



# BURNing Issues



[www.walkerburn.com](http://www.walkerburn.com)

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## PROBUS CLUB MEETINGS

Any retired person living in Peeblesshire who is interested in attending a wide variety of stimulating talks might like to know that the first meeting of the local Probus Club will take place on 1st October at the Vale Club in Innerleithen, doors open at 9.45 am for a 10.30 start.

The programme starts this year with a talk on the 'History of Scottish Witch Trials'.

The meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday mornings of the month between October and April.

Cedric Blakey is the President for the 2024-2025 season and the Probus Club of Innerleithen, Walkerburn and Traquair is always ready to welcome new members.

Further information can be obtained by contacting the Club Secretary at [probus.sec@gmail.com](mailto:probus.sec@gmail.com) or by phone on 01896 830166.

The Club's website can also be accessed at [www.probusborders.org](http://www.probusborders.org).

## PEEBLESISHIRE FOODBANK COFFEE CLUB

**9.00am to 12 noon on the 3rd Thursday every month**

Coming soon. A new Coffee Club where you can get **free** hot drinks and cakes, along with Peebles and District Citizens Advice Bureau to offer some help. Look forward to seeing you there!

**Starts Thursday 19th September**

Need help or support? Come and talk to us. Drop in or book a slot.

**Citizens Advice Bureau 0171 721722 - Foodbank 01721 588654**

## WALKERBURN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL.

There was no August meeting. The monthly meetings will resume on Wednesday 18th September.

The October meeting will be on Wednesday 16th October at 7pm in the Public Hall.

*(Members of the Public are welcome to attend and to raise any issues they want to discuss with Councillors or the Community Council.)*

## HBMI CLUB

Community Bar, Social Club and Venue - Available for Functions, Events and Activities

### Forthcoming Events:

Saturday 21st September – 'Pro-Am' annual Bowls tournament at Walkerburn Bowling Club.

A fun day for all the family. Entries still being accepted. Bring the family along to watch! All Welcome!

Saturday 28th September – 'Bob's Boiler Room Band'. An evening of enjoyable entertainment.

*(Follow us on 'Facebook' – fb/rodger)*

## MD MOWERS

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### **Burning Issues Contributors:**

**Please note: Remember to submit any articles, letters or other material for the October issue by the end of September**



**Contact BURNing Issues at**

**[walkerburnnews@hotmail.com](mailto:walkerburnnews@hotmail.com)**

# Borders Boilers

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## WALKERBURN VEGETABLE ASSOCIATION SHOW 2024

Walkerburn Vegetable Association held its 140th Annual Show and Exhibition in the Public Hall on Saturday 7th September 2024.

After a summer of disappointing weather, it was amazing to see the number of exhibits in the hall on the day. We had a higher number of exhibits than previously, many of excellent quality over all the classes along with a number of new exhibitors. The school made a colourful table with their masks and paintings. We thank everyone who exhibited along with the public who came to the hall on the day to support the event.

The following prizewinners:

### AGGREGATE POINTS PRIZES

Most points in the Show - The Walkerburn Vegetable Association Cup - Jim Mercer. Vegetable Section - The Juniper Bank Cup - Jim Mercer. Flower Section - Jeremy Ballantyne 150th Anniversary Quaich - Dave Rogerson. Industrial Section - (Preserves, Bakery & Craft) - Shani Sedgwick. Felicity Ballantyne Salver for Preserves - Shani Sedgwick. Junior Section - Walkerburn Vegetable Association Junior Trophy - Robyn Bremner

### OUTSTANDING EXHIBITS

Lady Darling Trophy (Onions) - Thomas Steele Shaw Baillie Trophy - (Heaviest Onion) - Thomas Steele  
F.L Ballantyne Coronation Cup and Rosette (Box of 6 Vegetables) - Jim Mercer  
Campbell Mackay Prize (Fruit) - Bunch of Grapes - Jim Noble. Lady Thomson Dahlia Quaich - Dave Rogerson  
Caddon View Trophy & Rosette (Flowers) - Ronnie Grigor. Nan Hislop Cup - Preserves & Bakery - Sheilagh Sommerville  
C.W Mackintosh Memorial Cup & Rosette (Craft) - Vicky McNiff. Miniature Garden - Robyn Bremner  
Walkerburn Primary School Cup (Poster) - Robyn Bremner

