

BURGH BUZZ



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Issue No 66



.....is 20 Years Old

How time flies! The first ever issue of the Buzz was published exactly twenty years ago. It took the form of an eight page, black and white document which was distributed throughout the town along with the Fife Leader. It was a Community Council (CC) initiative and the first edition focussed on CC affairs, the Heritage Trust and inconvenience caused to residents of Links Place by the installation of a storm tank by the water authority. CC business centred on many old chestnuts - the Common Good Fund, the Town Clock, Christmas Street Lighting and Links Parking, to name just a few. The front page featured the Community Award Winner and a youthful looking photograph of and welcoming message from Alex MacDonald who was, and still is, the Chairman of Burntisland Community Council.

Amongst the original advertisers were the Kingswood Hotel and Romano's who have both continued to support the Buzz throughout our 20 years existence. It is a great pity that Sergio Romano, a tremendous character in the town, sadly passed away last November and is not around to witness this milestone.

One entire page of the first edition was dedicated to listing contact details and activities of Burntisland Clubs and Societies, a very useful document. Indeed, the current Buzz editorial committee is considering including such a directory, which will also include details of local businesses, in a dedicated page on the Buzz website.

Lastly, we extend our thanks to the many contributors and advertisers who have supported us over the last 20 years. Without you the Buzz would not have survived.

Andy Wight-Boycott, our first editor gives his thoughts overleaf.

Community Award Winner 2018 Scott Sweaton

Early on the afternoon of 31st December 2017, the Chairman of the Community Council, Alex MacDonald, caught Scott Sweaton completely unawares when he called on him at his home to inform him that he had been selected as the winner of the Burntisland Community Award for 2018. Scott was shocked and stunned by the news, particularly as he was still in his pyjamas!

Scott has been Chairman of the Floral Action Burntisland group since its inception some 5 years ago and has been the inspiration behind its unprecedented success. The fruits of the group's labour is everywhere to see - from the highway entrances to the town to the railway station and from the colourful hanging baskets and planters of the High Street to the tidy, floral surrounds of sheltered housing and many other sites. As well as enhancing the appearance of the town he has inspired a collective participation by young



and old in making the town more attractive for residents and visitors alike.

Scott has been actively involved in community work since his teenage years in Kirkcaldy which influenced his choice of nursing as his career. Commendably, he does not allow his full time position as Senior Charge Nurse at Fife Hospice to interfere with his considerable efforts to enhance the quality of life in the community.

Scott was also the inspiration behind the fundraising and establishment of a public access defibrillator located outside Burntisland Primary School.

Scott is extremely proud to receive the award but took pains to emphasise that the success of FAB and associated activities could not have been achieved without the support of many devoted colleagues in the group and above all - the continuous backing of his wife Leanne and their family.

BURNTISLAND'S COMMUNITY PAPER

Featuring Local issues . organisations . events . people and more

From the Buzz's First Editor

Look back 20 years, 1998 – internet in its infancy, social media a chat with the hairdresser, mobile phones the size of a brick and Burntisland's Community Council (BCC) "them" to many. Change was in the air and the BCC's need to communicate was obvious - but how?

Aberdour already had the "Village News" a quarterly news sheet that we, the BCC, could emulate. We decided to do just that and formed a small group to produce our own paper with myself as editor. The first and most difficult task was coming up with a name, we ran through almost every combination of Island, Burnt, Burgh, Royal, News, Chronical, Sheet, Journal, Telegraph, Times, Whisper, Chat, that you can imagine. The alliterative Burgh Buzz was not immediately welcome but, in the absence of anything better, it had to do. Then it all came together, the BCC underwrote our venture and the advertisers paid the bills.

Our production team was always small and all too often only two, I did the content, Jinti the advertising and proof reading, and, in a crisis, we both delivered – between us we have

climbed every stair in Burntisland more than once. The first edition had a print run of 2700, but sadly its distribution was patchy, I was saddened to find a bundle of 20 copies in a ditch. Nonetheless, that first Buzz covered community events while informing the debate on a broader item – sewage treatment! It also attracted contributors (notably Ian Somerville, churches; Norman Mackie, cinemas; and Ian Archibald, Heritage).

Thus the second issue, print run 3400 and 12 pages, had one of the many items exploiting Burntisland's rich vein of history – the first being the Newbigging Limestone Mine, courtesy of Tom Courts senior! This issue also had space for my first editorial (see box below). As I read it again I recognize my concerns but am delighted that our community has risen to meet the challenges that worried me so.

The next 20 years? This is difficult, but how can a community blessed with a rich history, southerly aspect, sheltered by hills, on a coast with a beach and harbour along with a railway direct to the capital be anything other than a success? I want the Burgh Buzz to be there.

Thank you, .Andy Wight-Boycott,

Use it or.....

Burntisland is losing High Street Traders at an alarming rate, a butcher and fish shop so far this year. If this continues, the town will become an industrial dormitory. Is this really to be the future of the Royal Burgh? What would it take to draw in tourists and trade from Dalgety Bay, Aberdour and Kinghorn? Less lorry traffic, less litter, less dereliction, more light traffic routed through not round the town, more parking close to the High Street, more pride!

A lot has been done, we just don't notice; new lamp posts, buildings cleaned and restored, removal of graffiti, purge on dog fouling, removal of untreated sewage, opening of the Beacon Leisure Centre, promotion of the Fife Coastal Footpath, doubling the frequency of trains etc. but more is

needed, Why does every other community have avenues of daffodils while we have none? Why do we contemplate the desecration of the Links and Leisure Centre with industrial development? Why aren't the Beach and Links cleaner? Why should we have ever more 42 ton trucks bowling down the High Street? Why are the new Alcan buildings so tall?

The Community Council is our front line. We must use it to co-ordinate the many individual and collective initiatives that give Burntisland its distinctive character. Make your views known, come to the monthly meetings, write to the Chairman, last but not least - support local traders. Apathy and Absence will not arrest the High Street slide.

The Editor (1998)

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Hamish Brown, local author,

adventurer, mountaineer and more recently, elderly hill walker will be giving a Moroccan presentation for the Royal Scottish Geographical Society at the Nurses College of Dundee University (next to the Beveridge Park Hotel) Kirkcaldy on Monday February 19th, commencing at 7.30 pm.

Hamish is an enthralling and entertaining speaker whose unique presentation is based on over 50 visits to the Atlas Mountains. This will touch on a 1000 mile, end to end traverse of the Atlas range, will demonstrate all aspects of trekking and climbing and will cover the fascinating culture of the Berber people.

The talk will be augmented by some spectacular photography, shot the "old fashioned" way and not digitally enhanced.

This is a presentation not to be missed

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.

- Four members visited the police control centre at Bilston Glen and saw first hand how 999 and 101 calls are handled. More information is awaited about how the CCTV cameras in Fife are monitored and managed.
- Our concerns over youth disorder and the available police resources were made clear to the Justice Secretary. He replied that the creation of Police Scotland “has strengthened the delivery of policing in Scotland” and that “members of the public should be encouraged to report all incidents”.
- We remain concerned at the absence of police reports and crime statistics, which until recently have been available to Community Council meetings for many years.
- At the last minute, Christmas lights were put in place at the Burgh Chambers and also trees at the Porte, thanks to financial help from Fife Council. More lights will be bought next year, so that they will be sustainable for some years ahead.
- We have obtained £8,500 of lottery funding towards the cost of an options appraisal for the future of the Burgh Chambers. Additional funding is being sought and tenders for the work will be invited in the next few weeks.
- Hurd Rolland architects have kindly offered to prepare – at no cost - an outline proposal for ensuring better access to the scenic views from the Lammerlaws. Discussions about the brief are continuing.
- Work is nearing completion on the conservation of the Kirkton Churchyard and an excellent interpretative leaflet has now been produced.
- A successful beach clean took place on 18th November, with 30 bags of rubbish being collected.
- About 70 senior citizens were entertained at a Christmas pantomime, thanks to sponsorship from ExxonMobil at Mossmorran. A similar number will attend a Burns Lunch at the plant in January. About 30 senior citizens will also attend a panto in Dalgety Bay, thanks to the same sponsorship.
- Despite a huge volume of concerns, the Kinghorn Loch road will be closed for 15 weeks. That is significantly less than the original proposal but remains totally unacceptable. There was a clear failure in the planning process as those affected had no opportunity to learn of the closure when consent was given. We have still to learn how Fife Council will avoid any similar situation in the future.

