

## 2026 Community Award Winners

The recipient of this year's Individual award is **John Harrower**. This award recognises the hard work and dedication in helping to rejuvenate and then lead the Burntisland Bonfire & Fireworks Committee over the last two years. Following a hiatus after the Covid pandemic, the traditional and popular community event was again successfully held on the Links in 2024 and 2025.

Such an event requires much organisation, funding, and a team of volunteers. John stepped up in 2025 to lead the committee in their various tasks, including liaising with Fife Council, suppliers, volunteers; satisfying various permissions, health and safety requirements, and applying for grants and fundraising. Support and donations were

gratefully received from prominent local businesses such as Forth Ports, Scott Pallets, and Tom Courts, along with many generous local individuals.

John is a life-long 'Burntislander' with a passion for the town, its history, traditions and community. He knows that such an event really pulls people together. Locals of all ages were able to enjoy a fun evening safely. The local visitor economy also benefitted with some businesses deciding to open late for the crowds.

Receiving the award, John took the opportunity to thank the many volunteers on behalf of the committee, not just on the night but throughout the year.

The Group winner is the **Burntisland Community Suppers**. This award is in recognition of the volunteers who during the past four years have organised a weekly supper on Saturday evenings over the winter months.

They offer a warm two-course meal and a welcoming atmosphere each week at the Salvation Army Hall. The suppers are provided on a pay-as-you-can basis and are attractive to diners for many reasons: some come for the company; some for a hot meal they struggle to make or afford

themselves; and others attend to join a social event on a cold Saturday evening.

Additionally, the suppers provide experience and skills for the volunteers. Several diners have gone on to become volunteers, and one unemployed volunteer found employment in the catering industry. Volunteers are given the opportunity to complete first aid and food hygiene training and qualifications. Some young volunteers used their hours of volunteering to contribute to their Saltire Award.

The winners were presented with their awards by Burntisland Community Council at a reception prior to January's public meeting in the Burgh Chambers.



## Burntisland: A Community Portrait—Photo Competition

Burntisland Community Development Trust (BCDT) is inviting local people to take part in a new photo competition, **Burntisland: A Community Portrait**, celebrating the town, its people, and places that make it special.

The competition aims to capture Burntisland through the eyes of those who

live in, work in, or care about the town. From everyday moments and familiar streets to natural landscapes, heritage details, and community life, the project encourages photographers of all abilities to share what Burntisland means to them.

Entries are organised into six themed categories inspired by the Burntisland Community Action Plan, helping to reflect the many different aspects of life in the town. These range from environment and heritage to community connection and local activity.

The competition is open to BCDT members; becoming a member is free and simple, making it easy for anyone to take part. The submission period is until the end of March with judging in April.

As a thank you for participating, cash prizes will be awarded to the winners in each

category, recognising the time, creativity, and effort of those who submit images.

Selected photographs may also be used by BCDT for promotional purposes, helping to showcase Burntisland's character and community spirit more widely.

Full details, including the competition rules and submission form, are available on the BCDT website. Whether you're an experienced photographer or simply enjoy capturing moments on your phone, everyone is encouraged to take part and help build a shared visual portrait of Burntisland.

Scan the QR code to find out more or visit [www.bcdt.org.uk/photo-competition](http://www.bcdt.org.uk/photo-competition)



# BURNTISLAND'S COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

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

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## From the Editor

Hope you all had an enjoyable festive period and a pleasant start to the new year—as we wait for spring to come along and brighten things up! Maybe in time for getting out there and taking photos for the competition on our front page?

As is traditional, the first issue of the year introduces the Community Award winners. I can attest to the work put in by John and the Bonfire committee over the past two years, and also having enjoyed the food and chat at the Suppers, that both awards are well deserved.

However the likes of these events and activities cannot take place without volunteers. A number of groups are looking for help—including the Bonfire committee (below) and the Rainbows (see page 18), amongst others.

I'm sure if you are able to lend your time or expertise they will be very grateful.

**Michael Booth, Editor**

## Every One Every Day: Bringing Community Ideas to Life



Every One Every Day Scotland is a community-building initiative supporting people in Burntisland, Kinghorn, Kirkcaldy and Auchtermool to create, lead and take part in everyday local activities and projects that make local life better for everyone.

At its heart, Every One Every Day is about connecting people with spaces and resources so that everyone, regardless of age, background or experience can get involved in things that matter to them. The approach is built on listening to residents' ideas, helping turn those ideas into real activities and supporting people to participate at whatever level suits them. Everything we do is completely free to access and anyone can take part!

In our Winter programme of activities we had 69 resident led sessions. Activities in Burntisland included making hand knotted bracelets with Fiona, learning how to knit a cowl with Rowena, a self defence workshop with Archie and learning about Burntisland's very own Hedgehog Haven.

So Burntisland, let us know your ideas and look out for our next programme of activities landing on your doorstep in March.

**Joa Bell, [www.everyonescotland.org](http://www.everyonescotland.org)**

## Bonfire & Fireworks Night

After a successful night in November the committee is now looking ahead and planning for this year's event. **The Annual General Meeting takes place on Wednesday 4th March at 7pm in the Burntisland Sands Hotel.**

Organisation of this event relies on a number of volunteers both during the coming months and on the night, so your help is needed to ensure it goes ahead.

If you'd like to get involved but can't make it along to the AGM please get in touch with the committee via email:

**[burntislandbonfirecommittee@gmail.com](mailto:burntislandbonfirecommittee@gmail.com)**



## Next Issue: May 2026

### Copy Deadline: 24th April

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## 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:** vacant  
**Vice Chair:** Jim Sheridan  
**Treasurer:** Carol McLeod  
**Secretary:** Anne Smith

### Members:

Matthew Bradshaw	Tim Hailey
Jonna Lange	Ken Littlemore
Alex MacDonald	Isla MacDonald
Eliza Twaddle	Kizzy Waplington
Lynne Worthington	

### Contacts:

**Secretary — Anne Smith**  
[burntislandcc@outlook.com](mailto: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 at Cornerstone Café in the Parish Church Halls from 12–1pm on Wednesday 18th February, 18th March, and 22nd April.

### 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 17th February, 17th March, and 21st April.**

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.

- Community Award Winners: John Harrower (lead of the Bonfire & Fireworks committee) is Citizen of the Year, and Burntisland Community Suppers are the Group Award Winners. Presentations were made at the Burgh Chambers on 19th January followed by a small reception. Congratulations to you all!
- Rail Station issues: Representatives of Network Rail will attend our 17th March CC public meeting to present and discuss the results of their recent step-free access feasibility study. Come and hear what they have to say.
- Scots Verse Competition: Winners of the Primary School 1 to 6 classes were presented with their medals and cups prior to our November meeting by Cllrs Lesley Backhouse and Julie MacDougall. A small reception followed.
- Burntisland Common Good Fund (CGF) and assets: Your CC has written to the CEO of Fife Council to request a meeting to discuss management concerns. The CGF is supposed to be used for repairs and refurbishments to CG property. It can also be used to fund grants for Council works and to community groups. However, we are concerned that CG assets like the Burgh Chambers and Music Hall (Young Community Hall) have not been receiving the care they need over the years and are now showing signs of dilapidation. Meantime the cash available in the CGF has not kept pace with needs. We call for a halt on grants until there is a clear management plan for assets and revenue.
- Burgh Chambers: Fife Council has reassured us that this Common Good building is not for sale, despite appearing on the Graeme & Sibbald website for a short period. Trace heating has been provided to protect the building, and Fife Council are considering a new electric heating system to replace the one removed when the work was done to facilitate the banking hub. Further repairs are also required e.g. to the roof and tower cap. We are back using the building for our meetings and events with portable gas heaters in place. We have requested further discussions with Fife Council on a way forward to refurbish the building for better community use.
- Links Splash pad: Refurbishment works have started and hopefully water-play for all ages and abilities will be available again for this year's summer season—at last!
- Chair: We are still working without a chairperson but hope to have a new person in place for our February meeting.
- Christmas lights: We need new volunteers to help fundraise for our town's festive lights. Fife Council provides grant funding for recurrent costs but this no longer covers all our annual charges. We need to raise over £2,000 to cover this funding gap. Please contact us if you appreciate the lights and would like to volunteer to fundraise or to donate. Thank you to all our previous donors who helped with funds.
- New members: If you live in Burntisland and are aged over 16 and are on the local Electoral Roll, please consider joining our vibrant CC to volunteer your time for your community. Read more on our website and contact us if you are interested.



**Cornerstone Café**, open on Wednesdays from 12-2pm for a free hot lunch and a blether, has now returned to the Parish Church Halls at the top of Kirkgate.



## Scots Verse Competition



The annual Scots Verse competition began in 1986 to mark the 700th anniversary of King Alexander III's death. Each year children from Primary 1–6 take part with pupils judged at the school.

In November, the winners attend a reception hosted by the Community Council in the Burgh Chambers. This was a wonderful evening of reciting Scots poetry, learning about the history of the trophies and socialising over a very lovely buffet.

P1, Marshall Memorial Trophy: Ifan Reid

P2, Macdonald Memorial Trophy: Arlo Paterson

P3, MacDougall Memorial Trophy: Evie Mitchell

P4, Gilbertson Memorial Trophy: Lucas McBride

P5, Horn Memorial Trophy: Matthew McBride

P6, Kerr Memorial Trophy: Sholto Sheridan

**Jim Sheridan, Community Council**

## Burntisland Over 70s Christmas Treat

The annual Over 70s Christmas Treat event was held at The Kingswood Hotel on Saturday 6th December.

Once again this was very well attended with 127 local residents enjoying a three course meal, fantastic entertainment from singer Trina Milne and even a visit from Santa Claus who took time out from his busy schedule to hand out gifts!

