

# HANOVER TODAY

The newsletter for Hanover's residents



## Love is in the air



**W**e all like a good love story at Hanover, and time and again you prove it's never too late to be lucky in love.

The latest happy couple are Herbert Blackwood – known to his friends as Bert – and Wendy (nee Allison), who tied the knot at Elgin Registry Office. As if it couldn't get more romantic, they chose Valentine's Day to do the deed.

Bert, who already lived at Milnescroft Court in Fochabers, has now been joined at the sheltered development by his new bride following their honeymoon.

Here's a picture of the love birds cutting the cake at their party in the lounge. We'd like to wish them a long and happy married life together.

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# Welcome!

Welcome to your latest edition of Hanover Today, the magazine for Hanover's residents. We hope spring has been kind to you and we're all hoping for a long summer!

At the time of writing, it's hard to imagine that summer is on its way. At the end of April I attended a fantastic tenant focus group in Hanover Court in Banchory. The weather was glorious as we travelled from Edinburgh up the east coast, however on the way back we hit a blizzard in Fife. Scottish weather never ceases to surprise!

We've got all the usual features in this edition, plus some great stories from your Easter bonnet parties, as well as useful information on Wills.

We're only human and sometimes we get things wrong, as one eagle-eyed resident noticed in the last edition. Stanley Marshall was incorrectly referred to as Stanley Mitchell, and also lives in Hanover Court in Stonehaven (and not Turner's Court). Sorry!

We hope you enjoy the magazine and, as always, do get in touch using the details on the inside back page if you have news to share.

**Ian Mountford**  
Editor

## Dates for your diary

**Monday 3 August** – deadline for next edition of newsletter

**Thursday 24 September** – Hanover's AGM, Edinburgh

**Friday 25 September** – MacMillan World's Biggest Coffee Morning

# Around the houses

## Your Easter parties



### Glengowan Court, Larkhall

Residents welcomed children from the neighbouring Happy Feet nursery school who kindly showed them their Easter Bonnets and sang some wonderful songs.



### Alexandra Court, Prestwick

Pictured from left to right are: Jean Neill (who finished 2nd place), winner Isobel Fulton and Lila Boyd (3rd). They all took part in an Easter Bonnet event at the beginning of April.



### Strawberry Bank, Peterhead

Residents held a very successful coffee morning along with an Easter Bonnet parade – as you can see, everyone had a great time!

# Afternoon tea raises funds

Generous residents of **Netherport** in **Elgin** dug deep to raise money for MacMillan Cancer Support in April. They held a fantastic afternoon tea and raised a grand total of £358.10 through charging admission fees, a raffle and a donation from the residents' funds. Pictured here are some of the helpers that made it all worthwhile: From left to right: Linda Hendry, Dot Fraser, Peter MacLeman, Babs Cowan and Mary McIntosh.



# Busy Bees' knitting extravaganza

We'd like to say a very big 'well done' to the knitting bees at **Elm Court** in **Milngavie**.

The ladies are pictured here demonstrating just some of their creations including colourful blankets, beautiful baby clothes and jackets. They'll be passing them on to the Salvation Army to distribute soon. Well done everyone!



# Bill and Margaret's sparkling day

We'd like to wish **Bill** and **Margaret McKenzie** a very happy diamond wedding anniversary. They were married on 26 March 1955 and celebrated 60 years together with a celebration with friends, family and neighbours at **Harley Court, Falkirk**.





## Last supper makes way for summer high teas

Residents of **Queens Court** in **Jedburgh** marked the coming of spring by saying goodbye to their tasty fish & chip evenings and hello to something more summery – a high tea!

The popular feast took place every Saturday since September and was a huge success, thanks to Ralph at the Abbey Takeaway in Jedburgh. The ever-hungry residents are now looking forward to fortnightly high

tea evenings from the delicious Border Meringues until October, when the fish & chip night will return.

Pictured below are some residents from Queens Court who, in between their fish and chip evenings, run a very successful coffee morning where they raise a fortune for charity – last year they managed more than £3,500 and hope a similar amount will be raised this time.

