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# BURGH BUZZ



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## Burntisland Community Award Winner 2017

### Mary Brownlee

**O**n 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016, Mary Brownlee was absolutely stunned when informed by Alex MacDonald, Chairman of the Community Council that she had been selected as Burntisland Citizen of the Year for 2017.

Mary and her husband Renwick moved to Burntisland almost 40 years ago and from the start she became actively involved as a volunteer in community activities. Having two young daughters, her initial participation was with toddlers and parents playgroups and with the Brownies at the Erskine Church. As her daughters grew up, Mary took the opportunity to obtain a formal qualification in pre-school education and was employed as an Early Years Officer with Fife Council. Despite holding down a full time job, Mary continued to offer her services as a volunteer. She completed a First Aid course and having a mini bus licence, she occasionally drove the local ambulance on non-emergency duties, on one occasion



inadvertently using the ambulance emergency lights but arriving at her destination in record time!

For over 20 years, Mary has been the driving force on the organising committee of the Wednesday Club at the

Toll Centre, a self-funded organisation which provides entertainment, relaxation, fun and companionship for the over fifties in the town. She still maintains contact with pre-schoolers through "Light Bite" at the Erskine Church and "Rhyme Time" Parent and Toddler Group at the Toll Centre. Mary currently chairs the organising committee of the Burntisland Branch of Cancer Research UK which in recent years has raised thousands of pounds through its varied fund raising programme. She is also an enthusiastic member of the Langtoun Singers and just before Christmas could be seen amongst a group of carol singers in the High Street, singing for charity.

Mary said that she was extremely proud and honoured to receive this award but took pains to emphasise that she could not serve the community as she does without the support of her family and of the many other dedicated volunteers who give of their time and effort, and whom she feels are equally deserving of such an honour.

## Neil MacNicol – Winter Champ of the West Highland Way

**L**ocal endurance athlete Neil MacNicol recently set a target that will be extremely difficult to beat – he completed a winter traverse of the 96 mile West Highland Way in an unbelievable 20 hours and 33 minutes. This feat is normally attempted by athletes who have participated in the annual West Highland Way Race which takes place over the weekend nearest the summer solstice. The winter version is attempted by a dedicated few as near to the shortest day of the year as possible.

Neil's achievement is even more commendable as he completed the run alone and without any logistical support other than a pal to drop him off at Fort William and to pick him up at Milngavie on completion. He carried all his essential equipment and sustenance in a back pack, quenching his thirst en route from rivers and streams. Most of the run took place in total darkness, the only light being provided by the moon and a head torch. Neil was not entirely out touch however, as his progress was carefully monitored by friends and relatives through a GPS tracking device which he wore throughout.

Although he experienced strong winds and heavy rain when crossing exposed sections of the Rannoch Moor, Neil felt that the temperature was unseasonably mild as he encountered no snow or ice. This was a major contributing factor in being able to record such a competitive time. Nevertheless Neil was extremely relieved, satisfied and tired at the end – and really chuffed with his time.



Photo by Patricia Carvalho

Neil is a massage therapist and running coach who works from his purpose built treatment room at home. He is a member of the coaching staff of the Beacon Runners and conducts his own beginner group sessions at the Toll Park. He can be contacted at Tel: 07930396022 email: [neil@macnicol.co.uk](mailto:neil@macnicol.co.uk) website: [www.runrecover.co.uk](http://www.runrecover.co.uk) or follow him on Twitter or Facebook.

# BURNTISLAND'S COMMUNITY PAPER

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

## From the Editor

Every New Year I never cease to be surprised by the amazing qualities displayed by the individual selected as the winner of the annual community award. This year was no exception and even more significant is the fact that Mary Brownlee was selected from a large number of worthy nominees. Burntisland is indeed fortunate to have so many public spirited residents willing to give of their free time and energy for the benefit of the community at large. Another unique example was Joyce Higginson, also a former Community Award winner, who sadly passed away last November.

Local organisations such as the Events Group and the Civic Week Committee have a high turn over of volunteers, primarily because offspring outgrow involvement and move on to more mature activities. Such groups are constantly on the look-out for fresh blood. It can be fun and is a great way to make new friends. Look out for notifications of meetings and AGMs and join in.

This issue also features several sports clubs in the town. Golf, Lawn Bowls, Football, Sailing and a variety of water sports at Kinghorn Loch. All offer avenues for participation for both young and the not so young. These are all relatively inexpensive pastimes so drag yourself away from that TV, hide the kids' tablets, gaming devices and mobile phones, take to the great outdoors and benefit from fresh air and light exercise.

Congratulations and plaudits must be extended to the Over 70s Christmas Treat Committee who beaver away tirelessly throughout the year accumulating sufficient resources to regally entertain some 150 of our senior citizens every December. The party at the Kingswood this year was indeed memorable.

Finally, please accept my best wishes for a happy, prosperous and safe New Year.

Bill Kirkhope (Editor)

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## Burntisland Library

Temporary Closure from  
14th January 2017

**The library has closed for urgent building repairs and refurbishment and will reopen in March 2017. Date to be advised**

During this time the Mobile Library will visit fortnightly, commencing Monday 16th January  
**Location: Links Place Car Park 9.45-10.45**

You can use your card at any other library in Fife or log into [www.onfife.com/libraries](http://www.onfife.com/libraries) to renew items or to reserve books on line

**Nearest libraries are:**

**Kinghorn Library & Templehall Library**

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**87 High Street, Burntisland.**

**[www.printcentres.com](http://www.printcentres.com)**

**Your local printer**

## 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.

- We are delighted to welcome new members Ariadne Cass-Maran and Carole-Anne Crossan, who have both been elected to fill vacancies on the Community Council.
- Bruce Stuart has been elected Vice Chair, and George McLauchlan is now Treasurer, with Lesley Backhouse as Minutes Secretary. John Bruce is now lead Emergency Co-ordinator.
- We have applied for registration as a charity, which will make it easier for us to raise funds for future projects.
- We have learned that only two members of Fife NHS Board voted on a proposal for an additional pharmacy in Burntisland and they had voted against. An appeal has been lodged by the applicant and is supported by the Community Council.
- Work on the East Links playpark is now complete. The work for the West Links has gone to tender and a preferred contractor has been selected, enabling work to start.
- Plans are in hand by Fife Council to decorate the lower library and the stairwell, whilst carrying out some minor repairs to the building fabric.
- Thanks to sponsorship by ExxonMobil, we arranged for 75 senior citizens to attend the Christmas pantomime in Lochgelly. A further 24 were taken to the January pantomime in Dalgety Bay.
- Work on the building fabric at the Kirkton churchyard will start in Spring. We have seen the first draft of an artistic impression of how the churchyard may have looked in the 16th century. It will be used as part of the interpretation panels once the work has been completed.
- Over 40 guests attended the formal presentation of trophies to the winners of the Scots Verse competition.
- We are very grateful to Tom Courts Butchers for their decision to make a donation from every prize-winning sausage roll sold in 2017. The proceeds will go to the Community Council at the end of the year for disbursement to local charitable causes.
- We have objected to a proposal to change the Westminster parliamentary boundary for Burntisland, which would combine us with Kinross-shire and Cowdenbeath. Any revised proposal will be announced in Autumn 2017.
- We await further detail on changes to flight paths which might affect Burntisland and will comment once the proposals are known.
- Vacancies remain for new members of the Community Council and we invite applications from people who are on the electoral roll for Burntisland. Fuller information is available from [burntislandcc@outlook.com](mailto:burntislandcc@outlook.com)

## 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: Bruce Stuart  
 Treasurer: George McLauchlan  
 Secretary: Gordon Langlands  
 Minutes Secretary: Lesley Backhouse

Members:  
 Christine Dewar Tim Hailey  
 Morag Douglas Ariadne Cass-Maran  
 John Bruce Lesley-Anne Cronin  
 Ben Barron Carol-Anne Crossan  
 (2 vacancies)

### 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 2017

Copy Deadline: 14th April

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

# The Burgh Polis

By PC Bryan Weir



As in previous articles, I believe it is important to report back to the community on our performance and what we have achieved. I would like to compare the second half of last year with the previous year. Once again we have seen a reduction of some 40% in the number of crimes reported in the second half of 2016 compared to 2015 with the detection rate currently at 58%. There has been a significant reduction in all crime categories with the exception of crimes of dishonesty which include shoplifting and fraud. There has been a notable rise in this group from 34 in 2015 to 46 in 2016. The majority of offences relate to shoplifting and on a detailed analysis by Ross and myself it has become apparent that these crimes are being committed by a small number of offenders. We are taking steps to identify these individuals to prevent further offences taking place and would appeal to the public for any information that may assist in dealing with this problem.

