

BURGH BUZZ

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July 2013 Issue No 48



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“Burntisland at Play”..... the theme

of this year's Heritage Exhibition, although focussing on the past, is just as appropriate today. The weather this year has played a critical role in sparking the town into life, with visitors and residents alike taking full advantage of the town's most attractive amenities: The Links, arguably the most valuable Common Good property, has been the venue for the Civic Week Party, The Highland Games and of course the Fairground; the Blue Flag beach has thronged with sun worshippers; the recently refurbished play area and adjacent water playground at the east end of the links has been packed with excited youngsters; local businesses, cafes, restaurants and hostleries have enjoyed a resurgence following a disappointing few years of indifferent weather.

Additionally, the volunteers of Floral Action Group Burntisland (FAB) have made commendable progress in brightening up the town through their ambitious programmes.

All of these facilities and events could not have happened without the dedication and hard work of a large number of civic minded volunteers, sponsors, elected Fife Councillors and members of the Community Council. They deserve our thanks, congratulations and continued support. Long may the good weather continue!



Children's Play area on the Links



Blue Flag Beach

Are you Happy With Your Railway Station?

On Page 10, our “Grumpy” correspondent refers to the lack of facilities at Burntisland Railway Station in particular, the complete absence of any disabled access to and from the northbound platform. Coincidentally, this topic has received widespread coverage on a local social media site and as a result, a “Burntisland Station Regeneration Group” has been formed amongst some Burntisland residents. The Group's aims will be to research the situation, identify the problems and to formulate possible solutions. The group also wishes to raise public awareness and to gather maximum support from within the community for any future proposals that it will make.

A public meeting to discuss all problems related to the station will be held at 6.30 pm on Wednesday 14th August at the Toll Centre. All are most welcome to attend.

Editorial Comment

I must open by thanking the very many readers who have written, emailed and spoken to myself and members of the editorial team in support of our quarterly efforts. It is gratifying to note that not all of the copies of the Buzz “go straight in the bucket”! I have had insufficient space to include all of the letters and apologise if yours has been omitted.

On the other hand, I have included all of the letters that I received opposing the Buzz’s view on the proposed commercial development at the Kirkton. Also included on page 7, is an article which summarises the points which have been made in favour of the development. The original article has certainly given rise to debate within the town and although I have not changed my stance on the issue, it has served to draw my attention to the negative aspects of adopting a firm stance on a local issue in a quarterly publication. Any reader who may oppose the published view, does not have an immediate opportunity to respond. A 3 month old response will never have the same impact. This will be taken into consideration if a similar situation arises in the future.

On the topic of local issues, the question of poor access to Burntisland railway station is the focus of a newly formed “action group”. Much research has already been carried out and the individual responsibilities and policies of Transport Scotland and Network Rail have been identified. If you wish to find out more or express your own opinions or suggestions, make sure that you attend the public meeting at the Toll Centre on Wednesday 14th August.

Burntisland has just experienced a very busy couple of months during which visitors and residents alike, have experienced the town at its very best. Although the recent fine weather has contributed, the environment and associated events would not have been so successful without the hard work and dedication of the large number of volunteers and officials. Special mention must be made of the Civic Week and Highland Games Committees and of the sterling efforts of Floral Action Burntisland who have done so much to make the town more attractive.


The fact that this issue contains an amazing pictorial record of all these events is due almost entirely to the diligence and professional expertise of our young photographer, Michael Booth. Thank you Michael for all your efforts.

Finally, I would like to thank all those who contribute regularly to this publication and above all to our advertisers, many of whom have been with us for almost four years.

Without your continued support we could not afford to publish the Buzz and distribute it throughout the community, free of charge.

Bill Kirkhope
Editor

Community Council

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

Community Council Bullets

- Stairs between the shipyard and Shepherd Crescent were closed by one department of Fife Council on the grounds that they were unsafe and there was no budget to repair them. However, there are conflicting reports on their true condition and the potential cost of reinstatement. Options for repair to an appropriate standard are being investigated.
- Traffic calming is planned for Leith Avenue, Laburnum Grove and Kirkcaldy Road.
- A proposal to develop a Community Action Plan for Burntisland has been discussed with the STAR Development Group. They are experts in preparing such plans, which have led to large grants for community initiatives elsewhere. However, the initial plan should ideally include community consultation to a professional standard. Work is in hand to seek the necessary financial support, but it will not be a quick process.
- Quotes have been obtained and funding is being sought to conserve and restore the historic furniture in the Burgh Chambers.
- Four members met the Emergency Planning team at Fife House to help identify a possible role for the Community Council in the event of a major incident. Example scenarios might include fire, flood, power outage or similar large-scale events. In Burntisland, a key resource would be the Toll Centre. However, there also has to be a process for cascading help and information throughout the community. Follow-through discussions will take place over the next few months.
- Grounds maintenance has now been carried out at the cemetery, following a gap in the schedule, and plans are in hand to ensure continuity of upkeep.
- Weed growth on the footway approaching Starley Hall has been reported and dealt with.
- Recent studies show that wind turbines near to *Mossmorran* have no effect on emissions to the atmosphere, which are already well below the normal background level for rural areas.
- Steps will be taken to clarify the guidelines for using the community notice board at Union Street, particularly to help identify what is or is not a commercial advertisement.
- Five members will shortly meet officials from Fife Council to discuss Burntisland’s Common Good Fund – and in particular the identification and management of selected properties.

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 - First Saturday of the month
10.00 - 10.30 am in the Burntisland Public Library

The Burgh Police



By Sgt Stuart Davidson

We are now firmly established as a unit of Fife Division of the Police Service of Scotland but other than the appointment of Sergeant Stuart Davidson, there have been no discernible changes in Burntisland. Local policing priorities have been identified through bi-monthly Community Engagement Meetings and consultation and agreement within the Multi Member Ward Plan.

These priorities are currently **Road Safety, Anti-Social Behaviour and Substance Misuse.**

Road Safety - Officers with speed detection devices have targeted areas, including the main routes in and out of Burntisland, which have been identified by members of the public. Numerous drivers have been given advice and warnings and a further two issued with fixed penalty tickets and automatic penalty points on their licence. Additionally, increased efforts are being made to educate the driving public as to the dangers of exceeding speed limits, particularly in the Burntisland area.

Anti-social Behaviour. - The dedication and industry of local community officers is reflected in the safer Burntisland environment. The incidence of anti social crime is down and the detection rate of offenders has increased. Regular, high visibility, foot and mobile patrols, particularly at weekends and based on sound intelligence, serve to prevent crimes occurring and ensure a quick response to any incident that may happen.

Substance misuse - Community officers have conducted regular checks of licensed premises and are developing good working relationships with landlords and staff. Illegal substances were seized and a cannabis plantation detected as a result of raids under warrant, with both occupiers having been reported to the Procurator Fiscal. These raids will continue as Community Officers are fully committed to reducing the harm inflicted on the community through the abuse of illegal substances.

We would like to thank the public for the information and assistance that they continually give us which helps to make our streets safer. We have demonstrated our commitment to investigate and act upon information given to us by the public and would implore anybody who has information to contact Police Service of Scotland on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 500 111. All information will be dealt with in the strictest confidence and you have the option of remaining anonymous if you so wish.

The Burntisland, Kinghorn and Western Kirkcaldy Community Policing team is committed to allowing you to directly influence local policing. You can have your say on local priorities by attending the Community Engagement Meetings

Contact your local community team on the new Non-Emergency number 101

Forthcoming Community engagement meetings are as follows:-

7:00pm - Wednesday 4th September @ Pettycur Bay, Caravan Park

7:00pm - Wednesday 6th November @ Pettycur Bay, Caravan Park,

Twitter: [@policescotland](https://twitter.com/policescotland) or [@kirkcaldypolice](https://twitter.com/kirkcaldypolice)

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 |
| | John Bruce John Bradshaw |
| | Hazel McGraw |

**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.

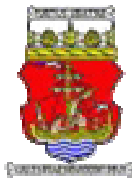
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| | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
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| | Bruce Stuart Morag Douglas |

The Buzz is distributed throughout Burntisland by a team of dedicated volunteers. We are currently looking for a volunteer for the Kirkbank Road area.

