

BURGH BUZZ

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**O'Yea!
O'Yea!
O'Yea !**

“Let The Chimes Re-Commence”

At 2 pm precisely on Saturday 27th August, following a proclamation from Town Crier, the honourable Bob Smith, the chimes of the town clock were restored. Burntisland Summer Queen , Robyn Anderson and Citizen of the year, Aneris Grant jointly threw the

switch that reinstated the distinctive chimes after almost a year of silence. The ceremony was witnessed by hundreds of enthusiastic townsfolk with the main participants dressed in period costumes and children in fancy dress. The happy, carnival atmosphere was in sharp contrast to the anger and frustration displayed by the demonstrating crowd at the same venue some eight months previously. Following the “switch - on”, the revellers were piped along the High Street in an impressive parade to a Fair Ground party on the Links which was orchestrated by the ever popular Radio Lollipop.

The chimes have been restored after months of campaigning and negotiations championed by Community Council member Morag Douglas. The successful outcome of the campaign should be seen as an example of what can be achieved by the combined efforts of Community Councillors and elected Councillors with the backing of the



New Primary School Consultation

On the evening of 7th October, over 250 townsfolk comprising former pupils of all ages, parents and grandparents of current and future pupils, all crammed into the Parish Church Hall to listen to the official line and air their views on the proposal to build a new



10 minutes before the meeting started!

primary school on the East Toll Park. The meeting, at times heated, was very ably chaired by Alex MacDonald, Chairman of the Burntisland Community Council.

The meeting commenced with a presentation by Alister Hendrie , the Area Education Officer. He outlined the reasons why the current school was no longer fit for purpose. He then explained forecast pupil numbers, the curriculum for excellence and the absolute necessity for improved educational facilities for Burntisland Primary School (BPS).

Continued on Page 4

Editorial Comment.

The last few months have been eventful and not without controversy. We started with the “Clock Chimes Carnival”, a happy celebration for most – but not for all! Whilst adults and children alike enjoyed celebrating the return of the chimes, there was a small number of complaints regarding the one-week extension granted to a few of the fairground attractions. Controversy continues however, as the noise level of the chimes during the “early hours” is almost inaudible and not, apparently, at the promised level of 85% daytime intensity. It appears that this saga will go on for some time to come.

A more important issue is the provision of the New Primary School for the town. The current Planning and Educational statutory consultation which ends on 11th November, has galvanised the community into expressing strong opinions on the preferred site - the East Toll Park. This topic is reported extensively in this issue, in particular the recent heated public meeting in the Parish Church hall. The views expressed at that meeting have been collated and will be included in the Community Council’s formal submission to Fife Council. However, there is still time to lodge your individual views.

Now a comment on the community generally. Throughout this issue there are numerous appeals for volunteers - floral enhancement, the Events Group, the Toll Centre, the Heritage Trust and even the Community Council itself. A close scrutiny of these organisations reveals that they are run by a nucleus of civic minded individuals, the majority of whom have been involved for many years. New blood is desperately needed if Burntisland is to maintain its quality of life.

This reluctance to participate has also been reflected in the lack of copy to this issue of the Buzz from regular contributors, in particular youth organisations and the churches.

The Buzz is an ideal instrument through which to publicise your achievements and forthcoming activities. It is now delivered to every household in Burntisland, is available in local libraries, hotels and clubs. At the beginning of next month it will appear on our newly designed website: burghbuzz.org.uk

We also appeal for your support.

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.

- Consultation continues on a proposal to develop a sustainable community at the Widow’s Land. Information will be distributed to every household in Burntisland.
- Concern was expressed to Fife Council because fees for meeting room hire in the evenings have increased by 250%. A response is awaited.
- Detailed plans for the War Memorial are now being drawn up, funded by the early release of grant aid from Burntisland Development Trust. Applications for full funding from other sources will be made once final costs and consents have been obtained.
- The return of the chimes at the Town Clock was celebrated by an event on the Links.
- The fairground duration was extended accordingly, as an exceptional event, but it was acknowledged that wider consultation should have taken place.
- Work is continuing to assess whether the overnight sound volume of the chimes is at the agreed level.
- The Community Council are represented on a stakeholder group which is providing input to the primary school project.
- Ed Pybus was co-opted as a full member of the Community Council. Ed and Zoë Williamson will job-share as Minutes Secretary. Brian Partridge and Lorraine Simpson have stood down, leaving 2 places available for new members. Anyone interested should contact the Secretary or Chairman.
- Initial quotes have been obtained for the refurbishment of furniture in the Burgh Chambers.
- Hanging baskets have been removed for winter storage and plans are in hand for some winter colour from new plantings at the Burgh Chambers.
- Over 200 people attended the public meeting regarding the proposals for the new primary school. A formal response from the Community Council, based on the meeting and taking into account other discussions, will be sent to Fife Council before the deadline of 11th November and will be made public.
- Rent paid by Fife Council for various Common Good properties is long overdue for review and is being pursued.
- Flooding at Haugh Road continues to cause concern. A fresh approach will be made to the relevant Minister in order to help set strategic objectives for the next round of capital funding.
- A site for a housing development at Grange Road has been approved but at a significantly lower density than originally planned. Deveron Homes will bring forward a new proposal on which they will consult the public before submission.
- The Community Council has a new website: www.burntislandcc.org.uk and will shortly have a new Facebook page.
- Burntisland Development Trust has now closed to new applications as all funds have been committed. Management of the projects which remain open will be transferred to Fife Environment Trust, in order to avoid overhead costs which would otherwise be incurred. A report will be produced showing how the original Alcan donation was allocated and how much additional funding has been attracted by the relevant projects.

Elected Councillors' Availability**George Kay**

Telephone 01592 874920

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

Susan Leslie

Burntisland Surgery - Second Friday of the month

6.15 - 6.45pm in the Burgh Chambers

(excepting public holidays)

Telephone 01592 643703

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

Ron Edwards

Telephone 01592 891330

Email: Cllr.ron.edwards@fife.gov.uk**Your Community Council**

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

Chair	Alex MacDonald	
Vice Chair	Bob Smith	
Treasurer	John Russell	
Secretary	Isabel Smith	
Minutes Secretary	Ed Pybus/Zoe Williamson	
Members	Christine Dewer	Tim Hailey
	Neil Millsop	Peter George
	Martin McDonald	Morag Douglas
	Gary Cummins	

Burgh Buzz is on line at www.burghbuzz.org.uk

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

Editorial Committee

Editor	Bill Kirkhope
Dep. Editor & Graphics	Paul Briscoe
Advertising	Morag Douglas
Distribution	Linda Briscoe
Members	Patsy Killin
	Amy Dickson

The Buzz is distributed throughout Burntisland by a team of dedicated volunteers. We are always on the lookout for new recruits.

Contact Linda at **01592 871300** for information.

The Burgh Polis

by
Sergeant Scott Murray

It has been quite a straightforward past few months within the Section.

Our new officer PC Jen Forbes is settling in well at the Station and is getting to know her beat area very well. As I have previously mentioned Jen is very keen on all things Road Policing and as such she became my natural choice as your Local Community Speedwatch Co-ordinator. A separate article has been submitted for the Buzz but in short this scheme is aimed at Local Community Volunteers carrying out hand held radar checks in roads where they are aware that there is a speeding issue.

Parking around the Primary School has again been highlighted with complaints being received from local residents, motorists and parents. I am concerned about the amount of motorists that appear to think it is justifiable to double park, sit in the middle of the road or park too close to junctions and pedestrian crossings. In enforcing the parking laws around the school we are not there to inconvenience the motorist but to ensure the safety of our children.

There has been a slight increase in anti-social behaviour in and around the town centre but officers are working closely with colleagues from the British Transport Police in an effort to combat this problem. Officers from both Forces have been mounting plain clothes foot patrols and in doing so have managed to seize a quantity of illegally held alcohol. Letters have been sent to the parents of those youths caught with alcohol. As this is one of main priorities for the year, if anyone has any concerns or information regarding anti social behaviour we are very keen to hear them.

Plans are also well underway for the upcoming Bonfire and Fireworks Display and Remembrance Day Parades.

