
BURGH BUZZ

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FAB is Fabulous



MANY congratulations to the Floral Action Burntisland (FAB) team who recently received the Gold Award from Beautiful Fife in recognition of the tremendous efforts they have made to make our town look *FABULOUS*. The award itself pales into insignificance when we analyse the efforts of this dedicated team.

Formed four years ago in response to a plea from the Community Council to form a "Bloom Group", a small committee was assembled under the leadership of Scott Sweaton. Initially, taking advice from a similar neighbouring organisation, "Kinghorn in Bloom", they took over the hanging baskets and floral troughs in central locations in the town. This was merely the start of a much larger project. Fund raising has been crucial. In addition to organising coffee mornings and raffles the team has enlisted the support of almost the entire community - shop keepers and High Street traders have adopted and financed the maintenance of their own hanging baskets and local businesses and individuals have been

extremely generous in donations. This money has been used to purchase young plants and equipment which is essential in the care and maintenance of the beds, troughs and hanging baskets throughout the growing season.

During this short period of four years the team has established an essential working partnership with Fife Council which remains responsible for major flower beds and the general maintenance of public areas including the approaches to the town. The team is able to identify areas that need enhancement, cleaning and even painting - the recent painting of the prom wall is a prime example.

The FAB team now comprises 25 volunteers some of which are committee members and others are support volunteers. They are male and female, of all ages and from differing walks of life within the local community. Individually, they assume responsibilities for particular areas of the FAB operation.

Commendably, FAB has also enlisted the support of the young members of the community. The guides and scouts

together with pupils and staff of Burntisland Primary School are heavily involved. Also very supportive are the pupils of Starley Hall School who periodically help with maintenance and who have supplied unique and tasteful statues which can be seen in the flower beds beside the Beacon Leisure Centre.

Significantly, FAB has spread its influence way beyond the town centre - the roadsides at all entrances to the town have been greatly enhanced as has the railway station, the Beacon Centre car park, Harbour Place and the community orchard to name just a few.

The group also has been undeterred by the occasional theft of plants and wanton vandalism by misguided youths. Indeed, they are encouraged by the close involvement of young people and are confident that this will reduce, if not eliminate this sort of activity in the future.

FAB has ambitious plans for the future and deserves the continued support of the entire community.

FAB is FABULOUS!

BURNTISLAND'S COMMUNITY PAPER

Featuring Local issues . organisations . events . people and more

From the editor

How time flies! Summer, such as it was, has gone. The clocks have changed and long dark nights are upon us. However, it is not all gloom and doom. Bonfire night which includes the best, free fireworks display around is almost upon us. We will turn up in our thousands to witness this fantastic spectacle which regrettably, many of us now seem to take it for granted. An occasion such as this requires meticulous planning, careful organisation on the night and no little expense. Although Fife Council makes a generous donation, the Events Committee relies heavily on donations from local businesses and organisations and even more importantly, on the "bucket collection" on the evening. Please be generous and ensure that the display on the Links will continue for years to come.

The dark nights and mornings also provide cover for recalcitrant dog owners who fail to pick up the mess that their pets have left on our pavements, pathways and public grassy areas. The resources of enforcement officers are limited and they rely on information from us so that they can be deployed in the right place at the right time. If you can identify the culprits, then do so. They will receive an £80 fine. Contact details of enforcement officers are at the bottom of the Police Report on page 4.

On a more pleasant note, it is encouraging to see that Primary 7 pupils have drafted the school report on page 8. Hopefully, this will continue and act as a stimulus for further contributions to the Buzz from younger members of the community.

Finally, as this will be the last issue of the Buzz before the Festive Season, may we on the editorial committee wish all our readers a peaceful and fulfilling Christmas and all that you may wish for in the New Year.

Bill Kirkhope

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Wanted

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Every quarter the co-ordinator is responsible for liaising with regular advertisers, processing new advertising queries and issuing invoices following the publication and distribution of the hard copy. It's likely to take up approximately 5-6 hours of your time every quarter.

If you are computer literate, have good communication and organisational skills and are interested in assisting with the production of your community newspaper, then please get in touch with:-

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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.

- Billy Symington has been appointed Treasurer to replace John Russell. George McLauchlan will take on key responsibility for event planning.
- Thanks were expressed to the Links Showmen for their continued generous sponsorship of the exiles reception on Games Day.
- The reception itself was attended by a record number of people, including former winners of the Community Award and also visitors from Flekkefjord.
- A litter pick at the beach and the breakwater was completed by a team of volunteers from Lloyds Banking Group.
- There is continued concern over indiscriminate parking on the Links and on pavements, so referrals have been made to the appropriate agencies.
- Three members attended a meeting to learn more about the review of flight paths by Edinburgh airport. It is planned to change the minimum separation of aircraft at peak times from 2 minutes to one minute. In addition, flight direction and climb rate will be more precisely defined. As far as possible, routes will be over the Forth rather than over land. More detail on the proposals will be available early next year.
- An application for an additional pharmacy has again been refused by NHS Fife, despite overwhelming evidence from the Community Survey. The applicant is likely to appeal for a second time.
- A new steering group has been set up to take forward the key elements of the Community Action Plan by forming a local development trust. The new trust will be independent of the Community Council and will be able to set its own priorities as described elsewhere in the Burgh Buzz.
- Following a change in the law, the Community Council will seek to register with OSCR as a charity. If successful it will make it easier for the Community Council to raise funds for selected projects from a wider range of sources.
- Funding is now complete for the inclusive playpark at the East Links and work will start in November. Tenders have been invited for work on the spider park at the West Links, where fund-raising is almost complete but still under way.
- The Kirkton Church project is now fully funded and completion is expected in late summer 2017.
- Work is now well under way for clearing and upgrading the Half Moon / Sailors Walk / Shipyard Steps.
- Flooding on Haugh Road has been addressed by Scottish Water.
- Congratulations were expressed to FAB for the Gold Award which they received from Beautiful Fife for floral arrangements throughout the town.

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:	Vacant
Treasurer:	Billy Symington
Secretary:	Gordon
Langlands	
Minutes Secretary:	George McLauchlan

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

Elected Fife Councillors' Availability

Councillor George Kay

Telephone 01592 874920

Email: 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

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

Burntisland Buzz

Next Issue - February 2016

Copy Deadline: 12th January

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

The Burgh Polis

By PC Bryan Weir



ROSS and I would like to start by thanking Julie Anderson Head Teacher at Burntisland Primary School, for her continued support through offering the use of school facilities for Community Engagement Meetings. This has received a positive response from members of the community who now have easy access to our meetings. I would also like to thank Burntisland Community Council members and our partner agencies that have supported and attended these meetings, which have provided a platform for constructive discussion to resolve local issues and establish priorities.

Comparing the first half of this year with the same period last year, Burntisland has seen an overall reduction in crime of 9% and an increase in detection rate from 58% to 64%. Anti-social behaviour offences and crimes of dishonesty have seen a significant reduction, but there has been an increase in vandalism and assault cases. Burntisland experienced significant problems in the latter half of 2015 and early 2016, where there was a significant rise in recorded youth disorder and vandalism. It should be emphasized that these offences were committed by a handful of youths and did not reflect the attitudes and behaviour of the vast majority of youngsters living in Burntisland. Ross and I are confident that the action taken by us and our partner agencies will ensure that there will be no recurrence of widespread unsocial behaviour by youths during the second half of this year. Early signs are encouraging with a reduction of youth disorder calls from 106 between July and September 2015 to 36 in the same period of 2016. The assistance of the public is greatly appreciated and absolutely necessary to combat this type of lawlessness and we would encourage anyone to make contact with the police if they are experiencing such problems.

Lastly, we have noted a growing concern over vehicles speeding in the Burntisland area. We are attempting to set up a Community Speedwatch Group to assist us in identifying speeding motorists. Ross and I are also out and about with the

speed gun and although we would rather educate and warn individuals where possible, be advised that anyone caught speeding can be issued with a ticket, which is an immediate £100 fine and 3 penalty points or in cases of excessive speed, could be reported to the Procurator Fiscal. Anyone interested in being part of the Community Speedwatch Group should make contact with Ross or I direct. We are also available to anyone who wishes to contact us for any reason by calling 101 or emailing us on either of the following email addresses:

Ross.masterton@scotland.pnn.police.uk

Bryan.weir@scotland.pnn.police.uk

Forthcoming Community Engagement Meetings:

Thursday 17th November 9.30 am – 10.30 am

Tuesday 22nd November 6.30 pm – 7.30 pm,

both to be held at Burntisland Primary School.