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 2013 Issue by 14th October at the latest. Advertising enquiries should be addressed to Jennifer Robertson, Tomwell Road, Burntisland, KY3 9 [redacted] (Tel: 01592 [redacted]) or e-mail jengord@sky.com For Community Council matters, please contact: Alex Macdonald, Chairman (Tel: 01592 873314). Email: alex_mac@btinternet.com or Isabel Smith (Tel: 01592 873226). Email: jisabelmsmith@btinternet.com



Burntisland Primary School News

By Carolyn Bell

This term as part of a Healthy Living focus our P1 to P5 pupils enjoyed Judo taster sessions provided by Destination Judo. Our classes also took part in healthy living workshops such as Noise and Health, Calamity Kitchen and the Environment and Health.

Burntisland pupils have also been out and about taking part in many sporting and outdoors events. P5 pupils really enjoyed taking part in the Rotary Rambles and learned more about our local area through taking part. Both of our P7 classes attended a transition sports festival at Balwearie on the 24th May. This was organised by Active Schools and it allowed pupils the opportunity to try lots of different sports and also to meet many of the pupils who will join them as 1st year students at Balwearie after the summer holidays. On Tuesday 18th June, our Relay team competed in a relay race at Balwearie High School as part of their annual sports day. Some of our talented swimmers took part in the Scottish Schools Championships at the Royal Commonwealth Pool on Wednesday 19th June. On Thursday 20th June, P7 classes enjoyed a bowling trip to Dunfermline.

Twenty P6 pupils, accompanied by Miss Fleming and Mrs McAughey, became engineers for a day when they travelled to Carnegie Primary School in Dunfermline to take part in a 'Bridges to Schools' project. They worked together to build their own bridge and tested its strength by walking on it. Our P7 Zone winners took part in the Area Final of the Rotary Quiz at Kinross High School. The team did not win but represented our school admirably.

We are delighted with the achievements of our P7 pupils who took part in a Maths Challenge this year. We had some excellent results including bronze awards for Stephanie Kennedy and Rocco Khabir, silver awards for Shawnie Jones and Tess Hadoke and a top gold award for Hector MacDonald.

P6 and P7 pupils had visits from the English Department at Balwearie who have been teaching writing as part of the transition process.

This term we said goodbye to Sara Sierra, our Comenius Assistant. Sara has worked with classes and groups across the school since January and has taught Spanish as well as teaching about her native country and culture.



Rotary Rambles - The Rabbit Warren

On Friday 7th June, the school choir took part in a 'Glee' style competition performance at the Rothes Halls. They sang two songs from Glee, 'Walking on Sunshine' and 'Don't Stop Believing'. Although they did not win the competition, they had a fantastic evening and we are all very proud of them. P7D and P5/6 performed at 'The Big Strum' at the Rothes Halls. This was a great opportunity for them to showcase their Ukulele skills. P3 performed an entertaining 60s showcase to parents and our pupils were treated to a fabulous performance of Oliver Twist on Thursday 20th June.

P5M and P5R were inspired to raise money for the SPCA following talks last term. They held a cake sale in school and also did a sponsored silence. Aaron Watson in P7 won two cartons of sweets in the 'Guess the Sweets in the Jar' competition, whilst the six next closest each

won one carton. Charlotte Munn in 3D won a lovely mother and baby bear set by guessing the baby bear's birthday, Lewis Masterton in 3D came second, with all children who guessed a date in July winning koalas.

Summer term concluded with two services at the Erskine church. The Nursery-Primary Three service had the theme of 'Friendship' whilst P7 led their final service at primary school by sharing some of their special memories with us all. We wish them all the best for their new beginnings at secondary school after the holidays.

Parent Council News

By Benjamin Barron



At the end of April, the Parent Council joined with members of the Community Council, scouts, cubs and beavers to carry out a Beach clean-up. It was a very successful day with over 50 bags of rubbish collected.


Burntisland Primary School is well on its way to achieving Fair Trade School status. We now have a Fairtrade tuck shop, and ran a Fairtrade stall at the school fun day. We hope to complete the requirements for Fairtrade status within 6 months.

The School Fun Day, despite the weather, raised over £600. It was a great day and I would like to thank everyone who came and those who helped out and donated items.

A meeting for Parents only will take place on 20th August @ 6.30 to discuss [redacted] and Parental Engagement. However if anyone has [redacted] ideas you can email me at bpspc@btinternet.com



New School Construction Continues Apace

In the short space of four months, the Toll Park has been completely transformed. The site for the new school has been created, new grass pitches levelled and planted, drainage and retaining walls to prevent road collapse have been completed, all piling work has been finished and the steel frame for the HUB, the main body of the school, has been erected and construction of the steel framework of the  has commenced. Impressive progress indeed by BAM Construction, a company fully committed to delivering a state of the art facility to Burntisland, on time.

Progress is monitored by a Local Development Group, comprising of Fife Councillors and Administrators, Community Councillors, Teachers, Parents and BAM Construction representatives. Individuals can monitor progress through the BAM/ Burntisland Primary School Facebook Page.

On a related issue, Fife Council Transport Planners have responded positively to proposals from a resident of Aberdour Road to amend the school crossing arrangements and to examine the feasibility of improving and creating footpaths away from busy main roads, for children walking to and from school.



First Aid – summer update

By Alex MacDonald

People throughout the town very kindly sponsored Maureen McQuade as she attempted yet another personal first, by diving with sharks at Deep Sea World. After a few, tentative steps she became confident underwater as the 3m sharks glided silently over her head. Thanks to her efforts – and the generosity of her sponsors – our funds benefited by over £1,000.

Within a few days, we had a reminder of the outstanding results which come from raising and spending funds wisely. Four of our members were invited to attend the Royal Highland Show as VIP guests of Alistair MacMillan, one of the show's long-standing directors.

The occasion was the first anniversary of the day when Alistair's life was saved by the 4 volunteer first aiders. Acting swiftly, they brought all of the essential



Maureen McQuade

skills and equipment into play and managed to re-start Alistair's heart whilst triggering a smooth transition to the ambulance service and early hospital care. It's a delight to know that Alistair made an excellent recovery, with no side-effects.

However, we can't rest on our laurels. In July, the events which we've been asked to attend include one in Kirriemuir and another in Arbroath. Our real challenge, however, is in August, when we'll be covering no fewer than 17 different events



Alistair is joined by (L-R) Gordon Dow, Alex MacDonald, Mike McErlane and Sammy McFarlane

from one end of Fife to the other. They vary from charity galas to some very demanding motocross and also the

British Touring Cars Championship at Knockhill.

On present information, we have a quieter September, just before starting our next public first aid class on Wednesday evenings. Further information is available from Alex MacDonald on 873314 or by e-mail to alex_mac@btinternet.com.

Common Good Fund – in all our interests!

By Alex MacDonald
(Chairman Community Council)

A cres of land, property in prime locations and cash investments are all reserved for the benefit of local people. Whether we derive the benefit to which we are entitled is an open question.

Fife Council received an adverse auditors' report in 2009 over their management of Common Good Funds. For example, it was noted that "there is a risk that the Common Good funds do not receive rental income which is rightfully theirs". In response, they started to set up a register of Common Good assets, which they reviewed with the Community Council. However, little has been done since 2010.

So there are still two key problems.

One is simply in identifying the relevant assets. Some are obvious and agreed – e.g. the Burgh Chambers, the Links, the Young Hall, Unity Hall and so on. Others remain in doubt – e.g. the Roundhouse car park and some housing.

The second problem is in the management of those assets. Records are held in different places and on different systems. So there is often conflicting information about the true financial position. Often, the responsible department does not know about the Common Good status of the property in their care. So they overlook the legal requirement to manage it "having regard to the interests" of the community.

Sometimes those interests are perfectly clear. If the Community Council and the local elected members of Fife Council are in agreement, then it's a powerful statement of where the local interest lies. If we disagree with each other, then Fife Council does have the power to decide which opinion is the more truly representative.

It's fair to say that in some respects the law relating to Common Good Funds is not clear. For example, where there is any dissent the Courts require local authorities to seek their permission before disposing of Common Good property. However, different lawyers earn their crust by placing a particular spin on the details of the law. So they may challenge what is meant by "dissent" or what is meant by "disposal".

