

BURGH BUZZ



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Swimming Club Duo Recieve Community Award

By
The Editor



A couple of hours before revellers ushered in the New Year, Olive Grayson and Bob Main were formally informed that they had been selected as the 2013 Burntisland Community Award winners for their outstanding contributions over many years to the Burntisland Amateur Swimming Club. This was only the third occasion on which the award had been given jointly. Both Olive and Bob were totally surprised with the award and modestly shared the view that it was more of a reflection of the hard work of a number of people over the years in the Club, rather than of them as individuals.

Olive, who is originally from Edinburgh, settled in the town with her late husband some 38 years ago and raised her family of four in the town. She became involved with the Swimming Club over thirty years ago when her youngest son took up swimming. Olive became keenly interested in the Club, developed her own skills and expertise and over the years she has taught and encouraged hundreds of youngsters to swim. Her organisation abilities have proved indispensable as she has officiated as Gala Convenor on a number of occasions, served as Chairman of the Club between 1989 and 1991 and now holds the position as Honorary President which ensures that she maintains her place on the committee and that her vast experience is not lost.

Bob on the other hand, was brought up in Burntisland, attending the local Primary School and Kirkcaldy High. I grew up with Bob and we played rugby together at school and afterwards. Quiet, unassuming and modest are not words that I would ever have used to describe Bob's character - and I won't begin to use them now! On the rugby field Bob was very determined and competitive, a powerful centre-threequarter with explosive pace and a fearsome tackler. He would have scored many more tries had he been able to master the art of catching the ball!

Bob also became involved with the Swimming Club many years ago when his children took up the sport and was even encouraged to learn to swim himself. From thereon he began to teach the youngsters, officiated at galas as time keeper and judge, and has been Chairman of the Club for the past eight years. Bob is an inspirational leader and as he was at rugby, gives his all whilst striving for perfection and expects the same high standards from those that he mentors.

Olive and Bob have continued to serve the Club long after their offspring had left and their industry and dedication over such an extended period has proved to be an inspiration to others. Their voluntary efforts serve to generate a community spirit that makes local organisations such as the Swimming Club so successful. Both of our Citizens of the Year have been involved in other community organisations and Olive still regularly delivers library books to the housebound through the public library service.

Thriving communities such as Burntisland could not survive without such exemplary assets. Their community awards are richly deserved.

Editorial Comment.

We started the New Year with the traditional announcement of the winner of the Community Award. This year it has been awarded jointly to two individuals who have dedicated their time and considerable efforts to the development of Burntisland's youngsters through the Swimming Club. To Olive and Bob, we offer our sincere congratulations.

We extend our thanks to Keith Gibb, Burntisland's community police constable for the past nine years, who has been transferred to another posting within Fife. We wish him every success in his future career.

Anyone who attended the bonfire and fireworks display on the links on Guy Fawkes night will agree that it was the most spectacular ever, and probably the best in Fife. Crowds estimated at over 7,000 enjoyed the free display and were invited to make a donation towards the cost in numerous collection buckets on the night. Total revenue worked out at less than 25p per person, a disappointing figure. A more generous response in future would ease the financial concerns of the organising committee and ensure that this magnificent spectacle continues.

This issue contains information about two consultations - the first (page 4), is the preliminary salvo from the Community Council in an initiative to improve communications with the Burntisland community - the second (page 20), is conducted by Scottish Water, seeking the views of their customers before setting their priorities for their next five year strategic plan.

Readers could be forgiven for adopting a cynical attitude towards these consultations, following Fife Council's dismissive reaction to the groundswell of public opinion against the site for the new primary school. However, apathy and non-participation is not the answer. Such an attitude would suggest that you are happy with the status quo and you will have no grounds for complaint when future decisions are taken contrary to your wishes. Let us hear your views.

Finally, may we wish all our readers a joyous and prosperous New Year.

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

- By a narrow majority, the Community Council took a neutral view on a planning application to develop shops on a *brownfield* site at the *Kirkton*. On the one hand, it will serve nearby homes and passing traffic on *Aberdour Road*. On the other, it will present competition for existing shops in the High Street.
- Following a grant of £22,000 from Fife Environment Trust, it is now possible for the conservation and restoration of the War Memorial to go ahead - at a total cost of £57,000. However, subject to the approval of the funders, the landscaping of the area immediately adjacent will be put on hold and run as a separate project. A further £40,000 will need to be raised for that purpose.
- Work to temporarily dismantle the clock tower of the Burgh Chambers has now been completed. The legal consent for the take-down includes a legal requirement to re-build. Although investigations continue in the background, Fife Council have not yet given any indication of cost, timescale or source of funds.
- A review of summer activity on the Links highlighted the possibility that the Links may in future be run by a Community Trust, with significant local input, rather than directly by Fife Council. No details are yet available but the Community Council will be offering to play a key role.
- On a casting vote by the Chair, it was agreed to support a Common Good Fund proposal for new play equipment on the Links. Whilst there was strong support for new play equipment, there was extreme concern that the Common Good Fund was being manipulated to subsidise Fife Council's statutory responsibility.
- New legal advice says very strongly that the Toll Park cannot be used as the site of a new school unless alternative parkland is first provided elsewhere. Precedents in Portobello and Wick, with input from 5 different legal sources, all point to the same conclusion. A reply is awaited from Fife Council.
- Members were pleased to note that dog wardens have been present in the town, equipped with cameras and long lenses. As a result, it is hoped that irresponsible dog owners will be traced and prosecuted.
- A formal objection has been lodged against the closure of the Royal Bank of Scotland branch in the High Street, which is due to take effect in March. We have asked RBS to come up with a more creative solution which will ensure continuity of service in Burntisland. If the closure goes ahead, the Community Council will close our account and transfer our business elsewhere.
- An objection has been lodged to the detailed planning application for the new school. Based on the legal opinions described above, we are asking for alternative parkland to be provided before any part of the Toll Park is closed to the public. We will also comment on the potential effect elsewhere in the town of slowing traffic by the use of speed tables at the Toll roundabout.

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)

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 Secretaries	Gordon Langlands / Zoe Williamson
Members	Christine Dewar Tim Hailey
	Bruce Stuart Morag Douglas
	Gary Cummins Ian McKenzie

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 Rachael Burns



With the festive season behind us, we look forward to the New Year, when we have a mostly new team at Burntisland Police Station. Our new faces are already familiar around town, from myself, Sgt Rachael Burns to new Community and Response Officers.

PC Keith Gibb who has served the community for over 8 years, has transferred to a new post at Police Headquarters in Glenrothes and we all wish him well. He has been replaced by PC Andy Pearson who has previously worked in Kirkcaldy, Dunfermline and North East Fife. Your new Community Team is now: PC Jez Graves, PC Andy Pearson, PC Tony Kinsell

The Community shift pattern has also changed which should result in a dedicated Burntisland Community Officer and/or Response Officer on duty at all times.

The recent Police Community Engagement (CEM) Meeting identified priorities as Antisocial Behaviour and Road Safety.

Antisocial Behaviour: I am pleased to report that there are currently very few calls of this type and no particular area of concern. Nevertheless, underage drinking and any associated antisocial behaviour remain high in our priorities and the Community Officers will continue conduct both high visibility and plain clothes patrols as a deterrent and to identify offenders.

Road Safety: Speeding continues to be an area of concern and at the latest CEM Meeting it was decided to concentrate efforts on the Kinghorn Loch Road/Kirkcaldy Road. Arrangements have been made for the Fife Police trailer/billboard to be positioned at the junction of the Kilcruik Road and B923 Road in Kinghorn to heighten driver awareness and Speed Monitoring will continue there during the coming months.

Community Traffic Wardens and Burntisland Officers have been tasked to monitor parking on Burntisland High Street and in the area of Burntisland Primary School and to take positive action when necessary.

Additionally, as we enter the New Year we are embarking on the following initiatives:

Operation Nightlight: With the dark nights still upon us, we are continuing to highlight any properties that are potential targets for thieves. The officers pass on crime prevention advice to the owners of any properties they identify as being at risk during the course of their patrols.

