



Quarter in Bloom

March has arrived. The weather varies more in March than in any other month and can delay sowing due to colder temperatures. In areas where it can fall below 6c, plants and even grass will wait until April before beginning to grow. Dry and windy weather provides ideal conditions to begin tidying up. Borders can be cleaned out and stems cut down. Think about applying a dressing to the soil. When spring-cleaning the herbaceous border remember the peonies should be left strictly alone. They resent disturbance and demonstrate their feelings by sulking.

Much time will be spent this month in seed sowing and hardening off seedlings. Always be aware of the importance of fine tilth for successful sowing. The seed that lands on a clod has an underprivileged youth. Seedlings must be pricked out before they jostle each other otherwise they will grow tall and spindly. Don't begin to harden them off too early. Allow them to acclimatise to the cold slowly. Cold frames can be opened, but do not rush it. Just open them a little bit daily until they can be fully opened. If seedlings turn colour or stop growing then beware.

When should roses be pruned? This is the most controversial subject among the rose experts, but the majority agree that mid-February in the south to mid-April in the north is the best time, just when the sap begins to rise. There are many who prune in December or January and are confident this leads to earlier and larger blooms. Much will depend on the climate and weather. The aim of the operation should be to keep the bush open to light and air, removing dead or crossing branches and weak wood. Moderate pruning is advised, tackling the strongest varieties first. The floribunda is probably the most difficult bush to prune. Light pruning of young wood and moderate pruning of older wood should result in the bush flowering continuously throughout the summer. Many shrubs can be pruned now to within 1-2 inches of last year's growth. The resulting growth will bear next year's flowers. Buddleia should be cut back hard to within a few inches of the ground or, in the case of old plants, to the previous season's wood and with hydrangeas remove flower heads only.

The greenhouse should have been thoroughly cleaned and ready for use. Half-hardies like asters, french marigolds, stocks, petunias and others should be sown in a warm greenhouse or kitchen. They should be pricked out when the first true leaves open. (continued on back)

Quarter Neighbourhood Watch

Carscallan Road

The concerns of residents over the condition of Carscallan Road have in the main dissipated. The QNW Committee in association with Cllr Carmichael held a meeting with the operators of the mine and South Lanarkshire Council and Strathclyde Police. Subsequently arrangements have been put in place which have greatly improved the road conditions.

Any residents who are concerned about the safety of the road should inform South Lanarkshire Council and/or the Police. Tel: South Lanarkshire Council 01698 453519 (Roads Dept) and/or Strathclyde Police 01698 202300 (Larkhall Office)

Proposed Development of Land

The QNW Committee are taking a keen interest in the latest planning application for the football pitch and surrounding land. The hearing has been delayed and we will continue to monitor developments with regard to this issue. A freedom of information request has been lodged with SLC regarding previous agreements for the use of this land.

