



BURNing Issues



www.walkerburn.com

walkerburnnews@hotmail.com

Published by the Walkerburn News Group ISSUE ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY EIGHT – DECEMBER 2018

SEASONS GREETINGS 2018

As the Festive Season approaches, we would like to wish all our readers and helpers a peaceful and happy Christmas and Hogmanay, and all the very best for 2019.

2018 stumbled into Summer after a long Winter and a Spring that bore the brunt of the 'Beast from the East'. Finally, a dry Autumn was boon for some, but a disaster for fishermen on the Tweed and for others who needed more rain. Now that Winter has arrived we are into darker days and longer nights.

But, once again, it has been a real pleasure to see how resilient our community is and how so many people have made light of adversity and overcome setbacks. We can be proud of the enduring 'Walkerburn Spirit'. The Festival, the Coffee Mornings, and a great many other activities which make Walkerburn such a vibrant community, have all triumphed again this year.

On a pleasant note, we have seen new faces in our primary school and new babies born into the village. On a very sad note, it has also been a very sad time for many families and friends as loved ones have passed away this year. As we move into a new and uncertain era, we will remember them and take comfort from the legacy and the

memories they have left behind.

BURNing Issues again owes a debt to everyone who has helped to keep us going and who have produced and delivered each monthly issue to everyone on the village. Also, to the Development Trust, the Community Council and our local councillors who are always ready to support the village newsletter. Thank you all so much.

Again, we do ask the village to keep supporting us again through the coming year! Because we have to be self-financing, the issues delivered to each household are in black and white as colour is prohibitively expensive to produce. However, to see the newsletter in its full technicolour glory you can look up all new and old copies by accessing the Walkerburn website. You can find it by logging on to www.walkerburn.com.

As in past years, there will not be a January issue, but we hope you will have lots to read about and enjoy in the remainder of 2019.

Best wishes to everyone!

CHRISTMAS CAROL SINGING ROUND WALKERBURN

Friday 21st December will be the evening of our annual Christmas Carol singing, organised by the combined churches of Walkerburn and Innerleithen.

The plan is for everyone to meet up at 5pm at The Circle in Walkerburn (or at Bellenden House, Caberston Avenue – where you can enjoy a warm drink to fortify you against the cold!)

5.45pm will be the time to set off singing in the village streets.

Carol Sheets will be provided (just dress warmly, bring a torch, and join in some enjoyable singing).

We like to call on anyone staying at home for the night so they can share in the singing of Christmas Carols with us. No money collected!

Afterwards, at about 7pm, everyone is cordially invited to meet up at Walkerburn Rugby Club for complimentary tea, coffee, chocolates and biscuits.

We will end at 7.30pm with some Carols, a short Story and a Prayer.

This relaxed and informal occasion has become a local tradition that we wish to continue. Do please join in - whether walking with us or by just standing on your doorstep!

Note: WRFC clubhouse will be open from 6.30pm

Everyone is welcome to join in – especially children!

WALKERBURN VILLAGE HALL THANK YOU

The WPH Management Committee would like to say a huge thank you to everyone for supporting our Some Like It Hot Curry Night either by attending, donating or helping. The magnificent sum of £660 was raised for Hall Funds.

Around 50 people sat down and enjoyed a wide selection of Curries (11 in total) ranging from a VERY hot chicken curry to a mild Chicken Korma along with various vegetarian options. Dessert was a delicious Kulfi (Indian ice cream) with mango coulis and shortbread and a refreshing exotic fruit salad.

The prize for best Indian costume was shared between Colin and Evelyn Grahame, Mary Daykin, Steve Almey and Cedric Blakey. *We look forward to seeing you all at our next event in 2019.*

Thank you Walkerburn from Poppy Scotland

Walkerburn raised a total of £243.69 for the 2018 Poppy Scotland Appeal. The breakdown was as follows: Caberston Cafe £50.59, Post Office £62.62, Craft Club £13, HB Club £21.48 and the Hall £96. Thank you to everyone who displayed a tin and many, many thanks to all who gave a donation.

BURNing Issues Contributors

Please submit any letters, articles or other material for inclusion in the February 2019 issue by the last day of January. Thank you.



**WILLIAM KENYON
PAINTER & DECORATOR**

All interior, exterior and floor tiling work undertaken to the highest standard.

Telephone/Fax 01896 870757

Walkerburn Rugby Club



Open for Birthdays and other Social events.

For bookings please contact the Secretary at *secretary@walkerburnrugby.org.uk*
Latest news on Facebook: Walkerburn RFC

“Would You Like To Improve The Way You Feel?”

