

Burntisland's Bonfire & Fireworks

This year Guy Fawkes Night falls on a Tuesday (5th November) and will be marked by the now traditional bonfire and fireworks display on the Links. Notwithstanding the fact that Kirkcaldy will be holding a similar event on the same night, huge crowds are expected to descend on the town to witness Burntisland's unique display.

As this event has increased in popularity, it has led to severe traffic congestion, caused by huge vehicle numbers and often by inconsiderate parking.

Organisers have liaised with Fife Council and the Police to establish restricted parking areas, on Aberdour, Cromwell, Kinghorn, Kirkcaldy, and Kirkton Roads, along with strong enforcement action by police and parking attendants. Residents are advised to check notices on lamp posts before the event.

This will hopefully result in a smoother

flow of traffic, allowing public transport to run freely and on time. It is also hoped that Scotrail trains will make additional stops at Burntisland, like last year. As usual people are encouraged to walk or come by public transport. Blue badge holders will get priority in the Links car park.



The bonfire will be lit at 7 pm with the spectacular fireworks display soon after. As in previous years, there will be a mini funfair in the Links car park and many of Burntisland's food and drinks outlets will be open 'til late. Make a night of it—enjoy the display, eat, drink and be merry!

The organisers are always on the lookout for volunteers, especially stewards and bucket shakers on the night—contact Events Group Chair Ailsa Powrie via ailsapowrie@gmail.com if you are able to help out.

Finally, this is a free event organised by volunteers who work behind the scenes and fund raise throughout the year. Much of the essential funds are raised through a bucket collection on the night so please give generously.

www.burgh.buzz/bonfire

Christmas Market & Festival

This year's Christmas market takes place on Saturday 7th December, from 4–6 pm. This is the third year for the market and the organisers—Bustling Burntisland—are hoping it will be bigger and better than ever.

“There is always a lot to learn from running events and this year we're taking on comments, requests, recommendations and lessons from the previous two years”, says Abi Cornwall, the lead organiser. “We want to keep the celebrations in one place, down on the High Street so we've got a few exciting tricks up our sleeves to make sure there's lots of shelter for stallholders and for people coming down to take part.”

This year the market will be run in a 'festival' format - with workshops and music, an artist's quarter, kids activities,



pop-up events and much more running alongside the high street businesses, events spaces, market stalls and celebrations.

Bustling Burntisland is a subgroup of the Burntisland Community Development Trust. The aim of this group is to encourage Burntisland residents and visitors to celebrate the hard work and talent of businesses, creators, artists, community groups and musicians in the

town by hosting events to bring everybody together. The Christmas Market & Festival is the main event for the group but plans are afoot for more events.

If you would like to know more about all that's going on, join the Bustling Burntisland Facebook group: www.facebook.com/groups/bustlingburntisland or email the organisers: bcdt2016@gmail.com

BURNTISLAND'S COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

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

Step Free Access — A break through?

As we go to press, the saga of trying to secure step-free access to Platform 2 at Burntisland Station seems to be taking two steps forward. Improving station access is a idea which features several times in Burntisland's Community Action Plan. Additionally, campaigning on this issue has already been underway for over a decade.

An application was recently made to the "Access for All" Programme with the support of local politicians and groups. This has now been passed to Transport Scotland for detailed consideration.

Also, on a very sunny and warm October day, Alex Hynes, Managing Director of the ScotRail Alliance (ScotRail and Network Rail Scotland), paid his first visit to Burntisland to meet a small group of local people and look at some of the issues affecting the station.

This was as a direct result of a request by Cllr Lesley Backhouse. Mr. Hynes was shown around the station and the immediate area. He was clearly impressed, as he later posted on Twitter—"Brilliant Burntisland! Fascinating visit to meet the local community to discuss improving access to the railway. Hadn't fully appreciated the station's heritage before!"

Prior to catching his return (on time) train to Edinburgh, he said we would get together a group of "can-do people" from the rail industry and Transport Scotland and see what could be done "quickly".

We live in hope.

www.Burgh.Buzz/station

Bill Kirkhope

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Your Community Council

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

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

Members:

Christine Dewar Tim Hailey
 John Bruce Andy Smith
 Brendan Burns Lynne Ralph

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 burrtislandcc@outlook.com

www.burrtislandcc.org.uk

Community Council Bullets.....

The Community Council holds its regular meetings on the second Friday of each month, at 7.00 pm in Burrtisland's Burgh Chambers. Members of the public are welcome to attend or to raise matters of interest to them. A summary of issues raised during the last three meetings is set out below.

- We have again supported changes to flight paths from Edinburgh airport which will ensure that aircraft are directed over the centre of the Forth and not over landward communities.
- Fundraising for Christmas lights continues, with most welcome support from the Guides and the Co-op, plus a brass band concert which is scheduled for the Parish Church Halls on Friday 1st November.
- There is no immediate progress on enabling disabled access to the railway station, as so far there is no clear lead agency which has the resources to take it forward.
- Several playparks have been re-painted, with the particular help of Brendan Burns and a network of volunteers.
- We have approved a contract for evaluation of potential landscaping work at the burn in the Toll Park. The pedestrian bridge has also been cleaned and made safe by Fife Council.
- We welcomed the presence of PC Danny Hatch at our September meeting, as our new community police officer.
- Starley Hall School has kindly offered to make 20 Pick & Fix boxes for distribution at key points around the town.
- Work continues on refining the proposals to enable easier access to the Lammerlaws. The planned paths have been scaled back because of coastal erosion, but the remaining paths and interpretation panels are being progressed.
- Anne Smith is in discussion with several agencies about clearing and/or maintaining public paths in the vicinity of the Docks, Kilmundy and Dunearn.
- The Black Rocks Rowing Club is in its embryonic stages and appears to be progressing well, with support from the Kinghorn equivalent and also Burrtisland Sailing Club. See page 13.
- A fresh proposal has emerged for a second pharmacy in Burrtisland. Details of the relevant consultation process are awaited.
- Conservation work is now under way on selected paintings in the Burgh Chambers, including Andrew Young's Bridge of Life.
- We are exploring options for enabling easier access to the Burgh Chambers as a short-term solution before the larger development project can get under way.
- John Bruce has been coordinating the arrangements for Remembrance Day on 10th November.

Elected Fife Councillors' Availability

Councillor Lesley Backhouse

Telephone: 07540 677081

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

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

Councillor Gordon Langlands

Telephone: 01592 874612

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

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

Councillor Kathleen Leslie

Telephone: 07714 778906

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

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

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

www.burgh.buzz/politics

Community Council Vacancies

The Community Council has seen a number changes since the last issue of the Burgh Buzz. For a variety of reasons, George McLauchlan, Philip Atkinson, Derek Turnbull, and Lesley-Anne Cronin decided to stand down, whilst we have gained Lynne Ralph and Fiona Watson as new members.

That enabled us to review the allocation of responsibilities, with members taking on the vacant roles of Secretary, Treasurer and Minutes Secretary. Additional responsibilities have been shared among the other members.

So we now have a more balanced workload as we continue to move forward with a variety of key projects. **However, we still have places for up to four new members.** Our normal practice is that anyone interested should attend some meetings as a member of the public, so that they can gain an insight into what we do. The only requirement is that members must be on the electoral register for Burrtisland and be at least 16 years old.

The Burgh Polis

By PC Daniel Hatch



Much has changed since the last police article in 'The Burgh Buzz'. PC Lewis Greig has gone on to pastures new and PC Liz James is enjoying her well earned retirement.

This begs the question of who am I? My name is Danny Hatch and I am the new community police constable for the Auchtertool, Kinghorn and Burntisland area. For now at least, I am carrying out this role alone, although I am assured there are plans in place to team me up with another officer before long.

My affiliation with Police in Fife began in 2006 where at the age of 19 I became a Special Constable attending shifts on a voluntary basis in the Levenmouth area. After two and a half years' experience as a special, I was convinced that this was what I wanted to do for a living and I began in the role of response officer at Kirkcaldy Police Station.

In addition to this role I have also carried out a secondment on Kirkcaldy's Community Investigation Unit, which involved more investigative / proactive work.

Earlier this year, having completed ten years police service, I actively sought a transfer to the role of community officer. It's an area of policing that interests me and although one that I have yet to experience, I feel I possess the relevant skills to perform well in the role.

In April this year, I began working as a community constable in the Kirkcaldy North area alongside another officer before taking up my current role in late August.

I intend to continue with the drop-in sessions held by the previous community constables. These have been taking place at Burntisland Library and most recently I held a session on Saturday 28th September where I was able to speak to some members of the community regarding their concerns.

Sessions take place on a Saturday between 11 am-12 pm and provide a good opportunity to discuss matters of local concern in an informal and private setting. The next two drop-in sessions take place on:

Saturday 2nd November 2019 (changed from 26th October)

Saturday 30th November 2019

The most recent drop-in session was valuable in highlighting a couple of local issues. I'll start with the ongoing problems



relating to anti-social behaviour which comes in many forms. Often fuelled by the consumption of alcohol, which descends into violence or vandalism to property, this unacceptable behaviour has a detrimental impact on law-abiding people's lives. All night parties can also cause great disturbance and distress to residents in neighbouring properties.