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
 Interim Secretary: George McLauchlan

Members:
 Christine Dewar Tim Hailey
 John Bruce Lesley-Anne Cronin
 Andy Smith Carol-Anne Crossan

Elected Fife Councillors'

Availability

Councillor Gordon Langlands

Telephone 01592 874612

Email: Cllr.Gordon.Langlands@fife.gov.uk

Gordon will conduct surgeries to meet local constituents in the Burgh Chambers at 6.30pm on the second Friday of each month.

Councillor Lesley Backhouse

Telephone 07540 677081

Email: Cllr.lesley.backhouse@fife.gov.uk

Councillor Kathleen Leslie

Telephone 07714 778906

Email: Cllr.Kathleen.Leslie@fife.gov.uk

She can be contacted by telephone or email to arrange a visit or chat at a time of your convenience.

Burntisland Buzz

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The Burgh Polis

By P C Ross Masterton

Elizabeth and I would like to start by wishing everyone ALL THE BEST FOR 2018. Hopefully, you have had a lovely Festive Period.

We would also like to thank everyone for the Christmas cards we received.

We especially extend our appreciation to Geoff, Ben and Gill for giving up their free time to support us

with the Burntisland

Community Speed Watch. The objective of the Community Speed Watch is to make drivers aware of their speed and drive safely in Burntisland.

The problem of speeding motorists was raised at the Community Engagement meeting as a major problem in Burntisland and Kinghorn. Elizabeth and I will be out with the speed Gun, so please be mindful of your speed. REMEMBER many of the streets in the town have a 20 mph speed limit.

As we move into 2018, we are looking for more of the community to get involved in Community Speed Watch. If you need more information about joining the Speed Watch team, please contact myself and I will be more than happy to explain all about it or make arrangements for you to speak to one of the community speed watch members. I must emphasise that community speed watch is not there to persecute motorists but increase AWARENESS and SAFETY.

Ross.masterton@scotland.pnn.police.uk

Elizabeth.James@scotland.pnn.police.uk



The Speed Watch Team

Burgh Chambers Options Appraisal/ Feasibility Study

Further to the concern generated regarding restoration of the town clock, Burntisland Community Council applied for funding to implement an Options Appraisal on the Burgh Chambers complex. We were successful, being awarded £8200 from 'National Lottery Awards for All', towards carrying out a study.

The Community Council is in the process of developing a brief for this study. It is expected that a successful applicant will be chosen sometime in the spring.

This is an exciting opportunity not only to restore the clock tower but to develop ideas which will bring this publicly owned property at the heart of the community back into a use which will benefit all.

George McLauchlan (Secretary)

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Burntisland Remembers



The morning of Remembrance Sunday was cold, clear and calm as the Burntisland & District Pipe Band led the traditional parade comprising representatives from the Armed Forces, Veterans, Fife and Community Councillors, the Emergency Services and Youth and Civilian Organisations from Harbour Place to the Parish Church at the top of the Kirkgate.

After receiving the colours of the youth organisations, the Rev. Alan Sharp conducted the Remembrance Service before a packed congregation which observed 2 minutes silence at 11.00 am precisely. During his sermon the Rev. Sharp emphasised the futility of armed conflict and the importance of resolving quarrels and differences through reconciliation and appeasement as defined in the scriptures.

Following the service, the parade reformed and marched along a crowded High Street to the War Memorial to join several hundred members of the local community who had already gathered to show their respects and join in the short service conducted jointly by the leaders of all the local churches. After an emotional rendering of the "Last Post" on the bugle and the "Flowers of the Forest" on the pipes, wreathes were laid by representatives of the various organisations on parade. The Remembrance Service concluded with a collective singing of the National Anthem.

The parade then reformed and marched back along the High Street to the Burgh Chambers for an informal civic reception organised by the Burntisland Community Council.

Appeal to Form Harbour Area Residents Association

The harbour area of Burntisland is rich in culture, history and heritage and contains some of the town's oldest and most interesting buildings. The area stretches from the Museum of Communication in the High Street, down past Lothian Street and The Barns into Harbour Place, Forth Place, including Sommerville Square, Kirkgate and West Leven St. Despite its long history. The area can sometimes today experience traffic and social problems. If you live in this area and would like to improve the social and environmental aspects of your community, please come along to our meeting in the Upper Library Hall at 7.00 pm, 15th February and help us form a Tenants & Residents Association. Hope to see you there.

Cllr Gordon Langlands



By **Doreen Cuthbert**

The Scottish Women's Institute (SWI) was established in 1917 as the Scottish Women's Rural Institute, a society for farmers' wives. It was colloquially known as the "Rural" having previously existed in Burntisland as the Binnend WRI. In June 2015, Kay Adams a long time member of the SWI, re-established an SWI group in Burntisland with several informal meetings in the Solid Rock Café before finding a permanent home in St Joseph's Church Hall. The group meets on the second Thursday of each month, except July and August, with meetings starting at 7.00 pm. The ethos of the organisation remains the same - to provide friendship for women and to share skills.

As such, meetings can involve a speaker, or a skills demonstration which encourage members to try new crafts. We also enjoy a variety of competitions and the meetings always finish with tea/coffee and cake.

In June last year, the group celebrated the 100th anniversary of the movement with a party night involving friends and relatives, entertainment having been provided by "Rural Blend" a wonderful group of ladies from Perth & Kinross SWI. It was a superb evening with great company, entertainment, lots of laughs and lovely food.

The SWI in Scotland has some 16,000 members with the Burntisland group some 20 strong. For more information, visit our Facebook page or contact Doreen Cuthbert on 01383 832858.

Bonfire Night

On a clear but cold November evening and under a full, Beaver moon, a record number of spectators turned up at the Links to witness yet another spectacular bonfire and fireworks display. The fairground attractions, the jovial music of Radio Lollipop and the strains of the Burntisland & District Pipe Band all contributed towards a unique, bonfire night atmosphere.

The neatly stacked bonfire of wooden pallets, bedecked by the impressive "Guy", once again donated by Starley Hall School, erupted into an intense and brilliant display of sparks and flame. The surrounding area was lit up to reveal the many thousands of revellers enjoying the sight and the comforting warmth from the blaze.

Shortly afterwards, the magnificent fireworks display commenced and a fantastic range of rockets and multi coloured starbursts continued for fully twenty minutes. Following the final crescendo of exploding colour an excitedly, happy throng slowly dispersed.

This was another truly unforgettable evening organised by the local Events Group comprised entirely of local volunteers and led for the last time by long serving Chairman, Ian Archibald who will be standing down. The Group extends its thanks to Scott Timber and Bifab for storing and transporting the pallets. Also to the stewards who assisted with bucket collections on the evening, raising an impressive total of almost £3000.00.

The Events Group continues to actively recruit new members to the team. Anyone interested should contact the Group at burntislandeventsgroup@gmx.co.uk or attend the AGM which will be held in May at the Heritage Centre.

Museum of Communication

by Dorothy Brankin

Nice to meet you, Comrades!

One Saturday in the summer, I was 'on exhibition duty' at the Museum in Burntisland. The weather could best be described as "iffy" and early in the afternoon, I wandered to the door, to see if anybody was bold enough to venture forth.

Three men, speaking a strange – yet somehow familiar – tongue, approached the Museum and asked "How Much to Enter?" I said "FREE!"..... They beamed and came inside! Two of the three had a fairly limited knowledge of the English language, but the third, Andreyev, was very fluent. He told me they were merchant seamen, plying a regular service between Russia and the UK, carrying timber. They were in Scotland (Rosyth) until the following Thursday and wanted to see something of the area. They were concerned about an entry charge, as they carried no UK currency – just cards. He was delighted when I told him they were our very first

Russian visitors, and he and his companions readily added their names and details (in very beautiful 'copperplate' script) to our Visitors Book. One was from St Petersburg, one from Karelia and the third from somewhere near the Urals (but totally unpronounceable for me!)

We spent a wonderfully happy, exhilarating and most memorable couple of hours together!

I showed them round the Exhibition, speaking directly to Interpreter Andreyev, who translated as we went along. This was an amazing experience, and one which I will never forget!

When they left, we all shook hands as we made our goodbyes. Andreyev again apologised for lack of a donation..... but three minutes later, he returned with a ten rouble piece he'd found in a pocket!

I thanked him profusely! About three minutes after that, they again returned, giving us a token for use on the St Petersburg Underground!

This was a truly fabulous experience..... The Anglo-Russian Entente takes on a greater meaning than ever before!

