle Centres will be closed 23-26 December and 30 December – 2 January with the exception of 23 and 30 December when Fairhill will be open for reduced hours.

## Cultural Venues

Hamilton Town House and Rutherglen Town Hall will be closed 23-26 December and 30 December – 2 January. Lanark Memorial Hall will be closed 23 December – 2 January. East Kilbride Village Theatre will be closed 25, 26 and 31 December – 2 January. East Kilbride Arts Centre will be closed 24-26 December and 31 December – 2 January. East Kilbride Arts Centre will be open on reduced hours during the festive period.

Please check our website

[www.slleisureandculture.co.uk](http://www.slleisureandculture.co.uk)

or with individual centres for exact opening times as some restrictions apply.



SOUTH LANARKSHIRE  
Leisure & Culture  
[www.slleisureandculture.co.uk](http://www.slleisureandculture.co.uk)

South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture Limited is  
a recognised Scottish Charity, No. SC032549

## Closure of offices

All council offices will be closed on Monday 25 and Tuesday 26 December 2017 and Monday 1 and Tuesday 2 January 2018.

If you have a social work emergency when your local social work office is closed contact the Emergency Social Work Service on 0303 123 1008.

## Refuse and Recycling Collections

There will be some changes to collection arrangements over the festive period outlined below.

There will be no collections on Monday 25 and Tuesday 26 December 2017, instead collections will be carried out two days later as follows:

### Week Commencing 25 December

Normal collection day		New collection day	
Monday	25 December	Wednesday	27 December
Tuesday	26 December	Thursday	28 December
Wednesday	27 December	Friday	29 December
Thursday	28 December	Saturday	30 December
Friday	29 December	Sunday	31 December

There will be no collections on Monday 1 January 2018, instead collections will be carried out one day later as follows:

### Week Commencing 1 January

Normal collection day		New collection day	
Monday	1 January	Tuesday	2 January
Tuesday	2 January	Wednesday	3 January
Wednesday	3 January	Thursday	4 January
Thursday	4 January	Friday	5 January
Friday	5 January	Saturday	6 January

Please ensure that your bin is out for collection before 7.00am and that all waste is contained within your wheeled bin. Please remember that after the bin is emptied it is your responsibility to make sure the bin is returned to your property.

Due to the Festive Period and the Council's focus on completing wheeled bin collections, the Council's 'bulky uplift' and 'garden waste uplift' services will not be provided between Monday 25 December 2017 and Friday 5 January 2018 inclusive. Requests can still be made during this period; however, please note that requests received after 15 December 2017 may not be completed until after week commencing 8 January 2018.

Remember, you can take any additional refuse or recyclable material, including real Christmas trees, to one of your local Household Waste and Recycling Centres that are located at:

- Hamilton Road Industrial Estate, Strathaven
- College Milton Peel Park Industrial Estate, East Kilbride
- Blantyre Industrial Estate, Blantyre
- Strutherhill Industrial Estate, Larkhall
- Castlehill Industrial Estate, Carluke
- Eastfield, Cambuslang Road, Rutherglen

For all enquiries relating to litter, dog fouling, illegal dumping, graffiti, fly posting, asbestos removal, removal of glass or syringes, waste collection and disposal, recycling, grounds maintenance or waste education please call the Customer Services Centre on 0303 123 1020 (local rate).

## Urgent registration arrangements

All offices closed in line with the closure of offices section detailed above. In addition, the Hamilton and Rutherglen offices will be closed all day on Saturday, 23 and Saturday, 30 December 2017. Appointments only for Lanark and East Kilbride offices will be available on Wednesday, 27 and Friday, 29 December 2017 and Wednesday, 3 and Friday, 5 January 2018. Arrangements for the registration of births, deaths and marriages and the delivery of other Council services during the festive period will be displayed at the relevant offices.

In the event of an emergency (for example to carry out a death registration where the deceased has to be taken out of the country) during either holiday period please contact our out of hours contact service on 0800 242024 who will contact a Registrar on your behalf.

## Prepare for winter driving

Driving at any time of year requires constant care and attention but winter conditions call for specific winter driving skills:-

- Prepare your vehicle
- Leave plenty of time for your journey – check weather forecasts and travel bulletins
- Make sure all your windows are de-iced
- Always clear snow from the roof and bonnet of your vehicle before setting off
- Drive at a speed appropriate to the conditions
- Look out for black ice, particularly isolated patches
- Manoeuvre gently and avoid harsh steering, braking and acceleration
- Watch out for gritters and stay well clear of them – don't overtake
- In fog, use dipped headlights and your fog lights
- Carry an emergency kit including an ice scraper, shovel, torch, blankets, food and drink

