

# BURGH BUZZ

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November 2015

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## ***Your Library Needs your Support*** by Abi Cornwall

THERE are few places more crucial to small communities than the local library. For many they are a life line. Any parent with a grumpy child on a rainy day will know the relief of being able to push a buggy through those doors and immerse the kids in a world of books, songs and play whilst grabbing a well-earned blether with the library staff and regaining some sanity.

For the elderly looking to catch up on some news and chatter, to the young adults studying for exams, the recently unemployed scouring the internet for another chance, for the kids that pop in on their way home from school and the busy commuter who nips off the train for that book they've ordered - they all have their reasons for using the library and they will all tell you how essential a service it is.

Essential it may be, but it looks like libraries across Fife could well be changing and in some communities lost forever as Fife Cultural Trust (FCT) – who run 47 of Fife's 51 libraries on behalf of Fife Council – grapple to deal with the £1.7m of budget savings thrust upon them. They have already clawed back a considerable sum but have to find a way to deliver an outstanding £813k in savings by March 2018.

Some sixteen libraries including Kinghorn, are under threat of closure whilst others, which include Burntisland are likely to suffer a considerable reduction in opening hours. However, with no guarantee that further budget cuts will be heading to Fife Cultural Trust, the future for Burntisland library is anything but secure.

Libraries have been an area earmarked for change due to a perceived reduction in need over the years. In the last seven years the number of items loaned has dropped by over 23% and the number of visitors to libraries has dropped by 13% in the same time, so there's an argument that libraries are no longer needed. But would the 115,000 registered library users in Fife agree?

In response to public pressure, local councillors have been able to stall the process while a consultation takes place. If you care about the library service in any way – this is it, this is your chance to have your say and make your voice heard, and it's your only chance so don't miss out...

There are several ways to take part in the consultation. You can:

- Visit the library and ask the staff for details of completing the consultation there.
- Jump on a mobile library service and complete the consultation there.
- Take the consultation online

For more information and to take part in the consultation online, visit: [www.fifedirect.org.uk/libreview](http://www.fifedirect.org.uk/libreview).

The deadline for the consultation is Friday 6 November so there's not much time left to get involved. The results of the consultation will be presented to the Executive Committee on 8 December. Watch this space for further developments.



**Burntisland Library photo by Fife Cultural Trust**

## **THE ROYAL NAVY DIVE INTO TOWN**



AT the beginning of October a vehicle with the bright insignia 'Royal Navy Bomb Disposal' was seen driving up Burntisland High Street. Given this was not an everyday appearance, their presence gave rise to some speculation on the street! Questions were asked and a few speculative comments were made on social media. The team were in fact from the Northern Diving Group based at Faslane. They were here to carry out a specific dive training exercise. This included inspection of the dive area identified as a possible wreck site more than a decade ago by divers from the Burntisland Heritage Trust.

**Continued on Page 7**

# BURNTISLAND'S COMMUNITY PAPER

**Featuring** *Local issues . organisations . events . people and more ....*

## From the Editor

One of the most satisfying features of the recent Burntisland Futures event held at the Primary School was the large number of local residents who participated by manning stalls as members of volunteer organisations. These clubs, associations and groups cater for every age group within the community. They ensure that traditions are maintained and make a considerable contribution to the general quality of life in the town. They cannot exist without a constant stream of new volunteer recruits and throughout this issue there are appeals for new blood. Why not offer some of your spare time to help? It can also be fun!

On a more serious note, it would be difficult not to be aware of the gangs of feral youths, comprising both girls and boys who have been rampaging through certain areas of the town during the evening hours, maliciously damaging property and terrifying the young and old. Their actions, emboldened by their collective numbers, are further fuelled by alcohol and drugs and their ages range from as young as eight to eighteen. Police deployment at weekends has been increased and arrests have been made but it appears to have had little impact on the overall situation which could develop into a breeding ground for future criminals.

A proactive, coordinated response is required involving the community, parents, law enforcement agencies and the social services. Citizens should be discouraged from confronting those youths but should pass information to the police who I would expect to mount an intelligence based operation to apprehend the culprits. Malicious damage, criminal intimidation, dealing in drugs and theft are criminal offences which our police cannot ignore. The age of criminal responsibility in Scotland is eight and although children cannot be prosecuted until the age of twelve, action can still be taken against a very young offender.

My suggestions may be considered "pie in the sky" in some quarters but unless some positive action is taken by the authorities, the offences committed in the future on Burntisland streets may become of a much more serious nature. **Bill K**

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## Community Council Bullets.....

The Community Council holds its regular meetings on the second Friday of each month at 7.00 pm in Burntisland Burgh Chambers. Members of the public are welcome to attend and listen to discussion or to raise matters of interest to them. The full minutes of these meetings are displayed on the town notice board, in the Library and on the Community Council website. A summary of issues raised during the last two meetings is set out below.

- Thanks to local sponsorship, Pick'n'Fix boxes with litter pickers, gloves and wipes have now been placed at key points at the prom and elsewhere. Members of the public, when out walking are encouraged to take one of the Pickers on their walk and if they see any litter then pick it and bin it, leaving their Picker at the next box.
- A strong letter of support for Burntisland Library has been sent to the Fife Cultural Trust, in the light of proposals to restrict library facilities elsewhere.
- Fife Council are investigating the possibility that electronic clock chimes can be reintroduced from the Burgh Chambers until such time as the clock tower has been re-built and the clock reinstated.
- Hard and soft landscaping has now been completed at the war memorial, re-using setts which had been removed from the High Street when it was recently resurfaced.
- Fife Council are progressing work to ensure that the playing surface at the Toll Park can be restored to the correct specification.
- Work has started to seek funding for new play equipment at the East and West ends of the Links, in accordance with designs which have already been drafted..
- Proposals to conserve the Kirkton Cemetery have been awarded £90,000 from lottery sources. After completion, the cemetery will be open to the public.
- The Community Council will be supporting an application for an additional pharmacy in Burntisland.
- There has been an increase in anti-social behaviour and our community police officers are working hard to identify and charge the offenders. Our concerns about the overall number and deployment of police officers will be raised with our MSPs and other officials.
- STAR Development Group have been thanked for their excellent work in managing the Burntisland Futures survey and analysing the outcomes. The steering group will continue to meet in order to plan the next steps, taking into account the priorities which were agreed at the hugely successful open day.

## Your Community Council

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

Chair: Alex MacDonald  
Vice Chair: John Bradshaw  
Treasurer: John Russell  
Secretary: Gordon Langlands  
Minutes Secretary: George McLauchlan

Members:  
Christine Dewar Tim Hailey  
Bruce Stuart Morag Douglas  
John Bruce Ben Barron  
Colin Fraser Billy Symington  
Lesley-Anne Cronin  
Lesley Backhouse

### Elected Fife Councillors' Availability

#### Councillor George Kay

Telephone 01592 874920

Email: [Cllr.George.Kay@fife.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.George.Kay@fife.gov.uk)

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Councillor Susan Leslie

Cllr Leslie holds her surgeries in Burntisland Burgh Chambers directly before Community Council meetings on the second Friday of every month at 6.15pm, except for April and October.

Telephone 01592 643703

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

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Councillor Peter George

Burntisland Surgery - First Saturday of the month (excepting July)  
12.30 - 1.00 pm in the Burntisland Public Library

Telephone 01592 583101

Email: [petergeorge@fife.gov.uk](mailto:petergeorge@fife.gov.uk)

\*\*\*\*\*

## Burntisland Buzz

Next Issue - January 2016

Copy Deadline: 15th January

All contributions to the Deputy Editor by email or by snail mail.



## The Burgh Polis

By PC Ross Masterton



HELLO, well at long last I finally have someone to work alongside me. PC Bryan Weir is now the new Burntisland Community ward officer. Bryan has 13 years experience and has been an acting Sergeant covering the Kirkcaldy and Burntisland areas.

Now to the serious stuff. Over the last month Anti-Social behaviour in Burntisland involving groups of youths running through gardens, causing damage on the High Street and drinking resulted in a much higher attendance than usual at our last Community Engagement Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> September. I would like to thank everyone who came along to express their views and concerns and would encourage others to do likewise if they have similar concerns or suggestions regarding the law and order situation in the town. The next meeting will be at Pettycur Bay Hotel on 9<sup>th</sup> November.

### And now a word of caution to everyone:

Due to the recent increase in unruly activity there will be a ZERO tolerance regarding Anti-Social behaviour. ASBO tickets will be issued to anyone caught drinking alcohol in a Public Place or behaving in an anti-social manner. The subject of speeding motorists was also raised at the Community Engagement Meeting and was highlighted as a major problem in Burntisland and Kinghorn. PC Weir and myself will be out and about with the speed Gun. So motorists beware - please comply with speed limits.

