



# BURNing Issues



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ISSUE EIGHTY FOUR - JULY 2009

## WALKERBURN SUMMER FESTIVAL 2009

**Like a Phoenix rising from the ashes, the Festival Week came to life again through the dedication and guidance of its new committee.**

All their hard work paid off handsomely, as the many smiling faces seen all week will testify! Despite worries over poor weather forecasts, we all enjoyed ourselves immensely, and took full advantage of the sunshine days at the start of the week.

Even the showers could not dampen the enthusiasm of the many participants and spectators.

*And the good news is that next year will be even better!*



2nd Georgia Scott, 3rd Chelsea Laurie.  
**Section 6** 1st Beth & Abbie Glendinning,  
2nd Lauren & Logan Ashworth,  
3rd Rhiann & Lauren Hamilton.

**Section 7** 1st Heather Holness & Eddie McWilliams

2nd Jodie Buchan & Elaine Nisbet.

**Section 8** 1st Colin Kerr & Jake Melrose,  
2nd Katherine Hynd & Emma Knox.

**Section 9** 1st Carys Allen, Samantha Connelly & Co,  
2nd Robin Brittain.

**Section 10** 1st Alexina, Zoe, Summer & Co.

**Section 11** 1st Greg & Kayleith Rodger.

**Section 12** 1st Rachel Anderson & Co,  
2nd Hayden & Lucy Simpson, 3rd Samantha.

*Well done everyone who took part, and a big 'Thank You' to all those many folks, young and old, who helped to make our Festival Week such a big success and a real family occasion.*

### Prize Winners

**Section 1** 1st Harry Wilson,  
2nd Cooper McLauchlan, 3rd Stuart Mitchell.

**Section 2** 1st Tiegan Hunter  
2nd Kirsty Meikle 3rd Melissa Lucas

**Section 3** 1st Reece Hunter,  
2nd Struan Young, 3rd Aran Houston.

**Section 4** 1st Abbie Nisbet,  
2nd Erin Buchan, 3rd Reagan Lambert.

**Section 5** 1st Glen Stevens,





# WALKERBURN RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB, CABERSTON HAUGH EH43 6AU

125<sup>th</sup> YEAR ~ 2008-2009

[www.walkerburn.org.uk/wrfc/](http://www.walkerburn.org.uk/wrfc/)

## 'Burn Banter

Training has started at Caberston Haugh. Join the players on both Tuesdays and Thursday evenings at 7pm! Alan Clinch, Hunter Mason and Colin Kerr all provide coaching for players, now determined to haul themselves up from bottom of the League table last season. Walkerburn will rise again and with new players joining there is a good feeling among the players and the committee who support them behind the scenes. Let's support that winning streak that the 'Burn is known for! Build up fitness now! Don't delay!

Captain Simon Currie. Vice Captain David Johnston.

Fitness training for Players contact Alan Clinch on 07912950531

You will notice the repairs to the boundary fencing in preparation for the many advertising signboards being requested by sponsors. For £180 you may have an 8x2 foot weatherproof signboard advertising your company, to your own design, thereafter £100 per annum. Contact Davy Barbour of DCB Welding & Design to arrange this NOW. Contact no 07721-336594 or secretary as below.

The pitch is being cut regularly so that community groups can make use of the facilities over the summer months.

There are repairs going on inside the clubhouse.

### Fixtures

**15th August** 10 a-side tournament (A) at Duns

**22nd August** Open Day, Walkerburn v Army Game. A real Family occasion. Live Music, Stalls, Outdoor games, Club house open, Barbecue. Make it a date in your diary for all the family!

Club ties and other merchandise can be ordered

and some available on the day.

A special Presentation to sponsors from last season will take place at one of the first League Home Games.

Would you like to help the Club? This club is celebrating 125 years of age, one of the first members of the SRU and an important organisation for the village.

Many hands lighten the work and we have a lot of fun too! We need help on match days, the bar, the match teas, the kit checking, office work, web site updating & probably areas not previously thought of! If you can offer to help please contact any committee member, or contact the Secretary.

Ladies committee meeting on Thursday 16th July. At 7.30pm. New members most welcome.

Management Committee meetings first Thursday each month at 7.30pm

200 Club. The winners are already reaping the benefit of paying only £12 a year (£1 /month) and can win up to £50 at the monthly draw! £100 for 3 lucky winners at the end of June! Surely the best possible return on only £12 during the credit crunch? Join now for next season on 07915696063

June Winners;

£100	162	D Swan
£100	100	D Leslie
£100	34	C Collin
£30	3	J Henderson
£10	85	R McPherson
£5	108	E Lavender
£5	18	N Keddie

A number of other events will take place over the summer. We want to see the club being used so if you are considering an event public or private get in touch!