Women's Safety Course: We are finalising details for a Women's Safety Course. The venue and dates have still to be confirmed but this is a great event organised and run by our Community Team, Community Safety Officers and our partners and focuses on personal safety, internet safety, first aid, simple car maintenance and self defence. Anyone interested in taking part should contact PC Andy Pearson on 0845 600 5702 or e-mail: Andrew.pearson@fife.pnn.police.uk

Twitter : We are finally moving into the 21st Century and have recently set up a Burntisland Community Police Twitter account! Please follow us and encourage other Burntisland and Kinghorn residents to do so too:

Burntisland Police@burntislandpol

Non-emergency contact number : 0845 600 5702

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: billvida@sealscraig.plus.com
Items for the Spring 2013 Issue by 15th April 2013 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). e-mail: alex_mac@btinternet.com
or Isabel Smith, Secretary (Tel: 01592) e-mail:

The Buzz Editorial Committee

As you will be aware the Buzz is published by a small Editorial Committee. Although we all contribute articles from time to time, we also have individual responsibilities; editing, graphics, advertising, website etc. As we publish only four times a year, there are no real pressures associated with these tasks. We meet as a group a couple of times during each three month cycle and we tend to be a bit busier in the few weeks before publications. The Committee has consisted of the same nucleus of volunteers for the past three years and we are looking for some new blood and fresh ideas.

In particular we are looking for someone to assist Morag in processing the advertisements, without which the Buzz would be unable to exist. Morag's main task is as a point of contact for regular and potential advertisers. She is required to remind repeat advertisers when the next issue is due to appear, pass on requests for advertising and art work to the editor or graphics designer for processing, send out invoices and generally ensure that bills are paid. It is an important job within the Committee and Morag, because of her professional, family and other voluntary commitments, is finding it difficult to complete these tasks in a timely fashion. In short, she requires an assistant who, it is envisaged, would eventually assume full responsibility.

We are looking for a volunteer who is computer literate and has an interest in the Burntisland community. Being involved in the production of the Buzz can be inwardly rewarding and is always fun.

Anyone interested in joining the Editorial Committee should contact Bill Kirkhope (01383 822023) or Email: billvida@sealscraig.plus.com.

Situations Vacant

There is a vacancy on the Community Council, following the reluctant resignation of Neil Millsop. As happens from time to time, Neil has had to balance the conflicting demands of work and family, so for the time being feels he is unable to contribute as fully as he would wish. Naturally, we are all very grateful for Neil's contributions over the past several months and are very sad to see him go.

In addition, Ed Pybus will be moving to Skye, which means he will no longer be eligible to be a member of the Community Council. Ed has been a mainstay of the Christmas lights for the past 3 years and was a key player in setting up the original version of the Community Council's website.

We are therefore inviting expressions of interest from potential members. The essential requirement is that members must be local residents who are on the current electoral roll. Candidates are invited to submit brief information about themselves, which will enable the Community Council to select two new members by secret ballot at our February meeting.

Applications should be made to the Secretary or Chairman, either of whom will be happy to provide more background information on the work of the Community Council. Contact details are on page 3.

Burntisland Community Council

Community survey

We want to be sure that our efforts are focused on the right topics and that we fairly reflect the views of local people. As a starting point, we'd like to know about the topics which are most important to you personally.

The Burgh Buzz has carried information about all of the topics below, either in the current issue or previously. Please would you help us by answering the questions in the table on the opposite page? Your answers will help to direct our future efforts and will guide us in asking more detailed questions in the future.

When completed, please hand in your questionnaire to the Library, the Toll Centre or Food for Thought. If you prefer, you can complete the survey online here: www.burntislandcc.org.uk. We'll accept responses up to the end of February.

Many thanks: Alex MacDonald (Chairman)

Survey..... Please enter a number in the bracket after the questions in accordance with the following:

Very low [1], Low [2], Average [3], High [4], Very high [5]

1.	Shopping: How important is it to you to have a good range of shops in Burntisland? [] <i>Please comment on the High Street and plans for new shops at the Kirkton:</i>
2.	Children's Play Equipment: How important is it to have a good range of play equipment around the town? [] <i>Please comment on the Links and other playparks</i>
3	Environment: How important to you is the local environment around Burntisland? [] <i>Please comment on overgrowth, dog fouling, footpaths etc:</i>
4.	New Primary School: How important is the New Primary School to you? [] <i>Please comment on the site, design, traffic, drainage etc</i>
5.	Contact with members of Burntisland Community Council: How important is personal contact with individual CC Members? [] <i>Please add any comment</i>
6.	Sports facilities: How important to you is the provision of sports facilities? [] <i>Please comment on Beacon Leisure Centre, Multi-use Games Area etc</i>
7.	Civic Pride: How important is the Clock Tower at the Burgh Chambers to you? [] <i>Please add any comment</i>
8.	Links Community Trust: How important to you is a new Community Trust to run the Links instead of Fife Council? [] <i>Please add any comment:</i>
9.	Road Safety: How important to you is road safety within Burntisland? [] <i>Please add any comments about parking, speeding and pedestrian safety:</i>
10	Are there any other issues that are important to you?
	Name: Address in Burntisland: Post Code: Email Address:



Burntisland School News

By Carolyn Bell

Happy New Year from all at Burntisland Primary School!

Last term was very busy indeed. On the 30th November, we had Kilts for Kids day led by P3H. Pupils sold badges, organised a 'Guess the Teddies Birthday', 'Guess the number of sweets in the jar' and even hosted a Cake and Candy sale in their classroom for the whole school. It was an open afternoon where many parents, family and friends were welcomed with a glass of Irn-bru and shortbread and joined in the learning in our classes. An amazing grand total of over £600 was raised which topped previous years. Also on this day we had the finals of our Scots Verse Competitions in which all P1-6 pupils were involved. The standard of entries was very high and which reflected the hard work that all had put in to the preparation. (See bottom of page 5)

During November we had two visits from a Brass Ensemble who performed to a packed gym hall on each occasion. All ages enjoyed this introduction to a wide range of musical styles, and a variety of brass instruments whilst some lucky pupils even got the chance to play an instrument during the concert!

The whole school were entertained with performances of Pinocchio in the lead up to Christmas which got us all in the mood for the Festive Season. The school choir had a full diary of events especially in the lead up to Christmas. We were very excited to be invited to sing at Edinburgh Airport and it was lovely to see everyone smile when they heard the Christmas Carols in the departures area. Some people even stopped and joined in. The choir also sang at Links View and at the Erskine Church Community Service on the 16th December.



Nursery to P3 pupils held two performances of the very popular 'Jesus' Christmas Party' and P4-P7 pupils told the Christmas story through a musical called 'Bells Ring Out'.

Other highlights from last term were:

A visit from the Kinghorn and Burntisland Youth Fellowship who told us about their trip to Malawi, answered questions and showed fabulous pictures and video clips; a surprise visit to one of our Assemblies by representatives from Bernardos who presented certificates to four pupils, Emma McCullough, Aimee McLeod, Ellie Bruce and Leona Bruce, in recognition of their excellent fundraising efforts; P1's study of Katie Morag and all the fun things she gets up to on the Island of Struay; P2s travelled back in time to visit Rossend Castle as part of their Castles topic work; P3's pirate afternoon where parents and friends joined them in school to find out all the amazing things they had learned during their project; P4s had a very energetic outing at the Sky Community Games at Pitreavie where they tried lots of different sports; P5 classes all attended Youth Music Initiative workshops where they learned about the music of China; P6 classes enjoyed workshops with the Fire Service which were very informative and enjoyable. They also became 'Book Detectives' working together to take on different roles to help each other learn through reading books; and finally, P7 classes had a big mystery to solve last term as part of their 'Kidnapped' project. They investigated the disappearance of Jack and Sarah Green. This project covered numeracy, literacy, science, technology and expressive arts.

Congratulations to Mrs Whatmore who will be awarded with a certificate of Professional Recognition In Creativity at a ceremony to be held at the Scottish Parliament on the 29th January.

This term we have been joined by Sara Sierra, a teacher from Spain who will teach about her culture and language as part of a Comenius project, funded by the British Council. We are all really looking forward to learning about Spain between now and May.

Some of our senior pupils are excited about the prospect of performing at the Adam Smith Centre as part of the Fife Festival of Music at the end of January. P7s are looking forward to their trip to Ardroy in March which will afford lots of opportunities for outdoor learning, team-building and confidence-raising! We know they will have a fantastic time.

Floral Action Burntisland

Most of the planters around the town have been planted with bulbs and winter bedding plants. FAB decided to go through with this as it keeps some floral displays within Burntisland over the dreary winter months.