Burntisland is a lovely town, and we want to make sure it stays that way, the dark evenings are coming upon us, so please be vigilant and look out for your elderly neighbours, as there has been an increase in Kirkcaldy in relation to bogus workmen. A couple of areas have recently started up a Neighbourhood Watch schemes within Burntisland, and we will support these at every opportunity.

If you see PC Weir and I patrolling around the town in uniform, please feel free to come and speak to us. You can also follow the activities of the community ward officers on Twitter via the @KirkcaldyPolice account.



### Ditch the Knife and Cherish Life

ALAN Mclean's anti - knife crime campaign continues apace. The latest function in his ongoing crusade in memory of his beloved son Barry, who tragically lost his life in a knifing incident some four years ago, was a Race Night at the Toll Centre on 12<sup>th</sup> September. The evening was attended by over 80 adults and numerous children and raised over £2,300 through the race events and a fabulous raffle for many great prizes donated by generous local firms and individuals.

Many organisations including PETAL (People Experiencing Trauma and Loss) and Victim

Support have benefitted from Alan's fund raising efforts over the past few years and it is intended that future donations will be made locally to the Burntisland Pipe Band, Burntisland Shipyard Park, Burntisland First Aid Services Trust and to Burntisland Primary School.

On the topic of schools, over the last two years Alan's daughter Lisa, has enthusiastically spread his message throughout 9 local primary and 3 secondary schools in addressing over 300 primary and 210 secondary pupils. Her campaign has the full support of Community Police Officers and will continue.

Alan's next event will be an "invitation only" seminar on the topic of knife crime to be held in the Kingswood Hotel in early November which will be reported in the January issue of the Buzz.



Lisa on a school visit



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**Free Debt Help on your Doorstep**

**W**HEN financial trouble hits, it's easy to feel alone. It can seem like no one can help or that no one wants to. Local debt counselling charity Christians Against Poverty (CAP) really can help and hundreds of people call each week to begin their journey towards financial freedom.

Experience has shown that there is always a way out and no debt is too big or too small to deal with. In fact, if you are experiencing debt problems then you can get free, expert advice without even leaving your house.

CAP visits people in their own homes, negotiates with creditors and supports people right up until they are debt free. On top of this, the whole service is free of charge and available to anyone regardless of age, faith, gender or background.

One of our Burntisland clients said "Life before was horrific. I was scared of the door, scared of the post, scared of the phone; I chose not to answer any of them. I just buried my head in the sand. CAP has transformed me. It's brilliant now: I like getting up in the morning and I enjoy life."

In the UK, there are 260 CAP Debt Centres and one of these is in Burntisland. This means that local people can access the service, which is recommended by TV's Money Saving Expert, Martin Lewis.

Burntisland CAP Centre Manager, Pat Hanson said, "Every week we see people who think that there is no way out of their money problems and every week we offer them a solution that really works. If you are struggling with debt then there is hope. We can help you."

To find out more, call Christians Against Poverty's freephone number **0800 328 0006** or visit **www.capuk.org**

CALL FREE ON **0800 328 0006**  
or 01274 760839 may be cheaper from a mobile

## Weighed down by debt?

Free debt counselling in your community  
from an award winning charity.



[capdebthelp.org](http://capdebthelp.org)

facebook.com/CAPuk

@CAPuk

Registered Office: Jubilee Mill, North Street, Breckford, BD1 4EW. info@capuk.org. t: 01274 760720.  
Registered Charity No: 1097217. Charity Registered in Scotland No: SC038776. Company Limited by  
Guarantee. Registered in England and Wales No: 4656175. CAP is authorised and regulated by the  
Financial Conduct Authority. Registration No: 413528.

**Let's "Pick 'n' Fix"**

**O**N a Saturday morning in early October John Bruce, the Community Council spokesperson on the environment, launched the new "Pick'n'Fix" initiative on the prom overlooking the beach. This project has been introduced in response to a recent survey within the community which had highlighted "Litter and Dog Fouling" as a major problem throughout the town. The project involves placing litter picking materials at strategic points throughout the burgh and encouraging members of the public who may be walking in the area, to use these implements to pick up litter and place it in a bin. To kick off the project, wooden boxes containing dog poo bags, latex gloves and wipes, together with mechanical pickers have been located at either end of the beach. They will be placed at other locations in the town at a later date.

In his closing remarks John thanked Burntisland Primary School, Floral Action Burntisland, Paul Dow Joinery, The Star Tavern, Alba Vets, Print Centre, M.A. Hardware Store and Lloyds Pharmacy for assistance and sponsorship. Refreshments were taken in the Beacon Centre after the launch.



**Our First "Pick'n'Fixers"**

## Remembrance Day Parade

**O**N Sunday 8th November the **Remembrance Day Parade** will commence from Harbour Place and process along the High Street up the Kirkgate to the service in the Parish Church which will start at 11.00 am. Following the service, the parade will reform and march to the War Memorial for the traditional wreath laying ceremony conducted by ministers of all denominations of Burntisland churches.

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## "Guy Fawkes Night"

**F**OR the past few months the Burntisland Events Group have been holding regular meetings to plan the traditional Guy Fawkes Night and spectacular fireworks display. Burntisland Links is the place to be on 5<sup>th</sup> November to enjoy what is now one of the most popular family events in the town and now attracts a huge number of visitors from a wide area.

As in previous years, the Radio Lollipop Roadshow will provide entertainment, music and tremendous fun for children of all ages from 6pm. along with the fairground rides, refreshments and the very popular glo-sticks stall. Burntisland Pipe Band will arrive with the Summer King & Queen at 7 pm. That will be followed by the lighting of the bonfire and the professional fireworks display provided by 21cc, a company with a well-established reputation in the field.

Car parking is notoriously difficult so we urge local people to leave the car at home and walk to the event. For those coming from further afield, please use public transport whenever possible to reduce congestion on the roads.

Whilst there is no set charge for entry to the event, a public collection will be taken on the night to help offset the considerable costs involved. The event does receive some funding from Fife Council but the group is heavily dependent on a good response from the public to make up the shortfall. It is hoped that everyone will contribute something. Please note that for Health and Safety and insurance reasons, no personal fireworks and sparklers will be permitted. Please do not take offence if stewards enforce these rules – they are obliged to.

Contacts: *Morna Beuzeval*, Chair, Burntisland Events Group.

*Richard Perry*, Secretary, Burntisland Events Group Tel: 01592 872852

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**B**ONFIRE Night will be the final outing for this year's Summer Queen and King and their attendants and is a fitting way for them to complete all their duties. Let's wish them a fun evening, with many thanks too to all their helpers and special mention to Cristina Davies, Kirsty Bett and Rosie Innes and their families. Well done to Renee Davies and Stewart Paton, Queen and King, and the Royal Party, Holly Gordon, Rebecca Thomson, Chloe Simpson, Fern Kelly, Olivia Robertson, Bailey Howarth, Callum Paton, Josh Holmes and William Smart.

Next year will see a new team of volunteers carrying on the Summer Queen and King tradition- details to be revealed in 2016- I hope they have as much support from the many who do assist in running the event as the previous organisers- every bit helps.



### Who is the Mystery Soldier?

**O**N 29 September the 1st Battalion of the Royal Regiment of Scotland, commanded by Nick Wight-Boycott (centre), replaced the The Black Watch as the United Nations' force patrolling the "Green Line" in Nicosia, Cyprus. Nick's father was the first editor of the Burgh Buzz and Nick an early distributor; thus he was delighted to find a copy of the Buzz on a Nicosia coffee table. It had been sent to Brian Cooper (right) of the Black Watch by his mother who likes to keep Brian abreast of Burntisland events.

So who is the character on the left? Here are a couple of clues: add a large black beard and imagine a loud laugh. Answer at the foot of page 18.



Staff of the Co-op present a generous cheque to Frances

### Over Seventies Christmas Treat

by Frances Allan

**P**REPARATIONS are well under way for this year's treat. Local Co-op staff from the High Street & Dollar Road branches have been fund raising over the last 2 months, and have raised a fantastic £600 for our event by collections in store, quiz sheets & even a cycle ride to Pitlochry by a member of staff. This money will be used towards Entertainment & Transport on the day. They also sponsored our Coffee Morning on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October and provided all the refreshments at which we raised £383. Many thanks to all Staff & Customers of the Co-op.

A donation of £358 was received from Hancock's Bingo & their customers through the sale of carrier bags & tablet, many thanks to all those who contributed.

2016 Calendars are now available at the Post Office, Heritage Centre, Church Shop & from any committee member. Christmas Raffle Tickets will soon be on sale.

The Treat this year will be on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2015 in the Kingswood Hotel. All residents of Burntisland aged 70 & over are welcome. Names for transport will be required by 20<sup>th</sup> November, please contact Frances Allan on 01592 872092 or Morag Douglas on 01592 871313.





