

# BURGH BUZZ



Burntisland's Free Community Magazine

Previous issues at [www.burghbuzz.org.uk](http://www.burghbuzz.org.uk)

August 2025

Issue No 92

Despite the forecast rain it was fine sunny weather for the 371st staging of Burntisland Highland Games, on the third Monday in July.

The traditional "Exiles Reception" in the morning was hosted by Burntisland Community Council in the Burgh Chambers. Local dignitaries, invited guests and Civic Week's Royal Party led by the Summer King, were all welcomed by Fife Provost Jim Leishman.

Also in attendance to enjoy the hospitality were former Burntisland residents from Australia, England, and Sweden, as well as elsewhere in Fife.

Following the reception, Burntisland & District Pipe Band led the parade along the High Street to the games arena, where the event was officially opened at 12 noon by Honorary Chieftain George McLaughlin.

The traditional games day activities took place throughout the day with highland dancing, running, cycling, and heavy events for both men and women, on show for spectators.



## Games Day from the air

Photo credit: Scotland from above

The Binn Race saw its largest entry for a number of years as 21 local runners took on the challenge, the event was won by Scott Orrock in a time of 25:33 ahead of Robbie McAughey and John Cotton.

Thanks to all the volunteers and the organising committee for ensuring the second oldest Highland Games in the world successfully continues each year.



## Burntisland's Banking Hub

Like countless communities across Scotland, Burntisland has witnessed the disappearance of its High Street banks in recent years, with the last, TSB, finally closing its doors some four years ago. To mitigate the loss of vital services in the town, Cash Access UK opened a banking hub in February, offering regular cash and everyday banking services to the community.

The hub is currently located in the Burntisland First Aid Services Trust premises at 60 High Street, otherwise known as the old police station. The plan is to secure a permanent home in the ground

floor of the Burgh Chambers building next to the library.

The Common Good Fund has provided £45,000 for essential maintenance and upgrades of the Burgh Chambers building. The hub's current nine-month lease expires in October, but there is little sign the former local office will be ready in time to receive its new tenant. Without further developments, the hub will likely have to extend its lease at its temporary premises, but for how long remains uncertain.

Cash Access UK is a non-profit company established by the high

street banks to bring shared banking services to communities. The counter is operated by the Post Office Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm, with personal and business banking, and bill payment services.

Community bankers are available on specific days to manage your accounts, payments and transfers. TSB has a representative on hand on Tuesday, RBS on Wednesday and Bank of Scotland on Thursday. Currently there are no community bankers available on Mondays and Fridays, but this may change once the hub moves to its new premises.

The hub is not a Post Office however, so you won't be able to send parcels or buy stamps.





# BURNTISLAND'S COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

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

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**Next Issue: November 2025**

**Copy Deadline: 23rd October**

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## From the Editor

We're back! Pleased to be producing the Buzz once again, with a jam-packed 28 page summer edition publicising what's going on in the town. As always thanks to all of our contributors and advertisers for supporting the Buzz.

It has been great to see the colourful bunting above the High Street for the first time in nearly 20 years. Well done to Civic Week and Gordon Sweeney for making it happen. The same thanks go to all of the other community groups who help run events and work towards improving the town.

The Burgh Buzz is produced by a small group of volunteers and funded entirely by local advertisers. It is delivered free to every household in Burntisland by a dedicated 'army' of volunteers. Our team would welcome additional support. There are many roles to cover: content, advertising, and distribution—get in touch if you feel you can help out.

Enjoy the rest of the (Scottish!) summer.

**Michael Booth, Editor**

## Burntisland's Bonfire & Fireworks Night

The Bonfire committee is excited to announce that this year's Bonfire and Fireworks Display will be taking place once again this November. If it's anything like year it will certainly be a favourite date for your calendar!

Expect lots of fun and excitement. Please come appropriately dressed and enjoy a spectacular evening with the community.

**Date: Sunday 2nd November**

**Time: 6pm**

**Location: The Links**

We are looking for some volunteers to help us on the night. If you would like to get involved please email the committee at [burntislandbonfirecommittee@gmail.com](mailto:burntislandbonfirecommittee@gmail.com)



## Platform Studios

As part of the Railway 200 anniversary (celebrating 200 years of the modern railway), Burntisland Station Studio & Platform Studios will be hosting an open studio event on 16th/17th August.

The following month Central Fife Artists' Collective Open Studios takes place over the weekend of 20th/21st September, with a number of artists in Burntisland opening their doors at the station and elsewhere in the town. See [www.cf.ac.org.uk](http://www.cf.ac.org.uk) for more info.

Fife Historic Buildings Trust has one large studio for rent in the platform studios building, available for single use or as a shared space. Anyone interested should contact FHBT via:

[info@fifehistoricbuildings.org.uk](mailto:info@fifehistoricbuildings.org.uk)



## 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:** Isla MacDonald

**Vice Chair:** Jim Sheridan

**Treasurer:** Carol McLeod

**Secretary:** Anne Smith

### Members:

**Matthew Bradshaw** Tim Hailey

**Jonna Lange** Ken Littlemore

**Alex MacDonald** Kizzy Waplington

**Lynne Worthington**

### Contacts:

**Secretary — Anne Smith**

**burntislandcc@outlook.com / 07545 993235**

**Address — c/o Anne Smith**

**150 Kinghorn Road, Burntisland, KY3 9JU**

**[www.burntislandcc.org.uk](http://www.burntislandcc.org.uk)**

**[www.facebook.com/BurntislandCC](https://www.facebook.com/BurntislandCC)**

## Elected Fife Councillors' Availability

Ward 9: Burntisland, Kinghorn & Western Kirkcaldy

### Councillor Lesley Backhouse

Telephone: 07540 677081

Email: [Cllr.Lesley.Backhouse@fife.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.Lesley.Backhouse@fife.gov.uk)

Lesley is happy to meet with constituents at a time to suit them (except Sunday or Monday), contact via text/email.

In-person surgeries will be held in the Parish Church Halls from 12–1pm on Wednesday 3rd September, 1st October, and 5th November.

### Councillor Kathleen Leslie

Telephone: 07714 778906

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

Kathleen is happy to arrange set appointments with constituents.

### Councillor Julie MacDougall

Telephone: 03451 555 555 ext. 474496

Email: [Cllr.Julie.MacDougall@fife.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.Julie.MacDougall@fife.gov.uk)

Julie is happy for constituents to contact her on the above number or email to arrange a one to one appointment.

## Community Council Bullets.....

Your Community Council holds its regular meetings on the third Tuesday of each month, at 7pm in the Burgh Chambers on the High Street.

**Dates for the next meetings are: Tuesday 19th August, 16th September, and 21st October.**

Members of the public are welcome to attend or to raise matters of interest. If possible, please email items you'd like discussed to the Secretary a week before the meeting so they can be more easily accommodated in the agenda.

As there is no step-free access to the venue, meetings are also available to join using Zoom videoconferencing—please contact the Secretary if you wish to join online via Zoom.

A summary of issues discussed during recent meetings is set out below. Full minutes are available on the Community Council website.

- We welcomed Isla MacDonald as our new Chair earlier this year. New Community Councillors are Matthew Bradshaw and Lynne Worthington. Gemma Craigie-Sharland stepped down, but we hope she can rejoin us in the future.
- Following community pressure, Fife Council agreed to refurbish the Links Splash Pad. Funding streams have been identified by the Council, with community support from a Crowdfunder and a CC application for a grant from Fife Environmental Trust.
- The Banking Hub opened in the spring in temporary premises at 60 High Street. Counter services for cards and cash are available daily, 9am–5pm Monday to Friday. Private personal banking services are available on specific days for different banks. Fife Council agreed to renovate the old office at the Burgh Chambers complex in the High Street so that it can be leased to the banking hub more permanently.
- Road safety: Traffic calming measures are intended for Kinghorn Road at the railway pedestrian underpass near the cemetery. Fife Council proposes to extend the town 20mph speed limits to all the main access roads. Penalties for pavement parking are expected to be rolled out in September.
- Burntisland Community Action Plan 2023–28 was reviewed in June. A summary of results will be posted on the CC website in August. Thank you to all who gave feedback and to Burntisland Community Development Trust (BCDT) for hosting the online questionnaire and assisting with pop-up community engagement events.
- Railway station: After meetings with CC reps, Melanie Ward MP has been pressing the case at UK Government level for step free access. We await news from the Department of Transport on any Network Rail feasibility study. A re-designed station car parking survey is proposed for the autumn.
- Forth Ports met with community representatives to discuss reopening public access to the Shanks pier/western peninsula at the harbour. Burntisland Heritage and BCDT agreed to take forward projects at that site. Meantime, Burntisland Harbour Access Trust (BHAT) continue to press Fife Council on the legalities of the restricted public access to the fenced off east harbour and breakwater.
- Fife Council delayed planned repainting of the beach promenade seawall but agreed to complete work after the school summer holidays.
- Discussions with Fife Council on management of public greenspaces were helpful, and our partners at BCDT's Biodiversity Group and Floral Action Burntisland (FAB) will take forward ideas with further community consultations.
- Representatives of the CC and the Showmen's Guild met in June to discuss the summer Fair/Shows arrangements. Fife Council leases part of the Links to the Guild and licences the event. The Council does not include the CC in this planning.
- The revised Community Emergency Plan is available on the CC website.
- Flooding: The CC used a Freedom of Information (FOI) request to obtain information from Scottish Water on its response to recurrent surface water flooding in the Haugh Road / Dick Crescent park areas. We continue to press Scottish Water on flood prevention.

## Burntisland Heritage Trust

### Step into history on Doors Open Day

On Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th September between 11am and 4pm members of Burntisland Heritage invite you to walk through history and explore the town's Burgh Chambers and the Heritage Centre on Doors Open Day.

This is an opportunity which invites visitors to explore the historic heart of the town in a building that once served local governance and community life for over a century. Whether you're a history enthusiast, or simply curious about local heritage, the Burgh Chambers offers a fascinating glimpse into the past. Join us for guided tours and a warm welcome from

local volunteers who are passionate about preserving the town's legacy.

The Chambers also houses a large collection of paintings by Andrew Young which includes his 1923 masterpiece 'The Bridge of Life'. The painting is full of symbolism and incorporates portraits of 85 local Burntisland residents, each identified.

Below the Burgh Chambers in the Kirkgate the notice outside the Heritage Centre reads "300 Million Year Old Shark ... On View Inside ... Free Exhibition". This certainly caught the attention of our visitors and added to the numbers at our annual exhibition this summer! This showcases a collection of local fossils

gathered by Burntisland's own Sam McAuliffe. Growing up in Burntisland Sam was always fascinated by the local wildlife and geology. After finding beautiful fossil plants and fish this curiosity about what kind of world they had lived in started a lifelong interest in palaeontology.

The 'Our Natural Heritage' theme this year also displays an extensive collection of local photography, capturing the landscape from the summit of the Binn, through the built environment, and down to the shoreline. The exhibition is highly illustrated with spectacular images of the plants, birds, and animals that live right on our doorstep. It extends over the extensive foreshore and highlights the rich marine life beneath the waves.

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

## Museum of Communication

MUSEUM OF COMMUNICATION

The Museum of Communication's current exhibition, entitled '**The Box That Changed the World: 100 Years of Television**' opened for the summer in May. It is open to the public on Wednesdays and Saturdays between 11am and 4pm until Saturday 27th September. Children are welcome and there are hands-on exhibits.

