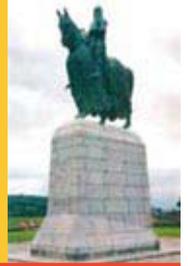


Bannockburn News

Issue 3 February 2005



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YOUR COMMENTS

For Bannockburn News to stay 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 Trust Director or Community Councillor

Battle Lines Drawn

Bannockburn Community Council called a public meeting on 7th February to gauge the feeling of the community towards proposed building of the new St Modans High School next to the existing Bannockburn High campus. Over 300 people attended the two hour meeting and quizzed various members of Stirling Council on the proposal.

Kirk McInnes chaired the meeting. Joining him at the top table were Pat Mooney and Liz Whyte representing the Balquiderock community action group. Stirling Council were represented by Gordon Jeyes (children's services), Mick Stewart (planning) and Jim McGregor (roads dept).

Everyone in attendance agreed 100% that St Modans needs a new school quickly but that the PPP proposal was not the best option. The main objections are:

traffic congestion
local tenants disturbance and the environmental issue that the school will be built on land that many (including Dr Fiona Watson of Stirling University in her Stirling Council funded paper) believe to be the actual site of the battle of Bannockburn.

In summary, the 300 people



at the meeting wanted to know why there was no alternative site, or Plan B, in place. Also why our council were so intent in going ahead with this plan. Mick Stewart of the planning department replied that it was the Gateway PPP that were submitting the planning proposal, not the council. He assured everyone that all objections would be considered.

This proposal is open to a lot of debate but time is against the community. All objections must be sent NOW to the council. Do not wait until it's too late. Act NOW.

Send your objections or otherwise to,

Mick Stewart,
Planning Dept,
Viewforth,
Stirling
FK8 2ET
Joe Smith

Wow 4000 Copies

The Bannockburn News success continues.

We have had to increase our circulation to 4000 so we can keep up with demand. Not bad after two issues.

We would like to know just how far and wide the publication goes so let us know your stories about where and to whom you send Bannockburn News.

Also we are looking for a volunteer official photographer. Someone who can take the pictures for the newspaper and deal with the pictures we are sent. Let us know if you could help.

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Robert Gifford

BY JOE SMITH

Robert is 82 years old and currently stays in Lomond Drive and has spent all his life in Bannockburn. His childhood was spent in the Haugh, Firs Entry and then Davidson Street before he moved to his present home wife his late wife.

He has many memories of Bannockburn including the fire at the Welfare, then the Star Picture House. He can remember fishing the Mill Dam and swimming in the Falls.

Robert's father ran a chip shop at the side of the old bridge (one of 5 chip shops in the village at the time). He also remembers when Hillpark was just potato fields belonging to William Stevenson. He recounts how the local men built a wooden platform for dancing and the lighting was arranged by J Bowie. Simple pleasures

but a community in harmony.

Robert worked in the fish shop as a boy then worked at the Nail works before going underground at both Millhall and the Manor Powis pits. The ground where Our Lady & St Ninians church now stands was owned by his father and apart from this he also had washing facilities for the Vale of Bannock and a shop selling small goods.

One of Roberts's earliest memories is that of Peter Simpson erecting the cross on top of the chapel. Robert has many stories to tell and now spends his days listening to classical music as well as worshipping at the Gospel Hall in East Murrayfield, which was once the house of a certain Jimmy Plank



Robert Gifford is certainly worthy of the title Local Character. He has so many stories to tell that we may feature some of them in forthcoming issues.

If you know of someone who you think would make a good Local Character then please contact the editor and we will

Bannockburn

What's in a name

Thanks to John McQue for offering this meaning for our village. It's from Scots Gaelic ban ochburn meaning "white shining stream"

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Tel: 812420



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Sharp DV-DB1E
DAB / FM
£99



Sanyo DC-DAB0
micro DAB hi-fi
£170

10% off all DAB digital radios When you produce this advert (valid until 28th Feb 2005)

Bannockburn Abroad

This time we head for New Zealand and a picture supplied by Nessie and Jim McDonald from Forthview.

