



BURNing Issues



www.walkerburn.com

walkerburnnews@hotmail.com

Published by the Walkerburn News Group

ISSUE ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY NINE – APRIL 2017

COMMUNITY FAIR

Walkerburn enjoyed very colourful and well attended 10th Annual Walkerburn Community Fair on 1st April, organised by the News Group to raise money for the 'Burning Issues' newsletter and other local causes.

The hall was decorated with a lovely series of paintings and coloured drawings which the Primary School provided for all to admire. As well as the News Group fund raising, there was a variety of well stocked stalls from the Crafts4U, C.H.A.S. (Children's Hospice Association Scotland), Walkerburn Community Development Trust, F.A.C.E. Cancer Charity, Lotions, Rural, Primary School, and Books to tempt those present with a wide array of bargains.

While all this was happening, and while everyone waited

to hear who the winners were in the hugely successful and generous raffle, a team of helpers served coffee and biscuits. As lunch drew closer, there was a choice of home-made soups and tasty egg rolls.

Many thanks are due to all those who organised, helped, sold tickets and contributed in any way to a most pleasant occasion – also to everyone who came along to enjoy the fun. The change of date from late Autumn to late Spring proved a big success. Thank you everyone. We look forward to welcoming you all again next year!

Walkerburn Old Age Pensioners Association

Walkerburn OAPs held their annual coffee morning on Saturday 25th March in Walkerburn Village Hall and we would like to thank everyone who attended and bought from our well stocked home baking table and book stall.

The Roll-the-Ball was won by Charlie Watson. We would like to thank everyone who contributed to these stalls and donated the prizes. We made a total of £297 for our funds which was a welcome boost to our funds. Many thanks to everyone who made the day such a success.

Our next meeting will be held in the HB Club, Walkerburn on Tuesday April 11th, at 2.30, and we look forward to seeing members and friends for a pleasant

afternoon of dominoes and a blether over tea and biscuits.

Our Summer Trip is planned for Tuesday 13th June, when we plan to visit New Lanark Heritage Centre and the Falls of the Clyde. If you haven't already done so, please let Mary or Anne know as soon as possible if you would like to join us.

For any other information please contact President Mary Baillie on 01896 870246 or Treasurer Anne Kenyon on 01896 870757.

Local Elections

Thursday 4th May
Walkerburn Village Hall
7am to 10pm

Don't forget to cast your vote for our Local Councillors

WALKERBURN PUBLIC HALL AGM

Tuesday 2nd May 2017
Management Committee 6.30PM
Trustees 7.00PM

Come along and have your say - Everyone welcome

Walkerburn Primary School

"Duck Race On The Burn"

Friday 26 May 2017 at 12.30pm

Ducks are on sale from the School Office, Caberston Café, The Post Office, The George Hotel and The HB Club £1 per duck. We will also be selling ducks in Innerleithen Co-op on Saturday 22 April

WALKERBURN SUMMER FESTIVAL 2017 COFFEE MORNING

WALKERBURN VILLAGE HALL SATURDAY 13th MAY 10.00 - 11.30am

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FESTIVAL PRINCIPALS

Table Top Sales, Home Baking, Raffles, Tombola

To hire a Table (£5) please contact either Martha Gibson 01896 831455 or Dawn Rodger 01896 870458

MINDFUL YOGA

Following a very successful start to our new session, everyone in Walkerburn is invited to come along to the Village Hall on MONDAYS, from 7pm to 8.45.

The cost will be £7 per 'drop-In' session.

It is suitable for Beginners as well as the more Experienced and combines traditional Yoga practice with Mindfulness Meditation and elements of Qigong and Sound Therapy.

Contact Susan for further information at: e-mail: sueandkev1@aol.com . Also, tel.831658 or 07983-167075

Burning Issues Contributors

Please remember to submit any articles, letters or other material for the May 2017 issue by the last day of April.



