



BURNing Issues



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THE MINCH MOOR WIND FACTORY

...Letter to All Residents from the Walkerburn Action Group

Vattenfall, a company owned by the Swedish Government, wants to build 12 turbines on Minch Moor. Greenpower is planning a similar number at Broadmeadows. Unless people object, these plans are likely to succeed.

Why Object? Because the great wind scam puts lots of money into the hands of developers and does not solve either our future energy shortage or global warming. Wind power has a place but it's not in small scale operations dotted round the countryside that just makes money for fat cats and ruins our beautiful countryside.

UK has the highest subsidies of any country in the world for windfarms it's partly why our bills keep rising no wonder so many foreign companies are targeting our countryside. But what will it really mean for this village?

- Tourists don't like turbines. The Borders is dotted with turbines and if these plans go ahead anyone walking or biking on the Minch will see turbines and pylons in every direction. Result? They'll stay away. How do we know? Look at the hundreds of objections on file.

- We'll have all the HGV and construction traffic passing up and down Caberston Road, past the school and over the bridge, 6 days a week, probably for a year. Forget walking across the bridge and along the back road it'll be too dangerous. And can you really believe that the damage to the roads and bridge will be made good at the end?

- What'll happen to the Ospreys? There are nests within the site boundary,(not that Vattenfall have reported them) will they continue to nest close to all the noise and dust of the construction? Unlikely. Another blow to tourism and the environment.

- The new 'roads' will damage a fragile environment and

look very obtrusive. There have to be pylons leading to the Yair substation. Minch Moor the new factory yard and they don't intend to remove the concrete once the windfarm ceases to operate.

- Some local businesses will get work during construction good luck to them - but during construction we'll all suffer the traffic on the A72 and who'll return to use our hotels etc after a closed year?

If this made a difference to global warming, we'd shut up but the small amount of power produced is not worth the environmental costs of manufacturing these huge industrial structures and installing the roads and rafts of concrete in unspoilt countryside. Large scale windfarms close to large scale users of electricity make some sense but the politicians are frightened they'll lose votes. Dotted turbines randomly around the countryside destroys our environment and helps meet politicians' targets. And don't be taken in by promises of Vattenfall gold. They don't have to give us any compensation and if they do it will have to be split amongst all communities affected. But in any case this isn't about money for us but about what is best for our land.

We need to get as many objections as possible before the end of September. If you need any help, or want to discuss this, contact Denise Hanks or Colin Kerr.

Write your objection to: Planning and Economic Development, Scottish Borders Council, Newtown St Boswells, TD6 OSA.

A BIG BELARUS THANK YOU TO WALKERBURN

The picnic on the pitch held for the children from Belarus who are still suffering from the aftermath of the Chernobyl disaster, was a great success.

Even the weather stayed dry for us and there was a massive turnout with most of the families attending, as it was the last organised event before the children left to go home on the following Sunday.

The children loved the open space of the Rugby pitch to run around, and the entertainment laid on with belly dancing and face painting proving popular. There was a good spread with lots of cream cakes as well as the more healthy option of a delicious fruit salad. At the end we were treated to an impromptu concert by the children who recited poems in English!! and sang Russian folk songs.

I would like to thank everybody who made this event so successful, including the Festival committee for the loan of the Bouncy castle and Sumo suits which the children thought were hilarious, the Youth club for loaning us their Wii machine which kept the boys entertained whilst the girls were making jewellery, the Guild for all the food provided especially the scones, sandwiches and fruit salad, Heather Lothian for her face painting which even the boys wanted a shot at, the belly dancer and jewellery maker and finally to the Rugby Club for letting us hold it there.

Denise Hanks

walkerburnnews@hotmail.com



WALKERBURN RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB, CABERSTON HAUGH EH43 6AU

125th YEAR ~ 2008-2009

www.walkerburn.org.uk/wrfc/

'Burn Banter

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!

Fixture

August 11th v St Boswells (A) ko 3pm

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.)

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 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 (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.

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

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 August are as follows

£50 - 137 A Aitken

£10 - 100 D Leslie

£5 - 126 L Miller

£5 - 58 E Anderson

September Wild Side

We are already at the turn of the year with that wee zing of autumn greeting us in the mornings and the evenings cooler and darker.

I love it! The autumn changes are just in their infancy but September will see some more definitive changes.

This is of course, a time of great migration. Some animals just move relatively short distances such as deer. I was treated recently for getting up too early to a great view of a female deer leaping through the barley field near West Bold. Hopefully as deer come to lower ground, I'll get more sightings.

Many of the swallows here just now are on route from farther north and are refuelling before continuing on. On a warm day, great flocks of swallows and martins feed above the house, then sun themselves on the roof, stretching their wings and chattering in constant conversation.

We will soon be hearing the night time geese flocks overhead as they fly to winter-feeding grounds and continental visitors will swell our more common garden bird numbers. Other reported sightings have been a cormorant on the river. I assume this is the same cormorant that turns up just about every year on the Tweed anywhere between Peebles and Caddonfoot. Something different from the proliferation of herons and goosanders to take young fish.

As well as birds, there are many insects such as moths and butterflies on the move and there are still lots of butterflies about on sunny days.

We seem to have been inundated with white butterflies this year which love cabbages and vegetables of that ilk. In their absence, nasturtiums are popular and ours, no doubt, will soon disappear under an army of caterpillars.