Editors Note: The KGB are ever so polite!



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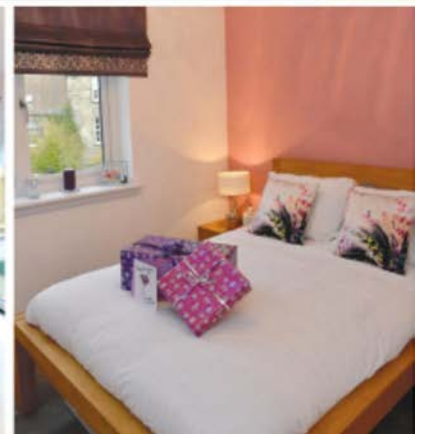
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Burntisland Primary School News

Written by P7 Pupils

Happy New Year from all at Burntisland Primary School! We hope you have all had a lovely festive season and are looking forward to the year ahead. Here at BPS, we are continuing our work on Learning Powers and the 4 R's of Resilience, Resourcefulness, Reflectiveness and Reciprocity. Since returning to school we have been thinking about making links in our learning by reflecting on our learning last year and making targets for the year ahead. We are going to be very busy as P7 transition events begin and we look forward to lots of sporting competitions – including the Scottish Cup Football matches and the Athletics finals. Watch this space for news! Here is a little taster of what the pupils will be doing this term.

Primary 1

The Primary 1 class topic is Winter and Fairyland. In Maths pupils have been learning how to measure, numbers to 100 and addition and subtraction. In Literacy the children have been learning what, why and how? They have been studying Storyworld key words and all about character description. In Primary 1/2, the class topic is Superheroes and Winter.

Primary 2

The Primary 2 class topic is Space. In Maths pupils have really enjoyed learning about co-ordinates. In Literacy the class novel is "Back to Earth with a Bump." The children are developing their comprehension skills by completing a range of activities relating to this book.

Primary 3

This term pupils in Primary 3 will be studying Ancient Egypt and in Maths, they will be working on the topics of Money and Times Tables. In Literacy, the children have started reading their new class novel, "How to Train Your Dragon" and they are loving it!

Primary 4

Children in Primary 4 will be learning all about Scotland this term. In Maths, lessons have concentrated on angles and fractions. and in Literacy pupils have been focusing on Vocabulary, Connectives, Openers and Punctuation.

Primary 5

Primary 5 pupils are taking on the role of investigators this term, through their topic, Kidnapped! This subject will test children's literacy, numeracy and problem solving skills. All will be revealed in due course!

Primary 6

Pupils in Primary 6 are really enjoying their topic on Civil Rights. Later in the term, they will take an adventure trip to the Caribbean! (Not really, but they will be learning all about it!) In Maths, children are fully engrossed and enjoying learning about fractions, decimals and percentages..

Primary 7

In Primary 7 pupils are studying Conflict as their topic. This involves learning about World War One, World War Two and modern day conflict. Money is their topic in Maths which involves understanding budgets, profit and loss.

Scots Verse Competition

In mid-December a formal presentation was made in the Burgh Chambers to the winners of the 31st annual Scots Verse Competition involving pupils from Burntisland Primary School. The competition, for forms 1 to 6, had been held earlier in the term and had been judged by members of the Community Council. Alex MacDonald, the Council Chairman, conducted proceedings and prior to introducing the individual winners he explained the origin and reasoning behind the competition.

The contest was first held in 1986 to mark the 700th anniversary of the death of King Alexander III who tragically died after falling from his horse whilst travelling between Burntisland and Kinghorn. Scotland enjoyed a period of peace and prosperity during Alexander's reign, mainly because he favoured dialogue and debate to resolve disputes rather than taking up arms. Inspired by these qualities, the then Chairman of the Community Council, Douglas Kerr, proposed a competition in Scots Verse amongst the primary school students of the town.



The Trophy Winners

L to R: Annabel Cervantes, Remi Douglas, Edith Millsop, Abbie-Leigh Havenga, Murray Lamb and Cameron Francis.

He felt that all participants in such a competition, not only the winners, must surely benefit from the experience of learning new words from the old Scots language and presenting them publicly in a meaningful way.

The winners in each category receive a trophy to keep for a year together with a medal inscribed with the winner's name and the Arms of the Community Council. The trophies are named individually after prominent members of the community who although from diverse backgrounds and holding divergent views, all firmly believed in settling differences through rational debate.

Each of the six winners were introduced in turn and confidently performed their individual pieces, only one of which was traditional, before a large audience of Council Members, teachers and families. Their prizes were presented by Community Councillor, Christine Dewar after whose mother (who also appears on the front page of the 1st edition of the Buzz) one of the trophies is named. The presentations were followed by a buffet, enjoyed by all.



First Aid update by Alex. MacDonald.

We are keen to hear from people who already have a qualification in first aid and would now like to take it further. There's a definite buzz from making a difference to someone who is injured or ill, but often there is so much more that can be done with better skills and more equipment.

So why does it matter? In November and December our volunteers responded to 7 people who had collapsed – either through alcohol, drugs, or an underlying illness. Another person had concussion following a head injury. Another had mental health problems. Yet another had a suspected fracture of the pelvis.

Naturally it's not always like that. We can go for weeks on end dealing with only very minor injuries. However, we need to be prepared for any eventuality.

So there will be an opportunity – open only to people who already have a basic certificate – to learn new skills and perhaps become one of our volunteers.

Our next course will start at the end of February and will be strictly limited in terms of the numbers we can accept. The minimum entry requirement is a current certificate in first aid, gained over a 3-day course or equivalent.

We'll build on that by teaching new skills about oxygen delivery, spinal injuries, moving patients and much more besides.

In the coming weeks our volunteers will have the pleasure of attending show jumping, ice hockey and student balls – each with their own mix of risk and entertainment. It's the kind of variety and challenge which led a regular customer to say that she had been *"singing your praises as to how efficient and attentive we find Burntisland First Aid."*

So if our next course is of interest, more information is available from www.bfast.org.uk or from alex_mac@btinternet.com.



This rider made a full recovery after being treated on the spot and then transferred.

Parent Council Up-date by Helen O'Brien

The Parent Council has been busy since the last update with a whole new committee being sworn in at the AGM at the end of October. Your new representatives are Chair – Helen O'Brien, V.Chair – Gayle Holmes, Secretary – Laura Graham and Treasurer – Shirley Kent.

Our first order of business was the Christmas Fair which raised an amazing £2456. This would not have been possible in the limited time we had to organise it without all the help of the parent volunteers and local businesses that supported us. So thank you again for all your help.

We are looking to hold parent council meetings every 6-8 weeks, details of dates and recent updates can be found via the BPS Parents facebook page or by dropping an email to burntislandps.parents@gmail.com.

We look forward to representing you and hope to see you soon at a meeting, all parents/carers welcome, nursery through to P7.



The Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service extends its thanks to all those who contributed towards the success of the blood donor sessions which took place in the Parish church hall on the 4th December.

A total of 98 volunteers offered to give blood of which 91 donations were given. Commendably, there were 5 new donors.

Caroline Tutt

2017 at Starley Hall was a busy, jam-packed year for the teaching and learning of our young people. If you haven't heard of our school we are on Aberdour

Road on the way out of Burntisland. We are an independent school that works with local authorities throughout Scotland to offer residential or day placements, specialist care, and education to children of Primary and Secondary school ages.

Babcock International based in Fife has set their apprentices the task of designing and building playground equipment for our school. The Babcock team have been working with our young people to find out their views on the equipment they would like to see on the school grounds. The apprentices left with lots of ideas and are now designing a 3D printout of how the environment will look when it is finished.

FAB are fab! Our kids have had a great experience working with Floral Action Burntisland over the years and continue to do so. In the past the pupils have helped plant flowers at the railway station roundabout, made mosaics for the Beacon car park, and recently they made a Bug Hotel for the railway station. Frank from FAB comes to the school on a regular basis to teach our pupils how to prepare and maintain an allotment space and shows the kids how to grow vegetables. We appreciate the time that these volunteers give to passing on their skills to our pupils.



Our woodworking department formed links with Kinghorn Primary to collaborate in creating and building benches that Kinghorn pupils could use in the playground. There were eight kids involved in the construction. Each of the pupils built and painted a bench and the benches were joined together to make one large octagon bench. This was then presented to the primary school. As well as gaining joinery skills the pupils also gained great satisfaction in knowing the benches would be put to good use.

