

BURNing ISSUES

Walkerburn News - Issue Five - May 2002



**congratulations katherine
walkerburn lass 2002**

Dear Villagers

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that came along and made our coffee morning a great success; the grand sum of £416 was raised. To all the people who helped on the day, donated prizes and cash your support is invaluable and I trust we can rely upon you during the festival week. Congratulations to Katherine Hynd, it is some feat to attain the honour of both Festival Principal and Essay Winner and I'm sure she will do her duties well. The festival this year will start on 23rd June and run to the 29th so you have plenty of time to organise yourself for the fancy dress competition. Further details of what is on during the week will be posted later.

Results of the coffee morning raffle

Groceries	Lorraine Moran	Dressed Doll	Julie Kerr	Box Chocs	Maureen Roy
Bottle Vodka	Rachel Finney	Football	Olive Davidson	Box Biscuits	Anne Kerr
Groceries	Mary Anne Cummings	Mystery Prize	Sandra Bremner	Mystery Prize	Bessie Smith
Bottle Wine	Gary Lees	Radio	Denise	Calculator	Zoe Taylor
Duvet Cover	Sadie	Calculator	Nan Mc Clure	Gold Chain	Shiela Horsburgh
Snowman Book	Rae Anderson	Bubble Bath	Mrs Grant		
Treasure Hunt Winner	Stuart Borthwick				
Race Round the Town	- Guess the Time - 2min 45sec		Winner Mary Daykin		

Thank you once more, yours sincerely Colin Kerr President Walkerburn Summer Festival



Editorial

We are very happy with your response to our efforts, but at the risk of repeating something you have heard before, we need your help. In particular we are looking for a team of three volunteers to photocopy and staple the next edition. We generally do this in the offices of Rathburn Chemicals thanks to the good offices of Campbell Mackay! This task takes from 4-5 hours. If you would be willing to help please contact any member of the editorial team.

By the way we now have a deadline for submission of articles, letters and e-mails, please send them to us by the first of the month for inclusion in that month's edition. Please note that there will be no editions of "BURNing Issues" in July and August.

Now for some fun. "WHO WANTS TO BE A BOOKTOKENAIRE?"

The Editorial team will award a £10 book token for the best article or letter from a pupil at Walkerburn Primary School.

A quick reminder of Who's Who at BURNing Issues HQ.

Anne Watt (Chairperson) 870 779

Cathie Sutherland (Vice Chairperson) 870 470

Jane Gaze (Secretary) 870 224

Donna Allen (Treasurer) 870 492

E mail pasha@tiscali.co.uk

An Incomers View of Walkerburn

I was both surprised and delighted to be asked to write an article for "BURNing Issues" on the first impressions of Walkerburn, having only moved into the village in March. Previously we lived in Wokingham, 30 miles west of London and I was one of the millions who commuted into London everyday.

So first impressions of Walkerburn are the

Peace and quiet.

A community spirit, and a determination to work together to get things done.

Beginning to recognise people in the village who have the time to say more than just a quick hello, goodbye.

Birds singing day and night.

The first butterflies I've seen in ages.

The brightness of the stars in the cloudless night sky.

Hills and forests as a backdrop to the village.

Fresh air and no excessive car fumes.

Distances measured in the number of minutes rather than hours due to traffic jams.

And we are only scratching the surface, we haven't walked the hills yet, fished the Tweed, or experienced the Walkerburn Festival.

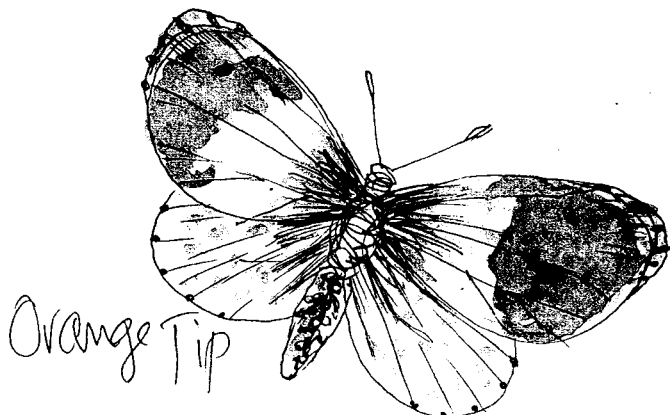
Yes we do miss the supermarkets, pubs and restaurants that Wokingham had, however these material things are more than compensated by the breathtaking views that Walkerburners enjoy.