Three people have reported seeing a female sparrowhawk frequenting the bottom of Tweedholm Avenue. Sparrowhawks are far more common now as are many of our birds of prey. We too have had lots of sparrowhawk visits and although I have witnessed more misses than catches, the feathery evidence of a catch has been seen. They either eat their victim on the ground or a stump and will take anything from a blue tit to a pigeon as well as small mammals. The female is larger than the male and is brown where the male is a bluish grey. Both have barred underparts and the rounded wings help with manoeuvrability amongst trees and bushes when hunting.

Some European sparrowhawks will come to Britain to feed on tired migrants as they reach our shores but, even so, pigeon fanciers beware!

Pensioners Harvest Tea

Over the past few years, Walkerburn School pupils have invited pensioners to a Harvest Tea at the school. This year our Harvest Tea will be held on Monday October 5th 1.30 - 2.45pm. All local pensioners are invited, particularly those that live alone and we hope all our 'regulars' will come again this year. This is a great opportunity to catch up with friends and make new friends both young and old over a cup of tea.

All we ask is that you let us know you're coming so that we know how many cakes and biscuits to bake! Please let Sheila Horsburgh in the school office know by dropping a note in at school or phoning 870235 by 1st October.

Walkerburn Vegetable Show on Saturday 12th September

Just a quick reminder that our 127th show will take place on Saturday 12th September from 2pm at the Public Hall.

Tea, coffee and homemade scones and pancakes will be available.

So please come along with your flowers and vegetables and join in. There are schedules at the Post office or ask any of the committee who will be at the hall on Friday from 6.30pm to 9pm and on Saturday from 8.30am to 10am.

The recipe for Double Chocolate Chip Muffins for the Junior section 13-16years) is below and also at the post office.

Double Chocolate Chip Muffins

Makes 10-12 standard size muffins

9oz (250g) plain white flour

1tsp(5ml) baking powder

½ tsp (2.5ml) bicarbonate of soda

½ tsp (2.5ml) salt

4 tablespoons (60ml) unsweetened cocoa powder

5oz (140g) white granulated sugar

1 egg

8 floz (240ml) milk

3floz (90ml) corn oil or 3oz (85g) butter, melted

1tsp (5ml) vanilla essence

2-3oz plain chocolate drops

Prepare muffin tins. Preheat oven to 375-400 F (190-200C)

In a large bowl, sift together four, baking powder, bicarbonate of soda, salt and cocoa powder. Stir in the sugar.

In another bowl, beat the egg with a fork. Stir in milk, oil (or melted butter) and vanilla essence.

Pour all of the wet ingredients into the dry ones, and stir until combined. The batter will be lumpy but no dry flour should be visible.

Add the chocolate drops keeping some for the top.

¾ fill the muffin cups. Sprinkle tops with the remaining chocolate drops.

Bake for 20-25 minutes, until tops spring back when touched.

Good luck!

Denise Hanks

Rural Round Up

Following on from March's AGM, Rural members came together again in June and enjoyed a great day out at Dawyck Gardens for the summer trip.

The weather was kind and it stayed fair and fine as we enjoyed lunch in the restaurant and had plenty of opportunity to walk around and appreciate the fine blooms. In August, members kept themselves busy by competing in the SWRI tent at the Peebles Agricultural Show and Walkerburn once again produced prize winning entries to be proud of.

It was decided at the AGM that meetings would now resume in September rather than October and our first session took place on Wednesday 2nd September when Irene McFadzen from Ettrick came in to talk about her hobby and business Cottage Dolls. Irene has been making rag dolls now for just two years but has managed to make in that time over one hundred dolls using just calico and odds and ends of different

materials. She demonstrated to the group a step by step guide how to make the dolls from cutting the patterns to the finished product. Irene spoke with great passion about her hobby and the dolls were beautifully crafted and extremely wellmade.

Competition Winners:

Jar of Raspberry Jam - 1st J Gillie, 2nd M Millar, 3rd H Shepherd

Decorated Wooden Spoon - 1st H Shepherd, 2nd S McLauchlan, 3rd M Millar

Next month's meeting will take place on Wednesday 7th October, in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm, when Madeleine Selby will be coming all the way from Portsmouth to talk about Cockleshell Heroes. Competitions are 1 pair of socks (knitted) and 3 fruit scones.

BORDERS HEALTHY LIVING NETWORK

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

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

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

VILLAGE EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY

Sat 22nd August Walkerburn Rugby Club Family Open Day
Sat 12th Sept (doors open 2pm) - Village Hall Walkerburn Veg Assoc Exhibition
Mon 14th Sept starting Peebles at 10am Tour of Britain Cycle Race
Mon October 5th 1.30pm Pensioners Harvest Tea at Walkerburn School
Sat 17th October - Village Hall 10.30am to 1.00pm Walkerburn Community Fair

Contacts

Walkerburn Community Council

Secretary
Patricia Purves
Glenmead
EH43 6DD
01896 870 447
secretary@council.walkerburn.org.uk

Walkerburn Community Development Trust

Company Secretary
Cathie Sutherland
73 Tweedholm Avenue
EH43 6AP
01896 870 470
cathiesutherland@tiscali.co.uk

If there are any other groups that would like contact details added to Burning Issues to allow people interested in their club to contact them please send the details to walkerburnnews@hotmail.com

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If I haven't got what you want, I'll get it
If I can't get it, it's not there!*

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