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# BURGH BUZZ

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## CAROLE-ANNE PATERSON is 2016'S CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

**A**s is traditional on Hogmanay, Burntisland Community Council have announced that the Burntisland Community Award has been won by **Carole -Anne Paterson**. Every year, the Community Council presents the award to an individual who has provided outstanding service to the local community and Carole - Anne very ably fits that bill.



Carole -Anne works tirelessly in the community helping all manner of organisations with fundraising and promotional activities. She has a particular connection to the Guides and Youth Theatre groups. She can often be found painting scenery, producing backdrops and posters and decorating shop windows wherever her artistic skills are required. Last year she was particularly busy working on murals in both the old and the new primary school.

Her talents are endless and she is well suited to her role as a Community Ambassador for the Co-operative store in Burntisland High Street, where she has worked for several years. In that capacity she has led her colleagues in raising many hundreds of pounds for various local charities.

She is a truly energised, multi-talented and inspiring individual who seeks only the very best for her local community and strives endlessly for that purpose. Carole-Anne will be presented formally with her award early in the New Year.

### Community Council Play Project by Morag Douglas

**T**hroughout last year a group comprising members of the community council, local councillors and other interested individuals has been working hard to improve the range and quantity of play equipment currently available on the Links. The project has been split into two parts, the first to enhance the East end of the links with the addition of inclusive play equipment and the second to replace the equipment that was removed from the Spider Park.

The East Links part of the project is led by a local parent Claire Masterton who originally raised her concern that the existing park is of such a complex nature that children with disabilities cannot play there. She says "It is very sad to see that children with disabilities are unable to join in and play with their friends, siblings and peers. Play is such an important part of a child's life and goes a long way to building friendships, breaking barriers and reducing stigma. To have Fife's first Inclusive Play Park will be a fantastic boost to Burntisland. She has had great support from the whole community with funds being raised by the Brownies, Rainbows and Guides, Burntisland Primary School, and the church as well as individual fundraising activities and personal donations including one from local MP Roger Mullen. Claire has also applied for countless grants and is edging ever closer to her target but all further support and donations will still be gratefully received.

The Spider Park has got off to a bit of a slower start as in order to start raising money a set of plans had to be drawn up which required consultation and time to make sure they reflected the needs and wishes of the community. I am pleased to say that we have finally decided on the plans. You can see the artist's impression on page 9 that we have managed to squeeze in a swing which the children really wanted. The project comes in at just under £56,000 and Fife Council have stumped up the first £10,000 so the next step is to begin the process of grant applications and fundraising to acquire the rest of the money. Hopefully this won't take too long and the children will soon be able to enjoy their fantastic new play equipment and as with the East Links project all donations and support will be gratefully received.

*Turn to page nine for artist's impression of new Spider Park*

# BURNTISLAND'S COMMUNITY PAPER

**Featuring** *Local issues . organisations . events . people and more ....*

## EDITORIAL

From the Deputy Editor—Paul Briscoe

As we begin a New Year we think back to how 2015 ended. The abnormal amount of rainfall that caused such havoc in the Lake District and Yorkshire before a week later inundating Aberdeenshire, Dumfriesshire, Perthshire and the Borders was constantly on the news. We can consider ourselves fortunate that Fife, relatively speaking, did not suffer the flooding that befell so many properties and businesses all over the North and Scotland. Global warming or El Nino to blame? To the persons who has lost their homes and possessions it is of small consequence. Even if they were adequately insured and a lot of people were not, the loss of personal items such as photographs, documents, memorabilia and personal items can't be covered by insurance. They are quite simply irreplaceable.

Closer to home - the remarkable work done by Pat Hanson in her involvement with the local foodbank is to be highly commended, but it does beg the obvious question of why, in one of the most developed countries in the world, do we have to resort to charity to basically feed people?

On a brighter note the mild winter so far is pushing spring bulbs into early blooming and some plants, which normally die back over winter are continuing to flower and show signs of growth.

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### The Churches

20—21

St Serf's Scottish Episcopal Church  
St. Joseph's, RC Church  
Burntisland Parish Church

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# 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 or to raise matters of interest to them. A summary of issues raised during the last two meetings is set out below.

- Thanks are due to the Links Showmen who have once again sponsored the reception on Games Day.
- A small sub-committee has been set up to focus on how best to raise additional funds to help support the other civic receptions, such as Scots Verse, Community Award and Remembrance Sunday.
- Thanks to the initiative of John Bradshaw, Fife Council will be erecting "Royal Burgh" signposts at the entrances to the town.
- Thanks to ExxonMobil at Mossmorran, senior citizens were guests at two pantomimes and also a Burns Lunch.
- A contract has been signed with INEOS at Grangemouth to ensure the supply of ethane to ExxonMobil using existing pipelines and thereby extending the life of the plant.
- Work has now been completed to repair the flooding at Cowdenbeath Road which had caused several car accidents.
- We've had an early discussion with Scott Sweatton of Floral Action Burntisland regarding the possibility of developing a community garden at the Links.
- We have opened discussions with the relevant Fife Council officials on the continuing evolution of a Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Castle area.
- The Town Clock chimes have been restored to normal operation, pending reconstruction of the tower at some point in the future.
- Following the success of the Community Futures survey, an application has been made to Fife Council for the release of funds to produce a Community Action Plan.
- Both of the play park projects on the Links are progressing well, with Morag Douglas and Claire Campbell working flat out to get the best results.
- We gave evidence in support of an application for an extra pharmacy in Burntisland, to be located at the old Palace Cinema site. However, the NHS panel refused the application. We are awaiting sight of their reasons, but it is very likely that the applicant will appeal.
- Work is in hand to manage the overgrowth at the Lammerlaws.
- We have responded constructively but critically to a questionnaire from Police Scotland seeking our views on their current organisational effectiveness.
- Thanks to John Bruce, two bins have been located near to the breakwater for holding discarded fishing tackle.
- At the last Council Meeting the nominated Citizen of the Year was a very popular and well deserved recipient - Carole-Anne Paterson who will receive her award in early February.

## Your Community Council

Burntisland Community Council (BCC) is elected every four 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: John Bradshaw  
Treasurer: John Russell  
Secretary: Gordon Langlands  
Minutes Secretary: George McLauchlan

Members:  
Christine Dewar Tim Hailey  
Bruce Stuart Morag Douglas  
John Bruce Ben Barron  
Colin Fraser Billy Symington  
Lesley-Anne Cronin  
Lesley Backhouse

### Elected Fife Councillors' Availability

#### Councillor George Kay

Telephone 01592 874920

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

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Councillor Susan Leslie

Cllr Leslie holds her surgeries in Burntisland Burgh Chambers directly before Community Council meetings on the second Friday of every month at 6.15pm, except for April and October.

Telephone 01592 643703

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

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Councillor Peter George

Burntisland Surgery - First Saturday of the month (excepting July)  
12.30 - 1.00 pm in the Burntisland Public Library

Telephone 01592 583101

Email: [petergeorge@fife.gov.uk](mailto:petergeorge@fife.gov.uk)

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## Burntisland Buzz

Next Issue - May 2016

Copy Deadline: 15th April

All contributions to the Editor by email or by snail mail.



## The Burgh Polis

By PC Ross Masterton



Bryan and I would like to start by wishing everyone "all the best" for 2016. Hopefully you will have more will power than me when it comes to New Year resolutions.

On a more serious note, following the increase in anti-social behaviour an action plan was implemented between mid-October and the end of November. This operation involved the deployment of additional resources including The Alcohol and Violence Reduction Unit of Fife Division and patrols by the Campaign Against Violence staff. Mobile CCTV units were also deployed and with the valued assistance and cooperation of the community we have achieved a very positive outcome. Some 25 crimes were reported during the period (9 Vandalisms, 9 Assaults and 7 public disorder offences) A total of 21 calls were received relating to anti-social behaviour, mostly involving youths and 12 related to a very busy Halloween. Known offenders have been targeted by the imposition of bail and curfew conditions through the courts and mobile surveillance cameras have been deployed at strategic locations. We thank the public for information which has helped us to identify offenders and urge you to continue to assist in this way.

