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Welcome

Hello, the good people of Consett!

Welcome to the 80th issue of the Consett Magazine.

We have been independently publishing Consett Magazine for nearly 7 years now and we'd like to thank all the advertisers, contributors and readers for making it what it is today.

The cover pictures was contributed by Brian Harrison of the Consett District and Heritage Society. Brian is trying to save the old Ambulance Hall for the town and plans to turn it into a Heritage and Arts Centre for the community. You can find out more on our facebook page or the Consett District and Heritage page. If you have a picture you'd like to be featured as the front cover then please send us it in an email to editor@consettmagazine.com.

This month we have all your regular favourites, Brian Harrison (Page 4 & 5), Lorraine Weightman (Page 10), Alex Nelson (Page 12), Catherine Meades (Page 11) and local artist Neil Sullivan (Page 14). We also have BuZZila, a local DJ giving you an update on his career.

Wew have a regular business advice section written by our very own Barry Kirkham on page 6. This month we look at revamping your business marketing materials.

As always, if you contact any of the businesses in this issue, please be sure to mention where you saw them, without the continued support from our advertisers and contributors, Consett Magazine would cease to exist. We'd like to thank everyone that make this magazine possible. We hope you enjoy this issue and for more in-depth stories be sure to visit consettmagazine.com
Have a wonderful July!

Warmest regards,
Barry Kirkham, Marco Elsy, and all of the writers, people and businesses who make Consett Magazine possible.

Contributors

Brian Harrison
Barry Kirkham
Marco Elsy
Neil Sullivan
Lorraine Weightman
Christina Groves
Alex Nelson
Catherine Meades
Angela Tindle
Jamie BuZZila

The Front Cover

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A CONSETT BANK HOLIDAY MYSTERY

By Brian Harrison



I was very lucky a few years ago to connect to a cousin of my grandfathers family and in doing so was gifted with a true treasure, family photo's. It was a major boost to my family research as well as a very emotional time for me being able to see the faces of people I had grown to know through my research. Its a strange thing how emotional genealogy can be, a connection made across time between the researcher and their ancestors. Pride, admiration, love and awe at how these people had survived and thrived, sometimes in the most harrowing of times.

As I went through the photo's one by one in this wonderful album kept by my great great aunt Jennie, there seemed to be a theme throughout the years, Whitsun. It seemed that my family came together every year at this time to celebrate and enjoy the holiday. Whitsun literally meant nothing to me, not being a very religious man. So I had to look up what it was. Whitsun is the 7th Sunday after Easter and is the name people in Britain and Ireland use for the Christian Festival of Pentecost.

For the workers of Britain it was also very important as Whit Monday was made a Bank Holiday in 1871 and remained this way until 1971, after which it was replaced by the fixed Spring Bank Holiday which now takes place on the last Monday in May.

It was a break from the monotony of the every day and was celebrated across the

country as a family occasion. The photo's showed the family gatherings, having picnic's, going to the beach or the river, but always as a large unit. It seems to have been the norm in those days and people made the best of it.

However, while I was researching this time of year in and around the area I came across a bit of a mystery. A young man by the name of Edward Strathmore May, a bank clerk at the North-Eastern Bank in Consett had decided to head home to see his parents in Thirsk for a few days holiday. He had arrived on the Saturday before Whitsun and everything was normal. On Whit Tuesday he said his goodbyes and headed for the train back to Consett and nothing was heard or seen of him again.

Edward had worked for the North-Eastern Bank for sometime and had been employed at Consett for 2 years. He was a well liked young man aged 24 years at the time of his disappearance. He was 5' 7" tall slight build and a fair complexion and quite handsome by all description's given.

Checks were made with the bank and everything was in order, he owed no debt, had not fallen out or argued with family. His life for all attempts and purposes was good. Major searches took place across the counties and the newspapers across the country ran the story to help locate him to no avail.