To book the clubhouse for an event or organisation please call Sarah Ballantyne on 01896-870762

## Radish Seeds

Packets of radish seeds are available at the Post Office for all children between five and twelve years, so you can enter Four Radishes in the Junior section 109 of the Flower and Vegetable show on Saturday 12th September.

The instructions are on the packet, but as the radishes would take between 20 and 30 days to grow, it would be advisable to start planting them in the middle of July so you have plenty time to select the best radishes.

David Mundell MP will be holding a surgery at Walkerburn Village Hall on Thursday 3rd September at Walkerburn Village Hall 1-1.30pm

## Picnic On The Pitch

Following on from last years great success, Walkerburn will be hosting another 'Picnic on the Pitch' for the children from Belarus affected by the Chernobyl disaster. It will take place on Friday 31st July from midday.

Like last year, there will be lots of activities to keep the children and their host families amused, and there will be a barbeque and some simple refreshments available. This event is open to all Walkerburn children but you must be accompanied by your parents. If you do want to come along and join the fun, please bring along something that can be cooked on the BBQ.

**Denise Hanks**

## 'Happy 90th Birthday Mollie'

*A special birthday cometh. A lady we know well  
For Ninety years she's plagued us and done it  
very well.*

*Of independent spirit. We know the reason why,  
For Mollie made her entrance upon the fourth  
July.*

*Her working life was local: she mastered the  
accounts.*

*She always thought of others and gave in large  
amounts.*

*Antiques became her passion as wide her  
knowledge grew.*

*I don't know fake from genuine, but Mollie does.  
Do you?*

*In places round about here, she really caused a  
stir.*

*Traquair House owes its Tearoom of 1812 to her.  
This area, for serving well, she got the MBE*

*A citizens award was hers and yet, it seems to  
me,*

*That those in places far removed, their duty they  
impart,*

*But few, I bet, are cognisant of Mollie's loving  
heart.*

*Faithful to her Walter for many happy years*

*They shared what life would bring them through  
all its joys and tears.*

*A fashion conscious lady; immaculate her dress.  
"Just right for the occasion" None her true age  
could guess.*

*She's always doing something; a non-stop  
helping hand.*

*She serves lunch to the "oldies" (and clears up, I  
understand)*

*Essential renovations to the hall would cost a  
bomb*

*But raising funds so needful, she tackled with  
aplomb.*

*Extended and upgraded, of the hall she holds  
the key*

*And acts as guardian of the spoons so there no  
loss can be.*

*Keen on education, the Essay Winner's prize"*

*Is her delight to render to writer (small of size)*

*She drove herself to Perthshire, (then back with  
injured hand.)*

*As chairman of the council she led that merry*

*band*

*For over thirty years she gave of her wisdom fair,  
And even six extractions didn't stop her being  
there!*

*When broken ankle stumped her, her speed was  
not so fast.*

*But any incapacity, it simply couldn't last*

*The legs which won her races with cups to prove  
her worth*

*Belie the thought-filled decades of service since  
her birth.*

*At sports she was a winner and shone above  
them all*

*At tennis and at hockey she was really "on the  
ball"*

*Her stamina we envy; her interest and her zeal.*

*The village's ev'ry facet to Mollie finds appeal*

*As I recite these verses, where can oor Mollie  
be?*

*Do I hear clinking tea cups? Oor Mollie's makin'  
tea!*

*We owe this worthy lady far more than words can  
tell.*

*And how we love "Oor Mollie" and wish her very  
well.*

**by Joan Pigge**



The next BURNing Issues editorial meeting will take place on  
Tuesday 4th August 7.30pm at the Village Hall.  
Please send any material for inclusion in the August edition to us by this date.  
We are always on the lookout for people who can spare a few hours  
each month to help with the production of the newsletter.

**walkerburnnews@hotmail.com**

# Walkerburn Community Council Report

*Draft report from meeting held on 18th May:*

## **Chairman's Introduction.**

The Chairman welcomed everyone especially the 3 SBC Councillors. He expressed the community's thanks to all 3 Councillors for the work they are undertaking on behalf of Walkerburn and noted that the Community Council was particularly appreciative of the effort made by them to ensure that at least one of them was present at every meeting although from the CC's point of view it was always desirable to have all 3 present.

**Open Questions.** Nil

## **Monthly Report from WCDT.**

The Secretary WCDT reported that slow progress on the church project was continuing and a positive response on funding for the next phase was still expected this summer. The church would be vacant from end May and the church authorities were expected to seek a valuation for sale in the near future. Afternote: Burning Issues and WCDT are now installed in the Hall office.