FAB volunteers and around twenty Scouts, their parents and leaders helped plant approximately 900 daffodil bulbs on the grass area between Kirkcaldy Road and Leith Avenue. There is already some daffodils within the grass area but it was felt that by planting more it would enhance this entrance to the town. Hopefully we shall see our efforts in early spring when the daffodils come through the grass.



More bulb planting happened within the boat on Cromwell Road. This was part of FAB's link with the school and around a dozen children and their teacher helped us plant 400 bulbs. FAB volunteers also helped with planting winter pansies within the school grounds in early November.

Meetings have taken place with representatives of Fife Council to ensure a joint approach to this year's plans for the town. We have taken delivery of new planters and basket trees which will be going up throughout the town over the next couple of months. Grants are being applied for and fundraising ideas discussed. This year we envisage the cost of our project to be in the region of £2000. We will be approaching local businesses in early spring to see if they will support FAB financially with either a donation or sponsorship. The Rotary Club of Burntisland and Kinghorn have pledged

to make a donation for this year's planting by sponsoring one of our basket trees. Any business, groups or individuals within the town who are willing to support us financially can contact us by email at floral-action-burntisland@hotmail.co.uk

FAB's efforts in 2013 will concentrate on the entrances to the town and developing the displays already established. As a group we have an extensive list of ways in which we want to develop areas but we are aware that you have to walk before you can run! Our vision can only be achieved with the ongoing support of volunteers. If you are interested in assisting us please contact us by email on floral-action-burntisland@hotmail.co.uk or call 07500134920.

The Parent Council

The Christmas Fair raised an amazing £1487.13. We would like to thank everyone who came and those who helped out on the day. The Parent Council paid for a bus for the school choir to sing at Edinburgh Airport to raise funds for musical instruments, and they did a fantastic job cheering everyone up. Phoenix Cards raised £77 for the parent council funds. We are currently looking for old mobile phones, which can be handed in to the School Office, which we will send off for recycling, and raise money for the Parent Council.

We are still looking for volunteers to train to deliver bikeability. As the school at present cannot support this training, we are looking at running training at another location. We are still on target to implement a Fair Trade policy at the school, which will eventually lead to the school becoming a Fair Trade School.

The New School build is due to start in spring this year, with completion in August 2014.

Spring Fair is planned for Saturday 23rd March, this date will be confirmed. New email contact is bpspc@btinternet.com

Scots Verse Competition

Burntisland pupils from Primaries 1 to 6 were recently presented with trophies and medals to mark their success in the Community Council's Scots Verse competition.

Since 1986, the competition has played a key role in encouraging pupils to learn and use the Scots language – following the tradition started centuries ago by King Alexander III. It has also helped countless pupils to become confident in public speaking.

The winners each received a trophy to hold for one year, and a specially-commissioned medal bearing the Arms of the Community Council which is theirs to keep.

It was a delight to see and hear the performances of the pupils, whose enthusiasm was evident for all to see. They clearly enjoyed what they were doing and their prizes were richly deserved.



The winners were: Megan Lewis (P2); Lillian Ramsay (P3); Amina Mushtaq (P4); Blair Petrie (P5); Logan Christie (P6). (Not shown – Amy Barker (P1)).

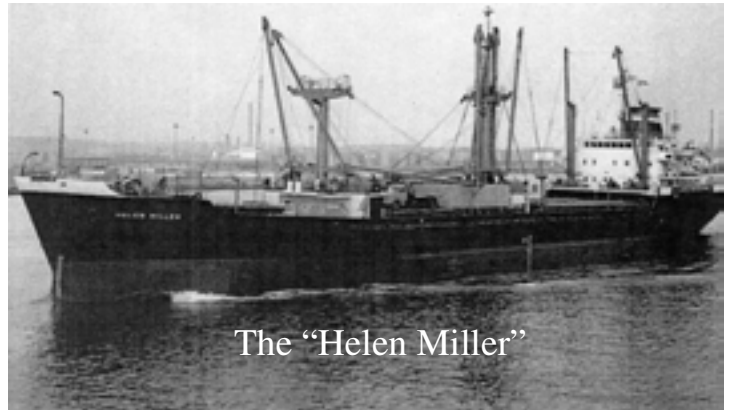
The “Launch” of Boat 422

By Bill Kirkhope

A couple of months ago, in Kirkcaldy High Street, I bumped into an old acquaintance from Burntisland whom I had not seen for years - none other than “Joe” Johnstone, former Superintendent at the old Swimming Pool, ex-shipwright at the Burntisland Shipyard and probably the most talented swimmer that the local swimming club has ever produced. Joe, who will shortly enter his eightieth year, lives with his wife in Dysart and keeps abreast with happenings in his home town through the Burgh Buzz.

We had a long chat about old times and he told me that he still had an amusing poem written by a shop steward (Hoppie the Shoppie) which tells the story of the launch or “failure to launch” Boat No 422 from the shipyard in early April 1969. This ship, the “Helen Miller”, was the last to have been built in Burntisland Shipyard and the story of the launch failure is also featured in the Heritage Trust publication, *Burntisland Voices*. Joe later passed on a photograph of the ship and a copy of the poem which is reproduced below. Peter George has identified the “poet” as Hoppie Innes, a shipwright at the time. Of the individuals featured, Tam Stenhouse was a chargehand shipwright, Andrew Nicol, head foreman shipwright and Tom Lawrence, a welder.

The poem, which bears a striking resemblance to another which appears in *Burntisland Voices*, is hardly an epic but it describes in simple language, the atmosphere of a launching ceremony, the industry of the workers and the rivalry between the various tradesmen in the “yard”.



The “Helen Miller”

The wind was blawin', cauld an' loud
The time wis near - here comes the crowd
At three o'clock they got the cue
The time had come - launch 422!
The finest shipwright in the land
Tam Stenhouse cut the final strand
The “nobs” aw waited - aw weel dressed
We stood and watched them - unimpressed

But Christ Almighty - whit wis wrang?
Efter aw this dance and sang
The bloody boat jist wid'nae budge
An' if it did - 'twis wi' a grudge
The carpenters aw puffed and blew
Auld Nicol's face a bright red hue
His worthiness he had tae prove
But still the boat refused tae move

Tammy Lawrence looked quite sick
Tae him this did'nae tak a trick
This wid look bad tae future buyers
”Git oot the char - licht aw the fires”

We watched the shipwrights work and graft
But we as welders - we just laughed.
They tell us welders hiv' nae brains
But we wid'nae burst nae veins
Trying tae move thon bloody boat
We just hung about tae gloat.

Whit a crown - an whit a show
A bloomin boat that wid'nae go
But heids up lads - don't be forlorn
We can aye try again - the morn!

Hoppie the Shoppie


Opportunities Fife
connecting learning, skills and jobs

Toll Centre Job Club

Looking for work? - We're here to help!

It's over a year since the Job Club moved to the Toll Centre and during that time about 50 local residents have taken advantage of the support available for job search (including help with CVs and applications), training and career planning. In November Job Centre Plus introduced Universal Job Match (a new method of on line job search) which, over time, all job seekers will be encouraged to use. Not everyone has access to a computer with an internet link so it is anticipated that the Toll Centre computers available to job club members for online job search will be even more popular this year.

However, while there is a core of regular members, Ian and Alison, the Opportunities Fife development workers, are concerned that fewer new members have been signing up in the last couple of months. 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 until 12.30** and individual appointments outwith these times are also available. **For those not confident using a computer for job search, there are classes on Tuesday mornings.**

Anyone wishing more information about what is available can contact:

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



Reproduced below is a letter received from the Blood Transfusion Service in response to a complaint from a regular donor which was carried in the last issue of the Buzz.

To the Editor.

The Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service would like to offer their sincere apologies for the level of service delivered on our visit to Burntisland on 3rd September last year. This is not the level of service we aspire to deliver to our blood donors in the area.

Donors will be aware that we have introduced a new process of sending the Donor Healthcheck Questionnaire (DHQ) to our donors' homes, in advance of the donating session, to allow them to complete the DHQ at a time that is convenient to them. This should then allow them to move more quickly through the donor session when they arrive to give blood.

As with most changes, there have been some initial problems that we are working hard to resolve, but feedback from most donors and staff has generally been positive. In addition, we have received a number of suggestions of areas for further development. Donor feedback is vital in helping us make further adjustments and improvements to the changes we are implementing.

To reduce unnecessary waiting we try to provide donors with as much information as possible in advance of the session, and indeed, at the donor session. Unfortunately we cannot display, or provide, all the criteria for donating blood in advance and would ask any donor who has a query to contact us on 0845-90-90-999 to ask any questions, and potentially avoid a wasted journey.

