

What's on in Fauldhouse

Start your Gala Day Week right here!

"An audience with..."

Last Men Standing (Jim and John), Lesley Muir, Kathryn Graham, Paige Turley, Tom McSherry, Gary Greig and Paul Tonner in St John the Baptist Church Hall on Sunday 3 June at 3.30pm. Tickets £5 from the Grange Bar.

MC Sir Bowser Forsyth! BYOB All proceeds in aid of Fauldhouse Childrens Gala Day 2012.

Crofthead Nursing Home Fundraiser (for the re-development of the garden areas)

Friday 18 May 7pm – midnight

at Fauldhouse Miners Welfare **Live Entertainment and Raffle** Tickets £5 from Crofthead Nursing Home or The Hub.

Photocopying

Photocopier and laminator available. We can laminate and copy full colour up to A3. A4 copies from 10p/copy.



Volunteers Wanted

We are always looking for volunteers for our projects including the community cinema and our fruit and veg. co-op.

If you are interested in volunteering with either of these projects and have a couple of hours to spare, please contact The Hub on 01501 773 669 and ask for Lesley.

Alternatively call her on 07429 663 276 or email lesley@fauldhouse.org.uk

Hub Cinema

The Hub Cinema facilities now available for groups and clubs.

Do you have an Up coming Event?

If you would like your event to be mentioned in the next newsletter please email newsletter@fauldhouse.org.uk or contact Lesley on 07429 663 276.

Useful Contacts

West Calder Police Station: 01506 871 218

Crimestoppers: 0800 111 555

Safety Advice from the Fire Brigade: 0800 169 0320 or communitysafety@lbfire.org.uk

Partnership Centre: 01501 773 000 or fpc@westlothian.gov.uk

West Lothian Council: 01506 280 000

Breich Valley Information Service: 01501 770 276

Doctors' Surgeries: Dr Richie & Dr Jones: 01501 773 045

Breich Valley Practice: 01501 773 020

Community Health Reception: 01505 773 046

Dentist: 01501 773 032



Issue 17, 2012



The latest news on developments in our village, from the FCDT Team

Happy 1st Birthday to The Hub!

In May, the refurbished The Hub at 10 Main Street will have been open for a year.

Fauldhouse Community Development Trust has employed two part-time members of staff during that time, Julie the Project Manager and Lesley, the Communications and Engagement Worker to add to existing staff Mhairi, Hub Administrator and Mary our Cleaner. The Trust have also recently recruited two new Development Worker trainees, Loraine and Bobbie, who will be working with FCDT for six months. The Trust also have new volunteers (and old) helping the project out in all sorts of great ways. We have unfortunately lost Adrian, our Energy Officer who has gone onto pastures new.

In the Trust's new home, we have been able to accommodate children's parties at weekends and the Fruit & Veg Co-op is now a regular Friday feature. We have held a Craft Fair, a Pamper Evening plus we have all our regular pre school visitors with their carers who pop in throughout the week for time in our soft play area.

In addition, FCDT have held their usual annual events such as the popular Fauldhouse Music Festival, The Street Fair and the increasingly well attended Remembrance Service at the War Memorial. We hope all this years planned events will be just as successful as in previous years.



The Hub's pop-up shop has played host to several crafts people. We have been able to accommodate various training sessions and meetings in our multi use room upstairs. The Hub building has also been home to the Breich Valley Information Service and the Blackburn, Seafield & District Credit Union operate from The Hub on a Friday.

To celebrate our first year in the building we are having a day of free events on 19 May. We hope you can join us!

Join the Fauldhouse Community Development Trust



Membership of the Fauldhouse Community Development Trust costs £1 (life membership). For that you can show your commitment to helping us deliver positive, sustainable improvements to our village. Whether your commitment extends to being simply a paid up supporter of the organisation or you want to get more involved in our activities, your membership is very important to us. Please complete the form and join up today.

I wish to join the Fauldhouse Community Development Trust and enclose my £1 membership fee.