### PRIZEWINNERS VEGETABLE SECTION

1. Six Onion - Thomas Steele 2. Four Onions - Jim Mercer 3. Single Onion - Jim Mercer 4. Four Onions (under 12) - Thomas Steele 5. Six Onion Sets (Flat) - Jim Mercer 6. Six Onion sets (Globe) - Jim Mercer 7. Six Pear-Shaped Shallots - Thomas Steele 8. Three Leeks - Joyce Hume 9. Collection of Vegetable - Jim Mercer 10. Eight Potatoes - Sam Ferguson 11. Four Potatoes - Thomas Steele 12. Box of Six Vegetables - Jim Mercer 13. Organic Box - Jim Mercer 14. Two Globe Beetroot - Thomas Steele 15. Three Different Articles - Jim Mercer 16. Three Courgettes - Sam Ferguson 17. One Cabbage - Jim Mercer 18. One Cauliflower - Jim Mercer 19. Six Broad Beans - Jim Mercer 20. Twelve Pods Peas - Thomas Steele 21 One Cucumber - Thomas Steele 22. Three Stump Rooted Carrots - Thomas Steele 23. Plant of Parsley - Joyce Hume 24. Truss of Tomatoes - Allin Hoggarth 25. Six Tomatoes - Bill Kenyon 26. Bunch of Herbs - Irene Cotter 27. Peppers - Allin Hoggarth 28. Heaviest Three Carrots - Jim Mercer 29. Heaviest Single Onion - Thomas Steele 30. Heaviest Potato - Jim Mercer 31. Heaviest Three Carrots - Jim Mercer 32. Any Item not Already Specified - Davina Jones

### FRUIT SECTION

33. Five Cooking Apples - Allin Hoggarth 32. Twelve Plums - Stephen Jones 35. Five Eating Apples - Angus Bremner 36. Bunch of Grapes - Jim Noble

### FLOWER SECTION

37. Three Cactus Dahlias (medium) - Dave Rogerson 38. Three Cactus Dahlias (small) - Dave Rogerson  
39. Three Decorative Dahlias (small) - Dave Rogerson 40. Five Pom-Pom Dahlias - Dave Rogerson 41. Five Ball or Miniature Dahlias - Pam Fraser 42. Collection of Dahlias - Dave Rogerson 43. Vase of Annuals - Emma Ward 44. Six Fuchsia - Vicky McNiff 45. Tuberosus Begonia in Pot - Colin Grahame 46. Fuchsia in Pot - Erica Paxton 47. Pot Plant in Flower - Pam Fraser 48. Foliage Plant in Pot - Sam Ferguson 49. Three Spikes Gladiola - Ronnie Grigor 50. Single Gladiola - Ronnie Grigor 51. Vase of Herbaceous - Sam Ferguson 52. Single Rose H.T. - Robin Wilson 53. Vase Floribunda Roses - Anne Kenyon 54. Twelve Spikes Sweet Peas - Sam Ferguson 55 Floral Arrangement - Anne Kenyon 56. Corsage - Anne Kenyon 57. Vase of Mixed Flowers - Vicky McNiff 58. Foliage only Arrangement - Pam Fraser.

### INDUSTRIAL SECTION

59. Jar of Blackcurrant Jam - Davina Jones 60. Jar of Raspberry Jam - Cedric Blackey 61. Jar of Strawberry Jam - Cedric Blackey 62. Jar of Plum Jam - Joyce Hume 63. Jar of Jam - Any Variety - Joyce Hume 64. Jar of Jelly - Rod Howat 65. Jar of Lemon Curd - Irene Cotter 66. Jar of Marmalade - Elsa Lemaitre 67. Three Cheese Scones - Sheilagh Sommerville 68. One Bread Loaf - Steve Lee 69. Chocolate Sponge - A. Owen-Walker 70. Four Pancakes - Lesley Thornton 71. Sultana & Cherry Cake - Morag Wilson 72. Lemon Drizzle Cake - Steve Lee 73. Four Shortbread Biscuits - Sheilagh Sommerville 74. Tea Loaf - Aileen Borthwick 75. Plain Gingerbread - Frank Leitch 76. Three Decorated Cupcakes - Aileen Borthwick.