So remind yourself of the natural beauty that surrounds Walkerburn and look at the village, but this time through the eyes of an 'incomer'.

DH



Peacock Butterfly



Orange Tip



Community Council

Extracts from the minutes of the Community Council Meeting.

Police Business

Constable Robertson read a letter, which had been drafted by Inspector Williamson, for distribution to residents asking for consideration when parking their cars. This letter is to be sent in the name of the Community Council and the local Police force. Miss McIntosh will liaise with Inspector Williamson. Concern was also expressed at the continuing problem of cars parking on the pavement on Peebles Road

Elections

Elections for the membership of the Community Council are due to be held in June. Two members retire by rotation, they are Miss M.M. McIntosh and Mrs S Sommerville. Ms D. Brown and Ms A Watt were co-opted for one year in June 2001 and can now stand for election to full membership. Mr Howard Clarke retires due to the fact that he has moved out of the district. This means that we have vacancies for 5 council members. The secretary must receive nominations by 12.00 on Monday 20th May.

Walkerburn Clean Up

H Clarke and A Watt suggested that we have a clean up day in the village. This will be discussed at the next meeting. It will also be brought up at the next WAVE meeting.

The Date of the next Community Council meeting is Monday 20th May at 7pm in the anteroom of the Public Hall.

W.A.V.E.

I'm worried..... worried about Walkerburn

Whilst the WAVE Group has been successful so far in helping to create this newsletter and the thriving youth club, I'm aware of the many issues that remain to be tackled, like the Old Mill and improving the Village Hall and appearance of the village.

So far I've been working in Walkerburn for over a year and I'm conscious of having only a year left on my contract with TAVO. A similar process to WAVE is just beginning in Innerleithen, which will grow to absorb much of my time. I fear that in June 2003 that the WAVE Group will collapse and Walkerburn will be left to "rot" unless a strong group of committed local people are willing to carry on the process.

I believe that without a strong local group taking the initiative, major agencies like the Council and Scottish Enterprise Borders will carry on with their current attitude to Walkerburn acknowledgement that Walkerburn needs help but no extra commitment of resources.

So far no council department and no agency has provided anything directly to Walkerburn, (except for Community Education). The only success of the WAVE Group has come through YOUR actions.

If you care about Walkerburn, want to improve the village and your life in it then its up to YOU come to the next WAVE meeting and offer your help. You don't need any skills or knowledge (There is help available for you to gain any needed) just COMMITMENT.

Please, please come and help us to continue improving YOUR Home without YOU nothing will happen.

**NEXT MEETING 7.30pm
TUESDAY 28th MAY at the HB
CLUB.**

Simon Lynch
Development Worker
(Innerleithen & Walkerburn)

OPEN INVITATION

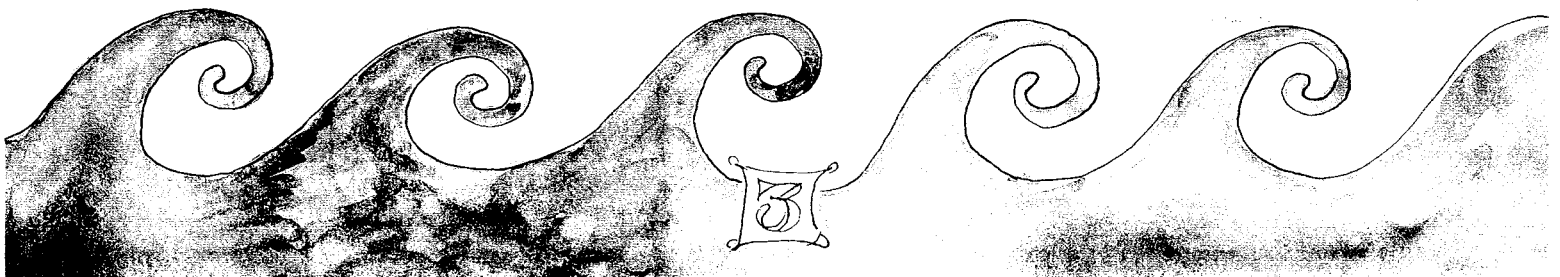
Walkerburn Primary School

Invite you to their Jubilee Celebrations on Tuesday 4th June @ 3.00 – 3.30pm. It will be held in the school playground.

Tea and biscuits will be served.

The children will be performing a dance that they are doing for the Queen at Melrose later in May.

We look forward to seeing you there.



