

# BURGH BUZZ



Burntisland's Free Community Magazine

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

May 2022

Issue No 83

## The Phoenix sails into town



Pic by Michael Booth

At the beginning of April, Burntisland joined Fife towns Dysart and Culross as a site for the filming of popular TV series *Outlander*, when the sailing ship Phoenix berthed in the harbour. Locals and visitors alike enjoyed a unique experience as they gathered at various vantage points to catch a glimpse of their favourite stars.

## The Town Prepares for a Busy Summer

In the optimistic hope that the pandemic will continue to recede, various organisations in the town are making preparations to hold traditional summer events.

The Civic Week Organising Committee has already drawn up an extensive ten day programme of events to take place in June. These will include the crowning of the summer King and Queen in the Parish Church and the associated parade, the shop window competition, numerous sporting and recreational events making full use of the towns natural amenities including the Links, the Beach and even the Binn.

Although some elements of the programme (page 16) have still to be confirmed the organisers are looking forward to a return of full community participation.

The Highland Games Committee are also making preparations to

stage the Games although as we go to print planning permission from Fife Council is still awaited. It is hoped that the Games will be preceded by an Exiles Civic Reception in the Burgh Chambers, organised by the Community Council and attended by returning former residents, dignitaries and invited guests. This will be followed by a parade to the games arena on the Links for the official opening.

Last but not least will be the Summer Fair itself, an immense visitor attraction featuring a huge variety of stalls and fairground attractions which if permission is granted, should be in situ for some six weeks.

Finally, these events do not just happen on their own but require the assistance of a large band of volunteers. Why not become involved? It can also be fun!

# BURNTISLAND'S COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

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

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## From the Editor

This edition of the Buzz is a personal milestone as it is the 50th that my team and I have produced. It is a bumper edition of 28 pages and contains numerous articles on how the Burntisland community continues to thrive despite the setbacks of 2 years of pandemic restrictions. However, as we return to a semblance of normality, several local organisations including the Highland games Committee, FAB, various Sports Clubs and even the Community Council are appealing for new active membership. They all deserve more local support as restrictions are eased and we all become more active.

Regrettably, the Buzz is also looking for new blood as I have tried to explain on page 4. Two key positions, my own as editor and that of the hard copy distributor, will become vacant in the not too distant future. I would like to see a smooth handover with no interruption to the quarterly publications.

On the brighter side, according to the police report on page 16, we are likely to have an increased police presence in the town with foot and bicycle patrols and regular surgeries to be conducted in the Toll Centre Community Hub on the High Street. Please take advantage of this increased police presence and make our local officers aware of the everyday problems relating to vandalism, unruly behaviour and even the sale of illicit drugs. We can only hope that our two officers are true to their word and that they are not redeployed to other "more important" duties as they have been in the past few months.

May I wish all our readers a very active and enjoyable summer season.

**Bill Kirkhope**  
Editor

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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:** Brendan Burns  
**Treasurer:** Fiona Watson  
**Secretary:** Anne Smith

### Members:

Tim Hailey	Jim Sheridan
Lynne Ralph	Yvonne Crombie
Ken Littlemore	Clare Slater
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[www.facebook.com/BurrtislandCC](https://www.facebook.com/BurrtislandCC)

## Fife Council election Thursday 5th May 2022

Election of three councillors to Fife Council in the Burrtisland, Kinghorn and Western Kirkcaldy ward.

### List of candidates declared as follows:

- Lesley **Backhouse** (Scottish National Party)
- Andrew **Bentley-Steed** (Independence for Scotland Party)
- Garry **Downie** (Scottish Family Party)
- Colin **Fraser** (Alba Party)
- Kathleen **Leslie** (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party)
- Claire **Luxford** (Scottish Green Party)
- Julie **MacDougall** (Scottish Labour Party)
- Anne **O'Brien** (Scottish Liberal Democrats)
- Olaf **Stando** (Scottish National Party)

**All registered voters in Burrtisland are urged to cast their numbered votes for their preferred candidates.**

A full profile of the three elected councillors will appear in the August issue of the Buzz.

## Community Council Bullets.....

The Community Council holds its regular meetings on the second Friday of each month, at 7.00pm in Burrtisland's Burgh Chambers. The dates for the next meetings are **13th May and 10th June** (there is no meeting in July).

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. Full minutes can also be found on the Community Council website.

- We have spent the past two years meeting by Zoom in order to ensure continuity of local representation with official bodies. However, we plan to resume in-person meetings in the Burgh Chambers as soon as possible. Appropriate technology might allow us to share those meetings online as well and we are currently investigating the possibilities.
- We're keen to raise awareness of what we do and to hear directly from local people. One option will be to take a stand from time to time at the Big Green Market in the Parish Church Hall, which will be attended by Community Council members.
- We continue to log our concerns with Police Scotland about dangerous parking in the vicinity of the school and also speeding along Kinghorn Road and elsewhere. Plans are in hand to set up a working group to develop options for action.
- Over 400 saplings have now been planted at 10 sites, as part of the Queen's Green Canopy initiative. We're grateful to school pupils, youth groups and individual adult volunteers who all helped to make the project a success. The saplings have been located to strike the right balance between open space and attractive landscape as the trees mature.
- We anticipate hosting the annual Exiles Reception in the Burgh Chambers on Games Day. However, one effect of the pandemic has been that we have lost some of the key expertise. So we are actively seeking volunteers to help make the event a success, not just on the day but in the essential preparation as well.
- We are in touch with the Showmen's Guild about plans for the summer fair this year. We gave feedback to Fife Council on how the fair went last year and we have shared that with the Guild. We are keen to ensure that nothing is overlooked in the planning, so that clear responsibilities are allocated and actioned well in advance.
- The hugely popular water feature on the Links is rapidly approaching its end of life. Unfortunately, the cost of replacing it is huge. So we are in discussion with Fife Council about options and sources of funding. We are very keen to prolong its life and ensure that any replacement is both durable and of high quality.
- Planning for Christmas lights remains a key issue. There are opportunities to extend and revitalise the lights, but only if we have more people coming forward who are willing to join the working group.
- **We welcome support for all of the above and enquiries or offers of help should please be made to our Secretary or Chairman.**

## Top Up at the Tap!

Scottish Water has installed a new water fountain in the town, situated on Links Place near the public toilets. A launch event for the Top Up Tap recently took place, with free refillable water bottles being handed out, part of a drive to help reduce single-use plastic waste.

More than 60 taps have now been installed at sites across Scotland including harbours, beaches, national parks, botanical gardens and other top tourist attractions.

Visit [www.yourwateryourlife.co.uk](http://www.yourwateryourlife.co.uk) for more information about Scottish Water's Your Water Your Life campaign and to claim a free water bottle.



## Community Award Presentation

This year for the first time, two distinct awards were made by the Community Council, one for an individual and one for a group.

Chairman Alex MacDonald visited the Parish Church halls on a Sunday afternoon in March to make the presentation, as the traditional civic reception in the Burgh Chambers could not take place because of Covid restrictions.



Alex explained how the Community Award was first presented in 1981, to recognise those who did something special or stood out in the community, and helped to make the town a better place.



The individual award went to Luke Drummond, chosen as he had been superbly helpful to BEAT and those in need with deliveries and repairs during the height of the pandemic. Luke received a personalised certificate and a coat of arms pin badge, along with the annual Community Award shield.

The group award was made to Burntisland & District Pipe Band—taking time out of their band practice for the ceremony—with a new shield presented to the group. Previous winners of the individual award included Jim Forbes and Walter Anderson from the Pipe Band.

Alex remarked on how the band had been visible in the hardest of times, creative when unable to practice together in person, and entertaining those who were housebound around the town. While continuing to bring young pipers and drummers into the musical community,

## Burgh Buzz — The Way Forward ???

The Burgh Buzz, originally the brainwave of the Community Council and pioneered by Andy Wight Boycott, has kept the Burntisland community informed of local issues for over 20 years. The current team, which has editorial and financial independence, has just completed its 50th issue.

However, several members of the team have attained a “level of maturity” which has persuaded them that the time is approaching when they should hand over the reins to younger minds. The positions which are becoming vacant will be those of Editor and Distribution Coordinator.

**The Editor** has overall responsibility for the publication of the Buzz which includes frequent contact with regular contributors including the Community Council, supervision and vetting of all content, preparing the original draft, liaison with the printer, financial control and overall direction of the editorial team and must be computer literate.

**The Distribution Coordinator** is a very important member of the team whose responsibilities include maintaining an up-to-date record of the contact details of the large posse of volunteer deliverers, alerting them as to the arrival time of each issue, taking receipt of some 3,700 copies and packaging them in bundles and arranging distribution to individual deliverers. A requirement to personally deliver a limited number inevitably arises with each issue.

The current incumbents would prefer a smooth handover to prevent any suspension of publication but personal circumstances dictate that the last Buzz to be published under the existing team is likely to be the autumn issue in November this year.

It must be emphasised that these positions are purely voluntary with no financial reward.

Finally, I can say sincerely that my 12 years as editor has been a continuous pleasure — constantly meeting new and interesting individuals and being able to keep abreast with developments in the town where I was born and in which I was brought up. I am confident my successor will have a similar experience.

I look forward to hearing from anyone who may be interested in taking over the reins.

**Bill Kirkhope, Editor**

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## The Queen's Green Canopy – planting update

Further to the article in the February issue of the Buzz, the community planting of the 420 free tree saplings from the Woodland Trust is now complete.

Originally, six areas around Burntisland were under consideration for planting. In the end, after consultation, ten areas were planted, eight of these on land owned by Fife Council. In February, Fife Council withdrew planting permission at the Red Pond due to concerns about disturbing the red mud waste under the soil cap there. Therefore, five additional alternative sites had to be found to accommodate all the saplings that had been ordered.

In addition to giving landowner permissions, Fife Council also provided planting support.

The idea was not to plant a community woodland, but to provide copses and small groups of trees all over the town. The 'baby trees' are the Woodland Trust 'Year-round colour' pack of small to medium sized native trees and were grown locally in East Lothian. As well as helping combat climate change, and providing homes for nature, these should provide attractive blossom, berries, leaves or stems to add amenity value to our local green spaces.

Over two weeks in March, groups of neighbours, volunteers from local community groups, three classes of P7 pupils from our school, Rainbows and Brownies, Scouts and Cubs, and ad-hoc volunteers from toddlers to nonagenarians all turned up to help plant trees. Much fun was had, with several people disappointed that it was all over so quickly. The best bit was seeing the wee sapling pop up when the spade was removed and the T-notched sod returned to ground level. Fingers got dirty, worms were spotted, canes were pushed home, and fiddly recycled plastic spiral tree guards were carefully applied. Care was taken to keep planting well clear of paths and property boundaries and the saplings are spaced out about 2.5m apart. The worst bit was picking up all the dog poo before the children arrived to plant at Meadowfield and Piper Crescent park. Sadly, it only takes one or two inconsiderate dog owners to spoil an area for other walkers and playing children.

