

BURGH BUZZ

Published by Burntisland Community Council

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July 2010



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Historic Station Building Restored

New Business Centre for Burntisland



2003

The listed building which was the original Burntisland railway station prior to the opening of the Forth Bridge has been tastefully transformed into a business centre and will be opened in August. Having lain empty and semi derelict for almost two decades, it has been



2010

meticulously restored and brought up to 21st century standards by Fife Historic Buildings Trust.

The project was completed thanks to grants and support from the Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic Scotland, Burntisland Development Trust, Fife Council, the European Regional Development Fund, Fife Environmental Trust and the Architectural Heritage Fund. The building will be owned and managed by GIA Business Properties Ltd, a community benefit company.

Further plans are well advanced for a second phase of restoration which will secure the conversion of the original platform buildings (old Railway Club) into additional business units for rent, together with new parking and the creation of an attractive landscape setting. Rail passengers will also benefit from a new ramp, safe access for wheel chair users, new stairs and a much improved station environment.

Steeped in history, the building was the northern terminal of the world's first roll-on, roll-off train ferry service in Victorian times. It served as one of the three main railway centres in Scotland and was a major employer in Burntisland. This iconic building could once again make a valuable contribution to the town's economy. It will offer good quality, affordable premises in an ideal location for small businesses to flourish. Enquiries to 01592 630195.

A Unique Look Back



1883

The East of Scotland 4mm Group, in conjunction with Burntisland Heritage Trust will exhibit a magnificent, award winning, working model of Burntisland Railway and Docks in 1883 in the Upper Library Hall. The exhibition will take place on Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th October and will be preceded by talks on the topic in the Museum of Communications on the Tuesday 5th and Thursday 7th October. See Page 5.

A NEW SCHOOL? – YES!

BUT NOT ON THE TOLL PARK !!

Many thanks to the 100 plus respondents to the school choice questionnaire. Numerous divergent views were expressed in comment, including some mild criticism of the questionnaire itself. There may have been minor flaws in presentation of the article and the design of the reply slip, but it is felt that we have been successful in stimulating interest and debate on a crucial issue which will seriously impact on the community for many years to come. Details of your replies are on Page 4

The expanded editorial team has had a busy few weeks putting together your articles and reports on a very eventful three months. Fine weather contributed towards a very successful Civic Week but was not so kind to the Highland Games. The programme of events during Civic Week was interesting and varied and catered for all age groups. We offer our congratulations and thanks to the organisers for their dedication and hard work behind the scenes, for the volunteers who gave of their time to ensure your enjoyment and safety and for the generous support of the sponsors. Without them, these traditions would simply die.

Thanks also go to the hundred odd respondents to the "New School" Survey. Although the total number of replies was slightly disappointing, the comments and choices gave a fair reflection of the views in the town.

Burntisland Primary School, despite being forced to operate in sub standard accommodation, has received an excellent inspection report. It begs the question – what could be achieved if the pupils and staff were working in modern, purpose built accommodation? A new school is urgently required but not before due consideration of all the factors involved and further consultation. The current economic climate must not be allowed to be used as an excuse for the provision of sub standard facilities.

Since the last issue, we have welcomed five new members to the editorial team – one computer guru to look after the web site and four senior pupils from Balwearie High to provide a youthful addition to our number (Morag excepted) – we might even encourage teenagers to read parts of the Buzz! They have already contributed to this issue and we look forward to publishing their work throughout their final year at Balwearie. The web site has been upgraded and is now more user friendly and offers exposure in colour and direct email access to our advertisers.

In our efforts to engage with the community, our crossword is proving more popular and we have had some commendable entries to the photo competition. Congratulations to the winners and grateful thanks to Shell U.K. Ltd and Briggs Marine for their generous donations of the respective prizes.

The editorial committee is now of a manageable size and will continue to report on events and issues affecting the community. Contributions from readers on any topic which may be of general interest are most welcome and will be given serious consideration for publication.

Bill Kirkhope
(Editor)

Community Council Bullets.....

The Community Council holds its regular meetings on the second Friday of each month at 7.00 pm in Burntisland Burgh Chambers. Members of the public are welcome to attend and listen to discussion or to raise matters of interest to them. The full minutes of these meetings are displayed in the Library. A summary of issues raised during the last three meetings is set out below.

- A full report on repairs to the A921 between Burntisland and Aberdour shows that all work was completed on schedule and the road re-opened as planned.
- Discussions are under way with the supplier regarding a refresh of the Christmas lights. Specifications and costs are awaited.
- Fife Council have approved a Shop Front Improvement Scheme, in which grants can cover up to 75% of costs (maximum £1,000). Application forms are available on www.fifedirect.org.uk or 08451 55 55 55 (extension 47 18 50).
- The Community Council will take over the project to renovate and landscape the War Memorial. Discussions are in hand to refine the plans and costs so that funding can be pursued.
- Scottish Water have refused to include Haugh Road flood prevention in their capital plans for the next 5 years. The Community Council have already been in touch with Marilyn Livingstone, MSP and are awaiting comment from the Minister, Roseanna Cunningham, before deciding on the next steps.
- A proposed Eco-village at Widow's Land currently presumes that the land will be purchased rather than leased. The Community Council have objected to the proposed sale.
- Three members of the Community Council, together with the three local members of Fife Council, visited the 5 short-listed sites for a new primary school. Other consultations will continue over the next several months. As a result of the visits, one new site (in the vicinity of the Beacon) will be assessed and others will be reviewed in more detail.
- As well as repairing storm damage, the opportunity has been taken to re-paint the sea wall in time for the peak tourist season.
- Fife Council are no longer organising the Exiles Reception which has been held on the Highland Games and Market Day for many years. The Community Council has taken on responsibility for this year, supported by sponsorship from the Showmen's Guild.
- Potential sites for a multi-user games arena are currently under investigation, with a potential contribution from Fife Council of £120,000.
- Additional re-cycling points are being sought at the request of residents in the vicinity of Piper Crescent / Grange Road.
- The Community Council accounts show a slight loss for the year, as a result of a significant outlay in purchasing new trophies and medals for the Scots Verse competition. However, the medals and trophies have an expected life of at least 10 years.

Elected Councillors' Availability**George Kay**

Telephone 01592 874920

Email: Cllr.George.Kay@fife.gov.uk

Susan Leslie

Burntisland Surgery - Second Friday of the month

6.15 - 6.45pm in the Burgh Chambers

(excepting public holidays)

Telephone 01592 643703

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

Ron Edwards

Telephone 01592 891330

Email: Cllr.ron.edwards@fife.gov.uk**The Burgh Polis**

By

Sergeant Scott Murray

As the new Sergeant in the town I welcome this opportunity to introduce myself. I am married with two young children and live nearby in Kirkcaldy. Prior to joining the Police I worked in the construction industry and since then I have served at Cupar, Auchtermuchty, Kirkcaldy and HQ Road Policing. For the past 14 months I have worked as a Team Response Sergeant at Kirkcaldy. I now welcome the opportunity to work within the communities of Burntisland, Kinghorn and Auchtertool.

Section Officers continue to work hard with local licensees and young people to reduce the availability and consumption of alcohol with the intention of reducing instances of anti-social behaviour. Officers regularly deploy on foot or pedal cycles and continue to confiscate alcohol from those underage or those who flout the law by drinking in public places.

Your local community officer, PC Gibb, has also been working hard with youngsters. He has not only been highly visible in and around the schools, he has also attended and assisted with the running of an out of school project - all with a view to assisting our young people to develop a sense of social responsibility and increasing their awareness of safety issues.

The Section has again secured the services of a full-time Community Traffic Warden. This role has changed recently as Wardens are tasked not only with parking issues, but also in assisting at serious traffic collisions, major incidents and are even trained to provide community safety and crime prevention advice. I would urge you to approach and engage with our own Warden.

In reiterating our wish to consolidate our links with the Community, I recently sat alongside PC Gibb at the July Community Engagement Meeting, held at the Toll Centre. Although the meeting was better attended than previously, I would still urge members of the community to attend these meetings and give us your views, concerns and ideas on how the police can assist you in making Burntisland a safer and more pleasant environment in which to live. .

The next meeting will be held on 6th September 2010 at 7.30pm at the Toll Centre. I look forward to meeting you then.

In non-emergency cases please contact us on

0845 600 5702**YOUR COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Burntisland Community Council (BCC) is elected every 3 years to ascertain, co-ordinate 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	Bob Smith	
Treasurer	Aneris Grant	
Secretary	Isabel Smith	
Minutes Secretary	Heather Leuchars	
Members	Ron Blanchard	Gillian Lowe
	Christine Dewar	Sheila McGregor
	Morag Douglas	Gordon McGregor
	Tim Hailey	Gordon Ritchie
	Sam Purvis	

BURGH BUZZ IS NOW ON LINE AT www.burghbuzz.org.uk

The Burgh Buzz is published by Burntisland Community Council but has editorial freedom to express views that are not necessarily those of the Community Council.

Editorial Committee

Editor	Bill Kirkhope
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Graphics & Typography	Paul Briscoe
IT	Richard Barrie
Members:	Alex Killin
Corri Allan	Patsy Killin
Kate McAuliffe	Linda Briscoe
Liam Bell	Amy Dickson

THIS IS YOUR BURGH BUZZ. Your comments, letters, articles and photographs are welcome. These can be submitted typed, handwritten or by e-mail to billvida@sealscraig.plus.com or to Bill Kirkhope, 39 The Wynd, Dalgety Bay, KY11 9SJ. (Tel 01383 822023). Items for the Summer Issue by 21st July at the latest. Advertising enquiries should be addressed to Morag Douglas, 73 High Street, Burntisland, KY3 9BD (Tel: 01592 871313) or e-mail morag.davidson@btconnect.com. For Community Council matters, please contact Alex Macdonald, Chairman (Tel: 01592 873314).