We have also reacted positively to information relating to drug dealing in the vicinity of Burntisland High Street resulting in the recent seizure of cannabis to the value of £1,000.

The problem of speeding motorists in both Burntisland and Kinghorn was raised at a recent Community Engagement meeting. Bryan and I will be out with the speed gun at identified black spots so please be mindful of your speed.

Finally, if you have any reason whatsoever to contact a member of the community team, you can do so by dialling 101 or emailing Bryan or myself on either of the following email addresses:

[Ross.masterton@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Ross.masterton@scotland.pnn.police.uk)  
[Bryanweir@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Bryanweir@scotland.pnn.police.uk)



### POLICE SCOTLAND AWARD FOR LISA MCLEAN

On the evening of 11th November another successful anti-knife crime seminar was held at The Kingswood Hotel. Guests included Frank Mulholland The Lord Advocate, Danny O'Brien, BCa (Founder of AntiknifeUK), Angela McLaren (Local Police Commander), Julie Anderson, Burntisland Primary Head Teacher, and her Deputy Head, Emma Clunie. The evening agenda contained a series of anti-knife crime topics for educational purposes to make everyone aware of the consequences and impact of knife crime. We need to ensure that our streets and town are safe from knife crime.

At the conclusion Lisa McLean was presented her Police Scotland Award for her ongoing and dedicated message of anti knife crime, which she has been delivering to local schools and youth organisations.



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**MOC News** by Dorothy Brankin

*Happy New Year* to everyone from all of us at the Museum of Communication !

We're now busily back at work and planning our exhibition and general programme for 2016. We'll be doing our usual school visits and are already booked to take part in the Orkney Science Festival later in the year. Although we'd originally intended our *'Flanders Fields'* WW1 exhibition to last just 2 years, the enthusiasm, very positive feedback and enquiries from our many visitors, has led us to stick with this theme and simply update it as we go!

One hundred years ago, in 1916, violent land battles raged in Verdun and on the Somme. During the year, the Tank – with a maximum speed of 4 mph, made its impressive, lumbering debut. It was originally designed to provide cover for attacking infantry – hence the 'walking pace' maximum speed. (Its formal name was *Land Ship*, but it was nick-named *'Tank'*, as it looked a bit like a vast water tank and also, so that the workforce didn't know what they were constructing!)

The Battle of Jutland in May 1916, was the only major naval conflict of the war and although something of a stalemate, was proclaimed a victory by both sides. All these events will be marked and examined in depth, in our 2016 exhibition.

Another milestone event in 1916, was Scotland's first ever air-raid (carried out in April, over Edinburgh, by two Zeppelins). The airships were attempting to bomb the port of Leith, but met with hostile gunfire. They immediately turned inland and started discharging their load, blowing up a Whisky Bond - and thereby illuminating much of the city - in the process. A further 24 bombs were dropped on the Capital, causing 11 deaths and 24 injuries, as well as much damage to public and private property – including hotels and a railway station. Alas, some naive inhabitants ran into the streets to watch the bombs fall – with disastrous consequences!

The airships apparently encountered only 'desultory machine-gun fire from the southern slopes of Arthur's Seat'. However, the authorities were seriously rattled by the attack and this led directly to the setting up of three airfields, in Gilmerton, Colinton and Turnhouse, which, undoubtedly, twenty years later, saved very many lives.

Footnote:

The mighty Zeppelin had a maximum speed of 53 mph and was 529 feet long – or the distance from the MoC building in Burntisland's High Street, to The Links Car Park !! The two small communication and power gondolas it carried, were each about 50 feet long; far bigger than any of the existing fighter aircraft of the time... But, as it turned out, size didn't matter: just 20 years later in the Battle of Britain, the heavily armed Messerschmitts and Spitfires were only about 30 feet long, but had a maximum speed of 400 mph!

*It was almost impossible in 1916, to comprehend that the Wright Brothers had managed the very first flight only thirteen years previously!!!! This surely, must be the very best demonstration of PROGRESS !*

To find out more about the Museum visit our website: [www.mocft.co.uk](http://www.mocft.co.uk) or phone 01592 874836

## CANCER RESEARCH

The Burntisland Branch of Cancer Research UK had yet another fun evening in Burntisland Golf Club on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> November 2015 dancing the night away to our very own Des and the Dingoes. When she heard that Des and the Dingoes were playing, 33 year old Lesley Rough, pictured above, travelled all the way from her home in Lurgan, County Armagh to take a trip down memory lane. Lesley was born and brought up in Kilmundy Drive, Burntisland before moving to Lurgan where her Mother was from. She attended the event with her Auntie Veronica and was delighted to be asked to pose with her heroes. Both Lesley's parents were huge fans of Des and the Dingoes. Our thanks go to Isa Duncanson and Cathy O'Harrow for, once again, selling the raffle tickets. A memorable evening raising an amazing £994.00.



Other fundraisers held throughout the year were a Valentines Afternoon Tea held on Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> February 2015 raising £1,283, Stroll at the Toll held on Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2014 which raised £1,194.78 and a fundraising event held in Burntisland Bowling Club where tea, coffee, rolls and home baking were served on Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> July 2015 and we raised £435.59. We also received funeral and other individual donations throughout the year.

These events were well supported by our local community whose enthusiasm and generosity does not go unnoticed. In the past year we've sent £8,526 to Cancer Research UK.

Cancer Research will be holding an Afternoon Tea on Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> February 2016 in the Young Music Hall where delicious home baking will be served with tea and coffee. There will also be a variety of stalls as well as a raffle.

It is with great sadness that we announce the loss of Sadie Edwards who passed away on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> November 2015 aged 85 years. Sadie served on the Burtisland Branch of Cancer Research UK for 37 years and was a valuable, hard working and enthusiastic member of the committee who will be hugely missed by all committee members and friends who served with her.



## Over Seventies Christmas Treat

By Paul Briscoe

The 2015 Christmas Treat was held at the Kingswood Hotel on December 5th. Despite the terrible weather conditions, there was a good turnout. The entertainment was provided by Kirk James, who had travelled from Larkhall and it had taken him nearly four hours due to the Forth Bridge closure and congestion at the Kincardine Bridge, plus torrential rain and winds of up to 70 mph. He was very popular with a repertoire of songs and anecdotes that obviously resonated with the older audience. I would like to congratulate the Kingswood for their Christmas ambience and for the excellent food and table service that was provided to the appreciative guests. Although personally qualifying (chronologically) for the past three years, I have never attended, but after being asked to take some pictures, I will definitely be going next year. Below are some photos of the various tables and 140 + guests.

This annual event is only possible by the extreme generosity of our many sponsors and fund raisers as follows: TSB Burntisland 963.28, Co-Op £600 + plus beverages for a coffee morning, Briggs Marine £500.00, Bi-Fab £200, Shell £200.00, Esso £100, Hancock's Bingo £353.23, Fife Council £150.00, The Star Tavern (Bottle) £339.09, Grand Priory Lodge 400 £120.00 + shortbread, Corkies £100.00, Misc. Donations Crown Tavern, Tosh the Plumber & others £135.00 and Fund raising by the Committee £1472. Many thanks to all of you for your generosity.



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## Lest We Forget

**I**t was a cold, dreich and overcast Sunday morning when the participants in the traditional Remembrance Day Parade mustered in Harbour Place. Once again under the able command of Squadron Leader Ian Wallace, and proudly led by the Burntisland & District Pipe Band, the parade marched up the Kirkgate to Burntisland's historic Parish Church.

Following the reception of the colour parties of various youth organisations, the Rev. Alan Sharp conducted a Service of Remembrance (with a difference) before a packed congregation. After an opening hymn and prayer and the traditional 2 minute period of silent reflection, a lone piper gave an emotional rendering of the "Flowers of the Forest". There then followed a second traditional hymn and bible readings by a member of the Air Training Corps. The congregation then witnessed a presentation from a drama/mime ministry team from the USA and then joined in the singing of two songs led by the resident Praise Band. Following Rev. Sharp's sermon and further prayer, the service was concluded with singing of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" and the National Anthem.