If you are fortunate enough to live near or walk past any of the planting areas, please look after your new trees. You don't have



to do anything – they're quite tough and shouldn't need watered. They'll take 8 to 10 years to grow into 6 feet trees, and even longer to fully mature. Landowners remain responsible for them and any future maintenance. However, if you spot any issues in the next couple of years, do let us know.

If you want to plant trees anywhere other than your own garden, please ensure that you have the landowner's permission and source your saplings responsibly.

On behalf of Burntisland Community Council, I'd like to thank all the volunteers who helped with the planting. I've already conveyed thanks to the Fife Council staff involved, especially Derek and his team from the Grounds Maintenance Service.

It takes hope and optimism to plant trees. That's why the Queen chose tree planting to celebrate her Platinum Jubilee – it's an investment and living legacy for future generations. Burntisland is now part of the Queen's Green Canopy of growing trees all over the UK.

**Anne Smith, Burntisland Community Council**

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## G Walter Anderson

(25/7/1934 – 3/3/2022)

On the early afternoon of 17th March, the Erskine Church was full to capacity with mourners attending the funeral service of Walter Anderson, a gentleman who had contributed so much to the local community throughout his almost 50 years residence in the town.

Walter enjoyed a successful career in education in which he rose to Principal Educational Psychologist in Fife. However, in Burntisland, he had always been recognised for the active role which he played in a wide range of local activities. Indeed, in 2015 he received the Burntisland Community Award in recognition of his huge contribution locally over the years.

Walter's principal passion was piping and he led the Burntisland & District Pipe Band as Pipe Major for a record number of years. He passed on his piping skills to countless youngsters and adults. Walter possessed an industrious and caring nature and was a founder member and first President of the Burntisland and Kinghorn Rotary Club. He also served as an elder of the Erskine Church for forty years, five of them as session clerk.

Walter was a leading light in the drive to replace the old swimming pool as Chairman of BLAST, the organisation which eventually persuaded Fife Council to honour its pledge and



construct the Beacon Leisure Centre. For over 10 years he was the Burntisland representative of the Earl Haig Fund Scotland and organised the annual poppy collection.

During the funeral service Walter's two daughters, Julie and Elaine, delivered emotional tributes to their father's memory which reflected how, although a devoted family man, he also selflessly dedicated his time and efforts towards making Burntisland a more pleasant environment and community to reside in.

May he rest in peace.

## Burntisland Primary School

This term, **Primary 1** have continued to learn their phonics and have enjoyed writing creative castle stories based on their topic, Fairyland.

In Numeracy, P1 have been focusing on place value, time, measuring, as well as adding and subtracting. Wow, they have been very busy! For Health and Wellbeing, the primary ones have been developing their understanding of Emotion Works and have been discussing each of the Emotion Works cogs. Primary One have also learned some French. This term, the primary ones have been extremely lucky as they received a visit from a very friendly dragon which they absolutely loved!

**Primary 2** have been super excited about their topic this term – Space. They loved learning about the different planets, reading about Space and writing adventurous stories.

In Numeracy and Maths, they have developed their understanding of multiplying numbers and how to tell the time. In addition to this, P2 have been wowing their teachers throughout their gymnastics lessons. Also, in Health and Wellbeing, Mrs Moffat's class has been learning strategies to help them stay calm while Mrs Cooney's class has been considering the importance of having a growth mindset rather than a fixed mindset.

**Primary 3** have been doing an abundance of fun learning activities relating to their topic of Rainforests and saving the planet.

In Numeracy, they have been working on learning different division strategies and solving calculations.. Primary 3 have also had fun reading Charlotte's Web and learning all about Charlotte's friends on the farm.

In art, Primary 3 have been taking inspiration from the seasons and have used Spring as a theme to their work. They have also created their own self-portraits. Learning has been getting exciting in

Science as classes learned about substances that dissolve and those that don't. Finally, in French, everyone has worked hard to learn numbers and months of the year.

**Primary 4** have been heads down working on an array of exciting topics this term. In Maths, they have been developing their understanding of analogue and digital clocks as well as investigating weight and capacity.

In Literacy, children have enjoyed writing their own newspaper in our Creative Writing topic where they focused on summarising events. As you can tell, Primary 4 have been very busy but there is more! Their main topic this term has been the Vikings and they even made their own Viking coins. How cool is that? Also, in art, Primary 4 have focused on the works of Picasso and Edward Paley. Primary 4 have also been developing their musical talents by learning the recorder.

Last but not least, in P.E., the children have focused on netball, basketball and even Scottish Country Dancing. Great work Primary 4!

**Primary 5** have been working hard in all areas of the curriculum. In Numeracy, P5 have worked hard to develop their understanding of division and the many different strategies that can be used to solve these calculations.

P5 have also enjoyed a writing project in which they have learned about different literary techniques and developed their Alien stories over the weeks. We know their finished stories will be fantastic! This term, their topic has been Space where they have learned about things such as the Solar system and dwarf planets.

**Primary 6** have been working super hard to accomplish and achieve their goals in Maths and Numeracy. They have been learning things such as: time with digital and analogue clocks. As well as this, they

have also explored 3D shapes like spheres, cubes and many more.

Recently, they have also developed their understanding of Information Handling, where they have discovered many different types of graphs. In Literacy, P6 have worked hard to develop the skills covered in Task Mats relating to their class novel, Running Wild. This is also linked to their topic which is Natural Disasters. For ICT (technology), P6 have continued with their Coding project and have been learning how to code simple games and move characters around in their in-game worlds.

**Primary 7** have started thinking about the next step on our learning journey, and our move to High School. At the end of February, we had our first transition event at Burntisland Beach and on the Links. This was a fantastic opportunity for us to start to build relationships with children from other Cluster schools who will be starting High School with us in August. To finish this term, we have a very exciting transition day planned at Beveridge Park which we are all looking forward to. In Literacy, we have been reading the novel, Oranges in No Mans Land. This novel has supported our Literacy work this term, where we have continued to develop our understanding of how to answer a variety of questions relating to a text. We have also enjoyed letting our imaginations run wild with our Creative Writing topic, and have worked hard to learn new techniques to develop our writing further.

In Numeracy, we have covered many topics this term, including area and perimeter and fractions. We are all now looking forward to a well-earned rest over the Easter break and are looking forward to our final term at Burntisland Primary School.

Written by: **Amy, Adam, Leah M, Evan, Oscar, Catherine, Erin, Ali, Reid, Sadie, Flynn and Grace.**



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## Burrtisland Playgroup

The end of the last term before summer is fast approaching. We are very pleased to say that although in previous years most children moved onto nursery for their pre-school year, almost all of our children are staying for their second year. We also have a few moving on to start school which is very exciting for everyone. We are looking forward to supporting these children in their transition into school. We have a few "new children" starting in August. However, there still are some spaces available.

We may be called Burrtisland Playgroup however, we operate as a nursery. We follow the same curriculum and offer high quality learning experiences and opportunities to all the children in our setting. We are a smaller setting so if you are unsure if how your child will settle in a larger setting then please think of us. We can have a maximum of 24 children and on a daily basis we have three Early Years Practitioners and our wonderful cook who prepares fresh food daily for all our children. Our menu consists of healthy lunches the children enjoy and changes regularly based on their tastes. We are happy to announce we are changing our hours to 8:45am to 2:45pm. We believe this will help parents and childcare providers dropping off and picking up other children at the school.



If you are interested in a place for your child in the 2022/2023 intake (or future intakes) then please email [burrtislandplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:burrtislandplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk) for an application form.

All the children are now very settled into playgroup and our routines. We are still following all Covid guidance and thankfully we are now allowed to have parents into the building so some normality is resuming. We will be able to have stay and plays and in person parent interviews. Such small things, but they mean so much to us as staff and to parents. All the children have formed lovely, strong friendships and I am sure these friendships will continue for many years to come.



In the last term we have been following the children's interests which have been many. Our main focus has been on colours with lots of colour mixing experiments and opportunities to create art on different surfaces and materials. This resulted in decorations and we helped to decorate the Toll Centre office for Easter. The children loved popping out the hall to visit and view their decorations.

The children have loved being in the garden in all weathers and helped the staff dig out and move two tractor tyres to create new areas. They now have a digging

tyre and a tyre in place where we offer "loose parts." So far this has been a hot tub, swimming pool and castle! The children are also helping us with ideas to redevelop the garden. This has taken longer than we would like however since the planning permission is through for our "hub" in the garden then we can really begin with planning what the children would like in the garden.



The summer term will be filled with many more learning opportunities. We will resume our beach and wood visits which are always our favourite days. The children have the opportunity to explore rock pools, build sandcastles and jump off the path into the sand at the beach. At the woods they have the opportunity to climb trees, slide down mudslide, discover insects and build dens. We will also be participating in the Civic Week Parade this year with our children which is always a great day!

**Rebecca McColm**



## Chilled Church

Chilled Church is a radical new approach to church in Burrtisland and Kinghorn, which launched in February. Services are fun and relaxed, aimed at young people and families especially, and even include a coffee-break. It's Church, but not as you know it!

Services are being held every third Sunday at 11am, rotating between Kinghorn, Erskine and Burrtisland Parish Church, and are delivered by members of the three congregations. Details of upcoming services are listed below, and posted on the Chilled Church Facebook group (just search for Chilled Church).

If you're looking for an informal, fun and engaging style of church service, that is still centred on Christian teaching, why not come along? You may be surprised just how much you enjoy it!

Upcoming Chilled Church services:

- ◆ Sunday 1 May at Kinghorn Church Halls
- ◆ Sunday 29 May at Erskine Church, Burrtisland (note date change)
- ◆ Sunday 12 June at Burrtisland Church Halls
- ◆ Sunday 3 July at Kinghorn Church Halls
- ◆ Sunday 24 July at Erskine Church, Burrtisland

## Floral Action Burrtisland

Not long now until Burrtisland will be back in full bloom with colourful baskets, troughs and planters throughout the town. This year we will be planting all the areas FAB are responsible for, the first time in two years after the pandemic.

To commemorate the Queens Jubilee we have coordinated our planting scheme opting for reds, blues and whites.

Due to the ongoing uncertainty regarding some Covid restrictions we haven't been in a position to carry out our usual fundraising events, therefore we have set up a JustGiving page to raise funds to support this years costs. Please visit [www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/floralactionburrtisland](http://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/floralactionburrtisland) for details on how to donate.

We also have some sponsorship opportunities available. If you are interested, please get in touch via [floralactionburrtisland@outlook.com](mailto:floralactionburrtisland@outlook.com)

We are looking forward to getting back to some normality this summer and hope you all enjoy the displays over the next few months!

