

BURGH BUZZ

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July 2012 Issue No 44



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A month of Festivities and Fun

The disappointing weather over the past couple of months has failed to dampen the Burntisland spirit as residents welcomed visitors and participated in Jubilee celebrations, the traditional Civic Week events and the Highland Games.

The recently formed "Burntisland Unlimited", a group of High Street Traders, was blessed with sunny



A VIP Visitor

weather for its very successful street fair. (page 12) On the following weekend, St Joseph's Church organised a magnificent Flower Festival (page 20) which received hundreds of visitors including Cardinal Keith O'Brien, the leader of the Roman Catholic Church in Scotland.

Inclement weather forced the crowning ceremony of Summer Queen Louise Lindsay into the historic setting of



Jubilee Party

Burntisland Parish Church. However, the traditional parade, this year with an Olympic theme, whilst following a shorter route, still took place. It returned to the Parish Church Halls for a Big Party directed by Kingdom FM and involving professional wrestling and a falconry display. A great time was had by all despite the weather. (pages 13 and 14)



An Olympic Parade

Highland Games Day was fair but a continuous wet spell the week before and a depressing weather forecast had an impact on the overall attendance.

Nevertheless, large crowds enjoyed all the events, including the gruelling Binn Race, which proceeded without a hitch. (Page 17)



Games Day

Editorial Comment.

The main topic of conversation in the town over the past few months has concerned the proposed site for the new Burntisland Primary School. There have been acrimonious exchanges in the Press, the Community Council and some particularly unsavoury comments on social networking sites. It is now up to Fife Council to consider the results of the most recent consultation exercise and make a decision in mid-September. It will take the wisdom of Solomon to arrive at a decision that will satisfy all!

The Buzz has always attempted to present both sides of the debate impartially. At this crucial time, it appeals to all for calm and level headed thinking to ensure that the town's children receive the state of the art school facilities that they are entitled to - the stated aim of all parties involved!

It has been a busy period in the town and the disappointing weather has failed to suppress the enthusiasm of the many volunteers who have organised events. The Jubilee High Street party organised by newly established "Burntisland Unlimited" was a tremendous success. The sunny conditions helped to transform the High Street into the thriving pedestrian thoroughfare of old.

The wet weather programme on the opening day of Civic Week ensured that the main events took place as planned and throughout the week various organisations and licensed premises organised related events.

On the third Monday of July, The Civic Reception for Burntisland Exiles preceded the traditional procession to the Links for the official opening of the 360th Highland Games which progressed smoothly under clearing skies.

The continued success of these important events is entirely due to the dedication and hard work of volunteers within the local community and generous financial support of local businesses, organisations and individuals. Our grateful thanks go out to all of them.

Readers will have noticed the brightly coloured floral planters and baskets which adorn the High Street and surrounding area. We see them daily and I think that most residents take them for granted. However, these are also planted and maintained by volunteers to whom we owe thanks.

Some of you will have visited the Heritage Society Exhibition in the Kirkgate, also manned by volunteers.

And lastly, the fact that you are able to read this copy of the Buzz is also because of volunteers—those who take the time to contribute, put it together and deliver the printed copy throughout the town.

All community organisations are constantly looking for volunteer support.

Come and join us!

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 on the town notice board and in the Library. A summary of issues raised during the last three meetings is set out below.

Community Council bullets

- * Thanks were given to PS Scott Murray in respect of his time at Burntisland police station and a welcome was extended to his replacement, PS Ross Davidson.
- * Following expressions of interest from 4 people, Gordon Langlands was elected by secret ballot to fill the single vacancy on the Community Council.
- * Concerns about parking at drop-kerbs on the High Street were passed to the Police and 6 tickets were issued in the space of 5 days.
- * The establishment FAB (Floral Action Burntisland) means that funds for that purpose formerly managed by the Community Council will now be managed directly by FAB.
- * An exchange of ideas continues, led by Zoe Williamson, Ed Pybus and John Russell, on how best to ensure accurate and full communication with the wider community.
- * A decision on funding towards the War Memorial conservation project by the Heritage Lottery Fund is expected at end-July.
- * The Chairs of the Community Council and Parent Council met to clarify their different objectives and to ensure that discussions about the school could remain constructive.
- * Neil Millsop represented the Community Council at a recent meeting of the school stakeholder group.
- * A successful clean-up of the Fife Coastal path near the Seamill Pond was led by Gary Cummins.
- * Following challenges led by John Bruce, Fife Council now say there are no plans to close public toilets on the Links.
- * The Community Council website will have information about the planned shutdown for maintenance purposes of the ExxonMobil plant at Mossmorran and the consequential flaring at the beginning and end of the period. There will be a significant rise in the number of contractors working on-site and therefore using local services.
- * It was decided, by a significant majority, to oppose the planning application for a new school on the grounds that the location is inappropriate. The Community Council strongly supports the provision of a new school. However, the evidence shows that most local people believe the Toll Park is not an appropriate site. We are again asking Fife Council to carry out an objective survey of other sites and to submit a new plan accordingly.

Elected Fife Councillors' Availability

Councillor George Kay

Telephone 01592 874920

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

Councillor 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

Councillor Peter George

Telephone 01592 583101

Burntisland Surgery - Last Saturday of the month
10.00 - 10.30 am in the Toll Centre

(excepting July)

The Burgh Police

By Sergeant Ross Davidson



The one thing that is constant in the Police is change.

Since the last issue of the Burgh Buzz Sergeant Scott Murray has moved on to be replaced by myself.

I have joined the team at Burntisland from a six month secondment as the Police lead for the UK Border Agency Crime Team, based in Glasgow. I have spent most of my promoted service in Criminal Investigation roles with periods as a Response Sergeant at both Cowdenbeath and Dunfermline.

Although Community Policing is new to me, I intend to use the skills that I have accumulated throughout my service to add to the good work currently being undertaken by the local Community Officers, Keith Gibb, Jez Graves and Tony Kinsell. From my time working with other agencies, I fully appreciate the importance of working partnerships and how tackling problems from a variety of perspectives can be far more effective than from a purely law enforcement angle.

We will continue to focus on the local issues that you have raised with us at Community Engagement Meetings - primarily Youth Disorder/Anti-Social Behaviour and Road Traffic Issues.

No **major disorder issues** have arisen recently but with the school holidays upon us, patrols will be increased to nip any potential problems in the bud. A couple of seizures of alcohol have been made from youths in the Burntisland area and test purchase operations are regularly carried out at local licensed premises in an effort to identify likely places of supply.

Parking and speeding continue to be areas of concern in both Burntisland and Kinghorn. Regular patrols have been undertaken by both local Community Officers and Community Traffic Wardens and where appropriate, advice has been given. Additionally, numerous fixed penalty tickets have been issued in cases of dangerous/inconsiderate parking. Speeding vehicles have also been targeted with a number of speed detection deployments having taken place at speeding hotspots, Kinghorn Road, Burntisland and on the Loch Road, Kinghorn. A number of warnings and fixed penalty tickets have been issued.

Your forthcoming Community Engagement Meetings are on:
Wednesday 12th September 2012 @ 7.30 pm – Kinghorn Community Centre

Wednesday 12th November 2012 @ 7.30 pm – The Toll Centre

I hope you will take the opportunity to come along and give us your views, concerns and ideas on how we can assist you in making your local area a safer more pleasant place in which to live.

If you wish to speak to any of your local Community Officers, they can either be contacted at Burntisland Police Station, or by e-mail : burntisland@fife.pnn.police.uk or by phone:

Non-emergency contact number : 0845 600 5702

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 Dewar	Tim Hailey
	Neil Millsop	Martin McDonald
	Morag Douglas	Gary Cummins
	Gordon Langlands	

**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	Ed Pybus
	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.

THIS IS YOUR BURGH BUZZ. Your comments, letters, articles and photographs are welcome. For the next issue, these can be submitted typed or handwritten to Bill Kirkhope, 39 The Wynd, Dalgety Bay KY11 9SJ (Tel: 01383 822023) or by e-mail to billvida@sealscraig.plus.com Items for the Autumn 2012 Issue by 14th October 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).



Burntisland School

News

By
Carolyn Bell

Our summer term has flown by with our staff and pupils being involved in many different activities. This term, we have had a whole school focus on health and well-being and our pupils have taken part in a variety of events about healthy living. Primary 5 classes visited 'Calamity Kitchen' and learned about food hygiene and safety, Primary 6 became 'Secret Agents' and carried out food safety missions. Our Primary 7s learned about the environment and health.

