



# BURNing Issues



Published by Walkerburn News Group

ISSUE FORTY ONE - AUGUST 2005

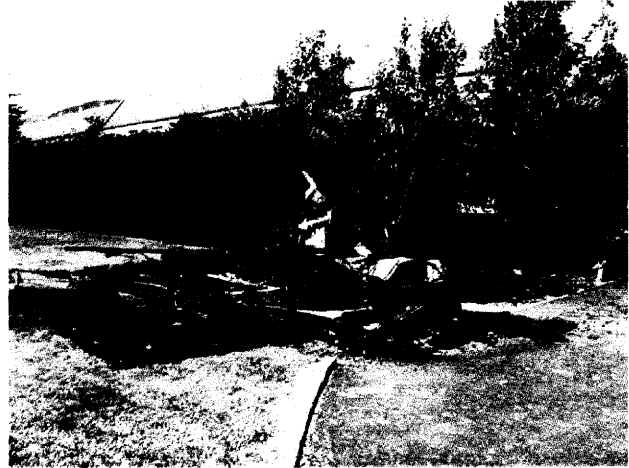
## FESTIVAL HUT FIRE

As most of you will be aware, the festival was dealt a huge body blow with the complete destruction of the Festival Hut in a fire. Not only did we obviously lose the hut, but all the equipment for the whole festival was stored inside. All the festival flags, sports equipment, fancy dress parade equipment...the list goes on.

The Festival Committee has held a meeting to apply for funding to replace the items that were destroyed but Walkerburn Summer Festival will probably have to match fund any money we receive.

The main problem we have is if no funding is available or if the festival has to contribute a large amount from our own funds, this will put a serious financial strain on the festival. Therefore, we hope to use the EGM to discuss the way forward for the festival. Please come along if you have any ideas on fundraising or any aspect of how the festival should continue, or if you are able to help in any way. We will have an agenda for this meeting, if there are any points you wish to raise please hand them in writing to Harvey Lothian no later than 1st September.

**Harvey Lothian,**  
President Walkerburn Summer Festival,  
83 Tweedholm Avenue, Walkerburn,  
Telephone: 01896 870276 or 0771 846 7791



*The remains of the Festival Hut after the devastating fire.*

**Could your home be more energy efficient?  
Would you like to reduce your fuel bills?**

Contact the Home Energy Adviser for FREE advice:  
Home Energy Adviser, Housing Strategy Team,  
Council Headquarters, Newtown St Boswells TD6 0SA  
Tel 01835 825169

Email [housingenquiries@scotborders.gov.uk](mailto:housingenquiries@scotborders.gov.uk)

The Community Council has invited him to come to the village to give a presentation sometime in the Autumn - watch out for details in the September BURNing Issues

### Walkerburn Summer Festival Extraordinary General Meeting

14th September 2005  
at Walkerburn Village Hall 7.00pm

*Items to be discussed:  
To ratify the constitution of  
Walkerburn Summer Festival,  
to change the financial year end  
and bring forward our AGM.*

## Walkerburn & Innerleithen Partnership Grant Scheme

**Funding support for community and business projects  
that benefit the local economy**

- Grants of up to **£5000** can be given for community projects (excluding sporting groups)
- Grants of up to **£20,000** can be given for building and infrastructure projects (excluding retailers and the motor trade)
- Grants of up to **£5000** can be given for projects improving tourism and tourist facilities (excluding retailers and the motor trade)
- Grants of up to **£3000** can be given for projects developing e-business (excluding retailers and the motor trade)

Interested?

If you've got an idea for a project then phone the **Walkerburn Innerleithen Partnership** Simon (01896 831 789) or Cathie (01896 833 138) to discuss your ideas or come along to the **WIP AGM + Funding and Funders Evening AGM 7pm, Funding 7.30-9.30pm Wednesday 24th August 2005 Innerleithen Memorial Hall**

There will also be information on project support and funding, including

**Business Gateway, Local Action Fund Lottery, Community Fund, Leader+**

**Applications for grants will be accepted up to 1st December 2005**

# WALKERBURN RUGBY CLUB

www.rugby.walkerburn.org.uk  
secretary@rugby.walkerburn.org.uk  
www.sru.org/sites/walkerburn-rfc



## NEWS

A new season at the 'Burn has started already with training on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7-9pm for senior players.