Jim's brother Tom has been there for nearly twenty years and is married to Linda, a School Teacher there. Linda took the snap on their honeymoon in 1986 and I'll let her take up the story.

"We found this tiny place, in south island New Zealand so being the same name as Tom's home town we had to stop and take some photographs

This hotel looked deserted, but it wasn't. We had a long chat to proprietor and sampled a couple of drinks."



Bannockburn's Brilliant Employee

This issue's Brilliant employee is Pamela Gardner from Radio Music Store. Pamela was nominated for the award by Mrs Frances Cochrane.

Frances praised Pamela for her helpfulness and pleasant way of dealing with people. Frances says Pamela takes an interest in you as a person as well as a customer and that's what makes the big difference.

Who is your Brilliant Bannockburn Employee?



Sauchieburn

BY ROBERT AITKEN

James III was born in 1452 and crowned at the age of eight at Kelso. He assumed power late in 1469 and emerged as a confident, imperial and aggressive king.

Things however soon went awry. His progressive faults included plans for war in Brittany, huge expenditure on cannon, refusal to hold parliament outside Edinburgh, a failure to hold justice circuits, the debasement of the coinage, his refusal to reward his followers, taxation and repeated attempts to seek peace with England.

By June 8th 1488 a large coalition of disaffected nobles with the rebel son of the king at their head met James III at "the field of Stirling" later known as Sauchieburn.

This is the only battle where the Scottish royal standard flew on both sides. James III was defeated and was either killed in battle or killed whilst fleeing. Reputedly he fled to the ford on the Bannock at Milton near to **Beaton's Mill**.

According to local tradition, the wife of the miller Beaton was drawing water from the well when the king's horse fright-



King James III

ened her. She dropped her bucket and in turn the horse was frightened, threw the king and he was carried into the building. Help came from three travellers one of whom said he was a priest and being shown into the building he stabbed the king to death. Whether this story is true or not James III was dead and his son was king of Scotland.

The young James IV was hurriedly crowned at Scone and his father buried at Cambuskenneth Abbey the day after the coronation. James IV went on to become one of the most successful rulers of Scotland.

Further information

Beaton's Mill was described in 1880 as a dwelling house with crow-stepped gables. It appears on the 1897 map of Bannockburn, on a photograph of 1904 and also on postcards dated 1917. In 1950 it was noted that two corbel stones projecting from the front of the building were inscribed 1667. One source says rebuilding took place in 1677 and that it burnt down in 1950. Another recounts that it was damaged by fire in 1952.

It is not thought likely that it existed in 1488 nor that it was ever used as a mill.

If anyone has more information on this building, eyewitness to the fire, photographs, postcards or information on who stayed in the building we would be happy to hear from them.



King Robert Hotel

Glasgow Road

01786 811666

Special Events

5 March

Mothers' Day Dinner & Dance
Fabulous Cabaret "Time Out" plus Disco Roadshow and Gift
£18.95

6 March

Mothers Day 4-course Lunch & gift
Noon to 5pm £12.95

The fabulous Robert Carroll will entertain from 4pm to 7pm

Ceilidhs by Popular Demand

Sat 26th March

Sat 23rd April

Sat 25th June

Stake & Ale Evenings

Sat 26 February:

Fabulous Robert Carroll

Sat 12 March:

Davy Taylor's Disco Roadshow

Sat 19 March

Fabulous Robert Carroll

Sat 2 April:

Fantastic Dinner Dance Cabaret with "Time Out" and Disco

Sat 9 April:

Davy Taylor's Disco Roadshow

Sat 16 April:

Romantic vocalist Davy Lewis

We like to teach some group dances at the Disco Evenings. It's great fun.

From Friday 25 February there will be a carvery from 5pm – 8.30pm.

Don't forget our Sunday Carvery noon – 6pm

Excellent prices

Tremendous value for money

That 70s Show

BANNOCKBURN HIGH SCHOOL RUGBY TEAM
2ND YEAR 1978

THANKS TO JOHN WRIGHT FOR PICTURE AND NAMES



Back Row: Sandy Cassells, Don McArthur, Ross Wighton, John Jones, John Wright, Mark Roberts.