We have all been learning about the Olympics this year in the lead up to the Olympic Games. As part of this work we have been awarded tickets for a football match at Hampden. Some of our pupils will be attending this during the summer holidays and we are looking forward to hearing about this experience.



Across the school our pupils also took part in lots of taster sessions for different sports such as football, rugby, volleyball and highland games. Primary 6 classes attended swimming lessons at the Beacon and also had the chance to learn golf. We offer our thanks to Mrs Bennett for organising these activities. Our relay team competed in the Balwearie relay race and we are very proud that they came second in this competition. Our football team also celebrated coming second in the Fife Fives competition. This was a huge achievement considering the large number of teams involved. We enjoyed good weather for our school sports days which gave us a great opportunity to see all the different sporting skills and abilities from nursery to primary seven.



Some of our Primary 4 and 5 pupils enjoyed a trip to Edinburgh Castle as part of their Castles Project and learned lots about castles and our local history. Primary 5s also had a brilliant trip to Bannockburn and to Stirling to learn more about their

Scottish History project. They highly recommend this trip.

Our Primary 4 pupils were invited to the Scottish Parliament to show their award winning animated film, 'Grannie Mac's Meringues' which received excellent praise from the audience.

We have enjoyed some superb performances this term. Our Primary 3s gave several performances of 'Eddy the Penguin' to the rest of the school and invited guests. Their hard work, talent and enthusiasm shone through. Thanks to Mr Barclay, Mrs Rossbrough and all other staff who helped to produce this show. P5R performed two Scottish Plays for us and we really enjoyed their humorous tales from Scottish history and their superb singing. P2 gave a performance called 'Litter Muncher' which shared some of their learning about the environment. Their hard work has inspired us all to look after our environment and reminded us not to drop litter.

Primary 5 concluded their 'Rotary Rambles' walks with a presentation of certificates from the Rotary Club President. The

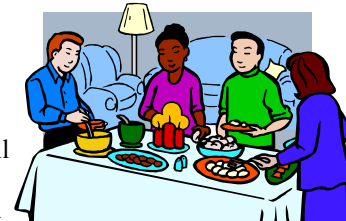
children shared some of their favourite memories from these walks and recalled some of the numerous things that they have learned through taking part. Thanks to the Rotary Club and to Mrs Bennett for organising these walks and to all of the parents who have accompanied our children.



A group of Primary 6 pupils, assisted by Mrs Mullen, created some wonderful floral displays for the St Joseph's Flower Festival. They really enjoyed being involved in this activity.

P1 pupils went shopping in Burntisland High Street to gather all the ingredients they needed to make delicious soup. They enjoyed visiting each other and tasting the finished products. P3/4 showed their caring natures by raising £377.60 for the SSCA through a sponsored silence. They were silent for an entire afternoon. We would like to thank everyone who supported this and also Miss Hepburn for arranging it.

Our School held a Jubilee Street Party in celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. We all enjoyed a very different school lunch with a buffet and tables set up outside, and many of our children wore crowns that they had made for the occasion.



Children from Primary 7 had a fabulous week away at Ardroy Outdoor Education Centre. They took part in lots of outdoor activities as well as learning more about caring for the environment. Thanks to Mrs Donnachie, Mr McGourty, Mrs Winning and Mr Barclay for all their hard work during this week.

There have been many clubs and activities running this term. Our science club, run by Mrs Noble and Miss Hepburn, has been very popular. Mrs Rolland has helped many enthusiastic pupils learn some Mandarin at her lunchtime Chinese Club. Mrs Kilgour and Mrs Kerr have continued to encourage our keen knitters to complete their items.

We finished off our summer term with services at the Erskine Church. Our pupils are moving on to new classes after the summer holidays and we took this opportunity to say farewell to our Primary 7 pupils who are now moving on to Balwearie High School and to say farewell to members of staff who are retiring or moving on to new posts after the summer. We wish them all the best in the future.



.....what do you think of our new logo?

We think it looks fresh and modern – just the image we at BOSS (Burntisland Out of School Service) want to project. This image was chosen by the children who use BOSS and via a poll on our Facebook page (our facebook group name is 'Burntisland Out of School Service').

The new logo is just one of the changes we have been making at BOSS recently. We have updated our registration forms and the way children are booked in. We now have our Facebook group and a webpage (www.bossburntisland.co.uk), check them out and let us know what you think.

The next change we are considering is opening an Early Start Club. This would be a supervised club held at Burntisland Primary School for children to attend pre-school. It would not provide food or drink, just a safe, supervised environment for children who need pre-school care. This club would run alongside the existing Breakfast Club provided by the school catering staff. Is this something you would be interested in finding out more about? Contact us via email, facebook or phone if you would like to register your interest in the club.

The one thing we haven't changed is the brilliant standard of care the children who attend BOSS receive. We run annual parent/carer and children surveys and the last survey showed us that the parents/carers who use BOSS are very satisfied with the service and the children enjoy attending too. The children praised the variety of activities they could get involved in, the fun they have with the staff and many said they were just happy playing with their friends after school.

If you would like more information about the after school service run by BOSS or are interested in the idea of a pre-school club you can contact us via email – bossburntisland@yahoo.co.uk, put a post on our facebook page or via phone on 01592 872854 or pop into the Toll Centre any weekday afternoon for a chat with the BOSS Manager Kirsty McLeod.

Exiles' Reception

The 360th Burntisland Highland Games Day started with a Civic Reception in the Burgh Chambers hosted by Bob Smith, Deputy Chairman of the Community Council who welcomed Burntisland exiles and invited dignitaries including the recently appointed Provost of Fife, Jim Leishman. Returnees this year hailed from as far a field as Melbourne, Dubai, Winchester, Swansea, Yorkshire and Durham. Following the reception, Burntisland & District Pipe Band led a parade along the High Street to the Highland Games arena on the Links. Summer Queen Louise Lindsay and her entourage headed the procession which included Games Chieftain David Jeffrey and Citizen of the Year Ian Archibald.



BURNTISLAND HERITAGE TRUST EXHIBITION

experienced by Maureen Davies.

The paintings and photographs of local man Andrew Young (1854-1925) form the main focus of this year's exhibition. The works chosen are a mixture of originals and reproductions and a most useful printed guide accompanies them. His three most prominent works, The Magistrate's Seat; A Scottish Fair and, perhaps most well known, The Bridge of Life, can be viewed in the High Street room along with views of the Lammerlaws and beach. The Kirkgate Room contains a selection of local views and some portraits while the Back Room is reserved for some of Young's photographic work.

But, just because Young's work is the theme for this year, do not be misled into thinking there is little else. To visit the tiny exhibition space is to enter the Tardis! Surely every aspect of Burntisland: its history, archaeology, industry, people and architecture can be found in this space. It is not until one begins to study the collected material that the rich seam of information available about



Burntisland is exposed; whether it is the informal collection of local news compiled over many years by Cathy Watson, detailed recollections of Burntisland at work and play or the highly emotive 'Burntisland Now and Then' playing on a loop.

This exhibition will appeal to visitors, returning exiles and local people alike. Even if you have already visited, you have definitely not seen everything; so go back for a second or third visit. The volunteers are welcoming, well informed and delighted to share their knowledge with visitors.

The exhibition is free but donations are welcome and are vital to continue the work of the Trust. The exhibition is open on Wednesdays from 1p.m. till 4p.m. and Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 11a.m. till 4p.m. Put a date in your diary NOW!

Introducing Your Elected Councillors.....

The Municipal elections on May 5th resulted in a new Labour led administration in Fife Council. Burntisland constituents of (Ward 10), elected three Councillors, all of different political persuasions, to represent them on Fife Council. All three set out below their objectives and aspirations in representing Ward 10 for the next five years.....



Councillor Susan Leslie

First of all, I would like to say thank you to all those who voted for me – it is a true pleasure to be re-elected. I'd also like to thank my team of local volunteers and deliverers who made all of the difference!

I am very much looking forward to continuing my work in the community and letting local groups take the lead. One of the most important parts of my role is facilitating and encouraging local community groups whose work is hugely important.

I also look forward to continuing to help and support individuals and families, which is the most rewarding part of being a Councillor. This case work is the part that never reaches the public but it is vitally important for individuals and families to feel that there is someone who they can come to for help and advice.

The biggest challenge in the coming five years will be trying to maintain the current levels of service provision in the face of cuts and increased pressure to reduce expenditure in council budgets.

There will also be an increased pressure on grants and funding available for community projects, as well as less funding for voluntary sector services. We need to look for new ways to deliver services because we simply can't continue with the same while the money runs out.

I also look forward to taking forward the development of the new Burntisland Primary School, which has the support of all three councillors elected on May the 3rd. I will continue to hold surgeries in Burntisland and Kinghorn prior to the Community Council meetings and am also available by phone, email or appointment outwith those dates.



