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NEW SESSIONS starting on 7th April -

PHOTOGRAPHY 16 plus module - Tues 7pm - 9pm.

WOMEN'S WRITERS GROUP - Tues 1.30 - 3.30pm.

WOMEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP - Friday 10 - 11am

SELF DEFENCE FOR WOMEN - Friday 10 - 11am

HAND & MACHINE KNITTING - Wednesday 9.30 - 11.30am

You may be entitled to classes free of charge - contact Beryl Homan or Lauranne Redpath for more information.

LOOKING FORWARD - 16th April, 6-9pm in the South Bridge Centre - a Careers Information evening - what grants are available - setting up a business - literacy - numeracy - check with Beryl Homan & Lauranne Redpath about groups going from WHEC.

Tuesday 13th May - an **OPEN DAY** for **ADULTS** at WHEC - it follows the successful one held last year - fuller information available soon.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

BEACH

Fiesta Time For Costa Del Calder's

The Calder's area will be transformed from a housing estate into a massive **BEACH** - If the Calder's Gala Committee have their way.

Their ambitious plans to celebrate the tenth

anniversary of the Gala on June 21st are already well ahead.

Twenty tons of sand will be dumped in the centre of the Calder's to create an authentic seaside atmosphere.

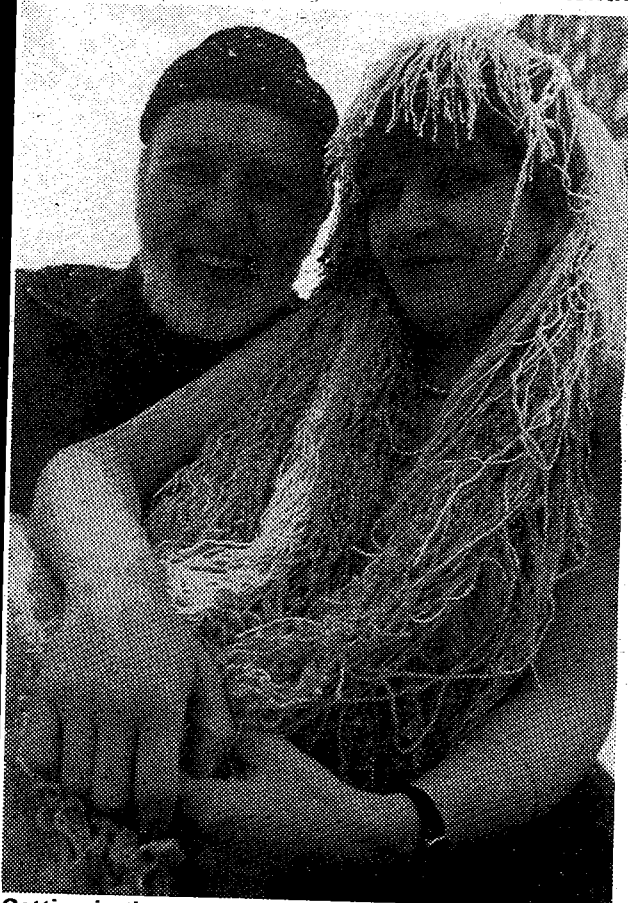
And the fire brigade will fill a large pool with water on the day. Small pools for young children will also add to the occasion.

Everything will be there - deck chairs, a stage, donkey rides, candy-floss, Punch and Judy shows, inflatables, ice-cream, caravans, gypsies, stalls, picnic bags, fish and chips - to make you believe you were actually sitting on the beach.

"It's going to be a real old-fashioned knees-up," says Cathy McCreddie who is coordinating the event. The main part of the fun-day will take place in the area in front of the Calder's shops and between Dunsyre House and Medwin House.

Apart from the atmospheric seaside effects there will be plenty of entertainment throughout the day. Crowning the Gala Queen, a Teddy Bear's Picnic, the Singing Kettle, races and a jelly fight are just some of the imaginative events planned.

Already a firm has made CALDER ROCK especially for the day.



Getting in the mood, Calder's fisherman and mermaid prepare for the summer event.

CALDER'S ALL NIGHTER

On Friday 7th February at 7.30pm Calder Community Centre held an all-night session for local youths.

About 20 turned up and really had a great night with pool, darts and table-tennis. There was lots of evidence that one or two will be taking over from McEnroe and Connors at the tennis as the language and tantrums were awful.

I didn't see any budding Davis or Meo at the pool because the idea seemed to be "stand in your opponents line of vision and wiggle your cue". I didn't see much of the darts but there must have been at least one "Jockey on the oche".

However, as I said, the boys seemed to enjoy themselves and after breakfast of egg rolls they wearily made their way homeward at 8.30am on Saturday morning while we tidied up the mess of crisp



packets and fag ends before falling into bed for a few hours.

Sean Slevin (pictured centre) won both the pool and table-tennis trophies while Keith Little (far right) took the darts.

The runners-up were: Pool - Neil Sanderson (far left); Table tennis - Callum Scott (second right); Darts - Davy Sykes (Youth Leader) (second left).
Bill Mitchell

PARTY



The committee want everyone in the area to join in a day they hope will be a spectacular success.

"We want people to dress up, decorate their street, their stair, their house and then dance in the street," says Cathy.

They will also create a promenade, a village green, and a "Royal Mile" where the new gala Queen will lead a procession into the main area. Children will parade with giant seaside post-cards.

In the evening, a "Beach Ball" will be held in a giant marquee erected near the Calders Community Centre.