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The club continues to host friendly fixtures, and the pitch is looking in really good condition. Social functions are proving a big success. Anniversaries and birthdays (ranging from the 7's to the 70's!) are proving a big hit. The new kitchen and the excellent facilities, including the excellent situation of the club, make this an affordable and delightful venue. We are also extremely pleased to be able to announce that the long-awaited new roadway access has been

WALKERBURN RFC

completed. After all the years of enduring a rutted and pot-holed drive, we can now enjoy being able to use the superb new surface.

Please note that the clubhouse is always available for Birthdays, Weddings and other Social events.

For club bookings please contact the Secretary by email to secretary@walkerburnrugby.org.uk

Latest news on www.walkerburnrugby.org.uk

Facebook Walkerburn RFC

www.twitter.com/WalkerburnRFC

Walkerburn Bowling Club News

The new clubhouse has arrived! Unfortunately, it is presently lying under wraps and safely stored while we await permission from SBC Building Control to erect it on top of the splendid new 'flood-proof' base.

We owe Ian Gillie many thanks for the hours of plan drawing and letter writing to attempt to satisfy the bewildering complexity of Building Regulations.

The green is looking in very good condition after the scarifying, seeding and cutting – for which we have to offer another big 'thank you' to Gregor and David.

Sharp-eyed members may also have noted that ditches have been filled with special rounded pebbles as a result of much labouring by John Smith, Lawrie Johnstone and Mike Tucker. The club still seems to be working successfully on the principle of 'The Older They Are – The Harder We Work Them'! Many thanks also to those three.

As was mentioned last month, we are encouraging as many new members as possible to join us for Bowls and

Petanque. Anyone, young or old (or even in-between!) who wants to join a very friendly and welcoming club is invited to get in touch with us. Come along to the opening day on Saturday 22nd April – or drop in any time throughout the new season..

(Full details of the coming season can be seen on the Post Office and HB Club noticeboards, as well as on our 'Facebook' pages.)

For information about the club please visit our website www.walkerburnbowlingclub.co.uk, or visit our Facebook page of Walkerburn Bowling Club. Both places are updated as information is received.

(Anyone wanting more details can contact us on 01896-870251 or e-mail goles2@tiscali.co.uk

Rural Round-up

This month marked the end of another Rural year as we had the last meeting of the season and our A.G.M.

As we always like to do something a bit different for the A.G.M., this year we all met up at The George Hotel to have a lovely meal and a good chat before conducting the annual business. Points winner for the year was M Millar and joint runners-up were A Kubie and J Brown. Our next meeting will be the first Wednesday in

September but before that in August, some of our members will be travelling down to Thropton in Northumbria to meet up with Thropton WI members for lunch and a tour of their village. This will mark the third occasion that we have met up with Thropton WI.

Heather Shepherd

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Walkerburn Primary School Report

School Review

Well done to staff, pupils and parents who contributed towards our successful School Review last month. The review found that our Key Strengths include:

- * Happy, courteous children who are keen to learn and show a high level of care for each other
- * Staff commitment to the wellbeing and improving outcomes for all children
- * Self-evaluation of the new Headteacher to identify immediate priorities for improvement.

We are now working together to draw up a plan to take forward the Key Recommendations, which include:

- * Review approaches to learning, teaching and assessment
- * Continue to develop expectations for progress in literacy and numeracy
- * Track and monitoring children's progress using a whole school system

News from the Early Years Classroom

The Early Years Class, as always, have been busy bunnies! We have had a visit from Tesco to teach us about the importance of growing and eating healthy food and then we made some very cute Easter egg chicks with them! Heinz have sent us some tomato seeds and pots so we have potted our own to grow for our Gardening Club and fingers crossed we will see some little shoots after the holidays! We have been looking at 'People Who Help Us' for our topic and will be sharing pictures and stories about the people that help us in our lives like our families! We have started interviewing the people who work around us at school and we have had a lot of questions for everyone! This month we have also been learning about Islam. We have been discussing the fasting that Muslims do during Ramadan and linking it to Christian examples of fasting during Lent. After Ramadan, Muslims have a celebration - Eid Ul Fitr where they have a feast. Mrs Lyon thought it would be fun to have a food tasting. We tried vegetable rice, poppadums and raita. Many of the children really enjoyed trying these new foods. For our numeracy we

are learning to tell the time and practice makes perfect so keep asking us lots of questions about it! We have also created some exceptional art work for Spring and an Easter display too! If you have any bits and bobs that could be recycled to use on our craft table those would be greatly appreciated.