I have looked throughout the papers and have found no further mention of him other than the story which ran for a full week between May 28th to June 4th; a week after his disappearance. We looked through Census returns, death records but again they all seem to draw a blank. So it seems the mystery is still ongoing...

Does anyone know what happened to the handsome Edward back in 1883?

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By Barry Kirkham

When Should Your Business Update Its Marketing Materials?

When is the perfect time for your business to update and spruce up your marketing materials? So you want to kickstart your business into 2019 and you feel that your logo, online presence and print materials could use a refresh.

There is a wealth of different resources you can use to get your marketing materials update. But using a professional local print and design company will really help push your business into 2019 and beyond.

Firefly New Media offers design and printing services so that you can create a bespoke brand and professional printed materials for every part of your marketing strategy.

Update Your Old Logo

Your logo is going to be one of the first things that comes to mind when your customers think of your business. So it's incredibly important that your logo fits with the brand you're are wanting to portray. You might feel like your logo is getting a little outdated or just isn't in keeping with the direction you've taking your business. If so, this is going to be the first thing you're going to bring up to date.

You can work with our professional and experienced designers to concept a logo that fits with your brand going into 2019. A new logo and an updated visual identity will then determine the new style of all your marketing materials moving forward.

Get Brand New Business Cards

Business cards still remain one of the most essential tools for business owners. Especially if you looking to expand your customer base via trade shows, networking events or client meetings, it's vital to have a professionally designed business card with you at all times so that when you present them, they give the best possible impressiona with your potential client or customer.

Your business cards should always be simple yet effective. Including your new logo, name, contact information, website, and more importantly, social media profiles. Take into account your brand colors, type of paper and other elements to ensure your business card presents the most professional image to everyone who sees them.

Update Your Website

To accompany you new logo and visual elements, you should make sure that your online presence also matches your updated image. Your website should be consistent with every other aspect of your marketing materials, online and otherwise. It should be easy to navigate and use. Make sure that it works well on all mobile devices too. This is a must in 2019

Brand All Your Social Media

Social media is an incredibly effective and efficient way to reach out to existing and new customers online. Your social media profiles are going to be the first things people look at when it comes to assessing your business, they need have a strong brand image and be consistent to potential customers.

Things like your profile photos, bio, and cover images are massively important when it comes to designing your social media impression. The design should be consistent with your brand so that when people come across you and your other marketing materials, they'll already be familiar with your visual identity.

New Stylish Print Brochures

Physical brochures are an excellent format for marketing your business. Especially if you offer a wide selection of different products, services and want to tell your customers your story and vision. They are great to hand out business at events and you might want to consider getting your existing brochures updated to represent your new branding.

Brochures allow you to include a lot of information in a visually pleasing way. So you'll need to decide on what information you want to include. The design is also very important as a big blocks of text can be easily skipped over if not presented in the right way. You'll want to make sure that your brochures fit with all your other branding are both eye-catching and professional. Firefly New Media can help you fine-tune some of the design elements and also ensure outstanding printing quality.

Even if your marketing materials don't need a complete overhaul, you'll likely want to update at least a few items to make sure that your business puts its best foot forward in 2019. Firefly New Media is here to update any of the areas mentioned above. And that should put you well on your way to a successful 2019 marketing campaign.

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BuZZila

I'm Jamie, most of you might know me more locally as 'BuZZila', the North-East's fastest rising electronic music producer, composer, songwriter and DJ.

Much has happened since I was last talking to you all, I have secured myself a residency on Nova Radio North-East (which you can listen to via the official website or on 102.5FM on the radio) on my own show now titled 'MindScape' which features the newest, hottest and some of the most nostalgic track's from the Trance and Techno music scene, usually featuring many classic's from the 70's, 80's and 90's, along with the biggest local events, news and brand new releases from myself and other artist's and DJ's from around the area.

