

Crossroads Chronicle



November 2023

Hi Folks, A warm welcome to our very first exciting quarterly Newsletter bringing you all the latest news and events happening at the Hub

The Newsletter is available in paper form in the Hub and electronically on our social media network

Are you sitting comfortably

Opening Times

Monday & Tuesday: Closed

Wednesday – Sunday: 9.00am – 4.00pm



In This Issue



- **First story for the young kids and the kids in all of us**
- **Second story continuing our sustainability objectives**
- **Newsflash**
- **Events coming up**
- **Contact Us**



The Kids Play Area

One of our objectives is to support and promote all aspects of **health and wellbeing, recreation and social integration**. We realised that there was a need for the kids to enjoy the Hub and to give the parents a bit of their **own time!!!** So the idea of a play area was suggested and following successful grant applications, EAC participatory Budget Fund and EAC Place Based Fund 2023, combined with the play park funders, Crossroads Young Farmers and the Aeolian male Voice Choir, a supplier was appointed from three separate quotes. They were asked to provide layout options and a wide range of kids, parents and ex- teachers gave up their time to discuss the best options and the three favourites were displayed in the Hub. Folks visiting the Hub voted for the final design and Option 1 was the winner. **Thanks to all the funders, EAC and all those who participated.**

Option 1 will consist of a **mini playframe** for climbing around and an adventure trail, **Combo 10** to test balancing skills with a safety surface laid around the area. The turf has now been cut, some equipment installed, and the play area should be complete for the kids to enjoy in the Summer months next year.



"Play is not just about having fun, but about taking risks, experimenting, and testing boundaries"



Composting machine



Composting shed

Net Zero and the Climate Emergency

Organic waste composting machine

We already have 2 large composters and wanted to extend into food waste composting, all being used to enrich the soil for our kitchen garden and to share good practice through gardening and growing classes. Following successful grant applications and donations from local groups, our composter and accessories arrived in February 2023.

It is a self-contained system capable of delivering the following benefits to users:

- The time saved in composting organic waste can be used in other productive ventures, and this implies saving money.
- The machine technology has no waste water. It is also odourless and it does not exhibit any toxic characteristics
- It can be operated by one person, often on a part time basis.
- The machine technology can compost organic waste without the need for a landfill or incineration or any other compost treatment technique.
- Food waste such as vegetables, non-vegetables, eggs, fish, crab, small bones, fruit and vegetable peels, and leftover meals are commonly converted into compost.
- The operating expenditure of a composting machine is low because the costs of rent, inventory, insurance, research and development, payroll, and other operating costs are negligible.
- The pasteurization process removes pathogens and this makes it safe for human handling.
- Sterilization reduces the risk of people contracting diseases while using the compost.

Composting Machine Shed

We will be erecting a timber shed to house the composter system, with glazed viewing panels, so the visitors can see how the process works. The shed will be insulated with natural sheep wool supplied by local farmers and prepared in house for use as insulation. The Head Gardener will be taking classes and training on recycling food waste for use in your garden.



Compost Proof That There Is Life After Death

Newsflash

Community Outreach

Healthy and nutritious home cooked soups and meals continue to be produced weekly at Ayrshire Food Hub, using meat, sausages and chicken that we provide, combined with **Fareshare** near sell by food from supermarkets, that would otherwise be wasted and go to landfill. Look out for our **Fareshare table** at Ayrshire Food Hub and please take food for yourself or anyone else who might benefit and enjoy.



Night before Christmas

In the lead up to Christmas, we will be accepting donations for **The Night before Christmas Charity in Annbank**. They are a charitable organisation whose volunteers make up Christmas boxes and bags for children and vulnerable adults in Ayrshire and beyond. Their mission is to spread the christmas spirit to less fortunate children and the homeless on Christmas Day.

Learn more on their website Night Before Christmas.co.uk

The Hub's Taxi

We know that getting around can be problematic in rural areas. If you, or anyone you know is stuck for **transport** to get to the Hub for shopping, a bite to eat or to attend activities, give us a call, and we will pick you up at home in our **6 seater electric people carrier**, and drop you back home. So please take advantage of this offer!!! All we ask is a **donation** to cover the travelling costs in order to continue to provide the service in the future.