Middle Row: Kenny Duncan (coach), Victor DuRose, Kenny McEwan, Irvine Ford, Rab McCallum, Colin Palmer, John Findlay

Front Row: David McMillan, Duncan Warner, Brian Gibb, Tommy Evans, Ian Jardine, James Jaffray



Main Street,
Bannockburn

SATURDAY NIGHT CABARET

19th February £8
Stevie Walker & Chris Small

26th February £10
Men in Black
From Erasure to Ricky Martin

5th March £8
Male Order
The Perfect Live Boy Band

12th March £8
Hot Love plus Tina Turner

19th March £8
Beatles Tribute
John & Paul

26th March £10
Men in Black
From Erasure to Ricky Martin

Why not combine
a Cabaret
With a famous
McQ's Meal.

Set menus
available for larger
Groups from £8
(2 course)



Dear Daphne . . .

BANNOCKBURN'S AGONY AUNT

Daphne is here to provide advice on a range of subjects.

Q Please help me. I am a Bannockburn golf widow! My husband would rather play golf with his friends than take me out. I don't mind golf, but then he spends all night at the 19th. And when he finally arrives home he is fit for nothing. The last straw was when he announced that he was going on a golfing holiday with his friends. Please advise me.

A You are not alone. I have first hand experience of becoming a golf widow! As far as I can see you have three options:

1. Try to get him to change—confront him after one of his drunken nights out and tell him you are going to leave unless he changes his ways. This may work for you but in my experience it's usually only effective for a few days.

2. Take up golf yourself! Get out there with him and give those balls a good wallop! A few lessons with a young golf pro may make him sit up and take notice.

3. Maybe the problem lies closer to home? Look at yourself in the mirror and be honest—would a man look at you and say "She has just given up"? If the answer is yes, get your roots done, put your teeth in and shave your legs. It may not be too late to keep your man.

I do hope one of these options work for you.

Q I am a youthful 50-something recently separated. My problem is that I have started to regain the lost years and now dress a bit younger and have started to date various ladies. BUT my so called friends think that I am acting like a gigolo and making a fool of myself. I am having the time of my life but don't want to lose my friends. What can I do?



A First of all you need to understand that your friends are thinking of you. They may see you strutting your stuff around like a peacock and think it is a cry for help. If you are truly enjoying your new lifestyle, let them know that you appreciate their concern but you are a big boy and know what you are doing. Just remember though, that even if you see yourself as Peter Pan, they clearly think you're more like Peter Stringfellow. Make sure your libido isn't writing cheques your body can't cash!

Do you have questions for Daphne?

Are you desperately seeking Daphne's advice.

If so contact us.

Discretion Assured.

C o m m u n i T y B a n n o c k b u r n

Did you know that there are plenty people who believe Bannockburn has no community spirit?

It seemed strange to me when I heard that statement from a senior person at Stirling council. If that's a view you share what do you intend doing about it? If it's a view you disagree with—what do you intend doing about it?

Sure we can mobilise ourselves quickly when faced with an immediate threat. We can look back to the Haney's episode, when within hours there was a mass demonstration and direct action. We can look to easily filling the Community Centre when there is a problem. But what about us coming together to do things for

everyone's good in the village?

We can look to the great work by the Cringate Gardens folks to create their play park and I'm sure there could be many other small projects to serve a small group. But what about the village as a whole.

The Community Trust has been going for nearly two years following a mass survey of local people. Putting our Community Plan into action however requires people to get involved. So far there are four of us trying to implement a plan that has seven main action areas.

It would be great to have more volunteers because the more volunteers we have the more we can do to benefit everyone in Bannockburn.

If you can't volunteer your time you can still be a member of the Trust. For a minimum donation of £1 you can show your

support for the Trust by becoming a member. The more members we have the more weight we have when applying for funds to do things.

So if you can volunteer a small amount of your time—get in touch with us.

If you cannot then at the very least you can show your support for the Trust by joining as a member. So far we have 43 members. That's 43 people out of a population of around 7500. That's not even 1%.

So whatever your view of Bannockburn's community spirit we urge you to get involved in whatever way you can.

Start today by becoming a member.

We have a short application form on page 8. Do it. Do it today.