With the dark nights drawing in I would like to take this opportunity to offer some Crime Prevention advice. Compared to some years back the instances of Housebreaking, I am glad to say, are now few and far between but by taking simple precautions you can reduce your chances of becoming a victim of crime even further. By putting your lights on a timer switch or a radio on, it gives the impression to any would be thieves that someone is in. Potential thieves don't like to be literally in the spotlight so if you have been meaning to get round to fix that outside light then now is the time do it. Your local Community Officers, PC's Gibb and Melvin, whilst carrying out patrol will be keeping an eye out for vulnerable properties and will be on hand to offer some further advice.

Our next Community Engagement Meetings will be held within the Toll Centre at :

**7.30pm on Wednesday 2nd November 2011 and
7.30pm on Wednesday 11th January 2012**

I would encourage you to attend and give us your views on Policing within the Town.

Non-Emergency Contact Number – 0845 600 5702

THIS IS YOUR BURGH BUZZ. Your comments, letters, articles and photographs are welcome. These can be submitted typed, handwritten or by e-mail to billvida@sealscraig.plus.com or to Bill Kirkhope, 39 The Wynd, Dalgety Bay (Tel: 01383 822023) Items for the Autumn 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. For Community Council matters, please contact Alex Macdonald, Chairman (Tel: 01592 873314). Also visit our website burghbuzz.org.uk

Continued from front page

At this point he had the unqualified support of the entire hall. Alister then confirmed that BPS had been included in the Fife Council programme for development of six schools in Fife by 2014. BPS was the first school to be considered and £12.4 M had been allocated to the building of a new school on the East Toll Park.

Amongst a growing restlessness and occasional outbursts from the floor, Alister explained the process, including “public consultation”, which had led to the East Toll Park being selected as the preferred site and ultimately the best option for development of educational facilities in Burntisland which was approved by the Education and Children’s Services Committee of Fife Council.

The Project Director then gave a broad brush outline of the design of the new school on the Toll Park and of the resultant benefits to the entire community of the spacious indoor sports and assembly facilities. Additionally, there would be a full size football pitch, a five-a-side soccer pitch and a relocated kids’ play area for use by the public. He emphasised that the design was not set in stone and that community views would be taken on board.

The Chairman then opened the meeting to comments from the floor and there followed a heated exchange of views which included the following:–

- The unacceptable loss of green space in Burntisland if the Toll Park was to be used as the new school site.
- Dangerous traffic issues associated with busy roads surrounding the Toll Park site.
- Air pollution from passing traffic and through the busy road junction at the Toll.
- The lack of a geophysical site examination of the proposed site as it has been susceptible to flooding and in times past, has been used as a refuse dump.
- Serious flaws in the previous consultation exercise were highlighted.
- Serious flaws in the matrix figure calculations used to determine the preferred new-build site were identified and questioned.
- The merits and demerits of alternative sites were aired.
- The tremendous benefits that pupils and staff would receive from a brand new school in 2014 were strongly emphasised.
- Questions were raised regarding the ownership of the Toll Park and how compensation would be calculated.
- The lack of plans for the old school site once the new school has been established.

The three Burntisland elected councillors then gave their own views on the issue – Councillor George Kay offered strong and emotional support for a new school on the Toll Park site, Councillor Ron Edwards gave an impassioned appeal for a rethink on the entire issue and Councillor Susan Leslie supported the Toll Park decision but also favoured re-provision of the green space lost, if considered appropriate. Also in attendance was the Chairman of the Education and Children’s Services Committee Douglas Chapman, who attempted to justify his Committee’s decision to support a new school on the Toll Park site.

The Chairman then sounded out the floor by calling for a show of hands on the major issues as follows:

- Requirement for new school facilities - Unanimous
- Against Toll Park for new school site – Large majority (80%)
- For new school at Toll Park site – A strong minority(20%) which contained a fair proportion of parents of current pupils, PTA and staff.

Alex MacDonald then intimated that he would pass on the views of the meeting to the Community Council and a report would then be compiled and passed to Fife Council in the context of the current statutory consultation exercise which ends on 12th November.

The meeting broke up just after nine but discussions continued between groups and individuals outside the hall, on the way home and in pubs and hostelries throughout the town.

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By

Victoria Dolatowska
(Deputy Head Teacher)

The new term has started as always with a flurry of activity at Burntisland Primary! Our new Nursery children and Primary ones settled in well and we have welcomed two new members of teaching staff, Miss Natalie Clark and Miss Michelle Gilmour. Both ladies are already firm favourites with their P2 classes.

Primary one children started their school careers by learning all about bears. As part of their project they held a successful fundraising event which included a bear themed sponsored sing, a bear hunt and finished off with a Teddy Bear's picnic! We were joined by many mums, dads and other friends of the school..



Thanks to the efforts of teacher Carolyn Bell, the school had been allocated a Comenius Assistant. We are hosting Rianne Driessens from the Netherlands as part of an EU scheme to give young people a better insight into life across Europe.

Rianne will be a member of the community and work as a member of staff for 7 months, gaining experience in teaching across the curriculum and raising awareness about her home country and culture.

The Comenius Assistants programme is funded by the European Commission and managed in the UK by the British Council. Comenius Assistants provide an important free resource for their host school and can add an international dimension across the school curriculum and support language learning.

Carolyn Bell (P6 Teacher) said;

'We are excited to have Rianne in our school and we are looking forward to learning about Dutch celebrations and culture. This will also be a great opportunity for Rianne to learn about teaching in the UK and about our community in Burntisland. She will also give our pupils a chance to learn more about The Netherlands and to learn to speak some Dutch.'

Both our P6 and P7 football teams got off to a winning start this session. Trained by Mr Barclay and Mr McGourty they have both managed convincing early victories against Torbain and Kinghorn Primaries. They won their matches 18-nil (P6) and 4-1 (P7) recently. Well done to all of the pupils involved.

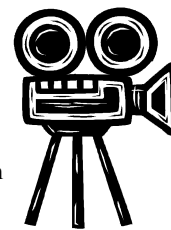
All of our pupils have benefitted from electricity safety talks from Scottish Power. These were very well received by staff and pupils and are a very important element of the children's Health and Wellbeing curriculum.



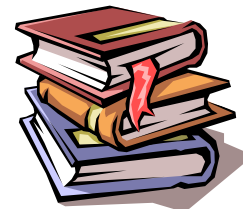
Another very important school activity has involved our efforts towards being accredited by UNICEF as a Rights Respecting School. This important scheme ensures that all children are aware of and benefitting from the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. We

recently welcomed Bruce Wilkinson from UNICEF to the school for an information evening for parents and children about this work. Although disappointed by the turnout, those who attended agreed it very worthwhile. The school will be visited by assessors in early November to see if we have reached the necessary standard for our level 1 award - so watch this space!

We are very proud to announce that "Granny Mac's Meringues", the animation film made last term by Mrs Whatmore and 66 P3s, has been short listed for the Discovery Youth Award at the Discovery Film Festival later this month.



Primary 6 children have all taken to learning French like naturals! They have picked up lots of new vocabulary and already know some French songs. P6K are enjoying a lunchtime knitting club run by staff where they are learning knitting, French knitting and crochet skills. Primary 7 attended the Safe Fifer event in Glenrothes at the start of November where they learned about many different aspects of living safely. Input came from Police, the Fire Service and many other important services. We hope they will benefit from the knowledge and skills gained as they move forward into young adulthood.

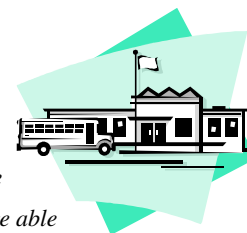


Some of our pupils recently appeared on Scottish Television to demonstrate their reading skills that they have developed through the Peer Reading work led by Miss Hepburn and Mrs Kilgour.. Both teachers agreed that their pupils were indeed "stars".

Some of the older children were taken part in the ongoing consultation exercise on the New School. They visited the Heritage Centre to discuss the plans and ask questions of the Fife Council representatives on hand. The planners and architects were most impressed with the children's behaviour and mature discussion of the plans.

