

10 years of making Burntisland FABulous!

Back in 2012 a leaflet was put through the doors of the townspeople, asking if anyone was interested in establishing a bloom group, taking over the planters that had been cared for by the Community Council in previous years. After a couple of meetings, a committee was established under the name Floral Action Burntisland (FAB). We decided that we didn't just want to be another 'in bloom' group and the acronym allowed us to develop the slogan 'making Burntisland fabulous'.

From small beginnings, FAB very quickly established themselves as a well-known and respected community group within the town. This was helped by the work carried out being visual for all to see around the town – perhaps our high-viz vests with our logo on them may have helped too!

Each year we have always aimed to add something new to our campaign, by installing new planters, adding more basket trees along the Links or enhancing neglected areas across Burntisland. There are also many things we do that people don't realise and that aren't specifically aimed towards plants. Over the last 10 years we've had the sea wall painted on more than one occasion, refurbished all the benches on the High Street, repainted various railings in the town, and enhanced street cleansing on the High Street. These are the things people don't necessarily associate with FAB but together with the floral enhancement it ensures the town looks its best for residents and visitors.

We have had the pleasure of working with various groups over the years including the Scouts, Girlguiding, and the pupils and staff at the school. We have worked closely with Starley Hall to ensure integration with the pupils who have supported us with a variety of projects over the years.



Floral Action Burntisland celebrate their 10th anniversary

On average, it costs us around £4–5,000 per year to deliver our campaign. The support of local businesses and residents have meant that we have been able to achieve all of what we have wanted to do for the last 10 years, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you who have supported us. Our fundraising efforts have had a positive impact towards our projects, such as our coffee morning and our raffle.

The ultimate success of FAB is due to the volunteers who have worked tirelessly offering thousands upon thousands of hours of their own time to ensure Burntisland looks at its best all year round. From those who have been part of our committee to the support volunteers who support us at key times during the year, they have all played a key role in making sure we achieve our aim. Our volunteers come from all walks of life (no gardening experience is necessary) but all have one thing in common – they love our wee town and want to give something back.

We have taken part in both local and national bloom campaigns and have achieved great success in these with a

Silver Award in Beautiful Scotland and a Gold Award in Beautiful Fife. Although we do what we do for Burntisland, it is always nice to receive some recognition for all the hard work we have achieved and the projects we have developed.

From day one I have held the position of chairperson with great passion and pride. I know nothing about plants or gardening but like all our volunteers I have a love for Burntisland and enjoy making the town aesthetically pleasing for residents and visitors. This role has allowed me to meet a wide range of people, establish working relationships with local community groups and businesses, and ultimately led me to being chosen as Citizen of the Year in 2018.

As FAB moves into the next decade of its existence, I have made the decision to stand down as chairperson at our next AGM in February. This decision hasn't been easy however I feel that after a decade I have achieved what I set out to do, and feel that someone else at the helm will ensure FAB continues making Burntisland fabulous for years to come!

Scott Sweaton, Chair



Community Action Plan survey—have your say! See page 7 for details

BURNTISLAND'S COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

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

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From the Editor

There's certainly been a bit of change since the last issue of the *Burgh Buzz*. Changes in the seasons as we go through autumn and move into winter, changing heads of state and government, and change in our editorial team as well.

Firstly, a big thank you must go to the members of our committee who have decided to step back from their roles. To Bill Kirkhope for restarting production of the Buzz back in 2010 and all his hard work in publishing over 50 issues, Paul Briscoe for taking on the role of Editor when required on occasion, Linda Briscoe for organising our team of volunteer distributors, and James Thompson for efficiently dealing with the advertising side of things in recent years. Our thanks also go to all the contributors and advertisers who have supported the Buzz over the last 13 years and continue to do so.

Having helped Bill with the design of the Buzz in recent issues, I am happy to step up and make sure it continues without interruption. Grateful to have Natalie and Scott on board, along with Jo and Nicki who are now running the distribution operation.

This final issue of 2022 is another bumper 28 pages, the first time a November edition of the Buzz has been this size, and it's great to see reports from organisations who haven't featured recently.

One group that we have covered since their beginning is Floral Action Burntisland. Our front page highlights their work over the years, something Scott and his FAB team should be proud of.

