

# BURGH BUZZ



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October 2010

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## We Shall Remember Them With a Memorial Fit for Purpose

The Burntisland War Memorial was unveiled on 8<sup>th</sup> October 1921 to commemorate those gallant soldiers from the town who had given their lives for their country during The Great War. It was enclosed with a stone dwarf wall with coping stones and mounted with railings. Following the Second World War, a plaque listing those killed in this later conflict, was inserted in stone walling which replaced all of the original railings. This was unveiled on 5<sup>th</sup> June 1949.

For almost 90 years, the memorial has been the focus of the annual Remembrance Day Ceremony and remains a permanent reminder of those who made the ultimate sacrifice. However, time has taken its toll and the general condition of the memorial has deteriorated. A project to restore the memorial to its former glory was initiated by John Burnett of the 2020 Development Trust but with the demise of that organisation, the project has since been adopted by the Community Council.



The proposed work will involve the removal of the wall and the salvage of the copings and other stone dressings for later use. The plaques, date stones and ornamental carvings will be cleaned and set aside. New stone walling will be erected to incorporate the plaques and date stones in their former position and capped with the copings and dressings, previously laid aside.

The original dwarf walls will be reinstated, capped with new copings and finished with new railings. An entrance gate will be incorporated in the scheme whilst

**War Memorial prior to World War 2** cobbles and slabs will pave the enclosed area surrounding the monument.

The area east of the memorial will be landscaped and enclosed to the north and south, with dwarf walls capped with copings and railings. The overall design will lend itself to easy maintenance and will ensure that the gateway to the town is impressively enhanced.

Above all, the finished article will ensure that Burntisland people will continue to honour the memorial pledge:



Photomontage of rebuilt walls and railings

## ***“We Shall Remember Them”***

**The Annual Remembrance Day Service will take place at the War Memorial commencing 12.00 noon on Sunday 14th November.**

## Editorial Comment.

How time flies! It is almost a year since the new editorial team took over and although we have had generally good feedback to our first three editions and encouraging response to our competitions, the lack of letters has been disappointing, especially with so much going on in the town.

With the imminent changes in membership of the Community Council, we thank the outgoing members, particularly long serving Treasurer Aneris Grant, for their services. We also welcome the new faces to the Council and wish them every success in their endeavours. Full details of members and office bearers will not be known until the end of October but will be published in full in the next issue of the Buzz.

As colder and wetter weather approaches, the Haugh Road flooding issue will again raise its ugly head - or is it ugly stench? Over the years, Councillor Ron Edwards has championed the cause of Castle residents and the Chairman of the Community Council has addressed Scottish Water and the Scottish Government, with little effect. The Water Company claims that it is complying with the Scottish Executive policy which gives low priority to permanent remedial work on external sewerage flooding and leakages.

Recent anecdotal evidence (Page 4) indicates that the Haugh Road flooding is a serious Health and Safety issue. Do we have to wait for someone to be seriously or fatally injured, or an unsuspecting child to be stricken with some water-borne disease before positive action is taken to find a permanent solution?

How can a Government controlled company which recently announced record profits (in excess of £100 million) be allowed to ignore such a serious issue, blaming its inertia on a Scottish Government policy which is based on flawed and outdated reports? And what of the Health and Safety Executive, S.E.P.A. and other statutory bodies? Do they not have a responsibility to protect the public? Have they even considered the Health and Safety issues associated with the continual flooding of the Haugh Road.

But what can we do? Our elected Councillors and Community Council seem to have been ignored. Every individual must now make personal representations to his/her MP and MSP, to Fife Council, the Health and Safety Executive - in writing and at any opportunity that presents itself.

Representations to Scottish Water would appear futile at this stage. It is now up to you, the Burntisland Community, to collectively call for positive action.

**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.

- Sgt Scott Murray was introduced as the replacement for Sgt Edith Potter, who has retired. He has 14 years Police service and gave updates on topics which include parking and speeding.
- Proposals for restoring and enhancing the War Memorial were reviewed and approved. Work will go ahead to raise funds and to design the associated landscaping.
- The Scottish Government have now said that they set priorities for Scottish Water which do not include flooding such as we have seen at Haugh Road. The Community Council pointed out that the priorities were based on consumer research which is already 6 years out of date and was flawed at the time it was done. However, the Minister has declined to change the priorities. The matter has been referred to Marilyn Livingstone, MSP and meetings will be sought with senior officials of Fife Council and Scottish Water.
- The latest statement of Common Good properties has been on display in the library for several weeks. Many possible Common Good assets are still subject to investigation and comments made will be passed to Fife Council.
- The Exiles Reunion on Games Day was very successful, thanks to sponsorship by the Links Showmen, who donated £300 towards the costs, and also voluntary support from Community Council members.
- Several local pubs have submitted proposals for license extensions. An objection was lodged in one case where it was felt there would be nuisance to residents and where the management of children on the premises was considered to be weak.
- Changes will be made to the Fife Council Local Services office in the High Street. Access will be through the library. There will be internal changes to buildings but it means the office will be open on Thursday evenings and Saturdays. Details have still to be decided in respect of disabled access, privacy and also rent payable by Fife Council to the Common Good Fund.
- ExxonMobil will again be sponsoring a pantomime for senior citizens, which will be held in early December at the Carnegie Theatre in Dunfermline. Shell will again be sponsoring the highly-respected "Safe Drive - Stay Alive" roadshow at the Rothes Halls, on 2nd November.
- Twelve nominations were received for the Community Council, which means that no election will be required. Under the new scheme there are three places to be filled and a decision will be taken in due course on how to do that.
- Numerous requests have been made to Fife Council to address problems at different locations in respect of drainage, walls, shrubbery and railings.

**Elected Councillors' Availability****George Kay**

Telephone 01592 874920

Email: [Cllr.George.Kay@fife.gov.uk](mailto: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](mailto:Cllr.Susan.Leslie@fife.gov.uk)

\*\*\*\*\*

**Ron Edwards**

Telephone 01592 891330

Email: [Cllr.ron.edwards@fife.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.ron.edwards@fife.gov.uk)**The Burgh Polis**

By

**Sergeant Scott Murray**

As I write this column, I do so at the end of a busy summer period for the Police in Burntisland. The number of local Galas, Fundraising Events and the Highland Games led to high demands on the Police, but with assistance from the community and a close working relationship with the event organisers, we have had a very successful period.

On the 6th September along with PC Gibb and Special Constable Gulvin, I attended our Community Engagement Meeting within the Toll Centre. Unfortunately the turnout was lower than expected however the concerns raised and discussed now form the basis of our Section Policing Plan.

The 3 identified area priorities are:

1. Road safety,
2. Dog Fouling,
3. Anti -social behaviour.

With regard to Road Safety, you may have noticed that there is an increased presence in the Town from our Road Policing Department and our Community Traffic Wardens. This has led to an increase in the number of drivers detected for drink driving, dangerous driving, speeding, parking and road tax offences. Local Officers and CTW's will continue to make sporadic visits to the area around the local primary school where inconsiderate parking is endangering our children and other road users.

In dealing with priority 3, anti-social behaviour can be directly linked to the abuse of alcohol. Local officers undertake regular foot patrols which result in significant seizures of alcohol. The "Safer Retailer Award" scheme is also being piloted within the town. This scheme is a partnership between Fife Police and Fife Council Trading Standards. The aim is to engage with local retailers who sell alcohol and tobacco. Thereafter to acknowledge the good work carried out by the majority of them whilst providing guidance to those who act less responsibly.

Mid October will see the return of PC Tina Melvin from maternity leave. We welcome Tina back to duty at Burntisland where she will work alongside PC Keith Gibb in our Area Community Team.

Our next Community Engagement Meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Monday 1st November 2010 within the Toll Centre. I would encourage you to attend and give us your views on Policing within the Town. I look forward to meeting you then.

**Non-Emergency Contact Number – 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](http://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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Members:	Alex Killin
Corri Allan	Patsy Killin
Kate McAuliffe	Linda Briscoe
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**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](mailto:billvida@sealscraig.plus.com) or to Bill Kirkhope, 39 The Wynd, Dalgety Bay, KY11 9SJ. (Tel 01383 822023). Items for the Winter 2011 Issue by 12th January 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](mailto:morag.davidson@btconnect.com). For Community Council matters, please contact Alex Macdonald, Chairman ( Tel: 01592 873314).

## Scottish Water - Shame on You!

### Haugh Road Flooding Remains a Serious Health & Safety Hazard

**W**henever it rains there is a serious risk of storm water from the main sewer erupting onto the Haugh Road, leaving filthy floodwater up to two feet deep, covering a pavement that is a "Safer Route to School" for our children and blocking the road gullies with sewage detritus of all sorts. The water spout lifts the manhole cover in the middle of the road and is reported to have caused at least three road accidents. A proposed £2.7m scheme to improve the sewerage system in the town has been shelved by Scottish Water in favour of other, ineffective, measures that have still allowed at least nine floodings this year.

The Haugh Road has suffered from major flooding over many years. The problem stems from the sewers – with raw sewage literally erupting from manholes and flooding the road. This occurs with heavy rain. By 2006 the situation had become so bad that floods happened with every downpour and parents and children going to school had a half mile diversion in atrocious weather to bypass the flooded pavement at the bridge. In addition the discharge enters the Seamill Pond, causing mats of bright green algal blooms to form in the pond and, at worse, grey sewage fungus.



**Padding in 'it!**

During 2006 and 2007, Scottish Water put a massive effort into cleaning the sewer and flooding became more limited, but still caused major problems for residents on the Castle estate. Under pressure from a group formed by Councillor Ron Edwards, Scottish Water attempted to identify a long term solution.

By August 2008 the company was ready to go for approval to spend around £2.7m on a remediation scheme. This involved burying a huge storage tank some 100 metres long by 13 metres wide and 1 metre deep beside the road. This tank would hold the storm sewage and pass it steadily to the pumping station at Haddow Grove, avoiding flooding in almost all circumstances. Unfortunately by November 2008, the scheme was dead but the company did not have the decency to tell anyone. By March 2009 they confirmed that their priority was to remove 450 properties in Scotland from their flood register and the frequent flooding of Burntisland was not a priority.