Safer Communities Officers have continued patrols, including early morning and evening, over the summer months in the Burntisland area targeting dog fouling. Additional signage has been erected in identified problem areas and advice has been given to dog walkers on an ad-hoc basis.

Dog Wardens have been alerted following complaints of a stray bulldog type dog in the area.

There has been a general improvement over the summer with regard to dog fouling but as winter approaches with darker mornings and evenings the situation is likely to worsen. We rely heavily on information from the public to tackle this problem.

To report any dog fouling issues please e-mail

safercommunities.officers@fife.gov.uk

mailto:safercommunities.officers@fife.gov.uk

or call 01592 583642

Remembrance Day Parade

THIS year, Burntisland will commemorate Remembrance Day with a Service at Erskine Church. The Service will commence at 10.45am on Sunday 13th November followed by the Remembrance Service at the War Memorial at approximately 12 Noon.

The parade to the Erskine Church will leave from Burntisland Fire Station at 10.30 led by Burntisland & District Pipe Band. The Parade will consist of representatives from Fife Council, Burntisland Community Council, Ex-Servicemen and women, members of the ATC, Scouts, Guides, Cubs and Brownies and members of the public.

Those wishing to take part in the Parade are requested to muster at the Fire Station at 10.15am.



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"Your Town Needs You !"

New Community Development Trust for Burntisland - local people have their say.

BURNTISLAND Community Council is supporting the setting up of an independent Community Development Trust to take forward popular local projects that will strengthen the social, environmental and economic future of our town. These projects will be guided by the Burntisland Community Action plan that was prepared this summer after extensive consultation of over 1,000 residents and visitors to the town.

We want to make Burntisland an even better place to live and work, and help local tourism, retail and service businesses attract new custom.

Our vision for the future of Burntisland is that it will be: "A vibrant and forward looking seaside town with great community spirit, working together to make the most of our cultural and natural assets, providing quality services and facilities for visitors and locals."

An exciting first development for the Trust will be to

manage the new Community Energy and Transport Plan for Burntisland, which will be prepared by Fife Council's Resource Efficient Solutions consultancy and funded by Local Energy Scotland and Transport from Scotland. We will be the first town in Scotland to have such a comprehensive action plan and it will help us reduce energy costs and better integrate transportation between our town and the rest of Fife.

The Trust will be chaired by Ben Barron, and supported by fellow trustees Kirsty Tait, Judith Kisby, James MacIntosh, Jo Hobbett, Ben Sharland, Euan Thomson and Geoff Robotham.

If you would like to join us and help manage our community projects then please contact us by emailing: bcdt2016@gmail.com <<mailto:bcdt2016@gmail.com>>.

Alternatively, if you don't have time to commit just yet, we will be inviting Burntisland residents to join as members and support us in the future.

and.....Burntisland is making energy and transport plans

LOOK out for invitations to take part in a local energy masterplan for Burntisland from November 2016. Burntisland Community Council launched their Community Action Plan in July 2016. This highlights travel and energy as local community priorities. Fife Council's Transport, Planning, Community Planning and Low Carbon Energy teams are working closely with the community to take forward these priorities. Burntisland's newly formed Burntisland Community Development Trust is helping to steer the project. Fife Council has been awarded resources from two funds to support this work: a European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Low Carbon Travel and Transport (LCTT) Challenge Fund to assess the best places to create travel hubs in Burntisland; and a CARES (Community and Renewable Energy Scheme) IIF (Infrastructure and Innovation Fund) to develop a local energy masterplan for the whole community.

This is a collaborative pilot project with community decision making at its heart. The transport project will run to the beginning of January 2017, and the Local Energy Masterplan to March 2017. The projects will help guide the next steps, and where possible to develop more detailed projects that can be used to apply for other funding.

If you want to be involved please contact:

Ben Barron bcdt2016@gmail.com <<mailto:bcdt2016@gmail.com>>

Carolyn Bell carolynm.bell@refsol.co.uk <<mailto:carolynm.bell@refsol.co.uk>>

Community Council Vacancies

WITH some recent natural turnover, there are now three places available for people to become members of the Community Council, so we welcome enquiries.

In recent months our key projects have included the community survey and Community Action Plan. We also support the current work to conserve the Kirkton Church, whilst commenting on planning applications and proposals such as new flight paths for Edinburgh airport.

As a statutory body, there is no limit to the topics that we can take on. However, our primary role is to ascertain, coordinate and express the views of the community. We can only do that when we have a broad cross-section of local people among our

members.

The only requirement is that members must be on the electoral role for Burntisland.

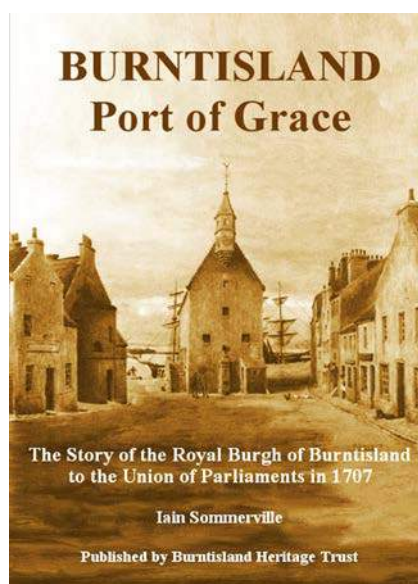
All of our meetings are held in public on the second Friday of each month, in the Burgh Chambers. We encourage potential new members to come along to a few meetings in order to observe the proceedings and also to contribute as members of the public.

If it might be of interest, then please contact our Secretary by e-mail to burntislandcc@outlook.com <<mailto:burntislandcc@outlook.com>>, or get in touch with any of the members listed on page 2 of the Burgh Buzz.

Alex. MacDonald.

BURNTISLAND Heritage Trust is delighted to be able to re-launch its book, "Burntisland: Port of Grace", in time for Christmas. Written by Iain Sommerville, it tells the story of Burntisland up to 1707. It sold out quickly when it was first published in 2004. It has now been reprinted and is available for £11.95. It would make an ideal Christmas present for residents old and new who are interested in the town's early history.

The Heritage Centre at 4 Kirkgate will have special pre-Christmas opening days, when it will be possible to buy the book, other Heritage Trust publications, Christmas cards, and the Over 70s Christmas Treat Committee's 2017 calendar. Those days will also provide a final opportunity to view the Trust's 2016 exhibition, "Our Natural Heritage". The opening hours will be Saturday afternoons



on 26th November, 3rd and 10th December, from 1.00-4.00pm.

"Burntisland: Port of Grace" and some other publications are also available now from Spiritual Oasis in the High Street.

In order to maintain a steady flow of published material Burntisland Heritage Trust are keen to collect and publish a series of small pamphlets covering single topics.

An investigation of the history of a house, shop, hotel perhaps. Or a biography of a character who lived or lives in the local area. Tales of customs, anecdotes of life in local villages, on the farms, in businesses or industries would all be considered. In short do you have a pet historical subject or story to tell? If you do, please contact John Burnett on 01592 873419 or via email at

john.burnett9@btinternet.com

KIRKTON CHURCH RESTORATION PROJECT

PRESERVATION of the 12th century Kirkton Church in Burntisland has taken a step closer to completion with an award of £5000 from the Burntisland Common Good Fund. This final grant means that funding is now fully in place for the £130,000 preservation project.

This community-led project will bring one of Fife's most important historic sites back into community use, and put it on Scotland's cultural and tourist map. Kirkton ceased to be the parish church around 1592 when the present Burntisland Parish Church was constructed, and is currently a roofless ruin which has been ravaged by a stranglehold of ivy from which it has recently been freed.

