

NORTH EAST NEW TOWN ASSOCIATION

The North East New Town Association (NENTA) has a history that goes back twenty years, although in its present form it is less than two years old.

When a proposed development was lodged with the planning department for the site between Dublin Street, London Street and Barony Street the feeling amongst residents was one of unity and NENTA after a period of inactivity was resurrected. Through good organisation and a lot of commitment the committee and members have had an active and successful 18 months, the original development plans for Dublin Street Lane site have been dropped and the property owners EDI have recently held a design competition for site proposals. This has provided some creative ideas for the site with the winner due to be announced very soon. NENTA has asked for the winning design to be exhibited locally at "out of office" hours, so residents can view the plans and pass comments on to the planning department.

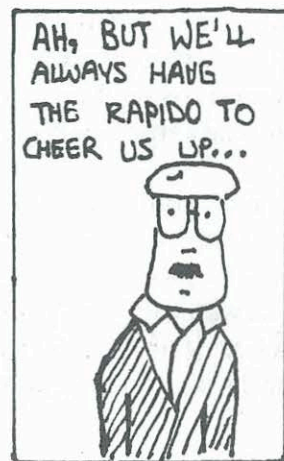
Traffic is, as with most other groups, high up our agenda. We of course all have strong opinions on our own streets but have to bear in mind any knock on effect traffic calming and road closures will have. The recent displacement of traffic from Eyre Place to London Street and Canonmills is an example of how one street's bliss is another street's nightmare.

We also have a social side to the Association; a well supported Burns Supper not only raised some welcome funding but also gave members a chance to meet each other on an occasion other than public meetings.

This is an atmosphere we would wish to carry over to our AGM, where after the official business there will be a chance to meet and socialise with some of your neighbours. All comers are welcome, especially those who bring their £2 subscription to the Polish Club, 11 Drummond Place at 7.30pm, 19th October. Any potential activists especially welcome in person, or call Gavin Hagart on 556 6512.

GEEZ YOUR GIRN

Geez your girn, including Drummond's response to last month's girn, has been held over until next month due to lack of space.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

If you have dates for local events in November, please let us know as soon as possible

Saturday 1st October March and carnival day in support of The Centre, assembling in Barony Street, 2.30pm.

Monday 3rd October New Town Broughton and Pilrig Community Council's AGM at Drummond Community High, 7.30pm.

Wednesday 5th October OPEN MEETING for all residents of the Bellevue and Claremont area, including Mansfield Place, Rodney Street and West Annandale Street, Drummond Community High, 7pm. Your chance to put questions to District Councillor Margaret McGregor, and representatives of St Leonards Police Station and the Regional Transportation Committee.

Friday 7th October Nazareth Project and Bike Ride videos at Racial Equality Council, 14 Forth Street, 1pm.

Saturday 8th October Spurtle's Pot Luck Supper at The Flat, 10 Broughton Street, 7.30 for 8pm. For info and tickets, phone 556 0903.

Thursday 13th October Nazareth Project and Bike Ride videos at The Flat, 10 Broughton Street, 12.30pm.

Thursday 13th October Spurtle meeting at The Edge cafe, Broughton Street, 8pm.

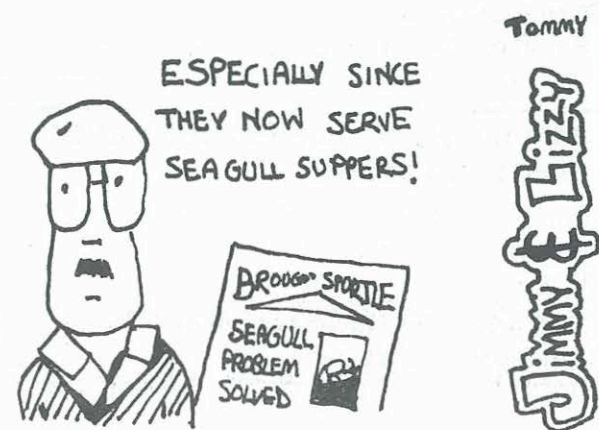
Wednesday 19th October North East New Town Association AGM at the Polish Club, 11 Drummond Place, 7.30pm.