It's complicated further because Common Good Funds are managed ultimately by the local authority, who may in turn have a conflict of interest. It's clearly tempting for them to save money on their other budgets by drawing on Common Good assets.

So where does all of that leave Burntisland?

Firstly, mistakes are made and the Community Council does its best to hold Fife Council to account. One example is the rent which Fife Council pays for its own use of Common Good property. In the past, the agreed period for a rent review has been seriously overlooked. Sometimes the terms of lease are not what local people want, but the deal is done before we find out.

In addition, cash assets may be depleted beyond the point where property can be maintained. From time to time donations have been made for very worthy causes, but they're difficult to define as being in the wider interests of the community.

So we're now exploring other possible options to ensure that the community does indeed get full benefit.

We need to be able to say accurately "this is what local people want" from our Common Good assets. To get the best result, it means carrying out a reliable survey of local people. We're already in discussion with consultants who specialise in exactly that field. However, it will be best if we can complete the survey and prepare a Community Action Plan with a mixture of voluntary and professional support.

That means raising money to carry out the survey and it's a very slow process. However, once the action plan has been prepared, we will have solid evidence to support other funding applications which will have clearly defined outcomes.

One possibility is whether a Community Trust could take responsibility for some or all of the Common Good Fund. That would mean, for example, that local people would manage the Links – by setting priorities, conditions of use and so on. As a result, maintenance (and funding) would become a local responsibility. It would also mean that we can drive local initiatives to bring under-used properties back into use. So the Burgh Chambers could be used much more actively and perhaps the Young Hall could be more easily integrated into the High Street.


The possibilities are limited only by local imagination and endeavour – and by a willingness on the part of Fife Council to devolve significant responsibility.

The key message is that it's "our" Common Good Fund. If we want to maximise the local benefit then we should equally maximise local responsibility. Right now the Community Council are in discussion with Fife Council on how that could best be done. There are no quick solutions, but knowing what local people want will be critical to a successful outcome.


Agreed Common Good properties include:
The Links
Galahill
Haugh Road
Unity Hall
Young Hall
War Memorial
Toll Park
Beach
Burgh Chambers
Ross Point



Burntisland & District Pipe Band by Denis Johnstone

The band had a great start to the competition season with a good placement at the British  in Bathgate at the end of May. The band qualified for the final and the drum corps was rewarded for all their hard work by winning the best drum corps in Grade 4B. The band narrowly missed out on a top 6 place.

More recent competitions have not produced the same results but the band continues to move forward. The appointment of Gordon Lee (drummer with Grade 1 band SFU) to work alongside Mark Gibson has certainly improved the drumming standard and we hope to have something in place in the very near future to do the same with the piping section.

 So the time for civic weeks and galas and the band has again been out for the Kinghorn and Burntisland Civic week parades and took its place as normal this year for the Burntisland Highland Games.

From September the band plans to start teaching children from the age of 8 in the art of playing the great highland bagpipes as well as side and tenor drums. There is no charge for these lessons so if your children are interested and want to learn you should contact Stewart Birrell (Chairman) on 01592 872077 or Denis Johnstone (Secretary) on 01592 872254 for further details.

Proposed Kirkton Commercial Development..... An Alternative View

From the reaction to last month's front page article, it would definitely appear that people do read the Buzz. The whole point of the article was to bring to the fore and invite comments and debate on an issue that is never going to be clear cut one way or another and which seemed to be very much in the background. It was encouraging to see so many people taking the time to put their point across, both on Facebook and in direct communication with the editor, the first time this has occurred since the current team took over the Buzz over three years ago. There is no doubt that a lot of people feel strongly about this proposal and hopefully this article will redress the balance and put across some of the views of those in favour of the development.

Obviously the new development would be convenient for those who live in the surrounding area but it has also been pointed out that if the town is going to expand in any direction, it will be towards Aberdour. Consequently, what we now know as the town centre may no longer be the centre of town geographically. Parking on the High Street is not always easy so perhaps people who currently go out of town to shop would stay locally rather than going to surrounding towns which would benefit the local economy. The point has also been made that for a community the size of Burntisland, there are a lot of goods and services not available in the town and perhaps the new retail units would attract these things rather than competing directly with the shops we already have on the High Street. This could only be good for the town and could create new jobs without threatening existing jobs and businesses. Others say that the shops we have on the High Street could do with a bit of competition as they are too expensive! Although to be fair, these are not the easiest times to run a retail business and perhaps to compare High Street prices with the internet and large multiple retailers is unjust. One reader pointed out that it is difficult for those who work out of town to use the High Street shops as they are closed by the time they get home. They also suggested a late night shopping evening on the High Street to address this. What would the High Street retailers think of that? The Buzz would love to hear.

There are a lot of good, well thought out arguments for both sides of this debate and people will have made up their minds for themselves by now. Whether you favour tradition and the historical status quo or whether you are for progression and development, the proposal is now in the hands of the planners and only time will bring an outcome.

Once again the Buzz would love to hear what you think about this and also any other issues that you feel Burntislanders should be aware of, and people should be talking about.



Collinswell Park is a charming, new estate, offering Residents the combination of coastal tranquility and urban convenience. Nestled on the western side of Burntisland, Collinswell Park continues to grow as the site is fully developed. It is the newest estate in Burntisland, with the first homes being established here in 2007, and new ones continuing to be built.

The Collinswell Park Residents' Association (CPRA) was established as a cohesive body to primarily monitor and protect the interests of Collinswell Park Residents. The CPRA aims to represent the Collinswell Park community on a range of local issues involving both the estate and the Burntisland area as a whole, ensuring that the character of the estate is both retained and developed further, and encourages the Residents to support and become involved in the community activity of Burntisland.

The CPRA website

The fundamental intention of the CPRA website is to engage with the Collinswell Park community and to create a stronger community ethos. This involves providing Residents with useful information and interesting news, not only relating to the estate but from within Burntisland and the surrounding areas. It also provides the facility to communicate with the CPRA and enables feedback on community issues and initiatives. Comments and suggestions on how the CPRA could improve this service to Residents are welcome and can be sent as a private message to the Committee via "Contact us" or as a public message on our Guest Book.



Burntisland Highland Games

A dry and sunny Games Day kicked off with the annual reception for returning exiles in the Burgh Chambers, hosted by the Community Council. Bob Smith the Deputy Chairman, welcomed home returnees from Cyprus, South Africa and England. The traditional parade along the High Street to the games arena on the Links was led by the Burntisland & District Pipe Band and included the summer King and Queen, Fife Provost Jim Leishman and elected Fife Councillors, George Kay and Peter George. The games were opened at mid-day by Chieftain Dave Jeffreys and provided fantastic entertainment throughout the afternoon for the massive crowds that flocked to the town.

The highlight of the games was the Binn Race which attracted a record entry of over twenty and proved exciting to the finish with only a few paces separating first, Ben Portkus from second, Neil McNicol throughout the race. Thanks go to all sponsors and volunteers who contributed towards a very successful 361st Games.

The Binn Race



At the Summit



At the Finish



By **Scott Sweaton**

FAB have had an extremely busy few months ensuring that the town is looking its best for the summer months.

We took delivery of the plants, hanging baskets and additional planters at the beginning of June and the volunteers had a very busy couple of days putting everything in place.

Our new bowser has made the watering the hanging baskets much easier and is much less time consuming than last year.

Hopefully, the community is now starting to appreciate the improvements we have made. These include: the revamp of the bus stop at Collinwell, painting of the railings and planters on the Cowdenbeath Road, additional planters outside the Golf course, planters on the railings at the health centre, the painting of the railings, sponsored basket trees along the Links and the revamp of the Alexander monument on the Kinghorn Road. Our efforts are not solely to plant plants but also to enhance the overall look of the town. We have instigated a number of improvements such as the repair and replacement of benches throughout the town, tidying up the area outside the old cinema, painting of railings at the putting green on the Links and we have participated in clean ups of the coastal path and High Street.

This has only been made possible by all the hard work of our volunteers. Being a volunteer for FAB is a lot of fun and has created a number of close friendships within the group. We participated in this years Civic Week parade and one of our volunteers won a prize for their efforts in the fancy dress competition.