The Old Kirkton Church and Historic Graveyard Steering Group made up of the Burntisland Heritage Trust, Fife Council, Burntisland Community Council and the Floral Action Burntisland group submitted the successful bid to safeguard the future of the medieval building and graveyard. The project has already been awarded

£90,500 from the Heritage Lottery Fund, £13,000 from Historic Environment Scotland, £12,000 from the Fife Environment Trust as well as awards from Common Good and the local area committee.



Photo courtesy of Jenny Dingwall

These grants will ensure that Kirkton Church, the oldest building in Burntisland, is preserved for future generations. The dedication to St Serf, the great age of the church and its surviving medieval chancel arch all combine to make this a site of national significance.

The first phase of the project to remove the ivy from the church has now

been completed with the second phase to get underway soon. This will include carefully repairing and preserving the old church and graveyard by stabilising the crumbling walls, capping the wall-heads and reinstating and repairing fallen and broken gravestones.

John Burnett, Trustee of Burntisland Heritage Trust, said: "Thanks to our generous funders, Kirkton Church and graveyard are at last receiving the attention and conservation they deserve. By unlocking the site's rich cultural heritage locals and visitors alike will be able to learn about this valuable heritage resource. The community has supported the Project by identifying its progress as a priority in the recent Community Action Plan."

Outreach activities and raising awareness of the medieval site's historical importance are central to the project. A range of volunteer-led activities are set to engage as many local people as possible. Seating and interpretation boards will be included as part of the final phase of the project.



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Are you of the “higher classes” or do you occupy a “respectable mansion???”

Extract from Chambers Gazeteer of Scotland 1832

BURNTISLAND, at one time called Wester Kinghorn, is situated on a piece of high ground, with a rocky front to the sea, is well sheltered, and possesses a harbour on its western quarter, which is reckoned to be the best in the Firth. It has also an excellent dry dock capable of admitting large vessels to be repaired. By the aid of government, the ferry from Newhaven has been greatly extended in its usefulness. This port now possesses several trading vessels and water is frequently taken on board vessels outward bound from ports in the Firth, on account of its superiority and retention of freshness. Burntisland is a dull, but tolerably clean, and well built town with one large and long main street, and a back street. On the east it is bounded by a common *links*, and some cottages for the residence of sea bathers of the higher classes. This is a very

pretty retired spot, called Lammerlaws, “hills on the sea”. A good number of respectable mansions are situated in the town and its neighbourhood. Burntisland was once surrounded by a wall, the vestiges of which, and a fort, are still extant. It was besieged by Cromwell, and only capitulated on condition that he was to pave the streets and repair the harbour, which he faithfully performed. In 1715, the insurgent troops of the Earl of Mar took possession of Burntisland and used it to their great advantage for several months. It was constituted a Royal Burgh by James VI. The number of its corporations is seven. It joins with Kinghorn, Kirkcaldy and Dysart, in electing a member of parliament. There is a large distillery here, and shipbuilding is carried out to some extent. The Parish Church is a commodious modern edifice, overlooking the sea. There is a dissenting meeting-house in the town. – Population in 1821, 2136.

The Rotary Club of Burntisland & Kinghorn



THE work - and the fun - of the club continue to make a contribution to life in the local community, and further afield, as they have done for the past 35 years. Speakers' topics during regular meetings have been wide and varied.

They have included a 'rollercoaster' trip across the States, a medical charity in Ethiopia, a young local lad's World Challenge trip to Uzbekistan, life in the Atlas mountains in Morocco, the true story of the discovery of the North West Passage, Sam McAuliffe's 'Burntisland Fossils', and Charlie Kilgour's 'Live on the Links'. The annual Charity Shop opens in

the Upper Library Hall from 10 till 4 from October 21 until October 29. All are welcome, as are donations at any time. All the money will be spent on charitable causes, and will include at least one Shelterbox for Haiti. President Rita's Rotakids in the primary school will be filling shoeboxes full of 'goodies' for needy children all over Europe.

Kinghorn Primary's P4/5s have just finished the 11th round of Rotary Rambles; bookings have been made in May next year for the Club's annual Plant Sale in Kinghorn Parish Church Hall, and for the "Music in May" concert in the Old Kirk in Kirkcaldy. The club meets in the Sands on Tuesdays at 6.30.



MEMBERS of the Burntisland Branch of



Cancer Research UK recently celebrated the opening of their “Chic Boutique” by Carole-Anne Patterson, Burntisland Citizen of the year.

The shop was open for a very busy five days in early August and the group raised a fantastic sum of almost £2,000.

Grateful thanks are extended to those who generously donated tasteful garments and to the many local residents who patronised the boutique.



The blood transfusion service extends its thanks to the 110 volunteers who offered to give blood during their visit to Burntisland on 5th September. A total of 89 donations were given. There were no new donors on this occasion.



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School News

Nursery - P3

written by **Karis Halpin and Talia Fraser**

P4 – P7 written by **Finlay Knight and Louis Christie** all of P7D

IT has been a brilliant first term here at BPS. The P1's have settled in nicely, the P2's are learning about their houses and homes and P3's are learning plenty about pirates. The upper school children are also enjoying their first term at BPS.

Nursery – The nursery children have been learning to go on their new balance bikes, and they are proving to be very popular. Children have been learning to take turns, which they also enjoy. Every week the children go on a walk around the local area in Burntisland and then have a visit to 3 to 5 nursery with their family. They thoroughly enjoy exploring the nursery garden.

Primary 1 pupils have been learning all about My Family. They really enjoyed the Roald Dahl Matilda Workshop and they are also getting along really well with their Jolly Phonics. P1T have been told that they have the best manners in the dinner hall and they walk nicely and quietly, that's what we love to hear here at BPS.

Primary 2 's topic this term is Houses and Homes and children have found out lots of interesting information such as,

how to build a house, different types of houses in different countries and different materials that houses can be made with. They have also been learning French and have loved taking part in races. Well done P2.

The **Primary 3** topic this term is pirates. They know lots about pirates, especially who they are, such as Black Beard, Anne Bonnie, and loads more. They also learned about the parts of a ship and have said that they think pirates are "mean".

So all in all, we have had a wonderful first term here at BPS and I hope all of our new primary 1 pupils have had a good first term and have learned lots.

P4-P7 news

It has been an exciting and busy term for the school and everyone has been learning about new and exciting things. Classes have been getting to know their teachers very well.

Primary 4 have been learning about the Victorians, Europe and The BFG. They are also learning how to use the Glow website which is a site where you can share your schoolwork with your friends and family. In art they have been making dream jars to go with their BFG book by Roald Dahl and have been learning about hot and cold colours. P4/5B have been singing Faber music which is like classical music and they have begun their 'quest' to become rock stars with their first ukulele lesson.

Primary 5 have been learning about Scottish landscapes and formations and they have also been identifying physical

features in Scotland such as , how the relief of the land has been shown on maps. They have also been looking at how the characters in the book "The Twits" would interact through drama. They designed disgusting, gruesome, grizzly beards to impersonate Mr Twit. They drew pictures in the same style as Quentin Blake and had a great time dressing up for Roald Dahl day. They had fantastic fun making dream jars and they also participated in a BFG drama workshop - they had a complete ball.

Primary 6 are learning about the Caribbean and are comparing life there to here in Burntisland. They are also reading Robert Louis Stevenson's Treasure Island and are enjoying learning new vocabulary. They had a visit from the Fire service and are looking forward to their rugby tasters after October holidays.

Primary 7 pupils have been learning about WW2. They were learning facts about the outbreak of war and what life was like in the war .They had fun making gas masks and model spitfires for WW2 art. They have been reading the Boy in the Striped Pyjamas by John Boyne to support their learning of WW2. They have been doing outdoor learning with artist Leo and Mrs Bennett and have been visiting the Del woods where they looked to find, identify and classify minibeasts and leaves .

Our football team hope to repeat last year's victory in the Scottish Cup Competition which starts in November, and the athletics team hope to do well in their sponsored run and are hopeful for their 2 athletic festivals that are coming soon.



ANOTHER busy year has started at Burntisland Playgroup. We are nearly at full capacity with all children settling well into the playgroup routine, building friendships and learning through play.

