

BURGH BUZZ



Burntisland's Free Community Magazine

Previous issues at www.burghbuzz.org.uk

May 2024

Issue No 90

Civic Week Royal Party 2024

This year's Summer King & Queen and Royal Party has been announced!

The selection was made at a Primary School assembly, with names drawn by Community Award winner Tom Courts alongside new Headteacher Louise Gordon and Civic Week chair Amanda Jones

The crowning ceremony will take place on Parade Day on Saturday 15th June, during this year's Civic Week programme which runs from Friday 14th to Sunday 23rd June—see page 12 for more details.

Summer King:	Conall Sweaton
Summer Queen:	Bea Twaddle
Summer Prince:	Jozef Becman
Summer Princess:	Mia Clark
First Attendant:	Ellen Gibb
Second Attendant:	Oliver Robertson
Flower Girl:	Olive Herd
Page Boy:	Uyiosa Daniel



A Jewel in the Town

An appeal from Burntisland and Kinghorn Church of Scotland

Isn't it wonderful when we stumble over something truly precious. In the course of our lifetimes we are often blessed to discover a memento of past times. A place of profound spiritual or emotional value.

Many in the town will recognise such a treasure hidden in plain sight. Equally there will be some who are unaware that such a sanctuary may be found here in Burntisland.

Burntisland Parish Church building (formerly known as St Columba's) is situated at the top of the Kirkgate, just off the High Street.

This is a church of great antiquity and history, a Grade A Listed Building. It was completed in 1596 and is unique in Scotland for its distinctive plan form and structure as well as its religious significance during the growth of the Church of Scotland following the Reformation.

As described by Fife Historic Buildings Trust:

“From its inception, the interior was gradually fitted out throughout the next hundred years, with the ground floor pews dating to the mid-1700s. The many decorative interior features include a

Magistrates pew (1606), box pews ('pumphils'), two of which are dated 1725 and 1742; inverted anchor motifs in the stonework, painted panels depicting guilds along the balcony, and a Carnegie organ. An extensive restoration was completed in 1999.

Perhaps the most significant event in its history occurred in 1601 when, due to the plague being rife in Edinburgh and the King being unable to travel as far as St Andrews due to an injury, it hosted the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, which led to the creation of the King James Bible in 1611.”

Under the direction of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, last year Fife Presbytery set out a new viable model for future mission and ministry across the region and decided that this building will no longer be required as a place of worship after December 2027.

We are not looking to revisit the decision but, through working together with civic organisations, the community and any other interested parties, aspire to transfer legal title from Church of Scotland to community management through a coherent action plan.



This would ensure that public and community access and use is maintained. If this cannot be achieved this unique building will be let, sold or otherwise disposed of.

We are appealing to anyone who might be interested in joining us in a Working Group now or in the future. We believe that our legacy should be that Burntisland Church should be held safe in the arms of the Burntisland Community and nurtured in a manner commensurate with a vibrant and caring social infrastructure in the town. But we need help.

If you would be willing to join such a group please contact either myself John Dingwall johnsdingwall@icloud.com or George Lees rgeorgelees@aol.com

Thank you.

BURNTISLAND'S COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

Featuring — Local issues, organisations, events, people and more

Contents

Black Rocks Rowing Club.....	4
Burntisland & Kinghorn Foodbank	4
Parish Church visits	4
Bonfire & Fireworks Night.....	5
Central Burntisland TRA	5
Local Place Plan	5
Big GREEN Market	6
Young Community Hall	7
Burntisland Harbour Access Trust	7
Fife Council Community Development Team.....	8
Burntisland Hedgehog Haven.....	9
Burntisland Primary School.....	10
Primary School Parent Council	10
Burntisland & Kinghorn Rotary Club.....	11
Burntisland Highland Games.....	11
Burntisland Civic Week	12
Burntisland Heritage Exhibition.....	13
Museum of Communication.....	13
Burntisland Golf House Club	14
Burntisland Sailing Club	14
Burntisland Bowling Club	15
Toll Community Centre	16
Burntisland Out of School Service (BOSS)	16
Burntisland Hedgehog Haven.....	17
Burntisland & Kinghorn Rotary Club.....	18
Girlguiding in the Parish Church Halls.....	17
Keep Burntisland Beautiful	18
Supper at the Sally	18
The Ecology Centre	19
The Churches	19 & 20
Craigencalt Rural Community Trust.....	21
Prize Crossword	22
Burntisland's Events Diary	22
Nature Watch	23

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From the Editor

Our front cover features two stories both now linked in recent years, with the crowning of Burntisland's Summer King & Queen taking place in the Parish Church to ensure there can be no weather interruption to the crowning ceremony (previously held on the Links bandstand)!

The church building is an asset to the town in terms of its historic significance—hopefully its future can be secured for the community.

If you haven't been into the Parish church to take a look around the building, details on visiting during the summer can be found on page 4.

The Burgh Buzz is also appealing for help as noted below, we are looking for new members to cover important roles within the team. A big thank you to those stepping back from the committee—Natalie Lewis for her efficient work dealing with the advertising side of things, and Jo & Nicki at the Community Development Trust for ensuring the Buzz gets to our deliverers.

Hope you have a safe and enjoyable summer season taking advantage of everything the town has to offer.

Michael Booth, Editor



Bluebells on The Binn slopes

Join the Burgh Buzz team

The Buzz is looking for new members of the team to ensure the publication can continue to be published every three months:

Advertising coordinator—duties include liaising with regular advertisers, processing new advertising enquiries, and issuing invoices following the publication and distribution of the printed copy each quarter.

Distribution coordinator—responsibilities include maintaining the network of volunteer deliverers and communicating with them ahead of each issue every three months. Taking receipt of the 3,600 printed copies and packaging them into bundles for each delivery area, then arranging distribution to individual deliverers.

Editorial committee—assisting with stories and local news content, proofreading.

If you feel you are able to help in any way, please get in touch with the Editor.

Your Community Council

Burntisland Community Council (BCC) is elected every four years to ascertain, coordinate and express to local and public authorities, the views of the community which it represents and to carry out other functions in the interests of the community.

Chair: Alex MacDonald

Vice Chair: Jim Sheridan

Treasurer: Carol McLeod

Secretary: Anne Smith

Members:

Tim Hailey Gemma Craigie-Sharland

Ken Littlemore Isla MacDonald

Jonna Lange Kizzy Waplington

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www.burntislandcc.org.uk

www.facebook.com/BurntislandCC

Elected Fife Councillors' Availability

Ward 9: Burntisland, Kinghorn & Western Kirkcaldy

Councillor Lesley Backhouse

Telephone: 07540 677081

Email: Cllr.Lesley.Backhouse@fife.gov.uk

Lesley is happy to meet with constituents at a time to suit them (except Sunday or Monday), contact via text/email.

An in-person surgery will be held in on Friday 7th June from 3.30–4.30pm the Library.

Councillor Kathleen Leslie

Telephone: 07714 778906

Email: Cllr.Kathleen.Leslie@fife.gov.uk

Kathleen is happy to arrange set appointments with constituents.

Councillor Julie MacDougall

Telephone: 03451 555 555 ext. 474496

Email: Cllr.Julie.MacDougall@fife.gov.uk

Julie is happy for constituents to contact her on the above number or email to arrange a one to one appointment.

Community Council Bullets.....

The Community Council holds its regular meetings on the third Tuesday of each month, at 7pm in Burntisland's Burgh Chambers. **Dates for the next meetings are: Tuesday 21st May, 18th June, and 20th August.** Please note there is no meeting in July.

Members of the public are welcome to attend or to raise matters of interest to them. Meetings are also available to join using Zoom videoconferencing—please contact the Secretary or Chair if you wish to join online via Zoom.

A summary of issues discussed during recent meetings is set out below. Full minutes can also be found on the Community Council website.

- We're happy to be represented on a working group to explore alternative uses and a continuing presence for the Parish Church building. It's listed as category A and is therefore of national significance. However, we can't lead that group so we await further news from the newly-combined Burntisland and Kinghorn Church of Scotland.
- We're very grateful to Fiona Watson for her excellent service as treasurer. She has now passed that role to Carol MacLeod and will continue to provide financial advice during a transitional period. Fiona has now stood down from the Community Council after five years. We welcome interest from local people who may want to join us as a full member.
- We are trying to ensure that a planned housing development at Grange old farm steading will respect rights of way and will ensure that accurate traffic flows are reflected in the overall safety assessment.
- The Scottish Environmental Protection Agency has decided not to designate Burntisland as a Potentially Vulnerable Area for flooding. We are objecting to that decision in the light of our local experience over many years.
- Plans remain at an early stage for the possible use of the Burgh Chambers ground floor as a banking hub, which will bring varied banking services to the town five days a week.
- Using Zoom for our ordinary business meetings has been very successful, with up to 14 people joining online for some topics. We are exploring an improvement to the microphone pick-up to cover a wider part of the Council Chamber.
- A draft of the Local Place Plan has now been completed and is available for review on our website. At nearly 40 pages it's a substantial document and will guide future plans and investment for Burntisland. It builds on the earlier Community Action Plan and identifies local preferences for countryside, town, coast and connectivity.
- We're very grateful to Compass Catering for their generosity in once again sponsoring the Exiles Reception on Games Day. We will be reviewing the plans for the summer fair with the Development Trust and the Showmen's Guild.

Local Business Updates

in association with Totally Locally Burntisland



A number of Burntisland businesses were recognised at the annual Scottish Independent Retail Awards held in April.

Wildbells won Florist of the Year while The Cromwell Kitchen and Rooms took home the top prize in the Eatery of the Year category.