Speeding and inconsiderate driving continues to be of concern to members of the public. Ross and I earnestly appeal to all drivers to continue to be mindful of their speed and take road conditions into consideration, particularly during the winter months. We will be out with the speed gun and remind all drivers that anyone caught speeding may be issued with a ticket, which is an immediate £100 fine and 3 penalty points or

in excessive cases, could be reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

Ross and I as always are available to anyone who wishes to contact us direct for any reason by calling 101 or emailing us on one of the following email addresses:  
**Bryan.weir@scotland.pnn.police.uk**  
**Ross.masterton@scotland.pnn.police.uk**

## Community Engagement Meetings.

Due to the positive feedback from the public and the continued support of Julie Anderson, Head Teacher at Burntisland Primary School, these meetings will continue to be held at the Primary School during 2017. On review it has been decided to reduce their frequency to one meeting every three months and we will continue to invite partner agencies to attend. I would encourage all members of the community to attend and have their say on local policing. The Community Engagement Meetings this year will be on the following dates;

**9th February – Thursday @ 6.30 pm – 7.30 pm**  
**29th May – Monday @ 6.30 pm – 7.30 pm**  
**28th August – Monday @ 6.30 pm – 7.30 pm**  
**16th November – Thursday @ 6.30 pm – 7.30 pm**

## Burntisland Youth Theatre - Sing a Song of Sixpence

by Karen Speirs

What can I say? - what a show, what a cast and what a blast! A lot of hard work came to fruition in December, and it was so worth it. If you missed it, you definitely missed out.

The dancers, cast and crew who took part are something special. It was awesome to see so many young people come to join and deal with the madness that is Burntisland Youth Theatre. The four night show was a lot of work, and there were some very tired bodies afterwards.

Our two dames were hilarious, and as a Director I can honestly say that I have never laughed so much at the haunted bedroom scene! My technical team pulled it off with moving candles, giant spiders and all things panto. This year's Derek J Horn award for hard work and dedication went to a lovely young lady, Emma Donovan.

I have a great team and this is my thank you to you all. I am already reading scripts for next year, so here's to another great panto in 2017.



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## *Lest We Forget*

**O**n the morning of Remembrance Sunday and under leaden skies, the traditional parade comprising representatives from the Armed Forces, Veterans, Community Councillors, the Emergency Services and Youth and Civilian Organisations set off from Harbour Place. The parade, led by Burntisland & District Pipe Band and commanded by Wing Commander Ian Wallace, marched smartly along the High Street and Kinghorn Road to the Erskine Church.

Rev. Alexander Ritchie formally received the colours of the various youth organisations then conducted a Remembrance Service during which he emphasised the importance of remembering the fallen no matter how much time has elapsed. He also laid stress on the unifying effect of the remembrance process nationally, particularly at times when wide divisions exist in society.

The large congregation observed two minutes silence at 11.00am in keeping with similar assemblies throughout the nation.

At the conclusion of the church service, the parade reformed and marched back along Kinghorn Road to the War Memorial where large crowds from the Burntisland community had already gathered. After a short interdenominational service which involved the playing of the "Last Post" on the bugle and "The Flowers of the Forest" by a lone piper, a further two minute period of silence was observed. There then followed the traditional wreath-laying by representatives of the various organisations on parade. The commemoration service concluded with a communal chorus of the first verse of the National Anthem.

The parade then reformed and marched to the Burgh Chambers for an informal civic reception.




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## **Burntisland Community Development Trust**

### *“The Burntisland Local Energy Master Plan” and “Travel Feasibility”*

**B**oth studies have been underway since November 2016. The work is being undertaken by Fife Council’s team along with the Burntisland Community Development Trust. Many community groups and individuals have already given ideas or attended some of the 9 events in November and December. Others have visited us in the pop-up shop next to the Library, which has been open for 3-4 days a week. It has been fantastic to get your ideas and suggestions. Many thanks to the great local venues and the local businesses providing catering. Hopefully everyone enjoyed the events and now feel they understand a little more about energy and transport, solar power, solar thermal storage, tidal power, heat from the sea, district heating, the buying power for communities re electricity costs, how to get a better tariff for prepaid meters, what help is available for those in fuel poverty and what other opportunities for affordable energy is open for Burntisland residents.

Geoff Robotham of the BCDT remarked that, “The trustees were all very pleased with how quickly the project is progressing and with the interest and enthusiasm shown by people in the town.”

Further Events during January and early February were held in Potter About, The Salvation Army Hall and Burntisland Primary School and covered a wide range of topics including

energy efficiency in older properties, solar energy, hot water and energy storage for homes, electric car and bike demonstrations and an entire session on Burntisland Energy Opportunities.

It is intended that many more such events will be held during February and March so look out for posters and leaflets and visit our pop up shop in the High Street which reopened in late January. For more information visit our Facebook page or contact Caroline Bell on [CarolynM.Bell@refsol.co.uk](mailto:CarolynM.Bell@refsol.co.uk)

For the Travel Feasibility we collected ideas and suggestions from local people on what would help encourage more people to walk and cycle safely around Burntisland and where people thought it would be best to create a sustainable travel hub. A map of the main routes was drawn up to include all suggestions and ideas. A team made up of consultants, Fife Council staff, parents and the local development trust walked the routes and agreed what improvements could be made. There are 22 suggestions within this map. Each suggestion has been costed to make it easier to prioritise and look for funding. One of the next steps is to identify what funding is available. A display in the pop up shop in the office on the High street with all information is open to everyone 4 days a week and a presentation to the community will be organised in the coming months.

# BURNTISLAND'S GIFTS AND TREASURES

## HERITAGE EXHIBITION 2017



Very few places in the country can claim to have their town shown on a new banknote but this is something we can all look forward to when the new £10 Royal Bank of Scotland note enters circulation this year.

Following a public vote, Mary Somerville whose permanent childhood home was Burntisland, was chosen to be the first woman other than the Queen to appear on a Royal Bank of Scotland note after winning the poll.

Mary was known as the 'Queen of 19<sup>th</sup> century Science'. She had only one year of formal education and was otherwise entirely self-taught. She went on to become a pioneering and eminent mathematician, astronomer and geographer.

Mary's portrait is shown on the front of the new note and Burntisland Beach, the Erskine Church and Craighkennochie Terrace feature in the background along with a quote from her work 'The Connection of the Physical Sciences'.

**"Anyone who has observed the reflection of waves from a wall on the side of a river after the passage of a steamboat will have a perfect idea of the reflection of sound and light."**

The theme for the Burntisland Heritage 2017 summer exhibition is 'Burntisland's Gifts and Treasures'. Undoubtedly, Mary Somerville certainly fits into both of these categories but there are many more to pick from. Once again Burntisland Primary School will be participating

with their choice and selection for display. The work of the children and the exhibition takes months of preparation.

Last year the Natural Heritage Exhibition's extensive show of panels and photography received many positive comments in the visitor's book. However it was noticed that for the first time in 23 years, (and excluding school visits) our visitor numbers in the ten weeks of summer opening dropped to below 1000. It was also estimated that 70% of our numbers were visitors to the town. We'd very much welcome suggestions on how we might increase the number of local visitors to our exhibitions. Answers by email please to Convenor Ian Archibald at [burntislandht@btinternet.com](mailto:burntislandht@btinternet.com).



