

Residents' Roundup

Bellevue and Claremont Residents Association and the Broughton Primary School Board have been pressing for the elimination of a local danger spot outside the school, where East Claremont Street joins Broughton Road. It now looks as if the contours of the junction will be changed and speed and safety issues resolved. Cllr Trevor Davies has given assurances that funding has been committed in next year's budget and that work will be carried out.

The Association is pleased, too, that renovation of the architecturally significant Claremont Court is nearing completion. External surfaces have been refaced and repainted and look much the better for it.

The Broughton Village Association held its quarterly open meeting on 20 June.

Of major interest, a presentation by Supt Stephen Grieve on the use of CCTV as an aid to policing, with graphic video evidence shown in support. The possibility had previously been raised of CCTV being used in Broughton Street as a deterrent to vandalism and graffiti and, while this is not for the foreseeable future, it is clear that such methods will become more widespread. Not everyone was easy with the idea though and the superintendent was aware that public perceptions were still an issue.

Staying on Broughton Street - there was discussion on a scheme for opening time controls on late-night catering licences as a means of ridding areas of excessive litter. The police view is that the proposals won't work. Locals were left wondering just what it would take to crack the problem. Hopes were pinned on the revival of CleanUp Broughton (CUB).

And some misgivings still about "entertainment licences" - mainly saunas, bars and the like. The meeting was generally accepting of these city centre ventures - as long as there was clarity on the Council's policy on location and good conduct.

Contacts

Bellevue and Claremont Residents Association
Yvonne Pryor 466 1144

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 6151

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

Broughton History Society
David Watt 556 5271

Drummond Community High School
556 2651

Cllr Trevor Davies
Broughton Ward 529 3221
Surgery at Broughton Primary School,
Weds. 6.30pm-7pm during school terms

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
558 8358 Surgery on Saturdays,
Drummond High School, 1.00pm.

Mark Lazarowicz, MP
Advice sessions every Friday at
86 - 88 Brunswick Street, 12.30pm
and at Stockbridge Library, 4pm.

Mark Lazarowicz
Member of Parliament for
Edinburgh North & Leith



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Please contact Constituency Office for
details of Advice Sessions.

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BROUGHTON Spurtle

No 94

July 2002

ARE THE STREETS OF BROUGHTON ABOUT TO BE TRANSFORMED...

from this



to this?



Just contain yourselves!

The "black bag" rubbish collection in most of our area is about to be done away with and replaced with on-street communal containers. C-Day is set for 7th October.

In addition to some 125,000 individual wheelie-bins, 26,000 properties in Edinburgh now use communal containers, with 40,000 still to be converted. Any day now, households locally will be getting from the City Council, information on the refuse collection service changes based on existing plans for siting containers around our streets. Traders will also be notified - mainly that these bins are not for the disposal of trade refuse and that separate regulations require to be observed. Most of the containers intended for Broughton are of the recently introduced large 3200 litre capacity shown in our photograph, though a small number of the 1280 litre type will be used where appropriate.

The Council states that "every effort has been made to place a bin as close to your home as possible". But there is still a chance to make your views

known to the Council. A public exhibition will take place at

**Broughton St Mary's Church Centre,
7 East Broughton Place
4.30-7.30pm
Tuesday 23 July.**

Details of the proposals - showing just how your household will be affected, maps of where the bins will be, how the system works - will be on display and officials will be on hand to answer questions.

Still not included in the plans are streets within the World Heritage Site (WHS) - approximately west of Broughton Street and south from Broughton Place. But information for these households will also be available at the Exhibition. A number of trials in WHS streets are planned which it is hoped will provide valuable information during the extended consultation period that will apply to the WHS.

Is this the end to black bag blight? For all our sakes, let's hope so.

Broughton Spurtle is free and completely independent!
tel - 556 7727

BRIEFLY

Staying with the subject of disposal, Edinburgh Recycling asks that we don't forget that **clothes can be recycled** for the much-needed benefit of charities such as Sick Kids, Barnardo's, the Salvation Army and British Heart Foundation. Rewearable items are used for humanitarian aid. But condition doesn't matter - poor quality textiles are sorted and reprocessed for a variety of new uses. Just remember that items must be dry and clean when disposed of. You will find your nearest textile recycling bank in this area at B & Q, Warriston Road.