Thanks go to The Kingswood Hotel staff and Dal who as always made this day so special.

The committee would also like to extend their thanks to the many individuals and businesses in the community who support this event all year round with their donations:

Briggs Marine, Scott Pallets, Forth Ports, Hancocks Bingo, Tesco Dalgety Bay, The Sands Hotel, Rainbows, Hair.comb, Purvis Plumbing & Heating, Island Cars, The Star, On a Roll, K&S Fabrication, Links Fish Bar, Unique Flooring, Viking Joinery, Big Green Market, Wildbells, Burger Island, Zenith, Tom Courts, 114, Bel & Etta, Boho Chic, Burntisland Fry, Co-op, Cafe Verde, Novelli's, Crown Tavern, Silver Tassie, SM Autos, Gooz, Olive Tree, Aye Candy, and Travel Island.

The Race Night fundraiser held at The Star in late December was also a success, with £665 raised on the night. Special thanks to sponsors: Allson's, Heineken, K&S Fabrication, Purvis Plumbing, The Star, and Viking Joinery.





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## Toll Community Centre & Hub

We are so happy to see George back! **Sittercise** has returned every Monday from 12:30–1:30pm. This is a fantastic, gentle way to stay active and socialise, and we know many of you have missed these sessions.

We are also excited to announce we have a **Toddler group** running on Tuesday 9:15–10:15am. We have successfully secured funding to support this project until April 2027. If you have a child aged 0–4, we'd love to welcome you. If this sounds like something you would like to help out at, we'd also love to hear from you!

We have **Warm Spaces** running every Thursday from 11:30am–12:30pm and 6:30pm–7:30pm. These sessions are free for everyone to come along and enjoy a hot meal, a cuppa, and a warm welcome.

We recently conducted a **community consultation**, in which we had a great response of 117 participants. The key takeaways were a demand for more affordable and accessible activities, and



increased provision for adults, older people, and teenagers. We are already acting on this feedback with a new **Digital Drop-in** launching this April (funded by Fife Voluntary Action) to help with tech support and social connection.

We are hoping to run **Family Fun** over the Easter holidays again; please keep an eye on our Facebook page and website for further details closer to the time.

We also have a new **kickboxing class** starting on a Wednesday evening from 4th February at 6:30pm. The **Sewing Group** continues on Mondays at 6:30–8:30pm and the **Youth club (P5–7)** is on Tuesday 6:15–7:45pm.

**The Hub on the High Street** is still busy and as always, we are looking for new volunteers to support our charity shop. We are also looking for people to join our **management committee** to help guide the Centre's next steps. If you have a background in admin, finance, or just want to help with crafts and events, we would love to hear from you.

If you want to get involved or offer a helping hand, contact us on: [cairinne.macdonald@tollcentre.org.uk](mailto:cairinne.macdonald@tollcentre.org.uk)

**Cairinne Macdonald, Centre Manager**



## The Burgh Polis

Welcome to the latest edition of Burgh Polis and I am aware that a few editions have passed since we last had an article.

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce my new colleague, **PC Louis Evans** who has moved over to the community team replacing PC Stuart Horne who covered Burntisland for the last few years. Since his move, Louis and I have been out and about the town engaging with residents and visitors alike. These interactions have already proven invaluable in establishing what priorities we need to tackle.

It has come to our attention that the anti-social behaviour has escalated on the High Street and surrounding areas. Anti-social behaviour can have a real impact on how safe and comfortable people feel in their own neighbourhoods and as community officers we aim to work closely with residents, local businesses and partner agencies to try and address this issue.

In a previous article I made mention to seeking assistance from parents and with regards to tackling anti-social behaviour and I would like to reiterate our pleas as we ask to ensure that parents know of their young people's whereabouts and encourage them to avoid behaving in an anti-social manner when out and about.

Since teaming up with Louis we have focused on being visible in the community, engagement and preventing issues escalating. These regular patrols allow us to identify problem areas, speak directly with residents and challenge unacceptable behaviour.



Moving forward we have plans to establish a local surgery or drop in where we will be available to drop in and have a chat with us face to face where we can discuss any issues that people are experiencing or we are here even just to offer advice.

As always, we will take this opportunity to remind the public that there are various ways of reporting crime. Where persons are looking to remain anonymous, information can be provide via Crimestoppers using the details below:

Website: [www.crimestoppers-uk.org](http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org) Telephone: **0800 555 111**

When reporting crime to the Police, the public can use **101** to report non-emergencies, **999** to report emergency situations and of course the email address below in order to contact us with concerns which are not ongoing at the material time:

[BurntislandKinghornWesternKirkcaldyCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:BurntislandKinghornWesternKirkcaldyCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk)

**PC Ross Paterson**

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## Step-free station access at Burntisland—is it feasible?

The UK Government launched the 'Access for All' programme in 2006 to allocate funding to create obstacle-free, accessible routes from station entrances to platforms, and between platforms. Despite support from our elected representatives, Burntisland station has consistently failed



to attract funding to ensure everyone can use our rail network. There is a ramp for the southbound (Edinburgh) platform, office, waiting area and ticket machine. The northbound (Kirkcaldy) platform only has flights of stairs. Anyone with significant mobility issues cannot get onto or off this platform. Those travelling with heavy bags or luggage, with small children or pushchairs, or with a bicycle, will also have a serious struggle to use this platform.

Network Rail is investing in electrification of the railway in Fife, but the plan for the section between Dalmeny and Kinghorn is for no overhead electric wires, with new battery-electric trains arriving on the Fife Circle Line in future to cover the gap.

So far, funding for accessible stations has prioritised new stations, the Edinburgh-Glasgow network, and electrified lines. While not being a rail-interchange or

having a dedicated station car park, Burntisland is a well-used railway station. How much better would it be used if it had step-free access?

Lack of investment in Burntisland station is holding back our economy and is a social injustice. Soon after our MP, Melanie Ward, was elected, Burntisland Community Council told her that our community consultations consistently showed that poor station access is a major issue for our community. She took the issue to Parliament and pressed Network Rail to undertake a feasibility study on how a step free Burntisland station might be provided.

Network Rail have agreed that their feasibility study will be made public at the Community Council meeting on 17th March at 7pm in the Burgh Chambers.

**Burntisland Community Council**

## Burntisland Job Club

Fife Council Welfare Support Staff run a job club and Welfare Support Session at Burntisland Library on Tuesday mornings from 10am–12.15pm.

- Benefit Check, Pension Credit checks
- Support with Benefit Applications such as Universal Credit and Pension Credit.
- Assist with Job Search Activities
- Create CVs
- Create Supporting Statements and cover letters.
- Assisting with applications for Scottish Welfare Fund
- Referring to Fuel Bank for assistance.
- Help with Income Maximisation.
- Refer to other organisations such as CARF, Cosy Kingdom, Fife Carers Centre and many others.
- Supporting People making difficult telephone calls to agencies such as: Scottish Social Security, Council Tax debt and arrears.
- Housing Benefit and Council Tax enquiries.
- Assisting with calls to energy suppliers regarding Gas & Electricity debt.
- Liaising with ADAPT/Substance Services Scotland., Social Work, Homeless services.

You can also get in touch via email:

[welfaresupport.kirkcaldy@fife.gov.uk](mailto:welfaresupport.kirkcaldy@fife.gov.uk)

## Civic Week 2026

First of all, a big thank you to everyone that came and supported our annual Christmas market at The Sands Hotel in December.

Civic Week returns in the summer with a fabulous 10 day programme of events, which will run from Friday 12th to Sunday 21st June, with Parade day on Saturday 13th.

Our theme is "Celebrating Scotland" to coincide with this summer's big sporting event!

This year the Royal Party will be crowned separately on Saturday 6th June on the Links bandstand.

Look out for the full programme of events which will be delivered to all households and feature in the next Burgh Buzz.

For Primary School children we have our programme artwork competition and opportunity to be part of the Royal Party.

If you would like to join our committee or help volunteer to ensure Civic Week is a success, please get in touch via our Facebook page or email:

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

**Amanda Jones, Chair**

## Burntisland Sailing Club

### Horrible weather but work goes on!

Despite the continually inclement weather the hardy volunteers of Burntisland Sailing Club (BSC) have been making steady progress with a variety of projects.

Four previously loved pontoon fingers were purchased and have been refurbished to "as new" condition. These are waiting for the final pieces of decking to be completed before launch and fitting to the pontoon walkway in February. It is expected that these will remain in service for 20 years.

The old fingers have been moved to the west corner ready for removal and dismantling. This involved a lot of

forethought and planning because disconnected fingers are top heavy and immediately capsize so outrigger floats have to be fitted to enable them to be moved to the lifting area... (see photo)

The steady upgrade of Bluebird, our venerable but resilient Cheverton workboat, continues at pace. The bow roller and



windlass mooring handling arrangements have been rearranged, strengthened and improved, making operations simpler, easier and much safer.

The new workshop has been commissioned and is proving to be invaluable, allowing electrical and other maintenance to be carried out in warm and dry conditions.

BSC continues to recruit new non-boat owning members who wish to help sail members' yachts for both cruising and racing during the forthcoming season.

**David Holdsworth BEM**

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



## Burntisland & Kinghorn Foodbank

### Video content creation needed—can anyone help?

We want to create short videos showing potential clients how to find us and what happens in a visit to the foodbank, for sharing on our website and Facebook page.

We'd like for these to look polished and clear. We'd be glad to hear from anyone who could offer skills in filming and editing to help with this project—please drop us a message at [comms@bkfoodbank.org.uk](mailto:comms@bkfoodbank.org.uk) or speak to one of our members. (You don't need to be a professional, we just want someone better at this than our Board members!)