As John Logie Baird achieved his first successful television transmission in October 1925, this year's exhibition marks this important centenary. It traces the development of television technology from its origins in the 1920s to the present day.

There will be plenty of exciting hands-on learning for children and nostalgia for adults. Please come along and see for yourself!

Pictured below are a Bush black & white TV, along with a TV Camera, both from the 1950s.



On Wednesday 24th September, Peter Bates of the Lothians Radio Society will give a lecture entitled 'Breaking Enigma – The Unsung Heroes'. In it, Peter covers the work at Bletchley Park in breaking the German 'Enigma' enciphering system in World War II. He also explains the work of some of the 'Y' (wireless interception) Stations and includes cases where people lost their lives in the process.

Further lectures will follow in October and November. It will be possible to attend all these lectures either in person or online. Please see the Museum's website for

details of all events. There is an entry fee of £5 for all lectures.

Please remember that the Museum of Communication is run entirely by volunteers. Please contact us via [enquiries@mocft.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@mocft.co.uk) if you'd consider joining us!

**David W. Brown**

Museum of Communication,  
131 High Street, Burntisland

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



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## Toll Community Centre & Hub

The Toll Community Centre has a new Manager—Cairinne Macdonald. Cairinne brings a background in youth and community work, along with experience managing charities and projects, and she's already hit the ground running. She's really keen to hear from local people about what you'd love to see happening at The Toll and how we can make the centre even better for everyone.



Anita and Cairinne

The Toll Centre committee has a new Chairperson—Anita Gailey. We are always looking for new trustees, particularly a secretary so if anyone is interested, please get in touch.

In July we launched a summer programme full of fun and connection. Every Friday, we're running family fun sessions at The Toll, with a variety of activities for all ages. Sessions run alongside Cafe Inc, so families can enjoy lunch while getting involved.

We've also started a new project called Toll on Tour. Every Wednesday over the summer holidays, we head out to different outdoor locations around Burntisland, offering creative and active outdoor play sessions for families. It's been a great way for Cairinne to meet people, and the response so far has been overwhelmingly positive.

### Currently running at The Toll:

Monday: Sittercise from 12:30pm to 1:30pm  
Sewing Class from 6:30pm to 8:30pm  
Tuesday: Junior Youth Club (P4 to P7) from 6:30pm to 8pm



We would love to offer even more activities and groups to the community, so if you have an idea, a skill to share, or something you think Burntisland needs, we'd love to hear from you.

**At the Hub on the High Street**, the Food Pantry is supporting more than 100 people every week. The charity shop is also a busy and friendly space where visitors enjoy browsing and chatting with our brilliant volunteers. We're currently looking for new volunteers to help keep the shop open Monday to Saturday. If you can spare a morning or afternoon each week, we'd be glad to hear from you.

Playgroup and BOSS continue to run successfully from The Toll Community Centre on Monday to Friday:

Burntisland Playgroup 8:45am–2:45pm, (term time)

Burntisland Out of School Service 7:45–9am & 3–6pm, (term time & school holidays)

If you'd like to stay updated and be more involved in shaping the future of The Toll, consider joining our membership.

For more information, email [enquiries@tollcentre.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@tollcentre.org.uk) or call 01592 872854. You can also follow us on Facebook to keep up with all the latest news and events.

## Kuro Iwa Ryu Bujutsu, Burntisland Club

The Kuro Iwa Ryu bujutsu club held a dan grading in April. This was attended by members as far away as Ayrshire, Dundee, Edinburgh, Manchester and St. Andrews as well as the core membership who train in the Burntisland club.

All participants performed really well and members achieved various levels from Shodan (black belt first Dan) up to Godan (black belt 5th. Dan).

The group have trained in the Music Hall for over 20 years and consider the hall to be their home whilst reaching out to our KIR clubs in Minnesota, USA, and Manchester. A previous instructor who ran our Cambridge club has now located in Japan for the next year and is delivering the KIR syllabus there. Head coach Archie Higgins, Hachidan (8th. Dan) Kancho also regularly visits Ibiza, Spain and Florence, Italy to deliver seminars for sister groups.

The system has four strands of training, namely: koryu which is traditional Japanese battlefield techniques; modern jujitsu which actually dates from circa.1603 up to the early 20th century and the formation of the various modern Japanese martial arts; 21st. century street self defence; and traditional Japanese weaponry.




The KIR system can be learned by anyone irrespective of age, sex, or fitness levels as it utilizes bio mechanics and the strength of the attack to defeat the opponent. There are no rules, nor competitions, only training to improve mind, body and spirit.

Anyone who is interested can just drop in to the club training nights on Mondays starting at 7pm. In the Music Hall. You will be made most welcome. Please note we do not currently have a junior division. If there was sufficient interest it will certainly be considered.

**Archie Higgins, Kaicho, Kuro Iwa Ryu Bujutsu**



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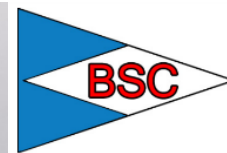
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## Burntisland Sailing Club



Burntisland Sailing Club is going from strength to strength this year, with members racing on two evenings a week. The recently constructed second phase of pontoon berths is popular and has proved to be very robust. In addition, to allow for the larger yachts and stronger winds that are becoming normal, the moorings in the outer harbour are being revised and strengthened, with more space between boats.

A new membership category has been introduced, allowing those who wish to 'give it a go' to join as provisional members at a very modest fee of £70 pa. for 2 years. This allows them to access the club's Discover Sailing Programme and get out

on the water in a variety of yachts. A Crew Finder Whatsapp group has been implemented to match these new crews to skippers needing them and is proving very popular. Well attended stand alone mentoring sessions are also being held to help members gain insight into specific nautical topics such as radar and rights and responsibilities when afloat.

During Civic Week in June the Summer Queen and King Queen plus their entire Royal Party entourage visited the club to start the Civic Cup race and have a trip round the harbour. They proved to be interested, inquisitive, knowledgeable (and noisy!). Great fun was had by all. Many future members we hope!

The club's annual regatta and Commodore's sail past (pictured) was held on Saturday 19th July and well attended with music, a buffet and a lively buzz in the clubhouse countering the "Scottish Sunshine" out on the water.

Sailing has many facets and for most becomes a way of life. The bottom line is that sailing is people and we are a maritime nation. Want to honour that heritage? Check the website or visit our public Facebook page for more info, or contact [admin@burntislandsailing.org.uk](mailto:admin@burntislandsailing.org.uk)

**David Holdsworth BEM**  
[www.burntislandsailing.org.uk](http://www.burntislandsailing.org.uk)

## The Big GREEN Market Burntisland

**We are FOUR!** Did you know that July was our birthday month? We opened the doors to the first ever Big GREEN Market in July 2021 and we've been flying ever since!

What started as a small idea with six passionate people has grown into something truly special—a community movement that's changing how we think about waste, community and supporting each other.

Look what we've achieved together:

- £51,280 raised for local community groups
- 15,785 amazing shoppers joined our green mission
- 54 different community groups supported
- 90+ fabulous volunteers making the magic happen
- 6 repair cafes keeping items out of landfill

- 23 workshops teaching invaluable skills
- 1 Community Award and a mention in Scottish Parliament!

We've also saved our community over £1.5 million and prevented thousands of items from ending up in landfill.

### What makes us truly special...

We're not just a market—we're a community. A movement! Whether you're a regular who hasn't missed a single market, someone discovering us for the first time or one of our incredible volunteers, you're all part of our Big GREEN family.

Thank you to every shopper, every volunteer, every donor and everyone who believes in what we're doing. You've made these four years incredible! And we couldn't run the BGM without you (and we wouldn't want to!).

Thanks to support from Kirkcaldy area's 'You Decide' fund, we now have a sparkly brand new website! Check out [www.biggreenmarket.com](http://www.biggreenmarket.com) to find out everything you could POSSIBLY want to know about the Big Green Market!

You'll also find details of future markets and our Repair Cafe on the website so you can make sure you never miss a chance to save your pennies and the planet, you know the mantra—try the Big Green Market first!



**Fixed at the BGM Repair Cafe**



## Charity Afternoon Tea

Thank you to everyone who came along to our fourth annual charity afternoon tea at Rankin Funeral Directors on Saturday 12th July.

Special thanks to Glendale Florist Leven for the table flowers, Tom Courts Butchers, On A Roll, Niaroo Business Service, all the wonderful bakers who donated all the lovely baking and savories, as well as all who donated raffle and tombola prizes.

Guests joined us over two sittings and raised an amazing £1,200 for The British Red Cross.

Sincere thanks to Neil, Carole-anne Crossan, Rachael Paterson, Shirley Evans, Wayne Van Rensburg, and Dia Douglas for making sure everyone was well fed and their cups kept full.

Thank you all for your generosity and help making this event so successful.

**Darren Rankin**



## Burntisland & Kinghorn Foodbank

The foodbank continues to be much needed in our community and we are grateful for all the generosity and support that keeps us running.

**We'd love you to join as a member of the Foodbank, and help decide our priorities for the year ahead.**

Being a member of Burntisland and Kinghorn Foodbank SCIO gives you the opportunity to vote at our Annual General Meeting on Thursday 4th September. This is an important time for us as it will include reporting of our activities for the year, our financial position, as well as being where we present and discuss our proposals for projects in the coming year. At the AGM members also elect Trustees of the charity, and can stand to be elected as a Trustee themselves.

It's really important to us that the way we work and the decisions we make reflect the community who support us so generously. We would very much like for more of you to formally join as Members of the charity, so that you can vote on the proposals we will be making at the Annual General Meeting. The decisions made there will set the direction for the work we do over the following year and we have some exciting potential projects to discuss, so we need your feedback on which to choose.

All you need to do to join is fill in a form, on our website or on paper [www.bkfoodbank.org.uk/member/](http://www.bkfoodbank.org.uk/member/) You don't have to join any regular meetings, but of course we'd be glad for you to join as a volunteer or one of our project groups.

Anyone over 16 who supports our charitable aims and lives in Burntisland, Kinghorn or the surrounding areas can apply. We'd be especially glad to hear from people who have experienced using a

foodbank, or with experience in related areas, such as nutrition and fundraising, or in other organisations that might direct people to us or also work with our clients.

We are asking you now because members need to be approved at a Board meeting—and to approve you in time for the AGM on 4th September, **we need to have your application by 10th August**. If you have any questions, please email us or speak to one of our Board members.

We continue to offer support on Tuesdays and Fridays 12–2pm at the Salvation Army Hall on Lonsdale Crescent with no need for a referral or appointment—anyone who needs help can just turn up.

More info and updates are always available at our website [www.bkfoodbank.org.uk](http://www.bkfoodbank.org.uk), our newsletter (sign up at the website) and our Facebook page.



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## Burntisland Primary School

Summer is here! Staff and children are having a well-deserved break after a super busy final term at BPS. I am writing this from the garden, enjoying some of the sunshine we have been blessed with in these last few weeks. Reflecting on the year gone by, I must pause and thank all the staff and children who make our school such a happy place to be.

We have a great deal of support from our Parent Council, who are still busy even after the end of term bell has rung and doors have been closed (although the 52 week nursery and our early entrants' provision are still going strong all summer!). They are supporting Café Inc with pre-loved uniform organisation and are in tidying our library and refreshing book stocks. We have raised a huge amount this session towards the playground upgrade and the Parent Council are still working on the paperwork side of this with council representatives into the summer period. Thank you all!