Highly Commended runners up places went to C. Sinclair Fresh Fish Merchants in the Fishmonger of the Year category and for The Happy Go Lucky Dog Company in the Independent Pet Supplies Store of the Year.

Keep up to date with all our Totally Locally businesses at:

www.facebook.com/totallylocallyburntisland

Black Rocks Rowing Club



BREAKING NEWS: The Club's 22-foot rowing boat is having its inaugural launch over the weekend of the 25 and 26 May.

New members are very welcome. You can join the club as an individual or join as a family. Membership is extremely affordable so we can get new people involved. Some of our club members are complete novices and some of us are very experienced. Scottish Coastal Rowing is a sport and community movement that has spread dramatically across the country in the past ten years. Starting from humble beginnings on the Firth of Forth in 2009, there are now well over 200 registered boats in the UK – mostly Scotland – and others in the US, Canada, Australia, the Netherlands, France, South Africa and New Zealand.

The Black Rocks Rowing Club (BRRC) have been building our St Ayles Skiff for several years. The skiff is a versatile 22-foot rowing boat typically crewed by four rowers with a cox steering and room for a passenger in the bow. While we row in open coastal waters, we have a safety first policy. Our club will provide all the equipment and training needed. Our boat will be kept at the Burntisland Sailing Club on a floating dock.

A special thanks to all who have helped with the building of our boat. We could not have done it without you. Thanks also to generous funders along with the fundraising efforts of our own members.

Now is an exciting time to become involved. You can text or call our secretary on 07473635454 or email brrowing.secretary@gmail.com. You can also check out our website for more information: www.burntislandrowing.org.uk



Burntisland & Kinghorn Foodbank



For nine years Burntisland & Kinghorn Foodbanks have been supported by Kirkcaldy—but due to funding issues, this support is sadly ending in July.

Providing an invaluable service to individuals, couples and families on a regular basis, or to just help make ends meet from time to time, the foodbank runs every week at 12-2 pm on Tuesdays and Fridays from the Salvation Army Hall in Lonsdale Crescent, Burntisland. We offer a friendly and supportive service where no Social Services referrals are needed.

Following the announcement that Kirkcaldy funds would be coming to an end, a Community meeting was called in February which was very well attended and showed a great appetite (pun intended!) among our residents to come together and help. We have made great progress in just a short time to establish a Board, locate storage facilities and set ourselves up as a charity.

While donations of food are always welcome, in order to ensure we can consistently supply nutritionally balanced food parcels to our service users, we need an estimated £2,000 per month.

If you can help with giving either your time, a one-off gift or a regular monthly pledge, please get in touch via contact@bkfoodbank.org.uk

With grateful thanks from Burntisland & Kinghorn Foodbank

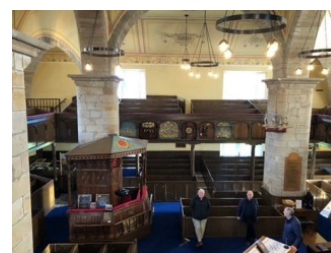


Parish Church—open to visitors

Burntisland Church (Parish) is open to visitors on Thursday, Friday & Saturday afternoons from 2–4pm between 6th June and 31st August.

Members of the congregation will be there to give tours and explain the history of the church. Come along, bring a friend and spend an interesting time in a beautiful unique building.

Tours can also be arranged outwith these hours by contacting, **Ann Smith**, phone 01592 873994 or e-mail annpatsmith96@gmail.com



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Bonfire & Fireworks Night

Burntisland has not held a Bonfire and Fireworks Night on the Links since 2019, however new local volunteers, with the support of existing long term members, have reformed the group and are planning to hold this event on Tuesday 5th November this year if possible.

The driving force is to maintain this tradition and provide a community activity for all.

To ensure a successful event, we desperately require more volunteers to be stewards on Bonfire Night. We need your help to set up before the event, carry out essential roles which must be filled during the event, and clear up afterwards, if it is to take place this year. We would also be grateful if anyone who has experience in Traffic Management could contact us.

If you have any time to spare on or around Tuesday 5th November and if you would like to be part of this much missed Burntisland event, please email:

burntislandbonfirecommittee@gmail.com and a member of the committee will be in touch.

Ailsa Powrie, Chair

Burntisland Events Bonfire Night Group

Central Burntisland Tenants & Residents Association

CBTRA continues to work quietly away, attempting to improve the area in which we live. I am reliably informed that summer is on its way, so in preparation, the planters we own have now been planted up. Hopefully, when summer happens, we will see a good show of colour that will help to enhance our area.

But we need to ask the residents for assistance in the ongoing maintenance of these planters by removing any weeds and occasionally watering them as and when required. Also can I ask that if you see the planter being vandalised in any way, please can you report it.

The TRA is desperately short of people willing to assist by taking on roles within the TRA, so if you have spare time, come along to our meetings (2nd Tuesday of every month). The meetings are usually held in the Heritage Rooms, but this is subject to change as it depends on room availability. The meetings are your opportunity to not only meet the Fife Council Housing Officers but also a range of other support services available from Fife Council.

The TRA's only aim is to improve the area in which we live, so becoming part of the TRA's management group could be your opportunity to be instrumental in making positive changes to the centre of our beautiful town.

Iain Ralph

Local Place Plan

The new Scottish Government National Planning Framework (NPF4) includes a new opportunity for local people to put forward their views on future local development decisions. This is via a document called a Local Place Plan (LPP), which can be produced by Community Councils, and some other community bodies.

The LPP is submitted to the Local Authority e.g. Fife Council, and used to help inform the development of the Local Authority's Local Development Plan (LDP). LDPs guide future development decisions in the Local Authority area. The current Fife LDP is due for renewal in 2027 and will run to 2037.

In our Community Action Plan 2023–28 (the CAP), local people said they wanted "improved community consultation for major decisions on land use and changes to service provision".



Submitting a Burntisland LPP to Fife Council by their June deadline should give local people an opportunity to have their views taken into consideration on future land use decisions in our local area by contributing to the Fife LDP 2027–37.

We don't yet know how much influence Local Place Plans may have, as they are new. However, we know that Fife Council are obliged to take them into consideration when developing their new 10-year LDP.

Based on the CAP and subsequent community consultations this year, the

Royal Burgh of Burntisland Community Council, with support from Burntisland Community Development Trust, has produced a proposed Burntisland LPP for submission to Fife Council.

The proposed 39-page Burntisland LPP 2024 is set out in 31 policies in four policy areas: Countryside, Town, Coast & tourism, and Connectivity. It's about land use and places rather than services, containing maps and photos, charts and graphs. Each of the LPP policies reflects what and where the people of Burntisland said they wanted, or didn't want, development.

By the time you read this, it will be available to view and download on our website: www.burntislandcc.org.uk

Many thanks to all of you who contributed your views to the consultations.

Anne Smith, Secretary, Burntisland Community Council

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The Big GREEN Market Burntisland

Our Big Green Heart is Beating Greener!

Well, we have some VERY exciting news to share with you this issue. Thanks to a grant from the Big Lottery Community Fund, our monthly pre-loved market is about to get even greener. With our additional funds, we're planning two really exciting projects:

Skills & Craft Workshop Programme

Over the past few months we've been trialling craft and skills workshops. Topics were varied – jewellery making and Japanese mending to basic sewing and repairs. Every workshop sold out quickly and we had a brilliant response. Participants were so happy with the sessions:

"This has been brilliant, I've learned a new skill and had a great time chatting to everyone."

"Can't believe I created this! I'm dead chuffed with myself".

Thanks to this trial, we now know there is a LOT of interest in workshops like this, so we're allocating some of our Lottery Grant to expanding the workshops. We plan to bring you a diverse (and accessible) workshop programme that will include skills such as sewing, jewellery making, crafts, and upcycling and so much more.

All of our workshops are designed to help people reuse excess market stock by mending or upcycling, with the ultimate goal of reducing landfill waste. Whether you're learning to repair a favourite item of clothing or turning old materials into something new and beautiful, our workshops help you develop the skills to give pre-loved items a second chance.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for more details: www.facebook.com/BurntislandGreenMarket or scan the QR code on the right to visit the page.

Burntisland's First Repair Cafe

In response to the overwhelming interest from you all, we're excited to announce the launch of Burntisland's very own Repair Cafe.

The idea is that we'll bring a team of experts and fixers together, and you bring us your broken or faulty items to be repaired.



It will be a big, fun and happy community event that goes a long way to helping you keep your costs down (why spend money on a new thing, when you can get it fixed!?) and saving landfill from un-necessary items. Our first session will be on Saturday, 1st June, so mark it in your calendar. We'll be advertising the sessions on our Facebook page and noticeboards around town.

Calling All Fixers!

We're looking to create a community of 'fixers' to make this initiative a success. If you have skills in basic sewing, small electrical repairs, woodworking, or mechanics, and have a can-do attitude and a great sense of humour, we'd LOVE to hear from you. You don't need to be a professional – just someone who enjoys helping others and wants to be part of our wonderful BGM team.

No Big GREEN Market in June

Please note that there will be no market in June due to the unavailability of the hall, but don't forget about the Repair Cafe on

the first Saturday of the month! We're also excited to announce that we now have a BGM PAT tester, which means we can accept and sell small electrical items.

Organisations we've been supporting

Since the last issue of the Burgh Buzz, we've been helping to raise funds for some incredible local organisations, including Burntisland Hedgehog Haven, Floral Action Burntisland (FAB), Cornerstone Community Cafe, and the new Burntisland Foodbank.

