

BURGH BUZZ



Burntisland's Free Community Magazine

Previous issues at www.burghbuzz.org.uk

August 2020

Issue No 76

In early May I had the pleasure of visiting the operational hub of the Burntisland Emergency Action Team (BEAT) at the Toll Community Centre, and to say that I was impressed is an understatement. I was greeted by Yvonne and Brendan, the principle controllers of BEAT who gave me a thorough briefing on the formation, organisation and development of the essential services that the BEAT operation has delivered throughout the Burntisland community over the past four months.

Towards the end of March, in anticipation of a worsening coronavirus situation, the Community Council in conjunction with the Toll Community Centre, activated the Community Emergency Action Plan. As the name suggests, this is a predetermined strategy which involves local volunteers assisting the emergency services in providing essential assistance and commodities to the most vulnerable in the community.

Establishing the BEAT operation was a complicated logistical exercise in itself but careful planning and commendable response from within the community resulted in a successful launch. Initially, a call went out for help through social media and word of mouth. An army of volunteers then delivered leaflets to every household in the town in an effort to identify those who required assistance—shopping, collection of prescriptions, dog walking and a friendly chat on the phone were the early services offered.

Secure databases with details of volunteers and vulnerable families and individuals requiring assistance were built up and as the extent of the needs were identified, services offered by BEAT expanded to include:

- Substantial food parcels, contents of which were either purchased or donated, were made up and delivered.
- A table of “goodies” was set up outside the Toll Centre for residents to help themselves and leave a donation, if able.
- Free sanitary products, particularly hand gel, was made available at outlets throughout the town
- A table piled with DVDs, board games, toys and jigsaw puzzles was placed outside the Centre for “swapping”.
- Hot food and rolls donated by local businesses were delivered to the needy.
- Activity bags were delivered to every primary school pupil in the town. These bags varied according to the age of the pupil and contained items which included juggling balls, bubble wands, dominoes, skipping ropes, arts and crafts items, puzzles, a lockdown diary, musical instruments, and a small gardening package from FAB, to name just a few.

The BEAT service has been financed by generous donations from established charities, Fife Council, local companies and organisations and also individuals. All donations are channelled through the Community Council's bank account and are dedicated totally to BEAT.

In recent developments the BEAT operation has been forced to relocate to the premises at 183 High Street, recently vacated by Change Works in Burntisland. This has been necessary as the Toll Community Centre required the space for regular activities which include the Playgroup and BOSS.



Although lockdown restrictions are gradually easing, as conditions return to some form of normality, BEAT members feel strongly that their services will be required for some time to come.

The pandemic emergency has identified many families within the community who are in urgent need of regular assistance in acquiring basic necessities—food, heating and clothing to name a few. The economic downturn will inevitably lead to redundancies and with rising unemployment and an increase in the number of needy families.

We thank most sincerely the stalwart efforts of every member of the BEAT organisation. It is recognised that as lockdown restrictions ease, members of BEAT will return to work and be unable to continue to devote the same number of hours to the cause.

We urge anyone who has some spare time to volunteer their services through yvonnecrombie.tollcentre@gmail.com so that the essential work carried out by BEAT may continue until such times as a semblance of normality returns to the town.



The BEAT “warehouse” at the Toll Community Centre

The Burntisland community has experienced a wide variety of problems and acts of kindness associated with lockdown restrictions.

Our young reporter Kizzy, has taken time out from her home studies to interview a selection of residents and in her article clearly illustrates the contrasting circumstances between age groups and individuals. Read her column on Page 17.

BURNTISLAND'S COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

Featuring — Local issues :: organisations :: events :: people and more

From the Editor

This issue of the Buzz is predictably dominated by articles relating to the current pandemic. However it is comforting to note the manner in which members of the community as a whole have pulled together to assist each other, particularly looking after the most vulnerable. Organisations in the town have adapted their activities to conform with the lockdown restrictions and no more so than our Primary School. The extensive range of adapted schooling procedures is clearly explained by School Head, Julie Anderson, on the “Sway” website. (Page 6)

Internet communications have been essential during the difficult time. Organisations such as the Community Council, the Rotary Club and the CBTRA have managed to hold regular meetings of members through Zoom, and our local churches have conducted weekly services using Facebook and YouTube.

An imaginative competition on the internet, to introduce a competitive element into its teaching programme by Burntisland & District Pipe Band has gone viral, attracting over 200 entries from all over the world and inspiring other bands, both nationally and internationally, to introduce similar competitions. (Page 10)

Plaudits must also go to our High Street traders who collectively, under very restrictive conditions, have organised themselves in a manner that has ensured that essentials have always been readily available.

Finally, I must thank regular contributors to the Buzz for their continued support at this difficult time.

Abide by the rules and stay safe.

Bill Kirkhope

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Your Community Council

Burrtisland Community Council (BCC) is elected every four years to ascertain, coordinate and express to local and public authorities, the views of the community which it represents and to carry out other functions in the interests of the community.

Chair: Alex MacDonald
 Vice Chair: Vacant
 Treasurer: Fiona Watson
 Secretary: Yvonne Crombie
 Minutes Secretary: Anne Smith

Members:

Tim Hailey John Bruce
 Brendan Burns Lynne Ralph

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www.facebook.com/BurrtislandCC

Elected Fife Councillors' Availability

Councillor Lesley Backhouse

Telephone: 07540 677081

Email: Cllr.Lesley.Backhouse@fife.gov.uk

Lesley is happy for constituents to ring her on the above number or email.

Councillor Gordon Langlands

Telephone: 01592 874612

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

Gordon does not hold surgeries but is happy for constituents to contact him to arrange to meet at a convenient time and place.

Councillor Kathleen Leslie

Telephone: 07714 778906

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

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

All elected politicians' surgery times and contact details are listed at:

www.burgh.buzz/politics

Community Council Bullets.....

The Community Council holds its regular meetings on the second Friday of each month, at 7.00pm in Burrtisland's 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 three meetings is set out below.

- Since the lockdown members of the Community Council have met at roughly fortnightly intervals by videoconference. It's not ideal as it limits access by the public, so we are looking forward to the re-opening of the Burgh Chambers.
- We've applied for support from Fife Council to help ensure that this year's Christmas lights can be extended, so that the display will be better than ever before.
- Kinghorn Community Council have requested a change to boundaries, so that some of the area currently allocated to Burrtisland will revert to Kinghorn as it was before 1975. It's not straightforward, so we are reviewing the implications.
- Friends and family members cleared weeds from most of the prom, greatly enhancing the overall area.
- Funding in principle has been approved for upgrading the environment surrounding the Cot Burn at the Toll Park. The detail of the plan will be reviewed, as there are regulatory (and expensive) complications arising from any changes to the watercourse itself.
- We have raised concerns with Fife Council about the poor quality of recent remediation work on the Links. We have also asked for it to be designated a "destination park", which would give access to high levels of maintenance funding.
- Proposals are still active in the background for a second pharmacy, with details due to be considered soon by NHS Fife.
- Timber harvesting will take place at Kilrie farm over the next 5 years, with tractors and trailers accessing the woodlands via the B9157 near to Orrock Quarry.
- There are real and substantial constraints on what we are able to do, as we still have vacancies for new members to join the Community Council. All it takes is a presence on the electoral register and a desire to improve local life for everyone. Our Secretary or Chairman will be happy to take phone calls or e-mails from anyone who is interested and eligible.

Burgh Buzz—Advertising Co-ordinator

The Burgh Buzz is once again looking for a new Advertising Co-ordinator.

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

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

Bill Kirkhope (Editor)

Tel: 01383 822023 or email: billvida@sealscraig.plus.com

The Burgh Police

from PC Danny Hatch



Firstly I'll start by saying that I hope everyone is well and enjoying slowly but surely returning to normality.

It has been a difficult time but hopefully we are passed the worst of it and can be positive moving forwards.

On a positive note, I can confirm that I am joined in the area by another officer namely PC Stuart Kinnes. Stuart started on 6th July and I believe that this will help with regards to us having more presence in the area.