Our year started off with a bang this session, the first term seeing a visit from His Majesty's Inspectors to the school and nursery. They came along with the Care Inspectorate (who review the work of the nursery), with a focus particularly on learning, teaching and assessment and raising attainment / securing progress. We were delighted with the good ratings across the board for every measure and enjoyed reading the many positive aspects of the report, which very much confirmed the direction of travel in our school. If you haven't seen the report yet, you can view it on the Education Scotland website via [www.tinyurl.com/BPSHMI24](http://www.tinyurl.com/BPSHMI24)

In the second term we started on our commitment to ensure that all children in our school had a special trip outwith the town, as well as increasing our commitment to make use of our rich local heritage and natural environment for learning. Classes have enjoyed trips across the year to Aberdour, Pettycur, the Links, Museum of Communication, the Library, trains at the Parish church, the beach and the Binn. In later terms the Rotary have been an invaluable support to our outdoor learning days, a link we are strengthening currently. Thank you to all of the volunteers and parent helpers who allowed us to get out and about more often!

Outwith Burntisland classes have been visiting: Lochore Meadows, Hilton of Beath Farm, Dynamic Earth, Glenrothes Ten Pin Bowling and Laser Tag, Blair Drummond Safari Park, Dundee Science Centre, The Adam Smith Theatre and The Alhambra (in Dunfermline, not Granada!). We finished the term with a lovely Nativity play and the nursery Christmas singalong. P7 enjoyed a December residential to Ardroy Outdoor Education Centre, which was chilly but much enjoyed by all (next year we have booked for September and we are hoping the warmer weather doesn't include too many of the famous west coast midges!)

As the year has progressed it has been the turn of our Rotary and sports teams to make up our highlights. Our Rotary quiz team, having won the Balwearie Cluster event, made it to joint second place in the Fife finals. This earned them a place at the national event, the first time BPS have made it to this stage, and our team travelled to Aberdeen with their families. It was not to be on the day as competition at this stage was, as you would expect, pretty fierce.



Our P6/7 boys football team reached the Fife Finals. They competed very well on the day, showing excellent sportsmanship.

In the Primary Schools Cross-Country in May, BPS had some excellent individual performances. Some of our children finished in the top 15, in races that contained over 240 runners. Additionally, in the team events, our P7 girls achieved a silver medal. An outstanding achievement.

In June BPS children took to Balwearie High School, for the annual events in obstacle course and P7 relay. Our P1-6 children competed very well in the obstacle course, representing the school in an excellent manner. Our P7 boys and girls teams, both won their respective 4x100 metre relays. This brought the

Balwearie Cup back to Burntisland for the 8th time in the last 11 years. Well done team!



Our Civic Week Royal Party did a grand job throughout the event itself, and I am not long in from the Highland Games where they stepped up again and added a great deal of value to the day. It was also lovely to see so many past and present pupils taking part in our fabulous Pipe Band.

We say goodbye and good luck to our outgoing P7s. Almost all heading off to Balwearie and what a wonderful year group they have been. Including our first house and vice captains in the new house system, and our buddies for the current P1s, we hope they all remember us fondly and visit when they can. P6 have big shoes to fill, but I know they can rise to the challenge! We are looking forward to a good intake of P1s into our school, most of whom have come from our own nursery. We are excited to get to know each one of them and their families more as they start their school journey in August.

As we look forward to the new school year, we have changes in our team, notably in our school leadership team. Miss Lesley McGregor is coming back with a new job title as acting principal teacher with a focus on continuing to raise attainment in literacy. We are saying goodbye to Miss Kirsty Doyle who is leaving us for a 23 month secondment to be head of Halbeath Nursery. In her place we will have Mrs Leanne Bain who is joining us as early years depute, having recently been working as the cluster principal teacher. Leanne knows the school and our children well already, having worked here on Thursdays supporting the improved teaching of writing and we are delighted to have her onboard.

By the time this article is published, we will be into the 2025–2026 school session. Let us hope it is every bit as fun and successful as the last year has been!

Thank you for reading our news,

**Louise Gordon, Headteacher**

## Poppy Cascade Project

Hello all you 'crafty' people! We are in the process of putting together poppy cascades for the outside of our Church buildings and need your help.

We are gathering all types of poppies—plastic, crochet, knitted, felt, in red for the fallen, white for peace, and purple for animals.

You can drop off your efforts at Faith Hope and Charity, Chapter and Verse, Kinghorn Community Centre or our church buildings.

We have many already but need hundreds so thanks for your efforts so far but keep going. Thank you in advance.

**Mary Tulloch, Burntisland and Kinghorn Church of Scotland**





## BPS Parent Council

The BPS Parent Council have achieved a huge amount during this academic year. Incredibly, we have raised over £38,000 through events and fundraising initiatives including the Christmas Fayre, Asda Cashpot scheme for schools, the Big Green Market, our school lottery, a sponsored Bounceathon as well as being the lucky recipients of multiple grants/ donations.

We'd like to say a special thank you to Forth Ports for their donation of £4,000 and Mossmorran for £5,000 towards our playground upgrade. We really are blown away by their generosity, thank you!

With 5 bouncy castles and nonstop fun, our Bounceathon had every class bouncing through the day—complete with prizes for the top bouncers. Even the teachers got involved! The sun was shining, and the children's cheering and team spirit made it a truly special day.

We had further success with our application to both the You Decide Community Funding and a Local Community Planning Fund through Fife Council which has brought in a whopping £15,000 and £4,000 respectively. A big shout out to our local Councillors who voted in favour of our application!

All the money raised has allowed us to help the school in a variety of ways including the

purchase of cooking equipment, plants for the garden, funds to support maintenance of the pitch, ties for the new Primary 1 children and information banners at all the school gates, including the Bungalow.

We collaborated with the Pupil Council to ensure our £4,000 library upgrade reflected what the children wanted. The result has been a huge success with large beanbags, woodland themed soft furnishings, rainbow-coloured chairs, listening stations, desks, kinder boxes, topic books and over 1000 new books which have been generously donated to the school by our community. This new space will allow children to comfortably disappear into the magical world that you can only reach by reading a book!

Our school lottery continues (with a Small Lottery Licence from Fife Council) via [www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/burntisland-primary-school](http://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/burntisland-primary-school). Please check out our page and purchase a ticket for only £1 a week to help support us! It is open to absolutely anyone, you can cancel at any time and importantly it helps support all the vital work we do.

As an end of year treat, we paid for Jamie the Jester to visit all the school nursery children, which we hear was a huge success! For the bigger kiddos we hosted 3 'Shorts, Shades 'n' Sundress Summer Spectacular' disco events with a live DJ, ice lolly and glow stick to boot. The dance

moves being busted out by the P6-P7 crew during their girls versus boys dance off, were a highlight, well done boys for the win!



We are thrilled to announce that our biggest project, the £35,000 playground upgrade is well and truly on its way. We have worked closely with the Pupil Council, Senior Leadership Team and are working tirelessly with Fife Council to progress this. We had initially hoped for it to be completed during the summer holidays but unfortunately this hasn't been possible to ensure all regulatory requirements are met. However, works will be booked in, hopefully by the time this goes to print!

**The Parent Council's AGM will take place on 25th August at 7.30pm online.** With many of the current members stepping down, we're eager to welcome new faces and fresh ideas. Details will be posted on our Facebook page and emailed out by the school nearer the time.

None of this would be possible without our fabulous Burntisland community so I'd like to say a huge, big thank you everyone who has donated, volunteered and cheered us on this year. You do so much to support us at every step and we appreciate it all!

**Fiona Embleton,  
Chair of the BPS Parent Council**



**BURNTISLAND COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT TRUST**

### Introducing the What's Happening? Calendar—A New Way to Stay Connected in Burntisland

The Burntisland Community Development Trust (BCDT) is excited to launch What's Happening? - an online community calendar designed to showcase events and activities happening in the town.

From local workshops and family-friendly

events to fundraisers, performances, and community meet-ups, What's Happening? makes it easier than ever to see what's going on—and get involved.

You can view the calendar by visiting: [www.bcdt.org.uk/whats-happening](http://www.bcdt.org.uk/whats-happening) or scan the QR code on the right to go straight to the page.

We're also inviting local organisations, clubs, and event organisers to submit their events directly through our online form: [www.bcdt.org.uk/event-submission/](http://www.bcdt.org.uk/event-submission/)

Whether you're hosting a coffee morning, running a youth programme, or putting on a show, we'd love to help you reach more people in the community.

Let's work together to make Burntisland an even more connected, active, and vibrant place to live!



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## Friends of Burntisland Old Parish Church

Burntisland has a new community group: the Friends of Burntisland Old Parish Church. FoBOPC formed after a public meeting in the church in February and is building on work started by the original Church working group.

**Our Vision is:** To ensure the conservation of the unique historic Burntisland Old Parish Church for the good of the community.

**Our aims include:** To ensure the long-term preservation of the structure and fabric of the church building and its historical contents, and to maintain long-term public access to the church.

**The issue:** The church building is currently owned by the General Trustees of the Church of Scotland. As the Church of Scotland is struggling financially, it has made the difficult decision to dispose of many of its properties. Among 700 Church properties up for disposal is our famous Burntisland church. The disposal date is the end of December 2027. We have less than two and a half years to save our historic Church from being sold on the open market. The sale price is at least £65,000. However, the building is valued for insurance at around £7,000,000. Although it is believed to be in good order, it costs around £8-10,000 annually to maintain it.

FoBOPC would like Historic Environment Scotland (HES) to take ownership of the building i.e. to transfer it from Church ownership to the care of the State.

However, HES have said that although they recognise the importance of the church in

Scottish social and church history, and have given it category A status for its architectural importance, they do not have the resources to maintain it long-term. Unless this position changes, e.g. due to Scottish Government intervention, FoBOPC may have to consider taking community ownership of the building to save it from being sold privately. Private ownership could mean loss of public access, neglect, and potential dereliction. Our main problem is not the purchase price, but finding a way to generate enough annual income to maintain the building long-term, without altering the heritage features that the Friends wish to protect.

### What makes Burntisland Old Parish Church so special?

It is thought to be the first church built in Scotland after the Reformation. In a break with tradition, it was built to a unique square design between 1592 and 1596. In the following centuries it acquired various unusual features that survive today e.g. pumfils and box pews like the so-called Magistrate's Pew, and galleries with painted panels of 17th century ships and sailors, and with the emblems of the various trade guilds. The guilds were like early trade unions and very important to the old Royal Burgh. In 1601, the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland met in Burntisland church in the presence of King James VI of Scotland. It was here that the new translation of the Bible was authorised—the world renowned 'King James Version'.

Over its 429 years it has seen many important events; been visited by many famous people; and hosted generations of families who have been baptised, married, or had their funerals at the church. The



church was originally built and paid for by the people of Burntisland, before eventually being taken into Church of Scotland ownership. It continues to be used for regular worship by its congregation, and for civic events like the crowning of the summer King and Queen in Civic Week. After the Church of Scotland disposes of the church, the congregation will worship elsewhere.

Burntisland is fortunate in having several heritage buildings and was previously voted Fife's favourite Conservation Area. The church is its 'crown jewel' and every year it attracts tourists and visitors who are shown round by volunteer guides.

If you care about Burntisland Old Parish Church and want it to continue to host events like the crowning of the Summer King and Queen; to use it for family events like weddings and funerals; to be inspired by the generations who have worshipped in the church before you; or just to be able to visit it, admire it, and learn about its history, please support FoBOPC.