## Burntisland Heritage Trust

### OUR LOCAL NATURE - PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

OVER the past two decades volunteers from Burntisland Heritage Trust have collected a huge archive of material and photographs relating to the town's rich history and heritage. Much of this has been displayed in our summer exhibitions covering a wide variety of themes.

In 2016, The Trust's Summer Exhibition will focus on the wealth and diversity of our area's natural heritage. We intend to compile a collection of albums and scrapbooks for visitors to browse through - can you help us to do so?

We'd love to see your photographs of all aspects of our local nature. The competition will be independently and professionally judged and gift voucher prizes to the value of £50, generously donated by Briggs Marine, will be awarded to each of the following age categories – Under 12 years; 12 to 17 years; 18 years and over. Winning photographs will be prominently displayed in the exhibition and published in the Buzz.

Subjects could be birds; mammals; fossils; sea life; smaller plants e.g. flowers, mosses, lichens; insects e.g. butterflies, moths, bees, beetles, spiders; fungi; amphibians e.g. frogs, toads, newts; larger plants – trees! ... And anything else you can think of but please note this is *not* a competition for landscape photography. Please send photographs by 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 to Burntisland Heritage Trust, 4 Kirkgate, Burntisland or by e-mail to [burntislandht@btinternet.com](mailto:burntislandht@btinternet.com) with details of: name and age of photographer; title of photo and where & when photo was taken. The competition is limited to no more than three entries per person.



Peacock Butterfly on Thistle

Photo courtesy of Joyce Murdoch

**Keep your eyes open for notice of a series of natural heritage talks to be given in the run-up to our 2016 exhibition.**

### Charles I shipwreck.....from front page

THE trust's engagement in this most tantalising of treasure hunts began in 1997. On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July in 1633 Charles I lost a horde of treasure valued at one ninth of the exchequer in its day. It is one of the great lost treasures in history ... and it lies right here on our doorstep, somewhere off Burntisland. Renewed interest in the project to find the wreck was resumed following a sub bottom survey instigated by Burntisland Heritage Trust in 2013. The full story of the search for the shipwreck was included in the heritage exhibition 'Crossing the Forth' which ran for ten weeks this summer and attracted 1200 visitors. The seven panel display feature covers the story of the shipwreck and the aftermath. It includes the time line of the project from the early 1990's right up to the present day. If you who missed this display, there will be another chance in the weeks before Christmas to view the exhibition which will be open on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> December from 11am to 4pm at No 4 Kirkgate. Don't miss this opportunity to bring yourself right up to date on this fascinating search.

Although very much depends on operational duties the Northern Diving Group are hoping to return to Burntisland to complete the investigation. Hopefully they will bring us another step nearer to solving a mystery which extends back more than 400 years.

## Burntisland & District Pipe Band

THE 2015 competition season is now over, Burntisland having competed with two bands this season.

The newly promoted grade 3 band has had an excellent season. It managed to achieve prizes at two major competitions, culminating at the World Pipe Band Championships where they qualified for the final. Congratulations to the new pipe major Jason Harley who has guided them well throughout this season. Jason is a local lad who began playing his pipes in Burntisland twenty years ago.

The new grade 4 band has had a good consolidating year led by Keith Muirhead who is another local lad. This band consists of a mixture of experienced players and a new young drum corps who this year were competing for the first time.

We are presently looking to teach children, preferably around the age of ten to fifteen. If you are interested in learning the pipes or drums please contact us via our Facebook page or simply drop into the pipe band hall for further information regarding practice times etc.



The Grade 4 Band Drum Corps





## School News

by Emma Clunie

What a busy and exciting first term we have had this year at Burntisland Primary School.

Our Nursery children have planted bulbs in the garden and recycled plastic milk containers at the Links Recycling Centre. Also, they have received lots of visitors who helped to teach them about keeping safe. This has included cycle safety, hand washing, toothbrushing, healthy eating and learning about people who help look after us at the airport or in hospital. A big thank you to all our visitors.

Our Primary 1 children have settled well into school life. To familiarise them with the new school building and surroundings, each P1 class embarked on an exciting Bear Hunt around the school to search for lost teddies. Lots of fun for all! Primary 1 have also worked hard to learn their sounds, and to recognise, count and form numerals the correct way.

Primary 2 have enjoyed regular trips to local woods. Using the outdoor environment, children have developed confidence, self-esteem and independence through a series of practical tasks. These visits have allowed the children to develop their appreciation for and understanding of the natural environment, as well as providing opportunities to achieve in science, health and wellbeing and literacy.

P3/2 have enjoyed reading Katie Morag stories this term, especially *Katie Morag and the Two Grandmothers*. The children have learnt about their own grannies and granddads and how the world has changed in their lifetime.

Primary 3 have studied natural disasters, in particular, about volcanoes! They enjoyed making their own model volcanoes and had lots of fun creating their own 'eruptions' in the playground! Alongside this, the children have been acting as junior scientists, doing experiments and testing 'lava' flow and temperature, using different equipment. Next term, it's onto earthquakes and tsunamis.

Primary 4 and Primary 3/4 have learnt how to measure this term. They were able to demonstrate their learning by using these skills to make delicious soup in class. This was so successful that the classes decided to make and sell soup packs,

as a mini enterprise project. This was very popular and the feedback from children, and parents, was fantastic! Thanks to all who placed an order.

Primary 5 have enjoyed making and flying kites as part of their class novel study, *The Butterfly Lion* by Michael Morpurgo. The class designed and made their kites in groups of three. On a specially selected, windy day they tested their kites outside – much to the delight of all the classes inside who enjoyed watching.

P6 have enjoyed reading and learning from the book *Kensuke's Kingdom* by Michael Morpurgo. Children have created lots of wonderful artwork, also displaying some impressive vocabulary in their imaginative writing and learning about Japanese culture. They have helped to lead the Harvest Thankgiving Service and organised a food collection for Burntisland Foodbank. P6D have also participated in weekly

swimming lessons at the Beacon, with many of the children demonstrating much more confidence in the water as a result. P6 have also been preparing for this year's Big Book Brain Quiz, a competition won by Burntisland Primary School last year! Additionally, P6Ba children are on their way to rock stardom, having had their first few ukulele lessons.

The children in Primary 7 have been very enthusiastic in learning about WWII which included a visit to Burntisland Heritage Centre. Every Friday morning they visited the Beacon to take part in football, basketball and hockey activities, as part of their regular

Health and Wellbeing education. News of our annual Ardroy Residential Week has also been released, with P7 children already looking forward to this wonderful experience in May 2016.

In other exciting news... The BPS School Sports Committee was set up in August and has since achieved the Silver Sports Award from Sport Scotland! What a fantastic achievement! They are now working closely with Mr Hubbard and are hoping to obtain the Gold Award by June 2016. To achieve this they are promoting sport in the school and in the local community, taking responsibility for leading and officiating activities, liaising with the Active Schools Coordinator and organising a sporting festival for which they will take full responsibility. We wish them lots of luck and we know they will work incredibly hard to achieve the Gold Award. Well done and congratulations to all involved.



## .....and from the Head Julie Anderson

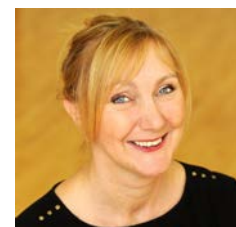
WELL, it's been a great start to the new session. We have had a very busy time with many exciting things happening inside and out over the last six weeks.

We welcomed over 300 people for Doors Open Fife and were delighted with the response and positive comments we received regarding our lovely school. We then played host to the Community Futures event with another 300+ people in school discussing what the future might hold for our community. We were delighted to have been asked to host the event as it gave us a great opportunity to show that we are really striving to be at the heart of the community.

Our first birthday is not until December when we were 'officially' opened but we have been celebrating throughout this term. We have been encouraging pupils, staff and members of the community to take part in our 'Legacy Tile' initiative. This sees white tiles (available from our school, office) being drawn on with messages for the future generations of pupils in our school. The legacy Tiles are being placed on the walls throughout the building and will be there for all to see for years to come, there will be 500 in total.

We celebrated the official opening of our school garden which saw a huge amount of money being raised in the memory of Margaret McCormick. This garden will exist as a living learning environment for all to share and we are extremely grateful to Maxine Walker who dedicated a great deal of time and effort raising this money in Margaret's honour.. as well as the staff, pupils and partners who have worked incredibly hard making it all come to life.

We have started other initiatives which we hope will benefit many parents and their children such as a Credit Union, Powered Up Sessions and a Job/Advice drop in on a weekly basis. We feel these service will have a direct impact on our children and community.



New pic !

Continued on Page 9



continued from page 8



I'm Big Brother - and I'm watching!

Bereavement Services - cemetery safety, British Transport Police, Clued Up, Respect Me anti bullying, Internet Safety, drama sessions, active schools sessions for safe playground games, the local ministers, Devron Homes and Mountain Rescue to name just a few and we really can't thank them all enough!!!

