

# BROUGHTON 18 SEP 1996 *Spurtle*

Local verdict  
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Free No 30

September 1996

## BROUGHTON 400 YEARS AGO



A close-up from 'The Prospect of Broughton from the North East', an idea of what the village of Broughton might have looked like in the late sixteenth century by local illustrator Charlie Miller. Full-size prints available for £4 (phone 557 6004).

## BRIEFLY

- It's a struggle! The delegation about the 19/39 bus put the arguments for restoring the evening and Sunday service to the Transportation Committee on 12th August. Committee convenor David Begg says he's been pressing our case with LRT since then. The issue will be discussed by the Committee again when it next meets - but that's not until October. It would be a mistake to sit back and await the outcome: too often government and other organisations rely on protesting
- individuals and local groups just getting tired and going away after a while!
- Architect Ian Appleton has been appointed consultant to the steering group working on a master plan for the Hopetoun area. He's holding planning workshops to discuss the project with residents in the area, 18th and 25th September - see details of meetings in DATES FOR YOUR DIARY, back page.
- Spare a thought for John Gotip, the former Drummond student with a suspended deportation order hanging over him. He's still waiting for a Home Office decision on his future
- in this country. Meanwhile he can't seek work, but is continuing his studies with financial support from his friends - and demonstrated his African dancing talent when he performed with the group 'Afridonia' during the Festival.
- It rained - after days of beautiful weather! But that didn't stop 21 local folk turning out for Broughton History Society's guided walk on 19th August. Plenty of broilies in evidence as they trudged up and down Broughton Street; but over refreshments at Cafe Graffiti afterwards the general verdict seemed to be that it had been worthwhile.

# Thumbs Up for Graffiti

The noise from the generator disturbed some folk living in Cochran Terrace. One East London Street resident told us there seemed to be a lot more litter on the street during the Festival. But overall the local reaction to Cafe Graffiti seems to have been positive.



"It was really good to see the building being used", was the most frequent response we got; with the market stalls as a welcome addition this year. "It brought a lively Festival presence to our local area." We don't know how many locals actually went to shows, but they certainly enjoyed relaxing over a drink or a snack in the candlelit bar or at the tables outside -

after better information boards ended uncertainty as to whether you could do this without paying for a performance. "The garden area, free to enter, is lovely, as there is nowhere else in this area - apart from the pavement outside pubs - to sit and have a drink." The outdoors cafe got a special welcome from parents with young children.

"The preservation of the murals is essential", one local resident said to us, "but not in a museum-like way. They should be seen as community heritage, and more accessible to local people." And another: "It would be a shame to see the building sold off for offices or whatever. It should be something used by the local community, for the local area." Graffiti organiser Pete Simpson now has planning permission to carry on using the lower floor of the Mansfield Church for a year, rather than waiting for next Festival. He'd welcome suggestions.

# McDonald Road to be Rebuilt - Eventually

Remember trees were uprooted before the rebuilding of the Road, then the new City Council said their budget wouldn't allow them to proceed? Well, now they've found the cash - or some of it. £350,000 has been set aside to start work on one section of the road this financial year. But £1 million is needed to complete the whole job.

George Reiss of the McDonald Road Amenity Society gave the news a qualified welcome: "We haven't seen the detailed plans yet. Hopefully this is the first part of the complete rebuilding of the road over the next two or three years."

# Shot in the Dark

Broughton-based charity Edinburgh Direct Aid has now sent more than 30 convoys to Bosnia. Since the war ended the emphasis has shifted to helping refugees in Scotland to return to their homeland and rebuild their lives. Which means money!



'Shot in the Dark' is a fundraising event to appeal to golfers willing to enter a tournament with a difference. Using special luminous golf balls and light markers placed on flags, tees and fairways, teams of four will compete over 9 holes - at night.

The tournament, at Turnhouse Golf Club, won't take place until 12th October: but closing date for entries is 27th September. Contact local fundraiser Andy Shaw of Heriot Hill Terrace - on 557 8113.

# Shazad Chaudhry

Our sympathy goes to the family and friends of Shazad Chaudhry, who died last month. Shazad was sixteen, and a student at Drummond Community High. He died shortly after it was discovered that he was diabetic.