The first friendlies to be played are:

*Away v. Madras College on 20th August 3pm*

*Home v. Earliston on 27th August. 3pm*

*Home v. Penicuik 2nds on 9th September 3pm*

Thereafter we play in the Edinburgh District League, the BT Cup and the Borders District Shield and of course many friendlies. There are more home games arranged this season so come and support the local team both as players and spectators. The bar will be open and hot meals or snacks available.

On International Days the Bar and Clubhouse will be open again. It is much more fun watching the matches on TV in good company in the Clubhouse!

The Annual Sevens Tournament is planned for 6th May 2006.

New and old - playing or social members - are so welcome.

It is a very friendly club! Memberships are being taken now in the clubhouse and fixture cards will be available in mid-August. Please apply now.

The new season's strips have been sponsored by Kooga and will be included in the Club merchandise for sale. Please apply to the Secretary 01896 870762 or Rugby Coordinator Ian Millar 01896 757042.

Wildcats Minis start training on Saturday 27th August 9.30 -10.30am, thereafter every Saturday. This season includes many home and away Fixtures and a Tournament on 23rd

April 2006. Open to P3-P7 both boys and girls. Joining is free of charge.

Midis start training on Thursday 1st September 7-8pm thereafter every Thursday. Open to S1 upwards both boys and girls. Free of charge. (It should be noted, however that SRU rules dictate that although they may train together, boys and girls must play matches in separate teams.)

There is a new coaching team for season 2005/06 at the 'Burn. Paul Lindsay will head a team of coaches for this season. Paul is currently the match secretary for the club and was the tour manager of the very successful club tour to Spain last year. He recently retired from refereeing due to a knee injury. he has over 10 years coaching experience with St Peters Pumas and the Mini Maroons. Assistant Coaches will be player Alan Clinch (fitness), Eric Anderson (team sessions) along with player David Howitt who will also be Head Coach of the new midi section which will start on Thursday 1st September.

The annual 'Spit and Polish Day' will take place on Saturday the 13th August. All players and members are requested to report at 10.00 am sharp. Bring a duster and a paint brush. This will be followed by a BBQ and light refreshments! The more helpers the better the shine!

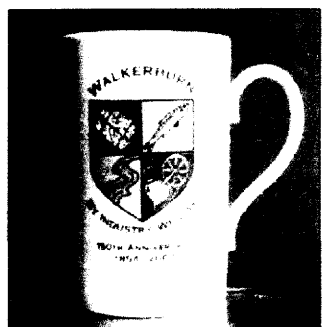
Car Boot Sale on Sunday 11th September 11 - 3pm - bar open, refreshments and barbecue. Pre book on 01896-870762.

All players are reminded to return their player profiles and confirm availability for St Andrews trip (Sat 20th Aug.) to Ian Millar or Andy Thoms by Sat 7th August, for further info contact the rugby co-ordinator on 01896 757042.

### Walkerburn RFC 200 Club July Winners

£50	88 P. Brown
£10	191: H. Clapperton
£5	172: H. Currie
£5	22: Jim Fraser

## HAVE YOU BEEN MUGGED YET?



**WALKERBURN  
150th ANNIVERSARY  
MUGS FOR SALE**

**Only a few still available from the  
original 150 hand-crafted Limited  
Edition Mugs**

**only £5 each**

*To Buy One Now, please telephone*

**Brian Lees  
Walkerburn (01896) 870 251**

*Or Direct from either  
The George Hotel or The Post Office*

# DEVELOPMENT & REGENERATION

## Walkerburn Community Development Trust Ltd.

Urban and rural regeneration, enterprise, detailed qualitative and quantitative market research, business development, training needs assessments, demographic profiling, mission statements, corporate strategic overviews, sustainability, financial projections, multi-agency partnerships, discounted cash flow statements, operational plans and implementation matrices, etc., etc. BUT, HEY - back in the real world, what's all this seemingly complicated stuff actually about?