Our senior pupils continue to support Dunfermline Foodbank and before Christmas Simon and Jordan helped the Foodbank with their annual Christmas collection. They worked alongside

foodbank staff and corporate supporters from Nationwide and RBS. Both boys worked extremely hard sorting products, lifting and carrying crates, loading and unloading the van and speaking to staff at the stores. They also made a donation to the foodbank by filling a trolley with £30 worth of food for those in need. Jordan and Simon have been volunteering at the foodbank for 6 weeks as part of their Prince's trust award and are on track to complete the unit this year.



Tracy's class organised a visit from Maasai warriors. This UK charity works in the Maasai areas of Kenya helping families out of poverty through education, and access to health amenities. Also, they provide local, clean water. The charity assists people to become more economically active. Helping Kenya to help itself is their main objective. They are a team of volunteers with no salaries or costs thus 100% of monies they receive go to the projects in Kenya.

We are grateful to Watson's of Burntisland for giving one of our pupils, Ewan, the opportunity to gain work experience in their shop. Each time Ewan returns he is excited to tell of everything that he has learned. He has picked up quite a few skills in the short amount of time he has been working at Watson's. These skills were evident when he helped cook the Christmas meal. Likewise, we appreciate the work experience

that Kingsgate in Dunfermline are giving to William. He enjoys his daily rounds with the security staff checking that all is good in the centre.

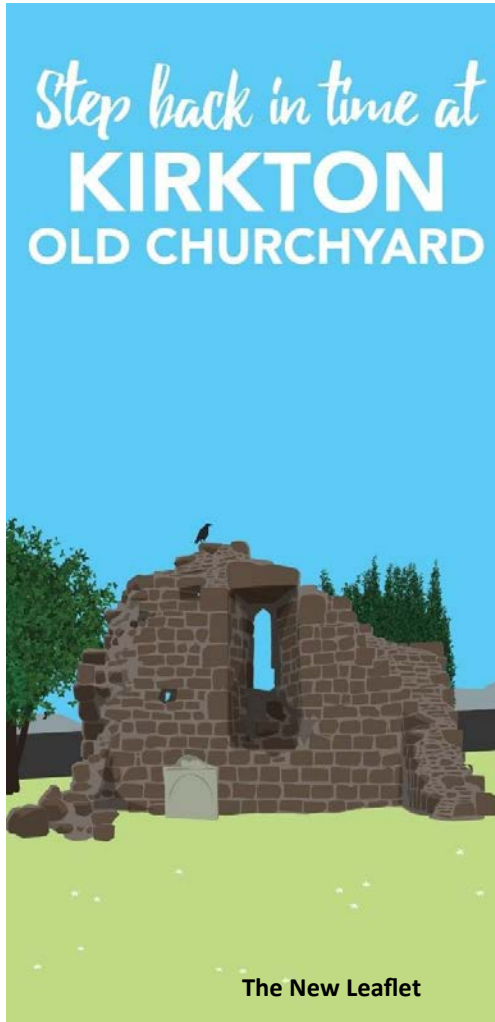
It has become a tradition for the kids at our school to make the Guy for Burntisland's Bonfire. This was the tenth year the pupils have created the Guy. On bonfire night the kids joined the rest of Burntisland to watch the spectacular bonfire and fireworks. As the Guy burst into flames one of the pupils who made the Guy, Shane, he shouted, "I can see my old red trainers melting into the fire. That will get rid of the smell!"



HERITAGE NEWS

by Ian Archibald

2018 is going to be a very busy and interesting year for Burntisland Heritage. Early spring will see the completion of the Old Kirkton Church restoration project and the site will be open to the public and visitors for the first time in decades. In 2014 a project team was established whose main long term aim was to save the church from further decay and ultimate collapse. The project was planned to safeguard the future of Burntisland's oldest building. The church which dates back to the 12th century is a nationally important Scheduled Monument.



An informative new leaflet which takes a “Step back in time at Kirkton Old Churchyard” and “uncovers the story of the old church” has been produced for wide distribution. The site will be officially reopened on Palm Sunday on the 25th March.

2018 also marks our 25th anniversary of summer exhibitions. The first of these was held in the Burgh Chambers in 1994 and have continued every year with changing themes since 1999 at the centre at 4 Kirkgate. Given the success of the 2017 ‘Burntisland’s Gifts and Treasure’ display the intention is to build on this and select material from each of the 25 exhibitions illustrating the huge diversity of the town’s rich history and heritage. A huge thanks to all of friends of the trust past and present without whose help none of this would have been possible.

To celebrate our 25th anniversary, plans are now in progress to bring the national award winning Burntisland 1883 model railway exhibition back to the town in September. The model which shows the station and docks as they were in 1883 was last on display in our Upper Library Hall seven years



A view from a drone

ago. It has since been expanded to include the former Round House and stretches 11 metres (approximately 36 feet) ...a definite must see.

BOSS

Burntisland Out of School Club (BOSS) is a registered charity that operates out of the Toll Centre. We have a breakfast club, open from 0745 – 0900 and the after school club from 1500 – 1815, every Monday –

Friday. At the centre we provide various play experiences for the children including hall games (Football, Basketball, Tennis etc), board games, small world play and we have a Media room which has our Smart TV, Wifi and Xbox.

During the school holidays, we run playschemes, open from 0745 – 1815. This service is open to all children, including those that don’t use us during Term Time. Playschemes are available to children from 5 – 14 years (unless already in P1), and we provide lots of play

experiences and access the local and surrounding community and area.

Recruitment – We are also looking to recruit a qualified Childcare Practitioner, These hours are Mon - Fri afternoons during school Term Time and variable during school holidays, providing play experiences for children aged 4 - 14 years.

Qualifications: Applicants must be qualified to S/NVQ 3 Childcare and Education/Playworker or equivalent and be able to register with SSSC as a Practitioner. The successful candidate will be required to register with PVG and gain membership.

To request an application form or if you require childcare, please contact us at

bossburntisland@gmail.com or telephone the Toll Centre on 01592 872854.



Burntisland Amateur Swimming Club News

by Bridget Fraser

The annual club championships were held in November and there were some fantastic swims and close finishes.

Age group winners were:

8 and under - Leanne Murray and Sam Milroy
 10 and under - Katie Sandilands and Robbie Fraser
 12 and under - Eilidh McKelvie and Jay Yeoman
 13 and over - Ailsa Kellas and George Mansfield

Club members enjoyed a presentation evening at the Toll Centre in December, with lots of silverware being awarded along with distance swim badges and certificates. The presentations were followed by a disco, games and a fantastic raffle.

In November the club also held its Annual General Meeting where another successful year in the 131 year history of the club was completed. We finished up the year with a fun night, members and their families and friends enjoyed flumes, waves and head coach Martin was Santa's helper for the night!

Upcoming events which our swimmers will compete in include the East District Age Group meet at the Royal Commonwealth Pool in Edinburgh, Carnegie Spring Meet and Glenrothes Spring Meet. Swimmers will also have a chance to check their progress with timed swims taking place at the Beacon in the next few weeks.

Burntisland Swimming Club is open to anyone that can swim at least one length of a recognisable stroke. Swimmers progress through our teaching groups to coaching squads aiming for District and National times. We also have a Masters squad for the 'more mature' swimmer who may be looking to swim for fitness and/or compete. For more information please check our website www.burntislandswimmingclub.co.uk or contact us at bscinquries@hotmail.com



Santa and his Helper !

Burntisland & Kinghorn Community Sport Hub



Burntisland & Kinghorn Community Sport Hub

Burntisland Primary School and the local Community Sport Hub are forming a very strong relationship. The school's sports committee, which is made up of 13 budding pupils who have a sporting and physical activity focus, are currently working hard to make better connections with the sports clubs in their local community. The committee is supported by Mr Hubbard, Active Schools and Active Fife. The pupils are each

taking on a separate task as part of their committee role in order to maintain the schools 'Gold Status' School of Sport Award as presented by **sportscotland**. In addition to this, the group are working with the local sports clubs represented in the Burntisland & Kinghorn Community Sport Hub, with each pupil becoming a spokesperson for their nominated club. The clubs represented by the group are; Balwearie Gymnastics, Beacon Runners, Burntisland Amateur

Swimming Club, Burntisland Bowling Club, Burntisland Golf House Club, Burntisland Sailing Club, Burntisland Shipyard Football Club and Burntisland Taekwondo.

