

# WEDNESDAY GROUP NEWSLETTER-FEBRUARY 2021

**Hi Everyone and welcome to our new edition.**

First and foremost may I wish all of you a very Happy New Year. After the last year we have all had, one thing we must know is never to take anything for granted. We also know, I believe, that we depend on one another at different times. There is a season for all things and even in the depths of winter, we can look forward to new growth and a brighter future.

At this point can I please ask that should you know of anyone who does not have family or friends nearby and who might be in need of some support, to please pass on that information so that those who can help are alerted to their need.

This is our fourth newsletter and we are making every effort to improve the format. It is good to have more contributions from others. Gwen has done a piece on Pathhead and I would not be surprised if it does not instigate conversation among those of you who have lived in the area for many years. She points out that this is her memory of how things were and we would be interested in hearing from others.

I am sad to say that I will not be going to the sun this year, perhaps I could manage a short break in November and prior to that I might make Asda in July and Ocean Terminal in May!

Friends of mine celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary earlier in January. They got dressed to the nines, stood in front of their fireplace, which had some cards on it and took a selfie! CAN YOU BELIEVE IT? 50 years and that is the best they could do. This is most definitely not their style. In all fairness the photo they sent via

What's App looked beautiful and they have promised to celebrate when they can.

In fact my social calendar is filling up with promises-no dates-just promises. Now that I cannot party, walking is my new hobby, along with Sudoku and it seems, cleaning windows, a hobby I never in my life intended to take up! I must have tried every cloth, every combination of Windolene, vinegar, newspaper and towel roll and they still smear. I HATE WINDOWS.

It is to be said too, that although I see the necessity of trying to keep in touch I hate being unable to meet friends and family in person. I am NOT a Zoom fan. Now I had better sign off as I am beginning to sound like Victor Meldrew.

Ray x

P.S I have now finished the jigsaw I started last Tuesday.



(Brian says perhaps I have an addictive personality streak. Is it my fault I could not sleep at 2am? )

When we go into another lock down just train all the Amazon delivery drivers to give the vaccine.

Entire population immunised by Saturday.

Wednesday if you've got Prime!

Catherine



## Wordsearch - Spring!

Find the 40 words about Spring hidden in the grid.

Then find the words in the remaining letters to give a hidden message (5,4,2,7,4,5)

V	D	P	U	P	P	Y	G	O	M	G	E	E	D	G	P	D	I
P	A	U	S	E	I	N	N	U	B	O	R	N	A	T	A	U	P
G	P	L	B	T	I	S	I	R	I	N	G	I	E	E	T	C	K
G	R	E	E	N	U	L	T	I	R	E	N	H	H	L	R	K	D
B	I	U	I	N	L	L	O	U	D	N	E	S	A	O	Y	L	A
D	L	H	C	A	T	K	I	N	S	E	S	N	C	I	N	I	F
A	S	U	N	N	Y	I	M	P	O	L	T	U	S	V	I	N	F
Y	H	N	E	Y	W	I	N	D	N	L	S	S	C	B	Y	G	O
S	O	S	O	S	E	A	B	E	G	O	W	I	L	L	M	U	D
B	W	E	O	W	K	L	P	L	S	P	R	I	N	G	A	A	I
L	E	M	N	A	D	Y	I	S	U	C	H	Y	A	A	R	I	L
U	R	P	E	N	O	R	L	M	G	B	T	N	R	R	C	B	S
E	S	T	O	J	B	L	O	S	S	O	M	N	C	D	H	R	E
B	I	R	C	H	I	C	K	P	E	B	R	U	I	E	G	A	R
E	A	S	T	E	R	E	G	G	S	W	A	F	S	N	A	B	E
L	A	G	G	R	E	I	P	P	A	H	W	A	S	I	L	U	H
L	I	G	H	T	E	V	E	N	I	N	G	S	U	N	E	H	T
S	S	S	A	R	G	N	I	T	U	O	R	P	S	G	S	R	Z

Allium  
 April showers  
 Bird song  
 Blossom  
 Blue sky  
 Bluebells  
 Bud  
 Bulb  
 Bunnies  
 Catkins  
 Chick  
 Crocus  
 Daffodils  
 Duckling

Easter eggs  
 Eggs  
 Frog spawn  
 Gardening  
 Grass  
 Green  
 Hope  
 Iris  
 Joy  
 Lambs  
 Light evenings  
 March gales  
 Narcissus

Nests  
 Pollen  
 Rhubarb  
 Shining  
 Smile  
 Snowdrops  
 Spring  
 Sprouting  
 Sunshine  
 Tulip  
 Valentines  
 Violet  
 Warmth

From Margaret

## These Boots Were Made for Walking



Muddy boots continued until Christmas but Covid restricted our walks to exploring in Midlothian where we were in awe of the autumn colours in the woods at Newbattle.