And still more. Redbraes Residents Association reports that the high profile national problem of **fridge disposal** seems to be in hand at Powderhall with mobile units on site and air quality checks being carried out. Nobody wants to be living under a cloud of CFCs and this may all be a good thing. Except that the residents have encountered a marked reluctance to give out any real information. They have enlisted local councillor Trevor Davies to pursue this and we will report on progress.

The Central Edinburgh Traffic Management **saga trundles on**. For the record, the whole process was restarted in March last, a procedural meeting took place on 27 June - and the public hearings will be held between January and March 2003. So, nothing much to report then - but watch this space!

And did you know that **HAVE YOUR SAY**, a public consultation on the proposal to make a **daily congestion charge** of £2 for entry to the city or its centre, is under way - and ends on 31 July. The questionnaire is available from New Transport Initiative, City of Edinburgh Council, PO Box 12470, 1 Cockburn Street, EH1 1ZF; Phone: 08000 32 23 23; email: nti@edinburgh.gov.uk.

Invasion of the drivers

In our last edition, we reported in graphic detail on the encroachment of thoughtless parking on every imaginable - and some nearly unimaginable - space around our local streets.

A long-standing problem area is the frontage to Europcar's premises in East London Street and Supt Stephen Grieve of Gayfield Police Station undertook to re-examine the position. He reports that the double yellow line there was a temporary measure related to the erection of the flats opposite - which has now lapsed. Even when enforceable, the area between the lines and the frontage of the building "is in private ownership and as such it would not be lawful for any vehicle parked there to be ticketed or removed". Our picture illustrated just such a vehicle. The superintendent goes on to say that "this is not a footway and ... parking ... is quite lawful - albeit inconsiderate. ...Europcar intend vacating the

premises as of 1st December which, depending on who thereafter occupies the premises, may offer some long-term solution to the problem". Readers may be assured that whoever follows will be made fully aware of the strength of feeling on this and of the hope for the considerate management of the premises which has so far been lacking.



Officers are also aware "that some motorists have taken to parking on the new footway outside the Bryant flats (as they have in Annandale Street) and are making every effort to prevent this becoming a regular occurrence".

The other location highlighted was the open space in front of St Mary's Cathedral of a Sunday morning. Police officers have been placing warning notices on cars parked on the paved area and have spoken to church officials. This appears to have brought an immediate improvement. Time will tell.

Supt Grieve, whilst having briefed his officers to "react to any flagrant disregard for public safety" is "unwilling to divert police resources" to problems for which Parking Attendants are responsible and he has brought our concerns to their attention. We are sympathetic to this, particularly when it is ill-mannered drivers themselves who are diverting scarce public resources away from other duties. But, it's not just going to go away and we will return to the issue as circumstances arise.

Mansfield Traquair Centre (MTC)



A new name, a new future. It's been a long time coming but the restoration of the old church is nearing completion and the new tenant, the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO), has moved in to the offices in the under-building.

Built in 1885, it was designed by prominent 19th century architect, Sir Robert Rowand Anderson. Its recent past has been a chequered one but it has now been extensively refurbished with funds raised particularly from the National Lottery and Heritage

Scotland. The building has become remarkable for the murals by the increasingly celebrated Arts and Crafts artist, Phoebe Anna Traquair. Drying out of the fabric and raising of funds permitting, the restoration of the murals is planned but this may yet be some years off.

There will be Public Openings - **For neighbours:**

July 14th, 21st & 28th at 2-5pm
During Festival:

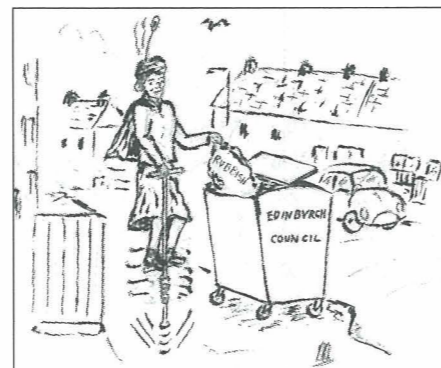
August 12th to 31st, (NOT Sundays) 10am-1pm. Guided tours at 10.30am & 11.30am

Thereafter:
2nd Sunday of each month - 2-5pm

"Doors Open" Day:
Saturday 28 Sept.