### New collection point in Kinghorn

We are piloting a new collection point at Kinghorn Community Centre on Saturday mornings. This has been successful in its first weeks, helping several families and clients each time. The decision about whether to continue will be discussed at the Board meeting in April and feedback from members and supporters is welcome.

We would be glad of more volunteers to help with this, both in Kinghorn and in Burntisland (the food parcels are packed in Burntisland and driven to Kinghorn, and empty crates etc are driven back).

### Volunteers always needed

Our monthly Saturday promotions at Morrisons Kirkcaldy have been very successful and brought in lots of food each time. We need more volunteers to help with this—do you know anyone who could chat with shoppers and hand out our 'shopping list' flyers?

(This needn't be the whole day, you could join us for a couple of hours if that suits you better.) Please email us if you can help.

We also welcome help with packing and sorting parcels, and welcoming people coming to collect them. No previous experience needed—just drop us an email to find out more.

### Reverse Advent Calendar and Christmas dinners

We hope those who donated Reverse Advent Calendars got as much joy out of creating them as the Foodbank clients who received the contents. It was a total treat for them to have chocolates, biscuits and the special extras. Many clients commented that they didn't know what food they were going to have at all on Christmas Day, but after receiving their food parcel knew the day was going to be special. Thank you to those who donated for your generosity and thoughtfulness in putting together such welcome gifts.

We were also proud to partner with the Central Burntisland Tenants & Residents Association to fund, pack and deliver Christmas meals to local families in need. CBTRA do an outstanding job of gathering and distributing the parcels—they have a great and dedicated team of volunteers and it was wonderful to join them in spreading some Christmas cheer.



Thanks to the Big Green Market, who donated £250 in November and thanks to the Auld Hoose, Kinghorn who donated £250 in December (pictured below).



### Why we feed pets as well as people

People may wonder why we include pet food on the 'shopping list' of things we request for the foodbank. Here's an explanation from one of our most experienced volunteers.

"Before we stocked pet food, we had a client who would feed his dog the meat we gave him from his food and he just ate the veg. Most other clients with cats and dogs would ask for extra tuna to feed their pets, and we realised we needed to start stocking pet food so that clients could eat the whole contents of their food parcels and know their pets were getting looked after too.

Many folk with mental health issues find having a pet helps enormously, and we can all appreciate that there are huge benefits both mentally and physically to taking the dog for a walk. Clients often bring their dogs to the foodbank and we have gotten to know them all. We try and keep a treat for them and the clients really appreciate that we care for their pets too."

Would you like to volunteer, donate, or ask us something?

Please check our website

[www.bkfoodbank.org.uk](http://www.bkfoodbank.org.uk) or email [contact@bkfoodbank.org.uk](mailto:contact@bkfoodbank.org.uk)

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.

# S. M. AUTOS

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Class 7



## Burntisland Amateur Swimming Club

Burntisland Amateur Swimming Club enjoyed a lively run-up to the festive break with our Club Championships, the Geordie Wotherspoon and Fife Championships, the East District Age Groups (EDAGs) open meet, and our Christmas Fun Night with flumes, waves and inflatables.

Out of the pool, we swapped flippers for dancing shoes at our annual Presentation Evening & Family Ceilidh, where we lined up our club trophies in a Scottish imitation of Katie Ledecky's mantlepiece and then partied like it's 1999.

Now, as we enter our 140th Anniversary year, it's all go for Team BASC and things are already heating up in the long course season.

We had a sensational showing at the Fife and Novice Leagues gala in Glenrothes, with many swimmers competing in an external meet for the first time. District Squad swimmers competed in the first round of the EDAG Championships, also in Glenrothes, with the second and third rounds coming up in February and March at the Royal Commonwealth Pool in Edinburgh. Good luck to everyone competing in the upcoming events.

Pictured are Catherine and Bonnie with twin bronze medals for their identical 100 metre Individual Medley times at the InCAS Countdown to Christmas Gala.

### A note on swimming terms:

If you are a new swimming family still getting used to all the acronyms and jargon, you are not alone! SASA, EDAGs, IM, PB, Qualification time, SNAGs... it's a lot! Here are a few oft-used terms to add to your pool-side vocab.

Short course: 25 metre swimming pool (Kirkcaldy, Burntisland, Michael Woods in Glenrothes).

Long course: 50 metre swimming pool (Royal Commonwealth Pool in Edinburgh, Aberdeen Aquatics Centre).

Individual Qualifying Time (QT): An entry time (based on event and age) which guarantees acceptance to more competitive meets like EDAGs.

Individual Consideration Time (CT): An entry time very close to a QT without the guarantee of acceptance to more competitive meets. In the case that the number of spaces for QTs is not filled, those with consideration times will be considered.

EDAGs (East District Age Groups): Short and long course competitions for clubs in the East of Scotland and the Borders. Only swimmers with an official QT (or successful official CT) are invited to compete.

SNAGs (Scottish National Age Groups): Long course competition for all clubs in Scotland. The same QT / CT rules apply. This

annual event is held at Aberdeen Aquatics Centre in April. BASC have a few swimmers snapping at the heels of these super speedy SNAG times, so watch this space.

Of course, it's not all about competition at Burntisland Amateur Swimming Club. Well done to all the swimmers working hard to perfect their dives and tumble turns, supporting their teammates, showing up for training with a smile, and simply enjoying participating in this wonderful life-long sport.

For more info check out our website: [www.burntislandswimmingclub.co.uk](http://www.burntislandswimmingclub.co.uk) or email: [bascenquiries@hotmail.com](mailto:bascenquiries@hotmail.com). We would love to hear from you!

**Laura Scotland**



## Burntisland, Kinghorn, Aberdour Ladies Probus

The Ladies Probus is for ladies over 55 years who meet once a month at the Kingswood Hotel from 10:30am to 12noon.

We have a wide range of speakers who cover lots of interesting topics. It is also a good way to meet up with others and share interests.

Our programme dates are on the third Wednesday of the month: 18th February, 18th March, 15th April, 20th May, and 17th June.

You are welcome to come along on any of the dates above. If you would like further information please contact Judy Panton on 01592 873239.

## Local Business Updates

*in association with Totally Locally Burntisland*

Since the last issue of the Burgh Buzz...

Chapter & Verse has closed on the High Street. The shop is now occupied by Christina's Gift Box, moving from their premises in Kinghorn.

A new ATM is available at the Totally Hardware shop.

Burntisland Piano School has moved into the Platform Studios.

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



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## Burrtisland Community Suppers

Hurrah! Burrtisland Community Suppers volunteers were thrilled and proud to receive the Group Award from Burrtisland Community Council at a celebration event on Tuesday 20th January. The award was accepted on behalf of the group by two of our young volunteers, Aidan and Mirren.

The suppers have been running for four years now and have gone from strength to strength. We are a sub group of Burrtisland Community Development Trust and we are grateful to the trust for all their support. Thanks go to all our wonderful volunteers, past and present who so generously give their time and skills on the night or behind the scenes to help make the suppers fantastic.

Thanks also go to funders and supporters who help us pay the bills. Both Fife Council

and the Burrtisland First Aid Trust also help us to offer occasional quality training to our volunteers such as Food Hygiene certificates. We have also had generous support from many Burrtisland businesses to help us stretch our funds including Tom Courts and many others.

The Suppers run on Saturday nights starting at 5pm until 6:30pm, and run on a "Pay What You Can" basis. They are for everyone and we welcome all ages. We aim to offer a hot tasty meal in a welcoming environment and a chance to make new friends or meet up with old ones.

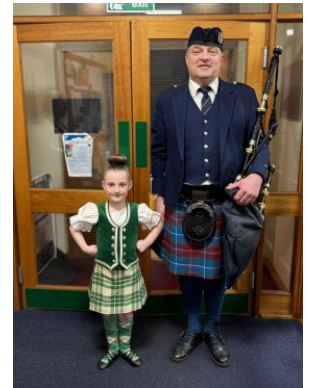
The menu varies but includes favourites like mince and tatties, mac and cheese, chicken curry and either a pudding or a soup. It's all prepared and overseen by the kitchen team, led by our expert cook Sonia. On special

occasions like our recent Burns Night we arrange entertainment and at Christmas as well there was also a visit from Santa.

The Suppers team would like to thank everyone in our wonderful community who helps us provide a tasty, hot community meal over the darkest times of the year. And of course without our diners there would be no suppers so thank you to everyone who comes along.

If you would like to join us then come along to the Salvation Army Hall at Lonsdale Crescent on a Saturday evening before the end of March.

For menus, more information or to volunteer check out our website. Weekly menus and further information are on the website [www.burrtislandsuppers.org.uk](http://www.burrtislandsuppers.org.uk)



## The Big GREEN Market Burrtisland

Happy New Year to you all!

Thanks to all of you wonderful folk in Burrtisland (and beyond), 2025 was our biggest year yet. We raised £15,200 for local community groups, welcomed 5,505 shoppers through our doors (that's 1,100 more than 2024), and supported 17 different community organisations.

Our 80 fabulous volunteers kept everything running smoothly across the markets, five Repair Cafes and 11 workshops. From fixing treasured plates and ancient radios to teaching sewing skills and upcycling techniques, we've been busy keeping things out of landfill and in the hands of people who need them.

We're looking forward to another brilliant year of raising funds, saving money and reducing waste—and with you by our sides, we know 2026 will be a bumper year for the BGM!



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join our mailing list

### Important Change: Friday Trading Hours

This year we're changing our Friday hours. We'll now be open 12pm–3pm on Fridays (instead of 12–4pm). Saturday hours remain the same at 10am–1pm.

### Stay in the Loop!

Tired of scrolling through social media to find out when the next market is? Want to know about Repair Cafe dates without having to hunt for information?

Sign up to our mailing list and get all the BGM news straight to your inbox—market dates, important updates, workshop announcements and Repair Cafe schedules.