The committee meet with Mr Hubbard at least once a week to discuss all matters sporting in the school, with the pupils taking a lead on most matters arising. Now the committee are able to implement their work into the community, which is strengthening the development of sport and physical activity in Burntisland.



Burntisland Primary School Sports Committee

The committee are aligning their work with a Youth Scotland accredited qualification, the 'Hi5 Award'. This award gives the pupils the opportunity to highlight their work as a Community Sport Hub club spokesperson and School Sport Committee member, with the incentive of acquiring a Scottish Credit & Qualification Framework (SCQF) recognised award at the end of the academic year.



Burntisland Shipyard FC

by Andrew Beveridge

As we move into a new year the Club continues to develop both on and off the field. A hugely significant development is that the Scottish FA Board have approved the Club's request to change its name with the word Amateur being removed, with the Club now known as **Burntisland Shipyard Football Club**. The Club felt that as we move forward in a semi professional league set up, it seemed apt to make this change. A new Club logo has also been designed. Manager Grant Brough continues to strengthen his squad with recent acquisitions Sean Johnstone joining from Rosyth FC and Ross Lennie moving to the Shipyard from Dundonald Bluebell. Ross in particular has a wealth of experience having played for both East Fife and Montrose. Also, and possibly more importantly, two of the under 20 squad have been promoted to the first team squad with both Craig Watt and Jonathan Galloway acquitting themselves very well. The new disabled access ramp at the main spectator entrance

on Kerr Court along with the paving joining the covered enclosure to the disabled toilets and catering outlet is now complete. The Club would like to thank local business DW Home Improvements for the excellent work carried out and the Scottish Football Partnership for their assistance with the project. It is pleasing for everyone at the Club that the Scottish Football Association recognises the continuous work the Club is doing in maintaining its licence and improving facilities.

A date for your diary is 17th March 2018 when the club has been chosen to host one of the "Groundhop weekend" fixtures. This is when around two hundred groundhoppers travel from all over the UK to take in matches at venues they have never been to before. The Shipyard will host Preston Athletic, though you had better set your alarm clock if you are coming to the match, as we have been allocated the first of three fixtures on the Saturday with the kick off being 11am, before the groundhoppers head to Kelty for the second match. It goes without saying that the Club is looking forward to the occasion with so many visitors descending on Burntisland to take in the match.



Burntisland Golf House Club

by Dave McPherson

All the festivities have now ebbed away and we are back to business. As well as presentations for the Old Club; House Club Gents and House Club Ladies, there were the other regular highlights of the Kids' Christmas Party and the Hogmanay Ceilidh with Kingdom Ceilidh Band. Just before the Festive Period, Mary Brownlee had yet another successful evening raising money for MacMillan Cancer when Des & the Dingoes took to the stage. Well done Mary.

Buzz readers should be aware that (for a nominal charge) the lounge is available to them for a range of functions, and this comes at no cost at all to members. Social membership is only £20.

In 2017 we played host to many birthdays and anniversaries, and Colin the Chef is always available to help give you great value for money catering ideas to suit every occasion.

A social programme is being drawn up and during the early part of the year there will be the usual quiz and bingo nights, live music and a sports dinner. Details will be posted when

finalised and all these events are worthy of support.

The Committee at the Club is still committed to improving their 'Junior Programme' in 2018. Last year we saw a great improvement in numbers and interest, and this has continued through the winter with juniors being taken to Cluny Clays on a Thursday evening to keep them 'in the swing.' Plans are also in the pipeline to have some fun events, probably on a Sunday afternoon.

Parents and Grandparents, please feel free to bring your youngsters along and get them off their 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.

Membership prices remain competitive for the Fife area, and many different categories of membership are available. If you're in any doubt please give us a call and we'll even let you try before you buy. As well as golf at Burntisland, members enjoy 5 free games at both Thornton and Pitreavie as well as cheap deals at many of the other courses in Fife and all the James Braid courses in the UK.

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In early December, the Kingswood Hotel again played host to the Over Seventies Christmas Bash at which over 150 of the towns senior citizens were regally wined dined and entertained. After settling in to their seats the guests were welcomed by Alan Cooper of the organising committee who extended thanks to the many organisations and individuals who had contributed towards this long established but essential, annual function. Amongst the major contributors were Briggs Marine, TSB, Bifab, Shell UK, Fife Council, the Corkies and Lodge Dunearn.



Following grace by Fr. James, the newly arrived St Joseph's parish priest, refreshments and a delicious traditional lunch was served. By the end of the meal everyone was enjoying the party atmosphere with several lucky individuals winning festive raffle prizes.



The post-prandial entertainment was again provided by Kirk James whose selection of traditional Scottish and early sixties pop songs, interspersed with witty repartee, soon had everyone joining in - singing, jiving and line dancing!



Based on some of the sprightly performances, birth certificate checks may be introduced next year to confirm Over 70 credentials!



This was a truly memorable function which demonstrated the amazing community spirit that exists within the residents of Burntisland, both young and old.

Special thanks and appreciation must go to the organising committee who work tirelessly throughout the year promoting the profile of the event through their fund raising activities. Also the staff of the Kingswood Hotel for the efficient and understanding manner in which they manage to safely and comfortably accommodate so many elderly members of the community.



Christmas Market

The Burntisland Community Development Trust (BCDT) were proud to work with the local community and businesses to host their first Christmas Street Party & Market on 1 December 2017.

The idea came to them late in the year and with less than 7 weeks to organise it, the plan was to start off small and informal, and they had an overwhelming reaction from the start. Abi Cornwall of the BCDT said ' We received nothing but positive messages about the market, with lots of the townspeople sharing our event on social media and helping to create a buzz for it. We wanted to provide something fun for the community to get involved in, something that would also showcase the hard work, commitment and talent that people in the town have to offer.' spirit around.' Local businesses got involved (with many more looking to be involved next year) – by donating prizes to the raffle, staying open late and some businesses put on their own special

events as part of the street party. The Nia dancers did a surprise flashmob dressed in Santa hats, literally stopping the traffic



and christmas music played out while over 400 people came down to join in the fun.

Everybody involved had a great night and have all agreed that it was a real boost to the community.

Burntisland Community Development Trust feel that the market was such a success that it would be a real pity for it not to become a yearly event. Abi said 'the plan will always be to keep the market traditional and local – it's important to celebrate the local talent in Burntisland – to bring the community together with artists, crafters, traders and community groups, and for everybody to have fun together and share in all the good things that the town, and the festive season have to offer'.

The BCDT is committed to working with everybody in Burntisland to make life in this brilliant town better. If you would like to get involved in the trust, or have some suggestions please email: bcdt2016@gmail.com or follow them on their Facebook page.

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Fabulous Plans for the Future

In October of last year the people of Burntisland decided on their preferred choice of design for the new Community Garden at the old Rose Garden. The winning design was by Rococo Design.

The next phase of the project is to obtain planning permission from Fife Council and to ensure that issues around the potential need for a lease is decided upon. This project will take a number of months to complete but we will keep you informed of our progress through the Burgh Buzz.

We have held two very successful fundraising events including our annual coffee morning and our Christmas craft fair. Both events were very successful and in total, raised over £1200 for our ongoing projects. Tickets for our annual raffle will go on sale in February with it being drawn in April.

We continue to ensure the town looks at its best, even over the winter months. Winter bedding plants were planted in a number of our planters and troughs throughout the town. In conjunction with Burntisland Primary School, hundreds of daffodil bulbs have been planted at the car park entrance to the school and within the Kirkton Church. We look forward to seeing them bloom in early spring. In conjunction with the High Street traders we will also be adding seven additional hanging basket brackets on the High Street with the aim of adding more colour during the summer months.

Starley Hall pupils are planning on carrying out some art projects for us at various areas around the town and we are aiming to refurbish the benches on the High Street, repainting the bus shelter at Bendameer and repainting the railings at the putting green. FAB's AGM is planned for Friday 23rd February at the Sands Hotel. We would like to invite everyone to attend on the evening at 7pm. This will give you an opportunity to hear and discuss the work we have carried out over the previous year and the work planned for the year ahead.

Finally, I would like to personally thank all my members of the FAB team. As you may be aware, I have been nominated as the Citizen of the Year for 2018. This is an incredible honour for me but it must be said that behind me stands a group of incredible volunteers to which FAB would not exist without. I'm looking forward to this next year ahead and continuing to make Burntisland Fabulous.