In January 2009 liaison came to a halt. Apparently oblivious of the excellent co-operation that had gone before, a new Service Manager came to the Community Council with a totally different solution. The previously planned Capital Works were not to be taken forward. Various works had apparently now been undertaken by Scottish Water being:

- The "Familiars" Pumping Station (located at the dock area of Burntisland – the original Burntisland main outfall) was previously out of operation. This pumping station is now fully operational to remove storm water.
- The Operations Team now manages flows from Burntisland Links Car Park Pumping Station during storm events better, in order to limit the flows to Haugh Road Pumping Station.
- Further work will be carried out during the next investment programme (by 2014) at Burntisland Waste Water Treatment Works and this will also help to accommodate larger flows from Haugh Road Pumping Station.
- Further improvement work will also be carried out at Haugh Road Pumping Station during the next investment programme.

However, all this does not seem to have been effective enough. Although there is not the level of flooding seen prior to 2008, nine major floodings have occurred in the last year – serious flooding raised manhole covers on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2009 with further major flooding on 25<sup>th</sup> November and on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2010 after a "dry" winter.

Scottish Water is shying away from the necessary capital works in favour of limited (but still expensive) remedial works that are simply not working.

The other, major safety concern is that the dislodging of manhole covers, beneath even a thin covering of turbid grey water, is a traffic hazard. Three accidents have reportedly occurred since November 2009 and the potentially serious damage to a milk delivery van in March 2010 is with the courts. The response has been to screw down the covers, but this has caused damage to the road surface and base.

There is considerable frustration with Scottish Water's unwillingness to undertake the necessary remedial engineering works to stop the Haugh Road flooding and the foul air that gets trapped in the Burntisland sewers elsewhere in the town. It appears that the only effective way to move forward in Burntisland is for the town to put pressure on Scottish Water to once again take the problem with the seriousness that it deserves, and perhaps take seriously its loss of reputation that this endemic situation causes them.

**By Councillor Ron Edwards**





## BURNTISLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

By  
Brenda McCormick (Headteacher)

Burntisland Primary School has had a very busy term commencing with one of the largest Primary 1 intakes (83) in years and the school roll is likely to continue to increase.

Primary 7 pupils took part in a residential week visit to Ardroy Outdoor Education Centre and all had a great time.

We held a very successful Book Fair with several authors speaking to the children during our literacy week. M & M Productions performed their production "Tom's Midnight Garden" in the school.

Primary 3 & 4 led by Miss Hepburn are to be congratulated on taking first place in the Fife Flower Festival with their Garden in a Palette.

Other events this term have included a fund-raising day on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October - Jeans for Genes Day, and an Eco-Day on 5<sup>th</sup> October. On the same day pupils assisted the Rotary Club to plant bulbs on the links for their Focus on the Crocus Project. Other events included outdoor games, story telling, a creative waste workshop and assemblies about Fife Diet. Principal teacher, Mrs Kerr organised a day with Sustainable Communities Initiative.



Crocus Planting

The AGM of the Parent Council was held on 6<sup>th</sup> September and the following office bearers were elected:

Chairperson:	Andrea Stark
Vice Chairperson	Jo Hadoke
Treasurer	Michelle Paton
Secretary:	Ruth Davidson

The Parent Council continues to represent the school on consultation over a new site for a new Burntisland Primary School.

The next meeting of the Council will take place in the school at 7.00 pm on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November



### First Aid update

After a summer season which was sometimes hectic, with up to 5 events in a single weekend, the balance of our work has now moved more towards training. That's where our main focus will be until the early part of next year.

Although our Basic course is full and well under way, we're now planning for the Intermediate course, which will open in January to people who already have a qualification in first aid. It will deliver the skills which are needed to look after any incident for up to 40 minutes before the arrival of the emergency services.

It's not all drama, like the spinal injury shown in the photo below. However, the course is more advanced than is usually found in the voluntary sector, so it suits the work which we do very well.



We now have a backlog of requests for shorter courses – such as a 1-day course in Emergency First Aid, or a 2-hour "awareness" session on first aid essentials. They're fun to do, open to all, and are absolutely right where the risk is low or where assistance will be quickly to hand.

In the past few weeks, our volunteers have stabilised fractures, dealt with an unconscious motorcyclist and ventilated a lady who was not breathing. However, what is or is not done in the first few seconds after an accident can make a huge difference to the outcome. So it's essential for members of the public to have a strong grasp of the key principles – and to make sure they are up to date.

The various guidelines are continually updated and one recent example is CPR – i.e. how to keep someone's heart going after it has stopped. New advice has been introduced for the first time in 5 years, so everyone attending our current classes is being taught the latest techniques.

As an organisation, it's vital that we hone our members' skills to perfection now. By the time next summer arrives, we will again be in several places at once. We already have a busy Saturday in May, when some of our voluntary members will be in Cupar and others at Knockhill. We also have events in the diary as far ahead as September.

It will certainly be a varied year ahead and of course we welcome new members who have a desire to learn and a few empty dates in their diaries!

Enquiries are welcome to Alex MacDonald on 873314 or via our website [www.bfast.org.uk](http://www.bfast.org.uk).

### Burntisland Higher Grade School - Dux Medalists

Archie Robertson's email has resulted in a couple of letters. The first from 1951 School Dux Ian Christie Wilson who expressed concern that the Roll of Merit could be lost forever. The second correspondent was Rita Brown, former pupil, school secretary and ultimately teacher. Rita confirmed that the names of the Dux medallists were painted in cream on a brown background in three separate panels. She recalls the name of Margaret B Thomson in 1904. Maggie Thomson retired from teaching (the backward class) at Burntisland in 1953. She also recalls that the Dux custom was discontinued in the mid 1950s but the Roll of Merit on the walls existed until the 1970s when the walls were painted cream and the three panels were covered up.

A recent examination of the walls revealed some of the old lettering still distinguishable under the green emulsion. In the meantime, the school has been requested to search old files for the records of the Dux Medal Winners. Should this be successful, it is hoped that the records can be copied and lodged with the Heritage Trust for safe keeping.

Editor

## Happy Days.....

*Helen Mabon, a personal view, with some information extracted from a recent interview with Jackie Vallance, for the Burntisland Heritage Trust archive.*

Come with me, if you will, back to halcyon, carefree summer days in the 1950's, when the hot sun melted tar on the road, and seemed to shine every day of the school holidays. Take my hand across the Links as we wave in response to the engine driver of the Aberdeen steam train's whistle. Like Alice through the looking glass, we pass through the red tunnel and enter another place.

The beach is full of picnicking groups – flasks of tea, sandy jam, cheese or egg sandwiches, fruit cake and Plummers lemonade. Ponies carrying healthy children, led by entrepreneurial local youngsters, plod their trough. The benches on the promenade have all been claimed to overflowing and there is a crowd round the ice cream cart. People everywhere – laughing, arguing, shouting abuse at children, the Glasgow, West coast twang in much evidence - the Erskine church clock chimes hardly heard on the wind, as time appears suspended.

The sea water is glistening. All ages are paddling, splashing, squealing and swimming, wearing an assortment of versatile, adaptable bathing suits – big sister's knickers or woollen hand knitted costumes that stretch to the knees when wet.

But, it's the boats that complete and dominate the scene.

The big open pleasure boats, using movable elevated, angled piers to follow the tide, allowing passengers to access with dry

feet, for a trip round the bay powered by their gently throbbing motors. Willie Shanks and the Browns ran trips (Willie Shanks boats were all painted blue, names prefixed with 'Star' and also did trips from Aberdour to Inchcolm. The Brown's varnished boats, prefixed 'Silver' did trips to Inchkeith from other locations.)

It was Jock Vallance though, who annually, plied off the beach, with his fleet of clinker built rowing boats plus 2 white open pleasure boats, the Minerva and Monclare. His son, Jackie first turned an oar aged 4 and worked with the boats at his father's behest, until starting his electrician apprenticeship. It was very hard work.

Once the season – beginning of May to end of September - was over, the heavy boats were man handled out of the water and stacked in the boatshed at the side of the open air swimming pool. One by one, throughout the winter, they were taken outside, scraped with hand made metal tools, re-caulked, undercoated and varnished.



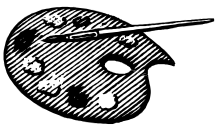
**Buzz Editor & his sister on ponies tended by the Ferguson brothers, Bob and Alex, the 2002 Community Award winner. Picture (circa 1945)**

There were 16 row boats – ranging from two to six seaters, all with names reflecting a family antipodean connection – Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Tasmania, Emu, Wallaby, Boomerang, plus some of Jackie's aunts – Dora, Isa, Pearl and Emily.

It cost 2/- an hour (pre 10 pence decimal coinage!) and no life jackets, to hire a row boat. The craft were remarkably stable and safe though Jock Vallance was always on hand in his motor boat to resolve the result of any reckless behaviour with suitable oral chastisement. Any bold adventurer who rowed to the Black Rock then broke an oar trying to push off the rocks, was charged £5 to replace a pair of oars plus an earbashing.

In the evening the fishermen would arrive to hire a boat. One regular group in particular, of farm workers taking a boat for 4 hours out as far as Inchkeith. It was one of Jackie's many jobs at the end of a long day, often in the dark, to tie the boats together in pairs pull them out beyond the beach where they'd be left anchored without oars. Latterly 2 speed boats joined the fleet with Jackie taking passengers out for a thrill.

Several factors, not least the increase in certification, contributed to the demise of the boats in the early 1960's. They live on though, in the memories of thousands of people who remember summers on Burntisland beach as very happy days.