Planned Trips

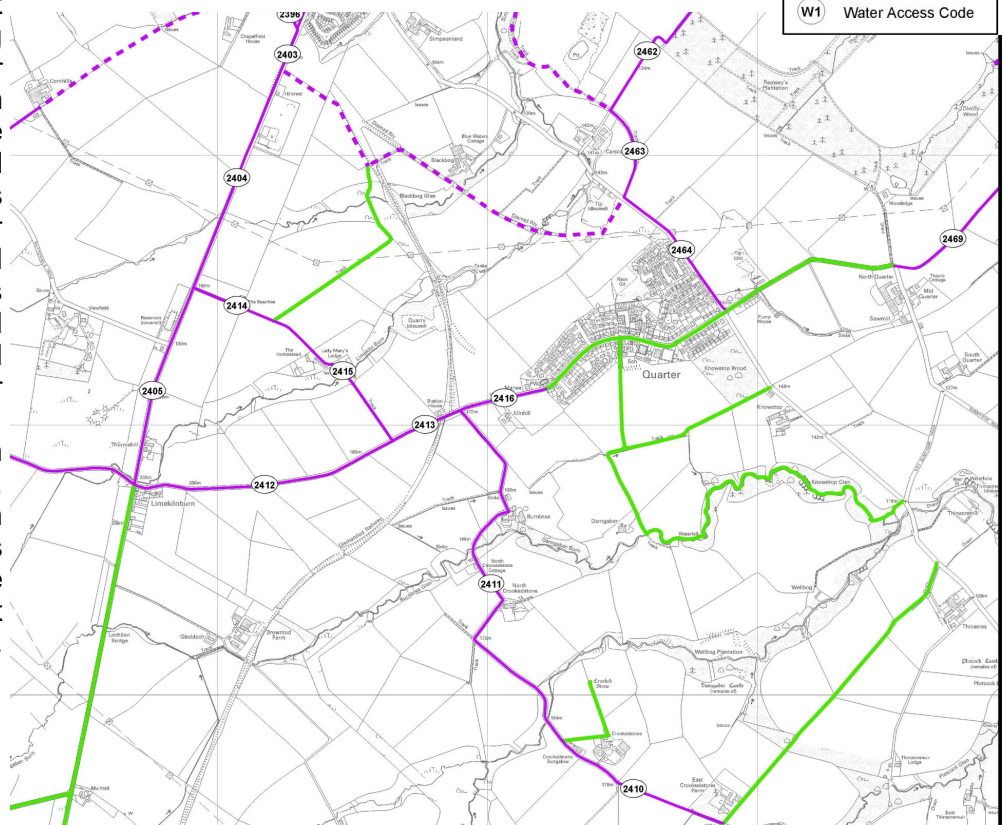
Cllr Carmichael has worked extremely hard to provide two future trips for villagers – one to Holyrood, Edinburgh and the other to Pitt Street Police Office, Glasgow. Both of these trips will take place soon and we are currently exploring options for grants to fund travel arrangements. Both of these ventures are very much appreciated by those able to take part in the outings.

Map 15

South Lanarkshire Core Path Plan

The map shows the proposed routes for the Quarter area and comments on the suitability of the paths would be welcome.

Key	
	Core Path
	Aspirational Core Path
	Wider Network
	Core Water Route
	Water Access Point
	SLC Boundary
	Core Path Number
	Water Access Code



Quarter Primary School

BURNS COMPETITION

Our annual Burns Competition on Friday 23rd January was a great success and a most enjoyable event. Each session of the competition was preceded by some wonderful country dancing performed by pupils from various primary stages. Our judges, Morag and Tommy Quinn did a great job selecting the class winners who were as follows:-

Primary 1: 1st Sophia Fulston 2nd Abbie Neely
Primary 2: 1st Hannah Pate 2nd Reiss McIntyre
Primary 3: 1st Stewart Black 2nd Lewis Findlay
Primary 4: 1st Alistair Torrance 2nd Shona Swan and David Ballantyne
Primary 5: 1st Jena McClelland 2nd Morgan Woods
Primary 6: 1st Gillian Black, Gemma Wilson
2nd Chloe Lindsay, Hannah Clark
Primary 7: 1st George Ballantyne 2nd James Law

All first places were awarded with a Rabbie Burns commemorative medal and second places all received a special Burns Federation certificate. Every child in the school also received a certificate for taking part. A Burns Supper was held in the dining room at lunchtime and Mr Quinn gave an amazing "Address to the Haggis".

BULB COMPETITION SUCCESS

The South Lanarkshire School's Bulb Competition took place in Whitehill Neighbourhood Centre on Saturday 21st February. We were all delighted to learn that we had won the **cup** for the **Best Overall Hyacinth** thanks to the efforts of David Ballantyne. Well done to David! Our other school winners produced some beautiful blooms too and they are as follows-

Daffodils:- 1st Iain Waddell 2nd Jamie Jennings
3rd David Ballantyne

Hyacinths:- 1st David Ballantyne 2nd Jamie Jennings
3rd David Ballantyne

Congratulations to all of you and thank you for taking part and representing the school.