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ Would you be interested in becoming a volunteer with the Fauldhouse Community Development Trust? Yes/No

Postcode: _____ Would you be happy for us to contact you about any up and coming events? Yes/No

Tel: _____

All the data we hold is gathered and managed in strict accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. We will not disclose any information supplied by you to any third party organisation.

Fauldhouse Together is published by the **Fauldhouse Community Development Trust, 10 Main Street, Fauldhouse, West Lothian, EH47 9HX.** It has a nominal price of 56p, but is distributed free of charge to local residents. The FCDT is a Registered Company: 313776 and a Registered Charity: SC038616.

Tel: 01501 773 699

Mobile/Text: 07429 663 276

Email: info@fauldhouse.org.uk

Web: www.fauldhouse.org.uk



Fauldhouse Faces



Mohammad Ali and Shaida own and run the A and S Convenience Store on Sheephousehill. Here, in discussion with Flora Greenhorn Broughton they reminisced about their life and work together in Fauldhouse.

Flora: Mohammad, when did you come to Fauldhouse?

Mohammad: More than thirty-nine years ago. I came to the village from Pakistan aged fourteen with my uncle, who was setting up a general store on Main Street, in the old Prentice Drapers premises.

I was surprised to learn that Mohammad is not actually your real name!

No, it is Akbar Ali, but I'm so used to being known as Mohammad it no longer bothers me at all.

When did Shaida join you here?

I married Shaida in 1981. She comes from the same Punjab region as me, and we now have four children aged from thirteen to twenty-seven – the boys Qasim and Usmaan, and the girls Shamaila and Aeisha.

May I ask if yours was a traditional arranged marriage?

Yes, it was, and we had a lovely ceremony in Fauldhouse Community Centre with many of our family joining us from Pakistan.

When your uncle and you were setting up the business in the 1970s, what were the problems you faced?

Finance was very hard to get back then especially for the Asian community. We also suffered some damage to the shop and terrible verbal abuse.

You have been in new premises now for about seven years now, and there have been a lot of other changes in Fauldhouse over that time. Do you feel these have been beneficial to the community?

Yes, I like the idea of everything being under one roof like the library, the surgeries and the pharmacy within the Partnership Centre.

What is your 'best selling' item?

Well there are actually three. Cigarettes, soft drinks and alcohol.

Talking of cigarettes, can you remember the cost of a packet when you started in the store on Main Street all those years ago?

Yes. A packet of Regal cost 20 pence. Now, after the recent budget, the cost is £7.49.

How large is the Asian community in Fauldhouse?

There are four Asian families living in Fauldhouse, all related to me.

You and your wife Shaida have always seemed very hard working people. What sort of hours do you work ?

We start at 7 in the morning and work through till 9 at night, and do this seven days per week.

Do you have a hope that one of your children will eventually take over your business?

Well, that is doubtful, because they really don't like the long working hours!

If it was in your power what changes would you make in Fauldhouse?

It would be to see more policing in the village to monitor the youth activities – especially in the evenings.

How do you relax with your family?

I watch TV, although mainly Muslim channels – and the occasional cricket match.

Do you manage to take any holidays?

Yes, I try to visit my relatives in Pakistan once per year – I have two sisters who still live in Pakistan with my Mum.

Apart from English, what other language do you and your family speak?

Urdu.

Your family follow the Muslim religion. Does this include observing Ramadan?

Yes. This is a period of thirty days of abstaining from food from sunrise to sunset. That can be difficult, but most people make sure they have an adequate breakfast in the very early hours.

We have heard a lot about the face covering called the niqab and the full body covering known as the burka. Do the women in your family follow any particular tradition?

No. The women in the family just wear a head covering in public but this can be removed when at home

If you had one wish for your family what would it be?

To keep following the Muslim religion, which is to respect everybody.

cont.

