



Stow Parish Archive Newsletter June 2009

This month's newsletter has been made up with news cuttings and snippets from over the years for the month of June. We hope there may be something there to interest you.

June 20th 1860

For the last few days we have had very showery weather, which has greatly retarded outdoor work in this busy season. On Monday the rain fell in torrents, On Tuesday something like the phenomenon of a waterspout was seen by many: it descended on the upper part of the village and our "guidwifes" were much afraid of a repetition of what they call "Willie Hay's flood"

June 24th 1869

We are glad to notice that the long existing nuisance is about to be removed. The open sewer, which runs down, the main street of our village is to be deepened and covered. Estimates are now being received for the work and a long and grievous eyesore as well as a source of pollution to our otherwise healthy atmosphere will be removed.

June 27th 1891

A commencement has been made to lay down a bowling green on a site leased from Lady Reay for 21 years at the nominal rent of 1/- per year. It is in the corner of Cow Park nearest to the railway station. Turf is to be got from Torsonce Hill from Miss Milroy. About £140 has been subscribed in shares and a prize draw is anticipated to aid funds. Mr James Brownlee of Galashiels is carrying out the work.

June 17th 1897

Mr George King of Aberdeen has been appointed master of Fountainhall.

June 20th 1897

At the annual churchyard upkeep meeting the sum of £9 has been allocated to carry out improvements to the churchyard. The untidy northern entrance gate that is caused by villagers depositing rubbish was brought up and a suggestion of how to prevent the continuation of this nuisance was sought.

June 1st 1905

James Anderson, shepherd of Bow farm retired after 49 years of continuous service. Since the death of Mr Smart, the tenant, he has remained with Mrs Smart who presented him with handsome silver teapot. He related how as a 12 year old he got his porridge very early in the morning and took a 'piece' with him, not returning till very late in the evening when he was ready for his supper of porridge.

June 4th 1914

Mr David McNeill M.A. first assistant in Innerleithen was appointed master of Stow Public School in succession to Mr. William Adam who retires on the age limit, after 40 years of service.

June 5th 1919

Mr William Ovens, Viewfield died suddenly on Monday. Mr Ovens started his business career as a clerk with his uncle (the late Mr. Thomas Ovens) of the firm known as Thomas Ovens & Sons, Ltd, Timberbush, Leith.

**Stow Parish Archive Group is looking seriously at how to establish a permanent space for the archive that is easily and publicly accessible. We are planning to work with Scottish Borders Council over the next few months to discuss how we can achieve this. The Group feels that a publicly accessible space is essential to the on-going development of the Archive. In the meantime, if you have any material of local interest that you think other people would like to see, please write to:
Wendy Ball, 5 Mill Road, Stow, TD1 2SD – or e-mail wendy@wandwball.myzen.co.uk**