There are two main complaints I am receiving from residents of the area. These being an increase in anti-social behaviour and the manner in which some vehicles are being driven around the town.

There has been much said in the area regarding anti-social behaviour. I would encourage members of the public to report instances of anti-social behaviour to police as this is the only way in which we can properly gauge the extent of the problem. I make this point, as often when in the town, I hear about incidents that have occurred weeks prior. Incidents which are certainly worthy of being reported to the police but never have been. I am aware that there is a lot of talk on Facebook which never makes it's way to the police. Social media can be a great tool for identifying persons responsible and for simply spreading the word and making others aware of the need to take precautions and keep themselves safe but please do report issues of criminality to the police.

Statistically, there has been an increase in reports to police of anti-social behaviour and disorder in the town. This has also been the case in all community ward areas covered by Kirkcaldy Police Station and generally nationwide. This may be in part

as a result of the recent lockdown period, however I do acknowledge that residents of the area may feel it cannot entirely be put down to this. Again, reporting incidents of this nature allows police to build a picture and gain an idea as to the scale of the issue.

I have recently received emails from members of the public regarding vehicles driving around Burntisland in a manner deemed to be too quick, too noisy and indeed in a careless manner. I do acknowledge that there are complaints related to this and it is an area that PC Kinnes and I are looking to work on. I have collated details of vehicles that have been reported to police via various means and intend to approach these persons and make them aware that this is an issue being looked at closely. I am looking to combine this with more regular patrols of the town and more regular speeding deployments using a handheld speed gun.

Finally, I am aware that there may be other issues in the town outwith the two I have chosen to focus on and as always I encourage members of the public to report issues via the contact details at the bottom of this article.

PC Stuart Kinnes

I would like to introduce myself as new in the role of community police officer covering the Burntisland, Kinghorn and Auchtertool area working alongside PC Hatch. This is a role I would have likely commenced much earlier however my move was delayed due to COVID-19.

I have approximately five years police service and have been based at Kirkcaldy Police Station covering Kirkcaldy and the outlying areas which includes the areas I am now covering as a community officer.

As a result I feel I have some knowledge of the areas I will be covering in my new role and look forward to meeting many of you over the coming months.

Police can be contacted on the usual measures using **101** or **999** where appropriate. There is also always the option of crime stoppers which provides a valuable tool in reporting issues anonymously:

Website: www.crimestoppers-uk.org

Telephone: **0800 555 111**

In the meantime, we can be contacted on the below email address:

BurntislandKinghornWesternKirkcaldyCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk



Central Burntisland Tenants & Residents Association

The Tenants and Residents Association has moved into the 21st century and we are now holding our meetings using Zoom. The attendance at our meetings has actually gone up but I believe that some of the anti-social behaviour in and around the High Street recently has a lot to do with the increase in attendance.

Residents are rightfully concerned with the increase in anti-social behaviour. The TRA is looking at ways to help address the problem, ranging from raising questions in Parliament about Police Scotland's Community Policing Policy, to the sighting of CCTV cameras in the worst hit areas of the town.

Burntisland is a beautiful town with a thriving High Street and we the residents, need to send a message to our community councillors, Fife councillors and members of the Scottish Parliament that that is how we want it to stay.

With the recent success of Zoom it is being actively considered that whilst we still need to hold face to face meetings, interim meetings could be held using Zoom because it allows residents to have their say without the need to leave their homes and if they so wish, they hide their identity making their input to the meetings anonymous.

Future Association meetings will be held on Zoom at least until the end of the COVID-19 pandemic. Meeting dates will be announced at least a week in advance of the meetings (when possible). If there are problems you wish to see addressed please joint the TRA and have your say.

Iain Ralph
Chairman

Christine Dewar (1948–2020)

The Burntisland community was shocked and saddened by the recent unexpected death of former Citizen of the Year, Christine Dewar. Christine followed in the footsteps of her parents by unselfishly giving of her time, energy and unique talents in the service of the community.

Throughout her long membership of the Community Council she was never reluctant to forcefully express her views within Council meetings. She also played an active role in judging the Scots Verse Competition at the Primary School, organised panto trips for senior citizens, welcomed guests to the Burgh Chambers and always could be found beavering behind the scenes to ensure that Civic

Receptions and Award Presentations ran smoothly.

However, her absence arguably, will be missed most of all by the Burntisland Youth Theatre with whom she has been associated for over 40 years. Originally introduced to the group through one of her “actor” sons, she rapidly became involved in staffing the tuck shop, selling tickets, controlling entries to performances and many other tasks until for many years she became the invaluable front-of-house-manager.

Christine will be sorely missed within the community but no more so than by her devoted family to whom we offer our heartfelt condolences.



Burntisland First Aid

As we come slowly out of lockdown, our diary is almost unrecognisable from only a few months ago. We have had well over 40 events cancelled, though brand-new requests are now coming in. The earliest activities to restart are outdoor events such as showjumping and motocross, which have very different profiles of injury and illness.

Our suspended course for more advanced skills is about to resume and will be completed by the end of August, ensuring that we are once again in the forefront of voluntary first aid in Scotland.



Our new ambulance is at last on the way, having departed the factory on Tuesday 14th July. After formal inspection by the UK authorities it will then be on its way to us, ready for what is likely to be a very active autumn and winter season.

Normally we start an evening class in First Aid at Work which runs from September to December. It's an excellent grounding in the essentials but it seems likely that the course will be slightly delayed this year. However, we're happy to take

enquiries from anyone who is interested as it will help us to judge the overall demand. It's also the starting point for those who want to join us as volunteers.

To put things in perspective, last year we attended 150 events over 7 local authority areas. We attended to over 200 people, of whom 15 had suspected fractures, most of which were confirmed. Two people had life-threatening injuries. We also delivered 20 short courses to about 150 people, excluding the 90 or so P7 pupils at Burntisland primary who were taught CPR and defibrillation.

We're aware that another organization—British Red Cross—is no longer providing first aid cover for events. So naturally we would welcome any of their former members who enjoy making a difference through early intervention. Enquiries—whether for courses, events or volunteering—will be most welcome to alex_mac@btinternet.com or via our website at www.bfast.org.uk

Finally, it is comforting to note that during the lockdown we have assisted the BEAT operation in delivering over 400 prescriptions to local people who were housebound.

Alex MacDonald
Chairman



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Burntisland Primary School

This term at Burntisland Primary has looked very different. Learning has moved from the classroom into homes around the town where the children have dazzled us with their resilience and resourcefulness.

The Primary 7 pupils have found this period especially challenging, knowing they'll not be returning to Burntisland Primary after the holidays. This year's P7 leavers are incredibly unique, not only have they completed their primary education in lockdown but they are also the last cohort to have been educated in the old school building on Ferguson Place before moving to the new school building at the beginning of their Primary 2 year.

Earlier this year one of our Speakers Competition finalists, Jen Wallace, delivered her presentation on her experiences at Burntisland Primary. We don't think we could describe it half as well as she could.....

As a school, we are incredibly proud of our Primary 7 pupils and know they'll continue to be thoughtful, hard-working and conscientious representatives of Burntisland Primary School.

Emma Clunie



Our P7 year is unique and no other pupils will ever be able to experience our years at primary school as they are so different to everyone else. We started school in 2013 at Ferguson Place (the old school). We were all excited about starting primary school and learning lots of new things.

However, we were not the only new people to join the school as this is also when Miss Anderson started working at Burntisland Primary. We all had fun learning about the new school together.

Although everything was very new to us, we knew that we were part of an exciting transition period for the school and the town. Every day we walked to school we would watch our new school being built. The time went by so quickly and soon we were packing up for our big move.

The first day at the new school was very exciting, we had big bright individual classrooms with smartboards and a library full of new books. The school continued to give us exciting new learning opportunities and a true sense of belonging.

The years have passed really quickly, and we are now in Primary 7 (which has been full of enjoyment) but we sadly had to

leave school early this year due to COVID-19. We cannot have our usual farewell celebrations, but we hope to do something to say our goodbyes to everyone later this year.