On our recent visit a large number of donors arrived in a short period of time and we, therefore, plan to introduce appointments to our donating sessions which will allow donors to book a time to donate that is convenient to them and will allow us to spread the attendance of donors over the duration of the entire donating session, helping to reduce unnecessary waiting times. We anticipate that these measures will reduce waiting times and improve the donating experience of all our donors. I am very sorry that we have not achieved this during our recent visit.

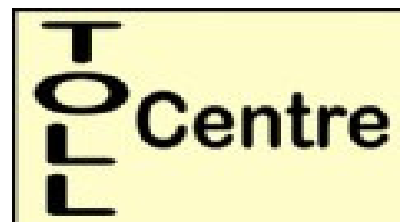
I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our donors for the many donations they have given in the past on behalf of those patients whose lives they have saved and improved by giving blood. I hope we are able to welcome back our donors to donate blood on 4th March 2013 and provide them with a much improved service.

I would like to thank the blood donor who contacted the Burgh Buzz for taking the time to raise his comments and concerns. If he, or any other blood donors in the area would like to discuss this or any other matters further, please feel free to contact me directly on 0131 5365393 or email at Vincent.mooney@nhs.net

Yours sincerely

Vincent Mooney
(Donor Services Manager)

Changes at the



For more than 30 years The Toll Centre has provided a learning, leisure and community focus for the residents of Burntisland. The centre continues to be a popular venue for activities and clubs for all ages as well as providing a regular Job Club to help with CVs and job applications and also conducts regular computer classes.

Over the past year there have been some major changes at the Toll. Like other community centres, as Fife Council has adjusted the staffing and financial support it can offer, the Toll Centre now operates as an independent voluntary organisation employing its own Centre Supervisor and support staff. Whilst the Centre still receives a small grant and certain youth and learning activities are supported by Fife Council, we now need to raise essential income independently. This additional funding can be from lets, independent fundraising and from grants for the staffing and upkeep of the Centre which is essential if we are to survive and thrive.

The Centre with its Supervisor and small team whose members work part time, are always looking for new helpers and volunteers to assist in manning the Centre during busy periods.

The Centre runs a successful Kids Club for Primary 4 -7 on Tuesday evenings which is very popular and is constantly on the look-out for volunteers to help out. Support and training will be provided. Fife Council runs youth clubs on Monday and Thursday evenings and a Music Project on Friday evenings.

Refurbishments and improvements are in train to make the Toll a more attractive venue. New French windows in the hall now opening directly onto the garden area. This provides a lovely, light venue for the recently established Tuesday Tai Chi classes which run from 1.45 to 2.45pm. This activity provides gentle exercise and is great for improving posture, reducing stress and relieving back pain. For the more energetic exercisers there is a Zumba class on Friday afternoons from 1.30 to 2.30pm - just time for young mum's to squeeze in a class before the school collection! A new Zumba Gold class for the less energetic will be starting on Thursday afternoons between 1pm - 2pm followed by the ever popular gymnastics class starting at 4pm. Garden improvements are also planned so by next spring the hall and garden should provide a fantastic venue for summer parties and activities.

The Toll also intends to consult with existing Centre users and the wider Burntisland community about ideas for improving and even adding to Centre activities. This consultation exercise will take place throughout the Spring.

For further details on the Toll Centre programme, to book the venue, to volunteer or for information on the consultation please contact the office on 01592 872854.



After the service, the parade reformed and marched smartly behind the pipe band to the War Memorial at the East Port where a large crowd of local residents had already gathered. A short service conducted by the Rev Mitchell and assisted by the Rev Maureen Stirzaker of St Serf's Church and the Rev. Allan Sharp of the Parish Church, included another 2 minutes of silent reflection.

"Lest We Forget"

On bright and crisp November morning, the Remembrance Day Parade assembled in Harbour Place. Under the command of Squadron Leader Ian Wallace and impressively led by the Burntisland & District Pipe Band, the parade marched off at 10.30 sharp. There was a strong representation from the Armed Services, the Emergency Services, Fife and Community Councils, veterans and youth organisations as they processed proudly along the High Street and Kinghorn Road to be welcomed at the Erskine Church by the recently appointed minister, the Rev Alexander Mitchell.

The Rev. Mitchell led the Service of Remembrance before a packed congregation which observed the traditional two minutes silence at the eleventh hour on the eleventh day of the eleventh month. This was followed by an emotional piping of the "Flowers of the Forest" by a lone piper high on the balcony at the rear of the church.



Following the laying of the wreaths by the dignitaries, the parade reassembled and marched back to the town chambers where it was dismissed and attended a reception in the Town Chambers.

The parades, the open air service and the wreath laying ceremony passed smoothly, with dignity and without interruption, due in no small measure to the professionalism and dedication of our local police officers. We offer them our appreciation and thanks .

Councillor George lays a wreath on behalf of Fife Council

Cancer Research UK

The Burntisland Branch of Cancer Research UK continues to work hard raising money for a very worthy cause. Mary Brownlee, chairperson, and the local committee would like to take this opportunity to thank our community for their continued support. Our 'Afternoon Tea' held last October in the Young Community Hall raised a staggering £1,009 and the recent Carol Singing raised £181. Thank you to everyone involved. In the past year we've sent £3,348 to Cancer Research UK.



Mother Goose

by

Patsy James

After months of hard work from the young people and adults involved in Burntisland Youth Theatre, the Pantomime presented in December was another triumph. The show sparkled from start to finish as Mother Goose, and her family, fought back against the Wicked Fairy and the nasty Village Squire to protect Priscilla the Magic Goose and get to the happy ending!

Brilliantly funny performances from James Lyon as Mother Goose, and Dean Marshall as her son Billy, kept the audiences laughing. Beth Lyon's portrayal of Priscilla was wonderful: it is not easy to

create all the complex facets of a character, without words! In fact the whole cast (all 34 of them) were great.

At the end of the show we had to say goodbye to James Lyon, Daniel Mudie and Becky Paterson who are all off to pursue their own individual adventures this year. Good luck to all of them! The Director, Karen Speirs presented two Derek Horne awards: these were given to Andy Thomson for his consistent hard work and dedication to the Youth Theatre over many years in the Backstage Crew, and to Dean Marshall who displayed a commitment well over and above the call of duty! It looks like Dean is set to follow in his big brothers footsteps – I'm sure everyone remembers Sean.

The show sold out quite early this year and a number people were disappointed not to get tickets, so please make sure you get yours early for next year. Check the BYT Facebook for information.



Police Constable Keith Gibb



There has been much publicity recently about the new personnel and deployment of the community police officers from Burntisland Police Station. Commendable as this may be, there is a downside - Burntisland has lost recently transferred PC Keith Gibb, who has loyally and tirelessly served the community for almost nine years. Keith was brought up in the town, and with his local knowledge and selfless endeavour, developed a unique relationship with the community. He earned the respect of both young and old who had no hesitation in approaching him with their problems or for assistance, tangible evidence of an effective community police officer.

Although Keith's official presence will be missed, he remains resident in the Burntisland and will be regularly exercising himself and his dog around the town. I have no doubt, that in this passive capacity he will continue to "keep an eye" on the community.

On behalf of all our readers, I thank Keith for the commendable service that he has given to the people of Burntisland and wish him every success in his new posting.



Community Speed Watchget involved!

By
Bill Kirkhope

If a vehicle hits a pedestrian at 40 mph there is a 90% chance that the collision will result in death or serious injury; at 30mph it reduces to 40% and at 20mph to 10%. These simple statistics alone, demonstrate the need for speed restrictions within urban areas. However speed limits are futile without effective enforcement. Our local police do their best with limited resources and competing priorities and recognise that despite their efforts, speeding in Burntisland and on the approach roads continues. They therefore, would like to enlist the assistance of local residents by establishing a Community Speed Watch (CSW) squad.

CSW would operate in teams of three and after appropriate training, would be deployed at speeding hotspots in Burntisland. They would be equipped with visibility jackets, warning notices and a speed gun and would take note of speeding vehicles, details of which would be reported back to the police. Vehicle owners would then be issued with warning letters and repeat offenders would receive a visit and personal warning from the police.

Each duty session would be between one and two hours, possibly twice a week and could be less frequent, depending on the numbers in the CSW team. Turn out is entirely voluntary and there is no requirement to operate in inclement weather.