### Mumbo-jumbo?

Sure - like you, I get irritated and confused by the meaningless jargon and mumbo-jumbo occasionally trotted out by so-called "experts". Such "high flyers" frequently appear briefly on the scene and then just disappear without trace or noticeable progress, after raking in a handsome fee in return for telling everyone what common sense dictates they already knew in the first place!

However, by way of explanation - under appropriate circumstances, some or all of the foregoing can represent very useful items in the tool-boxes of individuals and organisations seeking to make things better by improving the quality of life and/or viability of various types of activity in certain areas, communities and indeed business ventures.

### A New Community Trust

This is the type of work being taken on by the new Walkerburn Community Development Trust Ltd. A "Company Limited by Guarantee" and a Registered Charity, with membership open to all, WCDT was established recently to address specific issues, problems and obstacles in the way of an improved quality of life for all residents in and around the 'Burn.

Oh, and yes even if we do employ a few of the above mentioned processes, techniques and approaches we'll do so in an entirely realistic, professional and business-like manner, with our feet planted firmly on the ground. There'll be absolutely no jargon or mumbo-jumbo in an attempt simply to make us seem clever! I have no doubt you'd all see through that pretty quickly, anyway. Frankly,

none of us at WCDT would want our friends and neighbours to regard us as anything other than a committed cross-section of people dedicated to working with all concerned, harnessing best practice for the benefit of the village and its environs.

### Partnerships & Working Relationships

Working with others will certainly be a key feature of the new Trust recognising and taking particular account of residents' needs and wants. Equally, we will be making strenuous efforts to take matters forward in what we envisage as a close, harmonious partnership with local businesses and, of course, all relevant external agencies and public-sector organisations. The vision I have is of a curious tug-of-war - a very one-sided tug-of-war, with all concerned pulling in the same direction, taking on all challenges, delivering truly sustainable positive outcomes for the 'Burn.

We are presently in the very early stages of establishing WCDT, setting up a new, very much part-time office, while busily agreeing plans and priorities with colleagues from all quarters. In the next edition of Burning Issues, I'll tell you more about the people involved, with details of how we intend to take things forward. In the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact me (as below) if you are interested in taking out membership of the Trust.

**Ron Sutherland**

**WCDT, The Vestry, Galashiels Road, Walkerburn  
EH43 6AA.**

**Telephone : 01896 870 522**

### Empty Computer Printer Ink Cartridges

Do you have any old HP or Lexmark inkjet cartridges? If so BURNing Issues can recycle them and make funds at the same time to help cover the costs of your favourite monthly community newsletter. These can be given to any of the BURNing Issues volunteers or put through the letter box at 73 Tweedholm Avenue. Every little bit helps!!

### Walkerburn Bowling Club EGM

A further EGM is to be held in the Bowling Club on Wednesday 17th August at 7pm to make a small amendment to the Constitution. It is important that as many members as possible attend this meeting.

### Scottish Borders Local Plan - Stage 2 Consultation

Proposed changes to the Draft Local Plan are available to view in the Council Offices in Peebles and Innerleithen. There is nothing which directly affects Walkerburn and District but there are some changes for Peebles and Eddleston. The consultation ends on 12th August.

### Thursday Drop-in

Need advice, support or just a chat? Why not come along to the Thursday Drop-in at the Public Hall any time between 9.15am and 10.45am. Starts Thursday 1st September. Coffee and scones provided. Play activities for pre-school children. If you require further information, please contact Alana on 01721 722777

### "In Case of Emergency"

East Anglian Ambulance Service have launched a national "In Case of Emergency" (ICE) campaign with the support of Falklands war hero Simon Weston.

