

The Quarterly



Quarter & Cadzow Community Council

The Council held its AGM on November 14th with Councillors Burns, Craig, Carmichael and McDonald in attendance. Unfortunately no members of the public from Quarter turned up despite the venue being advertised throughout the village. With some embarrassment the three members of the Community Council proceeded with the meeting.

It was noted that Quarter had no village hall and with the proposal to knock down the school building and rebuild on the existing site there is an urgent need for representation to the relevant parties in order to make our views known. These are, that the existing school be kept as the village hall and a new school be built in a suitable part of the village on private land.

Once again the lack of a Community Police Officer was pointed out but this would hopefully change now that the Neighbourhood Watch and the police are working closely together.

Liz Anderson reported on the various meetings she had attended in connection with the overturned proposed closure of one of the accident and emergency departments. The meetings covered various scenarios which would best serve the communities. This was directed at Monklands Hospital with possible expansion of services at Hairmyres.

It was also announced with regret that due to the poor turn out and the fact that we did not have enough representatives to form a committee this would be the end of Quarter and Cadzow Community Council.

Quarter Community Association

The Community Association has seen a lot of printing work of late and this along with the book sales will help to keep the association in funds for the coming year. Now all we need is reports on activities in and around Quarter. We are looking for an intrepid reporter to work for the Quarterly. If you would like to help track down the stories, etc then please get in touch with the Editor.

The Quarterly is funded by the sale of our book "**Quarter And Its People**" which can be purchased from the editor at a cost of £12.00 plus postage. As an alternative we have a CD of the book and all the back issues of our Quarterly Newsletter all for just £10.00 plus postage.

Quarter in Bloom

The stormy winds of late have taken their toll on the tubs and mangers, resulting in poor looking and dishevelled displays. The tub down by the bowling green is looking particularly sad. If the weather had been kinder then we would have been out to fix them. Should any member of Quarter like to assist by tidying up the tubs then feel free to straighten the trees, etc. Summer bedding plants will be ordered soon once the colour scheme has been decided on. Helpers will be

required for the planting, so please contact Liz Anderson on 01698 891627 for full details on how you can help. The tubs will require painting and refilling this year before the new plants can be arranged for planting. We would like to improve on our Two Thistle award of last year which will require the whole village getting behind Quarter in Bloom by producing, as you did last year, excellent garden displays. The Bully Inn, Parish Church, Bowling Club and Duchess Nina should all do their utmost to ensure beautiful gardens.

The Blue Nun

By T.J.

Many stories have been told of Ghosts, Devils and creepy things that happen in Quarter and many people have had "sightings" of various things. I have had such an experience and believe that what I experienced was true and not a figment of my imagination. One winters night in the early hours of the morning, when lying in bed I heard a tapping noise. The best way to describe it was quite distinctly three regular taps with a finger on the window. I immediately leapt out of bed and looked up and down the street from the window, but there was nothing to be seen, by this time my wife had woken up and asked what was wrong. I explained what I had heard and she said she had not heard anything and to come back to bed. I went back to bed but I felt there was an eerie feeling about the house and I could not settle, but through tiredness I eventually fell asleep.

The following Monday night, again in the early hours of the morning, when in bed I heard the tapping noise, three regular taps, but before I could get out of bed my wife said "what was that noise". She had also heard the three regular taps coming from the front of the house and suggested that I go and investigate, as she cooied back under the covers. I looked out of the window but again there was nothing to be seen. This time we both felt this eerie feeling in the house; it was as if a window was opened and a draught was lightly blowing through the room, but all the windows were closed. We lay for a while but did not hear or see anything and eventually fell asleep. A few days later I was walking through the village when I met an old worthy of Quarter and I was telling him about my experience of the three taps and he said "that will be the Blue Nun passing, she usually goes down through the village on a Monday night and as your house was part of the old miners row and close to the road sometimes her long robes blew in the wind and tapped on the window as she passed". "Don't be afraid as she was apparently very friendly and will do you no harm."

So if you ever hear that noise in the middle of the night, three regular taps, do not be afraid it may be the Blue Nun out for a stroll, or is it?

Legend has it that if you are friendly to the village then three taps on the window to say thank you if you are not the lady turns frosty and she will have nun of you. (Ed)

Quarter Neighbourhood Watch

Over the past three months the main events and issues relating to Quarter Neighbourhood Watch are as follows:

Prior to Christmas over 100 food gift packages were distributed to the senior citizens in the village. Many thanks to the co-ordinators and helpers who assisted with the distribution.

The road improvement plan for Carscallan Road was carried out in December with resurfacing, additional signage and improved road markings. Concerns remain regarding dirt being deposited from vehicles leaving the clay quarry and these are being addressed with the assistance of Councillor Carmichael.

As a result of the meeting held in October on the Safer Houses Initiative over 40 homes have sought assistance from the scheme.

Representatives from the Neighbourhood Watch attended a meeting in McWhirter Home in Larkhall, at the request of Councillor Carmichael, to help launch a new Neighbourhood Watch group.