CSW teams are operating successfully in other areas of Fife and Alan Taaffe, the leader of the Kinglassie CSW, told me that his team has experienced very little adverse reaction from motorists, a perceived fear of prospective volunteers, and that his team's deployment has resulted in a noticeable reduction in speeding through the village.

Why not offer your services to improve road safety in your community. You could save a child's life!

The local police are actively recruiting volunteers from Burntisland and Kinghorn. Anyone interested should contact PC Tony Kinsell at 0845 600 5702 or email: anthonykinsell@fife.pnn.police.uk



Kinglassie Team in Action

Mirth of Forth Comedy

Burntisland must be one of the few towns the whole of Scotland which can boast in having a thriving stand up comedy scene these past few years, as Mirth of Forth Comedy has continued to run free monthly Sunday evening events at The Star pub, as well as sell out quarterly Curry and Comedy nights at Potter About bistro, and big comedy events for its Civic Week.



And 2012 was a busy year for the comedy club as it organised a total of 24 gigs across 10 different venues in Fife and in Edinburgh, with audiences having the opportunity to see over 70 different comedians. But it was in Burntisland where audiences got to see some of the best known comics, as the likes of Tom Stadel, Janey Godley, Patrick Monahan, Raymond Mearns and Mark Nelson performed here. Thanks are due to Morag at The Star and Pat at Potter About for hosting many of these successful events.

Mirth of Forth Comedy also ran events for local charities, helping to raise a total of almost £1,000 for Burntisland school and Rachel House hospice.

2013 promises more of the same for Burntisland as well, starting with an event at The Star pub on Friday 1st February (free, 8pm), then another Curry and Comedy night at Potter About on Saturday 2nd March, and gigs lined up for Civic Week in June, amongst others.

Burntisland can consider itself lucky to have these events taking place in a town of its size, as the club's good reputation helps to bring in 'names' from the comedy circuit. Help support us by coming along to some of the events, and of course, enjoying yourself at the same time!

You can follow us and find event details on Facebook (Mirth of Forth Comedy), Twitter (@mirthofforth) and through website: www.mirthofforth.co.uk

The Buzzards

The buzzards are back.
From my small garden
I hear their voices over the Binn,
pardoners, forgiving the world
its negligence.



I have pruned and planted
(cold-handed afternoons)
taken faith from flirting snowdrops
and peace from the birds on the hill,
who encompass whole worlds
In quiet *liebenstraum*.

Can we never learn to soar
long seasons of such content,
put down roots, fill space
like trees, make flowers
not war? On the thermals
the buzzards soar and soar
while my mind spirals
so far below.

Is it only man, under the world skies,
who has need of pardon? I must
climb up, up, and can only
yearn for wings - like the buzzards -
to fly my particular hill.



Over 70's Christmas Treat

The large attendance at last December's gathering at the Kingswood Hotel is a sure sign that we are all living longer. A total of 154 seniors attended the function and an additional 23 house bound old folk received "goodie bags" and a monetary gift to compensate for their absence. The function was also attended by the outgoing citizen of the year, Ian Archibald, local councillors and of course, Santa Clause. Our thanks and appreciation go to Rankin Bell and staff of the Kingswood Hotel for their usual high quality service and a scrumptious Christmas feast.

The organising committee would like to thank all who have helped in raising a sum in excess of £3,500, without which the party could not take place. In particular thanks go to Briggs Marine, Bifab, Lodge Dunearn, The Corkies, Exxon Mobil, Shell UK, Fife Council, Schiehallion Offshore, and the Kingswood Hotel for cash donations. Sales of the Burntisland calendar exceeded expectations, resulting in a reprint of 50 copies which also sold out. Thanks must go to the Post Office staff for their tremendous efforts in selling them.

Because of the large numbers involved, fund raising by the dedicated organising committee continues and will begin almost immediately for this year's party. They will kick off with an afternoon tea in the Music Hall at a date and time to be announced - watch out for details!

Finally, our thanks go to those enthusiastic members of the organising team, whose personal reward is the memory of all those happy, smiling faces on the day itself.





Remember, Remember The 5th of November

B Brilliant, magnificent, stupendous, fabulous, amazing, breathtaking, fantastic are only some of the adjectives that I have heard used to describe the unforgettable fireworks display on Burntisland Links on Guy Fawkes night.

A clear, crisp evening on 5th November ensured that the massive crowds, estimated at over 7,000, obtained maximum enjoyment from the impressive bonfire and spectacular pyrotechnics.

The evening's entertainment was enhanced by the fun and frivolity of Radio Lolipop and by the stirring strains from the pipes and drums of the Burntisland & District Pipe Band. Following an anti-clockwise circuit of the bonfire by the band and a couple of false starts orchestrated by Radio Lolipop, Guy Fawkes' precarious seat atop the mountain of dry wood was well and truly ablaze.

A moving rendition of Highland Cathedral by the band heralded the start of the most impressive fireworks display ever seen in Burntisland; Roman candles, golden rains, star bursts, and flares in every colour of the spectrum, accompanied by sudden and spectacular explosions thrilled the vast crowds of spectators and after twenty minutes culminated in a spectacular finale of explosive colour and noise.

The crowds were happy, patient and in the main tolerant, as they dispersed slowly after another unforgettable evening on the Links.



Photographs courtesy of Steven Douglas of
Burntisland



MUSEUM OF COMMUNICATION

by Dorothy Brankin

Throughout the year, the Museum of Communication runs a very popular programme of Lectures on a wide variety of subjects. For most of the time, these are held midweek (usually on Tuesday evenings at 7.30 pm), but in the winter months, we move them to late Saturday morning and lay on a buffet lunch.

Many of our 'Regulars' live over 30 miles away – and we know only too well, how hazardous the roads can be in Winter – especially at night time!

Almost 60 people – our maximum capacity – attended our Christmas Special Lecture and Lunch on Saturday 15 December. We were delighted and honoured to welcome the distinguished zoologist and broadcaster, Prof. Aubrey Manning OBE, FRSE, FIBiol, as our very special Guest Speaker. His topic *Living on the Earth: Past and Present*, was truly inspirational! Aubrey's theme was that Life and the Earth have had interlocking histories for over 3 billion years. During that time, life has been presented with many critical periods and been forced to change and adapt. However, our current situation is without parallel in the past and presents us with problems that only humans can solve.....

A very lively Question & Answer session followed the Lecture - and a Christmas Lunch, with mulled wine and mince pies, rounded up a very stimulating, happy and memorable event.

The next Lecture is due to take place on Saturday, 23 February at 11.30 am, and will be followed by a buffet lunch. The Speaker will be Alistair Chisholm (of the Arup Partnership, Edinburgh), on the subject of the New Forth River Crossing. We anticipate that this will be a 'Full House', so please book early if you'd like to attend!

Details please, to or tel: 01506 823424



Burntisland Speakers Club

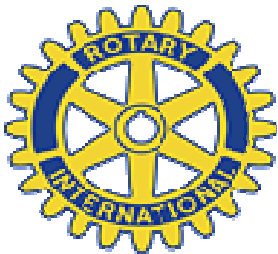
by Fraser Reddick

Since the beginning of the present session in September, and unlike most other clubs, our membership has continued to increase, as has the average attendance at our meetings in the Burntisland Sands Hotel – we must be doing something right! We put this down to the combination of an excellent venue, a welcoming ambience and a high standard of speaking within a structure which is neither too formal nor too threatening for newcomers to the club.

Speeches at our meetings this session have ranged over a diversity of subjects both serious and amusing including investigating suicides in Hong Kong, the "Private Eye" magazine, childhood indiscretions in Glasgow, exploring caves in Holland, the strange extinction of a flightless New Zealand bird and even how to cope with retirement from Fife Council employment! Topics sessions, in which members are invited to speak on a given subject for two minutes at short notice, as usual have presented a mixture of challenging and serious topics along with opportunities for a humorous response.

The club's annual Ladies Night, held as always on the last meeting before Christmas, saw over 40 members, wives, partners and guests welcomed warmly by president Colin Clunie, treated to an excellent meal by the hotel, and finally thoroughly entertained by two speeches and a good-going topics session.

Men of any age are welcome to join us – you won't get a three-course meal at every meeting, but you will be provided with tea, coffee and biscuits and the chance of a chat at the interval! Sorry ladies – Burntisland Speakers Club is a men only club (apart from Ladies Night), but Kirkcaldy Ladies Speakers Club is always looking for new recruits!