Even though our year hasn't had all the P7 experiences that we had hoped for, we still have had a really good time at the school and enjoyed our time at the new school. We look back fondly on our time we spent at the old school and feel very lucky to have been part of the year that attended both schools. We hope all pupils coming through the school enjoy their time at BPS as much as we have. We will miss the school greatly.

Jen Wallace, Primary 7



A Fond Farewell to the Old School

.....and a message from the Head

It's so important for me to stress how proud I am to be the Headteacher of Burntisland Primary School. The staff team transformed the way they work almost over night as we had to totally rethink the way we delivered education to our learners and find ways to keep connected.

We did this in a variety of ways through our school 'app', Microsoft Teams, emails, phone calls, doorstep visits and our Facebook page. You'll see from the video on our Sway website all of the varieties of learning ideas that were offered so that's families could choose from these activities and lessons to suit the individual needs of their children.

We were completely overwhelmed with the support we received from parents and the community.

BEAT delivered Activity packs to every single child from BPS and these were incredibly well received by the children who totally loved them.

We have worked extremely hard behind the scenes examining all the different options for reopening and ensuring we follow the latest advice from the Scottish Government and Fife Council. We spent some time at the end of term having transition visits for children starting

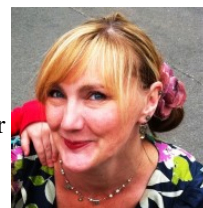
Primary 1 and produced videos to help them see what things are like inside the school and to get to know their teachers (you'll see all of this on our Facebook page). All class teachers met their new classes online for the last week of term and this should help the children to settle in to the new session.

We have a Recovery Plan, written and ready to be shared with staff, pupils and parents which will assist our learners to get back to face to face teaching in the classroom once more. We have also looked at the logistics of having pupils back in and initially this was based on the original 50:50, Blended Learning model with two cohorts. However, this is now a back-up plan in event of future restrictions as we are now planning to be back full time as of Wednesday 11th August.

As the guidelines are constantly changing, there will be updates for parents regarding arrangements the week before we return. However, we would like to assure everyone that we will be doing our utmost to ensure children feel safe and happy back in the school building on their return to normal school life. We will communicate all arrangements with parents.

We believe that whilst it might feel we've all been "in the same storm", we've not all

been in the 'same boat'. We appreciate that the last few months may have felt extremely different for families and individuals and we will be stressing the absolute necessity to be kind and patient to one another.



As yet, we are not certain about what measures will be in place but we feel sure that by the first official day back we will be ready and we will be delighted to see our children back in the building enjoying learning as part of the BPS Family. We've missed that daily contact dreadfully and it'll be fabulous to see everyone once more.

Many thanks to everyone who has supported us during this time—by sending lovely comments, engaging with online learning, tuning in to Live Assemblies, sending photographs of their achievements and keeping connected to BPS.

For a fully comprehensive account of how BPS has reacted to the lockdown restrictions visit the following website:

sway.office.com/V16wMTuHJJF915fq

Burntisland Playgroup



Who would have thought that for this edition of the Burgh Buzz life would still basically be on hold waiting for this coronavirus to subside?

Although we have not been able to physically be with the children over the past few months, we have tried to keep in touch with them all through weekly “Zoom” meetings. We did have a few technical hitches and there is a limit to the activities that can be done online with three and four year olds. However, it was quite successful and a steep learning curve for us all. Apologies to all the parents/carers who had to listen to the staff singing during these sessions. Thankfully children don’t judge us by our vocal skills!

We are looking forward to starting back in August and welcoming our returning and new children. This term we have quite a few children who have chosen playgroup for their pre-school year and others who will just be beginning their anti-pre-school year. It will be lovely to have a mixture of ages and stages to work with over the coming months.

We are very lucky that we have adequate space in the Toll Community Centre to enable us to offer all our children their full hours, even if it has to be in smaller cohorts (bubbles). Guidelines change on a weekly basis, so we will be preparing for every eventuality, to ensure the safety of all our children, their families and our staff.

We will also be starting our new extended hours, so children will be able to attend for 6 hours every day, 8.15am to 2.15pm. We are grateful to Yvonne, manager at the Toll Centre, and the Management Committee for all their support helping us to prepare for next term.

Together with the Toll Centre, we have been able to obtain funding to provide a “community hub building”, which will eventually be used by our families/carers at drop off and pick up times.

As the garden entrance will now be the entry and exit point for playgroup, we needed a facility for parents/carers to wait in and to display all our information. We are therefore very excited that this project

will be able to go ahead. This also can be used for the community at large, outwith playgroup hours.

Some of our staff team has changed since we closed in March. Christina Kelley has resigned, so we have two new full-time Early Years Practitioners, Rebecca McColm and Louise Donaldson, who will join Mandy MacPherson and I in our team. We are also in the process of seeking funding to employ an additional assistant to do the extra cleaning and to plan and prepare the children’s lunches.

Hopefully by the next edition of the Burgh Buzz we will have lots of news about the activities and opportunities the children have had. Fingers crossed that life generally will have returned to some “normality” by then.

Take care everyone.

Jenny Roxburgh



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Burntisland Heritage Trust

Heritage keeps you in the picture

Among the many events that were cancelled due to COVID-19 was the Burntisland Heritage 2020 Summer Exhibition. However not to disappoint the many visitors—local, national and international—who attend and for those who might be suffering “cabin fever” during this lockdown BHT considered how to make some of its resources available. The result was a channel on YouTube where a number of videos were uploaded.

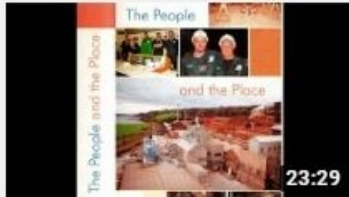
There is a wide and varied selection. All of them show some of Burntisland’s rich history and heritage. For some it will be a walk down memory lane and for others it will be a case of, “I never knew that!”

You may find the answer to some of the questions you had about something in the town or you may discover something new to you.

2020 would have seen our 27th exhibition and so we are certainly not short of choices to produce more of these in the future e.g. Portrait of a Town Part 2 will cover the Outer Heritage Trail.

Whatever, we hope you enjoy them and share with friends and family.

To see full details of what is available, please visit our website at www.burntisland.net and select ‘YouTube’ from the main menu on the left.



The People and the Place



Portrait of a Town or 'A Wee Dauner Roon About the...



Albert Gunn's Story



Burntisland 1883 Harbour Area



Burntisland Burgh Chambers and the Andrew Young...



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Burrtisland & Kinghorn Rotary Club

Despite being affected by lockdown, the Club has continued to operate its service to the local community in several ways. This includes contributing, both financially and where possible personally, to local volunteer groups. Both BEAT (Burrtisland Emergency Action Team) and KSS (Kinghorn Support Squad), who have provided and continue to provide remarkable assistance during the pandemic, have both benefitted from Rotary help. Naturally, many more Club Members would have liked to personally assist but were unable to in view of the shielding restrictions.

These restrictions, including face-to-face gatherings, precluded the usual Tuesday evening meetings at The Sands Hotel, a situation quickly overcome by the introduction of weekly Zoom meetings. These sessions, well attended once Members acquired the new technical knowledge, have the added benefit of inviting a variety of interesting speakers without concerns regarding travel distance. These 'virtual' meetings also had the effect of ensuring Members in full shielding mode were contactable in case of any issues.

A recent development regarding Club Membership has seen five new Rotarians join us from the Rotary Club of Kirkcaldy Raith who have decided they cannot continue due to lack of membership. Naturally, we welcome their addition to our numbers and look forward to the undoubted benefits their outlook and experience will bring to B & K, not to mention the improvement in average age.

With the new President Roger Diggins (pictured above left) taking office on 1st July, he has set out his ideas for the Club



going forward, clearly a difficult task in current circumstances. However, his outlook is incredibly positive and with a strong team to assist looks to introduce several changes to improve the reach of the Club within the community whilst keeping much of the current successful programme.