**Scott Sweaton, Chair**



## Central Burntisland Tenants and Residents Association

After a shaky start to the year, with changes on the committee and Covid stopping us in our tracks, we are pleased to say we are back with face to face meetings at our new time of every second Tuesday of the month, 6.30pm in the Burgh Chambers. We look forward to welcoming back all members, new and existing.

Our committee, although small, is blessed with hard working individuals who are committed to improving our community for all.

There has been an increase in vandalism and antisocial behaviour in recent months and we are looking to purchase a second CCTV for the area within our boundary to make the walkway from the station into town safer for all.

Our events group are setting up the following events, full details will be sent out on social media and posters in town:

**29th May Treasure Trail on the Links** - family event 12-2pm.

**11th June Tea Dance at the Toll Community Centre**, 2 pm–4 pm, for our elderly and more vulnerable residents in the town. This will be a dementia friendly event.

If any group in the town wants to join us to jointly host events or if as an individual, you have a couple of hours to spare on the day to help out at either event, we would love to hear from you.

We would like to thank Cllr Langlands for supporting us over the last few years in his role as councillor, his help and support has been invaluable and we wish him well in his retirement from his council duties and hope to see him at our meetings as a valued member of our community.

If you wish to contact us then please do so through our Facebook group.

**Iain Ralph, CBTRA Chair**

## Black Rocks Rowing Club

The Black Rocks Rowing Club was established just over two years ago following an initial public meeting in the Roasting Project. No sooner had we got the club organised with a constitution, raised some funds and started building the boat than Covid appeared and pretty much everything stopped for 18 months.



The good news is that we have restarted building our St Ayles Skiff – a versatile 22-foot rowing boat. Check our website for more information and updates at [www.burntislandrowing.org.uk](http://www.burntislandrowing.org.uk). We hope to have the build complete by the end of the year and expect to be offering rowing in the Forth and further afield next year.

If you would like to join the club or perhaps get involved in the build, please contact the club secretary by phone / text on 07473 635454 or email [brrowing.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:brrowing.secretary@gmail.com)

## ABK Probus

Aberdour, Burntisland, Kinghorn Probus is intended for retired gentlemen and we are currently looking to attract new members. The club meets twice a month normally the first and third Tuesday in the Kingswood Hotel from 10am till 12noon when we are entertained by various speakers on a wide range of subjects.



The object of the club is to promote personal interest amongst members in addition to the regular speaker meetings, there are also small sub-groups who have interests in Bowls and Snooker. We also arrange special outings during the year.

Should there be an interest in joining please make enquires to our President Peter Bilsland telephone 01592 874170 .

## Live on the Links 2022

With the return of live music generally we are proud to announce what will be the 39th Anniversary of Live on the Links. This year, by fortunate coincidence it will take place at the end of Civic Week, and will be held in Burntisland Sands Hotel over the weekend of 25th/26th June. Details and updates will be posted on our Facebook page:

[www.facebook.com/liveonthelinks](https://www.facebook.com/liveonthelinks)

This year we again feature some of the finest musicians from Burntisland and Kinghorn and friends. Live on the Links has always encouraged original music in the programme, and due to lockdowns and isolation, there will be a wealth of new music to present over the two days. That's in addition to more familiar songs across a wide range of genres, from the 12 acts, many of whom have been receiving radio play.

Saturday's live music begins at 2 pm, Sunday will be more mellow and starting from 1 pm.

Entry is free.

Bursting out of the bedrooms, rehearsal spaces and recording studios, it's Live on the Links 2022.



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## Burntisland Harbour Access Trust

Our applications to register a community interest in the land at the East Dock are now going through the system. Some of the key points are:

- The town and the harbour together constitute Burntisland: the harbour is the town's most defining cultural and heritage asset
- The East Dock is a major element of the town's coastal continuum
- In terms of community use and access the East Dock is of fundamental importance to the town and the broader community
- Community ownership would bring largely redundant, vacant land back into beneficial use from social, environmental and economic perspectives.

Based on suggestions from the townspeople and some consultation with harbour users, tenants and others, we've come up with a whole raft of possible integrated proposals for how the harbour and land could be used whilst retaining existing port activities:

- all weather diving facility,
- decommissioning of caustic tank,
- nature reserve,
- campervan/ camping/ eco-pods, with showers and toilet block also available to fisherman,
- fishing tackle depository,
- Fife Coastal Path loop with on demand bridge,
- heritage museum,
- all tides boat slip,
- extension of artists quarter,
- community owned affordable housing,
- bar-b-que area for all,
- improved access,
- floating restaurant,
- Shank's Pier Boat Reserve,
- bad weather haven for boats,

- improved safety measures,
- removal of security fencing!
- enhanced facilities for north side including electricity points for ships allowing for docking without generators / engines running,
- renewable energy.

These are just some initial ideas as required for the purposes of our application, but would be the subject of widespread consultation and ultimate approval of the BHAT membership. So why not join and have your say? Application forms are available on our website (see below).

If we were to exercise a right to buy, there would be yet another ballot of all those on the town's electoral roll to demonstrate support for our acquisition.

Most of the land is owned by Forth Ports, the remainder being in the hands of Network Rail and Fife Council. Forth Ports' backroom boys are pretty good at dressing an argument up to make it appear at first sight convincing, but like the statement supporting their application for permission to erect the fence, on closer examination there's little of substance.

Their principal claim is that the land is excluded from the legislation, but having gone through the small print we're convinced that it isn't and our view is supported by a legal expert.

They trot out the old health and safety arguments, which we've already debunked. One of their more outlandish claims is that "parts of the Port were regularly used as a rally track by youngsters in cars and for drag races at the weekend". How odd that local residents have never noticed!

They reckon that they "will continue to engage with BHAT and the wider Burntisland community" (we've heard nothing from them)! We've highlighted the absence of any meaningful consultation, during which they have excluded the community of Burntisland from the harbour for the first time in living memory.

They say it couldn't possibly work, that it wouldn't be in the public interest, but we've pointed out that there are numerous examples of harbours around Scotland operated by non-profit distributing Harbour Trusts and in alternative forms of community ownership.

We've made the point that the harbour is a pale shadow of its former self, with the handling of goods at its lowest in over a century, and that most of it has been vacant and non-operational for over 30 years. We've demonstrated how we could deliver genuine and sustainable community development.

It's now up to the Ministers to make the decision. It's due by 19th April. Let's hope that we get justice this time – it's long overdue. If we're successful with these three applications, we will have first refusal should the land ever come up for sale. In advance of that eventuality though, we'll be exploring legislation that came into force in 2018 giving community bodies "a right to compulsorily purchase land which is wholly or mainly, abandoned or neglected....". This provision can give applicants the right to force a sale to them.

In other news, our fund-raising concert at the bowling club was a great success, bringing in £460. Thanks to the generosity of a number of businesses and individuals we also raised £248 for the Ukraine DEC Humanitarian Appeal. Many thanks to the bowling club, the performers and all those who contributed.

By the time you read this we should have had a decision from the Scottish Ministers. Regardless of the outcome BHAT will be looking for ways to ensure community access to our East Dock.

For the latest updates and details of how to become a member of the Trust, see [www.burntislandharbour.co.uk](http://www.burntislandharbour.co.uk)

**Andy Pay**

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### Burntisland Locksmith Services

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Contact Kevin

**07530 735230**

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



## Heritage News and 'Maritime Matters' Exhibition

Last summer we were fortunate to open up our summer exhibition with limited hours and days of opening. I'm pleased to say that thanks to the 'Friends of the Trust' we will once again be open on Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 11.00am to 4.00pm in July and August.

Given the limited number of visitors to the 2021 exhibition (200) the original intention was to do a re-run of our 'Portrait of a Town' theme. However our recent acquisition of model ships has now been set up in the heritage centre. Given the town's close links with the sea the summer exhibition will now comprise of three maritime themes.

In total Burntisland Heritage now has a collection of 22 model ships and despite our limited space these will all be on show during July and August. These include a battlecruiser, whalers, fishing boats, yachts, sailing ships and all vary in size from a

Clyde Paddle Steamer and U-boat both 1.4 metres long to a small kit built aircraft carrier. The display is a must see!

Given the key role Burntisland has played over the centuries the exhibition covers crossing over the Forth from the days of the early pilgrims to the present day.

The exhibition will also feature the 'Search for the Lost Treasure of Charles I'. This ongoing project was the catalyst for what has now become Burntisland Heritage Trust. This tantalising saga is brought right up to date with recent developments.

On the topic of models we are hoping to see a return in the autumn of the award winning remarkable Burntisland Harbour and Railway in 1883, as modelled by the East of Scotland 4mm Group. Details on this and many other aspects of our town's rich heritage can be found on our web site at [www.burntisland.net](http://www.burntisland.net) and the varied selection of videos on our YouTube Channel.

Ian Archibald

## Broomhill Community Garden Kids Club

Broomhill Community Gardens Kids Club is back for 2022. Following a difficult few years with restrictions on numbers and age groups of children that could attend, we are now delighted to welcome everyone back to the garden.

Despite our restricted sessions, we have been very busy in the allotment since the start of the pandemic, with new raised beds, refurbished firepit and seating areas, and a brand new deck. This has made a huge difference to the group and the sessions that we can run – we were particularly grateful to have the deck in place during the final session of last year, our traditional pumpkin carving session

and Halloween party. The new deck allowed us to set up tables and chairs, and a gazebo, allowing the children to carve their creations sheltered from the wind and rain on a fairly miserable October Tuesday.

We have also welcomed children from Burntisland Nursery, Burntisland Playgroup, P4 in Burntisland Primary School, and the Burntisland Beaver Colony, all of whom got involved in either harvesting or planting crops – we hope that these relationships will continue throughout the coming year.

Finally, as with many of the community groups in the town, we are actively looking for new committee members. Our long-standing committee has been with us for several years, but as our own children get older and are moving on to other clubs and interests, we feel it is important to pass the torch to parents of the children currently enjoying the club. Please feel free to email us at [gardenclubburntisland@gmail.com](mailto:gardenclubburntisland@gmail.com) if you would like to know more about our club and the committee, or message us on Facebook.

Our first session was on Tuesday 3rd May, from 3:30–4:30pm, when we welcomed our new Facilitator, Nick Johnston, to the team.

Nick will be leading the club in all our favourite activities of planting, mini beast hunts, scavenger hunts, campfires and of course eating everything that we grow! So please feel free to come along and see us – our sessions are free and primarily aimed at children under 8 years, but everyone is welcome and we look forward to seeing you all at the allotments!

### Broomhill Allotments Lonsdale Crescent



# Girlguiding at the Parish Church Halls



The 1st Burntisland Guide, Brownie and Rainbow units have been active throughout the Covid restrictions with regular Zoom meetings, activity packs delivered to each member during the lockdowns and outdoor meetings when the weather was kind to us.