We continue to have close links with local groups including the school. A number of pupils assisted us in planting the boat on Cromwell Road.

We have entered the Beautiful Fife campaign after a few years of absence and for the very first time Burntisland is taking part in the Beautiful Scotland campaign. Both of these allow local bloom groups to "show off" their hard work and to identify future improvements.

The support we have received over the past year from fellow Burntislanders and local businesses has been very heartwarming.. Unfortunately, over the past few weeks some plants and a planter have been stolen. We would ask local residents to be vigilant. All volunteers wear reflective vests with the FAB logo so if somebody is 'fiddling' with our plants without a vest take a careful note any identifiable features, including vehicles and inform the police immediately.

We have received significant financial support from local businesses but we continue with fundraising efforts ourselves including bag packing at Asda. We will be holding a coffee morning in October. This year our project has cost almost £4,000 and we are constantly looking for financial support.

Check out our new website at www.burntislandfab.org

Plans for next year are already being discussed. If you want to help make Burntisland fabulous then please contact us through our website or by emailing us on floral-burntisland-action@hotmail.co.uk



Games Day



Pictures by Michael Booth



Letters to the Editor

The Sting

Re the comment made in issue 47 "Nae body reads the Buzz", well as a new resident to the area I'd just like to say I actually find it very informative and interesting, finding out about local business and history we appreciate the effort that is put into it being distributed in the area. Surely its encouraging local people how proud they should be of the area and what can be done to improve it. Thank you .

Irene Devlin

Hello,

After finally managing to buy our first home, our very first copy of the Buzz arrived through the letterbox yesterday. We are a young family (with a daughter aged 4 months) and have just moved into the area. It couldn't have arrived at a better time, knowing nobody and with myself at home all day with a baby, I was beginning to worry that I would feel isolated in a new location, not knowing anyone here.

I felt sad reading the questions posed in the Editorial Comments, suggesting that it is a waste of time to produce this. We decided to move to Burntisland because of the sense of community, the value of its street and the pride in its school. I think it is very easy for locals to take all this for granted, along with its Burgh Buzz. I implore you to keep reminding and involving people of their local community, if only for the fact that as new residents, we read the issue from cover to cover.

We now know of local events, a baby group for my daughter and myself, and the current issues affecting the area. I can only speak for our household,

Dear Bill

Don't let one empty [redacted] and the [redacted] of [redacted] editorial committee and volunteers.

We appreciate all the work, time and effort you and your team devote in Buzzing up the community. Slowly the Town is being energised by the Buzz. This can easily be seen by the steady increase in contributions from organisations and individual community members. Being a well informed community takes us forward.

An empty bucket/head just makes a nasty noise
Please keep up the good work

Ken & Helen Barrett

Hi Bill

I thought I would drop you a note rather than the bashing that is going on on facebook.

Firstly thank you and the team very much for the Buzz, it is a great publication and most welcomed when it arrives. Unfortunately, I was disappointed with the cover article this month. I felt it was very one sided never covered the opportunities that the new retail units could offer. There is talk of a cartel on the High Street and I think this article could fuel such rumour mongering. Again thank you for taking the time for creating and running the Buzz and hope that my feedback is well received.

Regards
Sanjoy

Bill,

I wished to contact you directly rather than on Facebook. For the record, I am for the Kirkton development for three principal reasons:-

1. I welcome inward investment into our town, in almost any shape or form. We're dying a slow death and I'll gladly accept a stimulus.
2. I believe that competent and attentive business owners have nothing to fear from new retail units. Whilst this represents the majority of Burntisland Traders I have a suspicion that there are a

small minority who either lack the drive or the edge to stay ahead of their competition and I do not think it is right to intervene on their behalf.

3. Finally, competition in the end has a beneficial effect on the consumer i.e. me.

My principal concern remains the biased article, however as has been noted on the Facebook page it has certainly provoked a strong debate, and in many ways that is the role of the Burgh Buzz.

Scott Brindley

Dear Editor,

With reference to your front page article "The Slowing Heartbeat", I would like to tender a different viewpoint:-

Not so long ago, the Kirkton area, which encompasses approximately a third of the population of Burntisland, had a thriving retail and business sector with Haxton, Blackhalls, Pops Store, Kirkton Dairy, Kirkton Laundry, Petrol Station, Joinery, Chip shop, Post Office (Grange Road), Leonard Hotel and Auld House - all now gone or closed. Previously I was against the new retail development but like most High Streets I now acknowledge that ours is in a natural decline. The previous, modernisation of the High Street has been an abysmal failure and major surgery is required to resuscitate it. Meanwhile the town of Burntisland is changing shape with the west side set to expand dramatically. I believe that objecting to this new retail initiative does more harm than good to Burntisland as a whole. We need to recognise this and find a compromise that encourages the regeneration of the Kirkton area to support this expansion. I welcome any initiative that builds on the example of David Sands, who revitalised the old Co-op so much that the Co-op bought their old shop back. This development could breathe new life back into the Kirkton area, bringing new jobs and 70 parking spaces.

By the way, the Kirkton also used to have its own public toilets but that is another story.

Regards
Gordon Langlands.

Dear Sir,

I read an article about disabled access at Burntisland Station and it prompted me to ask a few questions. First off, let me explain that I tend not to travel very often by train. Although, on my few journeys I have noticed some difference between stations in Fife.

1. Why are there no tactiles on the platforms at Burntisland? To the best of my observations every station between here and Edinburgh have them.

2. Why is there no proper parking area at Burntisland? Kirkcaldy, Markinch, Aberdour, Inverkeithing and even Dalgety Bay Rail Hault have dedicated parking.

3. Finally, why no disabled lift at Burntisland? Kirkcaldy and Markinch have them. I don't begrudge them their facilities but I would like to point out that both stations can be accessed from roads on either side.

4. Sorry, I almost forgot. Did Fife Council contribute any funding towards these refurbishments? Burntisland station has been refurbished twice to the best of my knowledge. I am sure that the daily commuters would be able to tell of the vast improvements made to the station better than I. However, there is an underpass under the rail track or has the Company responsible for the upkeep, no knowledge of it? Or have they conveniently forgotten it was there?

People may say that not many disabled people use Burntisland station. Well, how about giving them a chance?

Grumpy

BURNTISLAND HERITAGE EXHIBITION

"BURNTISLAND AT PLAY"

by Richard Hollingworth

This summer's Exhibition shows how Burntisland has enjoyed itself over the centuries. Back in 1652, there were horse races on the Links from which our present day Highland Games is the direct descendent. Burntisland has the 11th oldest Golf Club in the World. With a Cricket Club founded in 1886 and a Swimming Club dating from 1886 – long before the days of local swimming pools – Burntisland has a worthy place in the history of leisure activities. All these and many more clubs and societies are illustrated on panels prepared by Burntisland Heritage volunteers as usual to very highest standards.



Come into the world of Burntisland after the working day. There are the many football teams, rugby, archery, bowls, skating, tennis and curling. Then we have the clubs and organisations Masonic, Rural, Townswoman, Temperance, Speakers, drama, dance not to mention the various church and youth groups. The list goes on and poses the question how did we have time for all this? The exhibits have a lot of interesting pictures of the activities which are bound to stir memories in the older generations provoke questions from the younger.

The exhibition also has some superb displays by Primary 7 pupils at Burntisland from their project work on the organisations that they belong to in the community. In addition to this special Exhibition, Burntisland Heritage's many volumes of historical material and DVD's will be open for viewing by visitors.

Burntisland at Play is open until 31st August. The opening times are Wednesdays 1.00 to 4.00pm and Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays 11.00am to 4.00pm. Entrance is free.



Museum of Communications

By Dorothy Brankin

All our Yesterdays – Life before the Mobile! is the title of the Museum of Communication's latest exhibition in Burntisland. It is a nostalgic trip down 'Memory Lane' for our more mature visitors and an astonishing 'eye opener' for the young!

The phone-in-your-pocket that we all take for granted, has been around about 30 years now, but before the mobile, all these functions were performed by individual devices, invented or perfected many years ago. At the time, they seemed 'marvels of the age' and it was difficult to imagine how they could ever be improved.