## Joan's cute Easter knits

This is **Joan Dunipace** of **Sinclair Drive** in **Glasgow**. Every year she knits cute Easter chicks and bunnies, as well as Christmas-themed items. She sells them and donates the proceeds to the Erskine Hospital. A very generous lady – well done Joan!



# Flowery fundraising



Residents of **Rosemount Court** in **Carlisle** had a fun flowery fundraising session when they held a daffodil tea to raise money for Marie Curie. A daffodil-themed lounge was the order of the day with yellow napkins, pretty table centres as well as (of course) daffodils. A fantastic £650 was raised and special thanks must go to staff member Shirley Henderson for organising things.

Pictured here are some of the attendees enjoying the day.

# Great War postcards enthuse all



These beautiful postcards give us all a glimpse into the past. They're collected by Janette McKee, cook at **Montgomery Court** in **Paisley**, and she brought some in for residents to look at.

They're all hand stitched and some are nearly a hundred years old. Janette explained that they would have been sent between distant relatives during and at the end of the First World War.

## Newton Court is 10

Residents of **Newton Court** in **Paisley** were treated to a fantastic tenth anniversary cake designed by Catering Assistant Liz Mulligan, of nearby Montgomery Court. We're especially pleased as it's the first cake (we believe) to feature our brand new logo. It was cut by resident Betty Ballantyne at the development's party and a great time was had by all.



## Gilly's gold medal

**Glebe Court** in **Kingussie** is home to a gold medal winner. **Gilly Kinnear**, above, of the sheltered development, won gold at the Highland disability sport championship in a sport called boccia. Similar to bowls, boccia was first introduced at the Paralympics in 1984 – and Gilly and her team from Caberfeidh (a day centre for people with learning disabilities) are the proud champions. Well done!



# William Turner Court's ever-growing 90s club



At the last Christmas dinner at **William Turner Court** in **Locharbriggs**, someone had a great idea to take a photo of all the 90 year olds – there were five all together. Then, on boxing day, Jeanie Kerr became the latest member. Residents and visitors have found the photos – which are now displayed in the development under the titles ‘The Naughty Nineties’ and ‘A Bevy of Beauties’ – extremely enjoyable, so much so it’s been decided to carry on the tradition. It’s even said that some residents are looking forward to joining the club! Pictured clockwise, from left, are Enid Graham, Betty McArthur, May Clark, Margaret Shields, Violet Wilkinson and Jeanie Kerr.



## Feeling the love

Residents at **Callieburn Court** in **Bishopbriggs** got a wonderful surprise on 14 February, when Sheila, a friend of resident **Margaret McGroary** (pictured), arranged a fantastic Valentine’s Day display. It included fresh flowers and chocolates for all to enjoy – kindly donated by local shops. Residents and staff would like to thank Sheila very much for her hard work and kind gesture.

# Happy Birthdays

Many Happy Returns to **Alec Stewart** of **Turner's Court** in **Stonehaven**, who turned 80 in May. Alec (affectionately known as 'His Highness') was treated to a holiday in Largs by his wife.



**Tommy Williamson**, of **Langcraigs Court** in **Paisley**, is pictured above with his wife Molly showing you're never too old to dance the night away. He was celebrating his 90th birthday with friends, family and staff at the development. Happy Birthday Tommy.

A big happy 91st birthday to **Martha Baluszek**, right, of **Baillie Court** in **Motherwell**. She gathered with residents of the Thursday Club in the lounge with some treats to celebrate the big day. Many Happy Returns Martha!



**Bessie Smith** (middle row, fourth from left) of **Mercer Court** in **Innerleithen** turned 90 in March. She spent the day with friends and family with a party at a local tearoom, followed by another bash

in the lounge at the development. She's pictured with her sons Norman and Eric either side of her. Many Happy Returns Bessie.



We'd like to wish **Margaret Henderson** of **Alexandra Court** in **Prestwick** a very happy birthday. She turned 90 in May and celebrated with a lovely buffet provided by her family. As you can see above, everyone had a great afternoon and Margaret would like to thank everyone for the lovely gifts she received.