We enjoyed the fairytale atmosphere of the woods at Dalkeith Country Park at Christmas created by laser lighting. Restoration Yard became our favourite coffee stop until further restrictions meant we could no longer walk as a threesome or enjoy coffee together.

In January our muddy boots were swapped for Snow boots.



But hope is on the horizon—soon we will be fully vaccinated and with a new spring in our step these boots will be made for walking pastures new once more.





## AILEEN'S KITCHEN

### Sausage and Onion Plait

#### Ingredients

8oz Sausage Meat  
3oz Breadcrumbs  
4oz Grated Cheese  
1.5 tbsp Tomato Puree  
3oz Onion-chopped  
Seasoning  
8oz Puff Pastry

**Method**-Mix ingredients together. Roll out pastry and place mixture down centre. Cut slits diagonally on either side and dampen with egg or milk. Bring each strip together, one over the other to make the plait and press down firmly. Brush with egg or milk and cook at 190C for approx. 45 mins.

### Oatie Biscuits

#### Ingredients

40z Porridge Oats      3oz Sugar  
2oz Plain Flour      3oz Margarine  
1/2 tsp Bicarb.of Soda    1 dessertspoon Syrup

**Method** —Melt margarine and syrup. Do not boil. Add dry ingredients, mix till everything comes together. Make into walnut size balls and flatten out on greased tray ,Space well out. Bake at 150C for 15 mins. Should be slightly soft to touch –Delicious with a cup of coffee in front of a roaring fire

## Reflections on Times Gone By --Gwen

Sitting at breakfast one morning I was thinking on how things used to be in Pathhead when I was noticeably younger than I am now. Times have changed significantly and for once I do not mean in lockdown. Of course, change happens all the time and the tendency for all of us is to think it was better as it had been. Just after the war Britain was in a state of poverty, people often had very little and cars being just a dream for many, we were able to shop locally for most of our needs. There was no such thing as a supermarket .

Starting at the foot of the village we had Miss Lawson, who sold fruit and vegetables. She was known to have cut a potato in half to get the exact weight called for! The shoe shop /bicycle shop was owned by Winthrop. I remember cycling up there to get new wellies, when mine sprang a leak. This was before health and safety, Stranger Danger, or the Green Cross Code Man!

Across the road was Edmond's chemist shop, a nice bright little shop. In fact, I was always happy to go there hoping to catch a glimpse of Donald, the eldest son. He played the organ in church and having a huge crush on him. I never missed a service.



If you needed groceries, you would go on further up

Main Street and Mr Whyte was there to help. Walking into his shop was a real sensory experience. Aromas of all sorts abounded, from huge slabs of cheese and butter to meats of all kinds. Of course, as we all remember no doubt, there was no such thing as "prepacked". Food had to weighed on enormous scales, which I can still see, or meat sliced in front of your eyes. Mr Whyte was a lovely man who gave me a sweetie all those years ago, as he ushered my mum out of

the door. This was still in the time of rationing so that was a huge deal to me. I've never forgotten it.

Mr Renshaw had the petrol pump out in front of his shop and a favourite treat of mine was to buy a cinnamon scone while my dad got his fuel. At least I think it was a cinnamon scone.

The co-op (The Store) was situated at the top of the street. Needless to say it was well patronised by the locals( for the Dividend?) My memories are of a huge mahogany counter and of course the enticing smells. For whatever reason I can still see me going in there with Billy McCormack's mum. It was a long time ago and I was still incredibly young!!

Next door to the Store was the Post Office which was tiny and is now part of today's shop.

On the site of the current chip shop was Johnny Baxter the Baker. He toured round the area in a little blue van. Johnny lived "next door" to the shop in "Agnesville" (Linda and Bob Miller's home today) with his family. In fact he had a daughter called Agnes.

In time there were many more shops of course-change again. There was even a second hand furniture shop-Love's!. I wonder if the people then would appreciate our

Thursday market in the hall, our orchard or our raised beds ?

What do think?



59246 MAIN STREET, PATHHEAD.

**BOOKS:** This month we have

1. "A Time for Mercy"-by John Grisham.-  
excellent!

2. "The Thursday Murder Club"-  
by Richard Osman-highly recommended.



HOLIDAY  
HERE?

OR  
HERE?

Can you  
name the  
year and  
place?