The parade reassembled under darkening skies and marched to the War Memorial at the East Porte to be greeted by a large crowd of local residents who had gathered despite the inclement weather conditions. A short service was conducted by the Rev. Sharp, assisted by the leaders of other churches within the town and included 2 minutes silence and very emotive renderings of "The Last Post" on the bugle and the "Flowers of the Forest" on the pipes. After the wreath-laying ceremony by the dignitaries and a collective singing of the National Anthem, the parade reformed and marched back to the Burgh Chambers.



**Despite the inclement conditions this year, the parades, open air service and wreath-laying ceremony again passed efficiently, with dignity and without interruption. We must express our appreciation to our local police officers whose professionalism and dedication ensured that everything proceeded smoothly.**

## Burntisland Youth Theatre - Aladdin by Karen Speirs

**O**n four nights in December, Burntisland Youth Theatre entertained audiences with their production of Aladdin. The show at the Young Community Hall went incredibly well, a reward for the all the hard work the performers and crew have put in over the past few months.

I must thank each cast member for listening to me rant and rave, and all the team who support me through rehearsals to show. You just pulled this show out of nowhere and I couldn't be more proud! These young adults are the future of our town - we should nurture them and show them that they are important in every way.

This year's Derek J Horn award went to lighting engineer Craig Stevenson for his hard work and dedication to the group. Craig came to me as a shy and awkward boy, and has now flourished into a confident young man. He loves working on the lighting for our show and is an asset to my team.

A huge thank you to Becky Paterson - without her help rehearsals may have been a bit short. She steps in at a moment's notice to help and always with a smile. Many thanks also go to MacDonald North Ltd, who sponsored the ticket printing and some of the props.

The whole process starts again by choosing a panto for 2016, then getting my team ready for our next production. Rehearsals will begin after the summer holidays on a Wednesday evening, with Sundays added a month later. We're looking to recruit so if you're aged 11 to 21 and interested in helping out or performing, come along and have some fun with us.

As a town we should be proud of having this youth theatre, which has been running for over 40 years. Long may it continue - hope to see you all again in December!



The Cast





**H**appy New Year from all at Burntisland Primary School. A very busy Christmas term saw us having a super end to 2015 and we are all raring to go for 2016.

Our nursery children in the Under Three provision have been enjoying lovely walks with parents to the local woods each Thursday. They have particularly enjoyed eating snacks there and exploring the outdoor environment. Every Wednesday afternoon, children in the under three's have Bookbug sessions for parents and children. These sessions are incredibly worthwhile and enjoyable and everyone is welcome to come along.

Last term saw the whole school ventured out to the Adam Smith Theatre to see "Mother Goose." This was a fantastic experience, thoroughly enjoyed by all. The children in P1 had a wonderful time watching the pantomime and experiencing live theatre. After being inspired by such a wonderful show, the infant children then performed their first Nativity. Pupils enjoyed rehearsing and getting into their costumes, before delivering a marvellous performance to parents, friends and family. The confidence and enthusiasm displayed by pupils was incredible and we are very proud of them all.

In December, Primary 2 and Primary 3/2 hosted a very successful 'Grandparents Afternoon' where pupils shared learning about how the world has changed since their grandparents' lifetime. Many thanks to all the grandparents, parents and friends who attended and shared information about their lives. The children had a great time presenting their learning and it was a lovely afternoon to celebrate this. This term P2 and P2/3 are looking forward to diving into a science topic, with a special focus on water and ice, before moving on to investigate countries around the world.

Primary Three are embarking on an exciting topic this term. Children will be learning all about the 1960's. Pupils will be listening to the iconic bands of the 60's, researching famous people such as Dr Martin Luther King and Andy Warhol. They will also be looking back at the big movies of the time...Mary Poppins and the Jungle Book to name a few. Classes will hopefully create some interesting art displays linked to this topic and learn to compare life today with life back in the 1960's. What a colourful corridor that will be!

This term P3/4 and P4 will be learning about space. Children will be focusing on Tim Peake's recent mission to the International Space Station and learn about the way astronauts live there. In addition to this, pupils will learn about the solar system and the role of the Sun. The children and teachers are all very excited about the topic and cannot wait to get started.

The magic of Harry Potter swept over Primary 5 last term. Children thoroughly enjoyed the topic and made super wand advertisements, along with making wands to match the adverts. Pupils enjoyed learning "Room on the Broom" in Scot's and performing this as a 'stage show' to parents during Scot's week. It was really great to learn a French Christmas song and pupils were very proud of their performance at the upper school Christmas service. P5 were responsible for organising and leading the service, which was a huge success. A lovely morning had by all.

P6 enjoyed a Natural Disasters Topic last term. They had lots of fun making volcanoes, which were caused to erupt using vinegar and bicarbonate of soda. Tornado tubes were used to see the effects of a vortex and pupils looked at many images of the devastation that natural disasters can cause. A highlight of the term was going out to the playground to do the Mentos and Diet Coke Experiment and discussing the various reactions taking place. Luckily everyone went home dry that day. This term P6 will be studying Europe as a topic (with an exciting twist) as the children will be producing their own personal project on a country of their choice.

Primary 7 have just introduced their new topic which will focus on Ancient Greece and Greek Mythology. Related art activities will include building scale models of The Acropolis, making mosaics of mythical creatures and creating shields and weapons from this time period. The writing focus for P7 pupils this term will have an emphasis on creative and imaginative pieces. The children will also construct their own Greek fact-files. Add to this, rehearsals for the annual Burns and Speakers Competitions and it sounds like P7 will have a very busy term indeed.

### **Park Smart**

Our Junior Road Safety Officers led a very successful Park Smart Campaign in our car park last term. JRSOs braved the pouring rain, with some support from Mrs Redpath, to protest against drivers parking in our school car park. This can be incredibly dangerous for our pupils, particularly at peak times, and we are asking parents and visitors to find alternative parking in the surrounding area in order to keep our pupils safe. Look out for more Park Smart protests in the near future!

### **Sporting Success**

The school netball team are sitting proudly at the top of the cluster league after competing in two tournaments. A huge well done to all pupils involved and a big thank you to Miss Pullar and Mrs Licznarski who have coached our squad well.

The football team are also sitting top of the cluster league, and at the same time have qualified for the Fife Finals of the Soccer 7's and the Scottish Cup Semi-Final. What superb results! Congratulations to all pupils involved and a huge thank you to Mr Hubbard and Mr Barclay for their fabulous coaching skills.

Arguably, our biggest sporting success came at the recent Aviva Athletics Event held at The Michael Woods Centre in Glenrothes. Burntisland Primary School came first and qualified for the Fife wide finals in February. This is the first time the school has competed in this event and we are so incredibly proud of the pupils involved. Mrs Pirie and Mr Hubbard are working hard with P7 pupils to prepare them for the final, and we wish all involved lots of luck for the next round.

## **.....and from the Head Julie Anderson**

**A**s we enter 2016 it is fabulous to see that our new building is now being used by other community groups. We have the pipe band enjoying the space in the halls every week, a privately run running club getting our wee ones fit and healthy and of course our highly competitive Netball Mums who really enjoy using the facilities every week. It's just great to see all this activity inside the school and see that the building has truly come to life and is benefitting many in the town in different ways.

We were sad last session to see Mrs Wyse and Miss Bell leave for new jobs as Headteachers at Kinghorn and Auchtertool but we recognise the time had come for them to head off to new adventures. However, we are delighted that Mrs Clunie and Miss Sullivan our new DHTs have settled in and now really feel they know the school and the pupils. They are getting to know our parents so if you see them around, please stop for a chat and introduce yourself. They're the elves in the Christmas photo! **(next page)**



## Burntisland - Fife's First Fair Trade Town



Before Christmas, we celebrated St Andrew's Day with our very first Scottish Quiz Night, what a wonderful night we had. The entertainment was fabulous, the questions tested our knowledge and taught us new things and the competition was pretty fierce, I'm sure it'll be the first of many. The Wee Scottish Concert got great feedback too and showcased our very talented pupils, as did the pupil run Talent Show which raised money towards the East Links Play Park Development.