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## Scots Verse Competition

In early December, the Burntisland Burgh Chambers hosted the formal presentation of prizes to the winners of the 2016 Scots Verse Competition. This event, exclusively for pupils of Burntisland Primary School was introduced exactly thirty years ago to mark the 700<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of King Alexander III. A large gathering of Community Councillors, staff of BPS, family and friends were entertained by colourful and confident presentations delivered by the winners of their individual poems, in Scots verse.

Virtually the whole school took part in this year's competition and the extremely high standards set by the winners reflected most favourably on the hard work, energy and proficiency of all involved.

Each winner received an individual trophy to hold for one year and a unique medal to hold for life which bears the Community Council's Coat of Arms and is engraved with the recipient's name.

The presentations were followed by a buffet enjoyed by all. Thanks go to the owners of Hanselled Books who generously sponsored the evening.

The photo shows the winners with their trophies (left to right)



**P6 Fern Garret; P5 Finn Doherty; P4 Logan Raeside; P3 Erin Hazelwood; P2 Abbie-Leigh Havenga; P1 Maisie Dow.**



## FAB's Blossoming Future

So, the new year begins and the planning for the forthcoming year gets under way.

Although the winter period is a quieter time of year for us we have ensured that floral displays are still visible throughout the town by planting winter bedding in most of our troughs.

We have been awarded £3500 to create a wildlife haven in Burntisland station. The flower bed on platform 1 will feature a bug hotel and there are plans to place bird and bat boxes, screened by the ivy on the south facing rock face. Attractive signage will describe how the plants contribute to biodiversity. We hope to include members of the community and local groups in this exciting new project. The grant was awarded by Beautiful Scotland and Scotrail and was the highest grant awarded to any group in Scotland.

Biodiversity is really important for the town and we are looking at other areas to develop. Towards the end of last year we worked in partnership with the school to initiate the cutting back of their beds and the installation of grass at the car park entrance to the school.

Sadly, FAB has experienced some theft and vandalism lately. Two of our sponsor signs have been stolen from the basket trees at Bendameer and one of the sculptures at the beach car park was damaged. It is very disheartening when these things happen, especially when there are financial implications. Police Scotland are currently investigating both incidents.

FAB's AGM will take place on Friday 3rd February at 7.00 pm at the Sands Hotel. This will give us an opportunity to reflect on our achievements over the last year, including our



Gold Award from Beautiful Fife, and to discuss our plans for the future. Everyone is welcome to attend so please come along.

Plans for the community garden are moving forward with the establishment of a sub committee. This is a very extensive project and meetings solely related to it will be essential. Garden designers have been identified and site meetings will take place in the forthcoming months.

This year will be a very exciting and productive year for FAB. If you can spare a few hours every month to help make Burntisland fabulous, please get in touch through our Facebook page, come along to our AGM or

email [floral-action-burntisland@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:floral-action-burntisland@hotmail.co.uk)

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## School News

### BPS PUPILS ARE AWAITING A GREAT TERM (written by P7D)

In nursery, children are going back to the beach and the forest for some Nature Kindergarten fun. Santa has obviously seen how well Nursery children have been doing because he brought them many new toys to play with, which they are enjoying so much. All the new boys and girls have settled in amazingly well and are making loads of new friends.

**P1** pupils have had a lot of fun, learning interesting facts about Winter. They are also having a surprise in February [Fairyland sh!] They are becoming more confident writers and are sharing lots of work. They are also learning Easter songs in preparation for the Spring Service and have been learning about Chinese New Year.

**P2:** Their topic is Space and they are absolutely loving it. They are also learning how to use their times tables, connectives and openers.

In **Primary 3**, pupils have been learning about the rainforests of the world and are looking forward to their trip to the Edinburgh Botanic Gardens. We are sure they will have a lot of fun and have a "botanic blast"

**Primary 4's** topic is Harry Potter. Pupils also went to Hopeton House last term as part of their Victorian topic and P4S enjoyed going to watch the Ice Show in Kirkcaldy.

Certificates for football were received by some children in P4 and others received their Brownie badges and learned some new magic tricks. Well done Primary 4. What a busy term you've had.

Pupils in **P4/5B** have also been busy taking part in lots of out of school activities such as football, acting, and swimming. They are also enjoying their Harry Potter project.

In **Primary 5F**, their topic is Mary Queen of Scots, whilst last term they studied "The Way of the Buddha" including making their very own clay Buddhas. Pupils in P5 have also enjoyed problem solving and learning lots of new strategies to use. Some children received certificates for swimming, and Gold Medals for the Winter League.

Pupils in **Primary 5B** have enjoyed doing science experiments involving learning about rust and mould. They have also studied French and can be heard regularly experimenting with the language - Tres bein!

In **Primary 6F**, the topic is Natural Disasters, one in which we all take a great interest. Last term pupils engaged in new activities as part of the school's Mind, Body and Heart Programme. The children gained a lot from these very enjoyable sessions.

**Primary 6I** are also studying natural disasters and writing about "My Hero" to share information about someone they admire.

**P6M:** Last term they enjoyed visiting the Ice Show to watch the amazing ice dancers. They particularly liked cheering on their peers, who put on a wonderful performance.

In **Primary 7**, the topic is Greek Myths and Legends. Whilst pupils are also very busy preparing for the show (all will be revealed in due course.)

As always, the next 2 terms will be extremely busy for our Primary 7s. Pupils will have the opportunity to go to Ardroy in March, as well as participating in the Burns and Speakers Competitions. Mr Hubbard has been coaching the girls/boys football and athletics clubs, while P7M have also been taking part in activities at the Beacon Leisure Centre.

And some very exciting sporting news - Burntisland Primary School has recently been awarded a Gold Sports Award by SportsScotland. This is a fantastic achievement, with only 5 schools in Fife winning this award. Well done to our Sports Committee and a huge thank you to all in our school community who continue to support us with our sporting endeavours.

All in all, it has been a very successful term at BPS. all the pupils are slotting back into the routine of school life and are looking forward to all that is to come.



by Jenny Roxburgh and Fiona Hill

dance to for St Andrews Day. He even let the children have a go at playing the accordion and seeing how it worked. We shall be continuing our Scottish dancing throughout this term, and we are looking forward to celebrating Burns Night with arts and crafts, stories, songs and even more dancing. We enjoy regular beach visits, especially exploring the rock pools and seeing what the tide has left behind. We are hoping to go further afield this term with a possible train ride to Kinghorn beach.

Learning about different cultures is very important to us and we have been lucky to have visitors tell us how Santa Lucia Day is celebrated in Sweden. We will be learning about the Chinese New Year at the end of January.

Our Christmas party was lots of fun with entertainment by Mr Barking, and of course a visit from Santa. The committee also held a very successful Christmas coffee morning where the children sang some lovely Christmas songs, accompanied by a brass quartet - thanks to everyone who came along to listen and join in, and help us raise lots for our funds.

The committee would also like to thank everyone who attended our other events last term - the Halloween Disco, the Burntisland Fireworks display and the Jubilee Tavern's

**W**e have been busy doing lots of fun and exciting things over the last term - we had an accordion player who played some Scottish music for us to

Christmas light switch on - your support is vital to keep the playgroup running, and is much appreciated. Thanks also to those who have supported us through the Co-op's local community fund - we still have a couple of months to go, so please continue to support us. We are holding a Family Ceilidh on the 24th February at the Toll Centre - more details to follow so please check our Facebook page, or website [www.burntislandplaygroup.co.uk](http://www.burntislandplaygroup.co.uk)



Applications for the 2017/18 intake are now being accepted for children born from March 2014 onwards - pop into the Toll Centre for an application form. You may also apply any time after your child's birth - you will go on our waiting list until you are eligible for the correct intake. 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 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday. Further details are on our website above.





The ever flexible Events Group staged another unforgettable bonfire and fireworks display on the evening of Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November. Held two days earlier than the traditional date because of the unavailability of the fireworks supplier, it did not deter thousands of spectators from turning up to witness a most spectacular show.