New School - Consultation

The choices and comments of over 100 respondents have been analysed and are set out below:

Two thirds of you opted for new build on a fresh site, whilst only one third for rebuild at Ferguson Place.

31 opted for first choice, new build at the Beacon Centre waste ground.

33 opted for first choice, re-build at the present site.

Other first choice re-builds were evenly divided with the highest (11) being the Toll Park.

Over two thirds of respondents expressed strong objections to the losing the green space at the Toll Park.

Using a scoring system of - 5pts - 1st choice, 3pts - 2nd choice, and 1pt - 3rd choice the various sites scored:

Beacon Centre waste ground	229
Rebuild at present site	187
Red Pond	100
Newbigging Farm	97
Toll Park	95
Coo Hill	90
Rebuild and Toll Park Annex	76

Many comments, often conflicting, were included and are summarised below:

- Burntisland Primary School is in urgent need of replacement which should be purpose built to cater for the modern curriculum.
- Green field space should not be used as a site for a rebuild school. The Toll Park is considered a vital community asset.
- The Community School concept should be introduced and best practice in established community schools should be examined before planning takes place.
- The Toll Park site is ideally situated for a Community School and most of the functions currently performed by the Toll Centre could be provided by the new facility.
- The Beacon site is also ideally situated for a Community school
- The present site should be sold for housing development and the revenue used to help finance a new school.
- Adequate parking should be provided in a new facility.
- In the event that a rebuild decision is taken, serious consideration must be given to the prolonged disruption to pupils and staff during the construction phase.

This exercise constitutes only a small part of the consultation process. On 14th June, a group of interested parties including Community Council and School Parent Council representatives visited 6 possible sites for a new school. All aspects of these sites were examined in the context of providing a two storey building accommodating 19 classrooms, 2 halls and a nursery. A well advertised Information Session took place in Burntisland Library on 17th June and views were sought also through a Fife Council web-site. Major decisions have not yet been taken and further public consultation will take place.



BPS Report Card

by
Victoria Dolatowska

Burntisland Primary School has had a very successful summer term. It started with a visit from Her Majesty's Inspectors of Education who found the school to have 'a very high standard of education'. The inspectors were impressed by the standards of learning and teaching, the motivation and behaviour of pupils and the professionalism of staff. The team also noted the excellent job the school does in overcoming facilities, which are far from ideal!

As particular strengths of the school, inspectors noted:

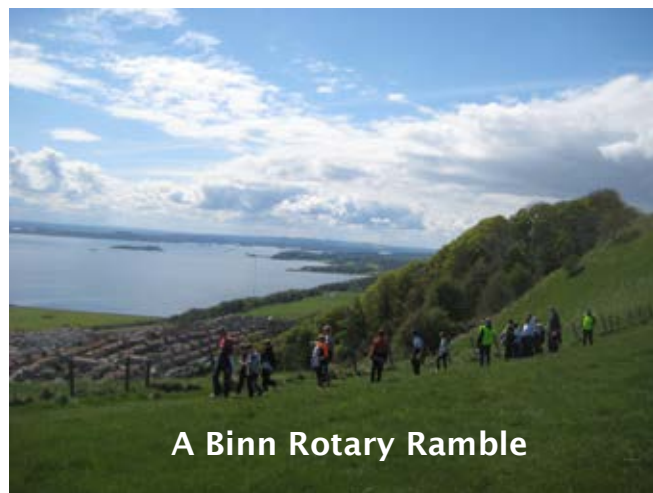
- The impact of leadership on improving the work of the school.
- Motivated, enthusiastic children who work well together.
- Improving attainment in English and Mathematics.
- An inclusive ethos.
- The involvement of a range of partners including the local community in working within the school to support the children's learning.

Children have also enjoyed many other events and achievements:

Our P7 quiz team won the zone final of the Rotary Schools' quiz. This was a fantastic achievement and the team went on to compete in the East of Scotland finals, although they did not win they were a credit to the school.

Children from P2/3 and P6/7 had a great time working together to rehearse and perform their pantomime "Cinderella & Rokerfella". Everyone agreed it was a massive hit and remarked on the talented youngsters we have at Burntisland!

Our P5 Pupils, and some parents, have enjoyed Rotary Rambles with their friends from the local Rotary Club. The children have all received a beautiful certificate and had lots of healthy fun participating.



A Binn Rotary Ramble

In May the whole school participated in our Healthy Living Week; children enjoyed Orienteering, Tae Kwon Do, Relaxation sessions, Rugby and much, much more. The week was a great success, thanks to all the parents and friends of the school who helped to make it so.

We are now looking forward to welcoming all of our 84 new P1s in August and wish a final farewell to our P7s who are off to start their secondary education. We wish all of them every success for the future!



BURNTISLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

By
Jo Hadoke

The Parent Council has had a busy term; after we met on 26th April there was a visit around the town on 14th June involving representatives of the Parent Council, Community Council, local councillors and Fife Council to view the potential sites identified for the new school. In addition to the five sites visited (Toll Park, Haugh Road, Seamill, Glebe Place and the Links) there was agreement to look at the land around the Beacon which is in Fife Council ownership. An information event was held by Fife Council at the Library on 17th June to give people further chance to see what areas are being discussed and to offer their feedback. A further event is planned for later in the year to include the land around the Beacon and to offer everyone another chance to see what is happening. Please come forward with your views to assist in providing the right facilities for the School and the town.

The Inspection Report from the HMIe visit in the first week of term was very impressive - the pupils and staff are to be congratulated on performing very well, especially in the move to adopting the new Curriculum for Excellence. Recognition of the involvement of local individuals and community facilities in enhancing educational opportunities for the pupils was made in the report.

Thanks to the Police, the traffic problems have reduced around the School - hopefully the improvement in driver behaviour can be kept up as it really does make a big difference to everyone's safety.

We wish the oldest pupils good tidings for their move to High School and we welcome all new pupils to the school when term starts again for pupils on 18th August. The Parent Council AGM is to be held on 6th September - all parents and carers are invited to attend.



Guided Heritage Trail Walks

Having been blessed with excellent weather, the guided walks of the Burntisland Outer Heritage Trail have proved very popular. Almost thirty visitors and local residents have taken part in the three walks so far. These will continue to take place on the last Friday of the each month until September. They leave from the Heritage Trust office at 1.30 pm. and basically follow the perimeter of Burntisland, including the Binn. During the 3 hour hike, participants will learn much about Burntisland's rich historical and industrial past. Walkers participate at their own risk, should be reasonably fit, wear sturdy shoes/boots and clothes commensurate with the prevailing weather conditions.

Inner Heritage Trail guided walks commenced on Wednesday 7th July and will continue each Wednesday until the end of August. They leave from the Heritage Trust office at 1.30 pm and visit the Town Chambers, 16th Century Parish Church, Rossend Castle and historic landmarks in the centre of the town.



HERITAGE NEWS

by
Ian Archibald

Burntisland Heritage Trust's summer exhibition celebrates its 16th season and is now open until Saturday 25th August. The main component is "Reach for the Stars" featuring the life and times of Mary Somerville. She became one of the most gifted mathematicians and scientists of the nineteenth century. It includes the story of how her Burntisland childhood influenced her later life and pursuits. Mary Somerville has been used as an inspiration to young people and the heritage project has directly involved Burntisland pupils from Primary Six and Seven. The exhibition includes a DVD showing their involvement in the science workshops. In addition, and backed by Fife Council's "Celebrating Fife", there is a comprehensive display covering over 30 other notable people from Burntisland's colourful past. The exhibition can be seen at Burntisland Heritage Centre, 4 Kirkgate, Burntisland. It will be open on Wednesdays from 1.00pm to 4.00pm and on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 11.00am to 4.00pm. Also available for viewing and browsing are videos and large collections of other types of historical material relating to the town's fascinating history. Admission is free.

BURNTISLAND 1883 COMES HOME

Burntisland 1883 is the name of a large model railway depicting late Victorian Burntisland built by the East of Scotland 4mm Group and is to be exhibited by Burntisland Heritage this autumn.

Back in 1883 Burntisland was very important from a railway point of view. The Forth Bridge and the connecting railway to Inverkeithing had not been built and Burntisland was the Southern terminus of the North British Railway system in Fife and the North. Passengers and goods had to transfer to ferry boats at Burntisland which took them across to the Firth to Granton. Passenger trains ran from Burntisland to Perth and to Tayport, where another ferry took passengers over the Tay to Broughty Ferry for Dundee. Goods trains as well as coal trains from the West Fife coalfield also added to the activity on the railway.

The Model shows many features from 1883. Easily recognisable are the buildings around Harbour Place, including the recently restored station building. This area also shows the Forth Hotel, more recently the railway 'Control' offices, now sadly demolished. The passenger pier and the goods pier with its intricate operating model of the world's first roll on roll off ferry terminal are all shown on the model. In the West Dock section there is an ingenious working model of an hydraulic coal hoist, another significant facility where Burntisland led other ports.

On Burntisland 1883 there is a wealth of model locomotives, all hand-built. They are seen working passenger trains into the station and goods trains to the ferry pier and the docks, while shunting engines sort out coal wagons painted with the names of various Fife collieries. Some fine ship models also grace the harbour.

The model has been displayed at various exhibitions throughout Britain, picking up a number of awards for excellence en route. Burntisland 1883 does justice to a now almost forgotten part of Burntisland's heritage and is a valuable reminder of times gone by.

Burntisland Heritage will be working in partnership with local schools with preview presentations and visits to the exhibition.