Playgroup is a natural progression for all children moving from the home environment into a formal education programme prior to moving onto Pre-school Nursery and Primary 1. This offers the opportunity to develop and learn through play and for strong friendships to be made within their own peer group in a smaller, quieter environment. We follow the same Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) programme as school nursery and are inspected by Care

Inspectorate, Fife Council's Equate team and HMIe. Our latest reports can be found online. Throughout the year we will be covering various topics, which will come from the children's own interests and the world around us. We will explore the local area during our beach and forest kindergarten sessions. (continued next page)



Playgroup applications can be submitted at any time after birth. It is never too early to apply! Application forms are available at the Toll Centre and every morning during playgroup hours (0915 – 1225). Children can start their year at playgroup from 2 years 10 months (if places are available) and funding is available from the term following their 3rd birthday.

Open days will be held in March 2017 for our 2017/2018 session for children born between 1st March 2014 and 28th February 2015. Please look out for dates nearer the time. In the meantime, you can pop into playgroup anytime for further information from our staff.

With the start of the new year comes a new committee, with one of its main roles being to raise funds to help with both the day to day running of playgroup and to enable the us to buy extra equipment to make the children's experience at playgroup even more rewarding. We were very lucky at the end of the last academic year to receive a generous donation from Burntisland Fabrications, two iPads from Briggs and a technology grant from Shell's UK community awards scheme. We are also one of the local community groups that you can choose as part of your Coop membership. So, please select us and help us raise even more. We are also busy organising fun events, and we are planning to have a Christmas Coffee Morning with the

playgroup children entertaining us with a festive sing along. Keep up to date with all our news and activities on our facebook page and website - burntislandplaygoup.co.uk . A big thanks to everyone for your continued support.



Spider Park Project



SINCE the last report in the Burgh Buzz, Burntisland Community Council have come a long way in their efforts to raise funds for the refurbishment of the Spider Park at the west end of Burntisland Links.

We have had a lot of support throughout the community and are extremely grateful to all those who have helped out. Over the summer Mike Lewis from The Crown bravely completed a bungee jump and raised a fantastic £445, Burntisland summer Fairground had a fun night in The Star

Tavern and raised £260 and a successful quiz night was held in The Jubilee Tavern giving a further £200. We now have £1800 of the £3500 we need and are confident that we will be able to secure the rest. Over the next few months there will be more fundraising and events to watch out for are; Burntisland Guides car boot sale in the Parish Church Halls on 29th October which at £10 a table offers an excellent opportunity to have a clear out before Christmas and also to pick up a bargain. Reflections Hairdressers will be doing blow dries and nails on a Saturday to be confirmed and will donate all associated takings to the fund. They also have a treasure hunt for sale in the shop at £3.00 a square with loads of fantastic prizes.

Although fundraising is going well we would welcome any contributions or offers of help as we still have some way to go. So far we have been delighted at how the community as a whole has supported the project which shows that we really do need to replace the park as it is important to a great many people in the town.

Anyone for Fencing?

DYLAN Roberts has lived in Burntisland all his life and has been a keen fencer since the age of 6. Recently he was picked by Scottish Fencing to represent Scotland at an Under 15s international fencing competition in Poland. The competition hosted hundreds of youth fencers from over 30 countries around the world; Dylan performed well in the poules and made the cut for the direct elimination ending a respectable 122nd in the world.

For the last two years Dylan has represented his school (Balwearie) in Scottish fencing competitions and for the last three years he has qualified for the British Youth Championships at Sheffield performing well by coming 39th in Britain in the Under 16s age group at the age of 14.

Dylan has worked hard to develop and improve his technique over a long time and has taken great pride in representing his home town, school and Scotland. Although fencing is not as widely attended as some sports, it is surprisingly accessible in Fife and we benefit from some world class coaches right on our doorstep.



Breakwater Clean-up



THE Lloyds Banking Group Charity Team assisted by two members of the Community Council, John Bruce and Ben Barron, conducted a litter clean up of the Breakwater at the beginning of September during which they collected 25 bags of litter. A similar clean up of the Beach is planned to take place before the end of the year. The whole community extends its thanks to the volunteers whose efforts have made a huge difference to the Breakwater area.

It is up to the whole community to keep it that way!

Burntisland Foodbank

YOUNG Ryan Joyce has been helping us all year in the foodbank, and it has been a very busy year so far. The community payback guys deliver us ready-made food parcels every week from Kirkcaldy Foodbank, for which we are a satellite point. With more and more families turning to foodbanks to get by, we have had to increase the amount of parcels we order - from 6 a week at the beginning of the year, to 16 a week at present.

The contact point for the foodbank is Potter About, so if you need a parcel you can pop in after 4pm each day, but you can also phone us, email us or message us on Facebook and we can deliver at the end of the working day. We are also members of the Suspended Coffee movement and can provide a hot roll and drink twice a week, paid for in advance by our customers.

We will be doing Christmas hampers again this year for our regular users and families that we are aware are struggling. We are accepting donations of Christmas goodies (Christmas puddings, selection boxes, biscuits, toiletries, crackers etc), as well as long life food items like tinned pies, fish and meat, pasta and pasta sauces, rice, UHT milk, tea, coffee, sugar, cereal, soup, tinned fruit, veg and baked beans.

If you would like to volunteer to help make up the hampers, or help deliver them, please pop into the café and ask for Pat. All help greatly appreciated!

FIREWORKS & BONFIRE NIGHT

by Sarah Goodall

This year bonfire night will be held on Thursday the 3rd of November, 2016. Entertainment from 6.0 pm with the bonfire lit at 7pm. Fireworks will start at approximately 7.15pm. The date has been altered this year due to supplier availability. There will also be press releases, radio communications and flyers to advertise this in due course.

The Events Group is made up of volunteers and we are always looking for new ones to help with the night itself. We are short of volunteers this year for collection purposes so if you are interested in helping, please email us at burntislandeventsgroup@gmx.co.uk.

We are also seriously short of funds for next year's event to go ahead, and also for future events. Our costs, which are mostly due to insurance, have increased over 300% over the past 2 years. If you can, please donate to the collection buckets on the night, otherwise this may be the last bonfire night on the Links which would be a great shame.

Please note that for Health and Safety and insurance reasons, no personal fireworks and sparklers will be permitted. Please do not take offence if stewards enforce these rules – they are obliged to. We hope you have a great the evening.



Over Seventies Christmas Treat

THIS year's Christmas Treat will take place on Saturday 10th December at 12 for 12.30 at the Kingswood Hotel. Transport will be available but spaces on the bus are limited. If you would like transport please call 872092/871313 before 1st December to book your space.

Fundraising is continuing as always and a beetle drive was held on 3rd September which raised £135. Although this event was not as well supported as we would have liked, those who did attend had a great time and we would like to thank them for coming.

Our fundraising calendar is now available to buy at the price of £5.00. It is available from Mad Murdoch's, Chapter and Verse, Burntisland Heritage Centre and The Star. This year it features some beautiful photographs showcasing Burntisland's Natural Heritage and is exceptional value at only £5.00.

Finally, the committee would like to thank all those who continue to support us and we are looking forward to seeing the results of their hard work at this year's Christmas Treat.

Coastal Path Charity Challenge

By Gayle Thomson

I am so proud of my mum Margaret Bally (71) and my son Blair Thomson (11) who decided to walk the 117 miles of the Fife Coastal Path. They both wanted to spend time together and to improve their fitness. They also thought it would be a good idea to walk and raise money for charity at the same time.

They had a fantastic journey walking through lovely little coastal towns, nature reserves and forests. They paid close attention to weather forecasts and walked mostly at the weekends and completed the entire route at the start of the Summer holidays. A big thanks to Blair's dad Derek, who dropped them off and picked them up at their starting and stopping points. I was there all the way too as "Coach Gayle" with safety being our highest priority, making sure they kept on the correct track and stocked up with essential drinks and snacks. The path consists of 8 different sections, varying in length from 11 to 20 miles and following the Fife coast from the Kincardine Bridge all the way to Newburgh.

Ardroy Outdoor Education Centre was Margaret and Blair's chosen charity as Blair will be attending later in the year with the Burntisland P7's. Both myself and Blair's older brothers have all taken part in the fantastic outdoor education the Centre provides.