Thursday 27th October Edinburgh Sitters' open day for those interested in becoming volunteers, 4.30 - 6.30pm. Phone 557 3121 for details.

Monday 31st October Friends of the Earth's national Slow Down Scotland Day of Action. Watch out for information on what's going to happen in Broughton!

Monday 7th November New Town Broughton and Pilrig Community Council meets at Drummond Community High, 7.30pm. Guest speaker Mr Griffith, new director of New Town Conservation Committee.

Every Wednesday District Councillor Margaret McGregor's surgery, Drummond Community High, 6-7pm. (not 9pm as we printed last month - sorry!)



Tommy
Jimmy & Lizzy

BROUGHTON SPURTLE

Broughton • Gayfield

NEWS VIEWS
ACTION

Bellevue • Canonmills

FREE Issue number 9

October 1994

TRAFFIC? IT'S UP TO US!

Good news for West Annandale Street residents! The Region's Transportation Committee has approved traffic calming measures there, costing about £60,000, as part of Greenways I. Work should start early next year.

And the rest of the Broughton area? No commitment to taking action on the local proposals put to the Committee; but a promise to organise further consultations with the local community, to start within two months. As soon as this happens, let's get in there and make our views known loud and clear.

It's fair to point out that the Region is starved of money for traffic calming, thanks to the daft priorities of central government - they only have cash for a fraction of the projects they'd like to tackle. And however important, local calming projects are only one aspect of the Region's efforts to tackle the traffic problem. Plans for park-and-ride sites around Edinburgh are very welcome - with negotiations already started to buy one near the airport big enough to take 1200 cars.

We want Broughton to be

safer

quieter

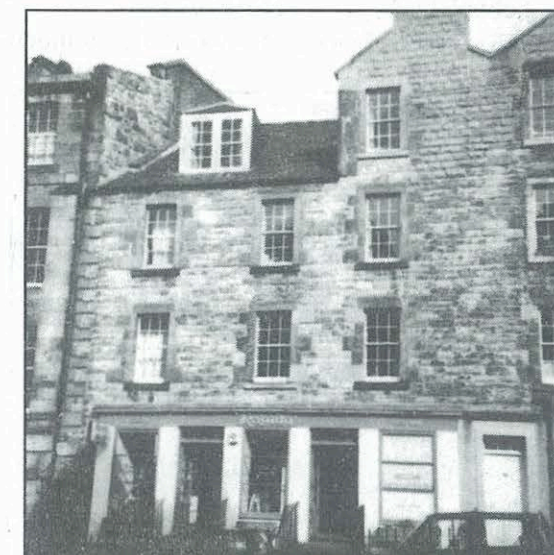
less polluted

*And that means less traffic, moving slower
and giving way to pedestrians.*

But we shouldn't just wait to see what the Region will do with its limited financial resources. What can we do ourselves - regardless of local government finance? It's brainstorming time! Why not see what you can come up with at family teatime, in the pub, or whatever? Send your ideas into SPURTLE.

- Could pedestrians get more assertive - without getting killed!
- Could we do anything to change drivers' behaviour?
- Could we stop heavy-duty vehicles taking shortcuts through our streets?

There are different opinions about Council traffic measures, for example Greenways. And when it comes to local



Oldest block in the street, part of the 18th century Gayfield Estate, and now home to a local meeting place - see page 3

action we certainly won't all want to do the same things. Some people find endless lobbying of the powers-that-be soul destroying; others won't want to sit down in the road! But if we keep a clear idea of what results we want, we can respect each others' standpoints when it comes to how to achieve them.

CENTRE UPDATE

On 16th September the Sheriff Court granted an eviction decree against the trustees of Edinburgh Unemployed Workers Centre to landlords Lothian Regional Council. Physical eviction can be attempted anytime from two weeks thereafter. Volunteers running the centre are still urging the Council to drop their eviction plans and grant a lease to New Town Broughton and Pilrig Community Council. The centre is still buzzing with activity; and a demonstration by its supporters takes place on Saturday 1st October - assembly in Barony Street from 2.30pm.

