

Volunteers wanted as carnival future in doubt

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AN urgent appeal for volunteers has been issued to stop this year's Burnfoot Carnival from being the last.

The rallying cry has been issued by carnival chairman Richard Knight this week in a bid to save the popular event, which currently only boasts three pairs of helping hands.

He told the Hawick News: "It's been getting harder and harder every year to get people to help, with some of our committee getting too old to be lifting and carrying tables and chairs, or putting up gazebos. If we don't get any more help, we just don't know what the future is going to be. And if the carnival has to be cancelled, it would be a huge

loss to the community."

The family day in front of Burnfoot Community School - which costs from around £5,500-£6,000 to stage - has become a firm favourite in the summer calendar since it was revived six years ago, attracting large crowds to hear live bands and enjoy the fancy dress parade and funfair.

And although the bar, marquee and concert is organised from help out with Burnfoot Community Council, Mr Knight says it is not enough. "The carnival is something the people of Burnfoot asked us to bring back and it's been getting bigger and better", he stated. "But we need a certain level of volunteers to make it possible."

Community Council chairman Mr Knight has

stressed that this year's carnival will be going ahead, but has warned: "We try and make the day as affordable as possible for the people of Burnfoot, because they are the people that matter and we want to provide a community event for them, but we need people to consider lending a hand to safeguard its future. It need only be a couple of hours on the day to take money or man a stall. But if it is as stressful this year, it is under serious threat."

Anyone interested is urged to attend a meeting in the school on Tuesday, February 19, at 7pm.

Mr Knight added: "Everyone is welcome, and people need only come to one meeting to let us know they can help."

For more information call Mr Knight on 371123.

CORPORATE RESOURCES
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Enclosed is an addendum to the Hawick Common Good Fund. With the future of the Party on the Pitch, up in the air, it is, I believe all the more important Burnfoot Community Council receives, financial help. We have been fund raising selling raffle tickets holding family nights and putting adverts into our Carnival programme. All money taken at the carnival is ring fenced for the following year. Totally beyond our control the weather was not good. Currently we have £3,041.95 in our coffers, estimated cost of carnival 2013 £5,680.00 we are asking councillors, yes again this year for £2,500. As Vice Chair and Treasurer of Burnfoot Community Council about to start in May my twenty eighth year, I have tried my best for the people of Burnfoot. Best wishes regards
Samuel Batten