



Quarter Neighbourhood Watch

Halloween Party

The committee of Quarter Neighbourhood Watch held a very successful Halloween Party in Quarter Primary School for the young people of Quarter Village. This followed on from the success of a similar event held in May when a lot of the action took place out of doors. The Halloween theme lent itself to a Disco format and the hot dogs and goody bags were much appreciated by the children. The committee would like to thank all of those who helped to make the event such a success. Without this help the committee would not be able to stage these events and so thanks again to all concerned.

Anti-Social Behaviour

The upturn in anti-social behaviour within the village, especially at week-ends, is causing concern to all. Reporting crime rates for the village remains extremely low. It is vitally important that the Police are made aware of any incidents, please phone the police in the first instance on 01698 202300 or dial 999 in an emergency, remembering to ask for an incident number.

Carscallan Road

The condition of the Carscallan Road has been giving rise to concerns surrounding road safety for the past couple of weeks. This has been further compounded by the closure of Strathaven Road and the increase in traffic on this road. Any residents who are concerned about the safety of the road should inform South Lanarkshire Council and/or the Police. Action is more likely to be taken by the authorities if they have proof of villagers concerns, this must be logged for action to be taken. Tel: South Lanarkshire Council **01698 453519** (Roads Dept) and/or Strathclyde Police **01698 202300** (Larkhall Office)

School Lights

During the October week holiday flashing lights were installed on the approaches to the primary school, warning drivers of their speed when approaching the Quarter Primary School. Many thanks go to Councillor Andy Carmichael with his help in securing these safety signs and others in key positions in the village.

Christmas Packs

Thanks once again to a generous grant from South Lanarkshire Council the committee will be delivering Christmas packs to all pensioners in the village. This has become something of an expected annual event and we wish to thank SLC for their generosity in allowing us to continue this tradition.

Quarter in Bloom

The garden prizes were handed out by Liz Anderson, her final act as chairperson of Quarter in Bloom. The winners this year were again Mr & Mrs M. Baird and their son Matthew. Many congratulations to them for a magnificent display. All the gardens this year were of a very high standard and this, plus a lot of effort from the Quarter in Bloom volunteers, led to Quarter achieving



a Silver Award from Beautiful Scotland. A copy of the award can be viewed at the Bully Inn and the Church.

Thanks to a grant from the Lottery Quarter in Bloom has purchased a Polytunnel and

various large planters, which we hope will be displayed next year. Our thanks must go to Jim Milligan, Tommy Quinn and John Falconer for erecting the Polytunnel, not an easy task we believe.



In early November the volunteers emptied the mangers and replanted



them with pansies and polyanthus hoping to give some winter colour, our thank to Yvonne, Tracy, Jim, Sheila and Matt for braving the cold winds.

Planning for next year will be starting soon with, we hope, new ideas for brightening up the village.



Closure of The Post Office

The Village Post Office has finally closed after more than 100 years in the village. It took the full power of Post Office Counters Ltd and Royal Mail to destroy an Institution, which has withstood years of loyal service by the counter staff and customers with the occasional awkward customer, the physical attacks (not to mention the robberies), but in a new era we require something more reliable, even if we do have to travel further to use it. I have been assured by June Williamson, the new proprietor, that the shop will continue. June took over the management of the shop on November 8th and has plans to improve the service and facilities of the shop by providing Pay Point in the near future. Newspapers along with the every day items that the public require will all be available and will include a freezer and usable cool cabinets.

The opening hours are as follows:-

Mon to Saturday 7.00 a.m.—1.00 p.m. / 2.30 p.m.—6.00 p.m.

Sunday 8.00 a.m.—2.00 p.m.

We wish June every success in running the Quarter Shop and trust that she will receive good local support to build up the business.

Quarter Toddler Group

If you have a child aged from birth to pre-school, then why not come along to your local Toddler Group? We have lots of fun every Wednesday with loads of toys, colouring in, music and yummie toast. We meet in the Church Hall from 10 - 12am. If you would like to find out more then give Jean a call on 427344.

The Mystery Deepens

I have lived in Quarter for many years and walked my dog through the woods and all over the village at all times of the day and night.

