

Bannockburn News

Local News For Local People

Issue 1 September 2004



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Your Comments

For Bannockburn News to be a success we need your comments and contributions. Let us know what you think. Giving us your comments couldn't be easier. You Can: Phone Derek Robertson on 01786 489 301 or Joe Smith on 07802 186 608

By letter to The Editor, Bannockburn News c/o 52 Myreton Drive, Bannockburn, FK7 8PX.

Email us at

Editor.bnews@BTConnect.com

In person By Speaking to Derek Robertson or Joe Smith.

Or by talking to any Community Councillor or Community Trust Director.

Let's All Be Proud

Ask not what your country can do for you but ask what YOU can do for country. President John F Kennedy said these words in his opening address in 1961. They are just as significant today, especially in our own local community. So really this front page headline for your first edition of the new look Bannockburn News should have read "ask not what Bannockburn can do for you but ask what YOU can do for Bannockburn."

The Bannockburn, Hillpark and Whins of Milton areas are growing in size. It seems that each week a new housing development springs up and with a new village being proposed on our doorstep, it's really important for us that we keep what is best about our community as we grow and change.

Being proud and active members of our local community can keep it a great place in which to live.



Mention Bannockburn anywhere in the world and the reply will be 1314. There is however much more to our local area than the historical battle facts. Bannockburn has produced, and continues to do so, some of the finest people in Scotland. The list includes everyone from sports stars, politicians and business people to award winning volunteers.

Bannockburn was where Tartan was first mass produced. The Wilson Mills were famous throughout the land. Our own

Bluebell Wood is a designated nature area of interest. We have on our doorstep some of the finest walks in Central Scotland and spectacular scenery all around us. Let's be proud, pull together as a community and not just keep but grow a great sense of community spirit.

One of the saddest things I see around our community is what seems to be a lack of respect for people and property. Graffiti and litter for example spoil Bannockburn's visual beauty.

Let's make everyone responsible in our community. More than that, let's turn our moans into positive action for the better.

Remember, "ask not what Bannockburn can do for you but ask what YOU can do for Bannockburn."

Joe Smith

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Isabel Farquharson

BY JOE SMITH

This month's local character is Isabel Farquharson of the Tartan Arms who in her 81 years has many memories of Bannockburn,

Speaking to Isabel is always a pleasure and in this article she reminisces on her family, the pub and friends, here is her story:

" The Tartan Arms was first opened in 1887 by my Grandparents, David & Mary McQue. David was a Tartan Weaver, hence the name ' The Tartan Arms', the pub was then passed onto my Father, John and eventually my mother, sister Mary and myself ran the pub, assisted by my Husband Joseph.

It is thanks to the staff and customers throughout the years that the Tartan Arms is now well known in Central Scotland (and further afoot) for its warm welcome and friendly atmosphere - along with its fine food and entertainment.

It is nice to reminisce with my old friends in the bar each morning. I remember the great singers we had in the 'back room' between the wars and even today we still have the occasional wee sing song in the bar with the *auld yins*.

Currently my sons John and Joseph run the operation with a loyal staff.



I hope that this newspaper will be very successful and that the villagers of Bannockburn will support the efforts of our local community council."

Isabel

Thanks to Isabel for her memories. If you know of someone you think we should feature as a Local Character in future issues please contact the editorial team, details are on page 1.

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Bannockburn Factoids . . .

Did you know . . .

The scene of Robert the Bruce's victory over King Edward's army in 1314, Bannockburn was no doubt remembered by migrants from Scotland. The Scots word "burn" means "stream" and "bannock" (in this context) is from an old Gaelic word meaning "horn".

There is a Bannockburn in Canada (Ontario) and New Zealand (Central Otago, South Island) and USA (Georgia, Illinois, Maryland and South Carolina) and a suburb of Brisbane (Queensland, Australia).

Has anyone been to any of these Bannockburns? If so let us know about it. Pictures would be excellent and we will feature your story in a future issue.

editor.bnews@btconnect.com



Taken at re-enactment of the Battle of Bannockburn 2002

Who is a Brilliant Bannockburn Employee?

Let's celebrate great Bannockburn employees.