We are now back to regular face to face meetings in the Parish Church Halls on Monday evenings.

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

**Brownies:** 5 to 6.30 pm  
 Unit Leader **07580 130612**

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

New members are always welcome, 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.

Our young members have been busy in their units working on the Girlguiding programme, badges and crafts. The Rainbows had an end of term treat thanks to the Funkidz Partyz Easter bunny and Novelli's.



Units have also been involved in community projects. Recently, Guides, Brownies and Rainbows were invited to 'Plant a Tree for the Jubilee'. Units gathered in the gated green space at the corner of Broomhill Avenue and Cromwell Road and helped with the planting of tree saplings as part of the Queen's Green Canopy initiative to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee. We were supported by Anne Smith (Secretary of Burntisland Community Council) and her husband Ron who kindly explained and demonstrated the process for us. It was a lovely sunny morning and everyone had an enjoyable time. Guides, Brownies and Rainbows are looking forward to watching their trees grow.

You may have seen our units out on the High Street on Saturday 2nd April. The Guides, Brownies and Rainbows have been talking about the war in Ukraine and wanted to do something to help the Ukrainian people. They decided to have a



tombola to raise funds. The units collected donations from family and friends and the tables were packed with great prizes. We were kept busy all morning as shoppers stopped to try their luck, thank you to all who supported us and also to those who gave such generous donations.

The Tombola raised a wonderful total of £430 to be donated to the Ukraine fund raising effort. The Brownies and Rainbows also collected toiletries to be sent off to support those who had to leave their homes in Ukraine.

**Jean Priestley**



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## Burntisland Shipyard FC

I am pleased to report that thankfully, since the turn of the year, we haven't experienced any more postponements due to Covid. Hopefully that remains the case as we progress towards the end of the season.

The form and results of the team have been excellent in 2022 with only one defeat in the nine matches played, albeit it was a heavy 4-0 defeat to Edinburgh College in the League Cup Group Section. There has been three fantastic away wins, 4-0 against Peebles Rovers on a very stormy day in the Scottish Borders and both Heriot Watt University and Preston Athletic were beaten by the same 3-2 scoreline. An impressive 1-0 win over Premier Division side Dundonald Bluebell and a 1-1 draw against Inverkeithing Hillfield Swifts where the 10-man Shippy were unlucky not to get the win their play deserved, were also very pleasing.

The backing the Club has received from the community has been overwhelming as crowds continue to rise, with our average attendance now over the 100 mark. On a cold Monday night in April, 87 people turned up for a friendly against Leith Athletic.

Furthermore, local businesses have supported us at an unprecedented level and we thank them all for their continued and most welcome support. Many people are commenting on the great community spirit that can be seen and felt at all our home matches.

Even on our travels many people are following the team and the support we had on such a horrid day at Peebles was fabulous.

At the time of writing, we now start a crucial period as we look to finish in the top seven and secure a place in the First Division, as a new league structure will be in place for season 2022/23. We only have two home games left in the six that remain (Glenrothes and Kinnoull) and of the four away games it is our intention to run a bus to both Hawick and Luncarty in May. Details of these will be on our social media platforms.

**Andrew Beveridge**



## Burntisland Bowling Club

Burntisland Bowling Club held its Green Opening on 9 April. Teams representing the President, Alan Lascelles, who was re-elected at the club's AGM in March, played against teams representing former President, Margaret Farnes.

The teams competed for the Frank Cooper Quaiche. It was won by Lorna Murdoch, Margaret Farnes and John Robertson. For the rest of the season, a host of inter-club friendly matches, league competitions and club championships are scheduled.

By the time you read the Buzz, the club's 'Try Bowls Day' in April will already have taken place, but anyone interested in trying their hand at the game are very welcome to contact the club. Email details are on the website [burntislandbowlingclub.co.uk](http://burntislandbowlingclub.co.uk)

Bowls can be provided for your visit but please wear flat shoes. If you subsequently decide to join, there is 50% off the first-year membership.

**Richard Perry**

## Cornerstone Cafe

Burntisland Parish Church has re-launched the community café, in a new location and with a new name.

The café offers a **free lunch every Wednesday 12-2pm** at Burntisland Parish Church Hall, West Leven Street.

If you'd like some company, or if a hot plate of food would help see you through the week, then you'll be sure to get a warm welcome at Cornerstone Café.



## Burntisland & Kinghorn Rotary Club

The Rotary Club of Burntisland & Kinghorn has continued to meet weekly both face to face and by means of Zoom using the hybrid facilities invested in over the pandemic period. A number of interesting speakers were invited over the period with the choice enhanced by virtue of remote presentations.

Our most recent presentation, whilst not remote, was the locally famous Arthur Lloyd, known for his far flung, musical travels, but this time gave a historical detailed tour of Aberdour and its growth.

The annual Burns Supper was held at the Sands Hotel including one of the winners of the primary schools Burns Recital competition.

The Young Citizen of the Year Award has reached the final stage

of evaluating the submissions and will be awarded soon whilst the Club's work with the Ecology Centre continues apace as Spring arrives.

New4U joint kids clothing initiative with the Forth Bridge's Club has developed with a storage centre at Dalgety Bay and the deposit bin in Morrison's Kirkcaldy.

A Curry & Comedy Night held at Kirkcaldy Golf Club proved to be a great night and raised a substantial amount for our preferred charities whilst preparations continue for our 40th Charter Dinner

**Derek Thomson**



Welcome to the latest edition of The Burgh Polis. I am **PC Stuart Kinnes** and work alongside **PC Trevor Farley** covering the Burntisland, Kinghorn and Auchtertool areas.

# The Burgh Polis

date with any ongoing issues that require our attention.

Within the last few months PC Farley and I have been abstracted due to ongoing issues within Kirkcaldy and the surrounding area which has taken us away from our core duties. However, we are hopeful that the worst has past and we will be able to spend more time in the area.

Residents may have been aware that there was a sizeable drugs recovery earlier this year which is still being investigated but rest assured we will continue to be vigilant and act on any intelligence provided by the residents of Burntisland.

This year marks the return of the Links Market in Kirkcaldy after two years of Covid-19 restrictions. At the time of writing, this event has passed with very little issue from a Policing perspective. That brings us nicely on to the Fair coming to Burntisland over the summer. We are hopeful that this event will be enjoyed as much as it was last year with minimal disruption to the local community. We are liaising with partner agencies and different departments within Police Scotland to curtail any anti-social behaviour, youth disorder and parking issues that arise.

PC Farley and I have plans to start a local surgery where local residents can attend and speak with us face to face about concerns or pass on any relevant information they may have. We will be working in conjunction with Yvonne Crombie, who alongside her staff provide a valuable service based on the High Street at the Toll Community Hub. Ideally, we would like to have this surgery once a month within the Hub.

With the weather getting better Burntisland will become busier and we will be on foot and cycle patrol in the area. With that in mind, please come and engage with us. We fully understand that local residents are always the best equipped to keep us up to

Please keep a look out for posters which we will be asking local businesses to place in their windows for us with details of dates and times. At the time of writing we have a few administrative points to clarify but we will be looking to open the Surgery well in time for the next issue of the Burgh Buzz.

We appear to be finally and thankfully coming to an end of most Covid-19



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restrictions but please be mindful of the most up to date guidelines from the Scottish Government in relation to Covid-19. For more info visit:

[www.gov.scot/coronavirus-covid-19](http://www.gov.scot/coronavirus-covid-19)

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)



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# Museum of Communication

## New exhibition for 2022 celebrating 100 years of broadcasting

After the two year enforced closure of the Burntisland based museum, the volunteers there are planning to open a new public exhibition from May. The exhibition will mark an important anniversary in the history of radio and TV broadcasting.

In 2022, British broadcasting has entered its centenary year, marking both 100 years since the first experimental scheduled broadcasts were made in the UK and the start of the BBC - the world's oldest national broadcaster. The Museum's 2022 exhibition will be in the building located at 131 High Street.

The exhibition will feature a 100 year Broadcasting timeline running from 1922 to 2022 highlighting famous radio and TV programmes and events illustrated by items from our collection- crystal set radios, valve wirelesses to TV cameras, recalling the great moments in broadcasting history, events of the day and other memorabilia. Hopefully, we can set up a broadcast demonstration for young people to enjoy and illustrate some of the technical aspects of the history of broadcasting.

We also want to show how broadcasting has evolved into today's world of on-line streaming, smart phones and HDTV. There will be an additional exhibit covering Royal Broadcasting in the Queen's Platinum Jubilee year.

Alongside this exhibition is another which examines how the advancement in communications and communications equipment has affected health (both positive and negative) over the years. The exhibition showcases objects important to communications and medical history alongside beautifully crafted work by children from P4 of Burntisland Primary School. Following activities in which the children learnt about the telegraph and morse code, two P4 classes created their own articulated hand models which are now on display in the museum for all to see.

Everyone will be welcome to come in to see the exhibition - normally on Wednesdays and Saturdays over May to September.



The museum is a registered charity and run by enthusiastic volunteers. If anyone would like more information please contact myself, John Blackie by email: [jphmblackie@aol.com](mailto:jphmblackie@aol.com)

In 1922, the Marconi Company established experimental broadcasting station in London, on the top floor of Marconi House in the Strand.

It made its first broadcast on 11 May 1922. This would lead to the formation of the British Broadcasting Company, a consortium of radio manufactures with government backing.

Then on 14 November 1922, Arthur Burrows launched Britain's first national radio broadcasting service from Marconi House in London.

Speaking with an authoritative voice, he opened the transmission at 6pm with the words: "This is 2LO, Marconi House, London calling".

MUSEUM OF COMMUNICATION



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# The Big GREEN Market Burntisland



Burntisland is well known for its community spirit and positivity – qualities that are on display day in, day out in our busy High Street, in the hard work of local community groups and in the shops, pubs and cafes around the town.

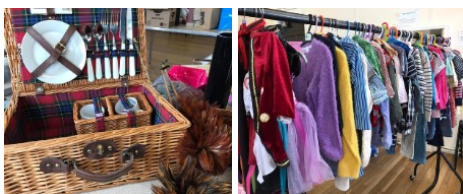
So, it's no surprise that the Big GREEN Market, a community fundraising initiative that relies 100% on volunteers and community generosity – continues to flourish.

The BGM team took a well-earned break in January, but we've been busy since then, hosting three markets for community groups and raising a whopping **£2,700 for Burntisland Playgroup, RNLI Kinghorn and the Cornerstone Community Café.** Our market takes place on the first Friday and Saturday of every month, so check out our Facebook page (Big Green Market Burntisland) for details and we'll see you there!