TWEED THERAPY CENTRE
(Est. 1994)
(Free Consultation)



**HYPNOTHERAPY | MASSAGE
REFLEXOLOGY**

Sue Tickner MNSPH.; Dip TM
Walkerburn EH43 6AF
01896-870440 or 07771934965
tweedtherapy@aol.com

**PEEBLES CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU
UNIVERSAL CREDIT DURING THE FESTIVE PERIOD**

For anyone who is working, and in receipt of Universal Credit, there is a potential issue for anyone whose employer pays your wages early.

This may mean that you receive too much income in the reference period, leading to your Universal Credit entitlement being reduced. However, we are told that the situation will correct itself in the next period where your earnings will be correspondingly reduced, and your Universal Credit entitlement adjusted upwards.

If you have any concerns about this, please raise it with your Job Coach or come in and see us.

THE POST CHRISTMAS DEBT HANGOVER

Do not get pulled into the traps of the festive period in the run up to Christmas. Get debt advice from the CAB and other voluntary organisations before Christmas, as it is always busy after Christmas! Don't just carry on regardless and hope that something will turn up in the New Year.

Here are some ideas for you to make ends meet.

1) Firstly, make a list of all of your normal outgoings and the date that they will need payment. Then make a list of your debtors, together with the minimum amount of repayment they require and the date they will seek payment.

ii) Check your bank statement or other payment slip to make sure that you know the date that you can next expect any income and the amount that you will be paid.

iii) Prioritise payment to those organisations who provide the essentials of life such as your landlord, mortgage provider or energy companies. It isn't necessarily the right thing to pay those people who shout the loudest or make threats

iv) The worst thing you can do is ignore the situation and wait until you receive threats or final demands. It is always better to be proactive and face the problem head on; You may be able to negotiate a payment plan over a longer period of time if you go to creditors proactively.

v) Any unwanted gifts from this year, or unused things since last Christmas, could sell on sites like EBay or Peebles Sales and Wants to get some cash.

vi) Do not take on more debt from payday loan providers or other people who will soon be adding to your worries by adding interest to what you owe them.

If things are really bad and you need help we are always there for you, just make an appointment and bring in as much detail as possible that lets us know who you owe money to, how much and any correspondence that you have had from them. We may then help you to complete a debt pack, look at where you may be able to reduce outgoings and negotiate agreements with your creditors.

Where people are in extreme difficulty we can help by referring clients to Peebles Food Bank for temporary help or help by applications for crisis grants.

We will be introducing the Financial Health Checks Initiative early in 2019 for people within a number of target groups. The financial health check will provide information on benefit entitlement and income maximisation. More information will be made available in the New Year.

HELP US TO KEEP HELPING YOU

For anyone who is able to help us with a financial donation we have a donations page available.

(<https://mydonate.bt.com/charities/peeblescab>)

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 £5.00 per calendar year. Newcomers always given a warm welcome. Any queries, please contact Jenni Brown on 01896 833883.

BURNS SUPPER AT WALKERBURN RFC

Friday 18th January at 6.30pm

Tickets are £20 each. For entertainment - Guest Speakers and musicians.

Wear some tartan and come and join the gathering! Book at a table for any number of guests from 1 to 13.

Contact justruth1961@gmail.com or Sarah on fbsarah101@gmail.com 01896-870762

WALKERBURN ANNUAL COMMUNITY FAIR

(Advance Notice for interested Stallholders)

The date for the next Community Fair will be Saturday 16th March.

More details will be announced before then, but anyone wishing to book a table is advised to book early! For details concerning Tables, please call Lesley on 01896-870251 or e0-mail her at geoles2.tiscali.co.uk

Trustees of Walkerburn Public Hall

Following November's election the Hall Trustees are: Colin Grahame (Chairman), Ruth Griffiths, Mags Henderson, Sheila Horsburgh, Sheilagh Sommerville and Peter Waller (Secretary).

Miss Mollie McIntosh MBE decided not to stand for re-election, but the Trustees, unwilling to be deprived of her vast knowledge of matters pertaining to the Public Hall, invited Mollie to become an Honorary Trustee.

Happily, Mollie agreed to this request!

Walkerburn Old Age Pensioners Christmas Panto Outing

Did they enjoy it? Oh yes they did!! The annual Christmas Panto visit to the Kings Theatre in Edinburgh was another great success, as was the post-panto meal at the Union Club in Innerleithen.

At the end of a memorable day, Rev'd Jack Kellet was inveigled into proposing one of his usual humorous toasts to the organiser and everyone who had worked so hard to make it enjoyable, and all who had joined in on the day. It's now time to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and to look forward to next season!