TRAFFIC ISSUES/ ROAD SAFETY TALK

As many of you are aware, one of our pupils was knocked down after 3 o'clock outside the school a few weeks back. Luckily, the child concerned was more shaken than hurt but we are all keen to avoid a similar situation in the future. As a result, the whole school had a talk from the Road Safety Team about Road Safety and how to cross a road safely. However, we still have the problem of parking on both sides of the road at home time and at the start of the day. In order to alleviate this, I am hoping to find a suitable parking place for parents away from the front of the school, so that children do not have to cross between parked cars. Parents will then be able to walk up to the school to collect their child from the gate and walk back to the car with their child. We are also looking to make up a School Travel Plan with assistance from Marion Logan of the Road Safety Team and you will receive more information about this in due course.

HER MAJESTY'S INSPECTORS of EDUCATION PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mrs McNaughton and four pupils- David Ballantyne, George Ballantyne, Zoe Dundas and Elle Wilson were invited to present Quarter Primary's Her Majesty's Inspectors of Education report to South Lanarkshire Council. The children did an excellent job informing the members all about the school and Mrs McNaughton gave a summary of the report. A number of council members made some very nice remarks about the school at the end of the presentation and we were all very proud of the comments made.

ARDENTINNY WEEK

Pupils in Primaries 6 and 7 accompanied by Mrs McNaughton and Mrs McGill will be visiting Ardentinn Outdoor Centre, Dunoon from Monday 23rd until Friday 27th March. This is a great adventure for the children as they will be given the opportunity to rock hop, gorge walk, abseil and try their hand at archery to name but a few activities.

VISIT TO KELVINGROVE/ TRANSPORT MUSEUMS

Pupils in P3/4 and P5/6 will be visiting the above museums as part of their topic work on Thursday 2nd April.

Faye McNaughton Head Teacher

Website address: www.quarterprimary.uk.org

Quarter Primary PTA

Plans are currently being made for our next major fundraiser. This will be a "Race Night" to be held in quarter Boolin Club on Saturday 25th April.

We are hoping to repeat the success of last years event, when we raised over £1,000.00 and had a great night in the process. Tickets are now on sale at a cost of just £3.00 each. To purchase tickets or simply get more information on the work of the PTA please contact Karen Wood.

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

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.

Anti-Social Behaviour

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.

Friendship Group

We lost a few friends last year and have others too ill to come to our group, but we remember them in our prayers. Our numbers have grown lately and we now have around 30 regulars coming to lunch and fellowship each Friday. A few have started to join us during the Sunday morning services. We are looking forward to our visit to the Scottish Parliament at Holyrood on May 14th and we would like to take this opportunity to thank Councillor A. Carmichael for arranging this.

We now have a community policeman, who cycles around the village regularly. He joined us for lunch at one of our meetings and gave us some advice on home and personal safety. He wants us to call him by his first name, David.

We welcome anyone who would like to spend a couple of hours with us on a Friday from 12.30pm and enjoy a little company and fellowship.

Quarter Church Fundraising Group

Daffodil Tea:- 7th March 2009. The daffodil tea was a great success last year so we would like to invite you all to attend and enjoy home baking, tea and coffee. Look forward to seeing you at 10am till 12 noon, price £2.00.

We also hope to have our Sponsored Walk around Strathclyde Park soon. A date has still to be agreed with our friends from the South Church. Watch this space!

Silent Auction, Friday 2nd October 2009 at 7pm,

We would ask you all to start now by not discarding items that may be appreciated by others, and that might bring in some funds. You may even find a rare painting you have forgotten about, you never know!

Special Concert 4th November at 7.30pm in the Church when we welcome the well known Hamilton Caledonian Male Voice Choir. This should be a very special evening and we look forward to seeing you all Tickets £5.00

125 Year Anniversary of QUARTER PARISH CHURCH

CAN YOU BE PART OF IT?

