



# BURNing Issues



Published by Walkerburn News Group

ISSUE EIGHTY FIVE - AUGUST 2009

## THE WALKERBURN FLOWER AND VEGETABLE SHOW

**The 127th Annual Flower and Vegetable show will take place in Walkerburn Public Hall on Saturday 12th September.**

After a promising start to the growing season the weather turned decidedly wet and windy in July, which much to my annoyance meant that lots of seedlings I had planted out perished. My runner beans, spinach and peas were particularly liked by the deer and the slugs munched their way through lettuces and rainbow chard. Still I am very proud of my crop of red onions and the broad beans are coming on a treat, and of course the fail-safe crop of potatoes. So with any luck I will be entering some items into the show and I do hope that a lot of you will do likewise.

It is so satisfying seeing the Village Hall heaving with vegetables of all shapes and sizes across all varieties.

The flowers are always spectacular and warrant a visit even if you like me, have nothing to enter. The home baking makes my mouth water and

the handicraft section encourages all of us to try something new.

And for those buddy Alan Titchmarshes and Charlie Dimmocks in the village there is the junior section with a new entry this year of 4 radishes which replaced the wild flower section, which we agreed, was not eco friendly.

Please find the time to look through the schedule and see if you can "stage" an entry, the more the merrier.

All exhibitors are reminded that the hall will be open from 7 - 9 pm on Friday night and from 8 am to 9.45 am on Saturday to stage their exhibits. No exhibits will be accepted after 10 am.

Good luck to everybody and we hope to welcome new villagers as well as the familiar faces.

**Denise Hanks**

## WALKERBURN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TRUST

**The Annual General Meeting for the Trust is being held on Monday 24th August at 7pm in the Village Hall. Refreshments will be provided. All members are asked to attend.**

The Trust is open to all residents over the age of 18 and on the Electoral Roll with membership costing a nominal £1 per year. All we ask is that members attend the AGM unless of course you want to take a more active roll. Any residents who are not members but are interested in the future development and direction of the village are welcome to attend the AGM and join up on the evening.

The Board will be taking this opportunity to give

an update on the current position with the Village Church proposals and the Powerdown Project followed by an open question and answer session at the end.

If you would like more information and cannot attend the AGM or if you would be willing to consider becoming a member of the Board please contact us.

**Cathie Sutherland** (Company Secretary)

Tel: 01896 870470

### VILLAGE EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY

**Mon 24th August at 7pm** - Village Hall Walkerburn Community Development Trust AGM

**Wed 26th August** - Village Hall (times to be advised) Vattenfall Q&A session re Minch Moor Windfarm

**5th Sept** 10am to 12noon - Village Hall Coffee Morning in aid of Big River Project

**Sun 6th Sept** 3pm to 5pm - Village Hall Afternoon Tea for Mollie McIntosh

**Sat 12th Sept** (doors open 2pm) - Village Hall Walkerburn Veg Assoc Exhibition

**Mon 14th Sept** starting Peebles at 10am Tour of Britain Cycle Race

**Sat 17th October** - Village Hall 10.30am to 1.00pm Walkerburn Community Fair

*more details on these events inside.....*



# 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

A new Season is almost here! Walkerburn will be playing in the ScottishHydro East Division League Division 2.

The new season's committee has started planning ahead for a big Open Day to be held on 22 August. Make it a date in your diary for all the family!

### Fixtures

*(KO is at 3pm unless otherwise stated)*

### August

**15th** Duns 10-a-side (A) Tournament all afternoon

**22nd** Open Day, Army Game & Family occasion.  
(H)

**29th** v Berwick Friendly Game (H)

### September

**5th** September v Leith (H) Sponsors Day also

**11th** v St Boswells (A)

### Social Events

Sat 22 August Open Day - family fun and assault courses from the Army to try. Recruitment tent located on site.

WRFC memberships due @ £25 for Players, £10 for Social members (£15 for 2 social members at same address.)