WINTER ADVICE FROM SCOTTISH WATER

Scottish Water has posted a lot of good advice on their website regarding their annual drive to encourage customers to heat, insulate and protect their homes.

They have attached some materials for all in the community which can be shared to help provide advice on how to avoid burst pipes in the home and on what to do if a pipe does burst.

Please go to their website www.scottishwater.co.uk/winter for more information.

CYCLISTS

Your Community Council is aware of concerns that the greatly increased number of cyclists using the local roads and multi-use paths is becoming an increasing danger to pedestrians – especially the more elderly. Cyclists often travel at speed and move silently. We would ask all cyclists to wear high-visibility jackets. "See and be seen" is the appropriate slogan - especially in these dark Winter months.

The Little Secretarial Company

For secretarial & admin services

Please call Hilary Little
1896 870 655 (Home)
07412 388 993 (Mobile)

Attar's Alterations



Dress Making and all Alterations on
Jeans, Dresses, Suits, Jackets,
Trousers, Shirts.

New Zips and Curtains
Tel: 07931 772625 & 07901 883592
e-mail: attar@qualityservice.com

"HAIR AT HOME"

Val Smart
Mobile Hairdresser
07852 302 755
22 Years Experience



Sheila Bertolino

OIL PAINTINGS RESTORATION & CONSERVATION

I am based in Walkerburn and specialise in the Restoration and Conservation of Oil Paintings on Canvas and Panel.

Contact me for professional advice and help.

Estimates Free

Phone: 01896-870492 Mobile: 07817064050

E-Mail: sheilabertolino17@yahoo.co.uk



WALKERBURN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 21st November, 2018

Present: Mr P. Waller (A/Chairman), Mrs L. Thornton (Secretary), Ms M. McIntosh, Ms E. Guy, Mr I. McVean, Mrs I. Ogilvie-Wilson, Mr G. Thornton. Ex Officio: Councillor S. Bell, Councillor R. Tatler,

Apologies and Notices.

Apologies from Dr S. Henderson, Ms M. Daykin, Councillor S. Haslam, P.C. C. Burnside, Arran Houston.

b) Road closure for switch-on of Peebles Xmas Lights – 6th December 4pm to 10pm

c) Road closure for torchlight procession in Innerleithen High Street and Leithen Road on Sunday 9th December 2018 between the hours of 16:15 and 17:15. These closures will only come in to force when instructed by a police officer in uniform.

d) Disabled Parking and off-street parking spaces in Peebles Road, south of 'Royston' being re-allocated.

e) Off-street Parking spaces in Park Avenue (opposite Henry Ballantyne Place) being re-allocated.

f) Dirtpot Corner roadworks are proceeding ahead of schedule at present.

Police Report.

Covering period, Wednesday 17th October 2018 – Wednesday 21st November, 2018

During this period there have been 15 calls to the area.

Drug Use: 31/10/2018 – A male was traced in possession of personal amount of herbal cannabis, a report will be submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

There is currently a pro-active drugs unit working within the Scottish Borders area that continues to actively trace and process accordingly.

Vehicle Accidents: 07/11/2018 – A vehicle left the carriageway at Holylee, A72, down the embankment, no damage to property and no injury.

10/11/2018 - A vehicle left the carriageway on the back road between Innerleithen and Walkerburn, no damage to property and no injury.

SCAMS

What you need to do:

- Don't assume a phone call or email is authentic: Just because someone knows your basic details (such as your name and address or even your mother's maiden name), it doesn't mean they are genuine. Criminals can exploit the names of well-known companies in order to make their scams appear genuine.

- Don't be rushed or pressured into making a decision: a genuine company won't force you to make a financial decisions on the spot. Always be wary if you're pressured to purchase a product or service quickly, and don't hesitate to question uninvited approaches in case it's a scam.

- Stay in control: Have the confidence to refuse unusual requests for personal or financial information. Always contact the company yourself using a known email or phone number, such as the one written on a bank statement or bill.

Visit Take Five (takefive-stopfraud.org.uk/advice/) and Cyber Aware (cyberaware.gov.uk) for more information about how to protect yourself online.

Approval of the Amended Draft Minutes October Meeting.

Acceptance of these minutes was proposed by Mrs Ogilvie-Wilson, seconded by Mr P. Waller and passed by members.

Matters Arising from the October Minutes.

