

# Peeptoon Post July 2023

## Welcome



Hello to you Peeps! Well, after a long unplanned break, we are back. It is great to know that the newsletter has been missed. Sometimes, with things like this, you wonder if it comes out of your letterbox and straight into the recycling bin. Thank you for all your kind comments regarding this, they are very much appreciated.

So, let's get back into the swing of things, shall we, and let you know what's been happening.

## ECA Business

Things are quiet within the Association now. Emails have gone to various departments in the Council to see whether we can get the go ahead, in principle, to have a remembrance/memorial space behind the war memorial. With budgets being cut left, right and centre it is a bit of a struggle.

ECA are not asking for money at this stage, just a heads up that it could be a possibility at some point in the future. There are plenty of people in the village who would be willing to give a hand with any work that might need to be done to keep costs down for the Council. Watch this space, we will keep you informed.



If you fancy coming out to help, our pickers meet

regularly on the **first Saturday of the month at the new time of 10.00am**. We have a core group of pickers and had a new addition on our last one – Hazel Bloomer from Durie's Park who has recently moved into the village with her husband, Willie. Thank you for being so quick to get involved with our activity, Hazel.

## Our Wee Shop

*Pamela from our shop reports:*



**The shop is shut till Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July** as it's being treated to a wee makeover.

The Bite and a Bletcher group enjoyed a fabulous day out to Peebles last month. They stopped for breakfast at the Scots Pine Restaurant in Eddleston. A scrumptious breakfast was enjoyed by all. Even Grace, Pamela's working dog, managed to snaffle a rasher of bacon that fell off a roll. 🙌  
The group went on to Peebles, offloaded from the bus and scattered in all directions looking for things of interest.



Peebles, as a wee town, is absolutely stunning with a huge variety of independent little businesses and no signs of anything being boarded up. There were a couple of showers, but nothing dampened the spirits of the group. Some of them went in search of other spirits when the rain came and headed to the pub for cocktails – **Margaret Brown, you know who you are!!!**



For lunch they went to the Ramblers Café just off the centre of the town. They had a wee bit of a wait for the food to come and were getting a wee bit disgruntled. However, the food, when it came, was so delicious all was forgiven – it was definitely worth the wait!

There were amazing raffle prizes to be won on the bus and nobody went away empty handed. Everybody loves a winning ticket!

A big thank you to all who bought raffle tickets to fund this wonderful trip for the group. It was enjoyed and appreciated by all.

### **Our Garage**

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Despite the long while since the last newsletter, the motto from the guys hasn't changed – busy, busy, busy! Although stressful at times, they are thankful that things are still going so well for them. If you haven't already been to pay them a visit, I can only ask "Why not?"

Check your motor in for anything it is needing just now. Check out their cars for sale. There

really is something for everyone – from the new driver's first runaround to the car of your dreams.



**Young Charlie** is doing fine and has settled in well to the routine of his elders. He feels that he is leaning lots and the guys treat him well, so that's good. I didn't ask about how many cups of tea he must make in a day, but he was smiling so couldn't be that many.

**Martin**, Kevin's brother, is still at work here but getting closer to the time when he will leave for the Dunbar branch and serve the community there. He is more than happy to be in our wee village in the meantime, though.



### **Elphinstone Miners' Welfare and Social Club**

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Well, where do we start with his one? In the March edition, we reported of a committed team of people who were going to do their very best to get the club up and running for the community. How I wish that had been true.

Functions were booked, people were attending, and money was coming into the accounts to pay the outstanding bills.

Unfortunately, though, it soon became apparent that things were not going as the group had hoped. Three trustees took it upon themselves to separate from the rest of the committee and do their own thing. They refused to come to committee meetings. The social media group chat, that was meant to be for the gathering and giving out of



information, became a place of fear and trepidation for some members with verbal abuse being commonplace.

Things were put into place without discussion with, or consent of, the other members. It was obvious that something had to give.

And it did – after much wrangling, suddenly we were left with three vacancies on the committee and an emergency committee meeting was organised to replace the members who resigned.

There will be news of this in the next newsletter and, hopefully, we will be on a more harmonious road to getting the club into better shape.



The committee is hearing all the time that we need to be putting things on at the weekends to get people into the club. We are planning on doing this as well as having regular features like bingo, karaoke or discos and other kinds of entertainment. We are looking into things like tea dances and other 'through the day' activities so that we can truly offer something for everyone and turn it into a community hub.

If there is anything you would like to see happening in the club, please let us know. But **here's the thing**: we can put on as many functions as is humanly possible, but **we need people to come and support them**. Cue the residents of Peepton – that's where you come in!



We know that the drinking culture is very different to when the club was in its heyday and drink is expensive. You coming to the club to have one soft drink or a half and a half, before

or after Sunday lunch, is an enormous boost. You are putting money into the coffers, and

this is what we need. That's what's going to keep the club going and every little helps.

**Memberships** are now also available and cost **£5.00 per person** for a year. There's a form you can fill in on the back page of the newsletter. Get in touch with Margo, whose contact details are also on the back page, and she will collect your application and fee and give you a nice wee membership card to stick in your wallet or purse.