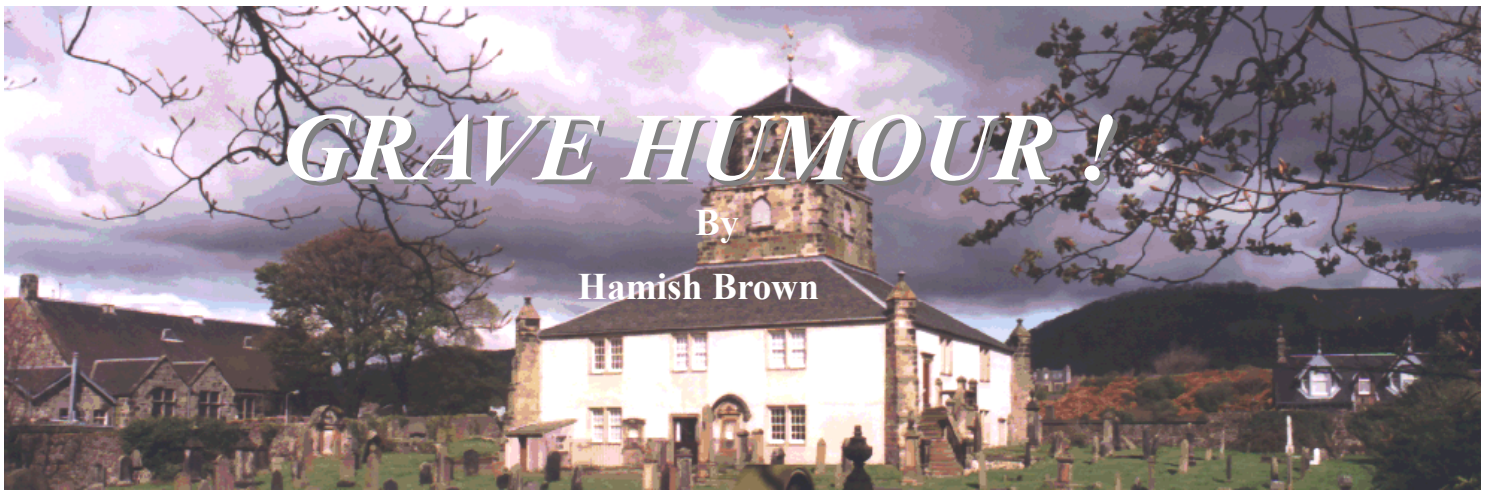


### **Burntisland Arts & Craft Group by Vic Campden**

Despite a rather uncertain start, the 2010 Annual Summer Exhibition of Art & Crafts was successfully staged receiving more than 500 visitors and, according to their comments in the Visitors' Book, they considered the exhibits to be of a high standard and enjoyable viewing.

However, the likelihood of holding an exhibition next year (and future years) depends on two issues. Firstly, sufficient volunteers to help with setting up the stands, tables and exhibits and the daily manning. Secondly, will be the acquisition of affordable premises in which to hold it, ideally the town's upper library hall in which the exhibition has been held for a number of years. A suggested four figure rental charge would definitely be out-with the finances of this small Group. Perhaps the Council might consider the educational advantages of this exhibition as the artists and craft workers have to acquire the necessary skills by which to produce the exhibits on show. These are learned and honed during the regular art Group / Club meetings, surely educational. We shall see!





# GRAVE HUMOUR!

By

Hamish Brown

*In the last issue Hamish mentioned Kirkyards could provide an element of humour. Here is what he meant.*

**M**uch graveyard humour is unintentional – like the stone I saw as a boy and have not forgotten. A husband had been commemorated on a stone on which the widow had the words engraved at the top “*rest in peace*” and at the foot “*until I come*”

In Greyfriars, Perth (one of the finest collection in Scotland) is this “*she lived with her husband of fifty years and died in the confident hope of a better life*”

In Mull I once received a jolt reading down a mossy stone (the explanation is at the end)

*“In memory of Catherine Campbell  
Spouse to All”*

Another double entendre has a Reverend gentleman described as “*Father of all the parish*”. On ministers, how’s this? “*Rev D Dickson, 40 years in this church, St Cuthberts, Edinburgh, an accomplished scholar and theologian, sound in doctrine, earnest in exhortation, in labours unwearied, acute in argument, expert in business, affectionate, generous, affable and accessible to all.....*”. And there’s 20 more lines in the same vein. Whew!

St Cuthberts is below St John’s at the West end of Princes Street and, as you head down Lothian Road, on the left there is a wee battlemented tower. This is an old watch house from where guard was kept to prevent the Resurrectionists (grave robbers) going about their trade. Most people immediately think of Burke and Hare but they actually murdered people rather than dug them up. A nice irony: after Burke was hanged, his body was delivered to the anatomists. His skeleton still survives as do various souvenirs made from portions of his skin. (*If you really want the shivers visit the Museum of the Royal College of Physicians*). But we’re becoming serious!

Maggie, an army mule in France during WW2 is marked “*In memory of Maggie/ who in her time kicked/ Two colonels, Four majors, ten captains/ Twenty four lieutenants, Forty four sergeants/ Four hundred and thirty two other ranks/ and one Mills bomb*”. Accidents were often noted “*Fear God /Keep the Commandments/ and don’t attempt to climb a tree/ For that’s what caused the death of me*”

There was “*Malcolm Downie/ Lost his life ae market nicht/ by fa’ in aff his pownie*” (Cullen) or a Border’s child “*Stop, traveller as you go by/ I once had life and breath/ But falling from a steeple high/ swiftly passed through death*” or “*Here lies the dust of Robert Small/ who when in life was thick not tall*” (Newtyle) or “*Here lies John Smith/ whom death slew for all his pith/ The starkest man in Aberlady - / God prepare and make us ready.*” One in Colorado reads “*He was young/ he was fair/ but the Injuns/ Raised his hair.*”

Some could be rather cutting, “*Here lies Mary, the wife of John Ford/ We hope her soul is with the Lord/ But if for Hell she has changed this life/ She had better be there than be John Ford’s wife*”. (Paisley)

Some could be pathetic. In Cheltenham there is a stone for a three month old infant “*Since I am so quickly done for, I wonder that I was begun for*”.

A New York auctioneer is commemorated “*Going, going, gone!*” and a pun for the Lawyer Sir John Strange (1696 – 1754), “*Here lies an honest lawyer/ That is strange!*”

Sport also gets a mention – “*I bowl, I struck, I caught, I stopp’d/ Sure life’s a game of cricket/ I blocked with care, with caution popped/ yet Death still took my wicket*”. And one that made me laugh out loud was the epitaph of a captain of some distinguished golf club who is warmly praised then at the foot came the unfortunate wording “*Always missed*”. And finally there was the St Andrews swimmer who “*fell off Step Rock/ into the arms of Jesus*”. However the ultimate in drowning was “*Here lies the body of John Macfarlane/ who was drowned in the Water of Leith/ By a few affectionate friends*”.

In conclusion, last year below Eshaness in a remote corner of Shetland, I came on quite the most extraordinary inscription I’ve ever met. It was not meant to amuse, but,..... “*Donald Robertson, b 1785,d 1848 aged 63 years/ He was a peaceable, quiet man/and to all appearances a quiet Christian/ His death was much regretted and was caused/ by the stupidity of Laurence Tulloch in Clothister/ who sold him nitrate instead of Epsom Salts/ by which he was killed in the space of 5 hours*”.

Old stones were simply very casual as to how they split words. The stone on Mull mentioned earlier actually read

*“In memory of  
Catherine Campbell  
Spouse to All  
An Henderson  
Who died.....”*

Let us know if you find anything amusing in the Burntisland cemeteries.

## Do you make Use of YOUR PUBLIC LIBRARY?

### A VALUABLE COMMUNITY ASSET

For over 100 years, Burntisland's Library has been providing a valuable source of reference material, leisure reading and information about a multitude of subjects.

The service has kept pace with the developing information technology that we take for granted today and no doubt would have astounded Andrew Carnegie when he gifted and opened the present library in 1907. As well as a comprehensive range of books, there are audio books, large type books, a book request service, community information, free internet and e-mail access plus a photocopying and fax service.

The Library offers free computer 'taster' sessions aimed at giving the novice confidence to use a computer.

Help with CV's, job searches, interview skills plus information on courses and training are all on hand each Friday between 10 - 12.30 at the **DROP-IN JOB CLUB**

The library has interaction with local schools and nurseries. We hold Bookstart Rhymetime sessions for our younger members as well as story times. Research local and family history in one of our Local Studies Collections.

Feel free to drop in to your library at 102 High Street. You'll find the staff helpful, friendly and willing to answer any queries you may have about any of the many services on offer.

The atmosphere is pleasant and there is a hot drinks machine for longer periods of reading or study. Daily papers and periodicals are also available. If you enjoy getting together with others to chat (quietly) and discover new books you can share your views with others by joining one of our reading groups or start your own.

### Opening hours:

Monday to Friday 9.30 -1.00 and 2.00 - 5.00  
Thursday 2.00 - 7.00  
Saturday 10.00 - 1.00 and 2.00 - 5.00

For further information telephone 01592 583203  
or go online at @Burntisland.Library@fife.gov

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### Station House Official Opening

Kirkcaldy MP Gordon Brown and MSP Marilyn Livingstone officially opened the recently renovated Station House at Burntisland Railway Station. Having lain empty for almost twenty years, this iconic listed building has been converted into a modern business centre offering affordable premises in an ideal location for small businesses. The premises are owned and managed by GIA Business Properties Ltd (Tel: 01592 630195).

### Mirth of Forth Comedy

By Richard Pulsford

Now here's something funny. Have you heard the one about stand-up comedy competition winners coming to perform in Burntisland? Well, that's not really a joke, because it's already happened (So You Think You're Funny? Competition winners Tom Allen and Nick Sun, to name but two).

Mirth of Forth Comedy (MofF), run by Burntisland residents Mark Kisby and myself, have been organising monthly stand-up comedy events in the town since April, attracting some quality comedy acts to entertain some appreciative audiences.

It started in 2007 when I met Mark and found out his company (AV Dept Ltd) runs events. We agreed to combine forces and run a one-off comedy night. Mark rigged up some lighting, staging and PA and I booked some acts. The night, at The Sands, went well (and by coincidence, then new act Daniel Sloss came along to watch).

Despite that night's success, family commitments meant we couldn't run repeats. We then struggled to find another suitable venue until a chance meeting with The Star pub's landlady revealed they'd been looking to put on a comedy event but hadn't known how to go about it. With the pub's enthusiasm and support, MofF has since been hosting regular events there, which have been free entry, outside in the summer and now inside the bar on a Sunday evening.

The next comedy nights will be at The Star on Sunday 7th and Sunday 28th November and Potter About on Saturday 29th January. Watch out for John Gavin (Scottish Comedian of The Year 2009), coming soon.

For further details look out for posters and flyers with our distinctive smiley-face logo, join 'Mirth of Forth Comedy' on Facebook, or email us on [mirthofforth@googlemail.com](mailto:mirthofforth@googlemail.com) to join our circulation list.