## Big GREEN Market = PEOPLE POWER!

We've raised over £7000 since we started in July 2021 and with more than 700 visitors through our doors this year already, together we are making a difference. Together we're keeping down landfill, reducing carbon footprints, finding joy in the bargains and treasures, and most importantly – working together to help the local community and people in need.

*"Since Covid struck, we have (along with other organisations) lost the ability to do so much of our fundraising and donations like this from the Big GREEN Market are invaluable"* RNLI Kinghorn



## Big GREEN Market – great for everyone

The Big Green Market is bursting with pre-loved treasures – and there really is something for everyone. If you've got one eye on the environment and reducing your carbon footprint – this is the place to shop! But it's also the perfect place for fashionistas to come for some vintage pieces, budding chefs to find a new cook book or utensils, for up-cyclers to find inspiration and materials for a new project, and for bookworms and music lovers to



find something new to fall in love with.

Busy parents love the Big GREEN Market so they don't have to spend a fortune on next season's clothes for their wee ones, and it's the absolute best place to come to catch up with some pals, find a bargain and know that you're doing something great to help the community. There really is something for everyone.

## Great for small business

Did you know we offer spaces every month for local businesses to set up a market stall? The Saturday market is a great way for local businesses, artists, crafters and makers to get in front of shoppers in a way that social media just can't offer!

Stalls are available to hire on the day and are a great way to meet your customers, talk to them and learn from them so you can grow your business. Even more so if you don't have physical premises.

With almost 200 visitors at our last Saturday market – it's the best place to pitch up!

All proceeds from the stalls go back into running costs for the market. If you'd like

to know more about how to book a stall message us on our Facebook page or email [biggreenmarket.burntisland@gmail.com](mailto:biggreenmarket.burntisland@gmail.com)

## Ways to get involved:

**Volunteer your time:** We're always looking for volunteers to help us set up and run the market each month. If you'd like to be part of our amazing crew, please get in touch.

**Donate your pre-loved items:** We accept donations of good quality clothing, housewares, games and toys, books and CDs and bric-a-brac. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for details of our next donation drop off and feel happy that your once loved pieces will make someone happy. You can also bring donations when you visit the market.

**Show your support:** Our markets take place at the Parish Church Halls, Burntisland on the first Friday (12-4pm) and Saturday (10am-1pm) of the month. Come along, say hello, donate some items and grab a bargain at the same time!

**Book a stall:** For the price of a t-shirt you can nab your own piece of land at the Big GREEN Market. Set up stall, greet potential customers, introduce your work to people, gain subscribers for your mailing list or social media account and grow your relationships. It's a great way to get in front of real people – and all proceeds go straight back into the market.

*"The Big GREEN Market is such a great place to set up a stall. I sold loads of stock, gave out my business cards, got loads of new followers and my workshops have sold out as a result".* Sunshine Crumbs Mosaics

Next dates and groups we're fundraising for:

6th & 7th May: BOSS

3rd & 4th June: Burntisland Pipe Band

1st & 2nd July: Central Burntisland Tenants and Residents Association

**Abi Cornwall**

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## Civic Week 2022

After two years of "virtual" activities, Civic Week is back with a 10 day programme of events from Friday 17th to Sunday 26th June. Look out for the programme of events leaflet which will be delivered to all households.

This year's theme is "Fantasy & Fairytales", based on Scotland's Year of Stories - looking forward to seeing some fantastic fancy dress costumes in the parade!

The Summer King & Queen will be crowned in the Parish Church on Saturday 18th June, followed by the Parade along the High Street to the Links.

Rounding off Civic Week will be our popular Family Beach Day, including the return of the Raft Race across the bay - get a crew together and take on the challenge! Also returning is the 5-a-side football tournaments for youths and adults at Recreation Park.

As ever, the committee is grateful to all the local businesses and organisations who provide financial support to help make Civic Week possible.

You can keep up to date with Civic Week by visiting our Facebook page:

[www.facebook.com/BurntislandCivicWeek](https://www.facebook.com/BurntislandCivicWeek)

or if you want to

get in touch email

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

The Civic Week programme of events at the time of the Buzz publication is set out below, with some event details still to be confirmed. Fingers crossed for good weather in June!

### Friday 17th June

- Shop window competition on the High Street
- Karaoke at The Old Port (over 18s)

### Saturday 18th June

- Crowning of the Summer King & Queen in the Parish Church - 12.30 pm
- Parade along the High Street from 1.00 pm
- Fancy dress judging at Radio Lollipop and activities on the Links

### Sunday 19th June

- Civic Week Pairs Bowling Competition - 1:30 pm

### Monday 20th June

- Pool Competition in the Crown Tavern - 8 pm (over 18s)

### Tuesday 21st June

- Dominoes Competition in the Jubilee

Tavern - 8 pm (over 18s)

### Wednesday 22nd June

- Afternoon Heritage Outer Trail Walk

### Thursday 23rd June

- Civic Week Quiz in the Sands Hotel - 7:30 for 8 pm (over 18s)
- Darts Competition in the Silver Tassie - 8 pm (over 18s)

### Friday 24th June

- Sailing Club - Civic Week Cup - 7 pm
- Evening Heritage Walk - 7 pm TBC
- Disco and Karaoke with Paul at the Smugglers Cove Inn

### Saturday 25th June

- 5-a-side football tournaments at Recreation Park - Youths TBC and Adults - 2-4 pm
- Live on the Links in the Sands Hotel - from 2 pm

### Sunday 26th June

- Family Beach Day including sandcastle competition, treasure hunt, and more - from 10 am
- Raft Race across the bay - 2 pm
- Live on the Links in the Sands Hotel - 1.30 pm-5.30 pm

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## Burrtisland Community Development Trust

We have some exciting news! The Burrtisland Community Development Trust (BCDT) had been feeling a bit despondent after losing some Board members and not being able to make much progress on initiatives due to the Covid restrictions.

Rather than accept what looked like a slow decline for the Trust, we applied for funding for a full-time member of staff from the Strengthening Communities Programme.

We are delighted to tell you that we were successful in this bid and Nicki Francis and Jo Hobbett started in April, job sharing the role of Development Officer.



### A message from BCDT Chair, Lizzie Cass-Maran

You may know Nicki and Jo from their work setting up the Big Green Market. (They are still volunteering for the monthly market in their own time, along with the rest of the market team)

Nicki and Jo will be helping the BCDT Board to focus on our key priorities to:

- strengthen and increase the capacity of the BCDT Board
- work with Burrtisland Community Council and other organisations to reflect on and refresh the Community Action Plan
- further develop BCDT's sub-groups working on specific projects
- develop a (free) membership base
- connect more with the wider community

We want to be as open and accessible as possible to everyone. We want to support initiatives that will strengthen our social, environmental and economic future of our wonderful wee town. To do all of this we need to hear from YOU.

To find out more about our work and how you can get involved or just have your voice heard, email us at [secretary@burrtisland-trust.org](mailto:secretary@burrtisland-trust.org) or find us on Facebook. You can even talk to me in person at the monthly beach cleans.

Let's work together as a community to make Burrtisland the best possible place it can be to live and work in!

## Burrtisland Golf House Club

This spring we were proud and honoured to receive the award for Best Golf Course in Scotland (under £30) at the Scottish Golf Tourism Awards. This award is a testament to the hard work of our greenkeepers and PGA professional team reflecting the quality of our golf course and friendly, helpful welcome our visitors receive.

Already our award-winning status has led to additional visitor enquiries and some new members. We hope it will be a further boost for Burrtisland, adding to the many attractions that encourage visitors to the town.

Our new golfing season opened recently with our traditional Captain v Vice Captain day. A friendly and fun competition which was well attended and marked the beginning of the new competition fixture list for 2022.

Alongside the excitement that comes with the new season, and in light of our award, the Club is looking to the future by preparing a new development plan. As part of our plans, we aim to be more inclusive

and open to the local community. Our Academy has welcomed more junior golfers, and we have introduced a new and affordable special offer for golfing beginners. If you or anyone you know is interested in golf, whatever the age or level of experience, we would love to hear from you.

We would like to remind everyone in the community that the Club is open to non-golfers too, through our social membership offer. We have a regular programme of events including quizzes, games, cabaret nights and dances. Our bar and restaurant are open to visitors offering teas, coffees, drinks, snacks and meals. Social members and townfolks can also book club facilities for private functions. With capacity for parties of up to 100 we can cater for most events.

Our carpark is popular with hillwalkers. That's fine with us (other than on busy Saturdays), and we encourage everyone to call into the club. Our spike bar is now dog-friendly and we invite hill-walkers and their

four-legged friends, to come in for some refreshment and a bite to eat - including free doggie biscuits.

Golf will always be at the heart of our Club, of course. Our aim is to provide an enjoyable and challenging golfing experience for our members and visitors and provide a warm and welcoming club atmosphere. But the Club aims to be at the heart of the community too. We are open and accessible to everyone, so why not pay us a visit?

For more information on how to get involved in golf, or about our social activities, bar, restaurant and facilities, telephone 01592 874093. or email [info@burrtislandgolfhouseclub.co.uk](mailto:info@burrtislandgolfhouseclub.co.uk)

**Jim Galloway**



## Beacon Runners

After nearly 18 months off due to Covid restrictions, Burrtisland's running club is back in action. We are now formally affiliated to the national 'Jog Scotland' network [www.jogscotland.org.uk](http://www.jogscotland.org.uk) and offer informal and fun weekly training sessions for joggers and runners of all abilities in and around the town.

Tying in with Burrtisland Civic Week, we are offering four specific 'Come and Try' sessions in June and July, designed specifically for beginners and anyone returning to running after a break. These will all be free and will run from 7-8pm on a Monday evening, starting and finishing at the Beacon Leisure Centre (see opposite).

But you don't need to wait until then! Newcomers, 'lapsed' runners and anyone who, in a fit of unbridled enthusiasm, has

signed up for a summer road race or trail run, and is now beginning to regret the rashness of that decision because they haven't actually started training yet, can come along to the club for free and see if it's for them.

We meet every Monday at 7pm, usually (but not always!) at the Beacon: session details are posted on the club Facebook group ([www.facebook.com/groups/182847675074126/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/182847675074126/)) or you can email us at [beaconrunclub@gmail.com](mailto:beaconrunclub@gmail.com).

We look forward to seeing you.

Come and Try Sessions (free): Monday - 20 June; 27 June; 4 July; 11 July. Meet at entrance to Beacon Leisure Centre, 7pm.

# 11th Fife (Burntisland) Scout Group



We started our new spring term by welcoming 12 new Beavers into the two sections and have been very busy. After the Easter holidays 10 Beavers are moving up to Cubs. We covered a few activity badges including the experiment badge by trying different science experiments and builder badge by using recycled material to make their own models.