YOUTH CLUB UPDATE

5-A-Side Football

Once again great news to report about the Youth Club, both the boys and girls 5-a-side football teams have reached the finals of the "Youth Scotland" tournament which will be held in Perth on the 8th of June. The team will represent the Scottish Borders. This is a massive achievement for the young people of Walkerburn and they should all be congratulated. Best of Luck!

The team is currently seeking sponsorship to cover the cost of their football strips, any business which would consider assisting with this would have their company name on the strips.

If you can help please phone Mags Henderson on 870 688

International Exchanges

The club is looking at the possibility of a group of club members aged 14+ being involved in an exchange scheme, with assistance from Community Education and the Scottish International Exchange Scheme.

Computer

Representatives from the Youth Club met with the Village Hall Committee on 15th May. One of the matters discussed was accommodation within the Hall for the club computer. This matter has now been resolved and the club

can now go ahead and buy their computer and storage unit to house it

Fun Day

The club is hoping to hold a "Fun Day in the community" some time during the summer – watch this space.

It is hoped to publish an interview with Dave Henderson, Community Education worker in the next edition of BURNING Issues. Dave has been very involved in the setting up and running of Walkerburn Youth Club and many other schemes in the Tweedale Area, we are sure the article will make interesting reading.

JG

INTERFERING INCOMER

In this issue we have a new column, hopefully it will become something of a regular feature – welcome to "Interfering Incomer"
Ironic and tongue in cheek! A little humour can go a long way.

The column is intended as a forum for readers to express contentious or controversial view. Nothing which is deemed personally abusive will be published, however if wished contributors can have their name withheld (as in letters to the Peebleshire News). Perhaps a witty pen name could be used. So go on write to the BURNING Issues, letters can be left in the box at the P.O. or emailed to pasha@tiscali.co.uk or handed to any member of the team

Dog Fouling

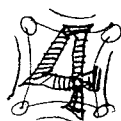
Walkerburn dog-owners! (and anything else that does its business on the street, although I doubt there is!)

Please can you stop letting your dogs sh*t on the pavement. We know you probably get this all the time but it really does stink! Don't tell us everyone does clean up after their dog because if they did, why would there be so much of it?

A couple of weeks ago I came into my house after school with a friend and my mum gave me hell because I had Dog's business on my shoes. Now I have to take my shoes off at the front door which is really annoying because I have heavy walking boots with laces that take ages to undo.

Did you know it is illegal to let your dogs foul a public place? You can be fined over one hundred pounds! Don't give Walkerburn dogs a bad name. Clean Up After Your Dog!

FG (age 11)



JUBILEE' 52

Theme Night held in the Memorial Hall Innerleithen on Saturday 27th April 2002

The evening was unanimously felt to have been a great success. The hall looked really festive – many, many compliments were received for that – and the Night Rhythms Band from Berwick on Tweed pleased people greatly.

Intermission music was arranged by Roddy and Julia Sharpe. Party Games went very well and proved a successful participatory tool, bringing people onto the dance floor. Balloons suspended from the ceiling had floated down during the dancing. Many guests followed Jeremy's lead dressed as Peter Ustinov and dressed in true 50's style!

Louise Blaikie spoke well, representing Leonard Cheshire Scotland, for which we raised the fine total of £425. She explained that all the funds raised in Scotland are used in Scotland. Many will be aware of their work with finding employment and holidays for those with special needs, the new head injuries rehabilitation unit in Livingston for those requiring rehabilitation after accidents or surgery and appropriate housing also for special needs. The Bar profits have gone to the St Ronan's Games Committee who are delighted.

A special mention should be made of Douglas Barnett, the hall keeper who had beaten us all to it on Sunday morning and was found washing the last few metres of floor at our pre arranged time for clearing up of 10.30am!

We are most grateful for all the support from individuals in the eastern part of Tweeddale and for the many generous raffle prizes! Many letters and telephone calls have followed this occasion where individuals have said how much they had enjoyed the evening and appreciated our hard work.

The Jubilee' 52 Group is continuing to work for this year.

Awards for All

There is an Awards for All Application awaiting submission for funding for local projects which should be approved by various groups in our communities. Unfortunately Walkerburn is falling behind in supporting improvement ideas put forward by this group. Does anyone have any objection to the concept of designing a new village sign for the Walkerburn road sign? Both signs are looking rather old and vandalised and we could do with a more cheerful welcome to our village.