Now what's funny about all that?



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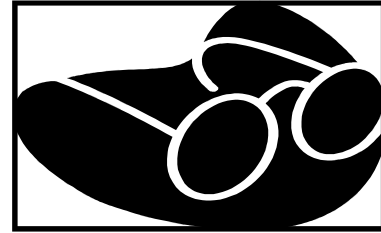
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The Place for free  
Sunday night  
comedy

Sun 7th Nov 7.00pm  
 Sun 28th Nov 7.00pm

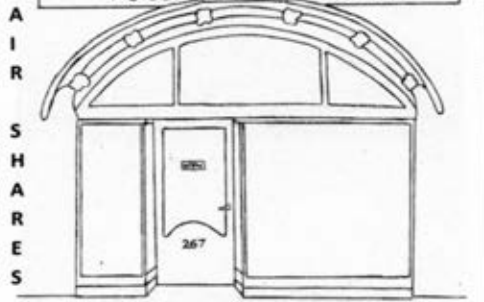
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**BURNTISLAND EVENTS / CIVIC WEEK**by **Carol Kirk*****Bonfire & Fireworks Display***

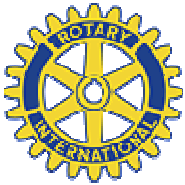
There is nothing like a traditional Guy Fawkes Night bonfire to dispel the November gloom especially when it is combined with a spectacular fireworks display. Burntisland Links is the place to be on 5<sup>th</sup> November to enjoy what is fast becoming one of the most popular family events in the Fife calendar. The event now attracts a huge number of visitors from outwith the town. It is organised on a purely voluntary basis by the Events Group.

Last year Radio Lollipop appeared for the first time. They provided entertainment, music and tremendous fun for children of all ages. We are pleased to announce that a repeat performance has been secured for this year. It is anticipated this will begin at 6 pm. along with the fairground rides, refreshments and the very popular glo-sticks stall. Burntisland Pipe Band will arrive with the Summer Queen at 7 pm, followed by the lighting of the bonfire and the professional fireworks display.

The main designated parking areas for the event are at the Beacon and Lammerlaws Car Parks. Please note that spaces fill up very quickly. Anyone intending to park in these areas should be aware of this and arrive early. We would also encourage local people to leave the car at home and walk to the event or use public transport. Whilst there is no set charge for entry to the event, a public collection will be taken on the night to help offset the considerable costs involved. It is hoped that everyone will contribute something. Please note that for Health and Safety and insurance reasons, no personal fireworks or sparklers will be permitted. Please do not take offence if stewards enforce these rules – they are obliged to do so.

***Civic Week***

For the past two years the Events group has organised Civic Week very successfully. It is now apparent however, that certain sources of funding, particularly from Fife Council, cannot be applied for and accessed, unless by an independent Civic Week committee. We have no option therefore but to attempt to re-form this group. A public Meeting will be held towards the end of November to assess this year's event and consider the way forward. We need a good few volunteers to come forward and from these we need to appoint a Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary to form the executive of the constituted group. The date for the meeting will be published in the local press. Anyone interested should contact Carol Kirk (872164) or [carolgkirk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:carolgkirk@yahoo.co.uk)



## **Rotary Club of Burntisland & Kinghorn**

Joe Smith's year as President of the local Rotary Club continues apace. The annual Charity Shop was held in mid October, but for the last time in the Museum of Communications. Over £3,000 was raised for Rotary charities, despite the shop being open for a shorter period than normal. Much of the proceeds will be spent on local causes. The Club would like to thank the public for their continued support and more especially the Museum of Communications for the generous use of its premises over the past few years.

At the beginning of October, Club members, assisted by school children and members of other local organisations planted over 12,000 crocus bulbs. The flowers will be in full bloom by 23<sup>rd</sup> February, Rotary's birthday, in prominent locations in Burntisland, Kinghorn, Aberdour and Auchtertool. The bright purple flowers represent the colour of the ink that is dabbed on the pinkie fingers of those children who have been immunised against polio in Rotary International's Polio Plus Campaign to eventually rid the planet completely of that dreadful disease. It's hoped that the banks of purple crocuses in conjunction with associated publicity will remind communities of the magnificent work going on to eradicate the dreadful scourge of polio, and encourage financial contribution towards this cause.

Members are currently filling "shoe boxes" with household items, toys etc. which will be consolidated with hundreds of others before being transported to Eastern Europe for distribution amongst needy families.

On the sporting front, the Club retained the Bill McPherson Trophy in the annual golf match with Rotarians from Kirriemuir and regular Sunday morning curling at Kinross has already commenced. An outing to the Adam Smith theatre has been arranged for the end of October. Plans are also well in hand for a "scaled down" Burns Supper to be held on the regular meeting evening at the Sands Hotel on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2011.

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](http://www.ribi.org)

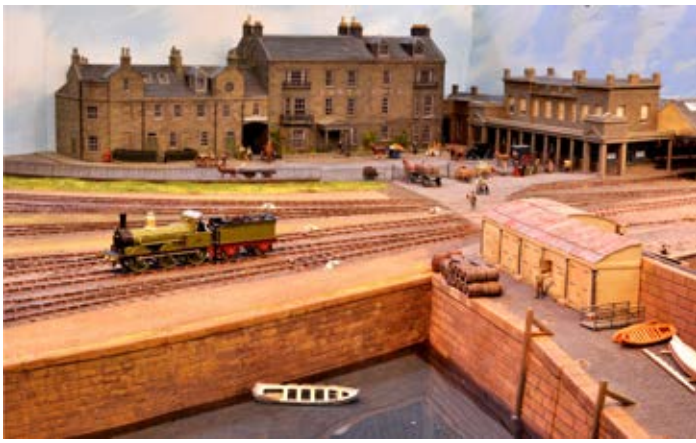
***2020 Development Trust***

Earlier this year the Directors of Burntisland 2020 Development Trust reluctantly decided that the Trust should be wound up. The Trust lacked secure governance in the absence of a company secretary and treasurer. Furthermore under the constitution, the tenure of the Chairman was about to expire.

The Trust bank accounts have been consolidated and necessary financial reports have been prepared, The various statutory procedures have been completed and the Office of Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) has consented to the winding up of the Trust. An application has been made to Companies House to have 2020 struck off the register. Companies House will advertise the application to dissolve the Trust and if there are no valid objections, then the dissolution should be confirmed by the end of the year.

Burntisland Community Council have agreed to take forward the project for the restoration of the War Memorial and other projects may be taken up by other local organisations. Can I take this opportunity to thank all our members, supporters and funders for the contributions they have made. Sadly, Burntisland 2020 Development Trust will shortly be no more, but our legacy of the Burntisland maps, information panels and Broomhill Viewpoint and so much more, have made Burntisland a better place.

**Alan Smart**  
(Chairman)



## Heritage News

by  
Ian Archibald

### *Burntisland 1883 Comes Home*

The Burntisland 1883 model railway exhibition attracted more than 700 visitors to the Upper Library Hall on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> October. Burntisland's Railway Week was hosted by Burntisland Heritage Trust in partnership with the East of Scotland 4mm Group and the Museum of Communications. Prior to the public opening more than 120 local primary school pupils visited the display to see how a little part of Victorian Burntisland looked in miniature in 1883. The attention to detail on the model is highly significant. It is incredible to believe that every single part of the display, including the 15 engines and extensive rolling stock, has all been built from scratch. As a static model it is remarkable, but having real traffic travelling the full 10 metre length takes it a lot further.



## Museum of Communications

by  
Dorothy Brankin

Railway modellers and local historians enjoyed a fabulous week in Burntisland recently when the award winning Burntisland 1883 model railway came to town.

As a run-up to this, the Museum of Communication, in association with Burntisland Heritage Trust, hosted two lectures on railway related topics.

On Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> October, Peter Marshall's talk *'Making Tracks to Burntisland - the coming of the Railway'*, traced the history of the advent and spread of the railway in Fife from the earliest days.

Peter, a Dundonian by birth, now lives in Yorkshire and is the author of several acclaimed railway histories, including *'Burntisland - Fife's Railway Port'*. (It had been Peter's original intention to write a history of the various ports in Fife owned by the railway companies— but so much information came to light, he found that Burntisland needed a whole book to itself!)

Two days later, on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October, John Crompton took us behind the scenes and described the painstaking work that *The East of Scotland 4mm Group* have put into building the Burntisland 1883 Layout.



The working model of the world's first roll-on roll-off ferry with its intricate 'flying bridge' which could be raised and lowered according to the tide was impressive. Equally so in the West Dock section, is the ingenious sight of an hydraulic coal hoist raising a wagon to tip coal into a berthed sailing ship.

Burntisland Heritage first met up with the 4mm group modellers eight years ago when it was agreed that Burntisland in the 1880's was an inspirational location to model. It was selected because it provided the group with many challenges in research and then accurate portrayal. Over the years the model has grown and has been displayed at various exhibitions throughout Britain picking up many awards for excellence en route.



The meticulous attention to detail and staggering amount of research carried out is amazing! The dock infrastructure actually works, the coal in the wagons is real coal and even the departing ferry has a wake (albeit made from shaving foam!) Long-gone buildings have been faithfully reconstructed with the help of faded sepia postcards and photographs.

John, formerly Curator of Industry and Engineering at the National Museum of Scotland, is a fount of knowledge of old industrial machinery as well as being a model engineer of great skill and ingenuity.

The Museum's lecture programme continues in November – for details, please e-mail [mcenquiries@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:mcenquiries@tiscali.co.uk) or phone 01506 823 424



# Burntisland's Big Day Out

By Amy Dickson

On Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September, Burntisland held its very own 'Big Day Out' which had a variety of activities for all ages held at the Toll Centre and Toll Park.

The event, which lasted from 12pm- 4pm, made a great effort to bring the people of Burntisland together with activities organised by the Town's folk, including football, competitions, children's inflatable's and bouncy castles, face painting and a children's disco. Even the crew from Burntisland's fire station showed up with their fire engine for the children's benefit! There was also a class from the increasingly popular dance fitness phenomenon Zumba which is a good laugh and great exercise for all ages. My personal favourite was the Puddledub BBQ – famous for their scrumptious buffalo burgers- who had a reasonably priced BBQ to feed the crowd and also sold fresh produce on the day.