If you feel able to contribute some of your time, knowledge and skills to help, please contact us. You can message our [new Facebook page](#) or email: [friends.of.burntisland.opc@gmail.com](mailto:friends.of.burntisland.opc@gmail.com)

We meet regularly in the church halls and welcome new ideas. Thank you.

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## Burntisland–Flekkefjord Town Twinning



By the time you read this our intrepid young twinningers for 2025 / 2026 will have already flown to Norway and will be in Flekkefjord for their 8-day trip.

The group comprises of (left to right) Isabelle Bradshaw, Amy Pulsford-Moran, Charlotte Kisby, Zander Mulholland and Theo Black. They will now be cycling, walking or swimming in a packed week of activities and all the while building new friendships with their Flekkefjord counterparts. Thanks to WhatsApp the group has already been in contact with their twins for the past 6 weeks.

The modern exchange is a far cry from the earlier post-war visits made by ship across

the North Sea. We recently had the pleasure of meeting our oldest known past twinner, Sandy Fraser, his story is a great contrast to the easy flights enjoyed by our current cohort. You can read Sandy's story on our website at: [www.burntislandtwinning.org.uk](http://www.burntislandtwinning.org.uk)

In the next edition we anticipate we will be letting you know how they all got on and how we hope to welcome Flekkefjord to Burntisland in summer of 2026, in what will be our 80th year!

To learn more about the twinning and how to apply for the 2027 / 2028 exchange get in contact with us at [burntislandtwinning@gmail.com](mailto:burntislandtwinning@gmail.com) or via



the website. You should be about 12 just now so when you travel in 2027 you will be over 14 years old. We look forward to hearing from you.

**Mark Kisby**

## Supporting Swifts

**Swift action provided!** Swifts are iconic birds of the urban summer, scything above the streets on long, swept-back wings, drawing attention with their screaming calls. Sadly, like much of our wildlife, they're in serious decline: the British Trust for Ornithology estimates that populations fell by a whopping 60% between 1995 & 2020.

Two of the main drivers of the decline are poor summer weather associated with climate change and the loss of nest-sites. Swifts nest in crevices high up in old buildings. Many traditional sites have been lost to demolition, upgrading of social housing and refurbishment of factories and warehouses to modern standards. Burntisland has a handful of breeding Swifts but accommodation is increasingly hard to come by. One effective way to help is to provide nest-boxes. A number of nest-box schemes throughout the UK and beyond have proved very successful.

Adult Swifts (at least two years old) start returning from Africa in early May and will use previous years' nest sites if they're still available. If they're not then the birds will be looking for alternatives. In June younger Swifts, not yet old enough to breed, turn up to start checking out potential nest sites for future years. To help all these home-seekers to locate the nest-boxes a

small speaker is attached to the box, linked to an MP3 player which plays Swift calls on a loop. It sounds crazy but it really attracts them!

In early Spring last year I set up a nest-box scheme in the town. A number of people volunteered to have a box erected on their houses and to play the calls twice a day. Suitable sites were found for nine double boxes (plus one in Kinghorn) and two triple boxes, providing a total of 26 superior Swift apartments. Birds have been seen investigating several of them through the summer, making fast passes to and fro as if practising their approach for the future. So, although this is a long-term project and we're not expecting instant results, we hope that some of our boxes will be occupied by families of Swifts before too long.

This project was kindly funded by the HDH Wills 1965 Charitable Trust, the Big Green Market, Forth Ports Ltd, H & R Gray Haulage Ltd and Scott Pallets: grateful thanks to them all. Many thanks also to Jo Hobbett for preparing funding applications, Alan Hobbett for logistical assistance and Kris Gibb for the superb Swift photo.

**Andy Pay**





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## Burntisland Playgroup

We say the same thing every year and are saying it again...what a quick year we've had! It has been filled with lots of fun and laughter, happiness and excitement.

This time of year is filled with excitement as we prepare for the new and returning children to join us in the setting, along with a tinge of sadness as we lose some children heading to Primary 1 or the school nursery. It has been a joy to have them with us as part of their pre-school education and we thank the families of Burntisland and local towns that continue to choose Burntisland Playgroup as their early years setting.

This year we have been out and about exploring the town. We have visited the woods which is a firm favourite, the beach, travelled on the bus around the town, visited the railway station, the castle, the high street, the docks, the recycling centre. The list is endless. We continue to utilise the town to support our interests and learning wherever we can.

We also have the added benefit of a large enclosed garden at the Toll Community Centre where we have our own planting beds (currently growing carrots, tomatoes, strawberries, potatoes, pumpkins, courgettes and corn!) The children all use this space on a daily basis and enjoy continuing to develop and explore it.

We held an incredibly successful Spring Open Day where we were able to showcase our setting which many people had not had the opportunity to visit previously. We had lambs, tortoises and our freshly hatched chicks that children were able to interact with. Although the main objective of this open day was to allow parents to see the setting and hold a community event—we did in fact raise £500 on this day as well. We were also lucky to receive match funding from the Bank of Scotland Foundation through Lauren Moncrieff.

We have also received donations from Twinkl for garden resources and Total Energy after being nominated by Gerry Macpherson. As a community charity, we thank everyone for their support.

We participated in Civic Week as usual with this year's theme being "Halfway to Christmas". The children voted for what they wanted to dress up as, and they chose "Whoville and the Grinch"!

Unfortunately we did not claim the top group prize but quite a few of our "grinches" were given a "golden ticket". Thank you to the Civic Week Committee who ensure this event continues.

We still have spaces available for the coming session from August 2025 to June 2026. We accept applications all year round for children from 2 years 10 months to the start of Primary 1 to attend our setting. Playgroup is open from 8.45am until 2.45pm term time.

If you are interested or wish to have further information please contact [burntislandplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:burntislandplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk) or visit our Facebook page. We are in partnership with Fife Council so are able to offer 24 funded spaces from the term after your child's 3rd birthday. We follow the same curriculum as the nursery, where children have opportunities for learning through a wide variety of activities and resources both indoors and outdoors.



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# Burntisland Hedgehog Haven



We are now well into our busiest time of the year here at the rescue. Lots of orphaned hoglets coming in where something has sadly happened to mum.

We are also being called out to a lot of nest disturbances where people are having work done in their gardens and have uncovered nests with babies in. Please be careful when carrying out any work even if you don't think you have hedgehogs visiting.

What to do if you uncover a hedgehog nest? Cover the nest back over. Please do not touch the hoglets until you have sought advice from a rescue. Sadly, mum can reject and even kill them if human scent is on them. If mum is nowhere to be seen please call us for advice. Don't just leave them.

We are also seeing some adult hedgehogs coming into the rescue who are poorly with various issues. Please be wary of using any pesticides in your gardens. Weedkiller can burn hedgehogs feet as can strong patio/driveway cleaners. Leave a shallow bowl of water out for hedgehogs and other wildlife to drink from if you can.



Goal posts pose a real threat to hedgehogs so if you have one please lift it off the ground by a couple of feet at night or remove the net if not in use. Also garden netting needs to be off the ground as hedgehogs can become entangled in it.

We were recently the beneficiary of The Big Green Market for July. Thanks to everyone who came along or donated items for our tombola stall. Much appreciated and to receive £1,000 is just amazing especially with all the mouths to feed in the rescue just now.

Thank you to everyone who came to see us on our stall at the Civic Week Parade day! It was a lovely day and Rosie our mascot enjoyed taking part in the parade!



We passed our last inspection with Fife Council with glowing colours and we are happy to report that we are now licensed to be able to take in 40 hedgehogs!

This is such great news for us as there are just so many needing help so it has been great to be in a position during our busy period to be able to take more in to give them the care and medical help they need.



Thank you to everyone who contributed to make this possible by supporting our fundraisers to help us raise funds to be able to build the new outbuilding.

Special thanks to the Co-op on choosing us to be one of the local community causes to receive funding again this year and a huge thank you to Luke Drummond for the many hours building our new rehabilitation shed.

We would also like to thank everyone who voted for us to receive the £1,500 we applied for in the You Decide, Kirkcaldy

funding. This has allowed us to pay for flooring and the electrics. The new building is now up and running and has become invaluable in helping a lot of pregnant females who have come to us unwell and then given birth successfully in a safe place while they continue their rehabilitation.

Last year we held a children's competition to design what they thought a hedgehog haven should look like. We had so many wonderful entries that we had a first, second and third winners.

The winning entry was from Holly aged 5 who included so many of the things which hedgehogs need to keep them happy and healthy. Fresh water, food, long grass to forage, a cosy home and the all important hole in the fence (hedgehog highway) so they can come and go. Well done Holly, we hope you loved the cuddly hedgehog and chocolate hedgehog you won and we hope you enjoy finally seeing your lovely hedgehog awareness poster in the Buzz.



Please take a look at our new website which is packed full of information about hedgehogs and what you can do to help [www.burntislandhedgehoghaven.co.uk](http://www.burntislandhedgehoghaven.co.uk)

Or contact us on 07577 000328 or find us on Facebook, Instagram and TikTok.

**Sharon Longhurst**

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## Civic Week 2025



We held another successful Civic Week in June, the opening weekend beginning with Parade Day which saw Becky Roy and Thomas Robertson crowned as Summer Queen and King in the Parish Church.

The forecast rain held off long enough for the crowds to enjoy free activities on the Links, after the Pipe Band led the parade along the High Street and Kinghorn Road.

This year's theme was "Halfway to Christmas" which saw a fantastic parade filled with elves on holiday, Santas on a run and some decorated trees! Best dressed group was awarded to Starley Hall who took part in the parade for the first time.

Our thanks to Citizen of the Year Colin Blackwood as well as Katie & Ruth from Group Winners Burntisland Foodbank for their help with the Crowning ceremony and choosing the fancy dress winners.

The committee would also like to thank Stuart Hobson for his help on parade day, the Parish Church, Carole-anne Crossan for being our Master of Ceremonies, Cherrelle Hadden and Marion Forisky, BFAST for first aid support at events, Andrea's highland

dancers, The Lovely Wedding Car Company, the Fire Brigade, and Gordon Sweeney for putting up the High Street bunting.

The Shop Window competition kicked-off our programme of events with Happy Go Lucky Dog Company chosen as the winner by the Royal Party. The children also tried their hand at bowls, attended the Dog Show on the Links, visited Links View Care Home, and spent an evening at the Sailing Club.

The 5-a-side football tournament was once again hosted by Burntisland Shipyard, featuring nine adult teams in the afternoon. Bobo Baldys retained the trophy with a last minute winner in the final.

Thanks to Liz Anderson and Danny Hubbard for their help organising the event, Burger Island for the BBQ, and all those who provided home baking for the cake stall.

It was a pleasure to have the legendary Des and the Dingoes on the programme for their final gig, a sold out night at the Golf Club. We have been so fortunate to have Des playing for Civic Week over the years.

On Beach Day we had another fantastic turnout for the sandcastle competition in the sun, followed by the Raft Race. A big thank you to Alan Peden for his efforts in support of the event, building the four rafts that took part with "Last Minute Charlie" the fastest across the bay.

Thanks also to Tom Courts for sponsoring the prizes as well as the RNLI Lifeboat & Lifeguards for their support.

Our main sponsor this year was ExxonMobil, we are incredibly grateful for their financial contribution, as well as all of the local businesses and shops for their kind raffle donations.