It was a great event and really helped make learning real, our feedback from all was very positive indeed and I think Scott Sweaton might have, single handedly transformed hand washing in the town.

Our next big event is the Christmas Fair on Sunday 6th December, something to look forward to too.

As the new term approaches we are looking forward to welcoming another new face to our Leadership Team. Miss Andria Sullivan will be joining us to lead our Under Threes, our nursery and our Primary 1s and I know she'll love BPS as much as we do.

The end of last term saw our [www.bps.com](http://www.bps.com) event! This was Welfare Wisdom Week @BPS.Community and it was AMAZING! - We had partners from many, many agencies - too many to mention in fact. And it was superb! The children could clearly see the partnership working and the way that individual efforts are coordinated to make the community a safer place. We had the CCTV van, nurses, the ambulance, the Fire Service, David Stodart from the Beacon, Community Wardens, Police Scotland, RNLI, Children 1st,



Cory on a stretcher.



WE started back after the summer to our hall, now equipped with brand new children's toilets which allows the children to develop their self-help and independence skills. All children settled in really well and especially enjoyed making new friends.

Initially they have learned how to prepare for going outside to the garden, by dressing themselves and helping each other. We have tidied up our garden and prepared the raised beds for planting new plants. This term the children have learned about Harvest and Autumn. Child-led activities have included the children discussing their pets and mini beasts. Also they have been "writing" about all they have learned in our big PLOD book (Possible Lines of Development). Next term, we will be covering topics including Bonfire Night, Diwali, Santa Lucia and Christmas as well as any interests that the children have.



The Playgroup now has a new committee planning lots of exciting fundraising events for everyone to enjoy. These include a Halloween disco on 31st October with games, raffle, face painting and lots more! We also have a coffee morning on 6th November with attendance from Rachel Spence Photography - a perfect opportunity to get photos of your little ones as Christmas gifts! Then, as we come into the festive season, we will be hosting a Christmas coffee morning on 4th December with music and mince pies. Moving forward to 2016, we have more great events to add to the calendar. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for confirmed dates and times of upcoming events or pop into the Toll Centre for information. We hope to see you all soon!

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### **Outdoor Learning for BPS**

THE opening of the outdoor learning facility at Burntisland Primary School, attended by staff, pupils and invited guests went ahead despite the wet and overcast weather.

Initially indoors, Head Teacher, Julie Anderson explained how the garden had evolved through the hard work of Maxine Walker in planning and fund raising throughout the community to establish a fitting reminder of former teacher, Mrs Margaret McCormick whose kind and caring manner of teaching is remembered by many of her former charges who still live in the town. Several of Margaret's former colleagues spoke of her caring and professional qualities whilst Lynne Bennet, still teaching at BPS, recalled the simple advice that Margaret had given her on arrival as a probationer teacher, "If you are kind to children and encourage them to be kind to one another, then everything falls into place"

Margaret's son John and granddaughter Amy were present and both expressed their appreciation for the fitting legacy which would provide an outdoor space for the children to safely enjoy.

The garden itself, has a rustic sitting-out area and a number of raised planter beds ready to receive new seeds and plants. Each form in the school has been allocated a planter

with the tools and equipment necessary to grow flowers and vegetables from scratch. At the end of the growing season each form's products will be judged and the winner will receive a "golden gnome" trophy.

Following the tributes to Margaret and Maxine everyone ventured into the garden for the ribbon cutting ceremony performed jointly by Maxine and John. Fittingly, the rain had eased to allow all to explore and enjoy Margaret's garden.



### **Burntisland and Kinghorn Rotary Club**

THE local club, as always, continues with its programme of fund-raising in order to finance the support of good causes locally and further afield, and having some fun the while. By the time the Buzz goes to press, the annual week-long Charity Shop will have happened in the rooms above the Library, and the local community already will have shown its traditional generosity in donating and purchasing a wide variety of items.

Topics chosen by speakers at recent regular meetings have included the secret WW1 naval establishment in Aberdour, a Rotary project for food production in a remote part of Nepal, a local woman's trip to Peru with a working party of teenagers, an insight into the workings of the St Andrews Links Trust, and the RNLI's 50 years in Kinghorn. More seriously, the Club has learned from local people of their

deeply personal and harrowing experience of mesothelioma and autism, and the public ignorance of both illnesses. The Club has willingly supported both causes financially. Rotary also regularly buys Shelterboxes, which supply families made homeless by disasters worldwide with all they need immediately to survive.

The 12<sup>th</sup> round of Rotary Rambles has begun in Kinghorn with a walk around the Loch with P4 children, to be followed by 3 more local walks. It is hoped that the programme will similarly continue in Burntisland in the Spring.

If you're interested in joining Rotary, the Club meets on Tuesdays at the Sands Hotel, Burntisland at 6.15.

**Stop Press: As of 24th October the Charity Shop has raised a total of over £3,000.00 - Very Many thanks to all.**

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## Historic Kirkton Church Wins Funding by John Burnett

MANY of you will have read the article in the press which mentioned that the "12<sup>th</sup> century Kirkton Church in Burntisland has been awarded £90,500 from the Heritage Lottery Fund to preserve the nationally significant ruined building and its churchyard". Subsequent to this we have also had further success in obtaining an Ancient Monument Grant from Historic Scotland.

With approximately 90% of the funding now in place we are near to embarking on the first steps of this two year project. It will begin with the building works, followed by graveyard work, culminating in educational and promotional activities. The building works will include removal of all existing vegetation from the stonework; treating it to prevent regrowth; restoration of the wall heads and re-pointing the whole church area.

An archaeological survey of the building will also be carried out when the vegetation has been removed to establish the full extent of the remedial work necessary to be carried out on the building. Outreach activities and raising awareness of the medieval site's historical importance are central to the project. In the future there will be a range of

volunteer led activities set to engage as many local people as possible.

The Old Kirkton Church and Historic Graveyard Steering Group made up of the Burntisland Heritage Trust, Fife Council, local elected councillors, Burntisland Community Council and the Floral Action Burntisland group submitted the



successful bids to safeguard the future of the ruined building and graveyard. The project's principal long term aim is to save the church from further decay and ultimate collapse by stabilising and conserving the site to Historic Environment Scotland standards. Above all, our aim is for the site to be open once more to locals and visitors, alike.

This community-led project will bring one of Fife's most important historic ruins back into community use, and put it on Scotland's cultural and tourist map.

Kirkton ceased to be the parish church around 1592 when the present Burntisland Parish Church was constructed although it continued to be used for worship by rural parishioners for many years. It is currently in a state of disuse and disrepair.



## MOC News by Dorothy Brankin

As usual, we've had another very busy year at the Museum of Communication! Our exhibition 'From Flanders Fields to Flying Bombs' ran from Easter until the end of September, the very popular monthly lectures have continued throughout the year, (this year, on topics ranging from the history of whisky to the design of TV cameras and the science of sundials!) We've entertained schoolchildren, and returned again to the International Science Festival in Orkney, giving talks in North Ronaldsay (the most northerly island) and in the capital Kirkwall.

As anyone who has visited the Museum this year will know, we have retained the main theme as WW1, but as 2015 marks the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of WW2, we felt that this had to be reflected in the exhibition as well. Amazing technological advances occurred during the inter-war years and we hit on the idea of comparing like-objects from both wars. As an example, in WW1, the mighty Zeppelin terrorised Britain. It was the length of two football pitches and had a maximum speed of 53 mph..... Just twenty years later, the far more deadly Messerschmitt 109, was less than 30 feet in length, and had a maximum speed of 398 mph.

In Britain in 1939, Spitfires, Hurricanes and heavy bombers like the Lancaster ruled the skies – but in WW1, aviation was in its infancy. The Wright brothers had made the first flight only eleven years previously! The aircraft were flimsy, single seater, open-cockpit biplanes and triplanes. Initially, they were unarmed – but the pilot carried a revolver, to take 'pot-shots' at the enemy!

One of the most popular features of our exhibition was the reconstruction of a WW1 trench. We acquired a WW1 Officers' Manual, which gave a detailed sketch, fully dimensioned, for the construction of trenches. We followed this carefully (but ours is far too germ and vermin free, un-smelly, dry and squeaky-clean!)

The only good thing about trenches was that they did offer some protection for the troops – but conditions were horrendous! You didn't go home at night time. This WAS home – 2 weeks on and 1 week off.....

Think of the noise of bombardment, the stench of rotting flesh and latrines (buckets!), the lack of running water, endless mud (no Wellies in those days!), desperately poor food (no water to spare for washing pots, so everything tasted the same) and RATS... It has been estimated that there were 12 rats per soldier in the trenches. Another horror was lice. In addition to everything else, they carried typhoid. This was particularly grim for the kilted Scottish regiments, as lice had a habit of nesting in the warm pleats of the kilt – with disastrous consequences.

No wonder that troops welcomed the introduction of the tank in 1916..... That will be part of our story at the Museum next year – I'll tell you about it next time!