We have to give a big thank you to Morrison's Supermarket Kirkcaldy who donated our star raffle prize - a fantastic Summer Fun Hamper. Also huge thanks to all our lovely



friends, neighbours and family who came along and donated cakes and tombola prizes to our Charity Tea Party held in Manse Lane. What a great community we have! Thanks to Citizen of the Year Carole-Anne Patterson who picked our lucky raffle winners. We raised over £1200 and Ardroy were delighted to use this money to purchase some new sit on top kayaks for beginners.

My mum and Blair are already planning their next challenge.



BURNTISLAND STARTS SINGING!

At the first meeting on 14th September, over thirty-five people came along to explore the enjoyment of

making music as part of a community choir – a fantastic response! We have been meeting on a weekly basis to sing some well-known songs and popular choruses, which has been great fun. This is all about enjoyment, with no pressure to get things right or to feel that you are not a good singer. We are discussing what people want from being in a choir, and a

committee was formed to deal with any administration.

The choir is very much a co-operative effort where all suggestions are welcome as we feel our way forward.

We are fortunate in having a relief pianist but are keen to find another volunteer to accompany us. If you can spare an hour to help out with that, we would love to hear from you.

More importantly, if you would like to join in the singing, you will find us at Erskine Church Hall at 2.00 p.m. on a Wednesday.

For more information, contact Alison on 01592 874313.

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Flekkefjord Sangforening (Male Voice Choir) Twinning

ON Friday 9th September 2016 we were treated to a great concert in the Erskine Church. The Flekkefjord Male Voice Choir laid on this very special event to help us celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Twinning Link between our two towns.

There was a great variety of songs in English & Norwegian for all to enjoy. Coupled with the pithy humour of Thor Kristian Rasmussen (Conductor), it made for a great occasion enjoyed by the large

audience in attendance.

Following the concert the Choir made its way to the Sands hotel for a very welcome supper and blether....Not to mention the odd ale or two! New friendships were forged, older friendships renewed, crew members of 'Sonas', who journeyed to Flekkefjord earlier in the summer, were reunited with the choir... and singing. Lots of singing! What a wonderful way to spend an evening.

Many of the members of the choir

have been in Burntisland through our twinning link before as members of marching bands who visited way back in 1971! Amazingly in 45 years not a lot has changed – one or two more grey hairs perhaps but the spirit continues unabated.

If you want to get a flavour of the evening please have a look on the Burntisland-Flekkefjord Town Twinning Facebook page where there are a couple of short clips.

DOORS have now closed on our 2016 exhibition and we're now beaver away with 2017 preparations. As usual, our starting point is relevant anniversaries, so we're concentrating on dates ending in 17 and 67!

There are still important WW1 stories to tell – 1917 witnessed the horrendous carnage of Paschendaele and the entry into the conflict of the USA. (To put the scale of WW1 into perspective, during the War, the USA sacrificed over 52,000 young soldiers..... In the 8-year-long Vietnam conflict, they lost 58,000)

Jump forward half a century to 1967....Readers of a "certain age" will undoubtedly remember the epic single-handed circumnavigation of the world by 65 year-old Francis Chichester in his yacht 'Gypsy Moth IV'.

1967 also heralded the advent of colour television in the UK, witnessed the demise of BBC's Light Programme, Third Programme and Home Service and the emergence of Radios 1,2,3 and 4. It was also the year of the Beatles' *Sgt Pepper* album and the start of a whole new era in music.

In September, we again took part in the Orkney International Science Festival – see picture opposite.

To find out more about the Museum and catch up with our latest news, visit our website: www.mocft.co.uk or phone 01592 874836

Museum of Communication

By Dorothy Brankin



Prof. Tom Stevenson, MoC Chairman, welcomes people to our lecture in Kirkwall Town Hall

TOLL CENTRE

By **Bridget Fraser**

THIS year is a 'Big Birthday' for the Toll Centre as we mark 40 years since the Centre was officially opened! The Toll Centre originally grew out of 'Youth Clubs Burntisland' and was established as a Community Centre with a particular focus on children and youth groups. The Centre is a registered charity and is held in Trust for the people of Burntisland.

Youth Clubs continue to be a big part of the Toll Centre programme, with the Toll Centre Kids Club taking place on Tuesday evenings, and a Council run club on Thursdays. On Friday evenings high school pupils can come along to the Fife Council Music Project where musical instruments and performance skills can be developed – a number of great bands have been formed here! The Toll Centre is also home to Burntisland Playgroup and Burntisland Out of School Service. More mature members of the community are not forgotten, the 'Wednesday Club' meet at the Toll Centre in the winter months, last

.....celebrates 40th Birthday

year we held some really successful winter lunches, and a new 'Silver Surfer' Programme will be launched soon in the IT suite.

There have been quite a few physical changes to the building – the original doors facing out to the Toll Park seemed like a good idea until the strong easterly winds blew straight in! After a few years a new entrance and foyer was established on the south side of the building. A new roof was also a great improvement. Inside there have also been many changes, a lot of people will remember the wee reception desk, the TV room and the woodwork space (used by adults and kids alike!). Anyone who went to youth club in the 70's and 80's will remember sitting on the 'yellow bit' waiting for a game of pool or footie in the hall. More recently the kitchen has had a re-fit, a new floor has been put in, dedicated kids toilets have been fitted and the garden area has been much improved. Unfortunately, the original oil fired boiler and heating system is still a fixture – it's lasted well but for environmental and cost reasons replacing this system is a priority for the Management Committee. As well as employing a number of part time staff, the Centre is run by a voluntary Management Committee.

Both staff and volunteers work hard to ensure that the fabric of the building is maintained, the financial books are balanced, and the 'Toll' remains central to the Burntisland community. Many much loved and well-kent faces have worked at or been involved with the Toll Centre over the years.

The 'Toll' is still grant aided by Fife Council, although changes to funding in recent years mean that more income has to be sourced through room and hall lets, grants, and fundraising activities. The 50/50 club is increasing in membership – members pay £5 per month and half of the money is paid out in prizes – if you'd like to join and help secure the future of the Centre, please see our website, www.tollcentre.org.uk for more information.

On 19th November we'll be celebrating our 40th birthday with 'No1 Sun' playing live – tickets are £5 and are available from the Toll Centre office. In December it's the kids turn as the popular annual Christmas party is planned for Saturday 17th December.

For further information about the Toll Centre please see our website or contact us on 01592 872854.

Burntisland's Hedgehogs

By **Leo du Feu**

AS I write at the end of September we've watched this hedgehog in our garden almost every night for the last month and more. It's BIG, probably a male. There's also a slightly smaller hog, and tonight we've seen a baby – a hoglet – about the size of a fuzzy Conference pear. Two nights ago we saw an even smaller hoglet a bit along the road, snuffling for beetles and slugs in the grass of St Serf's churchyard. Unfortunately, hedgehog populations are plummeting and appear to be declining in the UK at the same rate as tigers are globally – at around 5% a year, both in rural and urban habitats. In the 1950's there were an estimated 30 million hedgehogs in the UK. In 1995 the figure was down to 1.5 million. Now it's thought to be below a million.

Happily, it's very easy to help our hogs. The internet is full of great advice, especially through conservation charities such as British Hedgehog Preservation Society and RSPB. Here are a few key things you can do:

Hedgehogs need much more space than one garden provides so team up with neighbours to cut a hedgehog hole in the

bottom of your fence, or dig a hole under it, or remove a small stone at the base of your wall. Make your neighbourhood a Hedgehog Street – www.hedgehogstreet.org has many inspiring examples.



Hedgehogs need places to forage for food, and cosy dry dens to sleep in during daytime and to hibernate in during winter. Be a bit 'messier' in your garden. Let patches grow long, let ground-cover stay rather than clear to bare earth. Pile logs and sticks and leaves in a hidden corner. Reduce slug pellets and pesticides and ideally don't use them at all – slugs and insects are what hedgehogs eat! If you have to strim or burn please check the area first.

Drive slower along residential streets. A flattened mother hedgehog on the road may mean four or five starved hoglets back in the nest. Put out food each night – meat-based dog or cat food, unsalted chopped/crushed peanuts, sunflower hearts, dried meal worms. Hedgehogs are lactose intolerant so can't be given milk.

