



EDITORIAL

Hello dear readers. With the schools closed and many organisations on holiday the newsletter is a little shorter than usual. But nonetheless our regular contributors have still managed to send in articles which I am sure you will find interesting and enjoyable. Malcolm Nicol has sent in a thoughtful poem that reminds me not only of the courage of the men and women who protect us but also how thankful I feel for living in a safe and stable (as well as beautiful) country. But there is also a reminder from the Community Police that we all have a part to play in maintaining our own safety by taking precautions that will keep our homes secure while on holiday. There are also fun things for our young people to enjoy like the Summer Holiday Club at Polmont Old church – and it’s FREE! Wishing everyone a happy holiday.

Please send your articles to me at: polmontnews@hotmail.co.uk

Meadowbank Library

Submitted by Karen Cumming



Author Visit

We are delighted to be having another author visit at Meadowbank Library over the summer for children aged 5-8 years. Rose Impey is the popular children’s writer of the Scout and Ace, Animal Crackers and Titchy Witchy stories. She will be visiting on Monday 15th August at 10am. Tickets are free but please contact the

library for details and availability.

Children’s Summer Activities

All children’s activities have been very successful so far. All activities are free, but please ask at counter for availability of tickets.

- * Circus skills on 5th July proved to be popular with children learning to walk on stilts and juggling.
- * Bounce and Tickle still continues to be busy and next session will be held on Tuesday 9th August.
- * Toddleround will hopefully re start after the summer.
- * We have already had 2 craft sessions during July and places are still available for the final summer one to be held on Wednesday 10th August.

Summer Reading Challenge

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Meadowbank Library

Summer Reading Challenge

Roll up! Roll up! For the library's summer reading challenge. Idea is for children to read any 6 books over the holiday and they will receive a circus stage set and collect stickers marking their progress and upon completion a certificate will be received.

More information on the above or any of the library services can be obtained by phoning 503870 or emailing meadowbank.library@falkirk.gov.uk

The Braes Councillors

Submitted by Malcolm Nicol

Braes Councillors There are no council meetings held during July so less than usual to report in regard to planning matters etc.

Dog Fouling

One thing that I regularly receive complaints on are dog owners who allow their pets to foul footpaths and other public areas. Hence I was very interested in a report that gave a table by local authority of the number of those who in recent Years have been fined for dog fouling.

In Falkirk 554 people have been fined against 306 in West Lothian, 13 in Stirling, 12 in Fife and 9 in Clackmannanshire. In fact the seriousness with which Falkirk tackles the problem is borne out by of the 32 councils only Glasgow and Edinburgh have issued more of the £40 fines.

Battle of the Somme Anniversary

On the 1st of July myself and colleagues led by the depute Provost marked the 95th anniversary of the start of the Battle of the Somme and he recalled the sacrifices made by those who took part, especially those from the Braes area. In all the years that I have served as a councillor I have always recognised the importance of attending such ceremonies continuing to pay respect to those who fought for the freedom that we take for granted.

At the service the Minister read out a poem that I had not heard before but felt very appropriate. It also of course applies equally well to our sailors and airmen.

*It is the soldier, not the reporter,
who has given us freedom of the press.*

*It is the soldier, not the poet,
who has given us freedom of speech.*

*It is the soldier, not the peace camp organiser,
who has given us the freedom to demonstrate.*

*It is the soldier, not the lawyer,
who has given us the right to a fair trial.*

*It is the soldier, who salutes the flag,
who serves under the flag
and who's coffin is draped in the flag
who allows the protester to burn the flag.*

As always if I can be of any assistance please continue to contact me at Malcolm.Nicol@falkirk.gov.uk

Community Police

Submitted by PC Colin Richardson

Community Police

Make your home look occupied this summer.

In the Summer holiday period many people will be looking forward to getting away from the house for a well deserved break.

To make your house look occupied

- 1 Check your answering machine does not give the impression you are away from the house
- 2 Enlist the help of a willing neighbour to keep an eye on the house
- 3 Make sure you have locked all external doors, gates and windows
- 4 Install timers which switch lights or radios on and off automatically
- 5 Encourage a neighbour to park in your driveway
- 6 Ask your friends or neighbour to draw curtains at night
- 7 Cancel deliveries of milk and newspapers - ask a friend or neighbour to clear your letterbox of mail
- 8 Check your insurance policy - some contents policies don't cover you for more than 30 days absence
- 9 Set your intruder alarm (if you have one)

Enjoy your holiday with peace of mind

Vehicles broken into in Polmont

On 11th July 2011 two vehicles were broken into in St Margaret's Crescent and Netherfield Road Polmont with several items being stolen.