Sat 5th September Sponsors Day. Welcoming all recent sponsors of the Club and future sponsors. Last seasons shirts handed out.

Lunch served and Bar Open to these sponsors FOC from 1pm-5pm.

Training continues at Caberston Haugh. Join the players on both Tuesdays and Thursday evenings at 7pm!

Fitness training for Players contact Alan Clinch on 07912950531.

Would you like to help the Club? This club is celebrating 125 years pf 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 (see below)

Many advertising signboards ordered by sponsors will represent the local support for the team this year.

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

There are also repairs going on inside the

clubhouse.

July News and Events:

The Children from Chernobyl enjoyed a lovely afternoon, brilliantly organised by many helpers from the village, in the club house on 31st July.

ALBA Military Fitness used the club facilities the whole first weekend of August.

Did you notice the many tents on the pitch? Exhausted but really fit people arrived back on Saturday night to hot showers, piles of good food and a party atmosphere, with a DJ Karaoke for the evening. They had spent a challenging 24 hr period in the hills, in pouring rain, sleeping overnight in bivouacs on the ground, followed by another gruelling hike and fitness challenge. On Sunday morning after a hearty breakfast they went mountain biking at Glentress.

ALBA Military Fitness is the brainchild of Callum McLeod, Walkerburn born and bred, who joined the KOSB as a young recruit. Soon to retire from the Army he has started up this extreme Fitness Company in response to the increasing demand for personal fitness training in Scotland. Regular classes during the week run concurrently with the weekend adventure camps.

It was tough fun, but gets great results, with happy fit individuals from many walks of life.

Earlier in July the British Mountain Biking Championships were held in Walkerburn Glentress and Innerleithen. WRFC hosted the campers who were competing in the Cross Country events over the weekend. Once again, the WRFC ladies cooked vast quantities of healthy food for dinners and breakfasts. It was typically miserable and wet for those sleeping out in tents and competing, but the hot showers were very welcome.

Ian Watson from Walkerburn completed Level 1 Rugby Coaching Certificate

A number of other events will take place over the summer and autumn. 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 call Sarah Ballantyne on 01896-870762

Email [secretary@rugby.walkerburn.org.uk](mailto:secretary@rugby.walkerburn.org.uk)

### 200 Club

Three winners at end of June won £100 each! Others are already reaping the benefit of paying only £12 a year (£1 per month) and can win up to £50 at the monthly draw!

Join now for next season on 07915696063

Winners are announced and paid out monthly.

Winners for July are as follows

£50 - 144 A Forbes,

£10 - 122 K Henderson,

£5 - 164 A Clinch,

## Minch Moor Plans on Show

A public exhibition of the planned windfarm on Minch Moor will be held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 26th August. Vattenfall have taken the proposed plans over from AMEC and will be holding question and answer sessions on the day.

## 2009 Walkerburn Calendar

We are looking for some photos for next year's calendar. Do you have any interesting, unusual photos of Walkerburn or the surrounding area? If you are willing to let us use them please send them by email to [walkerburnnews@hotmail.com](mailto:walkerburnnews@hotmail.com)

## The Walker Burn

Several residents have commented adversely on the recent cutting back of trees and bushes along the Walker Burn in Caberston Road. This work was carried out by SBC workmen at the request of a resident. The workers were just trying to be helpful. The landowner, the Pathways Group and the Community Council had all agreed with various agencies that the foliage should be allowed to grow over the burn to provide safety for young fish and to enhance our natural environment. So, sorry everyone, the Council workers made a genuine mistake and in the process set back the regeneration of the burn but we just have to live with it until everything grows back again.