Our Exhibition invites you to discover – or remember – how some of these old technologies worked. On display is a replica of Alexander Graham Bell's original telephone of 1876 (*made of oak – of course!*) alongside a 'Blackberry' its modern counterpart. Everything else on show can now be found in the mobile in your pocket...

We have examples of telephones from the 1890s through to a very early 'Mobile' of the '80s – known as 'The Brick' for obvious reasons! – and not forgetting the notorious 'Trimphone', which everyone remembers but nobody liked! Also included is our very popular working Strowger Telephone Exchange.

No mobile phone is complete without music – so we have various wind up Gramophones dating from the early 1900s to the teenagers' 'Must Have' portable record player of the 1960s - as well as a couple of 1890s Graphophones, complete with wax cylinders. Bring us your records and we'll play them for you!

We've also got the world's first Video Recorder on display. It dates from 1964, is the size of a large suitcase, Black+White, (only 2 channels were available at the time!) and cost a staggering £1,200 *More than a family car – and far more than the average annual salary!*

We take a look at Radio, with a few of our favourites, including a 1922 AJS, with valves sitting on the front; Wartime Civilian Receiver made out of plywood; a couple of very attractive Bakelite models from the '30s, a few 'trannies' and a 'pop-art' radio in the form of a 1928 Sports Car, whose spare wheel is the volume control!

Television also features and we pay tribute to John Logie Baird. On display is a kit version of the 'Televisor', Baird's first television set, dating from 1930. (The commercially produced Televisor was 'beyond the reach' of many purses, so you could buy the components in kit form and build them into your own case.)

Finally, we have a sort of 'catch-all' of many of the other components in your mobile phone: typewriters (*no delete button!*), adding machines, cameras, wire recorders - everything from Snakes and Ladders to computers... and the list is growing steadily and rapidly.

Additionally, we have lots of 'Hands-On!' equipment..... Signalling Lamps, Semaphore Flags, Morse Keys, Speaking Tubes, Phones, Railway Block Telegraphs.

The Exhibition is open every Wednesday and Saturday from 11.00 to 4.00 pm.

Admission costs £3 and includes refreshments in our upstairs cafe.




Civic Week Review Wendy Hawthorne

It was a case of third time lucky for the New Burntisland Civic Week team this year, when it did not “rain on their parade”. And for the first time they could host the Parade, ‘Party on the Links’ and events **outside**. The drier weather, earlier in the day had encouraged an abundance of family, friends and community groups to the historic royal crowning of Burntisland’s King, Caine Yeardley with his Queen Adele Shaw at the Burntisland Parish Church - a very regal affair indeed!

This was not the first outing for the ‘Royal Party’. In May, following the official announcement that Burntisland was to have “its first ever King”, a VIP reception was held at the historic Rossend Castle, courtesy of Hurd Rolland Partnership. The last Royal who had entered the walls previously was our very own Mary Queen of Scots. Cllr Jim Leishman, Provost of Fife was the guest of honour.

Of all the events throughout this festive week, my personal favourite, and the first one of the week was ‘The Improv Comedy Night’, based on a Radio then TV series “whose line is it anyway”. This was something straight out the eighties, witty, fast, funny and very, very silly...the only thing that was missing was the TV host ‘Clive Anderson’.

Burntisland’s adult vote for most popular event must be Des and the Dingos, after their absence last year due to illness. Des, the two Jimmie’s and Buddy had the crowd wild, with songs such as ‘Running Bear’ the “woo-woo-woo-woo” noise and audience actions were superb. The Star was positively jumping even with the brollies out; any rain was not going to dampen the crowd’s mood. Thanks go to Morag and her staff at The Star.

All the events this year went well, slight hiccup with the adult comedy evening, with a double booking at the venue...but you know us well, the Civic Week Committee soldiers on. Our Chairman, Morna  a personal thank you to all the people who held events this year with the hope and expectation that next year’s programme will be bigger and even more exciting. The “Burntisland Civic Week” Facebook page has become a real community page and all future updates will be posted there.

Of course Civic Week cannot happen without our many generous sponsors we extend our thanks to Business Gateway Fife – Celebrating Fife – Briggs Marine – Arnold Clark – Archway Metals – Myrtle Coffee – BH Plumbing & Heating – BiFab – Smart Electrics – Exxon Mobil – Hurd Rolland – Masonic lodge – Rotary – LDL Gas – Potter About and The Ink Shop for their programme design. Special thanks should also go to our Civic Week photographer Michael Booth whose pictures are reproduced throughout this issue.

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!





Pictures by Michael Booth



The Rotary Club of Burntisland And Kinghorn

By Simon Payne

Following on the success of our concert in the Old Kirk in May, the Club has been able to donate £1115 to Chest, Heart and Stroke Scotland, and also support two local lads – Alan Cunningham for his trip to the World TaeKwonDo Championships in Cyprus, and Josh Pritchard for his World Challenge visit to Bolivia next year with Balwearie - and much else besides, including funds to the Craigencaft Trust for a bench at the top of the newly-developed path to Rodanbraes. On July 9, newly installed President Simon Payne handed over a cheque for £1000 to Maureen Harrison from Sick Kids as a contribution to a state-of-the-art Gamma/CT scanner. The Club received a delightful photo and a letter of thanks from Burntisland Nursery for our donation of story books, and look forward to the challenge of organising yet another Charity Shop in October.

Anybody interested in being part of this service to our community – and having a bit of fun and fellowship too – is welcome to join us in the Sands at 6.45 on any Tuesday.



Burntisland Shipyard Amateurs

By Andrew Beveridge

Everyone at the Shipyard is looking forward to the new season kicking off on Saturday 10th

August as we enter our second season in the East of Scotland League. There have been huge changes to the structure with the new Lowland League kicking off this year. Although nine members off the East of Scotland League have joined the Lowland League, three have retained a side in the E.O.S. league and one new member has joined and that new member is none other than Hibernian FC. The set up will consist of a league of ten and a league of twelve. Hibs will run a predominantly youth team in the first division and it is a fixture that is already sparking great interest with orders already coming in for programmes when the match takes place.

It is our intention to be part of the pyramid structure at the start of the 2014/15 season so we will look to be part of the Lowland league set-up or a feeder league as we strive to attain our club license. As Myles begins his first full season in charge there are a few new faces in the squad with local boys Craig Lowe, Stuart Blake and Renato Sartarello being among them.

Last season our U/14's won their league championship going unbeaten through the whole league campaign. In what was a truly remarkable achievement, great credit must go to all the players, coach David Costello and the rest of his team. The boys were invited to a national champion's tournament at the end of the season and although they only managed a draw in one of their three games, which was against the eventual winners of the tournament, they more than held their own against top opposition from throughout Scotland. This coming season the boys will be playing U/15's football and they will now be playing on a Saturday morning.

We are delighted to see the youth development continue to thrive as the number of kids participating keeps growing, as does the number of coaches putting them through their paces. At the Civic week 5 aside competitions it was great to see over eighty Shipyard kids taking part.



News from the Swimming Club

by Yvonne Coull

Novice and Fife Leagues: Congratulations to the following who got speed flashes in this Novice League: Aimee Forbes 25m Back and Louise Nimmo 25m Fly. This means that they cannot swim this stroke/distance in the Novice League again and will have to move up to the Fife Leagues in the afternoon. Congratulations to all who got PBs, again there is an impressive list from both the Novice and Fife Leagues. A new club record was set in the Fife Leagues by Greg Turner for 200m Breast.

Scottish National Age Groups: Royal Commonwealth Pool on 10-14 April. Well done to Greg Turner and Catherine Comrie who both swam at this National event. They both swam well, Greg swimming in 7 events and Catherine in 5 events, achieving a new club record for her 100m Fly in 1:22:08.

Scottish Masters Short Course: Scotstoun on 19/20 April. Craig Nimmo swam 2 events gaining a PB for his 200m IM in the Mens' 40-44 age group.

Aquanauts Graded Meet: Bathgate pool on 28 April. Hayley Nimmo finished 5th out of 24 swimmers in the 11-12yrs 400m Free and in the 13-14yrs Catherine Comrie won a gold medal for her 200m Breast and a silver medal for her 400m Free, setting a new club record for the latter event. Well done girls!