Headteacher Miss Brenda McCormick stated:

"As a school we rightfully encourage pupils to give their views, indeed it is widely recognised that the pupil voice is a vital one. Our pupils are the future community of Burntisland and we were able to take some groups to the Consultation Day at the Heritage Centre. Although they had a very short time to view the plans they had some valuable comments to make, and did so in a very respectful manner. We have also gathered views from all our pupils on how they feel about a New School. These will be sent to Service Management in due course."



We have held parent interviews for all children during the past two weeks, it was good to catch up with all the Mums and Dads and for them to be able to view their children's many achievements. All of these parent evenings were very well attended.

We finished off our term with the traditional Harvest Service at the Erskine Church which was led by a new friend of the school, Youth Pastor Steve Crosthwaite. It was enjoyed by all and we now wish all staff and pupils a happy and well-deserved Autumn break!

Burntisland's Fire Service

by
Paul Briscoe

So you forgot about the chip pan as things got dramatic on Corrie or Albert Sauare. And what about the smell of burning as a tendril of smoke drifts up the stairs...? You phone 999 and ask for the Fire Service. Most of the time it is something minor that you would probably feel foolish for overreacting about, but what if there wasn't a Fire Service? And what if it was something more serious, possibly even life threatening?

We tend to take it for granted that if there is an emergency, the fire engine will turn up. But has anyone stopped to think how our local Fire Service operates?

The Fire Station is located at the bottom of the town next to the former Smuggler's Inn, now renamed the Bridge Hotel. There is one fire engine housed there and the station is not manned by full time staff. The system operates, like most fire services in Fife, on a 'retained fireman' basis, currently comprising 14 firemen. When an alarm is raised, a rota system alerts the designated response team via pagers. This system works remarkably well.

To give a recent example, a skip was found to be well alight, outside the old sorting office in the High street. The 999 call was made and within a minute cars could be seen racing down to the station and exactly 3 and a half minutes later the fire engine was alongside the burning skip and extinguished the blaze.

The Burntisland fire station was set up in 1962 and due to the proximity of the Alcan works had their work cut out for them on a regular basis, things are quieter now, but Lee Mahady, the supervisor, told me that the station responds to about 200 calls a year. Most are minor such as smoke detector faults or small domestic blazes and false alarms.



Lots of larger premises, such as schools, nursing homes, hotels etc. have an automatic alert sent to the station when the alarm is triggered.

The fire engine based in the station, is a state of the art vehicle, both in fire fighting capacity and computerised technology. There is an onboard display system that automatically shows the source of the alarm or fire. It also clearly shows the clearest route to the emergency and pinpoints hydrant or water sources for the engine closest to the blaze. Any hazardous risks such as dangerous chemicals, acetylene or butane cylinders are also highlighted if they are on site or nearby the emergency.

BLOOMIN HELP NEEDED!

By Bob Smith – Vice Chairman, Burntisland Community Council



This year my wife, Isabel, Christine Dewar, John Russell and myself volunteered to take on the Burntisland Floral Enhancement Project, to install and maintain the Hanging Baskets and Planters that have added so much colour to the High Street and throughout the Town

Isabel and Christine collected the sponsorship money from the shops and businesses who contribute to the cost of the Project. Most gave their annual contribution without hesitation, apart from a couple of NOTABLE exceptions. You will have noticed those few establishments that have not been florally enhanced this summer – I wouldn't bet on whether or not their business has been affected!

As in previous years, the baskets and troughs were planted-up by Lady Helen Nurseries and we employed Jim Knight to install them in the designated locations around the Town, from Linwell Court in the east up to the top of Aberdour Road in the west.

Subsequently, John and I have routinely watered them every Sunday morning. A task which typically takes between 2-4 hours, depending on how dry the week has been over the summer months. We have once been described by a local resident as a couple of clowns, seen watering the baskets on the High Street after a week of torrential rainfall! What the local resident was obviously unaware of was that the local teenagers have invented a new game, called jump up and swing the hanging baskets, so the water in the reservoir slops out and soaks their pals following behind! So even after rain, the basket reservoirs can be quite empty, requiring top-up to keep the flowers looking good.

Now to the crux of the matter! John and I are not the fittest of guys (understatement of the year), so what we could do with are some younger volunteers to help out from time to time. Particularly, we could reduce the annual cost of the project, if we could find some volunteers to bring on the plants from seed and plant up the baskets, etc. We are looking for people with the facilities and green fingers, which neither John nor I have!

The baskets and troughs once planted are quite heavy, and need to be lifted into position and installed up lamp posts at the start of the season, and taken down again late September/early October. Ideally, we would like to establish a Burntisland Floral Enhancement Group of volunteers to keep the Town looking good throughout the summer for local residents and visitors.

If anyone out there can volunteer help with the plants or lifting the baskets and troughs into position please get in touch with us.

Volunteers can contact us via Isabel or myself on 01592 873226, or via John Russell on 01592 874420.



Museum of Communications

by
Dorothy Brankin

The Museum of Communication's 2011 Exhibition closed at the end of September, to give us time to work on upgrading and decorating our building and to make plans for next year. So we can now reflect on what we have achieved in 2011 and decide the way ahead.

Our annually changing exhibition always presents something of a challenge – and we often refer to key dates in the past for inspiration. As an example, 2012 marks the centenary of the sinking of the Titanic and we will be expected – particularly by the schools – to include this traumatic event in the exhibition (We have already commissioned Dave – builder of our fabulous Bell Rock Lighthouse – to construct a Titanic model....He grumbled a bit, but he'll do it!)

Pressing the 'Rewind' button, we can look back over recent months and note, with great satisfaction, that through our efforts, we are starting to become recognised in the main Museums world. This is a very positive move in promoting Burntisland itself – and not just the Museum.

In March, as part of this promotion, we took part in 'Making Connexions' at Donaldson's School for the Deaf, Linlithgow, in an important national event organised by the British Science Association. Later, supported by Fife Science Festival, we hosted a stunning lecture, showing how Wild Animals communicate – some even have local accents! and with help from Dr Roger and Kathleen Hill, of the Young Engineers' Club, we held a series of Workshops for Primary Schools in the Museum.

In May, we took part in the Museum of Flight's WW2 Event and later in the month our summer exhibition, Words, Wires, Waves and the WWW, opened in Burntisland.

Our exhibitions are always very 'hands-on' and people friendly! This year we've had Morse Keys, Signalling Lamps, Semaphore Flags – 2 of everything, so you can communicate! Optical Telegraph, 5-Needle Telegraph, Typewriters, (has anybody got spare ribbons?) and old favourites like the Strowger Telephone Exchange and Speaking Tube....Oh, then there's the WWW section, to bring you up to date. This way of presenting exhibitions is aimed at encouraging young people to consider careers in science and engineering. We certainly get a lot of very positive feedback from children – and their parents!

Recently, we accepted an invitation to take part in a Science Week in a Fife primary school. We concentrated on communication by sound and had a great time – making 'telephones' out of plastic cups and string, speaking tubes out of garden hose and funnels and even played Chinese Whispers! Our audiences ranged from Primary 2 to Primary 7 and they enjoyed themselves as much as we did.

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New Turkish Restaurant Opens in the High Street

Burntisland High Street's latest addition has been **TOPKAPI**, an authentic Turkish Restaurant and takeaway. Serving traditional Turkish staple meals such as Kebabs (including a vegetarian variety), Calzones, Durum Wraps, Burgers and a wide range of pasta dishes. An extensive range of tasty starters are available to compliment your meal. All dishes are prepared while you wait and if you choose to "eat in", there are comfortable surrounds in which to enjoy your meal. Topkapi makes a welcome addition to the fine range of ethnic food outlets available in the town.



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First Aid Update

by
Alex MacDonald

The Community First Responder Scheme, in partnership with the Scottish Ambulance Service, is likely to get off the ground in the Spring of next year. The scheme will see local volunteers being alerted to selected incidents at the same time as an ambulance is despatched, so that life-saving treatment can be started earlier.