Volunteers needed: The Friends of the MTC are asking for your help on Open Days to show off the Centre

as guides and helpers. You don't need to know everything - training will be given to sell goods, give out audio-guides and generally ensure visitors are welcomed. Contact: Kate Love on 556 1488 or Margaret Campbell on 225 3856.



Rainwater pours down shopping bags getting heavier by the minute

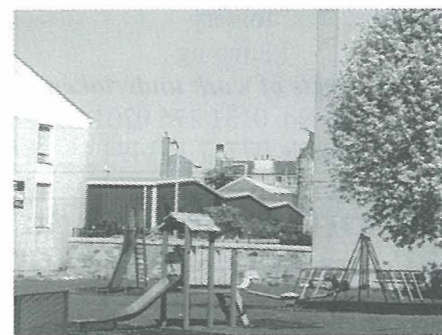
Another in a series of haikus by Richard Love of Bellevue Place

Have your say on Broughton Road

A landscape study for the improvement of Broughton Road is about to happen. And local residents are being urged to ensure its success.

The study has been commissioned by the New Town Broughton and Pilrig Community Council, is being funded by a grant from the Land Tax Credit Scheme and local landscape architect John Richards will carry it out. A key site for upgrading is the playpark presently in a rundown and unsightly state. Other possibilities include tree planting around the bowling greens and St Mark's Path and proposals for street and open space improvement.

Public meetings are being planned for late summer - details to be in **Spurtle** and around the area. Meantime, tireless local environment campaigner Pat Eccles is your contact - and wants your support; phone her on: 556 7550.



...While along the road in Redbraes Park!

Local residents, on their own initiative, have been giving the park a much needed clean-up, clearing paths and cutting back overgrowth. Good for them — except, the City Council won't take the refuse away **UNLESS THEY PAY FOR DISPOSAL!** Is it just us, or is some joined-up thinking called for?

BRIEFLY

Local councillor, Trevor Davies reports that the work on **traffic calming** near St Mary's PS will be done by the Council during the school break - with building contractor, Bryant's finally making a contribution to the cost; and that traffic light installation at Logie Green Road/ Broughton Road is at last under way by Bryant's, in arrears of the agreed time-scale. Cllr Davies is to take action to ensure that, in future, the obligations to existing neighbourhoods as a result of commercial development will be honoured.

The New Town Broughton and Pilrig Community Council elected a new Chair, Alan Welsh, at their AGM on 10th June. Annette O'Carroll remains as Secretary - she can be contacted on 556 7586. **All meetings of the CC are open to local people** - the next one takes place on 5th August in Broughton St Mary Church Centre, 7 East Broughton Place.

Pilrig Residents Association recently had notice of the revised scheme for the **Wimpey development of Shrub Place**, to include 314 residential units and 3 commercial. The Planning Department is likely to recommend approval - but the deadline for comments and objections is 15th July. The plans (dated 21st June) are available at the Planning Department, 1 Cockburn Street.

Broughton History Society had their AGM on 17 June. John Dickie is the new Chair, with David Watt continuing as Secretary (556 5271). Their new season begins on 23 September - details to follow.

RSVP - the Retired and Senior Volunteer Project of Community Service Volunteers - is **looking for volunteers** to help set up and run new projects. They recruit from the fastest growing segment of the population, the over-50s, but work is cross-generational. Anyone interested, contact Jude Park or Angela Howard on 622 7766 or email, rsvpscotland@csv.org.uk.

Progress on refurbishment at Drummond CHS has been limited due to exams but some departments are already completed and the aim is to restore normal working on other areas over the summer vacation. Completion is due in July 2003. Spurtle still hopes that "agreed improvements to the external landscaping and environment of the school" (Education Dept, Oct 2000) will prove to be the enhancement to the community that was anticipated.

Westminster MP, Mark Lazarowicz, having drawn a high place for Private Members' Bills, is pursuing his "Employees' Share Schemes Bill 2002". His aim is to make it easier for employees to gain a **direct voice** in the ownership of the business in which they work. The Bill has Government and all-party support. He is "delighted that it now looks as if my Bill has a very good chance of becoming law".

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.

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

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PHONE and FAX :- 556 7727

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