



NEWSLETTER

New Life in the Graveyard?

Alan Huey has been spending his spare time in Carnock graveyard and with fantastic support from Lynn Hoey at Fife Council work has now begun on a range of improvements and restoration.



Alan, and clare Kerr, have been working on a number of other projects that they would like to take forward around the village - we will give more details in the next issue.

Alan would also like to ask the local community for help with the removal of the ivy on the old church as it very damaging to the structure of the building. Ultimately working with the church and Charlestown workshops (conservation experts) to bid to the the heritage lottery fund to replace the gates at the pedestrian entrance next to the manse and to restore the building preventing further decay. contact Alan on alan.huey@sky.com or 0786 7506147. To volunteer for the last two Sunday mornings in April (weather permitting).

Vandals tip tubs

Many thanks to residents at Queens Haugh who tidied things up after some persons unknown tipped over one of the roadside flower tubs on Carnock Road.

This thoughtless act of petty vandalism occurred sometime during the night of Sunday 21 March. It follows similar small, but annoying, anti-social acts recently. Community Police Officers Eddy McKnight and Muriel Buick (Saline, Steelend, Oakley, Blairhall & Comrie) have promised to step up nightly patrols after several concerned residents reported this latest incident.

We are all concerned to ensure that minor damage doesn't escalate into something more serious in our locality.



Volunteers are needed to take over the care of village flower tubs - do you have one near you that you could pamper - please contact Peter or Clare Kerr on 853505



Carnock Community Trust. are calling for residents to come forward and help with the formation of a new management committee for the Centre. The future viability of Carnock Community Centre is in question following the present management team standing down.

This situation was the main topic of debate at the Carnock & Gowkhall Community Council meeting on 16 March. The Centre – used not just by people from Carnock, but also by others from neighbouring localities. It is not owned, run, or maintained by Fife Council – though they do contribute by paying a small, annual grant and by providing one, part-time, staff member.

**Carnock Community
Leisure Centre
Open Public Meeting
Into the Future?
Carnock Community Trust
7 pm Monday 26 April 2010
Additional local help for new Management
Committee– urgently needed now**

ensure its future viability and facilitate development of new local projects. You, as residents of Carnock & Gowkhall, represented by Carnock Community Trust, a registered charity, own the Centre. Since it is currently running at a small loss, the Trust, with local help, must act now to improve this situation. By being independent of local authorities and councils, and run by volunteers for the benefit of the community, the Trust can call upon grants and matching funding that provide the essential financial support to undertake activities and community projects for the benefit of all local residents. To help find a new Community Centre management committee, the Trust are working with C&G Community Council to hold a

public meeting. We are expecting a good turnout of local residents and the existing volunteers who help run the various activity groups in the Centre.

Neither does your local Carnock & Gowkhall Community Council run it – though they use it, and are keen to

Dunfermline and West Fife Local Plan - last chance to have your say.

Background

Every five years, Fife Council prepares a local plan which identifies specific sites for particular uses (housing, retail, industrial etc) Once a site is identified in a local plan for a particular type of development it is likely that planning applications for that site will follow. Fife Council has now produced a Local Plan which will run to 2017.

The Process

The draft plan was published in February and the Public consultation will continue until the 19th April, after which date the council will consider all responses. Officers may then recommend amendments to the plan before it is submitted to Fife Council's Planning Committee in Autumn 2010. It is then sent to an appointed person at the Scottish Office (along with all objections) who decides if there is a need for an examination in public, which would be held in early 2011. The plan will then be published and adopted in 2012.

The plan can be seen at the Community Centre

What's on in the Community Centre...

There are a huge number of clubs taking advantage of the facilities in the centre - check out the notice board for details on the following:

Dribblers, table tennis, Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers, badminton, Gospel group, Keep fit, Children's dance, Mini Kickers, SWRI, Toddler group, football, activity group - If I have missed any, let me know!

TODDLERS

Carnock & District Toddler Group runs on a Thursday 9.30-11.30 £2.00 per adult and child; 50p thereafter for each child. For further information please contact Melanie Moon on 01383 851202 All Welcome.

GALA Fundraiser

Save a date in your diary, the Ladies Night is back on Saturday 15th May at Carnock Community Centre from 7.00 pm

116th Fife Scout Group

The 116th Fife Scout Group meets in Carnock Community Centre. It provides Scouting to young people, both girls and boys, from ages 6 to 24 in five sections.

The Beaver colony covering ages 6 to 8 years: led by Mrs Jackie Miller, meets Friday evening from 6-7.30 pm.

The Cub Pack meets Thursday evenings 6.30-8 pm and spans ages 8 to 10 years: led by our newest Leader Mr Alan Twadde.

The next age section is the Scout Troop: 10 to 14 years: led by Mr John Williams and meets on a Thursday 7.30-9 pm.

The final two sections are the Explorer Unit, for ages 14 to 18, and the Network Section spanning age range 18 to 24 each led by Mr Iain Hannah: also meeting Thursdays 7.30-9 pm.