If you have received brilliant service as a customer or, as an employer you want to praise one of your staff let us know:

- who they are
- a little bit about what they do and
- most importantly what they did for you to consider them as Bannockburn's Brilliant Employee.

We will celebrate Bannockburn's Brilliant Employee in the next issue with a photo and a short article.

Send your contribution by 20 October 2004 to The Editor, Bannockburn News c/o 52 Myreton Drive, Bannockburn, FK7 8PX. Or by email to editor.bnews@btconnect.com

Rights of Way

BY ROBERT AITKEN

Almost all rights of way in Scotland have deep roots in the past, old cross country roads once traversed on foot or horseback.

Some are old 'drove' roads leading to cattle and sheep markets, others would be 'kirk' roads to church, coalminers created them between home and work and there were even 'coffin' roads to graveyards.

All rights of way originate from the recognition by the common law of Scotland for a need for routes from one place to another for religious, recreational, commercial or other purposes.

A right of way is created by the following method: -

1. The track must run from one public place to another public place.
2. The track must follow a more or less defined route.
3. The track must have been used openly and peaceably by members of the public other than with the permission, express or implied, of the landowner.
4. It must have been so used without substantial and effective interruption for a period of 20 years or more.

The right of way then becomes something very special; it will subsist despite changes of land ownership, absence from title deeds and the ignorance of its existence by the landowner. Most importantly it becomes exempt from legal challenge.

There are around 8,000 rights of way in Scotland, local authorities are responsible for them and have duties and powers to maintain them.

The area in and around Bannockburn and Stirling is well served with paths, which are well used, if you find an obstruction of any kind contact Stirling Council in the first instance, e-mail info@stirling.gov.uk or telephone 0845 277 7000 or by post Stirling Council Viewforth Stirling FK8 2ET, the Countryside service may be the best bet as they have an access officer and rangers on the ground. 01786 442875 gets you there.

The Scottish Rights of Way and Access Society also known as Scotways keep a catalogue of all known routes; some routes are only known to local people. Scotways only become aware of them when a problem is reported. If you know of a right of way that that may not be recorded or is not in use for



Telford's circular roadbridge over the Bannock Burn

whatever reason contact Scotways. It takes 20 years to extinguish a right of way so time is on your side.

You can contact them at www.scotways.com. Or e-mail info@scotways.com or telephone 0131 558 1222 or by post 24 Annadale Street Edinburgh EH7 4 AN.

Footnote:

Currently the Community Council are in discussion with Stirling Countryside Ranger, Richard Barron, about reopening the rights of way at the Telford Bridge. This was closed due to safety reason but funds have been allocated and hopefully it will be open to the public soon.

Thanks to Richard Barron, Countryside Ranger.

NEWS UPDATE

Hillpark Community Centre

After years of discussion, including consultations with the local community and local councillor, Tom Coll, the community centre for Hillpark is almost at the building stage.

The community centre will be erected behind the Ladywell Church & Miners Welfare. It is hoped that this will become a focal point for the community and will be managed by the residents of Hillpark.

The community needs to become more actively involved and we need the people of Hillpark to come up with ideas as to what they want from the centre that may benefit the Hillpark area.

The hope is that the centre will invoke a community spirit which has been lacking in Hillpark. The other surrounding villages have developed this spirit and are working together to benefit their communities.

Please contact us if you want to participate in helping to regenerate YOUR community.
 Cathy McRorie 814637
 Carol McDonald 489785
 Tom Coll



Telephone
01786 813290



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- Christmas Lunch & Dinner
- Christmas Day

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9th October £8
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"Elvis" & "Tina Turner"

16th October £10
Male Order
The Perfect Live Boy Band

23rd October £10
Paparazzi
2 Girl, 2 Guy Vocal Band

30th October £10
Andrew Carey Association
Soul & Motown Tribute

6th November £10
Dione Andre's 80's Show

13th November £10
Silhouette
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20th November £8
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**Do you ever wish your
relationship was
better, that somehow it has
lost its sparkle?**

Our relationships are important. Healthy relationships make us happy and improve the quality of our lives. Children too are happier if their parents have a good relationship.

All too often we feel our relationship suffers because of different situations. We have lots of stresses to cope with in our busy lives and sometimes they build, life gets difficult and we take it out on the people we love most.