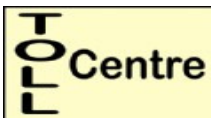
So far, 9 volunteers have come forward from Burntisland, Aberdour and Kinghorn. Some are already fully trained and are topping-up their skills. Others are part-way through their training.

In the meantime, our regular volunteers are busier than ever. Our recent influx of members has also brought a new range of events for us to cover. For example, between September and March we will cover 31 ice hockey matches in Kirkcaldy. In addition, we will be delivering short courses in emergency first aid to all S2 pupils at Kirkland High School in Methil.

Our current First Person on Scene (Basic) course is on schedule, with 14 people due for assessment. It will be followed by an FPOS (Intermediate) course in January. For the year ahead, we already have events in the diary up to August, including the Fife Show at Cupar and national motor sport at Knockhill. Fortunately, it's not all work and no play, as one member demonstrated recently.

Enquiries about training and / or events are welcome to Alex MacDonald on 873314 or via our website

www.bfast.org.uk



What's new at the Toll?

Things are getting very creative at the moment due to our current financial climate. Fife council are in the midst of a centre review across the whole of Fife with a view to handing over facilities and centres to community ownership. Not that this is anything new to the Toll – the centre is already owned by the people of Burntisland and run on behalf of the community by an elected management committee.

Which brings me to something new – the committee. As I'm sure some of you many know, Andrew Barker, the Toll's longstanding chair stood down this AGM. We're happy to say that he's continuing his long community involvement and staying on as a Friend of the Toll – Watch this space for an upcoming Marmalade making workshop!!

Recent Fife Council reshuffles have meant the loss of centre Supervisor, Jane Hoggins. We'll still benefit from her wealth of community experience as part of her cluster group. Jane's departure has left a gap in the daily running of the centre, one which the committee are addressing and hope to have a new p/t supervisor in post in the coming weeks. Keep up to date with what's happening by visiting the website, friend us on Facebook for daily news and views or pop into the centre where clerical worker Susan Walker will be happy to point you in the right direction.

The centre is still as busy as ever with playgroup, out of school service, various activity groups, social groups and youth clubs enjoying a noisy and productive first session back after the summer holidays. If you or your children fancy something new come along and get involved – workers and volunteers are always open to new ideas. Our children's club has felt the pinch this term and we are now looking to fund two youth worker posts ourselves in order for it to continue. We're on the lookout for some art materials and dressing up clothes, the children have really enjoyed the drama and playacting that goes hand in hand with dress up clothes. All donations would be gratefully received.

The Toll centre has been a place where community has been coming together since the 70's. In these times of change it is even more essential than ever that the community band together to work to embrace change. At the moment we're putting our heads together with all our user groups, youth groups and other local groups to brainstorm ideas, fundraise and apply for grants to help modernise our building, garden and services. We would love for more people from the town to come and get involved and have your say – this is our community centre. There is always room on the committee for new ideas and enthusiasm. Our current treasurer, Gillian Macnicol is standing down in the next couple of months so if you have some time any financial management skills please do get in touch. Happily, Gillian will be staying on as a member of the committee.

So a final Thankyou to Andrew for all your dedication over the last few years and a welcome to Susan Thompson as chair. Hears to all future projects!

If you'd like to volunteer at the centre, become a Friend of the centre or find out what's going on, you can email – Tollcentre@gmail.com or visit the website

The Town Notice Board

Now firmly established in the centre of town, this convenient and helpful information board is almost taken for granted by the people of Burntisland. It helps to keep everyone advised of upcoming events, public announcements, the minutes of the latest Community Council meetings, etc.

Virtually any resident can post notices but they should be no more than A4 in size, be non-commercial and non-offensive. Posters should be left at Mad Murdoch's, who will ensure they are vetted, posted and subsequently removed after the date of the event.

This attractive and substantial three sided board was made possible by the sponsors, Briggs Marine, Environmental Services and grant aided from the Burntisland Common Good Fund. Over the last year there has been a continuous display of posters for numerous local events and activities by a whole range of community groups.



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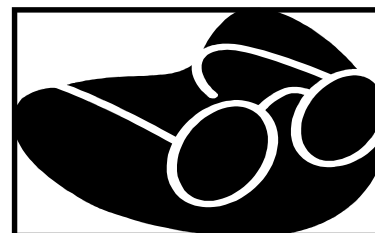
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Monday to Friday 9.00 - 5.30 pm
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Christmas at the Sands!



Bookings are now being taken for our festive menus.

Christmas fayre starts Mon 5th December until Sat 24th December 2011

Christmas Fayre Lunch

Three courses: £20 Two courses: £16

Christmas Fayre Dinner

Three courses: £22.50 Two courses: £19.95

Christmas Eve

Food service 12 - 7pm Bar 12 - 10pm

Christmas Day Luncheon

Service between 12 - 3pm Bar closes at 6pm
(Menu will be available at the end of November)

Boxing Day

Bar 12 - 6pm
(No food service available)

Hogmany

Food service until 8:30 pm New Years Party from 10pm (ticket holders only)

New Years Day

Food service - Hangover buffet breakfast 12 - 3pm Bar 12 - 6pm

(Small portions available on some dishes)

All meals require a booking to secure a place, a non refundable deposit is required
for parties of 12 people or more, confirmation of numbers is required 24 hours before.

Tel: 01592 872230
www.burntislandsands.co.uk

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Did You Know We can Make Up Hampers?

Lightening Strikes!

By
Hamish Brown

I could sense the snow falling. December 2010 in Scotland had more snowfalls than any time since 1947. Peering out over the Links at 1 a.m., all I saw was descending snow. My car had a metre blanket on top and hadn't been anywhere in two weeks. A vivid flash had me reeling back at the same time as a mighty clap of thunder shook the world. No counting seconds. One followed the other instantaneously.

Others followed as the storm moved up the Forth and I went back to bed, quite impressed. I'd never had thunder and lightening like that in the middle of a snowstorm before and, as a climber, I've had my ration of storms. Both the radio and newspapers thought the storm newsworthy.

Folk sayings can be quite wrong with "Lightening never strikes the same place twice". An American golfer has been struck eight times and the Munro summit, Sgurr na Ciche is littered with trig points demolished by lightening strikes. Hill walkers can take comfort though: a golfer in Kent is much more at risk than a walker in the Lomond Hills.

I've seen smashed trigs or strike marks enough but one that impressed me most was Sgurr Dubh in Glen Torridon. Sgurr Dubh is isolated, thrust out into the glen above Loch Clair. On it we found a metre-deep hole with boulders blasted aside (some weighing over a ton), then a furrow ran down the slope to another hole with stones scattered from it too: the strike had zipped down and then stabbed into the slope with immense force.

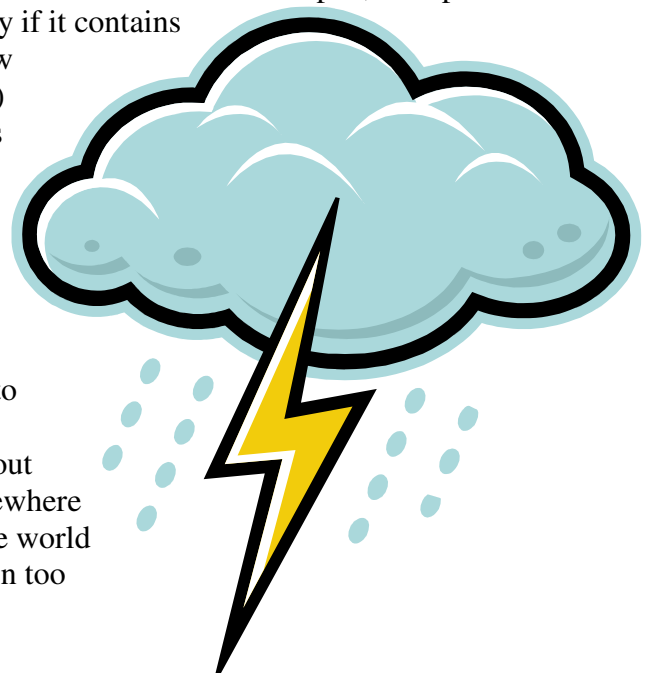
Lightening is notoriously unpredictable. Years ago the 'Clachaig green' in Glen Coe was a popular camping spot. When one camper had not been seen for several days the police were informed and when they checked his tent they found the body of the lad lying in his sleeping bag. There had been a violent storm earlier and a bolt, ignoring the hills, inn or trees had struck this one of many tents. The odds were lottery-like but then, people do win the lottery, don't they?