For further information about the Museum of Communication, please contact either [mocenquiries@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:mocenquiries@tiscali.co.uk) or telephone 01506 823 424.

## ***BURNTISLAND COMMUNITY DECIDES ITS FUTURE!***

OVER 300 residents participated in the Burntisland Community Futures event on Saturday at Burntisland Primary School. The event was the culmination of four months of extensive community consultation that has included a community survey, stakeholder engagement, school projects and a visitor survey.

With 500 responses in the Community Survey from a sample of 1000 households, Burntisland residents had already provided plenty of thoughts and ideas to improve the town for the future. But Saturday was the chance for people to vote for their top priorities, and decide what should be the focus of efforts for the community over the next 5 years.

Alongside the consultation and voting, the school hall was filled with information from local community organisations including the Burntisland Community Council, Young Memorial Hall, Floral Action Burntisland, Wednesday Social club, the Heritage Trust, Town Twinning, Ecology Centre, Burntisland First Aid services, and many more. Churches Together kept everyone supplied with home baking, tea and coffee, and the Parent Council supplied ice cream when the temperature rose! Local shopping vouchers were on offer in the raffle provided by Totally Locally and the



Community Council, and there was a wonderful range of entertainment provided by local talent including Elia Guarneri Silvino and Monica Turoni on the harp and flute, Gary Downie on guitar with his own songs, Burntisland Highland Dancers, Julie Brown Holder's



piano students, and last but not least "Tremor" a young band who had everyone rocking to classics such as "Highway to Hell".

Walter Anderson, Citizen of the Year, piped everyone into the event and gave a few wise words of encouragement for the efforts of the Community Council.

After all the votes were cast, the main priorities that featured highly were returning the Clock tower and improving the Burgh Chambers for community use, developing more play facilities for all ages, dealing with litter and dog fouling, upgrading the High Street and regenerating the Station. Other priorities included encouraging more restaurant facilities and a beach cafe, developing paths and cycle ways, and trying to get a bigger pharmacy for the town.

The results of all the community consultation will now be considered by the Burntisland Community Futures Steering Group and a 5 year Community Action Plan will be prepared. The Plan will help to guide community action by local groups as well as agencies, and will support funding applications and the future of Common Good assets in the town.

Alex MacDonald, Chair of Burntisland Community Council said "We have worked hard as a community to carry out all the consultation so far, and were absolutely delighted with the turnout on Saturday. Not only do we now know what the priorities are for the community, but we also have lots of people who are keen to be involved in making it happen. The future will be a challenge but it's looking good for Burntisland."

### ***Kids Gardening Club***

IT has been a great season at Kids Gardening Club. The wonderful weather in September allowed us to spend time enjoying the fruits of our labour. It has been a joy to watch the kids eating peas from the pod, digging out potatoes with their hands and devouring a stir fry cooked entirely from ingredients from the garden. We celebrated our last session with a sausage sizzle and pumpkin soup from our very own gigantic pumpkin.

Both the Community Garden and Kids Club welcomes new faces and we are currently looking for volunteers to get involved in next years season. If you would like to take part, please contact Sally at [sg\\_cj@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sg_cj@yahoo.co.uk) or through the facebook page [www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/)







## Isn't Burntisland Fabulous!

By Scott Sweaton

WELL, as we move into the Autumn months, we are left to reflect on another successful summer for Floral Action Burntisland. Firstly, we were delighted to retain our silver gilt award from beautiful Fife. The judges' comments were very positive and they highlighted some future areas for development and improvement.

In spite of our average summer weather, we were really pleased with our planting and although plants bloomed later than expected, we are confident that everyone appreciated the beautiful colours on display. We must extend a huge thanks to Brian Redpath of Forthview Gardening Services whom we contracted to water and feed the High Street hanging baskets - an undoubted success.

The redevelopment of an area in Harbour Place (at the end of the High Street) has been a significant undertaking in which we planted trees, wild flowers and an EATS bed in addition to planters and a compost bin.

As a group, we enjoyed attending the Burntisland Futures event and in particular, most surprised how positively



Silver gilt for Debbie and Val

FAB is appreciated by the local community.

Our now annual coffee morning was held on Saturday 3rd October at St Joseph's Church. It was again very well attended and FAB extends thanks for the many raffle prizes donated by local businesses. A total of £846 was raised towards making Burntisland fabulous for another year.

Plans for next year have already been discussed in our monthly meetings and will continue throughout the winter months. Nevertheless it is a quieter time of the year for the group and we look forward to our volunteers Christmas night out to celebrate our hard work and success for another year.

Come the new year we will have our AGM in February and continue to fundraise with our yearly raffle which is drawn around Easter.

Finally, this would have been impossible without the commitment of our committee and volunteers. If you would like to

contribute in continuing the success of FAB why not get in touch. You can find us on Facebook or email [floral-action-burntisland@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:floral-action-burntisland@hotmail.co.uk) for more information.

**Once again we can all agree that Burntisland is truly FABulous.**

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## Time for You

LOCAL couple Ralph and Hazel Watson will shortly celebrate their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of having established the Fife branch of the “Time for You” domestic cleaning, franchise. During that time, they have increased their client base to over 400 households throughout the length and breadth of the county. Clients vary from young families and busy professionals to retired

couples and individuals who all have one thing in common – they wish to be free from the drudgery of housework to have more free time. Many confess to enjoying the pleasure of “having their weekends and evenings back”.

The business now administers over 100 self-employed cleaners, each of whom has undergone a rigorous vetting procedure covering personal standards of cleanliness, work ethic and integrity. Additionally, all client households are fully insured against accidental damage and public liability.

The Watsons were both brought up in Burntisland and their daughter, as their son before, attends the local Primary School. The family support and participate in a variety of community activities and the business has supported the Buzz through advertising for many years, for which the editorial team is most grateful.



## Shipyard News by Andrew Beveridge

RESULTS have not been great so far this season as the team struggles to find any level of consistency, though there has been two excellent wins against Kelso United (5-0) and Eyemouth United (6-0). Unfortunately for the whole of the league Kelso decided to fold after several heavy defeats so the victory over them will be wiped from our record. Luck deserted the team in the Scottish Cup down at St Cuthbert Wanderers where fortune did not favour us and we lost 3-1, though many felt we deserved at least a replay.

Most of the focus off the pitch has been on the pavilion extension and I am sure some readers will be aware that work has started on the project and at the time of writing we are ahead of schedule. The Club would like to thank all of the following who have helped contribute towards the cost of the extension, Briggs Marine – the main sponsor of the Club, The Scottish Football Partnership, Awards for All, Fife Council and The Burntisland Common Good Fund. Once the work is complete we should be in a position to apply for a Club License from the Scottish Football Association and ensure we continue our long membership of the Association.

One of the main benefits from the extension will be a designated first aid room and together with a defibrillator, supplied through our League/Association. With trained sports first aiders and trained defibrillator users, Recreation Park will be a safer place for people to play or watch football. As with the current pavilion, the new lay out will also be “disabled friendly” and having undertaken a disability access audit, we are now in the process of looking into ways of making parking, access to the ground and movement within the ground easier for disabled spectators.



## Swimming Club News

By Olive Grayson

THE Summer is now over and we are into the Autumn session of the swimming year. Alicia Thomson, Rebecca Younger, Blair Wardlaw and Eireann Comrie have been accepted for the Fife Area Squad and Ailsa Kellas has now joined the Scottish Swimming District Regional Bronze Squad. Swimmers took part in the Geordie Wotherspoon Gala which is for Novice League Swimmers and the Fife Championships. There were a number of great swims and many medals won.



Medal Winners



## Burntisland Golf House Club Club Champions (2015 Season)



Dave Thom, Fraser Hutchison, Jim Ross, Owen Meldrum, Mary Malcolm, Anne Main (Ladies Captain), Fiona Webster, Bill Kerr and Gardner Brownlie (Captain).





## Burntisland Bowling Club

2015 has been another eventful outdoor season for the Burntisland Bowling Club. A full diary of friendly games against teams from Fife and further afield, as well as the Club's own friendly matches and competitions, gave the members plenty of opportunity to enjoy the sport.

The ladies of the Club have had a particularly successful season, with its team winning the Kirkcaldy Ladies' League for the first time and Dorothy Whyte and Rae Thomson winning the Fife Ladies' Pairs trophy.

At its annual Presentation Dance in October, thirty internal and external competition winners were presented with their trophies and awards. The 2015 Ladies' Champion was Isabel Muir, who beat Jean Haddow in the final, and Norrie Stenton, who overcame John Robertson in the final, took the Men's Championship.

The Club welcomes new members, of all ages, whether novices or more experienced players, and new members pay half the normal fee in their first year. All members can also take advantage of free tuition.