The year 2009 is the celebration year for the Quarter Parish Church, which has served the Lord and the community of Quarter since 1884. This coincides with the National Year of Homecoming in Scotland and the church plans to contact as many people as possible who were either married or baptized in the Quarter Parish Church, with a view to inviting them to be part of the special celebrations in September 2009.

In conjunction with the editorial staff of The Quarterly, the church plans to issue a special 125th Anniversary Commemorative Issue of the village newspaper and also a Commemorative DVD. Any person who has information, personal stories or photographs, old home-movie clips, memorabilia or anything else of interest relating to the last 125 years in Quarter, is invited to contact George at 01698 424511.

It is hoped that there will be enough of historical interest brought forward for an exhibition also to be held at the September celebrations. Remember, this history can include your great-granny in her wedding outfit of 1895, or your child in her Gala Queen crown of 2005. It can also include news or photographs relating to sport, work, school, farming, mining, special days, weddings, funerals, politics, parades and any other social activity. We would also appreciate the loan of any period costume or everyday dress of more than 50 years ago, to go on exhibition. George is also available by e-mail:-

george.macdonald1@btinternet.com

CROSS + ALK

When Jesus came to Golgotha,
They hanged him on a tree;
They drove great nails through his hands and feet
And made a Calvary;
They crowned him with a crown of thorns,
Red were his wounds and deep,
For those were crude and cruel days,
And human flesh was cheap.

When Jesus came to our town,
They simply passed him by;
They never hurt a hair of him,
They only let him die.
For men had grown more tender,
And they would not give him pain;
They only just passed down the street,
And left him in the rain.

Still Jesus cried, 'Forgive them,
For they know not what they do,'
And still it rained the wintry rain
That drenched him through and through.
The crowds went home and left the streets
Without a soul to see;
And Jesus crouched against a wall,
And cried for Calvary.

GA Studdert Henderson, *The Unutterable Beauty*

QUARTER
CHURCH



PARISH

EASTER SERVICES

- Lenten Services
every Sunday 9.45am with Sunday School
- Sunday 5th April Palm Sunday Family Service 9.45am
- Thursday 9th April "The Last Supper"
(At *Hamilton South Church* 7.00pm)
Readings from the Passion with Holy Communion
- Friday 10th April "At the Foot of the Cross" 7pm
Good Friday Service of re-dedication
- Sunday 12th April Dawn Service Manse at
Quarter 6.30am followed by bacon
butty breakfast in the Church Hall
- Sunday 12th April "HE IS RISEN!"
Easter Worship 9.45am

The De'il O' Limy

An auld fermer thought one night, as he stared at the grate
"Ah' better get a move oan for it's getting awfy late
Tell the wifie am gone oot tae check the borders
Nip intae the Bully an catch last orders"

He lied to his wife as his woollie scarf he wrapped
He lied to her again as he got the dug strap
And as he lied to her a third time as he went to the door
His tired wife she shook her head, she didn't care any more

Big Jock watched this from his viewpoint below
And in his own dug way thought" here we go
Ah like a guid walk efter ma grub
But there are limited toilet facilities outside the pub"

A braw lurcher was Jock, black and sleek
Killed thirty eight rabbits once in a week
And as he walked with his owner he'd often wunner
How he'd ended up wi' this auld scunner

As they passed the lane Jock saw the flash of eyes
The wee vixen watched him without any surprise
She often waited here for the dog at night
Thought he was an impressive sight
Jock dipped his snout and in his dug way smiled
Every respect for this wee creature of the wild

And when they reached the Bully Jock sat down
The barman eyed his owner with a wary frown
"Don't worry boy" he said to Jock "it'll be aw right
We wont take any snash fae the auld yin the night
Ah know the company an banter he disrupts
He's aw right sober but no in his cups"