Although, after several reviews, the criteria to have a School Crossing Patrol has not been met, an additional set of flashing speed indicator lights will be installed in a few months on Limekilnburn Road in close proximity to the school. These lights will be programmed to operate normally as a speed indicator outwith school hours but will have a more focused message during school hours. This is a pilot programme which we have been able to participate in.

QUARTER PRIMARY SCHOOL

ENTERPRISE SUPPORT

We are desperately needing fabric about one metre square to make re-usable carrier bags as our next Enterprise. If you have any old curtains or scraps of medium weight cotton fabric we would be delighted if you would send them in.

ALLERGIES

One of our pupils has recently become allergic to kiwi fruit. Therefore, we would be grateful if no child came to school with a kiwi fruit or any foods or drinks containing kiwi fruit.

We have enrolled twelve children for the August intake.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Easter Assembly – Thursday 20th March at 11a.m.

Easter Weekend – The school will close on Thursday 20th March at 2.30p.m. and re-open on Tuesday 25th March at 9a.m. Please note the early closing time.

Easter Holidays – The school will close at 3p.m. on Friday 4th April and re-open at 9a.m. on Monday 21st April.

LOST PROPERTY

We have a great deal of lost property in the school including fleeces, sweatshirts and jackets. If your child has lost any of these items, please contact the janitor.

CHRISTMAS NATIVITY DVD

A special DVD of the school Nativity Concert is now available at a cost of £5. This is a lovely way to keep the memory fresh of this most enjoyable concert. If you would like to order a copy, please fill out the attached form.

Faye McNaughton Head Teacher

Website address: www.quarterprimary.uk.org

Quarter Toddler Group

If you have a child from birth to pre-school age 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 anything else then give me a call (Jean) on 427344.

Quarter Primary PTA

Since the school year began in August last year we have been busy with various fundraising activities. The first two draws of our Quarterly Lottery have already been made and our first Bag to School day was in October. The next uplift is on Wednesday 12 March. This is an ideal opportunity to clear out the cupboards and make way for a new spring wardrobe!! Bags will be sent home with the children in due course. However if you don't have children at the school we would still be delighted if you'd like to fill a black bag of cloths, bedding, curtains and soft toys and drop them off at the school gates before 9am on the morning of the uplift. Quite simply the more we collect, the more money we make!

The committee would like to thank all those who attended or supported our Gifts Galore evening in November, which was a great success. The event raised £775 for PTA funds, which was a staggering amount. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank all those local businesses that donated raffle prizes including Ful-ton Forklifts, Wellman Cars, Quarter Village Store, Grant Cleaning Services, The Bully Inn and Elspeth Hamilton Perfumery. A mention should also go to all those who donated baking and bottles for these stalls.

In the run up to Christmas we collected orders for our Webb Ivory catalogue. We also held a Christmas Hamper raffle and a special Christmas Cracker raffle for the children. In total we have raised over £1500, which has meant that we have been able to benefit the children in the following ways :-

Meeting the cost of a visit by the mime artist,

Eduardo Sanchez

Buying Christmas party gifts and prizes for all the children

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

The purchase of a new PE trolley and new RE resources.

Our next major fundraiser will be a Race Night to be held in Quarter Boolin Club on Saturday 26 April. Tickets can be bought from committee members and will be going on sale soon. Further details will be going out through the school.

Thanks to all those who have supported the committee's fundraising efforts in whatever way. We couldn't do it without you! 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.

QUARTER PARISH ACTIVITIES

The Fund Raising Committee is arranging a "Silent Auction" to take place in the church on Thursday 13th March 2008 at 7pm. Entry to the event will cost £1.00. All proceeds will be used to carry out much needed repairs to the church building.

What is a "Silent Auction"?

Upon entry and after paying your fee you are issued with a number. This number is for your use only. You should use the number, rather than your name, when making bids. In addition to being a "Silent Auction" it is also a "Secret Auction". Bidders do not know who they are bidding against. Items on auction will be displayed on the night. Take your time and view all items at leisure. A bid sheet will be attached to each item. A starting price may be shown on some of the sheets but certainly not on all of them. If you want to bid for an item write your number and the amount you would like to bid on the bid sheet. Go back periodically to the items to see if you have been outbid. If you are willing to increase your bid write down your number again with the new amount alongside.

Wait for the closing of the sale. The master of ceremonies will announce the highest bidder for each item. If this happens to be you then you part with your money and take your items home with you. Several "Silent Auctions" have been held in the church over past years. Many people have attended them all. Obviously they enjoy the rush of adrenalin as they try to outbid their fellow bidders. The auctions usually turn out to be 'fun' nights. So come along, bring a friend, and have an entertaining evening as well as providing financial assistance towards the cost of maintaining your local church buildings.

Remember - any item you may not need might well be the item someone else is looking for. Do not throw out your unwanted bric-a-brac but rather donate them to be sold at our "Silent Auction". If you have items and wish them uplifted then arrange this by phoning 01698 200026 or 01698 428527 as soon as possible.

Thank you very much for taking time to read this article. Our thanks will be greater if you can provide items for the auction and even greater if you decide to come along on the night to bid for someone else's discarded treasures.