Our organization is looking for



If you can spare some time to help out, it would be greatly appreciated. Even just a few hours can make a big difference. Please come in to the Hub and complete our Volunteer Application Form and hand in to the Office.

Get involved in the Farm Shop, the Café, the Garden or any other topic you are interested in.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Up Coming Events At The Hub

Breakfast With Santa SOLD OUT

02/12/23, 09/12/23, 16/12/23 and 23/12/23 @ 9.30am – 11.30am

This event is now sold out. If you would like to join our cancellation list, please give us a call on 01560 324335. Join us for a funfilled morning with Santa and his Elves. Kids will enjoy a filled morning roll and juice for breakfast, followed by pancakes and toppings to share on the table. Tickets are £6.50 - £18.50

Elf Disco With Special Guest

08/12/23 and 22/12/23 @ 6.00pm – 8.00pm

Join our elves for an evening of partying. Learn Santa's favourite dance moves, take part in different party games, reindeer dust, decorate a gingerbread man and visit Santa in his Grotto. Enjoy a buffet filled with all things Christmas, juice and a hot chocolate station. PLEASE tell us of any allergen of anyone within your party. Tickets are £18.50 per child and £8.50 per adult.

Puppet Nativity

06/12/23 Meal @ 4.45pm and show @ 5.45pm

Enjoy the Nativity story through a local puppeteer, either enjoy a pre-theatre meal or snacks throughout the show. A festive menu will be provided on the evening to choose from turkey dinner, steak pie or mac and cheese.

4.30pm – 5.00pm arrival for dinner before show or 6.00pm arrival for show. Tickets £4.50 - £22.50

Santa Grotto Christmas Eve. SOLD OUT


24/12/23 @ 9.30am – 12.00pm

Story Time With Santa And His Elves

15/12/23 @ 6.00pm – 8.00pm

Join us in a sensory friendly evening where the story time elf will tell the tales of the North Pole, using lights and sounds throughout, games to join in on, making reindeer dust and visit Santa in a calmer environment than our disco and breakfast with Santa. A small meal provided with juice and a gift from Santa. Tickets are £16.50 per child

Bobby Kelly



High Tea

9/11/23 and 23/11/23 @ 4.15pm – 6.00pm

Join us for a high tea fortnightly, pick up a small supper followed by a selection of cakes and tea or coffee, all for £15.50 per person. To book please call us on 01560 324335

Monthly Market

14/11/23 and 12/12/23 @ 1.00pm – 6.00pm

Our monthly market showcases over 20 stalls with a wide variety from food, art, jewellery, gifts, clothing and loads more. Pop down and enjoy a lunch or coffee and cake from our café, and browse through the stalls. Please note this is a non-ticketed event. £10/table for stall holder.

Festive Fashion Show

10/11/23 @ 7.00pm – 10.30pm

Join us for a night of local boutiques, from accessories to clothing to jewellery and gift ideas for Christmas. Enjoy a glass of bubbly on arrival and a grazing board to snack on throughout the show. Bring your own booze to enjoy a great night out! All for just £19.50 per person.

Wreath Making Class with Myrtle & Bracken

27/11/23, 28/11/23 and 30/11/23 @ 7.00pm

Join Di from Myrtle and Bracken in two different kinds of wreath making, an up-cycling and a deluxe one. For more information or tickets, please visit this link: <https://myrtleandbracken.com/shop/>

Christmas Party Lunch

28/11/23

Join us for our Christmas Party Lunch, enjoy live music from Loudoun Friends, whilst feasting on our Christmas dinner followed by coffee and a selection of festive cakes. All for £15.75 per person.

Christmas Market

1/12/23 @ 6.30pm – 9.30pm

Over 20 different local stalls, with light bites and glass of bubbly while you shop. Pop along and have a browse. With a special appearance from Santa. Entrance is free but you must book to visit Santa's grotto for £7.50 per child, Adults are free.

GET IN TOUCH

We like to be praised, but we can also take it on the chin



Address

Crossroads, Hurlford
Kilmarnock, Ayrshire
KA1 5JQ



Call

Ayrshire Food Hub

[01560 324 335](tel:01560324335)

Charity Contact

[07933 118 193](tel:07933118193)



Email

info@crossroadshub.org.uk

Visit us on our website at [Ayrshire Food Hub - Crossroads Community Hub \(crossroadshub.org.uk\)](https://www.crossroadshub.org.uk)