Finally, **Margaret Douglas** of **Plenderleith Court** in **Kelso** turned 90 in March. She's pictured above with her daughter and granddaughter on her big day. Happy Birthday Margaret!



## From the Chief Executive

# Claycot Park is 30



One of the most rewarding aspects of my role is getting out to visit you in your homes. As you can imagine, I was delighted to be invited to the 30th anniversary party of Claycot Park in Edinburgh.

As is often the case, the residents' committee and staff went the extra mile to ensure its success and to make everyone very welcome. I'm very grateful that the residents wanted me and my fellow staff to come along.

For my welcome speeches, I like to research a development. I'm always intrigued by the area's history and the people that have lived there, including the notable Hanover residents.

We manage nearly 200 developments across Scotland and, whilst I know a fair amount about them all I can't pretend I don't need to do my research on their histories – and yes, Claycot Park and its surroundings have a wonderful history! I'd like to share some of this with you.

I found out it was named after Claycott Farm (yes, it had two 't's in those days!), thought to have been due to the heavy clay soil – not unusual for Scotland. The original

farm house is now part of the housing development.

The Edinburgh suburb of Corstorphine was a rural village until as recently as 1939, when it became part of Edinburgh. Now best known for Edinburgh Zoo it's also had its fair share of distinguished visitors in the past, like Oliver Cromwell and Bonnie Prince Charlie.

One of the area's best stories involves a lovers' tiff – with shades of Lady MacBeth.

The Laird of Corstorphine Castle in the 17th century was James Forrester, a popular man – but also fond of ladies and drinking!

He'd arranged to meet his lover – Lady Nimmo – at the dovecot (just around the corner from Claycot Park) late one night. She was his niece as well as his lover, so they wanted to keep the relationship a secret! Lady Nimmo waited a while and, guessing he was in a local hostelry, sent her servant to find him.

He eventually turned up drunk, and she was so angry she killed him with his own sword. She was executed in 1679 for murder. At her execution she wore a white hooded gown and, to this day, her ghost is said to haunt the dovecot and surrounding areas. She must have been a strong woman!

There are many wonderful stories throughout history, but for me it's the 'real histories' of our residents that I find much more interesting. You're the most important thing to Hanover and I was so pleased to find out how happy Claycot Park residents are. I heard lots of positive reports – from how "Claycot Park is the bees' knees" to how happy you are with Hanover.

I also heard some hilarious stories. Stories of one strong-willed, 100 year old – Doctor Jenny – who only accepted visitors if they gave her a bag of Devon Toffees. Another resident – who shall remain nameless – was never out of high heels. Everyone knew she was coming because of the noise they made in corridors!

These stories were kindly passed onto me by two residents who've lived at Claycot Park for more than 20 years – Margaret Robertson and Meg Turpin. Unfortunately Margaret wasn't well so couldn't join us at the party – but, in the familiar and friendly Hanover manner that we're all well aware of, it was ensured that a piece of cake (cut by Meg) was duly delivered to her flat.



# News and information

## A new name for sheltered housing?

We're launching a new housing service and we're looking for you to name it!

About to be launched at nine developments in Glasgow, the service has come about after negotiations with the council following funding changes.

It will keep all the key elements of sheltered housing that you value – including your morning call – but the need for a six monthly housing support plan review will be removed. It will also mean development managers can raise repairs works orders themselves. Contractors will be notified of maintenance work more quickly and the manager's local knowledge will improve our ability to achieve a 'first time fix' for residents.

In future, we may extend the service to other areas, though only after

we've consulted with the residents affected and local authorities.

We need to think about what may appeal to residents in the future and we want you to think of a new name for the service. Perhaps we should move away from the term 'Sheltered Housing', as some feel it no longer reflects what we do, or is inappropriate (especially from those residents who feel fitter). Or, you may like the term. Some providers call their service 'Retirement Housing'. Whatever you think, send us your ideas! The name we choose for the service may also mean a change in job title of the development manager too.

To encourage as many ideas as possible we'll put ALL entries into

WIN A  
.....  
£50  
VOUCHER

a draw to win a £50 voucher – whether we choose the name or not. Send all entries via email or post using the details on the inside back cover by 1 September, and we'll announce the winner in the Christmas edition of Hanover Today. We'll present a selection of the ideas to Hanover's Board in September, when a final name will be chosen.