Simply scan the QR code, or scroll to the bottom of our website home page and sign up there: [www.biggreenmarket.com](http://www.biggreenmarket.com)

### Don't miss the BGM Dates

Cut out the BGM dates and stick it to your fridge so you never miss another BGM again.

The Big Green Market runs on the first full weekend of each month at Burrtisland Parish Church Halls.

Next market: Friday 6th March 12–3pm and Saturday 7th March 10am–1pm

## THE BIG GREEN MARKET

2026 DATES

FEB 6TH/7TH

MAR 6TH/7TH

APR 3RD/4TH

MAY 1ST/2ND

JUNE 5TH/6TH

JULY 3RD/4TH

AUG NO MARKET

SEPT 4TH/5TH

OCT 2ND/3RD

NOV 6TH/7TH

DEC 4TH/5TH

## Friends of Burntisland Old Parish Church

We've been busy since our report in the November edition of the Buzz!

**Community survey:** Following successful community engagement events in September when 225 people visited the church and told us what they thought, we are now running a community survey. **Your views are vital to guide us.** Tap the QR code below to access the survey or follow the link from our Facebook page. Paper survey forms are also available at the library.

**Funding & feasibility:** We now have a bank account. We applied for a Project Feasibility Grant to the Architectural Heritage Fund and should hear if we are successful or not by the middle of February. We also applied for a Fife Council grant. We need funds to employ a specialist to conduct a feasibility study. This means assessing the viability of all the ideas for alternative community uses, and to produce a business plan to ensure that long-term running costs are covered.

**Library display:** Ian Archibald of Burntisland Heritage SCIO is one of our Committee Members and has made a super display about this historic building in the library foyer. Pop in and pay a visit. You can also apply for a free FoBOPC membership form by emailing us at: [friends.of.burntisland.opc@gmail.com](mailto:friends.of.burntisland.opc@gmail.com) or by completing a form and dropping it into the Heritage letterbox at 2-4 Kirkgate.

**Join the movement and be part of the legacy!**

**Cabinet Secretary:** We are excited that Angus Robertson MSP will visit us at Burntisland Church. We want to show him our unique heritage building and tell him about our journey and all the issues we have faced. Many groups all over Scotland are going through the same process. However, we face the additional challenges of being limited in what can be done within the Burntisland building without damaging the very historic features that we want to preserve for future generations.



**Meetings:** At present, we are still welcoming ordinary members and prospective members to our monthly Committee meetings in the church halls.

**Follow us** on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/FoBOPC/](https://www.facebook.com/FoBOPC/) And look out for our new FoBOPC website coming soon!

**Thanks:** We are grateful to Claire Baker MSP; to the Church congregation; and to the original Church Working Group for their support. Our thanks also go to Maureen at Fife Voluntary Action; Claire at the Development Trust Association Scotland and Community Ownership Scotland Service; and to Deborah at Fife Historic Buildings Trust. Thank you to our major donor in Stirlingshire; to Burntisland Heritage and friends; to Eilidh for looking after our social media; and to Flavia for generous help for our website.

**Our Vision is:** To keep Burntisland Old Parish Church a publicly accessible heritage asset for the foreseeable future and for the good of the community. We seek the best way to meet this vision—join us and be part of the legacy.

**From the Committee:** Anne, Kristian, Matthew, Ian, Jamie, Neil, Kitty, and Catherine.



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## Central Burntisland Tenants & Residents Association

On reviewing the year that has just gone, it's a wonder we manage to fit everything in with such a small committee. What we lack in numbers, we make up for in commitment and I would like to thank everyone for their hard work that supports not only the Association but also the wider town.

Our thanks also go out to those of you in the community who support us, including Councillors, Fife Council, Aldi Dalgety Bay, Forth Ports, Tom Courts, On a Roll, Macauley's, Burntisland Golf House Club, and many more.

We all had a well-earned rest after finishing the year by distributing the Christmas Food Parcels. Early last year we appealed for people to come forward and join a committee to support this project, as the

need in the community was too great for CBTRA to continue to meet without reaching out for help.

Pleased to say we went forward with a strong committee and together with community volunteers, delivered to over 58 households, 220 people, a mixture of fresh and non-perishable food items plus a couple of Christmas treats to help celebrate the day. For 2026, we are looking to revamp how we do this and plan to deliver food parcels on 23rd December.

With the success of our bingo night in December, we will be holding fundraisers throughout the year, with the first event taking place on the 25th April in the Toll Centre. Put the date in your diary for our **'New to You' Sale event**, where you can book a table and make some money from selling good quality clothes, accessories and household items. Or simply come along to grab a bargain or two. Unlike Vinted no postage to pay. More details to follow.

We will be continuing our campaign to clean up our streets. If you can sponsor a dog poo bag dispenser or dog bags, we would welcome your support. You can donate by contacting any of the committee, any donation would be gratefully received, whether money or rolls of dog poo bags.

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month 6:30–8pm in On a Roll.

Our AGM will be held on Tuesday 17th March, in On a Roll, High Street, Burntisland. All residents living within the CBTRA boundary are welcome to attend.

As we plan for the year ahead, we would like to ask the community we serve if you have any ideas for projects you would like us to undertake in 2026-27, then please send your ideas or discuss with our committee members.

Wishing you all a Happy and Healthy 2026  
**CBTRA Committee**

## Burntisland Out of School Service (BOSS)

Hello to our amazing community from Burntisland Out of School Service, affectionately known as BOSS! We are a charity providing affordable school aged childcare and our service covers before and after school care during term time and holiday clubs during the school holidays.

We are based in the Toll Community Centre, an ideal location for escorting children at Burntisland Primary to and from school! We also welcome children from neighbouring towns during the holidays. As a charity we rely on parent and carer volunteers who form the management committee supporting the team to deliver a service that reflects the needs of the children and families currently attending.

Our trained and experienced team create a safe, inspiring and enabling environment for children to learn and develop through play and exploration. The children are active participants in the planning of the resources and activities we

provide at BOSS ensuring we have a variety of active, creative and relaxing play. The children also love planning the snacks we provide in the afternoons and during holidays clubs. In addition to our indoor setting, we encourage lots of outdoor play which is one of the best ways to promote children's health and wellbeing as well as inspiring the children to build a positive relationship with the natural world. As well as having use of the garden where we are based, we regularly enjoy excursions to the local parks, woods and the beach.

Recent activity highlights at BOSS include children planning and delivering sessions of Traitors and Strictly Come Dancing! It has been incredible witnessing the children's confidence both in contestant roles or

indeed as judges and presenters. The next month will see us back to planning what we will be planting in our shared garden. The last couple of years have seen record worthy courgettes from the BOSS patch and we are looking forward to seeing what we can grow this year!

Whilst we rely on families booking regular planned sessions, we also accommodate ad-hoc sessions for families whenever we can—all you have to do is register with us ahead of time!

For all other enquiries or if you would like to be added to our mailing list for August 2026 school starts, holiday clubs or ad-hoc sessions you can call us on 07702801132 or email at [bossburntisland@gmail.com](mailto:bossburntisland@gmail.com)

We regularly share our activities on our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/BurntislandOutOfSchoolService](https://www.facebook.com/BurntislandOutOfSchoolService) and information about BOSS and our committee can also be found on our website [www.bossburntisland.co.uk](http://www.bossburntisland.co.uk)

**Anne Laidlaw, Manager**



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[www.burntislandtwinning.org.uk/get-involved](http://www.burntislandtwinning.org.uk/get-involved)

Join us for a Coffee Morning at St John's Church Hall on Saturday 25th April from 10:30am, as we look ahead to this year's 80th Anniversary celebrations in the town.

**Mark Kisby, Chair**

**Burntisland Bowling Club**

As we progress through the close season, bowling indoor on the carpet continues to be popular on Monday and Saturday afternoons 1:30 for 2pm start and Thursday evenings 6:30pm for 7pm start.



After a very successful Christmas Cabaret and dance we are reintroducing more Cabarets, the next one being Saturday 21st February. For other future events, members can look out for emails and dates will also be available via our Facebook page.

The AGM is set for Wednesday 18th March at 7pm in the Main Clubhouse. We would encourage all members who are able to make it to come along and have their say.

The first major event will be opening day on Saturday 18th April, again we encourage the members and friends to come along.

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

**Jim Connor, Secretary**



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**Burntisland & District Pipe Band**

Things might seem a little quiet on the surface for the Burntisland and District Pipe Band. While you may not hear the pipes and drums echoing through the streets as often during these colder months (except Hogmanay perhaps!), behind the scenes, the "off-season" is anything but idle.

Since the last update for the Buzz the band has transitioned into a period of focused preparation. This is the time when new sets are learned, fingering is perfected, and our drum corps works tirelessly on precision. It is the essential work required as we keep our sights firmly set on the upcoming contest season, where we look forward to representing Burntisland on the national stage once again.

For most of the band, the first competitions will be held on 28th March at the Lothian & Borders Indoor Solo Piping, Drumming and Band contest. If you are interested in following how the band and its members perform at this event (and throughout the season) the Burntisland and District Pipe Band Facebook page is the best place to look for updates.

It's not all been hard graft, however! On 21st November, the band family took a well-deserved break to host our annual Awards and Party Night, this year held at The Strathearn Hotel in Kirkcaldy. It was a fantastic evening that allowed us to pause and celebrate the dedication of our members. From recognizing our most improved learners to honouring those who have shown exceptional commitment throughout the year, the night was a brilliant reminder of the strong community spirit that keeps the band beating—keep your eye on Facebook over the coming weeks to meet our prize winners from this year!