The idea is that you store the word "ICE" in your mobile phone address book, and against it enter the number of the person you would want to be contacted "In Case of Emergency". In an emergency situation ambulance and hospital staff will then be able to quickly find out who your next of kin are and be able to contact them. It's so simple everyone can do it.

Please do and despite some rumours being circulated it will not harm any information already stored on your phone.



# Healthy Living Network

With summer hols almost over, (back to school on the 23rd!) some of our local clubs are still up and running and others about to restart.

Here's a note of what's on and when....

In conjunction with 'Paths for Life', Nan and Bill McClure are running monthly walks centred around the village. Nan and Bill also run a Wednesday morning walking group for those with some serious walking experience, but the monthly group is aimed at all levels of fitness and ability. Open to all ages, although under 17's must be accompanied by an adult, the walks take 30 to 45 minutes or so and are centred locally. No hill walks are involved, and they are possible with a pushchair or wheelchair. The group meet at the Festival Hut on the last Tuesday of the month at 10.30am. Please wear appropriate clothing and footwear. For more details, call Nan or Bill on 870586

Monday mornings Fitness restarts in the village hall on 5th September. Although this is ideal for our more senior citizens, it is open to all ages, shapes and both sexes, is free and gives you back some get up and go, just come along and join in.....every Monday from 9.30 to 10.15am.

Both junior and senior street dance groups meet on a Monday evening, again at the Village Hall and will restart in late August or early September. We'll let you know via school or get a message to you exactly when.

The junior dance (Primary 8-12 years) runs from 7-8pm and seniors (Secondary 12-18yrs) from 8-9pm. The Junior dance are looking for more members, so if you have reached the grand old age of 8 years, come along and give it a go!

For further details contact Helen Finney 870282. Tuesday evening Keep Fit class runs from 7.30pm at the village hall, run by Heather Lothian. For insurance reasons, it's open to those aged 16+, but hopefully an exercise class will be set up for 12-16 year olds too. Come along and have some fun getting fit! For more information, contact Heather on 870276

Sheila Horsburgh  
HLN Administrator (Walkerburn)

## THE COMPUTER ROOM GETS CONNECTED TO BROADBAND.

The computers are being networked together and connected up to Broadband. Tony has very kindly lowered the shelves in the computer room, so the hard drives can sit under the monitors, and Jan has gutted and reformatted the computers to ensure they will all work at maximum speed when Broadband is connected.

All this has taken a great deal of time, effort and not to mention money, so when the computer room does reopen (hopefully at the end of August) there will be strict rules, which must be observed by anybody using the computer room, to prevent any reoccurrence. Failure to adhere to these rules, will result in that person being banned from the computer room.

The most important rules are:

- **Everybody must sign in and out of the computer room.**
- **No downloading of any material that could be classed as unsuitable for young children.**
- **No eating or drinking in the computer room.**
- **An adult must supervise children under the age of twelve.**

The full rules of the Computer room are displayed on the notice board in the room. Please help keep this community facility up and running.

Several residents interested in the Introductory course have approached me to run one in the Autumn. However, in order to make the course viable for the course providers, there needs to be two classes (of 4 people) held on the same day. If you are interested, please leave a message on my answer phone with your contact details.

Denise Hanks  
Tel: 870200

### Sponsorship Appeal

Do you remember Colin Swan? Colin is the magician from the festival and will be joining the Annual Healing Through Humour Russia Tour with Dr Patch Adams in November. He is looking to raise funds for this project and is hoping that you can help.

He leaves for Moscow in November to take his skills as an entertainer into hospitals, orphanages, day centres and anywhere else that needs love and laughter. Many of the children that they will meet have nothing, if you think you can help your donation will be received with great thanks.

Contact information for donations or further information:

Dr Congo,

26 The Meadows,

Peebles EH45 9HZ

Telephone: 01721 721618

Email: [nowyouseeit2004@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:nowyouseeit2004@yahoo.co.uk)

### Walkerburn Vegetable Association

Our Annual show takes place on Saturday 10th September and we trust this early reminder will encourage you to pick up a schedule and see if you can help to keep the show flourishing by making an entry or two in one of our 120 classes available.

