



CAMBUSBARRON NEWS UPDATE JANUARY 2013



A VERY HAPPY 2013 FROM ALL AT YOUR COMMUNITY COUNCIL AND DEVELOPMENT TRUST

The next meeting of **YOUR** Community Council is on 15th January 2013 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.

KENNINGKNOWES RESIDENTS HELP THEMSELVES !

Householders in Kenningknowes Road have been reminded that the Kenningknowes residents' association has promised to help older or vulnerable residents with clearing paths etc in the event of severe weather.

Any resident who requires such help is asked to contact secretary Jim McCormick on 01786 469980 or by emailing jimmccormick75@gmail.com

Jim would then contact volunteers from the residents association and provide help if possible.

For the Cambusbarron Community Council area as a whole, however, there has been a limited response to the appeal for bad weather volunteers. The CC acquired six snow shovels from Stirling Council and issued an appeal last month for people to use them if there is a return to the severe winters of recent times.

Many hands make light work and, with sufficient numbers, a rota could be worked out to ease the task of snow clearing and gritting. Let's not become complacent just because the new year has started with comparatively mild weather.

If you are prepared to help clear safe pathways to local shops and schools etc, contact any community councillor or email alanraigrennie@yahoo.co.uk

SOME INTERESTING NUMBERS FOR CAMBUSBARRON COMMUNITY COUNCIL AREA

The Cambusbarron CC area is widely regarded as a sustainable and prosperous community. Just look at some of these figures ...

- * 64 per cent of those who live here are employed, either full-time, part-time or self-employed, compared with just 58 per cent in the Stirling Council area as a whole;
- * 65 per cent are in A/B and C1 jobs against 53 per cent overall in the Stirling Council area;
- * There are around 1600 houses of which 80 per cent are owner occupied;
- * There are around 300 families with children, representing 30 per cent of the CC area;

* 45 per cent of households have at least one car and 40 per cent have two cars or more.

These statistics were gleaned from the excellent Bruce Memorial Church website at <http://connectcambusbarron.org/>

It's a very professional website, well worth a visit, and is a credit to the church's very hard-working and forward-looking kirk session. Little wonder that the church's new minister, the Rev Graham Nash, was attracted to Cambusbarron.

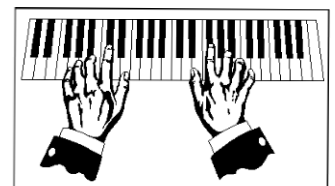
KEYBOARD CLUB: How often have you heard people complain that there's nothing to do in Cambusbarron? Most people are unaware that the Stirling and District Keyboard Club meet on the third Thursday of each month right here in the village's bowling club.

They hold concerts by top UK artistes with music to suit all tastes. Entry is £8 for non-members with under-16s admitted free.

Next event at 7.30pm on January 17 features Mark Thompson, who has been playing the electronic organ from the age of seven and rose to prominence when he won the "Young Theatre Organist of the Year" award in 2002.

In addition to his work on the organ circuit, Mark plays in 60s/70s music band Wallstreet on keyboards/vocals. He also plays cocktail piano at hotels and restaurants across the North East, and often guests with a jazz band at Newcastle United's ground on match days. Other club dates: Feb 21 - DirkJan Ranzijn; March 21 - Ian House; April 18 - Penny Weedon.–

If you are holding an event and would like some publicity in the CCC newsletter, drop an email with details to alanraigrennie@yahoo.co.uk



Path of the Month: Round Gillies Hill actually begins on a road (reason below) – the Polmaise Road at the motorway bridge, with Torbrex and Kenningknowes just nearby. Walk up the road, past the Seven Sisters Field on your right, named after the ancient seven-boughed oak that used to be there, planted in the mid-17 century: in 1824, one expert estimated its mature branches to be over 180 feet, and worth, to boat-builders, over £45 – quite a fortune back then, and probably the reason it's no longer there.

