

Spurtle

BROUGHTON'S INDEPENDENT STIRRER

No. 137

broughton.spurtle@blueyonder.co.uk

Free

June
2006

Tel - 556 0903
556 7727

BROUGHTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Summer fair brings fun – and funds

Gillian Hutton of Broughton Primary's Parent Staff Association (PSA) writes:

Fortunately we were spared wet weather for the event itself, but that

and bowling. Queues were never ending for the 'traditional' stalls such as the Tombola; Raffle; Books and Toys; Bric-a-Brac; and Arts and Crafts. A mention too for the children

Community Food Initiative and Masons Bakery.

Although the event is very much about bringing the school community together and providing a social occasion, a 'spin off' is the fundraising aspect. This year the grand total raised was £1,249! The PSA will donate this amount to the school to purchase new P.E. equipment to complement the increased P.E. provision scheduled for the 2006-07 school year.

Once again, thank you so much to everyone for their contribution to a fantastic day – we look forward to next year already!



Head Teacher Alan Devine draws the raffle. Catriona Blair won the 1st prize, a new bike and helmet.

was largely because the extremely blustery conditions were blowing any grey clouds away! The wind caused some challenges of its own, but that didn't stop the 'fair' from being very successful, keeping everyone involved busy from start to finish.

As ever, the 'cafe', including some amazing home baking, did a roaring trade, as did the BBQ, which operated in the new seated area of the playground very well. Children were 'lined up' throughout for the Bouncy Castle, and the 'hot shots' arena for basketball shooting, penalty kicks,

who provided us with a great 'Hip Hop' demonstration.

All in all, a fantastic afternoon of fun and entertainment, enjoyed by a huge number of pupils and their families, and the wider community. However, these events don't run themselves obviously, so the PSA would like to thank all those parents, staff, and friends who gave of their time so generously to make it happen. A number of local organisations also kindly supported the event: Leith Cycle Co., Crombies of Edinburgh, Edinburgh Leisure, Edinburgh

Dates for your diary

Monday 12th June:

Broughton History Society's AGM followed by video from Scottish Film Archive, 7.15 for 7.30pm at Drummond Community High School.

Wednesday 21st June:

'Homelessness in Edinburgh', 6.30 to 7.30pm at 40 York Place, hosted by St Paul's and St George's. (See BRIEFLY.)

Monday 26th June:

Gayfield Association's AGM, 6pm at Lyon and Turnbull's, 33 Broughton Place. Speaker from Lyon and Turnbull. More information from William McNair, 556 4493.

Saturday 1st July:

Open Day at Drummond Lawn Tennis Club, 10am till late, all welcome. (See page 2.)

BRIEFLY

Our local Community Council has a new chair, Ian Mowat, and secretary, Pat Eccles. And a redrawing of boundaries means that **Pilrig is no longer with us**, but part of Calton has joined us – including Regent, Royal and Carlton Terraces.

Meg Nelson reports: *The Barony Street Play Area project moved forward at the public meeting on 24th May. The team fed back on the outstanding response to the consultation exercise, showed a film and the new design. We expect the City Council to come back with a **costed design in July**, which will trigger fundraising! We have strong support from Mark Lazarowicz MP and Councillors Guest and Davies. Any queries to me on 557 0622 – especially from any young people.'*

Sarah Wheatley of St Paul's and St George's writes: *'But what can I do about it?': Homelessness in Edinburgh* is an event designed to inform you about the **realities of homelessness** in Edinburgh and about what we can all do to help.

Open to all interested, it will include input from Streetwork and Bethany. 6.30-7.30pm, Wednesday 21st June, No. 40 York Place. If you would like more information before the event, e-mail: local_action@hotmail.co.uk *The Roundabout Centre in Gayfield Place is looking for volunteers to help at their **inter-cultural Summer School**, 3rd-28th July. Training, support, references and expenses will be given.*

Commitment to anti-discriminatory work and child protection is more important than formal qualifications. Applicants from black or minority ethnic communities are especially welcome. If you'd like to know more, contact Emma or Lorna on 556 1168 or 557 4695.

Jets Volleyball Club trains and plays at Drummond Community High. The club caters for players at all levels from recreational beginners to top national league, with men's and women's teams. It's planned to expand the junior section with coaching at Drummond on Mondays. e-mail: nisbetduffin@hotmail.com

DRUMMOND LAWN TENNIS CLUB

Open Day

Ross MacLean writes:

The Drummond Lawn Tennis Club, whose grounds are situated off East Scotland Street Lane, is a veritable gem. With an open outlook onto



mature trees, surrounded on two sides by an organic garden, and with high ivied hedging, it has the atmosphere of an oasis of tranquillity

which befits the New Town's status as a World Heritage site.