The carpet in the lounge and games room were absolutely manky and smelly and were very off putting to everyone going into the place. These areas were cleaned throughout

by **Martin Clelland** of **One Stop Cleaning**.

The work was carried out absolutely free of charge and Martin said **"Tell the residents I'm doing it for them"**.

Martin was going to do the upholstery as well but had no time as he was preparing properties for the King coming to Edinburgh! This will be done in the not-too-distant future so we will be well swanky (not manky) after that.

### **Kids' Korner**

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**Q.** What do you call two monkeys sharing an Amazon account?

**A.** Prime-mates.

**Q.** Why couldn't the pony sing a lullaby?

**A.** It was a little horse.

### **A Lighter Moment**

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A man enters his local bar holding a frog and an iguana. He sets them down on the bar and says to the bartender "I bet you £1000

that my frog here can sing any song you can think of".

"Okay", says the bartender. "How about Blue Moon?" The man whispers something to the frog and the frog starts singing Blue Moon.

"That's amazing" says the bartender as he slaps down £1000.

"I'll bet you another £1000 that the iguana can do that too".

"Okay, I can believe a frog can do that but definitely not an iguana. You're on. Have him sing the Star-Spangled Banner".

The man whispers something to the iguana and it sings the Star-Spangled Banner.

As the bartender hands over another £1000, a businessman comes up and says "I just saw that and am amazed. I will give you £100,000 for your iguana. The man said okay, and he exchanged the iguana for the money and the businessman left.

The bartender said "Are you nuts? You could have made millions with that iguana!"

The man said "Oh, the iguana can't sing – the frog is a ventriloquist".

### **Belated Birthday Greetings**

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**Many Happy Returns** for the months missed go to **Wilma Clelland, Lizi Hallwood, Joyce Knox,**



**George Steele, Rabekah Fleming, Emily Weir, Stuart Main, Kiara Campbell, Kenny Macdonald, William Dodds, Alex Podlinski, Anne Henderson, Craig Ross, Greta Clelland, Euan Burgess, Ryan Scott, Susan Thomson, Natasha Murphy, Robert French, Audrey Turner and Margo Macdonald.**

We hope your special day was memorable and that the year ahead will be good for you all.

### **A Special Birthday**

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Angus Macdonald, from Castle Hill, turned 80 on the 18<sup>th</sup> of March. A wee tea was put on for him down at daughter Susan's. Angus was all tished up in his Sunday best and thoroughly enjoyed being fussed over. It doesn't happen very often though as he's a fiercely independent chappie who likes to do things for himself.



Angus is keeping fine in his older age, although he does sometimes complain that his legs don't move the way he feels they should. He sometimes forgets that he's a long way away from thirty now and that he's entitled to be a bit slower on the hop.

Our Angus is an interesting fellow to talk to, with millions of stories about the wonderful travels throughout his life. If you bump into him on the street, steer him towards the benches at our shop, sit down with him and get him to tell you some. He'll have you mesmerised; I promise.

### **Tranent Parish Church**

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The church has a variety of regular events that they host if you want to go and try them out.

They have an **open house** on a **Tuesday** between **10 and 12 noon** in the church hall. There is the **Starfish Community Café** which is open on **Fridays** between **10 and 12 noon** in the church hall.

For the early birds, there is a **prayer group** in the church itself on **Saturday** mornings from **8 o'clock**.

There is a **Fair Trade stall** on the **last Sunday of the month** to give you the opportunity of buying various goods from the Fair Trade shop in Portobello. Cash transactions only for this please.

You would be made most welcome at any of these events so go and give them a try.

### **Obituaries**

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Sadly, since the last newsletter, we have lost two amazing people – Christine Baillie and Tam Ward.



Time cannot steal the treasures  
That we carry in our hearts  
Nor ever dim the shining thoughts  
Our cherished past imparts  
For the memories of the ones  
We loved still cast a gentle glow  
To grace our days and light our paths  
wherever we may go

**Author unknown**

### **Special Shout Out from a Proud Mother**

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This is **Euan Hill** who is 18. He lives down at Buxley Road, across from the park. He has had the privilege of doing his education from Primary One in our primary school before transferring to the Ross High School in Tranent.

On completion of his school education at the Ross High, Euan has been offered an unconditional offer for a 5-year master's degree in software engineering at Heriot Watt University. Mum, dad and younger brother, Ryan, are understandably bursting with pride. What an achievement!

Mum, Louise, says "We are all proud of the funny, kind, hardworking young man he has turned into, and we will always be there to support him".



Louise also told us that both boys are polite and well-mannered young men and that she is so very proud of them both. She says that, although she loves to read the Peepton Post, she has never contributed to it and was always happy to read about other people in the village. She felt she couldn't pass this up though and we're happy she didn't.

However, there may be fireworks at home if the lads see this edition as Louise didn't tell Euan that she was going to be putting his picture in – oops! He DOES know, though, she always gushes with pride when it comes to her two boys so she might just be forgiven. Let's hope so.