Councillor George Kay

I am delighted to be re elected to serve the constituents of ward 10 for another five years. It has been a great privilege to have been able to serve the people of our communities over the last seven years and I look forward with enthusiasm to my next term.

My main consideration in the next five years will be to offer to the residents of the ward my attention to the many problems and frustrations which they encounter in their dealings with the Council and other national organisations. I will therefore make myself available at a time and place which suits their individual needs.

I will equally look forward to working alongside the many groups which play a vital part in trying to improve the lives of our communities.

My main thrusts in the next five years will be the provision of a new school in Burntisland which can match the potential of all our children. I will also work to offer new sports facilities to allow our young people a healthy alternative in which to direct their energies.

I will be equally robust in working to see the redevelopment of Inveriel which will have so many positive impacts on that whole community .

In Kinghorn I feel we should work to maintain the impetus of improvements which have been initiated over the last five years.

I have played a large part in the last five years in contributing to the performances of our emergency services and I would hope that I will still play a part in the transition of those services to a single police force for Scotland and a single fire service. We have achieved so much with our police and fire services over the last five years and it is essential that the pending economic downturn is not allowed to impact on those achievements.



Councillor Peter George

I thank all of the constituents of Ward 10 who put their faith in me by electing me as their representative on Fife Council. Since being elected in May, I have relinquished my role as environment spokesman for the Community Council and I am now trying to resolve some of the concerns I raised there, directly with Fife Council.

Speaking specifically about Burntisland, my aspirations for the following five years are to protect and improve the Green Space within the town, increase and improve football facilities and ensure the paths at the Monks Walk and the Binn are brought back up to scratch.

On cleanliness issues, I am getting a dog warden involved to try to resolve the dog continuous fouling issue, pushing to ensure the public toilets on the Links remain open and are functional and encouraging the re-introduction of road sweepers.

As a matter of urgency, I intend to engage with the School Build Liaison Group to push for the new Primary School to be a Community School in the true sense of the word, with access in the evening and weekends to sport and leisure facilities that serve the children and the wider community.

I walk round the town on a daily basis. Please feel free to stop me for a chat or drop into my surgeries at the Toll Centre (details on page 3) where you can raise any local issues with me.

Floral Enhancement

By Scott Sweaton



The group have had a very productive couple of months after establishing themselves earlier this year. This has included the setting up of a bank account and applying for funding from Fife Council to help purchase plants for the floral displays around the town.

FAB had a stall at the Traders Jubilee Fun Day held in June. "Three sponges for a pound" was broadcast as passers-by were given the opportunity to soak a face that was poking through the body of Igglepiggie! £60 was raised to help towards the purchase of water bowsers to water the plants. FAB also managed to recruit 2 new volunteers that day.

Additionally, we have benefited from donations from local businesses including BH Plumbing and Gary Clark Gardening Services. The hanging baskets on the High Street and planters and troughs around Burntisland were planted and hung at the beginning of June – slightly behind schedule due to the Scottish weather! Burntisland Girl Guides planted the small precinct planter outside the Burgh Chambers and have agreed to maintain this for FAB as this will help them towards achieving one of their badges.

The floral displays are maintained by a small number of volunteers who are braving the elements to ensure they are watered, fed and dead-headed. The plan was to water them twice weekly but so far, due to the wet weather, this has been reduced to once weekly.

As we maintain the baskets, troughs and planters we constantly hear comments from passers-by on how lovely they look and that they were unaware that the operation was manned entirely by volunteers. We are already looking ahead to next year and how we can further enhance the floral aspect of Burntisland. We plan to concentrate our efforts on improving the entrances to the town and expanding the High Street hanging basket scheme. We aim to hold a coffee morning in late summer and apply for grants to boost essential funds.

To maintain the existing project and plan for the future the continual support from the local community is essential. This can be made in a number of ways. If you want to help with planting or watering, if you have great fundraising ideas or if you are a local business which is willing to make a donation or provide sponsorship, we would love to hear from you. We meet on an ad hoc basis and generally communicate via email. The summer months' commitment is mainly maintaining the floral displays and in the winter time it will be more planning and organising for the year ahead.

If you would like to find out more about FAB or would like to help in any way, please do not hesitate in contacting us by emailing floral-action-burntisland@hotmail.co.uk or by phoning 07500134920. Our volunteers come from all walks of life but we all have one thing in common – we want to make Burntisland fabulous!



Community Clean-up Day

By Gary Cummins



On 22nd April members of Burntisland Community Council along with two members of the public and a handful of children spent the Sunday clearing rubbish from the town's coastal path.

This event, organised by the Community Council, was part of Fife's own annual community clean up. Fife Council provided a skip, bags and protective equipment in the form of gloves and litter picking tools

The principal aim was to clear the Fife Coastal Path of rubbish prior to the summer visiting season Burntisland as a coastal town has plenty of coastline to choose from. The selected area was the Seamill Pond and the adjacent footpath leading to Aberdour, which is particularly prone to general littering, flytipping and dog fouling.

After about four hours of clearing litter, bottles, drinks cans, even an ancient fly-tipped bathroom suite, we managed to fill about two thirds of a skip. As well as clearing the footway and playpark around the pond, volunteers worked their way through the woods along the back of the houses on the Seamill Park and cleared the playpark area of litter and windblown rubbish. Fife's environment officers paid us a visit and we raised with them the issue of the regular dog fouling on the Seamill Park.

This event offers an excellent opportunity to deal with some of the litter and rubbish in the public spaces of Burntisland that the regular council services don't tackle. Hopefully more folk will join in next year.



Opportunities Fife
connecting learning, skills and jobs

Toll Centre Job Club

Looking for advice and information? – We're here to help!

In the first 6 months since the Job Club moved to the Toll Centre, over 30 local residents have taken advantage of the support available for job search (including help with CVs and applications), training and career planning. Access to 8 computers for online job search has proved very popular with job club members and, hopefully, this makes up for the fact that many locals are travelling quite a distance to the Toll Centre.

Numbers using the facilities fell in June and Ian and Alison, the Opportunities Fife development workers, are keen to encourage regulars and new members to come along. This is an important and useful facility for Burntisland but its continuation will depend on the use made of it by the local community. **The Job Club runs throughout the year every Friday from 10 am until 12.30 pm** and individual appointments outwith these times are also available. For those not confident using a computer for job search, classes on Tuesdays and Wednesdays will be starting up again after the summer holidays.

Anyone wishing more information about what is available can contact:

Ian Bowles - 07904303688; Alison Hamilton - 07507668239
Sarah Warnock (Tuesday computing class) - 07773701939



MUSEUM OF COMMUNICATION

By Dorothy Brankin

The Museum of Communication's new Summer Exhibition is now in full swing!

This year, we thought we'd do something a bit different, so we're telling the story of some of the major developments in maritime communications over the last 200 years.

'*Attention All Shipping*' starts with the role played by the Stevenson family of Lighthouse Builders. (We are grateful to the Northern Lighthouse Board for copies of the original, very fine drawings). There was one 'Black Sheep' in the Stevenson family, who had no interest whatsoever in Engineering, but ironically, his name is known far more widely today, than the rest of the family put together. Robert Louis Stevenson was the grandson of the founder of the family engineering firm!

Wars are often the birthplace of great inventions! In the 1790s, hostilities with the French resulted in the British Admiralty commissioning the building of a string of Optical Telegraphs, radiating from London to where the fleets were anchored at Yarmouth, Deal, Portsmouth and Plymouth. This – in pre-electric days – was the first time that messages could be transmitted over long distances at speed. It is said that a test message was sent AND acknowledged, from London to Plymouth (215 miles) in about 8 minutes but obviously, the telegraph could only be used in good daylight conditions!

There is a section about Shipwrecks. With valuable input from Burntisland Heritage Trust, we are able to detail the biggest wreck in the Forth - *HMS Campania* - that lies just outside Burntisland.

The Forth has been an important shipping area for hundreds of years but for much of this time, there were no lighthouses, and ships were simply at the mercy of the wind.

One of the Museum's most prized artefacts is on display this year – the Morse key from the German battleship *Grosser Kurfurst*, scuttled at Scapa Flow in 1919 and subsequently salvaged in 1938. This is the only key ever recovered from the German Fleet and was presented to a press photographer who covered the salvage operation. His widow donated it to the MoC, after hearing a BBC interview with Harry Matthews (the Museum's founder), in 1986.

