

## CROALL NEWSAGENTS

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The deadline for  
**September Spurtle** is  
Wednesday, 22nd  
August.

Drop a note in at  
Broughton Books,  
2A Broughton Place  
or phone 556 0903  
or 556 7727

### DTP-er needed!

Would you like to  
volunteer to help us?  
You will need familiarity  
with Macintosh  
computers, PageMaker  
and PhotoShop.  
Phone Tim on  
229 3825

## Support us!

Broughton **Spurtle** survives on  
a combination of Supporters'  
contributions and advertisements.  
We're completely independent,  
and have never looked for grants  
from anywhere.

You can become a **Spurtle**  
Supporter by giving us a pound  
per issue: in return you get it  
delivered, plus one or two other  
items.

Contact John Dickie, 556 0903

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 are not connected with any political group or party. And we don't get a grant from anyone.

**Spurtle** team for this issue:  
Norma McKendrick, Eileen Dickie,  
David Aitken, Ken McKay,  
Gavin MacGregor, John Dickie,  
Alan McIntosh and Tim Puntis.

BROUGHTON BOOKS in Broughton  
Place are our "postbox". You can  
put a letter addressed to us through  
their letter box at any time.

PHONE - 556 7727 / 556 0903

Or FAX - 556 7727 / 557 6752

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Debbie Rutherford  
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References available

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## Contacts

**Bellevue and Claremont  
Residents Association**  
Yvonne Pryor 531 1636

**Broughton Village Association**  
Stephanie Harvey 557 2762  
(daytime)

**Gayfield Association**  
William McNair 556 4493

**McDonald Area Amenity  
Society**  
Bob Stewart 557 1267

**Redbraes Residents  
Association**  
George Hosey 467 5161

**Sovereign Court Residents  
Association**  
John Davies 478 4463

**New Town Broughton and  
Pilrig Community Council**  
Annette O'Carroll 556 7586

**Broughton History Society**  
David Watt 556 5271

**Mark Lazarowicz, MP and  
councillor**  
Broughton Ward. Surgery at  
Drummond Community High  
resumes from Saturday 18th  
August, 10.00 am. Meanwhile  
contact by phoning 555 0598

**Cllr David Guest**  
New Town Ward  
558 8823 or 529 4268  
Surgery at 67 Northumberland  
Street on Mondays from  
6 to 6.45pm

**Malcolm Chisholm MSP**  
555 3636  
Surgery on Saturdays. Phone for  
details.

# BROUGHTON Spurtle

No 84

August 2001

## Local shops back clean up

Members of the CleanUp Broughton group have been discussing waste disposal with local shops and other businesses. They've called on 60-plus premises in Broughton Street, and round the corners into London Street and East London Street. The response has been mainly positive, including another offer of free coffees for volunteers taking part in the next CleanUp Day! Still plenty of room for

improvement, though. The main problem seems to be that the timing of uplift of waste from some premises means it is left lying out too long. Maybe contracts need to be re-negotiated?

Businesses were also invited to show their support by putting up CleanUp posters. Just before going to press **Spurtle** spotted 13 already prominently displayed.

## Flats plan worries residents

"Unbelievably awful" was one reaction to the plan for the corner site at 84-86 East Claremont Street. The existing building would be demolished and one housing 13 flats built in its place. The building portrayed in the architect's drawing would stand out like a sore thumb! A group of local residents were just about to meet and begin organising the resistance as we went to press. The planning application and drawings can be seen at the Council's Enquiry Office at 1 Cockburn Street.



84-86 East Claremont Street

## Disruption to water supply

Many Broughton residents face disrupted water supply when East of Scotland Water carry out replacement of old water mains this autumn. The work will start in early September (in Bellevue Place) and go on through to the end of November (finishing in

Bellevue Road). Large parts of Bellevue will be affected, together with East Claremont Street, Annandale Street, Hopetoun Street, McDonald Street and Place, Dryden Terrace, Mansfield Place and Broughton Road. But sometimes only parts of a street

Continued page 2

**Broughton Spurtle is  
free  
and completely  
independent**

## BRIEFLY

Hurry on down there! The annual Scotland Yard summer festival takes place on Saturday 18th August, 11am to 4pm. Complete with cafe, stalls, music, activities for all ages - and dinosaurs.

A 'right turn filter' for traffic going from Rodney Street to Broughton Road is part of an upgrade of traffic lights due within the next few months. This should benefit the No.13 bus service, which is often delayed by problems at this junction. The upgrade will also include full facilities for visually impaired pedestrians at the green man crossings.

Local residents signed a petition objecting to aspects of the planning application for the Brown Brothers site, Broughton Road. An improved version of the plan was approved by the Council's development quality sub-committee on 25th July. Councillor Lazarowicz, who supported the petitioners, says the scheme is "still too large and bulky for the site"; but "a large number of conditions have been placed on the development, which I hope will at least lessen the impact on surrounding properties".