I have recently finished a successful regional tour, taking place in 2018 in well known North-East venues such as World Headquarters, Kommunity, The Globe, The Vineyard and Consett's very own local club, The Braes (now rebranded as TIME) alongside a currently running 2019 tour which will be taking place throughout this year at even more venues, all sponsored through my own independent Consett based label, Buzzin' Records.

There are two singles of my own creation that have been released under TWO different record companies, the first is my Electro-House style track 'Haunted' which was released in 2018 under WOWLAND Records whilst my newest Trance inspired single 'Harmonic Vibes' was released earlier this year through Behavior Recordings and these are both available in all online music stores including i-tunes, Spotify, Beatport and Amazon.

I have also embarked on a career in the UK's prestigious modelling industry, gaining myself a reputation amongst photographers, brands and other fellow models as a reputable, reliable and well liked figure, also gaining a contract with UK modelling agency Models Direct. This has lead me to undertake even larger endeavours, with numerous sponsors and features from brands including clothing company Beck & Hersey and men's grooming products company War Paint For Men, as well as a couple of exclusive interviews on Alnwick based radio station LionHeart Radio.

A lot has happened since my debut show in my home town of Consett and my official DJ residency in Ibiza during the summer of 2017, and I would personally like to thank everyone who has shown their support for myself and my journey into the world of electronic music, including the loyal fans, those of you who bought my record's, followed my life on social media, came to my shows and supported me on tour, to the club, pub and bar staff who have had me and my company host epic nights of music in their venues, and to those radio stations, magazines and promotional campaigners who have helped me, the record labels who have signed me as part of their empire, the photographers, artists and agencies who have seen my tireless work, passion and creativity in the modelling side of the industry, the hardcore followers of the Trance, House, Hardstyle & Techno scene who have allowed me to make my own mark in the diverse spectrum of electronic music, my family, my friends, and of course my team at Buzzin' Records, including my security, my stage crew and my advertising guys who have stuck by me through the years, it will be worth the hard work, blood, sweat and tears one day soon! I guarantee it!

Don't forget to follow the official BuZZila page on Facebook, Soundcloud, Instagram and other sites to keep up to date with everything and once again thanks for your continued love for myself and the UK's own growing electronic dance music scene!

THAT'S THE SPIRIT

There are certain things that we learn in childhood that stay with us for the rest of our lives and we refer back to them on a regular basis. There are also some things that although we experience and are subject to them, we never learn. Just like my Mam's recipe for rissoles! How she managed to make half a pound of mince from Forster's taste so delicious - delicate little patties resting under hot, smooth, thick gravy made with Compton's, which melted over creamy mashed potato - was beyond me.

Still, I did pick up one of my family's traits - that whiskey was the most powerful thing in the medicine cabinet and could be used to cure all ills. I guess, coming from Irish descent, traditions were held strongly and everyone I knew followed the same guidelines. We were told whiskey was called 'aqua vitae' by the Romans and was translated into Old Irish as 'uisce beatha' both meaning 'water of life'. It was rubbed on baby's gums to help with teething, given out liberally mixed with hot water, lemon and honey to cure colds and chills, administered to ease tummy aches and indigestion. Furthermore it was enjoyed in our household in the early evening, mixed with ginger ale which we bought locally.

So having being brought up to believe whiskey was a good and congenial friend I was astonished to be taken by surprise one evening by one of it's cousins. It was my eighteenth birthday and a big night out was planned starting at 'The 'Brit' in Victoria Road. The Juke Box was so good we wanted to begin the night on a brilliant footing. 'The Golden Age of Rock and Roll' by Mott The Hoople hadn't been out long as well as Queen's Seven Seas of Rhye, which I put on twice so we could practice our air guitar playing.