Burntisland 1883 can be seen at the Upper Library Hall on Saturday and Sunday 9th and 10th October. There are also two talks on related subjects at the Museum of Communication on Tuesday and Thursday 5th and 7th October.

“That Blooming Boat”

by
Sheila McGregor
(*Blooms Co-ordinator*)



“Burntisland Blooms” now has a boat! It is located in the small bed owned by Fife Council, on the west side of the Cromwell Road, opposite Craighkennochie Terrace.

It is funny how things happen. I was standing in the bank talking to the teller about sponsoring a hanging basket next year when a voice behind me said “Are you Burntisland Blooms? Do you want a boat?” That was perhaps the last thing on my mind at that particular moment, I must admit, but I knew that Donald, the Fife Council gardeners’ foreman was looking for something in which to put a floral display. However, when I told my new benefactor this, he insisted that the boat had to be part of Burntisland Blooms and had to stay in the town.

Thus a joint effort to get the boat in place got underway. Donald and his team collected the boat and put it in place along with the anchor that used to be on the Links – no mean feat, I might add. My husband, Gordon and his friend, Frank Park had fun painting it in seaside colours to add to the nautical theme. Then Donald and his lads planted it up with a wide variety of stunning plants to achieve a very beautiful effect. We hope the town will enjoy it.

High Street Project: 2010

30 hanging baskets that have been sponsored by High Street shops, businesses and a resident, are now in position.. Without their cooperation, this project would never have got off the ground so I would like to thank the following sponsors very much indeed for their support:- **Watsons of Leven, Stuart’s of Buckhaven, Call Clean Dry Cleaners, Lynn’s Fruit and Veg, Romano’s Fish Bar, Reid-Howie Associates, Lloyds TSB Bank, Londis Store, Messrs Brown & Gilmuir, The Silver Tassie, The Star, Boho Chic Hairdressers, Ladbroke’s Commission Agents, Cleavers Restaurant, Harry’s Cabs, Ferrier & MacKinnon, Reflections Hairdressing, Zenith Health & Beauty, W Cameron, Butchers, Billy Brown’s, Costcutters, Lloyds Pharmacy, Hair.Comb, The Co-operative Group and Mr Steve Shaw.**

Special thanks go to Andy Davis and his team at Archway Metals who fabricated and erected the hanging brackets. Andy’s generous sponsorship over the last two years is greatly appreciated.

The Water Babies

The early risers in the town will no doubt have seen Gordon and Frank going about their watering “duties” at 0600hrs to avoid the traffic. I am usually in the Land of Nod at that hour and can only commend them for their commitment and loyalty to the Blooms project. Without all their hard work, we would have no lasting floral displays because they can easily use up to 200 gallons of water during a hot spell. However, it does restrict us hugely as we cannot be absent from Burntisland for more than a few days during July to September. I have one gentleman who has offered to assist if we are away but it does need 2 people working together so I am again requesting someone to double up with him. Surely in a town of some 6000 residents there is someone willing to give up a few hours to help us to keep the town looking bright and welcoming during the summer months..

A Traders’ Association for Burntisland?

There may be an opportunity for local shops and businesses to offer their customers a service which is among the best in Fife.

Business people in Kirkcaldy have shown what is possible when they get together. It is early days for their new Business Improvement District, but every shopper in Kirkcaldy is likely to enjoy a better shopping experience.

However, the downside is that some of Fife Council’s funding for the Kirkcaldy BID came from the budget for Burntisland. So if we do nothing, there will be less investment in the town and at the same time people will prefer to shop in Kirkcaldy.

The Community Council is keen to support the formation of a Traders’ Association for Burntisland. It would give a powerful voice for local business people and could help to stimulate a local initiative along similar lines to the Kirkcaldy BID. However, we can only go so far. Ultimately, the heart and soul of the organisation must rest with the traders themselves.

Such an association has been successful before. The Christmas lights which adorn the High Street every year was an initiative of the then Traders Association about 20 years ago. The Community Council took on responsibility for the lights only when there was a risk that they might fall into disuse.

The Community Council will do what it can to help get a new association off the ground. However, we need to know whether there is enough demand. To help assess the potential, I’d like to know whether there is a desire for a first meeting.

Such a meeting could perhaps have a speaker from the Federation of Small Businesses or the Fife Chamber of Commerce. At the same time, the nucleus of the association could be formed. I will happily organise the location, form and content of an exploratory meeting if there is enough interest.

Please get in touch by email (alex_mac@btinternet.com) or phone (873314) if you’re in business in the town and would like to help take things forward.

Alex MacDonald
Chairman
Burntisland Community Council

SOME GRAVE THOUGHTS ON BURNTISLAND BURIALS



The Kirkton Churchyard

By

Hamish Brown



Burntisland Cemetery

Burntisland has two kirkyards and a cemetery. You might say the dead centre of town is where the lines intersect. There's interest to be found in all of them, often strange, sometimes amusing.

Wandering around Scotland I've come on gravestones written in Arabic, Hebrew, Greek, Turkish, Polish, Russian, Chinese, Gaelic, French, German and at the Kirkton one in Dutch. For a Captain Kamp (1871) it reminds of the Forth's trading connections with the Low Countries. Most stones at the Kirkton have either disappeared or have become illegible. The cemetery, being the most recent burial ground, has many stones telling odd facts or stories. I have one favourite, situated centrally up near the far wall.

"In loving remembrance of Pete (Petronella Hendrick) Born in Providence, Nickerie, Surinam, 20th August 1829, Died at Hilton, Burntisland, 28th November 1917. For over 60 years the faithful and devoted nurse and friend of the family of Robert Kirke, Greenmount, and Nickere, Surinam. Gone to the Happy Land"



Brought as a slave from South America to look after the children of sugar plantation owner, Robert Kirke, she was offered a voyage back when the children had grown up. She refused to leave "her family" and was a Burntisland buddy with a rich Fife accent.



But it is round the historic Parish Kirk that we find a surprising amount of traditional interest. Back two centuries ago literacy was not so universal so symbolism was important with the majority of these being the symbols of mortality and immortality. There's one stone topped off with quite gruesome skulls to point the former. Next to the path beside the Kirk, low on the east face is a stone bearing a rhyme of a warning nature,

"Read here as you pass by/ Look at the grave wherein I lie/ From cares and troubles I'm set free/ Mourn for yourself and not for me."

There are several anchors, again relating to the sea and trading connection but, often having a symbolic note too: "Anchored in the Faith" and so on. Above the door of the Kirk there is an anchor which is shown upside down as it were but, of course, this is saying "Anchored up there!" One anchor is on a stone for the "Clerk of Harbour Works".



Perhaps the finest stone in this Kirkyard is one to a merchant (a bit further on from the rhyme). We

know he was a merchant because of the large, fancy figure 4, except that it is shown back to front. Either way, this was the symbol of traders and merchants. Its earliest use goes back to the 12th century. The deceased was obviously a well-to-do merchant for he had a coat of arms on a rather grand stone. The balanced scales is a secondary symbol of merchants. The ribbon on the stone bears the blunt inscription "Memento Mori" (Remember death). The crossed bones is another hint at our mortality, as is the hour glass on gravestones: Upright suggests that "time is running" while lying on its side indicates "time has run" Cheery Eh? I'll leave you to find the skeleton in the Kirkyard!



One stone shows a crown over a hammer which points to the Guild of Hammermen, those who worked in metal, from watchmakers to blacksmiths and included guns. They, and strangely the souters (cobblers) were the only tradesmen with the privilege of having the Crown symbol over the tools of their trade. You'll also find a mason's stone with set square and dividers on it and a hand holding an open book is either simply showing the Bible or, quite often, indicates either a minister or school teacher.

The favourite stone in Burntisland has to be the one to John Arnot. It is on the bank facing the SW corner of the Kirk. He was a cadger, a barrow boy who would move anything smallish about the town. He is shown with his big bunnet and bare feet and the wording indicates he was not quite mentally sound. Despite this, he had a marvellous memory and could remember the minister's hour long sermon word for word. During the week he would visit the sick and weak and repeat it to them. Sadly, one night in the pub some students played a prank by putting snuff in his pint. This concoction proved fatal to poor John Arnot.

Hamish Brown, Burntisland writer and photographer is the author of "A Scottish Graveyards Miscellany" (Birlinn) which is the authoritative and entertaining book on everything to do with kirkyards.



Burntisland First Aid

By

Alex MacDonald

A beautiful, but long, day in the Borders saw four of our members treating 43 patients for an assortment of injuries. With early intervention, no hospital referrals were required but we asked for medical assistance in two cases. The event was a cross-country challenge in which about 500 walkers covered up to 30 miles in aid of two charities. With a 6:00am start and a return to Burntisland about 11:30pm, it had been a full day's work for all of us. Fortunately, it was punctuated by excellent food and great company, including radio specialists, Army personnel and a medical / nursing / physiotherapy team. All worked wonders in a smooth and well-planned operation.

"A quiet moment in a hectic day"



Back in Fife, we spent one day covering three different events, which stretched our resources to the limit. Two of our members treated 23 patients at one event. At another there were no injuries, whilst at the third we dealt with one patient who had fractured his foot in three places.



"Getting ready for Hearts & Heroes"

It's a busy time for us but we've still been able to respond to a few late requests for first aid cover. We've also been able to squeeze in some short courses in first aid.

Between now and September, we have a variety of horse-riding, motocross and quad-racing events in the calendar, from Leuchars to Duns, with enquiries also from Perthshire. We're also still in contact with the Scottish Ambulance Service about a possible First Responder service in Burntisland.