Before the main events began, the enthusiastic and excited crowds enjoyed the carnival atmosphere of the fairground attractions and delicious fare from local eateries. Children waved their newly acquired glow sticks and illuminated windmills to the blaring music from compere Dougie Robertson of "Just for Kids". Shortly before seven, Citizen of the Year Carole-Anne Paterson led the countdown for the lighting of the huge bonfire, bedecked with an impressive replica of Guido Fawkes which again this year was 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. Some fifteen minutes later, the second countdown began for the first exploding starburst of a wonderful 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 complemented on the ground by the vivid effervescence of vibrant Roman candles and golden fountains. The display concluded with a magnificent climax featuring dramatically exploding star bursts high in the night sky with sparkling showers of crackling colour, spectacularly reflected against the high cloud base.

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.

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 wended 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. Together with the members of the Events Group, again ably led by Ian Archibald, we must also thank the record number of 41 stewards whose bucket collection amassed a record total of just over £2,000.00 towards next year's event.

The Group itself thanks Bifab and Scott Timber for storing and transporting pallets which are essential for a successful bonfire.

Regrettably, the future of this event remains in jeopardy, mainly because of costs, principally insurance, which have rocketed by over 300% over the past two years. Many thanks to those who donated to the bucket collection and if anyone would still like to make a donation towards this year's event, please contact the Group at [burntislandeventsgroup@gmx.co.uk](mailto:burntislandeventsgroup@gmx.co.uk)

The Group is also actively recruiting new committee members. It is not an onerous task as responsibilities are shared and there is experience within the team. Come along to our AGM at the Heritage Centre on Sunday 19th March (see Events Diary) or get in touch at the above address and ensure the continuation of this fantastic family entertainment. How about it?

## BPS Christmas Fair by Jenni Gill



The first Sunday of December saw Burntisland Primary School hosting their very successful annual Christmas Fair. The immense popularity of the event was clearly in evidence immediately on stepping through the doors to the school hall – it was packed with children, their parents and other local folk coming to explore the huge variety of stalls on offer, all manned by keen volunteers.

Some of the stalls showcased the children's talents, such as the beautiful Christmas cross-stich cards created by P6, and others were run by local businesses with gorgeous handcrafted wares for sale. Those in a mood to try their luck could do so at the several stalls offering games of chance, and there was even a nail bar so that festive beautification could begin early!

It was evident that a good deal of behind the scenes organisation had taken place to ensure the smooth running of the afternoon, and judging by the number of happy and excited attendees wandering round, the hard work certainly paid off.

## Burntisland & District Pipe Band

**2**017 promises to be another exciting year for all players and supporters of Burntisland and District Pipe Band.

Building on the success of our adult band, we have been working hard to develop a Novice Juvenile (under 18 years old) band and we are delighted to report that many new young players from the town and surrounding areas have joined our ranks in recent months. Our goal for this young band is for them to compete at the World Pipe Band Championships in Glasgow, August 2017. Watch out for them on the TV coverage later in the year! This requires dedication, hard work, and lots of fun - we wish the team well.

Our band is extremely privileged to have continuing support from Briggs Marine and many others in the town. We are also very lucky to have access to the new school for our Monday night lessons - a fantastic facility made available with the



support of Julie Anderson and her team. This level of support is extremely rare for pipe bands in Scotland and offers an excellent opportunity for young people to learn within a safe and supportive environment. We continue to build on this support to develop a friendly, relaxed and positive group who enjoy playing traditional Scottish music. Of course, we also take pride in representing the town of Burntisland across the pipe band world.

We have added to our team of volunteer tutors who bring many years of playing and teaching experience at the highest level, including the Simon Fraser University Pipe Band, Canada, Police Scotland Fife Pipe Band, and Balagan Pipe Band, Denmark. We welcome all new pipers and drummers from age 7 years old and up on Monday nights from 18.30. We would be especially interested to hear from young pipers and drummers already receiving tuition who would like the opportunity to compete with our new Novice Juvenile band this year. As always, we encourage all those adults with pipes or drum sticks lying under your beds to dig them out and come down to play and help us develop the band for both engagements and competitions in grade 4.

Please contact Stewart Birrell for more details on:

[sbirrell@btinternet.com](mailto:sbirrell@btinternet.com)

Given our renewed focus on the youngsters we thought we should get up to speed with social media. You can now join the hundreds of people from all over the world who follow the band on Facebook. So make sure you also like our Facebook page and keep up to date with the band.

**See you all on the links in May!**

**Over 70s Christmas Treat**

The 2016 Christmas Treat was held at the Kingswood Hotel on 10th December and attended by 149 guests. Rankin and his staff at the Kingswood provided a scrumptious lunch, and with light entertainment provided by Kirk James. A great time was had by all. The hard working organising committee extends thanks to Briggs Marine, TSB, Bifab, Shell UK, Fife Council, The Corkies and Lodge Duncarn for their continued generous support

A special thanks must also to the organising committee itself, whose dedicated members beaver away throughout the year raising funds and eventually putting all arrangements in place so that elderly members of the community can enjoy some Christmas cheer and companionship on this special day.

## Burrtisland's National Champion



Last October, long time Burrtisland resident and former owner of the Golf Tavern, Ian Moffat emerged victorious in the Scottish Senior Singles Pool Championship in Aberdeen. Although Ian has represented Scotland at Seniors level for the past nine years, this is the first occasion that he has lifted the national trophy in this keenly fought competition comprising a very strong field. Ian has represented Scotland in international events at home and abroad at venues including Malta, France and Ireland. As well as being an outstanding player, Ian enthusiastically promotes the game locally and organises the Burrtisland and District Pool League.

Any of our readers who may be interested in learning the game or joining in local pool competitions should contact Ian at tel: 07854036429 or email: [mufter52@hotmail.com](mailto:mufter52@hotmail.com)

## Burrtisland Speakers Club



New arrivals to the town may be aware of the existence of the Burrtisland Speakers Club which meets fortnightly, normally on Thursdays, from September to March in the Burrtisland Sands Hotel. We are a gentlemen's club whose aim, as our title suggests, is to promote and

improve the art of public speaking. This is done in an informal and enjoyable way – the club being equally a social institution. Session 2015–16 was a very successful one, with increased membership and attendance ensuring some memorable meetings, including our annual dinner at which one of the guests was the national President of the Association of Speakers Clubs.

The present session, starting last September, has seen a slight decrease in the average attendance for various reasons, mainly illness and pressure of work, but the club is still thriving, and our annual Ladies Night dinner in December, to which female partners and guests were invited to the evening's entertainment, was a full house and a great success.

After a break for the festive season, meetings recommenced on January 12th, and the following one, on January 26th, featured a Burns theme. On March 23rd, the last meeting of the session before the annual dinner, once again members of the female sex will grace us with their presence for the annual Burrtisland Primary School speech competition, competed for by pupils in primary 7. Inevitably the finalists will include both boys and girls, who have shared the trophy between them in past years. This occasion always provides a fitting climax to the session's speaking programme, and the 2016 competition was no exception, with members rating it one of the best and closest in recent times, with a young lady, Rosa McDonald, claiming the trophy. All finalists on the night were a credit to themselves, their teachers and their school.

Any male adult, young or old, experienced speaker or complete novice, is very welcome to join the club, contact our secretary Simon Payne at [payne1345@btinternet.com](mailto:payne1345@btinternet.com) or any other member, including Bill Kirkhope, editor of this publication. (Ladies need not feel left out since Kirkcaldy Ladies Speakers Club will make them most welcome!)

## Burrtisland Sailing Club Marina Development

The Romans called Burrtisland harbour *Portus Gratiae* - port of grace, or safe harbour. This expression in Latin can still be seen today on the Burrtisland crest, along with the words *Colles Praesidio Dedit Deus* – *God gave the hills for protection*. Though much has changed in Burrtisland over 2000 years, the solid bulk of the Binn and Dunearn hills continue to dominate the town to the north, marking the location of the Forth's finest northern harbour, just as they did in the Roman's day.