Get your thinking caps on!

## Did you spend time in care as a child?

If so, a new organisation aimed at increasing the understanding of what happened to children in care in the past with a view to improving the system in the future would like to hear from you.

The National Confidential Forum (NCF) wants people who spent time in institutional care to come forward and share their experiences in a safe, non-judgemental setting.

NCF Project Manager Ben Lukins said "Sharing experiences can be therapeutic and, importantly, the information given by participants will contribute

to making positive changes to children in care today and the future.



"By taking part in the Forum, participants will enable us to build a picture of the legacy of institutional care in Scotland, which will form part of a national record."

To find out more about the NCF, go to [www.nationalconfidentialforum.org.uk](http://www.nationalconfidentialforum.org.uk) or call **0141 352 2333**.

## News and information

# Partnership working in the Borders

We're delighted to announce a new partnership with Scottish Borders Council to provide a 'housing with care' service in three housing developments.

Residents of Glenfield Court in Galashiels, Mercer Court in Innerleithen and Queens Court in Jedburgh can now benefit from personal care directly from Hanover's own care staff. Around 20 staff have been employed to deliver the service, which provides real benefits to residents.

We spoke to Diane MacDonald, the service's co-ordinator.

"The main advantage is the extra flexibility", she told us.

"If someone wants to have their tea a bit later, or stay in bed longer, the staff can come at a different time as they're very close by and not under the same pressures as visiting home-care staff. It also means residents can leave hospital more quickly as our team are on site and can spring into action at short notice.

"We've received great feedback from residents and their families. It provides people with a feeling of security as they become familiar with regular staff."

Hanover currently delivers a similar service at very sheltered developments in Elgin and Dalry, but this is a first for Hanover's sheltered housing.

Pictured below (centre) is Service Co-ordinator, Diane MacDonald with Paul Cathrow from Scottish Borders Council, and some of the new care staff.



# Meet the Board

## Ann MacDonald

### What's your background?

I left university with a Geography degree and no idea what I wanted to do! I read an article by a housing officer and liked the idea of helping people, involving property and not being desk bound.

I became a graduate trainee at Glasgow Council, staying for 12 years. I was also a voluntary board member of Queens Cross Housing Association for four years.

I enjoyed the housing association movement, becoming Director and Chief Executive of Parkhead Housing Association. I then became a Director at Port of Leith Housing Association in 2006 until semi-retiring in 2013.

Latterly I joined the Scottish Tribunal Service, sitting on housing panels considering disputes between owners & factors and tenants & landlords, before joining Hanover where I hope the organisation can use my knowledge and experience of more than 30 years in the sector.

### What do you enjoy most about being on the Board?

I'm not sure enjoyment is the right word! It's sometimes with a sinking heart that I carefully read the large wad of papers before meetings. However, it's good to feel you've added value to a decision-making process and helped to maintain and improve what we do.

I enjoy working with and learning from other Board members and staff, and love meeting staff and residents to find out how we are doing as an employer and provider.

Knowing what customers want – and how good we are – is important to me. Developing how we respond



to customers and understanding what we are good (and not so good) at from listening to residents is something that I want to champion.

### What do you see impacting on Hanover in the future?

There are opportunities to develop a range of services for older people and, from research and piloting services like care at home, this seems to be welcomed by residents.

We need to develop these against a backdrop of funding issues and different approaches from local authorities across Scotland. But

we also need to ensure our main focus of business – sheltered housing – remains viable for residents. It's a real challenge but so important to deliver on.

### What do you like to do when not working?

Part of the reason for semi-retiring was to enjoy hill walking. I love this, as well as easy rock and ice climbing and skiing. They take up significant time while requiring a good level of fitness so I also spend time in the gym, on the bike or running. It seems sensible to enjoy it while my body's able to!

# Homes for rent

## Looking for a new home?

Do you know anyone who would be interested in moving into one of our developments? Or are you looking to move to another location?