None of this would have been possible without the hard work of all those mentioned and the volunteer committee. If you would like to get involved please email [burntislandcivicweek@gmail.com](mailto:burntislandcivicweek@gmail.com) or message our Facebook page.

Our AGM will take place on Sunday 28th September at 2pm (venue to be confirmed) as we look ahead to plan next year's events.

**Amanda Jones, Chair**







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## A fond farewell to Des and the Dingoes



The final gig at the Golf Club with Jimmy Ford, Jimmy Glen, and Jimmy Drummond



At The Star for Civic Week with Jimmy Robertson, Jimmy Glen, and Buddy Heaps



Playing at The Star (Cedar Inn) Aberdour and at the Crown in Burntisland

It was a memorable and emotional farewell night on Saturday 28th June, as the legendary Des and the Dingoes played their final gig at a sold out Golf Club during Civic Week.

Des is Des Linsley, now 85, founder of the band and frontman on guitar and vocals for 68 years. Performing since 1957 he has entertained generations with rock 'n' roll, getting the crowds up dancing and singing.

In the late 1950s, Des and six other lads banded together, practising in a garden shed in Kilmundy Drive, playing skiffle, the teen music of the day. They called themselves 'The Lonesome Hobos' for their first performance in the Parish Church hall and with only six songs and the audience calling for 'more' they had to increase their repertoire fast.

They became 'The Dingoes' but on the advice of Des's cousin the band's name was changed to 'Des and the Dingoes' in the early 1960s, copying the format of many singer/band groups of the day.

The Star (Cedar Inn) in Aberdour was their first residency, with Jimmy Kerr, Des, Ian Workman, and John Beavers (pictured). They also had a residency at the Crown and later the Milton.

There's been many 'Dingoes' in the years since, with the late Jimmy Robertson on drums the longest serving for over 50 years.

The group played in pubs, clubs and functions at venues throughout Fife and also in the town, more recently supporting Civic Week at the Toll, in the Links marquee and at The Star.

Wishing Des a happy retirement after all these years, he certainly deserves it!

## Fife Ukulele Orchestra

**Fun, Frets and Friends.** Formed in 2011 in Burntisland, this community group was created to bring musical fun to the people of Fife and has been doing so with smiles and gusto ever since.

Having played in Burntisland's Sands Hotel for 12 years, the popularity of the Orchestra resulted in an ever-increasing membership until a larger venue had to be found. The group settled in Inverkeithing Civic Centre, where it meets every fortnight on a Monday with a brief break during the summer.

Whilst always intent on having fun, FUO has several strings to pluck. Members can engage in improvement activities which embrace beginners just enjoying a cheerful strum as well as those who wish to gain higher skills such as finger picking and reading tab.

Singing is a significant part of a ukulele performance and greatly adds to the enjoyment. Again, encouragement and support are available for those who may believe they cannot sing (almost everybody can by the way).

Instruments commonly played vary in size

from the smaller Soprano and Concert ukes, the more common Tenors up to larger Baritone and Bass ukuleles. Some members even make their own! There is a small Ukulele-Banjo section which also helps add to the musical mix and variety.

Part of each evening is put aside for everyone to play together, learning new numbers, rehearsing for the next gig or, quite often, just having a jam, trying out new tunes suggested or written by members. The music is wide ranging, from early favourites right through the 60s, 70s and 80s to the present day.

In support of the community, FUO plays as a complete orchestra for larger audiences as



well in smaller numbers for other local community groups, particularly those who support people with health conditions or impairments.

It also takes part in musical festivals around Scotland and has played in the Scottish Parliament and at the Royal Highland Show, so it is not just about playing and having fun but also about supporting our local community. Several charities are supported each year with fundraising activities and donations from club funds.

Feeling musical? Beginner or maestro, all are welcome. Come and join us. Or need some entertainment as part of an event or concert? Why not ask the Fife Ukulele Orchestra? Get in touch via:

[Burntukes@gmail.com](mailto:Burntukes@gmail.com)



## Burntisland Golf House Club



Congratulations to all the championship winners on Finals Day: Malcolm Arnott, Greig Carscadden, Euan Mclean, Joe Meldrum, Marissa Foley, Kerry Foley, Robin Farnan, Stuart Haig, and Hamish Sinclair.

The new caterers at Burntisland Golf House Club warmly invite you to enjoy the varied and reasonably priced lunch menu and if you have a sweet tooth there are a lot of cakes to choose from. Booking for lunch is preferred but drop-ins are also welcome.



Varied memberships to the golf club are still available, please contact our admin office for further details, and we would welcome any member of the public to join the club as a social member which is £35 for the year.

Upcoming social events for the golf club are The Reclaimers on 20th September. As a reminder, the club can be booked for any private functions.

For any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us on 01592 872116 or via [info@burntislandgolfhouseclub.co.uk](mailto:info@burntislandgolfhouseclub.co.uk)

## Local Business Updates

*in association with Totally Locally Burntisland*

Since the last issue of the Burgh Buzz...

Tom Courts Quality Foods has been named Scottish Pork Sausage Champion 2025 for a record third time.



Wildbells, C. Sinclair Fish, and Cromwell Kitchen were recognised for excellence at this year's Scottish Independent Retail Awards.

The FitNest gym and fitness studio has opened at Meadowfield Industrial Estate.

On the High Street, The Fix, East Coast Chiro, and Home & Gifts have closed.

Jewellery designers Sally Grant and Grace Girvan have moved into the former Glisk studio space on the High Street.

Keystore has opened at the Cotburn Crescent shop.

Keep up to date with all our Totally Locally businesses at: [www.facebook.com/totallylocallyburntisland](https://www.facebook.com/totallylocallyburntisland)

## ABK Probus Club

Aberdour, Burntisland, Kinghorn Probus is a club for retired men. The objective of the club is to provide opportunities for members to meet others in similar circumstances, to socialise and promote common interests.

The club meets on the first and third Tuesday of the month, at the Kingswood Hotel, 10am to 12noon.

Meetings generally start with coffee and a time to chat followed by any club business then a presentation by an invited speaker on any wide range of interesting subjects.

There is currently an active snooker sub-group who meet every Monday and others such as bowling may be possible. We also arrange occasional outings during the year.

We would welcome new members and invite anyone interested to contact our President, Jim Bisset for further details. Telephone 07958 305349 or email [jimbisset1@gmail.com](mailto:jimbisset1@gmail.com)

John Bruce

## Burntisland Junior Youth Theatre

**Part of the community since 1981 and still going strong!**

Readers might be aware that, sadly, the Senior Burntisland Youth Theatre, which brought us so many fabulous pantomimes over the years, has had to close down. But happily, our Junior Youth Theatre continues to bring younger kids together to enjoy drama activities which are flexible to suit every level of confidence and developing creativity.



What's it all about? We have fun, build confidence and creativity through drama games, mime, movement, improvisations (making up short plays) using our imagination and making friends.

We run weekly workshops during term time for kids from P3 to P7. Places are available for the new term which starts back on Tuesday 2nd September, 4pm–5.30pm in the Music Hall on Thistle Street. The cost is £3 a week.

To find out more and register, or go on the waiting list, email: [ann@annandthal.plus.com](mailto:ann@annandthal.plus.com)

Ann Thallon

thekingswoodhotel
 KingswoodHotel

### Hello Burntisland

KINGSWOOD HOTEL is prepared for our exciting **FESTIVE** season. Bookings are open for all our exciting **EVENTS** we have lined up for you!!

Apart from our Party Night, we will be running Wreath Making Classes with Poppy Floral Design, Murder Mystery Nights, our popular Breakfast with Santa and a Christmas evening with Elsa McTaggart Music. Something for everyone!!

Our festive **DINING** menus will start 1st December in the restaurant if you are planning Christmas Get Togethers, Office Parties and Family Reunions..

Christmas Afternoon Tea will also be available Mon-Sat inclusive (24 hours notice please)

**CHRISTMAS DAY** will start at 12pm right through till 4pm and then why not end 2025 with dinner, DJ entertainment, games and ceilidh dancing to welcome the New Year with a **BIG FAMILY HOGMANAY Hoolie?**

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T:01592 872329 E:[enquiries@kingswoodhotel.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@kingswoodhotel.co.uk)



## Floral Action Burntisland

Since the last edition of the Burgh Buzz we have been working hard behind the scenes to organise floral displays, repair baskets, organise watering schedules, prepare the community allotment and coordinate efforts with other community groups. As a result of this, the floral displays and hanging baskets around Burntisland are now in full bloom and looking absolutely FABulous!

We held a very successful AGM in March and have some new committee members in place. Our volunteer event recruited some new members too! It is so wonderful to have amazing support and volunteers around town as without this our town wouldn't be looking anything like as bright and colourful.

If anyone is interested in becoming a volunteer please reach out to [contact@floralactionburntisland.co.uk](mailto:contact@floralactionburntisland.co.uk) or check out our website at [www.floralactionburntisland.co.uk](http://www.floralactionburntisland.co.uk)

### Floral Express train at Burntisland Station

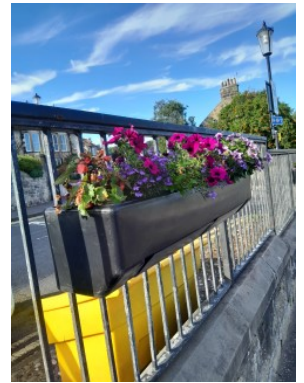
Floral Action Burntisland has been planting and caring for the flowers for a number of years, but the original train planter at the railway station was in need of some repair. The FAB committee discussed the way ahead, and came to the

conclusion a new train was required, which the Ecology Centre in Kinghorn were kind enough to build. The committee also wanted to involve Burntisland Primary School.

Last year a member of FAB visited Primary 4 to explain to the children what FAB did in the town, as their P4 project was all about the community. The two classes were so enthusiastic and had lots of questions! This was key in coming up with the idea of a competition at the school, to name the train, along with drawing a picture of the train.

There were plenty of entries and some great ideas. After a lot of discussion the winner was announced as Mara Nicol with the name, The Floral Express. She was presented with a Novelli's voucher at the school assembly. The sign on the train is kindly painted by FAB volunteer Julia Young and it is an asset to the station.

**Adele Osbourne**



## Burntisland & Kinghorn Rotary Club



The Club started the year with the handover of Presidency from George Hudson to his successor Lesley Main. Lesley thanked George for his year in office and maintaining the many activities carried out by members for the benefit of the community, before presenting David Kelley with his President Elect chain.

The Past President's farewell function was held at Kinghorn Ecology Centre with some 30 members, honorary members and guests celebrating George's year in post. The highlight of the afternoon was the presentation of the Club's Young Citizen Awards to the winner and runner-up.



Euan Stewart, as winner, was nominated by Gemma Thompson, the Scout Group Lead Volunteer Kirkcaldy for his work in representing younger scouts on the district board whilst also planning local & district events. Runner-up was Joseph Paton, who was submitted by Balwearie High School teacher Gill Mearns for his efforts in musical theatre within the school, including leading parts in Chicago & Blood Brothers, and his intention to study at Royal Conservatoire on leaving school. President Lesley indicated that both candidates were deserving of these awards for their contribution to their community.

Despite some smaller numbers the Club has continued to contribute much to the communities of Burntisland & Kinghorn. Especially with the primary schools of Burntisland, Kinghorn & Auchtertool including the Primary Schools Quiz, Burns Competition and particularly Rotary Rambles with trips to the Binn Village, Seafeld Tower, and Ecology Centre. We look to extend this contact by promoting corporate membership to school staff which will assist in widening our influence.