There are several reasons why Burrtisland is best. Key among these are that the harbour does not dry out, it does not silt up, and it contains enough water at all states of the tide for most ships to stay afloat. Anyone who has visited other harbours in the Firth of Forth will realise what a big deal this is. Just a short hop across the Forth to Granton harbour, less than 6 miles as the crow flies, the picturesque scene of gently bobbing boats turns into a sea of mud at low water, with the yachts sticking in the ooze like sad flies to fly paper. Rich pickings for the wading wildlife, but meagre sailing rations for the Granton seafarers.

Burrtisland, on the other hand, is a safe harbour of refuge and offers plenty of water right round the lunar clock. Only the occasional large vessels such as the offshore supply ship *Kingdom of Fife* (1200 tons), owned by Briggs Marine, or the general cargo ships such as *Mikhail Dudin* (2319 tons), bringing timber for Scott Group Ltd, need the harbour's hydraulic lock gates to maintain maximum depth.



Amongst all the burgeoning commercial marine activity, Burrtisland Sailing Club (BSC) sits quietly by the eastern entrance to the harbour – as it has done for more than 60 years – giving testament to the harbour's high value for commercial and leisure interests alike.

2017 promises to be an exciting year for the Club as its detailed plans for renewal and expansion are bearing fruit. Harbour watchers will observe the development imminently of pontoons at the western end of the East dock, near the clubhouse, in a space unattractive to large commercial vessels, but perfect for sailing and local water sports activities.

Burrtisland Sailing Club is an enthusiastic part of the local community, having sent a yacht 400 miles across the North Sea in June last year to the twin town of Flekkefjord (Norway) to deliver a heraldic scroll and invitation to the local mayor, culminating in the youth exchange and

mayoral visit later in the summer.

With the proposed marina development, Burrtisland Sailing Club will be able to offer even finer facilities for local people to get 'doon the watter', as well as the possibility to give a warm welcome to visiting yachts from elsewhere in Scotland or even internationally. The club is eager to broaden its appeal to the community and to gather the views and support of local people on this development and any other future activities where there may be shared interests. This can be done by email address at [contact@burrtislandsailing.org.uk](mailto:contact@burrtislandsailing.org.uk) or by letter to Burrtisland Sailing Club, East Dock, KY3 9DQ.

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



Over the last few months the Beavers have been having fun working on their Scottish Thistle Challenge Badge, learning about Scotland and all things Scottish. We had a Christmas sleepover in the church hall where the beavers made cupcakes and decorated them with a Christmas theme and George Connor was presented with his Chief Scout Bronze Award. **By Beaver Scout Leader Kerry Laing.**



Cubs had a busy term. One of our teams won the District Swimming Gala, we visited the local Panto and attended the Cubs 100 years District Party where they renewed their promise with other Cubs from the District. We still managed to squeeze in some craft and baking and helped with the Christmas post. We hope everyone had a good break and are looking forward to the next term. **By Cub Scout Leader Michelle Paton.**



The Scout section winter term began with an adventure holiday at the Lochgoilhead Scout Activity Centre. Our Scouts spent a week sailing, rock climbing, abseiling, river running, kayaking, mountain biking plus lots of other activities. Our young people were a credit to the town and really pushed themselves to take on new challenges while supporting each other and having lots of fun.

The main focus of this term was completing the Skills Challenge badge. We also continued to work on our Photographer badge with Jenny Dingwall, who kindly came along to chat about photography while offering tips, advice, and to work with us on a photography project.

A team of Scouts took part in the District First Aid trophy and came a very close second, finishing only one point behind the winners. Four of our Scouts earned the Chief Scout Gold Award this term which is the highest award in the Scout Section, so a huge well done to Alicia, Emily, Alice, & Finn for the hard work and commitment they have shown in achieving this.

In December we had our Christmas sleepover where we did some seasonal crafts, had a hike to Aberdour castle and then enjoyed an early Christmas dinner together in the hall. Looking forward to continuing the adventure in 2017. **By Scout Leader David Laing.**



Explorers embarked on a new adventure this term by throwing themselves into the Chefs badge. They have baked cakes, scones, bread and biscuits and some of them even made it home. We also had lots of youngsters compete in the District Swimming Gala. We attended the local Panto and had a interesting time at Christmas Craft Camp where we made candles, Christmas decorations and even tried our hand at sewing. We also helped the Food Bank to make up food hampers to be distributed to people in the local community. **By Explorer Leader Craig Paton.**



### 11th Fife (Burntisland)

All Sections visited the Beacon and worked on their Swimming badges and competed in the District Swimming Gala with a clean sweep of trophies for the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.

We represented scouting at the local Remembrance parade with a great turnout from all sections to show their respect.

Thanks to the community for using our Christmas post service, this raised nearly £350 for the group. We are also on the lookout for any new volunteer leaders who wish to join in the adventure so we can offer scouting to the 80 kids on our waiting list, if you are interested then please get in touch [11thfife@gmail.com](mailto:11thfife@gmail.com).

**By Group Scout Leader Kerry Laing.**



## Joyce Higginson (26th April 1939 - 16th November 2016)



Joyce was a well-respected member of the Burntisland community which she served loyally in a number of roles over the years. She was an elder at the Erskine Church and helped out at the weekly Light Bite, also over the years contributing in many ways to the success of the Erskine Games Day Café.

She served for many years as a member of the Community Council and her local historic knowledge made her an ideal tour guide for the summer Heritage Walks around the town.

However, it will be for her role as Akela at the 11<sup>th</sup> Fife Cubs, which she assumed in 1974, that Joyce will be remembered by so many local residents, both young and old. For over 40 years Joyce was an ever-present figure, giving her invaluable support during the good times and the bad, especially when Cub membership was really low.

Joyce was an active member within Kirkcaldy District and the Fife Area of Scouting and regularly supported adult training courses and larger Camps. A person who never said "NO",

she thoroughly "enjoyed doing her best" and seeing the youngsters developing their skills. It was not uncommon for Joyce, after a hard shift, to turn round and say "thanks very much for inviting me"!! Joyce's immense contribution to the Burntisland community was officially recognised when she became the first Burntisland Citizen of the Year of the new millennium!

Three years later, the Scout Association awarded Joyce the Silver Acorn – the second highest adult award – for "*more than 20 years of specifically distinguished and outstanding service*". It was a great personal delight for Joyce to attend the presentation at Dunblane Cathedral with family and friends, particularly as the Award was presented by the Scottish Scout Commissioner who was an old acquaintance from the adult training courses.

Following this accolade, Joyce continued to play a key role in Scouting in Burntisland and Kirkcaldy District. She loved being involved in the development of the youngsters. Joyce was unique and a kinder person you could hardly meet.

Cubs celebrated their centenary in 2016 and it will take another 100 years to find another Joyce.



### 775 (Burntisland) Squadron Air Training Corps

Cadets and Staff have been very busy the last couple of months participating in various activities and challenges.

**Radio:** Cadets Armitage, Couser, Haughty, McLaren, McMillan K, Petrie and Ward completed their Blue Radio Communicators course and have been presented with their badge. Sergeants Sharp and Walker have been awarded their Gold Communicators badge.

**First aid:** Cadet McMillan K, Sergeant Sharp and Civilian Instructors Gouvea and Birrell attended and passed a St Johns Ambulance Activity First Aid course.

**Health & Safety:** Civilian Instructors Gouvea and Birrell attended and passed the Air Cadet Health and Safety risk assessors course.



CI's Gouvea and Birrell with their certificates

**Method of Instruction:** Sergeant Sharp is the first member of the Squadron to have completed a Cadet Method of Instruction course. During the course Sergeant Sharp was taught how to plan and deliver lessons. He then had to plan and deliver a lesson, to cadets, which was assessed by Flying Officer Brown from 859 (Dalgety Bay) Squadron.

The photograph shows Sergeant Sharp being presented with his Yellow lanyard for completing and passing his course.



**Remembrance Day Parade:** The parade was well attended by staff and cadets. This was the first parade for many of the new cadets. Cadet McLaren was chosen to lay the poppy wreath for the Squadron.

Activities planned for the future include, fundraising, flying, First Aid training, radio training, fieldcraft and air rifle shooting.