Most of the beavers visited the Museum on the Mound in Edinburgh to learn about money and achieve their money skills badge. The children enjoyed visiting the museum, the train journey and after having lunch in the Princes Street Gardens afterwards. We are looking forward to spending the summer term outdoors, enjoying our local areas as the lighter nights come in!

**Shirley Kent and Simone Thomson, Beaver Scout Leaders**



As we leapt into the spring term the Cubs were getting busy with lots of activities including the gardening badge by planting spring bulbs. We also built bird feeders for our Environmental Conservation badge and later in the term we did a litter pick around the beach and Links. We helped to plant trees for the Jubilee and for the first time since lockdown we had a sleepover.

While at the sleepover we completed our Astronomy badge and enjoyed getting to look at and learn about the stars. For lots of our Cubs this was their first sleepover experience and hopefully the start of many more to come.

**Michelle Paton, Cub Scout Leader**



The Monday and Thursday Scouts have had a fun filled and exciting start to the year earning several badges, developing skills for life, camping, completing expeditions, and planting trees for the Jubilee.

Some of the things they have been doing have been earning their Circus Badge by learning new performance skills and putting on a small circus style show. They then developed skills for life by making and sewing their own mess kit bags to put the plates and cutlery in for using at camp. We also completed the DIY badge with the Scouts using tools to build wooden bird tables.

In March we had a great camp with both Monday and Thursday Section together as they did the Outdoor Challenge Badge by using traditional Scouting skills, including fire lighting, axe and saw, pioneering, knife skills to whittle their own working whistles, and made portable buddy stoves from old tins.



Some of our older Scouts are ready to move up to Explorers and completed their Gold Chief Scout Award by performing an overnight expedition where they hiked carrying their own kit, camped and cooked all their own meals.

We are all looking forward to the new term after the Easter break when we will be mostly outdoors working on traditional Scouting skills and team building.

**Davie and Craig, Scout Leaders**

## 11th Fife (Burntisland) Scout Group

**Group Scout Leader:** Kerry Laing – Tel: 07517 374459 Email: [11thfife@gmail.com](mailto:11thfife@gmail.com)

**District Commissioner:** Derek Dunsire – Tel: 07905 227493 Email: [dc@scoutskirkcaldy.org.uk](mailto:dc@scoutskirkcaldy.org.uk)

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# EXPLORERS

Our Explorers have had a busy and fun start to the year despite some disruption from Covid. They have done lots of activities, earned several badges, as well as continuing to work towards their Young Leader modules and Duke of Edinburgh Awards.

They all planned and put on short shows in groups to earn the Performing Arts Badge, and developed skills for life as they competed in a bake-off style challenge. Some of the Explorers planned and ran an evening themed around China where they shared knowledge about its culture, history and traditions as well as trying some Chinese foods.

The Explorers also took part in an archery tournament with strong performances from them all but our champion was Keir. We finished the term



with an evening learning about responsible gambling and held a fun casino night.

**Davie and Kerry, Explorer Leaders**

## Burntisland & District Pipe Band

On the 20th March, we were gracefully presented with the towns community award which was presented to a group for the very first time. This is a huge honour for the us at the band to be recognised for all the hard work that has taken place particularly over the past few years. We, at Burntisland & District Pipe Band would like to thank everyone in the town who has supported us and who will hopefully continue to do so. Thank You.

The 2022 Pipe Band season has officially begun. On the 2nd April the band competed at the L&B indoor championship where we competed in a solo format as well as a band. An amazing effort from everyone at the competition and on behalf of the tutors I would like to say how proud we are of all those who competed in the contest. A HUGE well done to all the guys who competed in their first competition too! A special mention to Gregor Noble, Connor Lamb and Evie Busher who placed first in their solo contests.

The band competed in the afternoon and managed to secure a 3rd place where the pipers were placed 1st by one of the judges. Next up for the band is Gourrock where we hope to pick up more prizes.

At the beginning of April, the band were finally able to get away on the long

residential weekend. This was a trip originally planned to coincide with the European Championships in Inverness in June 2020.

A full bus from the band headed down to Barcaple near Castle Douglas for the weekend. Friday night seen a band practice, fire pit singing and dodgeball. On Saturday we had a full day of activities beginning with canoeing on Loch Ken. Not only a beautiful spot, but we were treated to a couple of Red Kites swooping over our heads. Although the weather was cracking as soon as some of us had fallen into the water, we were quickly reminded that this is Scotland and it's still only April...brrr!

After the canoeing it was archery. A bit more success here with balloons being popped and pizzas being successfully made. Although I do think the scarecrow in the next field was at more of a risk of being hit than the bullseye at times. We finished the day on a huge indoor climbing wall throwing snowballs at the noisy climbers and trying to cling on to the wall to not be eaten by the sharks.

Plenty of time on the Sunday morning again to get the pipes and drums out after breakfast. I'm sure the local wildlife has thoroughly enjoyed the sounds of



bagpiping and drumming in the weekend sunshine.

I am currently writing this on the bus on the way back up the road and you can hear a pin drop in here. A sure sign that everyone has had a great time and is now knackered. I think everyone is glad there's another week of Easter holidays to recover!

### DRUM MAJORS PLAYERS WANTED

We are looking at recruiting some new drum majors to the band, a drum major leads the band by example at the front on parade days, they also compete against other drum majors from all across the world. Here at Burntisland & District Pipe Band have the best drum major tutor in the pipe band world in John Noble - 9 times world champion! So come along and try it out, get in touch via the bands Facebook page.

**Erica Wyse**

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## The Ecology Centre

Spring has arrived and The Ecology Centre is as busy as ever. The bulbs planted last year by our team of volunteers are bringing splashes of colour throughout the site and there is a sense of warmer days to come.

### Queen's Green Canopy

As part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations, we have taken part in the Queen's Green Canopy initiative. The next time you are walking around the site, keep an eye out for the trees that were planted by our site team and volunteers – all 74 of them!!! We have planted a selection of native trees, improving the habitat for the local wildlife as well as for us humans. This will form part of Kinghorn's 'Green Corridor'.

Site Team member Simon with Kinghorn Provost Alan McIlravage



### Tool Shed Shipment

Our Tool Shed volunteers have been working their socks off to produce the largest shipment of life changing tools we have ever sent to Malawi. Over 1000 volunteer hours went into bringing the donated tools up to scratch, ready to support individuals in Malawi giving them the opportunity to learn new skills and provide for their families. We also sent an amazing 29 refurbished sewing machines as part of the shipment. All tools and

sewing machines sent to Malawi were kindly donated by members of the public before our volunteers started work on them.

So, if you have any old or unused tools, or a sewing machine hiding at the back of a cupboard, please remember you can drop them off at the Centre and they could end up changing the lives of individuals and families in Malawi. Contact Lee at [toolshed@theecologycentre.org](mailto:toolshed@theecologycentre.org)

### Restoration Forth

Lyle, our newest member of staff, is settling into his new role as Seagrass Officer as part of the Restoration Forth project. Lyle's role is to raise awareness of the ecological importance of seagrass meadows and the benefits that these habitats can provide local communities. If you have an interest in finding out more about seagrass, please contact [Lyle@theecologycentre.org](mailto:Lyle@theecologycentre.org)

Or, if you are interested in spotting seagrass for yourself, head out on the beach between Kinghorn and Burntisland and make sure you download Seagrass Spotter app to log your findings.

### All Change for Spring

Nothing stays the same for very long at The Ecology Centre. We have now moved the office back into the main building, which allowed us to set up our wee shop there, alongside the Community Fridge. Please pop in and say hello and see what you can pick up. Michelle will be around to help if you have any questions. Michelle, from Kirkcaldy, is our new Admin Assistant working with us as part of the 'No One Left Behind' programme.

### New Solar Panels

We are pleased to tell you that we have had new solar panels added to those installed when the building was originally constructed. This will increase the electricity

we generate to run the Centre as well as to power our Electric Van. Thanks to the Scottish Government Community & Renewable Energy Scheme and Fife Environment Trust for the funding which allowed this installation to take place.



### Workshops

We have a number of workshops coming up in the next few months including Wild Weaving, Natural Dyeing and Cordage Making. We also have a couple of Women's Days: May 28th, The Maiden and July 16th, The Mother. If you are interested in any of these workshops, please go to the 'What's on' page on our new website [www.theecologycentre.org](http://www.theecologycentre.org)

### Kickstart Programme

We have a new kitchen assistant working with us as part of the government Kickstart programme. John, from Kinghorn, is a great addition to the kitchen team and makes a mean chocolate cake!

### Finally

If you are interested in volunteering either outdoors or in, please get in touch with [lee@theecologycentre.org](mailto:lee@theecologycentre.org)

Why not join our Tool Library? A £20.00 annual membership gives you access to a vast choice of tools to help with any DIY or garden projects.

The Nest Café is open Friday to Monday with take away drinks available 7 days a week.

We would like to thank all our volunteers and everyone from the local community as well as those far and wide who continue to support us. We couldn't manage without you!

**Karen Wakefield**

## Keep Burntisland Beautiful

As an active member and admin for the litter picking group Fife Street Champions, I decided to create our own sub group here in Burntisland. Over the last nine months we have held some very successful well attended events around the town. We have cleared 178 bin bags



full of rubbish plus larger items from the docks area which was from the result of years of fly tipping. Items included carpet, nappies, tyres, cooking pots and even a Christmas tree!

Another area tackled was the Broomhill Viewpoint where we have removed 19 bin bags full of glass/plastic bottles and cans! We also help the Beach House with their monthly beach cleans on the first Sunday of every month.

We don't just do big clean ups though as many of our members choose to litter pick on their daily walks around the town which is very much appreciated. Thank you to everyone who has supported our events and group.



We look forward to continuing to clean up other areas of our lovely town. If anyone is interested in helping you can find our group on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/2932100377002260](https://www.facebook.com/groups/2932100377002260)

**Sharon Longhurst**

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## St Joseph’s Church

I am writing this, having just returned from the Palm Sunday Walk of Witness, grateful that we were able to make this public act of witness this year, for the attendance of so many and for the co-operation and friendship between our local Churches.

When we stopped here at St Joseph’s, I invited people to reflect that, as we carry our cross through the streets of Burntisland, other people were journeying, holding in their arms not a cross, but their children, their pets and what possessions they could gather together. Innocent people whose lives and homes and homeland are under attack, who have lost so much — people now forcibly displaced, refugees in search of safety and shelter.

And we reflected that Joseph and Mary knew the pain of being refugees, having to flee to Egypt for safety with the child Jesus, seeking to escape from the murderous intentions of King Herod. Before he had learned to walk and talk Jesus was a homeless

refugee with a price on his head.

So we prayed for all who were carrying their crosses at this time, not just in Ukraine, but all suffering the consequences of war, disease, hunger and climate change. And we remembered all those, like St Joseph, trying to protect their families in the face of danger.