Normally the November issue would also contain details of the Bonfire Night and Fireworks on the Links, however for the third year in a row the event could not take place. The Events Group has an appeal on page 15 for the new committee members which it needs, so that planning can begin for 2023. Can you help?

Make sure you have your say by filling out the survey that will help shape the new Community Action Plan, details on page 7.

Finally, this is also your Burgh Buzz—we welcome your comments, feedback, events, local news, stories, or anything else that you wish to share with the community. Get in touch.

Have an enjoyable Festive season and New Year when it comes.

Michael Booth, Acting Editor

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Burntisland's Burgh Buzz

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Your Community Council

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

Chair: 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
Carol McLeod Elizabeth McLaughlan

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 1 Craig Court, Burntisland. KY3 0AT
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www.burntislandcc.org.uk
www.facebook.com/BurntislandCC

Elected Fife Councillors' Availability

Ward 9: Burntisland, Kinghorn & Western Kirkcaldy

Councillor Lesley Backhouse

Telephone: 07540 677081
 Email: Cllr.Lesley.Backhouse@fife.gov.uk

Lesley is happy for constituents to ring her on the above number or email. In-person surgeries will also be held on Saturday 12th November, 17th December, and 14th January at 10–11am in the Library.

Councillor Kathleen Leslie

Telephone: 07714 778906
 Email: Cllr.Kathleen.Leslie@fife.gov.uk

Kathleen is happy to arrange set appointments with constituents.

Councillor Julie MacDougall

Telephone: 03451 555 555 ext. 474496
 Email: Cllr.Julie.MacDougall@fife.gov.uk

Julie is happy for constituents to contact her on the above number or email. In-person surgeries will also be held on Friday 11th November and 13th January at 6.15–7pm in the Burgh Chambers.

Community Council Bullets.....

The Community Council holds its regular meetings on the second Friday of each month, at 7pm in Burntisland's Burgh Chambers. **Dates for the next three meetings are: 11th November, 9th December, and 13th January.**

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.

- Audit Scotland continue to monitor Fife Council's progress towards a new policy for Common Good management. A revised policy is now expected to be approved by March 2023.
- GoFibre, in competition with BT, are offering full fibre internet connections to about 3,000 individual homes in Burntisland. There have been about 500 expressions of interest so far.
- We are awaiting consultation from Fife Council on the naming of new streets at Kirkton Lea, the new housing development off Kirkton Road.
- Together with Fife Council, we are exploring the possible use of the roundhouse site as a managed facility for mobile homes.
- Our appeal against the refusal of consent by NHS Fife for a second pharmacy was successful. However, that simply means that the proposal will be considered afresh so nothing is yet certain.
- We are working closely with Burntisland Community Development Trust to update and extend the Community Action Plan. The current version has helped numerous groups in the town by providing evidence to support funding applications.
- A small service to mark Merchant Navy Day was held outside the Burgh Chambers on 2nd September.
- Work continues on the possibility of replacing the Links water feature. Early indications give a cost of nearly £500,000, with very little funding committed so far. It is, however, unique in Fife and we are pushing hard for priority funding.
- We plan to have two meetings per year in a location other than the Burgh Chambers, in order to explore the options for greater accessibility.
- Orders have been placed for additional Christmas lights. We are especially grateful to the Big Green Market for their generous donation in October. Plans are in hand for a fundraising concert by the Rosyth Concert Band on 3rd December.
- Fife Coast & Countryside Trust will be placing signs near to the slipway, advising power craft to keep out of the bay, which is a designated bathing area.

David Torrance MSP

Kirkcaldy Constituency

Kirkcaldy, Kinghorn, Burntisland, Methil,
 Auchtertool, Buckhaven, Wemyss Villages

If you have any issues or concerns get in touch:

@ david.torrance.msp@parliament.scot
 53 Kirk Wynd, Kirkcaldy, KY1 1EH
 01592 200349
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facebook.com/DavidTorranceMSP



Burntisland Community Award 2023

The Community Council are once again seeking nominations for the Community Award 2023. We're keen to recognise the individuals or groups who have contributed most to the success of Burntisland as a vibrant, happier and safer place for all.

Nominations can be for any individual or group, with the possibility of a separate category for people aged under 25.

We've made the nomination process straightforward. There are nomination forms on our website www.burntislandcc.org.uk and they will also be available at the Toll Community Centre Hub on the High Street.