As always we are keen to welcome new Members, although it would be via email at present to our Secretary Mike Gillis mike.gillis@bowerretirement.co.uk or phone 07880 992459, who can arrange an invitation to attend either a 'virtual' meeting or face-to-face when circumstances allow.



Floral Action Burrtisland

Well it's been a very strange few months. Firstly we at FAB do hope that everyone has been keeping safe and well. COVID-19 has resulted in us taking the sad decision to curtail our usual activities this summer. That said, we have been busy more recently and thought it would be good to share what we have been doing, with you all.

Firstly FAB were very happy to supply BEAT (Burrtisland Emergency Action Team) with plant pots, seeds and compost to be added to the goodie bags for the children of Burrtisland—around 800 in total.

Next, with TCV (The Conservation Volunteers) providing the bulk of the funding, FAB and BEAT teamed up with them to paint the west wall of the Toll Community Centre, clear the ground of weeds and debris and plant a border at the foot of the wall. This work brightened up the area considerably. A picnic

table is to be added along with an 8 foot raised bed at the end of the wall which will come courtesy of the Ecology Centre once they are up and running again.

In addition, some of the FAB committee members and their volunteers have weeded and tidied up the beds at the Beacon car park and other areas of the town. We have also planted out the barrels in the High Street and some of the planters and troughs at the entrances/exits to Burrtisland.

We hope to be able to have a committee meeting soon to start planning and fingers crossed, to resume normal service next year. Thank you all for your understanding and patience in the interim.

Keep safe.

Scott Sweatton



Before...



...After

Burntisland & District Pipe Band

Like everyone else the last few months have brought about many changes to the way we normally go about our business. We realised in March that all the hard work we had been putting in over the winter months was not going to be used on the competition field this year as all our outdoor competitions were cancelled. So we thought, how can we keep the practices and enthusiasm continuing through this pandemic?

Initially, we started to provide online tuition utilising Zoom with great results. This has continued twice a week and instead of practicing our competition tunes, we have used this shutdown period to increase our repertoire, learning new tunes that we haven't played before. Hopefully, next time we are out on parade you will hear them.

Our next big challenge was how to put the competitive edge back into our teaching programme This is where one of our tutors came up with the idea of:

Matrix 2020 Online Junior Solo Piping and Drumming Competition

This started off as a small opportunity for local kids to compete together as their local contests had been cancelled. It quickly grew into a much larger event as documented below.

Competitors submitted audio files which were compiled and sent to judges who judged them blind, not knowing who the player was. The virus is forcing us to find new ways of supporting youth piping and drumming. This one seemed to work well under the circumstances.

The event was hosted by Burntisland & District Pipe Band between April 18th–25th. We had 128 entries from pipers and 74 from drummers with entries from all over the world: the UK, USA, Canada, South Africa, Ireland, New Zealand and Australia. Forty-eight pipe bands were represented.

It was an interesting new model for us – but a great team of judges and lots of support made it all happen. Prizes were specifically designed to provide the greatest support for youth development whilst on lockdown. They included on-line lessons with some of the finest talent in the business, along with lessons and tools for music composition and home practice.

This competition was free to enter and all the prizes and judging was given or carried out free of charge which was a great incentive for all.

The Matrix competition was a first in the world and has really taken off with many more bands around the world running their own competitions. Looks like we may have started something!



Seven of our youths took the opportunity to take part in a competition, run in conjunction with “Scottish Schools Pipes and Drums Trust” and “The Red Hot Chilli Pipers”. This involved 18 bands from around Scotland and we are proud to say Burntisland won the peoples vote and came in 2nd place with the judges vote.

You can still view their version of “Can’t help falling in love” on our band Facebook page.



We are presently carrying out risk assessments so that when we are able to meet in person to rehearse and have minimised the danger of infection being spread.

If all goes to plan we will be advertising for potential pipers and drummers. If your child is 8 years or older get in touch and we will get back to you and let you know when we will be able to offer beginners tuition again.

We are very close to re-establishing the adult pipe band and would like to hear from any drummers out there who would be interested in returning to playing again, please contact us through our Facebook page.

www.facebook.com/burntislandanddistrictpipeband

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Class 4



Class 7

11th Fife Scout Group



Despite not being able to meet face-to-face, the Scout Group have continued to meet up virtually. Over the last few months, we have had a few virtual camps with our members camping out in their gardens or building dens in their houses then completing some scouting tasks and a camp is not complete without a campfire with us all singing along together.

The Beavers and Cubs have had virtual visits from Cool Creatures, a Gaelic Teacher and a Drumming and Rhythm coach. We have all baked together, visited Edinburgh Zoo and had front row seats on the world's top 10 highest rollercoasters.

The Scouts visited the National Museum of the American Air Force in Ohio to complete their Air researcher badge and also learned about local farming and nature for their Farming badge.

Our Explorers have enjoyed many different types of quizzes, completed a Hogwarts escape room and used their navigation skills around London using Google Street View. A few also took part in Gilwell 24, usually a 24-hour challenge camp in London, but this year held virtually staying up for 24 hours and completing activities.

The group have continued to provide an exciting programme for those that wanted to take part and we must thank all the parents that have become their kids beaver/cub/scout and explorer leaders by helping them with all the tasks.

Kerry Laing , Scout Group Leader





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Virtual Civic Week 2020

At the end of March, the lockdown restrictions and uncertainty meant the committee was left with no choice but to cancel this year's Civic Week celebrations. Unfortunately that meant children from the town were not able to be chosen for the Royal Party or take part in the Crowning of the King & Queen.

However we couldn't let the summer go by without doing something to mark Civic Week 2020. So with some restrictions easing, we worked to put together a virtual programme of activities at the last minute which were posted on our Facebook page.

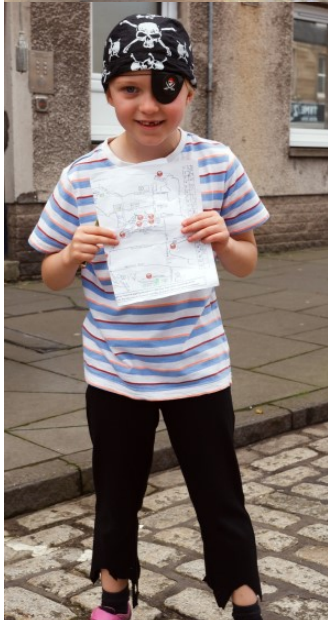
Families were encouraged to decorate their windows on the theme of "Festival of the Sea" or get dressed up on what would have been Parade Day. A few colourful characters appeared and made their way through the town to the High Street and beach on a sunny Saturday afternoon. It was great to bring a smile to people's faces along the way. SpongeBob hoped to return a week later but the torrential rain was too much even for him to handle!

A Treasure Hunt was organised with a map available to help children locate 22 pictures around the town, each with a letter spelling out a phrase. A bonus competition featured five extra pictures and daily clues were posted to help people find them. Prizes were awarded to those who sent in the fastest correct answers and kids received a goody bag for taking part.

As the Citizen of the Year couldn't perform her usual Civic Week duties we wanted to ensure she still had a special day. Caroline Campbell was presented with her sash, and gifted a bouquet and afternoon tea by the committee to recognise her contribution to the local community.

The virtual Sandcastle Competition was judged by Caroline, with photos sent in and prizes awarded to the top three—the winning entry was from Freddie (6) and Harvey Graham (3). A Keepie Uppie competition, Bake-Off, and Binn Race challenge were also on the programme. The Sands Hotel hosted a Virtual Civic Week Quiz live on Facebook, which raised a fantastic £800 for Burntisland Emergency Action Team (BEAT).

Thanks to all those who took part in our activities, everyone seemed to have fun—hopefully we are in position to hold a proper Civic Week again next year!



Another new business for the High Street

On 6th July a new business opened its doors on the High Street, in the form of Rankin Funeral Directors. It has been many years since Burntisland has had its own independent funeral director in the town.

Darren Rankin moved to Burntisland from Bowhill, Cardenden over 25 years ago. His first job in the town was as a waiter at the Kingswood Hotel, a position he enjoyed, especially the opportunity to meet people and who can resist a good natter? Darren gained many friends during this time.