1) Dangerous Trees in Peebles Road:

Mr Waller again drew attention to the fact that the tall trees leaning across the ladder and towards the roadway appeared to be in a poor condition and a sudden fall would

be extremely dangerous and also cause much inconvenience. Mrs Ogilvie-Wilson was able to verify this. Councillor Bell informed members that SBC had inspected the trees and were satisfied that there was no present danger. They will be examined again on a regular basis.

2) Multi use pathway:

(See 'Member's Reports')

3) Younger Community Councillors:

Further to the discussion regarding encouraging younger members to join the Community Council, Mrs Thornton reported that she had informed Arran Houston that he was welcome to join the Community Council as a co-opted member and will be eligible to be elected as a member next year. Arran thanked the Community Council and apologised for being unable to attend on this occasion, but will come to future meetings.

5) Boulders in River

Following a request by Mr Thornton for the large boulders on the south side of the river and just upstream of the bridge to be inspected, Councillor Bell reported that he had passed on this information to the relevant Flood Protection and Neighbourhood Services officers for investigation.

6) Mrs Thornton again thanked SB Local for removing the rubbish dumped at the East end of the Alexandra Park walkway and for getting the overgrown vegetation cut back to enable the extension path to the garages to be used once more.

7) Mr Thornton reported that he had been in contact with Chairman of Clovenfords regarding attempts to retain a late-night bus service between Peebles and Galashiels. It is to be hoped that other Community Councils along the affected route will also respond.

Correspondence for period 18th October to 21st November

All emails already circulated to members.

Planning and Notices.

There were no new Planning notices.

Remembrance Sunday 2018

Mr Waller expressed the thanks of all Community Council Members to say how well the memorial Service had been conducted and how pleasing it was to be able to host a so many local residents for lunch afterwards in the village hall. He especially thanked Col. And Mrs Purves for all their hard work in setting up the outstanding displays of Walkerburn service memorabilia, to Rev. Dr. A Miller Millroy for leading the service in such a memorable way, and to all those who also helped – the catering ladies, the Police, the musicians, the marshals and others.

All told, it was a very fitting and dignified tribute, falling as it did exactly 100 years to the day from the end of World War I.

Reports by Members.

a). Ms Daykin reported by letter to say that the Community walk went well despite inclement weather! At least four people had walked from Peebles, and about 30 walked from Innerleithen, as well as cyclists and horse riders. There were about 40 at the lunch afterwards.

She pointed out that folk keep asking where the signs are for multi-use path (both Innerleithen and Walkerburn ends). Councillor Bell pointed out that they will be installed by the spring. Graham Johnstone and Sustrans will be organising an official opening and expect to have everything completed by then.

She also thanked the wonderful village hall committee for the amazing curry night which had been arranged to raise funds for the hall. Forty five people attended and enjoyed a selection of no less than eleven curry dishes.

She was unable to confirm an update on the murals planned by the Development Trust to brighten up the dilapidated old mill site, but pointed out that various suggestions are being looked into.

Finally, she reported that the Development Trust had a stall at annual charity Christmas market in Peebles to raise funds for village projects.

b) Mr McVean pointed out that the pathway leading past the George Hotel from Park Avenue to Galashiels Road needed to be cut back again. He offered to attend to it.

He reported that he and Mrs Thornton had attended the recent Area Partnership meeting. Although there was not a lot that concerned Walkerburn, the funding aspects had been discussed. The amount and the method of allocation had raised concerns and improvements are being looked at. Councillor Tatler will report to members on proposed amendments.

c) Dr Henderson mentioned to Councillors that the complaint he had received concerning a large shed in a garden had been withdrawn.

d) Mrs Ogilvie-Wilson raised the subject of poor quality Fibre-Optic broadband available in the village. Users who were not BT customers appeared to suffer disproportionately from slow speeds. Members were informed that SBC and the Scottish Government were assisting in better quality broadband roll-outs throughout the Borders, but a lot of the deficiencies were due to individual suppliers neglecting to upgrade their services efficiently. As with electricity and gas suppliers, the remedy is to switch to a better supplier if the current one is under-performing.

e) Mrs Thornton drew attention to the SBC Connect newsletter which is sent all households and recommended it to all. She pointed out that there are a lot of very useful articles in the latest issue.

f) Miss McIntosh reported that she was concerned that the greatly increased number of cyclists using the local roads and multi-use paths was becoming a danger to pedestrians – especially the more elderly. Cyclists often travel at speed

and move silently. She wondered whether there was some way of persuading them to wear high-visibility jackets and also to consider introducing some means of getting them to contribute towards the upkeep of roads and cycle paths.

It was suggested that an article in Burning Issues might be useful.