"Please thank your team for this fantastic amount which will help our volunteers to keep Burntisland looking beautiful." — FAB

"Such an incredible donation which will go towards paying for our new rescue cages." — Burntisland Hedgehog Haven

A Heartfelt Thank You

None of this would be possible without the dedication of our amazing volunteers and the support of our incredible community.

We couldn't do it without you all, and want you to know how grateful we are to have so many of you involved in the BGM in big and small ways. Your contributions, donations and support go such a long way to make a difference in Burntisland.



Remember, The Big Green Market takes place on the first full weekend of each month, with hours on Fridays from 12 noon to 4 pm and Saturdays from 10 am to 1 pm.


Future dates: there is no market in June, then 5th & 6th July, 2nd & 3rd August.

See you there!



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Young Community Hall

The Young Community Hall, better known as the Music Hall in Thistle Street, has until recently been under threat of closure due to the sad disbandment of the Burntisland Youth Theatre (BYT) group due to lack of interest and membership. BYT has been a pillar of the community for decades and it is hard to find a family in the town which hasn't some connection with or even just attended one of their legendary Christmas pantomimes.

What is perhaps less well known was that they also formed the committee which ran the day to day management of the hall, in particular Karen Speirs who has done a sterling job over many of years including the Covid period which has proved to be disastrous not only for BYT but group memberships across the board.

As such, had a new committee not been found quickly, the hall was faced with

closure and Burntisland would have lost another asset to the community.

As a long time hall user my own group felt we could not let this happen. We have formed a new committee and have already entered into dialogue with Fife Council regarding repairs and additional funding to remedy some of the long term issues the hall has faced such as wheelchair / pushchair access and parking. The Council did make it clear that, whilst they were supportive of the hall and our ideas to take it forward long term, they needed to know there was sufficient use to justify the expenditure which is reasonable in the current times.

What we would hope to achieve is that the hall is used on an ongoing bases by groups within the community which could demonstrate to the Council that the town not only wants but needs such a facility.

As part of the management process, we have taken steps to upgrade the booking system which relied on poor Karen being contactable by phone and needed her to be in attendance for viewings etc. Fife Council have come forward with some good ideas on how to improve that booking method.

Our new committee has Sam, who is an IT programme designer, and he has been tasked with building a booking system that will linked to both the Burgh Buzz and the Burntisland Facebook page. Hopefully this should go live soon which will allow seamless booking management.

In the meantime any groups who might consider using the hall should contact me on d29architect@gmail.com with your contact details and proposed times and I will get back to you as quickly as I can.

Archie Higgins, Chairperson, Young Community Hall

Burntisland Harbour Access Trust

By the time you read this our Grand Spring Raffle will have been drawn. Over 50 prizes have been so generously donated by local businesses and individuals. Many thanks to them all and to everyone who bought tickets – we hope you were lucky!

We're hoping that the funds raised by the raffle will be sufficient to settle our costs for the crucial legal opinion we received regarding public rights of access to the harbour.

As previously reported our lawyers' opinion is that rights have been established through more than 20 years' unfettered access by members of the public. It seems likely that rights under the "Right to Roam" legislation may also apply and additionally we've discovered that an obligation to provide community access applied when the foreshore and seabed were sold for the building of the East Dock and that these conditions still apply.

To bolster our claim of unfettered access we've been taking testimonies from some of the long-standing members of the community who offered to tell their own stories. To quote from a few of them, respondents stated closing the breakwater and harbour had:

- "significantly affected the amenity of the town"
- "robbed them of part of their heritage"
- "created a simmering anger towards Forth Ports for a perceived lack of any consultation or involvement with local community as to why this step was necessary"
- "given them a deep felt gratitude to the Burntisland Harbour Access Trust for taking up a cause which was so close to their heart"
- "led to an enduring sadness at the loss of such a wild, beautiful walk which

uplifted their spirits and denied them meeting other people on the walk who shared their joy being so close to the sea"

- "led to a loss of one of the most scenic and unique walks which they enjoyed on a daily basis"
- "led to a loss of a certain spiritual freedom which only this walk provided."

We have established a dialogue with Forth Ports and their partners in the green freeport consortium and will continue to press for full consultation.

We're encouraged by the fact that Forth Ports' stance has moved from "We are not discussing the fence!" to "....we will fully engage with the local community, the Community Council and the Trust to ensure that wherever possible we can meet people's aspirations."

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Fife Council Community Development Team

A new Community Education Worker for the Burntisland, Kinghorn and Auchtertool has recently been appointed to the Community Development Team.

Lynn Reynolds has been working in the area since May last year when she started on secondment and got the ball rolling on a couple of projects but is now looking to get local people involved in planning and developing new classes and projects.

There has been an adult learning course running in the Toll Centre, Crochet for Beginners which has been a great success



with 10 local people getting involved. The have learned the basics of crochet and have made scarves and blankets and are now moving onto reading patterns and learning more complex stitches which will assist them to have a lifelong skill. This course will end in June, and it is anticipated that if there are new learners identified, another course can be started in August.

There have been two youth workers appointed to start a junior youth club at the Toll Centre along with some of their volunteers, on Tuesday evenings for 8–11-year-olds. After training has taken place, it is hoped that the club will be able to start by mid to the end of May. When there is a definite date, the youth club will be advertised.

Unfortunately, it was not possible to appoint youth workers for a senior youth club however adverts will go out again over the summer months. This is a priority piece of work so if you or someone you know would be interested in working with high school aged young people, please get in touch with Lynn.

As well as adult learning classes and youth work, the Community Development Team

are also available to assist all community groups who may be looking for help or advice. If you are a community group who would like any kind of assistance, please get in touch: lynn.reynolds@fife.gov.uk

Burntisland Network

Sonia McCathie works in Burntisland as a Local Development Officer for the Castle area. If you live in the Castle area and want to get involved, have your say about what is important to you and your community, and to make it the best place to live, then contact Sonia to find out how!



Sonia also co-ordinates a Burntisland network for volunteers and staff that represent organisations or groups delivering activity for community benefit in Burntisland. The network allows people to come together to share what they are doing and creates an opportunity to work together.

If your organisation/group want to join the network, or for more information please contact Sonia on 07515 290876 or sonia.mccathie@fife.gov.uk

Sonia McCathie, Local Development Worker

David Torrance MSP

Representing the Kirkcaldy Constituency

**Kirkcaldy, Kinghorn, Burntisland,
Methil, Auchtertool, Buckhaven,
Wemyss Villages**

Have a question?

Contact me:

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It's hard to believe that we have been open for over a year and we have had 122 hedgehogs through the door.

We are now also a fully licensed rescue with Fife Council so we have been able to increase the number of hedgehogs we can help which is great news!

We also had the exciting news that we are finalists for two Animal Star Awards—Voluntary Rescue Of The Year and UK Animal Charity Of The Year!

We are looking forward to attending the awards night in November.

Warmer days are here and thoughts turn to getting the garden up together.

PLEASE always check long grass thoroughly for hedgehogs before using any garden machinery like strimmers and mowers. Hedgehogs will not run from noise but will instead ball up and stay put.

Please avoid using pesticides in the garden this includes weed killer sprays. We see hedgehogs with awful chemical burns from these sprays.

Try to keep any holes in gardens covered. We had a hedgehog in recently from Kinghorn that had got herself trapped in a water filled hole and was exhausted and suffering from hyperthermia from not being able to get out. Thankfully she is recovering well from her ordeal.

If you have a pond please ensure you have something that hedgehogs are able to use to get out of it such as rocks at the side or

Burntisland Hedgehog Haven

logs. They are great swimmers but will drown if they don't have easy access out.

If you want to help hedgehogs and other wildlife over the (hopefully) hot summer, please provide a shallow bowl of water daily. We see so many dehydrated hedgehogs over the summer months.

Please do not feed mealworms as these cause metabolic bone disease in hedgehogs. Even the calcified ones are no good and please no bread or milk. A bowl of good quality (high meat content) kitten biscuits is best to feed.

And remember Hedgehogs do not sunbathe! If you see one out in the day please contact the rescue for advice on 07577 000328

You can follow us on Facebook where we update the page daily on the hedgehogs in our care and you can also find hedgehog information on our website:

www.burntislandhedgehoghaven.co.uk

We are still a local cause which you can support through the Co-op. Please choose us if you can as it will help us purchase two more much needed incubators.

It was great to meet some of you at our stall in the Co-op on the High Street. Thank you to Alan and his team for the hospitality and everyone for your support.

Sharon Longurst

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Herbert recovering from a strimmer wound.



Norrie before release back to Kerr Court



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Burntisland Primary School

Hello from the new 'heidie'!

As we returned from the Easter holidays, there is a big change under way at Burntisland Primary School, with the retiral of Julie Anderson and my appointment to the role of headteacher at the school. I would like to thank Julie for the warmth of her welcome as I visited the school in the run up to the holidays in preparation for the leadership transition and I am sure she will not be a stranger to the school - in fact we have already welcomed her back as a supply lollipop lady for the day!



I am also grateful to the staff in the school and nursery who have also given me a very warm welcome. There is a strong team at Burntisland who I am sure will be a great support in coming months, as I look to strengthen and improve all areas within the school and nursery, while of course maintaining the many existing strengths within the BPS offer.

With over 13 years of experience as a headteacher in Perth & Kinross, including secondments to the local authority as Covid Recovery Officer and also to Education Scotland, working with the inspectorate for several years sharing effective practice nationally, I am coming to the school with fresh eyes and years of experience of school improvement at school, local and national level.

I am writing this just after a busy first week in school. I have spent time visiting all classes in the school and nursery and getting to know the staff and children. Parents will see me in the playground and dotting around the place—now you have seen my photo please say hello if you see me round and about!