WESTLOTHIAN
COMMUNITY
SAFETY UNIT

Shut Out Bogus Callers

From bogus callers to rogue traders, doorstep criminals are cunning, creative, and often very convincing. Anyone can be fooled as these people are professional con artists. However, the over 60s are often specifically targeted.

Bogus callers may try to get into your home by pretending to be council officials, representatives from gas, electricity or water companies, or even by claiming to be police officers. In reality, they are crooks trying to steal cash and valuables.

Rogue traders claim to be workmen offering to make repairs or carry out household maintenance. In reality, they charge inflated prices for shoddy or unnecessary work.

However, doorstep crime is easy to prevent. By saying 'No' to cold callers, you can vastly reduce your chance of being targeted. Taking basic precautions can reduce your chances of being conned by a bogus caller – and perhaps stop them targeting someone else.

Stop!

- **Secure – use a door chain or bar**
- **Search – check identity**
- **Remember: if in doubt, shut them out!**

Other issues in Fauldhouse

At the last Local Priorities meeting held at West Calder Community Centre on the 29th March, Doorstep Crime was identified this as one of the local issues. Others highlighted were Off Road nuisance and Youth Anti Social Behaviour. These issues will be looked at over the next three months.

We are still looking at the play park fire that happened at the rear of the partnership centre and are urging anyone with information to come forward or contact Crimestoppers on 0800 555111

The Community Team have been out and about at various times of the day and night dealing with minor issues in the village. This will continue over the coming months.

Also, now that we are coming into the summer months, there is normally a rise in Anti Social Behaviour being committed. Can I use this time to remind everyone to enjoy the summer period but to respect everyone around them.

If you require further information about any of these, or other issues, contact Ali Byiers on 01506 871 218 or email alistair.byiers@lbp.pnn.police.uk

New advertising opportunity for local businesses

As you may have noticed we have increased the size of our quarterly newsletter and are now able to offer advertising space to local businesses. Currently 'Fauldhouse Together' is delivered to every home in Fauldhouse (approx 2,500 copies).

Advertisement size	Cost
180 x 130mm (1/2 A4)	£100
90 x 130mm (1/4 A4)	£60
65 x 90mm (1/8 A4)	£40

If you are interested in placing an advert in 'Fauldhouse Together' or just wish to discuss the possibilities, please contact Lesley on 01501 773 699/07429 663 276, email: lesley@fauldhouse.org.uk or pop into The Hub, 10 Main Street, Fauldhouse.

News in the village

There have been some interesting developments going on at the old Health Centre premises (at south west corner of village green.) It seems that the popular local business man and entrepreneur Gerry Gallacher is up to something. Flora Greenhorn Broughton met Gerry on the site and heard all about his plans.

Gerry has always been interested in promoting local business and enterprise whenever possible and when the Health Centre site became available he began discussions with a range of varying businesses with a view to preparing a multi-unit set up and was very encouraged by the response and plans were drawn up.

There will be twelve units built and already eight companies have confirmed they are keen to move in. For example - there will be a Fruit/Veg and Fish shop, an Electrical DIY Store, A Pound Store, A Card Gift/Novelty Shop, a Hair and Beauty Salon, A Pet Food Supplies Store. In discussion with Gerry it was interesting to find out that negotiations are ongoing with Greggs the Baker and these are looking extremely positive.

The planned finishing date of the units is the end of June and the completed Shopping/Business area will be named 'Fauldhouse Market'.

At this time there are still three or four units available and Gerry intimated that he is open to ideas from local residents or even from the surrounding local areas but one consideration was to have a unit available for Arts and Crafts tuition for people with disabilities.

It is known locally that Gerry purchased Cleland Miners Welfare, the strong link being that he was born in Cleland. In later years he married a Fauldhouse girl Kate McSherry (Parents Michael McSherry and Flora Murray) and have a son Sean. Gerry has been living in Fauldhouse now for 24 years.