I am aware that anti-social behaviour has been the subject of social media reports and in this respect, I can only stress the importance of reporting such incidents to police. Only by members of the community reporting these incidents through official channels can police gauge the extent of the problem and take appropriate action.

Another concern raised was the problem of property being damaged in the High Street area by ball bearings, apparently being fired from a gun or catapults. There have been multiple reports of damage to cars and windows. It is not known by exactly what means these projectiles are being fired but as well as being costly and causing distress, it is an extremely dangerous act and I would appeal to anyone with any information to contact police either on **101** or by email on one of the addresses at the bottom of this article.

Finally, I will end on a recurring problem - Road Traffic. By this I mean both speeding and illegal parking on yellow lines and zig zag markings on the High Street and outside Burntisland Primary School. Police regularly receive complaints of speeding on Kinghorn Road and other areas in the town.

Be warned - Police will be in the area carrying out speeding deployments in the coming weeks to deter such behaviour. With regards to parking on the High Street, I would appeal to road users to refrain from parking on zig zag markings and double yellow lines. Unfortunately, it is not an acceptable excuse to say that there is no parking available or that you are only nipping into the shop quickly.

Hopefully there will be another community officer in place before the next edition of the Burgh Buzz. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me on one of the below email addresses:

Daniel.hatch@scotland.pnn.police.uk

BurntislandKinghornWesternKirkcaldyCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk

Central Burntisland Tenants and Residents Association

The Central Burntisland Tenants and Residents Association meet at 7.00 pm on the 2nd Thursday of every month in the premises of the Burntisland Heritage Trust at the foot of the Kirkgate. Our meetings are open to all and we aim to try and help anybody that is experiencing issues such as anti-social behaviour and vandalism.

We as a group work hand in hand with our Community Police Officers, the Safer Fife Team, Fife Council Housing Officers and Fife Council elected members.

Recently, we have also developed a new partnership with the UK wide charity **Crimestoppers** and hopefully, in the not too distant future residents of the town will begin to see posters around the town advising what to do should you witness any criminal activities or anti-social behaviour.

The beauty of Crimestoppers is that all calls made to them are anonymous. The police have an agreement with Crimestoppers UK to react to any reported crime reported via Crimestoppers, so all calls will be investigated.

To report a crime, you can use the Crimestoppers website (**www.crimestoppers-uk.org**) or telephone **0800 555 111**.

Residents will also have noticed the new No Parking Signage that has appeared on the Kirkgate, Sommerville Square and West Leven St. Residents are reminded to apply for their parking permits soonest as the system goes live on the 20th October and anybody not displaying a parking permit who parks in our area will be ticketed by the Parking Wardens.

Iain Ralph

Common Good Fund

The diversion of our Common Good fund to subsidise Fife Council's electrical work on the Links continues to cause anger and alarm. We have now submitted a formal complaint to Audit Scotland, who say that our concerns will be taken into account by the Council's external auditors in the relevant audit cycle.

However, that could be a year away. One of the key factors is that Fife Council ignored the expectations of the appropriate—and very recent—ministerial guidance. So in the meantime we have also escalated our concern to Aileen Campbell MSP, the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government.

The Scottish Public Services Ombudsman – to whom we also complained – have said that they can only investigate topics where there is a “personal grievance”, so they have no locus on this particular topic, no matter how distressing it might be for the community at large.

It may therefore be some time before we have a result, but we will continue to explore every avenue to recover the mis-spent sum of £100,000.

Alex MacDonald



Over 70s Christmas Treat

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the Burntisland Over 70s Christmas Treat, and the dedicated organisers are determined to mark the occasion with a special celebration.

Fundraising is continuing apace with the last official function being a Coffee Morning on Saturday 2nd November from 10 am–2 pm, in the Parish Church Halls. Calendars will also be on sale in the Church shop, Murdoch's and The Star Tavern. Any individual donations will be gratefully received.

The Christmas Lunch itself will take place between 12 noon and 4.00 pm on Saturday 7th December at the Kingswood Hotel.

Transport is available but must be booked by 25th November, contact The Star on 01592 871313 or Frances Allan on 01592 872092.

Let's make this a Christmas Treat to remember!



Christmas Fayre

Burntisland Parish Church is holding its popular Christmas Fayre on Saturday 16 November from 2–4 pm in the Church Halls. Entrance is 20p.

There will be a range of stalls selling gifts, books, bric a brac and delicious home baking.

You can try your hand at the bottle stall or a raffle. Santa has promised to come along (despite being very busy indeed) so you can meet him too.

After all that you might want to visit the top hall where the Guild will be selling refreshments.

If you'd like to donate any home baking, books, etc. please bring it along to the halls from 10 am on the morning of the fayre. All donations will be much appreciated.

Fife Council Playpark Strategy

Fife Council is reviewing the provision of playparks and has launched a consultation process, which continues until the 10th of December and can be accessed at: www.tinyurl.com/FifePlaySpaces

Of the nine playparks in Burntisland, the proposal is to remove equipment from five when it reaches its “end of life”. They will be retained as green spaces without conventional play equipment. The East Links and Rossend playparks would be maintained, while Colinswell and the Toll Park would be improved.

Most of Burntisland's playpark equipment (apart from the Links area) is around 40 years old, not the 10 years that Fife Council regards as a reasonable life. The most controversial one under threat is the Spider Park. Apparently — too close to a road!. As the equipment was recently installed after fundraising by local volunteers, a reprieve in this case seems likely.

Elsewhere, residents close to Duncanson Drive and Piper Crescent playparks have reacted with fury to the idea that their parks' equipment will be removed and not replaced. Community Councillor Brendan Burns organised the repainting of the equipment (with permission of Fife Council and paint, from the Community Council) to show that people did care about them.

Fife Council recently held a public consultation event in Kirkcaldy - only four people turned up - all from Burntisland. Attendees were not impressed that Greenspace Officer Kevin O'Kane had no plans to consult young people or schools.

You can read Fife Council's draft Play Spaces Strategy and their plan for the Burntisland area in full at: www.fifedirect.org.uk/playparks

Updates will also be added to www.burgh.buzz/playparks



BEAVERS CUBS SCOUTS EXPLORERS

11th Fife (Burntisland) Scout Group

Scout Post



Delivering to
BURNTISLAND & KINGHORN

40p per card

Burntisland Scout Group are once again offering to deliver your local Christmas Post to the **BURNTISLAND & KINGHORN Area** for a small donation to raise funds for their outdoor activities in the coming year.

From 1st December you can post your Christmas mail into one of our special Scout Post Boxes situated at:

- Library
- Jason's High Street Newsagent
- Co-op on Church Street

We all wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Last post
19th December

11th Fife (Burntisland) Scout Group
Group Scout Leader: Kerry Laing Email: 11thfife@gmail.com
Scottish Registered Charity Number - SC031394

Burntisland Primary School

It has been a quick and exciting first term here at Burntisland Primary School. All children have been settling into their new classes and our new Primary 1 pupils have been getting used to the busy school environment.

Whole School

This term saw the Book Fair return to the school. Children's love of reading was evident by the vast amount of books sold across the week. Primary 1–4 were also fortunate to receive a visit from Grant Koper, the author of "The Day Granny's Knickers Blew Away".

Primary 1 have been learning all about the school—becoming familiar with learning routines and learning a bit about the building of the new school. They have been using aerial photographs to help them draw pictures of the school. The new pupils have enjoyed getting to know their Primary 7 buddies.

The children in **Primary 2** have been learning about Burntisland. They enjoyed walking along the High Street, learning about the shops there and were also introduced to the public library.

Primary 3 children have been focusing on the importance of healthy eating and have learned about different food groups. They have enjoyed taking part in different types of exercise.

Pupils across **Primary 4** have been concentrating on Literacy, using Roald Dahl books to inspire them and have been impressed by the author's use of adjectives.

Children in **Primary 5** have become investigators through their 'Kidnapped' topic. They have been using clues left at crime scenes to try and find the victim. They have been inspired to use these new exciting skills in practical activities. Joanna Clarke has continued to enthral the children with her wonderful story-

telling which has been greatly appreciated.

Primary 6 are studying 'The Romans' and particularly, what life was like in the Roman era. They were visited by Police Scotland who shared an important message concerning Internet Safety.

Children in **Primary 7** have been enjoying taking on responsible roles in the school. They have been studying the book "Divided City" by Theresa Breslin which has encouraged them to think about sectarianism and other important social issues. The fire service visited to discuss the importance of staying safe around fireworks.

We hope all our pupils enjoyed their October break—we are excited for all the learning which awaits us now that we are in Term 2.



Before the summer break the kids had decorated an Oor Wullie sculpture with pictures of Burntisland for *The Oor Wullie Big Bucket Trail* in Dundee, with the aim of the school raising funds for the Archie Foundation, the sick children's ward at Ninewells Hospital in Dundee.

After spending a few weeks "outside in a' weather" in Dundee and by way of a wee detour to the big city, Oor Starley Hall Wullie has finally returned home. Neil from the Trail went to the Scottish Learning Festival in Glasgow and took Oor Wullie to help him with the presentation. We aim to auction Oor Wullie to add to the funds for the Archie foundation.



This term Starley has taken a Global vision toward education.