The Club continues to support Rotary Foundation, the worldwide charity whose main aims include the eradication of Polio along with many other important projects. We ourselves support the 'Lend With Care' project which supports small local businesses around the globe who repay relatively small loans allowing us to reallocate.



We meet every Tuesday evening in the Burntisland Sands Hotel with, normally, a couple of interesting speakers per month with the occasional scatter night to visit other Clubs in the area. There is a meal, however, there is no obligation to partake and anyone can contact Members or the Secretary to advise interest.

**Derek Thomson**



## Burrtisland Community Suppers

After delivering 21 community suppers between November and March on Saturday nights at the Salvation Army Hall, the Community Suppers volunteers have been having a well-earned rest. During the winter we increased the amount of meals from 300 to over 500 and the number of weeks from 12 to 21! Our volunteer numbers have also grown.

It's been a fantastic year with 25 volunteers, including six young volunteers, giving their time to deliver over 500 tasty, hot meals in a friendly environment at the darkest time of the year.

The suppers encourage the community to come together, make new friends and catch up with old ones. They are offered on a Pay What You Can basis which helps as the cost of living bites but also combat social isolation. They are for everyone. Volunteers have taken part in food hygiene and first aid training, and we are proud of our young volunteers who have been working towards their saltire awards.

Thanks go to all the volunteers, diners and the many local



businesses, local people and funders who have supported us. We are excited to have received funding from You Decide which will let us come together over the summer and plan for this autumn and where the project goes next.

Look out for us at summer events talking about the project and if you would like to find out more or volunteer please check out our website [www.burrtislandsuppers.org.uk](http://www.burrtislandsuppers.org.uk) or contact Jane Searles on 07900 175403.

## Beacon Runners

If you're thinking about trying out a Parkrun or entering your first 10k this autumn, and fancy a bit of company and encouragement, why not come along to the Beacon Running Club?

We meet from 7-8pm every Monday evening in and around Burrtisland and new runners are always welcome, whatever your ability.

Dozens of our runners took part in the classic local 'Black Rock 5' and 'Donkey Brae' races this summer, supporting one another and providing a real sense of comradeship.



**Beacon Runners before this year's Black Rock race in Kinghorn**

If you want to know more, search for 'Beacon Runners' on Facebook or email: [beaconrunclub@gmail.com](mailto:beaconrunclub@gmail.com).

**George Lees (Coach)**

## Central Burrtisland Tenants & Residents Association

Within the TRA catchment, most residents have to park cars on the streets near their homes, as they do not have the luxury of allocated spaces. In summer, with the influx of visitors to the town, it makes this almost impossible. The CBTRA is supporting and working with Network Rail and Forth Ports to look at alternative car parking areas to help ease the congestion around the residential areas of central Burrtisland.

We were delighted to receive £4,500 from the 'You Decide' fund to support making central Burrtisland more attractive. You will see in the coming weeks more planters, flowers and benches in place, which benefit not only our area but the town as a whole, complementing the great work FAB do.

One of the new schemes we are involved with is the 'Story Box' project, commencing in August. A free project to develop young children and parents to become involved in reading and story interaction opportunities, and for you to bring your young children to this session, where, as a group, we will read stories and get involved in bringing the story to life. Refreshments and snacks will

be provided, and all is free. Day, time and venue to be confirmed.

Dog fouling remains a problem in our area. We recently kicked off our campaign to highlight that owners have to pick up after their dogs. We have sited dog poo bag dispensers on the High Street for when a dog owner has forgotten theirs. We are looking for businesses or patrons to sponsor the cost of the bags, £10/month or any donations would be gratefully received.

Did you know that if you see a dog owner walking away and not picking up after their dog, you can report this to Fife Council's 'Safer Communities' team, who will act on your call, but will investigate without bringing your name into it. Together, let's clean up our streets!

Finally, we are looking for new members. So if you have a couple of hours to spare in a month, live within our catchment area and want to make Burrtisland an even better place to live, please join us on the second Tuesday of the month, 6.30-8.30pm, in the Heritage Centre, Kirkgate or contact us via Facebook messenger. **CBTRA team**



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Mobile: 07903 569821  
E-mail: [paulgraham@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:paulgraham@hotmail.co.uk)



Contact Kevin

**07530 735230**

[burntislands@gmail.com](mailto:burntislands@gmail.com)

[www.burrtislandlocksmithservices.co.uk](http://www.burrtislandlocksmithservices.co.uk)



## Art across Burntisland Primary School

**Primary 1** have been learning all about patterns using lines and colour. They can recognise horizontal, diagonal and vertical lines and demonstrate this in their farming artwork. To create a tractor, they cut 2D shapes from card. Wax resist was a technique used to create the patterns and colours in fields.



**Primary 2** created rocket drawings recording a range of visual information and showed great control in their use of line. As a class they discussed the characteristics of rockets and created a large 3D junk model.



**Primary 2/3** have exploring a range of media to create a lifelike representation of the Burntisland shops and cafes on the high street for their Sharing the Learning Assembly.



The Egyptians topic has given **Primary 3** the opportunity to explore many different types of media, including making a clay cartouche, painting an Egyptian landscape and creating a headdress from gold crepe paper. They used line, shape, colour and pattern to create the symmetrical scarab beetle.



**Primary 4** designed and created wind turbines in teams as part of their Sustainability project, and were challenged with including moving parts within their 3D structures. They discussed animals endangered, creating their turtle artwork.



**Primary 5's** project Healthy Mind and Body has allowed them to explore both inside and outside the body, creating artworks using various media. Paul Cezanne's still lifes was a particular focus and investigating shading and light.



Titanic was the **Primary 6** topic for term 3 and they created various artworks. Observing and drawing the grand staircase and used mixed media to create 3D images of the Titanic. Primary 6 also looked at line, exploring the use of tone.



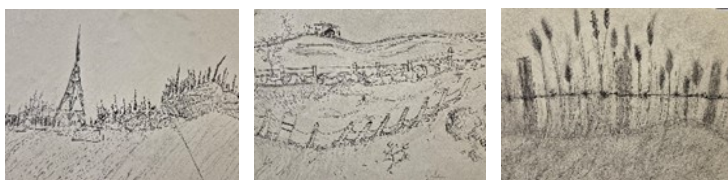
**Primary 6/7** have observed and recorded what they might find in the forest and have been inspired by different artists, like Raewyn Harris. Fern fronds and mushrooms are a few of the natural forms they have tried to recreate using collage.



**Primary 7** were learning about the life and work of Henry Moore, discussing similarities and differences in his work and other artists. After sketching in the style of Henry Moore they created mini sculptures inspired by his works.

A Binn Hill walk and a sketching class, experimenting with different media was part of **Primary 7's** outdoor learning experience.

**Louise Gordon, Headteacher**





# starleyhall

REACHING OUT

During an exciting summer term, Starley Hall School was proud to be involved in two of Burntisland's much-loved community events, the Civic Week Parade and the Big Green Market, celebrating creativity, teamwork and a strong sense of local pride.

Taking part in the Burntisland Civic Week Parade for the first time, our young people, families and staff embraced the theme "Halfway to Christmas," with our own festive twist titled "Halfway to Christmas in the Candy Cane Forest," inspired by the film Elf. Payge contributed significantly to creating the display during her art sessions.

Our group featured Buddy the Elf, Leon the Snowman, a colourful narwhal, and plenty of candy canes, along with a team of little elf helpers who handed out poinsettia seeds to the crowd. We were absolutely delighted to be awarded Best Dressed Group! Thank you to the dedicated volunteers who work behind the scenes to make Civic Week such a highlight in our town's calendar. We were proud to be part of the celebrations.



We also had a brilliant day at the Big Green Market, which was celebrating its fourth birthday. This vibrant monthly event brings people together in support of sustainability, helping pre-loved items find new homes instead of ending up in landfill. Our school ran an ever-popular tombola, with our young people helping to prepare and run the stall. They engaged warmly with visitors, building confidence and gaining experience in interacting with the public. Our stall raised a fantastic £124, which was split between two local charities close to our hearts: Mel's VIP Rabbit Rescue and Shiresmill Riding Centre. It was a wonderful opportunity to be part of a lively event that benefits the community and the planet.

We are already looking forward to returning to the Big Green Market on 31st October, where we will be running a Halloween themed stall packed with handcrafted



goodies. Expect spooky surprises, seasonal treats and lots of community spirit!

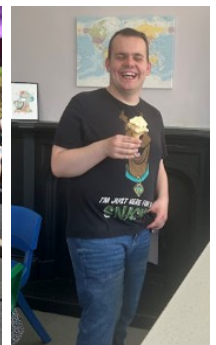
Events like these are an important part of life at Starley Hall. They help our young people build confidence, develop practical skills and feel part of the wider Burntisland community.

We rounded off the school year with our annual end of year celebration, which took place over two days. Staff and young people selected from a variety of activities and enjoyed a well-deserved day of fun. One of the highlights was a trip to the swimming pool in Dundee, where everyone made the most of the flumes and the rapid river. The celebrations continued the following day with our award ceremony, where each young person received an individualised certificate recognising their achievements over the year along with a trophy. We finished the celebrations with an ice-cream in the sun, a simple but perfect way to mark the end of a successful year.

If you would like to keep up with our latest news and events, follow our new Facebook page. We would love to see you there.



**Tracy Duffin, Principal Teacher**



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- Gate Automation
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- Electrical Services – Domestic/ Commercial/Industrial
- Electrical Testing (EICRS & Landlord Certificates)





## 11th Fife (Burntisland) Scout Group

### BEAVERS

It's been a very busy term on the run up to the summer holidays. The Beavers have had the opportunity to do some gardening at the Broomhill Allotments where they have planted potatoes, with the plan to return in September to make some yummy dishes with them. The children received an opportunity to watch and learn about planes from two pilots to help them achieve their Air Activities Badge.

The Beavers were supposed to camp in June but due to weather conditions we instead had a challenges sleepover. Our new mascot "Chomper" set challenges for the children to complete such as fire lighting, archery and curling. Chomper has decided to continue to join us to help reach the children's full potential.



At the end of term, the children all got to go to Novelli's to have an ice cream and a play at the park. They also received a taster session at the bowling club where they got to try out bowls through different activities and the children are excited to go back to try again.

**Beaver Team Leader—Stewart Paton**

### CUBS

As always, a busy term for the Cubs making the most of what is on our doorstep. We have completed Den Building at the low Binn, a trip to the Beach for a sandcastle competition, a trip to Kinghorn Loch for a look at nature and a walk to the waterfall at Starley.



We got all crafty and made our numbers so we could take part in the Civic Week Parade doing our Santa run. We also had a sleepover and visited the Museum of Communication to help us complete our communicator badge. As always we finished the term with a well earned trip to Novelli's.

**Cub Team Leader—Michelle Paton**

### SCOUTS

Our Wednesday Scouts have had a busy and fun filled year so far, with some out of this world activities. We viewed the planetary alignment and completed the Astronomer Badge by learning about our solar system and constellations.

Our Scouts refreshed their first aid and navigation skills, took part in team building challenges, and baked cupcakes. We spent a lot

of time outdoors developing camping skills by putting up tents and hammocks, going on hikes, and completing the Naturalist badge by identifying and learning about local wildlife.