Burntisland & Kinghorn Rotary Club

In November, the club celebrated its 30th anniversary with a dinner for 70 Rotarians and friends, including 13 past-presidents. The party was regally entertained by an array of speakers, most especially by Alan McIlravie, a retired police chief superintendent from Kinghorn with hilarious memories of his early days at work in Kirkcaldy. Former auctioneer, Rev Jim Reid, raised almost £200 with a bottle of House of Commons whisky, signed by Alex Salmond!

The club's normal speaker programme has recently included Alison Pearson describing the current renovation of Kirkcaldy Museum and Art Gallery, Alistair Chisholm with a fascinatingly detailed description of the Forth Replacement Crossing; Ian Grieve spoke movingly of the plight of HIV/Aids orphans in Kenya; others have spoken of bees and Tom Morris, the golfer. The latest programme of Rotary Rambles concluded in Kinghorn with the presentation of certificates to 29 delighted Primary 4 pupils. The club has also sponsored 3 classes in the Fife festival of Music, and a tree basket through FAB;

96 Primary 7 children will soon receive Dictionaries for Life in all 3 local schools; and Burntisland Playgroup has once again been supported. At the club's Christmas dinner, George Hudson also raffled a bottle of Auchentoshan whisky, and an unidentifiable bottle from Vietnam, and raised £150 for the Butterfly Trust.

Finally a date in May has been arranged for a concert with Kirkcaldy Orchestral Society and the Langtoun Singers in the Old Kirk, in aid of the Chest, Heart and Stroke charity

The club meets at the Sands on Tuesdays at 6.30. There is an open invitation to anyone who would welcome a platform for their business or charity, or simply a chance for some convivial company.



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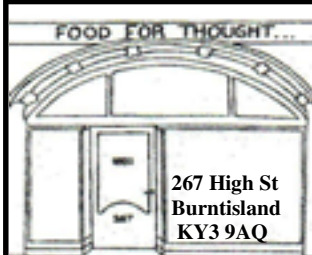
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BASC Celebrates the Year End in Style

A great number of competitions and activities rounded off a very successful year for the club.

East District Time Trials - Well done to all the swimmers for the club who took part; all of the swimmers achieved PBs. In addition Catherine Comrie broke two club records and Claire Thomson broke 8 club records. Well done girls!

East District Age Group Championships - Weekend One of the EDAG Championships are the longer distance swims. Excellent work by Claire Thomson, Catherine Comrie and Greg Turner who all had qualifying times to enter this competition. They all achieved PBs in each of their swims. Claire Thomson broke two club records in the process and Greg Turner broke four club records and took home a bronze medal for the 400m IM.

INCAS Sprints Gala - Six BASC swimmers attend this event and they all got PBs! In addition Greg Turner got a third (50m Breast) and broke a club record and Claire Thomson was first in all five of her races (50m Back, Breast, Fly, Free & 100IM), as well as setting three new club records!

BASC swimmers also competed as part of the **Beaver, Cub and Scout Gala**. For the Beavers were Lily Stark, Lewis Masterton and Grace Kellas who got a first and a third in the relays. For the Cubs were Alice Stark (1st in Back), Ailsa Kellas (1st in Breast), Alicia Thompson (2nd in Free) and Finn Wallace, together who were 1st in the relay. For the Scouts were Lennon Donaldson and Charlotte Law.

Fife Schools Championships - 13 BASC swimmers took part competing for their schools. Greg Turner got a first place (200m IM) and two seconds (100m Breast, 200m Free) and broke two club records. Catherine Comrie got a third (200m IM) and a new club record. Claire Thomson got a first (50m Fly) and a new club record.

Carnegie Winter Meet - Claire Thomson and Hayleigh Nimmo competed in this event and both gained PB's in all their races. Claire gained a place in three finals and achieved second place in two, breaking another club record.

The **Presentation Night** was held at the beginning of December with the main presentations covering the club Championships, the distance swims and the Fife and Novice League meets, congratulations to all our swimmers who took part. There was a great turnout at the heats and final. Overall winners in each age group were as follows :

8 & Under: Aimee Forbes and Andrew Thomson **10 & Under:** Claire Thomson and Chiran Utam

12 & Under: Catherine Comrie and George Mansfield **13 & Over:** Danielle Mendes and Greg Turner

Masters: Kirsty Petrie and Craig Nimmo.

The following trophies were also awarded:

Royal Mail trophy awarded to most improved swimmer in Session One - Isabella Schmidt-Cornelius

Rotary Cup awarded to most improved swimmer in Session Two - Alice Stark

E McLaughlin Cup awarded by the Club Coach to the swimmer in Top Squad showing the most commitment, application and achievement - Claire Thomson

Watson Trophy Jnr awarded to most graceful swimmer in Session One - Lily Stark

Watson Trophy Snr awarded to most graceful swimmer in Session Two - Daisy Short

Kerr Trophy awarded for assistance to BASC (a non-committee member) - Jenny Sandilands

In addition to all these activities there was the usual Pyjama Night (lifesaving techniques) and a fun night where Santa came on poolside with a little surprise for everyone - we were all disappointed when he couldn't join us in the pool for the waves but it was a very busy time of year for him! Our thanks go to all the parents and children who helped out at the ASDA bag packing to raise club funds which took place at the beginning of December, and our thanks too to all those who made a contribution to our buckets when in store.

Our congratulations go to Bob Main and Olive Grayson who have been voted Burntisland Citizens of the



Could I have big feet like the Thorpedo for Christmas?



Shipyard Football

By Andrew Beveridge

Unfortunately not a lot of football has taken place since the last issue as the weather has once again taken its toll. However, off the field plenty has happened or is about to happen in the coming year.

Firstly, the club was delighted to be awarded a "Standard Quality Mark" for youth football. The Quality Mark Award - part of the Quality Mark Accreditation Scheme run by the Scottish FA in partnership with McDonald's and SportScotland - recognises pro-active clubs and schools working to increase youth and community participation. Clubs and schools receive the award after meeting standards in areas such as coach and player development, management, administration, welfare and planning. The aim of the club now will be to have the whole of our youth set up included in the criteria and also progress to the next level and gain the Development Award. The time and effort of the coaches involved in gaining this award is much appreciated and recognised at the club.

Looking at the bigger picture, 2013 will see us begin the process of obtaining a "Club License". To obtain a Club License several criteria have to be met. Changing facilities, showers and toilets for players and officials have to be of a certain number and it would be our intension to extend the clubhouse to meet this. A covered area for spectators is also required and again we will attempt to provide this. Part of the club license programme also requires coaches at all levels to meet a minimum standard which we are progressing well with. Many aspects of health and safety obviously have to be met, such things as disabled access/toilets, emergency exit signage and a public address system being mandatory. Our youth football programme will also be subject to licensing but as we stand, with the Quality Mark gained and our policies towards youth development having been approved, we are satisfied with the progress made so far.

Together with the guidance of Scottish Football Association and the Scottish Football Partnership, the club, hopefully with the backing of the local community, will endeavour to achieve a license.

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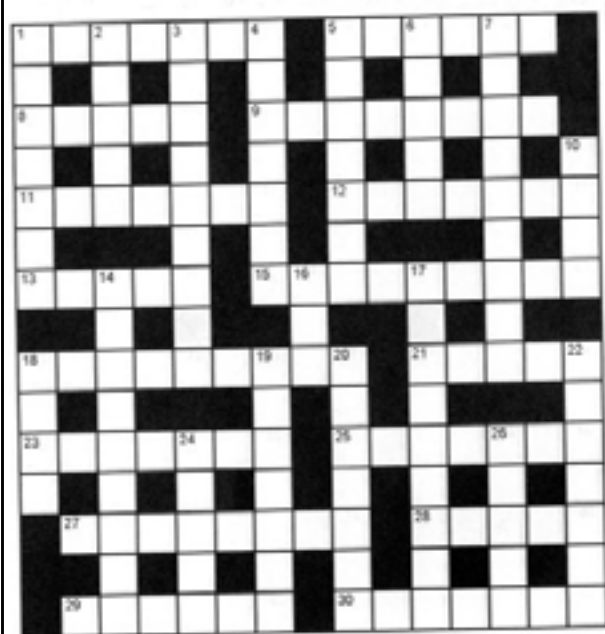
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THE PRIZE CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1 Citizens of Troy (7)
 5 Cure (6)
 8 Power distribution network (5)
 9 Reprove (8)
 11 In accordance with reason (7)
 12 Hermit (7)
 13 Shade of brown (5)
 15 US State (9)
 18 Cede (9)
 21 Adjudicator (5)
 23 Bitter and harsh (7)
 25 Rather hungry (7)
 27 Courgette (8)
 28 Perfectly suited (5)
 29 Broad flat projecting rim (6)
 30 Tipped off (7)