We'd particularly like to hear examples of the impact that the nominated person or group has had on the community or on a

targeted set of people. We also want to know about any kind of enhanced service delivery or overall excellence.

We're inviting nominations to be in our hands not later than Friday 9th December, so that we can give the nominations the full review that they deserve. We will assess the nominations very carefully and announce the winners on Hogmanay.

This is an important opportunity not only for all of us to express our thanks, but also to look to the future with even greater confidence. So if you know of a person or a group who deserve to be recognised, please let us know before Friday 9th December.

Alex MacDonald, Chair

Remembrance Sunday

The traditional parade and services to commemorate those who gave their lives in defence of our country take place on Sunday 13th November. This year will be the first full parade since 2019 and also commemorates 40 years since the Falklands conflict.



The parade will consist of representatives from the Armed Forces, Fife Council, Community Council, Ex-service personnel, members of youth organisations and members of the public. It will assemble at Harbour Place in time for a 10.15am departure. Led by the Burntisland & District Pipe Band, the parade will march via the High Street and Kirkgate to the Parish Church for the formal service commencing at 10.45am.

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

The parade will then return back along the High Street past the Burgh Chambers where on dismissal, participants will attend an informal reception hosted by Burntisland Community Council.

Burntisland Over 70s Christmas Treat

Fundraising continues with a Race Night taking place in The Star on a date to be confirmed.

Venue: Kingswood Hotel
Date: Saturday 3rd December
Time: 12 noon for 12.30pm

This invite is open to all Over 70s living in Burntisland.

If you require transport please contact Morag at The Star on 01592 871313

Acoustic Music Club

Burntisland Acoustic Music Club was born out of the former *Barn at the Loch* music nights at Kinghorn Loch, which became well-known throughout Fife for the quality of the performances and the relaxed and friendly atmosphere. The pandemic and subsequent closure of the Barn left a big hole in the local acoustic scene, so when restrictions had sufficiently eased organisers Andy and Helen Pay struck up a partnership with the Bowling Club to provide a new venue.

Unlike "open mic" events, performers request a slot in advance, leading to around eight different acts playing each night. The evenings have been running monthly since June and have been very well attended and popular. The club is run with the support of Burntisland Community Development Trust and has raised over £350 for the town's Ukrainian community. Future recipients will include the Christmas lights fund and other local initiatives.

With a minimum admission fee of just £2 or £3, good music, a bar and a comfortable, warm room, it's the perfect way to unwind on a Friday night! Future dates are 11th November, 9th December and 13th January from 7.30–10.30pm.

Andy Pay



Christmas Lights Group

Each year Burntisland High Street and the Links are lit up with beautiful Christmas lights on the lamp posts and lights in the trees. This comes at quite an expense but is so worth doing.

Fundraising is required to help pay for the annual recurring costs of the Christmas lights, which includes servicing, repairs and breakages, and to also purchase additional lights.

We have received support from Fife Council's Local Planning Budget, plus £1,200 from the Big Green Market in October. Luke Drummond held a bonus ball draw, and over £1,400 has been raised so far via a GoFundMe page set up by Lee-Anne Purvis—you can continue to donate at the following link: www.gofundme.com/f/burntisland-high-st-and-links-christmas-lights

There is also a hamper raffle by Pretty Presents and a meat raffle by Tom Courts, both to be drawn in mid-December.

A Fundraising Concert featuring Rosyth Concert Band takes place on Saturday 3rd December in the Parish Church Halls. Doors open at 7.15 for a 7.30pm start.

Tickets are priced £5 and will be available from Bel & Etta on the High Street and other locations to be confirmed.

We will also be holding a raffle at the concert and looking for any businesses or individuals that could donate any prizes. No matter how small or random as every little helps!

Burntisland Christmas Lights Group

PC Stuart Kinnes and **PC Trevor Farley** welcome you all to the November 2022 community Police section of the Burgh Buzz. We hope you are all well.

Our number one concern that we have received from the community is the continuing complaints of vehicle speeding and anti-social driving. The main areas of concern are Kinghorn Road (A921) and the High Street. In the coming months PC Farley and I will be continuing to focus on these areas. We will be deploying with our UNIPAR device (speed gun) with licence endorsable speeding tickets being issued to offenders. In regards to anti-social driving, the Police have powers to seize and retain vehicles if the owner/permitted driver has been driving in such a way to cause alarm, distress or annoyance to members of the public.