Of course, we have been busy with school day activity too! The Library Ladies (& men!) have now got our library running efficiently and with the use of I.T., we can track all books and the reading patterns of our year groups - very hi-tech and well used! Our learners are also engaged in a varied curriculum which truly meets their needs and offers a wide range of experiences and benefits from strong community links from outdoor learning, technology, athletics and of course literacy and numeracy, and we have been delighted to have shared this with our parents.

We are very keen to find out exactly what the views of our pupils, parents and partners are. We want to know what people think of us. What are we good at and what could we do better at? We set up a "Burntisland's Little Brother" camera room so that the wider community, our pupils and parents could all pop in and record their views. We will share these after they've all been collated. We want to do the very best we can and participation in our self-evaluation

process is crucial and very much appreciated.

We have been completely overwhelmed by the support shown to us by Briggs Marine who have made a most generous donation which will make a tremendous difference to the lives of children in the town and we are extremely grateful for this outstanding gesture which has really touched all of us in BPS.

We are very much looking forward to all 2016 has to bring and as always, welcome any feedback, please drop me an email at [julie.anderson-vr@fife.gov.uk](mailto:julie.anderson-vr@fife.gov.uk) or check out our website and let us know how we can best serve the wonderful community of Burntisland.

### BPS Parent Council

Burntisland Primary School Parent Council organised another successful Christmas Fair at the school in December, raising over £2,000. We were pleased to see so many pupils, families and locals coming and enjoying all the different stalls and of course visiting Santa! We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who came to the Fair and everyone who donated home-baking, raffle prizes or their time to support the event. We've now started to get organised for the Spring Fair, which will be taking place on Saturday 23rd April, from 1 to 3pm - we look forward to seeing you all at this event!

The next Parent Council meeting is taking place on Wednesday 27th January at 6.30pm at the school. We are always looking for new parents to join or come along to a meeting to find out more or see our Burntisland School Parent Council Facebook page.



BPS Christmas Fair

West Links  
Fife Council

### Artist's Impression of the Proposed New Spider Park

Russell  
Play



PLEASE NOTE: Visual representations, illustrations, and other graphic representations are intended to portray only artist's impressions of the playground and whilst every effort is made to create a true impression it cannot be regarded as a representation of fact.







## First Aid update by Alex MacDonald

2016 arrived on schedule when two of us supported the Splash for Cash at Lochore Meadows on New Year's Day. A few days later, we had 5 members supporting about 400 very cold but brave souls who ran 15km through mud, along a burn, over obstacles and uphill, ending with a cold bath at the finishing line. It was the first time that the Tough Guy endurance event had been held in Scotland and was hosted by Knockhill.

Looking forward, we already have 70 events in our diary up to 11 months ahead. In February and March alone we've got a strong focus on ice hockey, show-jumping and student balls. However, we're also trying to increase the range and frequency of courses that we offer.

In mid-February we will be starting our evening course in more advanced first aid. It's for people who already have a certificate, gained over at least 3 days of tuition, and who want to take their skills further. It's always a popular course and leads to the qualification which is held by nearly all of our voluntary members, enabling them to manage an incident for up to 40 minutes before the arrival of the emergency services.



We're also running shorter, 6-hour courses in Emergency First Aid at Work. For the first time, we are trying to schedule those courses more often rather than waiting for a minimum number of people from a single customer. There's a huge focus now on the early stages of the chain of survival, so that anyone who has a cardiac arrest gets the best possible chance of recovery. So we've already run simple, 2-hour courses on CPR and defibrillation for adults and children. We'll run more if we can possibly fit them in to our diary.

Overall, we're in for another exceptionally active year, so there is scope for others to join us as volunteers. At this point in the year it's essential that new members already have a relevant qualification. If it's of interest, then you should also be willing to learn new skills and experience new events.



## Kirkton Church Conservation Project by George McLauchlan

The project working group are pleased to announce the launch of a dedicated website.

[www.kirktonoldchurch.org.uk](http://www.kirktonoldchurch.org.uk)

In this highly informative site you will find a comprehensive history of the church, a detailed list of interments from the 1800s with photographs of all gravestones and a detailed biography of the Aytoun and Young families. There is a section detailing wild life and plant life and as the project progresses we will be listing activities that everyone can take part in. The web site is well worth a visit for the photographs alone. If you have old photographs or memories of the Kirkton Church we look forward to hearing from you.

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The New Year is here and our planning for the year ahead starts all over again.

Our first committee meeting held in January will look at this year's colour scheme, we will decide which campaigns we will be participating in and look at ways in which to raise funds to aid our work.

Our fundraising efforts will include our annual raffle which will be drawn around Easter time and we have already been successful in securing some funding through Fife Council's Floral Enhancement Grant.

This year's AGM will be held at the Sands Hotel on Friday 19th February. This will give us the opportunity to reflect upon what we have achieved over the last 12 months and showcase our successes to the wider public. After this meeting we are planning on meeting the volunteers from Kinghorn in Bloom to discuss how we could work closer together in achieving our aims.

At the end of last year we looked at the possibility of a community garden for the town. The area we earmarked was

the old rose garden at the east end of the Links. We took our proposal to the Community Council who backed our idea unanimously. The plan for this year is to look at different design options and allow the local community to have their say on the chosen designs. Once we have agreed upon the design, we can move forward with applying for funding for the project.

For the next 3 months FAB have been chosen by the Coop to be the local community organisation to support. FAB would like to take this opportunity to thank them for choosing us and we look forward to their support over the next few months.

FAB is committed to ensuring the town looks at its best for the upcoming summer months. The areas we have already developed will be enhanced wherever possible and the floral displays will make our town look fabulous. If you are interested in supporting the work we do please get in touch by emailing: [floral-action-burntisland@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:floral-action-burntisland@hotmail.co.uk)

Scott Sweaton

## BURNTISLAND FOODBANK by Pat Hanson

In the run up to Christmas, Burntisland Foodbank along with the CAP centre made a total of 61 hampers for families, couples and single people struggling to feed themselves. Of those 61, 36 were for Burntisland residents and the rest were given to CAP clients in the Fife area. The CAP centre had a budget for their hampers, so the donations you gave went to local people. Thank you so much to everyone who donated Christmas goodies to the foodbank - the difference these hampers made to folk was astounding, and not just because there was plenty food, as well as gifts, but because people cared for them enough to donate items. At one point we didn't have enough food, but after a Facebook appeal the goodies came rolling in. We actually ended up with too much food and are still giving out the overspill. We were overwhelmed by the number of young families who needed help, mostly through no fault of their own, but circumstances found them struggling to put food on the table. Sad times indeed.

The foodbank was initially set up by Burntisland Parish Church, and is based in Solid Rock. We have since become a satellite point for Kirkcaldy foodbank, which means they deliver us made up food parcels every week. You can hand donations into Potter About Cafe, which is the main donation and collection point for the foodbank. If you or anyone you know is struggling, you can come into the cafe and ask for a food parcel, private message the cafe Facebook page or phone the cafe number and we can deliver food at the end of the working day. We understand it can be embarrassing asking for food, but believe me, there is nothing to be ashamed of! However, using Facebook or the phone does enable us to be discreet and you will always be treated with dignity.

The cafe is also a member of the Suspended Coffee scheme, so folk can buy drink or food in advance for someone who is struggling to enjoy. You can find out more about this scheme at [www.suspendedcoffees.com](http://www.suspendedcoffees.com) Contact info for the foodbank:: Potter About Cafe 01592 873680 or find us on Facebook. Email [hello@potterabout.co.uk](mailto:hello@potterabout.co.uk) Thanks again for getting behind this initiative with such enthusiasm - you really did make a difference.



## The Ecology Centre – Try something new for 2016?

Now that we are settled into our new building on the banks of Kinghorn Loch, we can fully focus on delivering our Volunteer, Education and Job Training Programmes. See how you can get involved below.