Here's a list of developments where we have properties available to rent. If you or anyone you know are interested, please contact the area office using the details below.

We also welcome applications for other areas. If you're interested in moving to an area not on this list, then please still contact us as we may be able to help.

Note that these details are correct at the time of writing.

### East

Telephone 0131 557 7404, email [eastinfo@hanover.scot](mailto:eastinfo@hanover.scot)

Larkhall – Glengowan Court (very sheltered)

Hanover Grange – Grangemouth (sheltered)

Sivewright Court – Kincardine (sheltered)

Whyte Court – Kinross (sheltered)

### North

Telephone: 01343 548585, email: [northinfo@hanover.scot](mailto:northinfo@hanover.scot)

Buckie – Hanover Court (sheltered)

Glen Grove – Newtonmore (sheltered)

Plasmon Mill Court – Forres (amenity)

### West

Telephone: 0141 553 6300, email [westinfo@hanover.scot](mailto:westinfo@hanover.scot)

Kilmarnock – Creighton Court (sheltered)

Motherwell – Baillie Court (sheltered)

Lennoxtown – James Hemphill Court (sheltered)

Lochfield – Paisley (amenity)



# Money matters



## The importance of making a will

### What is a will?

A will lets you decide what happens to your money, property and possessions after you die. You can write a will yourself, however you should get legal advice to make sure the will is interpreted in the way that you want it to be. You also need to get your will formally witnessed and signed to make it legally valid.

To update a will, you need to make a formal alteration to it (called a 'codicil'), or make a new will.

### Writing a will

Your will should include:

- who you want to benefit from the will;
- who should look after any children under 18;
- who will sort out your estate and carry out your wishes after you die (this is called your 'executor'); and
- what happens if the people you want to benefit die before you.

### Getting legal advice

It is always a good idea to seek legal advice:

- to make sure the will has the effect you want;
- to ensure there are no mistakes within the will; and
- if you are unsure about how to make a will.

There are many solicitors who specialise in this area of law. It is also vital you seek legal advice if your will isn't straightforward, for example if you:

- share a property with someone who isn't your spouse or civil partner;
- want to leave money or property to someone who can't care for themselves;
- have several family members who may make a claim on your will, for example a second spouse or children from another marriage;
- have a permanent home outside the UK;
- have property overseas; or
- have your own business.

For more information on wills, you should contact a solicitor. To find a suitable solicitor, contact the Law Society of Scotland ([www.lawscot.org.uk](http://www.lawscot.org.uk) or 0131 226 7411) or your local Citizens' Advice Bureau ([www.cas.org.uk](http://www.cas.org.uk) or check the phone book for your nearest branch).

### Next time we look at the importance of having a Power of Attorney

This information was sourced from [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) and contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.

# Kind hearts

A massive ‘thank you’ to everyone who’s been in touch to let us know about their fundraising efforts in the last few months. As always, we’ll tally up the information we receive and give you a running total. So far this year, Hanover residents have:

**raised more than £2,967; and knitted more than 50 items**

You all deserve a huge pat on the back and special thanks go to residents of **Netherport** in **Elgin**, **Elm Court** in **Milngavie**, **Rosemount Court** in **Carluke**, **Queens Court** in **Jedburgh**, as well as **Joan Dunipace** in **Sinclair Drive, Glasgow**. Let us know what fundraising efforts you’ve gone to by getting in touch using the details opposite, and we’ll ensure we add the totals for next time!



## Poet's corner

**Jean Mortimer** of **Cameron Court** in **Forres** entered a competition with this poem, and it was so good it was featured in a book entitled ‘Home is where the heart is’.

### Ode to old age

Morning has broken, a new day begun

The carers come flocking – some on the run.

Old age brings many problems, of health and heart and mind;

The memory goes, and joints cave in, support's required – of every kind.

Sheltered housing beckons – it's part of growing old.

If Jimmy burns his morning toast, he really causes mayhem.

The fire alarm is sensitive, manned engines cause more bedlam.

Musicians come to cheer us; a bus trip's been arranged.

Staff do their best to please us, and tell us, nothing's changed.

But – memories are golden. They sustain and nourish me.