While we are currently refining our competition sets, we are always looking for new faces to join our ranks. Whether you are an experienced player or a complete beginner looking to learn the pipes or drums, we'd be delighted to hear from you. We have two competing bands, one in Grade 3, and Novice Juvenile B band. The band is also proud to have a growing team of Drum Majors. Get in touch via our Facebook page if you're keen to learn more.

Huge thanks as always to our tutors and committee members for their ongoing support and encouragement—we literally couldn't perform as a band without them. Also, we would like to thank YOU, the people of Burntisland, for your continued support—the comments in person and online are all greatly appreciated by the whole organisation.

Keep an ear out—it won't be long before the sound of the pipes and drums returns to the sea air!

**Susan Cotton**



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## Burntisland Hedgehog Haven



It's been a busy winter with hedgehogs still coming into the rescue including many from Burntisland.

Most have been small as they have been born later than usual which we're seeing more and more of due to the warmer autumns we are having.

These little ones without help simply would not survive the winter as they haven't had time to build their fat reserves up.

We have also had some older hedgehogs in which have suffered with the lack of food and colder, wetter weather.



Timmy

Last year was our busiest year yet as we took in 326 hedgehogs for various reasons. We continue to work with St Clair vets in Kirkcaldy and we are so thankful to them for the time they give to the hedgehogs needing veterinary care.

We certainly helped put Burntisland on the map last year as we featured in various articles around the world. From Italy, Portugal and the USA to Hawaii! Appearing in the Washington Post was something we never dreamed of!

As Spring approaches thoughts turn to tidying up gardens. Please be careful when doing so as there could be hedgehogs hibernating in that big pile of leaves or in that long grass or at the base of that big plant that has outgrown its space. Please always check first by hand.

We are now preparing for the coming busy season. Lots of hedgehog releases planned, then the ones that will be coming in who have struggled with hibernation, and before we know it will be hoglet season again!



Thank you to everyone who continues to drop off newspapers, cat & dog food for the hedgehogs and other supplies. We so appreciate your support.

Remember a hedgehog out in the day is NOT ok so please call or message us on 07577 000328 without delay if you see one or need any advice. Thank you!

As always we are here for any hedgehog questions or concerns you may have. Just pop us an email or a message on Facebook. Don't forget there is a lot of information on our website at

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

**Sharon Longhurst**

## Burntisland Golf House Club

As the new golf season fast approaches the best way to achieve your golfing goals is still to join a golf club. Burntisland Golf House Club offers a great opportunity for practice and play, with good practice facilities and a course that is accessible to fit any schedule. Tee times are always available in the mornings and afternoons, providing flexibility for all new and existing members.

The Junior and Ladies Golf Academy has continued to go from strength to strength

under the guidance of Colin and Jacqui Blackwood and the excellent coaching from Craig Armstrong. Why not come to the club and meet new friends and enjoy the great game of Golf!

Although Burntisland Golf House Club's clubhouse is on the outskirts of the town the hospitality team, led by Sheena and Grammie's Catering together they have created a very welcoming atmosphere ensuring all members, visitors, and social event attendees alike are presented with a warm and friendly service.

If you would like to join your club, please

contact the club's administrator Adrienne for all membership details email [info@burntislandgolfhouseclub.co.uk](mailto:info@burntislandgolfhouseclub.co.uk) and remember the clubhouse is also available to be booked by non members for any private function.

### Upcoming social events include:

14th February—Steak Night

20th February—Quiz Night

20th March—Quiz Night

For more info on our social events, please contact our bar on 01592 874093 (option 3).



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## Burntisland Playgroup



Last term was filled with fun and excitement in the run up to Christmas. The children have had many activities and learning opportunities in which to participate.

We had a lovely Christmas carol concert where our families came in to listen to our singing and we had a lovely visit from Santa! We then had a Christmas lunch cooked by our very own Karen, and a Christmas party to round up our Christmas term. We took our very excited children to see the Pantomime at the King's Theatre in Kirkcaldy, supporting another local charity. The children sang, clapped and danced the morning away!

We came back to Playgroup with a bang in January and have loved having all the

children back with us. We had a Scottish Day to celebrate Robert Burns, where the children enjoyed tasting haggis and one of our children shared their Highland dancing. We have recently been exploring Burntisland to find bridges in the town! We found ones that we can walk over and under and sometimes we didn't even know we were on a bridge!

We explored our frosty garden and discovered what happens when water gets very cold. We have also been doing some cold weather inspired art and creating bird feeders for our garden to help the birds during the winter.

We are excited to announce our **Open Day on Sunday 26th April**. Last year we had lambs, chicks, tortoises, crafts, home baking

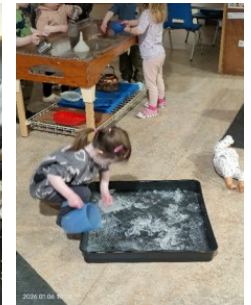
and the setting set up for children and families to visit. We will keep you updated on times closer to April.

Looking forward to our August 2026 intake, we have spaces available for the year 2026–2027 if your child turns 3 in this time. We have funded spaces and fee paying spaces available. You can apply now to us by visiting the Playgroup at the Toll Centre or emailing us at

[burntislandplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:burntislandplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk).

There is also a link on our Facebook page. We accept applications from birth so it is never too early to apply to us. We will let you know we have received your application and we will then get in touch closer to the time.

**Rebecca McColm**



## Floral Action Burntisland

### FAB Celebrates Double Funding Success

Floral Action Burntisland is delighted to share some wonderful news with our community—we have been awarded not one, but two grants to help us continue our work in making Burntisland bloom and thrive.

#### CORRA Foundation Boost Fund

Following our recent application to the CORRA Foundation's Boost Fund, we are thrilled to announce that we have been awarded £3,000. This generous grant will support:

- The purchase of a new water bowser to keep our displays flourishing.
- Seeds and plants to brighten our town throughout the seasons.
- Repairs to planters and beds, ensuring they remain safe and welcoming.
- Seasonal produce for community suppers, bringing people together around fresh, local food.

#### FCCAN Seed & Development Fund

We are equally proud to have been successful in our application to the Fife Communities Climate Action Network (FCCAN) Seed & Development Fund, securing £1,500. This award will go towards:

- Volunteer first aid training, building resilience and safety within our group.
- The development and design of a new website, making our work more accessible and engaging.
- A special afternoon tea for Allan Court residents, fostering community spirit and connection.

FCCAN recognised our commitment to advancing community-led climate action, and we are excited to put these resources into action.

#### Upcoming Dates for Your Diary

**Annual General Meeting (AGM):** Friday, 27th February at 7pm in Burntisland Golf Club. This is a great opportunity to hear more about our plans, celebrate achievements, and get involved in shaping the future of Floral Action Burntisland.



**Volunteer Event: March** – details to follow soon. We'll be inviting everyone to join us to find out about what we do.

#### FABulous First Aiders

Pictured is our first group who achieved their qualification with BFAST on 26th January 2026!

#### Looking Ahead

These grants represent more than financial support—they are a recognition of the dedication of our volunteers and the strength of our community. With this funding, we can continue to grow, nurture, and celebrate Burntisland's natural beauty while deepening our commitment to sustainability and inclusivity.

We extend heartfelt thanks to both CORRA and FCCAN for their belief in our vision, and to all our volunteers and supporters who make this work possible. Together, we are planting seeds of change—quite literally—and ensuring Burntisland remains a place of pride and joy for generations to come.

**Irene Megaw, Secretary**

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





## Beacon Runners



The first edition of the Buzz this year (and the first for a while from us) seems like a great time to look back. 2025 was a great year for the club which continues to go from strength to strength since coming back from Covid. We've got a great group of runners with a wide range of ages, genders, abilities and aspirations for their running—some run a little and come to keep fit, some run regularly and some use the club to train for races ranging from 5k to ultramarathons.

In November and December we took part in the Hartley Relays, a race organised by and for Fife and Tayside running clubs, which this year we had three teams competing in. We carried on our winter training schedule with everyone's favourite session—running out from Kinghorn to the Black Rock with only head torches to light the way!



We ended the year with our annual Xmas lights run, where we run around Burntisland visiting the town's best decorated houses to pick our favourite, who we present with a small prize the following day. That night ends with our mulled wine and prize giving event.

A record number of runners attended the night (36) which was fitting as we gave out prizes to the people who attended the most sessions in 2025 and this year the attendance prizes were all way up. Our winning runner attended an incredible 47 weeks!

The club does more than running though. Last year we regularly entered teams at The Sands monthly quiz, over the festive period we had our first (annual?) pub crawl run then our Christmas Night Out—a fantastic night of food, drink and dancing at The Sands.

January usually brings a relay race in the Lomond hills—the Devils Burdens—that we always enter teams in. Unfortunately it was cancelled this year... so we organised our own! Following a similar format, eighteen runners, two organisers and one dog spent a great morning running in the hills in a very competitive (but friendly) race which with both teams finishing 1m 40 secs apart after 4.5 hours of hill running.

Our runners are getting themselves ready for a great year of running in 2026 with lots of races booked already with more to come, parkrun tourist trips planned and maybe even a race or two of our own to host.

The Beacon Runners meet every Monday from 7–8pm in a variety of locations—mainly in Burntisland—for a planned session led by two of our coaches.

If you'd like to find out more about us check our website: [www.beaconrunners.co.uk](http://www.beaconrunners.co.uk) And if you'd be interested in coming along to one of our sessions get in touch and we'll make sure you're welcomed.



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## Burntisland Harbour Access Trust

We recently held our fourth AGM at the Sands where, as well as regular business, a packed room heard from Professor Roddy Paisley of Aberdeen University, a renowned legal expert of Scottish land law. He laid out what seem to be very strong arguments for there being rights of public access to the harbour. We've now commissioned him to provide us with a formal opinion on the matter and have set up a legal "Fighting Fund" to pay for it. The fund really needs community support. It is accessible through our [www.bhat.org.uk](http://www.bhat.org.uk) website or more directly at [www.gofundme.com/f/burntisland-harbour-legal-fighting-fund](http://www.gofundme.com/f/burntisland-harbour-legal-fighting-fund) and every donation helps.