News from P4-7

P4-7 had some special training recently on how to use CPR in an emergency when Innerleithen and Walkerburn First Responders came to visit their class. They also learned how to use a defibrillator. Everyone did very well and the children have been encouraged to use their parents to practice on for putting people into the recovery position! Our short topic on 'Scotland in World War II' has come to an end and the children enjoyed finding out about Walkerburn during this period.

Parent Council

Thank you to everyone who supported our recent Bunny Drive – it was a fantastic night that was lots of fun and was very well attended by pupils, parents and members of the community. £127 was raised on the night – well done everyone! The next meeting of our Parent Council will be on Wednesday 17 May from 6.30pm-8pm when we will be discussing and preparing for our next fundraising event – Duck Race on The 'Burn.

Fundraising

Last month's Book Fair raised £35.35 – thank you everyone for buying lots of books! We are still collecting Active Kids vouchers from Sainsbury's and these will only be available in stores until 2 May. If you have any vouchers that you would like to donate please pop them into the School Office.

Tractor Tour

On Thursday 9 March the children were very excited when an enormous tractor came to visit them as part of the Royal Highland Education Trust's 'Tractor Tour' when a tractor visited every primary school in the Borders to raise awareness of RHET. The children asked the farmer lots of very appropriate and interesting questions!

April Wild Side

At last we can get out working in the garden.

It may not be time to put up hanging baskets full of bright annual flowers but it's time to start weeding and preparing for the growing season and that's when you see the first 'movers and groovers' of the season. I can sit out in a warm, sunny spell and hear the buzz of bumble bees and admire the first butterflies of the season. The large red tailed bumble bee is busy looking for early nectar as are tortoiseshell and peacock butterflies. The garden birds are 'best dressed' for the breeding season and still visiting the feeders and the recent addition of another wee bird bath has already proved popular. The best thing is all the leaf buds swelling on the trees with the promise of a much greener world coming.

Our nut feeders have proved popular with a male great spotted woodpecker, with the red on the back of the neck, recently. We were only visited by females last year so hopefully we'll have a nest somewhere nearby and we'll see young. The only downside to having these woodpeckers nest close by is that they raid next boxes of tits and the like and take the young to feed their own. One of our nest boxes showed signs of such damage last year where the next hole was well 'pecked out' so

repairs needed. I've certainly heard woodpeckers 'tapping' at trees in the vicinity. Of the garden birds, blue and great tits are two of my favourites and I love seeing the young ones out and about come May time. We've seen and heard a few curlews and of course the oystercatchers with their distinctive call are busy, busy. There is much birdsong already in the mornings but when all the winter visitors have left and the summer ones arrived, it will be at its height in May so a bit to wait yet for the best. Blackbirds and thrushes are in good voice already though.

Something to keep a look out for will be golden eagles as the South of Scotland Golden Eagle Project releases birds in the Borders and Dumfries and Galloway, as you may have read in the Peeblesshire News but we have to wait until next year to see the 'newbies'. Wildlife tourism is big business and could be a boon to the Borders economy and I really feel our natural world is something we don't make enough of so this is a positive step and isn't seasonal like the ospreys. Look out for golden eagles though -I've seen them here before.

From frog spawn to eagles, enjoy April's wildlife, whatever it may be!

**HAPPY DAYS CHILD-MINDING
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WALKERBURN COMMUNITY CRAFT CENTRE 'CRAFTS4U'

Walkerburn Old Mill Car Park

Tuesday: 1.00pm- 4.00pm (Quilting)

Wednesday: (Your Choice) 7.00pm-9.00pm

Thursday: Class in knitting and crochet for beginners and more experienced people 2.00pm-4.00pm

Friday: 1.00 pm – 4.00pm (Craft-for-Club)

Cost: Members £1.00 per hour, Non Members £1.50 per hour

Because of the continuing success of the Club, Membership now costs £20.00 per calendar year and allows you access to the cabin at all times and Social Membership is £5. per calendar year.