I am sure most folk have flowers or vegetables, baking or craft items that would merit an entry we even have a class for the heaviest potato!

Schedules are available at the Post Office or from committee members, plus advice if asked.

Whether you compete or not we trust everyone will support us and visit the show tea and coffee will be available during the afternoon and you might even win a raffle prize in our large draw.

Eric Pearce  
(President)



## August Wild Side

I imagine the most familiar bird, to most of us, to be the robin (which we associate with a season I shan't dare to mention yet!) so I thought, this month, I would draw your attention to maybe the second most familiar bird around us, the blackbird.

Late summer and autumn is a great time to watch these birds. Raising a family, or several families in the blackbirds' case, is complete, fresh new plumage is in and some serious feeding begins about now, so they are readily visible. Blackbirds will soon be scrabbling about in amongst the rasps and brambles and later in the rowan trees feeding on the berries, and our native blackbirds will be joined by some of their continental cousins who come here to overwinter.

I wrote once before about how the blackbird cocks its head listening for worm movements and adores your newly mown lawn for 'hunting' but in nature it is a woodland bird. It has adapted so well to living alongside 'man' that it's now found in towns, woods, parks and gardens - almost everywhere.

Only the male is black. The female is all brown and young

are a more mottled reddish brown. It's the male with the familiar bright yellow eye circle and beak. Medium sized birds, they are members of the thrush family and feed on fruit and insects as well as worms. The smaller birds don't seem to fear it for it's size - perhaps they realise it's generally non aggressive although always alert. It will generally be the blackbird that provides the alarm call when a predator approaches.

They can become quite bold feeders if you are a regular feeder of the birds and will feed whilst you are still in close proximity either from the ground or a bird table. Crumbs, porridge oats and apples are very popular and so is dried fruit, so if you've some lurking in the back of the cupboard from making last year's ----- (*insert unseasonal word!*) cake, now's the time to start bird feeding. Then just sit back, and enjoy!

IMF proudly present the:

### **Karine Polwart Trio**

in Walkerburn on **Saturday 20th August**

**Firstly** Karine will be holding a **voice harmony workshop** between 12:30 and 2:00pm at the **HB Club**.  
Limited capacity, 10 years and over. Price £5/ £3

**Capacity will be limited, so you have to book your place by contacting the Festival Office. The Office will be based in the Memorial Hall, Innerleithen and is open from 2pm on Friday 19th through till 9pm Sunday 21st August. The telephone number, between the above dates only, is: 07740681879.**

**Secondly** in concert at the **Village Hall**

Doors open at 3:15 for the concert which is started off by  
**'The Next Generation'** (pupils from Walkerburn Primary School) with **Kathy Stewart**  
*followed by*  
**Karine Polwart Trio**

This will be a **very** popular event so book early to avoid disappointment.  
Tickets £8/ £6/ £5 available from Eastgate Theatre box office, Peebles, tel: 01721-725777,  
or in person from Scotlight, High Street, Innerleithen. **Subject to availability.**

**This event has almost sold out, so get your ticket before the day to avoid disappointment.**

## **Walkerburn Community Council Meeting**

Report provided by Denise Hanks

### **Open Questions from the Public**

WCC were asked if they could offer any support to the Festival Committee following the burning of the Festival Hut. After discussing the incident, the WCC were unanimous in expressing the general feeling of the village by saying they were saddened by the news, especially as the Festival is organised for the children of the village and now its future may be jeopardised. The police were investigating the incident, and the Festival committee were asked to keep the WCC updated on any outcome and any help needed.

### **Police Business**

The festival hut investigation was reported on, with the police taking statements from members of the public. The police officer present had not been involved with the investigation so much of the information given to the WCC were already known.

(continued page 6)

(continued from page 5)

### **Matters arising**

Color Gas awards - although there was an extension to the deadline Mr Harrison had completed the application and had entered Walkernburn in 3 categories - Community, Environment and Young People.