While we cannot remove the crosses placed on others we can help carry them, and do what we can. Here in St Joseph’s at the beginning of March we responded to an appeal for clothing, shoes, medicines, blankets, sleeping bags, to be taken by lorry to Poland. We were completely overwhelmed with the donations people brought and in fact, sadly, had to turn people away. Thank you to all who brought donations, and apologies to those left disappointed. These items were delivered to Caritas International in Warsaw and distributed from there. The greatest need now is for financial donations, and people have been exceptionally generous to the many appeals.

Looking ahead, we have a few weddings to come and a good number of Baptisms arranged, as well as celebrating First Holy Communion for ten of our younger parishioners. On Saturday 21st May there will be a Plant and Bake sale in the Church Piazza (in the hall if the weather is inclement), 2.00pm-4.00pm. The Knit and Knatter group meets in the Hall on a Wednesday morning, 10.30am-12 noon, and would warmly welcome anyone who would like to come along.

Wishing you all a good summer. Keep safe and well.

**Fr James**



## Burrtisland Parish Church



This is the banner that has been hanging outside the Parish church hall over Easter. I know that Easter has come and gone and we are left with the memories of the uplifting Churches Together Walk around the churches in Burrtisland on Palm Sunday; the Hunger Meal and Communion service on Maundy Thursday in the Parish church hall; the Good Friday service in Erskine Church; the early Easter morning services on top of the Binn and on the beach; the memorable shared Easter Day service between Burrtisland, Erskine and Kinghorn churches in the Parish church on Easter Sunday. The BEK (Burrtisland, Erskine and Kinghorn) churches signed a Covenant on Easter Sunday to work more closely together to serve our communities which gives hope for the future.

The Easter banner talks about HOPE, and I wonder how you would define hope? The English Dictionary defines hope (noun) as "a feeling that what is wanted will happen".

Does that seem optimistic or even wishful thinking? And yet, hope is believing that there is always something better, however difficult the circumstances, and because of that belief, we will not give up. For the people of Ukraine, the hope is that there will be an end to the illegal Russian invasion, that they will survive and be able to return home in safety. Hope is that tiny light in the darkness, which is kept alive by the huge humanitarian effort, the incredible hospitality offered by countries bordering Ukraine and practical support from worldwide leaders, including the UK. My hope is that the 'Homes for Ukraine' UK sponsorship scheme process will be expedited more quickly!

Christian hope is based on what happened 2,000 years ago, early on that very first Easter day. A few days before, Jesus was publicly executed on a Roman cross (an agonisingly painful death), a fact that is recorded in historical records. The long hoped for Messiah had been crucified along with thieves and criminals. It looked like all hope was gone for his family and followers, some of whom had watched him die and some had run away fearing they were next.

Death could not contain Jesus and the discovery of the missing body from the

tomb was made by the women who had come to anoint his body. Nobody expected what happened next and the eyewitness accounts of encounters with the risen Jesus are recorded in the Bible. First a few friends, then more and later around 500 people encountered the risen Christ. Hope is centred on the discovery that the same God, who came in love to this world for all of us, is the same one who died and rose again and who lives and walks beside us during the joys and challenges of our own lives.

This hope does not answer all the questions in the face of the horror of war or the shock of one European country invading another. Instead, this Easter hope has the potential to transform our context and understanding for the present and the future.

Easter blessings,

**Rev Eileen Miller, Locum Minister**



## Erskine Church

Significant events change everything. We only need to reflect on the last two years of pandemic or the current war in Ukraine to grasp just how true that statement is. It can be hard to process these things, but there's usually something we can do to help and we must always remain full of hope.

Our local church situation has experienced just such a chain of events in recent months. Of course we joined together in celebrating Easter, the journey of Jesus through his suffering, death and rising again. Holy Week ran from Sunday 10th-17th April this year.

It was great to have our usual services in-person for the first time since 2019. The Palm Sunday walk as Burrtisland Churches' Together was well-attended on a very pleasant afternoon. We held services on Burrtisland beach and atop the Binn on Easter Sunday before a light breakfast in Erskine's halls. Quite a few people remarked, "They're really good at making breakfast in Erskine!"

But there's more. The 3 BEK (Burrtisland, Erskine & Kinghorn) churches signed a covenant partnership agreement during a special morning service in Burrtisland Parish at 11am on Easter Sunday (see photo). It's been over two years in the



making, we hope to engage more with our local communities by working closely together.

We know that it's not difficult to make promises, perhaps it's even easier to write them down. But our genuinely shared belief is that it makes a lot of sense to pool our resources and try to make a difference. Please look out for our special events and services under the BEK banner. Watch this space as this new and exciting arrangement slowly begins to take shape.

Jesus' death and resurrection are at the heart of the Christian message, these events have had a huge impact on our history. The story reminds us that there's

always hope beyond suffering. Jesus says, "Don't be faithless any longer. Believe! You believe because you have seen me. Blessed are those who believe without seeing me" (John 20.27 and 29, NLT).

Beyond Easter, spring moves imperceptibly into summer with the prospect of longer, warmer days. Upcoming events will include a joint Christian Aid coffee morning, the week itself runs from 15th-21st May. More details will be provided soon, keep an eye out for posters around the town and posts on our Facebook pages.

I wonder if you've been watching BBC Scotland's series, Life on the Bay. Not only has it shown our corner of Fife to great advantage, it seems as though Erskine Church appears in almost every panoramic shot—fame at last!

Our weekly services continue each Sunday at 11am, you'd be very welcome to join us. Enjoy the rest of spring and have a significant summer.

**Rev. Alexander Ritchie**



# St Serf's Scottish Episcopal Church

Like most people, we at St Serf's have been appalled by what we have seen and been told about the invasion of Ukraine which appears to have been pursued with extreme brutality and callous disregard for human life.

And in common with all the Burntisland churches, we responded immediately with prayer support. We pray individually and as a church that peace might prevail and have launched a Lent appeal within our congregation for donations of money. The total is growing steadily, augmented by the £65 raised by Ethan, the 8 year-old great-grandson of Mrs Moira Baynham, at his cake and candy stall in the church garden in April. All the money will be sent to a major charity such as DEC after Easter.

Bob Christie mounted and floodlit a Ukrainian flag on the gable end of the church, with a banner encouraging passers-by to pray for Ukraine.

We marked the season of Lent with a series of early evening services, each on a different theme and lasting about half an hour. The service at the end of March was led by Rev. Eileen Miller, interim minister

at the Parish Church; an indication of the friendship and collaboration between the Burntisland churches.



The wearing of face coverings in church is no longer mandatory but it is important to act at the pace of the most cautious. There could be any number of reasons why

some people prefer to continue to wear a mask and of course we will respect that.

It is good to see that the church garden is full of the daffodils we planted after the harvest service last year. The shape and purpose of the garden is changing. Look out for vegetables in our borders. The tatties and broad beans are already in and we shall be planting two apple trees on Easter Sunday. There will be plants to attract pollinators and we are leaving bug hotels among the shrubs. Please come through the gates and have a look (No dogs, please!). In the summer, when the veg is ready you can come and sample it – pick some peas or dig a few potatoes. Enjoy!

We will be moving through the spring towards summer by the time you read this. We pray that it will be a happy and busy time for all living or working in Burntisland and for all our welcome visitors. May your summer be blessed!



**Rev. Carol Latimer**



## Christian Aid Coffee Morning

Saturday 21st May, 10 am-12 noon in the Parish Church halls.

Tickets £2 from Sandra at Erskine Church, Ann at Parish Church, Chapter & Verse, or pay at the door.

Your donation this Christian Aid week will fill families with hope.



Burntisland Churches Together stood on common ground on Palm Sunday when they included Kirkton Church in their route round the churches of the town. Dating from the early 13th century, Kirkton Church represents the earliest known site of Christian worship in Burntisland.

The walkers included clergy and congregation members from the Parish Church, the Erskine Church, St Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, St Serf's Scottish Episcopal Church, and the Salvation Army.



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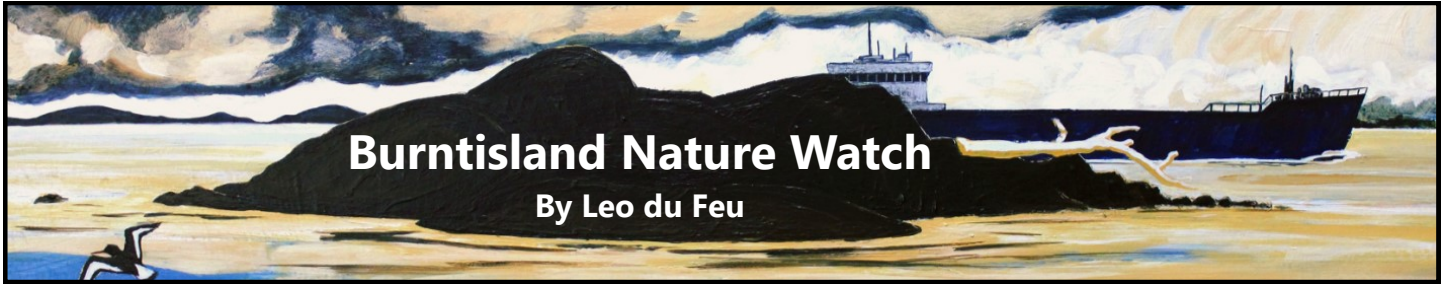
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# Burntisland Nature Watch

By Leo du Feu

It's Spring! Chiffchaffs are always the first arriving migrants I look out for and this year I found my first near Kinghorn Loch on 11th March. I say look out for but I mean listen out for. Once you learn a bird's songs and calls you start to notice it much more than you ever had before, in fact very often sightings come from hearing the sound then looking up/across/out and spotting the bird. I know I've said it often before but Chiffchaff really is one of the easiest to learn. It sings its name. "Chiff chiff chaff, chiff chaff, chiff chiff chaff...". Listen to it on citizen science website [www.xeno-canto.org](http://www.xeno-canto.org) then go out and try to find it, especially from the end of March, through April and maybe into earlyish May. They sing all over Burntisland: at the station directly outside my studio; in the taller trees between station and West Leven Street houses; all around Broomhill hill and viewpoint; in the woods around the Castle; along the coastal path by Alcan; the slopes of the Binn; the golf course.

A month or so later Willow Warblers arrive from Africa too – almost identical in look but completely different in sound. I heard my first this year on 12th April. A lovely soft descending song a bit similar to but much more musical than the Chaffinch's downwards tumble. Willow Warblers sing at places around the town too, though not I think in as large numbers as Chiffchaffs. The other day I filmed a Willow Warbler singing beautifully between Calypso and Scott Pallets, while I tried (unsuccessfully) not to be totally depressed at how much more bird song was there last Spring before the destruction of most of that brilliant patch of mature hedgerow and maturing woodland.