Civic Week: As part of Civic Week the club ran two events – the Skins Competition and the Civic Week Sprints. In the skins competition the swimmers pick their stroke out of a hat for each round – not knowing what they will be swimming. The slowest swimmers are eliminated. It was great fun and produced some surprising results! Backstroke and Freestyle were the two events run for the Civic Week sprints and great fun was had by all! The club also took part in the parade.

In other areas there has been early morning Sunday swimming at Stirling and this is happening on a regular basis, some swimmers have been away to the Fife Performance Summer Camp and more club records were broken at the Incas Meet. Some of the masters have taken part in the summer Wednesday night swims in Lochore Meadows Country Park! The club is having a summer outing to Blair Drummond Safari Park in August.

There is always something on the go of interest to everyone, junior, top squad and masters why not check out our activities by going to the website

<http://www.burntislandswimmingclub.co.uk/>

New membership enquiries are always welcome.

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11th Fife -1st Burntisland Scout Group



The Beavers have had a very busy few months.

On Saturday morning we hiked to Aberdour castle with a stopover at the Silver Sands cafe where each beaver was kindly donated an ice cream cone by the owners.

In May we visited RSPB Loch Leven where they learned about wildlife conservation and the country code.

In June we had a sandcastle competition at Burntisland Beach. After the competition, 7 Beavers were awarded their Bronze Chief Scout Award, the highest award a beaver can achieve. We also had 13 beavers attend the Civic Week Parade dressed in a variety of Animal costumes.

On top of these outings the beavers have been working on their Fitness Challenge Badge where they have learned about healthy & unhealthy foods and the benefits of keeping fit.



Cubs have worked on their Global Challenge to tie in with two leaders going to Estonia to do their Explorer Belt. They produced a letter to Estonian Cubs to make a possible international link. 9 Cubs Attended the Fast Forward Camp at Fordell Firs Scottish Head Quarters. 13 Cubs attended Balmorie to participate in District Athletics Badge. 21 Cubs attended Civic Week Parade. 20 Cubs have been canoeing on Kinghorn Loch. We are also going to Lochore Meadows to do Bellboating to attain Water Activities Badges.

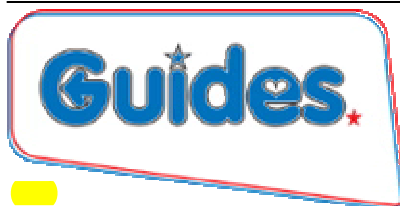
This term, Scouts have been working on their Creative Challenge and Artist Activity Badges. We have also done a back to basics camp at Wemyss and did Fast Forward Camp at Fordell.

We took 24 Scouts to Fordell Firs for an activity night which they did abseiling, archery, the wall and caving. 22 Scouts did kayaking at Kinghorn Loch both of which form part of their adventure Challenge Badge.



Explorers have taken part in shooting and archery and are planning a canoeing session at Kinghorn Loch.

The children have had cooking evenings and have passed their First Aid Four. There have taken part in camping and other events run by the District. By August we are planning to have completed a Duke of Edinburgh Bronze expedition and in the new term will look to improve and finalise a plan for the next generation of D of E bronze and silvers. The young leaders have worked hard performing active roles within the group over the last term. We are looking forward to the same success with the next rotation of young leaders.



1st Burntisland Guides

Last December, 1st Burntisland Guides, Brownies and Rainbows held a Charity Coffee evening - the girls decided after much discussion that the proceeds should be donated to Rachel House, Guide Dogs for the Blind Burntisland First Aid

Services Trust.

The Guides went to see Cinderella at the Lyceum Theatre in Edinburgh - not the panto but a modern version of the fairy tale, with amusing outcomes. Throughout the term we have taken part in activities to mark Burns Day and Pancake Day; we've run a Beetle Drive; made Mother's Day cards and gifts as well as Easter cards and cakes. After Easter we worked on the Fire safety Badge and visited the local Fire station.

Rainbows, Brownies and Guides took part in the Civic week parade- made our costumes and won 1st prize with our "Girl Guiding Garden" - we sampled a "Canoe Taster session" at Kinghorn loch followed by a barbeque - and great fun was had by all at Summer camp at Balmullo. The girls also assisted Floral Action Burntisland with planting flowers and are maintaining a planter during the summer.



Brownies

of lovely things including Mexico challenge, when they performed the Mexican hat dance and had nachos for snacks.



3rd Burntisland Brownies

At Christmas time the Erskine Brownies had a night out at the cinema in Dunfermline to see 'The Rise of the Guardians', which was enjoyed by girls and leaders alike. January the girls worked on their Crafts badge and made lots of Valentines cards and Mothers day gifts. They also did a



During the Easter Holidays we had a Teddy Bear themed sleep over in the Erskine Church Hall when the girls completed a Teddy Bear challenge badge. We did bear-themed quizzes and puzzles, made a pencil topper and a book mark, baked cup cakes and decorated them as pandas - but as it was so cold the teddy bears picnic had to be held indoors.

After the Easter Holidays the girls took part in Sainsbury's Active Kids Challenge – a six week programme of fun activities aimed at promoting fitness

This year's Thinking Day event was held on February 25th at the Parish Church Halls. To celebrate, we held an international 'Campfire'. Each of the Units practiced and performed a song, dance or poem from countries around the world. The Parish Church Brownies, representing Turkey treated us to a display of belly dancing; the Kinghorn Brownies (Switzerland) sang Edelweiss; and the Parish Rainbow group, who had chosen Korea, gave a lively performance of Gangnam Style! A good time was had by all. Now it's the summer holidays and a well earned rest before it all starts again in August.

Parents of girls interested in Rainbows, Brownies or Guides can now register to join on www.girlguiding.org.uk, and use the 'Join us' section.



775 (Burntisland) Squadron Air Training Corps

It has been a busy 3 months for the cadets and staff at the Squadron. All the new cadets have completed their First Class training and have also passed a HartStart course.

Cadet Corporal Alasdair Stuart has gained an Edexcel BTEC Level 2 extended certificate in Music with Distinction. Cpl Stuart is a member of the Scotland & Northern Ireland Region Pipe band. Cadets Cameron Hobbett and Ryan McMillan have gained an Edexcel BTEC Level 1 certificate in Teamwork and Personal Skills.

From 02 to 11 April, Cadet Corporal Alasdair Stuart was one of twenty cadets from Scotland & Northern Ireland region who attended the Easter camp at RAF Akrotiri in Cyprus. During the camp the cadets took part in many activities.

Cadets Jade Dover, Cameron Hobbett, Benjamin Thomson, Lana Walker and Adult Sergeant Parter attended the summer camp at RAF Halton from 06 to 13 July. The camp provided the cadets with opportunities to take part in: sports, swimming, marksmanship, a night exercise, a visit to the imperial war museum, work experience and section visits and one lucky cadet from 775 took part in an air experience flight in a merlin helicopter. From 28 July to 06 August Cadet Sergeant A Stewart is one of 10 cadets from Scotland & Northern Ireland region who will attend a camp at Troodos in Cyprus.

775 (Burntisland) Squadron are recruiting cadets. To join ,you must be between 13 and 17 years old. As a cadet you'll have the opportunity to do things that others only dream about. Want real flight experience? No problem. How about heading out on adventure training and camps, sometimes overseas? Normal for cadets. Competitive sports, drill, shooting, music, abseiling, engineering projects? Our list of activities is long, varied and open to all cadets. Yes it's a challenge, but that's what life's all about.

The Squadron meets on Monday and Thursday evenings from 18:45 to 21:30 in the Unity Hall which is at the junction of Links Place and East Leven Street.



Cadet Lana walker on the high ropes course

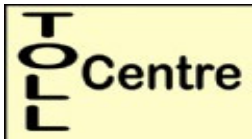


Free Family Summer Fun Saturday 24th August, 12pm-4pm,

Come along to The Ecology Centre's annual Summer Fun day at Kinghorn Loch and enjoy a great day out with all the family. Entrance is **FREE** to this fun event thanks to support from Scottish Natural Heritage and the Big Lottery.