DEREK ROBERTSON

Our Community Police Officer

PAUL COLQUHOUN

Central Scotland Police HQ 456000 Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

I need to let you know about a recent worrying trend concerning youth disorder in the village.

For the previous run of months I, like many in the village have been encouraged by the fall in youth disorder. That makes the recent rise worrying and bad because it affects everyone in Bannockburn.

Youth disorder that has been growing over the last couple of weeks and involves mainly pupils from Bannockburn High school. Large groups of youths are gathering in numbers of fifty to sixty and caus-

ing general disorder in the evenings from around 6pm to 11pm.

From what I can gather the root of this seems to be Bannockburn youths wanting to fight with Braehead youths.

The Police will not tolerate such behaviour any youths spoken to by police will have their details noted and their parents will be lettered. Any youths found committing offences will be taken home immediately by police.

If you are a parent or carer of a young person I ask you to



make sure you know where they are going and what they are doing. It is important that this trend in behaviour is stopped as quickly as we can.

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

Albert Halls Stirling Forthcoming Events

FEBRUARY

Monday 14
7.00pm – 11.00pm
Under 18's Valentine's Day Special
£6

Tuesday 15
7.30pm
Evening of Clairvoyance with Tony Stockwell
£10/£8 concession

Sunday 20
2.30pm & 6.30pm
TV Puppet Party
£6.50 Adults/£4.50 Children/£18 Family of Four

Thursday 24
7.30pm
Professional Wrestling
Professional Wrestling as it was meant to be!!
£8/£6 concession. Family of Four £25

MARCH

Monday 28
7.30pm
Ballet – Giselle
The romantic ballet *Giselle* is a classic, considered to be the "Hamlet" of ballet.
Balcony: £18.50
Stalls: £16.50
Children £12.00

APRIL

Friday 1
CALEDON – Scotland's 3 Tenors
£12/£10 concession

Saturday 9
7.15pm
Scottish Opera presents Hansel and Gretel by Humperdinck
£15/£12 concession

Wednesday 13
2.30pm
We'll Meet Again
A new show to celebrate the 60th anniversary of V.E. Day.
£7.50

COMING SOON
All That Jazz
Popular favourites from the top musical shows including Chicago and Cabaret.
The Magic of Ireland
Experience a spectacular evening of traditional Irish dance, music and song.

**CALL NOW FOR YOUR
FREE EVENTS GUIDE
01786 473544**

Coffee Mornings Restart

BY JAN ANDERSON

A special thank you to the Ladies of Allan Church who for so long provided an excellent coffee morning on Tuesdays, to raise money for the Church. Unfortunately this has now stopped.

My staff loved Tuesdays for the home-made cakes which I

bought after having my hair done.

We have decided to introduce a "Young at heart" club every Tuesday (10-12 noon) from 15 February. We are also going to serve home-made cakes, toasted tea cakes, scones, etc and though the price would be

£1.50 for unlimited tea/coffee, scones etc we are also going to offer a free game of prize bingo one week, a quiz game with prizes the next. The 52 bus passes the King Robert.

We are hoping a fun time will be had by all.

Community Council—E- Community Council

BY JOE SMITH

Bannockburn community council have been participating in a new e-democracy project along with five other councils, the association of Scottish Community Councils and Napier University.

The project's aim is to investigate how technology can be developed to help regenerate democracy at the local council level. Community councils are the heart of local government in Scotland with voluntary members who live in the community that they serve. They are often given little time to consider fairly major proposals before a considered input is

required. They generally work on a word of mouth basis. This project aims to address these problems by developing and testing a suite of e-democracy tools to support councils (and community trusts).

Phase one of the project is now complete. It has resulted in a web based cc toolkit. This is not meant to replace completely existing communication but should endeavour to speed up consultation between the public, the community councillors and local government. The website can be used to gather information from the public via questionnaires and

simple feedback boxes. These are then emailed directly to the councillors. Once fully operational this should allow everyone greater access to public consultation and make "having your say" easier. Check out the developing website (see below). I ask you to use the comments section to give your feedback.