We also have a number of anniversaries this winter...

**Fifth Anniversary**—on 12th March 2021. In a biting east wind 6 individuals, Covid aware, assembled in an open corner of the railway station. The two Forth Ports officers informed the four Burntisland residents, including a Community Councillor, that the intention to fence off the East Dock and its breakwater is to "reduce the Health and Safety Risk presented by the hazards of commercial activity and peripheral tidal water". No "ifs", no "buts".

**Third Anniversary**—on 3 February 2023. The East Dock fences are up and the gates locked.

**Second Anniversaries**—on 1st January 2024. Community Action Plan 2023-2028 published—Theme 1 Environment, Access and Recreation—first priority "reinstate public access to the harbour area and breakwater".

On 24th January 2024. The Burntisland Harbour Access Trust forwarded their lawyers' legal opinion to Forth Ports and Fife Council. This opinion challenges the legality of denying the public access to the breakwater and East Dock.

**First Anniversary**—on 30th January 2025. Forth Ports announced that they have no commercial plans for Shanks Pier (Western Peninsula) and invited the community to partner them in developing a recreational facility. The Burntisland Community Development Trust (BCDT) accepted the invitation. Access to Shank's pier, or 10% of the harbour, will be good news but the breakwater remains inaccessible and neglected.

**And now?** At national level BHAT reflects on the two proposed amendments to the

"Land Reform (Scotland) Bill" put forward by our MSPs in October. The amendments proposed received widespread political support and drew encouraging promises from the Cabinet Secretary. Our BHAT voice was heard but the coming Scottish Parliament election is diverting political attention. At regional level Fife Council has set up a three party meeting in late February between Forth Ports, BHAT and itself with the intention of resolving the access issue.

Fife Council is responsible for enforcing the access legislation relating to the East Dock. Historically Fife Council has accepted the legal opinion so confidently put forward by Forth Ports. BHAT believes that this confidence is misplaced, which is why we are amassing expert legal opinion, supported by our fundraiser. Every donated £ is a step towards a walk along the breakwater!

The BHAT directors thank the community for being both patient and generous over the past five years. Who would have thought that righting a wrong could take so long?

**BHAT**



## The Music Hall

Located behind the High Street on Thistle Street, The Music Hall continues to expand its list of club bookings available for people to come along and join in.

This month sees the karate club starting weekly sessions and also a monthly art club on the first Sunday of the month. A weekly ladies self defence class has begun in response to the feedback received at the recent CORRA organised event held in the hall.

This is of course in addition to our existing group sessions of traditional jujitsu, tai chi, Junior Youth Theatre, Salsa & Buchata dancing, and Jade's dancing classes.

All the times are on the noticeboard outside the hall and will be found on our website which is coming soon.

It is really important to support all the groups using the hall as they rely on your support to keep going, which in turn supports the upkeep of the hall itself. Apart from that it's just good fun!

Recently we hosted a gig by a well known Scottish singer/songwriter which went down really well and there was talk after the event of organising a mini festival later in the year. There has also been contact with a comedy club interested in putting on a series of comedy nights.

Meantime the repair work is being scheduled for this year and the committee

are due to meet with Fife Council with a view to pushing to get as much upgrade work done as possible within really tight budget constraints.

The committee is always on the look out for people to either serve on the committee or who are willing to create something using the hall. We would really appreciate anyone who might want to start a new community choir or maybe a folk session but this is bound only by imagination, nothing is off the table at least in theory.

It has now become a venue for children's birthday parties which is such a nice thing to be able to do.

Thanks for your support.

**Archie Higgins, Committee Chair**

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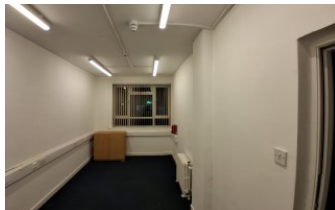
## Burntisland First Aid Services Trust

It was a cold, wet start to 2026 for the Burntisland First Aid Services Trust (BFAST) volunteer team, with Sunday 11th January spent at Knockhill Racing Circuit providing support at the last ever New Year McTuff Obstacle Course Race. OCR as it's known, is a sport where competitors traveling on foot must overcome physical challenges in the form of obstacles. Frequently in, over and sometimes under water! We've covered this event for ten years or so, often in the cold and wet, once on a January 2nd!



**Banking Hub Relocates**—With the Banking Hub moving from our base at 60 High Street to their new home in the former council offices we've a small conference room/office available to let along with our main training room we let out for group use. We're happy to let these rooms as required or for occasional use. Contact us via the website link below.

**First Aid Training**—Most importantly we've First Aid training courses running throughout the year. We're happy to run courses on demand subject to a suitable number of attendees joining.



Our next course is planned for March for a long-standing client, but we are happy to receive enquiries at any time. Our courses cover the life-saving essentials of CPR and defibrillation, as well as how to manage choking or severe bleeding. They are perfect for a lower-risk working environment or for a wide range of domestic and recreational activities.

It's a useful life skill to have and the resulting certificate is recognised nationally and valid for three years. The only requirement is that candidates must be at least 14 years old and physically able to perform CPR at ground level.

We like to keep our costs highly competitive, so courses are available at £75 per person, whether for the 1-day or 2-evening sessions. Registration is simple. Just go to [www.bfast.org.uk/contact](http://www.bfast.org.uk/contact)

**Events and volunteering**—Our future diary is filling up with events including Show jumping, Equestrian Vaulting, the Scottish Schools pipe band competition and multiple student balls and galas keeping us busy into March and April.

We are always keen to have new volunteers join us. BFAST volunteers receive full First Aid training at no cost to themselves but are asked to help at events as and when they are able. If you are interested in joining BFAST or want to ask us a question do contact us via our website.

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

Gary Cummins



## ABK Probus Club

Aberdour, Burntisland Kinghorn Probus is intended 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 from 10am to 12pm meetings generally start with coffee and time for a chat followed by any club business then a presentation by an invited speaker on any of a wide range of interesting subjects. Topics we have lined up over the next few months of 2026 are:

3rd March The Geology and Fossils of Burntisland;  
17th March The History of Beveridge Park.  
7th April The Battle of Pinkie 1547;  
21st April Wheelhouse Views.  
5th May The Three Bridges;  
19th May Life in Scotland in the Good Old Days.  
2nd June Fun With Words;  
16th June Burntisland Shipbuilding the War Years.



Why not come along to the Kingswood Hotel as our guest to meet members and listen to these interesting talks from 10am.

There is currently an active snooker subgroup who meet every Friday and others such as bowling maybe possible. We also arrange occasional outings during the year.

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

John Bruce

## 11TH FIFE BURNTISLAND CEILIDH

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Saturday 28th February  
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Burntisland Parish Church Hall

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Adults £15 / Under 16's £5

Tickets can be bought from  
Scout leaders or email  
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Bring your own Drinks and Snacks

# Girlguiding at the Parish Church Halls

## 1st Burntisland Guides

We welcomed two Brownies into Guides last term; they have settled in and have already made their promise. Guides had great fun carving scary Halloween pumpkins and enjoyed seeing them lit up in the dark. The unit took part in the Remembrance Parade.

Guides enjoyed a pre Christmas trip to the Adam Smith Theatre to see Aladdin at the end of the year; everyone had a great time joining in and booing the baddie! Our last evenings of the year were spent making Christmas crafts and cards. Guides went home with handmade tree decorations and made and tucked into pancake penguins and chocolate mini roll reindeer.

One of our older Guides has now moved on and started as a Young Leader with a Kirkcaldy Rainbow unit.

The unit is just back after the Christmas break; three Brownies have moved up to Guides this term. Everyone is looking forward to getting started on new activities.



## 1st Burntisland Brownies

Brownies have been working on their badges, learning lots of new skills and reaching their Bronze and in some cases Silver awards. Two Brownies have gained the top award; they completed their Gold award challenge as a great double act and have now journeyed on to Guides.

Brownies had a joint party with the Rainbows for Halloween with lots of fun and games, fantastic costumes and some crazy pumpkins.

The unit also joined with the Rainbows for a Christmas Movie Night, girls wore their PJs and brought along their blankets and favourite cuddly toy.

We are very proud of our Brownies who joined us for a very wet Remembrance parade this year, it was great they came out and braved the weather to support the community.

## 1st Burntisland Rainbows

The Rainbows enjoyed a busy term, with a very spooky Halloween party and a sparkling fireworks night.

We experimented with different materials

to see how they felt — and whether they would slide down our slide — and even constructed zip wires for our brave Christmas Elf!

We worked towards our Agility badge with a Santa-inspired obstacle course and ended the term with a joint Christmas movie night with the Brownies.

Two of our Rainbows made their Promise; two Rainbows achieved their Bronze awards and one Rainbow achieved her Silver Award—well done all!

We also said a very sad goodbye to one of our leaders, Sharon, who will be greatly missed.

## Urgent—Volunteers Needed

To keep our Rainbow unit running, we urgently need two more volunteers as soon as possible—without them, our unit will be forced to close in the very near future.

No experience is needed; just a willingness to help, enjoy working with young children, and be part of a team. Full training and support will be provided.

If you would like to learn more or register your interest, please visit [www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/become-a-volunteer/](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/become-a-volunteer/)

Units meet in Burntisland 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)

Our units are happy to welcome new girls. 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.



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The past few months at Starley Hall have been busy and purposeful, with a strong focus on community connection, giving, and preparing young people for life beyond school.