However, we can only do all of that with the right members and the right training. Our next public course will begin in September, running on Wednesday evenings in Burntisland Fire Station. Enquiries are always welcome, to any member or to Alex MacDonald on 873314, or via our website at www.bfast.org.uk.

Burntisland Public Library

Burntisland Library are running [Bookbug Sessions](#) which provide Free Story, Song and Rhyme Sessions for babies, toddlers, pre-school children and their families.

Sessions for Babies aged 0 – 18 months will be held on the following **MONDAYS** at 2.15pm: 6th September; 4th October; 1st November and 29th November.

Sessions for Toddlers aged 18 months – 4 years will be held on the following **WEDNESDAYS** at 10am: 25th August; 22nd September; 13th October; 17th November and 15th December.

In order to optimise numbers at each session a booking chart will be kept at the library during the week prior to each event. Bookings will be taken on a first come first served basis until the session is full. For details of these and all our other library services contact 01592 583203 or e-mail Burntisland.Library@fife.gov.uk

Over 70s Christmas Treat

Preparations are well underway for this year's Christmas Treat which will take place in the parish church halls on December 4th. Thanks to Celebrating Fife and Neil's coaches, this year we are able to provide transport to and from the treat and more details will follow in the next issue. Also thanks to Celebrating Fife, we are able to afford to bring in some different entertainment this year.

Our 2011 calendar has now been printed and is for sale in The Heritage Centre and The Star. We also hope to have it in more outlets towards the end of the year. Our tombola at the civic week parade day raised £170 and we are planning a coffee morning for August in the Young Hall. More details will be on the town notice board as soon as dates are finalised.

Burntisland Pipe Band



2010 has been a fairly busy year for the band with fund raising, contests and local engagements. The band was out and about in Cowdenbeath, Kirkcaldy and Leven, raising nearly £1000.

The band has welcomed some new members, some members who have returned but we have also lost a few. All in all, the numbers are quite healthy. We were unable to fulfil our plans to form a Grade 4B band this year but are hopeful that we will be able to do so next year through the recruitment of more children over the coming months.

We have been in contact with a number of possible tutors for side, tenor and bass drum tuition to compliment the wealth of experience already within the band. With the benefit of our structured learning program we hope to have a new batch of youngsters ready for next season. The band is also actively teaching the more mature individual who like me left it a bit later in life to start playing.

Anyone wishing to learn to play the great highland bagpipes or drums can come down to the band hall on East Leven Street on a Monday or Thursday evening.

The band has had an indifferent start to the 2010 season with good results in the minor competitions but not so great at the major contests. The season started well with the band picking up a prize in the first contest of the season at Dunbar. The following week we came crashing back to earth at the first major, Scottish championship, where we were well out of the prizes. The season has continued in that vein with the band picking up a second place at Thornton in Grade 4 and third in Grade 3 on Sunday 18th July at Thornton Games. We proudly played at our own Highland Games in Burntisland, the second oldest in the world, on Monday 19th July in our home town.

Our next outing is a trip to Belfast where they will try to improve on the previous results at major contests. The event is being held in the grounds of the Irish parliament, Stormont.

More details about the band can be found at the web site:

<http://www.burntisland-and-district-pipe-band.co.uk/>



The Sands has lots to offer everyone. Whether it's a quiet drink, or something to eat from our extensive menu of locally produced foods, attending a function in our large, fully equipped lounge or even an over-night stay. Our aim is to make your experience something special.

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TELEPHONE: 01592 872230

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www.burntislandsands.co.uk

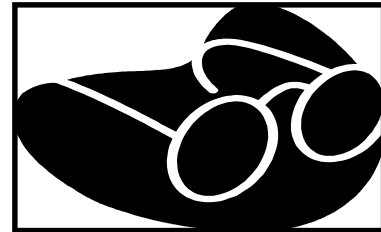
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MOC Summer Exhibition

by
Dorothy Brankin

This year, the Museum of Communication at 131 High St, Burntisland, has added Mary Somerville to its list of **Great Scots** – outstanding Scottish inventors and innovators in the field of communications, science and technology who have changed our society – and the world – for all time. Across the centuries, right up to the present moment and the very latest nanotechnology, inventive Scots have dominated the world of science.

Here are a few favourites that feature in our current exhibition.....

The latest addition is **Mary Somerville (1780 – 1872)**, the great, self-taught Astronomer, Mathematician, Geographer, Writer, Linguist and Artist.

We show images and details captured by state-of-the-art telescopes and microscopes and wonder what would Mary have thought of these – and more significantly – *what could she have added to our knowledge today??*

Stepping back in time, can you imagine a world without **Alexander Graham Bell's** telephone?

Or consider the outcome of WW2 without **Robert Watson-Watt's** RADAR.

John Logie Baird's contribution to the 20th century has totally revolutionised the way the entire planet relaxes and spends its leisure time!

Even in pre-electric days, talented Scots came up with amazing ideas!

In 1795, **Lord George Murray's** Optical Telegraph could signal from London to Plymouth and back (over 400 miles) in five minutes!....Fast horses took about 5 days!

David Brewster's optical studies led to vastly improved lighthouse lenses that saved countless lives, whilst **Kaleidoscope**, his whimsical toy, has delighted young and old for two hundred years!

The list grows. **Alexander Bain** designed and patented an electric clock before 1850, ensuring the safe running of the newly appointed Railways.

Lord Kelvin supervised the successful laying of a transatlantic telegraph cable. (In 1865, **one word** cost £1.00 to transmit !!)

Towering above all these is **James Clerk Maxwell**, a man who died in his 40's but whose sheer brilliance has illuminated the path for the entire scientific world to follow since then... Einstein accorded him such importance that Maxwell's portrait was the only photograph displayed in his office!

The pioneering spirit continues! In the late 20th century, Scotland became a world focus for innovation and excellence in the emerging electronics industry.

Our exhibition shows the world's smallest colour television, with a screen size of 6mm, developed in Edinburgh and certified in the Guinness Book of Records! We display a webcam, also developed in Edinburgh: it has 3.2 Mp resolution with auto focus and the whole unit is smaller than a sugar cube!

The exhibition is open every Wednesday and Saturday until the end of September.

A regular series of Evening Lectures is held at monthly intervals. For further details, please e-mail mocenquiries@tiscali.co.uk or phone 01506 823 424..... We look forward to meeting you!



Rotary Club of Burntisland & Kinghorn

The beginning of July brought to an end a very successful Rotary year under the stewardship of President Derek Thomson. Ably assisted by his convenors, he guided the Club to record sums in fund raising which assured generous donations to charities and worthy causes both at home and internationally. Equally important was the fun and fellowship enjoyed by members during Club activities, particularly the weekly meetings at the Sands Hotel where average attendance was commendably high. Although membership remained static for the year, the Club recently mourned the death of founder member John Thomson, whose wit and unique Scottish candour will be sadly missed.

The last fund raiser of the year was a sell-out Charity Concert by the "Glasgow Phoenix Choir" at the Adam Smith Theatre. The choir lived up to its billing and reputation with a magnificent rendition of a varied and entertaining programme. This function, supported by the Fife Charities Trust, raised over £3,800. A large proportion of this sum will be used to purchase shelter boxes. These boxes are emergency packages containing a tent and essential supplies for a family of ten and were used extensively in the aftermath of the Haitian earthquake, last January.



Outgoing President Derek welcomes Joe Smith as President

At the first meeting in July, Derek formally handed over his chain of office to Joe Smith, the incoming president.

Joe's successor as Senior Vice President, Elaine Bowie will be continuing his enthusiastic support for the "Thanks for Life" and "Polio Plus" campaign to rid the world of polio. The Rotary movement in the UK has teamed up with the Eden Project and the International Bulb Centre in Holland to take part in "The Big Bulb Plant". On 2nd of October, Rotary Clubs throughout the country will join with community organisations, schools and individuals to plant purple crocus bulbs. The purple flowers represent the colour of the ink that children's fingers are dipped in after they have been immunised. The simultaneous springtime blooms of hundreds of thousands of purple flowers will be a graphic reminder to the public of the continuing fight to eradicate polio. The Club has ordered 10,000 bulbs and anyone interested in assisting with planting on 2nd October and brightening up Burntisland or Kinghorn in the spring, should contact Elaine Bowie (01592 267557).

Rotary is a world-wide, service organisation which was founded in the USA over 100 years ago. Members of the B & K Club in doing their bit for communities both locally and overseas, organise and take part in many varied but always enjoyable activities. If you are interested in finding out more about Rotary, contact Derek Thomson on 01337 860654 or visit the website www.ribi.org

BURNTISLAND EVENTS / CIVIC WEEK by Carol Kirk

This was probably one of our most ambitious programmes to date with months of planning, budgeting, form filling and problem solving leading up to the event. For a small group of volunteers it was a very daunting project. We hope we gave the whole community the chance to come together, to have fun and to enjoy a varied programme of many events.

While we concentrated on the Parade, Party and the "Burntisland Sounds Great" music festival, other groups and organisations played their part throughout the week. Our thanks are extended to them. It was particularly gratifying to see new items being added to the programme with the Parish, St.Serfs and Erskine churches, the Sands Hotel and the Toll Centre Wednesday Club all getting involved. It was great to witness the enthusiasm of the young people who competed at the Skatepark and the Shipyard Football ground and those who performed with the Young Bands in the marquee. Overall, a fantastic basis to develop in the future.

The Marquee made a return to the Links, creating a wonderful focal point but it demanded an unprecedented level of funding, extremely hard work and sponsorship. The marquee now costs in the region of £5500 which includes hire, insurance, toilet provision, security and power supply. Much of the funding secured was a "one-off" and regrettably, this may be the last time we can afford it. We are most grateful to all the sponsors listed on the programme.