With over 500 children in the 17 school classes, and six different cohorts of nursery children it will take me a wee while to learn all of the names and get to know who belongs to who. All help gratefully received! Burntislanders might be interested to know

that the town has the largest primary in Fife, which wasn't something I was aware of until recently.

In this first article for the Burgh Buzz, I wanted to say hello and introduce myself to the wider community, but I suspect many of you may already know me from around the town. I am originally from Burntisland having attended the old infant building at Dollar Road, as well as the Ferguson Place school.

I have asked the children to let me know if I know their mum or dad (or indeed their granny or grandad) as probably lots of people will recognise me from different times and places. At school and university, I worked for several years in both the Inchview Hotel and the Old Port so people will also recognise me from those days. My mum, Liz, was a teacher at Burntisland (the first teacher of Tom Courts, Burntisland's Citizen of the Year, as I heard yesterday morning!) and is still in the town, as are my in-laws Helen and Drew who many will know from the Golf Club and Museum of Communication. Quite a few people have made me aware that they knew one or some of them.

The prize for the furthest back reference is currently held by one of our cleaners, who informed me she used to know my gran and grandad Tilly and Terry McConnell, who lived on Grange Road. Never mind 'I kent your faither', its 'I kent your grandfather' in Burntisland!

I currently live in the town with my husband Ian, and two boys, Òran and Alban. Some people will know me from meeting at their golf or swimming lessons or from the many hours I seem to have spent at the beach and Links over the last eleven years. Wherever you may know me from, or whether we have yet to meet, I love a good blether, so feel free to stop and chat.

Next time I look forward to sharing some of the many highlights from the classes in the school and nursery, but until then its hello and goodbye from me!

Louise Gordon, Headteacher



Parent Council

The start to our year in the Parent Council has been a busy and productive one. Our first important task was to be involved in the interviews for the new Headteacher at BPS, where Mrs Gordon was the successful candidate. We are delighted to welcome her into the BPS family and look forward to working with her. We would also like to wish Miss Anderson all the best for her retirement and want to say a huge thank you to her for everything she has done for our children and families over the years.

Following the great success of the Christmas Fayre, we wanted to boost resources within the nursery and school so we gathered wish lists from the Deputy Head Teachers of each key stage and purchased some fantastic new items. These include butterfly gardens and magnetic tiles for the nursery rooms, art easels for the Primary 1 classes, reading books and hand held clocks to help with learning to tell the time for the middle



school and reading books, knex sets and flipcharts for the upper school classes. There were multiple other purchases too to help enrich the learning experience for all ages of children. Additionally we had some generous donations from the Big Green Market as well as local parents for new books for the school and Lego which are very much appreciated.

We felt it was time for a shiny, new logo so we ran a competition. In round 1, the children from each class designed a logo and they all voted for which one would

represent their class moving forward. In round 2, the Parent Council and Senior Leadership Team voted for their favourites which whittled it down to our final four logos which was no easy feat as the quality of logos submitted was incredible. We then opened up voting to the whole Parent Forum and our winner was the fantastic design by Ellie Gallagher in Primary 7 who, in addition to winning herself watercolour pens and an artists pad, won an afternoon tea for her entire class which the Parent Council will serve them later this term!

We also have a very exciting event on Sunday 2nd June. The 'baby' Big Top will be arriving in the morning and there will be 3, two person comedy circus shows as well as circus skills workshops throughout the day. We can't wait to see all the kiddos (and adults) excited faces at seeing the Big Top going up! We will have a few other surprises throughout the day but will advertise these once we get final confirmation. Tickets will be going on sale shortly!

Fiona Embleton, Chair

Burntisland & Kinghorn Rotary Club

The Club has always taken an active interest with our primary schools. We have Rotary Rambles where Primary 7 pupils are taken for educational walks typically to Kinghorn Loch via the Binn village.



The Burns Competition encourages P7 pupils to recite their favoured Burns poem and the winning pupils from Auchtertool, Burntisland and Kinghorn are presented with a certificate and book of Burns poetry and are given the opportunity to perform their recitation at our Burns Supper.

In March the Rotary Primary School Quiz was held at the primary school. Five teams of four P7 pupils from Auchtertool, Burntisland and Kinghorn competed in the local heat. Burntisland were represented by The 'Puzzle Piecers' and the 'Burntisland Brainiacs'. All team members and reserves are awarded a certificate and the winning team are presented with a shield which is proudly held for the year and they then compete in the Area final.

The Brainiacs were runners up to the 'Quizzical Kangaroos That play the Kazoos' from Kinghorn who achieved a record score. The Area final was held at Auchmuty High School in Glenrothes on 17th April and the Kangaroos won against ten other teams. They now compete in the national final in Aberdeen in June.

By the time you read this our Charity Big Band Concert at the Adam Smith Theatre with Kingdom Brass and the Dysart Colliery Silver Band will have taken place. All profit from the evening will be presented to the new Burntisland & Kinghorn Foodbank.

We meet on a Tuesday at 6.30pm in The Sands Hotel. If the above sounds interesting to you, then you are most welcome to join us.

David Kelley

Highland Games

This year's Highland Games will take place on Monday 15th July.

The committee is looking for additional volunteers to help on the day and with setting up on The Links the day before.

Contact the Secretary via the Highland Games Facebook page or email burntislandhighlandgames@gmx.co.uk if you are interested in helping to support this Burntisland tradition.

A fundraiser Bingo night is also being held at the Bowling Club on Friday 31st May.

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Ages 10.5-14 Years

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Thursday: 7-9pm



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Ages 14-18 Years

Thursday: 7.15-9.15pm



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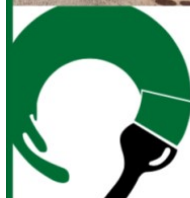
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Civic Week 2024—"Fashion through the Decades"

This year's Civic Week will take place from Friday 14th to Sunday 23rd June—look out for the programme of events leaflet which is being delivered to all households.

Our theme for Parade Day this year is "Fashion through the Decades", and we're looking forward to seeing all the wonderful costume ideas!



The front cover of the programme will feature artwork from **Amelia Gray** of Primary 7, the winner of our competition to create a design on our theme. Each class took part last term with some fantastic designs making it hard to choose a winner!

You can keep up to date by visiting our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/BurntislandCivicWeek or if you want to get in touch email: burntislandcivicweek@gmail.com

As ever, the committee is grateful to all the local businesses and organisations who provide financial support to help make Civic Week possible.

Friday 14th June

Shop window competition judging, 3.30pm

Saturday 15th June

Crowning of the Summer King & Queen in the Parish Church, 1.15pm,

Parade along the High Street and Kinghorn Road from 1.45pm followed by Fancy dress prizes at Radio Lollipop and free activities on the Links

Sunday 16th June

Civic Week Pairs Bowling Competition—1.30pm

Dog show on The Links, 2–4 pm

Mirth of Forth Comedy afternoon at The Star Tavern, 3.30–5.30pm

BASC "Come and Try" kids taster session at the Beacon Leisure Centre, 4–4:50 pm

Monday 17th June

Pool competition—Crown Tavern, 8pm

Tuesday 18th June

Dominoes competition—Jubilee Tavern, 8pm

Wednesday 19th June

Craigencalt Trust Guided Walk to Kinghorn Loch via Binnend, 10am at Links car park

Pre-school kids Storytime—Library, 10.30am

Thursday 20th June

Quiz—Sands Hotel, 7.30 for 8pm

Friday 21st June

Sailing Club Civic Week Cup race, 7pm

Live Music at The Old Port, DRT band plus support, free entry, 8pm

Bingo Night—Jubilee Tavern, 7.30pm

Saturday 22nd June

Free fitness taster sessions in The Space Upstairs, 9am dancefit and 9.45am aerobics

5-a-side Football Tournaments at Recreation Park—youths (10.30am) and adults (2–4pm)

Darts competition,—Silver Tassie, 2pm

Live Music at the Golf Club with Des and the Dingoes, 8–12pm

Sunday 23rd June

Mat, music, mocktails and cocktails at The Kingswood Hotel, 10.30am–2pm

Family Beach Day—Sandcastle competition, 11am, BBQ, activities, Raft Race, 3.15pm

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Burntisland Heritage Trust

'The Changing Face of Our Town'

This year Burntisland Heritage celebrates its 30th anniversary of summer heritage exhibitions. Our exhibitions have been running every year with many different themes since 1994. This summer's exhibition has a strong focus on the High Street and illustrates some of the many



dramatic and nostalgic changes that have taken place in its landscape. It tells the poignant story of the town's architectural loss.

It is quite remarkable the extent to which the townscape and surrounding countryside has changed over the last century and even in more recent times.

The exhibition includes many of the photographs used in the popular 'Changing Landscapes' exhibition we held in 2011. Re-photography is the photographing of a location which has been photographed in the past, perhaps many years ago. It is used to show "then and now" views of particular areas. This is another strong aspect of the exhibition.

Despite the limited space our collection of 22 model ships will remain on show during July and August. These include a battlecruiser, whalers, fishing boats, yachts, sailing ships and all vary in size from a Clyde Paddle Steamer and U-boat both 1.4

metres long to a small kit built aircraft carrier. The display is always a must see!

The exhibition opens at the start of Civic Week on Saturday 15th June. It will run to the 31st August at Burntisland Heritage Centre, 4 Kirkgate, situated just round the corner from the main door of the Burgh Chambers in the High Street. It will be open on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 11.00am to 4.00pm. Admission is free. We will also be open for Doors Open Day on 14/15th September.

During opening hours, visitors will also be able to view large collections of DVDs, scrapbooks and historical material relating to the town's fascinating history.