Fabulous images shown are 'State of the Art' multi beam sonar images and not photographs – reproduced with permission from Advanced Underwater Surveys Ltd (ADUS)

We devote one section to the *Titanic* tragedy, in its centenary year. It is interesting to note that the label 'Unsinkable' was coined by the Press and not the builders! On display are artefacts of the period –including Spelterware figurines, magic lantern, typewriter, telephones and gramophones – and we draw a chilling comparison between *Titanic* and the recent foundering of the *Costa Concordia*... We unravel the mysteries of the Shipping Forecast and recall the Pirate Radio stations of the 1960s.

We are grateful to the RNLI for their very significant input in the exhibition and ask that our visitors will support their good work.



The Bell Lighthouse



First Aid Update

By Alex MacDonald

Our summer season got off to a very rewarding start when four of our members saved the life of a man whose heart had stopped beating.

We were covering an event in Fife when one of our first aiders was asked to attend a man who had become unwell. He sent a radio message to alert others that he was on the way. A second member picked up the message and was nearby so went to the scene in case assistance was required.



On arrival, they realised that the man was unconscious and had stopped breathing. They then used the radios again to ask our ambulance to attend, whilst they started CPR. Our ambulance carries a defibrillator, oxygen and airways, all of which were used to excellent effect. The bottom line is that by the time we transferred the patient to the Scottish Ambulance Service we had been successful in re-starting his heartbeat, though he remained unconscious and gravely ill. However, I am very pleased to say that he was discharged from hospital only 10 days later and continues to make an excellent recovery.

We also found time to celebrate some recent successes, when 9 members completed the First Person On Scene course at the Intermediate level. It means that they are qualified in the use of oxygen and Entonox, as well as airway management, spinal injury stabilisation and other topics.

In the final assessment, the winners of the trophies for Best Theory and Best Practical were Brian McGill and Phil Reid respectively. At the same time, Maureen McQuade was presented with the Quach to mark her success in raising £1,500 for our funds entirely through her own efforts.

Meanwhile, we are also planning ahead for our next public course (FPOS Basic) which will start in September. It will run on Wednesday evenings for about 12 weeks. It's open to people with no previous experience or who may be currently qualified. Enquiries are welcome to 873314 or by e-mail to alex_mac@btinternet.com.





Pipe Band News

The new Pipe Band season started with the sad news that Alec Birrell, a member of the band for most of his life, sadly passed away. Alec, an influential member of the Band for nearly 7 decades, guided the pipe band careers of both his son Stewart and Grandson Scott, who is currently leading a drumming development programme in New Zealand as well as a being a member of the Grade 1, Boghall and Bathgate Caledonia Pipe Band. Alec was a familiar face at the band hall in his twilight years, he supported the band both at events and competitions. He will be sadly missed by everyone.



Alec Birrell

There is a new line up within the band for season 2012, Stephen Johnstone is the new Pipe Major, Tom Smith is the new Pipe Sergeant with Mark Gibson continuing as the Drumming Instructor. Stephen brings a wealth of experience having been taught at Burntisland by legendary Pipe Major Jim Forbes and having played with the Grade 1 Fife band, Dysart and Dundonald.

The season started in sunny May at Dunbar where the band showed tremendous potential in the warm up but couldn't quite maintain the standard on the competition field. However, they still came a credible 10th from 16 bands. Next up was the Scottish Championships in Dumbarton, where a confusion within the RSPBA registration process resulted in the band competing 1 grade higher than planned. Despite this handicap, the players still managed 18th from 21 higher graded bands. Samantha van Dieken, the band's Drum Major, was placed an excellent 6th place at the Scottish, her first full year competing in the discipline.

As the band prepares for the British Championships at Annan and then the World Championships in Glasgow, many requests are received to play at Gala's, shows and civic ceremonies. These requests are honoured with traditional enthusiasm and despite challenging weather conditions, the band continues to turn out at local events and in support of the communities in the area.

The Band is continually looking for new and experienced players and can offer free tuition and trial instruments for prospective players. Just pop in any Monday or Thursday and ask for Denis, Bob or Tom for Piping or Mark, Robbie or Stuart for drumming. The Band continues to raise funds to finance its many varied activities. Anyone wishing to support the band by donation or book the band for an event are asked to contact the Chairman, Denis Johnstone at the Band Hall in East Leven St.

Arthur's Amble 2 !

On 13th April, a Charity Walk took place in the memory of the late Arthur Myers, a popular Burntisland resident who died of cancer almost three years ago. This was the second such walk and particularly appropriate as Arthur, known to many of his friends as George, took part in many charity walks at home and abroad before he died. Some 130 of Arthur's relatives and friends took part in the 15 mile circular trek from the Jubilee Tavern along the coastal path to Kirkcaldy, back westwards along the Quarry Road and over the



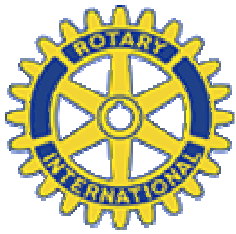
An enthusiastic group photo before the walk



A Donation to the Victoria Hospice

Binn then across the Cowdenbeath Road to the path to Aberdour. From there, the walkers rejoined the coastal path back to the Burntisland and the Jubilee for sandwiches and well deserved "refreshments". In the evening, all participants celebrated the event in a lively disco back in the Jubilee, organised by a family friend. Novelty raffles during the evening raised over £400 towards the final total of £7,084 shared between the Victoria Hospice and MacMillan Cancer Support.

Arthur's widow Caroline was delighted with day's success, not just because of the amount of money raised but also for the fellowship and enjoyment which all had shared in her late husband's memory.



Burntisland & Kinghorn Rotary Club

July marks changeover time for the club's presidency; Burntislander Alan Smart now takes over from Elaine Bowie, as the club looks forward to another year of sharing fellowship, fun and service to the local communities. In early May the Club's traditional sale in Kinghorn of high quality, carefully nurtured plants produced nearly £2000 for charity funds. Rotarians also acted as marshals in Val Linton's Treasure Hunt, which, despite the blustery weather, raised £280 for Action Medical Research. Val's fundraising for her chosen children's charity continues this month with her ascent of Mount Toubkal, Morocco's highest mountain. Good luck, Val!

In June, to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the club visited nursery classes with story books, to encourage youngsters to enjoy reading from an early age. The Jubilee Concert at the Adam Smith Centre by the Glasgow Phoenix Choir enabled the Club to donate £2000 to CHAS and a further £500 will be available to support local initiatives.

On 13 June, 69 delighted Primary 4/5 pupils at Burntisland Primary School received Rotary Rambles Achievement Certificates. Over the last eight years, with the invaluable and enthusiastic involvement of the school, more than 1000 folks in the community (teachers, parents and grandparents included, of course!) have benefited from healthy outdoor exercise under this award-winning scheme. They have also found out more about each other, learned to appreciate local geography, history, and the beauty of our countryside, as well as gaining map reading and hill navigation skills.

During the next Rotary year, the Club's thirtieth, plans are underway to run a Charity Shop in Burntisland in October; the Club will also continue with the Primary Schools Quiz, Rotary Rambles, the Burns Poetry competition, the provision of dictionaries to Primary Schools, as well as providing funds for the many activities which contribute towards Kinghorn and Burntisland's community life and civic spirit.

If any reader of the Buzz is interested in joining in community service in a convivial atmosphere, why not join Rotary? Just pick up the phone and contact Elaine Bowie on 01592 267557 for details.



Elaine Bowie hands over the chain of office to Alan Smart



News from the Fairways

By Alastair Maxwell

As the weather (hopefully) starts to improve, and the Open Championship grabs the nation's sporting interest, could this be the time for you to join your local golf club?

We are running a very special Open Championship new members offer - join from 1st July for only £250 - and no additional Joining Fee!

We continue to recognise the importance of investing in Junior golf, and the past few months have been a busy time for the Junior Section at Burntisland Golf House Club. Coaching sessions from the professionals at the club have continued on a weekly basis and are well attended. These group sessions usually take place on a Sunday 12 - 3pm or on a Tuesday from 4pm - 6pm. Individual or smaller group sessions are also available. These sessions are open to both juniors who are members and non-members.

Competitions for junior members with an official handicap take place on a weekly basis throughout the season and produce a high standard of play. We now have 3 Junior members playing of a handicap of less than 12 and eligible to take part in gents competitions. We have also devised in conjunction with the pros, a Route to Handicap pathway for beginners and those receiving coaching so that they and their parents can see how they are developing their skills.

We also have an 8 hole eclectic competition running most Sundays for the younger members who are at the stage of being able to play on the course as a step up from the coaching sessions.

The Junior Section in the Community has also been busy having taken a fundraising stall at this years Diamond Jubilee Street Party and provided glubgolf taster sessions at the golf club for Primary 6 children from Burntisland Primary School over a four week period.