The "Funday Committee" have even planned for rain! They will use the facilities in the Community Centre, Sighthill Primary School and in the marquee in case the heavens open.

"If you go to the beach and it rains you sing in the rain," maintains Cathy who is determined to make the 21st June a day to remember come what may.

Any event like this costs money. The committee estimate it could cost nearly £2,000, so they have embarked on the biggest fund-raising campaign ever seen in the Calders.

Already they have raised £800, including a £600 grant from Edinburgh District Council.

Last month a beetle drive in the community centre raised more money and an all-night sponsored music play-in at the Calders Adventure Playground on 25th February raised more coffers.

Residents are busy making tablet, knitting dolls, organising tombolas and jumble sales and contacting big firms for donations and sponsorships.

A local kissing telegram duo are donating all their funds for the event. A giant tin of "Campbells Soup" is being made and everyone is being urged to donate Campbells Soup wrappers. Six wrappers returned to Campbells will gain one more pound.

"It's a great atmosphere down here," Cath says. "One wee boy overheard us talking about raising money in the front room of his house and he came through and donated his favourite teddy to us."

The organisers of this year's Calders spectacular will hope the weather changes. These children from Sighthill Primary School braved sub-zero temperatures and a blizzard to pose for pictures with the Gala's fisherman and mermaid last week. Buckets and spades, T-shirts and shorts will be the order of the day at the Gala Day in June - in the meantime they all get medals for braving the elements in their summer gear.

MUSIC MARATHON



Playing all night - these musicians kept the tunes flowing until the next day to raise funds for the Gala.



A thousand mums in the Calders say as they pick up their can of beans each day — "Beans meanz CAG!"

Egh, the wind was a blowin' hard down at the Calders Adventure Group when a bean-eating

competition was organised for the 5-12 year olds earlier last month.

6 youngsters divided themselves into 3 groups to devour as many beans as possible in a minute. Not too difficult? Well, here's

the rub. The beans had to be eaten with a cocktail stick.

The yellow team won, managing to stuff 85 beans each into their mouths. The green team may have been a more apt name!

MUNCHKINS

STAR OUTING

Well, the *Star* promised that with the good weather coming that they'd have a lot more going on and true to their word there's new groups, discos and outings.

In an attempt to attract a new age group to the centre — 8-12 year olds — the *Star Coffee Bar* will be starting a new activity group on Wednesday 5th March. The group will be doing lots of exciting things and will have transport available to them so outings will be possible. Cost? A mere 15p per night. If parents would like to know more about the new group they can contact Pam on 453 6912. Also helpers are required.

The 21st March sees the *Star* staging a disco extravaganza with the guest appearance of a Radio Forth DJ spinning discs for an hour. That's for the under 18's and the cost will be 50p.

All the usual activities are going on and the *Star* have had a good response to their request for new members for new and existing groups and the Single Parent group have established themselves as a regular group.

Plans are in the pipeline for a repeat of the very successful adventure game. This would last a couple of days and would involve camping and many dare devil events. Loosely based on the TV programme 'Treasure Hunt'.

New friends were made at the staff social night, Friday 28th February. The *Star* invited workers from all community centres in the community to an evening of getting to know each other. A worthwhile and interesting night was had by all.

HELP AT WINDMILL

Anyone wishing help with a problem they have with alcohol should contact Windmill 442 2484 and ask for Moira.

Windmill will be having regular Wednesday meetings at 2.30pm to discuss alcohol and its problems.

Windmill are hoping to start a problem page article in the 'Sentinel' and would urge people who find they are too nervous to go into the office to write a letter either to Moira at Windmill, Hailesland Place, or to the 'Sentinel'. All correspondence will be dealt with in strict confidence and any letters published will be anonymous.

Calders Knees Up

It seems they're dance crazy down at the Calders and there's always an excuse for a knees up.

Getting trapped in a lift after Valentine's dances doesn't even dampen this energetic lot's fervour for a shin-dig (see page 3)!

Coming up over the next month there are at least a couple of dances. It's amazing that everyone's recovered enough after last month's dances to get their dancing boots on again.

On the 21st March there's a dance with an old-fashioned flavour. Get out your bootlace ties and starch those petticoats because there's a rock n' roll dance — for over 18's only — Bee bop a loo loo!

A taste for something exotic? On 18th April there's the Cafe Continental, where, they tell me, you could be served anything from haggis to frog's legs....Here, waiter, do you have frog's legs? Well, jump over here!

The women's night on 7th March means all you 'orrible men will have to stay at home and let the girls have a night out for a change. Ladies, there'll be a disco and BYOB.

A note on past dances to encourage all you strangers to get along to the coming events. The Valentine's Dancer on 14th February was fab! They're a lovey dovey bunch down there! The ceilidh on 21st February was a 'hoots man' and there's plans to have another shortly.

However, not to be shorty they're also having a sponsored walk on June 8th and are publishing it early so there'll be a big response.

The community centre will be issuing sponsor sheets in April. The children's walk will be 6 miles and the adult's 12 miles. The Lord Provost will be opening the walk and also sponsoring a child £1 per mile as will Malcolm Rifkind. Mark Lazarowicz, local councillor, will be actually taking part in the walk. Residents may remember his legs in the 1985 'Fun Run'.

It is hoped that the event will be covered by national and local press and television and negotiations are taking place while we speak to cajole a famous celebrity to come along on the day. There'll be a dance to finish the day off — oh, those weary legs — and there will also be stalls of all kinds during the day, so, get yer pennies out.