Innerleithen and Cardrona have come forward with their ideas, in principle, for seeking funding already. Walkerburn will lose out on this opportunity for Jubilee Year Funding unless we get letters of support for the concept initially. We are not asking for approval of a final design at this stage. Please phone Sarah Ballantyne or Heather Lothian about this. The approval process will take 2-3 months from submission date.

As chair, my sincere thanks to a hardworking committee!

Sarah Fraser-Ballantyne.

Jubilee' 52 Committee

Walkerburn

Mr Jeremy Ballantyne
Mrs Sarah Ballantyne
Mrs Heather Lothian
Mr David Barbour
Ms Karen Borthwick

Innerleithen

Mrs Marlen Jones
Mrs Christine Craig
Mr Norman Scott
Mrs Rosemary Clark

Traquair

Dr Robert Cumming

Cardrona

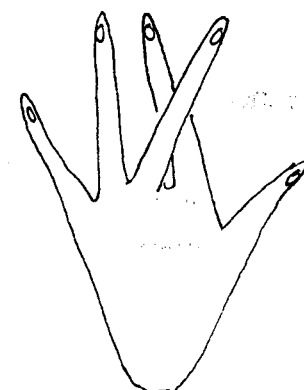
Mrs Paddy Campbell

congratulations

to Craig and Morag Wilson on their recent wedding.



to all the 4th and 5th year pupils at Peebles High doing state exams at the moment.



A Laywoman's comment on Walkerburn Rugby Sevens - 11 May 2002

Cuts and bruises are normally the result of a hard sevens or fifteens game of rugby; not always so! Oh yes I was involved on the day, but my nose fell foul of stacked trays too high to reach, which slipped and clipped me on my beak. Cross eyed with the thump, I rallied the support of the entire household who formed a catering team to produce our contribution to "the teas."

What a great day! The weather was perfect and the crowds flocked in to support our struggling club, the rugby was enjoyable and each team played their sporting best. Musselburgh won the trophy with St Boswells as Runners-up. The prize giving was carried out in such a friendly and entertaining manner.

16 ties are commendable for any small club to arrange and we must congratulate our hard working Rugby Club committee for putting together such a thoroughly well arranged afternoon of sport and entertainment. It was a joy to see the enthusiasm with which the youngsters played in their game before the final and noticeable the dedication of their coaches.

The weather, perfect on the day, had played its nasty trick the previous night, as strong winds had whipped the Club Tents to a pile of bent metal and canvas. However Innerleithen came up trumps and lent us a splendid tent for the one hundred or so generous Sponsors to enjoy a fantastic spread put on by the people of Walkerburn. I really must emphasise here that the quantity and variety would compete with the best catering on offer anywhere. The Sponsors were VERY impressed! No wonder they enjoy coming back with a welcome like that! Karen and pals kept the bar going.

The Disco made a fine sound across the valley on Saturday night and it was noted that the pavement to Innerleithen was quite busy following the dance! Also certain Welshmen were spotted somewhat wearily re-gathering their strength to face the nine hour bus journey home on Sunday morning.

It is great to know that the articles in the Peebleshire News last week have already borne fruit and several things are starting to happen:-

Some new players have come forward for next season.

There are several ladies willing to form a ladies committee.

There is a new WRFC flag

Members are paying up their annual subs – have you remembered?

Walkerburn has an amazing history of Rugby. Let us continue to carry our support through 2002 and 2003 to help the Club back onto its feet again. Players and Coaches are needed in order to compete. We need the youngsters to be able to start at a young age too.

Can you help? Do you know of anyone who could help who might be approached?

Sarah Fraser-Ballantyne

Henry Ballantyne Memorial Institute

Dear Members

The membership subscriptions are now due. They should be paid by the end of July.

Also at the recent AGM held on Monday 13th May it was agreed that children between the ages of 12-18 yrs old are allowed into the club to play pool. They will be admitted to the club on Monday evenings through to Thursday evenings until 9.00pm. The children must be accompanied by at least one of their parents or legal guardian, who must be a full member. This is for a trial period of three months, from the 1st July 2002 and will be reviewed at the first full meeting after that time.

Yours sincerely

Maryann Cummings (Secretary)



Book Reviews

Let me introduce you to Nick Hornby!

"How to be Good" by Nick Hornby is a portrait of a 90s marriage under the strain of the wife's adultery and the husband's decision to live according to Christian principles. Literally!