Following on from our fundraising activities at the Big Green Market last term, we were proud to use the money raised to support Carol-Anne Crossan with the Burntisland Giving Tree. Carol-Anne generously coordinates donations through the local Co-op, and we were delighted to contribute to this important community initiative.

Young people worked together to purchase Christmas gifts for local families, carefully selecting items to suit different ages and interests. It was a meaningful and reflective experience that helped young people understand the impact of generosity and community support, particularly at a time of year that can be challenging for many.



We were also honoured to support the Cottage Family Centre Christmas Appeal through our Christmas stall and donations, raising over £600 in money and gifts to support local families. Young people and staff from across Starley Hall worked together to plan, prepare, and contribute, with a wonderful selection of handcrafted gifts for sale alongside home baking made by both young people and staff. This is a cause that holds a special place within our Starley Hall community. As always, the baking proved ever popular, reflecting Starley Hall's sweet tooth!



Even through the winter months, we have continued to make time for the outdoors, with regular group outings to local parks. These moments away from the classroom provide fresh air, movement, and shared experiences that support wellbeing and social connection.

We were pleased to welcome Lewis Black Football Academy, who delivered structured football sessions as part of our wellbeing afternoons. The young people taking part enjoyed the sessions and benefited from the focus on teamwork, physical activity, and positive engagement.



Some of our senior pupils have taken part in work experience taster sessions with a range

of local employers. These included a very warm welcome from the nursery at Burntisland Primary School, as well as valuable experience at the popular local café, The Olive Tree. These opportunities allow our young people to explore different work environments, build confidence in real-world settings, strengthen links with the local community, and help inform future planning.

We thoroughly enjoyed visiting the Burntisland Ladies Probus Group, where we were met by a kind, generous, and genuinely interested audience. It was a real pleasure to share more about life at Starley Hall and the work we do.

We were also delighted to welcome a visit from active local councillor Julie MacDougall, who showed real enthusiasm and interest in our school and the specialist support we provide. Julie enjoyed a tour of the school and spent time with one of our classes, learning more about their work and the school environment.



We always value opportunities to connect with local groups and are happy to attend as a guest speaker to share more about Starley Hall or to welcome individuals or groups to the school where appropriate. Please get in touch by phone on 01383 830314 or email [info@starleyhall.co.uk](mailto:info@starleyhall.co.uk).

We are grateful for the continued support of local organisations, businesses, and residents. Working together, we are proud to help our children and young people feel connected, valued, and part of the wider Burntisland community.

**Tracy Duffin, Principal Teacher**



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E-mail: [paulrgraham@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:paulrgraham@hotmail.co.uk)

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## Black Rocks Rowing Club



Scottish Coastal Rowing is a sport and community movement that has spread dramatically across the country in the past ten years. Starting from humble beginnings on the Firth of Forth in 2009, there are now well over 200 registered boats in the UK (mostly Scotland) and others in the USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, France, the Netherlands, and South Africa.

In May 2024 The Black Rocks Rowing Club (BRRC) launched our beautiful St Ayles skiff, named Irene. The skiff is a versatile 22 foot rowing boat typically crewed by four rowers with a cox steering and room for a passenger in the bow. While we row in open coastal waters, we have a safety first policy. Our club will provide all the equipment and training needed. Our boat is kept at Burntisland Sailing Club on a floating dock.



Most of our rows are simply social in nature and allow us to enjoy the sights and sounds out on the Forth. We have social rows sometimes two to three times a week depending on weather and members availability.

For those who want to, we also take part in competitions, most recently the Frostbite Regatta at Kinghorn Loch (pictured) and soon the upcoming Fife Cup at Lochore Meadows on Sunday 29th March.

If anyone would like to join us and try rowing, please just visit our website at [www.burntislandrowing.org.uk](http://www.burntislandrowing.org.uk) and hit the link that takes you to our 'get involved' page. We're keen to recruit more members and we have "Come and Try" rows so you can see what it is like. Rowing is for all, no matter your level of fitness or experience.

Our membership has grown slowly but steadily since our launch. You can join the club as an individual or join as a family. Membership is extremely affordable so we can get new people involved. Some of our club members are complete novices and some of us are very experienced.

Please check out our website for more information: [www.burntislandrowing.org.uk](http://www.burntislandrowing.org.uk). There, you'll not only find a lot of information about our wee club and its backstory, but also further information about the wider Scottish coastal rowing community. To get in touch, please click the 'Contact' tab on the menu at the top of any page.

You may also be interested in our FAQ section where we are collecting together all the questions we asked when we each started rowing. We hope these will answer some of your initial questions and allay any doubts you may have.

**Brian Morley**



Kirkcaldy (KY1 1PF)  
Tel: 01592 640644



Glenrothes (KY7 5ND)  
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Dalgety Bay (KY11 9NH)  
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# Burntisland and Kinghorn Church of Scotland

Happy birthday to us! The new expression of the Church of Scotland in Burntisland and Kinghorn is now 2 years old: we united our two Churches into one in January 2024. We are also part of the BEK Churches Partnership, along with Erskine Church which is now 4 years old: so, a couple of toddlers!

We had our Communion Service at the end of January, always a time to emphasise our unity around the death and resurrection of our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. Then we met up together at "The Sands" for a post communion lunch, which was a good chance for chat and fellowship together.

After a busy round of services, carol singing, School nativities and services, all of which were well attended and well

supported in both communities, we're drawing the breath of the Holy Spirit and preparing for Lent. This is itself a preparation for Holy Week and Easter—please check our socials, website, posters and Fife Free Press notices, service cards and word of mouth at the Co-op!

Our BEK Partnership takes involvement in culture, sport and community very seriously. For 12 years we've had Ministers, and recently an Elder, involved in Football Chaplaincy: Alexander, the Erskine Minister, is the Chaplain at East Fife Mens; Debi Ives is the Chaplain of East Fife Ladies; and I am Chaplain of the mighty Raith Rovers!

This is taking faith into football and the church engaging with the biggest sport in the country.

Recognising the role that we play the Director of Sports Chaplaincy Scotland, Mark Fleming, spoke at a BEK Service on Sunday 1st February.

I realise that by the time you're reading this we'll have heard from Mark, but why not ask a Church member or attender "What was he on about?"

Blessings on you and yours as the days lighten and lengthen and spring promises,

**Rev Jim Reid**

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



## Erskine Church

I trust your 2026 has started well. Let's not say too much about our weather, which is seriously temperamental at present. One day it's bright and mild, the next a full-on dose of strong wind and heavy rain!

We had a fab church lunch to begin this year at The Sands Hotel on Sunday 25th January. Over 40 of us got together from our two BEK congregations for a really nice meal and plenty of great chat!

If you have, or look after pre-school children of any age, why not come along to Lite Bite in our halls on Wednesday mornings during term-time between 9 and 11am? There's a quiet vibe, relaxed atmosphere and warm welcome. We have a small team of really dedicated volunteers to keep everybody safe and enjoying the fun. You'd be very welcome.

I hope your year ahead won't be too temperamental, unlike our Scottish weather. There are always challenges, rough patches or unexpected heartaches. But we all have many reasons to be thankful and we should

try to count those daily blessings visible in small things and life's simple pleasures.

If you're driving around Burntisland, then please take note of that new 20mph speed limit. Many people are in such a hurry that they seem just to ignore it!

A calm, balanced mindset can help us to stay on an even keel for as much of the time as possible. So keep your emotional speed down, think before you act or speak, always show faith, hope and love!

Easter? Yes, it's already getting close to Lent and the time of preparation before we celebrate Easter. Our services will be concentrated around Holy Week which runs from Palm Sunday (29th March), with Easter Sunday falling on 5th April.

There'll be the annual mix of Thursday Communion, Good Friday and Easter Sunday services—including on the beach and up the Binn (8am). We always have an Easter Sunday early breakfast in Erskine's halls. Please join us if you can.

We must mention our amazing Coffee and Pancakes mornings, which will continue

**The 'Big Quiz Night'** takes place on Friday 27th February at 7pm in Erskine U F Church hall in aid of charity Tearfund.

Enter a table of 4 or come and join a table, £5 per person.

Every pound raised will transform the lives of people living in poverty. So get together with family and friends, for an epic evening of poverty-beating fun.

**Ann Smith (Parish Church)**

during 2026. By the time you're reading this, the first will already have come and gone on Saturday 7th February (10am–12pm). But rest assured plenty more will follow, to which you are warmly invited.

Whatever's happening, there are always regular updates on our Facebook page. So please keep checking! Have a great start to your 2026!

**Rev. Alexander Ritchie**



## St Joseph's Church

I've just been listening to the radio and a feature about procrastination, which gave me a bit of a kick because I remembered I still hadn't written my contribution for this Burgh Buzz.

I am a great procrastinator. I agree with Oscar Wilde who said, "I never put off till tomorrow what I can possibly do – the day after." As someone else once said: "Procrastination is my sin; it brings me naught but sorrow. I know that I should stop it; in fact, I will – tomorrow!"

The Season of Lent which is approaching fast this year. Ash Wednesday is celebrated on 18th February.

There will be Mass and the distribution of ashes at 10am and 7pm. On the Fridays of Lent there will Stations of the Cross at 7pm.

We will be hosting World Day of Prayer here on Friday 6th March at 2pm. The Worship Service has been prepared by the WDP Committee of Nigeria and the guest speaker will be Fr Daniel Magaji, a priest from the Diocese of Bauchi in Nigeria, currently serving in a parish in Edinburgh. There will be refreshments in the hall after the Service and all are welcome.

On Palm Sunday, 29th March, Burntisland and Kinghorn Churches Together will be participate in the annual Walk of Witness.

On Holy Thursday, 2nd April, Mass of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated at 7pm,

with watching at the Altar of Repose until 9pm.