I've had my ration of excitement abroad, perhaps the most memorable being caught on the Italian Ridge of the Matterhorn. The summit had been sunny and bright yet an hour later we were overwhelmed. On the summit I'd chatted to a Swiss guide I knew and he said the weather was fine; we'd have a pleasant descent. Humph! My climbing partner (a doctor to be) was celebrating his eighteenth birthday that day (and I wasn't much older). He sat morosely with soggy cigarettes and matches. As one flash seemed to pass our noses he thrust out a hand with his fag, then commented, "Damn! Missed again".

Statistics tell us the chance of being struck by lightening in the UK is about one in five million. On average only about a dozen are struck by lightening in Britain in any year. As the flash is travelling at 186,00 miles per second there's not much time to dodge. The flash heats the surrounding air to 15,000 degrees C which causes the air to expand suddenly - and produces the thunder-clap. The sound of thunder travels at a modest one fifth of a mile per second so, by counting the seconds between the flash and the bang and dividing by five we can tell how many miles off the storm centre lies.

Golfers seem particularly prone to lightening strikes which should tell us to avoid open, flat spaces in a storm. Flashes like to go for the solitary highest object, especially if it contains iron - hence the golfing risk. Tall steeples and buildings are now protected with lightening conductors, (a strip of copper usually) leading into the ground from the highest point. Falkirk's famous steeple crashed down in 1927 from a lightening strike and in a western suburb of Glasgow a statue over the door of a public building, I was told, was originally on the roof 'til hit by lightening. The lightening conductor was invented in 1753 by the multitalented Benjamin Franklin and the first building to be so safeguarded in Britain was St Paul's Cathedral. As Franklin experimented by flying kites up into storm clouds he was lucky to survive his experimenting.

We do get off lightly in Scotland. At any moment throughout each 24 hours there are at least 1,800 thunderstorms raging somewhere in the world and delivering 6,000 flashes a minute. Every day the world experiences 45,000 thunderstorms. Maybe we shouldn't complain too much about our weather!





Top of the Chops

Burntisland business owner Kirsty Patrick was recently named the regional winner of the 2011 Prince's Scottish Youth Business Trust Young Entrepreneur of the Year. Kirsty, who owns the popular Reflections Hair Salon in Burntisland High Street, overcame stiff competition to win the Fife heat of the awards. She will now be in the running with the other regional winners for one of the six places in the national final taking place in Glasgow in November and I'm sure everyone in Burntisland wishes her the best of luck.



"The Fair and the Shows"

In Burntisland, the shows are as much part of the summer as the rain driving horizontally down the High Street. From the moments the first lorries pull up on the links, the town awakens from its winter slumber and is injected with a vibrant energy for the next twelve weeks. It's not just about the visitors that are brought in to the town but also about the extra residents for those twelve weeks who spend money on the High Street and support local businesses throughout the town. There are those who decry the shows for the noise and the mess on the Links when they leave and that is a valid opinion. However if you speak to the owners of the businesses in the town, they will all tell you that it is a long winter and the extra boost in the summer goes a long way to keeping them afloat.



The summer fair has been a part of Burntisland for longer than anyone can remember. In 1541 James V of Scotland granted a royal charter to Burntisland with rights to hold markets and common fairs on the feast of St Peter and St Paul on July 10th for two days only. This has grown over the years until it is what we have today and holds many fond memories for those who grew up in the town or visited as children.

This year especially, when funding looked doubtful for the event to celebrate the return of the clock chimes, the showmen stepped in and paid for the whole event. There was also an afternoon where the local kids got to use the shows for free for three hours and even though the weather wasn't great, they definitely made the most of it. In fact it was such a success that it is set to become an annual fixture. There has also been talk of holding more events on the links next summer.

Whether you are for or against them, the shows are very much a part of Burntisland and make an important contribution to both the economy and the character of the town.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH FOR THE OVER 70's

This year's event will take place on
**Saturday 3rd December 2011, in The Kingswood
Hotel, 12 noon for a 12.30 lunch.**

**All residents of Burntisland aged 70 &
over who draw their pension here are welcome.**

**Transport will be made available, but You
Must register your Name & Address by
Wednesday 23rd November 2011.**

**Forms for this will be held in the Local
Library, The Star Pub (tel. nos. 871313) or to
any Committee member.**

CHRISTMAS FAYRE & Pamper Day

**Organised by The Over 70's Christmas
Treat Committee**

**On Sunday 6th November at The Sands
Hotel (1pm till 4pm)**

**Stalls include Jewellery, Cards, Handbags,
Avon, Nail bar,
Hair tips, Waxing, Massage, Reiki & Tarot
Card Readings.**

Come along & enjoy the afternoon.

**Tickets are £3, available from committee
members, The Star pub or just pay at the
door, includes a Glass of Mulled Wine.**

The Clock Chimes Carnival



Burntisland Thru A Lens

See page 14



Burntisland Heritage Summer Exhibition and related activities

By

Helen Mabon



The theme of our 2011 exhibition was 'Changing Landscapes'. The changes in Burntisland over the last century were clearly shown using over 65 comparative photographic images - before and now. A display of maps also showed the development of the town from 1745 to the present day.

Nearly 1400 visitors were recorded during the opening time of this year's exhibition -155 on Doors Open Day alone, when a chance to see through the Burgh Chambers is an added attraction. Looking through the pages of the visitors' book, entries reflect local addresses; throughout the UK; Europe and former residents now domiciled in Canada, Australia, NZ and USA. The most often used phrases are "thank you"; "wonderful exhibition"; and very helpful staff".

The exhibition relies totally on volunteers - 'The Friends of BHT'. Their ability to research information from the growing reference resource in the Heritage Centre has seen many a visitor looking for family information. They leave amazed and delighted at what they've learned.

Willi Henderson, who commits many hours to BHT was at a Dunfermline High School reunion recently where she met an old school friend. The school friend had been putting together her family archive and happened to say to Willi that she did not have a photograph of the horse and chipper cart that belonged to her grandfather. This was a well-known landmark in Dunfermline in the early 1900's. The chance remark was heard by the right person. Willi was able to tell her friend that local man Davy Duncan bought the chipper van in the 1960's. She was able to send a 'photo' from the heritage trust's collection to complete her friend's family record.

As with the exhibition the number of people attending the historic and outer heritage trail walks has been consistently high with a lot of positive and rewarding feedback. Once again we have been able to include visits to the interior of Rossend Castle and our thanks to Hurd Rolland for accommodating us with this.

Close links with the Museum of Communication and Burntisland Primary School continue. Included in this year's exhibition was a selection of the children's map work reflecting how much they had learned about mapping from time spent with Ian Archibald.

There are never enough 'Friends'. If you would like to become a Friend of Burntisland Heritage Trust pick up the phone and leave a message on 872121 or speak to the secretary on 873624.

Hours of work over the preceding winter went into this year's exhibition. The theme for 2012 is still to be decided but given the popularity of this year's display it may well be 'more of the same'. I hope you too will make a point of being surprised, enthralled, entertained and enlightened by visiting next year.



The Chipper Cart

MARY'S FINAL BLOG

Mary Stuart, daughter of Burntisland's "Fair Trade" family and former pupil of Balwearie High, has just completed a gap year in South Africa working within the local community under the guidance of Project Trust, a widely respected gap year organisation. Last year, Mary came through a rigorous 4 day selection process and subsequently raised almost £5,000 to finance her year's voluntary work at an outward bound centre in South Africa. Here is Mary's final blog on her return home.