We have a commitment to continue the Summer Queen Crowning, Parade and Party and pay for all other entertainment and marketing, bringing the total budget for the week to £10000. This is a huge sum to find particularly when support from Fife Council, previously was given free of charge, has now been withdrawn. We were extremely grateful for the practical assistance given this year by the Community Payback team.

As to the future, it is likely that the Civic Week Committee will be re-formed before next year's events to allow grant applications to be made on behalf of this independent group. It can only happen however if sufficient people are willing to volunteer. There will be a public meeting towards the end of the year and we would appeal for anyone interested to come along. Alternatively, anyone interested may contact the secretary (872164) or e-mail carolgkirk@yahoo.co.uk

A short DVD of photographs covering the Crowning of the Summer Queen and 'Burntisland Sounds Great' events can be seen at Burntisland Heritage during the summer exhibition opening hours.

"Ready Steady Clarke"

Civic Week's Culinary Creations

by
Helen Mabon

What a night! - Location - the Burntisland Sands Hotel function room. The doors open on a sunny, warm, balmy June evening. An eager audience including a healthy male presence, occupying every available seat. A well organised cooking demonstration suite near the hotel kitchen, displaying a colourful array of vegetables and fruits, implements and cooking paraphernalia, around a portable cooking range. Large screen and overhead camera set up so nothing would be missed by anyone there. Val and daughter Alison immaculate in kitchen blacks took their positions, heightening anticipation. A drum roll, a Hollywood style introduction.doors opened and there he was - Clarke Linton - resplendent in kitchen reds, head mike on and immediately in control behind the demonstration set.

In his introductory words of aiming to entertain as well as inform, he listed the dishes he would do. Bacon and eggs, fish fingers with tomato sauce, fish and chips...? Then he proceeded to deliver a master class in fine cuisine, interspersed with amusing tit bits, tips and tantalising pieces of information from his remarkable career. This, is no ordinary cook using the 'chef' tag. This is someone who served an apprenticeship in the traditional kitchens of the five star North British Hotel, Edinburgh, who has creative cooking in his veins, and from whom much can be learned. (I'm told on good authority that the much lauded Tony Singh, chef owner of the Oloroso in Edinburgh, began his working life under Clarke's tutelage.)

One dish followed on from another with speed and flair - 'Bacon and eggs' metamorphosed from belly of pork into fat free, melt in the mouth pork, crackling and julienne potatoes with egg in the sauce. Classy 'fish fingers' with freshly made tomato sauce was followed by superior sweet and sour chicken, then fish en papillote (fish cooked in paper), thrilled the taste buds with slivers of ginger - absolutely scrumptious - but do remove the paper before eating, unlike one enthusiastic gourmand on the night! Chips, were balls of potato done in olive oil. Lots of 'dods of butter' in true French kitchen style, as well as "the ubiquitous olive oil".

Finally, the food tasting, brought in on numerous trays prepared by the expert team from the kitchen. Food tasting? This was a banquet, with additional dishes of pak choi, cous cous, red cabbage and more. A complimentary glass of wine and glorious sweets completed the most memorable of nights. Encore please!



Clarke & daughter Alison

Photo Competition

GAMES DAY



Games Day commenced with the traditional Civic reception in the Burgh Chambers for visiting Burntisland exiles. Deputy Chairman of the Community Council, Bob Smith and Chieftain of the Games, David Jeffrey welcomed home six visitors from afar afield as Dubai and Invercargill on the Southern tip of New Zealand. Following the reception as the rain began to fall, Burntisland Pipe Band led the parade, which included Summer Queen and her entourage, through the town to the games arena on the links. The 358th Games, the second oldest in the world were declared open..

Despite the atrocious weather which followed, thousands of visitors arrived to join in with our town's biggest annual event. The Highland dancers were sent off to the Parish Church Halls where the competitions for the youngest groups were judged. At two o'clock they returned to the main arena and continued – but only for an hour. At 3 o'clock, just as the Bin Race started, the heavens opened again. The rain didn't affect any of the other events, except to slow down the running and cycling speeds. As for the Bin runners, they all did remarkably well: Peter Wombwell, the winner came back in just over 25 minutes. Considering the conditions under foot, this was a considerable achievement!

This year, for the first time all the runners were presented with a medal, to recognise their participation and the tremendous effort required

Civic Week in Pictures



Summer Queen & her Entourage



Whoops!!



The Parade Begins



Praise on the Links



A Scouting Sing-Along



Parade Finale



Football Crazy

Facebook: Friend or Foe?

By Corri Allan

THIS DAY AND AGE

TECHNOLOGY REINS SUPREME

over our lives. We have become slaves to the World Wide Web; and there is one thing in particular which sucks an average 3 hours out of our lives every day: Social Networking.

This is an issue over which many are divided. Some argue that sites such as MySpace and Facebook are a modern danger to society. Identity theft is thriving. The UK's under exercised children are continuing to gain weight and we are "losing touch" with the old means of communication with each other. Conversely, many believe that it is through sites like Facebook that they have been able to reconnect with family members and old friends. Some also see it as a highly effective way to remain in touch with what is happening in the world. Social Networking helps combat ignorance. But which view is correct?

Britain has now earned itself the title as the Sick Man of Europe.

By 2014, 2.5 million of our children will be overweight according to studies and 73% of teens on the internet spend the majority of their time on Social Networks. Hours can go by as they sit in front of the computer and a large proportion of that time will be spent on sites like Facebook. It is clear that the UK does not need another contributing factor to its poor health. So would it be better for the World (Wide Web) and for our health's sake, to oppose the existence of Social Networks?

However, though the sizes of our waistbands are expanding, so too it appears, is our tolerance and acceptance of others—and its all down to these sites.

A recent phenomenon took over the pages of Facebook as hundreds of people took part in a mass "Liking" session. A person would post "*Like my status and I will write something I like about you on your profile.*" For almost a week Facebook's newsfeeds

were swarming with positive messages for that brief time a real sense of community ensued. I savoured the moment as I looked at my screen, seeing the waves of kind messages being exchanged amongst my peers.

There are real dangers posed by the existence of Social Networks. However they also bring about kindness amongst people. It provides them with a space for sharing their thoughts, pictures of loved ones' and the opportunity to connect with the world. People can feel like they belong to the community of the world and it is all down to sites such as Facebook and MySpace.

But perhaps you feel that this is all overshadowed by the threat of the Unknown. How do we know, after all, who is able to see our innermost worlds? Support or oppose Social Networks, one thing is for sure: The World Wide Web is a vast and scary place and is here to stay.

Midday Metal

By Liam Bell

Towards the closing date of the Burntisland Civic Week Parade (Saturday 26th June), bands and spectators made their way to the Marquee - located on the Links - to perform and appreciate the musical talent of Burntisland and the surrounding areas youths. Appearances were made from Manic Romance, Dont Know, Stance Fourteen, What Happens in Vegas and Atrium with the ages of members of each band ranging from thirteen to twenty three.

The weather started out relatively rough but that didn't stop droves of local youths appearing to support their friends' bands. Organiser of the event William Simpson, believed that the gig went very well and he would be glad to organise another in the coming years.



Survival Guide To Balwearie: Attention All Juniors

1 STAY AWAY FROM THE BIOLOGY POND

There has been a long standing rumour at Balwearie that should any new pupils become over boisterous they will be thrown in the pond. This has never happened as all first years have kept their behaviour in check, - but, should you get it into your head to bully anyone, it is guaranteed that you will be "swimming with the fishes".

2 REMEMBER THE ONE WAY SYSTEM.

The teachers at Balwearie are human, I promise, but should you decide to take a short cut to your next class that doesn't comply with the one way system, prepare for those "oh so nice" teachers to turn feral! Go against the system and you will be issued a Punishment Exercise. Depending on how evil the teacher is feeling, you will be made to write out a sentence repeatedly. So unless you wish to spend the best part of your youth indoors writing, just go with the flow!

3 GIRLS: DON'T THINK YOU CAN FOOL YOUR P.E. TEACHERS

There is a particular tradition amongst junior girls that they will try to avoid participation in PE at any cost. They will come up with ingenious ploys at subterfuge in the hope that they can avoid messing up their make up. Even the most sensitive girl will try to convince her teacher that she is allergic to chlorine to avoid swimming that will ruin her hair. BUT a warning - the teachers know that you are fibbing - they have heard it all before.

4 UNIFORM

To avoid utter humiliation, you had better make sure you comply with Balwearie's specified uniform. That means no trainers. And you had better make sure that your school shoes fit because, be warned, you will be doing a lot of walking. The school has a ridiculous number of stairs. You will need to wear sensible shoes to avoid waddling around like a duck!

Morning Mayhem

By Amy Dickson

As Civic Week was nearing to a close, young people from all over Fife descended on Burntisland to enter the skate park's first ever competition "Morning Mayhem". The fairly new feature, situated beside the Beacon Leisure centre, welcomed the competitors and spectators on Saturday 26th June.

Gordon Ruddiman, the main organiser of the competition told me that the idea originally came from young people. The Detached Youth Work Team asked what young people would like in the community and the competition was their answer. Young people from the town were also involved in the organisation and put the hours in every week to help make the event happen.



Prizes were awarded to the winners of each category and prizes were also given out for effort. The prizes themselves were donated from "Route One" and "Spokes". Music and DJ's were provided from Kirkcaldy's YMCA which added to the great atmosphere.

All in all, it was a fantastic day out for the whole family and some of the stunts were just spectacular. So, a big congratulations to the winners and I look forward to seeing the competition brought back next year. For more information on Route One: visit routeone.co.uk

The day turned out to be a massive success with the good weather, the atmosphere was buzzing. The competition itself was split into three categories consisting of BMXing, inline skating and skateboarding. To make the competition fair, it was also split into age categories which were: Under 12's, 13-14, 15-16 and 17 years and over.