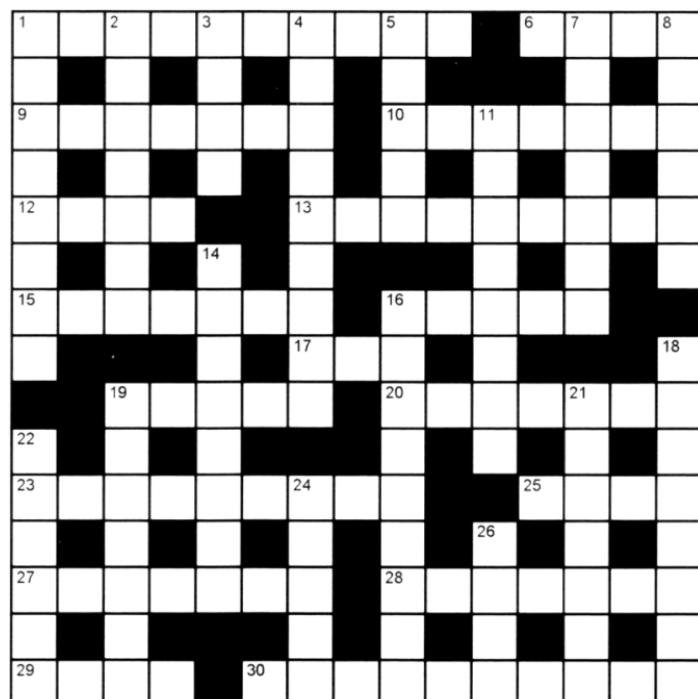
The Celebration of the Lord's Passion will take place at 3pm on Good Friday, with Stations of the Cross at 7pm.

The Easter Vigil of the Lord's Resurrection will be at 8pm on Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday Mass will be at the usual time of 10am.

As always, all are welcome at any of our services. I wish you and yours every blessing and hope 2026 will be a good year for us all.

**Fr James**





## THE PRIZE CROSSWORD

### ACROSS

1. Ruffle (10)
6. Cain's Brother (4)
9. Frenzied (7)
10. Arrears of work(7)
12. Norse god (4)
13. Unable to pay creditors (9)
15. Dishonourable(7)
16. Stop (5)
17. \_\_\_\_mode (1, 2)
19. Subdue (5)
20. Make wider (7)
23. Exactly alike (9)
25. Cab (4)
27. Idle or wild fancy (7)
28. On the way (2,5)
29. Savant (4)
30. Cocktail of Tomato juice & vodka (6, 4)

### DOWN

1. Floral Emblem of Wales (8)
2. Marine Animal (7)
3. Solemn vow (4)
4. Red food dye (9)
5. Loose flowing garments (5)
7. Credit (7)
8. Illuminations (6)
11. Normandy Brandy (8)
14. One not present (8)
16. Spanish gentleman (9)
18. Completely (8)
19. Waiting in line (7)
21. Fictional vampire (7)
22. Olympic throwing event (6)
24. Go on all fours (5)
26. Brewers cart (4)

Name .....

Address.....

Telephone .....

Completed entries by 15th April 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.

### November Crossword Solution

**Across:** 1.Complacent, 6 Stag, 9 Vanilla, 10 Asunder, 12 Lair, 13 Fractious, 15 Tension, 16 Tones, 17 Cry, 19 Ditch, 20 Retrace, 22 Doberman, 25 Ways, 27 Avocado, 28 Origami, 29 Dusk, 30 Passionate.

**Down:** 1 Civility, 2 Mention, 3 Lilt, 4 Chaffinch, 5 Nyala, 7 Tedious, 8 Garish, 11 Ultimate, 14 Victoria, 16 Tyrannous, 18 Perspire, 19 Dubious, 21 Alabama, 22 Edward, 24 Aloha, 26 Limo.

**Congratulations to our November crossword winner:**

Liz McConnell, Greenmount Road North

## Burntisland's Events Diary

### FEBRUARY

Friday	13th	Acoustic Music Club in Burntisland Bowling Club	7:30 pm–10:30 pm
Tuesday	17th	Community Council meeting in the Burgh Chambers (also online via Zoom)	7 pm
Friday	27th	Floral Action Burntisland AGM at Burntisland Golf Club	7 pm
Friday	27th	The 'Big Quiz Night' at the Erskine Church in aid of charity Tearfund, see page 21.	7 pm
Saturday	28th	11th Fife Scouts fundraiser Ceilidh in the Parish Church Halls, see page 17	7 pm

### MARCH

Wednesday	4th	Bonfire & Fireworks Night AGM in the Sands Hotel	7 pm
Friday	6th	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	12 noon–3 pm
Saturday	7th	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	10 am–1 pm
Friday	13th	Acoustic Music Club in Burntisland Bowling Club	7:30 pm–10:30 pm
Tuesday	16th	Community Council meeting in the Burgh Chambers (also online via Zoom)	7 pm
Saturday	21st	BGM Repair Cafe at the Toll Community Centre	10 am–12:30 pm
Sunday	29th	Palm Sunday Churches Walk	TBC

### APRIL

Friday	3rd	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	12 noon–3 pm
Saturday	4th	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	10 am–1 pm
Wednesday	8th to 22nd	Craigencalt Walking Festival, see page 23	
Friday	10th	Acoustic Music Club in Burntisland Bowling Club	7:30 pm–10:30 pm
Tuesday	20th	Community Council meeting in the Burgh Chambers (also online via Zoom)	7 pm
Saturday	25th	Town Twinning Coffee Morning at St Joseph's Church Hall	10:30 am
Sunday	26th	Burntisland Playgroup Open Day at the Toll Community Centre	TBC

### MAY

Friday	1st	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	12 noon–3 pm
Saturday	2nd	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	10 am–1 pm

To include a public event taking place in February, March, or April 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)



# Craigencalt Rural Community Trust

Winter can have lots of cold grey days, so one of the lovely things to look out for on walks is the reappearance of our first flowers, snowdrops and yellow aconite. Our abundance of snowdrops around Kinghorn Loch is due to the dedication of Hamish Brown and several teams of helpers over many years.

Each winter they can be seen separating established clumps and planting new corms. I believe they will be out again in February. We are grateful to them for making our world a brighter place. Whilst walking from Kinghorn through the paths to Burntisland you will see areas carpeted in these delicate white flowers. We are fortunate to have Hamish as our Patron of the Trust.



A new year brings a new timetable of events which the Trust is now planning. The Walking Group had its first walk at the beginning of January. This year we shook off our Christmas excesses with a walk up the Binn to Craigkelly and back to Kinghorn Loch. We even managed to find a sunny

day in amongst our mixture of January weather. There is a poster up of our walk meeting dates for this year but people can contact us and we will send a digital copy.

We are now getting ready for our **Spring Walking Festival** which will run over two weeks beginning on Wednesday 8th April to 22nd April. It will include a range of walks, some easy and family friendly and also some that are longer and more strenuous. This event is always pleasant and welcoming, giving participants the chance to get outdoors again and meet new people. The event is free, all you need to do is register for the walks of your choice beforehand so the organisers know how many people to expect.

The full programme and description of walks will be available on the Trust's website [www.craigencalttrust.org.uk](http://www.craigencalttrust.org.uk) from early March. You can also email [info@craigencalttrust.org.uk](mailto:info@craigencalttrust.org.uk) or phone 07740 999514 for more information. We cannot guarantee the weather but last year was brilliant, and Spring can be a beautiful, refreshing time of the year.

In the last issue of the Burgh Buzz we said that Two Skies, the owners of Craigencalt Farm, had instructed us to remove our property from their land. We began this task in January and as the Trust appreciates these items are beneficial to the community, we have found other locations for most of the items removed.

Over the next while you will see things popping up in new places. We also hope to extend our area at the Rock Rest picnic

place to include a new Trust information board and further 'lookouts' and tables. This will all take time so if you have a few hours to spare for a work day we would love to hear from you. If you can help please contact us via our website or by phoning the same number as above.

**Marilyn Edwards**

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



**Editor's note:** following publication of the previous issue, Two Skies Ltd have been in contact with the Burgh Buzz to dispute Craigencalt Trust's version of events, denying that they had demanded CRCT remove property from their land.

## Museum of Communication

MUSEUM OF COMMUNICATION

The Museum of Communication has now been a prominent feature on Burntisland High Street for over twenty years and its volunteers are looking forward to another successful year.

The most recent development has been a new fire alarm system, designed and installed by Caledonia Fire and Safety Ltd of Kirkcaldy at a total cost of just over £12,000.

Raising this sum was a major challenge for the museum, which is run entirely by volunteers and depends for its income mainly on its members as well as visitors to its talks and exhibitions. The total was reached thanks to a grant of £9,000 awarded by Museums Galleries Scotland (MGS), the national development body for Scotland's museum sector, which supports museums and galleries through investment, advice, development, and advocacy.

The new system will detect the presence of smoke, heat or flames in the building and alert any occupants of a potential fire, thus protecting any occupants of the building as well as the Museum's unique and irreplaceable collection of historical communications equipment.

The Museum's dedicated volunteers are now laying plans for the 2026 Exhibition and for this year's lecture programme. Details will appear on the Museum's website. Simply search for 'Museum of Communication'.

The Museum is run solely by volunteers, who help in many and varied ways, some technical and others non-technical. Tasks include helping to design and build displays, carrying out repairs and restoration work, fund raising, organising events, publicising the museum, managing its collections, providing administrative and financial expertise and guiding visitors

round our exhibitions. Please contact us on [enquiries@mocft.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@mocft.co.uk) to find out more, particularly if you'd like to develop a new interest locally and enjoy meeting people.

Pictured are Museum volunteers John Blackie, Ken Horne and Dave Pack with the new fire alarm system.

**David W. Brown**

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





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