The Group recruits from the West Fife villages of Gowkhall, Carnock, Oakley, Comrie, Blairhall, Saline, Steelend and surrounding areas.

All sections have an active and varied programme designed to develop young people both physically and mentally through fun and learning.

Carnock Primary School

The HMIe report was published on the 16th March and confirmed what we already know about Carnock Primary School – It is brilliant!!!

Primary 6/7 have been continuing to explore Chinese culture this term. This has culminated in the launch of the Chinese 'Confucius Classroom' which took place at Queen Anne High School on Thursday March 11th. The P6/7 performed a fantastic dramatic interpretation of the story of Mulan, including a Chinese Sword and Fan Dance.

P6/7 will also be performing their Sword and Fan Dance at the Fife Creative Dance Festival at Rothies Hall on Wednesday 31st March. P1/2 will be performing a creative dance based on playground games from the past.

Primary 6/7 experienced the 'World at Work' when they were given the opportunity to visit a range of workplaces throughout Fife, including the Scottish Police College, HMS Caledonia, Bannatynes, Ryan & Calder Veterinary surgery, St Columba's High School, Bannrum Nursing Home, Dobbie's Garden Centre, Lisa Buchanan's Photography and New Park Surgery.

We are all set to go with the development of our Eco Community Garden to the rear of the school. We have been granted over £30,000 from a range of agencies including Awards for All, Area Locality Budget and Fife Environmental Trust. We hope to begin work on the garden next term. Watch that space!!

The Pupil Council decided to have a pyjama day on Friday February 26th to raise money for the Haiti earthquake disaster. It was very successful with a total of £236 raised.

As part of the school's fun day activities two voluntary helpers are helping six Primary 6 /7 pupils learn the art of photography. The enthusiastic group, made up of 3 boys and 3 girls have given themselves the name of 'Carnock Creations'. The sessions have got off to a promising start and the aim is to submit photographs to the west Fife villages exhibition of art and photography on Sat 8th / Sun 9th May 2010. The photographs will be themed around friendship and woodlands. We have high hopes of a very creative exhibit of talent from our budding photographers!

Each Section works to gain the Chief Scout's Award for that age range:

- Beavers their Bronze Award,

- Cubs and Scouts Silver and Gold Awards respectively.

- The Explorers work to the Platinum and Diamond Awards, which continues in the Network Section, eventually leading to their Queen's Scout Award.

Further details can be obtained from any of the Section Leaders or Peter Philp Group - Scout Leader 01383 852612

Mumbles and Grumbles

A chance for the editor (or anybody else for that matter) to sound off..

I was fortunate to attend the Gala Committee quiz Night in late February What a great success. Well organised - a lot of fun and £341 profit made on the night! Well done to the organisers.

After pestering Fife Council with the determination of a marathon runner Douglas Baird seems to have finally convinced the council that the path between our two villages needs to be widened back to its original width - Good job Douglas!

The village store is now open once more ... but it would appear to have a limited time to move into profit - use it or lose it !

It really is annoying that some mindless vandal has decided to destroy the good work of the volunteers that maintain the village flower tubs - shame on you!

What's on around the villages..

Carnock Primary Fundraising Group are having a Sponsored Cycle on Saturday 24th April to raise funds for outside seating for the Playground. Meet at 10 am (dep 10:30) at the Community Centre for a ride along the cycle path to Bogside and return.

Holy Week Church Services - All welcome

Carnock Church - Wed 31st March 7.30 pm

Oakley Church - Thur 1st April 7.30 pm

Carnock Church Fri 2nd April 7.30 pm

Easter Sunday

Oakley Church 10 am informal communion Service

Carnock Church 11.30 am informal Communion Service

May Fayre

29th May 2pm Oakley Church

Policing - Fife Constabulary is committed to allowing residents to directly influence local policing. We can have our say on local priorities by going to the newly instigated community engagement meetings in our area - see details below. A member of CG&CC will attend, nevertheless all residents are welcome to attend any of the meetings. - **next meeting 7 pm 5th May** at Oakley Community Centre. At the March meeting speeding in Saline and vandalism in Oakley was discussed. There was nothing of note involving either Carnock or Gowkhill - If you believe that there are issues to be raised you are encouraged to attend in person or speak to a member of the C&GCC.

Residents should be aware that there have been a number of crimes committed within the villages lately including theft from unlocked garages and car theft / attempted theft.

For all non-emergency contact with Fife constabulary, please call: 0845 600 5702

Door-knockers? Be wary

They may have been genuine, but maybe they weren't.

In the last weeks of March, itinerant 'white-van-man' traders were knocking on Carnock doors during the day offering to clean roofs and gutters - for cash.

One local resident wasn't too sure that they didn't have more sinister motives, and weren't just hoping to find an empty house or two- especially when they quickly moved off when asked for further details.