Christmas Lights - after discussing what was feasible in Walkernburn the members agreed to complete an application for funding from SBC's Community Council Special Projects for £200 towards a tree, a bracket to fix the tree to the Public Hall and a transformer to earth the lights around the tree.

Special Projects - Mr Kerr reported back on the special projects that were suggested at the last WCC meeting:

Football Pitch - In principle the rugby club agreed with the idea to convert the rugby training field into a football pitch with full size nets. The estimated cost for the nets was £1000. However it was agreed that someone else needed to sponsor the project and take it forward.

Right of Way behind Caberston Farm - Mr Kerr was willing to take this project forward and the first step would be to organise a working team to clear back the trees before 10 ton of hard core could be laid to enhance the path.

Signage for the paths around Walkernburn - The East Tweeddale pathway group were the contact for this, and Mr Kerr would be progressing this.

SB Local Projects - The members discussed if there were any suitable projects in Walkernburn, the flowerbeds in the semi-circle in Tweedholm Avenue were mentioned as they are overgrown, however as they are the responsibility of SBHA and they would not be eligible. The planters at the end of the village were suggested but Cllr Purves advised the WCC that in Innerleithen the Community Council looked after them. Mrs Tucker volunteered to replant them, if somebody would trim the grass around them, Mr Harrison and Mr Kerr volunteered to help.

TAVO representation - no volunteers, but Miss McIntosh had attended the AGM and gave a brief report back.

New Ways Award Feedback - the secretary agreed to collate the comments that the members had made and send them back.

Communications from SBC Feedback - all agreed that information from SBC should be sent on e mail, this would also allow more time from when the info is received and when comments are required, which was a common complaint amongst members. Also it was suggested that SBC should prioritise the info sent, as this would allow members to comment on the most important items first. The members also questioned what subjects SBC should send CC's for their comments.

Planning Applications - one was received which proposed to build three houses in Thornilee comments were required by 5th August. The plans were discussed, as the site is not zoned for housing, as it is located in the countryside according to the local plan. This prompted a discussion about sprouting development along the A72 and all members agreed that if this development went ahead it could set a precedent for the area and therefore they would write an objection to the application.

### **Correspondence**

Next stage of the Local Plan had been sent to WCC for comments to be back by 2nd August.

Invitation to a seminar on SB Transport in September.

Review of Scottish Forestry Strategy - comments requested by 16th September.

Letter from the Home Energy Advisor asking if they could come and present to the WCC. It was agreed to invite them to the October meeting.

### **Reports from Members**

Environmental Challenge - Mr Kerr had a core group that were interested in progressing this, and he had already ascertained that there were settlements in Walkernburn according to maps dating back to the 1600's. There was also evidence of an Iron Age hill farm in Walkernburn.

### **Reports from SBC Councillors**

Safer Routes to School Project - Cllr Purves gave a brief report on the 3 initiatives that had been agreed by SBC: '20's Plenty' signs to go up around Walkernburn School, Flashing lights were to be installed on Caberston Road and a raised walkway is to be constructed along Caberston Rd besides the Rathburn Chemical offices, so children can walk safely home. They would also be encouraging parents to park by the garages in Caberston Road and not on the bend, which causes congestion and is dangerous.

Cllr Purves also informed WCC that the SE had agreed to pay for the raised walkway for the second stage of the Pathway project.

### **Comments from Residents**

Tweedholm Avenue Site - the long running battle between who is responsible for repairing the site between Scottish Water and the contractor continues.

AOB None

**Date of next meeting** - Monday 15/22/8 7pm at Public Hall

### **Get BURNing Issues by email.**

This month's email edition of BURNing Issues is in full colour and features dramatic pictures of the Festival Hut fire.

Please contact us to add your name to the growing mailing list.

If you live within the delivery area, please let us know your street and house number to avoid duplication.

### **Got something to say?**

Let us know your comments, views and opinions on BURNing Issues or life in Walkernburn.

Letters must include your full name and address, but this will be withheld by request to the editor.

Contact

**walkernburnnews@hotmail.com**