The big dug settled an closed his eyes
To dream of ham bones an greasy mince pies
He stretched and got comfy, his thoughts now bright
He wondered what his mistress had made him tonight
Always something nice for her beloved dog she kept
Manies a good feed Jock got as the auld yin he slept

An after a while when his master hid had his fill
An the barman wis chuckin oot, no more time to kill
The auld man wis grumpy but Jock got up with ease
As soon as he heard the familiar call "time gentlemen please"
Man n dug they left the pub tae face the journey hame
A road they'd taken many times in search of fowl an game

Both shivered in the cold night air lookin forward to a warm cosy
room
Suddenly they stopped in they're tracks what was that in the gloom
In a clearing, jist aff the road, where many a rabbit ran
A beastie stood and stared at them
It wis a dug wi the heed o' a man.

Big Jock looked at the creature, the creature looked back
The thing stood as straight as the hairs on Jocks back
As Jock surveyed it he could see by moonlight
That man or beast, it was no pretty sight

The big dug bristled an straightened an eyed up his foe
He turned to his owner n thought "where did he go ?
Av never met a bigger coward than thone
And when he turned back, the creature was gone.

Some days later when the funeral wis ower
An big Jock wis sunnin his sel in the coal fire glower
His mistress approached him wi ' a piece o' meat
An efter she fed him she took a seat

"Ah don't know what happened Jock on that dark night
But it wis obvious he'd had an awfy fright
He wanted to tell me something jist before he died
Ah wisnae really interested efter aw the times he'd lied
But the poor man wis in sic a state ah hid tae cup ma lug
The only thing ah could make oot wis "It's no a dug!"

Jock looked at her with eyes that said "Ah know whit ye mean"
An certainly it had been scary whit him an the auld yin had seen,
She stroked her big dog gently" can you smell Jock av got you some
kippers"
Jock thought how much he loved her, as he rested his head on her
slippers
If his master had survived the fright, he would have taken Jock to
task
But hows a dug supposed to explain that it was a fox in a hallo'een
mask!

There are lots of questions am sure you'll ask
Such as where did a fox get a hallo'een mask
So anyone from Quarter, if anybody sees
A strange man dug starin' back through the trees
Remember big Jock, he was sure of what he'd seen
Though his last thought on earth was "It must have been".

So did Jock see his vixen friend, or were his eyes playin' tricks?
Not man or beast will ever know,
He died in 1926.

By Vera Wardlaw

Quarter Community Association

Should anyone want to be a newspaper reporter or just offer a
good story, or an event coming up that you would like
publicised, then please get in touch with the editor.

"Quarter And Its People" 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 £5.00.

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

Letters/Emails to the Editor

The editor received a letter from a disturbed resident who's
children were frightened by the story in the last issue about
the thing roaming round Darngaber Lane. We would like to
sincerely apologise for any upset caused by this article.

Mobile Library

At Quarter:- Mondays every fortnight March 16th & 30th
Silverbirch Grove 1.35—1.50 p.m.
Primary School 2.00—2.50 p.m.
Quarter Village 3.10—3.50 p.m.
Beech Avenue 3.55—4.20 p.m.

Books issued at other South Lanarkshire Libraries may be
returned to the mobile library

Quarter in Bloom (cont from front page)

Geraniums should be re-potted, or potted on, using a fibrous
loam. The plants should be watered moderately for the first
ten days after re-potting and a watch kept for white fly on the
leaves.

Lawn care can begin in earnest this month. Mowing
machines and other tools should have been overhauled and
placed on 'stand by'. Start brushing, raking and piercing the
turf with a fork when weather permits. A roller should be
seldom used and only when the lawn is wet. If a roller is too
heavy it could compact the soil and turf. Start mowing with
blades set high and rake grass between mowing. This
causes the grass to stand up to meet the blades and is only
topped. A new lawn should not be cut until 3 inches high.
April will be here before you realise it and is the month of
hope and anticipation. Enjoy your gardening J.M.

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