OUR HISTORY - NICHOLSON'S CYCLES



In what is the first of a series of conversations with local businesses we talked to Bryn Williams, recently retired owner of Nicholson's Cycles. The shop has been part of the local scene since 1949. It was first situated in Arbroath Road then, since the early 1970's, at their current site at No 2 Forfar Road.

Jack Nicholson opened the store through his love of cycling which ironically led to his having to give up as he didn't have the time to both cycle and run the shop. After qualifying as a PE teacher Bryn would help in the shop before eventually taking over. Bryn has seen some big changes in his time in the business with perhaps the biggest one being the move from cycling as a means of transport to a huge leisure and fitness activity.

When we asked Bryn why he thought Nicholson's has survived and prospered over three generations and nearly 70 years, his answer was straight forward "customer service". From the shop to the website it's all about ensuring that the customer feels they have been looked after so that the next time they want a bike there is only one place they will go.

That emphasis on customer service has run right through the years starting with Jack and Bryn and now Bryn's son in law Colin running the business ably assisted by Mark and Bill, both former Morgan pupils, with 30 years service each.

Bryn has seen many changes in Stobswell over the years and feels that while the area might have been through some tough times, it's definitely turned the corner and is on the up. His view is that everyone has a responsibility to do what they can, however small, because as he says "lots of small things add over time to serious positive change".

So with their 70th anniversary coming up, it's fair to say that Nicholson's have been really good for the area. Here's to the next seventy years of Nicholson's in Stobswell.

WHAT'S ON IN STOBSWELL

Maryfield Shed, based at the Boomerang Community Centre in Kemback Street, brings together a group of people that work on a variety of projects. These projects employ woodworking and metalworking skills but in addition The Shed offers an opportunity to socialise. If you would like to get involved please get in touch by email: themaryfieldshed@gmail.com or call in to The Boomerang Community Centre.

Messy Play take place until 26th Sept at Arthurstone Library 10-11am and all local families with children under school age are welcome to attend.

Job Shop is available every Monday in Arthurstone Library from 1-3pm. Open to all jobseekers looking for support in their job search.

The Advice Café takes place every Tuesday 11am - 1pm in Stobswell Church Hall, 172 Albert Street. Advice is available from a range of agencies, including Connect (benefits advice), Community Nurse for health advice & check-ups, and Discovery Credit Union.

Picnics in the Park will take place in Baxter Park during the October school holiday, Thursday 12th and Thursday 19th October.

THE STOBSWELL FORUM ARE...

Colin Clement, Robbie Fotheringham, David MacDougall, Lorraine Clement, Chris Airlie, Sandra Mitchell, Mairi Scott, Allesandro Insalaco, Nichola Fraser, Raheel Khan

You can contact Stobswell Forum in the following ways:

Email: info@stobswell.org.uk **Telephone:** 01382 438858 **Web:** www.stobswell.org.uk

Stobswell Forum is a Registered Charity. Charity No SCO33653

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LIVE WELL, DO WELL STOBSWELL

STOBSWELL'S VOICE

Baxter Park • Clepington • Maryfield • Stobswell • Woodside

Autumn 2017

STOBSWELL SUCCESS

Papers tend to write headlines about places that only tell part of the story. Stobswell has its issues like everywhere else, but it is a good place to live. Stobswell's Voice and Stobswell Forum are working to make it better.

Like many communities across Scotland, Stobswell is facing challenges that impact on people's income and their health. We want to try and take this on and to build a Stobswell that is safe for everyone.

We want to hear what you think and to bring people and groups together to help make changes over the next six months or so. Can it be done in such a short space of time? In this issue we look at what has happened at Tay View Community Garden. This gives some cause for optimism. Elsewhere we hear about people taking action in Baffin Street and at Woodside.

August saw Celebration in the Park take place with thousands coming together in Baxter Park to support Community stalls and have a great day out. This built on the success of Stobfest in May, when activities took place across the area and we saw a pipe band lead a Parade down Albert Street. Stobfest was made possible by a small group of volunteers



coming up with a plan. They got help from traders like Balloons Made for You, from Morgan Academy, from Park Hall, from Boomerang Community Centre and others. Thoughts are already turning to what happens at Christmas and in May 2018.

Across Stobswell projects and communities are doing what they can to support people and the What's On highlights some of these including the Advice Café, the Maryfield Shed and activities at Arthurstone Library and Baxter Park.

Can we do it? It will be made easier if all those working in the community act together and support what each other are doing.

October 4th, 7pm at Arthurstone will see Stobswell Forum hold a meeting open to all local residents, traders and groups.

Please come along and contribute to "taking Stobsell seriously". A place where people are connected and where everyone gets the chance to contribute something.

TAY VIEW COMMUNITY GARDEN

Back in the winter of 2016 the Voice highlighted plans for a new community growing space at Robertson Street. The area was the former site of the Janet Brougham House and was used by dog walkers and graffiti artists.