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We've had a busy few months with a great turn out at the Remembrance Parade. All sections taking part in an Animal Handling session and learning about endangered animals with Animates Scotland. The telecommunications firm Three visited all the sections and gave the kids the chance to take part in Digital Poster Making, Stop Motion Animation or Movies Trailers. All sections helped the community council and Marine Conservation Society do a Beach Clean-Up in November. We also have to give a big Thank you to the Co-op as our time as Community Partner came to an end with an amazing amount of over £3000 donated to the Group.

By Group Scout Leader Kerry Laing



Both beaver sections had great fun at a Wemyss nature activities camp where they helped plant nearly 100 tree saplings and made bug hotels. During the winter months they learned about using maps and compasses and invented machines to help Santa. We also attended the District Swimming Gala and after a great show from both our teams the Monday Beavers clinched the Beaver Trophy. In December both sections had great fun at the District Xmas Party.

By Beaver Scout Leader Kerry Laing.



Both Monday and Thursday groups had a busy term leading up to Christmas. They enjoyed a joint Science sleepover, experiencing explosions and observing amazing chemical reactions including one that actually made ice cream. We also took part in the Remembrance Parade, a Community Beach Clean Up and we managed to squeeze in a visit from the Animal Lady who, as well as letting us hold her exciting animals, also taught us all about endangered species. Before Christmas we did some craft work, made our own movie trailers with the help from our new friends from the 3 phone company and enjoyed a party.



Since the last update the Scouts have been developing lots of traditional Scouting skills, from knots and pioneering when they built working catapults, to improving their fire safety and first aid knowledge. They also earned their Master at Arms badge before Christmas by developing their archery skills and taking part in several competitions.

The Scouts have had several camps, with a weekend away in Pitlochry, a Christmas camp at Wemyss Firs, and they also hiked with full kit over the Binn to camp beside Kinghorn Loch where they learned about environmental issues with Wild Planet Explorers. This was followed up by taking part in a Community Beach Clean as part of the World Challenge Badge and to support their 3P Pledge.

The new Monday Scout section entered their first ever District competition where their commitment was rewarded by picking up the District Safety Trophy, with our Thursday section coming a close second. This was followed up at the District Swimming Gala where our two sections shared the overall District Swimming Championship. A very productive end to the year!



This term was jam packed full of lots of new activities. We had a visit from the Animal Handling Lady who shared with us some exciting animals and facts about endangered species. We also made some amazing stop motion animations with the help of the 3 phone company. It's amazing what some plasticine, some Lego and a lot of imagination can produce. We took part in the Remembrance Parade and the Community Beach Clean-Up. We worked hard on increasing our First Aid knowledge and managed to squeeze in a Christmas Sleepover involving a movie marathon and lots of popcorn.



At The Bus Station

The old men sit on the benches
And watch the girls go by:
There's a glint that lasts a moment
In every rheumy eye.

The old men sit on the benches
And buses come and leave
But they have journeyed backwards
To a youth of make believe

The old men sit on the benches
A comforting sort of rule
That lets them tut tut at the rush
Of kids let loose from school

The old men sit on the benches
And round them the housewives talk
"Aye the number seven's coming"
And "Thank goodness we dinny walk".

The men sit on the benches
With knarled hands that shake
They'd sooner *Strip the Willow* but
Can hardly stay awake.

The old men sit on the benches
And the sun is warm and kind.
They've had their fun and know it
And do not really mind.

The old men sit on the benches -
I've seen them for thirty year
So now I sit in the group myself
And my bus will soon appear

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The Ecology Centre

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News from The Ecology Centre

It's all go up at The Ecology Centre as this is our big 20th anniversary year! We've got lots of different events planned to celebrate this exciting year and will keep you informed of all these events in each edition of the Burgh Buzz, as well as our Facebook page and website.

Before the 20th anniversary celebrations commence the school mid-term break is fast approaching, but we've got it covered with our Eco Adventures holiday club and other activities to keep the kids busy...

Eco Adventures Holiday Club

Our Eco Adventures Holiday Club is running on **Thursday 15th February** and **Friday 16th February** from 9am to 3pm for 5 – 9 year olds. On **Wednesday 14th February** we are running a NEW workshop where you can come along at 1 – 2pm or 2 – 3pm with the kids and decorate a bird box. To find out more about these events see our website www.theecologycentre.org or call us on 01592 891567.

NEW volunteering opportunities

If you are looking to do something new in 2018 we have volunteering opportunities on offer. Volunteering is great if you are looking to meet new people, learn new skills or share your skills. We are currently looking for someone with a couple of hours to spare on a Wednesday to help in our kitchen and we are also looking for a new Treasurer to join our Board. If you have some spare time and would like to get involved, then we would love to hear from you! Interested? Call David for a friendly chat on 01592 891567 or check out our website for more information about the Treasurer role.

<https://www.theecologycentre.org/news/we-are-looking-for-new-treasurer>

Outdoor Adventures with Burntisland Primary School

Our Education team have been enjoying working with the pupils and teachers at Burntisland Primary School to explore mindfulness in the outdoors. This programme has been developed in partnership with the school and allows pupils to receive the benefits of mindfulness exercises as well as time spent in nature.

Pupils have been exploring the woods and coastline around the school, engaging with their senses, working together, exploring feelings, emotions and practical activities to help them feel calm and focused. We will be working with two more classes before the summer and we can't wait to get started!



Road closure

As you are aware the Loch road connecting Burntisland to Kinghorn has temporarily closed due to construction works by property developers Lovell. We just wanted to remind all visitors that we and all businesses around Kinghorn Loch are still open as usual and can be accessed via Kinghorn. Just allow a little extra travelling time!

We'll continue to press, with the support of local representatives, for the speedy conclusion of these lengthy and disruptive works.

To keep in touch with all the latest news from The Ecology Centre, sign up for our eBulletin on our website www.theecologycentre.org or like and follow us on Facebook and Twitter.



The Rotary Club of Burntisland & Kinghorn by Alan Smart

The RotaKids at Burntisland Primary School plan to do an afternoon tea for the senior citizens in Burntisland along with a talent show. The RotaKids also ably supported the Club with the annual Shoebox scheme. A RotaKids club with 8 members has now been formed at Kinghorn PS and efforts are being made to try to set up RotaKids at Auchtertool PS.

Ian Archibald's talk entitled 'A King's Treasure Lost – 1633' (otherwise known as The Blessing) enthralled us all including both Rotarian and Non-Rotarian guests. The interesting local topic and Ian's reputation for research and as a speaker meant it was our largest meeting thus far. Weather forecasting is the application of science and technology to predict the conditions of the atmosphere for a given location and time, so said John Minhinick during his talk '23 Thousand Trillion' being the number of pieces of data computers can currently process each second. Simple Really! John delivered a very stimulating and informative talk based on his career in the Met Office.

The Club are having a Gala Concert at the Adam Smith

Theatre on 24 March 2018, featuring the famous "Glasgow Phoenix Choir". Members have been requested to ask friends and relatives to join us at the concert. This should be a great night out with proceeds going to C.H.A.S and other charities that we support.

The main items for Service projects this month were as follows:-

Support for Kinghorn Community's memorial service for John McCaulay VC. The club provided 6 members for marshalling and reception duties. An appeal from the Health Visitor for emergency assistance to a single Mum was agreed. On Saturday 2nd December we assisted in Marie Curie fundraising collection at Starks Park. This month will see our cooperation with Kinghorn in Bloom's Santa Parade.

Finally, the Club is looking forward to celebrating the life and works of Robert Burns with a Burns Supper in the Sands Hotel on 23 January. Members of the Club will recite some of Burns Poetry and will be joined by the winners of our local Burns competition from Burntisland and Kinghorn Primary Schools, who will perform their winning recitations.



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Generous Gesture by Local Butcher

A number of community groups in Burntisland will have a flying start to the year, thanks to the generosity of Tom Courts Burntisland Butchers and their customers.

For the past 12 months, the shop has been putting aside 10p from every sausage roll sold, with the aim of accumulating a fund for distribution to local good causes.