Although, the weather wasn't at its best, the rain held off and the general atmosphere of the town's folk was superb. Also, the event linked with Kinghorn Loch (Craigenalt Ecology centre) and

the ATC hall and a free shuttle bus ran to and from each of the events.

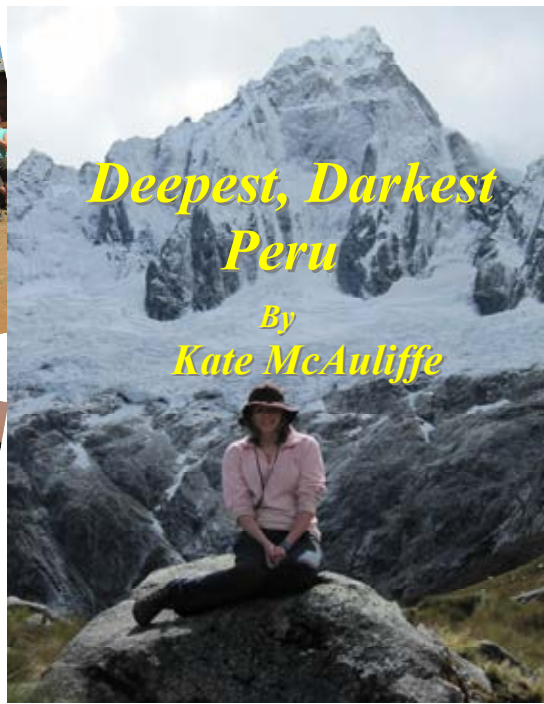
Helen Barrett Burntisland Citizen of the year opened the proceedings which were compered throughout the afternoon by Peter Bilsland. All activities were free and funded by grants from Celebrating Fife and Fife Council.

## Toll Centre Needs Your Vote

The Toll Centre is one of three groups/projects which has made the final short list for a Royal Bank of Scotland Community Award. The Centre needs the support of the entire community in the final selection process.

Voting forms for the next stage will be available in Burntisland, Aberdour, Dalgety Bay and Inverkeithing Branches of RBS from 8th November. Details of online voting will be announced later. **The Toll Centre needs your support!!**





This summer I took part in a unique adventure to deepest, darkest Peru. Every 2 years my school, Balwearie, joins with the World Challenge charity organisation and sends a group of pupils into a developing country for a month.

Our first week kicked off with a Jungle phase as we flew from Lima (the capital) to Iquitos, the city in the rainforest which can only be reached by plane or boat. With no roads or cars, bizarrely all transport is by a “motocart”, a makeshift motorbike with a cart on the back that sits three people at a push. But that’s the way World Challenge travels! After one night, we checked into the cargo boat that would be our living quarters for the next four days. We slept in hammocks on the open upper deck with about ten other locals, swinging freely as we floated down the Amazon. Unbelievably hot and humid during the day, the nights in the hammocks were freezing. Finally we reached Lagunas, a small Amazonian village where a cold shower and fresh food were very welcome. The next day we began a five hour canoe ride down a tributary of the great river to Pacya Samiria, a protected jungle reserve. On our way we had many Attenborough moments observing snakes (including anacondas), birds of paradise, frogs, monkeys and a sloth. Our lodgings here was a massive tree house suspended ten feet off the ground and made entirely of wood, yet lit frighteningly, by candles.



The next phase was the much dreaded trek. Situated in the spine of the Andes we began a five day hike of the famous Santa Cruz trail. Altitude sickness, little oxygen, very steep climbs and a shared toilet tent somewhat detracted from the “trip of a lifetime” experience. However, the pros completely outweighed the cons as we witnessed the Paramount, distant avalanches and Alpamayo “The most beautiful mountain in the world”, so called because of its perfect conical peak. Our highest point was Punta Union at 4,750 metres above sea level. Our local guide kept us safe and was accompanied by his favourite cook who prepared delicious traditional food and pancakes on the last morning. He acquired the nickname “El pulpo” or the octopus, for the “groping” attention he paid to our female Challenge leader.

Following the trek and a warm shower we set off for the village of Santa Cruz to kick off our project.

This is an important phase in World Challenge where the team must help out a community in some way. We luckily were helping in a school. To discover how some children in the world exist was a huge culture shock to us all. We camped out in a school hall and on our first day the children very sweetly entertained us with a show that included, singing, traditional dancing and reciting poems. Guided by our Peace Corps Leader our tasks were to paint a mural the children had designed and to plant a tree nursery. The mural depicted an outdoor environment with children playing (to which we added a Scottish flavour, including Nessie and Irn Bru) and has written above it in Spanish “The children of Santa Cruz would like a clean and healthy environment for our future generations”. Our tree nursery consisted of over a hundred trees planted on the school grounds to help the soil fertilise, thus encouraging more plants in the future. I firmly believe that the children we helped and we ourselves have benefitted greatly and changed because of the experience.



Peru certainly changed my life and I would recommend Burntisland pupils to take advantage of any World Challenge opportunity that presents itself. It is one of the few character building experiences remaining for teenagers and an unforgettable adventure not to be missed.

## ***Universally Challenged***

By Corri Allan

There is an immense pressure put on young people today to do well in their studies. This is mainly so that they can pre-empt themselves for Universities: after all you can't put a price on education. Well it turns out that you *can* and the government and universities are going to put a price on education, and quite a hefty one at that.

Sir Andrew Cubie, the man responsible for the abolition of tuition fees in Scotland after it was implemented by the Blair government, has said that this is no longer a sustainable regime.

According to the BBC's website, "Sir Andrew Cubie, whose inquiry in 1999 recommended the closure of up-front tuition fees, said it would now be difficult to sustain a system which did not incorporate fees." This is a frightening prospect for many new students and potential students. Monetary matters are enough to get even the most level-headed person aggravated, and younger people are becoming ever more concerned over what kind of debt they are being propelled into—and all before they have even begun their further education!

In August it was highlighted that no fewer than 200,000 applicants may be denied university places, despite receiving good grades. The Daily Mail reported that today's students pay heavily for tertiary education. The average debt for graduates last year was £17,500. Indeed, contrary to the fashionable belief that young people are a huge burden on society, public spending and facilities are heavily geared towards the baby boomers (the previous generation who were born in the post-war period up until the mid-Sixties) many of whom are now in comfortable retirement.

So who is to blame for the increasing debt that our younger generations will spend their lifetime paying for? Is it the bankers, the government or previous generations? Many would argue that all of the above are guilty, but blaming others does not solve our problem. University tuition is just one of the many things young Scots are going to have to pay for, but is there increasing outrage on this matter just because it is also the parents of said children that are going to have to shoulder the burden? Perhaps if it was solely up to young people to pay tuition fees, there wouldn't be such a public outcry. One thing is for certain: our youth is going to have quite a hefty bill to pay off, with or without tuition fees, one can only wonder whether we can stop paying once we are in our graves.

## ***The Toll Centre***

By Jane Hoggins

How many of the readers are aware of the extent of the activities that take place around the clock at the Toll centre – an essential community amenity.

During school term a playgroup runs in the mornings from Monday to Friday. The essential Burntisland Out of School Service (BOSS) helps working parents by collecting children from Burntisland Primary School and provides a wide range of activities for the kids until 6 pm.

A wide variety of computer classes catering for beginners to more advanced classes including desktop publishing, internet and digital photography take place on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

A Parents and Toddlers Group Meets on a Wednesday afternoon for a couple of hours from 1.00 pm. Anyone with a preschool child is welcome to join the group for a cuppa and a chat while the children play and learn to "socialise".

For young people, a Senior Youth Club for S1 and upwards, meets on a Monday evening at 6.45 pm. Tuesday is the Children's Club (P2 –P4) from 6.15 pm and on Thursday at 6.30 pm is the turn of the Junior Youth Club (P5-P7).

The Music Project, if you're into "loud noise", caters for S1 and upwards and is on Friday from 6.45 pm. A Gymnastics class for ages 4 and above starts at 4.45 pm on a Thursday and Taekwon-do is on Saturdays starting at 12.30 pm.

And the young people still say, "there is nothing to do!" For more detailed information contact the Toll Centre on 01592 872854 or the website at [tollcentre.org.uk](http://tollcentre.org.uk).

## ***Burntisland Youth Theatre***

By  
Liam Bell

Burntisland Youth Theatre was founded by Derek J. Horn over thirty years ago. Since its beginning, the company has passed hands and is now ably led by Karen Spiers. Each year, many children and young adults take part in the pantomime and work extremely hard to produce a fantastic performance which is acclaimed by all who attend.

The group, which gets together every Wednesday evening and Sunday offers the younger community a great chance to make many new friends and improve their confidence, whilst at the same time having a lot of fun.

It is important in a small community to have a traditional activity that everyone can be proud of and continue to support, particularly the town members who come year in and year out to see the shows and hope the group continues to shine for years to come.

Please support this year's production of "Humpty Dumpty", and give the young thespians of Burntisland the encouragement they deserve! Every evening Monday 13th—Thursday 16th December starting 7.00 pm in the Young Memorial Hall.

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## Guides Centenary

By Patsy Killin

### LETS GO for another 100 years

Since we celebrated Thinking Day in style in February this year, local Guides, Brownies and Rainbows have partied on!

On a warm and sunny Saturday in June, girls from all over Fife met up at R.A.F. Leuchars for a big day out with a medieval theme: Brownies turned themselves into jesters, and Rainbows became princesses for the day. There were bouncy castles and birds of prey; Medieval Methil came along to show us what people wore and ate in days gone by.

Now the centenary is over, our Burntisland Guides, Brownies and Rainbows have joined in three more events to mark its passing. At the end of September, along with girls from Kinghorn, we climbed the Binn and spread out along the top – to make a noise and be noticed!

Early in October we joined with other girls from south Fife, at Kirkcaldy High School, and had a great time dancing our way through the 100 years – from the Charleston to body popping, via rock and roll and 'Fame'!

The main event, however, took place on the 20<sup>th</sup> of October, when we joined up with the whole of Fife again, in the Fife Institute.



We were royally entertained by a parade of guide uniforms throughout the ages, by a demonstration of the specially commissioned centenary country dance .... and then by a fantastic 'Cast of Glee' tribute band!