Tracy's class have focussed on what is under the sea with the aim of using it as a launch-pad to help the pupils understand the effects of climate change. They have had a trip to Dynamic Earth in Edinburgh to better understand what goes on in our Blue Planet. They have been discussing the Climate Change protests and the effect teenager, Greta Thunberg has had on putting Climate Change at the forefront of the World leaders' agenda.

Nic's class have been looking at China as a theme and the pupils

have been able to compare Scottish culture to Chinese culture and identify the differences in education between the two countries. They have also been learning some key Chinese greetings and phrases.

In Social Subjects the class are discovering the United Nations convention on the Rights of the child. They began with understanding identity and discussion around similarities and differences. The practical skills they are learning is to see past stereotypes and learn to communicate and listen.

Rachael has been teaching the children how to sign language and the pupils are already able to introduce themselves and ask questions using signed language.

Starley Hall continues to develop its therapeutic approach to Education and Care, and in August, Starley booked a venue at the Kingswood Hotel to hold a staff training event for Dyadic Developmental Practice, which helps staff understand the effect of trauma on children. Also, the school is on track to receive accreditation as a Nurture school which is awarded to establishments who have implemented a whole-school approach to Nurture principles.



Burntisland Playgroup

Another new term has started at playgroup with lots of new children and a couple of returning children. Everyone has settled well into the daily routine and we are all getting to know each other and building friendships.

The children have been learning about Harvest Time and the crops the farmers gather in and have discovered how the wheat is made into flour and experimented with making bread. Lots of children are aware of the changes that are happening to the environment as the weather gets colder. Our playgroup garden is filled with fallen leaves from the trees, a subject that we will be discussing with the children during our Autumn and Hibernation topics.

We have visited the beach to explore our local environment. The children discovered lots of sea creatures in the rock pools and used the sticks, shells, stones and sand to make pictures and play games. We will continue these visits for the next few months, then move on to the forest to extend our outdoor experiences.

We recently had our inspection by the Care Inspectorate and again we were assessed as "very good", which we were very pleased with.

Playgroup still has some spaces available, both funded and fee paying. So if your child is aged between 2 years 10 months and school age and you are looking for quality early years care and education, please pop in to see us. We accept applications from birth for our waiting list, so feel free to fill in an application form at any time for your child. These are available from the playgroup or Toll Centre.

Committee News

Our new committee was elected at our A.G.M. in August and has been very busy planning some fundraising events. The first event was our annual Halloween Disco on Saturday 26th October at the Toll Centre which will have taken place by the time you read this article.

Playgroup Events

Christmas Lights Switch On at the Jubilee Tavern, Friday 29th November 5.30 pm.

Come along and buy a raffle ticket at 5.30 pm to see if your child will be picked to switch the lights on at the Jubilee Tavern. Santa will be there as well so it will be a fun evening.



There will also be a few more events before Christmas, however dates and times still need to be confirmed. Posters will be around the town nearer the times. These events will include:

Photography session: come along and get your child's/family photo taken by a professional photographer in time to give to your Grandparents/Aunties/Uncles etc. for Christmas.

Christmas Coffee Morning: come along for a festive coffee morning, where you can enjoy a morning roll with your tea/coffee. You will be entertained by a brass band playing Christmas songs and be able to buy some home baking and Christmas crafts. The playgroup children will be "performing" their Christmas songs for their families as well, so it's a really fun morning.

**Jenny Roxburgh, Acting Manager/
Senior Early Years Practitioner**

Festive Celebrations At The Sands

Christmas Party Nights

Three course meal
plus a glass of
Prosecco £28

Saturday 7th

Fife's premier party
DJ MC Phats with
party games and the
very best Christmas
party hits!

Saturday 14th

Legendary Soul DJ
Zander Murray
returns, spinning the
best across the board
Soul!

Christmas Fayre

Three Course Menu
(£22.50 / £17.50 sml)
& **Festive Afternoon Tea** (£12pp)
available November 29th - December 24th

Festive Jazz Jam

Wednesday 5th December 7.30pm

New Year Quiz Night

Thursday 2nd January 8pm

Christmas Day Menu

Three Course Menu
£60 / £45 small portion / £20 kids

Hogmanay Bash

Three course Gala dinner, welcome drink,
dram at the bells and party DJ £45



01592 872 230
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Lochies Road, Burntisland, KY3 9JX

Get ready for winter

We can't believe how quickly this year has gone, suddenly here we are in November and thinking of getting ready for winter again. Change Works in Burntisland Hub is here to help. Here are our top tips to get ready for winter:

Dodge the draughts

The simple measures we can take will give the quickest and cheapest results: thermal lined, floor length curtains will cut down draughts and heat loss through your windows, make sure you have a draught excluder fitted to external doors and letterbox and don't forget to close your curtains earlier as the nights draw in.

Attic attack

Do you have enough loft insulation? Along with draught-proofing, insulating your attic is one of the most effective actions you can take and will make a big difference to how warm your home is.

Be in control

We can help you set your programmer and check your controls, even if you've lost your instructions. To keep an eye on where your energy is being used in your home, we still have some simple to fit energy loop monitors available for FREE long term loan. A simple app allows you to see at a glance where energy is being used in your home and offers tips for reducing energy use and cutting your bills.

Service your boiler and radiators

Servicing your boiler will keep it working efficiently and minimise the chance of a breakdown just when you need your heating the most. If your radiators are cooler at the top and warmer at the bottom then it is a sign that they need bleeding. You can pick up a FREE radiator key in the Hub and staff will talk you through how to bleed a radiator if you haven't done this before.



Be ready for the Beast

Make sure your water pipes are lagged to prevent wasting energy and reduce the risk of pipes freezing. Know where your stopcock is so you can turn your water off in an emergency.

Tune up your tariff

As well as keeping an eye on how much energy you are using, make sure that you are getting good value from your supplier. If you haven't switched for more than a year then you could be able to make big savings. We can help you access free and impartial switching advice and make the whole process hassle free for you.

If you are planning home improvements then this is the ideal time to think about how to make your home warmer and more efficient at the same time. We understand the importance of finding reliable contractors who will do a good job, so we developed a list of approved contractors and we are able to offer a FREE quality assurance check by our building specialists for householders in Burntisland. This will give you confidence that your energy efficiency improvements have been done to approved standards. This service is completely free and should there be any problems, our QA team will be on hand to help.

Regular Hub visitors will have noticed that we have recently changed our eco-friendly refillable products to Ecoleaf. We believe they offer the best value and have an excellent recycling and refill policy, so we are delighted to now be Ecoleaf stockists with an expanded range of products. Refills start from only 15p per 100ml. Come and see our new and improved range for yourself.

Our sample packs of reusable nappies have been very popular. Better for babies, better for your purse and better for the environment, our packs offer parents three different kinds of reusable nappies along with washable wet wipes and a cute patterned wet bag to pop nappies into



**Change Works
in Burntisland**

when you are out and about. Normally retailing at £45 we are offering them at £25 until the end of March, while stocks last. Keep an eye out in our newsletter or on our Facebook page for details of Nappucino events and the chance to come and meet other parents or parents-to-be and indulge in some nappy chat.



We continue to be Fife Council's stockist of free compost caddy waste bags. Biodegradable bags have a limited shelf life so just come and collect a new roll when you are down to your last few bags, we have plenty in stock.

Bustling Burntisland Christmas Market

We are delighted to be taking part in the Christmas Street Market again this year. The Hub will be open and offering FREE face painting and craft activities 4pm-6pm on Saturday 7th December. Don't miss the festive fun!

For further information on draught-proofing, insulating your loft, programming your heating controls, picking up your free radiator key, lagging your water pipes, switching energy suppliers or getting your free Loop energy monitor, get in touch with the Change Works in Burntisland team on 01592 724424, email burntisland@changeworks.org.uk or pop into the hub at 183 High Street, Burntisland.

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Remembrance Sunday

The traditional parade and services to commemorate those who gave their lives in defence of our country takes place on Sunday 10th November.

The parade will consist of representatives from the Armed Forces, Fife Council, The Community Council, Ex-service personnel, members of youth organisations and members of the public. It will assemble at Harbour Place in time for a 10.30 am departure. Led by the Burntisland and District Pipe Band the parade will march via the High Street and Kirkgate to the Parish Church for the formal service commencing at 10.45 am.

Following the service, the parade will reform and march to the War Memorial to join members of the public for a short commemorative service and the laying of wreaths.

On reforming, the parade will march back along the High Street to the Burgh Chambers where on dismissal, participants will attend an informal reception hosted by Burntisland Community Council.



Nominations invited for Community Award

The search is on for the person in Burntisland who has given most to the community and who will win the Community Award for 2020.

Every year, Burntisland Community Council makes an award to someone whose service to the community has been outstanding. There are no restrictions on the type of service which can be recognised – all that matters is that the winner of the award is an example to others.

Now in its 40th year, previous winners have come from many different walks of life. Some have given long and excellent service to different local organisations. Others have excelled in the face of disability. Still others have worked quietly in the background bringing comfort to people who are distressed by illness or family circumstances.

Whatever the background, the key point is that winners of the Award are considered by the Community Council to be an

example of how we should live our lives in support of the people around us.