## CRAFT SECTION

77. Article of Ladies Knitwear - Anne Glendinning 78. Item of Tapestry - Lucile Macleod 79. Item of Cross Stitch - Cathy Kelly 80. Article of Children's Knitwear - Anne Glendinning 81. Knitted Soft Toy - Sheila Keddie 82. Knitted Article of Babywear - Sheila Keddie 83. Item of Quilting - Vicky McNiff 84. Sewn Soft Toy - Jenni Brown 85. Fancy Cushion - Lucile Macleod 86. Crocheted Article - Elma Wallace 87. Christmas Decoration - Vicky McNiff 88. My Best Photograph - Morag Dempsey 89. Any Other Craft Not Already Specified - Vicky McNiff.

## JUNIOR SECTION

Painted Stone - Emily Cleghorn. Pre-School Classes - 1. Rachel Hayden 2. Laura Hope 3. Dominik Kamela Primary School Classes 1-3 Paper Plate Mask - 1. Ruby 2. Ethan 3. Finn.

Posy of Flowers in a Jam Jar - 1. Lucy Cleghorn 2. Omar Eldessonki.

Primary School Classes 4-7 Poster for Next Year's Show - 1. Robyn Bremner 2. Harley Oliver 3. Milan Kamela. Miniature Garden - 1. Robyn Bremner 2. Finn Hart. Walkerburn School Cup - Robyn Bremner.



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## WALKERBURN BOWLING & PETANQUE CLUB

**The Peeblesshire League season has now ended and the bowlers finished on a high note by beating the overall winners, Broughton in a close fought match.**

Although we only managed a mid-table finish, there have been several close finishes and it is heartening to know that we have always managed to field a full side, and even provide reserves when needed.

The Wappenshaw season is now ended and games have been well attended. Finally, the opening rounds of the club competitions are in their final stages and the in 'Open Pairs' competition on Saturday 14th September was the final major Bowls event.

Full results and a season round-up can be seen in the October Burning Issues.

Thanks to all who have taken part and to the helpers who worked so hard to provide the excellent catering, grounds work and good organisation to ensure that all the events were a big success.

The Petanque section has also been engaged in a number of summer fixtures, including a new

Borders League and a coaching event. The final match in the Summer League competition will be at home on 15th September against a strong Innerleith team travelling from Edinburgh to enjoy our Borders hospitality. There will be a report on the season's progress in next month's issue.

Meanwhile, the informal Friday afternoon 'drop-in' sessions will continue throughout the Autumn and the Winter months, starting at the earlier time of 1.00pm every Friday.

Petanque is increasingly popular and new members have commented on how pleasant it is to play at Walkerburn. The club welcomes new members. Just come along and meet the 'Petanquers' each Friday afternoon at these events. Tea, coffee and biscuits are always available.

*For more details, please see the Walkerburn Bowls Facebook pages, or contact George Thornton on either 01896-870251 or e-mail geoles2@tiscali*



## **"SUDS CAR WASH & VALETING"**

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## WHAT'S ON IN THE HALL: September/October

Anyone interested in booking the hall, please note new contact: [enquiries@walkerburnvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@walkerburnvillagehall.co.uk)

Date	Event	Time
Mondays	Mindful Yoga: For more info, please tel. Sue Cotterill on 07983 167075 or email <a href="mailto:reverendsusancotterill@gmail.com">reverendsusancotterill@gmail.com</a>	6.00 - 9.00pm
Tuesdays (weekly)	Scottish Power Energy Network Consultation 24th September Youth Club (except for last Tuesday every month)	3.00pm - 7.00pm 6.00pm - 8.00pm
Wednesdays	Scottish Power Energy Network Consultation 18th September Walkerburn and District Community Council Monthly Meeting 18th September	5.30pm - 7.00pm 7.00pm
Thursdays	Citizens Advice Bureau and Coffee Club 19th September and then every 3rd Thursday of the month. Pilates Class	9.00am - 2.00pm  7.00pm - 9.00pm
Friday	Adam Holmes Music Night 18th October	7.00pm - 10.00pm
Sundays	ITW Church Service 22nd September Table Tennis	2.00pm 6-7pm