Our older Scouts completed their Scout Expedition by hiking from Leven to Kinghorn, carrying all their kit, camping overnight, doing the navigation, and cooking all the meals for their team. The troop had a night away along with Thursday Scouts, with a visit to Edinburgh Castle. They learned about the history of the castle including getting to see the French Eagle captured at the Battle of Waterloo and paying their respects at the Scottish National War Memorial. We also took part in the Civic Week Parade, and finished our term with a visit to Novelli's.



Thursday Scouts have had a busy time this term practicing cooking on stoves, polishing our Hammock skills at the low Binn, learning how to safely use knife, axe and saws and having a sausage sizzle. We took part in the Civic Week Parade and enjoyed a trip to Novelli's. We also squeezed in a camp to practice for our big summer jamboree at Auchengillan that we are looking forward to in August.

**Scout Team Leaders—Davie Laing (Wednesday) and Craig Paton (Thursday)**

### EXPLORERS

The Explorer Section is for our 14- to 18-year-old Scouts, and we

currently have 25 Explorers with the focus being on them earning the Duke of Edinburgh Award. This term saw us completing the Racquet Sports badge by playing badminton and having a tournament. Our Explorers also had an overnight camp where we visited Mary Kings Close and the Surgeons' Hall Museum in Edinburgh which were both interesting. We have also looked at cooking skills, completed some Young leader modules and honed our hammock and knot skills, then we finished term with a trip to the 10-pin bowling.

Many of our Explorers continue to volunteer at our younger sections to pass on their skills and knowledge to the Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts as part of the Leadership teams. This is greatly appreciated and demonstrates what a fantastic group of young people we have, and they are all a credit to our Group and the town.

**Explorer Team Leaders—Davie & Kerry**

**Group Lead Volunteer: Kerry Laing, [11thfife@gmail.com](mailto:11thfife@gmail.com)**





## Girlguiding at the Parish Church Halls

1st Burntisland Guides, Brownies and Rainbows have had a very busy and fun filled Guiding year and are now enjoying a summer break. The units took part in the Civic Week Parade again this year, all our young members were dressed as elves embarking on their summer holidays and looked great in their matching socks and hats.

The Brownies and Rainbows had a fantastic end of term party with games, sweet treats and a bouncy castle. They were joined at the end of the evening by the Guides and our County Commissioner who presented bronze, silver and gold awards, well done everyone.



The Guides invited Brownies who will soon be old enough to join Guides from both of the Burntisland Brownie units to their end of year treat, an Indoor Camp activity day. Activities included making giant bubble wands and making and decorating kites. The bubbles were magnificent and a windy day ensured that the kites flew well.



Unit meetings will start again on Monday 25th August, we look forward to welcoming everyone back for the new Guiding year. New members are always welcome to join us.

Contact us for more information or register online at [www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus) and we will get in touch with you.

Units meet in the Parish Church Halls on Monday evenings.

**Guides:** 7 to 9pm  
[burntislandguides@gmail.com](mailto:burntislandguides@gmail.com)

**Brownies:** 5 to 6.30pm  
[burntislandbrownies1st@outlook.com](mailto:burntislandbrownies1st@outlook.com)

**Rainbows:** 5 to 6pm  
[1burntislandrainbows@gmail.com](mailto:1burntislandrainbows@gmail.com)

**Jean Priestley**

## Burntisland & District Pipe Band

Burntisland & District Pipe Band continues to go from strength to strength! We've had a busy summer, proudly representing our town at both 'Major' and local competitions, as well as performing at a variety of community events.

In June, we had the honour of leading the Burntisland Civic Week parade, and in July, we proudly performed at the opening of the Burntisland Highland Games (shown in the photo). It's always a pleasure to play for the enthusiastic crowds that line the streets.

The competition season is in full swing, and a standout highlight so far has been our performance at the UK Pipe Band Championships on 13th July, at Inghliston. As the first 'Major' of the season, it was a great opportunity to test the progress we've made over the year — and we were delighted with the results. The Novice Juvenile B Band placed 6th and the Grade 3A Band took 5th place.

Our Drum Majors also returned home with fantastic results: in the Juvenile category DM Catherine Spears took 2nd place, and DM Logan Clark placed 4th. In the Adult category Graeme Wyse took 6th place.

We also took part in the Scottish Pipe Band Championships on the 26th July, in Dumbarton. Our Juvenile Drum Majors were on top form with a 4th place for DM Catherine Spears and 5th place for DM Logan Clark. The bands were sounding great too, but just missed out on the prizes, with the Novice B band placing 7th out of 16 bands, and the Grade 3A came 9th out of 22 bands. Well done everyone!

We're always on the lookout for new members! Whether you're a complete



beginner, a chanter learner, or an experienced player, we welcome all enquiries. We offer tuition in pipes, drums, and drum majoring within a supportive, multi-level structure — from absolute beginners to competitive-grade bands. With regular rehearsals and a mix of performances at Highland Games, parades, and local events, there's something for everyone.

**M. Rees**  
Painter & Decorator

**DOMESTIC & COMMERCIAL**

**07557 350 045**

**REES\_PAINTERS**

The strength of the band lies in our dedicated tutor team, our commitment to nurturing young talent, and the unwavering support of volunteers, families, and friends. We'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who helps the band grow and succeed — we couldn't do it without you!

Looking ahead, we're preparing for the next 'Major' competitions of the summer. First up is the European Championships in Perth, then finally, the World Pipe Band Championships in Glasgow both in August. Wish us luck!

To keep up with our latest news or to get in touch, follow us on the Burntisland and District Pipe Band Facebook page.

**Morag and Susan Cotton**

## Burntisland and Kinghorn Church of Scotland

Wouldn't it be great to see the Tall Ships race back in the Forth? It's been 30 years since they sailed into Leith and high time our Forth Estuary saw them again! Marion and I saw them in Aberdeen recently, what an awesome sight, especially the parade of sail as they left Aberdeen harbour to set sail for Norway.

It's been a memorable summer for us as a family: our son Andrew's wedding to Emma on a sunny day in June and then my 40th Anniversary of Ordination as a Minister also

in Aberdeen (oh and did you know that my team, Aberdeen, won the Scottish Cup!). Thanks for all your good wishes, prayers and support.

You'll see that we've got a schedule of services on the opposite page in this edition of the Burgh Buzz, hopefully that let's you know, where we are and when we are worshipping!

In the Bible- talk part, of our morning worship, we're looking at "That's the Spirit" (from Romans 8).

For me, with the image of the Tall Ships fresh in my mind, under sail and sailing fast and free, this verse sums up the freedom which faith and the fullness of the Spirit gives:



"Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there the heart is free" (2 Corinthians 3:18)

[www.burntislandandkinghornchurch.co.uk](http://www.burntislandandkinghornchurch.co.uk)

Rev Jim Reid

## Erskine Church

It hardly seems possible that we're already at the end of July, Games Day is over for another year but those summer days are still with us.

Monday 21st July was once again very special as our town marked its historic Highland Games with so many visitors around and a veritable feast of events and activities happening on every corner, notably on the Links.

Erskine's halls were busy with people all day, popping in for a light snack and some time away from the sun to rest and recharge. Thanks to all of you who took time out to support us so very generously!

Relaxation is very important in the midst of our stressful lives, we all need regular opportunities for physical, mental and emotional rest. There are so many blessings to give thanks for, stopping to reflect on these precious gifts during a period of rest can help us to get things into a proper and clearer perspective.

Our BEK services continue on their rolling programme, with a great mix of worship styles happening each week across all local churches. You'd be very welcome to join us in Erskine on any Sunday at 11am, but please check in advance what's happening when and where!

The next Coffee & Pancakes is in our halls on Saturday 30th August from 10am. Erskine's Autumn Fayre is due to take place

later in the year on Saturday 25th October. Keep a close eye on our Facebook page for the latest news and updates.

Erskine will be open during Doors Open Day in Fife, that's on Saturday 13th September from 2-4pm. You can look around our buildings, with a chance to view our beautiful 'Light of the World' stained glass window right up-close and personal!

Have a brilliant summer, take time to rest and make sure you make the most of summer-time before the days get shorter and cooler once again.

Rev. Alexander Ritchie



Kirkcaldy (KY1 1PF)  
Tel: 01592 640644



Glenrothes (KY7 5ND)  
Tel: 01592 751997



Dalgety Bay (KY11 9NH)  
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# St Serf's Scottish Episcopal Church

Our churches in Burntisland are all different expressions of the Christian faith, and we relish those times when we all come together for worship and fellowship. On Pentecost Sunday 8th June we met together in the Erskine Church to celebrate that unity in a joint service.

We are always happy to collaborate with the other churches in the area, so our pastoral visiting team was delighted to accept the invitation from the BEK group to participate in their training sessions, organised by Taryn Minnie and led by the Reverend Eileen Miller, who has taken part in leading worship at St Serf's on several occasions. Caring for the whole community is very much at the heart of what your churches in Burntisland aim to do.

Other joint activities included a litter-pick and short forest church service with Beath and Cowdenbeath North Church of Scotland, who are fellow members of Eco-congregation Scotland. Our two churches share concerns about the environment and the urgent need to care for it.

The month of June was a special one for St Serf's, as we celebrated the 120th anniversary of the opening of the present building. So the bunting went up and the events began. We enjoyed several talks and presentations, including one on the

Reverend Henry Hardy, who was the driving force behind the building of the church, which was dedicated in 1905.

In keeping with our eco-credentials, Lesley Gordon raised our awareness of butterflies, and Ian Archibald spoke movingly about John Rae, the overlooked Arctic explorer.

Courtesy of Alasdair Blaikie, our in-house cinematographer, we watched the classic film "A Room with a View", which so perfectly reflects the attitudes and social expectations of Edwardian society. There was plenty to discuss afterwards over a glass of wine.

Peter Ryder reminded us of the many and varied sites associated with the early Christian saints in our area, figures surrounded by legend and myth who kept alive the flame of faith so long ago.

Serf, our patron, was one such. The historical facts surrounding his life are few but we know that he was the abbot of Culross, and that he is reputed to have rescued and cared for the infant Kentigern (Mungo) and his mother. His connection to Fife is strong, with sites on Loch Leven (St Serf's Inch), Dunning and Dysart (St Serf's cave). The first church in Burntisland at Kirkton was dedicated to him and St Adamnan. Serf is also known as Servanus (the servant), something that we as

Christians need to keep at the forefront of what we do in our faith communities as well as in our personal lives.

We brought together our anniversary and our saint's day in a special service of Holy Communion on 6th July, at which our diocesan bishop, the Rt Reverend Ian Paton presided and preached.

I attended our Scottish Episcopal Church Synod in June, where we affirmed a resolution to make known our total acceptance of LGBTQ+ people in the SEC. All worshippers, irrespective of orientation or gender, are safe in our churches and valued as members of our congregations.

So, as you can see, we are an active and inclusive church. Visitors, enquirers or just the plain curious are always welcome in church on a Sunday morning. Our service of Holy Communion is at 10am and there is always a chance to share a cup of tea and coffee and have a chat after the service. Always remember, there is no obligation to "join" and we are just as happy if you decide you'd be more at home at any of the other local churches.

And if quiet contemplation is more your thing, with no requirement to join in if you don't want to, maybe our monthly Taizé worship would be just what you are looking for. We arrive in silence and spend time in silence, we light candles, we sing or listen to simple, tuneful chants and we pray. The service is on the first Sunday of each month at 7pm in the church. The Session on 7th September will be the first one until after the summer break. Why not give it a try?