Some nights when walking it has been wet and windy with a cold east wind and some nights lovely and clear when you can see all sorts of stars, planes, wild birds and sometimes the odd drunk. On one of my night time walks, on a cold January night, I was walking up Limekilnburn Road towards the Church and as I was approaching the lane that leads into Darnlager Gardens, both my dog and myself were stopped in our tracks by the sight of this mysterious "thing" that appeared out of the lane. This "thing" was similar in size to a goat with long grey and white hair hanging from its body almost reaching the ground. The head and shoulders of this "thing" was the head of a man with long hair and a beard. It ran out of the lane and on to the road before it noticed me. It immediately stopped and looked at me, I do not know who got the biggest fright, but it immediately turned and ran back into the lane. My immediate reaction was of a stunned disbelief and after a few seconds of standing open mouthed I could not decide whether to go after it for a better look or turn and run as fast as I could in the other direction. I then decided that I should have a look in the lane to see if this "thing" was still there. By this time my dog was as terrified as I was and she would not go one step further. I eventually ventured a look in the lane but by this time the "thing" was gone. Both I and my dog quickly returned home, locked the door and did not sleep very well for the next few nights. I have discussed this sighting with a prominent person within the village who has also witnessed this "thing" on a separate occasion but due to his beliefs he would not discuss the sighting other than agree that his description was exactly as mine. Was this "thing" the Devil? This story is true and to this day I still shiver when I think about it and I am totally convinced that on that cold winter night in Quarter I came face to face with the Devil.

By TJ

Quarter Primary School

Life is returning to normal after our recent HMIE Inspection. As Head Teacher, I was extremely proud of all the children throughout the week as they were courteous, hardworking, and smart in their uniforms and a credit to the school. The inspectors were very complimentary about the children throughout the week and they should be congratulated. I would also like to thank the staff for all their hard work throughout the process and to you our parents for filling out the questionnaires and / or speaking in discussion groups with the inspectors. A big thank-you also to members of the community who spoke on behalf of the school.

As a reward for their excellent behaviour last week, we invited Eduardo Sanchez Mime Artist and Acrobat back to the school as the children loved his show last year. He came on the Thursday 6th November in the afternoon and we are grateful to the P.T.A. who have given us £150 towards the cost of his performance.

We sold poppies with plastic stems in the school in memory of all those who died in the various wars that have been fought and also to support those wounded in war. People gave generously and we raised £40 for this worthy cause from the sale of poppies. Thank-you!

Our annual Hallowe'en Party took place on the afternoon of Friday 31st October. As usual the children looked amazing in all their costumes and the judges from the Duchess Nina Nursing Home had great difficulty in selecting the winners who were as follows:-

P1/2: 1st Spongebob – Jack Wilson; 2nd Mummy – Harry Hanlon-Clark; 3rd Football- Nathaniel Fulston

P3/4: 1st Games Compendium – Andrew McBride; 2nd – Traffic Lights – Drew Ritchie; 3rd Post Box – David Ballantyne
P5/6: 1st Tiller Girl – Kate McLuckie; 2nd Fairy With Black Wings – Morgan Woods; 3rd Pink Cat – Sophie Guthrie
P6/7: 1st Mrs Mop – Elle Wilson; 2nd Modern Millie – Sarah Macrae; 3rd Olympic Medallist – Joe Ritchie

Senior pupils went round to the nursing home to show off their outfits and entertain the residents after the judging.

FIREWORKS SAFETY TALK

Our Primary 6/7 class had a visit from the Fire Brigade Fire Safety Team on Tuesday 4th November.

SCHOOL CHOIR

Our school choir has started up again and we are learning carols for two concerts in December. The first concert takes place in East Kilbride outside Marks and Spencer's and New Look in the Plaza Mall from 12-12.30p.m. on **Thursday 11th December** and the second concert takes place in Cadzow Parish Church on **Sunday 14th December** from 2-4p.m. Both of these concerts are in support of charities – Yorkhill Hospital and McMillan Nurses respectively. Tickets for the Cadzow Parish Church Concert can be purchased from the school at a cost of £5 per adult and children free.

SPONSORED WALK

We raised £700 for our Sponsored Walk in aid of school funds – a great achievement! Many thanks to everyone who took part and who brought in sponsor money.

Faye McNaughton Head Teacher

Website address: www.quarterprimary.ik.org

Quarter Primary PTA

The committee would like to thank all those who attended or supported our Gifts Galore evening on Thursday 20th November. It was a great night and for the second year running we raised a record-breaking amount of over £700. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank all those local businesses that donated raffle prizes including Ful-ton Forklifts, Quarter Village Store, Grant Cleaning Services, Upstairs/Downstairs, McClelland & Son, The Bully Inn and A. MacMillan & Son Butchers. A mention should also go to all those who donated baking and bottles for these stalls.

Our other regular fundraisers, namely the 'Quarterly Lottery, 'Rainbow Day' and 'Bag to School' day have also helped to boost the funds by £520. This year we decided to resurrect the Quarter Primary tea towel, which was very popular and brought in £162. Thanks to all those parents and carers who placed orders.