Burntisland Heritage is a voluntary group and the exhibitions would not be possible without the support of volunteers. If you are interested in assisting, supporting or joining our group please contact us by dropping your contact details into the Heritage Centre at 4 Kirkgate or e-mail burntislandht@btinternet.com.

Ian Archibald

Museum of Communication

'It's About Time'

The Museum of Communication's new Exhibition, 'It's About Time', opened on 1st May and will be open on Wednesdays and Saturdays between 11 am and 4 pm until Saturday 28 September. Children are welcome and there will be hands-on exhibits.

On Tuesday 18th June, during Civic Week, Jim Summers, a retired railway professional, will deliver a lecture on railway control systems that will include the control centre formerly based in Burntisland. Entry costs £5 per person. See the Museum's website for details of this and other lectures.

The Exhibition shows that time has always been a key part of communications systems. The need to reduce the time taken to get a message from one place to another, and the time taken to get a reply, have been instrumental in driving new inventions and developments in the field of communications.

With today's modern high-speed communications, we can view events happening on the other side of the world as they unfold. But it was not always like this. Try to imagine a world where it took three days to get a message from Edinburgh to London, or battles such as New Orleans (1815) were fought in wars that had already ended.

Come along and see early visual systems before electricity. See the telegraph equipment that superseded them and led

to the development of telephones, followed by radio and television systems and wartime developments such as Radar and Sonar. All of these systems involve accurate measurement of time. Satellite, internet and GPS rapidly followed, giving us today's interconnected world, where to talk to the other side of the world takes hardly any time at all.

It's about time you came to see these great displays!

Items in the exhibition include:

Nixie Cube Clock—1950s/60s digital clock with 'Nixie' tube display.

HMS Loch Killen—Model of HMS Loch Killen, built in Burntisland in 1943 (on loan from Fife Museums & Galleries).

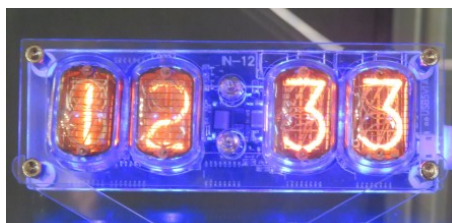
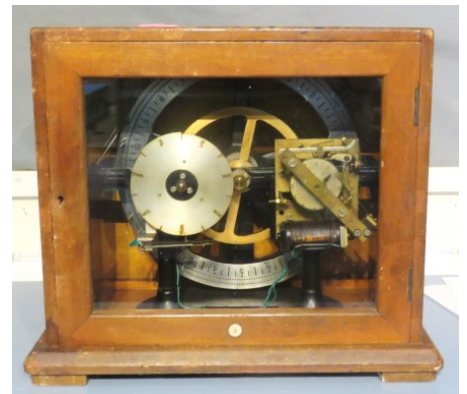
School Bell—Automatic bell once common in schools, including Burntisland.

Teaching Clock—Clock for teaching how to tell the time on dial clocks.

David W. Brown

Museum of Communication,
131 High Street, Burntisland

www.museumofcommunication.org.uk



Burntisland Golf House Club

Our 2024/5 season got off to a wet but enthusiastic start with our annual season opener Captain v Vice Captain in late March.

Despite what must be the wettest April in living memory, the course has been kept in the best possible condition thanks to our talented and experienced greenkeepers. Our thanks also to Fife Council who responded quickly during the worst of the rain. Within a hour or so of being requested, they provided sandbags which helped divert a torrent of rainwater which was running off the hill, flooding our first fairway and threatening the clubhouse.

Let's hope we have had most of the rain now, and we can look forward to a sunny summer!

Following the US Masters, which opens the golfing season, we are campaigning for new members at Burntisland Golf House Club. We are particularly keen to attract new lady golfers. Our Ladies Section is very welcoming to both experienced golfers and beginners. We are arranging more group coaching sessions for lady beginners – look out for Facebook posts for more information – or contact the Club.

It is always our intention at BGHC to be open and inclusive. Our membership subscription is competitively set and we have a range of membership categories to suit most budgets. We support those who serve and support our community and our country, we offer 20% discount to Blue Light and Defence card holders. Please contact the Club for more information.

I take this opportunity to highlight some of the additional benefits of membership at BGHC. Our members can book Professional lessons, use our practice nets, putting green and practice area to hone their game. Members can invite three free guests per year and once per year host their own group golf day, inviting up to 11 guests. We have reciprocal arrangements with over a dozen courses throughout Fife and beyond, where our members can play for reduced visiting green fees.

We welcome members of the Burntisland community who are not golfers too. Our clubhouse is open to visitors for meals, drinks and general socialising, with free wi-fi during your visit. Binn hill walkers are welcome to use our car lower park and call in for a warming drink and something to eat after their walk. Our snug bar is dog-friendly with free doggie-treats.

Regular visitors can join as a social member for only £30 for the full year, and book our function suite for family parties and gatherings.

Open to all, our forward social programme includes:

June 1st – "Painted Wolf"

July 13th – "Just John and Paul" (Beatles Tribute)

Contact the club on 01592 874093, find us on Facebook or visit www.burntislandgolfhouseclub.co.uk

Jim Galloway, Captain



Burntisland Sailing Club

Summer is coming, skies are blue and winds are warmer... dolphins were playing around the boats during the week, bringing smiles to all who saw them.

At the beginning of April a sterling effort by BSC members at our crane-in saw the yachts launched in record time, with all secured before midday—burgers and bacon rolls all round!

Saturday 20th April saw a great opening muster with 15 yachts out on the water for the Commodore's Sail Past and the first race of the season.

This was won by K. Wilson & D. Benvie in 'Valkyrie' followed by S. Henderson & M. Blankenstein in 'Seas The Day' 2nd and Paul Copp in 'Kentra' 3rd.

Our boats are now tugging at their lines in the spring breezes, waiting impatiently for their crews and the next outing. A full programme of cruises and races is planned throughout the season, with regular 'round the cans' racing on Friday and Monday evenings. Check the activities page on our website for full details.

Boats need crew and you are cordially invited to come along and give it a try. Membership fees for new members (always affordable!) are suspended this year. A training and mentoring program is in place for those that wish to "learn the ropes" and the club now has the use of a day sailing yacht to carry out instruction on the water. There will even be free coffee and biscuits....



So come along, get out on the Forth with us in this our 70th year and try the delights of the ocean blue with fresh air, exercise, fun and great company. Don't be a landlubber, get in touch via:

admin@burntislandsailing.org.uk

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Burntisland Bowling Club

After a long non-bowling winter the green opened again on Saturday 13th April. There was a great turnout considering the weather was not the best, with over 35 bowlers playing in the annual Presidents v Vice-Presidents game, with many more deciding to frequent the Pavilion Bar rather than brave the elements.

Presentations were made by current President Paul Graham to the new Honorary Presidents, Ian Muir, George Paterson and John MacDonald, and to new Honorary members Ruth Willis and Wilma MacLean.

The flag was raised by Ian Muir, then the first jack thrown by Jannette Macdonald.

After a great days play, punctuated by the rain, the final score was Presidents Team 48 Vice-Presidents Team 65.

Kevin Moore, Derek Bett and Sandra Beveridge were the highest rink up and therefore won the Frank Cooper Quaich.

Afterwards a Cabaret took place in the main hall, with bowlers enjoying the music until late in the night.

We would ask the members to look out for the upcoming friendlies with local clubs, any member wishing to play please put your name up on the relevant sheets in the locker room.

The new club shirt design is up in the pavilion and the locker room, any member wanting new shirts, jackets, trousers, caps etc in the new design, please let one of the committee know and fill in the order slips.



The club held a come and try day on Sunday 21st April and again the rain played its part with limited attendees, however those who did attend all took new memberships.

Anyone taking out a membership need only pay £25 for their first year subscriptions. All age groups and abilities are most welcome, so come and have a go!

Jim Connor, Secretary



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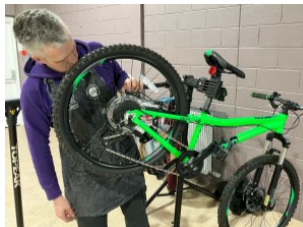
Toll Community Centre & Hub

As the manager of the Toll Community Centre, I've been on a mission to breathe new life into our beloved hub of community engagement. With a dash of determination and a sprinkle of community spirit, we've embarked on a journey of transformation, bringing the building into the here and now while fostering vibrant connections within our community.

Winning Funding and Building Partnerships: Thanks to a stroke of good fortune and some strategic networking, we secured a generous funding grant of £10,000 to address the electrical needs of our building. This infusion of funds will allow us to address the lighting within the centre.

But that's not all! We've been busy forging relationships with local community groups, working hand in hand to create partnerships that amplify our impact. One shining example is our collaboration with the Big Green Market and Greener Kirkcaldy to offer a thrilling Dr Bike Day as part of our developing Bike Project.

Charting the Course for the Future: As we pedal forward into the future, we're setting our sights on further developing the Bike Project over the next six months. Imagine bustling bike workshops, community rides through scenic routes, and maybe even a bicycle-themed festival to spread the joy of cycling far and wide!



What's on @ The Toll?

Monday-Friday 8:45am-2:45pm, Burntisland Playgroup (term time)
7:45-9am & 3-6pm, Burntisland Out of School Service (term time & school holidays)

Monday 12:30-1:30pm Sitter size with George Orr
18:30-20:30 Sewing Class with Lynne

Tuesday 9:30-11:30am Crochet Class
7:45-8:45pm Zumba with Claire and Cara

Thursday 10am-12pm Wellness Art Group with Kerrie-Anne Jarvis

Calling All Volunteers: As we gear up for the return of youth clubs, we're putting out a call to action for volunteers to join us in supporting our dedicated youth workers. Whether you're a seasoned mentor or simply eager to make a difference in the lives of young people, we'd love to have you on board!