The highlight of the evening though, came at ten past eight – that was 20:10, 20/10, 2010 – when we linked up, through a live TV/ internet link up, with Guides, Brownies and Rainbows all over the UK to reaffirm our guiding promise. Not just Girlguiding Fife – all of us!

So come on, guides of all ages, lets GO for another 100 years!



## Underground, Overground Wombling free.....!!

By  
Ed Pybus

Anyone who was a child or parent (or grandparent) in the 70's will remember the lovable Wombles. These lovable critters wandered round Wimbledon Common making good use of anything that they found proving the maxim that "one man's waste is another man's treasure". These early recyclers are now being followed by a new breed – The Freeglars. Freegle is an online community that is based on the American Freecycle network\* and has the aim of keeping reusable items out of landfill. If you have something you no longer use you post an OFFERED message which is sent to all the other members in the area. If anyone wants what you're giving away they get in touch and you arrange a convenient pick up. Once your item has gone you post a TAKEN message. The only rules are that it must be freely given and legal. Items can be taken for any reason, for personal use, for spare parts or to repair or even to sell on. You can also post a WANTED ad if there's something you want that you think some one may have lying around unused. If everyone in Burntisland were to sign up we'd be able to ensure that much 'junk' is converted into 'treasure' rather than landfilled.

To sign up visit [lovefreegle.com](http://lovefreegle.com), once signed up you will receive messages by email. You can either receive each individual message, a daily digest of all messages that are sent that day or no message at all – just allowing you to post to the group. Each local group is run by unpaid volunteers, the central fife group can be contacted by email

[CentralFifeFreegle-owner@yahoo.com](mailto:CentralFifeFreegle-owner@yahoo.com)

\*some groups are known as 'Freegle' some as 'Freecycle' – Central Fife is a Freegle. West Fife a Freecycle but they all do the same thing.



## Buzz Reception

On a warm autumnal Sunday afternoon, the Buzz editorial team met with other Buzz helpers for an informal gathering in the beer garden of the Star Tavern. New friendships were made, old ones renewed but everyone had the same aim – to have a good time. Why not join the Buzz team of helpers? Spread the delivery load – a couple of streets takes only half an hour and you take some light exercise and finally meet the neighbours! Contact Bill at 01383 822023.



## Scout Christmas Post

The Burntisland Scout Group will once again be operating a Scout Christmas Post, but this year will be concentrating on collecting and delivering cards to Burntisland addresses only.

### How does it work ?

Post any of your Christmas cards for delivery to Burntisland Addresses ONLY at the special Scout Christmas Post boxes in Dickson Newsagent, Castle Stores and Burntisland Library at a cost of **20p** each. The Scout Christmas Post will operate from Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December until the last collection on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December. The cards will be collected, sorted and passed to Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers in the Group to deliver.

Christmas is an expensive time of year, so at a cost of **20p** per card this is your chance to save some money and help the Scout Groups raise funds at the same time.

It takes time to collect, sort, distribute and deliver the cards, so please be patient – deliveries will normally be at weekends.

### Burntisland Scouts

Scouting is about being with friends, as part of a team, participating fully in the adventure and opportunities of life.

All sections of the group meet in St. Serf's Church Hall



**Ages 6 to 8 years**  
**Thursday nights from 5:45pm**  
**until 6:45pm.**

Beaver Scouts are young people usually aged between six and eight years old. They belong to the first and youngest Section in the Scouting family. Easily recognised by their distinctive turquoise sweatshirts, Beaver Scouts enjoy making friends, playing games, going on visits and helping others.



**Ages 8 to 10.5 years**  
**Monday nights from 6:45pm**  
**until 8:15pm.**

There are loads of fun things that you can do as a Cub Scout. You'll get a chance to try lots of different activities like swimming, music, exploring, computing and collecting. If you do them properly you will get a badge which you can wear on your uniform.

Cub Scouts also get to go on trips and days out, to places like the zoo, theme parks, ice skating or a farm. Sometimes you will be able to go camping with the rest of your Pack. This will mean sleeping in a tent and doing loads of outdoor activities.



**Ages 10.5 to 14 years**  
**Monday nights from 7:00pm**  
**until 9:00pm.**

Scouts are encouraged to take part in a wide range of activities as part of their programme. "Participation" rather than meeting set standards is the key approach and for the Scout who wants to be recognised for his or her achievements there are a number of Challenges, Awards and Activity Badges. Scouts take part in a balanced programme that helps them to find out about the world in which they live, encourages them to know their own abilities and the importance of keeping fit and helps develop their creative talents. It also provides opportunities to explore their own values and personal attitudes. There is also a wide range of adventurous activities, anything from abseiling to kayaking.



**Ages 14 to 18 years Wednesday nights**  
**from 7:00pm until 9:00pm.**

Explorer Scouts are young adults, usually aged between 14 and 18 years old. They make up the fourth Section of the Scouting family. Our Unit meets most Wednesdays, but it is designed to be flexible because there will be times when you will be busy doing other things such as exams, and being an Explorer Scout fits around these.

As an Explorer Scout, you will get the chance to work with other Explorer Scouts in your District, not just your Unit. By doing this, you will get the chance to do many more activities, not just the ones your Unit organises.

### Adults in Scouting

One of the biggest myths about Scouting is that Groups are closing down due to a lack of young people wanting to become Members. Nothing could be further from the truth; Scouting in the UK is a growing Movement and we currently have 30,000 young people on our waiting lists simply because we do not have enough adults to help out.

### Why help?

There are many reasons why adults choose to volunteer for Scouting. Here are some that existing volunteers have given:

- **To support the Leaders:** 'They give so much, you've got to give some of that back.'
  - **Because volunteering is a 'good thing':** 'I just personally believe that you should always do some kind of voluntary work...otherwise nothing would get done in this world.'
  - **As an enabler, so the Leader can do more:** 'If I can help Sam, our Leader, out by doing the little things, then it means she has got more time to give the kids and then they get more out of it.'
  - **To spend more quality time with your child:** 'David used to go on his PlayStation2 while I read the paper after school and work – now we get a chance to do activities together.'
  - **To develop your own skills:** 'I hadn't used a compass since I was a Scout. After I learned how to use one again, I take one out on family walks. We get lost less than we used to!'
- To enjoy and rediscover adventure for yourself:** 'We had a water fight at Beavers the other week, it was great!'

## Hanson (Futures) Trust

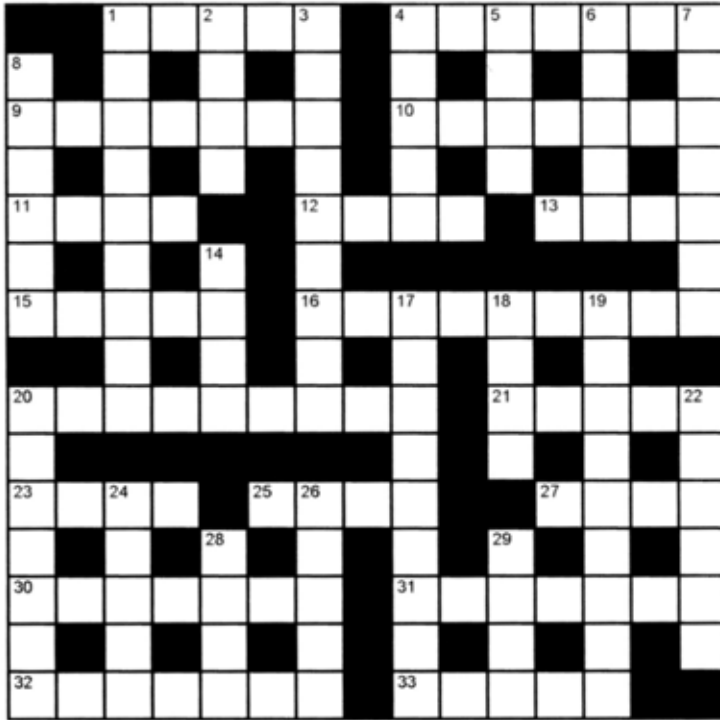
The trustees of the Hanson (Futures) Trust have decided that this is the appropriate time to close the fund. The bulk of the remaining money will be used to set Iain up with a greater degree of independence by purchasing sports and mobility equipment and driving lessons in an adapted vehicle. Any residual funds will then be passed on at the winding up of the Trust.

On behalf of the Hanson family, we would like to pass on our gratitude to everyone who has contributed so generously over the years. Thank you for all your support,

*Shan Lees, Bruce Stuart and Andrew West*



### THE PRIZE CROSSWORD



**ACROSS**

- 1 Broom (5)
- 4 Whatever is available (7)
- 9 Forced wedding (7)
- 10 Type of desk (7)
- 11 Trees (4)
- 12 Machine gun (4)
- 13 Part of a lum (4)
- 15 Chinese gangster (5)
- 16 Coleridge's bird (9)
- 20 Hitchcock was one (9)
- 21 Caper (5)
- 23 Stringed instrument (4)
- 25 Scotland (4)
- 27 Scamps (4)
- 30 Atomic particle (7)
- 31 Endanger (7)
- 32 Cockney trews (7)
- 33 Titles (5)

**DOWN**

- 1 Avenue in Burntisland (9)
- 2 Erudite herb (4)
- 3 Clerics' Castle stroll (5,4)
- 4 Old town entrance (5)
- 5 Fee of a local park (4)
- 6 "... death us do part" (5)
- 7 Fishy ties (7)
- 8 A perfumed climb (6)
- 14 Dutch cheese (4)
- 17 Conan the ..... (9)
- 18 Greenish-blue duck (4)
- 19 Outwits (9)
- 20 Cats (7)
- 22 Strategic local area (6)
- 24 More accurate (5)
- 26 Local green connections (5)
- 28 Poke (4)
- 29 Unwanted email (4)

**THE SOLUTION TO THE PRIZE CROSSWORD IN THE SUMMER 2010 EDITION**  
**Across:** 1 Fries, 4 Jubilee, 9 Abilene, 10 Rosecut, 11 Rota, 12 Dire, 13 Star, 15 Smash, 16 Addressed, 20 Theoretic, 21 Idiot, 23 Port, 25 Acid, 27 Chas, 30 Scorpio, 31 Origami, 32 Treason, 33 Sands.  
**Down:** 1 Fairtrade, 2 Ikea, 3 Steadfast, 4 Juror, 5 Bash, 6 Licit, 7 Entered, 8 Barras, 14 Thor, 17 Deciduous, 18 Elie, 19 Skinheads, 20 Typeset, 22 Tassie, 24 Rhone, 26 Crown, 28 Opus, 29 Girm.