With this in mind one of my bright spark mates hearing the word 'rye' decided to buy me a 'Jim Beam' for my birthday drink, but unfortunately her request was lost in translation at the busy bar so she came back with 'something' and lemonade! I wasn't enamoured with the taste but believing I was drinking whiskey and not wanting to feel ungrateful I accepted one, then another of these concoctions from my friends. As the night drew on and we had exhausted our selections on the Juke Box, we decided to head for The Turf before Botto's which promised to be the highlight of my birthday celebration. I'm not sure if it was the fresh air or

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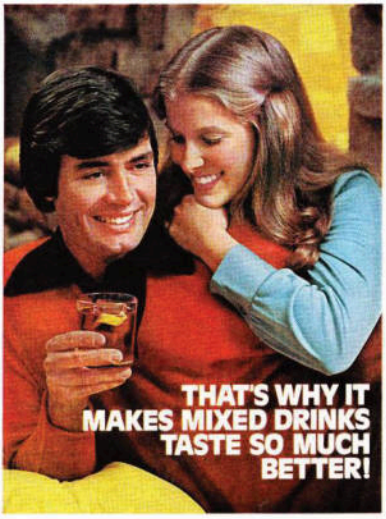

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the declaration that the 'something' I'd been drinking like pop all night was not the whiskey I knew and loved but a 100% proof whiskey based liqueur called Southern Comfort!

After a good half an hour in the tiny cupboard sized toilet in the Turf I emerged ashen faced complaining of tummy ache and nausea. Relinquishing the rest of my party in my favourite night club, I watched as everyone joined the long queue while I turned the corner unsteadily and headed for home.

My Auntie Rose was still up watching 'That's Life' with Esther Rantzen.

Telling her I'd come home early with a bad stomach and a headache she reached up to her little glass of Jameson's and ginger on the mantelpiece and said.

'Have one of these Lorraine, it will do you the world of good.' And it did!

What whiskey will not cure, there is no cure for.



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Catherine Meades BSc DipGen QG
Cameo Family History

A series to lead you through the process of discovering your family's story in simple steps, with some tips and tricks to help you through, round or over brick walls.

Part 8 – The Parish Chest

Parish records include many documents other than parish registers which can also be very useful to the family historian. These are known as "The Parish Chest", after the large wooden chests in which these documents were once stored.

Parish chest records can include information on a whole range of people: the clergy, church wardens and other parish officials, tradesman, those paying into the parish, for example, as rates, tithes and pew rents, people moving from parish to parish, information on illegitimate children and those in receipt of poor relief.

For more recent ancestors, you might even find a photograph.

The parish did not just serve a religious function but was the smallest administrative unit of government, hence people who appear in the parish records are not just those who were members of the Church of England.

Examples of particularly useful parish chest records include settlement certificates, removal orders and bastardy bonds which help to find where ancestors originated from (or disappeared to) and the fathers of illegitimate children.

The survival of parish chest records varies from parish to parish. However, once you know an ancestor was in a parish it is always worth checking the local county record office catalogue to see what they hold – you might just strike genealogical gold!

For more information on the registers of various non-conformist groups together with previous articles in this series, see the Cameo Family History Website: www.cameofamilyhistory.com.

Next month: The Parish Chest

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Places to Go: ROTHESAY and the ISLE OF BUTE

It's 16 miles by road from Rhubodach (pronounced "Rubber Duck") in the north to Kilchattan Bay in the south. The Isle of Bute has no railways now, and is reached from the north east via Glasgow and then on the electric suburban line to Wemyss Bay, then ferry. A gem of a station, Wemyss Bay has a curving shape leading down to the ferry landing. Immediately opposite is the highly acclaimed Seaview restaurant by McCaskie's who offer a delicious haggis lunch which I enjoyed during the wait between the train arriving and Caledonian MacBrayne's ferry departing. The ferry takes 35 minutes for the crossing to Rothesay, normally provided by the two ferries "Argyle" and "Bute". Whilst the train service is hourly, that is insufficient to take the number of vehicles which fills the ferries, so the mismatch in times allowed for a pleasant lunch in McCaskie's.