The School held memorial assemblies for each year group.

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.

**Contributors to this issue:** John Dickie, Tim Puntis, Tom Perman, Alan Eustace, Gill Flack, Dougal Perman, Jude Devereaux, Jean Bell and Charlie Miller.

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

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

# Broughton Speil

Last month we invited readers to get off their behouchies and tell us about local Scots language. Jean Bell of Bellevue Street responded.

Weel, Ah like **Spurtle's** definition o 'bahookie', but in the Dumbiedykes where Ah originated it wis maist important that ye should be wearin yere wellies tae school so that ye widnae skite on yere bahookie! These had tae be regulation wellies, black rubber wi white felt linings (doubled back at the top tae prevent yere legs from getting skurvy), names written clearly on the cuff for identification.

Thae black wellies allowed ye tae splash in the many dubs on the way tae school, and let ye slush aroond in the glaur and snaw in the gutter (yes, we had them in those days tae!) in the winter. Not for us those pansified plastic red and green jobs nowadays, with plastic umbrellas. Black wellies - lovingly cherished and handed down to younger siblings, with varying thicknesses of socks to stuff them with. Oh, happy days - glorious rain!

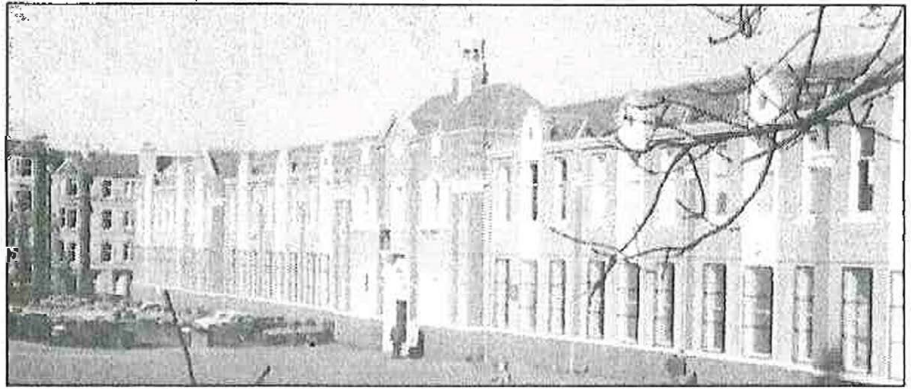
Phonè 556 7727, or jot something down and deliver it to **Spurtle**, c/o Broughton Books, Broughton Place.

# History Class starts October

'Broughton in the 20th Century', an adult local history class to be held at Drummond Community High, will look at the social history of the area from the early years of this century. Students will be encouraged to join in the research, according to how much time each individual can spare, with sources including newspapers, maps, photos and reminiscences.

The class will meet on Mondays, 7-9pm, starting 7th October. To register, contact Jane Meagher at Drummond's Community Education Office (557 1490)

# Right of Way?



*Drummond Community High's head teacher Frank McGrail has a dilemma he'd like to share with Spurtle readers.*

As a community high school committed to both identifying the needs of the many communities we serve and in being good neighbours to those who live near us, we often find that people's differing needs and wishes come into conflict. The current use of Drummond's playground comes into this category.

- One example of this is the use of the school as a convenient pedestrian short cut from Bellevue Road to East London Street - a long established tradition. On the one hand this is very useful for many residents of the area,

and means that the community feels welcomed on the premises of their local high school. On the other hand day time security is a problem, as children share play space with passing adults who are not known to those in the school.

- Night time security is also a problem, and some local residents would prefer to see the gates closed from late night to early morning to prevent noisy late night games of football or basketball after school closing hours.

I would welcome community views on this issue.

*What do you think? Drop a note in at Broughton Books, or phone 556 7928 or 556 0903*

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## Head's Surgery

Drummond High's head teacher, Frank McGrail holds a surgery at the School every Wednesday during term time:

6 - 7pm without appointment

7 - 8pm by appointment only

Open to anyone with an involvement in the School.