The outdoor bowls season runs from the April to early October each year, but there are also opportunities to play indoor bowls during the closed season. The Club's website ([burntislandbowlingclub.co.uk](http://burntislandbowlingclub.co.uk)), provides information about the club and its activities. For more information, the Club can be contacted via email at [info@burntislandbowlingclub.co.uk](mailto:info@burntislandbowlingclub.co.uk).



Kirkcaldy Ladies League Champions



## 775 (Burntisland) Squadron Air Training Corps

OVER the past few months cadets and staff have been involved in a wide variety of activities, having attended camps at RAF Cosford and Joint Helicopter Force Aldergrove.

During July and August cadets took part in Air Experience Flying at Leuchars where they flew Grob Tutors and received various flying skills tuition. Several cadets attended a canoe session on a very windy and wet day at Linlithgow Loch and despite the weather managed some paddling, albeit, very wet paddling! Other activities included participation in a Communications Specialist Field Radio Course and a pre-annual inspection visit by a Wing Commander.

Squadron activities in the immediate future will include bag packing, Heartstart training in support of the Poppy Scotland Appeal, the Remembrance Day Parade and the inter squadron cross country championship.

The Squadron is currently recruiting cadets and staff, so if you are interested in finding out what the Air Cadets have to offer come in to the Squadron HQ at the Unity Hall which is at the Junction of Links place and East Leven street. The Squadron parades on Monday & Thursday evenings between 19:00 and 21:30 hrs.



Cadets and staff from the Aldergrove camp on a visit to the Ulster Aviation Society



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## The Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service

sends its sincere thanks to the 103 volunteers who offered to give blood at the Parish Church Hall in Burntisland on 7<sup>th</sup> September. A total of 93 donations were given of which, five were from new donors.

Caroline Tutt

Donor Programme Organiser



## 11<sup>th</sup> Fife -1<sup>st</sup> Burntisland Scout Group



BEAVERS have had a great summer camp based around commemorating the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Britain. They tried and tasted WW2 ration recipes including rabbit stew and carrot fudge, completed an assault course and army drill and made replica gas mask cases. They also learned to use a compass and completed the navigator 1 badge. In September the Beavers visited Tesco Dunfermline as part of the Farm to Fork promotion. They had a great evening trying different food, exploring the aisles to find ingredients for bread and getting to stand in the big freezer. – By Kerry Laing



AFTER a really enjoyable Group Summer camp at Wemyss Firs campsite, the Cubs have been busy this term learning about the importance of Fire Safety. This involved a very enjoyable (and wet!) visit to Burntisland Fire Station. We have also been working on our Pioneering badge, learning all about different knots and how to make a structure using rope and sticks. The Cubs have had an opportunity to try archery this term too, and found that it was more difficult than it looks! We are now looking forward to next term when we'll be taking part in lots of festive activities! – By Fiona Sword



THIS summer the Scouts spent 5 days at Wemyss firs campsite, where they all had a great time making shelters and pioneering. A few of them braved the wind and rain and slept overnight in the shelters. This term we have been working on the Emergency Aid Badges with the help of some kindly donated CPR dummies. Later they will be competing in the District First Aid Scout competition where we will be defending the trophy. – By Kerry Laing



THIS term has been busy during which the Explorer scouts have worked on their Navigator 3 Badge which involved walking up Falkland Hill. We are well on the way to completing our camper and survival skills badges which we will complete next term with our camp. Also, we are very proud this term to see one of our explorers, Owen Laing gain his platinum chief scout award, one of the top awards in Explorers, and also one of our leaders, Peter Nield gain his wood badge, to signify that he has completed his training. – By Craig Paton



### ***Christmas Post.***



***The scout group will soon be starting their annual Xmas post delivery service. This is a great fundraiser for the group and it is appreciated that so many people within the town allow us to deliver their Burntisland Christmas Cards. Look out for collection boxes in various locations about the town.***





## TOLL CENTRE

By **Bridget Fraser**

IT has been another busy few months at the Toll Centre. We had a fabulous time at our 'Back to School' BBQ at the end of August, and even though the weather was a bit showery, everyone still had lots of fun! Events coming up include an indoor car-boot and table top sale on Sunday 25th October, and a showing of 'Minions' on our big screen on November 1<sup>st</sup>.

In the Autumn/Winter months we enjoy having 'Mini Discos' to entertain the kids on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon. The next one is on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November between 2 and 4pm. Entry is £2 per child and no charge for adults. We'll soon be planning our brilliant kids Christmas party so keep an eye out in the local press or our facebook page for more information.

Our Youth Clubs are now back after the holidays. The Kids Club on a Tuesday (ages P2-P4) is on between 6.30 and 8pm. We are having a visit from 'Cool Creatures' on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November – this will also be a free 'taster session' for anyone that might want to come along to the Kids Club in the future so all P2-P4 aged children are welcome. On Thursdays we have Youth Club for ages P5–P7 between 6.45 and 9.15pm.

On a Friday night the Music Project takes place for

anyone aged 12 and over who has an interest in music and performance. All Youth Clubs are £1 per session and the first session is free if you'd like to come along and try it out!

Computer classes and support sessions for job seekers still take place on a Tuesday. On a Friday morning job seekers are welcome to drop in and use our computers – we are looking into setting up a 'silver surfer' club, so keep an eye on our facebook page and the local press for more information.

Don't forget that our hall and meeting room are both available for hire. The meeting room is perfect for small groups, training sessions and committee meetings. The main hall is ideal for parties, fund raising events and public meetings – use of the kitchen is included in the hire of the hall. We're always working hard at looking for funding to improve our facilities. The most recent improvement has been the installation of children's toilets with direct access off the hall, which are proving very popular with the Playgroup kids!

The Toll Centre is a Community Centre and is held in trust for the people of Burntisland. The Centre is run by a voluntary management committee and small number of paid staff. We are looking for new people to join our committee. We are a friendly bunch and meet once a month in the evening, so if you would like to meet new people and get involved - or to find out any information about the Centre and our activities - please drop in or give us a call on 872854.

## New Sports Facilities Open

THE overcast weather did not dampen the spirits of the many residents and dignitaries who attended the official opening ceremony of the new sports pitch development adjacent to the Beacon Leisure Centre. The ceremony was performed by Elaine Ritchie, wife of the late Gordon Ritchie, a life time resident of the town who had a great interest in all sports. Gordon was an active member of many organisations in the town, served as secretary of the Community Council and was an inspirational member of the Burntisland Sports Group which has strived so hard over the past seven years to bring the project to fruition.

The new facility comprises an astroturf football pitch and a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) which is suitable for a number of sports including football, basketball, hockey and many others. The project was jointly financed by Sports Scotland, Fife Environmental Trust, Fife Council, The Common Good Fund and by organisations and individual members of the Burntisland community.

Gillian Lowe who has chaired the Burntisland Sports Group throughout the planning stage is delighted that the previously neglected area has been transformed into a wonderful facility which will be available to everyone to enjoy.

## Booking Arrangements:

The MUGA is free to use on a "first come first served" basis and is suitable for most sports including football, basket ball and tennis.

The football pitch can be booked either as a seven-a-side (full pitch) or five-a-side (half pitch) through the Beacon Leisure Centre. A 10% discount is offered to constituted clubs/groups and concessions. The astroturf is floodlit.



## Christmas Time is coming and Burntisland's Giving Trees are back!

I AM afraid there's no denying it, the nights are drawing in and the heating has had to go on, so it's inevitable that our thoughts start to turn to Christmas.

For the third year, Burntisland Unlimited are running our Giving Trees campaign and this year with the Support of Carol-Anne, our Community Pioneer at the Co-op we are hoping it will be bigger than ever.

For those of you who are unfamiliar with it, the idea is simple: you collect a gift tag from one of the participating retailers, the tag will have an age and gender on it, buy a gift, wrap it, put the tag back on and hand back to the retailer. Then Santa's little helpers (our local health visitors and the primary school) will discreetly distribute the gifts to those families who may not be able to provide many gifts for

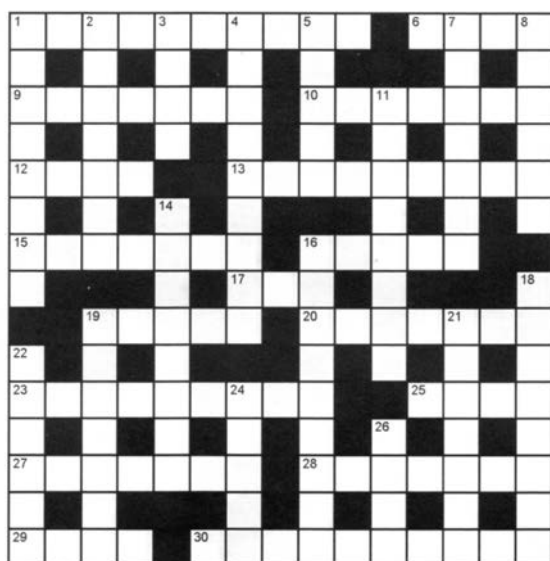
their children.