Help Us Keep the Hub Humming: In our quest to reopen the High Street Hub five days a week, we're on the lookout for enthusiastic individuals to lend a hand. From greeting visitors with a smile to assisting with logistics, every helping hand brings us one step closer to our vision of a thriving community space.

So, if you're ready to roll up your sleeves and be a part of something truly special, don't hesitate to get in touch. Email enquires@tollcentre.org.uk, phone/answerphone: 01592 872854.

Together, we'll pedal towards a brighter, more connected future at the Toll Community Centre!

Allan Beattie, Manager



Burntisland Out of School Service (BOSS)



We are very much enjoying outdoor play these days at BOSS and many of our children have been learning (and teaching us!) lots about growing plants in our garden space. We are very excited to see what all their hard work and dedication produces and it is wonderful to observe the children engaging with nature and nurturing their seedlings.

Between now and summer we have a few

events happening at BOSS, please see the dates below and do not hesitate to get in touch using the details below if you have any questions or you want to be added onto our mailing list for new families joining in August or for families interested on our holiday clubs

Monday 20th May—Our families will be invited to take part in the summer holiday club consultation and the closing dates for

this will be Friday 31st May.

The sessions we open for holiday clubs are based on demand and is on a first come first serve basis.

Monday 27th May—All new families starting in August will be invited to register their child with BOSS.

For all other enquiries or if you would like to be added to our mailing list for August 2024 school starts you can call me on 07702 801132 or email at

bossburntisland@gmail.com

We regularly share our activities on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/BurntislandOutOfSchoolService and information about BOSS and our committee can also be found on our website www.bossburntisland.co.uk

Anne Laidlaw, Manager



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Girlguiding at the Parish Church Halls

This year Girlguiding in Burntisland celebrates our 100th Birthday. The first Guide unit was established in July 1924 and as far as we know has been meeting in the Parish Church halls ever since.



Girlguiding

The units from Burntisland and Kinghorn got together in February to celebrate Thinking Day. This year the theme was 'Our World', the Guides, Brownies and Rainbows had a great time taking part in games and activities representing the five countries where the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGS) run their World Centres. Namely, London (UK), Mexico, Switzerland, India and Africa.

Guides, Brownies and Rainbows got together for our tombola stall on the high street in Burntisland in March, once again fundraising for our hall rent. As this was just before Easter the stall had lots of Easter eggs and other goodies and attracted lots of customers. Thank you to everyone who came out on a very windy and chilly morning to support us.

1st Burntisland Guides

Once again, we have had a busy term working on Guide programme activities. Guides have explored emojis, looked at breaking down barriers and even experimented with items that can and can't be flushed down the toilet. We didn't use a real toilet; the Guides substituted a plastic bottle and despite energetic shaking didn't get the cotton wool balls to break down!

We had a Valentine's themed evening, Guides had fun decorating Valentine's biscuits with lots of pink icing and hearts which looked and tasted great! We also had a go at making churros, sadly not as good as the real ones, but the evening was saved as we made our own candyfloss, the

Guides enjoyed capturing the fluffy pink treat as it appeared on the machine.

Guides enjoyed making cards and gifts for Mother's Day. The girls filled transparent baubles with dried flower arrangements to take home to give as gifts.

We had an evening making Easter themed crafts, we decorated polystyrene eggs with a mosaic of brightly coloured tissue paper, made mini chicks from wool and even recycled toilet roll inners into bunny rabbits. These were all hung from a twig arrangement to take home as an Easter decoration.

Guides have been working on the Be Prepared badge. They spent time thinking about the safe spaces we have around the town and drawing these onto a map, they also filled an imaginary backpack grab bag for use in any emergency.

1st Burntisland Brownies

This term at Brownies has been another busy one, completing our badge work with one of our Brownies achieved their Brownie Gold Award and five years' service in Girl Guiding.

Zofia achieved her Silver Award this term and working hard towards her Gold Award.

We marked Burns Day with highland dancing from two of our Brownies, read poems and enjoyed a haggis drive.

We also celebrated World Thinking Day with all the units from Burntisland and Kinghorn where we celebrated all our Guiding World Wide and we had a great time playing games and having fun.

We celebrated Shrove Tuesday by making pancakes and eating them with our favourite toppings. They were so delicious.

We have completed lots of crafts this term like making sour dough animals and love hearts and we enjoyed painting them. We also made a huge star from different types of paper.

1st Burntisland Rainbows

Last term we had fun celebrating Thinking Day. We had an evening of fun games which represented the different countries where there are Girlguiding centres. It was lovely to be joined by the 2nd Burntisland Rainbows and Brownies.

We also completed our Live Smart badges where we learned lots of life skills. We enjoyed preparing (and eating!) a delicious fruit salad.

We ended the term with an Easter party with the Brownies. Congratulations to our five Rainbows who made their Promise that evening as well. One Rainbow earned her Bronze award and another her Silver award so well done to them too.

This term we celebrated Earth Day by going on a litter pick at the Toll Park. We are also looking forward to celebrating 100 years of Girl Guiding in Burntisland!

Spaces are available in all units, contact us for more information or register online at www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus and we will get in touch with you.

Units meet in the Parish Church Halls on Monday evenings.

Guides: 7 to 9pm
burntislandguides@gmail.com

Brownies: 5 to 6.30pm
burntislandbrownies1st@outlook.com

Rainbows: 5 to 6pm
1burntislandrainbows@gmail.com

Jean Priestley



Keep Burntisland Beautiful

During recent months we have held a couple of events in aid of the Keep Scotland Beautiful's Spring Clean campaign.

We held a beach clean which was well attended and we managed to retrieve a lot of bigger items washed up to shore due to the recent storms and high tides.

A big thank you to Robbie Blyth and David Spence of the Fife Coast & Countryside Trust for collecting all the creels and fishing debris that had washed up along the rocks.

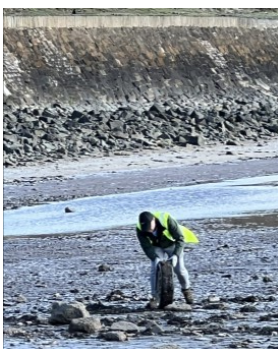
Our latest clean up event was clearing the rubbish from the Seaforth Place car park where we cleared 10 bagfuls of rubbish from the bushes that surround the area.

Can never understand why these areas get so bad when there are plenty of bins around. Even a dirty nappy in the bushes. We certainly left the area looking a lot better!

22nd April was Earth Day and it was a pleasure to accompany the 1st Burntisland Rainbows and Brownies on a litter pick of the Toll Park. We filled four bags between us. Great work girls!

If you spot a grotty area around the town in need of a clean up please let us know. Anyone is welcome to create an event. Please join us on Facebook or email keepburntislandbeautiful@gmail.com

Sharon Longhurst



Supper at the Sally

Supper at the Sally, the friendly, pay what you feel, volunteer-run, 3 course hot supper which brought the community together on Saturdays over the darkest time of the year, is now having a well earned rest!

Over 13 weeks from 30th December volunteers served over 400 meals, welcomed around 70 diners aged from 2 months to 92 years from 34 postcodes across Burntisland and had a ball!

Food Hygiene certificates and First Aid certificates were gained. One volunteer moved into employment. New friendships were made and old ones renewed. 18 volunteers from age 14 up, took on a range of responsibilities from serving, shopping, organising cooking, publicity and much more! Four fantastic chefs took turns to cook. And the empty plates and happy chatter made it all worthwhile.

Thanks go to the local people and businesses of Burntisland for all your help and support, for the dishes and pots donated, the aprons sponsored, and the discounts on fantastic local produce. Thanks too, to all the volunteers and to our lovely diners. And thanks to our funders and the organisations who supported us.

Volunteers will be meeting up in the coming weeks to decide what's next. If you fancy joining our friendly team and can spare anything from a few hours a month upwards (especially in the winter months) then contact Jane Searles on 07900 175403 or you can check out our website at supperatthesally.myportfolio.com





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Glenrothes 01592 751997

Rosyth 01383 669333

Burntisland and Kinghorn Church of Scotland

MAYDAY, May Day!

Whether washing in the May day dew in hope of finding a wife or singing at dawn on May day from the tower of the Old Kirk in Kirkcaldy or being the call for the Lifeboat to respond it's May, and the days are warming and lengthening(but "ne'er cast a clout 'til May be out!").

It may be May but I'm still on a high after Easter and our BEK services in Burntisland and Kinghorn, Binn, Beach and Kirk by the Sea: they were powerfully meaningful, both poignant and uplifting: making us feel glad to be alive and alive in Jesus for ever!

We're really enthusiastic to make sure that everyone knows that Jesus has a message for everyone, a church for anyone and a place for you!

A mayday call is a shout for help and as you'll see from our Property Team leader, John Dingwall's article on the front page we're looking for help to preserve the historic Church at the Kirkgate:

"working together with civic organisations, the community and any other interested parties, look to transfer legal title from Church of Scotland to community management through a coherent action plan"

There are several other communities across Scotland and indeed in Fife who are looking to make redundant churches assets of community access.

We're moving towards Christian Aid Week and Pentecost both of which are sustained with a united Church worship and witness, showing what unites us is bigger than what

used to divide us and that we are better together with God!

Our latest worship schedule for May, June, July and August is now available on postcards, on our new website www.burntislandandkinghornchurch.co.uk and a permanent fixture on our Facebook page.

There is variety and vibrancy in our worship at different times and places: you're always welcome!