We can't stress enough how important road safety is. With the darker mornings and evenings that winter brings upon us it is imperative everyone is aware of their responsibilities as a vehicle owner and

The Burgh Police

driver. Road safety is one of our main priorities as a community team. We will be working with our colleagues in road policing to really drive home how important road safety is given the amount of concerns that have been raised with us.

It's the time of year that we ask for local residents and business owners to be vigilant and mindful of their properties' security. With the hours of daylight reduced in the winter we ask that you check any external security lights you may have are still operational. We have had a small number of break in attempts to sheds and outbuildings in recent weeks locally. Appropriate security helps reduce these types of incidents and opportunist thefts greatly.

Our monthly community surgeries at the Toll Community Hub on Burntisland High Street continue to be well attended. We are hopeful that the sessions have been of

benefit to those members of the community who have attended.

The surgeries are monthly and the dates will be advertised via the Toll Community Hub website and a poster in the shop window on the High Street.

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
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



Burntisland Heritage Trust

Maritime Matters Summer Exhibition

Burntisland Heritage 'Friends' were kept very busy at this year's summer exhibition which saw more than 800 visitors attend our 28th annual exhibition. Visitors young and old were treated to an extensive display of the town's close links with the sea with the three themed maritime exhibition.

As well as locals and folk from all over the UK our visitors' book saw entries from people from Brazil, Switzerland, Italy, Canada, America and Australia. Our visitors' book all had appreciative comments such as "a remarkable place"; "lovely exhibition"; "delightful with great knowledgeable staff"; "very well done". A big thank you to all our volunteers who attended the exhibition over the summer months.

Burntisland 1883 model railway

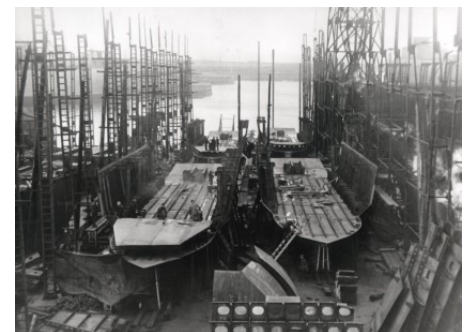
The first weekend in October saw the return of the award winning Burntisland 1883

Model Railway Exhibition. It is now 20 years since the East of Scotland 4mm Group entered and won a competition to build a portable layout. In liaison with Burntisland Heritage the group opted to model Burntisland given its significant history as a port which built the world's first roll-on roll-off seagoing goods ferry. The award winning model has been exhibited in France, the Netherlands and throughout the UK to considerable acclaim.

The whole model is set against a backdrop of the town, and shows the station as a terminus before the line was extended for the opening of the Forth Bridge in 1890. It measures 13 metres and stretches from the West Dock, past the station and east Dock under the Hammerlaws Bridge to the site of the former Roundhouse.

The return of the model was viewed by P6s and P7s from Burntisland Primary School over two days and several hundred visitors

over the weekend. Admission to the exhibition was free but we are grateful to everyone who made generous donations which has gone towards facilitating the exhibition.



2023 Shipyard Exhibition

Continuing with the maritime theme our summer exhibition for 2023 will tell the story of Burntisland Shipyard as well as the Abden Shipyard in Kinghorn.

If you have any memories or mementos you would like to share with us please email george.mclauc@btinternet.com or call 07769869479.

Ian Archibald



The Big GREEN Market Burntisland

Over the last three months you wonderful shoppers and donators have helped our volunteer team to rehome three vans full of preloved goods, save the town a small fortune and raise a total of £3,400 split between the Wednesday Social Club for Over 50s, Burntisland Scout Group, and the Christmas Lights.

We loved it when one happy customer told us "I found exactly what I needed, I was going to buy it new but thought I'd try here first". Wouldn't it be great if we all did this? More pennies in our pockets and less goods being sent to landfill.

Some of our shoppers have been getting very crafty recently too. Just look at these upcycled projects—a cosy snood made from an old jumper, and a thumb ring created from a silver Apostle spoon.



We'd love to hear from you if you have upcycled or found a unique use for any BGM treasures!

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 hit and pretty much everything stopped for 18 months.

The good news is that we have been progressing with the building of our St Ayles Skiff – a versatile 22-foot rowing boat. Check our website for more information and updates at 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, contact the club secretary at brrowing.secretary@gmail.com or phone / text on 07473 635454.