## Broughton History Society

The Society has now arranged its programme of Monday evening meetings from now until June next year, summarised below:

**23rd September** - 'Warriston and other Cemeteries of Edinburgh'.

**4th November** - 'History of Edinburgh Transport'.

**9th December** - A social evening, including a quiz.

**27th January** - 'Edinburgh and Broughton in Medieval Times'.

**3rd March** - 'Tracing Your Ancestors'.

**14th April** - Development of Edinburgh's Second New Town'.

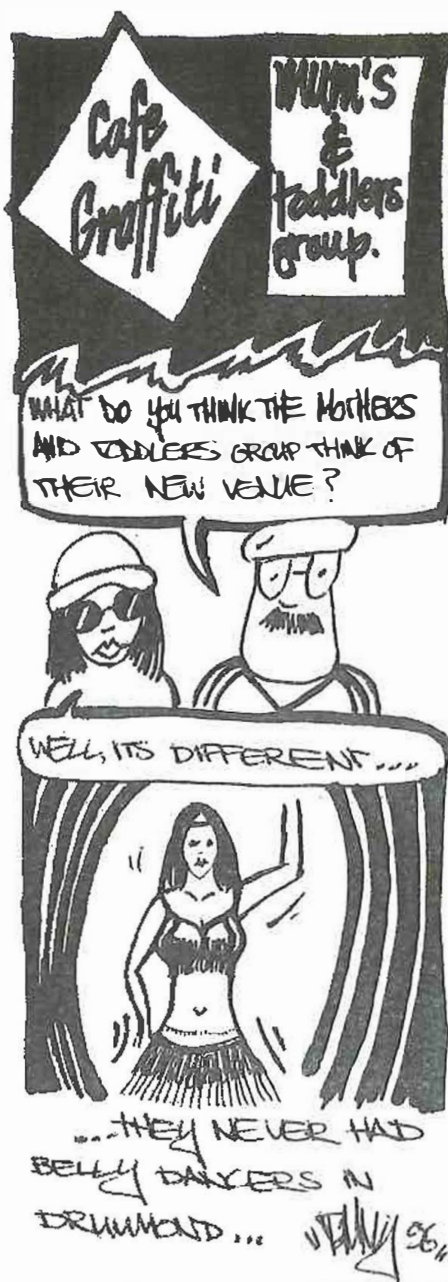
**9th June** - AGM, and 'Phoebe Traquair, and Mansfield Church'.

All meetings will be held at Drummond Community High, with a cup of tea at 7.15 for a prompt start at 7.30pm. Apart from guest speakers on the subjects listed above, Society members will be welcome to bring along any interesting finds (maps, photos or other illustrations, for example) to share with others at the meeting.

Contact secretary Gavin MacGregor for further details (556 7727), or just come along to the first meeting on the 23rd of September.

### London Street closure

We have had to postpone the view from St Mary's RC Primary until next month.



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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### Wednesday 11th September

Bellevue and Claremont Residents Association meeting to finalise new design for the central reservation and other traffic calming measures in East Claremont Street with City Council officials. Drummond Community High, 7pm.

### Wednesday 18th September

Planning Workshop to discuss the future of Hopetoun Village for those living in McDonald Road and associated streets; followed by McDonald Road Amenity Society meeting on the rebuilding of the Road. Drummond Community High, 7.30pm. All welcome.

### Monday 23rd September

Broughton History Society, 'Warriston and other Cemeteries of Edinburgh', by Michael Turnbull. Drummond Community High, 7.15 (cup of tea), for 7.30pm.

### Wednesday 25th September

Planning Workshop to discuss the future of Hopetoun Village, for those living in East London Street, Annandale Street, Hopetoun Crescent and associated streets. Drummond Community High, 7.30pm.

**Mondays** 'Senior East Enders' have started meeting again, in The Flat, 10 Broughton Street, 1.45 to 4pm.

**Tuesdays** The Parents and Toddlers group is meeting in St Paul's and St George's Church Hall, 10 to 11.30am.

**Wednesdays** Cafe at The Flat, 10 Broughton Street, 12.30 to 2pm.

## DO IT WITH

*Elan*

▼ PLANNING PROBLEMS SORTED OUT. FRIENDLY ADVICE

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