Children will be kept amused by the many activities on offer including **pond dipping**, **storytelling** and **wildlife walks** as well as **arts and craft** activities. For adults we have some interesting taster **workshops** as well as some great **live music**. A tasty **Puddledub BBQ** will be on offer on the day for those feeling a little peckish as well as some light refreshments.

We look forward to seeing you on what we hope will be a gloriously sunny day at Kinghorn Loch!



The Toll Centre opened in 1975 and provides a home for a wide range of community activities in Burntisland. Many people think the centre belongs to Fife Council, however it is actually owned by the people of Burntisland and managed by a small voluntary committee, along with the help of 5 paid members of staff who all work part time.

The Centre was originally formed out of Youth Clubs Burntisland, and there is still a real focus on providing services for children and young people. The Playgroup and Burntisland Out of School Service are both based at the Toll, along with evening youth clubs, football coaching, Taekwon-do and Gymnastics.

However, there are also lots of activities for 'more mature' Burntislanders – from computer classes and job club, to Tai-Chi and the Wednesday Social Club.

Recently the Centre worked with Colinsburgh Community Cinema to set up a 'BIG SCREEN' showing of Brave – this was really popular and there are now plans underway to make the 'Toll Cinema Experience' a regular part of the programme of activities from this autumn.

Other events that people can look forward to include a family barbeque on 28th July, and a quiz night on 24th August, along with more of the ever popular kids discos.

As well as the activities organised by the Toll Committee, there a number of rooms available for private let – including the main hall and a new meeting room. The Ramsay Budd suite has been upgraded and, thanks to a grant that BOSS received from Kirkcaldy Kaners, the old shower room has been removed and the room is now much larger, lighter and brighter.

The Centre is financially supported to some extent by grants from Fife Council, but now relies more than ever on grants from other organisations, private lets, and fund raising to meet running costs. There is a 50/50 club that allows people the chance to win a cash prize every month – forms are available at the Toll Centre and on our website www.tollcentre.org.uk.

If you would like any information about the Toll Centre, whether you'd like to rent a room or join the committee (including helping with the Cinema Experience), take part in any activities or the 50/50 club, please pop in, call the Centre on 872854 or email tollcentre@hotmail.co.uk.



Burntisland Makes Fair Trade History Again!



Over a two day period, Sunday 19th & Monday 20th May, Burntisland made a little bit of Fair Trade history as The British Association for Fair Trade Shops & Suppliers (BAFTS), a national Fair Trade retail & wholesale organisation, held its AGM in Burntisland.

This was an important first for BAFTS and Burntisland as they have never held an AGM in Scotland before and as such was much appreciated by members and guests from as far afield as Devon & Kenya!

A speaker from the Scottish Fair Trade Forum, Director Martin Rhodes, welcomed BAFTS to Scotland, which is only the second Fair Trade Nation in the world, and provided much “food for thought” with his vision of the way forward for Fair Trade in our country.

The event brought together businesses (importers & retailers) from all over the UK as well as one from Kenya to discuss ways in which they, as individual businesses/organisations, can work more collaboratively to promote Fair Trade throughout the UK. A truly international event indeed!

All in all it was an excellent meeting & will allow the BAFTS members to work more closely together to further their aims in Fair Trade throughout the UK and in developing countries.



The BAFTS Board

Events Diary

AUGUST

| | | |
|----------------|---|-----------------|
| Friday 9th | Community Council Meeting in Burgh Chambers | 7.00 pm |
| Wednesday 14th | Burntisland Station Regeneration Group Meeting at The Toll Centre | 6.30 pm |
| Saturday 24th | Family Summer Fun Day (Free) at the Ecology Centre, Kinghorn Loch | 12.00 - 4.00 pm |

SEPTEMBER

| | | |
|---------------|--|----------------|
| Wednesday 4th | Police Community Engagement Meeting at the Pettycur Bay Hotel | 7.00 pm |
| Friday 13th | Community Council Meeting in Burgh Chambers | 7.00 pm |
| Saturday 28th | Family Music and Storytelling Festival at the Earthship, Kinghorn Loch | 6.00 - 9.00 pm |

OCTOBER

| | | |
|---------------|---|---------|
| Wednesday 3rd | Police Community Engagement Meeting at the Pettycur Bay Hotel | 7.00 pm |
| Friday 12th | Community Council Meeting in Burgh Chambers | 7.00 pm |

NOVEMBER

| | | |
|---------------|---|--------------------|
| Tuesday 5th | Bonfire and Fireworks Display on the Links | From 6.00pm onward |
| Wednesday 6th | Police Community Engagement Meeting at the Pettycur Bay Hotel | 7.00 pm |

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Burntisland Parish Church

by Rev Alan Sharpe

We had a great Sunday on the 23rd June with the Young Church prize giving - really good to see children being brought by parents who are coming to the church. We heard about the fun they had the previous day at Inchcolm - apart from one wee lad being [redacted] by a seagull - its aim was very good! We also had three folks joining the church that morning, another lady joined on Wednesday morning, and another on Sunday evening at our Solid Rock services. It was enormously encouraging to see them being welcomed into the fellowship of the church. We have also had a lot of folks join over the last few months, especially young families, having the praise band at the start of the service and running messy church is having an impact.

The top hall is being done up over the Summer - windows are being replaced, the floor is being polished up, and the hall and corridors are being redecorated. A survey is being done on the church (issues with rising damp) its great to have a wonderful historic church building - apart from the maintenance. The church is open in the afternoons over the summer but it is really best to see it in action on Sunday at 11am!

We have a joint Holiday with Erskine coming up - look out for Space Cadets for children (mornings at Erskine) and an afternoon outdoor teenage holiday event, Touchdown, from 5-9 August.

In the Autumn we will be running Alpha Courses, jointly with Kinghorn - evenings or afternoons and we will explain God, Jesus, and the meaning of life.

Pastoral Care Visitors Group

On April 23rd, Mrs. Mary Thane of 1 Fairfax Court, was guest of honour at the Parish Church Pastoral Care Group annual afternoon tea and entertainment function held in the Parish Church Hall. Mrs Thane was presented with a card and a bouquet of pink roses to celebrate her 99th Birthday which fell on that day.

The Pastoral Care Visitors Group started in 1995 when a few members of the congregation met to discuss how they could keep in touch with members no longer able to attend church. The group now comprises of 18 ladies and 4 gentlemen who visit the housebound, semi-housebound, elderly and people who live alone or who have been ill. Members also visit sheltered housing, Links View Care Home and care homes in Kinghorn, Kirkcaldy and Glenrothes where people from Burntisland are resident.

Generally, visits which are organized by the Group coordinator, Mrs Ann Smith, are requested by family, friends, Church Elders, or the Minister.

Most visits are one to one but the group contains one married couple and two ladies who perform their visits together. These are social visits, usually every two

weeks, and many friendships have been formed as a result.

The social afternoon is held every April in the church hall with afternoon tea and entertainment. Invitations are delivered to members of the community and there are usually between sixty and seventy guests. For those who need transport the pastoral visitors collect and return them home by car. The hall [redacted] baking, food preparation, serving and clearing up is carried out entirely by the pastoral visitors.

The other big event in the group calendar is the delivery of Christmas gifts. Last Christmas [redacted] pastoral visitors delivered 86 gifts to senior members of the community.

If you know of anyone who would like a home visitor or would like their name added to our social afternoon list, please contact Mrs Ann Smith, 96 Dick Crescent, or telephone 873994.



Afternoon Tea



Mrs Thane, Ann Smith and Aneris Grant

News from St Joseph's by Nan Kelly



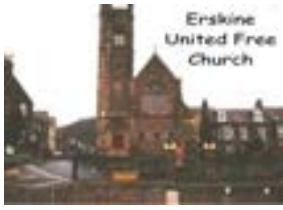
On Friday the [redacted]th June, St Joseph's 200 club held a [redacted] for all members and friends to celebrate reaching the impressive milestone of £50,000 raised over the last eight years. All this money has gone towards repaying the loan from the archdiocese for the upgrading or

should we say, the transformation of the church building.

Although the night was cool, divine intervention ensured that the rain stayed away and a great night as had by all.

The organisers of the 200 Club, Phil and Judith Barton, presented Father Capaldi with a cheque for £2,000 being the funds raised in year nine.