But this year there is an extra way to help those who are less fortunate. In conjunction with the Co-op and the food bank we are hoping the kind-hearted people of Burntisland will help us to put together food hampers to distribute so that those who struggle to put food on the family table can have an enjoyable Christmas without the worry of how they will pay for it.

So this year, when you are buying your Christmas gifts and Christmas food perhaps you could buy just one gift more and a few food items to allow our whole community to be well fed and so that all our local children can have the joy of waking up to gifts on Christmas morning.

The Giving Trees will be popping up in your local retailers soon, and the Co-op will also have a suggestions list for food donations and a collection point. Let's see if we can make this a Very Merry Christmas for everyone!

# THE PRIZE CROSSWORD



## ACROSS

1. Carousel (10)
6. Poultry products (4)
9. Neatest (7)
10. Eerie (7)
12. US State (4)
13. Light meal (9)
15. N. African Country (7)
16. Dig (5)
17. "Princess\_\_\_" "G&S operetta(3)
19. Come in(5)
20. Fabulous animal (7)
23. Flawed (9)
25. Immense (4)
27. Rejected with contempt (7)
28. Obvious (7)
29. Detest (4)
30. Searcher for minerals (10)

## DOWN

1. Reasoning (8)
2. Immortal (7)
3. Squirrel's nest (4)
4. Invalid conveyance (9)
5. Normal (5)
7. Real (7)
8. Maxim (6)
11. Padre (8)
14. Brothers (8)
16. Intrepid (9)
18. Forebear (8)
19. Daring feat (7)
21. Wealthy, Luxuriant (7)
22. Black Cherry liqueur (6)
24. Senior (5)
26. U.S. Coin (4)

The Buzz regrets and apologises for the typesetting mix up that completely invalidated our last issues' crossword. There was, therefore, no winner of the £25.00 prize for the Summer issue.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

TELEPHONE:.....

Completed entries by: December 15th 2015 to:  
**The Editor - c/o 1 Lammerlaws Rd. Burntisland**  
 First Correct entry drawn will win £25.00 vouchers  
 Donated by Shell UK Ltd. Answers will appear in  
 The next issue of the Burgh Buzz.

## Events Diary

DATE	EVENT	TIME
<b>NOVEMBER</b>		
Sunday 1st	Minions Movie at the Toll Centre (£3 each or £10 for group of 4)	3.00 pm
<b>Thursday 5th</b>	<b>Bonfire/Fireworks Night on the Links</b>	<b>6.00 pm onwards</b>
Saturday 7th	Mini Disco at the Toll Centre (£2 per child - adults free)	2.00 - 4.00 pm
Saturday 7th	Dine with Des & the Dingoes at the Golf Club (£20 with buffet supper -Cancer Research)	7.00 till late
Saturday 7th	Family Ceilidh in Parish Church Hall in aid of OPEN DOORS (Refugee Charity)	7.00 onwards
Saturday 7th	Open Day at The Ecology Centre, Kinghorn Loch	2.00 - 4.00 pm
<b>Sunday 8th</b>	<b>Remembrance Day Parade and Service at Burntisland Parish Church</b>	<b>10.45 onwards</b>
Monday 9th	Police Community Engagement meeting at Pettycur Bay Hotel	7.00 pm
Friday 13th	Community Council Meeting in Burgh Chambers	7.00 pm
Tuesday 17th	Free Kids Club taster session including "Cool Creatures" at the Toll Centre (P2-P4 kids)	6.30 - 8.00 pm
Saturday 21st	Messy Church at Kinghorn Church Hall	10am - 12.15pm
<b>DECEMBER</b>		
Sunday 6th	Burntisland Primary School Christmas Fair	
Sunday 6th	Blue Christmas Service in Potter About	6.30 pm
Friday 11th	Community Council Meeting in Burgh Chambers	7.00 pm
Saturday 12th	Carol Singing in the High Street for Cancer Research - Meet at Old Porte	11.00 am
Sunday 20th	Messy Nativity at Kinghorn Church Hall	3.00 - 5.00 pm
Thursday 24th	Watch Night Service at the Erskine Church	11.15pm
Thursday 24th	Watch Night Service at the St Serf's	11.30pm
<b>JANUARY</b>		
Friday 8th	Community Council Meeting in Burgh Chambers	7.00 pm
Saturday 16th	Messy Church in Burntisland Church Hall	10.00 - 12.00 noon
<b>FEBRUARY</b>		
Friday 12th	Community Council meeting in Burgh Chambers	7.00 pm

The Mystery soldier is none other than Padre John Duncan, formerly minister of Burntisland's Parish Church and now serving as padre to the Black Watch



## **APPEALS FOR VOLUNTEERS**

**T**HE 363rd HIGHLAND GAMES had another fantastic day this year on the 20th of July, despite the weather. All events ran as planned with competitors travelling to Burntisland from all over the world.



The committee would like to thank all those who helped make the day a success. Without the volunteers before and during the event, as well as the generous contributions from our sponsors, the games would simply not go ahead.

We are desperately in need of new members to join the committee so the games can continue in future years. If you can spare an hour a month in the evening in the 6 months running up to the games, please do come and support us - you can get involved a little or a lot!

If you would like to know more, or to lend a hand, please contact us using either of the contacts below:

Sarah Goodall - Secretary: 07703 474762

**Email:** [burntislandhighlandgames@gmx.co.uk](mailto:burntislandhighlandgames@gmx.co.uk)

**C**IVIC WEEK 2016 – seems like a long way away? It is, of course, but the committee will soon be getting together to make a start on next year's event....

This year had its ups and downs, Parade Day was a great success. Some of the week's events had to be cancelled, but those that did go ahead were well attended and we collected a fantastic £1200 in buckets and shop tins during the week, a great boost to our funds for 2016.

The Summer King and Queen tradition was in danger of disappearing due to lack of volunteers, but thankfully a new group led by Adrina Wallace has agreed to take this on board. However, we are still looking for new faces to join the committee. If you don't have a lot of spare time, why not just help out at events? The committee has a strong core to

plan and organise but often struggles to find people to actually help run events. Got any bright ideas? Again, we are always looking for input and received some great suggestions during the recent Community Futures Day. So, if you can help in any way, or have ideas/feedback, please drop us a line at [burntislandcivicweek@gmail.com](mailto:burntislandcivicweek@gmail.com) or, like us on facebook and leave us a message there.



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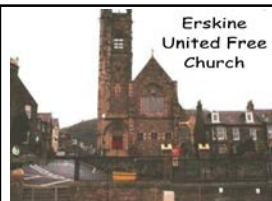


## **TO LET - OFFICE UNITS**

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Erskine  
United Free  
Church

## Erskine News

by Rev. Alexander Ritchie

OUR youngest daughter started P1 in August. One day quite early on she came home and announced, holding both her arms as wide apart as possible, that she would soon know THIS MUCH about her letters and numbers! That was a really special moment, more of that later. The sequence of events is always the same-Bonfire Night, Remembrance Sunday & Christmas. That draws each year towards its close.

It was great having a joint outdoor Praise on the Links in early July, and between the end of October and mid-November we will again be visited by the young DRAMA team from Pennsylvania, USA.

Erskine's Autumn Fayre is on Saturday 31 October from 10am, please come & join us in the halls for the usual mix of stalls and those iconic pancakes.

Bonfire Night brings real mystery & excitement to the town, whilst the dignity of our community act of Remembrance at the War Memorial is always particularly moving and poignant.

Burntisland's Churches are planning to work together again over the Christmas period with a varied mix of events and services. Please keep an eye on the usual places for posters in the town as well as our various Facebook pages. An Erskine highlight is always the Watchnight service @ 11.15pm on Christmas Eve.

Back to the things we think we know. Christmas. Perhaps we know the story rather too well, but how often do we pause and reflect on what it actually means? How much of the story do we believe?

A baby born in such humble circumstances, an inauspicious start. Yet it is the humility of Jesus' birth which makes his claim to be a gift from God all the more powerful and worthy of far more of our thoughts than the December rush of gifts, parties, food & fun. Something to think about this Christmas...



By Anne Smith



The Parish Church

THE Parish Church is much more than a congregation worshipping together on a Sunday in a unique historical building. The church involves itself in pastoral care for the elderly, working with children and youths, runs a shop - Chapter and Verse -

offers assistance to those struggling financially through C.A.P (Christians Against Poverty) to name just a few activities. During the winter, Sunday morning worship (11.00 am) takes place in the church hall whilst evening services (6.30 pm) mainly take place in the Solid Rock Café.

Café Church is a monthly, Sunday evening praise service( 6.30) in Potter About involving chat, a praise band and hot drinks in a very relaxed and informal atmosphere. On 6<sup>th</sup> December the Café Church will combine with a Blue Christmas Service which will serve to comfort those who find it difficult to cope, possibly because of bereavement, ill health or financial problems. It is a positive and reflective service

with contemporary music and the opportunity to receive prayer.