Having returned to Scotland in August, it's still taking a lot of getting used to... especially the weather! I found it strange coming back to a country where I could understand all the conversations going on around me and I still miss the laid back nature of the South African people, who when confronted with a problem their general response is "ah we'll make a plan..." The journey back was a lot longer than I remember it being, with a 5 hour stopover in both Johannesburg and Nairobi, Kenya, not to mention the length of the flights themselves.

Not long after I got back I went to my debriefing course on the Isle of Coll. We spent 2 days on the island, the group consisted of all the volunteers that went to South Africa, Malaysia, Namibia, Botswana and Swaziland so there was a pretty big group of us! We spent our time on Coll discussing our time away and sharing our experiences... as well as having a great ceilidh. We also got our certificates, the paper 'proof' of our year away. Our time on Coll was great and a nice way to round off the year.

I really enjoyed my year in South Africa and met some great people. During my year I got the opportunity to do some amazing things that I never thought I'd do, from wading through crocodile and hippo infested rivers to doing the Bloukrans bungee backwards! Now that I'm back in Scotland I am looking to start working towards following a career in Outdoor Education by completing courses such as Summer Mountain Leader, as well as considering studying at university.

Having recently given a talk at Balwearie for Project Trust which received a lot of interest I look forward to hearing about other pupils' gap years and the experiences they gain. The next group of volunteers are already in country and have been since the beginning of September, I'm interested to see how they are getting on. I loved my time in South Africa and look forward to going back there sometime; it's something I'll be talking about for a long time to come!

I would like to take this opportunity to say a big THANK YOU to everyone who supported my trip. I hope you enjoyed my blogs!

**Burntisland Thru A Lens**

The first arts project facilitated by the Burntisland community arts group hung, quite anonymously, on the back walls of "Potter About" during the October break. Some recognisable faces and places stared out from the pictures, while we had to squint back at others asking – 'I wonder who that is?' and 'Where's that?'

Exactly a year ago the group gave out 20 large red shiny envelopes with a disposable camera in each to folk around the town to record their daily goings-on. And although only 7 camera's made it back to the group, they show the town in all its seasonal colours – halloween trick or treating, the pipers at bonfire night, sledging on the links, springs thaw and summer glory. Many of the images capture big social events that we all enjoy as part of our culture while others show more personal moments that we identify with too. The aim of the project was to make a map of the town in pictures, and it certainly did make a start. If anyone would like to contribute to the project we are uploading all the images on to the website in the next couple of weeks. If you have any photos of Burntisland streets or of daily goings-on then you can email them over to us and we'll upload them too.

The arts group's main aim is to make art and cultural projects with the community, doing things together, sharing ideas and being more creative. As we leave our first project to make its own path we are left buzzing with ideas for the next. One thing we've learned through out this project is that when people come together they like to tell stories to one another – about what happened that day, last week, 20 years ago, eons ago.....So, how lovely to keep this connection with the first project and continue the idea of collecting social histories through words instead of pictures.

If you have any ideas about how we can collect your stories creatively then do get in touch. We are a group of folk who come together for the love of it so if you have some time and would like to join in then come along to our next meeting or email us your idea.

Visit the website- www.burntislandcommunityarts.wordpress.com



B.O.S.S.

**BURNTISLAND OUT OF
SCHOOL SERVICE**

Looking For Affordable Childcare During Term Time And The Holidays... B.O.S.S Has The Answer

Did you know the after school kids club Burntisland Out of School Service (B.O.S.S) also provides full day play schemes during school holidays and in service days? B.O.S.S is available to any child who is resident in Buntisland from age 5-14, they do not need to be a regular B.O.S.S attendee and are welcome to come along for ad hoc sessions. There is no joining fee and the staff are trained with disclosure undertaken. Discounts are available for the 2nd child, those on income benefits and Fifestyle cards.

As well as a fun packed schedule of activities including sports, arts & crafts and cookery workshops at the Toll Centre, we also offer various trips to places such as Jumpin Jacks, swimming at the Beacon, Ravenscraig Park and more.

Our AGM this year was a big success and we welcomed 4 new members to our management committee. We would also like to welcome all our new families including the primary 1 and primary 2 children who joined the club in August.

With winter on the way, now may be time to de-clutter your toy cupboards. Any donations of unwanted toys to help replenish our toy store would be greatly appreciated.

We are always interested to hear from parents and carers whose employer may be able to offer donations or funding to voluntary organisations.

For more information contact us on 01592 872854. You can also keep up to date with what's going on by joining our group "Burntisland Out of School Service" on Facebook or follow "BOSSburntisland" on Twitter.



Guy Fawkes Night Bonfire & Fireworks Display

Bonfires and fireworks go hand in hand for many people when they think of traditional Guy Fawkes celebrations. If you live in Burntisland then count yourself lucky as the town's traditional Guy Fawkes Night is fast becoming one of the most popular family events in the Fife calendar. This year the event takes place on a Saturday night and Burntisland Links is the place to be on 5th November. 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

We are pleased to announce that Radio Lollipop has once again been secured for the night. Apart from giving us a safe and very effective PA system they provide entertainment, music and tremendous fun for children of all ages. It is anticipated this will begin at 6pm. along with the fairground rides, refreshments and the very popular glo-sticks stall. The Summer Queen and Burntisland Pipe Band will set off from the Band Hall at 6.45. At the same time we are hoping to hold for the first time a laser show from the fireworks arena. This display however is subject to suitable weather conditions. If all goes to plan the bonfire will be lit earlier this year at 7pm and this will be followed by 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 and sparklers will be permitted. Please do not take offence if stewards enforce these rules – they are obliged to.

Anyone interested in assisting with stewarding should contact Carol Kirk (872164) or carolkirk@yahoo.co.uk

Burntisland Youth Theatre

**Presents for your delight
Sleeping Beauty**



Young Memorial Hall

12th, 13th, 14th & 15th December

Adults: £4.50

Children/Concessions £3.50

Tickets available from

Christine Dewar (872971)

Book now to Avoid Disappointment



Burntisland Golf House Club

by

Alastair Maxwell

As another season ends we are now looking forward to some winter golf and making plans for 2012. Yet again, the golf course was in magnificent condition this season and full credit goes to our head greenkeeper Stevie McAughey and his team. The greens staff and club members said goodbye to Neil Jardine at the end of September, as Neil retired after over 25 years working on the fairways of Burntisland. We wish him a long and happy retirement and hope to see him around the club from time to time.

If you or a friend have been thinking of joining a golf club, why not give us a try? We are running a few offers at the moment

Join now until 31st December 2012 for the price of 12 months - £491

or, if you would prefer to check out if we are the club for you

We have a Winter Member offer - join now until 30th March 2012 for just £125. If you decide to stay then the £125 is deducted from the subscription for the rest of 2012.

Our Professional, Paul Wytrazek and his team of assistants are always on hand to offer advice on golf clubs or your golf swing and they are currently busy organising their stock for their Christmas Sale. This starts in the second week of November, so please think about popping in if golf equipment is on your Santa List!

There have been many wonderful golf performances by members, but the highlight of the season has to be the resurgence of our Junior Section. From around six in 2009, we now have some eighty or so active juniors, boys and girls, who have transformed the whole section. Many made astonishing progress through the school holidays, thanks to their own dedication and the excellent free coaching provided by our local professional and his team. This did not of course "just happen" and thanks also go to the Junior Convenor, Bill Rollo and his helpers without whom this would have been impossible.

We are always keen to welcome new junior members, so if you, or your daughter/son would like to give it a go, then please get in touch. Who knows, perhaps the next Rory McIlroy is already alive and kicking in Burntisland!

Any enquiries regarding the golf club, then please contact the administrator on 01592 874093 or by e-mail on info@burntislandgolfhouseclub.co.uk



By
Andrew Beveridge

The early part of the season has seen the Shipyard's campaign blighted by injury as the team struggled to find any sort of consistency. Lee Small suffered a fractured shin bone in a pre-season game against East Fife and still remains sidelined. Neil Johnston suffered a knee ligament injury in the first competitive game of the season and is also still out. Sadly, the Scottish Cup campaign was short lived as we were drawn against top junior outfit Culter from Aberdeenshire and the Shipyard lost by four goals to nil. The scoreline was a bit harsh as the Culter keeper was on the top of his game and made three outstanding saves. In the last game before the deadline for this issue the Shipyard lost 3 – 1 to Edinburgh City in the South of Scotland Challenge Cup 2nd Round at Recreation Park. In what was a fine match the Shipyard gave a good account of themselves against a team playing at a higher level.