On arrival at Rothesay, to which through tickets can be issued from north east stations, gentlemen can take a pee in the Victorian lavatories on the quay for 40p. These are a phenomenal concoction of green and black marbled stoneware, gleaming copper pipes, and white enamel cisterns with mosaic floors and decorated tiling. Built to impress in 1898, the ladies' toilets are modern and uninteresting, so ladies are invited to have a peek into the gents. Rothesay Castle recalls a time when the Norwegians controlled Bute, and the battles between them and the Scots until the 1266 Treaty of Perth confirmed Bute as Scottish.

I walked to my hotel, the Glenburn, a 15 minute stroll from the ferry terminal along the sea front, where I was booked in for one night, but this is a town where a 2-3 night stay would be far better. Originally a hydropathic hotel dating from 1892, and more recently owned by Shearings, the hotel is now privately owned by a Malaysian businessman who is progressively upgrading the bedrooms and public areas. The photo shows that Shearings coaches still call. Approached from a grand set of stairs or up a roadway, the Glenburn is now welcoming and comfortable, and although parking space is restricted this need not worry those of us travelling by train. I enjoyed dinner, bed and breakfast courtesy of the hotel, and was impressed by the friendly service and the lovely view. I hoped to photograph the ferry passing offshore framed by the arch at the front door. My series of pictures as the ferry moved across was ruined by a man simultaneously moving through the foreground conversing on his mobile.

An evening trip to Ettrick Bay was enjoyable, a deserted beach with fine views to the outer islands, yet served hourly daytime by the excellent West Coast Motors (WCM). I arrived to find the café just closed, but the proprietors took pity on me and made me a take-out coffee to enjoy while I waited for the next and final bus, observing the site of Andrew Baird's first Scottish powered flight of 1910 using an aeroplane he designed and constructed.

But the undoubted highlight of the visit was the journey on WCM bus 490 south to Mount Stuart, a stunning 1870s creation of the third Marquess of Bute, fabulously wealthy (income of £20m a year in today's money). Gothic Revival architecture at its finest, I took many pictures of the interior of fantastic chapels, bedrooms, even toilets, on a fascinating guided tour. More time would have allowed exploration of the grounds, but 24 hours on Bute was never going to be enough.

nationalrail.com

CONNY ART FESTIVAL



In 2017 we ran a small-scale festival in Consett, County Durham. We used various spaces available at Consett's YMCA (now Delta Youth) to host 30 visual artists from across the UK, ranging from the ages of 17 – 70.

'If a class room can host a painting exhibition and a sports hall a sculpture show, then what other spaces in Consett have the potential for multi use and development? We're programming Conny again this year and look forward to connecting with even more local community groups, businesses and residents.

The festival will last 2 weeks from the 18th October - 1st November and will feature events, workshops and exhibitions, all free to the public.

We want to celebrate our community and the people who make it. There are so many fantastic groups and creative individuals in our area and we want to highlight their work.

We also want to connect more people to the arts in a way which is fun, engaging and exciting.

The project aims to provide a platform for local talent while inviting artists from all over the UK to exhibit.

Organisers of the festival are Elaine Robertson, 21 from Consett and Ellen Ranson, 21 from Tow law. They are both art students in the middle of their courses however this is the first time either of them have curated such a large project. They hope the festival will encourage an 'intergenerational conversation about Consett's and wider North East's identity, putting emphasis on the present and future, as well as celebrating and remembering the past'.