With blessings for the remainder of this glorious summer season,

**Rev Carol Latimer**



## BEK Partnership Church Services



The BEK partnership churches (Burntisland & Kinghorn Church of Scotland and Erskine United Free Church) will be delivering nearly 40 services during August, September and October. Not just on a Sunday and not just in the morning. Many of our services are now shared too.

To navigate what's on, when and where, a schedule for these months has been produced which we hope readers will find helpful. Many of the services are quite distinctive in style and brief descriptions of these follow. But, of course, all are very welcome at all services. We'd be delighted to see you.

**United services:** 11 am at Burntisland on Sunday 10th August, 31st August, 21st September, 28th September (Kinghorn) 5th October

**Midweek services** resume on Thursday 11th September at 11am, alternating between Erskine and Kinghorn.

**BEK services.** Popular joint services delivered by the BEK partnership once a month at 11 am on Sunday 24th August (Kinghorn), 14th September (Erskine), 12th October (Kinghorn).

**Café Church.** A relaxed, extended time of worship and discussion over cakes and hot drinks at 6.20pm in the Salvation Army Hall. Sunday 31st August, 28th September, 26th October.

**Chilled Church.** An informal relaxed service for all ages with live band, videos, taskmaster challenges and good chat. Lots of fun, food and friendship.

Sundays at 11am on 17th August (Kinghorn), 7th September (Burntisland), 28th September (Erskine), 19th October (Kinghorn)

**Ignite.** A chilled approach to faith and the bible for the young at heart. No pressure: just good vibes and great chat. Erskine Church, Sunday 17th August, 21st September and 19th October at 6pm.

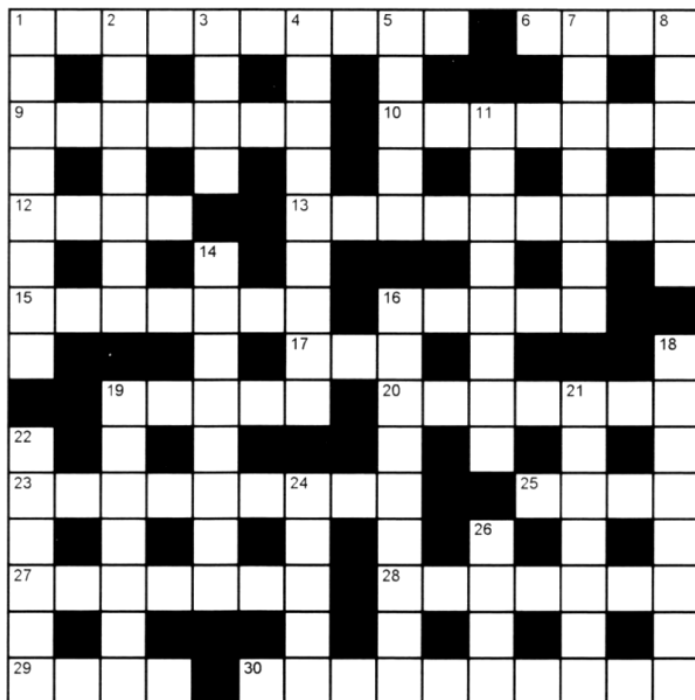
**Sunday@7.** Half an hour of informal, friendly worship – sharing bible reading and prayer over a cuppa and cake. Sunday 14th September and 12th October at 7pm, Kinghorn

**Taizé service.** Simple, meditative prayer, song and bible reading, allowing time for silent reflection. Delivered by St Serf's Church. Sunday 7th September and 5th October at 7pm, St Serf's.

**Communion.** Sunday 26th October (Burntisland & Erskine)

View the full service schedule on our website:

[www.burntislandandkinghornchurch.co.uk](http://www.burntislandandkinghornchurch.co.uk)



## THE PRIZE CROSSWORD

### ACROSS

1. Blancmange (10)
6. Grab (4)
9. Cut down (7)
10. Example (7)
12. Meet (4)
13. Take pains (9)
15. Nastier (7)
16. Gross (5)
17. Err (3)
19. Grill (5)
20. Elevate (7)
23. Beethoven (9)
25. Acme (4)
27. Infidel (7)
28. Avarice (7)
29. Eels (4)
30. Watercress (10)

### DOWN

1. Becoming (8)
2. Artless (7)
3. Clod (4)
4. Au naturel (9)
5. Greek (5)
7. Replies (7)
8. Breast (6)
11. Approved (8)
14. Finished (8)
16. Greengage (9)
18. Leverets (8)
19. Water tank (7)
21. Archive (7)
22. Oblige (6)
24. Villa (5)
26. Tale (4)

Name .....

Address .....

Telephone .....

Completed entries by 15th October to: **1 Lammerlaws Road, Burntisland, KY3 9DT** or email **paulbriscoe1@gmail.com**

First entry drawn from the correct submissions wins **£40**.  
Solution will appear in the next Burgh Buzz issue.

Apologies for the February crossword where one of the clues was incorrect—8 down should have been 'Espionage'. Several submissions were otherwise correct, well done to our winner:

**Elaine Nicol, Fidra Avenue**

**ACROSS:** 1. Malefactor, 6 Odds, 9 Chateau, 10 Hearsay, 12 Iris, 13 Tarpaulin 15 Anguish 16. Early 17 Ill, 19 Chimp, 20 Estonia, 23 Costa Rica, 25 Gait, 27 Elected, 28 Oddball, 29 Mind, 30 Exasperate. **DOWN:** 1 Michigan, 2 Loafing, 3 Fees, 4 Courtship 5 Other, 7 Display, 8 Spying, 11 Alacrity, 14 Vigilant, 16 Elevators, 18 Bastille, 19 Cistern, 21 Niagara, 22 Scream, 24 Index, 26 Adze.

## Burntisland's Events Diary

### AUGUST

Friday	8th	Community Suppers Bingo Night fundraiser in the Jubilee Tavern	7 pm
Friday	8th	Acoustic Music Club in Burntisland Bowling Club	7.30 pm–10.30 pm
Saturday	16th & Sunday 17th	Burntisland Station Studio and Platform Studios open weekend	11 am–4 pm
Tuesday	19th	Community Council meeting in the Burgh Chambers (also online via Zoom)	7 pm
Saturday	23rd	BGM Repair Cafe at the Toll Community Centre	10 am–12.30 pm
Monday	25th	Blood Donation session at the Kingswood Hotel	2pm–4pm and 5.30pm–7.30 pm
Saturday	30th	Coffee and Pancakes in the Erskine Church	10am to 12 noon

### SEPTEMBER

Friday	5th	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	12 noon–4 pm
Saturday	6th	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	10 am–1 pm
Friday	12th	Acoustic Music Club in Burntisland Bowling Club	7.30 pm–10.30 pm
Saturday	13th	Doors Open Day—Erskine Church	2–4pm
Saturday	13th & Sunday 14th	Doors Open Day—Burntisland Parish Church	2–4pm
Saturday	13th & Sunday 14th	Doors Open Day—Burntisland Burgh Chambers and Heritage Centre	11 am–4 pm
Tuesday	16th	Community Council meeting in the Burgh Chambers (also online via Zoom)	7 pm
Saturday	20th & Sunday 21st	Central Fife Artists' Collective Open Studios weekend	
Sunday	28th	Burntisland Civic Week AGM (venue tbc)	2 pm–4 pm

### OCTOBER

Friday	3rd	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	12 noon–4 pm
Saturday	4th	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	10 am–1 pm
Friday	10th	Acoustic Music Club in Burntisland Bowling Club	7.30 pm–10.30 pm
Friday	10th	Town Twinning Bingo Night at the Jubilee Tavern	
Tuesday	21st	Community Council meeting in the Burgh Chambers (also online via Zoom)	7 pm
Friday	31st	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	12 noon–4 pm

### NOVEMBER

Saturday	1st	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	10 am–1 pm
Sunday	2nd	Bonfire Night and Fireworks Display on the Links	6 pm
Sunday	9th	Remembrance Sunday, services at the Erskine Church (10.45 am) and War Memorial (~12 noon)	

To include a public event taking place in November, December, or January in our next issue, email: [editor@burghbuzz.org.uk](mailto:editor@burghbuzz.org.uk)

You can also view the BCDT What's Happening? online calendar at: [www.bcdt.org.uk/whats-happening](http://www.bcdt.org.uk/whats-happening) (details on page 9)



# Craigencalt Rural Community Trust

Many of you will have noticed that the Whinnyhall Path (formerly the Millennium Cycle Way) leading up from Burntisland Golf House Club through the woodland to the Binnend path has been repaired by Alcan. The path suffered complete degradation over many years with much of it washed away. The work has improved drainage as well as a new hard surface.



This path is a popular, well-used link from Burntisland to Kinghorn Loch. The upgrade will be much appreciated by lots of walkers, especially families with young children and disabled users. It completes the loch path network that is maintained by Craigencalt Trust and others.

We have a wonderful band of volunteers who cut back and improve paths to keep them open for walkers throughout the year. All the paths the Trust maintains have been cut once and some twice this summer but may need some further work depending on weather conditions. We

always give a friendly welcome to new helpers, even if you can only spare a limited bit of time every now and then. Please contact Marilyn on 07740 999514 or email [info@craigencalttrust.org.uk](mailto:info@craigencalttrust.org.uk)

Loch user groups and visitors have benefitted from our latest improvements of the jetty. The new ladder helps paddle boarders and open water swimmers to step right into the water with ease, and boats can come alongside more safely.

It has been a splendid spring and summer with good sunny weather just right for getting outside. Fortune shone on our Spring Walking Festival with every walk enjoying fantastic weather. This contrasted with the downpours of 2024 festival. The coast and countryside sparkled in the sunshine making everywhere look bright and fresh. The whole event, which hosted eleven walks over two weeks was another great success.

During Burntisland Civic Week in June, the Trust Walking Group welcomed Burntisland folk on a walk from Burntisland to Kinghorn along Pettycur Beach and returning inland



through Grangehill Farm and Binnend. After climbing up the steps at Pettycur the group sat and admired the panoramic view at the top. This is a beautiful scenic place which overlooks Pettycur harbour and the Firth of Forth.

At the Annual Friends get together in May, Ian Archibald gave a fascinating talk on the old Binn Village. The talk contained personal accounts of the daily life of those that stayed there. The village lived on long after the oil shale works finished and was a close community with regular social events in the old school building. The evening finished with a collation of photos from the recent walking festival put to music by Anne and Ron Smith.



We had a stall at the RNLI Open Day in July, with the intent of persuading youngsters to imagine and draw our troll. The drawings and chat was wonderful. The calm warm weather made it a lovely day.

**Marilyn Edwards**

## Parish Church—open to visitors

Burntisland Church (Parish), located at the top of Kirkgate, is open to visitors on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday afternoons between 2–4pm until 30th August.

The church will also be welcoming visitors as part of Doors Open Day on the weekend of 13th/14th September.

Members of the church will be there to give tours, or just to answer any questions.

Built in 1592–1595 it is the oldest post-Reformation church still in use in Scotland, and where the new translation of the Bible was granted by King James VI in 1601. Come and enjoy an afternoon of history.

Contact **Ann Smith**, e-mail [annpatsmith96@gmail.com](mailto:annpatsmith96@gmail.com)





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Email: [Burntislandsewingcrafts@mail.com](mailto:Burntislandsewingcrafts@mail.com)

Facebook page: Burntisland sewing & crafts workshops



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