Rev Jim Reid



Erskine Church

After a long winter & an awful lot of spring rain, there finally seems to be some sign of summer in the air. I hope that'll lift your spirits, setting you up for the best part of the year.

I wonder if you were as impressed as I was to watch the heavy transport vessel which recently anchored off Burntisland before lowering to take the weight of that oil rig and sailing off to its next operating destination. Life itself can sometimes bear down heavily on us, with lots of tough challenges to be faced. More on that below...

Easter was certainly busy in the BEK churches, with some shared services and a great turnout of around 150 people at Kinghorn Church on Easter Sunday, 31st March. It was really spectacular to climb

The Binn early on a glorious Easter morning!

May. The middle of the month brings us to Christian Aid Week (12th-18th) & we'll be sharing a special BEK service in Erskine on a theme in keeping with the excellent work of that charity.

Then on Pentecost Sunday (19th May) all our local churches will come together for a service of Christian Unity in St. Serf's Scottish Episcopal Church at 6 pm.

It's been our plan to work together wherever & whenever we possibly can. Chilled Church is a great example of this, meeting every 3 weeks on a Sunday rota (11am) between the BEK Churches: Burntisland, Erskine & Kinghorn. It's welcoming, relaxed and engaging with something for all ages.

July. Erskine will be open on Games Day on Monday 15th July offering our usual tasty menu of drinks & snacks. It's always a great day to showcase the town and the proud heritage we share. You might think that date is still a very long way off, but the weeks will slip by before we even know it!

August. Our next coffee & pancakes morning is planned for Saturday 31st August (10am-12noon). More info about all of these events should appear on our Facebook page nearer the time, so please keep an eye out.

Faith can genuinely help us to cope when there are a lot of heavy loads to carry. So, why not give church a try? You'd be very welcome to join us, any time. Have a great summer and take care.

Rev. Alexander Ritchie



St Joseph's Church

Warm greetings from St Joseph's. As I write this we are still in the Easter Season and I reflect back with gratitude on our Easter celebrations which went exceptionally well. The Churches Together Walk of Witness is always an important start to Holy Week and we finished with a short service here in our Church.

We are looking forward very much to another Churches Together service on the evening of Pentecost Sunday in St Serf's Church. It is great that we come together in this way and pray as fellow Christians for

our town and further afield. In March we welcomed Archbishop Leo Cushley, who joined us to celebrate our 50 years in the current Church building. It was a very happy occasion and a chance for the Archbishop to experience the warmth and the welcome of St Joseph's parish community.

We have a busy time ahead with various celebrations to come, a number of Baptisms, First Communions for some of our young people and Marriages.

A reminder that we have a Vigil Mass on Saturday evening at 5 pm and Mass on Sunday morning at 10 am, followed by refreshments in the Church Hall. All are welcome. The Knit & Knatter group meets on a Wednesday morning at 10.30 am and as ever are open to new members.

Wishing you a very pleasant Summer and if you are lucky enough to be getting away on holiday I hope you will enjoy it and return refreshed and renewed.

Wishing you every blessing.

Fr James



St Serf's Scottish Episcopal Church

Now that the clocks have gone forward, we suddenly find ourselves in spring. Didn't the parks and gardens look beautiful over the Easter weekend? There seemed to be so many more daffodils this year!

At St Serf's, as we re-told the story of Holy Week and pondered its meaning, we prepared for Easter Day, filling every available space in the church with flowers and watching the sun stream in through the stained glass. Easter and its message of renewed life and hope help us to look forward towards what the year might bring.



We might even be able to turn off the heating soon! Not only would that help church finances, it would also benefit the environment. Here at St Serf's we are turning our attention to achieving Net Zero by 2030. Old buildings and equipment are far from climate-friendly but we are being advised on possible ways forward and investigating alternative ways to heat the building.

In the meantime we have to content ourselves with taking small steps. But each of these steps counts. Our church policy includes a climate change focus and each member of our congregation is making a conscious effort to reduce, reuse and recycle. We are now members of Eco-congregation Scotland and are just about to be given their Bronze award.

Before we know it, summer will be on the doorstep and Burntisland will come alive with events and visitors. Look out for events connected with St Serf's and the other local churches. The first of these will be on Sunday 19th May at 6 pm (Pentecost—50 days after Easter) when St Serf's will host a celebration of Christian unity.

We will, of course, be celebrating the friendly and collaborative relationship between the Burntisland & Kinghorn churches but we will also be looking at the vital work undertaken by Christian churches in places where their message of hope is not welcome.

The Space in St Serf's is open on Thursday afternoons between 2 pm and 4 pm, Call in for tea, coffee and often cake if someone's been baking. Come and enjoy some time to be together, to chat or to go into a quiet space, light a candle and simply be. We've timed it so that children and pickers-up from school can call in as well as anyone at all who lives nearby or happens to be passing.

Or think about coming on a Sunday morning. Our service of Holy Communion is at 10 am and you can be sure you will be made very welcome. Always remember, there is no obligation to "join" and we are just as happy if you decide you'd be more at home at any of the other local churches. We all work together as one church in Christ.

Wishing you a relaxing summer and the blessing of our heavenly Father.

Rev Carol Latimer



The Ecology Centre

Spring has slowly returned after a wet and windy winter, with the passing of the seasons new life has been breathed back into existence. Both on land and sea, young plants and animals are starting to spout, flutter and swim.



Just before Spring could properly announce itself, the Ecology Centre teamed up with local volunteers from across Fife, to participate in the second seagrass sowing event, as part of Restoration Forth's ambitious programme to help restore this coastal marine plant.

On a blustery March morning, 30 intrepid Fifers armed with their seed filled caulking guns, took to Burntisland Sands to sow just over 30,000 common eelgrass seeds. Over March, 135,000 seagrass seeds were injected into the intertidal sediment across three restoration sites, by 95 local volunteers. We will keep a close eye out over these next few months to see how our new seedlings are doing.

Back on dry land, the Ecology Centre is offering an exciting opportunity for people between the ages of 16 and 65 with the chance to develop their ecological and outdoor education skill set, through our FOLA forest school level 4 qualification and volunteering placement.

We are actively seeking new participants to enrol in either of these two training programmes. If this opportunity interests you, visit the Ecology Centre's opportunities Fife page to learn more or alternatively get in touch with Donna McArdle via donna@theecologycentre.org

Outdoor Placements & Forest School Award

What's on offer:

- FOLA forest school level 4 qualification
- Volunteering programme

Skills you can gain:

- Ecological & conservation knowledge
- Estate & woodland management
- Team work and self confidence

Course structure:

- FOLA 4: 8 week block, 2-3 hours a week
- Volunteer placement: approximately 37 hours

Who can apply:

- People between the ages of 16 & 65, who face barriers to work, have additional needs or are out of mainstream education

Contact: donna@theecologycentre.org



Up the Castle and Beyond—new book by Ray Kelly now published

As featured in the last issue, the book tells the story of growing up as a child in the town in the mid-1940s and 1950s. Now in her 80s, this is Ray's first book and describes her childhood years in the Castle area.

To obtain a signed copy get in touch with Ray via email: rayhkelly2@yahoo.com



Craigencalt Rural Community Trust

Our Spring Walking Festival this year spanned three weeks in March and April, so we thought surely there would be some nice warm days, but we were wrong! Everyone now knows that this spring the weather remained cold, wet, and windy, but nothing dampened the spirits of our walkers. Walkers turned up for each walk, good natured and smiling ready in boots and waterproofs.

A big part of the festival is meeting new people and trying new routes for walks. During walks we found places to shelter out of the wind and rain to enjoy snacks and chat together with many new companions. The walk leaders treated us to walks in Raith Woodland, East and West Wemyss, as well as countryside around Kinghorn and Burntisland. There were also interesting heritage walks around Craigencalt, Burntisland Harbour, and one in Aberdour.

We would like to thank all our participants for making this event so much fun and not letting the conditions stifle the enjoyment. We appreciate that not everyone can manage to join us at our regular walk times so you can find a good selection of walks on our website for you to take at your leisure. It is good to get out when you can, to explore this beautiful area of Fife.

Often the Trust is asked about the barley straw rafts that float on Kinghorn Loch, and why they are there. In early spring the loch user groups hold a workday to pile barley straw on to the four rafts. This year, with two boats and plenty of help, the job was completed in record time. The bird life is always encouraged by this activity and always sees it as a sign to begin nesting in the straw.

An article on the 'history of the problem with algal blooms and its resolution' is available on the Trust website. It is written by Ron Edwards who has been involved in the recovery of the loch since 1980.



Nature at Kinghorn Loch remains the same abundance each year. Many birds are now nesting and the swallows and sand-martins are returning for another summer. The female swan has taken up residence just outside the bird hide so we will have a good view of her cygnets once they arrive.

By the time you read this the annual 'Come and Try Day' event at Kinghorn Loch will have taken place. The loch may be small but it is full of activity all year round, with sailing, canoeing, rowing and radio-controlled yacht clubs. If you prefer a quieter pastime there is also bird watching or just enjoy a walk around with the dog.

If you would like to help with any of our projects please get in touch at info@craigencalttrust.org.uk or phone 07740 999514.