If you have any information on who is responsible please contact Central Scotland Police on 01786 456000 or you can phone Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Speed monitoring - Polmont

The community traffic wardens recently deployed the speed warning board in Station Road, Polmont.

A large number of vehicles were recorded over a period of time and it's pleasing to see that only a few were speeding. A few is still too many though, so please be mindful of your speed and stay within the limit.

Hand Held Radar for June 2011

Officers have been conducting hand held radar speed checks regularly throughout the area and the following is a summary of the results for June this year.

12 hours patrol, during which 26 warnings were given, 2 fines were issued and 1 person was reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

Officers will continue to patrol the area so please be aware of this and keep your speed down.

Damage to Fences at Braes High School

Owing to the continued damage to fences at Braes High School additional CCTV cameras are being installed in specific areas in an effort to identify those responsible. Anyone committing any vandalism will be caught on camera, probably identified and will be traced.

If anyone has any information as to who is responsible meantime please contact the Braes Community Team on 01786 456000 or through the force web site.

Polmont Church News

Submitted by Rev Jerome O'Brien

Polmont Old Parish Church



All of the Church organisations are in recess for the summer, but there are a few notable events about to take place.

BB Camp

The Boys Brigade have organized a camp in Moffat for the weekend of the 24th July. This year marks the 125th anniversary of Camping for the BB's. Polmont Company has not undertaken a BB camp for a good many years, so this is a special event. Some 16 boys have signed up for the event, so it ought to be good fun and we will let you know how it worked out.

Holiday Club

The Summer Holiday Club is taking place in the last week of the School Holidays in the Church Hall, from the 15th to the 19th August, with the grand finale on the Sunday evening of the 21st August, with the combined Holiday Club and Messy Church Extravaganza. We have a hearty and talented bunch of helpers for the Club and we are looking for as many children of Primary School going age to come and join in on the week of fun. We will be doing craft, games, drama, music, song and learning, all around the theme of God's rescue of His people from the land of Egypt through the prophet Moses.

Other News

The Church is very grateful to the ministry of David Wandrum and Neil Barclay over the Sundays in July whilst Jerome was on leave and at the BB Camp. Their time given and service to the Church is much appreciated.

There is sad news to share as well in that the oldest member of the Church, Janet (Jenny) Morris, passed away peacefully on the 17th July. Jenny was a well *kent* face at the Kirk, having joined the then Sunday School at the age of 5 and remaining a member of the Church for the following 85 years. She was greatly loved by all and will be missed.

Polmont Rotary Club

Submitted by Iain Morrison



Although Polio has been identified since ancient times, and more recently there were 3,000 deaths in the USA in 1952, we still see evidence of the endemic disease in Pakistan and Nigeria. Our END POLIO NOW flowerbed on Station Road, Polmont has had its summer planting of Lobelia and French Marigolds in the design of the Rotary Wheel. Over 400 plants were generously provided by Klondyke Garden Centre and planted by the local Horticultural Society. The circumference of the flowerbed will flourish next year with the Purple Crocus although a few gaps have appeared thanks to our local squirrel population as well as a rogue addition of some yellow crocuses.



Polmont Rotary Club Continued

Polmont Rotary Club and Greenpark Community Centre organised a Free Fun Day for families in the surrounding communities. There were many volunteers from both organisations helping to run the event. The organisers had a wonderful response from local businesses in the form of financial sponsorship and all contributions, large or small, contributed to the success of the event.



There were over thirty stalls and local organisations represented, ranging from the community police and fire brigade, local motorcycle and scooter clubs and a Techno Games Zone, local Charities as well as bouncy castles and games. The weather played its part bringing out the families, without whom the day would not have not have been a success.



A Dog Show was a major part of the afternoon and over 50 dogs were registered for the agility

course and other activities and the dogs and owners had a fantastic time, receiving free dog goodies at the Green Dog Walkers stand.



Although entry and participation, to the Fun Day, was free, over £1000 was raised for Polmont Rotary Club. All the monies raised will be

disbursed to local charities and organisation.

Thanks are due to President Elect Susan and all the volunteers from our Rotary club who set up and took down all the stalls and all the volunteers from the Greenpark Community Centre.