**Come along to our  
COFFEE MORNING**

**At Walkerburn Village Hall  
On Sat 5<sup>th</sup> September  
from 10-12noon**

*Entrance 50p*

**Raffle and Various stalls**

**Raising funds for the  
'Big River Project'  
- remembering Fraser Kilner**



## August Wild Side

**It is at this time of year that wasps often start to become a nuisance to us humans and we have noticed some unusual behaviour in the garden recently with 'balls' of wasps aggressively rolling about, as though fighting. It is too early for the mating of new queens so it must be rival 'gangs' arguing over territories.**

There are seven species of social wasp in the UK. The commonest is the Common Wasp which nest underground and in cavities in trees, walls and buildings but the Norwegian Wasp is the dominant species in Scotland. It builds its nest among twigs and branches.

At this time of year the nest is usually just at capacity with upto 10,000 busy occupants. It is the workers that need mainly energy foods and thus favour nectar and a variety of sweet substances. Wasps can cause serious damage to soft fruit and are particularly fond of sweet-smelling substances so can be a nuisance in houses where food is being cooked or eaten. The higher the temperature, the more aggressive they are although there is a lot of truth in the 'if you don't bother them, they'll not bother you' theory. It is amazing how this insect can induce utter panic in the human race.

But wasps are also extremely beneficial animals. They feed their young on a wide range of invertebrates and so help to control many insect pests and in visiting flowers, they help in pollination. The number of wasps in the late summer/autumn depends on two things: the number of females overwintering and the weather in April/May when the

queens are trying to set up the colony. So we need a wet Spring for less wasps. Shouldn't be too much of a problem most years then!

Another insect and one that seems to have had a good year is the grasshopper. Tracking one from the sound it makes, makes for an interesting pastime - not as easy as it sounds! However we have managed to spot some as they cling onto the long grass in the sunshine. The scratchy noise is the male rubbing his back legs against his forewings to attract a mate.

To come this month should be this years' hatch of peacock butterflies. They'll be out in force, feeding at thistles, buddleia and asters before they go into hibernation. Brambles should be ripe and by the end of August, so will hips and haws. Most birds will have finished moulting and be establishing their territories so the robins will be singing again and those birds that migrate will be feeding up well for their travels. I've already enjoyed watching the swallows gather in numbers and feed; flying over the fields in the evening catching insects on the wing. Once the crops are harvested, the pheasants, pigeons, sparrows etc will be in the fields clearing up. Lets hope for some more sunshine so that we can get out and see them.

# TOUR OF BRITAIN CYCLE RACE

## Walkerburn - 14th September

The Tour of Britain Cycle Race will be in the borders on Monday 14th September 2009 with the 3rd Stage of the Race starting in Peebles at 10.00am.

The expected race route is as follows:

Peebles High Street/Old Town/Young St/Mart St right on to A703 at Honda garage then onto A72 at roundabout left to Glentress. This initial section shall be a 'parade' section.

The main race will start at Glentress.

From Glentress onto A72 through Innerleithen and Walkerburn to Galashiels.

In Walkerburn we expect that the School will be out in support and we hope that as many people as possible will line the route. It should be a great occasion and an opportunity to get name recognition for Walkerburn and the Tweed Valley as a great cycling and holiday destination. We hope that the George and the Post Office might also capture some extra trade!

If anyone has any ideas about how we can attract attention to Walkerburn, please get in touch with

any member of the Community Council or the Development Trust.

The rest of the route is as follows:

A7 Ladhope Vale to Abbotsford Road onto A6091 Melrose by-pass. On to B6374 to Melrose, round Buccleuch St and exit onto Southport back on to A6091 to cross A6091 and use the old Boglie Burn road into Newtown past HQ then off to Bowden.

Through Bowden to the crossroads of the Selkirk Rd B699 and over the crossroads to Lilliesleaf.

Lilliesleaf to north side of Hawick (Burnfoot) on to A7, south to High Street and left at Towerknowe onto the B6399 to Newcastleton and then exit south of Scottish Borders on B6357.

Other spectacles are: a sprint at Melrose (c11.00am); King of the Mountain at Council HQ (c11.15am). The race will be leaving the Scottish Borders around 12.30pm.