Of course the point of all this is to be able to support the school in providing the children with a full, fun and varied education. So since we started back in August spending has totalled £1380 and included:

A donation towards the cost of a visit by the mime artist, Eduardo Sanchez.

A donation towards the purchase of educational materials.

Presents for the children's Christmas parties.

Paying for buses to take the whole school to see the pantomime.

As most of you will know 2006 saw the demise of Quarter Village Gala. With no signs of a new committee being formed, members of the 2005/2006 committee decided to distribute what Gala funds remained amongst the organisations in the village, which involve children in their activities. As such Quarter Primary PTA gratefully received the sum of £600. This has been provisionally earmarked to be spent in the 'school' garden, where all the children enjoy spending time.

Anyone interested in becoming a PTA member or wishing to know more about ways in which you can offer help please contact Karen Wood on (01698) 424917.

Friendship Group

The Friendship Group re-commenced on 26th September with a coffee morning in aid of Cancer Relief MacMillan Nurses.



The usual meetings will continue on the following Fridays starting at 12.30 pm in the Church Hall.

It is encouraging to see so many new faces at the Friday meetings and we are looking forward to the Christmas Lunch at the Bully Inn, again this year. We had such a good time and excellent food last year that we felt we could do no better than the Bully Inn.

Quarter Parish Church Guild

On the afternoon of Wednesday 5th November 2008 twelve ladies, all members of Quarter Church Guild, visited The Mackintosh Church, Queen's Cross, Glasgow. This building is the only church built to the designs of Charles Rennie Mackintosh and now the headquarters of the Charles Rennie Mackintosh Society. The real Mackintosh enthusiasts can obtain more information about the building by logging into the websites, www.crmsociety.com and www.mackintoshchurch.com



The ladies used three cars to make the journey to and from Queen's Cross. All arrived without mishap but one driver managed to get slightly lost on the return journey. This driver, the Guild President, became aware of her mistake when she realised she was heading westwards out of Glasgow on the M8 and not eastwards as she should have been.

The ladies, or the lassies, thoroughly enjoyed their afternoon visit to the Mackintosh Church especially the tea/coffee and special non-fattening chocolate cakes - (Aye Right)!

Any reader who would like to come along to The Church Guild would be most welcome at our meeting on Wednesday 7th January 2009. The speaker, will be Mrs Monica MacDonald. Monica happens to live in the Church Manse with her husband, the Rev George MacDonald. Monica will speak about 'The Place of Restoration', a charity specialising in the care of children who are orphaned and/or suffer from HIV aids. Many people from Quarter and surrounding areas have already contributed towards the charity. You may already be one of the contributors so feel free to attend the meeting on Wednesday 7th January 2009 to learn how your money has been used to help in caring for these unfortunate children.

Reintergrate

Placement of children with responsible foster families



Church Christmas Fayre

The Church Fayre took place on Saturday the 29th November and we are very grateful to Catherine Smith of the Bully Inn who opened the Fayre. It was very well attended by the villagers who again were very generous and we achieved £1504. The organizers would like to thank all the helpers for their time and effort..



CROSS ALK

John 1:14 *The Word became a human being and, full of grace and truth, lived among us. We saw his glory, the glory which he received as the Father's only Son.*

THE GLORY of Christ is apparent, as we study the titles which are given to Him in the first chapter John's Gospel.

The Word (John 1:1) As the words we speak reveal our character, so Jesus is the speech of the invisible God. He has declared God to us.

The Creator (John 1:2-3.) In the strongest language he could command, the apostle inscribes the Name of Jesus on all things that are in heaven above and in the earth beneath. The iron of which the nails were made that transfixed Him to the Cross; the wood of which it was composed, the thorns which composed His crown, all were due to His creative power.

Life and Light (John 1:4) It pleased the Father that life should reside in his Son's human nature, as its cistern and reservoir, so that from Him we should derive eternal life, communicated through faith. In His life is light.

The Messiah (John 1:10) "He came unto His own."

The Only-Begotten Son (John 1:12-14) He was The Son, separated from the noblest of the children of men by a measureless and impassable chasm. Yet how wonderful it is, that He is not ashamed to call us brethren.

The History of Quarter Primary School

The Log-Book of Quarter Public School starts on April 1874, although the first admissions register would indicate pupils being registered as early as July 1866. The School was housed in a tin shed, having only one room to house approximately 174 pupils and three teachers. The shed was positioned where the Bully Inn is today. Originally the school fees were paid for by the pupils as evident on the 17th April 1874 when the local miners were on strike and therefore the fees were paid late, if at all, but there was also a grant given by the School Board based on the number of pupils and the quality of their work. In May of 1874 the attendance was down by 40 pupils due to a number of families being evicted from their homes, on account of the strike. The first teacher recorded was Alexander Lamont being Head Master until 1876 when he resigned. Mr. Hugh Jack took over until 1889. On April 9th 1877 at last the great day arrived when the pupils left the old school and marched across the road to the new buildings.