**Police Business.** No report had been received and the secretary would chase for the next meeting.

## **Matters Arising.**

a. The Toby at the George Hotel remained in a dangerous condition but several attempts to rectify this had failed. Cllr Logan undertook to return to the attack.

b. Parking on Tweedholm Avenue. Cllrs Herd and Logan had spent some time looking at and discussing the parking problems on Tweedholm Avenue. Cllr Herd reported that he had no new information other than to remind everyone that vehicles larger than 7.5 tonne should not be parked on the public road other than for loading/unloading. It was clear to all that there was a need for a consolidated traffic plan for Tweedholm Avenue though funding for changes was unlikely to be forthcoming in the short term. However, Cllr Herd was asked to speak again to Roads to make the point that a long term plan is required even though funding might not be immediately available. It was noted that the two semi circle 'garden' areas would in themselves provide some extra parking spaces and that it might be possible to construct more effective parking spaces at the end. In summary, all the CC is seeking is a plan to make better and safer use of the available space in Tweedholm Avenue to accommodate cars, pedestrians and general public use. It might, for example, be of interest to look at some of the Dutch models for dense road use in residential areas, but no one expects funding for change in the near future.

**Planning.** Nil.

Afternote: The Scottish Government has rejected all objections to their amendment to the Structure Plan.

**Correspondence.** The list had been sent round members in advance as usual. The only item for discussion was the licensing application for the HB

Club. It was not clear what the terms of the current license were but members noted the current opening hours and were content that there were no problems with these nor with occasional late openings on Fridays and Saturdays. The immediate neighbours had no difficulty with the application but members expressed concerns that regular opening until 1pm could create problems in this quiet residential area. Concerns were also expressed that regular late opening would disadvantage other establishments in the area and encourage more non-members to use the Club as a 'drinking den'. On balance, therefore, members agreed to oppose the current application and to propose that the Club set the same hours as the George Hotel. Afternote: Cllr Logan reports that the new application exactly mirrors the current licence therefore since there have been no problems it is almost certain to be granted.

## **Election Report.**

The secretary reported that there were only enough nominations for places so it looked as if the election date was unlikely to be required. The Chairman expressed his disappointment that there had not been more applications and asked everyone to make a final push before the deadline. In particular he felt that a greater representation from younger residents and from a wider variety of backgrounds would be healthy. All agreed but noted that every organisation in the village suffered from the same problem.

## **CC Funding Review.**

The secretary reported that it was likely that the review would leave funding much as it is at present but that she was pushing hard for extra funding to be made available to cover accommodation hire charges for all CC meetings not just the monthly meetings. This was a particularly thorny issue for the big CCs such as Innerleithen and Peebles since they tended to have sub committees. She would continue to circulate a minute after meetings to all members.

## **Reports by Members.**

a. Mrs Horsburgh reported that Shirley Bean has been appointed to the joint headship of Eddleston and Walkerburn Primary Schools. Members expressed their satisfaction that a good candidate had been selected but also felt disappointed to be losing the current head, Maggie Norman, who had done so much for the school. Several members also repeated their dismay at the decision to appoint a joint head for the two schools.

b. Several members noted that once again over the past month the SB Local Team had been active in the area and all agreed that congratulations were due to all the team members for their diligence and excellent work.

## **Reports by SBC Councillors.**

Cllr Herd reported on his recent visit to the school which he had thoroughly enjoyed. He was particularly honoured to receive a copy of the charity CD and noted with pleasure that proceeds were

being split with some going to a school in Malawi. Mrs Horsburgh asked members to note that the CD was on sale at the Post Office as well as the school.

Cllr Logan reported that the seat at the foot of Flora had been nicely repaired by SB Local and members were delighted to note that it was already being well used. He also reported that enforcement action was being taken on the signage at the car wash which had not received planning permission.

Cllr Garvie expressed his and many of his fellow councillors' dismay at the negation of the democratic process being demonstrated by the Scottish Government's cavalier approach to the local Structure Plan and by some aspects of the new planning law being introduced in August. In terms of the amendments being made to the Structure Plan,

the Borders were basically being used as a safety valve for Edinburgh housing problems with no thought for, nor extra funding for, the infrastructure problems thus created. It was particularly galling that decent, affordable housing for local people will become even more difficult to achieve because of this Scottish Government policy. The changes to planning would make it ever more difficult for local people to have any influence at all on what was happening in their area and give an even greater advantage to developers. There was complete agreement from WCC members.

**Any Other Business Nil**

**Date of Next Meeting.**

15th June with the AGM starting at 7.30pm followed by the monthly meeting, in the Public Hall.

## July Wild Side

**Last month I wrote about hoping for decent weather in June and I have not been disappointed on the whole.**

The end of June and into the start of July has been extreme too hot for most things including me! It's as the sun finally relents that everything comes out to play. The heat certainly brings out the midges as those going to the Festival bonfire can report, I'm sure - the fireworks were fantastic though and the bats enjoyed the midges.

I've certainly seen the painted lady butterflies reported to be in Britain in large numbers this year but on the whole there doesn't seem to be as many butterflies about yet. We'll just have to wait for this year's hatchlings.