The Squadron is currently recruiting cadets and staff, so if you are interested in finding out what the Air Cadets have to offer come in to the Squadron HQ at the Unity Hall which is at the Junction of Links Place and East Leven Street. The Squadron parades on Monday & Thursday evenings between 19:00 and 21:30 hrs. Details can also be found on the Squadron Website: [775burntislandsquadron.weebly.com](http://775burntislandsquadron.weebly.com) and on the Squadron Facebook page: 775 (Burntisland) Squadron Air Cadets.



**T**his issue we focus on Smart Electrics, a well-established, local electrical contractor which was founded over 35 years ago by the father of the current owners, Brian and Willie Smart. Following the sudden and untimely death of their father some six years

ago, the brothers took control and have expanded the business both in terms of the range of work they undertake and the number of skilled staff that are employed. Over recent years the company has trained many apprentices and currently is staffed by four qualified electricians which include the owners, and three apprentices. As well as routine domestic work, the company has fulfilled contracts related to industrial cranes and barges, one as far away as the Falkland Islands and is currently involved in wiring new-build houses for Fife Council. The company also moves with the times and has acquired the officially approved skills to install domestic solar panels. As a direct result of the expansion the company is developing a recently acquired site in Manse Lane which will comprise offices, storage facilities and a yard.

In October last year the company's professionalism and technical expertise was officially recognised when Smart Electrics was awarded "Best Small Contractor of the Year" by SELECT, the Electrical Contractors Association Scotland which is the trade association regulator.

In a relatively short time, the Smart brothers have progressed their father's company extremely well and deserve the full support of the Burntisland community in their future endeavours.



A very Smart team.



### *The Rotary Club of Burntisland & Kinghorn*

**I**n January, the 31<sup>st</sup> annual Burns' Recitation competitions took place in both local primaries; the winners gave us their usual stunning performances at the Club's Burns Supper in the Sands. This year, they were Finlay Knight reciting "To a Haggis" from Burntisland, and Codi Main with "Scots Wha Hae" from Kinghorn.

Two new members have joined the club, and Charlie Kilgour and Rab Watson assured us that creative music was alive and well among the local young people. Future events include the annual Plant Sale in Kinghorn on 6th May, and the biennial Music in May concert in the Old Kirk on 20th May. The club meets in the Sands on Tuesdays at 6.15. Potential members are welcome.

A most encouraging development for the Club has been the establishment of a RotaKids Club at Burntisland Primary School. Guided by Club President Rita Attewell, and assisted by staff of the school, the 12 Rotakids held their first meeting in late October. The first fund raising project was a Junior Bake Sale in early November with over 100 cakes submitted. Slices of the remaining cakes were sold during the recess the following day at 20p per slice. Another event was an activity



BPS RotaKids Club

day on 15<sup>th</sup> November. These initial efforts by the Club amassed a total of over £500, all of which was donated to "Children in Need."

"Rotakids" supports our youngest citizens to develop the strength, knowledge, skills, enthusiasm and determination to keep on finding ways to change the world, locally, and globally, into a more peaceful place where people can enjoy their lives.

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## Burntisland Golf House Club by Dave McPherson

Since the last edition of the Buzz it has been quieter on the course and busier on the social front. Various golf club presentations were held during November and other local sporting clubs took advantage of the facilities throughout the festive period.

Buzz readers should be aware that the lounge is available to them for a range of functions, and this comes at no cost to members and just a nominal charge to non-members.

The Hogmanay Bash was another resounding success, with members and guests enjoying a superb two-course meal followed by music and dancing with the ever-popular Kingdom Ceilidh Band.

The (mainly) good weather towards the end of the year has continued, and there have been some busy spells on the course, which remains in fantastic condition for the time of year.

Membership prices are still the most competitive around, with

Full Membership costing just £40 per month. About the cost of a 'Scotsman' newspaper per day! Of course there are other categories of membership that are even cheaper, so there's something for everyone at Dodhead.

The Committee at the Club is committed to rejuvenating its 'Junior Programme' in 2017 so there is always room for more in that area. Parents and Grandparents should feel free to encourage / bring their youngsters to come along and get off the computers / phones for a while. Craig Armstrong, our assistant professional, will be assisting with the programme and he can be contacted on 01592 872116 for more details.

The first 10 eagle-eyed Buzz readers to take out a new full membership, on the direct debit scheme, before the end of January, will pay nothing till March. Telephone the Secretary on 01592 874093 and quote BBuzz17 to take up the offer.

From the moment of your phone call you could be enjoying a bracing walk around the course followed by a hot cup of coffee in the comfortable lounge.



## Burntisland Bowling Club by Richard Perry

The Club is holding a Come and Try Day on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2017 and invites anyone who would like to learn more about the Club and the sport of Lawn Bowls, to come along at 2.00 pm. As well as a warm welcome and a chance to find out about the Club, its sporting and social activities, there will be refreshments available.

The Club welcomes new members, of all ages, whether novices or more experienced players, and new members pay half the normal fee in their first year. All members can also take advantage of free tuition. Non-playing members can join as Associate members and join in the social life of the Club, which has a licensed bar for members. This year the Club will celebrate its 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, so please look out for more details about the Club plans to mark this milestone.

2016 was another eventful outdoor season for the Club. A full diary of friendly games against teams from Fife and further afield, as well as the Club's own friendly matches and competitions, gave the members plenty of opportunity to enjoy the sport. The Club also elected its first female President, Margaret Farnes

At its annual Presentation Dance in October, thirty internal and external competition winners were presented with their trophies and awards. The 2016 Ladies' Champion was Isabel Muir and the Men's Champion was Raymond Whyte.

The outdoor bowls season runs from the April to early October each year, but there are also opportunities to play indoor bowls during the closed season. The Club's website ([burntislandbowlingclub.co.uk](http://burntislandbowlingclub.co.uk)), provides information about the club and its activities. For more information, the Club can be contacted via email at [info@burntislandbowlingclub.co.uk](mailto:info@burntislandbowlingclub.co.uk).



## "Shippy" on the Road to Recovery. By Andrew Beveridge

The second half of 2016 was a nightmare for the Shipyard, especially after the first half had promised so much. Following the loss of the management team and most of the squad over the summer months, the Club was left in a difficult situation.

A new management team is now in place, however, and despite some poor, even humiliating results, things look a lot brighter as we begin 2017.

A new squad that will continue to compete in the East of Scotland League is slowly being built but the frustration for

everyone at the Club is that this season has had to be more or less written off. Away from the playing side of things, the Club continues to thrive and our Club Licence has been renewed by the Scottish Football Association, enabling continued access to the Scottish Cup and membership of the Association itself.

The Club is now looking to strengthen the committee, with local people being most sought after, as we look to forge stronger links within the community. Whether it be match day assistance (home and/or away), working within the community to raise interest in and funding for the Club or maintenance of the pitch and/or buildings, any offers of assistance would be most welcome.

## Christmas Cheer from Community Choir

The recently formed Burntisland Community Choir brought Christmas cheer to Burntisland High Street on a very dreary 23<sup>rd</sup> December when they entertained shoppers with their very impressive rendition of a variety of popular Christmas carols. Thanks go to the owners and staff of Burntisland Seafood Shop and Macauley's Fruit & Veg. shop who supplied mince pies and collected donations on behalf of the choir for the RNLI.