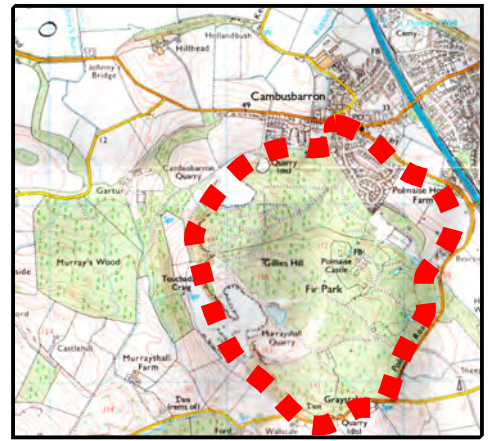
Soon, Bearside is also on the right, its houses on the site of an old farm (*bear* or *bere* is the old Scots word for barley). Immediately above Bearside can be seen the old Polmaise Curling Ponds, now much neglected (last used 'officially' 100 years ago by Borestone Curling Club: Major Murray of Polmaise was its chief patron, and many Cambusbarrow men played.



Polmaise Road was originally Murrayshall Road: the name was imposed on the area in 1865 when Colonel Murray (the Major's older

brother) built his new home in the woods above the village, and named it after his old one near Fallin (where the SC Refuse Depot is today.) The Murrays also styled themselves 'of Touchadam', the very ancient name for the land around Cambusbarrow's east, west and south sides.) The ruins of Polmaise Castle (deliberately 'demolished' in 1966) can be visited in the woods – but those woods are utterly saturated at present: hence the path beginning on a road.

At the Polmaise and Gateside Roads junction, the views are impressive: the two Forth bridges to the east, the Ochils to the north, and Sauchiburn to the south. Continue to the right, past Graystale and Wallstale on your left: in the steep Gillies Hill woods above the latter is the Wallstale Dun, a favourite picnic spot for Victorian locals, known to them as 'The Temple'. Slightly further on, cut off the road into Murrayshall (but keep an eye out for the heavy lorries to and from the quarry) Murrayshall was once another of the Murray family homes, then became a farm,



up to the early 1960s. An isolated wall, visible from the footpath, is all that remains. More interesting: at its entrance are Murrayshall Lime Kilns, built from 1818 onwards, part of the fascinating lime industry that literally mazed beneath Gillies Hill.

As the path winds below the western cliffs of the Hill, the views to the west are impressive; even more so on Touchadam Craigs above. You descend back into Cambusbarrow through the Second Quarry (incidentally on the route of the annual XC race, part of Cambusbarrow Gala – something now seriously endangered unless its tiny group of loyal workers gets more support.) You are also, of course, on the Commondry – like Murrayshall Road, only 100 years later in the 1960s, that had new names imposed on it.

PHARMACY: Having our own chemist in the village is a boon, especially in winter. Many people have taken advantage of the Cambusbarrow Pharmacy delivery scheme for repeat prescriptions. It's quite simple. At your request, the pharmacy can re-order your prescription from your doctors' surgery, collect the prescription, dispense the medications and deliver your medicines to your home.

They can advise you by email or text that your prescription is needing renewed and they will ask which tablets you require. When your prescription has been dispensed, they will text or email you to advise an estimated delivery time to your door for your medications.

Pop into the Pharmacy in Main Street if you wish to take advantage of this service.

DIARY DATES

15th January
Community Council meeting

NEWS IN BRIEF

- Stirling Council have hinted at the possibility of undertaking a geophysical survey in the immediate vicinity of the Chapel Well. The survey over the site of the chapel might identify a building plan or the location of any graves.
- Your Community Council plan to mount an exhibition of photographs to commemorate the centenary of the start of WW1 in 2014. If you have any photographs of Cambusbarrow men who were involved in the war please dig them out and get in touch with us.



Brownies at the War Memorial last year



New planting outside the Community Centre