A pond with at least one shallowly sloping edge is about the very best thing you can do for wildlife at home, including hedgehogs. If you can't do this put out a shallow basin or tray for hogs to drink from and refresh water regularly. Put in stones or sticks or an upturned half coconut shell to be sure nothing gets trapped and drowns. Buy a hedgehog box, or make your own using ideas online.

Support your local hedgehog rescue centre, Forth Hedgehog Hospital in Rosyth – www.hedgehoghospital.org.uk.

Support might be through offering some of your time or donating either money or items such as cat food (wet and dry but not fish flavoured), towels, newspapers, food/water bowls, small & medium cages.



Burntisland Golf House Club

By Dave McPherson

WITH the majority of the 'playing' season now behind us, it would be easy to think about putting the clubs away until next Spring. However, it is worth mentioning for those that are new to the Club, or Buzz readers who are considering joining, that there is a full winter programme of events for the weekenders and tee times available most days through the week. The course at Dodhead only closes in extreme circumstances - snow or severe frost / flooding - so, (without any guarantees!) a membership is as close to a 365 day deal as you'll get. The course itself has been in superb condition once again this year, and has drawn praise from many of the visitors to Burntisland. Let's hope many of them visit the town again. Congratulations go to Head Greenkeeper Stevie McAughey and his team who continue to work wonders on a tight budget.

The catering department have had a change recently and Colin Bonnar is the new Head Chef. Colin was part of the team already in place at BGHC and when Jules, the former head man, moved on, he relished the challenge of being his own boss. A Winter menu is now available and Christmas lunches will be served from 1st-23rd December. Along with those offerings, are the staple Friday Fish Teas, Saturday A La Carte and Sunday Roast which will run most weekends when functions are not being held. Non-members should know that they are welcome to sample Colin's delights and they (as well as members) should telephone 01592 874093 (bar option) to check availability and to book.



18th green and clubhouse

Shirley and her hospitality team will be eager to hear from you.

Paul Wytrazek and his assistants, Craig and Blaine, will also give you a warm welcome in the Professional's Shop. His shop is very well stocked, as well as competitively priced, and it may just prove the answer for that person you can never get a Christmas present for!! Again non-members are more than welcome to drop in.

On the competitive side of things there has been the usual round of winners and losers throughout the season, but special mention is given here to the team who are representing the Ladies Section in the Mail on Sunday Competition. The event started back in January and there has been a tie a month since then. So, after away ties at places such as Monifieth, Muckhart and Scotsraig, and home wins over prestigious Clubs such as Murcar and Duddingston, the ladies have earned themselves a place in the Semi-Finals (and hopefully Final) next month at El

Rompido in Spain. A team of 6 will fly out, accompanied by a horde of supporters, and we all hope that the Saltire will fly high at the close of play.

Burntisland is no different to a lot of Clubs in that there has been a steady decline in the number of juniors taking part. We would like it to be known that if any local youngster fancies a shot, then we would more than welcome them, and try our best to get them started even if they don't have any kit of their own to begin with. An under-12 membership is currently only £15, and a parent could make use of a Social membership (not obligatory) which is only £20.

Memberships are currently available in all categories with discounted rates up to the age of 30.

If you have any queries at all please email info@burntislandgolfhouseclub or telephone 01592 874093, and we look forward to seeing you up at Dodhead.

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Tuesday

Circuit Training 10.30am - 11.15am Johnny Miller

Abs / Core 11.30am - 12.15pm Johnny Miller

Wednesday

Aquaerobics 7.30pm - 8.30pm Lauren Mullen

Circuit Training 6.00pm - 6.45pm Johnny Miller

Abs / Core 7.00pm - 7.45pm Johnny Miller

Thursday

Pilates 9.45am - 10.45am Susan Spowart

50+ Aquaerobics 9.45am - 10.30am Jill Johnston

BodyPUMP 6.00pm - 7.00pm Jill Johnston

Friday

Aqua Deep 9.30am - 10.30am Jill Johnston

Pilates 10.45am - 11.45am Jill Johnston

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By **Charlie Kilgour**

order not to compete with Burntisland's other Summer events.

This year, Rab and I and a host of others, brought live music back to the bandstand on the Links in Burntisland. With no possibility of ticket sales, rising cost was always an obstacle. But with Rab in the driving seat, through sponsorship, willing help and putting our hands in our own pockets to outright buy the equipment we needed for future years, it happened, as can be seen in the photo.

While we had anticipated rain, none of us had thought about the wind, and having struggled most of the morning to tie down the marquee, it blew off the stage mid afternoon, despite having been tied to a transit van.

There were an estimated 200 people there, who seemed to be enjoying themselves. Definitely encouragement to do it

ALTHOUGH this was held way back in Mid July, we decided to hold back this article, in

again in 2017. Many thanks to everyone involved, who gave their time freely to make this happen, and to everyone who came down.



Riff Raff Rebel



THIS issue we shine the spotlight on Macauley's Fruit & Veg Merchant, which recently marked its first year on the High Street. Owner Ross Macauley took over the shop in September 2015, his first full-time business venture.

The shop has seen some changes, with refrigeration introduced for perishables and the line of dry produce extended. Ross has added gourmet snacks and drinks, and other speciality products. The popular weekly soup bags remain, along with seasonal local produce and fresh daily deliveries from the market.

Over the next few months local cabbages, carrots, potatoes, brussels sprouts, beetroot and leeks will be appearing in the shop. Perfect for making soup over the winter! The hard-to-find McIntosh Red apples will also be available soon.

Earlier this year, Macauley's was awarded Fresh Produce Supplier of the Year in the Central region at the Scottish Independent Retail Awards 2016. And during Civic Week, Ross really entered the community spirit by taking part in the

raft race. He joined forces with the seafood shop next door, finishing 2nd in their "Fruit n' Fash" raft!

"Overall it's been a great first year for us", commented Ross. "We're really proud to be part of Burntisland's High Street and a local community that values its independent retailers so much."



Fresh produce with Ross

The Beacon Runners

IT'S been a busy season of events for the Beacon Runners. Seven of our group competed in the arduous 53 mile Highland Fling Ultramarathon back in April, running from Milngavie to Tyndrum along the West Highland Way. Burntisland runners Karen Young and Neil MacNicol put in great performances coming 4th in the F50 category and 3rd in the M40 categories, respectively.

At a smaller scale, 24 Beacon-ers enjoyed a fine race out at the local and unique Black Rock race in June, many endeavouring to beat previous times and some attempting it for the first time. Another great local race, The Donkey Brae, was also well represented by club runners with Shelagh Davidson taking the "first local lady" prize.

Apart from these events, many of our runners have set PBs this year at distances from 10k to marathon and beyond, in races from Fife to Florida. Others have progressed from the occasional jog to their first 5k. And others have no interest in racing but still come along to the club to train in company and enjoy the banter.

Numbers at the club have been great this year with many fine summer evenings. On 29th August we had our biggest attendance since the club was established in 1999, with 35 runners, many modelling the new club vests and hoodies.

Whatever your running goals, structured training with others can improve your pace and endurance and encourage you to get out the door on those cold dark winter evenings. New runners are always welcome, meeting Monday nights at the Beacon 7pm – 8pm (come ready to run). While there is no minimum standard as such it will probably help if you can already jog for at least 10 minutes continuously. And if you can't do that yet there are other options available locally to take you from walking up to that level. Pop along to the club any Monday at 8pm and we'd be happy to discuss these with you.



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CHRISTMAS DAY: Bookings Only. Please contact 01592 872230. A £10.00 deposit is required to secure your booking.

HOGMANAY: Ring out the old and in with the new year as you count down to 2017 with us!

FESTIVE PARTY NIGHT: Back by popular demand. This year, our party night to remember will be held on Saturday 3rd December. Spaces are limited, please book early to avoid disappointment.