The Toll Centre

Burntisland's Big Day Out

The Toll Centre Management Committee are still planning Burntisland's Big Day Out.

The Committee remains open to suggestions and contributions from any Organisation in the Area.

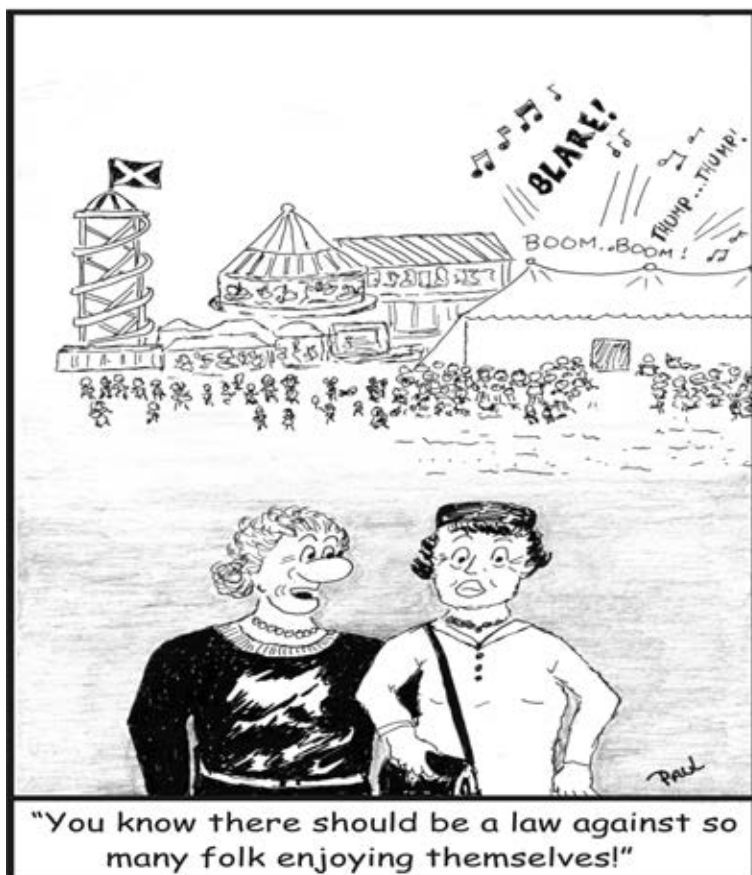
The next planning meeting will be on Wednesday 4th of August at 7pm at the Centre.

In respect of other activities, Youth Clubs will commence week beginning 30th of August.

Computer Classes will resume week beginning 16th of August. A variety of courses include "Computers for the Terrified", "Computers for the less Terrified", "Digital Photography", "Desk Top Publishing" and "Internet & Emails".

Courses may be free for anyone on specific benefits or hold an ILA account.

As some gaps remain in the Centre's programme, anyone wishing to make use of the facilities or enrol in a course should call 01592 872854 or log on to tollcentre.org.uk



"You know there should be a law against so many folk enjoying themselves!"

CADET REACHES OLYMPIC FINAL

On Saturday 29 May a team of 6 cadets (Sgt D McQuade, Cpl J Buchan, Cpl S Holland, Cdt M Hammond, Cdt K Kilgour and Cdt A Stewart) and 4 members of staff (CI A Hall, CI K Holland, CI S Munn and the CO) travelled to the national Indoor Shooting Centre at Aldersley in Wolverhampton to take part in the Sporter 3 position air rifle competition at the Aldersley Open Meeting 2010. On Saturday the team had the chance to train on the range under the guidance of CI Holland and CI Munn, before leaving to spend the night at DCAE Cosford. On Sunday the cadets took part in their first ever 3 position shooting competition which involves firing in the prone, kneeling and standing position. After firing 60 rounds the cadets were starting to feel the pressure of taking part in a national competition and as the score were verified they realised how well they had done especially for Cadet Ayden Stewart who had scored enough point to reach the Olympic final which is a shoot off between the top 8 competitors, cadet Stewart shot well and was placed fifth.

SCOTTISH ROBOTIC GAMES

On the 19 June, 8 cadets took part in the Scottish Robotic Games at Selex Galileo in Edinburgh. During the games cadets using radio controlled robots which they have built competed in an assault course race, a football game and a sumo competition against other teams from Scotland.

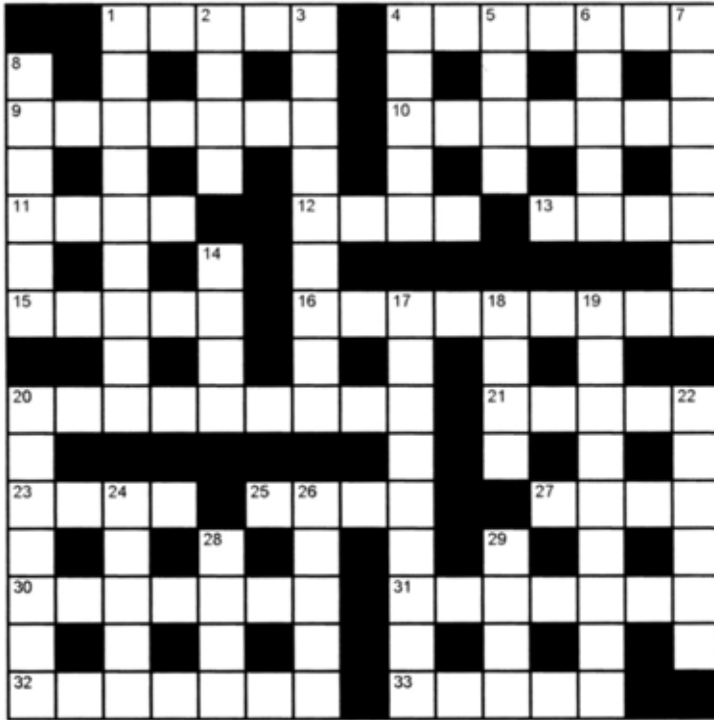
COMMANDANT AIR CADETS REVIEW

On Saturday 19 June 4 cadets attended the review of Dundee and Central Scotland Wing by the Commandant Air Cadets, Air Commodore Barbara Copper. The cadets took part in the review parade and took part in a display of radio controlled robots.

CAMPS

From the 10 to the 17 July, 4 cadets attended the Scotland and Northern Ireland Regional camp at JHFS Aldergrove and 3 cadets attended the Regional Radio Training camp at RAF Leuchars.

THE PRIZE CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1 French apology for chips (5)
- 4 Local Pub(7)
- 9 Geo. Hamilton IV Hit (7)
- 10 Diamond Type(7)
- 11 Schedule (4)
- 12Straits (4)
- 13 Local Pub (4)
- 15 'n' grab(5)
- 16 Spoke to (9)
- 20 Not actual(9)
- 21 Every village has one (5)
- 23 Local Pub(4)
- 25 Vinegar (4)
- 27 ... And Dave (4)
- 30 A sign with a sting! (7)
- 31 Japanese paper art (7)
- 32 Crime against the state (7)
- 33 Local Hotel (5)

DOWN

- 1 Burntisland is atown (9)
- 2 Swedish Furniture store (4)
- 3 Resolute (9)
- 4 Member of a panel (5)
- 5street kids (4)
- 6 Legal (5)
- 7 Went in (7)
- 8 Glasgow Market (6)
- 14 Norse God (4)
- 17 Not evergreen (9)
- 18 East Neuk Burgh (4)
- 19 Shaven Boverboys? (9)
- 20 To compose print (7)
- 22 Local Pub (6)
- 24 French River (5)
- 26 Local Pub (5)
- 28 Musical work (4)
- 29 Cry (Scots) (4)

ANSWERS IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE BUZZ

Name.....
 Address.....
 Telephone.....

First correct entry drawn will win a £25 voucher donated by Shell U.K. Limited. Send completed entries by 31st August to:

**The Editor,
 39 The Wynd,
 Dalgety Bay. KY11 9SJ.**

The solution to the Prize Crossword in the Spring 2010 edition
Across: 1 Close, 4 Cowslip, 9 Houdini, 10 Victory, 11 Ruck, 12 Binn, 13 Tyne, 15 Edits, 16 Reformist, 20 Selfishly, 21 Caper, 23 Sick, 25 Fete, 27 Bars, 30 Erasmus, 31 Galahad, 32 Destiny, 33 Towed.
Down: 1 Churchill, 2 Ovid, 3 Edinburgh, 4 Coven, 5 Wick, 6 Loony, 7 Payment, 8 Charge, 14 Asti, 17 Flyweight, 18 Rick, 19 Impeached, 20 Suspend, 22 Reside, 24 Class, 26 Essay, 28 Impi, 29 Claw.

The winner of the £25 voucher donated by Shell U.K. Limited was:
Mrs E Crichton, 5 Livingstone Drive, Burntisland



The Sting!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Editor's disappointment at receiving no letters to two issues of the Buzz was instantly relieved by the last minute receipt of the letter opposite. The contents clearly express the views of a "less than happy" Community Councillor. Is he your representative on a toothless advisory body to a top heavy, Fife Council bureaucracy? Let us have your views.

Contacts from exiles who access the Buzz through the website have also been muted. However, I did receive one email from Archie Robertson, formerly of Piper Crescent and in his own words "a former member of the hungry hill gang!" Now a doting grandfather enjoying his retirement near Portsmouth, he wrote to express his concern about the possible demolition of the Ferguson Place School. He wished to point out that the records of former Dux Medallists of Burntisland School, "painted in gold leaf, were hidden under a coat of emulsion on the wall leading to Mr Christie's office". He remembered that they dated back to the early 20th century and may be of interest to the Heritage Trust.