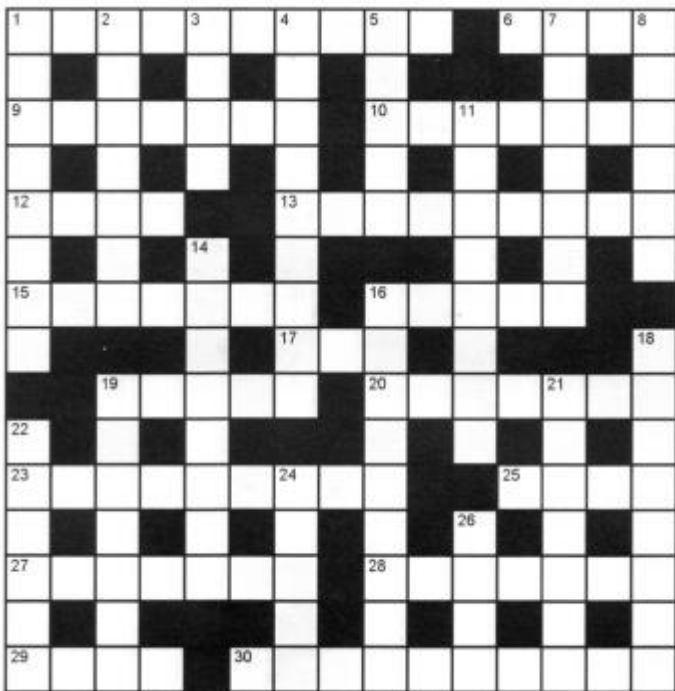
The resulting cheque for £1,200 has now been presented to the Community Council, with the request that it should be disbursed among the groups which give most benefit to the town. On receiving the cheque, Alex MacDonald, Chairman of the Community Council stated that it will be a difficult challenge for the members of the Community Council to decide among the many eligible local groups, but we will try to reach a decision early in the New Year.

He added that it was a wonderfully generous gesture from Tom and his colleagues. It carried on a long family tradition of being active in the community and contributing positively to many walks of life. It's very much an example to others and we're very grateful for their kindness.



Tom Courts with sister Lorna and Community Council Chairman Alex MacDonald.

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1. Branch of Mathematics(10)
6. Competent (4)
9. Lean cut of beef (7)
10. Thai (7)
12. Floating marker 4)
13. Pomegranate syrup (9)
15. Jute Cloth (7)
16. Foe (5)
17. One who steers a small boat (3)
19. Addict (5)
20. Aim (7)
23. Rebuke (9)
25. Retail outlet (4)
27. Knee bone (7)
28. Fishing vessel (7)
29. Highland dagger (4)
30. Self-willed (10)

DOWN

1. German motorway (8)
2. Profane (7)
3. Greet enthusiastically (4)
4. Sudden crisis (9)
5. Offspring (5)
7. Conciseness (7)
8. Hole for a lace (6)
11. Non-professionals (8)
14. Plant with 2 yr. cycle (8)
16. Speeded up (9)
18. Vaulting game (8)
19. Largest planet (7)
21. Shakespeare play (7)
22. Three legged stand (6)
24. Not asleep (5)
26. Slender pointed missile (4)

Solution to Summer Crossword

ACROSS: 1 Senescence, 6 Scan, 9 Beneath 10 Vestige, 12 Rage, 13 Mercurial, 15 Conquer, 16 Cling, 17 Ava, 19 Babel, 20 Neutron, 23 Epidermis, 25 Spar, 27 Refused, 28 Emotion, 29 Ways, 30 Close Shave.

DOWN: 1 Subtract, 2 Nonagon, 3 Sham, 4 Ephemeral, 5 Cover, 7 Ceiling, 8 Needle, 11 Spurious, 14 Tumblers, 16 Canisters, 18 Entrance, 19 Briefly, 21 Replica, 22 Hebrew, 24 Model, 26 Sons.

CONGRATULATIONS—Our Autumn Crossword winner of £25 in vouchers is: Mary Watson,
7 Allan Court, Burntisland.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

TELEPHONE:.....

Completed entries by: March 15th 2018 to:

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

First Correct entry drawn will win £25.00 vouchers
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Events Diary

DATE	EVENT	TIME
FEBRUARY		
Thursday 8th	SWI Meeting at St Joseph's Church Hall	7.00 pm
Friday 9th	Community Council meeting in the Burgh Chambers	7.00 pm
Thursday 15th	Eco Adventures Holiday Club at the Ecology Centre (5 - 9 year olds)	9.00 am - 3.00 pm
Monday 12th	Alpha Course at Potter About	7.30 pm - 9.30 pm
Thursday 15th	Harbour Area Residents Association formation meeting in Upper Library Hall	7.00 pm
Friday 16th	Eco Adventures Holiday Club at the Ecology Centre (5 - 9 year olds)	9.00 am - 3.00 pm
Friday 23rd	FAB Annual General Meetin in the Sands Hotel	7.00 pm
Saturday 24th	Coffee Morning with hot pancakes in Erskine Church Hall	10.00 am - 12.00 noon
Saturday 24th	Messy Church at Burntisland Parish Church Hall	10.00 am - 12.15 pm
MARCH		
Thursday 8th	SWI Meeting at St Joseph's Church Hall	7.00 pm
Friday 9th	Community Council meeting in the Burgh Chambers	7.00 pm
Saturday 17th	Shipyards FC v Preston Athletic - "Groundhop Fixture" - early kick off!	11.00 pm
Saturday 24th	Messy Church at Kinghorn Parish Church Hall	10.00 am - 12.15 pm
APRIL		
Thursday 12th	SWI Meeting at St Joseph's Church Hall	7.00 pm
Friday 13th	Community Council meeting in the Burgh Chambers	7.00 pm



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SPRING ROUND-UP OF NEW BUSINESSES

THE SANDS HOTEL – While not exactly a new business; it has recently come under new management. I recently booked a table for six adults and two children. When we arrived, our table was set and we all selected our choices from a comprehensive menu. The service was excellent and the food was well prepared and tasty.

AYE KANDY A fairly new-comer to the High St. This business offers a remarkable selection of sweets and candies. The premises are quite small but the range of sweets available from old favourites like ‘soor plums’ to modern chocolates. I have resolved to further investigate their stock range very shortly.

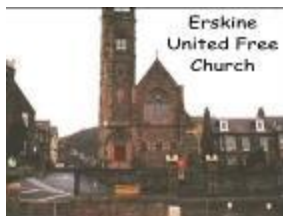
RISTORANTE BARI Located at the western end of the High street, this restaurant is what Burntisland residents have been crying out for. Family run, 30 – 40 covers, delivers excellent Italian cuisine and very reasonable prices. An ideal venue for small parties or large families, as they cater for children’s tastes and appetites.

NOVELLI’S Do you like ice cream? If so, you can take advantage of this fantastic new business, situated in the former Post Office after a massive refit. All ice cream is homemade on the premises and features local fruit and ice cream combinations. We can recommend their takeaway cones and containers of various delicious dairy and non-dairy concoctions.

NOTJUSTTRAVEL is a new business enterprise set up by long time Burntisland resident Trang Murray. This is a personal travel consultancy in which Trang will tailor holidays world-wide to the requirements of individual clients. She has been operating the “Not Just Travel” franchise for several months, caters for a wide variety of leisure activities and trips and has a particular expertise in the Far East.

Trang runs her business from home but enjoys meeting clients over a coffee in a local café such as Potter About.

She can be contacted on T. 01592 872711 or M. 07397523837 or website www.notjusttravel.com/trang-murray



Erskine
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Lifting the Lid on Erskine Church

First of all a very peaceful & healthy New Year to *Buzz* readers!

Our 2017 Christmas events went well, many thanks to those who attended the Watchnight and other services, donating generously to the Cottage Family Project & Leprosy Mission. A seasonal total of £461.12 was raised. As always it was good to share with other local churches and work with my fellow ministers.

We shall miss Father Brian from St. Joseph's, he's such a lovely man and always speaks really well. Nonetheless we welcome Father James very warmly to Burntisland and it's a real blessing that he is very keen to participate in joint church events.

On 27 November 2017 the funeral of Rev. John Allan was held in Erskine. Many people from the Burntisland community & beyond came to pay their respects and give thanks for John's forty-one years of faithful ministry in the town. This show of respect was greatly appreciated by us, especially Sandra & the family. John will be greatly missed.



Hogmanay brought our last service for the year and in the course of it we welcomed the amazing matchstick model of Erskine painstakingly built by Dave Todd (see photos). Dave told us of the almost 900 hours of work involved, not to mention 22,500 matches-each fashioned individually! Feel free to join us some Sunday to get a chance to see this amazing piece of work. The roof comes off, and inside the congregation becomes visible from very animated minister (?) to everyone quite literally glued to their seats for the service! It would be great if it were possible to lift the lid on what's going to happen in our lives during 2018.