The winner of the £25 voucher donated by Shell U.K. Limited, who displayed a commendable knowledge of Burntisland's pubs and hostleries was:  
**Mrs M Douglas, 17 Sommerville Square, Burntisland.**

**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 14th December to:

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



### Burntisland Over 70s Christmas Treat



Following on from the last issue, on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> August we held our coffee morning in the Young Hall which was well attended and raised £190.

Our next Fundraising event is to be held on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> November from 1-5pm in Burntisland Sands Hotel. The event is to be a Christmas Shopping/Pamper Day with a variety of stalls and entertainment. We are very pleased to announce that Ready Steady Clarke is to make an appearance along with others which will include Reiki, Tarot Readings, Candles, Cards, Waxing, Nails, Hair, Books, Jewellery, Body Shop and more. Tickets include a glass of mulled wine and are available for £3.00 from Burntisland Sands Hotel, Scotmed Herbs, Zenith, Reflections, The Star and committee members so please come along on the day and treat yourselves!

Our Christmas Treat will this year be held in the Parish Church Halls on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December from 12.30 – 4.00pm and will include a Christmas Lunch, entertainment and maybe even a visit from Santa if he has the time. Thanks to funding from celebrating Fife, this year we are able to offer free transport to and from the event provided by Neil's Coaches. Pick up points will be The Bowling Green, Erskine Church, Collinswell Road top bus stop, David Sands, St Andrew's Court, Allan Court, Castle Stores, St Josephs Catholic Church, Harbour Place and Cotburndale Shop. Anyone requiring transport should add their name under the relevant pick up point on one of the lists which will be available in the library, post office, local churches and The Star (in person or by telephone on 871313). Details of pick up times will be in the Fife Free Press the week before the treat.



## **Burntisland Bowling Club.**

by  
Trevor Aldridge

Situated in Kinghorn Road, Burntisland, the Bowling Club is the second oldest sports Club in the town dating back to 1892. The Club has a green with 6 rinks for use between April and October surrounded by attractive and well kept gardens maintained by volunteer members. Facilities include the original clubhouse which is a listed building, changing rooms and a clubhouse with a Bar for all year use.

Club activities continue to thrive during the winter close season. We have a flourishing Carpet Bowls section which plays on Monday & Tuesday at 1pm and on Thursday at 7pm. We also have a team in the local Domino league on Tuesday at 8.30pm and on Friday at 7pm there is Bingo, Open the Box and a Domino competition for a large Steak pie. On the 1st Friday of the month at 2pm is a social Whist and Dominoes afternoon. On four Saturdays there is an Inter-Club Quiz, Whist and Dominoes against Aberdour, Dalgety Bay and Kirkcaldy Bowling clubs for a trophy.

For the last 5 years our 2 qualified coaches have introduced the game to P7 pupils from Burntisland Primary School on a Thursday afternoon to encourage youngsters to take up the sport. The club caters for all ages and is not just for old people. We have members who have played for Fife and Scotland and who have won medals at the Commonwealth Games. You can play at any level you desire, we have fun games, friendly matches, Cup and County matches. Why not come along and give it a try as we can provide, shoes, bowls and coaching and it is not tiring.

The clubhouse is also available for birthday parties and Anniversary celebrations.



## **The Shipyard AFC**

By  
Drew Beveridge

It has been a very busy time at the Club since the last issue of the Burgh Buzz. The highlight of the pre-season was the visit of Heart of Midlothian FC for a friendly match. Hearts actually sent over a team much stronger than anticipated with no fewer than 5 players with first team experience, which resulted in the home team being beat 9-0. Older readers will know that this was a one goal fewer margin than the 1952 match which ended in a 12 – 2 victory to Hearts.

Great effort has been put into strengthening the squad for this season, with a couple of young Burntisland boys coming in. However, it is taking time for the squad to mould and results so far have been disappointing. The Scottish Cup draw gave the club an away tie to Glasgow University which was thought to be winnable. On the day the team played extremely well and missed some great chances, including a penalty, only to be undone by a controversial winner for the Uni 5 minutes into injury time. The club website crashed during September. However, the club was delighted to find out this was due to the amount of "hits" the site had received from literally all around the world. The site designer is increasing the bandwidth and making a few changes so it can store more information.

Cont'd

### **SAFC continued:**

It is hoped that the youth coaches will forward some match reports and news so that we can expand that section. On the subject of youth football, the club was disappointed at the suggestion connected with a recent unrelated raffle to raise funds for youth football which inferred that no money was given to youth football. We are happy that the community is raising funds for the kids but, that statement could not be further from the truth. Over the last year or so a substantial sum has been expended on youth football by the Shipyard AFC.

The First Class Childcare Nursery held their annual Fun Day again at Recreation Park, which I am told was an outstanding success. We are delighted to have hosted their event again.

### **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

The club are holding a "Race Night" on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> November at the Inchview Hotel. Tickets are priced £5 with a buffet and disco included. Tickets are available from the committee and if anyone would like to sponsor a race, their support would be most welcome.

## **The Beacon Centre**

### **Fitness Advisors are here to help**

Customers of The Beacon Leisure Centre wanting to get in shape, lose weight and get the most out of the gym can now take advantage of Personal Training thanks to Fitness Advisors. Fife Sports and Leisure Trust, Fife's leading provider of sport and leisure facilities, have taken on two Fitness Advisors to help Fifers realise their fitness and weight goals.

Jamie McDonough and Mark Bishop are fully qualified Personal Trainers registered at Level 4 on the Register of Exercise Professionals with extensive ranges of top-quality qualifications, including advanced fitness training, client lifestyle and nutrition and weight management among others.

Through Personal Training, Jamie and Mark tailor plans for clients based on their personal fitness or weight goals to guarantee value for money, maximised time at the gym for the greatest impact per session, and the best results in the shortest time possible.

Fitness Advisor services offered by Jamie and Mark include group exercise sessions, cardiac rehabilitation, programme design, nutritional advice, fitness testing, advanced weight training, weight loss/toning and "Winning by Losing" classes. Mark also offers Sports Specific Training (Football).

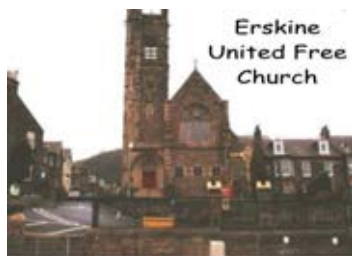
Stuart Bizzarri, FSLT Gym Co-ordinator, says: "Jamie and Mark have worked hard to obtain the quality and quantity of qualifications in order to provide the widest and most professional variety of Personal Training to the people of Fife. Whether a regular gym-goer or a first-timer, they are here to help everyone who has set themselves a fitness or weight loss goal."

Jamie and Mark can both operate across all of Fife Sports and Leisure Trust's centres across Fife.



Jamie McDonough (left) and Mark Bishop (right)

**Breaking News: The Beacon Centre will close from Christmas to February for renovations. Watch the Press for details**



Erskine  
United Free  
Church

**The Erskine Church**

Members of the Erskine Church had a very busy summer and raised considerable sums for charity. A concert organised by the Sunday School raised over £400 for Asia link (North Korea), the Pakistan Flood appeal £570 and a sponsored walk for the Bethany Trust £350. However the star prize went to Sandra and John Allan who raised £1,111 for MacMillan Cancer Relief at their all-day

coffee morning. Other activities included the children's holiday club, an inter denominational retreat at Dunblane High School, a series of summer weddings and a well patronised Erskine café on a very dreich Games Day.



The Pennsylvania Drama team



The Erskine Cafe

In the context of the "Churches working together in the Community", a team from Erskine took part in a Community Quiz night at the Sands Hotel. A very loud and successful evening culminated in the narrowest of victories for the team representing St Joseph's RC Church over a disappointed team from the Golf Club.

Churches in Kinghorn and Burntisland will shortly be playing host to a Mime and Drama Team from Pennsylvania. The troupe is returning for a third visit and it will be visiting schools and churches in Fife bringing the Gospel to life in a unique, dynamic style. They will take part in other events including the Fireworks Display on the links. The closing celebration will take place in the Kinghorn Parish Church Hall on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 6.30 pm



**St Serf's Scottish Episcopal Church**

by  
Canon Val Nellist  
Rector

As reported in June, I am making preparations for a trip to the Diocese of Calcutta in the Church of North India; just a few weeks to go now before this friendship visit begins on the 2<sup>nd</sup> November. Meanwhile church life continues in Burntisland. We were able to put on a stall displaying information about baptism and church weddings at Burntisland's Big Day Out held in the Toll Centre, part of the Celebrating Fife programme. It was a good opportunity to meet people and to network with some of the other organisations; our thanks to the folk at the Toll Centre for inviting us to take part.

Coming up on Saturday 27th November from 10.00 till 12.00 is our Christmas Fayre in the Church Hall, teas and coffees plus the stalls – baking, greetings cards, bric-a-brac, tombola and the raffle.

Then the following evening we hold our Advent Carol Service at 6pm. The ABI Singers, our ecumenical choir will be putting in a lot of work to make this a really uplifting experience as we enter the winter season. It is a celebration of Christ's promise to come again in glory, bringing about the completion of all things. All are most welcome to join us at these events and at our regular Sunday services which are held at 9.30am (always with coffee, tea, biscuits and conversation after).



**The Parish Church**

**Services in the Church Hall**

In October we moved into the church hall, a move really forced on us by the high cost of heating the church, (and which is not defensible in an age of growing concern about carbon use and global warming). There is a positive side to this though: in the hall it is possible for us to worship together rather than be scattered around 4 sides and a gallery, the fellowship and singing are better, the children and young people stay in the same building, we can more easily enjoy tea and coffee and a chance to chat after the service, and we have now acquired 40 comfortable padded seats – so come early!

During October, sermons have been focused around the topic "What every one needs to know". A lot of people stay away from the church fearing that all they will get is a lot of rules which they don't want or morality that they already know. But what church should be offering everyone is the stuff that actually makes life meaningful, and worth living. So we'll be looking at "The love of God", "Receiving and practising forgiveness", "A better way of living", "The value of the gospel", "Connecting with God", and "How to change the world". The church hall is at the top of the Kirkgate and the services are at 11am.