Initial enquiries suggest that these records may have been painted on a wooden board. The school will be contacted after the holidays but in the meantime, can any of our readers shed any light on this matter?

Bill Kirkhope
 (Editor)

Dear Sir,

I have lived in Burntisland all my life and at my present address for nearly thirty years. I feel that the standard of service afforded by various Councils over the years has deteriorated to the abysmally low level of the present. Consider what you see when looking out of your windows or walking around town - **behind** the wonderful façade of the Burntisland Blooms project.

On 21st July, I observed the following :

- 1 Outside my flat the drying area is overgrown with weeds, the small grass areas at the front and side need cutting and weeds are growing through the paving slabs and the kerb.
- 2 The shrubbery at the top of the Kirkgate/E/W Leven Street has been neglected and is in a state of disrepair.
- 3 In Sommerville Square and the pen leading to the High Street, weeds grow through the paving slabs and the grass needs cutting. (I would mention that yesterday, a council flat deck with mowers on board, appeared at the Church next door and gave the grass a trim)
- 4 In Seaforth Place the drains are silted up and floods every time it rains.
- 5 The Half Moon is overgrown and the trees will eventually dislodge the masonry. The stairs up to the Castle are in a similar state. Melville Gardens / Haddow Grove has weeds growing through slabs and kerbs.

I could probably list a lot more, but I am sure you get my drift. Perhaps the next time you travel to another town in Fife, ask yourself "What does that town have the Burntisland does not? And more importantly - Why? We all pay the same into the system! Maybe if it wasn't for apathy, I couldn't be bothered.

Sammy Purvis
 (Community Councillor)



Burntisland Art & Crafts Group

by
Vic Campden

The earliest reference to the group was contained in a report in the Scotsman in November 1910 in which Lady Eva Wemyss opened the seventh exhibition and competition of the **Burntisland Amateur Arts and Crafts Club**. Exhibits numbered over 600 and included handicraft, wood carving, marquetric, photography, painting, needlework and cooking.

Little more is known of the Club activities until the 1970s when Harry Strong, himself an accomplished water colourist, invited local artists to display their works in an annual Summer Exhibition of two weeks duration in the Burntisland Upper Library Hall. The exhibition gradually evolved from just paintings and drawings to include the work of local craft workers - ironically reverting to a similar format to the original exhibitions.

It was Harry's wish that regular meetings of local artists should take place. This came about in the late 1980s when weekly meetings of about a dozen interested bodies met every Thursday evening in the St Serf's Church Hall on Manse Lane. The group has dwindled over the years and now meets weekly in the Inchview Hotel. These meetings are mainly of a social nature although limited artistic activity does take place. The Group relieved Harry of his Exhibition responsibilities and continues to organise the Summer Exhibition. Several of the Group have also joined the more recently formed Erskine Art Group which has a healthy membership and participates fully in the exhibition. Perhaps the time is rapidly approaching when this newer Group will be invited to organise the Summer Exhibition

This year's exhibition will be held in the Upper Library Hall between th Aug and st July. However, financial pressures relating to the hire of the hall may lead to the demise of this popular tradition unless alternative, affordable premises can be found.

Daft for Crafts

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The Shipyard AFC

By
Drew Beveridge

Sunday 20th June saw the Club host the annual Civic Week 5 A-side competition for the local youngsters at Recreation Park. The weather was fine for what was a most enjoyable day with all the children taking part having a great time. The Shipyard 99's group stole the show winning the oldest age group competition beating their older P7 opponents in the final. Having attended a recent match between the Shipyard 99's and their Kennoway counterparts, which ended in a thrilling 2-2 draw, the standard of football from both sides was a joy to behold. Great credit must go to the coaches for the work they are doing and the quality of player that is being produced. Indeed, senior clubs are scouting these players for their own youth set-up's.

Pre-season training has started for the senior team with a few new faces arriving and everyone is hoping that manager Billy Whitehead can mould a winning team for next season. A few pre-season friendlies have been arranged with the highlight being a visit from **Heart of Midlothian U19's** on Saturday 7th August, kick off 2pm. This is the first visit from a Hearts side since they sent a team over to play the Shipyard in 1952 to open the redeveloped ground. It is hoped that the local public, particularly the kids, will come along and see this match.

The player of the year awards event at the **Inchview Hotel** was a great night, with over 70 people enjoying the fine carvery menu supplied by the hotel staff. Brian Cook won the Players award with Scott Chalmers winning the Committee award.

Forthcoming Events: The Club are again having a free Fun Day for all members of the youth set-up, which will take place on Sunday 1st August at Recreation Park, starting at 11am. All other family members are welcome, although there will be a small charge for them. Hopefully this will be as successful as last year's where only the weather spoiled a great occasion.



Burntisland Amateur Swimming Club

by
Meg Moor

Burntisland Swimming Club has existed for 124 years and even the recent floods failed to prevent its continuing success. On 30th March this year storms hit Burntisland and flooded the Beacon Swimming Pool. This did not stop our swimmers as the club arranged alternative swimming venues throughout Fife.

The annual Burntisland Civic Week Sprints took place despite the Beacon's closure. The event went ahead at Kirkcaldy pool and all swimmers, parents and friends enjoyed the event. The overall winners were:-

7 and under: **Ewan Johnston and Grace Mansfield**
9 and under: **Emily Burns and Alex Johnston**
11 and under: **Catherine Comrie and Greg Lewis**
12 and over: **Rebecca Turner and Greig Shepherd**

Now that we are back at the Beacon, we are looking for new members. Why not take up a new sport and meet new friends, come along on Tuesdays at 6.15pm and speak with a club member or visit our website on www.burntislandswimmingclub.co.uk

Next Year Burntisland Swimming Club will celebrate its 125 year anniversary, join an amazing club that has stood the test of time and waves!!



Burntisland Golf House Club

By
Dugald Carstairs

A fine spell of weather in May and June got the 2010 golf season off to a fine start at Dodhead, although the greenkeepers will have been pleased to see the rain in early July. And no doubt the members who volunteered to help with marshalling at this year's Open Championship will be praying for more rain so that they can parade in their official gear – if you see anyone on the High Street wearing an electric blue jacket with the Claret Jug logo on it, that'll likely be one of our volunteers. Like all the others, they did a fine job. Well done all concerned.

Most of the club championship tournaments have been played now: congratulations to the following winners (and well played everyone else):

Club Champion, Gents: Fraser Hutchison

Club Champion, Ladies: Mrs Marilyn Jardine

"B" Champion Gents : Steve Stevenson

Bronze Champion Ladies: Mrs Beth Collins

We've also ran several well attended and well received open competitions:

25 May, Senior Gents Open: the Duncan Trophy was won by D Goldie of Burntisland Golf Club.

8 June, Ladies Senior Open: the Dodhead Trophy was won by [GT to insert] from [GT to insert] Golf Club.

13 June, Mixed Open: the Glenardoch Scratch Trophy was won by S Calder & L Calder] from Uphall Golf Club. The Smeaton Handicap Trophy was won by E Clark and B Clark of Lochgelly/Kinross Golf Clubs.

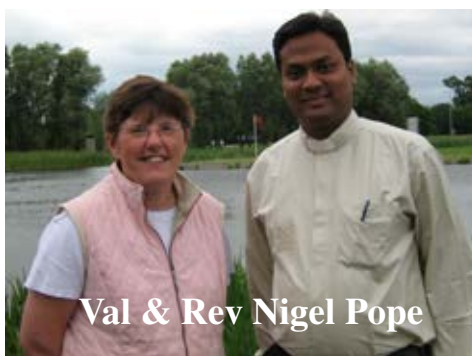
The Gents Open, played for the Fife & Donibristle Cups and the Kingsway Trophy, will be held on 31 July.

Sadly, a lack of entries has led to the Junior Open being cancelled. We'd like to rectify that next year, so just a reminder to the younger generation: membership at Burntisland Golf House Club is free up to the age of 12 and doesn't cost too much after that. If you're a bit older than a junior, don't despair – you can join now for the rest of the year for half the normal subscription rate and no joining fee. Contact the Club Administrator, Alastair Maxwell, on 01592 874093 or by e-mail at info@burntislandgolfhouseclub.co.uk.



By Canon Val Nellist Rector

In June we begin to wind down for the summer holidays but this year I had the privilege of hosting a three day visit from the Bishop of Calcutta, Ashoke Biswas and his chaplain Nigel Pope. It was a busy three days with visits around the Diocese to Perth, the Angus Glens and Stirling/Bridge of Allan, as well as meeting people locally. The purpose of the Bishop's visit was to pursue the possibility of a partnership link between our two Dioceses and it very much looks as if we will go ahead and establish the link. This is exciting because we will be linking with a Diocese in the Church of North India, a united church so that there will be possibilities for ecumenical developments here in Scotland. There are already a great many historical Scottish links with Kolkata, the city's current name though the Diocese retains the old name. Forty years ago several denominations, including the Anglican, Presbyterian, Lutheran, Baptist and Methodist churches in North India came together to form one church, retaining elements of each in their governance and their practice of worship.



In November I will return the visit together with Dominic Ind, Rector of St Saviour's, Bridge of Allan. Dominic is our resource person for interfaith dialogue as well as, like me having previous experience of India. Then in the spring of next year our own Bishop David will go to Kolkata to deal with the formal linkage business. For the future this will mean sharing prayer support, possibilities for mutual service by exchange of volunteers, youth and school exchanges, and training opportunities for clergy and laity.