### Volunteer Wednesdays (Weekly 9.30am – 3:00pm)

Come along and lend your hand to a variety of tasks like gardening, DIY, cooking etc. It's a very informal day where you get to meet new friends, learn new skills and pass on your own. A real treat is the sit down lunch prepared by our kitchen team. Interested? Then call Robert for a chat on 01592 891567.

### Conservation Volunteers (First Saturday of the month 10am – 12.30pm)

Our Conservation Volunteer mornings run on the first Saturday of every month so that those who can't make it up during the week, get the opportunity to get involved and help

shape the future of our new site. There is no big commitment required come along once or every month it's up to you, just turn up on the day and we will be delighted to see you.

### Tool Shed Project (Friday 9.30am - 12.30pm)

We have a couple of spaces in our Friday Tool Shed for new volunteers. We are also on the lookout for some old woodworking tools and sewing machines that we can refurbish and send out to projects in Africa. Contact Mark on 01592 891567 or drop by on one of our Conservation Saturdays.

### School holiday programmes

Eco Adventures is our popular holiday programme and is perfect for getting kids outside exploring and having fun. We are taking bookings now for February, Easter and summer. Please call 01592 891567 or email [admin@theecologycentre.org](mailto:admin@theecologycentre.org) to book.

More information on our activities and events can be found on our website [www.theecologycentre.org](http://www.theecologycentre.org) where you can sign up to our e-bulletin. Our Facebook page is also a great way of keeping up to date with what's going on at The Ecology Centre.

## ***Our Natural Heritage - Photography Competition - Cash Prizes!***

There's still plenty of time to enter Burntisland Heritage Trust's photographic competition. Our 2016 Summer Exhibition will focus on the wealth and diversity of our area's natural heritage. We are compiling a collection of albums and scrapbooks for visitors to browse—can you help us do so?

We'd love to see your photos of all aspects of nature in and immediately around the town. The competition will be independently and professionally judged and a £50 gift voucher prizes - courtesy of Briggs Marine - will be awarded to the following age categories - Under 12 years; 12 to 17 years; 18 years and over. Winning photos will be prominently displayed in the exhibition.



***Wild flowers - Photo by Joyce Murdock***

Subjects could be: birds, mammals, sea life, smaller plants e.g. flowers, mosses, lichens. Insects could include moths, butterflies, bees, beetles, spiders, fungi, amphibians e.g. frogs, toads, newts, larger plants - trees! ....and anything you can think of. Please note this is not a landscape photography competition.

**Send photos by 1st April 2016 to Burntisland Heritage Trust, 4 Kirkgate, KY3 9DB, or email to**

**[burntislandht@btinternet.com](mailto:burntislandht@btinternet.com)**

Please include details of: name & age of photographer; title of photo, where and when the photo was taken. No more than three entries per person.

N.B. Keep your eyes open for notice of a series of natural heritage talks to be given in the run-up to our 2016 exhibition.



## **BURNTISLAND SHIPYARD YOUTH FOOTBALL 2004'S**

We held our Xmas raffle and once again were overwhelmed by the generosity of contributions received from the parents of the team and local businesses. The raffle draw took place at their Christmas party, where the team members drew the winners. We raised over £1,200 which will go towards training and equipment costs. We truly would like to thank all those that purchased tickets and to both the co-operative stores and Best One for allowing us to sell tickets within their premises and many thanks to all the local businesses who contributed.

Co-operative, Castle Stores, International Smiles, The Star, Silver Tassie, Spiritual Oasis, Optometrist, Stunning Bridal, Keystore, Kingdom Amusements, Macauley's, Billy Browns, Burntisland Seafood Shop, Kingswood Hotel, Golf Tavern, Jason's Newsagents, The Sands Hotel, Burntisland Florist, Romano's, Food for thought, The Old Port, S&M Motors, Burntisland Golf Club, Zenith, WHSmiths (Kirkaldy), Cameron the Butchers, waterstones (Kirkaldy), LJM Beauty (Kirkaldy), Specsavers (Kirkaldy), The Crown (Kinghorn), Salon Eve (Kinghorn), Dragons Den, Co-op (Kinghorn), Andrew Kirk Butchers (Kinghorn), KAMs Hair (Kinghorn), The







## Burntisland – Flekkefjord Link



Issue 55 (May 2015) of the Burntisland Buzz reported on the revival of the town twinning link with Flekkefjord in Norway. Bruce Stewart ('Food for Thought') reminisced on the formative trip he made there at the tender age of 11 – a trip that impressed him deeply. Now 4 lucky young Burntisland people have been selected to follow in the veteran twinner's

footsteps, 2016 being the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of the exchange.

The four selected are Andrew Morrison (13), Hanne Law (14), Magnus Reid (nearly 13) and Natalie Hayes (15). All four are keenly looking forward to visiting Flekkefjord, which is situated on the Norwegian coast almost halfway between Stavanger and Kristiansand. We wish our four Burntisland ambassadors unforgettable times and lifelong memories when they visit Norway in 2017. But first.... their Norwegian counterparts are scheduled to visit Burntisland in summer 2016. An exciting programme of events to support and celebrate the visit is being planned by the Burntisland Twinning Committee, led by Councillor George Kay. Look out for updates in the press and further editions of the Burntisland Buzz.

A small flotilla of boats from Burntisland Sailing Club will be visiting Flekkefjord this summer. See further news in the Buzz.



Burntisland Ambassadors - Natalie Hayes, Hanne Law, Sarah Main (Veteran Twinner),

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### "Fascinating Facts About Our Feathered Friends - found through technology, tags and tracking"

**By Ben Darvill**

Learn how recent advances in technology are revolutionising our understanding of bird movements and hence conservation. Tiny tags allow us to uncover previously hidden movements and behaviors and reveal mysteries of avian ecology and migration. Learn how we track Cuckoos as they migrate to Africa, Gannets as they forage from Bass Rock, and discover the mysteries of Long-tailed Skua migration (including right past Burntisland!). Whether your interest is in the technology or the birds, this talk will have something for you *MOC April 12th 7.30 pm*



## SCOTS VERSE COMPETITION

Prize-winning pupils from Burntisland Primary School were presented on Friday with trophies and medals to mark their excellence in Scots Verse. The competition was launched in 1986 to mark the 700<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of King Alexander III. Every year since then the local pupils have been coached in how best to deliver the full meaning of poetry and verse in broad Scots.

The winners were chosen from a shortlist of 45 finalists whose performances were judged in front of the whole school. Among the many judges was Alex MacDonald, Chairman of the Community Council, which has nurtured the competition since the outset. Alex said: "It was a delight to see the outstanding performances of the finalists and the eventual winners truly deserve their trophies and medals."

Each trophy is named after a local person who strongly supported the idea of debate and discussion as being the best way to resolve conflicts. The winners' medals are their's for life and show the Arms of the Community Council, as granted by the Lord Lyon in 1997.

A formal presentation, kindly sponsored by Hanselled Books, was held in the beautiful surroundings of the Burgh Chambers and followed by a buffet for the winners and their guests.

The picture shows the winners from each year group in primaries 1 to 6

(L to R): Cameron Mora, Sasha Christensen, Ella Forrest, Poppy Spears, Chloe Johnston and Rachel Wallace.





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## A Night to Remember



Notwithstanding a dreadful weather forecast, our dedicated Events Group took the courageous decision to proceed with the annual Guy Fawkes Night festivities on the 5<sup>th</sup> November - and what a momentous decision it turned out to be. The heavy rain and low cloud did not materialise and the literally thousands of spectators, young and old, who flocked to the Links were not disappointed.

Initially, the gathering crowds enjoyed the wide variety of fairground attractions and delicious fare from local eateries whilst children waved their newly acquired glow sticks and illuminated windmills to the blaring music from the stage of Radio Lollipop. Just before seven, the excitement grew as the stirring sounds of the Burntisland & District Pipe Band ushered the arrival of the Summer King and Queen, Stewart Paton and Renee Davies, and the royal entourage to the stage. Following introductory formalities, the royal party counted down the lighting of the huge bonfire, bedecked with

an impressive replica of Guido Fawkes which was once again constructed and donated by the pupils of Starley Hall School.