We go through different life phases and changes and this can really put a strain on our relationship. Particular phases people mention - I've just had a baby, my mum died recently, the menopause is difficult, I'm older and my illness has made life difficult, our sex lives also go through changes.

Working through these phases affect us. Mostly we get through without too much difficulty. However, we sometimes have problems and wish things were different, the kind of things people say are -

- It is difficult to talk
- We get angry and shout a lot
- I think my partner is having an affair
- We have drifted apart
- Stress is affecting us and our sex life
- Work/money is difficult
- My partner drinks too much
- I'd like to be closer to my partner
- I do not want sex
- Texting or the internet is damaging our relationship
- Events from the past are affecting me now.

Sometimes it is hard to talk to your partner about your feelings. You may think that it is time to separate but are unsure and perhaps could change things.

Relate Couple Counselling Central can help. People tend to wait until they reach a crisis situation before they contact us, but from experiences we would say don't leave it too late. Counselling can be very helpful. It helps you to reach an understanding of what is going on, look at options and change things for the better. Our clients say counselling has been a posi-

tive experience and has made a difference to their lives and their relationship is much better.

Relate Couple Counselling Central is open to everyone over 16, whether you are married, living together, in a same sex relationship, separated, divorced or single. We also offer specific help for sexual problems.

Sometimes people are embarrassed about seeking help - please do not worry about this we all face problems at some stage.

Happy Relationships Tips

Treat your relationship as very special, take care of it, let it grow. Respect each other Say how YOU feel, do not blame.

Tell your partner you love them Express your appreciation by saying thanks or something like "you make my life better because .."

Surprise your partner by doing something nice for them, buy chocolates, massage their back, build special time into your week for yourselves as a couple free from family, work friends.

Community Council? Community Trust?

Like me, maybe you hear about this group and that forum. This committee and that council. The next working party and the next liaison group. Two of the volunteer community groups in Bannockburn are the Bannockburn Community Council and Bannockburn Community Trust.

Community Council

Bannockburn Community Council has been going for over 40 years. Community Councils are made up of volunteers elected by the people of Bannockburn. Community Councils are set up by law to represent community views to the local authority and other public bodies. They must consult them on planning and some licensing issues. They also have an important role to play in commenting on how plans and issues affect the neighbourhoods across their area.

Our Community Council is involved with: Planning Applications, Housing Developments, Transport, Roads and Street lighting and local amenities.

Recent Successes include Ladywell Park developments, Multi Court in Hillpark and the Village Green Club. You should get in touch for non-domestic community issues and planning advice.

How do I get involved?

Meet at 7.30pm first Thursday of every month.

More Community Councillors are required.

Contacts:

Chair: Kirk McInnes, Vice Chair: Jim McCabe, Email: bannockburncommunity@tiscali.co.uk

Remember the community is only as strong as its members.

Our New Community Police officer

PAUL COLQUHOUN

Firstly my colleagues and I at Central Scotland Police welcome the start of the Bannockburn News.

I am Constable Paul Colquhoun, the new community police officer. I am not a stranger to Bannockburn having served here three years before and I am looking forward to tackling the local issues. If anyone would like to speak to me about any local issues of concern, feel free to contact me at Bannockburn Police Office.

A big issue just now is mobile phone theft. In our Central Scotland Police area people have reported over 1000 phones lost or stolen since January 2004. To help increase the

chance of stolen phones being returned to their owners we are offering security coding of phones with ultra violet markers. I therefore invite anyone in the Bannockburn area who would like their phone coded to contact me at the Bannockburn office.

Also, with the summer holidays drawing to a close can I remind children to keep their bicycles secure when not using them. Like mobile phones, if anyone would like their bike security coded then please just get in touch.

You can reach me at:
Bannockburn Police Office Tel
01786 812222.



**Central Scotland Police HQ
456000
Crimestoppers on
0800 555 111.**

USEFUL NUMBERS

Bannockburn Police
812222

Randolphfield, Police
HQ
456000

Allan Church
814692

Our Lady & St Ninians
R.C Church
812249

Murrayfield UF Church
471400

Ladywell Church
812467

Bannockburn Library
812286

Stirling Council
443322

Local Council Office
816515

Clinic (Appointments)
813435

Community Youth
Worker
818410



Central Scotland Rape Crisis & Sexual Abuse Centre exists to provide a free and confidential service of emotional support and practical information on legal and medical issues to anyone who has experienced Rape, Sexual Assault or Child Sexual Abuse throughout Central Scotland.