Kolkata is home to the prestigious Bishops' Theological College and the Diocese of Calcutta has both primary and secondary schools for which it is responsible as well as a range of outreach projects caring for the poor and for AIDS sufferers. I look forward to sharing more about the link after November and I hope we will be able to bring some of our Indian visitors to Burntisland in the coming months and years.



Cool Burntisland - a project run by SCI (Earthship Fife) has been holding local events and activities to help householders, schools and community groups take steps to save cash and the planet.

Burntisland Primary School pupils have led the way. Since our 'Energy' and 'Food' Dudes arrived at the school last term the children have helped to reduce food and energy waste at home. Each family made simple pledges and the 3 classes who saved most won goodie bags. Overall the school managed to save **60,400kgs** of CO2!!! That's enough to fill **362 Double Decker Buses!**

Burntisland Scouts are celebrating twice over. In addition to saving enough CO2 to fill 116 double-decker buses, their work will count towards three different scouts awards. They've compiled a scrapbook detailing everything they've done to earn their awards. Come along to see it at 'Fun at the Loch', Kinghorn Loch on 28th August where they will tell you all about it!

So far we've helped 69 individuals and 3 organisations receive a free energy audit and advice to help with the costs of installing insulation or renewable energy technologies. If you would like a free independent energy audit of your home/community building then please contact caireen@sci-scotland.org.uk

We need your help! Over 300 residents have helped reduce Burntisland's carbon footprint by **337 tons** equivalent to **2022** double-decker buses - however we would like to save 1000 tons of CO₂ by Christmas.

Join us by making some simple pledges on our website

www.coolburntisland.org.uk

or complete a pledge card available in the library. It will only take a couple of minutes! All returned pledges will be entered into a competition to win £50.

What is Fair Trade?

By
Bruce Stuart

Almost every page of the Buzz advertises Burntisland as Fife's First Fair Trade Town, but what is Fair Trade? People generally seem confused so I thought I would use the Buzz to try to clarify the world of Fair Trade.

Have you noticed that **Fair Trade** and **Fairtrade** are spelled differently? Quite possibly, but so what?

Fairtrade - one word, refers to the Fairtrade Foundation and the promotion of the Fairtrade Mark.



The Fairtrade mark – the logo you see on Fairtrade products is owned by the Fairtrade Foundation and is only used on products that they acknowledge to meet their criteria. Generally, they include foodstuffs, cotton, flowers, certain footballs and rugby balls. This mark guarantees that producers receive a fair price for their products.

Fair Trade - two words is generally used when referring to the Fair Trade movement as a whole. However, it is also used in connection with other products which do not carry the Fairtrade Mark. These generally include craft and gift items.

How then can you guarantee that the item you buy from a shop (without the mark) is Fair Trade? The answer is, with one exception, that you cannot!

However, here is where the exception comes in:-



The British Association for Fair Trade Shops

There are some 120 shops and online shops in the UK, eleven in Scotland and two in Fife.

Every member must satisfy strict criteria as to where and from whom they buy their products. The basis for these criteria is a direct result of liaison between BAFTS and The World Fair Trade Organisation.

The BAFTS logo can only be used by Fair Trade shops that undergo regular scrutiny regarding their own Fair Trade practices. Buy from a BAFTS shop and you can be assured that the product you purchase is Fair Trade.

Fun at the Loch – Fun for all the Family

Kinghorn Loch is the place to be on Saturday 28th August for a fun filled day of FREE activities for all ages. There will be lots to see and do including a treasure hunt, workshops, entertainers, pond dipping, music, storytelling, walks and games plus Earthship tours, to name just a few.

Those feeling peckish on the day can sample freshly made sandwiches, wraps & tasty homemade baking. Fife Diet will teach you to make tasty treats using local produce. Gardeners won't want to miss the plant sale; a chance to buy your autumn booms.

'Fun at the Loch' is being run by Sustainable Communities Initiatives (SCI at the Earthship) & The Ecology Centre who will host this fabulous event for all to enjoy. This year's event is supported by Celebrating Fife, Scottish Governments Climate Challenge Fund & The National Lottery.

For more information on 'Fun at the Loch' check out the website

www.theecologycentre.org or www.sci-scotland.org.uk



Lottery Support for the Ecology Centre

We are very happy to announce that the Big Lottery has awarded £742, 463 towards our new Centre at Kinghorn Loch through its Investing in Communities programme. This makes a significant contribution to the overall cost of the new building and takes us one step closer to its completion.

The new Centre will provide high quality facilities for Kinghorn and the surrounding communities including event and meeting space, recreational ground and a refreshment area. This fabulous new space will create a range of opportunities for local people.

The Ecology Centre has many volunteer projects for adults who are looking to try new activities, develop skills and socialise with others. Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer or a member can find details on our website www.theecologycentre.org, by email admin@theecologycentre.org or by calling us on 01592 891567



TOP AWARD FOR BURNTISLAND FABTICATIONS Ltd.

Burntisland Fabrications' managing director John Robertson, received a prestigious award on behalf of his company for outstanding achievement at the annual Scottish Engineering Awards Dinner in May this year.

Dr Peter Hughes, Chief Executive of Scottish Engineering outlined the company's commendable progress since it was formed by a management buy-out in 2001. With around 900 employees the company has retained its strong position in the oil and gas sector while creating new opportunities in the alternative energy sector. He took pleasure in recognising the company's training programme with 57 apprentices currently under training and a further 15 to 20 more planned for immediate future.

"The company has demonstrated amazing growth with turnover increasing from £19million in 2007 to £95million in 2009 with plans for future expansion in the UK and possibly overseas."



Managing Director, John Robertson 2nd from left.

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OVERLOOKING THE LINKS ON SOMMERVILLE STREET

Events Diary

AUG

Wednesday 4th	Inner Heritage Trail Walk - from the Heritage Trust Office	2.30pm
Wednesday 4th	Burntisland's Big Day Out Meeting - Toll Centre	7.00 pm
Friday 6th	Outer Heritage Trail Walk - from the Heritage Trust Office	1.30 pm
Saturday 7th	Burntisland Shipyard v Heart of Midlothian Under 19s at Recreation Park	2.00 pm
Wednesday 11th	Inner Heritage Trail Walk - from the Heritage Trust Office	2.30pm
Friday 13th	Community Council Meeting - Burgh Chambers	7.00 pm
Wednesday 18th	Inner Heritage Trail Walk - from the Heritage Trust Office	2.30pm
Wednesday 25th	Inner Heritage Trail Walk - from the Heritage Trust Office	2.30pm
Saturday 28th	Fun at the Loch—Kinghorn Loch Ecology Centre	All Day
Friday 30th	Outer Heritage Trail Walk - from the Heritage Trust Office	1.30 pm

SEPT

Monday 6th	BPS Parent Council AGM	7.00 pm
Monday 6th	Police Community Engagement Meeting - Toll Centre	7.30 pm
Friday 10th	Community Council Meeting - Burgh Chambers	7.00 pm
Friday 27	Outer Heritage Trail Walk - from the Heritage Trust Office	1.30 pm

OCT

Saturday 9th	Burntisland 1883 Model Railway Exhibition - Upper Library Hall	11.00am - 5.00 pm
Friday 8th	Community Council Meeting - Burgh Chambers	7.00 pm
Sunday 10th	Burntisland 1883 Model Railway Exhibition - Upper Library Hall	11.00am - 5.00 pm
Friday 30th	Outer Heritage Trail Walk - from the Heritage Trust Office	1.30 pm

NOV

Friday 5th	Burntisland Bonfire Night and Fireworks Display - On the Links	6.30 pm

A Big Thank You from the Moonwalkers— 26.2 miles

Five months of training and one Race Night later, we have now completed the "Moonwalk", which took place on 19 June 2010 around Edinburgh in just 7 hours and 10 minutes.

We held our Race Night in the Golf Tavern in Burntisland on 5th June and would like to thank Muff the owner, my husband Derek and good friend Robert Bett for their help on the night. We would also like to say a "HUGE" thank you to the following Publicans: From Burntisland:- Muff of the Golf Tavern, Jane of the Crown, Davie of The Jubilee, Sandy of The Porte, Mel/Don from the Silver Tassie, and from Kinghorn:- Willie from The Middle, Carol from the Carousel, Pat from The Ship, and Johnny from the Auld Hoose, for their very kind donations of a "bottle" for the winners of the races. After a great team effort we raised **£400**.

In total between the race night, sponsorship and donations, a whopping **£1,500** has been raised, therefore we take this opportunity to thank the people of Burntisland for their generosity and support with:-

"WALK THE WALK AND UNITE AGAINST BREAST CANCER"

THANK YOU!!!

*Gail Clunie
Morag Livingstone*



SOMETHING A BIT DIFFERENT !

Well! We are on the move....all of about a couple of hundred yards

Fair Shares / Food For Thought....

By the time you read this we will be operating a brand new cafe & deli at 267 High Street.

We are working closely with The Fife Diet to source many local products. Fair Trade will feature strongly too using our current business to continue to supply good quality fair trade products.

Ice Cream will feature quite highly (It's not Macarri's old premises for nothing!) We will be stocking a selection of quality ice cream from Fife & our old favourite... Orkney.

The Deli will be relatively modest to begin with. However if there are products that you can't source easily and importantly will buy regularly let us know and we will see what we can do

So if you fancy a good cuppa or a snack or something more substantial ...POP IN and enjoy something a wee bit different!

Bruce Stuart

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Links View Burntisland



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To enquire about room availability or any other enquiry please contact Barbara Slater on 01592 873736 or call in at the home, or you can also email admin@fairfieldcarescotland.co.uk, or Surf to www.fairfieldcarescotland.co.uk.

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