Nominations should be made to the Secretary of Burntisland Community Council, Yvonne Crombie, by email: burntislandcc@outlook.com—or to any member of the Community Council, not later than Friday 13th December.

The winner will be announced on Hogmanay and a formal presentation will be made early in the New Year.



A new zero waste refillery business, Grain & Sustain, has recently opened at 135 High Street. The shop allows customers to bring their own containers and fill them with pasta, rice, oats, pulses, nuts, flour, and much more. It is the first to offer this range in Fife with over 40 food products so far.

Grain & Sustain also stocks bathroom refills, soap and shampoo bars, oils, loose tea, plus local crafts and gifts, jewellery, toys.

If you forget your containers then glass jars can be bought, with proceeds going to towards conservation charities. All this helps to reduce plastic use on the High Street.

You can find out more at www.facebook.com/grainandsustain



Pictured are owner Louise Humpington (left), with Morgan Connelly on opening day



St. Andrew's Day Ceilidh

Burntisland Golf Club

Saturday, 30th November 2019

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Live on the Links

2019 will be remembered as “the one with the floods”— thanks to the torrential rain which arrived and brought a halt to a great Saturday afternoon on the Links.

Because of the weather, unfortunately two bands weren’t able to play, and everyone huddled in the beer tent for shelter while a massive puddle formed at the bottom of the bandstand!

This year also saw the largest programme of events we had presented, with busy evenings in the Silver Tassie and Port Bar, rounded off with a chilled out Sunday afternoon in the Sands Hotel.

For the first time we were able to showcase the next generation of bands from the Toll Community Centre’s music project, along with a young piper to open the proceedings. Next year we hope to again present the finest local talent, and provide a great weekend of entertainment.

Our photo shows the festival as a family day out with Edith Douglas, famous locally as a dancer in her younger days, joining in with Bryan from KWAK.

Thanks to everyone who turned out to support the bands and also those who helped make the event happen. The date for next year’s Live on the Links weekend is provisionally set as the 7th–9th August.

Charlie Kilgour



Museum of Communication

MUSEUM OF COMMUNICATION



Our 2019 Exhibition closed at the end of September, so it’s decision time again! Within the next month, we must decide our main theme(s) for next year, so that we can spend the winter months preparing for opening next Easter.

This always involves a good bit of research, set construction and model making. Not to mention combing through our 50-ton collection to select exhibits, loads of cleaning, repairing and countless diagrams and labels. Small wonder we say that we’re busier when we’re closed than when we’re open!

We’ve found that one very helpful and useful way to choose themes, is by referring to significant anniversaries and dates, then searching our catalogue to see if we have any appropriate artefacts. We’ve made a tentative start at this, by listing some significant dates from the past 200 years, and thought this may provoke interest. Here are seven of them:

- 200 years ago – Building of the Union Chain Bridge over the River Tweed, linking Scotland and England.

- 175 years ago – The doomed Franklin expedition to discover the North-West passage
- 150 years ago – Lots of Railway lines open.
- 125 years ago – First motor car (Panhard) comes to Scotland.
- 75 years ago – End of World War 2 – V.E. Day (Victory in Europe).
- 50 years ago – First commercial flight of Pan-Am’s Boeing 747.
- 25 years ago – BBC begins DAB (Digital Audio Broadcasting)

Food for Thought. What a long way we’ve come in such a short time—from transport across a river about 1 mile wide, to transport from the planet to our satellite, the Moon!

Still discussing “what to do” next year, so we’d be very grateful and happy to receive any suggestions or ideas.

Dorothy Brankin

Co-op Fundraising

Both of Burntisland’s Co-op stores worked together during the summer to raise £1,200 for S.A.M.H. (Scottish Association for Mental Health). It’s a charity very close to our hearts and was a unanimous choice for the Co-op to support.

A massive thank you to all our customers here in Burntisland for getting behind us & raising this fantastic amount.

Carole-Anne Paterson



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Floral Action Burntisland

As autumn arrives we can reflect upon another successful and enjoyable summer that we had.

Our planting this year was truly stunning. The combination of pinks and yellows really brightened up the town and our baskets this year were the best we have had. A combination of sunny (and wet weather) undoubtedly helped.

In September we retained our Gold Award at this years Beautiful Fife ceremony and together with the Heritage Trust we won the overall Heritage Award for the Kirkton Church Project. Being shortlisted for the Community Involvement Award was also an added bonus.

We held our inaugural Open Garden Event in August. Five gardens throughout Burntisland opened their doors on a Sunday afternoon allowing the public to view some hidden gems which otherwise we wouldn't have known existed. Around 50 people enjoyed the day with positive feedback given from those who participated. This looks likely to become an annual event.

We held our Coffee Morning in October at St Joseph's Church raising a whopping £1,005. This is an amazing achievement

and we would like to thank all of those individuals who supported us with raffle prizes, cake and candy and donations.

There have been further developments at Allan Court. Led by one of our volunteers and a few others, we have added perennial planting up the side of the sheltered housing complex.



Allan Court Blossom

This also has been actively supported by local resident and author Hamish Brown who has sourced many of the perennials. Hamish is appealing to anyone in the town who can provide cuttings or spare clumps of perennial plants to contact him on 01592 873546. He also requires the assistance of a chainsaw expert to tackle the generations of rampant ivy!

Our Community Garden Project is also moving forward. We now have a clear

direction on how we need to move forward after having to work through some 'red tape'. It is hoped that by early next year we should be in a position to start fundraising for the project, which will take a lot of time and effort before coming to fruition.

We are already in discussion regarding our plans for next year. Some of our ideas include installing additional basket trees along the Links and adding more planters on the beach promenade.

Our next fundraising event will take place on Sunday 24th November at Burntisland Golf Club. This will be our annual Christmas Craft Fair. With an array of stalls it's a great event to come along to and start a bit of Christmas shopping.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the town's people who support us year in, year out, not just with volunteering but with your financial support too. We do what we do because we love Burntisland but this is a whole town achievement about which we should all be proud.

Scott Sweaton



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Burntisland & Kinghorn Rotary Club

Burntisland & Kinghorn Rotary started their new year with the Handover Meeting on 2nd July, which saw incoming President Ken Kirkwood setting out his and the Club's objectives for the year ahead. Primarily among these was to substantially enhance the profile of the Club in particular, and Rotary in general within the communities of Burntisland, Kinghorn and Aberdour. To facilitate this and to encourage new members to come on board, it is considered essential to promote the wide range of service Rotary provides and is planning to provide during the forthcoming year. Additionally, the Club is planning a prospective members event at 6.30 pm on 14th November in the Sands Hotel.

The wide range of involvement in local projects for youngsters will include the Rotary Rambles walks for Kinghorn & Burntisland Primaries, the Primary Schools Quiz, and the annual Burns Poetry Competition not to mention RotaKids in Burntisland and shortly starting in Kinghorn whilst our membership of Rotary in Fife has enabled ten Fife Young Carers to attend the Ocean Youth Trust Course in August.

We are also very active on the International scene collecting disused spectacles for Vision Aid, funding the Lend with Care Project encouraging small entrepreneurs in third world countries and the Malawi Water & Toilet Project in collaboration with Inverness Culloden Rotary Club. Some funding is, however, always held in reserve for the inevitable international disaster often in the form of



sending a Rotary Shelter Box or supporting a Rotary District initiative. This includes separate collections supporting the colossal effort by Rotary International, close to completion, to eliminate polio in the world.

Many local charities and organisations such as clothing and food banks, health visitor requests, Fife Festival of Music and many others benefit from our funds generally on a twice yearly basis. However this comes at a cost, so raising funds is essential. We recently organised, along with the Sands Hotel, a Beer & Gin festival. Our annual Charity Shop Event was held above Burntisland Library in October, which raised over £1,600 for the good causes we support. A Curry & Comedy Night is planned with details to be published on our website and Facebook page.

Speaking of enjoyment and fun, Club Members and partners still find time to take part in organised sports such as lawn bowling, curling, 10 pin bowling and

social events including a Christmas Dinner, Burns Supper with external visits to interesting businesses or attractions.

To sum up all of the above in one sentence 'Rotary is a group of friends who meet regularly to serve their community and other people nationally and worldwide while having fun together'.

Interested? Contact any Rotarian or Secretary Mike via email mikebgillis@bopenworld.com and don't forget our prospective members night.

RotaKids

Following the success of BPS RotaKids we would like to start a RotaKids Community Club for Burntisland, Kinghorn, and surrounding areas, for children in P4-P7.

If interested please contact: rita.attewell@gmail.com

Derek Thomson



Black Rocks Rowing Club

After a successful first meeting early in the year at the Roasting Project, the Black Rocks Rowing Club is all go and moving ahead nicely.

We quickly organized into three committees. The fundraising committee went to work identifying grant sources that we might qualify for, the Club building committee started adapting a constitution that reflected our hopes and dreams and the boat building committee began the search for an appropriate place to build the St. Ayles Skiff that would be at the centre of our club.

Finding enthusiastic support in almost every situation, we have been given a place to build our skiff by a Burntisland resident. Our sincere thanks to Irene Aitken for coming to our rescue.