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Our telephone Helpline is staffed by trained volunteers and offers long or short-term support by e-mail, letter, telephone or face-to-face counselling.

We also deliver training, talks and presentations on all aspects of sexual violation to professionals and other

interested bodies.

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number: 01786 471771
Tues/Weds. 11am – 1pm.
Thurs. 7pm – 9pm.
Sunday 1pm – 3pm.
Or write to P.O. Box 48,
Stirling, FK8 1YG or
P.O. Box 28,
Falkirk, FK1 1AA**

Community Trust

Bannockburn Community Trust is a limited company and registered Scottish Charity. It has been going since March 2003 following a big Community survey and steering group started by the Community Council. It is a membership organisation open to the people of Bannockburn.

Our Community Trust helps improve Bannockburn according to the views in our Local Community Plan. This means, implementing the areas of the our Community Plan, helping groups in Bannockburn help themselves, attracting funding for projects and groups.

Recent successes include Ladywell Park developments, Keep fit classes and the summer activities programme.

You should get in touch if you have a project that will link to Bannockburn's Community Plan.

The Community Trust Directors meet at 7pm on the last Wednesday of every month in the Community Centre. It is an open meeting so you are welcome to go along.

How do I get involved?

Tell us about your group and how we could help you. Show your support by joining as a member. The more members we have the more influence we have. We will have another membership drive over the coming months. Volunteer a little of your time to help with one or more areas of the Community Plan.

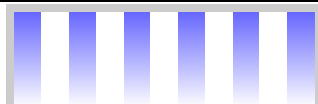
- Facilities and activities for young people
- Social and community facilities and services
- Environment and heritage
- Roads and traffic
- Supporting the local economy

Contacts

Company Secretary: Derek Robertson

Tel: 01786 489 301

Email Bannockburn.ct@btconnect.com



**Bannockburn
Community
Council**

≠

**Bannockburn
Community
Trust**

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for a better
Community***

Next Issue



Our next issue will be out in early December 2004. We are looking for your items, large or small, ideally with pictures by 8th November 2004.

Possible ideas could be:

- A picture to share such as an old school snapshot
- A story of a recent event
- A sporting story
- An idea for a local character for us to feature
- A Bannockburn fact or anecdote
- Recommending the Brilliant Bannockburn Employee
- A quote or poem
- A reminisce of a famous Bannockburn event
- Items for What's on

These are just some ideas. Please get in touch because together we will make Bannockburn News a **must read** publication. We can even help you write it if that would help.

A Question?

Who is Bannockburn's oldest resident? We would love to feature them in the next issue. Let us know by contacting the Editor.

What's On

25 September 2004

Bannockburn Amateurs Race Night

7.30pm. McQues.

No need to book just come along

Carpet Bowls

Community Centre

Every Wednesday 2-4pm £1 inc drink

Every Thursday 8-10pm £1.50 inc drink

Every Tuesday

Family Fitness

Community Centre

6-6.45pm £2 adult £1 child second child free

Every Thursday

Family Fitness

Community Centre

6.30-7.15pm £2 adult £1 child second child free

We want to fill this space with What's on. Let us know about your event in December 2004 and January 2005. We will add it to the next Newsletter.

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Bannockburn Summer Programme 2004 Community Youth Work

For more information please contact Heather MacPherson, Community Worker (Youth) on 818410 or macphersonh@stirling.gov.uk

The Bannockburn Summer Programme has given us the chance to try different activities.

These have included clay arts, jewellery making, t-shirt printing, breakdancing, and paint pen name boards. There has also been magic workshops where we learned some tricks to impress our friends and family. We have started a mural project and it will go on the back of the Community Centre. Sports sessions have also been organised which include football skills. Other activities were available such as pool, table tennis, PS2 and joining in with the Martial Arts groups.

**Heather MacPherson
Youth Worker**



Over the summer Stirling Council's Youth Team have provided a variety of activities for young people aged 12-19.