Erskine enters the Space Age! by Alexander Ritchie

Minister : Erskine Church

The last few days have proved to me that sometimes the sun really does shine here in Fife, and as we wait for Games Day this coming Monday, let's pray the great weather continues!

Anyway the first full week in August promises to be quite exciting at Erskine Church as we have our holiday club for kids of primary school age. This year it's called *Space Academy*, combining lots of fun facts, games & activities on a space age theme, with the Bible's story about Daniel. That's the guy who managed to survive the challenge of living far away from home in Babylon, remote from his familiar way of life, but still with a strong faith in God. It's a great story from the Old Testament, we all know Daniel & the lions' den from Sunday School.

The hall will be suitably decorated to simulate a NASA-style flight deck, the vessel will be fully manned with captain, officers & crew ready for blast off each morning. It all sounds a bit Star Trek or Star Wars, but each day should be fun and it will certainly keep Rev. Alan Sharp very happy indeed to pretend that he is boldly exploring the edge of the universe!

Dates for *Space Academy* are [redacted] on 10.30am till 12.30pm, in the Erskine halls. A team of 5 young people will be here from the United Free Church to lead the week, ably assisted by local volunteers from Burntisland Parish & Erskine congregations. All children of primary school age are very welcome to come along, there's no charge for the week either. Please make kids aware that this week is taking place, just before they start thinking about school again. Many thanks!

We are delighted that a mime & drama team from the US is also coming for two weeks to Burntisland & Kinghorn. The group has visited the area a number of times before, and the young people give a very powerful message through their performance media. They are joining us as a partnership between Burntisland & Kinghorn Parish Churches and Erskine. Look out for them during the first couple of weeks in August. They have a busy schedule.

The Bible tells us that Daniel lived in an exemplary way, he was a very high-ranking official in the royal court, and those who wanted to undermine his position could find nothing to use against him. The only thing they could say was that he prayed faithfully to his God each day, remaining strong in his beliefs, even though that was against the law of the land in Babylon. Surely a great example to any age of what faith is, and how we have to be faithful in our faith, every single day, 24/7.

Diary dates: Coffee morning from 10am on **Saturday 24 August** in Erskine halls
Evening service @ 6.30pm on **Sunday 29 September** in Erskine halls.

I hope you enjoy the rest of this summer...



St Serf's Episcopal Church

On the 30th of June the ABI Group said a sad farewell to Revd Val Nellist. She has now retired local ministry but will still be involved in many Diocesan events so we will still see her about.

Until a replacement has been found for Val I have been given the charge of the three churches. If there are events at Burntisland to which you would normally invite Val please do not hesitate to contact me on 01383 861283 or at stirzaker776@btinternet.com. As I am myself retired I do not promise I will be able to attend everything but if at all

possible I will.

In the meantime St. Serf's Sunday Service will continue to be at 9.30am and our Tuesday Service will remain at 11.00. I will be in church from 10.30 on Tuesdays so if you would like an opportunity to look around our beautiful church please do not hesitate to call in for a chat.

If you see me about in Burntisland please say hello it would be good to get to get to know people.

With Best Wishes and Prayers.

Revd Maureen Stirzaker.

News from Sustainable Communities Initiatives:

Festival Fun with no Fossil Fuels!

Come and celebrate the beginning of Autumn at the Earthship Fife Visitor Centre. The Earthship is hosting an off-grid music and storytelling festival for families on Saturday 28th September (6-9pm).

Adults and families are invited to come along to listen to musicians and storytellers sharing Autumnal songs, music and stories, all powered by the Centre's renewable energy from the sun, wind and stream.

The *Earthship Fife Visitor Centre* by Kinghorn Loch is a unique building based on the principles of thermal mass and solar gain made out of earth-rammed tyres and other waste materials.

The Doorstep Bakery, Fife Diet and St Andrews Brewing Company will be providing their delicious local food and drink at this beautiful and relaxing setting beside Kinghorn Loch. Suggested donation for event: £5/adult, children free.

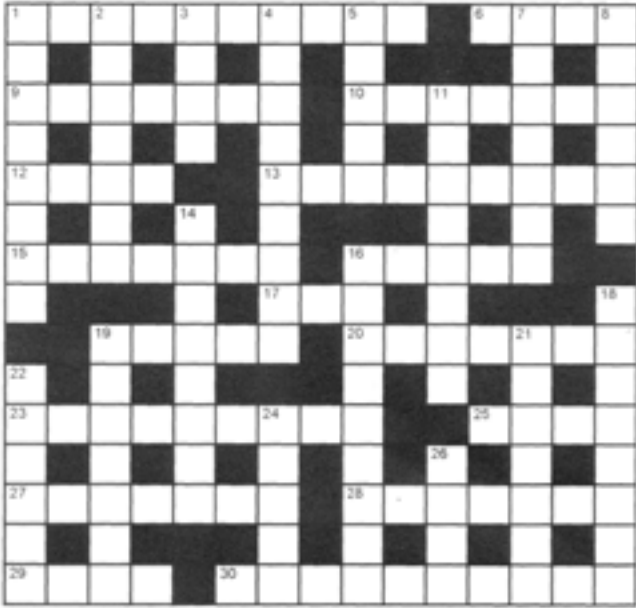
Ecovillage update

After a long wait it is hoped the planning application for the Ecovillage development at the Widows Land will be considered at the next Planning Committee at the end of August.

For further information contact: Louise, SCI at the Earthship, tel: 01592 891884 or

email: inquiry@sci-scotland.org.uk

THE PRIZE CROSSWORD



Solution to May crossword:

ACROSS 1 Sweetheart, 5 Gang, 9 Uneath, 10 La Scala, 12 Heat, 13 Bossa Nova, 15 Attempt, 16 Agree, Ebb, 19 Scald, 20 Uncover, 23 Astounded, 25 Anti, 27 Torpedo, 28 Niagara, 29 Reel, 30 Speechless
DOWN 1 Southpaw, 2 Elegant, 3 Tarn, 4 Exhibited, 5 Rules, 7 A la Mode, 8 Graham, 11 Shamrock, 14 Immature, 16 Abundance, 19 Set free, 21 Vintage, 22 Faster, 24 Droop, 26 Rash

Across

- 1 Attacked by arson (10)
- 6 Bad day for Caesar (4)
- 9 Stop (7)
- 10 Washington river (7)
- 12 Unemployment money (4)
- 13 One on the wagon (9)
- 15 Condiment (7)
- 16 R. Crusoe author (5)
- 17 — Sayer (Singer) (3)
- 19 King James' book (5)
- 20 Store for solid fuel (7)
- 23 Local big town (9)
- 25 Poker Stake (4)
- 27 Saturday & Sunday (7)
- 28 Poisonous weed (7)
- 29 Baby biscuit (4)
- 30 Easily recognized (10)

Down

- 1 Mine hazard (8)
- 2 Singapore hotel (7)
- 3 Good (Scots) (4)
- 4 Roughly treat (9)
- 5 Trade displays (5)
- 7 Dominie (Scots) (7)
- 8 Obtain or make safe (6)
- 11 Ayellow flower (8)
- 14 Outdoor cooking (8)
- 16 Local industry (9)
- 18 To disconcert (8)
- 19 Jubilee's other trade! (7)
- 21 Scottish oat biscuit (7)
- 22 Metal spike for meat (6)
- 24 Gatehouse (5)
- 26 Leer or stare at (4)

Answers in the next issue of the Buzz

Name.....

Address.....

Telephone.....

First correct entry drawn will win a £25.00 voucher donated by Shell U.K. Ltd. Send completed entries by [redacted] to:

The Editor - 39 The Wynd, Dalgety Bay - KY11 9SG

May Crossword winner is:

**Mrs Ann Smith
 Dick Crescent
 Burntisland**

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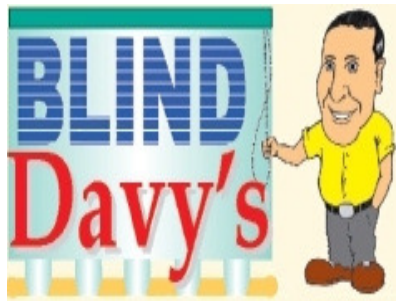
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