So, one cautious resident asked police at Oakley police station to check them out. The traders drove into Queens Haugh whilst the police were there looking for them. Instead of continuing seeking new business, the traders quickly turned their van around and disappeared off the scene.

Were they goodies or baddies? Who knows? But it pays always to be cautious.



With our Spring into Summer menus now well underway, we hope that you have had a chance to join us to taste some of our mouth-watering cuisine that our chefs have created. Delights that now appear on our new menu include; char grill Scottish salmon on herb mash with a caper cream sauce and spaghetti with chicken, spinach, sun blush tomatoes and basil pesto. Not to forget our sharing platter and breakfast on a Saturday and Sunday from 10am.

Open weekdays from 12 noon (20% discount Monday - Friday 12pm - 4 pm), weekends from 10 am.

With all that in mind please join us and enjoy a **25% discount off your food account until 30th April redeemable with this advert**

(excludes 2nd-5th April & Saturdays)

Can't get there? Then email SouthWestFifeCommunityTeam@fife.pnn.police.uk or call in at Oakley Police station any time

Carnock and Gowkhill Community Council News

As you'll see elsewhere in this issue, the fate and future of the Community Centre in Carnock is under serious review. This was the main topic at the 16 March meeting.

C&GCC were told by the current team that either the Centre comes under a new management team or it closes. Yet closure seems a stark alternative for one of the newest and best community centres in Fife – one that opened only seven years ago.

Some readers may ask why we in C&GCC don't take it on. Two reasons: firstly, as CC volunteers already, we are already heavily committed (also, some members run various Centre's activity groups, too); secondly, as a statutory local body, we simply cannot bid for funds.

However, we are working closely with the present, out-going team to facilitate some orderly transition. But to what? Well, that's up to all residents to decide. See *public meeting notice*.

Kill the echo-echo-echo!

One associated urgent task I have undertaken for the time being is to find a quick yet permanent solution to noise reverberation problem in the sports hall.

Once we achieve that for the Trust, then it opens up new possibilities for the Centre.

Immediately, it will make things far more pleasant for current users (school gym; Scouts, Cubs; Brownies; toddlers play group, and many more).

Then, very soon after the new management team takes over, they can think about having some new, attractive events in there.

David A Lord - Chairman C&GCC

Green light for crossing change? – Not yet.

Have you noticed that the pedestrian crossing lights have changed? Does it make sense?

This was done by Fife Council Transportation following discussions at the school PTC meeting at the end of March. They suggested that removing the green bulbs in those traffic lights might help prevent drivers going through the other lights when on red. It would help by eliminating 'see through'. PTC meeting participants, which included representatives from C&GCC and a Fife councillor, expected to see all four green bulbs removed: however, with only one removed on each set, many residents feel this partial solution inadequate. C&GCC, and Carnock PS head teacher and the PTC are pursuing this road safety issue with Iain Henderson of Fife Council.

What local issues trouble you?

What events or projects would you like to see in your locality?

Please come along to our regular meetings and let us know.

7 pm Tuesday 20 April 2010

7 pm Tuesday 18 May 2010

Meetings are held monthly in the Community Centre and are open to all.

From the next issue we'll be taking paid-for small ads here. Give the editor a call now on 01383 851468 to discuss your add.

Don't give up on the Big Break Up

We all agree, that the road surface along the western part of Main Street, Carnock is atrocious. Now is the time for you to support your Community Council by individually writing to Fife Council to ask for them to begin using part of the 2010-11 budget immediately and fix things for us. C&GCC have taken up this issue with Fife Council. FC tell us that their repair funds for the fiscal year [ends 5 April 2010] were entirely spent. However, MSP Jim Tolson has taken up the cause on our behalf, too. Add your voice – write to:

Stuart Knowles

Senior Manager – Transportation Services

Fife Council

Transportation Department

New City House

1 Elgin Street

DUNFERMLINE Stuart.knowles@fife.gov.uk

A bridge too far?

Residents and their community councils along the route of the A907 and A994 eastwards from the Gartarry roundabout are concerned about possible future increases in heavy traffic numbers.

This may happen once the old Kincardine Bridge closes.

We'll let you know when this happens. And when it does, we want to know if you notice any difference in traffic patterns.

Carnock to Gowkhill footpath

For some time now, your Community Council has been concerned about the poor state of the footpath on the south side of the main road between Carnock and Gowkhill. In some places, the footpath is no more than 18 inches wide due to slippage of the adjacent banking. Following a series of exchanges with Fife Council regarding the urgent need for widening work to be carried out, we are pleased to report that this has now been undertaken by the. We trust the improvements will be welcomed by users of the footpath, particularly those who now walk this stretch on a daily basis following the re-opening of the village shop in Carnock.

Carnock Community Leisure Centre

What interests you?

Like to hear a talk?

Like to give a talk?

Like to use the sports hall?

Like to give a class or two?

Let us know what new events and activities you would like have on in the Community Centre.

local history • family history • art
folk music • badminton • keep-fit
table tennis

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