Faith can help us through good and tough times, as both can come to us in equal measure. One of the great Bible

characters, Job, utters these powerful words, "The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised" (Job 1.21).

Burntisland Parish Church by Rev. Alan Sharp



Thanks to everyone who supported our Christmas services and our hamper appeal for folks in crisis at Christmas.

Sunday Morning worship - everyone is welcome at 11.00 am at the parish

church, (at the top of the Kirkgate to the left of the church hall). We try to have a mix of modern and traditional hymns, and to keep things simple - its worth coming just to see the building, but the infinite value is in discovering God.

We also have the wee service from 10.30 am till about 11.50 am on Wednesday mornings. This is always followed by tea, coffee and biscuits.

Sunday evenings are a little more complicated :-
1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, a meeting mostly for prayer, takes place in Solid Rock starting at 6.20pm
2nd Sunday of the month a Cafe Church takes place in Potter About at 6.20pm, - very informal, relaxed and there is cake!

Last Sunday of the month Going Deeper a more meditative service, takes place in the church hall. (if the month has 5 Sundays we will be in Solid Rock on the fourth).

Solid Rock could be more widely used by the community - if you are looking for premises for a community venture please contact me. Applications have to go to our Kirk Session, but please, we are not wanting coffee mornings or such events that would take business from the rest of the High Street. Do support our local cafes and shops - we are very fortunate with our High Street.

We continue to work with Kirkcaldy foodbank and with the folks at Potter About to provide emergency food for folks in the community. We are also trying to get a new worker for our Christians Against Poverty partnership.

All the best for the new year. Alan Sharp.



Welcome to Fr. James

It has been a time of change for us here at St Joseph's. In mid-October we bade farewell to Father Brian Gowans, who has taken up a new appointment as Parish Priest of St Marie's and St Pius', Kirkcaldy and St Ninian's, Bowhill – three parishes now linked and sharing a priest. Father Brian has settled in well and is enjoying his new challenge. We are looking forward to welcoming him back in early February to thank him for his three years of service to the parish community.

Fr James Tracey became Parish Priest and has quickly settled in to his new post. Fr James came to us from Edinburgh, where he served in St Kentigern's, Barnton. He is originally from Lennoxton and was ordained priest in 1988. He celebrates the 30th anniversary of his Ordination in early February. Fr James has served in various parishes and various Diocesan responsibilities over the years and is looking forward to his new life here in Burntisland, serving the people of the parish of St Joseph's (which includes Aberdour and Kinghorn, as well as Burntisland) and working with the other local churches and community organisations. And he hopes to be here for a very long time... Wishing you and yours every blessing.



Have you ever wondered if there is more to life?

That is a question that many people have explored in what is known as the Alpha Course. The Independent Newspaper reported that 1.2 million Britons have attended an Alpha Course and described it as an, "informal, friendly and fun" way to explore the Christian Faith. A recent Alpha Guest commented on their own experience...

'I was actually surprised at how much I enjoyed it and how much I have gotten out of it. There was always a warm welcome and friendly faces, and I felt able to come as I was and be myself, especially as I have been through a difficult time. It has been an interesting and transforming journey and I've have met some wonderful people along the way.'

The reason for the success of the Alpha Course is because everyone is welcome, along with any questions or comment. It is a place to really explore and search. A typical Alpha Night includes a meal, a talk, coffee and tea followed by a discussion time where any questions can be asked.



The Adventurer Bear Grylls said, "Finding a simple faith that empowers my life? To me that's been my greatest adventure."

If you are interested in exploring the Question of Life? An Alpha Course is being held by Burntisland Churches Together starting on the 12th Feb at Potterabout on Monday evenings at 7:30pm to 9:30pm. All are welcome. For more information go to Alpha.org or contact office@allsoulsfife.org.uk or call **07821712500**. **All are welcome.**

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Burntisland Bird Watch

December '17
By Leo du Feu

Although a new arrival in our house means I haven't been out exploring much, in December I did have one very exciting walk up the Binn and onto farm tracks beyond. It was still night, thick fog over the land, baby asleep on my chest. Two Tawny owls were calling either against or to each other in the wooded slopes above the golf course then several more from trees across the open field-land.

The classic owl song, 'twit twoo', is made by Tawny owls. It's thought to normally be a duet by the female who calls a sharp 'keewick' ('twit') and the male who replies with hollow vibrating 'hoo-ooo-oo' ('twoo'). Our other four UK-resident owls sound very different, raspy Barn owls shriek and hiss. Long-eared owls sing a one-note 'hoo', like blowing in a bottle, slowly repeated. Short-eared owls don't make much noise but when they do it's a faster series of low hoots. Little owls have a short haunting cry.

Soon after the owl night, I was back up the Binn for my monthly count of waterbirds on the Binn pond for the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO). This time the water was an ice

rink and nothing was showing other than one heron among nearby tussocks. Even when not frozen this pond is tricky as all but the centre is crowded with rushes. Counting involves waiting a long time for things to either swim out into the open centre or to make a sound.

Knowing some of the songs and calls of nature brings so much more chance of encountering wildlife - Great spotted woodpecker for example I usually see only because of first hearing its sharp 'chip - chip - chip' call. The same day as my frozen count a call helped me spot a new species for the site. From low Silverbarton Hill west of the pond erupted loud harsh screeches - Jays! The first I've seen here. Feathers pinky-tan, black, white, blue wing flashes, these crow cousins were moving noisily through the trees in a group of three or more. Do you see jays locally? How long have you known them to be in the area?

Let me know if you'd like more info about carrying out your own voluntary counts for the BTO - the Contact page at www.leodufeu.co.uk



Craignalc Trust News by Marilyn Edwards

The weather has been much colder this winter, with ice covering large parts of Kinghorn Loch at times, but this has not deterred the sports groups using the loch for training, or the Trust volunteers

from workdays. Team work from the groups, and an ice breaking Coastal Rowers crew, has enabled the base and frame of the nesting platforms to be anchored in the shallow water at the head of the loch. Now with a timber covering to be added very soon and old trees, rocks and planting for camouflage cover for the nesting birds in Spring, together with bespoke shelters for ducklings against predators, the survival rate of our water birds should be much greater. This has been a challenging project for the Trust, but enjoyed by all those involved. We hope the platforms will provide an interesting place for the study of bird life. Recently, the bird hide has seen a hive of activity again with folk arriving each day to catch a glimpse of the resident kingfishers as they dive for fish directly in front of the hide. Our thanks to our local bird enthusiasts for keeping the area so clean, thus attracting beautiful birds.

A new planned timetable for 2018 has been agreed for the Trust. Last November there was another successful visit to

Inchkeith which will be followed up in the Spring by a talk from Ian Archibald, entitled 'Islands of the Forth'. In April, the Trust hopes to host another Mini Walking Fest over a 2 week period, featuring a family walk with storytelling and other enjoyable walks. A programme will be issued nearer the time. We hope to run a set of moth and butterfly surveys during the summer months and everyone is invited to come along. This will involve selecting suitable warm, damp evenings to set out traps and returning the following morning to see what has been around. It is fascinating to observe the massive range of different moths that are here. Most of us are familiar with the garden bird counts encouraged by the RSPB. Moth counts increase our knowledge of our local environment in the same way.

Our ever popular 'Come and Try' day will take place on Saturday 5th May. The choice of water sports and leisure activities available at Kinghorn Loch increases each year and the event is always well supported. We hope that even if the lochside road closure is still in place, that folk from Burntisland will still manage along to this free taster afternoon.

The Trust is embarking on some exciting new projects, and a programme for these is being put together. If you would like to get involved in a small or large way we would be delighted to hear from you. Our contact details are tel. 01592 891330 or contact us on info@craignalctrust.org.uk



Photograph by Elaine O'Rourke



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	Core Blast	Adrina Wallace
	Kettlebells	Adrina Wallace
	Metalfit	Adrina Wallace
Wednesday	Kettlebells	Rory Young
	BodyPump	Jill Johnston
	Circuit Training	Johnny Miller
	Core Blast	Adrina Wallace
	Aquasobics	Lauren Mullen
Thursday	Pilates	Susan Spowart
	BodyPump	Jill Johnston
	Aquasobics	Lauren Mullen
Friday	BodyPump	Jill Johnston
	Pilates	Jill Johnston
	Kettlebells	Adrina Wallace
	Metalfit	Adrina Wallace
	Circuit Training	Johnny Miller
Saturday	Circuit Training	Johnny Miller

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