From January 25th 1878 an outbreak of Measles reduced the numbers until the 8th March when the attendance began to improve, but again on May 31st attendance had fallen off on account of a number of families having removed. June the 6th and 7th were holidays for Sacramental Fast. On January 24th 1879 A sudden and fatal outbreak of Scarlatina (Scarlet Fever) reduced attendance. The School was closed until February 10th due to the fever,

In October 1894 we have a logbook on the school evening classes, with the session starting on October 8th. It started with 19 members, increasing to 33 by the end of the week.

On September 5th 1914 Classes should proceed to Woodside School by Rapid Motor Transport Co. Ltd from Quarter to and from Hamilton for the sum of 10/- per day; the bus to be reserved for the accommodation of school children.

It was not until 1929 that central heating was installed and later still in 1934 when electric lighting was installed.

In 1935 many of the pupils moved to Eddlewood as the policy of the County Council took effect. 1936 seems to have been a bad year as many pupils were off in January due to the heavy fall of snow, but no mention of the school closing and the doctor reported six accounts of dysentery, scarlet fever and smallpox.

Quarter Primary School played its part in the War Effort by taking in evacuees and practising Air Raid warnings when in March 1941 the Air Raid went for real, this was the Air Raid on Clydebank. A number of bombers dropped their bombs near Quarter, possibly due to the Anti-Aircraft Guns at Limekilnburn. The Meals in School scheme started in 1943 to give every child at least one good meal per day. Next month saw the children on holiday in order to gather in the potato harvest.

On December 1951 saw the installation of the telephone which was a shared line with the Quarter Kirk Session. The flush closets (toilets) were finally completed in March of 1953. These were first discussed as being required in 1929.

1957 June 28th The Rev Joseph Hardie presented the prizes. The J.W. Torrance Bursary went to Robert Anderson. The village continues to decline and it would appear to be official policy to allow it to die a lingering death. Roll of 156.

August 25th 1966 Mr John D. MacLennan M.A. took up his duties as Headmaster and on a happier note for Quarter he wrote on December 23rd 1966; School Parties were held this week. Hall decorations complete and Mr Stoddart the School Chaplain held a Christmas Service. The lesson was read by three Primary 7 girls - Ingrid Borland, Rena Peffers and Nan McLachan - who made an excellent job of the reading. "So ended my first term as Headmaster and from my observations on such a short period I reckon I should have a happy time here."

The insert shows the Primary School in 1910 with the pupils lining up to go into school.

This image shows two teachers lining up schoolchildren at Quarter Village School. The children are in two groups - boys and girls. It was common for boys and girls to be taught separately in the late Nineteenth and early Twentieth centuries. Schools taught four basic classes - reading, writing, arithmetic and basic bible studies.

Quarter itself, was best known for its colliery. Many of the children here came from mining families and were quite poor. Note how many of them are not wearing shoes.



Quarter Community Association

Should any individual in Quarter want to be a newspaper reporter or just offer a good story, interesting facts about Quarter or an event coming up in the future that you would like publicised, then please get in touch with the editor, address at bottom of page.

The Quarterly is funded by "Quarter And Its People" which can be purchased from the editor at a cost of £10.00. As an alternative we have a CD of the book which includes all the back issues of our Quarterly Newsletter plus hundreds of photographs of the village, all for just £10.00.

I would just like to remind you that there is a bottle bank for public use positioned behind the Bowling club.

Letters/Emails to the Editor

Hi

I am currently researching my family tree. My great-great-grandfather, William BROWNLIE (or perhaps spelt BROWNLEE) was born about 1749, and was a farmer at Blackbog, near Quarter. He was buried in Glassford cemetery. He married a Sarah YOUL on 23/09/1787 in Hamilton, and I know my family history after that. I have found it very difficult to find anything about William and Sarah. While searching the Internet, I came across your site, and in particular the entry relating to Elizabeth Barr c 1900 which contains a reference to "the Black Bog Farm where the Yuiles lived" I wonder if it is possible to be put in touch with whoever produced this transcription, in order that I may find out a bit more, or whether there is a local historian who may be able to help me. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best Regards

Andrew Brownlie

Birmingham (late of Ayr)

**A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
To All Our Readers.**

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