QUARTER CHURCH GUILD

Quarter Parish Church Guild attained their Diamond Jubilee this year. To mark this milestone in their history a "Celebration Supper" was held in the Church on the evening of Wednesday 20th February, 2008. Invited guests included present and past members of Quarter Guild and representatives from many of the surrounding Guilds. The main speaker was Rev. Mhorag MacDonald of Cambusnethan Parish Church. A musical programme was provided by Hamilton Caledonian Bowling Club Male Voice Choir conducted by Mr William Barr. The evening proved to be a tremendous success and was greatly enjoyed by all those who were present.

Ann Milligan
Guild President

Friendship Group Christmas Dinner 2007

The annual dinner held by the Friendship Group of Quarter this year was at the Bully Inn, Quarter. The dinner was excellent and the company superb, what more can you ask for? After a successful year what better way to end than a convivial dinner together? The Bully Inn did us proud with excellent service and an enjoyable meal, with the wine flowing freely. We must congratulate the organisers and helpers.



CROSS ALK

"And when they had platted a crown of thorns, they put it upon his head"

Mat 27:29

Amid all the sufferings which Christ had to endure in the last days of His humility, nothing moves the heart more than His wearing of the crown of thorns. We have never felt the agony of nails, nor the cruel piercing of a Roman spear. But in the torment of sharp and biting thorns we reach the commoner lot of our humanity. In a world so thick with tangled briars, the crown of thorns is like a touch of brotherhood in a scene of lonely and exalted sorrow. His suffering was for all of humankind. It achieved a crown of glory for Christ, and for us.

Limekilnburn Road



In the early 1900's Limekilnburn Road was lined on both sides by the miners rows. Where the lane into Darngaber Gardens is now was where the tin hut of the Mission Hall once stood and from there on up to the church there were no houses. Notice the railway lines going across the road. The railway was laid in about 1870's long before the church was built however the church was built in 1884 and was on the other side of the railway from the houses. When they were relining the water pipes, a few

years ago, below the main road, the workers came across the railway lines some two feet below the present surface of the road. In the background can be seen the tall chimney which I believe was the wash house. Water for the houses was provided by street stand pipes as shown in the middle of the picture. In 2003 the road looks entirely different with modern bungalows and front gardens to enhance the village.



The photograph on the left is of Furnace Row leading to what I assume to be the Blast Furnaces of Quarter. This street is no longer in existence but we believe it ran from the side of the Bully Inn to where Baltisan gardens now stands. The Bully Inn stands on Store Row and Furnace Row was parallel to this row. Castle Wynd took the place of most of Store Row, although the address of the Bully Inn is still Store Row. The



photo of the demolition of the houses could be the rear of the two-story houses at the foot of Furnace Row. The demolition took place in the 1950's.

The Spring Garden by Matt Baird

After the past few months of inclement weather it is a pleasant sight in the garden to see the first signs of spring with the commencement of the season for spring flowering bulbs. At present the beautiful snowdrops and aconites are in bloom which will be followed by crocus, daffodils, tulips and hyacinths. An excellent display can be achieved by having the flowering Spring bulbs planted in conjunction with denticulata (drumsticks), polyanthus and primroses. Again, once planted these species will flower every year with little attention. Unfortunately many of the winter baskets and tubs planted with winter pansies have suffered due to the weather unless being kept in a sheltered position. Many gardeners at this time of year are browsing through magazines and catalogues in readiness for the frantic spring planting period. It is worth remembering that many of the articles written are based on the expected climatic conditions in England and that in Scotland we can be regarded as being one month behind hence the need to be cautious in relation to planting times. Some of the main jobs undertaken at this time is to tidy borders, remove leaves which accumulate in beds and on grass areas and to ensure that plant stakes and fences are secure after the period of high winds. If you have a heated greenhouse, half hardy annuals can be sown in readiness for the summer display but with the increased heating costs it may be advantageous to wait a few weeks and consider buying seedlings or plugs. To provide colour in the period from now until June when bedding plants can be safely planted out there are many beautiful shrubs and trees which can be utilised to provide colour continuity.

Examples of both are shown below.

Shrubs	Trees
Rhododendron	Flowering Cherry
Azalea	Flowering Dogwood
Camellia (needs some protection)	Crab Apple
Viburnum	Voss's Laburnum
Forsythia	Snowy Mespilus
	Flowering Currant

Before purchasing any shrub or tree always establish the size at maturity. There is nothing worse than the sight of a specimen plant being cut down due to it outgrowing the space available. One final point to remember is the condition of your lawnmower - I have read that grass cutting has already started in Aberdeen!

Letters to the Editor

Replies to the letters and emails can be made through the editor.

Hi Alan what an excellent, comprehensive and informative site! I was born at 66 Limekilnburn road in 1945 and left the village for the new 'scheme' at Eddlewood in 1952; travelling in the back of a 'silver lining' furniture van. I worked in the immigration service with Bill Fleming whose aunt lived in quarter and invited us kids to watch children's hour on telly, it was the first one in the village. My best pal was Jim McEwan who lived second house from top row running from church. Oh dear-nostalgia. My memories of the village are idyllic.
best regards Ted O'D
(now in Deal Kent)

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Next newsletter will be in June 2008.