Junior Membership at the club continues to grow and we now have some seventy paid up juniors. There are many benefits to becoming a member and it is a great way of making new friends whilst doing something that you enjoy and keeps you fit and healthy.

So join now for the rest of 2012 at our discounted rates (Under 12 only £5; Under 14 only £20; Under 16 only £30; Under 18 only £50).

For enquiries regarding coaching please contact the pro shop on 01592 872116 and for membership contact Alastair Maxwell, Club Administrator on 01592 874093 - e-mail info@burntislandgolfhouseclub.co.uk

"TREASURE IN THE SANDS"

The Burntisland Treasure Hunt was the brainwave of Valerie Linton, of the Burntisland Sands Hotel, who had decided to raise some funds for Action Medical Research, the leading UK-wide charity for babies and children. Val called in friends from Burntisland Heritage Trust, Burntisland and Kinghorn Rotary Club and the Binnend Wanderers to put together a fine family fun-day on Sunday 13 May.

The Treasure-trail took participants round Burntisland's historic nooks and crannies, panoramic viewpoints, Links and sands, searching for answers to set questions and for items of treasure. It turned out to be a super fun day for families and groups, with treasure-hunters from Burntisland, Kinghorn, Kirkcaldy and Kelty joining in a very closely-fought competition.

The venture raised a total of £280 for Action Medical Research, including the £50 "treasure" which was kindly donated to the charity by the winners.

The next venture in the fund-raising campaign for Action Medical Research, in July, will see Val lead a Linton-family trio up Toubkal, at over 4000 metres, the highest

peak in the Moroccan Atlas, and indeed in all of North Africa.

It will be a very active summer for Val, trekking the local tracks and trails in



A happy group of treasure-hunters

training for her forthcoming adventure in the Atlas and, hopefully, raising lots more funds for Action Medical Research.

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Paul

The wettest summer on record has been a bonus for the local shipyard. The company has just completed an order for a large wooden boat for Mssrs. Noah & Sons in a record time of 40 days and 40 night shifts.

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The latest publication from local writer Paul Briscoe is a wealth of information about Scotland and contains many interesting and fascinating facts. This colourful, pocket sized book would make an ideal gift for the tourist or visitor and is available locally from The Sands Hotel, MA Hardware, & The Paper Shop as well as being available nationally through most branches of Waterstones.

JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

On the Tuesday of the Jubilee holidays, the newly formed organisation of High Street Traders, **Burntisland Unlimited**, hosted an ambitious Street Fair which transformed the High Street into the thriving thoroughfare that it once was. Festivities started on a sunny morning as the town clock struck twelve with the planting of a commemorative rowan tree at the entrance to the Links by Citizen of the Year, Ian Archibald. He was ably assisted by Allison and Jackson, two young helpers from Burntisland Primary School and a contingent from Burntisland Pipe Band.



In continuing glorious weather, townspeople thronged the High Street and enjoyed a wide variety of music, games and entertainment, including exotic belly dancers. A diverse selection of products were available from stalls set up on the pavements by shop keepers and local youth and church organisations.

A unique feature of the event was the decorative bunting used to brighten up the High Street and entrance to the Links which consisted of over 2,300 triangles of knitted, sewn, and crocheted materials, strung together and erected by public spirited townsfolk.



Ian allows the kids to do the heavy work!



Exotic Dance



A bustling High Street



Bunting from all Ages

CIVIC WEEK

For the second year in succession the Burntisland Civic Week Committee had to contend with the Scottish Weather, and they won gold for their efforts to give Burntisland residents and visitors a weeklong series of events they could all be proud off. See the pictures below and the full report on the following page 14.



Appealing Flames!



Dancing in the Kirk



.....and her attendants



Summer Queen Louise



The Patriots



Hypnotic Eyes!



Olympic Parade



What's with the hair?



Starting the Race



Torch Bearers

Civic Week

By Wendy Hawthorn

The actual Parade Day turned out to be “A Right Royal Event” and one of the spectacular Highlights of the week, with Morna Beuzeval and her Olympic Squad making history with the first crowning of Burntisland’s Summer Queen, Louise Lindsay, in the historic setting of Burntisland Parish Church, full of spectators. The last Royal event was when the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland met in the presence of King James VI in 1601 and a revised translation of the Bible was authorised.

One passerby asked me “who is having the posh wedding?”, as the whole event looked very grand with the Burntisland Pipe Band and crowds.

Another success of the parade Day was the ‘Party on the Links’ or should I say ‘The Party in the Parish Church Halls’ the events planned went ahead, with the Falconry Exhibit and The Countryside Ranger proving a great hit with the Burntisland youngsters. Kingdom FM sponsored by Bett Homes entertained the crowd, and the W3L Wrestlers who for the second year running took centre stage to the delight of the children. The only casualty of the wet day was the ‘Mini Olympics’ which of course was a big disappointment to the children participating, organisers and the sponsors of the event BH Plumbing & Heating.

My own personal highlight of the week long events was my participation in the Heritage Walk around Burntisland, with our very own Citizen of the Year, Ian Archibald, who heads up the team at the Heritage Centre in Burntisland. Ian took a party of 14 individuals back in time with a historic look at Burntisland’s roots with his tales of old, a most enjoyable afternoon was had by all.

The people’s choice event of the Civic Week, was undoubtedly the Comedy evening with Patrick Monahan, sold out within days Patrick proved popular with the audience “..terrific evening of fun and comedy..”, which left them asking for more....

Of course none of this could have happened without our sponsors, Bett Homes, Briggs, Arnold Clark, B H Plumbing & Heating, The Ink Shop, David Sands, W Hay Electrical, Hurd Rolland, Masonic Lodge, Rotary, Exxon, and International Smiles.

And finally, I would like to thank the local community groups, local traders participating in this year’s events and to the people reading this column that attended. Just Simply! Civic Week could not happen without you. See you next year!



Shipyard Football

By Andrew Beveridge

As I am sure some readers will be aware, the Shipyard has had their application to join the East of Scotland Football league accepted. This is a step up in standard and a challenge that all at the Club are relishing. Some of Scotland’s most well known non-league clubs participate in this league, such as Spartans, Edinburgh City, Whitehill Welfare and Gala Fairydean, who will be the first visitors to Recreation Park on Saturday 4th August.

Hopefully the townspeople will take the chance to see one of the highest levels of non-league football in Scotland at Recreation Park. Also, this move gives ambitious young players in the town a chance to showcase their talents at this level if they wish to come along for training. With the East of Scotland League running a successful U/19 league there is now a clear path for our youth teams to follow in years to come.

On the subject of youth football, the Club is close to gaining the SFA “Quality Mark”, a top level standard of youth coaching in Scotland. This is down to the hard work of the youth coaches, particularly David Costello. The 2005/06 group led by Ally McLeod and Richie Gibb are one of the first teams in Fife to be part of the MacDonald’s sponsored “school to club link” recruiting new footballers and volunteers to help develop the club structure.

With these standards being met, the Club was disappointed to hear that our attitude and commitment to youth football was called into question at a Community Council meeting earlier this year after a match had to be postponed.

Having had a meeting with Kingdom Housing Association early in July, the Club and Kingdom Housing have agreed to urge all visitors to Recreation Park to use the parking facilities and at no time park on Kerr Court as safety and emergency vehicle access has to be considered at all times.

A friendly match against Edinburgh United JFC has been arranged for Saturday 28th July, KO 2pm.



It has been an exciting few months for members of Burntisland Squadron who have successfully engaged in a wide range of activities. Firstly we congratulate Cdt Megan Hammond for successfully completing a youth leadership course courtesy of the local Rotary Club. In the last few months Cadet Shaun Govea attended the Radio Controlled Flying Course held at Glenrothes airfield. Another of our high achievers is Cadet Corporal Alisdair Stuart who has trained to the highest level in Piping and was selected as a member of the Regional Pipes and Drums band. In shooting, Cadets Marshall Hall and Michael McMillan achieved the highest accolade in shooting - the Corps Marksman. Also scoring high was Cadet Toni Duffin who achieved a Squadron Marksman status. At the inter-squadron Athletics competition, Cadet Sergeant Mary Stuart and Cadets Michael Walsh and Marshall Hall all did well with Cdt Sgt Mary Stuart winning one Gold, one Silver and one Bronze medal. She was also presented with the shield for most medals in the competition. Also excelling this year was Cadet Sergeant Samantha Holland who, after a gruelling interview and selection process, was picked to travel to Australia this summer as part of the International Air Cadet Exchange. The IACE allows air cadets from around the world to travel to meet their counterparts in other countries and is only available to elite air cadets within the UK. She will be the first ever cadet in the history of the squadron to be selected for this prestigious event.