The club received a visit from the S.F.A. club license department in September and we were extremely encouraged by their report into the standard of facilities at Recreation Park. We will continue to try and make more improvements to the clubhouse and general surroundings at Recreation Park in both the short and long term.

The youth football continues to go from strength to strength with large numbers taking part throughout the age groups. It is also encouraging that people are enquiring about becoming coaches at the club, as all help is greatly appreciated. Anyone wishing to become a youth coach will be assisted by the club in achieving their qualifications and can make initial contact through the club website or any of the committee or current youth coaches.

The 99's group are now well under way at 11 a-sides and are doing well under the guidance of Dave Costello. Their home matches take place at Recreation Park on a Sunday at noon. Several of the younger groups are now enjoying the benefits of going to Pitreavie to take part against other teams from around Fife in non-competitive matches.

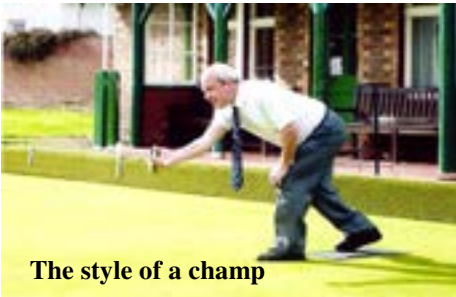


Burntisland Bowling Club

The outdoor bowling season has now finished but for one Burntisland Bowler this will be a season to remember. Martin Hunter was runner-up to Jack Clews in the Club Championship but playing for the first time in the Fife Disability Bowling, he won the tournament at the Beveridge Park in Kirkcaldy. This qualified him to enter the Scottish Disability Bowling Championship in Aberdeen, where he won his category.

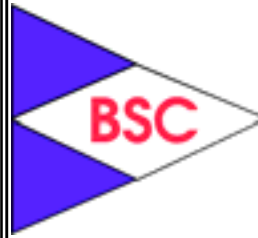
He was told he would be an asset to the International squad so his ambition is to keep playing well with a target of the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow in 2014.

The Indoor carpet bowling session has started with bowling on Monday and Tuesday afternoons from 1.00pm and Thursday evenings at 7.00pm. Thursday afternoons are



The style of a champ

taken up with Primary 7 pupils coming along for four week courses on an introduction to bowling. Maybe we will find another champion amongst them



Burntisland Sailing Club

The Sailing Club has had a very stormy season. The year began well in April with some good sailing. However, in early May Scotland was hit by some of the strongest winds in decades. Two boats were sunk at their moorings and other boats were damaged. Despite these problems, the sailing recommenced with keen racing taking place on Monday and Friday evenings. The restricted season was completed in September with silverware well distributed amongst racers this season.



TOUR OF THE KINGDOM RIDE – SUNDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2011

In aid of *The Mission to Seafarers Scotland*

“ON YOUR BIKE FOR THE MISSION!”



This fund raising event featured in our last edition and duly took place with most of the 65 riders opting for the gruelling 80 mile circular route from the Beacon car park.

The weather was kind at the start, fresh but sunny, but became a bit mixed as the day progressed. Nothing daunted, many of the riders completed the course in some excellent times and set the scene for what we plan to become an annual event.

There was a strong entry from the east of the Kingdom and from Fife cycling

clubs on the route which went as far north as Strathmiglo, east to Pitlessie and south to Elie before returning along the coast.

Our grateful thanks to all who helped, particularly to Alex McDonald's first aid team, Jim Burke's RAYNET communications team, the staff of The Beacon who allowed participants to use the centre's showers and to community policeman Keith Gibb. We look forward to returning to Burntisland next year.

If you want to know more please email scotland@mtsmail.org or contact us through the website at www.missiontoseafarersscotland.org.



Photos show riders at the start and leaving the centre together with Ian and Jill Little whose individual efforts raised £400.

Dear Friends

I am writing this letter in Cannon Val Nellist's absence. She is still away on holiday and wishes you all well.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. I am the Reverend Maureen Stirzaker. I am the new Non Stipendiary minister at the ABI group of churches. I retired to Fife earlier this year, and have received a wonderfully warm welcome from everyone. Before my

move I was a Hospice Chaplain in Greater Manchester for 21 years. And a College Chaplain for 10 years.

Enough about me, what I really want to write about is two young men from St. Serf's Church, Ross and Stuart Baynham who gave a week of their summer holidays putting in extremely long days to paint our church hall. They worked incredibly hard supervised by their granddad Malcolm a retired painter and decorator. The hall looks wonderful and only cost us the price of paint.

In this day and age when there is so much negative press about the youth of today. (Just a few



Before

weeks ago the only image of young people that we seemed to see was rioting and looting.) It is wonderful to be able to remind us all that there are many young people, who do things for others but are never publicly acknowledged. I feel this is a sad mistake, we should be thanking them for all they do.

It is a sad fact that if a youth throws a brick through a shop window they become famous, but if a youth does an elderly persons shopping every week for years they are given little if any recognition. Here we from St. Serfs now recognise, and give thanks for the work of Ross and Stuart.

Maureen



After

COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH

by
PC Jen Forbes

Community Speed Watch is a scheme that we will be starting very soon within the Burntisland and Kinghorn area. It was first started in Hopton On Sea, south of Yarmouth, and as it has been so successful, Fife Constabulary have decided to bring it to Fife.

It involves local residents playing an active role in speed reduction in their towns. Speed Watch has been successfully piloted in our North East Fife District and is now ready to be rolled out throughout the County. It's an opportunity for you to get involved in making your town a safer place.

Volunteers from the Community assist in achieving our overall objective of reducing average speeds, reducing the numbers of drivers prepared to exceed the limit and ultimately making our roads a safer. The rationale behind this scheme it is not to catch as many speeders as you can, but to reduce speeds in the area of concern and to raise the awareness of drivers that excessive speed is unacceptable.

The scheme will run during British Summer time and I am hoping to start training early next year. Volunteers must be over

18 and will be subject to vetting. Training for volunteers will include use of the hand held radar, conflict management and Health and Safety.

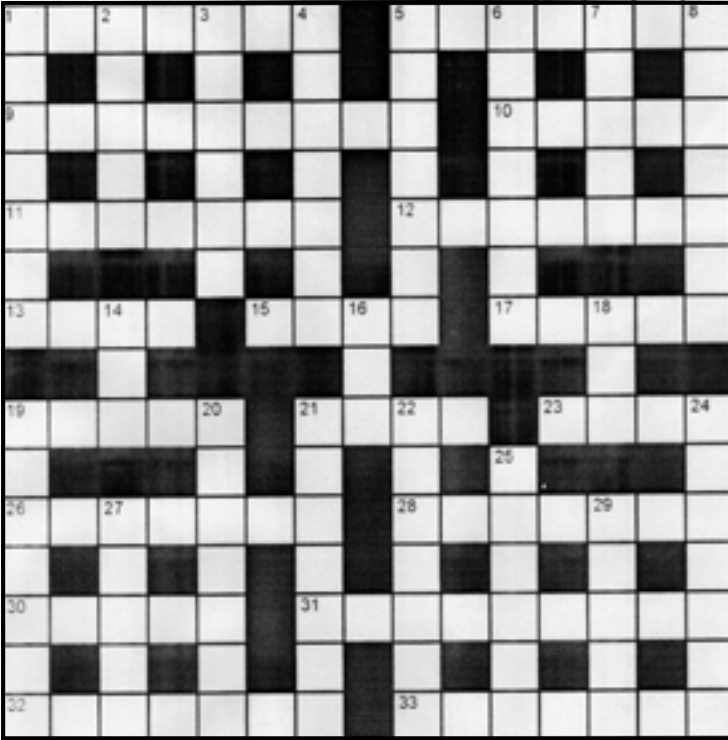
Volunteers will go out in high visibility jackets in a group of 3, equipped with a radar gun and signs warning drivers that they are in a Community Speed Watch area. Vehicles will not be stopped but offending vehicles' details will be noted. Those notes will then be passed to me and I will then collate the information and send out warning letters to those drivers flouting our traffic laws.