The community council meets on the first Thursday of every month at 7.30pm in the community centre and are always on the lookout for new members, come along and remember, "It's not what Bannockburn can do for you, but what you can do for Bannockburn".

www.ecommunitycouncil.org.uk/bannockburn/

The Wilsons of Bannockburn Part 1

BY JAKE STEWART, INSCH, ABERDEENSHIRE

Take a stroll along the Main Street; go past the "Tartan Arms" and walk down the Brae to the old bridge over the Bannock.

The bridge was built in 1516 and everyone from Royalty to packmen must have crossed it as they travelled between Edinburgh and Stirling. Stand on the bridge and what do you see? To your right is the Royal George Mill standing on the embankment raised by Thomas Telford in 1819. In front of you is the house recently built on the ruins of no. 2 Carpet Close with "Braemore" and "Rosemount" standing on the hill to the left of the Path leading up to the New Road.

It is difficult to realise that on this now barren site the Wilson family commercialised the production of tartans; indeed the



Old Bridge, Bannockburn.

very concept of Clan tartans was created here in the early 19th century. Despite the tremendous importance of the Wilsons to Scottish culture, there is no street, no fountain, no statue in Bannockburn to commemorate their name.

Until the end of the Napoleonic War all the tartan worn

by the British Army was woven in Bannockburn, most of it by the Wilsons. In 1727 a son William had been born to Jean Christie and John Wilson; by 1755 William had married Janet Paterson the daughter of a Bannockburn weaver.

His early career was as a chapman or travelling sales-

man but by 1783 he was described as a manufacturer; no doubt he realised there was more money to be made weaving tartan than in hawking it round Scotland on horseback. By 1787 William Wilson & Son owned 12 of the 56 looms in Bannockburn, no other tartan maker owned more than four.

In 1780 the firm had begun to build houses for its employees and most of the houses on the Path and the Brae were built about that time, characterised by their ornate skewputts still to be seen on the gable-ends of the surviving houses on the Brae and at the far end of the Main Street.

Part two next time . . .

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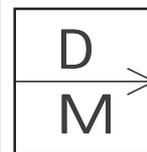
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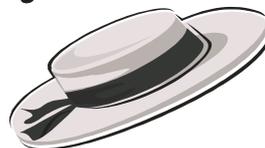
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BaNnOcKbUrN Youth Club

By Cree, Sheree and Sonia Youth Club Members

At Bannockburn Youth Club we do lots of different activities such as Graffiti boards, mosaic mirrors, calendars and lots more.

Recently we had a visit from an HMIE Inspector who came to ask us some questions about the Youth club. He seemed a really nice person and we hope he gives us a good report.

At the Youth Club the youth workers help us all in different ways!

Rosie is very creative (the next Mona Lisa!), Vinny is a good cook (the next Jamie Oliver!), Emma is good at sports (the next Sporty Spice!), Stevie is a great drawer, Heather gives good advice and Norrie has a great imagination.

The Youth Club is going its first trip to the AMF bowling on the 7th Feb – we can't wait!



Bannockburn Taekwon-Do

BY COLIN LYON

The Bannockburn club took home 14 medals from November's annual Scottish championships in Coatbridge. They were for sparring, patterns, highest kick and power test.

Our association is P.U.M.A (PROFESSIONAL UNIFICATION OF MARTIAL ARTS). The association's details are on www.puma-uk.com.

Formed in 2001 it has won "clash of the titans" (a major event on the martial arts calendar) every year since then.

The association is one of the first in Britain to introduce specialist classes for 4-6 year olds called "little pumas". They train in traditional martial arts in a more relaxed environment and cap the class off with games concentrating on stranger drills, concentration, balance, memory and fitness.

Taekwon-Do was founded on April 11th 1955 by General Choi in Korea. It was the accumulation of thousands of years of Korean Combat and includes several martial arts synchronised in one. Its tenants are courtesy, integrity, perseverance, self control and indomitable spirit. The education department is considering having martial arts in schools



due to the behavioural changes seen in children attending classes.

For anyone interested in the fighting fitness side but not the traditional approach a new class started in January. It mixes boxing and martial arts which will mainly involve fitness, pad and self defence work, with the option of sparring, (no-contact or with contact).