He invites a healer to stay with them permanently. He gives away their material possessions. The children hate giving up their computers! He arranges for all the neighbours to take in a homeless young person. Miraculously two of these arrangements work. It's hilarious and serious. The moral of the tale is that it is easier to love others than to care for one's nearest and dearest. In a classic moment in the book we discover that the healer does not get on with his sister. I thoroughly recommend it as a good book group read. Plenty to discuss.

"About a Boy" by Nick Hornby is a modern take on our current lifestyle through the eyes of an idle Yuppie and the bullied son of a single parent. Will is a self absorbed 38 year old man living without commitment on the royalties from his father's Xmas hit song. He cynically exploits the loneliness of single parent Mums by inventing a two year old son and joining a single parents group so as to meet women. Through this he meets Marcus, the ten year old son of a suicidal hippie Mum. Various adventures and misadventures follow leading to a thoroughly satisfactory but unexpected ending. This excellent film is currently showing at the Pavilion cinema.

AW

Nature Notes

I saw an unexpected sight as I came round the corner into Hall Street, Innerleithen early last Sunday morning. A hawk of some kind had a crow pinned to the ground. Other crows were dive bombing the hawk to get it to give up its prey. My sudden appearance was very lucky for the crow. The hawk released its victim and flew off. The crow stumbled around in the street for a bit then flew off. Does someone keep raptors locally or is Hall Street the natural habitat of hawks?

It's the 2nd of May and I have just seen 3 goldfinches sitting on the telephone wire outside my window. Does 3 constitute a "Charm" of goldfinches? They are the most exquisite little birds.

I haven't heard the cuckoo yet this year, although it's always about this time that it "mocks married men"!

Last year I actually heard and saw the cuckoo. It was sitting on telephone wires quite far up the Innerleithen glen, a large ugly bird making a very distinctive sound. According to my book, cuckoos are particularly common on moorlands because they tend to lay their eggs in Meadow Pipits' nests.

Flights of doves fly past my window daily. I Wonder if the local pigeon fancier would like to contribute an article on his hobby to "BURNing Issues".

First swallow sighted on 22nd April
First Housemartin on 4th May.

AW

!!! REMEMBER !!!

Judo **every Monday Night** in the Village Hall

Youth Group **every Thursday night** 7pm in Village Hall.

20 May: Community Council meeting at 7pm in the Village Hall.

28 May: WAVE meeting at 7.30pm in the HB Club. Everyone welcome.

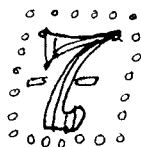
4 June: Walkerburn Primary School Jubilee Celebrations 3.00 – 3.30pm in the school playground.

12 June: Pensioners Outing to Ayr. Tickets £7.00 for members £14.00 for non members for fare and 3 course meal.

First 4 Wednesdays in July: Coffee in the Lower Church Hall to raise funds for the fabric of the church.

Robert Smail's Printing Works at Innerleithen is open again for the 2002 season. The opening hours are different this year.
Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Monday: 12 noon till 5 pm
Sunday: 1pm till 5pm
During July and August Smail's will be open from 10am till 6pm.

"Walkerburn Its History" by Eric Pearce is still available at £3.50 from Eric Pearce or Molly McIntosh. All monies raised go to the village hall funds.



Letters to the Editor

The Editorial Team reserves the right to edit or omit letters. Views expressed attach only to the writers. All submissions must include a full address and telephone number.

Poem in Last Months Nature Notes

I heard the verse on spring being sprung in an accent resembling that of Spike Milligan or one of the Goons. Goodness knows how you spell it but it went as follows:-

Da spring is sprung
Da grass is ris
I wonder where da boidy is
Da boid is on the wing
Now there's a funny ting
I always tought da wing was on da boid.

Joan Pigge

Walkerburn Web Site

Dear Burning Issues

It's great to see the Burning Issues leaflet at last filling out and I would like to take this opportunity to say what a great job you are all doing.

Furthermore I would like to take the opportunity to let you know that I have my own website up and running. It is in the early stages and needs a little more to help fill out the pages. The website is all about Walkerburn and I guarantee it is "Worth A LOOK". The site was created last year as a project between taking time out of College and I wanted to use it as a tool to inform people of things that were happening in our Village.

The site is at www.walkerburn.net

Should you wish to discuss the possibility of using the site, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully
Sean Armstrong

Type 2 Diabetes

Is there anybody out there who suffers from Type 2 Diabetes?

If you would like to compare notes over a coffee, please phone Ann on 870 779