We have a fantastic team of volunteers split over four market shifts, setting up, playing shop, and packing down. We have room for another couple of people who can lift boxes (nothing too heavy) for an hour 9–10.30am on Fridays and 1–2.30pm on Saturdays. If you can help at all, even just occasionally, please get in touch with us at biggreenmarket.burntisland@gmail.com and join our team of Superheroes.

Our list of community groups that benefit from the market is full for the next few months but if your group is struggling and even a small donation would help, please do get in touch with us.

The Market is open on the first Friday (12–4pm) and Saturday (10am–1pm) of each month, in the Parish Church Halls.

Fri 4th & Sat 5th November—Burntisland Youth Theatre groups

Fri 2nd & Sat 3rd December—Rainbows, Brownies & Guides

January—no market as we take a well-earned break!

Fri 3rd & Sat 4th February—Town Twinning exchange

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Burrtisland Community Development Trust

Is this starting to look familiar? We hope so! Over the last few weeks we have been initiating lots of conversations in our community about what we like and don't like about Burrtisland along with a whole load of ideas of what could make our fabulous wee town an even better place to live or work in.

Have you had your say?

It isn't too late, we can still take surveys in until mid-November. You can contact us to ask for a paper copy of the survey or pick one up and return to either Co-Op shop or the One Stop Store at Cotburn. If you have a smart phone scan this QR code and it will take you directly to the online survey or visit: www.tinyurl.com/BurrtislandCAP22

So far some brilliant ideas have been flooding in. Everything from seagull-proof bins to more toilets and parking facilities in the summer, from new paths on the Binn to a new tidal pool, more affordable housing and improved access to the station. Do you like any of these ideas or do you have any of your own?

What happens next?

Once everyone has had the opportunity to fill in a survey form and we have had at least 500 responses (hopefully more!) and have spoken to as many community groups as possible, we will spend December and January pulling all your likes, dislikes, suggestions and ideas together. In the new year we will hold a big drop in event and invite you to come in and help us to prioritise all the great ideas. These will then

be brought together in a new Community Action Plan for 2023-2028. This new plan will be regularly reviewed by a partnership between the Community Development Trust and the Community Council and hopefully other community champions who will join this group.

Why is a Community Action Plan important?

Nobody listens to me? Nothing will ever change? Nope, not this time folks. If we were to come up with a wish list by sitting at our computers, quite rightly it wouldn't hold much sway with decision makers.

However, if a Community Action Plan is well supported and a large number of you have made a contribution through filling out a survey, talking to each other or by having a captured conversation in a group, then an Action Plan can act as a real catalyst for change. Community groups will find it easier to raise funds for issues detailed in the Plan, funders need evidence that communities want projects to happen and a Community Action Plan provides that mandate. Fife Council will listen more to our ideas if the whole town is behind them and outside agencies will know from the offset what Burrtisland thinks about certain issues.

Next year the Scottish Government are asking communities to influence local authority planning decisions by preparing Local Place Plans, a good and well supported Community Action Plan will feed directly into a Local Place Plan for Burrtisland.

Haven't we had an Action Plan before?

Yes, well remembered! The last Action Plan 'ran out' in 2021 but due to Covid

restrictions, it was carried forward rather than renewed. The Community Council did consider doing a simple refresh of the old plan but people got together and decided that the community might have different priorities now. Back in 2015 when the last plan was written up, who would have thought we would be facing a global pandemic and BEAT would be delivering emergency food parcels to people in Burrtisland? COP 26 was held in Glasgow, bringing global climate change concerns to our own doorstep, how does this impact on a coastal town like ours?

Let's all work together to create a new vision for Burrtisland and make some great ideas become realities. **Fill in your survey today if you haven't done so already!**

Other Community Development Trust activities include the Big Green Market, Family friendly Beach Cleans, Acoustic Music Club, Climate Café—check out the events diary on page 26 for future dates.

To find out more about our work and how you can get involved and have your voice heard, contact Development Officers Jo and Nicki through our website at www.burrtisland-trust.org, follow us on Facebook or email us at

DevelopmentOfficers@burrtisland-trust.org. Let's work together as a

community to make Burrtisland the best possible place it can be to live and work in!