But come and experience this field of dreams for yourselves. The club is holding an Open Day on Saturday, 1st July from 10am until late. The entrance to the club is via the leafy lane which runs parallel to the rear of Bellevue Crescent. Everyone is welcome. There will be a barbecue and refreshments, and there is a spacious play area for children. Beginners of any age can try their hand at the sport, and club members will be

happy to assist and advise. Membership of the club, which provides coaching at all levels, is open to all.

A quick word in your ear...

In this occasional column, contributors will express in a nutshell something they would rather talk about at length or yell through a megaphone.



Alan McIntosh begins:

Walks in Warriston or Rosebank Cemeteries recall death, but needn't be morbid. 19th-century Christian inscriptions welcome rebirth, and their secular sentiments are cheerful too. The stone haikus pithily express what matters, and the resulting statements aren't melancholy but rather solemnising, often celebratory, always thought-provoking, mostly framed in terms of love. They assert how far one can travel in a lifetime: around the globe, deep in learning, high in some institution, far in years or selflessness or moral courage. Our ancestors' failings, vanities, triumphs and disasters remind us of our own and our contemporaries'. In this fertile library we relearn that we are only temporary residents, accountable to our future neighbours.

'Mixed residential and retail developments' have their place, but must not have *all* places. We must preserve our garden cemeteries, these necessary, creative conversations between the living and the dead.

Who's next? A maximum of 150 words!

Spartle is looking for a volunteer with basic computer skills (Mac or PC) to help produce the paper. On-the-job training in desktop publishing skills can be provided. If you might be interested please phone John Dickie on 556 0903

AEROBICS

Broughton St Mary's Church
12 Bellevue Crescent
Mondays at 7.00pm
Mixed ability – all welcome
£30 for 10 sessions £4 for 1 session
Bring mat, towel, water.
Fiona: tel. 07931341485

TANDEM PLUS LEARNING

Have language, will travel

Birgit Harris reports:

In March five Drummond adult education students learning French and Spanish travelled to Vesoul in France to participate in an international languages project called 'Tandem Plus Learning'. This British Council project

links six adult education establishments in six countries and supports students to learn English, French and Spanish.

Students have the opportunity to communicate directly with learners from the partner organisations by e-mail, mail, skype or phone. Most

excitingly, students can attend transnational meetings and improve their languages by meeting other language learners.

If you are interested in Tandem Plus Learning contact me at Drummond on 556 2651.

DRUMMOND COMMUNITY HIGH

Future of 'the longie'

Last month Drummond Community High's head teacher told us that the strip of land between the school and Mansfield Centre known as 'the longie', long neglected no-man's land, would now be 'cleared and brought up to standard'. An S3 class would be working alongside the company undertaking the work: she invited ideas from the local community. We published an East London Street

resident's immediate response: he'd like to see the strip enhanced by suitable planting while retaining its natural, 'wild' character.

Now **Janice Johnston** of Bellevue Road has written: 'Why does everyone always want these areas tidied up? Why can't it be left natural (yes, rubbish removed) and the trees left alone? We need wild areas for small animals, birds and natural vegetation.'

BROUGHTON HISTORY SOCIETY

Recognise anyone?



A major exhibition illustrating the long history of our area is being planned for August, to take place in Broughton St Mary's Church in Bellevue Crescent. Members of the local history society are busy preparing maps, documents, photos, pictures and people's memories for display: they would welcome any

contributions from other Broughton residents, past or present.

In particular, we plan one display board full of class photos from local schools: the one above is from London Street Primary School in the 1970s. Do you have one we could borrow, copy and return? Phone John Dickie on 556 0903.

BRIEFLY

Jackie Collin tells us she parked in Hopetoun Crescent earlier this year with her front wheels, touching a double-yellow line and duly paid a fine. Recently she heard that 'this parking restriction had been canceled about a year ago; so she appealed. She got her money back; and the yellow lines have since been removed though, only in a messy, half-hearted way.

A hatched white triangle, like a strongly squeezed piece of Toblerone viewed during a migraine, has been painted, at the end of the traffic island on East Claremont Street. This. Follows weeks of – sometimes absurd – parking which has begun to stretch all the way back to Claremont Crescent, blocking access to the crescent and to Claremont Grove. Perhaps now something can be done to stop people parking ON the traffic island at the Bellevue Terrace end.