We return to the church building for the Remembrance Day service, one of our Christmas services and of course after Easter when hopefully the weather will have warmed up again.

**Please Note:** Everyone is welcome at any of our services  
Sundays: 11am in the church hall and 6.30pm in Solid Rock  
Wednesdays – the wee service at 10.30am in Solid Rock

The church also welcomes enquiries about weddings and baptisms; phone Alan Sharp, on 874303. I am also willing to visit anyone in Burntisland who is unwell or anxious whether they are members of the church or not.

**Celebrating the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible**

The 400th anniversary of the first publication of the King James Bible is 2nd May, 2011. Given that this version was first conceived in Burntisland Parish Church, we are looking at ways of celebrating this anniversary: special services, a Bible reading marathon in Aid of the Bible Societies, and a conference looking at how God's Spirit works among us today. If you have ideas for celebrating this anniversary do talk to the minister, Alan Sharp.

## FAIRTRADE IS THERE A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN COMPANIES WITH THE FAIRTRADE MARK?



By

**Bruce Stuart**

Yes! But let me explain. The Fairtrade mark is issued to **PRODUCTS, NOT** companies.

There are a large number of products out there bearing the Fairtrade Mark. However not all companies commit wholly to Fair Trade. You can for example have two chocolate bars which have the fairtrade mark with a large price differential. I will bet my last penny that normally it will be a company's "Own Brand" which is the cheaper of the two.

Why should this be the case? Are the own brand products "better/worse" than the established Fair Trade companies? Who is benefitting?

The Fairtrade Mark is a good agreed standard that the product alone must reach. However the mark is a "base line" which has to be achieved. It is not an upper limit!!! "Own brand" products generally achieve the "Base Line" (which is great). However Fair Trade companies regularly exceed the Base Line which is extremely important to the producers.

So Own Brand products are no "better or worse" than a Fair Trade company's product. "Own Brand" products do benefit the producers but probably not to the same extent as a Fair Trade company. "Own brand" companies tend to look towards profits for the benefit of their shareholders (quite rightly).

A Fair Trade company whilst requiring profit to enable it to continue operating looks beyond the financial side of business to the people side of things. In fact it has probably been set up with the express aim of bringing benefit to the producer groups. So if your chocolate bar is a little more expensive check that it is produced by a Fair Trade company and then buy it!!!

There are a number of "Gold Star" Fair Trade companies out there who "go the extra mile". Divine Chocolate, Cafedirect, Ubuntu Trading, to name but three.

Please look out for them.

### ***Eco Day at Burntisland Primary School***



Burntisland Primary School was a buzz of excitement on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October as the whole school took part in a fun "Eco  
Cont'd



## Looking for a volunteer opportunity?

By Rhona Lyon

If you have some spare time on your hands, and a love of the great outdoors, why not come along and volunteer at The Ecology Centre. We have many varied and interesting projects running at our Kinghorn Loch site ranging from gardening and conservation to DIY.

Volunteering can be a very rewarding experience and a great way to make new friends, learn new skills and improve health and wellbeing whilst making a positive contribution to your community.

As a volunteer you will be able to attend free training sessions on a variety of subjects organised by the Centre. In the past few months we have run Dry Stone Walling, Fruit Tree Pruning, and Deaf/Blind Awareness training and have many more events planned for the future.

Volunteers are vital to our success and make a real difference – if you can spare a few hours each week or a few days each month, your contribution will be of great value. As a result of Big Lottery Funding for our Enviro-Mentors project, we are particularly keen to encourage people in the 50 plus age group along to the Centre .

If you would consider volunteering at the Centre, please contact us on 01592 891567 or email [admin@theecologycentre.org](mailto:admin@theecologycentre.org) and we would be happy to have a chat with you.

### **Eco day continued:**

Day" to encourage the children to reduce Burntisland's carbon emissions. The event was organised by the Cool Burntisland Team (SCI at Earthship). Fife Diet flavoured the day by giving the school staff taster sessions of locally produced food.

The eco - day started early as 355 children reduced their carbon emissions by walking to school. On arrival, all were enthralled by the SCI's colourful Community Yurt (Mongolian Tent). This was later the hub for the eco storytelling sessions throughout the day.

Fife Diet's local food project in Burntisland was the main topic of the school assemblies with talks featuring food miles and sustainability. Later the older pupils enthusiastically created toys from used plastic bottles and the younger ones played Outdoor Eco Games.

The "Big Swap" was a huge success when pupils discovered how easy it is to acquire a new toy, book or comic without spending a penny (to the delight of many parents).

Head Teacher Brenda McCormick hailed the success of the day adding that the school would continue to work with local ecological groups in the future.

**The Cool Burntisland project is funded by the Scottish Government's Climate Challenge Fund and will be working with the Burntisland community until March 2011, For further information contact Caireen Ros on 01592 891884 Or [caireen@sci-scotland.org.uk](mailto:caireen@sci-scotland.org.uk)**

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## Events Diary

### NOVEMBER

Monday 1st	Police Community Engagement Meeting at The Toll Centre	7.30 pm
Friday 5th	BONFIRE NIGHT on the Links	6.00 pm onwards
Sunday 7th	Christmas Shopping/Pamper Day at Sands Hotel (Over 70s Christmas Treat)	1.00 - 5.00 pm
Tuesday 9th	Goudie Lecture at MOC "Behind the Scenes at Bermuda Aquarium, Museum and Zoo"	7.30 pm
Wednesday 10th	Wednesday Club (Toll Centre) - Keep Fit with George Orr and Jane	7.00 pm
Friday 12th	Community Council Meeting - Burgh Chambers	7.00 pm
Sunday 14th	<b>ANNUAL REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE at the War Memorial</b>	12.00 noon
Sunday 14th	Pennsylvania Mime & Drama Troupe Finale—Kinghorn Parish Church Hall	6.30 pm
Wednesday 17th	Wednesday Club (Toll Centre) - Lets Get Crafy	7.00 pm
Saturday 27th	Christmas Fayre at St Serf's Church Hall	10.00 am
Saturday 27th	Harry Matthews Memorial Lecture at MOC - "The Esk Valleys - Hidden Gems"	11.30 am
Sunday 28th	Advent Carol Service at St Serf's Scottish Episcopal Church	6.00 pm

### DECEMBER

	*****	
Friday 3rd	Concert by the Kinghorn Singers in Erskine Church	7.30 pm
Saturday 4th	Over Seventies Christmas Treat—Parish Church Hall	12.30 - 5.00 pm
Wednesday 6th	Wednesday Club (Toll Centre) - Scout Jamboree	7.00 pm
Friday 10th	Community Council Meeting - Burgh Chambers	7.00 pm
Monday 13th	Wednesday Club (Toll Centre) - Party Time at the Sands with Jackie	7.00 pm
Monday 13th	<b>Burntisland Youth Theatre</b> )	
Tuesday 14th	<b>Christmas Pantomime - "Humpty Dumpty"</b> )	<b>7.00 pm</b>
Wednesday 15th	<b>in the Young Memorial Hall</b> )	
Thursday 16th	)	

### JANUARY

	*****	
Wednesday 12th	Wednesday Club (Toll Centre) - A "Guid New Year" with Alex, Brian & Chris	7.00 pm
Friday 14th	Community Council Meeting - Burgh Chambers	7.00 pm
Wednesday 19th	Wednesday Club(Toll Centre) Wednesday Warblers	7.00 pm



Magnificent Donations to Charity

## *ARTHUR'S AMBLE FOR CHARITY*

In April this year a charity walk took place in memory of George Arthur Myers, a very popular Burntisland resident. Arthur, often known as George to lots of his friends, was diagnosed with kidney cancer in March 2009 and died only 6 months later. Arthur loved walking, particularly in Glencoe and he took part in charity walks at home and abroad, including Cuba and Vietnam.

Family and friends felt something worthwhile should be done in his memory. A two day, 51 mile coastal path, Charity walk between Crail and the Forth Rail Bridge was proposed and took place over the weekend, 17th and 18th of April. Each mile of the walk represented one year of Arthur's wonderful life. Over 100 people took part, some completed the entire 51 miles whilst others

walked only a part of the way.

Fortified with bacon rolls, the walkers started the first day in fine weather from Crail harbour to West Wemyss. Some completed the whole distance, including the famous "chain walk", whilst others completed shorter sections. All enjoyed a well earned Saturday evening meal in the Sands Hotel then most retired early in preparation for the second leg.

Starting at 8.00 a.m. on Sunday from West Wemyss, it was easy to distinguish the new walkers from those who had started the previous day. After a gruelling trek, the first group arrived at the Bridge by 3.30 pm with stragglers appearing over the ensuing two hours.

Most walkers retired to the Jubilee in Burntisland for refreshment and to drink a toast to Arthur, who used to enjoy an occasional pint there.

The walk raised a very impressive sum of £14,104 which was shared equally between Kirkcaldy Hospice and McMillan Cancer Support.

**Only 51 Miles to go!**



## NATURAL LOOKING DENTURES AND IMPLANTS

All the staff at International Smiles would like to wish all our patients a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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Alan Petrie and Robert Leggett – both fully UK-trained and qualified Clinical Dental Technicians – recognised some time ago that there were a number of different reasons why people didn't get around to treating themselves to new dentures and implants. They are confident in helping people of all ages to acquire sometimes life-changing dental treatment, without even having to visit a conventional dentist, and for genuinely competitive prices

At their newly opened, state-of-the-art headquarters in Burntisland, the friendly International Smiles team can help just about anyone to acquire conventional or cosmetic dentures in an effortless way. Appointments are also available in Edinburgh and Livingston.

Getting to your appointment couldn't be much easier for anyone with mobility issues: in addition to modern disabled access at their premises, the International Smiles team say they are happy to visit

patients at home or in care or residential homes. Dentures are constructed on site, which means they can be delivered quickly, often over 2-3 days.

Alan Petrie said, "We pride ourselves on the fact that we take the time to care for all our patients' individual needs, including an oral cancer screening service, and properly designed and fabricated well fitting dentures. Clinical Dental Technicians and Dentists are the only qualified people who can provide you with removable dental care and intra-oral health checks. Why put yourself at risk by going anywhere else?"



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