Discussions were held with local residents and soon after work started on creating plots that could be used for growing food. Unusually things have moved quite quickly in response to the positive feedback to the idea that came from residents in the area. Kate Treharne, the Council's allotment officer and the Maryfield Regeneration Team working with the residents to get things moving.

Once the big diggers were out of the way the gardening started. Twenty-five



plots are now being used by local residents and groups including, Uppertunity, Keep Well and the International Womens Centre. Such is the early success that produce from the allotments was available at the Celebration in the Park event in August.

Plans are in place for a pond and for artwork that celebrate what has been achieved and the area's history. Young people are still using the wall as an outlet for their art. If you want to volunteer for activity in the communal area of the garden you are more than welcome.

Tay View is a beautiful place and a testament to those that have put in hard work to make it so. The space can still be enjoyed to take in the view. Dog walkers are asked to keep their dogs on a lead and to kindly clean up after them.

If you think that your part of Stobswell would benefit from a place to grow please get in touch. Contact Stuart Fairweather on 438858.

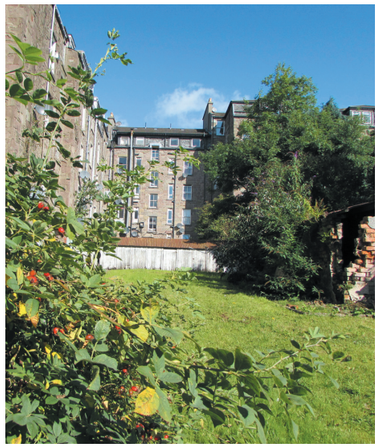
BAFFIN STREET NEWS

Over the past few months residents in Baffin Street have come together to make improvements to their shared back garden.

More than 30 houses face onto this area which had sadly been neglected over a number of years. With the assistance of the Maryfield Regeneration Team, those living in the tenements came together to undertake a clean-up, to cut the grass and remove rubbish.

The tenants now look after the area on a regular basis and children are able to make use of the garden.

Stobswell Forum have supported the group by providing a small amount of money for a drawing to be produced of what the revamped back gardens might look like. The end of August sees a further clean-up day. We wish the Baffin Street residents well and hope that their sterling work might inspire others.



ONE CUT ABOVE HAIRDRESSERS

Donna Gregg of One Cut Above Hairdressers at 74 Albert Street, recently celebrated her 40th anniversary of being in the business.

Being in Albert Street for all that time which these days is quite an achievement. Donna has been in her current premises for nine years and previously occupied the corner sight of Arthurstone Terrace and Albert Street, now Smart Kids. Donna has seen many changes since she first opened her shop.

Customers and staff enjoyed an anniversary party in the shop in July.

If you'd like an appointment phone One Cut Above Hairdressers on: 01382 462248.



TAYSIDE BALLROOM AND SEQUENCE DANCING, PARK HALL, PARK AVENUE

We meet in Park Hall, Park Ave almost every week of the year and if you have "strictly" aspirations then come and join us. On **Tuesday** evening from 7.30pm to 8.30pm ballroom tuition is provided for beginners and intermediates. The large hall is the perfect place to practise and develop your tango, quickstep, foxtrot and waltz. Please try and bring a dance partner, but if you don't have one, just come along.

On **Wednesday** evening 7.30-9.30pm we host 'Modern Sequence Dancing' a form of social Ballroom, Latin American and Classical dancing. Our qualified dance teachers cover quickstep, foxtrot, tango, waltz, cha cha, rumba, swing, mambo and samba. Every few months we teach one of the latest winning - and expertly choreographed - dances. These are honed week by week enabling you to dance at social dances, weddings, events and cruises.



Doors are open on Tuesday and Wednesday from 7.15pm at Park Hall. If you are unavoidably late don't worry, just push the bell long and hard three times, so we can hear it over the music.

We do not just teach – but provide you with opportunities to practise, and socialise, in a friendly relaxed environment. Our social dance evening is held at St Margaret's Barnhill on the 1st & 3rd **Saturday** (7.15pm to 9.30pm) of each month. This is a mix of ballroom dances and easy sequence dances and includes a light buffet.

Anyone that is interested can just come along and have a go, or for further information contact Anne Haskell on 01334 871033. Or send a text to 07704323583.

For details see our website: www.ballroomdancingindundee.com

THE WOODSIDE BUS SERVICE

Residents in the Woodside and Mains Drive areas continue to campaign for meaningful bus services.

Back in June, Stobswell Forum hosted a meeting in the area with Xplore Dundee. This saw around seventy people attend. The demand was for a decent regular bus service that takes in mornings, evenings and weekends.

Alternatives were suggested that included re-routing the number 18 service on every second or third run into the city. This "18A" type provision would meet most needs of those attending the meeting and the wider community. Sadly Xplore felt that they were not able to do this and offered to change the direction and route of the existing 23 service from September. This suggestion from Xplore did not go down too well. It is hoped that the ward's councillors can play a role in getting a service that goes some way to meeting people's needs.

Community groups across the city are "exploring" ways of addressing the problems of social isolation, of which public transport is only one issue. A bus service that meets people's needs however, would go a long way to tackling isolation.