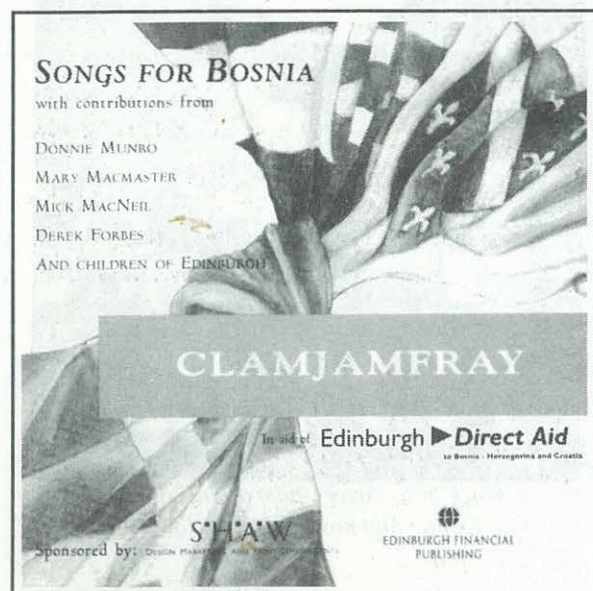
Meanwhile equipment used in the centre has been made over by the trustees to the Community Council. This includes computers, printing presses and other property removed from the centre back in March 1992. Now the Community Council has written to the Regional solicitor asking if the whereabouts of the missing property is known.

Broughton sings for Bosnia

BROUGHTON SINGS FOR BOSNIA

"Clamjamfray". A collection of songs, a fund-raiser for Edinburgh Direct Aid starring Donnie Munro of Runrig and Mary Macmaster of The Poozies. A good listen, for a good cause.

But what's the Broughton connection? Well, words and music of the first song in the collection, the haunting "Bosnian Children", are by Helen Cohen of Barony Street. The voices of boys and girls from Broughton Primary School feature on another of the tracks. Karl Mariner of Broughton Place was responsible for much of



the music. Some of the tracks were recorded at the Hart Street Studio. Shaw Design of Albany Street helped with artwork and sponsorship. And the project was co-ordinated by Andy Shaw of Heriot Hill Terrace!

"Earlier this year, Helen Cohen and I had a brainstorming session", writes Andy. "I had not long returned from my first convoy to Bosnia and we both wanted to do something to help Edinburgh Direct Aid continue its vital work. The sick, the elderly, the women, the children - the innocents of Bosnia, have suffered catastrophically during the last three years of war. We now have a chance to help them rebuild their lives and give the children a future worth living. One of the ideas we came up with was a charity record. So, several months later - here it is."

Well done Andy, Helen and Broughton Primary pupils Trevor Ross, Sam Haston, Nicola Semsay, Kyley Brown, Sarah Walker, Christopher Shiels, Neil Porteous, Amy Morgan, Craig Hutchison, Stuart Niven and Dirk Otway - and everyone else involved.

"Clamjamfray" is available on cassette (£1.99) or CD (£2.99) - from HMV, John Menzies in St James Centre, Bandparts or Broughton Books.

Some readers may have missed out on another local musical effort on behalf of Bosnia. A year ago Jim Crooks of Broughton Street and Peter Calinsky of Broughton Books recorded "Music for discerning diners". Forty minutes of Scots and Irish folk music, guitar and recorders, for £2.50 - from Broughton Books.

LOCAL CYCLIST PREPARES FOR CHARITY ADVENTURE

"On Your Bike!" - and not just up or down Broughton Street or along the bumps of Forth Street, but cycling from Nazareth, around the Sea of Galilee, down the Jordan Valley to the Dead Sea, and finally up into Jerusalem. 240 miles! - to raise funds to develop much needed new facilities and buildings at the Nazareth Hospital, which has a close relationship with Edinburgh for over 130 years.

Marilyn Armstrong, an administrative secretary with Lothian Racial Equality Council in Forth Street, will be one of over 100 riders, each with a personal sponsorship target of at least £1,700. Working among minority ethnic communities here, Marilyn looks forward to visiting the hospital which has such an influence for reconciliation among the different race and faith communities in Galilee.