Obviously a very busy man as Gerry also owns the popular Cricket Club, the necessary Monumental Cemetery Services company and a substantial property business. The Monumental Services company is currently in the process of moving into the new 'Fauldhouse Market' and will soon have a nice new office and display area.

The lack of amenities in Fauldhouse was what spurred Gerry on to undertake this enormous project and also the fact that he was in the financial position of being able to help.

When the units are complete they will be available for an 'easy on the pocket' one charge rent which will include all utility costs. Another point of interest to Fauldhouse residents is the prospect of around twenty to thirty local jobs being created.

Certainly an area to keep an eye on.

Shaida, you came from Pakistan in the late 1970s to join your dad in Fauldhouse.

Yes I came with my mum, two sisters and brother. My dad was building up his business in the shop on Main Street, and we were all willing to help. This is when I first met Mohammad, as he was working with my dad, and we married three years later.

What were your feelings during your first couple of years in Fauldhouse?

I didn't like it very much. I felt sort of trapped, because my life was simply within the boundary of the back shop and the house upstairs. Although I had studied at English School for two years, I just could not make out the Scottish dialect, and people spoke very quickly. I was too scared to leave the back shop. It took me over a year to be confident enough to work in the front shop. Gradually I built up my confidence and had no problems with customers apart from the occasional person who might be very abusive because of the effects of drink. It helped me greatly when I and my sisters learned to drive, as that opened up a new world to me. I love working in the shop now, and would not change it - I have no longing to go back to Pakistan, although I still can't get used to the cold weather here!

I believe that one of the sisters who came over with you is your twin.

Yes. I am close to my two sisters but having a twin still causes confusion. My twin (Surry) is now married and in business in Harthill, and people keep saying to me in the shop "I saw you helping in Harthill the other day". This can be funny at times.

Becoming pregnant and having your first baby must have been a bit daunting for you.

It was a bit scary but I had family to help. I remember being very nervous on my first visit to Dr Nelson in the old surgery. At that time women booked into Bangour Hospital for the birth, and I found everyone at the hospital very friendly and helpful. Sometimes it was a bit confusing though, as I had the Bangour nurses advising me about my new baby and my mum on the other hand telling me what the traditional methods were. However, as I had another three babies, I must have got something right!

Mohammad built a lovely big house for you and the family. What was it like moving from the cramped shop premises to your new house?

Well, it is a lovely house, but at the beginning it was strange. Not only because of the huge spaces and many rooms, but because I found it very quiet. It took some time to get used to it, but I love my house now.

We know of the long hours you put into the business, but when you go home what do you do to relax?

Well, with three children still at home, by the time I fix dinners and get their things prepared for school, there is not much time left at all! I attend to my prayers, which brings me peace, and I watch some of the Islamic programmes on TV, but I don't really have any other pastime. Indian women have a tradition of hand crafts such as lace making, but it is many years since I attempted that or knitting.

What are your hopes for your family for their future years?

Well, my eldest daughter is now twenty-seven, married and living in Rosyth. She is happy in a good job and had a good education. My seventeen-year-old son is preparing for university now, and I just hope the younger ones will decide to follow suit. If they all have a good education, are happy and become good living people, I shall be very content.



The FCDT Annual Street Fair is planned for September. Look out for our posters nearer the time for details of the day's events. We are always looking for volunteers to assist on the day and in the run up to the event. If you would like to be involved please contact us at The Hub, 10 Main Street. Tel: 01501 773 699/07429 663 276 or email lesley@fauldhouse.org.uk

Sample Advertisement

This is the 65 x 90mm size advert available. (See pg 7 for further sizes and prices).

Supply artwork in a PDF or JPEG format or text only and we can arrange to produce your artwork.

Contact Lesley for further details:-

Tel: 01501 773 699

Mob: 07429 663 276

Email: lesley@fauldhouse.org.uk

Original Handmade
Jewellery & Gifts
with a personal touch
now available to purchase
online at

www.awfybraw.co.uk



Fauldhouse Music Festival 2012



The Fauldhouse Music Festival is this year planned for the end of May/June. There will be bands, local singers, workshops, a series of musical movies showing in The Hub and more. Many local venues in Fauldhouse will be taking part so look out for our posters and the programme of events.

