



YOUR Newsletter — KIRKY —

Winter 2019

Happy Kirkymas!!

Welcome to our Winter 2019 newsletter. Since our consultation in 2018 we've been busily working away trying to develop some of the ideas that came out of it. And wow, it's been quite a year! In this edition you can read all about our cinema, projects, and, most importantly, how you can help.

The 'Your Kirky' Team

Who we are . .

We believe in Kirkintilloch. And we believe if we want to see change in our community then we need to bring everyone together to do something about it. We all can play a part – we all have things to offer and skills that can help. It's about YourKirky, and it's about how we can all work together to deliver the best possible future for our town. Develop a new pride and ambition in our town.

This joined up effort is what we call YourKirky, and it's at the heart of what we're trying to do.

Why wait? Sign up today and pledge your support at:
contactyourkirky@gmail.com

Bringing people together

Numbers of ideas that came out of the consultation were all about how people found out what was going on in the town. We also wanted people to know about all the good stuff that's happening in Kirky and how people can get involved.

Earlier this year our website www.yourkirky.com was launched and since that time it has had thousands of hits. Our Facebook page has nearly 3,000 followers and our Twitter and Instagram accounts are growing daily. We've even just started our own YourKirky YouTube channel. All this helps us get messages out there about what's happening in Kirky, and helps people see what a great place this is to live, work and visit.

Follow YourKirky on social media:



www.facebook.com/yourkirky



www.twitter.com/yourkirky2



www.instagram.com/yourkirky



www.youtube.com

Next year we're aiming to develop our events calendar and become the place to go to find out what's going on in the town...

All this needs work though. So if you're a social media or web guru with a few hours to spare then please get involved via contactyourkirky@gmail.com

Welcome to the Kirky Picture Palace

Our consultation told us that everyone, yes everyone – young and old – wanted to see cinema back in Kirky.

That's a long road for us to travel, but we're keen to try. To do this we've partnered with Regional Screen Scotland and IndyCinema to start to build a programme of cinema in the town. We're aiming high – seeking to bring a proper cinema experience with relatively new release films.

Our first event on October 12th 2019 was a tremendous success. We sold out 600 tickets for Toy Story 4, The Lion King and Downton Abbey... and by the time this goes to print our December 14th screening of Frozen 2, It's a Wonderful Life and Last Christmas will hopefully have sold out it's 800 tickets too!

Check out the short film on the YourKirky YouTube channel to see all about it.
www.youtube.com

Interested in getting involved to bring Cinema back to Kirky?

From film media students to folk wanting to see the 'talkies' back in town we need all sorts of people to help. Next year we'd also love to develop smaller, bespoke cinema events for targeted groups...



So project managers, funding experts, ice cream sellers or ticket touts – if you want to get involved with running and developing our cinema programme . . .

Get involved via contactyourkirky@gmail.com

Quotes from the day . . .

"Love, love, loved it. And all on our doorstep. We are an Odeon Lux family but would have all our cinema days in Kirky this way if we could...we could walk there and back, meet people we know, have a chat, support the community spirit. Amazing job everyone"

"My Mum and I had a great night out. Walked down the street, went to Ghilonis for a fish tea, then to Town Hall/ Kirky Picture Palace. Ended our evening with a few gins in the Puffer and the fire was on, very cozy. A few pound for a taxi home. Perfect local night out that didn't break the bank"

"passed through the town at five not seen the town centre like that for ages. Lots of people walking about and hopefully local business benefiting. Looked like a great community effort. Well done to all involved"

Our consultation was huge . . .

We got literally hundreds of ideas – so there's lots to be done. Below are just a few of the other things that we've been doing in 2019.

Our full consultation and action plan is available on our website www.yourkirky.com/useful-documents/

If you want to get involved with any of our current or future projects then sign up today and pledge your support at contactyourkirky@gmail.com

Phone boxes

Kirky is home of the phone box, and we have access to 3 iconic K6 phone boxes that are in urgent need of a new lease of life. So whether you want to turn them into defibrillators, community information points or the world's smallest dancefloor, then get in touch and help us bring these back to life.

During the Summer of 2019 we ran a survey with the community on what they would like to see happen to these Kirky icons and we get lots of views. For now we've partnered with ISew2 and Sealy MacWheely to renovate the first one that's 'looking sad' near Farmfoods . . . watch out for its brand new look in January . . . More news on the other two will be featured in 2020.

A Fairtrade Town

Over 600 communities across the UK have achieved Fairtrade status since Garstang in Lancashire became the first Fairtrade Town in the world in 2001. We'd like Kirky to be one of those towns. Get involved and help to make a commitment to supporting Fairtrade.

Follow our progress on the Kirkintilloch Fairtrade facebook page
www.facebook.com/kirkyfairtrade

Get involved via contactyourkirky@gmail.com

Regent Gardens

We'd like to shape Regent Gardens to give the community a space that's fit for the next 30 years. During the Summer of 2019 we consulted with the community, finding out how people would like to see this space shaped for the future. And we had around 1,400 responses overall – an amazing demonstration of a community having its say!

Now we are preparing to move to the next stage . . .

Thank you to all who took the time to respond. Results can be found at:
www.yourkirky.com/useful-documents/

Travel

Following on from our consultation in 2018, in June 2019 we hosted an event on how people would like to see the future of travel in the town. We took that feedback and have been working with public sector partners to turn this into a reality. The new local transport strategy for the next 5 years is now going to incorporate your feedback and ideas – and we have developed a 'plan on a page' to keep things simple. We'll be posting this on our website in the next few weeks . . .

So what's next for 2020?

2019 was a really exciting and busy year but 2020 is going to get even better. Below are some of the plans we have for the year ahead . . .

- **Grow the provision of cinema in the town**, not just in the showing of high end mainstream films but also more bespoke offerings for a variety of community groups.
- **Continue to shape Regent Gardens** and, as the project develops, ensure that there is a full range of activity in the newly created space which delivers better events in the town.
- **Support the development of a Business Improvement District (BID)** in Kirkintilloch and help keep local businesses thriving at the heart of the Town Centre.
- **Develop two 'community action weekends'** based around improving the town's environment. Spring CleanKirky (a programme to clean up the town and enhance pride/prevent litter) and GreenerKirky (a programme to enhance tree planting and a better environment in the town), are already in their infancy.
- **Enhance the profile of the town** by considering how all the current positive work and success can be better celebrated through publicity, including growing our social media profile and providing an events calendar. This should all link to our proud heritage.
- **Grow the 'Your Kirky' partnership** to include a wider range of organisations, and to consider how the growing strength in the community can be used to productively enhance the town.
- **Complete the redesign and upgrade** of two further telephone boxes.
- **Ensure the travel strategy 'plan on a page'** is widely published and viewed, as well as defining actions for Kirkintilloch as an Active Travel Town.
- **Continue to promote and deliver a Fairtrade Town.**

But all this needs more people to help . . .

If you like what you've read and want to help deliver the future of our town, then we would really love to hear from you.

We'd particularly like to hear from you if you have experience or skills in any of the following areas:

- **Community involvement** ■ **Project management** ■ **Funding**
- **Communications** ■ **Marketing** ■ **IT/Social Media**
- **Experience related to any of the project ideas**

And we don't mind if you're only free at midnight or midday – we've currently got all sorts of people helping us at different times of day and in all sorts of time zones! We'll find ways to allow you to join in! It's a great chance to share your skills for the benefit the town...It is YourKirky!

Please sign up today via contactyourkirky@gmail.com