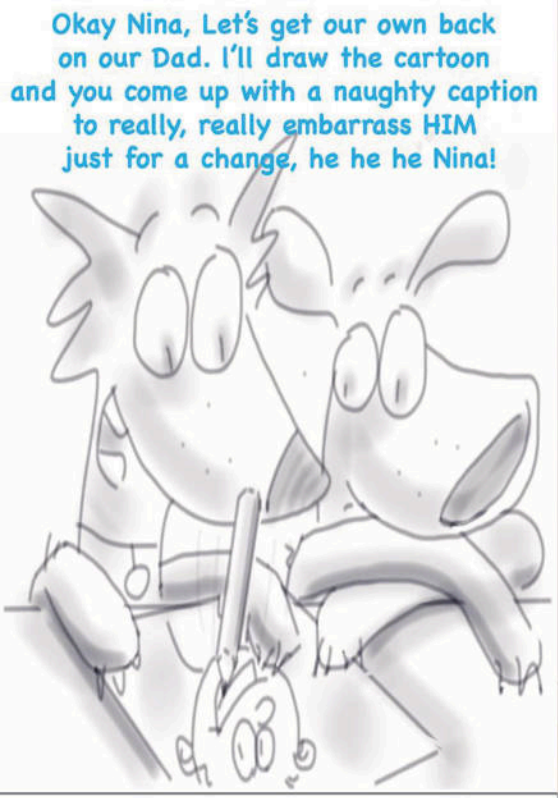
They also want there to be an emphasis on the importance of 'creative space' and 'hope the festival will inspire young people to take their creativity seriously'. Conny will be the first time for some young artists have exhibited allowing them to really see the potential of their work and what they are capable of! They hope Conny will encourage people to visit the area and encourage us to 'look at the potential of space our town has to offer', claiming 'you don't need a gallery to have an art festival. We aim to challenge city centralised arts funding and facilities, often the potential of towns such as Consett's gets overlooked or even forgotten, especially regarding arts and drama etc.'

'If a gym can exhibit a monumental installation, and a bar a painting show than what other spaces in Consett has the potential for inventive multi-use, development and investment? Whose potential is being overlooked because of lack of creative space and how does this impact the art world in terms of who's voice is encouraged to contribute to it?'

Keep a look out for more information to come on workshops, exhibitions, events and volunteering opportunities.

If you would like to know more or get involved email the team, or follow the festival on social media.

connyartfestival@gmail.com



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By Christina Groves
Prince Bishop Veterinary Hospital

GRASS SEEDS

In the summer months, injuries caused by grass seeds are a common problem seen at veterinary practices, with dogs with hairy ears and feet being most at risk.

Grass seeds tend to be shaped like little arrowheads which means they can attach onto a pet's fur and burrow their way into their body, causing all sorts of problems when they do so.

Grass seeds most commonly burrow into the space between a dogs' toes forming cysts and infections. These are usually very painful and require medical, and sometimes surgical, treatment. Grass seeds can also make their way into your dog's ears causing infections and they can even cause damage to the ear drum.

They can also make their way through the skin all over the body so it's always best to look out for any new swellings or wounds and see your vet if you're concerned. It is recommended that you check your pet after walks and remove any vegetation from their coats (and it's a great time to check for ticks too!) to reduce the risk of them developing any problems.

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CE Approved

Acoustic & Thermal Insulation

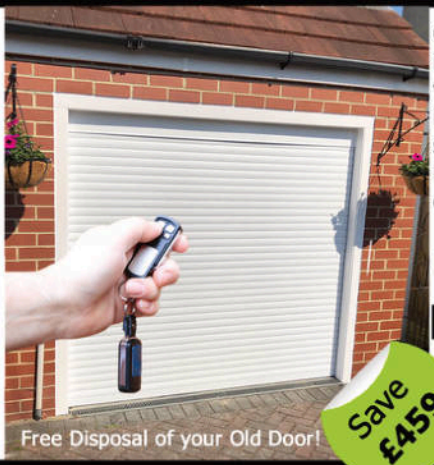
Brush Sealed Rails

Pay on Completion

Two Remote Controls

18 Colours Available





Garolla can save a lot of space inside your garage. Rolls up vertically into a box. Takes only 8 inches of headroom! Opens vertically so you can park up close to the door. Remotely open/close the garage even from inside your car.