The enormous flames from the intense fire lit up the surrounding area and highlighted the vast crowds which had assembled for the occasion. Soon afterwards, the second countdown began which heralded the commencement of a magnificent fireworks display. For fully twenty minutes, rockets were continuously propelled into the night sky, exploding into multi-coloured starbursts, crackling eruptions of golden and silver rains, whistling spirals and circles of gold. These were complimented on the ground by the constant spectacle of vibrant Roman candles and golden fountains. The display concluded with an explosive climax of colour and sound, spectacularly reflected against the high cloud base which had almost sympathetically risen to a height which had not obscured the magnificent show.

As the crowds dispersed, it was impossible not to notice the happy atmosphere and the expressions of delight and excitement amongst the kids and adults alike. This unique, free entertainment on a dark November evening on the Links, could not be delivered without the industry and dedication of a few civic minded individuals who constitute The Events Group. The work they engage in cannot be understated; they fundraise, prepare risk assessments, arrange insurance, store and erect security fencing, assemble and store pallets, erect the bonfire, identify, brief and supervise volunteer stewards and clear up after we have all wend our happy ways home. Above all they are willing to accept the responsibility for staging a potentially hazardous event for the entertainment and enjoyment of the residents of Burntisland. The events Group, led this year by Morna Beuzeval on her first bonfire night, deserve our grateful thanks and future support.

On the subject of thanks, the Events Group is indebted to two local companies BiFab and Scott Timber for their invaluable assistance - to Bi Fab for storing and loading the pallets for the bonfire and to Scott Timber for last minute assistance in providing transportation for the pallets to the bonfire site on the Links.



Photos by Ian McCracken

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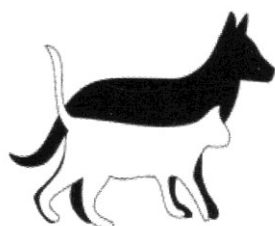
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## 11<sup>th</sup> Fife -1<sup>st</sup> Burntisland Scout Group



Beavers earned their staged swimming badges at the beacon and 2 teams competed in the District Swimming Gala. We had a spooky Halloween Sleepover where we had a fancy dress party and then did some mad scientist experiments. The Beavers had a District Xmas Party where nearly 200 beavers from across Kirkcaldy District had a great time dancing, playing games and meeting Santa. - By Beaver Scout Leader **Kerry Laing**



The cubs spent this term working on our craft badge and spent lots of time cutting, gluing and sticking and we did manage to get some of the glitter on the Christmas trees. We also visited the local panto with the whole group having a great time (oh yes we did). We even managed to squeeze in baking some biscuits and I'm sure a few made it home. - By Cub Scout Leader **Michelle Paton**



The Scouts had a busy last term as they earned their Swimming Badges and then took part in the District Swimming Gala where they put in some fantastic swims, winning two individual races and also the relay race to retain the district trophy. We participated in the ongoing Scout UK project "A Million Hands" which aims to raise awareness about local and global social issues. We learned about water issues and its effects on communities. Our Scouts pledged to change how we view and use water, as well as working to support Water Aid. We also went on a local hike, worked on navigation, archery, pioneering, craft, & baking skills as part of our work towards activity & challenge badges. - By Scout Leader **David Laing**



The explorers have had a busy term planning and taking part in a survival camp which included sleeping in hammocks and cooking outside. Still not sure if the end of November was the best time to try this, the fall of snow on the Sunday morning added to the experience. Everyone assures me they want to do it all again but we might wait till the better weather for another shot. - By Explorer Scout Leader **Craig Paton**



The whole group took part in the Remembrance Day parade along with other community groups from Burntisland and one of our explorers, Jack Wallace performed part of the rededication of the WWII names on the memorial. We also had another successful year delivering Xmas post to the local area and thanks to all the town that supported this service. We raised nearly £460 for the group which will be put towards an Adventure Camp in October. - By Group Scout Leader **Kerry Laing**



### Swimming Club News

It has been a busy start to the Season with finalists in the East District Age Groups (Catherine Comrie, Eireann Comrie and Ailsa Kellas). We have also held our timed swims this month with some fantastic PBs swum by some of our younger members. It is always rewarding to watch them progress through the club. Some of our more experienced swimmers have been attending days at the Scottish Swimming Regional Programme and Fife Area Squads. The club continues to go from strength to strength. Upcoming events include the Edinburgh International and Scottish National Age Groups alongside the Fife Novice and Fife Leagues.

We are always on the look out for new swimmers. The main club days are a Tuesday, Saturday and Sunday and if you are interested in a trial please contact [bascenquiries@hotmail.com](mailto:bascenquiries@hotmail.com). If you are not sure whether your child is ready for the club, please feel free to come along and have a chat/assessment. We are also always looking for volunteers. If you think you might be interested please contact the above email address.



## Guides, Brownies and Rainbows

The 1<sup>st</sup> Burntisland Rainbow, Brownies and Guides ended 2015 on a high with a donation of £430 towards the building of an inclusive playground.

The fundraising idea came from the girls themselves and was very innovative. The children completed various tasks as if they had a disability so they could get an insight into just how difficult it can be for people with disabilities to do things most of us take for granted. The girls presented the cheque at their Christmas coffee



evening. Thanks to everyone who came along to support us.

1st Burntisland Rainbows and Brownies also enjoyed a lovely autumn walk up the Binn.

1st Burntisland Guides finished off the year with a trip to Edinburgh, the girls enjoyed their lunch at MacDonald's before walking up to the Theatre to see 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe', then a quick look at Christmas lights and the train home.

2nd Burntisland Brownies had a Christmas sleepover, great fun was had by all!

This year we are looking forward to utilising more of the great amenities we have

in and around Burntisland. A

town the size of Burntisland is

fortunate to have Rainbow and Brownie Units who meet in the Erskine Church hall and also Rainbow, Brownie and Guide units who meet at the Parish Church hall. If your daughter would like to know more about joining visit

[www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested).

If anyone would like to get more involved in Girl Guiding, we are always looking for more helpers. There is nothing too challenging, often just a helping hand. More support means we are able to do more creative and interesting activities with the units. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer please get in touch using the above link.



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### News At The Sands

Happy New Year to everyone

We hope you had a good time with your family and friends. At the Sands we are starting back, by popular demand, our culinary adventures from all over the world.

**Celebrate Rabbie Burns week-end over 22/23/24 of January. Wear something tartan to commemorate our Bard.**

The week ending 5/6/7th of February we will be celebrating the Chinese Year of the Monkey. The Chinese believe that people born in this year are clever, ambitious, mischievous and enjoy exploring the world.

**Saturday 13th of February is a must for all lovers. For one night only taste our LOVEly four course meal with a glass of Bubbly for only £25 pp or go one step further and book Dinner, Bed and Breakfast for only £80 per room.**

**Mothering Sunday - 6th March - Book your High Teas now to avoid disappointment.**

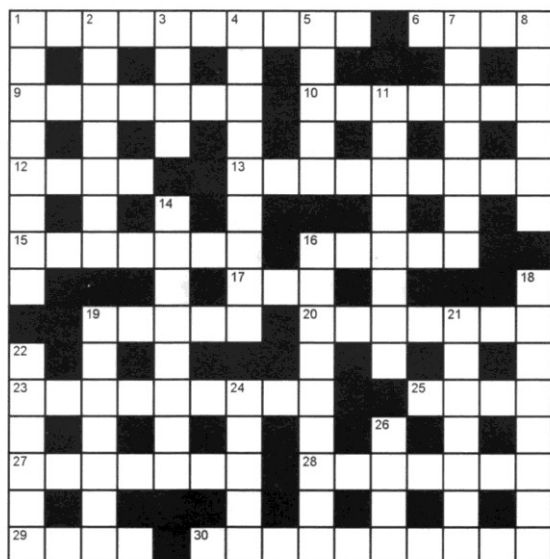
**St. Patrick's Day is on March 17th - Easter Sunday is 28th March**