Whilst working at the Kingswood, Darren attended evening classes run by the National Association of Funeral Directors,

and gained his diploma in Funeral Directing in 2004.

After leaving the Kingswood, Darren initially started work with an established family business and then a national company.

Darren has gained a vast amount of experience over the last 18 years helping many families through the most difficult and stressful of times. Darren hopes to be able to use his expertise to help the people of Burntisland and the surrounding area.

At Rankin Funeral Directors, Darren has tried to create a calming atmosphere where people will feel at ease and be able to

discuss the arrangements they require comfortably.

Darren believes that every person is a special individual, and their final journey should be individually created to suit their and their families wishes.

Rankin Funeral Directors will be offering the complete range of services, including all types of masonry work, floral tributes, funeral stationary and Golden Charter prepaid funeral plans.

Darren says he has been made to feel very welcome by the other traders on the High Street and thanks them for their encouraging comments and looks forward to working alongside them all.



DARREN K. RANKIN

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"In the Community for the Community"

Beach Cleans return

We were about to mark a year of our Beach Clean and Hot Chocolate events in March but we had to put them on hold when the lockdown started. However we've brought them back for August, now with a few changes to keep everyone safe.

Turn up at The Beach House at 10:30am on the **first Sunday of each month**, we'll provide sanitised litter pickers and bin bags. If you want gloves, you'll have to bring your own for the time being.

Come back at the end for some hot chocolate—but this time you'll need to bring your own mug!

So mark 6th September, 4th October, 1st November, and 6th December in your diary to help keep the Beach, Links, and Lammerlaws tidy.

Organised by the Friends of Burntisland Beach & Links, and sponsored by The Beach House and Grain & Sustain.

Beach Clean & Hot Chocolate

First Sunday of the month
10:30am
The Beach House
Burntisland



Burntisland Golf House Club

Back in the Swing

I'm sure the Golf Club won't be the only contributors to the Buzz saying that it has been a strange year so far!

Just as the buds of the new season were about to open, everything ground to a halt mid-March. Adding insult to injury, the weather then was unseasonably dry and warm for a good spell. This did however give many locals the chance to take their daily exercise over the course and, for many, see for the first time the surroundings that the members enjoy on a regular basis.

Head Greenkeeper Stevie McAughey kept the course in great condition throughout this period and, although furloughed for a few weeks in the middle of the lockdown, Jimmy Murie and Alex Johnstone also take great credit, along with member Ally Donn. The other members of the McAughey family were put to work by the boss, and the Club owe a great debt of gratitude to Pauline, Robbie and Liam for regularly pitching in.

Golf restarted on 29th May, in line with the Government guidelines, and the demand was extremely high at that point, and continues to be now. As with many other Golf Clubs, both locally and nationally, we were delighted to take on board a healthy number of new members, and I'm sure that most of them will enjoy their golf at Burntisland for many years to come.

Competition golf is now also returning to Dodhead, and a vibrant fixture list is planned for the second half of the season.

As the Buzz goes 'to press' the Clubhouse has yet to reopen, but this is something that we envisage happening very soon now that the green light has been given. There are still a couple of steps to be taken to make us fully compliant.

Junior Coaching is another area that is not too far away and anyone reading this who has a young family member that might benefit from the many positive attributes that the sport has then please encourage them to get involved. Remember membership is FREE for those under 16.

New members of any age are welcome. It's a great way of getting active, enjoying the fresh air, meeting new people or playing as a family group. There's no requirement to be competitive, it's more about having fun.

For all details please phone 01592 874093 or email: info@burntislandgolfhouseclub.co.uk

The Club would like to thank all the members for their patience and support, and also the local businesses that sponsor the Club who have renewed or recently signed up. We are a Club with a tremendous history and your support means that we can put this difficult year behind us, and look forward to our future.

Dave McPherson



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Burntisland Bowling Club

As a result of the Coronavirus pandemic, Burntisland Bowling Club's AGM, its internal competitions, the annual fixture list of friendly matches and usual range of activities for 2020 were cancelled. A COVID Business Support grant has helped the club maintain its playing green and facilities, a welcome contribution given the loss of income from members' fees, social activities and the usual round of annual fundraising events.

During the closure, the Club's Management Committee has been able to maintain its oversight of the Club, using 'virtual' meetings to discuss and plan. The easing of lockdown restrictions has

enabled it to allow the limited resumption of some informal playing activity, but within the constraints agreed between BOWLS Scotland and the Scottish Government.

It is hoped that further easing of those constraints will allow more of the Club's usual range of activities to resume. Until then, the clubhouse and other indoor facilities remain closed.

Richard Perry



Burntisland Shipyard FC

I had my original article written, questioning when we would get the go ahead for a resumption of football, before the very welcome news came through on Friday 10th July that we could start to implement a return to training on Monday 13th July, albeit at a gradual and careful pace.

Much will have to be considered to ensure the health and safety of everyone at the Club. That being said, we are well placed to meet the necessary requirements in what has been a very difficult period for all. The club is in a good position both on and off the field as we eagerly anticipate a starting date for the competitive action to begin, with a strong looking squad, bolstered by a few local signings and financially in better health following the generosity of our supporters who have backed the club through the "Donate a Ticket" campaign. A great effort from everyone, thank you!

We had anticipated training commencing at the beginning of August with the season kicking off towards the end of September or the start of October given the progress the country has been

making in suppressing the virus. So, we may be ahead of schedule!

The makeup of the East of Scotland League conferences has been determined and the club can look forward to some mouth-watering Fife derbies with last season's opponents Oakley United and Glenrothes joined by new members Lochgelly Albert, Lochore Welfare, and Newburgh. Another new venue for us to visit is Brownlands Park, Luncarty, as the Perthshire team make their debut in the league.

Thankfully everyone at the club has remained healthy during the pandemic and as we move forward and look to welcome spectators back to Recreation Park, hopefully sooner rather than later. You can rest assured that the club will be diligent and thorough in ensuring all regulations for social distancing and hygiene, etc. are adhered to as we regard everyone's safety as paramount.

Andrew Beveridge



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As most readers know, the Museum of Communication mounts a new, free-admission exhibition each year, focussing on either topical events/anniversaries or unusual items from our huge Collection.

Unfortunately, lockdown started before our 2020 exhibition was up and running, with the result that we probably won't be able to welcome any visitors to '131' this year. However, once the situation eases further, we intend to start working behind the scenes on research and design for our 2021 exhibition – and once that's sorted, we'll start preparing exhibits and building displays.

As always, new volunteers would be greatly welcomed. You don't need any kind of specialist knowledge or skills, just support in helping like-minded people to produce an interesting display and help with our remit of “**Preserving Yesterday for Tomorrow**” So, if you're looking for a new local interest, why not give us a try?

Keep an eye on the Museum website www.mocft.co.uk or find us on Facebook for news of when we'll be getting back to work and how you could get involved. We can also be reached by phoning 01592 874836 or writing to MoC, 131 High Street, Burntisland KY3 9AA We look forward to hearing from you!!

Meanwhile, we are hoping to offer some of our very popular lectures online. If so, we'll announce them on our website and on Facebook so *'Watch This Space!'*

Dorothy Brankin

MUSEUM OF COMMUNICATION





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Kizzy's Column — Lockdown in Burntisland

Recognising individuals has always been important to me, and now, more than ever, it requires urgent action and attention. As of this writing, 2,490 people in Scotland have died of coronavirus, and lockdown has been in place for nearly four months. Many people are on their own, and though here in Burntisland we have organisations like Burntisland Emergency Action Team (BEAT) the reality is many people have not been able to benefit from any sort of organisation, or have any sort of platform. I would like to be able to say that this has changed, but of course it hasn't – for that to happen, we first need major social reform.