LIMITED OFFER - ~~was £1354~~

NOW ONLY £895

INC. VAT & FULL FITTING

MADE TO MEASURE, CALL US TODAY

01257 330 057 07537 149 128

Phone Lines Open 7 Days a Week

- Offer valid for openings up to 2.6m wide & inc: 2 Remote Keys, 55mm White slats, Internal manual Override -

CONSETT AFC FUNCTION ROOM

AVAILABLE FOR HIRE

We have the newest high quality 170 sq metre function room in consett catering for all events.

We provide for all parties including weddings, engagements, birthdays, anniversaries, parties, fund raising events with full in house catering & room decoration for all events.

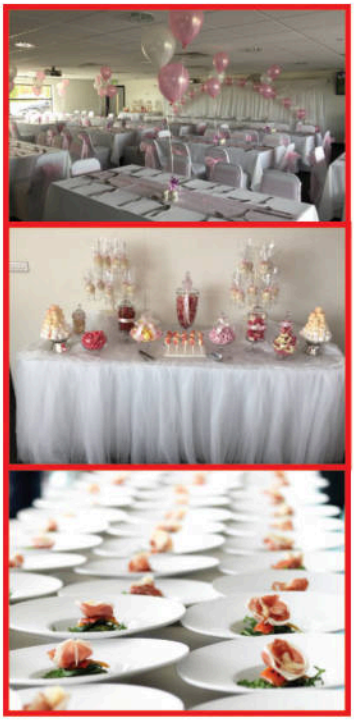
The facility is also available for daytime bookings such as funerals and conference facilities.

Inside the bar we also have Sky TV & BT Sport covering all the major sporting events on large TV's & 3 metre screens.

We also have 5 and 7 a side floodlit facilities on our all weather state of lab star 2 pitches which are available for hire from 4 pm to 10 pm Monday to Friday and all day Saturday and Sunday.

For Enquiries And Reservations Contact:
01207588886 Or 07710 133694 or 07983464062

BT Sport | sky SPORT NEWS HD | sky NEWS HD



Google Reviews ★★★★★

FireFly New Media Presents: stovesburningwood

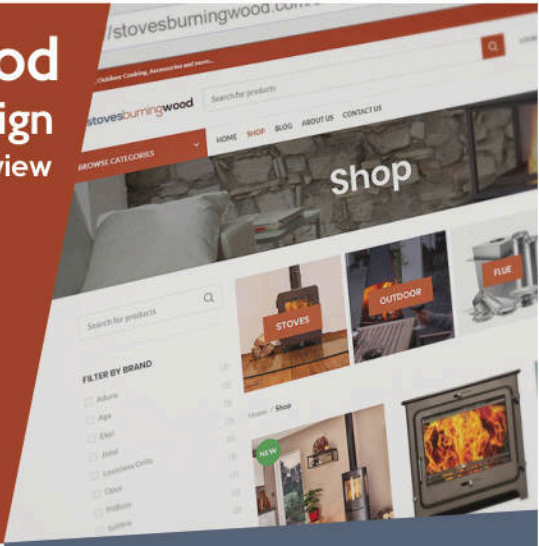
Stoves Burning Wood

E-Commerce Website Design

100% Customer Satisfaction, 5 Star Review

"Value for money is great, extremely helpful guys, always there to answer questions and the post production help that you get, doesn't stop once you've paid your last invoice!"

- Mr. J. McMahon - Founder



stoves burning wood

Logo Design

"We're extremely happy with our new site, logo and setup as it's been something that's sat in the pipeline for a couple of years now on our end, untouched."

- Mr. J. McMahon - Founder

Business Card Design & Print

We were asked to create a business card to promote the online store at trade events. We kept the same style we'd created when making the website and logo.

"Firefly helped us achieve a big project in a small space of time."

- Mr. J. McMahon - Founder

Call 01207 438292 today to get your project started.