## BURNing Issues Noticeboard

### Next Editorial Meeting

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 September 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.

### Volunteer Needed

A volunteer is required to help deliver **BURNing Issues** along part of Tweedholm Avenue. This takes approx 30mins once a month and anyone willing to help out should contact Cathie Sutherland (870 470).

### Thank You for Donations

**BURNing Issues** would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the paper's funding by putting loose change in the tin which is kept on the Post Office counter.

We have raised nearly £13.00 over the Summer months.

Thank You!

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

## Walkerburn Church of Scotland Guild

The first meeting of the Guild will take the form of a 'Gathering'.

The 'Gathering' will be held at 4 High Cottages on Thursday 8th October at 7.00 pm.

A buffet supper with drinks and coffee will be served.

This is a fund-raising evening.

The money raised will benefit Branch funds and the projects we choose to support.

Mrs Mae Pearce and the Guild committee look forward to welcoming old and new friends with open arms!

*Branch meetings will now be held in the Village Hall on Tuesday evenings.*

More information can be had at the 'Gathering'

# BORDERS HEALTHY LIVING NETWORK

**Hello and welcome to an update from the Borders Healthy Living Network, we are looking forward to seeing you all after the summer break. Please find an outline of all the classes we are running in Walkerburn from August onwards.**

Our Lunchclub, held in the village hall, runs every second Tuesday with numbers going from strength to strength. Homemade delicious soups, filled rolls, home baking and tea or coffee are all on offer for a set price of £2.00! This would not be possible however without the help of our fantastic community health volunteers Molly, Mary, Evelyn, Sheilagh and Mae, a big thank you to them all. Lunch club starts again on the 6th October at 12pm, all welcome. We are supported this year with sessions on first aid, saving energy, seated keep fit and home safety to name but a few.

Following Lunchclub why not come and try your hand at Carpet Bowls, they are now up and running and we look forward to many more of you joining in. Carpet Bowls runs from 1.30pm to 2.30pm and no experience is necessary!

We have recently been working with the primary school offering P7's the opportunity to find out more about the benefits of choosing healthier foods and preparing and tasting new foods. This has gone down a real treat and given the pupils a good start for progressing on to high school. We will be following on from this with an afterschool group called 'Fit for Fun' which will offer children a variety of different physical activity tasters including wii fit, bowling, badminton, swimming and dance. Sessions will cost 50p and all are welcome, including parents and anyone else interested in volunteering to help.

Our "Total Toning" class will be up and running again on Wednesday 26th August with instructor Norrie Smith. This costs £1.00 per session and is suitable for all levels of ability, please discuss with

Norrie and he will tailor the class to meet your needs.

Are you a parent or carer and interested in joining our "One stop shop"? This group will now run Wednesday mornings from 10am-12pm as of 26th August. There is a free crèche facility provided, allowing parents to participate in different activities which are ongoing each week ranging from healthy cooking to keep fit and relaxation as well as opportunities to access advice and information from other services. We have been working in partnership with parents who have been attending the "One stop shop", gaining valuable training and healthy eating advice. Included in this programme, alongside the above are resuscitation training, energy saving information and Citizens Advice Bureau. It is our intention to build this programme around your needs so please let us hear your views and ideas.

We have recently launched the "Community Gym" on a Tuesday night in the village hall from 6pm to 8pm. This does not mean you have to come along and exercise for two hours! Just drop in anytime during this slot for an assessment or to simply "do your own thing". The first session is free and costs £1.00 thereafter with water provided.

Monday morning's gentle exercise group will be starting again on Monday 7th September in the village hall with Heather Lothian taking over as instructor.

I am sure you will join me in thanking Susan Henderson for her commitment to the group and wishing her all the very best as she moves on to pastures new.