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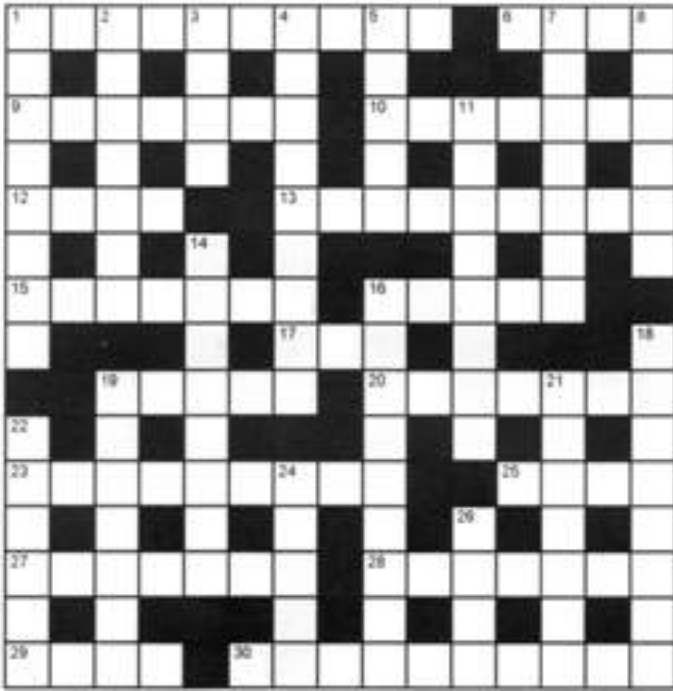
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Class 7

# THE PRIZE CROSSWORD



**ACROSS**

- 1. Hard Coal (10)
- 6. Primates (4)
- 9. Hungarian Red pepper (7)
- 10. Severely simple (7)
- 12. Formerly (4)
- 13. Paralysed with fright (9)
- 15. West Indian song (7)
- 16. Repeated series of events (5)
- 17. Court (3)
- 19. Pretend (5)
- 20. Slip (7)
- 23 Given a warning (9)
- 25. Pound (slang)(4)
- 27. Turned (7)
- 28. Make shorter (7)
- 29. Republic of Ireland (4)
- 30. Noble (10)

**DOWN**

- 1. Come near (8)
- 2. Characteristic (7)
- 3. Wet weather (4)
- 4. Repression of activity (9)
- 5. Distinguishing feature (5)
- 7. Exact (7)
- 8. Quick (6)
- 11. Item of luggage (8)
- 14. One who looks on bright side (8)
- 16. Comics (9)
- 18. Tired out (4,4)
- 19. Modest bet (7)
- 21. Apart (7)
- 22. Hard to find (6)
- 24. Lowest point (5)
- 26. Therefore (4)

**Solution to Autumn Crossword**  
**ACROSS:** 1 Abstracted, 6 Thor, 9 Paragon, 10 Goggles, 12 Oval, 13 Sorrowful, 15 Cottage, 16 Smell, 17 Rot, 19 Rites, 20 Earache, 23 Defrauded, 25 Omit, 27 Rossini, 28 Alabama, 29 Dodo, 30 All the time.  
**DOWN:** 1 Approach, 2 Servant, 3 Rage, 4 Canisters, 5 Eager, 7 Helpful, 8 Rashly, 11 Geometry, 14 Pastrami, 16 Steadfast, 18 Heatwave, 19 Refused, 21 Campari, 22 Adored, 24 Drill, 26 Wake.  
**CONGRATULATIONS—Our Autumn Crossword winner of £25 in vouchers is: Mrs Kelma Poulton, Kirkbank Road, Burntisland.**

NAME.....  
 ADDRESS.....  
 TELEPHONE:.....

Completed entries by: March 31st 2017 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>		
Wednesday 1st	Burntisland Energy Opportunities at Burntisland Primary School (BCDT)	5.00 pm - 8.00 pm
Friday 3rd	Floral Action Burntisland (FAB) AGM at the Sands Hotel	7.00 pm
Thursday 17th	Police Community Engagement Meeting at Burntisland Primary School	6.30 pm - 7.30 pm
Friday 10th	Community Council meeting in the Burgh Chambers	7.00 pm
Saturday 18th	Valentines Afternoon Tea at the Young Community Hall (Cancer Research)	2.00pm - 4.00 pm
Friday 24th	Playgroup Family Ceilidh at the Toll Centre	to be advised
Saturday 25th	Coffee Morning with hot pancakes, Erskine Church Hall	10.00am - 12 noon
Saturday 25th	Messy Church at Burntisland Parish Church Hall	10.00am - 12.30 pm
<b>MARCH</b>		
Friday 10th	Community Council meeting in the Burgh Chambers	7.00 pm
Saturday 18th	Messy Church at Kinghorn Parish Church Hall	10.00am - 12.30 pm
Sunday 19th	Events/Bonfire Night Meeting/AGM in the Heritage Centre, No 4 Kirkgate	2.00pm
Tuesday 21st	Blood Donation at the Parish Church Hall	2.00pm - 4.00pm and 5.30pm - 7.30pm
<b>APRIL</b>		
Sunday 9th	“Come and Try” session for newcomers at Burntisland Bowling Club	2.00 pm
Friday 14th	Community Council meeting in the Burgh Chambers	7.00 pm
Saturday 22nd	Messy Church at Burntisland Parish Church Hall	10.00am - 12.30 pm
<b>MAY</b>		
Saturday 6th	Rotary Plant Sale/Coffee Morning at Kinghorn Parish Church Hall	9.00 am - 12.00 noon
Saturday 6th	“Come and Try Day” at Kinghorn Loch (Craigencalt Community Trust)	All Day
Friday 12th	Community Council meeting in the Burgh Chambers	7.00 pm
Saturday 20th	Coffee Morning with hot pancakes, Erskine Church Hall	10.00am - 12 noon
Saturday 20th	Messy Church at Kinghorn Parish Church Hall	10.00am - 12.30 pm
Saturday 20th	Rotary “Music in May” Concert at Old Kirk Kirkcaldy	Evening
Monday 29th	Police Community Engagement Meeting at Burntisland Primary School	6.30 pm - 7.30 pm



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## Craigencalt Trust News



Last November The Trust linked with Burntisland Heritage Trust and Kinghorn Historical Society to organise two educational trips to

Inchkeith. The weather was fantastic for both trips and even more spectacular was the sight of hundreds of seal pups on the island. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the visits and returned with cameras full of interesting photographs. The island is

steeped in history, much of which is closely linked with Kinghorn and Burntisland, especially during war times. Ron Morris who led both trips, provided valuable information on the varied wildlife found in abundance on the island.

It is now time to look forward to 2017 and the new events that are planned for spring. The Walking Group is organising a Mini Walking Festival from 27<sup>th</sup> March to the 9<sup>th</sup> April. The Trust has enjoyed three very successful September walking

festivals, but in late summer weed growth on paths is often at its highest, and walks can be dependent on field crops having been harvested to allow easy access. We already have a list of walks lined up; we will be putting up posters and more information nearer the time. We welcome folk to join in this spring event and if you would like to know more about it or the regular Walking Group contact Marilyn on 01592 891330.

The annual 'Come and Try Day' at Kinghorn Loch is on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May, each year brings new activities among the sports and leisure users at the loch. This year, the Coastal Rowing Group will be taking part and are inviting folk to join them for some loch rowing which is calmer than the open sea. It is always a busy day for the clubs, which include canoeing, sailing, radio controlled yacht races, open water swimming and rowing on offer. It is a great opportunity to try something new.

The Trust will be holding a public consultation during the 'Come and Try' day. It is important to get people's views and listen to new ideas for the future. The bird hide at Craigencalt Farm is also active throughout the year. Local bird enthusiasts have cleared the weed growth from the pond nearby and have put in new bird feeders to encourage some special birds to show themselves.

If you would like to know more about the Trust our website is

[www.Craigencalttrust.org.uk](http://www.Craigencalttrust.org.uk) or

contact [info@craigencalttrust.org.uk](mailto:info@craigencalttrust.org.uk).



Photo by Kathleen Curley

## News from St Joseph's



The 6<sup>th</sup> February will be a milestone in the career of St Joseph's parish priest Fr Brian Gowans as he will step down as Chaplaincy Adviser to the Scottish Prison Service after 23 years of dedicated service. He has travelled far and wide in this capacity with the most recent highlight being a meeting with Pope Francis on November 6<sup>th</sup> in St Peter's Rome where he celebrated a mass with prisoners. Over 1,000 prisoners attended, mainly from Italy and Spain. Fr Brian presented the Pope with three gifts:- a book of reflections written by prison chaplains from around the world in which he had written the foreword, a sculpture and lastly, another book entitled "Faith Inside" and written specifically by prisoners.