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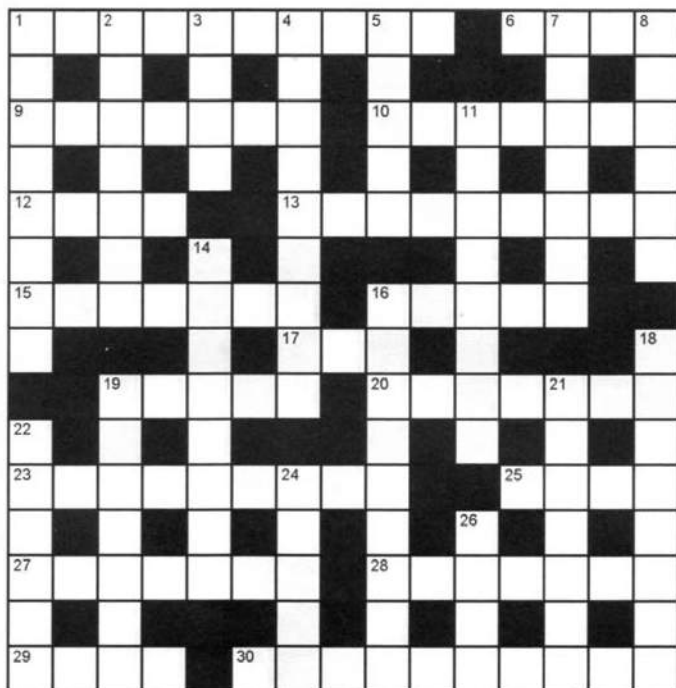
Class 4

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Class 7

THE PRIZE CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. Absent-Minded (10)
6. Norse God of thunder(4)
9. Model of perfection(7)
10. Protective eyewear(7)
12. Ellipse(4)
13. Sad(9)
15. Humble dwelling(7)
16. A sense (5)
17. Balderdash(3)
19. Religious Observances (5)
20. Otagia(7)
23. Swindled(9)
25. Overlook(4)
27. Opera composer(7)
28. Southern US state(7)
29. Extinct bird(4)
30. Constantly(3,3,4)

DOWN

1. Come near (8)
2. Domestic worker(7)
3. Intense anger (4)
4. Storage containers (9)
5. Keen(5)
7. Rendering assistance(7)
8. Impetuously (6)
11. Branch of Mathematics (8)
14. Smoked seasoned beef(8)
16. Staunch(9)
18. Period of hot weather(4,4)
19. Denied (7)
21. Italian aperitif (7)
22. Revered(6)
24. Tool borer(5)
26. Hereward the ——(4)

Solution to Summer Crossword

ACROSS: 1 Disconcert, 6 Abel, 9 Frantic, 10 Backlog
12 Odin, 13 Insolvent, 15 Ignoble, 16 Cease, 17 A la,
19 Quell, 20 Broaden, 23 Identical, 25 Taxi, 27 Chimera,
28 En Route, 29 Sage, 30 Bloody Mary

DOWN: 1 Daffodil, 2 Sea Lion, 3 Oath, 4 Cochineal,
5 Robes, 7 Believe, 8 Lights, 11 Calvados, 14 Absentee,
16 Caballero, 18 Entirely, 19 Queuing, 21 Dracula,
22 Discus, 24 Crawl, 26 Dry.

CONGRATULATIONS—Our Spring Crossword winner of
£25 in vouchers is: Mrs G B Chuchuk
Cromwell Road,
Burntisland

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

TELEPHONE:.....

Completed entries by: 31st December 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
NOVEMBER		
Thursday 3rd	BONFIRE NIGHT ON THE LINKS	from 6.15pm onwards
Friday 11th	Community Council meeting in the Burgh Chambers	7.00 pm
Friday 11th	RNLI Christmas Shopping at the Kingswood Hotel	6.30 pm - 9.30 pm
Sunday 13th	REMEMBRANCE DAY PARADE AND SERVICES	Details on Page 7
Thursday 17th	Police Community Engagement Meeting at Burntisland Primary School	9.30 am - 10.30 am
Thursday 17th	Voskresenije Choir at St Serf's	7.30 pm
Saturday 19th	Parish Church Christmas Fayre in Church Hall	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm
Saturday 19th	Toll Centre 40th Birthday Party featuring "No 1 Sun"	Evening
Tuesday 22nd	Police Community Engagement Meeting at Burntisland Primary School	6.30 pm - 7.30 pm
Saturday 26th	Natural Heritage Exhibition open in Heritage Centre at No 4 Kirkgate	1.00 pm - 4.00pm
DECEMBER		
Saturday 3rd	Natural Heritage Exhibition open at No 4 Kirkgate	1.00 pm - 4.00pm
Sunday 4th	Burntisland Primary School Christmas Fair	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm
Friday 9th	Community Council meeting in Burgh Chambers	7.00 pm
Saturday 10th	OVER SEVENTIES CHRISTMAS TREAT at the Kingswood Hotel	12.00 noon for 12.30 pm
Saturday 10th	Natural Heritage Exhibition open at No 4 Kirkgate	1.00 pm - 4.00pm
Saturday 17th	Toll Centre Annual Christmas Party	tba
JANUARY		
Friday 14th	Community Council meeting in Burgh Chambers	7.00 pm

Chapter and Verse

By Joan Dewar

The Parish Church Shop, situated in the High St has become a familiar establishment but during its recent refurbishment we were aware that for some people, very little was known about the past and current history of the shop or indeed that it even existed!

At the beginning of 2001 plans were well underway in Burntisland Parish Church for a celebration to commemorate the commissioning of the King James Bible in the church at the 1601 General Assembly by King James VI. A decision was made to rent a shop in the High St which would serve as an information centre for the forthcoming event.

The shop, opened in April 2001, proved to be a popular place for people to drop into for a chat and to purchase souvenir items. A small selection of Christian cards and gifts were also available.

The celebrations proved to be a real community event in the town and its churches and Gillian Paterson, the coordinator, proposed that the shop should remain open as a Christian presence in the town centre and in 2002 the shop was purchased by Burntisland Parish Church. From there Chapter and Verse grew and evolved into the shop we know today. A management team and a large group of volunteers enable the shop to open from Monday to Saturday

10am - 4pm. (closed Wednesday from October to March)

The recent refurbishment has drawn the attention of customers and staff to the mystery of the "Dr Nikola Mixture" feature above the counter. After some research it came to light that Dr Antonio

popular and Dr Nikola was one of the earliest examples of a villain granted his own series, indeed the first novel "A Bid for Fortune" was serialised in The Windsor Magazine, a monthly glossy magazine, offering its readers, both male and female "the best in fiction".

In the 19th century the property was used as a seedsman and fruiterer's shop. The "Dr Nikola Mixture" sign in the shop probably eludes to one of the natural remedies or elixirs that the Seedsman stocked at the time. In later years it was a tobacconist and newsagent. Photos and more information can be seen in Chapter and Verse. Any further information regarding the history of the shop would be appreciated.

Chapter and Verse continues to be a Christian presence on the High Street offering a range of Bibles, Christian books, gifts and cards. Also a selection of greetings cards, jewellery, gifts for the home and all occasions. The renovation has made the shop a bright and attractive, welcoming place for staff and customers. We are looking forward to the Christmas season with a range of traditional and modern festive items. A far cry from the days of Dr Nikola and his Mixture!



Nikola was the creation of prolific Australian novelist Guy Boothby who wrote a series of five novels (1895-1901) featuring Dr Nikola, a mad genius and criminal mastermind who had two major goals, immortality and world domination. A master of disguise, he could hypnotise anyone to do his will. Through occult means he could see the future and the past. He was always accompanied by his black cat, Apollyon, who sat upon his shoulder. These novels were very

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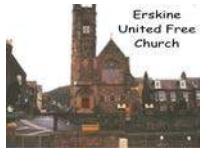
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Erskine News

by
Rev. Alexander Ritchie

FIRST the news. Our Autumn Fayre takes place on Saturday 29 October from 10am till 12 noon in the church halls. The usual mix of stalls, plus those epic fresh pancakes! Erskine is hosting this year's Remembrance Sunday service on 13 November at 10.45am, with local uniformed organisations present. There's always something very poignant about standing together at the War Memorial in silence.

For Christmas you'll see the list of services in the town under the banner of Churches' Together. Who says our congregations never work together? It's

going to be a busy few weeks and I know you'd be welcome at any of these events in any of our churches. Let me highlight the Watchnight on Christmas Eve at 11.15pm in Erskine. It always feels right to welcome the big day in church and this is a well-attended service with traditional readings & carols in a special atmosphere.