Days	Times	Activity	Location	Open to...
Monday	9.30-10.30am	Fitness Group	Village Hall	All
Tuesday	3.30-4.30pm	Fit for Fun	Village Hall	Primary School
Tuesday	12.00-1pm 1-1.30pm	Lunch Club Speakers	Village Hall (Fortnightly)	All
Tuesday	1.30-2.30pm	Carpet Bowls	(Fortnightly)	All
Tuesday	Drop in anytime Between 6-8pm	Community Gym	Village Hall	All (under 16s must be accompanied by an adult)
Wednesday	6.30-7.30pm	Total Toning	Village Hall	All
Wednesday	10am-12pm	One Stop Shop	Village Hall	All

We have been supporting the Walkerburn Youth Club with food and health sessions and circuits as well as enhancing their tuck shop with fruit choices. We are currently planning an exchange trip with Jedburgh CO2 Café, with Walkerburn hosting a ready steady cook event.

If you require any further information on any of the above classes/groups please contact Nichola Sewell on  
07748320108  
or Kerry Scott on 07500917485

# Walkerburn Community Council Report

Below is a report of the draft minutes of the meeting held on Monday 20th July 2009.

## Chairman's Introduction.

The Chairman welcomed everyone. He stated that Ms Meikle had reluctantly resigned from WCC because she felt that pressure of work which made it impossible for her to attend meetings meant that she could not play a full part. The Chairman expressed everyone's appreciation for Ms Meikle's service and for her open and honest approach to the work of the Community Council. He explained that he proposed taking Item 10, a Motion to Co-opt a member first and asked the Secretary to propose the motion, of which members had had written notification. The secretary proposed that Mrs L Thornton be co-opted to serve until the 2010 elections. The Chairman seconded the Motion and all agreed. Mrs Thornton was duly co-opted as a non-voting member of WCC until the 2010 elections and joined the meeting.

## Open Questions. Nil.

## Monthly Report from WCDT.

The Secretary WCDT reported that the Church project was still moving ahead slowly but that a way had to be found through the technicalities of listed building consent and planning which would achieve the aim of turning the building into a viable community business. There was general support for the need to keep the church building in use and a specialist architect was now working pro bono on the case. Secretary WCDT then introduced Derek Russell, the Powerdown worker, who gave a short presentation. Mr Russell stressed the importance of letting residents know about his work and of encouraging individuals, businesses and groups to come forward and ask for his advice on any aspect of energy use. He reported that a project to turn the Hall into an example of efficient energy use was waiting news of grant funding for a feasibility study and that he had already been able to direct some individuals towards grants for insulation. All agreed that Mr Russell's participation in the community was welcomed and strongly supported.

## Police Business.

There was no police representative present and no police specific business had been raised with members.

## Matters Arising.

There had been no report from Cllr Herd re His proposed site visit to Tweedholm Avenue and it was not known whether or not this had gone ahead. No matters arising had been brought to the attention of the Chairman.

Planning. There was no reported movement on the Minch Moor application, the West Bold Farm application or the planned development on

Caberston Farm.

## Correspondence.

The list had been sent round members in advance as usual. The secretary and Mrs Horsburgh would attend the licensing training and Miss McIntosh indicated that she would also like to attend. Ms Ogilvie would represent WCC at the Peebles CC Health Forum.

## Reports by Members.

a. A resident had raised concerns about the use of the rugby pitch for camping. Since the club only allows occasional use and there are toilet etc facilities open for campers, members could see no problem in this practice.

b. A resident had asked that the bench at Glenbenna be renovated at public expense. Members noted that this was a private bench on private ground but agreed that if the Glenbenna residents felt that a public bench would be of benefit that something could be attempted noting, however, that provision of public seating might affect the privacy of nearby houses and might not be welcomed by all.

c. Ms McIntosh reported that MSP Jeremy Purvis had promised to add his weight to the outcry about the continued shambles over Sunnybrae Lodge.