However, here is my substitute: Through the manager of the Toll Community Centre, Yvonne Crombie, I managed to contact and interview three people, none of whom are the individuals you usually see 'on the platform', of their views on and experience of lockdown. Here's how it went:

Eilidh Murphy has been helping out at BEAT. With her mother, Alison, she has been delivering food to people in their neighbourhood and other parts of Burntisland. They both said that a benefit to them from this has been getting to really know their neighbours after five and a half years. Eilidh is going into Primary 7, so her lockdown has mainly been focused around changes regarding school and schoolwork. She has been enjoying staying at home, and taking part in the new trend of sleeping in later (though still working); she likes the flexibility of being at home, and has preferred it to actually being at school.

In spite of this, though, she has missed other elements of school and social life, such as after-school clubs, activities, and the people there. It has been unnerving ending P6 like this; when asked about going back to school in August to start P7, she said she felt 'unprepared,' something many people can sympathise with.

Jean Bullion has experienced half a world since 12th March 2020. When lockdown started in the UK on 23rd March, she had already been in lockdown for a week and a half in Australia, staying on her brother's farm. On a large, remote farm in the thinly populated countryside, Jean didn't notice lockdown much, and had plenty of average holiday freedom. She was due to fly back to the UK on 4th April, but the airline she was supposed to fly back with, along with most others, cancelled their flights. Jean was now stuck instead of staying.

Although she was now stuck, Jean still enjoyed herself on the freedom of the farm, except for missing her family and her little dog. Then, in May, the Australian Government decided it was going to send non-nationals home. Jean was repatriated back home to two weeks' quarantine. Those two weeks, Jean said, were a nightmare. After three months of freedom on the farm, she was confined to a single building. After three months away from her family, she could only see them through a window. Those two weeks, she said, along with the rest of lockdown, made her realise just what loneliness is.

Caroline Campbell, as the Citizen of the Year, might not seem just the person to interview if you want to get the views of

someone who doesn't get any platform. However, before her award, Caroline was not a conspicuous person; her work in the community was behind-the-scenes, and it is only this year she has received recognition for it; also, because of the pandemic, the normal events the Citizen of the Year would have participated in have been cancelled (except for the sandcastle competition, which Caroline judged by using pictures of the castles); this means that though her name is now known, Caroline still gets—comparatively—little platform.

Caroline's life has been very disrupted by lockdown; this year especially a lockdown is hardly easy or convenient. Usually she is out helping to run or attending clubs, meeting people, but now she is isolating in her home. In the middle of June, though, there was a special, cautious event: at the bench outside her flat, she was presented with her sash, her family standing nearby, while the bagpipes played in the background.

When I spoke to Caroline, she seemed far less concerned about her events being cancelled than she was about the community, particularly those working on the High Street, calling them 'brave people who have stayed open to help' and expressing concern on whether they would be able to fully reopen their shops again. She also mentioned young people, saying how their education is at risk. Caroline cannot see things returning to normal for a long time.

Kizzy Waplington

St Joseph's Church

During lockdown, like the other Churches in the town, services from St Joseph's were broadcast on Facebook and YouTube. Now that we are open again for public services, with limited numbers allowed to attend, we continue to broadcast on Facebook. This has been very successful and is appreciated by parishioners and people from all over Scotland and beyond. It has also enabled some people who had lost contact with the Church to re-connect. The 'virtual congregation' is so much bigger than our usual Sunday or daily congregations. Pity there is no collection!

St Joseph's Church opened its doors again on Sunday 28th June, but only for private prayer and contemplation. A good number of parishioners took the opportunity to come along and make time to pray. It's not that people cannot pray at home—you can pray anytime and anywhere—but they felt that there are less distractions in Church and having made a conscious effort to come along, prayer happened!

To enable us to open the building as safely as possible, a number of measures had to be put in place. A density check of the Church was carried out and in order to facilitate physical distancing there can be no more than 29 people present in the Church at any time. Anyone entering or leaving the Church is asked to sanitise their hands, wear a face covering and respect physical distancing.

Now that public services have been resumed, we ask people to check our weekly Newsletter on the parish webpage for details of how to attend.

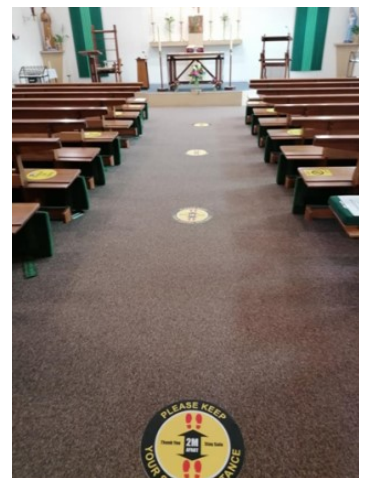
We are glad now to be in Phase 3 of the route map out of lockdown, but we look forward to Phase 4 and a return to something resembling normality.

Personally, I have been very impressed and inspired by the efforts of so many people in the town—a real community spirit was apparent and hopefully will continue.

With all good wishes to everyone. As Julian of Norwich said, "All will be well and all will be well and all manner of things will be well."

Fr James

www.stjosephsburntisland.co.uk



The Parish Church

It is now over four months since the whole country went into lockdown and the church, along with many other organisations, has had to adapt. From the very beginning Burntisland Parish Church has been working in partnership with Erskine United Free Church and Kinghorn Parish Church to bring Sunday worship to our communities through various online means. We have built up a team of people with so many gifts and skills – ranging from the IT skills needed to produce an online service to the musical gifts and presentational skills that have made the services everything they need to be.

It has been a truly rewarding experience coming together in such a diverse group in this cooperative venture which has ensured that no Sunday has been missed. And even more importantly, it has brought a genuine worship experience to our church members and many more besides – including some as far away as Switzerland, Canada and Australia! I'm sure that this deep cooperation between the churches will continue to bear fruit as we look toward the future.



But, of course, although vitally important, our Sunday worship services are not the only activity of our church and its members. Throughout the lockdown period there have been numerous other ways that the church has reached out to the people of the parish: I have provided a midweek message on Facebook and the ministers of Erskine United Free and Kinghorn Parish Church have also made contributions on Facebook. In addition, we have introduced a fortnightly newsletter to keep church members and others informed.

At the same time, we have not forgotten the more vulnerable in our community. Church members have been very active in local initiatives to ensure that food and other needs are taken to the shielded and other vulnerable people. The church has also supported other ways of helping people struggling through this difficult time. The following is an insight into just two of these areas:

Pastoral Care Group

The Pastoral Care Group has 20 members who visit the housebound, someone in poor health, those who live alone, and people in Sheltered Housing in our community. We also visit church members in Care homes. All of our visits at the moment are to people who live alone. Normally we would visit them at home, but because of the lockdown we have had to think of different ways to keep in touch. One way is by telephone.

Pastoral visitors have a short list of telephone numbers and each week they contact the people on their list, just for a chat, and to make sure everyone is safe and well.

We are also involved in delivering the church Newsletter. We include a weekly 'thought' and prayer from our minister for those who do not have access to the internet. These visits allow us to

have a chat, at a distance, and keep up to date on how each person is coping.

To those who do not access the internet, the Sunday morning church service by the telephone is excellent. This requires a different telephone number each week, and again the pastoral group make sure everyone has it.

We pray for families, friends, neighbours, and all members of our community. We do not know what help they need, but God does.

If you would like to join the church service by telephone on a Sunday morning, contact Ann Smith, Tel 873994.

Christians Against Poverty

Burntisland Parish Church has been working in partnership with Christians Against Poverty (CAP) for many years and we run a CAP debt centre right here in Burntisland. The centre covers postcode areas KY1, KY2, and KY3. Doug Drysdale is the debt coach and centre manager and is supported by a team of volunteer staff. Over the years our debt centre has helped many individuals and families become debt free and our support is completely free.

If you are feeling weighed down by debt, then we can help. You may think your situation is impossible, but there is hope. Our friendly team will give you a listening ear and provide a real solution to your debts. We will continue to work with you.

When you call our free number **0800 328 0006** you'll speak to someone from our New Enquiries team at head office. They'll arrange an initial appointment with a CAP Debt Coach from your local area.

Please note: As Government guidelines around coronavirus (COVID-19) mean we're not able to provide our usual face-to-face service right now, we're doing things slightly differently to make sure we can continue to work with clients and support them towards becoming debt free. All CAP Debt Help appointments are currently taking place over the phone, in line with Government guidelines.