DOWN

- 1 Falls (7)
 2 Due (5)
 3 Partner (9)
 4 Superficial
 5 Observations (7)
 6 Frenzied (5)
 7 Talked about (9)
 10 Sharp (4)
 14 Everlasting (9)
 16 Anger (3)
 17 Aim (9)
 18 Fish related to herring (4)
 19 Mislead (7)
 20 Exact copy (7)
 22 Breathed out (7)
 24 It may be streaky (5)
 26 All thumbs (5)

The solution to the Prize Crossword in the SUMMER 2012 edition

Across: 1 Basic, 4 Satanic, 9 Burgeon, 10 Inferno, 11 Avid, 12 Ibex, 13 Weak, 15 Enter, 16 Undressed, 20 Farewells, 21 Stems, 23 Tame, 25 Dose, 27 Flea, 30 Ontario, 31 Sputnik, 32 Snooker, 33 Deeds.

Down: 1 Barrister, 2 Seek, 3 Continual, 4 Seize, 5 Toff, 6 Nerve, 7 Crooked, 8 Ablaze, 14 Brow, 17 Dispersed, 18 Easy, 19 Seedlings, 20 Fatuous, 22 Slacks, 24 Metro, 26 Odour, 28 Trek, 29 June.

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

Mr Ronald Purves, 46 Broomhill Avenue, Burntisland.

Answers in the next issue of the Buzz

Name.....

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Telephone.....

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

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This event is to raise funds in support of Claire Weir who will be climbing Mount Kilimanjaro in October for the Christie Cancer Trust. It will take 7 days to complete the 5895 metres climb to the summit. A huge amount of fundraising is required and every piece of help is hugely appreciated.

Scottish Water Consultation

Scottish Water is currently conducting a major consultation exercise amongst its customers, seeking their views on future charges and related services. The results of this consultation will assist the company to formulate strategic plans and priorities between 2015-20.

Readers will be aware that measures to permanently solve the Haugh Road and Kirkton Road flooding and related issues fell outside the Company's current strategic priorities. We now have an opportunity to encourage Scottish Water sit up and listen to our views and hopefully have remedial action included in their next five year plan.

However, it will require as many Burntisland residents as possible to take the time to express their views to the Company.

This should be done before 12th February by accessing the website:

www.scottishwater.co.uk/yourviewscount

or by putting your views in writing to:

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Events Diary

FEBRUARY

Friday 1st	(and every Friday of the month) - Opportunities Fife Job Club at the Toll Centre.	10.00am - 12.30pm
Friday 1st	Comedy Night in the Star Pub (Mirth of the Forth)	8.00 pm
Friday 8th	Community Council Meeting	7.00 pm
Tuesday 12th	Scottish Water Consultation ends	
Wednesday 13th	Ash Wednesday Communion Service at St Serfs (the beginning of Lent)	7.30 pm
Saturday 23rd	Lecture & buffet lunch at MOC (New Forth River Crossing - Alistair Chisholm)	11.30 am
Sunday 24th	Sunday Strollers - Walk over The Binn from the Golf Club Car Park	2.00 pm

MARCH

Saturday 2nd	Curry and Comedy Night (Mirth of the Firth) at Potter About	
Saturday 9th	Mother's Day Medley at Pettycur Bay Hotel	12.00 - 4.00 pm
Monday 4th	Blood Donation Sessions at Parish Church Hall	(2 pm - 4pm & 5.30 pm - 7.30 pm)
Friday 8th	Community Council Meeting	7.00 pm
Sunday 10th	Mothering Sunday at St Serfs	
Sunday 24th	Palm Sunday at St Serfs	
Friday 29th	Good Friday - Evening Taize Service at St Serfs followed by Sung Compline	(times to be confirmed)
Sunday 31st	Easter Sunday at St Serfs	
Sunday 31st	Sunday Strollers - Starley Burn and Kilmundy Hill from the Links Car Park	2.00 pm

APRIL

Friday 12th	Community Council Meeting	7.00 pm
Sunday 28th	Sunday Strollers - Bluebell Woods & Aberdour Harbort from the Links Car Park	2.00 pm

11th Fife -1st Burntisland Scout Group

October - December 2012



Our Beaver colony has been busy beavering away using different materials to make bouncy balls and ED glowies for their Experiment Badge. They had a visit to Kinghorn Lifeboat, worked on their staged swimming badges and had a Christmas sleepover in the Hall. Santa managed to find them there and loads of gifts and sweeties were left under the tree.



The Cub pack have been working on their Scottish Challenge badge a pretty difficult badge to attain as they have to complete ten areas to achieve it. We have found out about how Scotland differs from other countries in size, terrain, population, national dress, exports and famous people. We learned about famous Scots, their inventions and discoveries. The Cubs worked on their staged swimming badges and made Christmas cards and Christmas crafts.



The Scouts worked on Fitness Challenge badge, Guide badge and their Model Making badge, also did some traditional Scouting skills with knot & map work. During October they camped at Torphichen in the West Lothian Scout District with some of the Explorer Section where they hiked to the Historic Scotland site at Cairnpapple Hill as well as visiting the memorial to the British service personnel that fell during the Korean War. They had a Christmas sleepover with Explorers and visited The National Museum in Edinburgh. The Scouts fund raised £ 139.30 by selling tablet at the Carol singing.



The Explorer Unit had a baking evening where they made Cup Cakes. They also worked on their Emergency-aid 3 & 4 staged badges, navigation and route cards. They had a weekend Christmas Sleep Over in the hall with the Scouts where

we watched a Christmas movie and did some Christmas activities together. We then had an enjoyable visit to the National Museum in Edinburgh on the Saturday before having a great Christmas dinner together.



As a whole troop, we “Planted Bulbs in the Community “ took part in the District Swimming Gala and the Remembrance Day Parade and Service. We supported Burntisland Unlimited as we sang Christmas Carols at the Christmas Market. I am happy to say the 11th Fife swept the board at the District Swimming Gala as all the sections Beavers, Cubs and Scouts won their own section trophy. The Beavers, Scouts and Explorers enjoyed Mother Goose at the local Burntisland Youth Theatre on 13/12/12 . We have raised funds in the Community by offering our services with the Scout Christmas Post delivering Christmas cards and post throughout Burntisland. All sections helped with Christmas post which this year made the fantastic sum of £516.66p



Operation Christmas Child in Burntisland

Throughout 2012, members of St. Serf's Episcopal Church in Burntisland, along with their two partner churches in Aberdour and Inverkeithing, were collecting and knitting items for Christmas shoe boxes. All that had been collected was brought together at St. Serfs Church hall and with the help of a team of willing volunteers 74 shoeboxes were packed ready to be sent to the collection depot in Dunfermline. Even the cost of sending the boxes was covered helped by the generosity of the people of Burntisland who donated at the street fair in the town for the Queens Jubilee Celebration.



The boxes will be sent to children in countries which have been affected by poverty, famine, war and natural disasters in recent years. The charity Samaritans Purse have set up links with church members in these countries and through them the shoeboxes will be distributed to children who otherwise would receive no Christmas gifts. Christmas shoeboxes like this have been sent abroad since the plight of the children in Rumanian orphanages was first discovered and pictures broadcast on our televisions. The idea has grown massively over the years and sadly the need is as great today as it was then.

So a very big thank you to all who contributed. If you are interested in becoming involved or you think members of your church or organisation would be interested in taking part for next year, please contact any member of St. Serfs Church.



The Parish Church

The Youth Café in Solid Rock started up again last term after a longer than usual summer/autumn break. At the moment it is open on Saturday nights from 7.30 until 9 for all young people of High School age. We are very grateful to the volunteers who keep the Youth Café running. Most of them have been doing so since Solid Rock opened 8 years ago. Facilities include 2 new pool tables, a TV, a Wii, and some board games. There is a tuck shop stocked with soft drinks and sweets. The graffiti wall was painted by a Christian graffiti artist with the help of some of the young people who frequent the café. It is a warm and welcoming place with comfy seating and café style tables and chairs. There are always at least 2 friendly, approachable adult volunteers on duty (all with CB/PVG checks), who are always up for a chat. Solid Rock is an alcohol, drug and smoke-free zone and provides a safe place for young people to hang out, an alternative to hanging about the streets. Anyone wishing to find out more about Solid Rock Youth Café or to donate equipment should contact Joe Fitzpatrick at the Youth Café.