The fundraising committee found us a £300 startup grant from Fife Council. That, along with a few donations, a barbeque event and initial membership fees quickly brought our war chest to in excess of £700.

A modest amount perhaps but good enough for us to purchase the initial kit to get started.

Our close associates at the Kinghorn Rowing Club have loaned us the boat frames necessary to build the boat. They have also graciously instated an Associate Membership category at their own club, providing us with an opportunity to row with them in the meantime.

We also applaud the Burntisland Sailing Club who have so graciously allowed us to meet in their clubhouse. The advice and assistance of these two clubs is immeasurable and we are in their debt.

Earlier in this article I referred to the boat being at the centre of our club but it's really the people that are helping us to get there. The people of this wonderful community that is Burntisland.

On behalf of the Black Rocks Rowing Club let me invite you to get involved.

Joel Houck
Chair, Black Rocks Rowing Club

The Black Rocks Rowing Club are in need of the following tools:

Smoothing plane, chisel set, Stanley knife, screwdriver set, spokeshaves, rip saw, tenon saw, Japanese pull saw, marking gauge, 300m steel rule, measuring tape, large spirit level (around 1000 mm), small spirit level (around 300mm) paint scraper set, square, lots of f-clamps, dust masks, disposable gloves, brushes, mixing pots (empty 500g yoghurt pots), mixing sticks, masking tape, parcel tape, assorted screws, sandpaper, 2 part epoxy, assorted specialized paint, hot air gun, random orbital sander, vacuum cleaner, thickness planer, band saw, table saw.

If a reader has any of these tools lying around and would like to make a donation please contact Joel at 07767 151383 or message the Club via our Facebook page – Black Rocks Rowing Club.



Burntisland Golf House Club



The golf seasons seem to go quicker and quicker as the years pass. It seems no time at all since we were moving on to the big greens and everything was in front of us. However, time indeed rolls on and, as we reflect on 2019 here at Dodhead, it has been another varied year.

The weather hasn't always been kind and, subsequently, the number of visitors passing through has been down on previous years. This is a great pity as the course on offer was one of the finest in the area and it stood up tremendously well to the conditions. Great credit goes to Stevie McAughey and his small team of grafters.

Membership rates are also some of the finest in the area and we have great flexibility in payment methods. Anyone who is new to the area, and is thinking about starting the game or re-starting the game after a break, should get in touch.

In particular we would love to hear from ladies or juniors who are interested. There is no need for any immediate financial outlay as we can help you try before you 'buy'.

There has been a slight resurgence in juniors with coaching taking place on a Sunday for a keen young group. Burntisland Primary School has pledged to help in this area, and we look forward to bearing fruit in years to come.

Newbies to the area may also not know that they would be

welcome to the range of social functions that we put on. Social memberships are available at only £30 but again, please feel free to drop in for a coffee / lunch without any obligation. At this time of year we are looking forward to a variety of Quiz Nights, Food Theme Nights, Tribute Acts (Kenny Rogers/Neil Diamond on 23rd November), Kids' Hallowe'en Party, Kids' Christmas Party and, of course, the ever popular Hogmanay Ceilidh.

The lounge has also recently been used by various groups who have hosted their own functions, and this is something that we are happy to do. Race Nights, Charity Nights, Ceilidhs etc. have all been successfully run in recent times, and indeed in the coming weeks we have the annual Cancer Research Charity Night and then a St Andrews Night Ceilidh for Poppy Scotland.

Head Professional Paul Wytrazek will once again have his pre-Christmas sale on in December, and there are too many bargains to list here. Ideal presents for yourself or the golfer in your family. Or, you might prefer to purchase a Club voucher, which could be put towards a 2020 subscription.

For all details please email info@burntislandgolfhouseclub.co.uk or telephone 01592 874093 for the Secretary / Bar or 01592 872116 for the Pro's Shop.

Dave McPherson

Burntisland Shipyard FC



At the time of writing the team is on a great run of form, winning four and drawing one of the last five league matches. Two wins and a draw on the road have been very pleasing along with two home wins, scoring ten goals without reply in the process. The only blip in the recent results was a disappointing 2-1 defeat to Threave Rovers in the South Region Challenge Cup, a game that really should have been won.

The atmosphere at Recreation Park is up a notch with the recently formed "Shippy Ultras" backing the team with their songs and drum—it's great to see the young boys enjoying themselves.

Furthermore, attendances are on the up and we welcome the local support, though the Club would be delighted to see more people come along and support the team. Entry is only £5 for adults, £3 for concessions and under 12s free. You can also enjoy a wide range of hot and cold snacks or drinks at very reasonable prices from our catering outlets.

The Club had its SFA Licence audit in September and as you read this article, we will know the outcome of the Club Licensing Committee's decision, though we are confident of our Licence being renewed. The Club applied for derogation regarding the installation of floodlights and that should be granted due to the timescale we are working under. Given the scale of the project, a lot of hard work lies ahead as we look to fundraise and source contractors to carry out the work and the Club would welcome any assistance from the community in helping us achieve our goal.

Finally, on a very sad note, the Club was devastated to learn of the tragic passing of former player Ewan Fotheringham. Ewan enjoyed two spells with the Shipyard, playing as a tenacious hardworking wide player and he will be sadly missed. RIP Ewan.

Andrew Beveridge

Burntisland Bowling Club

The Club's season ended on 5th October with the annual match between teams representing the Treasurer and the Secretary.

Despite the uncertain weather, the competition went ahead, and the Treasurer's side came out victorious. Winner of the George Gibson Cup on the day was the team comprising Dorothy Whyte, Carol Wilson and Jim Hunter.

A significant achievement during the season was the success of the club in winning the National Playing Fields Association South West Fife Shield and the MacRobert Trophy. (See picture)

With the Club's internal competitions now completed, Dorothy Whyte emerged victorious as Ladies Champion, and Kenneth Nimmo took the Men's Crown.

The numerous other internal club competitions were keenly contested with trophies won by a eclectic range of enthusiastic members.

Richard Perry



Pictured with the trophies: Brian Fleming, Steve McAughey, John MacDonald, Raymond Whyte, Trevor Aldridge, George Paterson, Paul Graham, and Kenneth Nimmo.

The Beacon Runners

Still running after 20 years!

The Beacon Running Club celebrated its 20th birthday this August. Set up in 1999, the club shares similar objectives and training principles with the well known Jog Scotland scheme and all our coaches are qualified Jog Leaders. Around 50 runners, coaches and their families commemorated the event with a barbeque and games day at the Kinghorn Ecology Centre.

It's been a busy summer for our runners. In August fifteen of the club completed the inaugural Kirkcaldy Parks half marathon. And, taking things to extremes, seven ran in the gruelling 'Devil o' the Highlands' race - 43 miles along the West Highland Way from Tyndrum to Fort William - with two of our women, Lisa Johnstone and Karen Young, among the prize winners. Other recent events that many of the club competed in included the Black Rock 5, the Donkey Brae, the Tour of Fife, the Lairig Ghru ultra and, of course, our own Binn Race.



Looking forward to the Kirkcaldy Half Marathon

Despite these achievements, the core aim of the club is about getting people running in the first place and providing the support, encouragement and companionship necessary to maintain that.

Many people aspire to get fitter, but are intimidated by the thought of going along to a 'running club'. At the Beacon we try to ensure that all the sessions are achievable and fun, whatever your level of fitness. And no-one gets left behind! While some fall in love with the sport and end up running ultra-marathons for fun (yes, really) many others are happy just to come along once a week for a bit of chat, a bit of motivation and a bit of exercise, with no desire to take things further.

Whatever your running goals, the Beacon Running Club can help you achieve them. We meet every Monday at 7 pm at the Beacon Leisure Centre.

George Lees



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Burntisland Amateur Swimming Club

Since Spring, Club swimmers have competed in a number of meets such as INCaS Distance Meet, IM Tough at Bathgate and the East District time trials. There was a short break in summer but then back to a busy schedule of competitions including the Dunedin Meet at Bathgate, Stirling, and the Swim IT meet. Fife Leagues have continued with Burntisland lying high up in the points for all of the Novice age groups.

Autumn is always busy with more competitions coming up including Fife Championships, Fife Schools, Carnegie Winter Meet and our annual Club Championships - where swimmers compete to win one of the many trophies that have been handed down within the Club for years.

All of our swimmers have been training hard as usual, and seven of our District Squad have qualified to train with the Fife Area Squad—well done to Anna Smith, Evan Raeside, Robbie Burke, Gracie Kellas, Rosie Flanagan, Katie Sandilands, and Eilidh McKelvie.

Out of the pool the Club will come together on Wednesday 27th November for our Annual General Meeting at the Sands Hotel from 7 pm. This year we will welcome the Scottish Swimming

Regional Development Manager who will award our SwiMark re-accreditation. This award is recognition of the hard work of the athletes, volunteers and coaches who are all dedicated to providing a safe and quality club environment.

On Saturday 30th November the Club will hold our annual presentation evening at the Toll Community Centre, swimmers will receive championship trophies, distance swim and league participation awards.

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

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Burntisland–Flekkefjord Town Twinning

Another successful youth exchange was completed this year when our four teenagers—Eoin Devlin, Rosa McDonald, Sorley Small and Isla Kisby—made the trip to Flekkefjord to stay with the Norwegians who visited Burntisland last summer. They all had a fantastic week enjoying a variety of activities, experiencing a different culture and getting to know Flekkefjord and the surrounding area.