For further details and information contact Lesley at The Hub, 10 Main Street. Tel: 01501 773 699/07429 663 276 or email lesley@fauldhouse.org.uk



What's available in The Hub



Soft play for under 5s

Come along and let your pre school kids play in our soft play area for £1/hour (includes free juice for kids). Coffee and tea available. At the moment we are open Tuesdays to Fridays 9.30am – 3pm.

Children's parties

The Hub is available to book for children's parties. We have

- our soft play area for younger kids parties (under 5s),
- a large multi-use space (upstairs) for party games, children's entertainer, face painter, crafts or whatever you plan for your child's party,
- cinema facilities for children of all ages
- and kitchen facilities

Just bring your own party goodies and birthday cake.

Contact Mhairi on 01501 773 699 for further information.

Pop-up Shop

Recently we have two crafts people using our shopfront area – cardmaker 'Caroline's Cards' on Tuesday mornings and jeweller 'Awfy Braw' on Thursday mornings. Please pop in for a browse or a spot of shopping and support your local crafts people.

Our shop front area is available for hire. Whether you are a crafts person or have any other goods/services/business ideas, contact Lesley at The Hub to discuss possibilities and availability on lesley@fauldhouse.org.uk or call 01501 773 699.

BVIS

Based in The Hub, the Breich Valley Information Services offer free and confidential advice with social security benefit claims and entitlement, also housing/council tax benefits and tax credits.

They can help with filling in forms and can calculate if you qualify for benefits. They offer advice and help where possible, to people experiencing problems with debt and utility issues. They also offer advice on community and consumer issues.

Come to the Fruit and Veg Co-op

Fauldhouse Community Development Trust have recently restarted their Fruit and Veg Co-op It is open on Fridays between 10am and 2pm at The Hub, 10 Main Street.

Produce is locally sourced and seasonal if possible, good quality and reasonably priced. Come along, buy your fruit and veg and support your local community projects. Please bring your own bag if you can.

If you are able to spare a couple of hours on a Friday between 10am and 2pm we are looking for members of the community to get involved.

Blackburn, Seafeld & District Credit Union

are at The Hub every Friday from 12noon–2pm.

- Free Internet Access
- Meeting Rooms and Cinema available for local/community groups & board meetings

Contact us

If you are interested in finding out more about anything going on at The Hub, please contact us by telephone on 01501 773 699, email lesley@fauldhouse.org.uk or pop in to see us.

The Hub's 1st birthday celebration

On Saturday 19 May, Fauldhouse Community Development Trust are having a day of fun to celebrate The Hub's first birthday (following the renovation of the building by the Trust last year).

We are having a FREE programme of events that we hope will have something to suit everyone including craft stalls, cinema showings, face painting, pampering and treats! Here's what we plan to do:-

Morning

10am – 1pm

Childrens Event

Showing of childrens film 'Puss in Boots' in The Hub cinema
Face painting, soft play, popcorn and juice

Please note that cinema places are limited. To ensure your place at the event please book in advance.

All children attending must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Afternoon

2pm – 5pm

Adults Event

Showing of 'The Steamie' in The Hub cinema
Refreshments and snacks

Please note that cinema places are limited. To ensure your place at this event please book in advance.

Transport can be arranged to and from The Hub if required.

Evening

7pm – 9pm

Pamper Yourself

Massage, facials, reiki and nails in The Hub
Wine and cheese

Please note that places are limited.

To ensure your place at this event please book in advance.

For further information and/or to book for any of the above events, please contact Mhairi or Lesley at The Hub. Tel: 01501 773 699

email: info@fauldhouse.org.uk or pop into see us at The Hub, 10 Main Street, Fauldhouse.

The Hub has disabled access, toilets and platform lift. We also have baby changing facilities.