### SEPTEMBER WILDSIDE

**This is the time of the great bird exchange as those that came here for the spring and summer, particularly to breed, make their way back from whence they came or accompany their parents back to their winter season grounds.**

It seems incredible that birds less than a few months old, fly such distances at all, especially the smaller species. With their long tail feathers, swooping flight and bubbling call, you could spot Swallows just about anywhere as they make their journey south. Take a look at telegraph wires to see them gathering before they fly to France, Spain and eventually southern Africa. Swallows need to make sure they are well stocked up before they go, so you'll see them flying low over fields to find insects to fuel their 6,000+ mile journey. As well as crossing the sea more than once, Swallows also fly over the Sahara Desert, an amazing feat for such a small bird.

Particularly impressive is the migration of the Willow Warbler as they're one of our smallest birds, weighing no more than a box of matches. Every year these miniature marvels travel 8,000km to get to the UK from sub-Saharan Africa, and then do it all again in the opposite direction, spending the winter feeding in forests and wooded savannahs.

While some of our summer visitors, such as Cuckoos, Nightingales and most Swifts, have already left September is when many more start to take to the air and head south for the winter. This includes millions of warblers, such as Chiffchaff and Blackcaps, their numbers increased by this year's youngsters. You can see them in hedgerows and scrub, especially along the coast. They'll be busy flitting between trees and bushes looking for last minute meals to build up their energy for the long flight ahead. This abundance of fruits is a lifeline for many of our birds as their summer food supplies, such as caterpillars and insects, run low.

A very strange migratory bird that the RSPB are highlighting this year are wrynecks, which are members of the woodpecker family, and just a little bit larger than a sparrow. You might see it feeding on ants on the ground. Most are seen near the east coast, as they migrate from Scandinavia to Africa, but they have been seen inland here too and in people's gardens. Old names for the Wryneck include 'twister', 'writhe neck' and 'snake bird'. These names recognise the Wryneck's remarkable ability to turn its head from side to side and

back and forth like a snake, in a move they use to deter predators. Their brown patterning or cryptic colouration helps to camouflage the birds.

This year we have lots of berries and I've been watching the blackbirds in our garden start stripping the rowan. I just need to pick the blueberries or they'll have those as well! They'll still have a hawthorn and cotoneaster to feed on and the pyracantha's coming on too. But it's not just birds that are making the most of the berry bonanza. Pine Martens too make the most of the bounty, with a particular penchant for Rowan berries, Blackberries and Bilberries. We do have Pine Martens to the south of the village. In fact, many of our mammals, such as Hedgehogs, Squirrels and Foxes all eat berries when available and Blackberry, Elderberry, Hawthorn (haws), rosehips and Blackthorn (sloes) are all coming into season now. Another creature stocking up for the winter is the Badger. Hedgerows in September are full of berries and warm(ish!) September evenings as dusk falls are a great time to try and spot families emerging from their setts on the hunt for fruits, nuts and earthworms.

By September the queen wasp has stopped laying eggs and the thousands of female workers are without a job. And without much food. During the spring and summer, they've been busy catching insects which they bring back to the nest to feed to the carnivorous larvae. As a reward the larvae produce a sugary liquid which the vegetarian female workers sip all summer long. But with the larvae all grown up, the female workers have to find other sugary snacks, which brings them to our 'picnics'. They won't be around for long. The sterile females soon die off, along with the fertile males, once they've mated with the new queens. The old queens soon die too, leaving the new queens to bunk down for the winter, ready to emerge next spring.

We have our first Supermoon on September 18th, also known as the 'Harvest Moon' as it's the closest full moon to the Autumn Equinox. Then on October 7th, the Draconids meteor shower peaks before the next Supermoon on October 17th. Autumn's here at last, putting an end to the coolest summer since 2015.