We were lucky to be able to fly from Edinburgh this year and, apart from the small panic when one of the group misplaced their passport whilst negotiating security, it was very straightforward and hassle-free. (The passport was quickly found where it had been left – panic over!)

All the kids were so happy to be reunited when we arrived in Flekkefjord – with lots of chatter, hugs and big smiles. There was a small gathering at the town hall before everyone headed off to their various homes to meet their host families with instructions to meet up the following lunchtime for a cycle on the Dresin.



and catch some ourselves. It was a very productive trip and everyone managed to catch at least one. Unfortunately, during all the excitement someone lost their mobile phone to the depths of the fjord—ouch!

The kids had a lot of free time and filled it with sleepovers at each other's houses, swimming and diving at Gronnes—an outdoor beach area with diving boards etc, bowling and also a day out on the train to Kristiansand. They certainly kept themselves busy! But, all too soon, the week was ending and we had to return home. We narrowly avoided missing our flight as some last minute shopping went on at the airport—a deliberate ploy? Highly possible...



We are now on the lookout for our next four lucky people to represent Burntisland on the youth exchange. If you will be aged 14 or 15 in 2020 and would like to be picked, drop us a message on the Facebook page **Burntisland-Flekkefjord Town Twinning**. You will have the experience of a lifetime and make great friends.

Quotes from this year:

“The whole thing was amazing – both years – I give it 5 stars and I would 100% do it again”

“It was the best experience of my life so far”

“The trip was amazing – there’s nothing that could have been better about it”

Sarah Main



We had a lovely day for the 34-km round-trip cycle, which makes use of the old rail-bikes they used to check the tracks. The views, on the way out were fantastic and distracting enough to let you forget it was actually quite hard work. Fortunately, the return leg was mostly downhill—a lot easier albeit really noisy and a bit scary in the dark tunnels. Definitely an experience not to be missed.

The following day we were taken out in boats to a local island picnic spot. The Mayor had brought waterskis and a giant inflatable doughnut for some watersports. Some were brave enough to have a go, others simply jumped off the rocks, swam or played various games. Although they all had wetsuits on, the kids were surprised by how warm the water in the fjord was—“way warmer than our sea” apparently.

On a separate evening, the Mayor invited everyone for a barbecue at his summer house to be followed by crab fishing once darkness fell. He had previously caught and cooked some crab for us which everyone gamely tried. Then it was time to head out to try

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Toll Community Centre



After a relatively quiet summer the Toll Community Centre has sprung back to life with lots of exciting things happening.

We recently held our AGM and although it was tinged with sadness as our Chairperson and Treasurer resigned, we welcomed three new members and look forward to working together as a team in the coming year.

We now have a colourful attractive logo which epitomises what we are about: **Bringing Burntisland Together**. There are plans afoot to bring the outside of the building to life thanks to a very generous donation from Burntisland Angling Club, so watch this space.

The **Toll on Tour** is still getting out and about on a Monday morning with our Knitting Group at Solid Rock. We have some very talented ladies that can share their expertise. So any beginners out there, you are in safe hands—join us for a cuppa, a blether and a good laugh!

And on a Monday afternoon we are working in partnership with Sporting Memories Scotland. It's a fun filled and interesting session with quizzes, games, fun and cake, so pop along and join us.

The centre said goodbye this summer to the fantastic volunteers who ran the Tuesday Youth Club, as their kids had moved on and they felt it was their time to go. We are planning to open again very soon and several local mums have volunteered their services to continue the great work. We will announce on our Facebook page when we are ready to open.

Our Bike Project runs on Wednesdays from 10.30 am–12 pm is going from strength to strength. Well done to Garry, one of our volunteers, who has successfully completed his silver award in bike mechanics. We've seen whole families coming for bikes this summer. It's lovely to see children cycling with their parents and then being able to swap bikes that are too small for a more appropriate size. The town has supported us with their donations which has enabled us to achieve all this. Many thanks!

Remember, the centre is still a collection point for the Burntisland Foodbank so please keep those donations coming in. We're open Monday to Friday, 9 am-2.45 pm.

Mental health is a very real issue that affects so many of our community. Often

people suffer in silence and for a variety of reasons don't reach out for help. So in September we worked in partnership with SteveFest to raise awareness and get the town talking to each other. There was a great programme of bands and musicians who kindly gave up their time. The Samaritans and S.A.M.H. were present and we even had the most delicious scones in the world from Johns Scone Mad. Our VIP guest courtesy of Briggs Marine was Oor Wullie!

It was a great day and people did 'open up' and talk about the issues they face on a daily basis. It will be an annual event as there is still a lot of work to be done. Over £800 was raised for mental health charities, so a huge thanks to all who were involved.

The centre has been in close contact with Santa Claus through out the year and we can confirm that he will be visiting Burntisland in his brand new sleigh on Friday 13th, Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th December—details of his route to follow soon.

We plan to end the year with a bang and are hosting a family Hogmanay party! Bring your own bottle and food. Tickets are on sale at the Community Centre, so come along and bring in 2020 with your friends and families!

Yvonne Crombie,
Centre Manager

Burntisland Community Development Trust

Dementia Friendly Burntisland, a sub-group of the BCDT, would like to offer a big thank you to the local businesses who are supporting Burntisland to become a Dementia Friendly Town.

By taking 15 minutes to become a dementia friend at:

www.dementiafriendsscotland.org local businesses are learning how to be more understanding about dementia, helping to raise awareness of the condition at a local

level, reducing the stigma that continues to surround the illness. This makes it easier for people living with dementia and their families and friends in Burntisland to stay at home and live their lives as normally as possible for as long as they can.

So far, Ross of Macauley's Fruit and Veg and Calum of C.Sinclair Fresh Fish Merchants have signed up and are proudly displaying their Dementia Friendly Fife window stickers. This follows a visit from

Ruth McCabe of Fife Health and Social Care Partnership, who gives advice on how to make sure premises are structurally dementia-friendly.

If you would like to find out more please email

Ruth.Mccabe@fife.gov.uk
or contact Aileen Aitken
on
aracummins@gmail.com



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Class 4



Class 7

Erskine Church

Recently I found myself driving the narrow country roads at the back of Aberdour, in search of a few harvest field photos for our service in Erskine. The views from a higher level showed me, not only the big sweep of our area close to the Forth, but also the fine detail of the landscape that surrounds us. It made me think, hold that thought...

News—We gathered foodstuffs for Kirkcaldy Foodbank and took a collection for the excellent work of Fife Gingerbread at that harvest service on Sunday 29th September. Our Autumn Fayre was held on Saturday 26th October in the halls with the usual mix of stalls along with those legendary pancakes, followed by Communion on Sunday 28th.

Churches like doing the same things, but what if we started thinking differently and

really worked closer together? Our united service at The Bay Hotel on Sunday 1st September with Burntisland & Kinghorn Parishes was attended by almost 200 people, with a great atmosphere and lots of positives in terms of looking together at the bigger picture of what we might do in our communities. Exciting times!

News—Joint Remembrance on Sunday 10th November in the Parish, then all those services we do at Christmas. I think you'll find a list of these elsewhere on this very page.

Let me highlight Erskine's carols on Sunday 15th December at 6.15 pm, and of course our renowned Watchnight on Tuesday 24th December at 11.15 pm. Can it almost be the season of goodwill once again, when we celebrate the birth of Jesus?

As we move towards Christmas, don't forget that bigger picture. It's about more than those gifts, cards & family meals. It's the season to thank God for the gift of his Son and remind ourselves of the humility, grace & compassion he always showed.

Jesus says this about himself, "For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many" (Matthew 20.28, NLT).

Today's deeply divided society could certainly do with more of these qualities being exhibited by everyone. Please enjoy the latter part of this year and have a very peaceful Christmas.

Rev. Alexander Ritchie



St Joseph's Church

Recently we welcomed Sr Ella Flynn of the Salesian Sisters of St John Bosco, with us to make an appeal on behalf of her Order, who currently work in 95 nations world-wide, with and for young people. The parishioners of St Joseph's responded to her appeal with their customary generosity and raised a fantastic £1,185.

November is a time for Remembrance and our Knit and Knatter group have been very busy knitting poppies to create a display for Remembrance Sunday. In recent months they have also knitted and crocheted over 60 woolly hats, which will be passed on to the Apostleship of the Sea for distribution to seafarers, who greatly appreciate them. In addition they have made lap blankets and sensory cushions

for Care Homes, hats for premature babies and baby blankets, jerseys and hat sets which went to refugee camps in Syria and Greece.

The group will be holding a Coffee Morning in St Joseph's Hall on Saturday 30 November, 10.30 am–12.30 pm. As well as teas and coffees there will be a tombola, raffle and handmade Christmas gifts and knitted toys for sale. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

Instead of sending Christmas Cards to each other this year, we are encouraging parishioners to instead add their greetings on a Christmas poster in the Church porch and make a donation to a nominated charity.

Christmas seems a good bit away, but we would like to extend a very warm welcome for you to join us at our Christmas Services.