You can see two short videos on The Nazareth Project and the 1993 Bike Ride - on Friday, 7th October at 1.00pm at the Racial Equality Council office, 14 Forth Street; or on Thursday, 13th October at 12.30pm in The Flat, 10 Broughton Street.



Contributors to this issue: Conchita Pinto, Gavin Hagart, John Dickie, Marilyn Armstrong, Sally Evans, Tim Puntis and Tommy Perman.

If you'd like to help write, produce or distribute the BROUGHTON SPURTLE please contact us as soon as possible! We plan to publish about once a month.

BROUGHTON BOOKS in Broughton Place have agreed to be our "postbox". You can put a letter addressed to us through their letter box at any time OR PHONE - 556 7928 or 556 0903

THE BROUGHTON SPURTLE aims to:-

- provide a contact point for local people who want to get together and change things
- help local action groups publicise their work
- make connections between "the news" and people's own lives in Broughton
- and generally stir things up a bit!

We'll support people looking for a fair deal, but not protect privilege. We're not connected with any political group or party. And we don't get a grant from anyone.

IAN PATTISON

Many readers will have seen the sad reports of the man who hanged himself in his flat, and wasn't discovered for seven months. Ian Pattison has become part of a social issue - the symptom of something many people feel is wrong with government policy, with society, with ourselves.



But Ian will be remembered as an individual too, a real person. Before he moved out to the Clermiston area, he lived in Haddington Place. He was well known to members of the Broughton/Inverleith Anti Poll Tax Group, and actively involved in our campaigning whenever he was well enough. Many others in the area must have known him by sight if not by name, to say hullo to as he walked up and down Leith Walk, read in McDonald Road Library, visited The Centre in Broughton Street or turned up for meetings at Drummond Community High. Farther afield he had friends too at the Stafford Centre, and more recently at The Vigil - a poem written in his honour has been placed by the democracy cairn on Calton Hill.

Ian had his ups and downs. He could be very high, and very low. But on good days he had a mischievous glint in his eye, was full of enthusiasm and really good company.

We're sorry we lost him.

Some of us are thinking of commemorating Ian in some way. If you think you might be interested in contributing, please phone John Dickie, 556 0903.

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

Come and meet us in THE EDGE cafe, Broughton Street on Thursday 13th October at 8pm.

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR READERS IN SCOTLAND STREET

This issue of the Broughton Spurtle is being delivered to your door but we can't afford to do that every time.

Look out for the November edition in local centres, shops and pubs.

DON'T JUST DO SOMETHING - SIT THERE

Could you be a sitter on a regular basis to let a single parent, or someone who looks after a child or adult with special needs/disabilities get out for a break?

Edinburgh Sitters desperately needs volunteers, of all ages and especially from this area of Edinburgh, who are sensitive of the needs of carers, tolerant of different lifestyles; and who can sit on a regular or flexible arrangement for periods of up to 4 hours, at times suitable to the sitters. Out of pocket expenses are paid, and sitters are well prepared and supported.

More sitters are needed to meet the increasing demand for this popular service, which has recently been featured on STV's "Scottish Action" and BBC Radio Scotland "From All Quarters".

Edinburgh Sitters are holding an open day for those interested in becoming volunteers on Thursday 27th October, 4.30pm to 6.30pm. Further details available on 557 3121.



CHEERS FOR THE CHIPPIE

Three cheers for the great Scottish chippie. Anyone who has occasion to walk through the streets of Edinburgh at night will know how their heart lifts when the dark empty stretches are illuminated with pools of light coming from these wonderful oases of warmth and friendliness. Other European cities have their cafes to brighten up the nights, we have the Chippie. Broughton Street is blessed with a particularly wonderful one, the Rapido. During the day Broughton Street is the centre of a lively mixed neighbourhood, but at night like the rest of Edinburgh, its residents seem to disappear into their homes leaving the street sad and deserted. But the lights of the Rapido shine out until 1am. Peep in and what will you see? Rows of golden brown crispy objects giving off a heavenly aroma and promising a short and cholesterol filled route to a full stomach.

Let the department of "We Know What is Good for You" go on all they like about the state of the nations health, until someone comes up with a late night health food takeaway with the pulling power of the Chippie, we're not going to listen. Meanwhile - make mine a fish supper and a pint of milk please.