Marilyn Edwards



Beacon Runners



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beaconrunclub@gmail.com Facebook/beaconrunners



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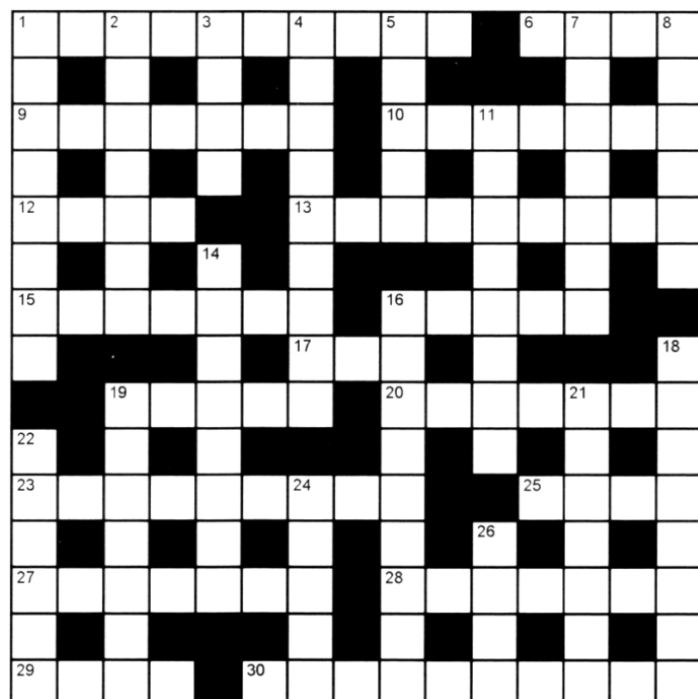
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THE PRIZE CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1. English county (10)
6. Stuart queen (4)
9. Lower limit (7)
10. Insanity (7)
12. Fury (4)
13. By degrees (9)
15. Card game (7)
16. Greenfly (5)
17. Steal from (3)
19. In front (5)
20. Dig up (7)
23. Not properly thought out (9)
25. Napoleon's exile island (4)
27. Feign (7)
28. N. American falls (7)
29. Unwilling (4)
30. Evaluation (10)

DOWN

1. Humorous verse form (8)
2. Nine sided figure (7)
3. Objectives (4)
4. Dad's Army (4,5)
5. Cuban dance (5)
7. Spotted big cat (7)
8. Prose compositions (6)
11. Female child (8)
14. Put together (8)
16. Plentiful supply (9)
18. Game bird (8)
19. Illness (7)
21. Let go (7)
22. Small church (6)
24. Credit or prestige (5)
26. A planet (4)

February Crossword Solution

Across: 1. Triumphant, 6. Lane, 9. Epigram, 10. Legible, 12. Away, 13. Ignoramus, 15. Evening, 16. Pylon, 17. Ere, 19. Chair, 20. Readmit, 23. Terminate, 25. Asti, 27. Cliques, 28. Elevate, 29. Sage, 30. Café Au Lait.

Down: 1. Teenager, 2. Imitate, 3. Mire, 4. Humdinger, 5. Nylon, 7. Albumen, 8. Breast, 11. Gorillas, 14. Tiramisu, 16. Persevere, 18. Strident, 19. Carping, 21. Mascara, 22. Stacks, 24. At sea, 26. Peru.

Congratulations to our February crossword winner:

Mr H M Lazmirski, Aytoun Crescent

Name

Address

Telephone

Completed entries by 30th June to: **1 Lammerlaws Road, Burntisland, KY3 9DT** or email **paulbriscoe1@gmail.com**

First correct entry drawn wins **£40**.

Solution will appear in the next Burgh Buzz issue.

Burntisland's Events Diary

JUNE

Saturday	1st	BGM Repair Café in the Toll Community Centre	10 am–1 pm
Sunday	2nd	Baby Big Top and circus skills workshops at Burntisland Primary School.	11 am–4 pm
Friday	14th	Acoustic Music Club at Burntisland Bowling Club	7.30 pm–10.30 pm

Friday 14th to Sunday 23rd June—Burntisland Civic Week, see page 12 for details

Saturday	15th	Civic Week—Parade Day, Crowning of the Summer King & Queen and Party on the Links	1.15 pm
Sunday	16th	Civic Week—Mirth of Forth Comedy afternoon at The Star	3.30 pm–5.30 pm
Tuesday	18th	Community Council meeting in the Burgh Chambers (also via Zoom)	7 pm
Saturday	22nd	Civic Week—5-a-side football at Recreation Park (youths 10.30 am, adults 2 pm)	
Saturday	22nd	Civic Week—Des and the Dingoes at the Golf Club	8 pm–midnight
Sunday	23rd	Civic Week—Beach Day, sandcastle competition (11 am) and raft race across the bay (3.15 pm)	
Thursday	27th	Police Community Surgery in the Library	11 am–12 noon

JULY

Friday	5th	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	12 noon–4 pm
Saturday	6th	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	10 am–1 pm
Friday	12th	Acoustic Music Club at Burntisland Bowling Club	7.30 pm–10.30 pm
Monday	15th	Burntisland Highland Games	11 am
Saturday	20th	Garden Fete at Burntisland Bowling Club	1 pm
Thursday	25th	Police Community Surgery in the Library	11 am–12 noon

AUGUST

Friday	2nd	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	12 noon–4 pm
Saturday	3rd	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	10 am–1 pm
Saturday	31st	Coffee Morning in the Erskine Church	10 am–12 pm

To include a public event taking place in August, September, or October in our next issue, email: **editor@burghbuzz.org.uk**



Burntisland Nature Watch

By Leo du Feu

Last edition I shared a list of all the bird species I encountered on a walk from school drop-off to Binn Pond. This time I head in the other direction, a walk from school to my station studio via the Lammerlaws. I always try to work at least a minute or two of nature into any route I take, anywhere.

Down Cromwell Road, from the hidden hilly woodland between nursery and old school a chiffchaff sang its name – “chiff chaff, chiff chiff chaff”, repeat, repeat. House sparrows chirped from gardens which haven’t yet ripped out their hedges. Starlings chattered on gutters. The mature trees leading onto the Links held magpies and a dozen or more jackdaws, “chack chack chack”. Across the Links, picking up a bottle, a can, bits of wrappers to put in bins as I went. Under the tunnel and up the steps towards the skate park. A female blackbird (female blackbirds are brown) foraged under the unkempt (unkempt is *great*) bushes alongside a scattering of house sparrows.

Walking the prom by swimming pool the tide was in so I couldn’t go down the slippery steps to retrieve the Burger King cup and straw, the crisp packet, the chunk of polystyrene preparing to break into a thousand tiny white plastic balls for fish to swallow. In the bay, lesser black-backed gulls rested on the water and close enough for a really nice view through binoculars was a large group of red-breasted mergansers. Twenty-three I first counted but moments later it was forty as they did their mergansery thing of diving down, rising up, diving down... You’ll be watching mergansers when suddenly all fifty have vanished beneath the waves and you wonder were they ever there at all. Moments later they’re all back. I scanned to the right. A pair of black and white ducks, one with long upturning needle tail – long-tailed ducks! Beautiful birds which I more often see off Kinghorn beach.

Binoculars still to my eyes and a chunky javelin of white hurled down through my vision. A gannet. Lots of gannets, gliding, diving. And smaller whiter finer birds

ballet dancing through the air before suddenly angling its dark line of bill and crest down to the waves, folding wings in as a gannet and arrowing into the water after their fishy prey. Terns are back! My first of the year. And eiders of course. Females in brown but so intricately patterned if you get to see one up close as I do when they nest on the Isle of May. Males are white, black patches on sides and tail, gorgeous soft blue-green on back of the head.

I was at the Lammerlaws by now and sitting nestled among rocks and shingle. I made a little watercolour sketch of two eiders. I saw turnstones camouflaged on the dark seaweedy tideline. A cormorant stood tall on the furthest point of rocks and when I lifted binoculars seven or more redshanks stood beside it, their orange legs (red shanks) shining out. Often shags perch there too, especially in winter. Not today. But out on Black Rock one held its wings wide, a dragon. I made another mini painting. Cormorant in the foreground, huge blue hulk of heavy-lift ship and rig in the background. Herring gulls flew past. Once a kittiwake. Once a crow.

I realised I was very cold, time to head to studio. Linnets flew up as they often do here on the Lammerlaws. Goldfinches too.

Down the path below South View a wren sang so loud between the cliff walls. Woodpigeons were in the trees where crows usually nest. Feral pigeons clattered on sloping slate roofs and a blue tit sang in an elder. Through the ‘waste’ ground (i.e. excellent wildlife habitat) between Scott Pallets and Calypso were rabbits, dunno, house sparrow, blackbird. Thousands of pale yellow primroses, so unassuming, so beautiful. Dog poo in tied bags here and there on top of them (why oh why). There should be chiffchaffs singing here too, and willow warblers about to arrive, but now that the Calypso woodland is destroyed the habitat they nested in is gone. A tree sparrow and a great tit were in the narrow bit of remaining hedgerow.

As I walked the final stretch between railway and The Fence a greenfinch sang ahead of me, a raspy wheezy song. I scanned the other side of the dock hoping for a heron or possibly small wading birds on the sloping harbour wall. Neither today. Twenty eight species on an hour and a half walk in our lovely town.

Join Burntisland Biodiversity on Facebook to be part of our growing community of people who care about our local wild creatures and places. Please get in touch with absolutely any naturey questions.



Broomhill Kids Gardening Club

Broomhill Kids Gardening Club is now running once again each week on Tuesdays from 3.30–4.30 pm until the end of October—including the holidays!

Sessions are aimed at children aged 1-8 and feature a variety of gardening, crafts and cooking activities. You can find us in

Broomhill Allotments, off Manse Lane and Lonsdale Crescent.

We’re grateful for the funding received over the winter—a massive £2,000 from the Co-op’s Local Community Fund and a fantastic donation of £1,200 from the Big Green Market in December. We plan to buy some fruit trees with some of the money, so thank you to both organisations for their support.

Isla Forbes

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