Reports by SBC Councillors.

a) Councillor Bell reported that the High Cottages white lines scheduled for re-painting will be attended to in the near future. SBC had apologised for the delay.

He also re-iterated that he is in regular contact with Graeme Johnstone at SBC regarding a hoped-for future extension to the pathway to link Walkerburn with Clovenfords, thereby complete the full route from Peebles to Galashiels.

He was also able to report that the long-running problem of the damaged wall in Galashiels Road was near to being resolved. SBC and private Insurers were agreed on a price for the works.

He also pointed out that the problem of the dead trees in Park Avenue had been dealt with by SBC. One of the trees needed to be cut right down.

b) Councillor Tatler reported Police were aware of the problems of excess parking and poor access along High Cottages and Caberston Road and the Community Action Team ('CAT') will be keeping an eye on those roads as part of their area-wide duties.

He reported that the Localities Bid Fund had been re-opened and thanked Mrs Thornton and Mr McVean for attending the Area Partnership meeting and agreed with their comments about problems with allocating funds. The amount and the criteria for applicants were being looked at and will result in more flexible and wider-ranging amendments to the existing arrangements. A paper has been submitted to SBC for approval of a more relaxed approach to funding.

Finally, he reported that the Draft Locality Plan for the Borders will be available to discuss at the next Area Partnership on 16th January, at St Ronan's School.

Date of the Next WDCC Meeting.

The next meeting will be at 7.00pm on Wednesday 19th December

Your local furniture re-use charity.

We can collect good quality furniture and working electrical white goods free of charge, or you can deliver to our shop in Walkerburn. We offer a discount for customers who receive means-tested benefits. Find details about self referral online and in-store.



Follow us

Registered Scottish Charity SC 033827 Company Ltd by Guarantee 234746

We are open to everyone:

• MON-FRI 10am-4pm

• SAT 10am-1pm

Unit 7, Tweedvale Mills East,
Walkerburn, EH43 6AB

walkerburn@homebasics.org.uk

Tel: 01896 870455



www.homebasics.org.uk

USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

Electricity SBNetworks 0800-0929290

Scottish Water 0800-0778778 www.scottishwater.co.uk

Childline 088-1111

NHS 24 111 or 0845-242424 www.nhs24.com

Police non-emergency 101

Scottish Borders Council 0300-1001800

Gas 0800-111999

Floodline 0845-9881188 www.sepa.org.uk/flooding

Samaritans phone or text 116123 www.samaritans.org.uk

St Ronans Health Centre 01896-830203

Police emergency 999

SB Alert www.sbalert.co.uk

Pollution Report Line 0800-807060

'Rab's Cabs'
Your Local Taxi Service
Airport Service available – any hour!



Phone Rab:
01896 870573 - 07749 382665

Mike Little Plumber



Phone: 01896 870 655 or 07927 344 184

WHAT'S ON IN THE HALL: December/January/February

Date	Event	Time
December		
Wednesday 19th	Walkerburn and District Community Council Meeting	7.00pm
Sunday 23rd	Church Service (changed from 30 th and note time)	10.30am
January		
Monday 7th	Mindful Yoga recommences	7.00-8.00pm
Wednesday 9th	Rural	7.30pm
Tuesday 15th	Friendship, Fellowship and Fun (Ante room)	10.00am
	Lunch Club	12 noon
Sunday 20th	Church Service	10.00am
Tuesday 22nd	Guild	2.00pm
February		
Tuesday 5th	Lunch Club	12 noon
Wednesday 6th	Rural	7.30pm
Tuesday 12th	Friendship, Fellowship and Fun (Ante Room)	10,00am
	OAP Association (Ante Room)	2.00pm
Sunday 17th	Church Service	10.00am

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS IN WALKERBURN VILLAGE HALL

Sundays	Table Tennis	6.00 – 9.00pm
Mondays	MindfulYoga	7.00 – 8.45pm
Wednesdays	Tai Chi	10.15 – 11.45am

Anyone interested in booking the hall, please contact Win Pennel on 01896 870236

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



Colin Wilson IT Services

Making your IT work for you

Peebles

m: 07548 152919

e: cwilson.itservices@gmail.com

Windows PC and laptop service & repairs,
Replacement laptop screens,
Windows re installations, Upgrade, Virus removal,
Home collection and delivery.

Qualified Hardware Service Technician



MD MOWERS

"Garden Tools and Machinery Service and Repair"

A reliable and experienced Walkerburn based business

Mob: 07517-154 868 e-mail: mjdee1982@gmail.com



Walkerburn Community Website

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 tradesman, 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.

Note: 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