Although initially I will go out with the Community Volunteers, the scheme is centred around the volunteers working by themselves in areas where they feel there is a need to address motorists' speeds.

As your designated local Community Speedwatch Co-ordinator, I am keen to hear from you.

If you are interested in finding out more about this scheme, you can contact me either at Burntisland Police Station, or on 0845 600 5702, e-mail me on burntisland@fife.pnn.police.uk or I will also be attending our next Community Engagement meeting on the 2nd November 2011 at 7.30pm within the Toll Centre.

THE PRIZE CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1 Ill fated liner (7)
- 5 Electric fire bar (7)
- 9 Bad tempered fruit? (9)
- 10 Extreme (5)
- 11 Live in (7)
- 12 Fascinate (7)
- 13 Big fish hook(4)
- 15 Nautical speed(4)
- 17 Helicopter part (5)
- 19 Spanish friend (5)
- 21 Dry (4)
- 23 Swedish pop group (4)
- 26 Electrical device (7)
- 28 Uncovers (7)
- 30 Bovine flower (5)
- 31 Food specialist (9)
- 32 Diplomatic legation (7)
- 33 Of the stomach (7)

DOWN

- 1 Sailing across the wind (7)
- 2 American rubbish (5)
- 3 Close (6)
- 4 Ship's windlass (7)
- 5 The top of the world (7)
- 6 Imaginary world circle (7)
- 7 Go in(5)
- 8 Fishing boat (7)
- 14 US law agency (1,1,1)
- 16 Boat propulsion device (3)
- 18 Bar bill (slang) (3)
- 19 Shell fish - sea ear (7)
- 20 Eight- armed fish (7)
- 21 Pungently (7)
- 22 It did for 1 across (7)
- 24 A poison (7)
- 27 Improvise (5)
- 29 Snow traveller (5)

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 15th December to:

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

THE SOLUTION TO THE PRIZE CROSSWORD IN THE SUMMER 2011 EDITION

Across: 1 Past master, 6 Dumb, 9 Tombola, 10 Rebuffs, 12 Laud, 13 Threshold, 15 Swahili, 16 Agile, 17 Nut, 19 Orang, 20 Overlap, 23 Cantonese, 25 Omit, 27 Undress, 28 Educate, 29 Type, 30 Gluttonous.

Down: 1 Pitiless, 2 Sambuca, 3 Moon, 4 Startling, 5 Error, 7 Unfroze, 8 Beside, 11 Bassinet, 14 Vivavoce, 16 Atonement, 18 Spotless, 19 Owned up, 21 Lumbago, 22 Acquit 24 Easel, 26 Judo.

The winner of the £25 voucher donated by Shell U.K. Limited was

Mr Andrew Wilson, 15A Kirkgate, Burntisland.



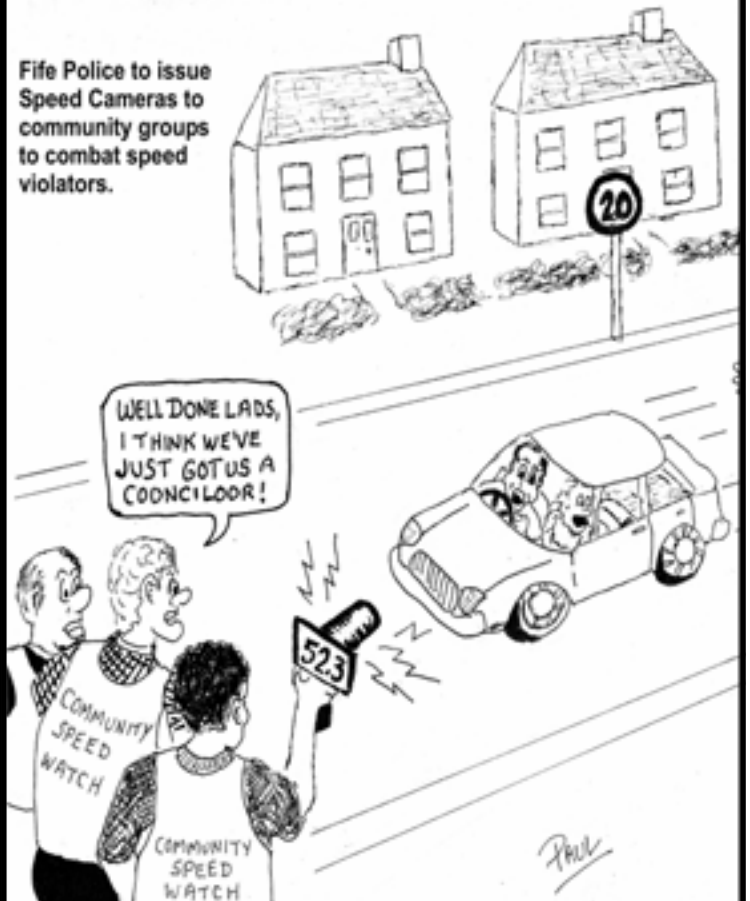
The Ecology Centre

The Ecology Centre in Kinghorn is recruiting new committee members who have the skills and experience to contribute to the governance of the organisation. The Centre has been established since 1998 providing education to over 6000 individuals annually, supporting over 4000 volunteer hours and welcoming around 20000 visitors to the site. The Ecology Centre uses direct experience of the natural world to change people's lives.

Young people with challenging behaviour build their self esteem and life skills through our programmes, children discover the natural world, sometimes for the first time and volunteers can improve their health, career chances, confidence and circle of friends through being involved at the Centre.

If you would like to be part of this organisation please contact us for an informal chat on 01592 891567 or email admin@theecologycentre.org. More information about The Ecology Centre can be found at www.theecologycentre.org

Fife Police to issue Speed Cameras to community groups to combat speed violators.





Burntisland Amateur Swimming Club

Goes the Full Distance



There will be many in Burntisland and the surrounding towns who can tell stories of their days at Burntisland Amateur Swimming Club, from those who swam in the open air pool and took part in the swim across the bay to those who travelled long distances to attend galas and participate in competitions, but do many know how long the club has been going? BASC celebrated its 125th birthday in September by playing games not only in the pool but on the beach at Burntisland. The Club was founded in August 1886 when the Lorne Club, a flourishing Edinburgh swimming club of the day, chartered a steamer and sailed up from Trinity. Their 150 members put on a demonstration of competitive swimming, diving and life-saving in the harbour at the West Breakwater.



This was so well received that a local club was formed and within a week BASC held their first competition at the West Breakwater for the Captaincy of the Club. The full title of the Club was, as it still remains today: Burntisland Amateur Swimming Club and Humane Society. The 'Humane Society' reflecting the great interest in life-saving.

The club has seen many changes since that time and now enjoys the luxury of an indoor pool! It is still a competitive club with a strong teaching element and warm welcoming social atmosphere. To celebrate the club held a beach party where children and parents played such games as, throw the welly boot backwards, beach sledging, find the golf balls in the sand and dress the scare crow! This was followed up by a fun night at the Beacon Leisure Centre with their inflatable to begin with, waves and flumes then walking on water in a ball! All club members received a lovely t-shirt and water bottle and there was a display of the fascinating gold and silver medals and trophies which had been retrieved from the bank. Looking through the minute and record books you could see the generations from the same families coming though the club. Our thanks go to all our sponsors: Fife Constabulary; Rexroth; Phoenix/BMW Motors Kirkcaldy, Fife Leisure Trust, the Coastguard and past members for their financial contributions which helped make this event such a success.



This year the Club has enjoyed success in a large number of events which are too numerous to list but an interesting statistic (I have no idea who worked it out) is that throughout the year, the total distance swum by all the swimmers added up to 47 miles (75.5 kilometres) which equals 3,022 lengths of Burntisland pool, or swimming from Burntisland to Glasgow! Not bad for a group of 5-12 years olds on a Tuesday night!



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