Fr Brian leaves the Prison Service with mixed emotions but retains many happy memories.

In the meantime St Joseph's would like to wish a very happy and peaceful new year to all. Fr Brian was pleased to, once again, be involved with various joint church services held within Burntisland during 2016. St Joseph's has held a number of events throughout 2016 to raise funds, one very successful evening, held in December, was a concert given by East Fife Ladies Choir and was well supported by people in and around Burntisland.

A well attended carol service was held during December at which the children of the parish performed the Nativity. St Joseph's continues to have a permanent drop off point for food which SVDP collect to take to Kirkcaldy where it is distributed to those in need. The floral group started in 2015, which is open to all, has been very successful and enjoyable for all who take part.



## When is Easter 2017? By Rev. Dean Norby

This Year Easter is on the 16<sup>th</sup> April which is 20 Days later than last year's Easter which was on the 27<sup>th</sup> March. Why the difference? Who decides when Easter is? The answer to this is the Moon!



The reason for this is because the date of Easter is based on the Jewish festival Passover (*Pesach* in Hebrew) which is determined by when the Moon is full. Hence Easter Sunday always follows the first full moon after the Northern spring equinox which occurs on the 20<sup>th</sup> March every year. **This Full Moon is called the Paschal Full Moon.** This year the first full moon after the 20<sup>th</sup> March is on the 11<sup>th</sup> April and the first Sunday after this is 16<sup>th</sup> April 2017. Compared to last year the Paschal Moon was on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March and so Easter 2016 was very early on the 27<sup>th</sup> March 2016.

The latest possible date for Easter is the 25<sup>th</sup> April which occurs every 95 years and will not occur again until 2038. The earliest possible date is 22<sup>nd</sup> March, this occurs every 467 years and will not take place again until 2285.

The Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby (shown here with members of St Serf's on his 2015 visit) has confirmed that Anglican leaders had voted to join discussions with the Roman Catholic, Orthodox churches and others to set an annual date for Easter. The Archbishop suggests that it would most likely be fixed for the second or third Sunday of April.

The Archbishop said: *"We had warned the Government that this was coming up. I would expect [it to happen] between five and 10 years' time. I wouldn't expect it earlier than that not least because most people have probably printed their calendars for the next five years."*



He continued, *"School holidays and so on are all fixed - it affects almost everything you do in the spring and summer. I would love to see it before I retire."* He prompted laughter as he added: *"Equally, I think the first attempt to do this was in the 10th century."*

Whenever Easter is in 2030 and beyond we know that Easter this year is on the 16<sup>th</sup> April and Lent begins on the 1 March. St Serf's and the churches in Burntisland welcomes all to join us during Lent, Holy Week and Easter Day.

St Serf's meet at 9:00am every Sunday Morning.

Office - St. Serf's Episcopal Church Ferguson Place- Burntisland KY3 9ES

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## and from The Parish Church

by Rev. Alan Sharp

**W**hat is church about?  
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We do try to make everyone welcome, so come whether you are aged 0 or 101, ordinary or outlandish, conventional or eccentric, convinced or uncertain, from Pennsylvania or Transylvania. We have welcomed all of the above.

### Be transformed

Knowing God should change us, so that we become more like Jesus, and know more love, joy and peace in our lives.

### Live connected

We want folks to live in strong loving relationships, with God, with their families, with each other in the church and with everyone around them.



Happy New Year.

I wonder if 2017 will be better than 2016? By that I mean a year with fewer shocks, uncertainties, surprises or division. We're all tired of them - my prayer is that you will enjoy a

generous measure of peace and good health in your life during 2017. These things are beyond price.

On the subject of dates, let's begin with a few. First coffee morning of 2017 in Erskine halls on Saturday 25 February from 10am. As always, you'll be made most welcome.

Too early for Easter? Well please look out for more info around Burntisland and nearer the time, but the churches will be planning a joint Palm Sunday walk for 9 April (2pm start), followed by early morning Easter Sunday services on 16 April (8am start) up the Binn and on the beach. It's always special to welcome Easter early in the morning, let's hope for dry & bright conditions to enjoy that fab view atop the Binn. Join us if you can.

Thanks to everyone who supported Christmas services in the town, Erskine raised an excellent total of **£572**, to be split

## Erskine News

by Rev. Alexander Ritchie

equally between Fife Women's Aid and the Samaritans. We really appreciate your generosity towards these very worthy causes in our local community.

Sunday services continue in Erskine at 11am, we have a busy Women's Association on Monday evenings at 7pm and a great *Lite Bite* for those looking after very young children which runs each Wednesday morning during school term-time from 9am in our halls. You'll find details of special events and services on our Facebook page-please visit, like us and share the info.

I enjoy Christmas because it reminds us that God sent his son, Jesus Christ, into a broken world with a message of forgiveness, light and hope. I like Easter even more because it reminds us that the same Jesus who was born in Bethlehem gave his life on a cross for us, then wonderfully rose again.

Many great and talented people passed away in 2016. We found ourselves dealing with the consequences of major political decisions no one ever anticipated. Perhaps your 2016 was difficult too, maybe it was a wonderful year. I don't know, you do. Whatever 2017 is going to bring, those who have faith in God know 100% that everything has a purpose and there is always hope.

Happy New Year!

## The Ecology Centre – Naturally Making a Difference



Another year, another chance to improve the lives of others, that is how The Ecology Centre will approach 2017. If you would like to help us make a difference there are

lots of things you can do. Volunteer your time (see our website for details), take part in the many activities and events that are on offer or even make a financial contribution if you can do so. By supporting us, you are helping the people that we in turn support through our education, volunteer and job training programmes. See what is coming up below.

### Wild & wonderful school holiday adventures

Would your kids like to hunt down dragon eggs, or create their own bow and arrow? If so, then visit our website and have a look at the fun and adventurous holiday activities on offer. We have full or half days this February and Easter holiday.

### Family Sundays at the Loch

On the first Sunday of the month, we run a FREE fun activity for families to enjoy. Coming up we have Nest Making, Raft Races and a Fairy and Sprite party in the woods. These FREE events are very popular so early booking is recommended.

### Looking to clear out your tool shed?

If so, we would appreciate any unwanted tools that could be refurbished in our Tool Shed workshop. Our Tool Shed is not simply about recycling it also plays an important part in improving the lives of dementia sufferers who participate in a weekly workshop at the Centre.

### Calling all keen photographers!

Have you got an eye for a good photo? Then take part in our monthly photo competition. Each month, one picture is selected that best captures the beauty and diversity of Kinghorn Loch and its inhabitants at that time of year.

To make a booking or to find out more about the events and activities detailed above, visit our website

[www.theecologycentre.org](http://www.theecologycentre.org), contact us on 01592 891567 or email [admin@theecologycentre.org](mailto:admin@theecologycentre.org).

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<b>Tuesday</b>	Circuit Training Abs / Core Kettlebells	10.30am - 11.15am 11.30am - 12.15pm 7.30pm - 8.15pm	Johnny Miller Johnny Miller Adrina Wallace
<b>Wednesday</b>	Kettlebell Fusion BodyPump Circuit Training Abs / Core Aquaerobics	9.30am - 10.30am 1.30pm - 2.30pm 6.00pm - 6.45pm 7.00pm - 7.45pm 7.30pm - 8.30pm	Rory Young Jill Johnston Johnny Miller Johnny Miller Lauren Mullen
<b>Thursday</b>	Plates Aquaerobics 50+ BodyPump	9.45am - 10.45am 9.30am - 10.30am 6.00pm - 7.00pm	Susan Spewart Lauren Mullen Jill Johnston
<b>Friday</b>	BodyPump Aqua Deep Plates Kettlebells	9.30am - 10.30am 9.30am - 10.30am 10.45am - 11.45am 6.30pm - 7.15pm	Jill Johnston Lauren Mullen Jill Johnston Adrina Wallace
<b>Saturday</b>	Circuit Training	9.00am - 10.00am	Johnny Miller

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