*Larry Fergusson of Sovereign Court is doing his bit to make Broughton greener. He plants and looks after flowers in the strip of garden facing on to McDonald Road. Unfortunately his work is sometimes spoilt by children snapping off the blooms. Could local parents help discourage this?*

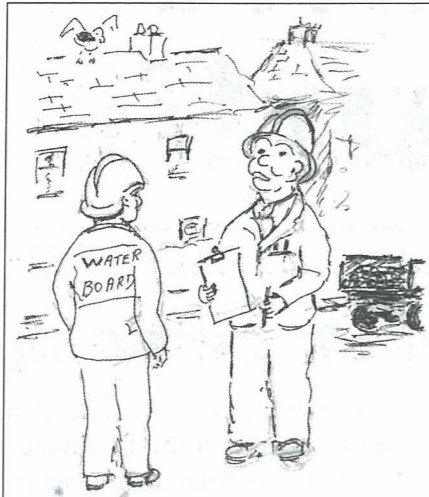


## Disruption to water supply Dog dirt and other litter

Continued from page 1  
are included: a detailed schedule has been posted through doors. Inevitably, there will be some local traffic problems.

The work also includes replacing service pipes from the mains to property boundaries; and the Water Board has issued a warning in this connection. In some older properties electrical circuits were earthed to water supply pipes: replacement of the service pipe will make the earthing ineffective. If in doubt, consult a qualified electrician!

East of Scotland Water have organised a public meeting for Wednesday, 8th August, in the Church Centre Hall, East Broughton Place. Coffee at 6.30,



"Yes, we've contracted the Gas Board to break up the old pipes"

7.30pm start, finished by 8.15. Or there's a phone Helpline on 08457 420 420 - quote 'Broughton Mains Renewal'.

## Dog dirt and other litter

Last month we published a letter about the dog dirt menace which called for a ban on dogs in Hopetoun Crescent Gardens. Robin Benson of Broughton Street responds:

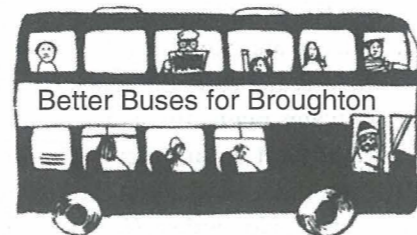
Dog litter is here to stay (I'm not a dog owner myself). Banning or fining dog littering is punitive and ineffective. There needs to be a clear understanding as to where the dogs can be taken, and where it is out of bounds. This makes for a generally healthier environment!

And Robin has this suggestion for rubbish bins:

Broughton Street needs rubbish bins every 20 metres or so, and they should be something the community is proud of (not just awful looking bins) - clearly distinguishable as 'Broughton Street' bins.

## Bus trouble

The local bus service took a knock earlier this year when the route of the 35/35A along Broughton Road (now the 36) was cut to end at Duke Street. This removed a link from Broughton and Canonmills to the Shore and Easter Road. And frequency was cut from 20 to 30 minutes. Following many complaints about long waits for the bus, Lothian Buses have now introduced a temporary timetable which restores the 20 minute frequency; but the route westwards has been cut, to end at Charlotte Square instead of Tolcross! Local Councillor Lazarowicz is still arguing with Lothian Buses over this route. He asks concerned residents to contact him, to help demonstrate the level of feeling over this issue: phone 555 0598.

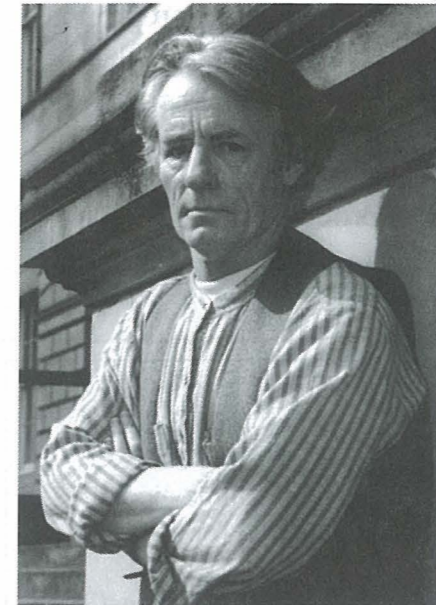


## Festival in Broughton

We've lost two major Festival venues, Cafe Graffiti and The Palladium. But there's still a fair bit of local action during the coming Festival Fringe (5-27 August):

- At **Drummond Community High** a Californian theatre company once again offers a wide range of drama and comedy
- **The Bellevue Gallery** in Bellevue Crescent presents 'Calvados', an art exhibition (admission free)
- **Edinburgh Printmakers** in Union Street have an exhibition of prints and photos by abstract artist Josef Albers
- **Ego and Out** in Picardy Place have comedy and music in "a funky venue"!
- The musical Oxford Belles are at **Marie Curie House**, 29 Albany Street, after "Scotland in Love" (story and harp) at the same venue
- Theatre Arkle present drama and a review at **St Paul's and St George's**, 13-18 August

And **Valvona and Crolla**, and the **Gateway** are two other venues not a million miles away!