**May, June July fly with us to more exotic culinary destinations. Follow us on facebook**

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# THE PRIZE CROSSWORD



## ACROSS

1. Exultant (10)
6. Charles ———, "Essays of Elia" (4)
9. Witty saying (7)
10. Able to read (7)
12. Not at home (4)
13. Uneducated person (9)
15. End of the day (7)
16. Power cable support (5)
17. Before, poetically (3)
19. Professorship (5)
20. Let in again (7)
23. Bring to an end (9)
25. Sparkling Italian wine (4)
27. Coteries (7)
28. Raise (7)
29. Wise (4)
30. White coffee (4,2,4)

## DOWN

1. Young person (8)
2. Copy (7)
3. Deep mud (4)
4. Remarkable excellence (9)
5. Synthetic fabric (5)
7. Egg white (7)
8. Bosom (6)
11. Large apes (8)
14. Italian dessert (8)
16. Keep on striving (9)
18. Loud and grating (8)
19. Raising small objections (7)
21. Eye makeup (7)
22. Heaps (6)
24. Bewildered (2,3)
26. South American Country (4)

## Solution to Winter Crossword

ACROSS: 1 Roundabout, 6 Eggs, 9 Tidiest, 10 Uncanny  
12 Ohio, 13 Collation, 15 Algeria, 16 Delve, 17 Ida, 19  
Enter, 20 Unicorn, 23 Imperfect, 25 Huge, 27 Scorned  
28 Evident, 29 Hate, 30 prospector

DOWN: 1 Rational, 2 Undying, 3 Drey, 4, Bathchair, 5  
Usual, 7 Genuine, 8 Saying, 11 Chaplain, 14 Brethren,  
16 Dauntless, 18 Ancestor, 19 Exploit, 21 Opulent, 22  
Kirsch, 24 Elder, 26 Dime

CONGRATULATIONS—Our Winter Crossword winner  
of £25 in vouchers is:

**Margaret Bally—85b Dick Crescent, B/Island**

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

TELEPHONE:.....

Completed entries by: April 15th 2016 to:

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

First Correct entry drawn will win £25.00 vouchers

Donated by Shell UK Ltd. Answers will appear in

The next issue of the Burgh Buzz.

## Events Diary

DATE	EVENT	TIME
<b>FEBRUARY</b>		
Friday 12th	Community Council meeting in Burgh Chambers	7.00 pm
Saturday 13th	Cancer Research Afternoon Tea in Young Music Hall	Afternoon to be announced
Friday 19th	FAB AGM at the Sands Hotel.	Time to be announced
Saturday 20th	Erskine Church—Coffee Morning	10.00 am
<b>MARCH</b>		
Friday 11th	Community Council meeting in Burgh Chambers	7.00 pm
<b>Monday 21st</b>	<b>Blood Transfusion Sessions at Parish Church Hall</b>	<b>(2.00pm - 4.00pm and 5.30pm - 7.30pm)</b>
<b>APRIL</b>		
Friday 1st	Heritage Centre Wildlife Photography Competition Closes see page 20 for details	
Friday 8th	Community Council Meeting in Burgh Chambers	7.00 pm
Tuesday 12th	Talk on "Feathered Friends" at the MOC	7.30 pm
Tuesday 16th	M.O.C. Lecture—Fascinating Facts about birds by Ben Darvill	7.30 pm
Saturday 23	Parent Council Spring Fair at School	1-3 pm
<b>MAY</b>		
Saturday 21 st	Erskine Church Coffee Morning	10 am



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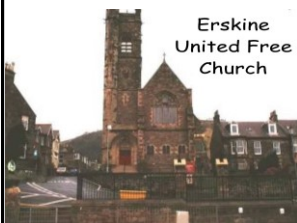
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## Erskine News

by Rev. Alexander Ritchie

First of all a very peaceful, happy & healthy New Year to all *Buzz* readers! A word of thanks to everyone who attended Christmas services around the town. Once again there was a really good turnout for the Watchnight in Erskine late on Christmas Eve. We raised a total of **£390.90** for this year's charities. Your kind donations were shared between Fife Women's Aid & MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship). These organisations sustain vital work in communities both at home and abroad. Thank you.

Our next coffee mornings with pancakes are due to take place on Saturdays **20 February** and **21 May**. Both events start at 10am as usual in the church halls. Please note the dates in your diaries. Everyone's very welcome to join us.

Between now and then our normal activities will continue. These include Women's Association on Mondays at 7pm, Erskine Association monthly at 10am on the last Thursday and the *Lite Bite* for babies, pre-schoolers and parents/carers on Wednesday mornings during term-time. Thanks to those who run and support these activities, it's greatly appreciated. Sunday services are always weekly at 11am, with a monthly evening service at 6.30pm. Please check our *Facebook* page for any news, changes or updates.

Have you made any plans for 2016? It seems a long time ago now, but think back to the chaos caused when The Forth Road Bridge closed on 4 December last year. The point was brought home to me that, because we are so heavily dependent on these essential transport links, when they're taken away from us, all that's regular and normal in daily life seems to fall apart- until, that is, the bridge suddenly reopened on 23 December!

As this new year begins with its certainties and surprises, its continuity with changes, here's a Bible verse to reflect on, "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" (Jeremiah 29.11, NIV).

## St. Josephs - R.C. Church

St Josephs would like to wish a very happy and peaceful New Year to all. 2015 has been a year for Fr Brian to get to know Burntisland and he has enjoyed being involved in the joint Praise on the links in July and the Christmas joint praise which was held in Burntisland Primary School. St Josephs has held a number of events throughout 2015 to raise funds, one very successful evening was a whisky tasting which was not only enjoyable but raised £1000 for Syrian refugees. St Josephs also has a permanent drop off point for food which SVDP collect to take to Kirkcaldy where it is distributed to those in need. There was also a floral group started early in the year and has been very successful and enjoyable for all who take part. We held a coffee morning in December with craft stalls which again was most successful.'

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## PLUMBING & HEATING

### New Beginnings!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the local residents and many customers who have supported my business since I started up in 2010. I have enjoyed the challenges that running the business has provided, but I have been offered a new and exciting career opportunity that will allow me to have more time and energy for my friends and family.

I wish you all a very healthy and happy 2016.

Bill Hawthorne



## Burntisland Parish Church

It's simple, the Church is here to serve Jesus and do his stuff. So we try to worship in Spirit and in truth, as Jesus commanded, to get past just hearing about God to understanding what God is saying to us, to get past singing about God to knowing God's presence among us. And we try to make worship fun particularly in Messy Church and now the monthly cafe church in Potter About.

We try to serve the needs of others, we have a Christians Against Poverty project to help people struggling with debt. Phone **0800 328 0006 FREE** for help. We have a foodbank and we are very grateful to all our friends in the community who support that work. We have a pastoral care group reaching out to many of the housebound in Burntisland.

We offer an alternative to the "believe in nothing, cynicism" that seems to be the spirit of the age. There is a positive answer in Jesus to the big questions of life and meaning. There is an incentive to work to change society rather than just complaining about it.



The work of Prospects in Scotland is to help churches across the country to welcome and include people with learning disabilities in all aspects of the church and to tell them the Good News about Jesus in an understandable way. We use stories, drama, songs and simple craft ideas to do this. There are now 23 church based groups in Scotland with a link to Prospects, three of which are in Fife: the Burntisland Prospects Group, the Dunfermline Group and the WOW group in Kennoway.

Friendships are made and sustained, everyone's gifts and talents are recognised and celebrated, a simple meal is often shared, outings are organised and we learn together from each other how to exercise and grow in our faith.

Recently the Burntisland group have enjoyed a trip to the pantomime Dick Whittington in Glenrothes, a Nativity themed meeting and a DIY 'cinema' morning, as well as learning through Bible characters that 'God's Way is Best' – our theme for the year.