Looking to the future, the church is taking a cautious approach to reopening our buildings. The guidelines for churches reopening are necessarily very strict. No singing will be allowed for the time being and social distancing means that the church could only accommodate a maximum of 43 people!



It's hard to see how we can open up with such low capacity, and the prospect of turning people away is unthinkable. In the meantime, we are considering the possibility of an open-air service of the three churches later in August if the Scottish Government guidelines allow.

One piece of good news is that there are plans in place for the church shop in the High Street, **Chapter and Verse** to open at the end of July.

The Kirk Session are continuing to review the ongoing situation and when it is appropriate will take steps to gradually open up the church buildings, but only when it is safe and practicable to do so. Nevertheless, plans are in place to continue the joint online "BEK and Call" services even after we return to our church buildings. So please join us on Sundays at 11am on Zoom or Facebook or at any other time on Facebook and YouTube.

May you have a good and happy summer as we slowly move out of lockdown and to more normal ways of life! And may you know God's blessing.

Rev David Redmayne

Locum minister

Erskine Church

If you'd told me at the start of 2020 that Erskine would be completely shut from mid-March, I wouldn't have believed it. But as I write even the July highlight of our historic Burntisland Highland Games has been cancelled.

Faith. There's a positive word, especially in the middle of a pandemic that's impacted every corner of the globe, including our own. We're all tired of lockdown but we need to keep people safe. Think about the faith and trust we've rightly placed in our NHS and social care staff. Too many acts of kindness and compassion to mention, but our local communities across Scotland have risen to this challenge.

Erskine has taken part in online worship services every week with Burntisland and Kinghorn Parish Churches since Sunday 22nd March. We're still going and we've not fallen out yet! It's been great to co-operate and we thank everyone who has offered us encouragement and support. These services are watched on different platforms at different times, which means we've reached a wider spectrum of people than via the usual Sunday stuff in our buildings.

What next? It's Phase 3 of unlockdown (I like that word) and places of worship are allowed to re-open. But some church folks are older and have been shielding. Many are understandably cautious about group gatherings, just like some won't go to the shops yet. We're in touch with local people and asking what they think about getting back together. When it's safe to do so with a reasonable amount of likely participation, we will re-open!

Rules on social distancing, sanitising stations and entry/exit points for buildings are complicated. But again we are making progress with our plans and trying to keep things moving forward.

Jesus says, "If you had faith even as small as a mustard seed, you could say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there', and it would move. Nothing would be impossible" (Matthew 17.20, NLT). A sign that small faith can make big change possible, even in a new normal.

Churches must adapt to the prevailing circumstances, just like schools, businesses, shops and local services. The only thing that stays the same is our message of faith in Jesus. I chat to people around Burntisland, especially my fellow dog-walkers. Someone stopped me recently and said seeing Erskine's building every day reminds him that the church should be at the heart of our community. I wonder how true you still think that is today?

Keep a close eye on the Facebook pages of our three churches. Now things really are changing if the Erskine minister's saying that! You'll find updates on good things we're doing together online. Stuff like Messy Church for families and videos related to our weekly services.

Stay safe and keep the faith...

Rev. Alexander Ritchie



Church at Home...Continues

During the COVID-19 lockdown we have been able to continue to have our church services but not as you know it. Since the beginning of the lockdown we have had around 1,500 views per week of our services on social media. And through this time we have had a new motto of...

'Miles apart...together in Heart.'

Although church buildings are opening up in the near future with restrictions we will continue to have our online services. So we invite you to join us every Sunday morning on **All Souls Fife's YouTube Channel at 10:00am** as we come together for an interactive online service- even though we are miles apart.

All Are Welcome



Also if there is anything we can do for you or anyone you know at this time please email: office@allsoulsfife.org.uk

So, join us as Jesus comes into our homes as we worship together in heart.

Rectory: The Rectory, Aberdour KY3 0RS
07821712500

Office: St. Serf's, Ferguson Place- Burntisland KY3 9ES
01592 870049 office@allsoulsfife.org.uk

We Love God, Each Other and Our Community..



I hope this latest edition of Burgh Buzz finds you and your loved ones well, and that nature has helped lighten you a little during such strange recent months. Something I've been delighted by is the growth of our Burntisland Wildlife & Woodlands Facebook Group into a lovely community of nearly a hundred members. Pretty much daily people post local wildlife sightings and info, and lots of beautiful photos.

Over the past few months we've discussed swifts—at least two households have been inspired to put up nest boxes for them. Get in touch if you'd like to do the same. We've seen amazing close-ups of hoverflies, flies, wasps, bees, a cricket... you cannot believe how incredible many of these are until you see them macro-photographed. We've had puffins on the Forth, perfectly possible to see from Burntisland during summer months if you put in a bit of time, perhaps some luck, and binoculars or telescope or zoom lens.

We've seen fledgling blue tits, house sparrows, starlings and buzzards. We've spotted hedgehogs, moths (Swallow-tailed, Map-winged Swift, Burnished Brass, Lempke's Gold Spot, Six-spot Burnet, Elephant Hawk-moth and more—moths have such great names), cucumber spiders, two species of damselfly (in our garden, first time ever). Grey partridge. Gulls. A whitethroat. House martins. Greenfinches. Wrens. Seals. Dolphins and porpoises. Lammerlaws and Links wildflowers. Orchids on 'waste' ground right in the centre of town. And lots more.

Only a few days ago we saw photos of almost-definitely-a Corn bunting taken up on farmland behind the Binn. This is extremely exciting as corn buntings are a Red-listed species which has declined catastrophically across the UK due to intensification of farming including hedgerow removal, increased pesticides and harvesting/cutting of crops & grasslands often destroying chicks and nests. Since a lowest ever point in 2001 big efforts have been made by RSPB working with certain farmers particularly in the East Neuk of Fife & Angus and the efforts are really paying off. Google "RSPB celebrating the return of corn buntings" for a really good article.

And bats. Back in May I was feeling sad that I never see them around here and wondering why I don't. Turns out I just wasn't looking properly. I put a message on the group and had five or six responses all telling me of bats often seen in various parts of town. That night I sat on our step and shortly before sundown sure enough there was a pair flitting along the rooftops only metres from my head. Back gardens along our street aren't spoiled by much artificial lighting and this makes a very big difference to bats. I tried filming using my phone and was astounded to discover that their echolocating pops and clicks and stutters are picked up in the videos!

Bats are very overlooked and there are plenty of things we should be doing to help them. Here my batworker friend Eilidh kindly tells us a bat more:

Giving bats a wing up

I love walking in the late evening light watching the local bats flutter overhead. Many bat species in the UK have undergone large population declines but it's very easy to give bats a boost. Have a look at a few ideas here and especially please check out the many webpages the Bat Conservation Trust (BCT, the UK's bat conservation charity) has on the topic! www.bats.org.uk



A miniature painting of bats by Leo—actual size.

- * Plant wildflowers (particularly night-scented ones) to attract a wide range of insects for bats to feed on.
- * Dig a wildlife pond - great for bats and so many other species!
- * Put up a bat box - lots of templates online to make your own, or buy a ready made 'Woodcrete' one.
- * Be mindful of security and outdoor lighting and its potential to disturb roosting or foraging bats (as well as many insects and other wildlife).
- * PLEASE keep cats in at night (an hour before dark until an hour after dawn), particularly in summer when lots of young bats are around. Cat-caused injury is one of the biggest reasons for bats ending up in care.
- * Plant linear features such as hedges or tree lines - bats use these as foraging and commuting routes. Join a bat group and get involved with local survey and conservation efforts. See links on BCT's website to find your local group.
- * Enjoy your local bats and try to be an advocate for these amazing, often misunderstood, creatures."

Many thanks Eilidh and please everyone remember to join **Burntisland Wildlife & Woodlands** on Facebook to continue the conversation about bats and birds and wildlife galore.