On Christmas Eve there will be Carols at 5.30 pm, followed by a Family Mass at 6.00 pm, and on Christmas Day Mass will be at the usual time of 10.00 am.

Many people who do not come to Church on a regular basis make a special effort to come at Christmastime – we look forward to seeing you.

Father James



Burntisland Churches Welcome You to Join Us in Celebrating Christmas

14th December Burntisland Community Concert, Burntisland Primary School, 7.00 pm
£5.00 for Adults, Children Free. Raised funds go to Mary's Meals

Sunday 15th December
Parish Church Morning Service with Young Church Nativity, 11.00 am
Erskine Church Family Carol Service, 6.15 pm

22nd December Messy Church Nativity, Parish Church Halls (with a meal) 3–5 pm
This is a celebration of Christmas through songs and stories with a Classic Christmas flavour.

Tuesday 24th December
Crib Service at St Columba's Church, Aberdour, 3.00 pm
Young children and families. This is a family service to focus on the meaning of Christmas.

Christmas Eve Services—Bring in Christmas with a quiet reflective service.

- St. Serf's Church, Christmas Even Candlelit Service, 6.00 pm
- St. Joseph's Church, Carols at 5.30 pm, followed by Family Mass at 6.00 pm
- Parish Church, Candlelit Service, 7.00 pm
- Erskine Church, Watchnight Service, 11.15 pm

Wednesday 25th December

Christmas Day Service, Come and Celebrate the Birth of Jesus

- St. Joseph's Church, Christmas Mass, 10.00 am
- St Columba's Church, Aberdour, 10.00 am (All Souls Churches Service)
- Parish Church Service, 10.30 am



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Parish Church

There have been changes at Burntisland Parish Church over the last six months. In May, Rev Alan Sharp retired after a long and fruitful ministry and now the church is in what is known as a period of vacancy. That doesn't mean nothing is happening, quite the contrary. The life of the church continues very much as before with the Sunday morning services and young church, Sunday evening services in Solid Rock, the Wednesday morning services also at Solid Rock.

Then there's all the social and outreach events: the Friday coffee mornings, the Guild, the café times at Solid Rock and the Foodbank. Also there are the special occasions, including Messy Church and Christmas services. There will always be a warm welcome at all of these. At the same time, schools are visited as are the elderly and housebound in the parish and care is given in times of bereavement. "Christians Against Poverty" works to help those in debt and the church shop continues to do business.

How does all this happen when the church has no minister? Well, first of all the elders and many members of the church are active in many different ways: playing their part in services and the outreach of the church. The Kirk Session has an "Interim Moderator" in the person of Rev Jim Reid, the minister of Kinghorn Parish

Church, whose role is to guide the elders through the time of vacancy and to play a part in the administration of the church.

Finally, the church has a "locum", that is myself, Rev David Redmayne. Being a locum involves me working part time in the parish—the equivalent of two days a week—and leading worship on Sundays. So all together you will find the work of the church continues as before, but different people will be playing different parts at different times!



Before taking up the role of locum at Burntisland I had been retired from full-time ministry for a year and a half. Previously, I was the minister of Beath and Cowdenbeath North Church for almost 17 years. I retired in October 2017. Since then I have gained a diploma in pastoral supervision, a form of support and oversight which is being made available to ministers and others in similar roles. In

addition, I have provided cover at various churches for ministers who are on holiday. In May this year I was appointed the Moderator of Dunfermline Presbytery which is an appointment that usually lasts a year. I hope that during my time at Burntisland, the Parish Church will continue to be an encouragement and a blessing to the community.

Rev. David Redmayne

Burntisland Parish Church Guild

Our church guild meets every Tuesday from October to March from 2–4 pm and is held in the Parish Church Hall, East Leven Street. Both men and women are made very welcome.

We meet in a social setting and although we follow the teachings of the church, you do not have to be a church member to join.

Over the course of the season there is a variety of activities to suit all ages and interests. Each meeting ends with tea and chat.

Why not come along and have a chat with one of our leaders. We would love to welcome you into our guild.





Burntisland Bird Watch
November '19
By Leo du Feu

It's October 11th and geese have been back for a month, redwings a week. I love this country where seasons exist so strongly. It's a delight showing autumn to our son who, nearly two, for the first time notices v's of geese, points up at them, "ghee, ghee..". Hasn't quite got 'S' yet.

How will these markers of time change as climate becomes more unpredictable? Which species will manage to adapt? Warmer winters already cause some birds to stay with us year round when they used to fly south to escape the cold. And where will those go who need the cold?

But for now, autumn. Geese are great - try an RSPB Loch Leven goosewatch but redwings to me are most exciting of all the autumn arrivals. They often make their migrations nocturnally and the first time I hear the single note 'tsee' on a still night as I walk home from the station a thrill runs right through me.

Tawny owls are calling too as young birds seek to establish territories ready for breeding in early spring. I've heard the classic 'hoo..oo..ooo' recently, distant, maybe the slopes of the Binn though I think a bit closer than that. Perhaps a rooftop. A couple of years ago I heard, then watched one on a chimney just across from us, even managed a few sketches.

Enjoy the shore too as wader numbers grow through autumn. If you don't know your waders start with the easier ones. Large brown-grey curlews with long downcurvy beaks. Slightly smaller squatter black and white oystercatchers with long straight orange beaks and legs to match. Often oystercatchers probe for worms on the Links.



And non-bird. We continue to find fresh hedgehog droppings in the garden and the food we put in the cat-proof box for them still gets devoured. Who knows how long I'll be able to keep writing about them as yet more local gardens have been turned to gravel deserts.

Please, please think hard before doing this, every garden removed from nature is another nail in the coffin not just for hedgehogs but for robins, wrens and blue tits, bats and bees, butterflies and moths, frogs and toads, safe air for our children, shade from ever hotter summers and protection from flash flooding.

Better turn your patch to nature. This means let it grow, very little maintenance need be required. You could put in fruit trees or veg or a big hawthorn bush for the birds. Dig a wildlife pond or plant a native hedge for house sparrows. Much more fun than covering with chemicals a few times a year to stop the 'weeds'.

I recently listened to an inspiring edition of Costing the Earth on Radio 4. How easily we can increase nature space. We need Greenest Garden, Most Tree-ed Town awards, not Best Kept Village, Neatest Neighbourhood. Search "Verity's Wild Garden" on BBC Sounds.

As I finish I've been out to the garden and discover our ivy is in flower and is quite literally humming with hoverflies, bees, butterflies and more. Ivy is one of the best and easiest plants to let grow. It's evergreen for year-round shelter and nest space, it's one of the latest flowerers so vital for pollinators pre-hibernation, then the flowers turn to big black berries and help birds through winter. Let it grow!

Let us know what's going on in your patch—join the 'Burntisland Wildlife & Woodlands' group on Facebook to share photos, questions and ideas.

Vet's Corner

Just like humans our beloved pets are living longer and healthier lives. However dogs and cats go to great lengths to hide pain and discomfort so it is up to us, their owners, to recognise the signs of aging.

Apart from the obvious like a greying coat and a slowing gait, other clues are more challenging to spot.

Common issues in cats are hearing and sight loss, poor appetite due to dental disease or diminished sense of smell, decline in grooming habits, leading to matting in their coat. Difficulty jumping and climbing due to arthritis. Dogs are similar but they can also suffer weight gain and urinary incontinence. All of these can be treated to a certain degree. Unfortunately, dogs and cats may also develop signs of senility. This can be upsetting for us, more so for them.

The symptoms to look for can include disorientation, e.g. your pet may forget where the food bowl or litter tray is. They may also lose interest in being petted, sitting on your lap or other social interactions that were once common. Their sleep patterns may change. They may start vocalising a lot more or lose their ability to hold their bladder. Your dog may start to get lost on walks, your cat might just sit and stare into space.

If the vet diagnoses dementia, there is no cure but there are things

Golden Years

you can do to help. Stick to a strict routine when it comes to feeding, walking and bed time. For cats it's important to avoid extreme changes to their environment, mealtimes or other habits as this may result in further confusion. Give them as much love and attention as they enjoy.

We at Albavet, are always happy to advise on the best ways to keep our golden oldies healthy and happy. Just pop into the practice for a chat. That way when the time comes to say goodbye to your treasured companion, you will know that you have done everything you could to give them the best possible quality of life.

Jillian Walker



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The Ecology Centre

Bird hide

Over the past few months there have been incidences of vandalism around our site and in the bird hide by Kinghorn Loch. We have put messages out on our social media channels about this and we have been asking for feedback about adding a combination lock to help deter further vandalism.

Thank you to everyone in the local community and to the bird hide users for their feedback about this. Sadly, the vandalism and anti-social behaviour has continued, forcing us to lock the bird hide. Bird watchers and enthusiasts can get the access code by calling The Ecology Centre office on **01592 891567**.

Outdoor learning with Burntisland Primary School

Our Education Manager Claire Reid was out with Primary 6 pupils recently doing a litter pick at the Dell Woods. This exercise forms part of our Mindfulness Programme about being kind to each other and to our environment. The children were hugely enthusiastic and determined for the task in hand and retrieved a staggering amount of litter from the woods. They were so committed they wanted to go back and get the larger items that they found lurking in the bushes! Well done to all the pupils for their hard work.