And a third warbler species you may manage to hear and see locally - the Blackcap. Blackcaps are easy to identify by sight – small, delicate, all grey apart from a black cap on the male and a brown cap on the female – but I find them much harder

to identify by song. Again, give it a listen on Xeno canto. The first I was told of in Burntisland this year was on 15th April but it's known that as our world warms Blackcaps are increasingly overwinter with us rather than migrating south. On 3rd December 2020 a male was spotted on a bird feeder in Burntisland.

I really enjoy these details. Looking into the lives of wildlife. I love to take note of all bird species on a walk, in a garden, from a window, from a train, from a bus. I upload the info on the BTO's (British Trust for Ornithology) free BirdTrack app. Not only are you aiding conservation but you have a handy digital record there on your phone and computer for whenever you should need it.

On 24th March, over a period of a little over two hours I wandered and sat and wandered my way through a square kilometre or so around the Binn Pond.

I used BirdTrack looking back at now can tell you I saw or/and heard Blackbird, Blue Tit, Buzzard, Carrion Crow, Chaffinch, Chiffchaff, Coot, Dunnock, Goldcrest, Great Tit, Grey Wagtail, Herring Gull, Jackdaw, Little Grebe, Long-tailed Tit, Magpie, Mistle Thrush, Moorhen, Pheasant, Robin, Skylark,

Sparrowhawk, Teal, Treecreeper, Woodpigeon, Wren, Yellowhammer.

That's 27 species (and I reckon at least half I noticed by ear rather than by eye). Why don't you give it a go?

Another thing – new trees! We have a number of new tall Lime trees filling the gaps along the edge of the Links and now also around 400 new small 'bare-root whips' planted around the town as part of the Queen's Green Canopy. It is massively exciting to see small leaves already visible on lots of these and to imagine how they will look in 2, 5, 10, 20 years. New habitat for Willow Warblers! Community Council, Fife Council, local children, adults, and most especially Anne Smith, must be thanked for doing something so positive for our community and future.

Do you have a space where you could plant a tree or few? Do you have a fence you could plant a hedge alongside? Join the **Burntisland Wildlife and Woodlands** group on Facebook and ask for ideas. It would be especially inspiring to see more and more front gardens being used as nature spaces – making lives richer and happier as we walk to school, to work, to the shops, to the shore.



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# Craigencalt Rural Community Trust

There is a definite feeling that we are getting back to normal now. Every year we put barley straw out on rafts in Kinghorn Loch to keep the water free of algal blooms. The straw went out on a glorious sunny day in March, making the workday a pleasure. There was plenty of help from the loch user groups, and the wildlife quickly settled to choose the best spots for nesting, swans taking priority. Some ducks have already had their first broods, a healthy sign of spring regeneration.

We were pleased to announce the return of the Spring Walking Festival. This was the seventh festival, and the event is always popular. It is a good way to shake off the winter blues and step out to enjoy some fresh air and improve fitness. There has been a great atmosphere, meeting new folk and taking in the beautiful scenery.



The walks cover a wide range, with something for everyone, longer treks for those who like a challenge. Interest walks that go at a more leisurely pace, and family walks, with storytelling at the troll bridge on Rodanbraes. We are so fortunate in this part of Fife to have such good transport links and, even better, great coastline and inland scenery.



The first event on the loch was held recently by the Coastal Rowers, which was a big success. We will be holding a 'Come and Try' day on 7th May, between 1 – 4pm. This is a great way to try out a new sports activity and there are experienced people on hand to advise and help. Other groups are returning to club regattas during the summer.



Our Walking Group has enjoyed two lovely flower walks, a trip to Balbirnie woodland to see the snowdrops in February and a walk around Craigencalt in March to check out the daffodils in full bloom. In May, we will be visiting Lochore Meadows to see the bluebells and a visit to Glassmount House in summer, to view the gardens. Take a stroll around Craigencalt at any time of the year and you are sure to see a big variety of wild flowers in hedgerows and woodlands.

When the summer growth takes off, it will be time to trim back paths to keep them open for walkers. If you would like to help us, either as a volunteer, or as a Friend supporter please get in touch by email [info@craigencalttrust.org.uk](mailto:info@craigencalttrust.org.uk) or phone 07740999514.

**Marilyn Edwards**

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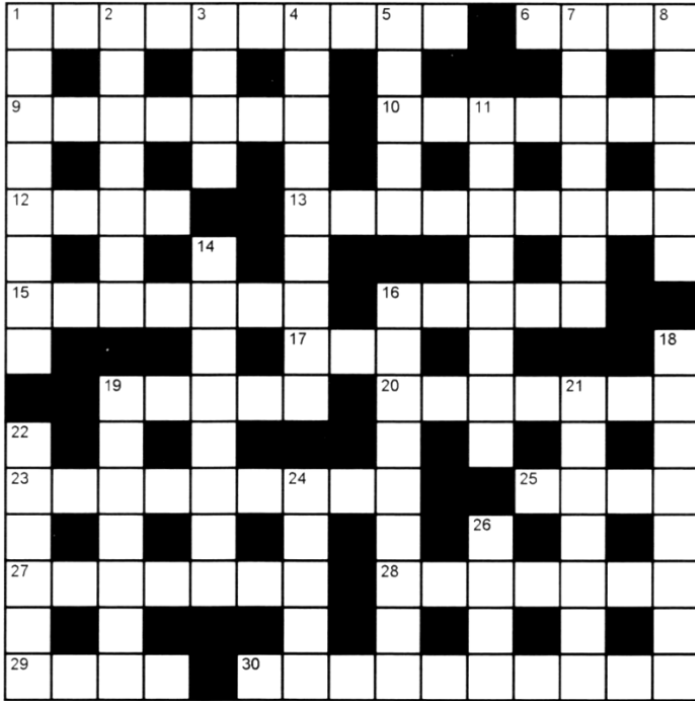
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# THE PRIZE CROSSWORD

## ACROSS

1. Smug (10)
6. Fail to catch (4)
9. Gather together (7)
10. Marx Brother (7)
12. Singing voice (4)
13. Amended (9)
15. Public speaking (7)
16. Horse for riding (5)
17. Solidify (3)
19. Poison (5)
20. Stare down (7)
23. Craftily (9)
25. A land measurement (4)
27. Regard (7)
28. First letter (7)
29. Sea Eagle (4)
30. Outward aspect(10)

## DOWN

1. Crested parrot (8)
2. Citizen army (7)
3. Told porkies (4)
4. Catastrophe (9)
5. West African river (5)
7. Provoked, urged on (7)
8. Cheap and nasty (6)
11. Cooked egg dish (8)
14. Happen at same time (8)
16. Plot of novel film etc. (9)
18. Wake up signal (8)
19. Deer meat (7)
21. Sale to highest bidder (7)
22. In short supply (6)
24. Arise (3, 2)
26. Level, layer (4)

Name .....

Address.....

Telephone.....

Completed entries by 30th June 2022 to:

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

First correct entry drawn wins **£40** in vouchers kindly donated by **Shell UK Ltd.** Solution will appear in the next Burgh Buzz issue.

## February Crossword Solution

**Across:** 1 Attractive, 6 Asia, 9 Hamster, 10 Roseate, 12 Silt, 13 Aperitifs, 15 Vertigo, 16 Idiom, 17 Run, 19 Ashes, 20 Chablis, 23 White lies 25 Abba, 27 Trained, 28 Othello 29 Heal, 30 Exasperate.

**Down:** 1 Adhesive, 2 Tumbler, 3 Ants, 4 Toreadors, 5 Verse, 7 Stadium, 8 At ease, 11 Scimitar, 14 Eighteen, 16 Incisions, 18 Escalope, 19 Ali Baba, 21 Lobelia, 22 Twitch, 24 Index, 26 Thee.

### February Crossword Winner:

Jen Watson, East Leven Street, Burntisland.

# Burntisland's Events Diary

## MAY

Friday	6th	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	12 noon-4 pm
Saturday	7th	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	10 am-1 pm
Saturday	7th	Come and try day at Kinghorn Loch	1 pm-4 pm
Thursday	12th	Floral Action Burntisland Cuppa & Cake Volunteers Evening in the Kingswood Hotel	7 pm
Friday	13th	Community Council meeting in the Burgh Chambers	7.00 pm
Saturday	21st	Christian Aid Coffee Morning in the Parish Church Halls	10 am-12 noon
Saturday	21st	Plant and Bake sale at St Joseph's Church	2 pm-4 pm
Sunday	22nd	Makers Market in the Parish Church Halls.	

## JUNE

Friday	3rd	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	12 noon-4 pm
Saturday	4th	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	10 am-1 pm
Sunday	5th	Beach clean	10.30 am
Friday	10th	Community Council meeting in the Burgh Chambers	7.00 pm
Saturday	11th	CBTRA Tea Dance in the Toll Community Centre	2 pm-4 pm
Saturday	18th	Civic Week Parade Day	12.30 pm
Wednesday	22nd	Blood donation session at the Kingswood Hotel	2 pm-4 pm & 5.30 pm-7.30 pm
Saturday	25th	Live on the Links in the Sands Hotel	from 2 pm
Saturday	25th	Civic Week 5-a-side football tournament at Recreation Park	
Sunday	26th	Live on the Links in the Sands Hotel	1.30 pm-5.30 pm
Sunday	26th	Civic Week Beach Day and Raft Race	

## JULY

Friday	1st	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	12 noon-4 pm
Saturday	2nd	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	10 am-1 pm
Sunday	3rd	Beach clean	10.30 am
Monday	18th	Burntisland Highland Games—to be confirmed	11 am-4 pm

To include a public event taking place in August, September, or October in our next issue, please email [editor@burghbuzz.org.uk](mailto:editor@burghbuzz.org.uk)



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Brunch Tea: 10am-1pm Monday-Sunday (Booking only)

Sunday High Tea: 3pm-7pm

Coffee Lounge: 10am (dogs permitted in coffee lounge)

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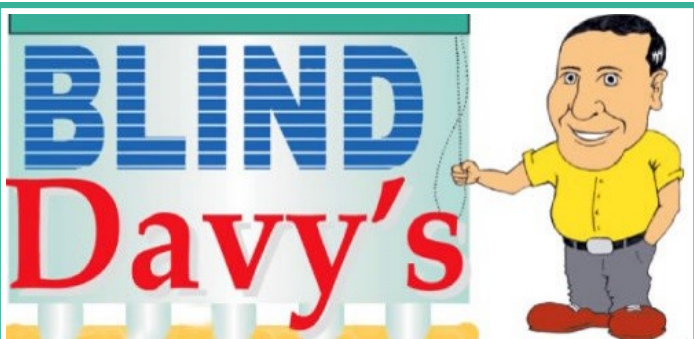
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## Wedding Open Weekend

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May

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