Jo and Nicki, Development Officers





C. SINCLAIR
FRESH FISH MERCHANTS

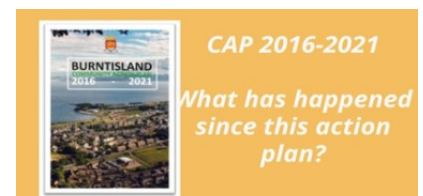
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SAT: 8:00-16:30



-  Thriving High Street, connected via Totally Locally and made to look beautiful by Floral Action Burrtisland 
-  Play Parks - updated West Links play park. Inclusive and accessible play park at East Links 
-  Regular beach cleans and a Keep Burrtisland Beautiful group. 
-  Sailor's walk has reopened and Lammerlaws is more accessible. 
-  Cycle Paths - paths from Burrtisland to Kinghorn 

Together we can make more things happen - have your say today!!

Burntisland Primary School

In **Primary 1**, the classes have been loving learning about 2D shapes in Maths and have been consolidating counting to 10 and 20. They have also been learning sounds and have identified sounds to write their names.

The children have been discovering new things about their school and why uniform is important. This has meant lots of learning about the primary school badge.

The pupils in **Primary 2** have been learning about dinosaurs and they have been creating their very own dinosaurs and even giving them names! The classes are reading a great series of books called "Harry and the Dinosaurs". There has also been lots of learning in class about phonics and in Maths, the children have been working hard, learning different ways to add numbers together – for example, using a number line!

In Literacy in **Primary 3**, the children have been taking part in daily writing with a focus on punctuation and vocabulary. The classes have been reading "Leo and the Place Between" and have been loving this!

In Numeracy and Maths, the children have been developing their understanding of place value, Venn diagrams and bar graphs. The topic in Primary 3 at the moment is fairgrounds and the children have loved this topic!

In Literacy in **Primary 4**, the children have been developing their use of openers in their writing, as well as adjectives and writing in full sentences. In Numeracy, there has been a focus on place value, considering numbers before and after, doubling and halving. Finally, the Primary 4 children have been studying green plants as a part of their topic - they have been loving learning about this!

In **Primary 5**, the topic is...Mary Queen of Scots! The children have created an assembly all about this and have found it incredibly interesting.

They have also been learning about subtraction and addition in Numeracy and in Literacy, the children are now doing a daily write!

In P5Y, three children even managed to win a Bronze Medal in a dancing competition!

Primary 6 have a Health and Wellbeing topic this term and they are loving this. This has involved fitness as a PE topic and cooking as part of their understanding within the Food and Health aspect of the Health and Wellbeing curriculum. In Numeracy, the focus has been place value and number patterns.

Primary 7 have had an amazing first term! In Numeracy we have focused on place value and addition. We'll be finishing our week with some tricky word problems. In writing, we have been engaging in the daily write, with the children growing in confidence and enthusiasm.

Our topic is discrimination and our book "The Divided City" has been really exciting and has also been our focus for comprehension. In gym we've been working on both fitness and indoor athletics as we build towards some exciting sports events next term.

Written by pupils from P7H

Burntisland Playgroup

Another new term has started at playgroup with the children, returning and new, all settling well. We are expecting quite a few more children to start over the next couple of months and it will be lovely to welcome all them and their families to our setting.

We have been busy learning all about recycling, what kinds of items can be recycled, and what happens to recycling after we have put things in the bin. We have had lots of walks to the recycling bins around the town to see what each one is like. We made guesses and predictions about the noises each item makes when they fall into the bins. Our favourite was when we had glass items!

We were kindly offered litter pickers by the Beach House to help complete a "beach clean". The children pretended they were superheroes "saving the fishes!" We found lots of different things on the beach, a lot of plastic, many socks and even a few winter gloves!

We all have been noticing the changes that are happening to the environment as the weather gets colder. Our playgroup garden is filled with leaves off the tree, which is one of the things we will be discussing during our Autumn and Hibernation topics. We have asked the children to bring in "Autumn Treasures" they have found to explore together in the playgroup.

We have been visiting the beach and woods to explore our local environment. The children discovered lots of sea creatures in the rock pools and used sticks, shells, stones, and sand to make pictures and play games. In the woods we have been working on our den building skills as well as exploring the different levels of the woods we visit. We have transferred our den building skills to playgroup using the loose parts available.