Spurtle is your local community paper. We aim to inform about local affairs; raise local issues; publicise the work of local action groups; make connections between 'the news' and people's own lives in Broughton; and stir things up a bit!

Contact us and:

- react to what **Spurtle** has had to say
- raise new issues
- let us know about community activities
- tell us what you feel about life in Broughton.

Telephone 556 7727 or 556 0903

Write to us c/o Narcissus, 87 Broughton Street EH1 3RJ – you can put a letter through the letterbox at any time.

E-mail

broughton.spurtle@blueyonder.co.uk

Belle's

View

Hi fans



Mighty! Is it just me, or has everyone else got the central heating back on again?! What fun is to be had to warm our cockles in sunny **Broughton and Bellevue**?

Estelle and I put on our big hairy hats to sally forth last week to **MacDonald Road Library**, for an evening of *Flagrant Delight*, with the effervescent **Liz Lochhead** and "grannies crumpet", the gorgeous **Michael Marra**. As part of the **Scottish Writers Festival** (with wine generously donated by **Oddbins of Elm Row**), it was a fabulous evening of song, poetry and supremely dry wit, punctuated by odd bleeping noises which **Mr Marra** claimed were coming from his incontinence alarm!

As if there isn't enough camping in **Broughton and Bellevue**, during my neighbourhood watch patrol I spied a new shop in **Haddington Place** – **Camping Ecosse**, selling everything required to go camping in Scotland – giant cans of midgie repellent and waterproof trousers then! Conveniently situated next to the new **Scottish Youth Hostel**, any youths turning up to find it fully booked can buy a wee tent and find a handy back garden!

Broughton Street is a-buzz with change – I hear on the grapevine that **Latan La Nails** is expanding into the basement shop next to **Bar Mezz**, and flower shop **Narcissus** is moving from its present location over into the space that was previously **Merz Gallery**. Just don't go moving the **Phoenix Bar** any further up the hill please – Estelle's diamante slingbacks won't take the gradient!

Till next time, just do it!

Persephone Belle

Have you got a story?

Spurtle is your community paper.
Phone 556 0903 or e-mail
broughton.spurtle@blueyonder.co.uk

Malcolm Chisholm MSP Edinburgh North and Leith



Constituency office:
86-88 Brunswick Street, EH7 5HU
Tel: 0131 558 8358 Fax 0131 557 6781
Saturday surgeries:
9am Leith Library
10.30am Royston/Wardieburn
Community Centre
12pm Stockbridge Library



New Town/Broughton Community Council

The Community Council represents
the views of local residents to
Edinburgh City Council.

The next meeting is on
Monday 5th June, 7.30pm at
Drummond Community High School.

Secretary Pat Eccles, 225 4633
E-mail pat@eccles62.wanadoo.co.uk

Mark Lazarowicz MP for Edinburgh North and Leith



Constituency office: 86-88 Brunswick Street
Edinburgh, EH7 5HU.
Tel: 0131 557 0577
Fax: 0131 557 5759
E-mail: mark@marklazarowicz.org.uk
Website: www.marklazarowicz.org.uk
Friday advice sessions:
4.00pm Stockbridge Library
5.30pm Constituency Office

THINKING OF LETTING YOUR PROPERTY?

We always require properties to meet
constant demand

Broughton Property Management

61 Broughton Street
Tel 0131 478 7222

E-mail:
info@broughtonproperty.co.uk

Contacts

**Bellevue and Claremont
Residents Association**
Yvonne Pryor 466 1144

Broughton Road Group
Pat Eccles 225 4633

Broughton Village Association
Stephanie Harvey 557 2762
(daytime)

**Dicksonfield Owners and
Residents Association**
Scott Richards 557 8879

**Friends of Hopetoun Crescent
Garden**
Mitchell Manson 557 1933

Gayfield Association
William McNair 556 4493

Hopetoun Village Owners
hopetounvillage@yahoo.co.uk

Powderhall Owners Association
info@powderhallvillage.co.uk

**Redbraes Residents
Association**
George Hosey 467 6151

**New Town/Broughton
Community Council**
Pat Eccles 225 4633

Broughton History Society
John Dickie 556 0903

Drummond Community High
556 2651

Cllr Trevor Davies
Broughton Ward 529 3221
Surgery at Broughton Primary
School, Weds. 6.30pm to
7.30pm (Term time only)

Cllr David Guest
New Town Ward 558 8823 or
529 4268. Surgery at 67
Northumberland Street on
Mondays from 6.30pm to 7.15pm