Messy Church in Burntisland and Kinghorn – a new joint venture

Our latest venture is 'Messy Church' for families – a place where families from babies to grandparents can come together for play, story, crafts and activities based around a Bible theme. It's noisy, messy, lively and great fun, ending with a simple buffet lunch together.

Themes so far have been 'Light' in November and 'New Start' in January. Messy Church will be running monthly with a break over the summer – look out for banners, posters and fliers. The next ones will be on Saturday 23rd February in Burntisland Parish Church Hall and Saturday 16 March in Kinghorn Church Hall from 10.00 am until 12.15. Children of all ages are welcome, as long as they are accompanied by family member/s – a great opportunity to have family fun together. Come and give it a try!

Guild

The Guild meets in Solid Rock on Tuesday afternoons from 2 pm until around 4pm. New members are always welcome. Come and join us for tea and friendship, as well as interesting speakers and entertainment.

Prospects

Monthly meetings in the church hall for adults with learning disabilities and their friends and carers – tea/coffee, friendship, quizzes, worship time, hearing from the Bible, crafts and lunch together. We meet on the second Saturday of the month from 10.30 until around 12.30. Open to all adults with learning disabilities.

Church Services - You will be warmly welcomed at all services, and there is an opportunity to get to know people over tea/coffee afterwards

Sunday mornings 11.00 am in Church Hall (winter) or Church

Sunday evenings 6.30 pm in Solid Rock – worship band, 'question time', prayer time

Wednesday mornings 10.30 am in Solid Rock – shorter more informal service

Over the coming weeks leading up to Easter we will be looking at "Jesus and his Kingdom" on Sunday mornings, and in the evenings in Solid Rock we will be looking at "Covenant and Kingdom" - that is, our new relationship with God as His children and the opportunities and responsibilities that brings.



by **Catherine Gilfillan**

A wonderfully festive Christmas season has just finished at the Church. Christmas decorations and the Christmas Crib have gone back into hibernation. We had a particularly, beautifully decorated Church this year with the Flower Arranging Team having excelled themselves. Their efforts were enhanced by a series of artistic hanging banners for the Advent, Christmas and Epiphany periods.

A lovely Christmas Carol Service preceded Mass on Christmas Eve and was followed by a social event with mulled wine and Christmas Pies in the Church Hall. The Children's Nativity Tableau during Mass on Christmas morning brought tears of joy (and in some case laughter!) to the large congregation.

We are now back to "auld claes and parritch". - Roll on Easter !

The Sound of Silence

As you walk along Burntisland High Street there is a definite sense that something is missing, and when you look up, you realise that the thing missing is the clock tower. There is a definite sense of resignation about it and people have been heard muttering "I'll not see that back in my lifetime.."

Fortunately this pessimism is unfounded and the truth is that a lot of work has been going on behind the scenes since the tower was dismantled. The stone has been analysed and a source of replacement stone has been identified. The amount required has been assessed, funding has been sourced to purchase the stone and work has commenced on the design for reassembly. There is still some work to be done on sourcing funding for the actual rebuilding but it looks very positive that this will be achieved. It is certainly very encouraging that the replacement stone is to be bought as you would hope that this investment signals a real intent to rebuild in the near future. It is also worth remembering that the clock tower is a category B listed building which means that it has to be restored. Interestingly during the dismantling it became apparent that the tower had been dismantled and rebuilt before (over 100 years ago) so it is not the first time Burntisland has faced rebuilding of the clock tower.

Hopefully the project will keep ticking along smoothly and we will not have to wait too long until the striking of the hour is marked with something other than a deafening silence. It would certainly be nice to prove the pessimists wrong in this case.



New Minister @ Erskine Church

by

Rev. Alexander Ritchie

I've been asked to introduce myself as new minister of Erskine Church, so here goes! My name is Alexander Ritchie, we moved to Burntisland from Lossiemouth on 16 October 2012. By "we" I mean myself along with the family. That's my wife, Fiona, who is a GP, and our three children-Stephen (10), Emma (8) and Sienna (2).

We have appreciated the welcome into the local community and I had a chance to meet people at the Remembrance & Christmas services shortly after we arrived. Stephen & Emma feel well-settled into Burntisland Primary, the school has a bigger population than the one they attended up north, but staff & class-mates have made the transition easy.

Lossiemouth was home for 10-and-a-half years during my tenure as UF minister. Fiona & I originally met in Aberdeen (my hometown) and we were married in Dundee on 27 June 1997. I think Burntisland and Lossie are similar in quite a few respects. Both have Firths (Forth & Moray) and history closely associated with the sea. The main difference is that instead of RAF Tornado jets overhead, there are trains constantly passing as I walk from the manse along the Links to the Co-op!

I hope it will be possible for the churches in the town to continue to work closely together. My feeling is that the message we have carries far more resonance when the wider community sees unity amongst the churches. Easter isn't far away, so there will be joint services and events in Burntisland during March.

If you see me around the town please say hello, I try my best to be user-friendly and look forward to meeting more people as time passes!! I hope it will be possible for the churches in the town to continue to work





A cosy new home for the Tool Shedders

As winter sets in, the small group of tool refurbishers based at The Ecology Centre soon felt the cold in the draughty barn they were using. Thanks to a grant from the Change Fund, they were able to build a cosy new shed so they could continue their work throughout the winter months. The Tool Shed Officer Jamie Vint commented "It was getting a bit parky in the barn, I was running out of thermals, the new shed is just what we needed". The volunteers obviously agreed as the sessions every Monday & Tues afternoons and Friday mornings have been well attended and hundreds of rusty old tools have been brought back to useful life.

Happy knowing they are making a difference, one volunteer recently said "This project makes me feel like I am giving something back" while another added "It's good to get out of the house and do something different". The group recently sent a large carpentry kit to a training school in Tanzania and continue to liberate no longer used tools from dusty shed corners and supply free gardening tools to community groups in and around Burntisland and Kinghorn.

As an extension to The Tools Shed, old manual Singer sewing machines are also being refurbished. These are sent to Africa where they can be used to generate income to support entire families. Volunteers with an interest in sewing machines will be welcomed with open arms as volunteers are on a steep learning curve with these! If you would like to come and see what is involved, no experience is necessary although anyone with a working knowledge of hand tools will find this voluntary work particularly rewarding, then why not give Jamie or Jo a call on 01592 891567 or e-mail or simply drop in to one of the regular sessions? See the new website at for details of workshop times.



Volunteer placements for 18 - 30 year olds with living allowance and travel subsistence

The Ecology Centre is offering young people a great opportunity to improve their job prospects through volunteer placements at our Kinghorn Loch site. There are various openings for adults aged between 18 and 30 which will give you the opportunity to learn new skills, make new friends and gain experience that can help secure future employment. A living allowance of up to £55 is paid dependent on circumstances as well as travel expenses.

The Centre has a very active and friendly volunteer base that help look after our 20 hectare site and run the environmental education programme. The placements on offer include working on maintenance and conservation projects, grounds work, tool refurbishment, admin support and assisting in the delivery of education classes and much, much more. Volunteering at The Ecology Centre is a very sociable activity. A sit down lunch is one of the weekly highlights that volunteers look forward to as well as the varied training opportunities on offer from first aid courses to mosaic craft workshops.

To make the most of these training opportunities, you need to be aged 18 to 30 and be able to commit to an average of 30 hours per week for a minimum of 3-6 months. If you or anyone you know would be interested in a placement, please call for an informal chat on



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January we are celebrating Rabbie Burns, beginning 21st with traditional recipes being prepared.

Starting in February we will be offering a grill night... Not for the faint of heart - choose your meat, prime steaks, homemade burgers, marinated chicken or even a fish selection. Also add your own fixings: Fries, dips or salads. The "Sizzlin" starts on Saturday 9th February (thereafter every fortnight) so put that in your diary!

Also remember February is the month of love, so don't forget to book your table and treat your loved ones (or catch up with friends!).

Still open for breakfasts including our gutbuster.

Don't forget to come along to our jazz nights (first wednesday) Acoustic (last monday) of every month, free entry to both!



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