What would we be without them? Survival – that's the key.

## In September's Hanover Today

We'll feature the best pictures of your gardens in our annual **Hanover in Bloom** feature. Please email or post your photographs to the usual address.

We'll also feature a questionnaire to find out your views on the new-look newsletter.

# Contact us



Write to: **Ian Mountford, Editor, Organisational Services Department, Hanover (Scotland) Housing Association, 95 McDonald Road, Edinburgh, EH7 4NS.**

Telephone: **0131 557 7437**

Email: **hanovertoday@hanover.scot**

The deadline for receipt of articles for Issue 75 (Sept 2015) of Hanover Today is **Monday 3 August.**

You can read more about what Hanover residents are up to on our Facebook page – **facebook.com/hanoverscotland** and you can also follow us on Twitter (**@hanoverscotland**)

You're welcome to contact us in any of the ways detailed above. But, if you have a suggestion for an improvement to our services, why not use the 'Bright Ideas' initiative?

You could earn shopping vouchers if your suggestion is implemented. Speak to your Sheltered Housing Manager, Retirement Housing Assistant or area office to find out more and to get a Bright Ideas form.

We can produce this newsletter in other formats, like braille, audio, large print or a foreign language. If you use email, we can also email the newsletter to you instead of sending a printed copy. This saves trees and postage costs. If you're interested in any of these options, get in touch.

Legal information given in this newsletter is given in good faith and is based on Hanover's understanding of the law. The accuracy of Hanover's views is not guaranteed and readers seeking legal advice specific to their own circumstances should contact a solicitor or a Citizen's Advice Bureau.

## Prize sudoku

We're offering £25 for this edition's Sudoku competition. As usual, your task is to fill the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains each of the numbers 1-9. Once you've completed the grid, fill in your name and address in the spaces provided and send your details and the completed puzzle to us at the address above by **Monday 3 August.** If your name is the first drawn out of the hat for each of the north, west or east areas, you'll win £25. The correct grid from last time is below.

Name.....

Address.....

.....

Postcode .....

The winners of the last Sudoku competition were: **John Gilmour** of **Hanover Gardens** in **Auchterarder** (east), **Anne Black** of **Argyle Court** in **Inverness** (north) and **Michael Rooney** of **Langcraigs Court** in **Paisley** (west). Congratulations!

1					2	4		5
			6	5		1	9	
					8	6	2	
	5				9	3		2
	8			2	1			
4		7	5	6				
9	3	6	7				5	
	7	4				9	3	
5			9					4

2	8	9	5	7	4	6	1	3
1	6	7	3	9	8	5	2	4
5	4	3	6	2	1	8	9	7
9	7	6	1	3	5	2	4	8
8	1	4	9	6	2	7	3	5
3	5	2	8	4	7	9	6	1
6	2	5	4	8	3	1	7	9
4	9	8	7	1	6	3	5	2
7	3	1	2	5	9	4	8	6

# Prize crossword

Once you've completed the grid, fill in your name and address and send your details to us at the address on the inside back cover by **Monday 3 August**. If your name is the first drawn out of the hat for each of the north, east or west areas, you'll win £25!

Name.....