One insect I have noticed in large numbers this year are bee flies which are quite attractive insects. Similar in size to a small bumble bee, they have very round furry orange-ish bodies with a long proboscis for reaching into the flower for nectar but hover like a hover fly at flowers. These were once common only down south and no doubt this will be another indicator of climate change. Their larvae parasitise the bodies of solitary bees so I guess they're not wholly welcome, especially as there's so much concern for bee numbers in general. A lot of solitary bees are responsible for a good crop of apples, and the like, so fruit farmers welcome them.

Bird life has boomed though. I am overrun with house sparrows so all those places in England that talk of their demise can have some of mine. They have a particular place in a flowerbed where they like to dust bathe. I like to watch them but it is a bit annoying when you've planted seed.

The bed in question has since been divided with a piece of wood and a couple of old bricks. The top bit's now planted and the bottom bit's theirs so problem solved.

We've had lots of siskins, goldfinches and great tit families visiting the feeders as well as a male and a female woodpecker no young yet though. There also doesn't seem to be as many blue tits about.

Our dog's interested in wild life too and his greatest delight is chasing the rabbits out of the garden. They really are the bane of my life this year and it's soul destroying to see the young plants you've nurtured from seed disappear overnight.

We've also mouse living under the stones near the fence which he enjoys tracking. He's found one in another part of the garden and took great delight in taking his dad out late at night to see it. Lying there on its back with legs in the air, he'd obviously given it some kind of talking to first!

The Walkerburn Calendar for 2010 will be published in the Autumn.

We are always looking for new photographs relating to the village.

If anyone can help, please phone us

on **01896-702251**, or email us at **walkerburnnews@hotmail.com**.

We will give successful contributors a freecalendar as a token of our appreciation.

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01896 870470. Cathiesutherland@tiscali.co.uk

# Powerdown Thoughts for July

The theme this month is about what we can do that costs nothing or very little but can reduce our energy use and bills, hopefully making our homes more comfortable in many cases.

The key word is 'reduce'. Reduce energy waste and reduce the amount we need and we are well on the way. Lets look at these in turn.

## Reducing Energy Waste.

The kitchen is a good place to start.

Only boil the water we need rather than filling the kettle.

Only just cover vegetables with water when we boil them or better still use a steamer.

Don't leave the hot water tap running when not needed.

When the oven is on, cook several items together, maybe more than one meal at a time.

Use the microwave more, it is a less wasteful way of cooking.

Outside the kitchen.

If it's too hot turn the heating down or off first rather than opening doors and windows.

Check the heating is only coming on when you need it. If your system doesn't have a control timer you may easily recoup the cost of having one fitted.

Turn off appliances not in use. It is surprising how much all those little things on standby can use.

Close curtains at dusk to keep the heat in.

We waste a lot of energy when driving if we are not careful. This is partly about driving more smoothly, not accelerating or braking harshly. It also means trying to make fewer trips, making each one really worthwhile.

Add more insulation. If you think you cannot afford more insulation, you may well be someone who could get it done for free. Contact your energy company or get in touch with me to check what's

available.

## Reduce Energy Use

This is where it gets a bit harder. Some options include.

Turn the heating down a bit and get used to slightly cooler conditions or wear more indoors.

Wash clothes at 30°C. Modern washing powders work just as well at the lower temperature.

Walk or use a bike if possible instead of making short car journeys.

Buy local if you can. You may well spend less when you take into account the cost of travelling to big supermarkets.

## What Next

All our homes are different so to help I have some very easy to use energy monitors, which I can loan for folks to use at home. These will help to identify and cut the energy they are using. I am more than happy to demonstrate these and to give more specific advice for individual homes.

I can be contacted by email at [walkpowerhelp@live.co.uk](mailto:walkpowerhelp@live.co.uk) or you can come along and have a chat. I can be found in the village hall every Thursday and Friday from 10am to 4pm. Tel. 870522.

## Here's the competition for July.

What depth of mineral wool loft insulation does the Energy Saving Trust recommend?

Is it

A. 15mm (1 inch)

B 150mm (6inches)

C 270mm (11inches)

D 600mm (24 inches)

JULY POWERDOWN ENERGY COMPETITION	
Name	
Contact phone number, email or address	
Answer	

This month's prize is a mystery one.

Please return your entry to me at the hall or drop it into the post office, or by email if you prefer.

Entries by August 1st please.

## Letter to the Editor

I would like to thank all the responsible dog owners who clean up after their dogs. The others... can't comment as it may be considered liable and with

filthy words (I suppose, lazy and irresponsible would be upheld as true).

A general statement: If you're not willing to take up the responsibility of looking after your pet, you shouldn't be allowed to have the pet.

**Name Withheld**

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*Give me a ring, I'll bring them in  
If I haven't got what you want, I'll get it  
If I can't get it, it's not there!*