Newcomers always given a warm welcome.

Any queries, please contact Jenni Brown on 01896 833883.

WALKERBURN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of Meeting held on 15th March 2017

(Full Minutes are also on the Community website)

Present: Dr. S. Henderson (Chairman); Miss M McIntosh MBE; Ms M. Daykin; Mr. I. McVean; Mrs. I. Ogilvie-Wilson; Mr. D. Thomson; Mr G. Thornton (Treasurer); Mr. P. Waller (Minutes)

Ex Officio: Cllr. S. Bell, Cllr. G. Garvie; Cllr G. Logan.

Chairman's Introduction.

Dr. Henderson thanked all for attending this evening's meeting.

Apologies & Notices

Apologies for absence received from Mrs. L. Thornton and PC Burnside.

Open Questions

There were none.

Police Business

No Police Report has been received. Cllr. Bell suggested we send a polite letter requesting that a report should be sent to WDCC before its meetings, even if no incident of note has occurred in the previous month. Members agreed.

February Minutes

Acceptance of the draft minutes was proposed by Miss McIntosh, seconded by Mr. Thornton and passed unanimously.

Matters Arising From Previous Meeting

* Mr. Thornton said that, on behalf of WDCC, he had sent a letter to the Post Office expressing WDCC's concern about the closure of the Innerleithen branch.

* Regarding the proposed 'litter pick' - Mr. Thornton said that the Secretary had contacted Iain Weir, local Resilience member, who stated that any equipment that might be required is in the shed by the Hall. SBC will collect bags of collected litter from outside the Public Hall.

* Ms Daykin said that she and a friend had "blitz-cleaned" the bus shelter in Peebles Road.

Correspondence

Mrs. Thornton had provided the Correspondence List for February 2017 – March 2017. (All emails already circulated to members)

* E-mail received from Public Sector Executive Online regarding "The Local Authority of the Future: Where The Citizen Comes First". There is an e-Guide which can be downloaded.

* Letter received from Jill McGregor, Bicentenary Bursary Fund, The Border Union Agricultural Society regarding "Rural Bursary Opportunities for Borderers" asking if we know of any members of our community who might fit the criteria of their Fund.

* Notification from SBC's Environment & Infrastructure regarding a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order Road Closure Details for a Mountain Bike Event in Innerleithen on 8th and 9th April 2017, with a map of the route attached.

Planning

Two applications have been received.

* The George Hotel for the erection of a raised terrace to the rear of the Hotel.

* Old Caberston for the extension to the dwelling house and erection of a detached garage.

Members saw no grounds for any objections.

Reports by Members

* Mr. Waller reported that a resident had complained to him that the NO PARKING sign at the bottom of the Ladder had still not been repainted and that people continue to park their cars at this point, thereby blocking

two driveways. Cllr. Logan said that, just yesterday, he had reminded Mr. Hedley (SBC) that we have been asking for two years for this repainting to be done. Mr. Hedley had replied that it is on his 'To Do' list.

* Dr. Henderson expressed his frustration that drivers continue to park vehicles on the double yellow lines at the pinch point on Peebles Road below the Ladder. Recently two Scottish Gas vans were parked there all day.

* Dr. Henderson said that there is also a problem of inconsiderate parking of vans on High Cottages, meaning residents are greatly inconvenienced.

* Ms Daykin said that the recent installation of temporary traffic lights in the village had caused havoc in Jubilee Road, because the cars parked (understandably and perfectly legally) on the east side of the road meant cars queuing to come out of Jubilee Road blocked cars coming in. Members regretted the absence of foresight of the company that installed the temporary lights.

* Mrs. Ogilvie-Wilson said that a resident had spoken to her about the thoughtless parking of vehicles on the roadside at the Circle in Tweeddale Avenue East. The resident had suggested parking bays be painted on the road in order to facilitate more efficient parking. Cllr. Bell and Mr. Thomson will investigate.

* Mrs. Ogilvie-Wilson expressed indignation that a resident regularly lets loose his/her two dogs on the rugby pitch and fails to pick up the resultant dog mess. Members agreed this is unacceptable behaviour, especially as the pitch is used for rugby games and primary school pupils use it for sports activities.