Finally, we were very kindly gifted £250 from the Co-op on the High Street. They are always so supportive of us as a local

charity and we would love to say a huge Thank You to them for this amount.

Playgroup still has some spaces available, both funded and fee paying. So if your child is aged between 2 years 10 months and school age and you are looking for quality early years care and education, we can finally welcome adults back into our setting so please pop in to see us.

We accept applications from birth for our waiting list, so feel free to fill in an application form at any time for your child. These are available from the playgroup in the Toll Centre.

Rebecca McColm



Burntisland School Parent Council

The Parent Council started the new school year with our AGM, which saw all office bearers reinstated for another term: Ben Craigie-Sharland as Chair, Chris McLaren as Vice-Chair, Fraser Twaddle as Treasurer, and Colin Wylie as Secretary.

We are delighted to have the support of the School and Parent Council as we go into an exciting new year. This follows a successful 2021-22, where a small profit was made towards the goal of supplying the Primary School with new playground equipment.

During the AGM new non-office bearing roles were introduced for year representatives. They will support parents in each year with accessing

information from Parent Council meetings and engage volunteers for various activities through the year.

We're looking forward to holding our Christmas Fayre on 4th December, the first since 2019. Plans are underway to come back with a bang and we're looking for volunteers for the day as well as sponsors and raffle prizes from our local businesses.

For more information on how to join the Parent Council meetings please access our Facebook group: **Burntisland School Parent Council**, or email:

burntislandps.parents@gmail.com.

Chris McLaren, Vice-Chair



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Burntisland Out of School Service (BOSS)

We have had a wonderful first term of the school year and have thoroughly enjoyed welcoming our returning families as well as all our new families who have joined us since the summer. We are delighted to see our numbers are growing again both in our breakfast club and after school club and very grateful for all our families' support. Our breakfast club provides the children with a relaxed and fun start to their school day and with an opening time of 7.45am there is plenty of time for children to eat and play! A typical after school session at BOSS always starts with the children having the opportunity to serve themselves snacks from a choice of food which always include a fruit and vegetable. Promoting child participation is very important to the team and planning the snack is always a popular activity for the children.

As a play-based childcare provision we actively promote lots of different types of play both indoors and outdoors. As well as enjoying regular play at the Toll Park this term the children have already ventured to

The Links and Piper park, and we will be reintroducing trips to our wonderful local library this term. So far, this school year has seen the children make music with our amazing selection of instruments, accompanying Alexa of course! Many of our children enjoy playing with our construction toys and loose parts creating characters and objects they then use within their imaginative play alongside their friends. Our art and craft areas are always busy with Hama beads, painting and sewing proving very popular across all age groups.

We were very pleased to have been able to open four days over the October break. During our holiday club we enjoyed junk modelling, bread making, woodland walks, foraging for conkers and making story stones.

Our holiday club provision continues to be based on demand and we will be open on the school in-service day Friday 18th November. Please do get in touch if you

are interested in your child joining us!

We are delighted to be chosen as one of the local organisations benefitting from the Co-op Local Community Fund which runs until October 2023 and are grateful to all those in our community who nominate us to receive their reward points.

For all enquiries or if you would like to be added to our holiday club mailing list or our mailing list for August 2023 school starts you can call BOSS on 07702801132 or email at bosburntisland@gmail.com

We regularly share our activities on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/BurntislandOutOfSchoolService please give us a like!

Information about BOSS and our committee can be found on our website www.bosburntisland.co.uk

Anne Laidlaw, Club Manager




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Central Burntisland Tenants and Residents Association

Hard to believe we are at the end of the summer and our focus has very much gone over to looking at how we can support those who will be struggling with price rises and hikes in energy costs.

We are working with other groups in the town to see what we can do to help and as part of this we are exploring how to offer cheap transport to the discount supermarkets. If you are in a position to help with this then please message us on Facebook. We will keep you posted on developments.

In the next few months we are looking to run the Christmas Window competition again, if this is something you would like extended throughout our town then we require volunteers from each area to do a couple of hours work on Sunday 11th December to allow final judging to take place on Tuesday 13th December.

We plan on running the postponed tea dance in February, date to be confirmed. We received some donations for this and would greatly appreciate volunteers for this event.

Our continued thanks go to those volunteers and businesses who without your help we would not be able to support our community. Thank you all and take care.