The instruction team consists of Colin Lyon, Garry Shaw and Chris Davidson with collectively over 25 years experience and Six Dans among them.

Under P.U.M.A Rules all Instructors and Assistants have to be vetted, have a valid first aid certificate, relevant qualifications, insurance and an Enhanced Disclosure. The association also has a child protection policy and officer.

The club trains at Bannockburn Miners Welfare, Morrison Drive, Hillpark - see What's On page 5.

You can reach the club for free information on 07709-145528 or e-mail taekwondo@tesco.net

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Prize Competition

Congratulations to Mary Wallace, Forthview, who was picked from all the entries to our Christmas edition's crossword.

This issue's prize competition, by popular demand, returns to local street names. Margaret Robertson, Bannockburn created it and it is open to everyone who lives and works in Bannockburn.

To enter for the £20 prize, send your completed answers by 18 March 2005 to: The Editor, Bannockburn News c/o 52 Myreton Drive, Bannockburn, FK7 8PX.

We will draw the winner from all the correct entries at a Community Trust meeting. Good luck.

Please get in touch if your company wants to sponsor future competitions.

- 1 Did a Churchill stay in this crescent? _____
- 2 A plant beside a valley at this terrace. _____
- 3 Are people with these in prayer? _____
- 4 Does this place have a warm cover? _____
- 5 A foyer is behind a bobbin in this road. _____
- 6 The road where "the Maid of Norway" lived. _____
- 7 The feus. _____
- 8 The hill is followed by a larger one. _____
- 9 Breathe (anag.). _____
- 10 Did a famous cookery expert live in this avenue? _____
- 11 Is this where a modern inventor paid homage? _____
- 12 That hep. (anag.) _____
- 13 Was this drive once a Safeway? _____
- 14 An ex Scottish football manager may have crossed this drive. _____
- 15 This drive is a swampy weight. _____
- 16 The whole is in the centre of the mountain ash in this drive. _____
- 17 The Scottish willow, that is, this court. _____
- 18 Another swampy finish here. _____
- 19 Did Scottish footballer Gary, live in this court? _____
- 20 This man's healthy living on this hill. _____

Competition Entry

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____

What's On

Taekwon-Do

Monday 6.00pm-7.00pm for Juniors (4-12 year olds)
 Monday 7.00pm-8.00pm for Seniors
 Thursday 5.30pm-6.30pm for Juniors
 Thursday 6.30pm-7.30pm for Seniors.
 The fighting fitness class are on a Monday night between 8.00pm-9.00pm

Carpet Bowls

Community Centre
 Every Wednesday 2-4pm £1 inc drink
 Every Thursday 8-10pm £1.50 inc drink

Family Fitness

Every Tuesday
 Community Centre
 6-6.45pm £2 adult £1 child second child free

Family Fitness

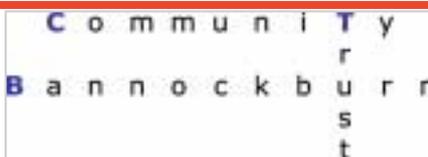
Every Thursday
 Community Centre
 6.30-7.15pm £2 adult £1 child second child free

Youth Church

(Ages 5 upwards)
 Allan Church
 Every Wednesday
 6.30 – 8 pm
 Everyone welcome

Guides

Friday 11 March 2005
 4.30 pm
 Guide Hut



Members strengthen the hand of the Trust when it comes to negotiating for funding or improved services and facilities. Help the Trust to improve facilities in Bannockburn by completing the membership form below. 1,500 members will hold more sway than 15!

Title: Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms

Name:

Address:

Application to join the Trust.

My Donation is: £ _____
 (Minimum £1)

Full member: _____ (18 and over Bannockburn Residents)

Associate member: _____
 (Non residents)

Junior Member _____ (12-17 year olds)

Please post your membership form and donation direct to Derek Robertson, 52 Myreton Drive, Bannockburn, FK7 8PX or post in the collection buckets provided in the local library / council offices, churches, shops and pubs.
Charity No: SC034230

We want to fill this space with What's on. Let us know about your event or regular activity and we will add it to the next issue.

Editorial Policy Statement

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