Burntisland Cancer Research UK Committee

We are sorry that because of the coronavirus we were unable to proceed with the Annual General Meeting that was due to take place on 3rd June. We will advertise a new date as soon as the circumstances allow.

The Treasurer's Annual Report is ready and will be available at the AGM. In the meantime, although no fundraising has been possible we have had a generous donation of £400 from the Fife Historic Vehicle Club.

Rosemary Barker



Craigencalt Rural Community Trust

The Trust has been meeting through Zoom for the last four months, but hopefully we can meet face-to-face soon. The fishermen are taking up residence at Kinghorn Loch with the open water swimmers enjoying the calm water. An abundance of electric bikes is a new feature of the paths as more and more people take to all forms of exercising and enjoying the open air.

The clubs are now looking to see how they can operate within the rules of social distancing. The Canoe Club and the Kinghorn Radio Sailing Club are the latest to return, but it will be longer before the Coastal Rowers will be training at the loch or for the Trust's Walking Group to start regular walks. Sadly, Kinghorn Sailing club, Kinghorn Radio Sailing Club and the Scouts have all needed to give up their annual leases of the sheds at the lochside because the cost is now too high. We hope they will manage to keep their presence at the loch, as it is great to have them.

Importantly there are still plenty of folk out and about, and a common remark is "how fortunate we are to live in such a beautiful place". Hopefully when our busy world starts again in earnest, visitors will still keep coming to enjoy these unique surroundings.

Wildlife on the loch has continued to thrive this year, with survival rates of offspring very high. There are lots of ducklings and goslings, with the swans being proud, protective parents of seven cygnets, who are all maturing fast. The Trust is cataloguing the wild flowers and a small group is working to put a pictorial almanac on our website. One flower that grows in abundance is the purple poppy, and this summer it has been glorious.



The number and variety of flowers is huge and some are quite rare. The Annual Photo Competition showing the splendour of the area is being put together online and judging of entries will be open to the Friends of CRCT at an open-air event yet to be organised once restrictions permit.



The Rotary Bench

Summer is a busy time for path and other maintenance, and the easing of COVID-19 restrictions has come just in time to allow our volunteers to trim back paths. In early July the Burnside Path was cut back, and the swan bench delivered from its weedy covering. This was helped with a new, powerful, strimmer purchased recently from Trust funds. Other paths have been mowed but all will be kept in good order. Signage and a bench will complete our part for the new Red Path Brae path, just awaiting Fife Council to finish the roadside.

A Friend of the Trust has repaired the one toadstool which sits nears the troll bridge at Rodanbraes. It was not eaten by the troll as one youngster had feared—the stalk had just rotted—perhaps by a giant beetle! The Rotary Bench and table have been painted. With voluntary help it has been great to be able to complete essential jobs. If you wish to contact us phone 07740 999514 or email

info@craigencalttrust.org.uk

Marilyn Edwards



Burrtisland Covid Travel Map

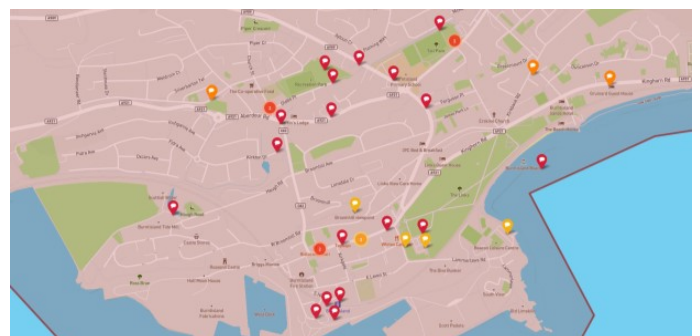
Burrtisland Community Development Trust is looking for your help to identify locations that could support safe and healthy travel in the town, and opportunities to make longer lasting changes to the way we could travel locally and use our spaces.

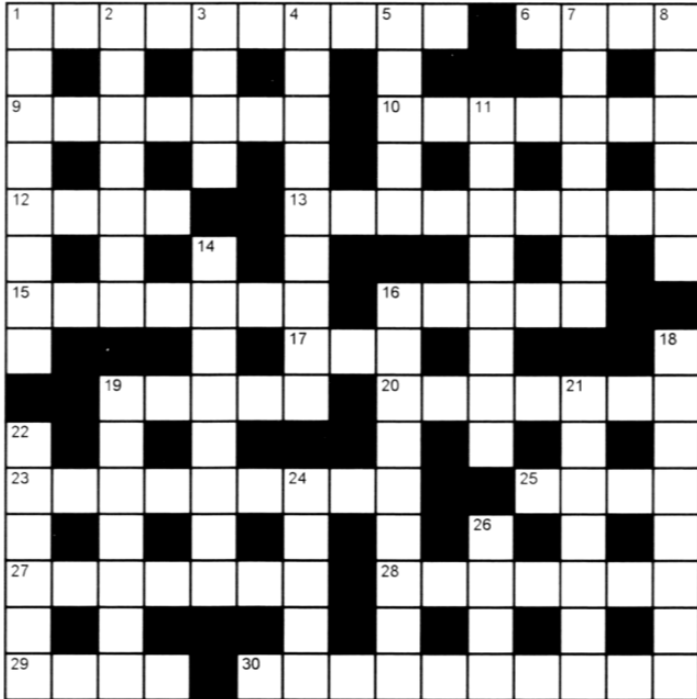
Fife Council has been awarded £2.4million after a successful bid to the Scottish Government's 'Spaces for People' fund. The council is keen to hear from communities regarding measures to make it easier for people to walk and cycle.

To help with this, the Trust's Zero Carbon Burrtisland subgroup and Community Energy Scotland have launched an interactive consultation map. You can use this to view and suggest areas for safe walking, active travel, increased access to local amenities or any other way to improve the quality of travel in Burrtisland in the "new normal". And if you see a comment you like on the map, please add your support to it by liking it.

The Burrtisland Covid Travel Map went live at the end of July on the Commonplace website, and will stay open until the end of the year. You can add your comments to the map by visiting:

burrtislandcovidtravelmap.commonplace.is





THE PRIZE CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1. Irish elf (10)
- 6. Old (4)
- 9. Sports arena (7)
- 10. Blow up (7)
- 12. Reluctant (4)
- 13. Small orange (9)
- 15. Japanese warrior (7)
- 16. Artfulness (5)
- 17. Nought 3)
- 19. Unjust or injurious act (5)
- 20. Lively, in music (7)
- 23. Killers (9)
- 25. Loosen (4)
- 27. Big cat (7)
- 28. Burdensome (7)
- 29. Nobleman (4)
- 30. Brawl ! (4-3-3)

DOWN

- 1. Tired, lacking energy (8)
- 2. Apparition (7)
- 3. Wicked (4)
- 4. Tendon (9)
- 5. Marriage (5)
- 7. Hard stone (7)
- 8. Motor fuel (6)
- 11. Easily bent (5,3)
- 14. Tree study garden (8)
- 16. 19th cent. prime minister (9)
- 18. Huge (8)
- 19. Wizard (7)
- 21, Venetian canal boat (7)
- 22, Sauntered (6)
- 24. Church official (5)
- 26. Brave, courageous person (4)

Name

Address

Telephone.....

Completed entries by 30th September 2020 to:

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

First correct entry drawn wins **£50.00** in vouchers kindly donated by **SHELL UK Ltd.** Solution will appear in the next issue of the Burgh Buzz

Solution to May Crossword

Across 1 Roundabout, 6 Wolf, 9 Sparrow, 10 Houston, 12 Okay, 13 Turncoats, 15 Swedish, 16 Check, 17 ETA, 19 Solid, 20 Trawler, 23 Lemon sole, 25 Scut, 27 Reverie, 28 Relieve, 29 Term, 30 Ballpoints.

Down: 1 Response, 2 Unaware, 3 Dire, 4 Bewitched, 5 Usher, 7 Outback, 8 Finish, 11 Uncle Sam, 14 Milliner, 16 Cathedral, 18 Brothers, 19 Samovar, 21 Lectern, 22 Claret, 24 Omega, 26 Cleo.

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