Local man Ken McKay of Melgund Terrace is performing in 'The Wallace', by Sidney Goodsir Smith, an open-air performance at Duddingston Kirk Gardens, August 9-12, 16-19, 23-26, 8pm (to 10.30). Box Office: 556 9579.

## Reading, writing and number skills

Local people all over Edinburgh have an opportunity to help raise adult literacy and numeracy levels in their own areas.

Volunteers are being recruited by Adult Basic Education to help support adults who are developing their everyday reading, writing and number skills. Run by Community Education's Community Based Adult Learning Teams, groups are based in venues all over the city, north south east and west, and offer students both daytime and evening provision. Some groups also include people who want to develop their information technology (ICT) skills, people who are deaf and hard of hearing and people with learning disabilities.

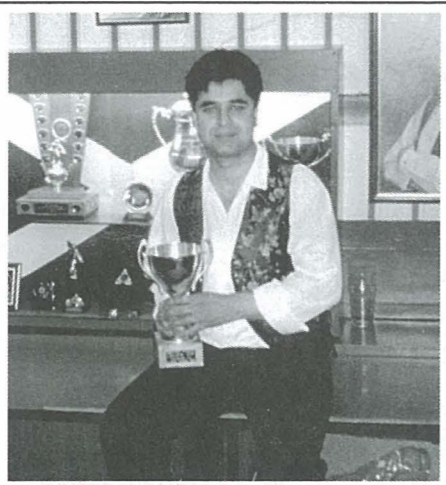
This latest recruitment of volunteer tutors comes as a result of a recent government report which estimated that 800,000 adults in Scotland have very low literacy and numeracy skills.

The next information evening for people who would like to become volunteer tutors is Monday, 3rd September 2001. Anyone interested in attending this should contact Mary for an application form as soon as possible at South Bridge Resource Centre, Infirmary Street on 558 8222.

Further information and requests for application forms can also be found at the Adult Basic Education web site - [www.abe.edin.org](http://www.abe.edin.org)

## Snooker League success

Itrat Mohammad of the local newsagents in Croall Place was part of a 4-strong snooker team who recently scooped the Midlothian League Cup. Congratulations!



## More trees in Broughton?

Trees can bring many benefits to a community. They help to improve air quality and give a sense of well-being, enriching our lives and helping children to understand the rhythm of the seasons. In other cities in this country and in Europe, pavement cafes are often shaded by street trees while small green spaces provide areas for people to sit out and small children to play. As the growth of new housing and offices in our area increases at very high densities, the need for more

greenery in the environment increases too.

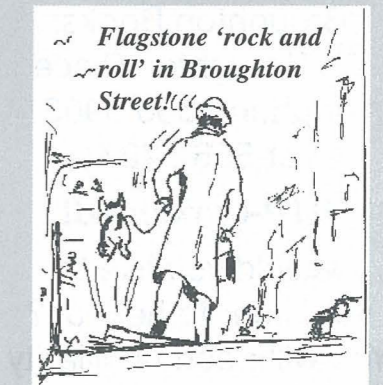
An environmental project is now exploring the possibilities for more tree planting and the creation of small green places in the New Town and Broughton. If you would like to help with the project, perhaps by looking out to find possible places for tree planting or working to form a small community garden or in any other way, contact Pat Eccles of 'edinburgh trees', on 556 7550.

## BRIEFLY

At long last, Redbraes residents are due to get their new windows. Work is expected to start within the next few weeks: so surely it should be complete before the winter sets in?

A Council cleansing vehicle was provided to carry out a major clean up of Drummond Community High School playground recently. This followed complaints from local residents and staff at the school about the accumulation of litter, particularly broken glass. Councillor Lazarowicz took up the issue with the Education Department and funds were provided to carry out a 'one off' clean up of the playground.

Last November we commented on the state of pavements in Broughton Street with this cartoon.



Work to put things right on the east side of the street is now well advanced. Our cartoonist is happy to share the credit with local councillor Mark Lazarowicz!

Our new MP, Mark Lazarowicz, got lucky in the draw for Private Members' Bills down at Westminster. So how's he going to use the opportunity? Something to do with "employees' shares", he told **Spurtle** - and held out the prospect of more details for next month's edition.

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