



CAMBUSBARRON NEWS UPDATE DECEMBER 2012



**A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS FROM YOUR
COMMUNITY COUNCIL AND DEVELOPMENT
TRUST**



PRODUCED ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL AND THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TRUST

The next meeting of **YOUR** Community Council is on 11th December 2012 at 7pm in the Community Centre. Meetings of the Development Trust will also be publicised in this newsletter. All are welcome to attend meetings and express their opinion on current, local issues, some of which are highlighted in this publication.

BURNSIDE PATH LIGHTING

At the last Community Council it was agreed unanimously that we should press ahead with the Burnside Path lighting project. After the CC meeting, Keith Henry, the Community Councillor who on our behalf has spent many hours in negotiations, had a very constructive meeting with Stirling Council's lighting engineer, with the result that Stirling Council have agreed to "adopt" the scheme if and when it is completed to their specification.

What this means is that they have agreed to pay for the future maintenance and also the small cost for electricity each year. This is an excellent result for the community, as it significantly improves our chances of obtaining funding for the capital cost of the scheme. Keith is now in the process of applying for the funding and we are very hopeful that he will be successful. Thanks to Keith for his perseverance and technical know how in getting the scheme as far on as it is.

2014 is a significant year for Cambusbarron, indeed, for the entire country. While we look forward to celebrating the 700th anniversary of the Battle of Bannockburn, we will also, more sombrely, commemorate the 100 years since the beginning of the Great War - something that cost our community many lives.

Plans for former include the restoration of Bruce's Well, (or Chapelwell) which Bruce famously visited on the eve of the Battle. That year's March of the Gillies over the Hill named after them, and thence to the Borestone will, of course, have a special significance. Adding to that will be the Bannockburn 700, planned by Bannockburn CC: in 1914, 600 Bannockburn men marched to the

Borestone; in 18 months time, our neighbours are hoping to recruit another 100 men - and women and children from all over Stirlingshire - who will merge with our *ghillies*, before paying their respects at Bruce's statue. Six weeks later will see a much more reserved acknowledgement of the sacrifice made from August 1914. We'd welcome suggestions as to the most fitting way to do this, but certainly feel the focus should literally be on our War Memorial, and on the names there - to point up that these were, of course, more than just names. One other suggestion: that a floral arrangement on the St Ninians Road verge commemorates the sacrifices of both 1314 and 1914, with the words 'Lest We Forget'

Copies of *A Cambusbarron Tapestry* are still available priced £12 (all profits to the Goodwill fund). Why not buy as a Christmas present, possibly for those who have moved away from the village? Contact 463098.

AWAKENING on Monday, December 3, to see a few inches of overnight snow makes a repetition of our appeal for winter weather volunteers very much more pertinent.

Traditionally, there has always been a good community spirit and neighbourliness in the Cambusbarron area, especially at this time of year.

The CC is keen to extend such thoughtful practices and took advantage of an offer from Stirling Council - six brand-new snow-clearing shovels are now in our posses-



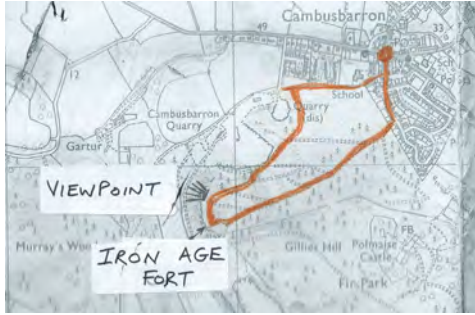
sion at the community centre but we need volunteers to wield them. We are keen to clear "vulnerable" areas, such as outside the homes of those who find walking difficult at the best of times, and the main

thoroughfares to the schools.

Many hands will make light work and an hour's snow clearing could help to reduce the number of nasty falls and broken limbs that have made winter such an ordeal for so many in the past couple of years. It will also prevent people becoming virtual prisoners in their own homes.

If you are prepared to help, please provide your name and contact details to any community councillor that you know. Alternatively phone or text Alan Rennie on 07970 191083 or email alancraigrennie@yahoo.co.uk

Path of the Month: indeed, path of any month is the one that goes into the Gillies Hill Woods just to the left (east) of the Quarry Road-Commondry junction, climbs up the fenced route past the Thornton's Quarry, then similarly past the Second Quarry (also dis-used) and soon onto the ancient, unquarried Touchadam Crag. Not only is it the site, where the Gully cuts through the Crag, of the early Iron Age Gillies Hill Fort. (What remains of this - described by Historic Scotland as 'a site of national importance' is today all below ground, but its position, and setting – overlooking several other ancient sites in the Touch-North Third area, including Castlehill Dun, which is above ground – possibly give it a particular importance yet to be unearthed.) But what you can see, here, however, really



View from Touchadam Crag

takes your breath away: fantastic rising landscapes far below – and far in the distance: Touch, North Third, Earlshill, Ben Lomond, Ben Ledi, the vast, spectacular Carse of Stirling.

The messiest dog-mess yet? Certainly caused even more mess to humans than to the Thomson Place pavement, despite covering a fair portion of that. It soon covered a fair portion of several shoes worn by Cambusbarrow Primary pupils, going home at the same time as its deposit, (and, thereafter, at least one village carpet was also fouled up.) The good news was that the alleged culprit was spotted by several of his victims and some parents, and spoken to by our local policeman, Richard Morris. But it begs the question: why isn't the percentage of village dog-owners who correctly clean up any mess 'only' 95% - and not 100%?

Stop Press: the Touch Road Turders continues their contribution to that 5% by ensuring that their dog adds fresh dollops to the pavement there – daily. Such indifference takes your breath away – literally.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Remember this picture? Last month we showed the group of volunteers who spent time on 13th October cleaning the area at the back of the garages opposite the Primary School.



This is the same area on 1st November! Who is doing this to our local environment? If you know, please ask them to stop,



or alternatively inform the Community Council

Some of the play equipment in **George V Park** was scheduled to be replaced this autumn. Stirling Council's timetable has slipped and it now looks like spring at the earliest.

Local boy **Michael Walker** has been selected for the Scotland u-15 basketball team. Congratulations.

New Minister: the Bruce Memorial's new minister, the Rev Graham Nash, will be inducted in the church on Thursday 6th December. He was previously Parish minister in Glenburn, Paisley, and is looking forward, we're told, to working with the whole community of Cambusbarrow. Your Community Council welcomes Rev Nash, and, indeed, looks forward to working with him.

Fly-Tipping on Gillies Hill: the asbestos on Gillies Hill has now been removed.

DIARY DATES

11th December
Community Council meeting

POLICE REPORT

(extract from November report)
"Cambusbarrow has had its quietest month for a long time. There has not been a single call for antisocial behaviour (other than two calls relating to a loud TV), and no reports of youths in the woods or on motor bikes etc".

Some advice on home security: There have been two house breakings in Park Place in the past couple of weeks (both on the same night so probably related) so ensuring windows and doors are locked and outdoor lighting systems work is a must, especially with the darker nights coming in.

CAMBUSBARRON LIBRARY

Dec 24th: closed "early"
Dec 25th and 26th: closed
Dec 27: open 10am
Dec 31st: closed "early"
Jan 1st and 2nd: closed
Jan 3rd: open at usual time



Cambusbarrow Library wishes all the village a Happy Christmas and wonderful New Year, and looks forward to welcoming old and new readers in 2013.

UPDATE ONLINE: If you wish to receive a copy of this monthly newsletter by email, get in touch with Alan Rennie at alanraigrennie@yahoo.co.uk