Next the message. The end of the year makes us wonder where the months have gone, surely it can't be time to prepare for Christmas once again? I heard someone speaking on the radio a while ago who celebrates Christmas every single day. That would be far too much for me, yet I think we need to rediscover what's behind all the glitter & tinsel. Never too early to prepare for Christmas - so we are told - but what is it we're preparing for? Two weeks of cards, gifts, food and celebration? At least when harvest or

Remembrance come along, there's no doubt what the proper focus is. We give thanks at harvest, we reflect on sacrifices made for freedom at Remembrance.

Christmas has a personal focus too, quite literally so, as we give thanks for Jesus' birth and reflect on the reasons why he came into a broken and lost world. It's a very human, humble story; but for Christians it also marks the greatest ever intervention in the world's history. Read the full account for yourself in Luke's Gospel chapters 1-2.

Last the challenge. As I write this, school October holidays are about to begin with the count down clock standing at 80 days until Christmas. I hope you can find ways to enjoy these final weeks of another year, and I hope you will make even a bit of time to give thanks and reflect on what the big fuss is actually all about...

News from St Joseph's

by Val Crossan



AS usual the parish of St Josephs has been busy during the summer months although The flower group did have a summer break it is now back up and running. The group meet in the hall every second Wednesday, all are

welcome.

A group of parishioners made the annual pilgrimage to Carfin, organised by the St Vincent de Paul. Despite some inclement weather those attending enjoyed a very spiritual and

uplifting day.

A special mass was said in St Mary's Metropolitan Cathedral to celebrate 25 years in the priesthood for Monsignor Patrick Burke. Monsignor Burke served as parish priest at St Joseph's for a spell. Several parishioners attended both the mass and reception afterwards.

The final evening of mercy, led by Archbishop Cushley, was held in St Margarets, Dunfermline.

Fr Brian is very pleased to be taking part in the regular ecumenical services held at Alan Court.

Why Christmas?

By Rev Dean Norby



Walking into an unnamed local Gardening Centre this September I was surprised, if not a bit stressed, to see Christmas decorations up in SEPT! It made me ask the question **Why Christmas?** On my exploration of this

question I found some interesting facts about Christmas which may be a conversation starter over your meal on 25th December.

1. **364** - The number of gifts in the Twelve Days of Christmas added up.
2. **60 Million** - Number of Christmas trees grown each year in Europe.
3. **1957** - The year the Queen's speech was first televised.
4. **3** - The record for most Christmas number 1 singles held by the Beatles in 1963, 65 and 67.
5. **January 7** - When the Greeks celebrate Christmas, but presents are opened on New Year's Day.
6. **3:1** - The ratio of NATURAL Christmas trees sales to ARTIFICIAL Christmas trees.
7. **1 in 6** - the chances of a white Christmas in Scotland.
8. **957** - The typical number of calories in your average Christmas dinner!
9. **6 Million** - The number of rolls of sellotape sold in the UK in the run up to Christmas.
10. **760 Million** - number of gifts shared in the UK on Christmas Day.

This number of 760M Gifts shared on Christmas day shows that Gifts are one of the main focus of Christmas. Some open their gifts on Christmas Eve, others on Christmas Morning, while the more patient like to spread them out over the day. This is not the case in our house! Whenever they are opened in

your house we can be sure not one gift will be left wrapped and under the tree.

A Wise Person once told me that the Perfect Christmas Gift is a gift that was not on the recipients wish list, they did not even know they wanted it or needed it! But when they open it up **IT IS PERFECT! JUST WHAT THEY WANTED!!**

That I guess is the best answer to the question **Why Christmas?** That God has given us all a Gift of a

Baby, a Perfect Gift that we may not even know we want or need. But when we open it up we may just find out IT FITS PERFECTLY.

We invite everyone to join us for the below Christmas Events at St Serf's and this Advent Season to hear more about this Perfect Gift.

4th Dec (Sunday) 6:00pm Classic Christmas

Concert - Last year we had a 'Celtic Christmas' concert while this year we are having a 'Classic Christmas' concert with stringed instruments rather than bagpipes! Also there will be well known Christmas Songs and of course the classic refreshment of Mulled Wine following.

23rd Dec (Friday) 3:00pm Live Nativity —

Yes!! there will be animals and a baby Jesus!! All welcome. Children and Adults to come dressed in their favourite nativity character. Drinks and Christmas Snacks served after.

Connecting friends, family and faith...



Mary's Meals Backpack Project

MEMBERS and friends of Burntisland Parish Church have been busy over the summer months filling backpacks destined for children in Malawi via the charity Mary's Meals.

A total of 112 backpacks were donated, an increase on the previous collection three years ago - many thanks to all those involved.

Mary's Meals representative Richard Lloyd joined the congregation at the morning church service and later for lunch in the church hall.

Pictured with some of the backpacks are Burntisland Parish Church members **Sandra Annand, Joan Dewar, Kath Adamson and Ann Smith, along with Richard Lloyd.**

Forthcoming Churches Together Services

Sunday 27/11/16	3 pm	Primary Praise, Burntisland Primary School, with a St Andrew's day theme
Sunday 4/12/16	6 pm	'Classical Christmas' Service. St Serf's
Sunday 11/12/16	6.15pm	Family Carol Service in Erskine Church
Sunday 18/12/16	2-5pm	Messy Nativity in the Parish Church
Friday 23/12/16	3-4pm	Live Nativity St Serf's.
Saturday 24/12/16	8 pm	Christmas Eve family Mass St Joseph's
Saturday 24/12/16	7 pm	Christmas Eve Service Parish Church
Saturday 24/12/16	11.15 pm	Watchnight Service Erskine Church
Saturday 24/12/16	11:30pm	Watchnight Service (Communion) St Serf's (no Christmas Day service)
Sunday 25/12/16	10 am	Christmas Day Mass St Joseph's
Sunday 25/12/16	10.30 am	Christmas Day service (45 minutes) Erskine Church
Sunday 25/12/16	11.00 am	Christmas day service Parish Church
Sunday 8/1/17	6.30 pm	Blue January service, Parish Church Hall

Craigencalt Trust News



THE Trust held its third local Walking Festival in September. Although the weather was not quite as good as previous years, it did not dampen the enthusiasm, making it another big success. The varied programme introduced two new ideas this year, with a "walk and sketch" along the coastal path with local artist Leo de Feu, and an edible and medicinal plant walk with Simone Clark who runs Solar Ripe, a medicinal herb garden at Craigencalt. On the last day, the walk ended at the "Barn at the Loch" cafe at Craigencalt Farm where 24 folk enjoyed a light lunch to celebrate the event. The usual Walking Group continues to meet during the winter on the first Wednesday of each month at 10am in the lay-by car park just before the road down to Craigencalt Farm.

Often the question arises about what part the Trust plays in promoting and improving Kinghorn Loch and its surroundings. A simple answer is that the Trust works closely with the water sports and leisure groups, together with land owners, to improve facilities around the loch and as far afield as the Binn Village, for everyone to use, relax and enjoy. Since the Trust began in 2012 it has completed 3 major projects. Working with landowner we have improved pathways and constructed new ones, including installing a troll bridge and other facilities on Rodanbraes Path. Our paths are family and disabled friendly, avoiding steep inclines or steps. This year the "Lochside Project" provided a new woodland walk,

more parking provision at the lochside and renewal of barley straw rafts to ensure the water quality in the loch is kept 'excellent'.

The Trust has also published various booklets which are helpful resources for local schools, and appreciated by our friends and visitors to the area. The pocket Pathways Booklet is a popular guide to walking in the area. The updated Bird Booklet and seasonal Flower Cards are helpful for identifying many birds and plants in their local habitat. More recently, we have published a booklet on the former Oil Shale Industry at Binnend and a detailed History of Craigencalt and Kinghorn Loch. These have been very well received. Next year we hope to continue in the same mode, working with landowners to improve the local environment for all to enjoy. If you would like to know more about the Trust our website is www.Craigencalttrust.org.uk.



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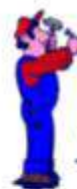
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