Over 250 young people have attended our Arts/Youth Drop-in sessions in Bannockburn Community Centre on Monday and Wednesday evening during the summer holidays. In addition we have had over 70 young people attending sports sessions on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at Bannockburn High and the Ladywell Park.

The sports sessions have been organised in partnership with Stirling Council's Sports Development Team. Funding for the summer programme was secured from the local Community Planning Partnership.

After the summer, we intend having a new and improved youth group in Bannockburn for young people aged 12-19. This group will initially run one evening per week and will be staffed by part time workers from the Youth Team. It is hoped, that through working together

with some local community organisations this can be increased to the benefit of the young people.

**Ashleigh McGregor
Young Person**



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Prize Competition

Here is this issue's prize competition. It was created by Margaret Robertson, Bannockburn and is open to everyone who lives and works in Bannockburn. All of the answers are local locations (streets, places and areas)

To enter for the £20 prize, send your completed answers by 20 October 2004 to: The Editor, Bannockburn News c/o 52 Myreton Drive, Bannockburn, FK7 8PX.

We will draw the winner from all the correct entries at the Community Trust meeting on 27 October 2004.

Good luck.

- Robert the _____ Street (5) _____
- Principal road (4, 6) _____
- Street of a former Prime Minister (7) _____
- A healthy woman's playground (8,4) _____
- Sounds like a prey is present (11) _____
- Dithers about borrowing (6,4) _____
- This square sounds like a German beer mug (5) _____
- "Drake" could have played here (7, 5) _____
- A place of education (7) _____
- Can a river be seen from here? (9) _____
- The street of six Scottish kings (5) _____
- Drive of a labour ex PM (6) _____
- A bird and a small forest (10) _____
- Can you see a hill from here? (7) _____
- Baker's entry (4, 11) _____
- This Duchess lived here on TV (4, 6) _____
- A Wynd of fuel (4) _____
- Famous racecourse (9) _____
- The bridge builder's court (7) _____
- Scottish flowers here (8, 4) _____
- Her Majesty's address (5, 6) _____
- A "Friend" by the park (11) _____

Have "Bear" will Travel.....

McQue's and the Tartan Arms in Bannockburn, in conjunction with the musicians of the Scribbler's Picnic, have issued a challenge to other pubs, clubs, organizations, companies or family groups throughout the area regarding the lifestyle enjoyed by their adopted Scribbler's Picnic bear.

Quite simply, the McQue's folk reckon that they can take their bear to more interesting and exciting places before the 2005 Scribbler's Picnic, scheduled for 19th June next year, than anyone else. ... and they are prepared to provide the photographic evidence to prove it.

So if your organization or group has adopted a bear are you prepared to take up the McQue's challenge? More information can be obtained from Jim McKenzie on 01259 726634



Tartan Arms Staff with their well travelled Bear



Bannockburn News Editorial Team . . .

We hope that you have enjoyed the first edition of the new look Bannockburn News brought to you by the joint efforts of the Community Trust and Community Council members Derek Robertson and Joe Smith.



Derek Robertson

Bannockburn is a thriving community with all the successes and issues common to every community. We know that the people of Bannockburn want a regular newspaper so that we can communicate and share with one another what is happening now, our history, our challenges and what is great about living and working here. We have had super support and advice from Pauline Roberts at Stirling Council's Community Resource Centre and the Stirling Observer editor, Alan Rennie.

What we need now is for people like you to give us your stories and photographs. Do you have a success story? A memory of Bannockburn? A poem? What issues do you feel strongly about? Bannockburn News is an important way to promote a optimistic community feeling and an useful medium for discussion and action.

Our plan is to issue the Bannockburn News every month. To do that we need people to help with producing and developing it. Please get in touch if you want to help. We plan to involve our young people too. We will train them, provide the facilities and support they need to write, edit and publish the Bannockburn News. It is YOUR newsletter so without your active support and involvement it will struggle to keep going.



Joe Smith

Editorial Policy Statement

Bannockburn News is a free community newspaper, produced by volunteers for the people of Bannockburn. The views in it do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editorial Group. The Editorial Group reserve the right to edit, shorten or not publish any article or letter. We will attribute contributions to the author and any vested interest will be declared where applicable. The newspaper is funded by our Community Council, Community Trust with the assistance of local businesses, and our funding partners Stirling Council.