Other Cadet activities have included flying and gliding, rock climbing, Balcrosses International Horse trials, Dobbies Big Tea Party, visits to the Edinburgh International Airport Air Traffic Control Tower and last but by no means least the cadets were involved in the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

Finally the cadets and staff of 775 (Burntisland) Squadron would like to send our sincerest condolences to wife Janet and the family of Warrant Officer Forbes Barbour (ATC Ret’d), who recently passed away. Warrant Officer Barbour was a much respected member of staff at the squadron.

The Royal Air Force Air Cadets at 775 (Burntisland) Squadron provide skills and opportunities to youngsters from the age of 13 to 20. We welcome enthusiastic youngsters between 13 and 17 who wish to take part in a range of exciting activities including Flying, Gliding, Shooting, Adventure Training, and Sports. For anyone interested in joining the Squadron we meet on Monday & Thursday night from 7.00pm at the Unity Hall, Burntisland (Adjacent to the Pipe Band Hall). The Air Cadets could not operate without the help of Adult Instructors and Civilian Staff so if you are interested in what we do please get in touch with the Squadron Commander, Flight Lieutenant Mark Hall RAFVR(T) on 01592 872910. Please also visit our website www.air-cadets.org.uk or follow us on Twitter @775sqn



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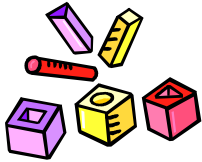
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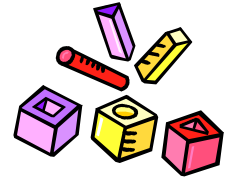
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Happy Days at Burntisland

Playgroup!



The children of Burntisland Playgroup are moving on to nursery in August, after a fabulous year of learning, new friendships and fun.

This year's committee has also enjoyed a successful year and, through the various events and activities held since October, has managed to raise nearly £5,000 to support the ongoing running of the Playgroup.

Lorna Codona, Committee Chair said "We would like to thank everyone who has helped at, supported and donated to our various fundraising events. We have been taken aback by the generosity of people in the community; without it the Playgroup wouldn't be able to run. A special thanks goes to Libby and Bob Freeman for donating the doll's house for our raffle and for their other kind donations throughout the year, as well as Jenny Robertson who raised £300 for us by running the Edinburgh Marathon in May."

This month the children have had great fun on their day trip to Noah's Ark in Perth and have also enjoyed a visit from the Fire and Ambulance Services. Jenny Roxburgh, Acting Playgroup Manager said "Many thanks to Chief Fire Officer Lee Mahady and Alex McDonald from St Andrews Ambulance Service for allowing the children these opportunities. On behalf of the staff, I would also like to say a big thank you to our very hard working committee, who have been fantastic and managed to raise an enormous amount with their fundraising efforts this year, as well as coping with the day to day running of the group. Also thanks to the parents, grandparents and carers of the children for their continued support."



The children regularly enjoy some exploring in the Playgroup garden



A Busy Time for Burntisland Amateur Swimming Club

By Yvonne Coull

The last few months have been very busy for the club. The novice and Fife leagues have continued and at the end of the third league (unofficially) BASC is 1st in the nine and under girls, 2nd in the nine and under boys, 1st in both the ten to twelve age group for boys and girls. We have to wait until the Fife Championships in August to find out how we have done in the fourth league. Additionally, one of the Fife swimmers had been lucky enough to carry the Olympic Torch when it came to Fife and brought his one along to the Leagues where BASC swimmers got a shot of holding it. They told me it was very light!

We also had swimmers at the recent Incas Distance Gala (26/27 May). There were PBs all round, eight club records were broken and Claire Thomson came away with three silver and three bronze medals. Greg Turner competed at Ponds Forge in Sheffield with Fife Performance Squad. He enjoyed two top 10 finishes for 400m free and 400m IM. Congratulations to all our swimmers who broke PB's and club records. Check the website if you used to swim with us in the past as many records have been broken!

Congratulations also go to our Masters swimmers who competed in the Leagues and also a triathlon at Lochore Country Meadows (Brrrr!)

We had a fabulous time holding the Civic Week Sprints at the Beacon where each child who participated received a medal. Those who were first, second and third also received a medal. The winners in each age groups were as follows -

7 & under girls: Aimee Forbes. boys: Ewan Willis
 9 & under girls: Eirean Comrie. boys: Chiran Utams
 11 & under girls: Claire Thomson. boys: Daniel Dow
 12 & over girls: Catherine Comrie. boys: Andrew Duncan
 Masters: Craig Nimmo

We held our usual 'Pyjama' night at the end of term where the children learn about personal life saving skills. They swim in their pyjamas, then blow up their trousers to use as a buoyancy aid. They pretend they are shipwrecked and have to swim to a boat and climb out. They learn how to huddle together to be seen by the rescue services, treat people with hypothermia and enter unknown water safely by doing a straddle jump. A fine time is had by all!

We have announced details of a swim camp in September using the 50m pool at Stirling for the Top Squad and Trialists. We hope to take 10-12 swimmers and it's not all about swimming, there will be a shopping expedition and sightseeing too! We have spaces in each lane for swimmers of all abilities, including Masters. Please email us through the website www.burntislandswimmingclub.co.uk or enquire at the Beacon Leisure Centre.



BASC - Future Olympians?

360th Highland Games



“Hamish’s Binn” by Hamish Brown

The Binn is very much Burntisland’s hill (lucky town!) and is a natural for a hill race, a game I view with awe. As a plodder I may have coped with all the Munros in one go (112 days) or the 1,000 mile traverse of the Atlas Mountains (96 days) but something like the Binn Race would kill me. But I like watching it.

16th July 2012 was a dry, sunny day (for a change) when fourteen hopefuls set off from the Highland Games arena to struggle through the funfair crowds and town to the steep glaur of the Binn Wood, then along the crest to the 627 ft summit with its Rotary view indicator and bench, then viciously down to the Binn Pond and the Cowdenbeath Road home. Only Burntislanders can compete, with a very wide age range and two ladies competing this year.

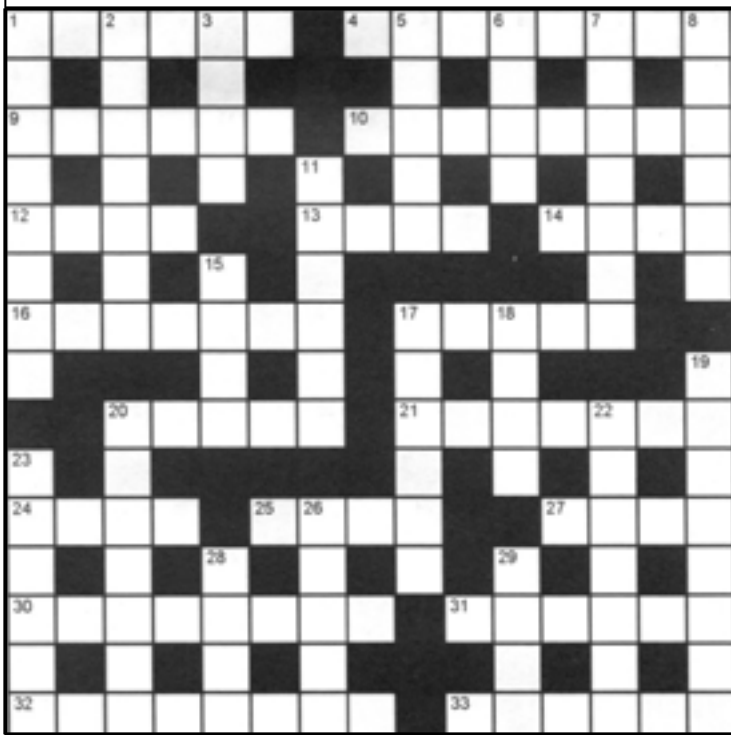
Everyone expected the winner of the previous two races, Peter Wombwell to triumph – hadn’t his brother Mike won another year and father Steven won three times? It was not to be. Almost unnoticed among the dancers and heavies, Neil McNicol circled the track and came in four minutes ahead of the second (Peter W). The runner who caught my eye though was Owain Stark who came in fifth: aged thirteen.

The games date back to 1651 when Cromwell’s cavalry raced from the East Porte to Pettycur. Horse racing only ceased in 1812 but the Games are livelier than ever.

With its views from the Bass Rock to the hills above Glasgow and north to the Highland line, the Binn is a fine walk, my “one hour walk” by the Race route.