Christmas events at The Ecology Centre

Our popular wreath making is on **Saturday 7th December**. We're running two sessions, one in the morning and one in the

afternoon. Our wreath making sessions are very relaxed and run by Tricia Annand who will guide you through how to make your own Christmas wreath using natural materials. We supply all the materials, but if you want to add your own ribbon or baubles please bring them along.

Tea, coffee and mince pies will be served for a small donation and our Christmas pop up shop will be open—offering a selection of small handmade wooden gifts made by our Tool Shed volunteers.

If you're looking for a different Christmas gift for that person who has everything, check out our website or come up to the Centre and have a browse at all the lovely products that our Tool Shed make. All proceeds from the sale of these products go straight back into supporting the Centre.

Finally, there's always lots of events running at The Ecology Centre—either by us or people using our venue space for their events. We've got regular **yoga classes, shamanic drumming circles, Thai reflexology, mosaic workshops** and much more!

To find out all the latest events and news at the Centre like and follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, or visit our website: www.theecologycentre.org

e: admin@theecologycentre.org

t: **01592 891567**

Jennifer Robertson



Craigencalt Trust

We are delighted to report that the new path at Red Path Brae is now under construction and we would like to thank all the volunteers from Burntisland and Kinghorn who helped to prepare the ground for the digger to begin work. Once the digger has ground out the base of the path, we will need volunteers to help smooth the surface before a roller will complete the task. Afterwards, Fife Council will add a pavement at the roadside to take users safely away from the bad bend.

Anyone who has experienced this steep and bendy hill just beyond the entrance to Craigencalt Farm, will appreciate what a safety benefit this new path will be. This new path through the trees will complete a circular route around Craigencalt which offers splendid views of the coast and inland areas. All this has been made possible by the superb cooperation of the Trust, landowners, users and council working together.

with the Woodland Trust to produce a diverse woodland of deciduous and evergreen trees. It is lovely in all seasons, and well worth a visit.

The Walking Group continues to meet on the first Wednesday of each month during the winter and walks last approximately two hours. If you would like to join the group, please get in touch by phone 01592 891330 or via email info@craigencalttrust.org.uk.



Vanessa Cardui - The Painted Lady

When the summer growth finally ended in October, our volunteers and the equipment breathed a huge sigh of relief. Keeping paths and areas trimmed has been hard this year. Every year is different, last year dry and this year stormy and wet.

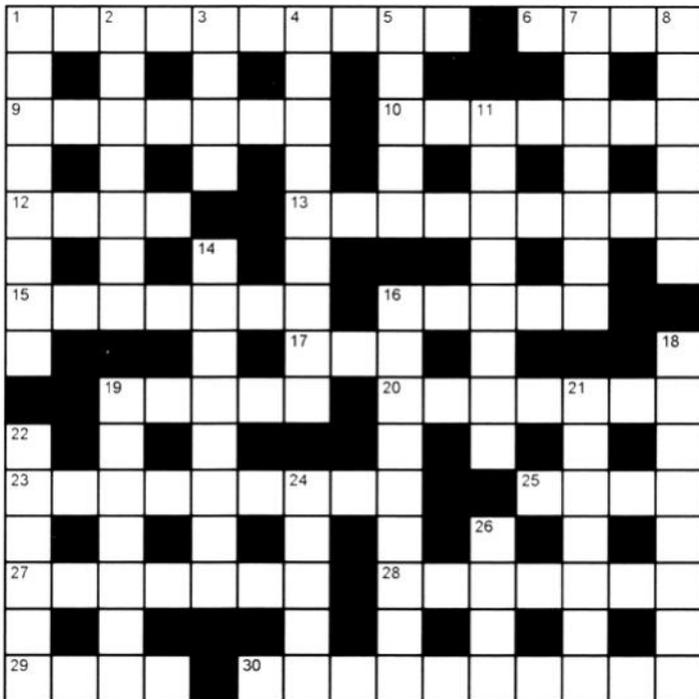
Weather conditions bring different wildlife to the fore. In the spring, ladybirds were in huge abundance, they seemed to be on every plant and blade of grass and children found them a great attraction. In the summer, scores of painted lady butterflies flew around the buddleia, especially on the Binnend Path. Then (literally) thousands of tiny toads made their way from the loch to find winter quarters under stones and wood. Together with an excellent year for bees, otter, deer and hare, it is comforting to report that nature seems to be plentiful and in good health.

Marilyn Edwards



The Walking Group at the new path entrance

In August, Lyn Strachan, FCCT Countryside Ranger, led a tree identification walk around the woodland at Kinghorn Loch. Richard Neil, who helped create the woodland thirty years ago, was also present to explain how the owners at that time worked



THE PRIZE CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1. Pudding made from milk (10)
6. Seize (4)
9. Cargo (7)
10. Instance (7)
12. Contact with (4)
13. Be thorough over a task (4,5)
15. More unpleasant (7)
16. Horribly large (5)
17. Make a mistake (3)
19. Interrogate (5)
20. Raise (7)
23. Choral Symphony composer (9)
25. Highest achievement point (4)
27. Unbeliever (7)
28. Greed (7)
29. Slippery fish (4)
30. Salad plant (10)

DOWN

1. Comme il faut (8)
2. Simple, natural manner (7)
3. Lump of earth (4)
4. Naked (2,7)
5. Classical language (5)
7. Answers (7)
8. Bosom (6)
11. Okayed (8)
14. Completed (8)
16. Plum variety (9)
18. Young hares (8)
19. Full of delight (7)
21. Document collection (7)
22. Do a favour (6)
24. Pancho _____, Mexican Revolutionary (5)
26. Baby powder (4)

Solution to August Crossword

ACROSS 1 Derbyshire, 6 Owls, 9 Freight, 10 Natural, 12 Ruin, 13 Hypnotism, 15 Anguish, 16 Beard, 17 Ado, 19 Poppy, 20 Sceptre, 23 Tarantula, 25 Prod, 27 Connect, 28 Oration, 29 Sash, 30 Break of Day

DOWN 1 Deferral, 2 Reeking, 3 Yoga, 4 Hit the hay, 5 Run-up, 7 Worried, 8 Solemn, 11 Two-faced, 14 Sixpence, 16 Bossa nova, 18 Tendency, 19 Parents, 21 Tarried, 22 Stacks, 24 Utter, 26 Taco.

CONGRATULATIONS—our August Crossword winner of £50.00 in vouchers is: **Eryl Harper**, East Leven Street, Burntisland.

Name

Address

Telephone

Completed entries by 30th December 2019 to:

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

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

Burntisland's Events Diary

DATE	EVENT	TIME
NOVEMBER		
Friday 1st	Brass band Concert in Parish Church Hall in Aid of Christmas Lights Fund	7.00 pm
Tuesday 5th	Bonfire night and Fireworks at the Links	7.00 pm
Friday 8th	Community Council meeting in the Burgh Chambers	7.00 pm
Saturday 9th	Des and the Dingoes at Burntisland Golf Club in aid of Cancer Research UK	7.00 pm
Sunday 10th	Remembrance Day parade and service at the Parish Church and War Memorial	10.30 am
Tuesday 12th	Broomhill Garden Club AGM in the Sands Hotel	8.00 pm
Saturday 16th	Burntisland Parish Church Christmas Fayre in the Parish Church Halls	2.00–4.00 pm
Thursday 21st	Blood Donation at the Kingswood Hotel	2.00–4.00 pm & 5.30–7.30 pm
Sunday 24th	Floral Action Burntisland Christmas Fair at the Golf Club	12.00–3.00 pm
Friday 29th	Christmas Lights Switch On at the Jubilee Tavern	5.30 pm
Saturday 30th	Coffee Morning in St Joseph's Church Hall	10.30 am–12.30 pm
Saturday 30th	Community Police Drop-in Session at Burntisland Library	11.00 am–12.00 pm
Saturday 30th	Poppyscotland St Andrew's Day Ceilidh at the Golf Club	6.30 pm
Sunday 31st	Beach clean & hot chocolate at the Beach House	10.30 am
DECEMBER		
Saturday 7th	Over 70s Christmas Treat at the Kingswood Hotel	12.00 pm
Saturday 7th	Burntisland Christmas Market & Festival on the High Street	4.00 pm–6.00 pm
Monday 9th	Burntisland Youth Theatre panto, "Puss in Boots"—performances Monday to Thursday 12th	7.00pm sharp
Friday 13th	Community Council meeting in the Burgh Chambers	7.00 pm
Tue / Wed 24th / 25th	Church services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, see information on page 18	
Sunday 29th	Beach clean & hot chocolate at the Beach House	10.30 am
JANUARY		
Friday 10th	Community Council Meeting in the Burgh Chambers	7.00 pm
Sunday 19th	Burntisland Civic Week AGM in the Sands Hotel	2.00 pm
Sunday 26th	Beach clean & hot chocolate at the Beach House	10.30 am

To include a public event taking place in February, March or April 2020 in the next issue, please email editor@burghbuzz.org.uk



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6th December

Cameron Young
13th December

Murder Mystery
7th & 20th
December

Elsa Jean McTaggart
14th December

Michael Bubbles
20th December

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