For the rest of this year and into the New Year, the Parish Church will be hosting a wide variety of organisations and functions. A Drama Mime Group is visiting from the United States and will be working with local churches and schools in Burntisland and Kinghorn to inspire young people to know GOD better and to encourage mime ministry generally. They will be visiting Burntisland School on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> November, performing on the Links on bonfire night and during the Remembrance Service in the Parish Church on 8<sup>th</sup> November.

The Messy Church is held in Burntisland and Kinghorn for families to have fun whilst learning together about GOD's love in a relaxed, interactive and often messy environment. Bible stories come alive through storytelling and drama and participants sing and celebrate together. The morning activities which include a range of craft activity linked to the stories, are always concluded with a shared buffet lunch.

Activities organised by the parish Church are wide and varied and more details can be found in the events diary.

### Christmas Events at All Souls.

*Would you like to do something new and fresh this Christmas? St Serf's Church and All Souls Churches have several events that may spice up your Christmas this year no matter your age!*

**28<sup>th</sup> Nov- UNWRAPPING CHRISTMAS at St Fillan's Church Hall Aberdour 9:30am to 12:00pm.** *This is a Fun Morning for boys and girls age 5-12. Pre booking required to ensure you get a place. For more information contact the office.*

**29<sup>th</sup> Nov- Celtic Christmas Service at St Serf's Burntisland at 6:00pm.** *All are welcome. This is a celebration of the meaning of Christmas through songs and stories with a Scottish flavour. All are welcome.*

**17<sup>th</sup> Dec- Manifesto 'Beers and Carols'- Calling all men.** *Want to enjoy a good Christmas night out. Join us at St Paul's and St George's Church Edinburgh at 7:00pm for a Hog Roast, Carols and a selection of Beers to taste. All are welcome advance booking required.*

**19<sup>th</sup> Dec- Live Nativity at St Serf's Burntisland- 3:00pm (Saturday)** *(Yes!! there will be animals and a baby Jesus!!) All welcome. Children to come dressed in their favourite nativity character. Drinks and Christmas Snacks served after.*

**24<sup>th</sup> Dec- Crib Service at St Columba's Church Aberdour 3:00pm.** *Young children and families. This is a family service to focus on the meaning of Christmas.*

**24<sup>th</sup> Dec- Watch Night Service at St Serf's Burntisland 11:30pm.** *All Welcome. Bring in Christmas with a quiet reflective service.*

**25<sup>th</sup> Dec- Christmas Day Service at St Columba's Aberdour 9:30am.** *All Welcome. Come and celebrate Christmas with traditional Christmas Carols.*

*All are welcome and we hope to see you there.*



By Rev. Dean Norby





## CRAIGENCALT RURAL COMMUNITY TRUST NEWS

### Walking Festival By Marilyn Edwards

In September, Craigenalt Rural Community Trust (CRCT) ran its second local Walking Festival and it was another great success. The number of folk registering for walks came to 105 and the overall footfall of 225 was a big increase on last year. The event just gathered momentum as people registered for more walks after enjoying the first ones. It is a good way of bringing communities together and for former strangers to share a common enjoyment. Walk leaders from Kinghorn, Burntisland, Aberdour and Auchtertool came together to offer a wide and varied programme. There were heritage and environmental walks, energetic Nordic Walking as well as longer, more challenging hikes.

The event was again fortunate to have excellent weather with only one day out of nine with rain. There were sixteen walks to choose from, both coastal and countryside, stretching from Dysart to Dalgety Bay and Auchtertool. The scenery in this part of Fife is spectacular and varied and there is no better way to view it than from the top of the Binn in Burntisland. The Walking Festival generates such a good atmosphere amongst its participants and gives a chance for like minded folk to meet up. A favourite moment for me was walking out on the Lammerlaws during one of the Burntisland trails and learning about its geological past. Many photographs were taken during the walks and some of these will be on display in different venues including Burntisland library and Kinghorn Community Centre over October and November. This will give a chance for everyone to see them. Photographs will also be on our website at [www.Craigenalttrust.org.uk](http://www.Craigenalttrust.org.uk).

This year, at the end of the last walk, a host of folk gathered for lunch at The Sands Hotel in Burntisland to celebrate the end of a totally enjoyable week and somehow I don't think it will be the last. Our thanks go to all who helped with the organisation of the event.

The Trust Walking Group continues to meet on the first Wednesday of each month throughout the winter. The group meets at 10am at the outer car park just before Craigenalt Farm road. If you would like to join us on the walks contact Kathleen on 07757282455 and Pat on 07971521943.

CRCT now has all the funding in place for its next big project. The Lochside project is aimed at improving facilities at the loch for the many watersports users and for our wildlife. A new disabled and family friendly path to link up with Rodanbraes will be constructed and there will be new signage and interpretation boards added. We are very fortunate to have the assistance of Alcan and funding from Awards for All and Fife Environment Trust, but if you have some time available please come and help. Email to [info@Craigenalttrust.org.uk](mailto:info@Craigenalttrust.org.uk) or phone 891330.



### The Ecology Centre News by Rhona Lyon

OCTOBER was the month when it all came together and we were able to move into our new centre at Kinghorn Loch and it was well worth the wait! The new building is light and airy and will be a great base to run our volunteer, education and job training programmes.

The building has been designed to be as energy efficient as possible with a passive heating system that reduces energy consumption and solar panels to generate electricity and hot water. Outside, a green roof and larch timber cladding provide a natural appearance in keeping with its rural setting. Recycled shipping containers set across from the building provide additional storage and house our Tool Shed, volunteer room and additional space for our Education team.

The land on which The Ecology Centre sits was purchased on behalf of the local community and we have made a fantastic start in transforming it into a place of natural beauty, wildlife and learning. We have installed many new features including a new pond, woodland walks and campfire area with many more features in the pipeline.

We are holding an open day on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November from 2pm to 4pm which would be a great opportunity to visit the Centre and see the new site. We also plan to run workshops for the local community starting with our popular St Nicholas event on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December, where you can make lovely Christmas decorations from natural materials.

For more information visit our website

[www.theecologycentre.org](http://www.theecologycentre.org)

and sign up for our e-bulletin. You can also like us on Facebook or call us on 01592891567.

We look forward to welcoming you to our new site soon.







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### White Christmas At The Sands

Christmas is a time to enjoy yourself with family, friends and colleagues, so come along to The Sands. Our celebrations start on Friday 4th December.

**Party Night Dates:** Friday 4th December  
Saturday 12th December

But spaces are running out so please get in touch soon so you don't miss out.

**Christmas Fayre** from Monday 7th December, we are offering a Three Course "Traditional Menu"

### Festive Opening Times:

#### December 2015

Friday 18th - Food served all day

Thursday 24th - Food served all day  
Last order 7.30pm.

Friday 25th - Bookings only  
Food 12-3pm  
Bar: 12-5pm

Saturday 26th - Boxing day closed

Sunday 27th - Normal Food & Bar service

Thursday 31st - Food all day  
Last orders 8pm

#### January 2016

"Hogmanay" Live music to see the bells in!! £10 per ticket (includes stovies)

Friday 1st - Hangover breakfast  
12 - 3 pm and bar open at noon

Saturday 2nd - Service back to normal

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Tel: 01592 872230



Wishing all our customers,  
past, present and future a  
Merry Christmas &  
A Happy New Year.  
We hope to see you at  
The Sands very soon



# Christmas at the Kingswood

Come in out of the cold



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 Three courses £21.00, Two courses £16.50  
**Christmas Day 2015**  
 Price £65.00. Bookings from 12.30pm to 3.15pm  
 Children under 12 separate menu £29.00  
 Reservations Tel 01592 872329

## Christmas Events @ The Kingswood

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December** Mirrey Christmas Cabaret  
 with Susan Mirrey - Tickets £5.00 per person  
**Sat 5<sup>th</sup> & Fri 18<sup>th</sup> December** Festive Murder Mystery  
 Tickets £37.00 per person. Includes 4 course meal.  
**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December** The Improvised Panto!  
 Tickets £10.00 per person  
**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December** TdG Jazz at the Kingswood  
 Tickets £7.50 per person.  
**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December** Crooners  
 Tickets £10.00 per person or ten for £90.00.  
**Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> December** Hogmanay Ceilidh & Dinner  
 Tickets £65.00 per person.



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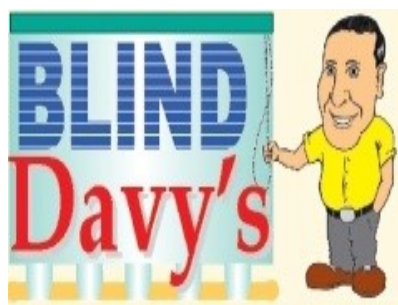
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