Run it, walk it; give the Binn a go

THE PRIZE CROSSWORD



The solution to the Prize Crossword in the SPRING 2012 edition

Across: 1 Decibel, 5 Groom, 9 Ad Lib, 10 Go Between, 11 Chianti, 12 Ancient, 13 Realm, 15 Pea Souper, 18 Scattered, 19 Sleep, 21 Attired, 24 Captive, 26 The Mikado, 27 Niece, 28 Reply, 29 Ecstasy.

Down: 1 Dalai Lama, 2 Cabin, 3 Big Dipper, 4 Libya, 5 Get Across, 6 Obese, 7 Monitor, 8 Cancer, 14 Maternity, 16 Audacious, 17 Precisely, 18 Starter, 20 Pieces, 22 Tie Up, 23 Drake, 25 Panda.

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

Ms Lynda Reekie, 18 Silverbarton Terrace, Burntisland.

Across

1. Brie, for example (6)
4. Careful (8)
9. Roman Goddess of Dawn (6)
10. Female child (8)
12. Border (4)
13. Departed (4)
14. King of Beasts (4)
16. He is opposed to technology (7)
17. Root Vegetable (5)
20. Mix together (5)
21. Bird sound (7)
24. Pitcher (4)
25. Whirl (4)
27. Present month (abbr.) (4)
30. Subtract (4,4)
31. Select (6)
32. Skittles (8)
33. Planet (6)

Down

1. Daddy-long-legs (8)
2. Infuriated (7)
3. Arrange in order (4)
5. Once more (5)
6. Roman garment (4)
7. Synopsis (7)
8. Calm, composed (6)
11. Concurred (6)
15. Citrus fruit (4)
17. Small unit of time (6)
18. Wicked (4)
19. Immaculate (8)
20. Enter forcibly (5,2)
22. Old capital of Burma (7)
23. Defeated (6)
26. Unadorned (5)
28. Moist (4)
29. Cleaner

Answers in the next issue of the Buzz

Name.....

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First correct entry drawn will win a £25 voucher donated by Shell U.K. Limited. Send completed entries by 15th September to:

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The Sting (Letters to the Editor)

Dear Sir,

We have stayed in Burntisland for over 5 years now. Before that we were in Livingston for a long time, so it took a bit getting used to not having the big supermarkets etc., I must say that now I do enjoy going to the local butcher, fish shop, baker etc., we even have our vet in Burntisland.

I do miss a good supermarket though I have to say and was wondering if you ever get any other comments about this. I know we have the Co-op but unfortunately it does not sell everything we need. We go to Asda in Dalgety Bay every week and with the rising costs of fuel it would be great to have a decent local supermarket. A petrol station would be an added bonus!!!!!!!!!!!!!! We are retired now so every penny counts. Glad to hear any comments.

Yours etc.

Sheena Robertson

Dear Sir

A Town in Decline

When did it all start to happen? Why was it allowed to happen?
What can we do to stop it?

In my humble opinion, the wheels started to come off when we lost our Town Council. Even with their flaws, they were, at least, ours. Yes, the bathing pool was in a bad state of repair, but at least we were one of the few towns in the area that had a pool. One of the first things Kirkcaldy District Council, our new council, did was to close it at noon for lunch, a strange thing to do considering our role as a holiday town. Who in their right minds would come for a day trip and pay for a swim

only to be thrown out at lunch time and have to pay to get in again in the afternoon. Kids from Burntisland used to go to the pool for the whole day, safe and sound, out of harms way and out from under their mum's feet. Fife Council, our new masters, are building a new pool in Kirkcaldy. It appears that most Langtonians don't want it to go where it's being built – they should think themselves lucky, at least they won't be without a pool for 20+ years like we were!

The next move was to sell off the Beach Tearooms, along with the toilets and baby changing facilities which it contained – another strange move for a council which was managing a beach in a popular holiday resort. Recently, plans have been made to tart up Kirkcaldy prom, what about our prom? Fife Council can't even keep the White Tunnel clear of sand for wheel chair users and mum's with prams!

The rent office (Service Centre, bit of a misnomer there) is moving into the Library whereas the Town House in Kirkcaldy is getting a make-over. How about reinstating the safety handrails at the Porte Junction or the safety handrails at the bottom of Colinswell hill, where the stairs give access to the main road? They were there for a reason! Someone somewhere thought they were needed to prevent accidents. What's changed?

As always Burntisland gets 'cheap and nasty'. I'm sure that over the years there are many other examples of asset stripping that you are aware of, I won't bore you by trying to list them.

All I would suggest is that, whenever you are out and about in Fife, you compare like for like and ask yourself "Why don't we have that?" "Why isn't our town as well looked after as here?" "Are we getting a fair share?" We all pay Council Tax! We all deserve the same service! Perhaps by looking at the negatives we might be able to bring about some positives. I know things are tough at present and other small towns are struggling just like us but I don't think it gives the big boys the right to short change us. As for why it was allowed to happen and what we can do to stop it I'll leave you to work that out for yourselves. Good Luck!

Sam Purvis

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Events Diary

AUGUST

Friday 3rd (and every Friday of the month)	- Opportunities Fife Job Club at the Toll Centre.	10.00am - 12.30pm
Friday 10th	Community Council Meeting	7.00 pm
Sunday 26th	Sunday Strollers - Pettycur Bay Car Park to the Black Rock	Start time according to tides
Friday 31st	Outer Heritage Trail Walk from the Heritage Premises in the Kirkgate	1.30 pm

SEPTEMBER

Friday 7th (and every Friday of the month)	- Opportunities Fife Job Club at the Toll Centre.	10.00am - 12.30pm
Wednesday 12th	Police Community Engagement Meeting at Kinghorn Community Centre	7.30 pm
Friday 14th	Community Council Meeting	7.00 pm
Friday 21st	Kinghorn Belly Dancing Charity Hafla (for Neo Natal Unit at Victoria Hospital) at Kingswood	Evening
Saturday 15th	Deadline for Submission of Burgh Buzz Crossword	Midnight
Friday 28th	Outer Heritage Trail Walk from the Heritage Premises in the Kirkgate (last of the season)	1.30 pm
Sunday 30th	Sunday Strollers - Ravenscraig & Dysart from Ravenscraig Park Car Park	2.00 pm

OCTOBER

Friday 5th (and every Friday of the month)	- Opportunities Fife Job Club at the Toll Centre.	10.00am - 12.30pm
Friday 12th	Community Council Meeting	7.00 pm
Sunday 14th	Deadline for articles to the next issue of the Burgh Buzz.	Midnight
Sunday 28th	The Binn Mast - from the Golf Club Car Park	2.00 pm

NOVEMBER

Friday 2nd (and every Friday of the month)	- Opportunities Fife Job Club at the Toll Centre.	10.00am - 12.30pm
Monday 5th	BONFIRE NIGHT ON THE LINKS	from 6.30pm
Friday 9th	Community Council Meeting	7.00 pm
Friday 9th	“Ladies’ Shopping” Kinghorn RNLI fundraiser at Kingswood Hotel	6.30pm - 9.30pm
Wednesday 12th	Police Community Engagement Meeting at the Toll Centre	7.30 pm

St Joseph's Jubilee Flower Festival



Queen of Heaven



Saint Andrew



St Cecilia



Coronation Dress in Petals



St Margaret

It is lovely to be able to report on such a wonderfully successful 3-day Jubilee Flower Festival weekend.

The sun shone (some of the time) and the varied outdoor activities: BBQ, Nail Bar, Cake & Candy and our Coffee/Tea afternoons were a resounding success. A wonderful turnout of visitors were overwhelmed by the beauty of the flower arrangements throughout the Church, several dedicated to individual Saints in a historic/educational context.

The Festival was the brainchild of Nan Kelly, the leader of St Joseph's regular, gifted flower arranging team who were assisted by the Kirkcaldy Floral Group and children from Burntisland Primary School. Thanks must also go to the various organisations, local churches and individuals who supported the Festival through donations of finance and equipment.

The highlight of the weekend was the visit by Cardinal Keith O'Brien who planted a commemorative tree to mark the Queen's Jubilee in the church grounds.

A grand total of £2,000 was passed to the Church Building Fund. However, the pleasure gained from the Parish and community involvement was an incalculable added bonus. Well done everyone, but especially Nan!

A Life-Changing Experience

Fifteen teenagers and five adults from Kinghorn and Burntisland Parish Churches' Youth Fellowship recently returned from the trip of a lifetime to Malawi. It was the culmination of 2 years of fund-raising and preparation, and has given the youngsters an experience they will never forget. They travelled out to Ekwendeni where they were based, and met many children, young people and adults from the town and surrounding villages.