Reports by SBC Councillors

* Cllr. Logan reported that he had spoken to Jason Hedley thanking him for SBC's prompt response to the back road bench issue. The dilapidated bench at Glenbenna has been replaced with a reasonably robust second-hand one and the bench below Plora has been cleaned. Soon Mr. Hedley will organize the painting of the bus shelter in Peebles Road.

* Cllr. Logan pointed out that in the run up to 4th May's SBC election councillors must take care not to become involved in council business that could be thought to promote themselves or their political parties.

* Cllr. Garvie reported that recently he had attended the official opening of the Leader Valley School for Children with Special Needs. He had been greatly impressed with this new facility.

* Cllr. Garvie expressed satisfaction that West Coast Motors have replaced First Scotland East, believing a better service for Borderers will result.

Any Other Business

* Mr. Thornton gave an update on the rebuilding of the Bowling Club pavilion and stated that it was progressing well. It was hoped that it would be ready to reopen during the Summer, Dr Henderson said that the WDCC greatly appreciates the contribution over many decades made to our community by Walkernburn Bowling Club. Members agreed enthusiastically.

* Next, Mr. Thornton said that WDCC had received its annual grant from SBC.

* Finally, Mr. Thornton said that the first phase of the extension of the Multi-use Path from Innerleithen to Walkernburn has begun and looks impressive.

Date of the Next Meeting 19th April, 2017.



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Walkernburn RFC

All the latest from the rugby club.

Walkernburn Public Hall

To promote events and provide information on the use of the Public Hall. Find details on booking the hall and the facilities on offer.

Walkernburn & District Community Information

This group is to help the community of Walkernburn communicate & share information relevant to us. Details of Resilience, Events, Roads, Transport and News etc will be posted. It can also be used by the community to post and ask questions

Walkernburn Summer Festival

Festival news, with details of events and photos.

Guide to Walkernburn on Social Media

Auld Innerleithen, Traquair, Glen & Walkernburn

Auld ITGW group has been set up to share old photos and documents of the area and anything of historic interest.

Walkernburn Primary School

All the news from the village school Peebles, Innerleithen & Walkernburn First Responders

Details of the work carried out by local first responders and fund-raising events.

Hand Made In Walkernburn

Hand-made goods for sale from Crafts4U, a self funding and not for profit organisation.

Walkernburn 'Mums Supporting Mums'

Support and information for mothers in the local area.



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WHAT'S ON IN THE HALL APRIL/MAY

Anyone interested in booking the hall, contact Win Pennel on 01896 870236
 (please note change of contact)

Date	Event	Time
April		
Tuesday 18th	Lunch Club (last one of this season)	12 noon
Wednesday 19th	Walkerburn & District Community Council Meeting	7.00pm
Sunday 30th	Church Service	10.00am
May		
Tuesday 2nd	Walkerburn Public Hall Management Committee AGM Walkerburn Public Hall Trustees AGM	6.30 - 7.00pm
Thursday 4th	Local Elections	
Saturday 6th	Vegetable Association Coffee Morning	10 - 11.30am
Saturday 13th	Walkerburn Summer Festival Coffee Morning Announcement of this year's Principals	10 - 11.30am
Wednesday 17th	Walkerburn and District Community Council Meeting	7 pm
Sunday 21st	Church Service	10 am

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS IN WALKERBURN VILLAGE HALL

Sundays	Table Tennis	6.00 - 9.00pm
Mondays	MindfulYoga	7.00 - 8.45pm
Wednesdays	Tao Chi	10.15 - 11.45am

Note: Hall Rental charge for up to three hours use is £18



www.walkerburn.com

If you want to know What's On at the village hall, who to contact about a particular local group, or want a number for a local decorator, the community website is the place to go.

If your group is not on the local contacts list, please send details to mail@walkerburn.com.

If you want to advertise an event in the village you don't have to wait for the next issue of BURNing Issues, but can send information direct to mail@walkerburn.com for posting onto the what's on page.



Contact BURNing Issues at walkerburnnews@hotmail.com