The Burntisland Group meets in the Parish Church Hall the second Saturday of the month from 10.30 till about 12.45, with tea/coffee at the beginning and lunch together at the end. This is free, and new members will be made very welcome.

Dates for your diary: 13th February, 12th March, 9th April, 14th May, 11th June.



Messy Church is not a craft club, or a monthly Sunday School on Saturdays, or a half-way house to church. It's a new way of being church, using hands-on activities to explore Bible stories in a way that's relaxed and accessible for adults and children together. It provides a welcoming and safe space for families to learn and grow together. Hospitality, in the form of refreshments and a simple meal together, and Celebration, of God, his world and his people, are key components. Because it's 'messy' like our lives so often are, not neat, tidy and ordered, there is room and a welcome for everyone.

Why not give it a try in 2016? On the 3rd Saturday of the month from 10 till about 12.30 on 20th February at Kinghorn Parish Church Hall. Theme: Fear - 19th March at Burntisland. Theme: Love 16th April at Kinghorn. Theme: to be decided.—21st May at Burntisland. Theme: to be decided.



## Craigencalt Rural Community Trust News

Kinghorn Loch is recognised as the inland water sports hub for the area, and is a busy, active place all year round. All the sports activities are based at the new jetty on land owned by Craigencalt Farm and everybody is very welcome to come and visit. The Farm has just completed its new toilets, which will be a great bonus for our visitors. The jetty was constructed by the Loch User's Group in 2007, which is now part of the Craigencalt Trust and together we look after the well being of the loch and its varied wildlife.

In May, the Trust co-ordinates its annual "Come and Try" day, and visitors can try out a variety of water sports and leisure activities. It is always a busy day with canoeing, sailing, radio controlled model boat club, open water swimmers, bird watching, walkers, the Earthship and many more activities on offer. Some visitors just come to relax and enjoy the beautiful scenery and hopefully the good weather. As the summer progresses, and because the loch is now so healthy, weed growth can accumulate and cause problems for the sports groups. The Trust is to purchase a weedcutter soon to cut excess blanket-weed.



The sports and leisure groups hold various events during the year and the Trust has embarked on a new lochside project of work to improve facilities for users, the wildlife and our visitors. This includes making a new car park on the way in to the lochside. Replacement of the aging barley straw rafts, new swan nesting platforms, information boards and a new family/disabled friendly path linking the lochside with the Trust's very popular Troll Bridge on Rodanbraes Path are all part of our new project. We are very fortunate to have the assistance of Alcan and funding from Awards for All and Fife Environment Trust, and our stalwart volunteers for this project. If you would like

to help us, please email to [info@Craigencalttrust.org.uk](mailto:info@Craigencalttrust.org.uk) or phone 891330.

The Trust has recently been successful in getting a mobile defibrillator for the lochside. Funding for this came from the British Heart Foundation and from the Trust. This could be valuable in an emergency which all hope will never happen. It now needs to be installed and we are committed to train up lots of volunteers, and this will take place soon. We are grateful to all our supporters who sign up as Friends each year and donate to our funds. Without this support Craigencalt Trust would not be able to accomplish so much.





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**Blood Donation**

The next blood donation sessions by the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service will take place on Monday March 21st in the Parish Church Hall at the top of the Kirkgate.

There will be two sessions: 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm and 5.30 pm - 7.30 pm

The Medical and Health Services are constantly in need of blood. Why not come along and donate? We look forward to seeing you.

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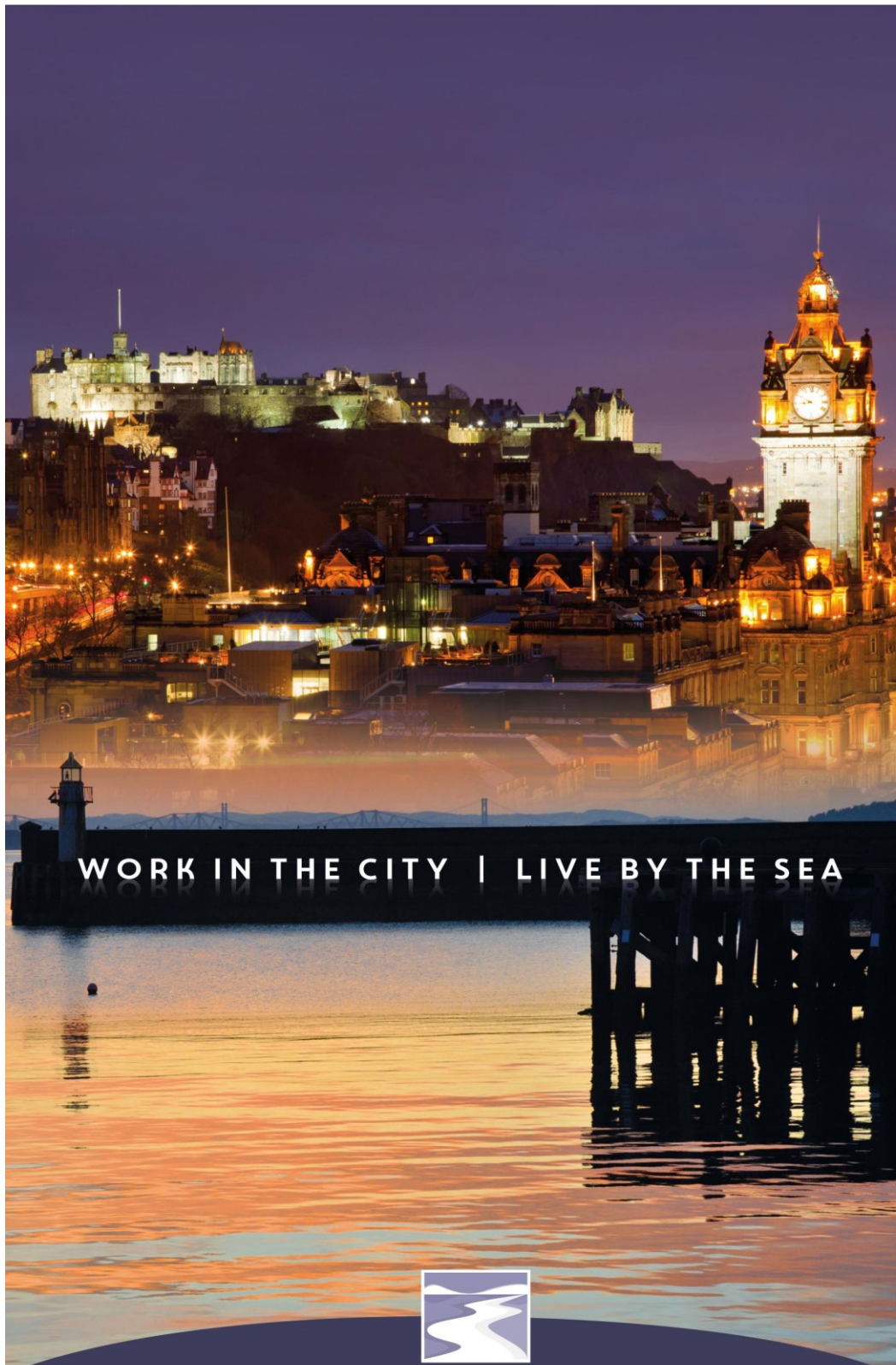
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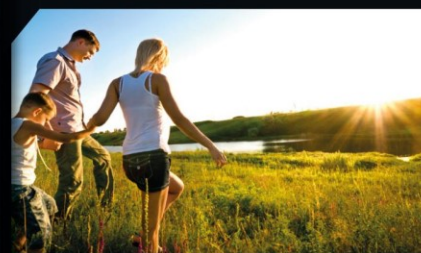
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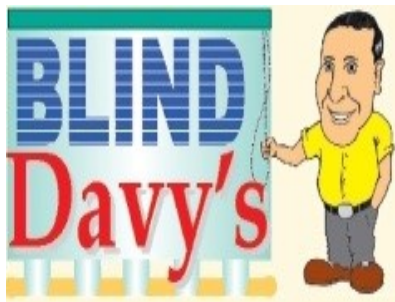
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