### **An update on an Auld Peep**



For those of you who have been asking about **Adam McGimpsey**, I can let you know that he's doing great.

He now lives in Haddington Care Home and has settled in very nicely. Being the sociable guy that he is, he has made new friends. He regularly goes to lunch with them and enjoys good blethers too.

Adam also enjoys plenty of visits from his huge family and especially enjoys it when the wee ones come to play.



### **Village Fair Day**

The annual village fair day will take place on **Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> August**, and will run from **11 o'clock till 3pm**. Cost per child will be £2.50 and there will be unlimited usage of everything that is put on for them. This will also include a burger or hotdog with a drink.

There will be a wristband system in place, and these can be bought in advance or as you come in to the school grounds. Contact anyone on the back page if buying in advance.

We will be having a **fancy-dress competition** at 11<sup>00</sup> so you will need to be up at the school sharpish to take part in this. Fancy dress is open to adults too, remember. We will be holding this on the grassy area opposite the school this year as a trial.



The parade, led by Pipe Major, **Kenny Campbell**, will take us round the village to show off all the wonderful costumes to the people who can't make it up the hill.



The wonderful **Ron Ray** will mesmerise the kids at **1 o'clock** with his amazing magic tricks so be prepared for lots of ooohs and aaahs from the wee ones.

There will be the usual Laser Tag games, bouncy contraptions, games and food and drink.

Refreshments will be served by our two favourite tea ladies of all time – the fabulous **Isabel Berry** and **Margaret Buchan**. I think we've all lost count of the number of times they have done the deed for us with this role, but it certainly wouldn't be the same without them. Thank you, ladies!

This year we will be having award winning visitors to the fair and we are very excited about that. No, it isn't King Charles and Queen Camilla.



**Boo, Flo, Willow** and **Nibs** will be coming to let you have a pet and a cuddle. Owner, Kelly, had them up at this year's Royal Highland Show and got first prize. I'm not exactly sure what the prize was for so make sure you ask Kelly when you see her. And don't be pinching the ponies to take back home with you!!!



There will be a disco at night for the wee ones between 7 and 9 o'clock. The raffle will be drawn and the adults can have a wee bit of fun with the rest of the evening.

If you have anything you would like to donate for the raffle, please get in touch with one of the contacts towards the back of the newsletter and they will come and collect it from you. Thanks!

### **Monthly Muse**

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No amount of anxiety makes any difference to anything that is going to happen. **Alan Watts**

*If you'd like to give someone a mention of any kind, give us a call or send us an email. Contact information below and we would love to hear from you - it's good to share!*

### Contact Numbers

Amanda Clelland	01875 610579
Megan Houchin	07971 912886
Stuart Mackenzie	07745 310705
Margo Macdonald	01875 612914 or 07846 231192
Email:	<a href="mailto:elphinstonecommunity@outlook.com">elphinstonecommunity@outlook.com</a>

*Thank you for reading this edition of the Peepton Post*

Fa'side Area Partnership are a group of Community volunteers who use our Area Plan to try and improve our communities. Area Partnerships were established and are funded by East Lothian Council.

We need you to tell us about the things you like in your community and the things that you would like to change. We also want to know what is missing. The consultation is being held in **Elphinstone Community Centre on Friday, 11th August, from 1pm till 7pm.**

Please pop along and give us your views.

## Fa'side Area Partnership

# Can you please help us?

**Who are we?** Fa'side Area Partnership are a group of Community volunteers who use our Area Plan to try and improve our communities. Area Partnerships were established and are funded by East Lothian Council.

**What do we do?** We meet around 6 times a year and check the progress on our Area Plan.

**What is an Area Plan?** It contains the things you told us you wanted us to try and change or make happen in our local communities.

### What do you need me to do?

We need you to tell us about the things you like in your community and the things that you would like to change. We also want to know what is missing?

### How do I do that?

Come along to our Area Plan consultation on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> August from 1pm to 7pm at Elphinstone Community Centre and provide us with your views—*because you matter*

Refreshments provided.



- Boggs Holdings
- Elphinstone
- Glaxton
- Glenkincho
- Macraery
- Meadowmill
- New Winton
- Oxeiston
- Pencochar
- Torran



#### How to use the QR code

1. On iPhone, open the camera and point it at the QR code. Tap the link above the code to open it.
2. On Android, open the camera. Tap the cog icon and toggle on "Scan QR codes". Point the camera at the code and click the link that pops up.
3. You may need to update the camera software and /or download a QR app.
4. On Windows, download the Free app: ["Scan QR Code"](#)



Fa'side  
Area Partnership



Elphinstone Miners' Welfare and Social Club

Membership Application Form

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Part-time Bar Staff Required

Previous bar experience is preferred but not essential.

Honesty, reliability, enthusiasm and being over the age of 18 are essential.

8-20 hours per week available. To apply to the club committee, please email your CV and covering letter to [elphinstoneminers.info@gmail.com](mailto:elphinstoneminers.info@gmail.com)