It was a real exchange of cultures with the Scottish teenagers teaching Scottish Country Dances and learning to join in with the local dancing celebrations, playing football and nukem ball in Malawian 'free for all' style, performing Christian mimes to music and participating in Malawian Church worship. The youngsters ate local food and learned of local customs, visited schools and AIDS education sessions, and saw living and education conditions at first hand that were very different from their own experiences at home.

Their fund raising meant that they were able to take useful equipment and resources from Scotland into the area. Malawi has always had strong links with Scotland and the group was made incredibly welcome everywhere they went and were impressed with the friendliness and open-ness with which they were received. They were inspired by the dedicated work of both local people and organisations and Scottish/UK missionary partnerships.

Thanks to Debbie White of Kinghorn Church and George Lees of Burntisland Parish Church who planned and led the trip and to Mike from Kinghorn who facilitated the trip through "emms INTERNATIONAL", a health and education charity based in Edinburgh. Special thanks to all the youngsters and parents who worked so hard to make this happen.



By **Revd Canon Val Nellist**
Rector



Our sister church in Strathearn, St Serf's Comrie, proposed earlier in the year that we should embark on a joint pilgrimage sometime around the 1st July, our patronal festival. The idea being that some of us would meet up in Comrie in the morning and then make our way by car and minibus to St Serf's, Dunning; on to Culross Abbey and then make our way to Burntisland for fish suppers and Evensong. In the event the best day for us was the 7th July.



St Serf

Pilgrimages are not the same thing as going on retreat. A retreat involves withdrawing from the world for a time of prayer and spiritual renewal. Pilgrimage on the other hand is more to do with stepping out into the world from the routine of ordinary life in order to make a journey with and towards God. If anything it means engaging more fully with the world; through conversations with other pilgrims and with the people who will, inevitably be met on the journey. The whole of life is a pilgrimage but this is about setting aside a special time for reflection on life but again also for spiritual renewal.

The weather on the 7th was pretty bad and so those of us travelling from Fife were held up by the volume of water on the roads. In the event we turned aside at Auchterarder to go straight to Dunning and awaited our friends there. The Comrie contingent began their morning by walking the prayer labyrinth recently cut in the grass of their garden (more about labyrinths at <http://www.labyrinth.org.uk>). At Dunning we were given a very good presentation on the church and the famous Dupplin Cross by the local Historic Scotland manager. The Dupplin Cross is a rare and important example of an early, medieval high cross dating from c800 and commemorating a king; Constantine, son of Fergus. From Dunning we went over the hill, by way of the den where St Serf is said to have slain a dragon, to Culross. There we were welcomed by the Church of Scotland folk who run the Abbey Cafe and the Session Clerk told us all about St Serf before taking us on a tour of the Abbey itself. By this time we were running late so that phone calls had to be made to warn the hospitality team at St Serf's, Burntisland and to put in our order for fish suppers to the Links Fish Bar.

Pilgrimage like life is unpredictable, things don't always go as planned. Receiving and giving hospitality is also part of pilgrimage and so it was a group of grateful pilgrims who sat down to a very late lunch in the Hall. Then on to the church to participate in the worship led by the ABI Singers, our ecumenical choir. A very worthwhile day spent discovering many things about our Christian heritage here in Scotland and about the present day life of Christ among us.

CHAMPIONS CHALLENGE HOLIDAY CLUB



The Parish Church

By the time you read this the annual Children's Holiday Club run by the Erskine and Parish churches will be over. From 23-28 July a morning club session and an afternoon games session ran each day in the Parish church hall manned by willing volunteers and led by Chris Beattie of Kirkcaldy Area Reachout Trust and Scripture Union. Chris is a well-known figure in local schools and has led our holiday clubs with energy and enthusiasm.



St Columba

This year we took the opportunity of the Olympics to have a sporting theme – Champions' Challenge - and our games, drama, crafts and other activities reflected that. Holiday Club is for children who were in P1-P7 in the term before the summer holidays, and this year we also tried a drop-in on 3 of the mornings for mums and tots.

CHILDREN AND THE CHURCH

We welcome all children in the church and would love to encourage more to come along. On a Sunday mornings we cater for pre-school children up to teenagers, with the opportunity for youngsters at High School to be part of a lively Youth Fellowship meeting on Sunday evenings.

From time to time we have 'Sunday Cinema' showing the 'Friends and Heroes' series in Solid Rock on a Sunday morning. This year we took a group of children to the Secret Bunker for their summer trip, last year we went to Inchcolm. Children are also welcome at Communion services, particularly the evening communions in Solid Rock where we use grape juice rather than wine.

We are also hoping to try out the occasional Saturday session for families called 'Messy Church'. Please keep an eye out for notices in Solid Rock.

INCLUSIVE CHURCH

A key value that Jesus models for us is inclusiveness. To Him, every person is special and unique, made in the image of God, no matter what their gender, race, orientation, age, intellectual or physical ability, status in society etc.. We want to be an inclusive church where all are made welcome and can find their place. We value the gifts and talents each person brings. You don't have to be a certain type of person to come to church, or live up to a particular image. You don't have to dress a certain way.

We may have ways of doing things that might seem strange and peculiar, but we want to learn how to break down the barriers that stop people feeling able to participate when they are searching for God. We have a lot to learn on this one, please come and help us!

There are many ways in which you can get involved and in which we are trying to engage with people outside the church. We have various small groups for those who want to learn about Christianity or grow in their faith. We offer friendship at Friday coffee mornings, help for those in debt through CAP (Christians Against Poverty), pastoral care visitors for housebound people, children and young people's groups, marriage preparation course can be offered, and parenting courses if requested. Healing Rooms offers prayer for individuals in Erskine church halls on Thursday evenings from 7.30 and in St Bryce Church Kirkcaldy at 1 pm on Fridays.

If you are new to the town, or if you haven't been to church before, or for a while, why not give us a try at one of our services: Sunday morning 11 am in the church: Sunday evening 6.30 pm in Solid Rock (restarts September) : Wednesday morning 10.30 am in Solid Rock.

Or pop into the church shop Chapter and Verse for a friendly chat, or come up to the church hall for coffee and a chat on Fridays from 10 am.

As of 13th July, the **Earthship Fife Visitor Centre** will be open from 1pm to 4pm every Friday. They're holding a free event, 'A Day of Stories', on Saturday 22nd September, from 10.30am to 3.30pm in the Centre. There will be three family activities on offer - an opportunity to hear the story of the Earthship and how it came to Scotland, storytelling in the yurt, and making something to take home. There will also be a free buffet lunch and refreshments.

SCI's plans for an ecovillage on the Widows Land are still progressing. There are 2 community events scheduled for the autumn. You shouldn't miss if you'd like to be involved in a discussion on possible future management of the site as an eco-project. On Sept 1st and Oct 27th Tony Wilson, a countryside ranger, will be delivering workshops (10a.m - 3pm at the Toll Centre) on woodland management, wildflower meadows, ponds and hedges. Tony will give a presentation at the start of the morning and share his experience, opening up a discussion to gather ideas and wishes for the land from community members. Walks around the site will be an option, weather permitting. For tours and more information please email inquiry@sci-scotland.org.uk or phone 01592 891994.

Broomhill Garden's kids club is running throughout the summer. Parents and children are welcome along every Tuesday afternoon at 3:30. The club is currently run but a group of volunteers with support from **Fife Diet**. The gardens held a successful Craft Fair last month which raised some much needed funds, there'll be more events over the coming weeks, including a BBQ and a series of volunteer days where you can turn your hand to vegetable growing – and weeding! Keep an eye on Garden's Notice board.

And finally - a recipe from **Fife Diet**:

Asparagus and spring onion tart with wholegrain mustard - Serves 6.

290g short crust pastry, 2 tbsp oil, 200g spring onions, 100g sour cream, 1 egg + 1 egg yolk, 2 tbsp wholegrain mustard, 110g asparagus, 10g grated Anster cheese.

Roll out the pastry onto a lightly floured board to a 0.5cm thickness. Line the pastry in a deep tray (approx 31cm) and place in the fridge until chilled. Pre-heat the oven to 200c/400 F. Heat the oil in a pan and cook the spring onions until soft. Mix together the sour cream, egg, egg yolk and wholegrain mustard until combined. Spread the softened onions evenly in the middle of the pastry and place the asparagus, (one tip up, one tip down) across the tart. Pour the mustard mixture over the asparagus and sprinkle with the grated cheese. Place in the oven for 20-25 minutes until golden brown. Remove from the oven and leave to cool for 5 minutes, slide onto a large plate cut into slices and serve warm.

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