## Reports by SBC Councillors.

Cllr Logan had sent in a report covering his continued efforts to get repairs carried out to the bridge over the old dam and to get action on Sunnybrae Lodge. He reported that it looked as if the best to be hoped for in the short term re the bridge was for a covering to be applied to the existing structure but this would at least make it safe for walkers and he was pursuing this option vigorously.

## Any Other Business.

The secretary reported that a number of residents had expressed disappointment that the event planned for 2 August would co-incide with a main holiday period. IN the circumstances, members agreed to change the date to 6 September and the secretary would place an appropriate notice in Burning Issues.

## Date of Next Meeting.

The Chairman proposed to hold a meeting on 17th August to allow members to discuss the new draft constitution and the draft community action plan only. The meeting would be held in public but he proposed not to follow the usual pattern but simply to discuss the two draft papers, unless something urgent emerged in the interim. All agreed. The next ordinary meeting would be on Monday 21 September at 7.30pm in the Public Hall.

*Are you a small business or service provider?*

**BURNing Issues** will have the advertising solution for you!

If you are interested in advertising please contact Cathie Sutherland either by phone or email.  
01896 870470. Cathiesutherland@tiscali.co.uk

## Powerdown Thoughts for August

Summer is nearly over and the days of endless sunshine are nearly over! Well, something like that anyway. Soon we will be back to thinking about how will be keeping our homes warm and comfortable for the cooler months ahead. How large the resulting bills will be is of course at least of interest and for some a real worry. Maybe now is the time to consider whether it would be cheaper to buy electricity and gas from a different supplier. I understand why some may feel worried about this idea or even doubt how much could be saved.

Let me illustrate what might be possible with a fairly typical example of a household in Walkerburn paying around £60 a month for electricity and £60 for gas, both from Scottish Power, on their standard tariff, and paying the bill every quarter. This would cost £1440 for a year. The best deal I can find for this household would **save about £395 a year**. There are at least 8 other deals that would save over £300. The main features of this offer that add up to making it cheaper are switching to paying by monthly direct debit and operating the account online. If you wanted to stick with paper bills every quarter the savings would still be over £200.

So what can you do? I suggest you try these steps in this order and stop when you are content.

1. Phone your current supplier and ask them if there is a more suitable/cheaper tariff for you. This can take just a few minutes and is rarely difficult.
2. Use one of the comparison websites e.g. [energyhelpline.com](http://energyhelpline.com), [uSwitch.com](http://uSwitch.com), [moneysupermarket.com](http://moneysupermarket.com) etc to see what deals are out there. They can even guide you through the switch.
3. Call the main suppliers such as EdF, Scottish Gas etc. and see what they can offer you.

4. Contact the new supplier and ask them to take you on.

Switching supplier should be straightforward. All you should need to do is:

1. Call the new supplier. You will need your supply number (on your bill) and your bank details. You could do this step online if you want to.
2. Give them your meter readings.
3. Pay any outstanding bills from your old supplier.

Most people do this with few if any problems.

I will quite happily help anyone who wants to find out if they can save money this way and act as a guide through the process.

Other things to consider include ensuring you receive any help you are entitled to such as the Winter Fuel Payments and Cold Weather Payments.

You might decide that you wish to buy from a 'green' supplier. Most companies have green tariffs, which sell electricity generated by sustainable means. These may not be the cheapest tariffs but they offer environmental benefits.

Whatever you do about your energy supplier, reducing how much you use will always be a good way of keeping bills as low as possible. If you would like a FREE home energy check then please get in touch and I'll pop round when convenient. It only takes few minutes and could help you save.

### Here's the competition for August.

If you turn down your heating by just one degree about how much are you likely to save off your heating bill?

Is it

- A. 1%
- B. 2%
- C. 5%

AUGUST 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. You can send an entry by email if you prefer. Entries by September 1st please.

# Glentress Frames Picture Framing

*Bruce Macalister is a  
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If I can't get it, it's not there!*