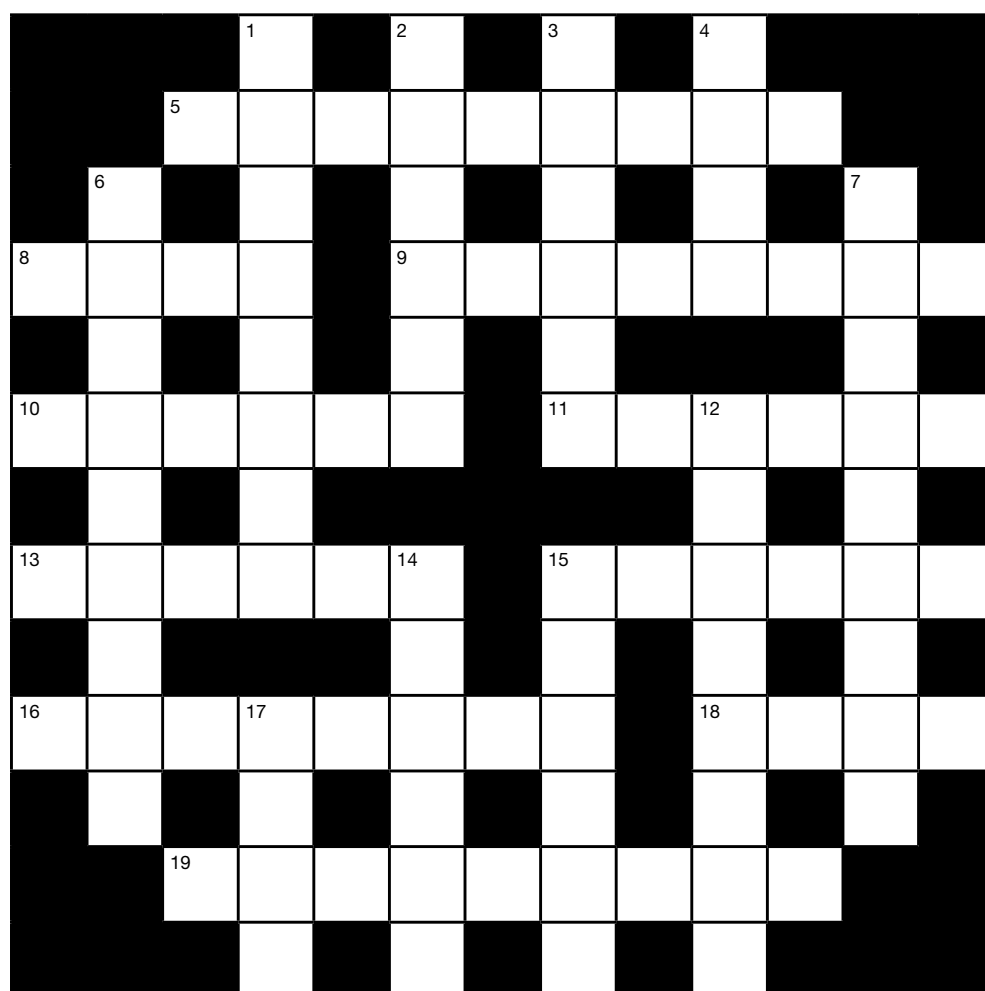
.....

Address.....

.....

.....

Postcode .....



## Across

- 5 Diary or record of events (9)
- 8 Tree and its fruit, common in temperate climates (4)
- 9 A device, e.g. a verse, to help memory (8)
- 10 Songs sung at Christmas (6)
- 11 Skirt-like garment from the Far East (6)
- 13 Unit of currency in Israel (6)
- 15 One of the Seven Dwarves (6)
- 16 Woodland flower, giving the drug digitalis (8)
- 18 Type of sword used in fencing (4)
- 19 Followers of a religion which originated in India (9)

## Down

- 1&2 Fictional detective created by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (8,6)
- 3 Muscles in the upper arm (6)
- 4 Highest male voice (also known as the counter-tenor) (4)
- 6 Athletics event involving ten disciplines (9)
- 7 Adventure novel by Robert Louis Stevenson (9)
- 12 Casino game of chance (8)
- 14 World's leading market for shopping and other insurance, founded in a London coffee house in 1688 (6)
- 15 The language of Ireland and the Scottish Highlands (6)
- 17 Name of the family who featured in the BBC Radio show "Take it from Here" (4)

The winners of the last crossword were: **Jay Bell** of **Glenfield Court** in **Galashiels** (east), **Irene Wade** of **The Green** in **Aviemore** (north) and **June Duff** of **Victoria Court** in **Lockerbie** (west) Well done!

The answers to the last crossword are: ACROSS: 5 Becquerel, 8 Ventriloquist, 9 Ibsen, 10 Isere, 11 Clown, 12 Bronx, 15 A stitch in time, 16 Chameleon DOWN: 1 Featherweight, 2 Squid, 3 Heron, 4 Sequestration, 6 Herbalist, 7 Astronomy, 13 Scamp, 14 Gigli