CBTRA Committee

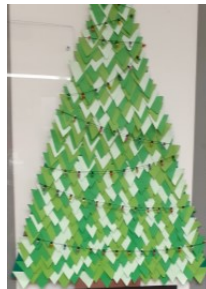
Burntisland's Giving Tree

It's that time of year again, when I kindly ask for you to think about buying a gift for a local child. I know times are tough and it's such a big ask, but if you could dig deep and think of a child on Christmas morning.

I work closely with the Primary School, whose staff volunteer to confidentially sort and deliver the gifts.

All you do is get a tag, buy a gift, pop it in a bag, with the age and gender of child on the tag. All gifts should be handed in to the High Street Co-op no later than Friday 9th December.

Carole-Anne Paterson at the High Street Co-op



ABK Probus Club

ABK Probus Club is intended for retired gentlemen resident in the Aberdour, Burntisland & Kinghorn area. The club meets approximately twice a month, normally the first and third Tuesday, in the Kingswood Hotel for tea/coffee followed by the meeting at 10.30am when we are entertained by various speakers on a wide range of subjects. (There are no meetings in July or August).

The purpose is to provide regular gatherings for people no longer in full-time work who appreciate and value opportunities to meet others with similar interests.

There is fun in fostering companionship through social events and providing monthly meetings with interesting speakers. Meeting new people, making friends, and discovering new interests are just some of the advantages of belonging to a Probus Club. We have small sub-groups who have specific interest in Snooker and Bowls, outings are also arranged during the year.

If you think you may be interested in Probus you are very welcome to come along to a meeting as a guest. Should you then be interested in joining the Probus Club we have an applications form available or you can contact John Bradshaw, President via email: yeznaby42@gmail.com or phone 01592 872228.



Local Business Updates

in association with Totally Locally Burntisland

Since the last issue, Gooz BBQ takeaway has replaced Topkapi on the High Street, Sugar & Spice has now closed, while One One Four's wine shop is due to open soon.

A number of High Street businesses are expected to open until 8pm for late night shopping events on Thursday 1st, 8th, and 15th December.

Another well supported Fiver Fest was held in October, with over 40 local businesses taking part, new participants included Kerrie On, The Silver Tassie, artists Leo Du Feu & his Mum Susan Smith, and Yoga With Peggy. Thanks also to the Big Green Market for a very generous donation which covered Fiver Fest printing costs.

Keep up to date with all our Totally Locally businesses at: www.facebook.com/totallylocallyburntisland

Congratulations to the local businesses that have won awards in recent months:

- ◆ Novelli's—Dessert Outlet of the Year (for the second year running), at the Food Awards Scotland;
- ◆ Burger Island—Tripadvisor Travellers' Choice award and Good Food Blue Ribbon 2023;
- ◆ Darren Rankin Funeral Directors—Prestige Independent Funeral Director of the Year, Prestige Awards;
- ◆ Maitland Motors—Scottish Prestige Garage of the Year, Prestige Awards



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From February 2022 every household in Scotland will be legally required to have interlinked smoke alarms and heat detectors.

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From £215, RGM heating is offering a fire safety service to install smoke alarms and heat detectors fully compliant to meet the new regulations.

Alternatively, we can also supply the alarms for £185 if you would prefer to install them yourselves, this price is based on a one-story property. If you live locally, these can be delivered to you free of charge.

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To book your installation or order your alarms, please call 01383 435993 or email us at office@rgmheating.co.uk.



Finalist 2022



Burntisland Golf House Club

As the trees change colour, the days get shorter and the weather gets colder, another summer golfing season draws to a close at Dodhead. The club enjoyed a busy summer with significantly more visiting golfers than previous years. BGHC was proud also to have contributed to the golfing year's highlight by marshalling the 15th Hole at St Andrews for the 150th Open.

The Club is also hugely proud of our Burntisland Golf Academy. Supported by staff and volunteers, the Academy has grown significantly in numbers and achievement. We take this opportunity to highlight some of the amazing achievements, in only our 2nd season of junior golf at BGHC.

With over 30 youngsters registered into various coaching groups under the watchful eye of PGA Pro Craig Armstrong, the youngsters have developed, some from complete beginners to accomplished golfers. Two squads from the Academy have represented the club at Scottish Golf flagship novice golf competitions with a third-place finish in both the Flag Championship Regional Final and Golf 6's competition.

Not to be outdone there have been notable achievements by golfers in the advanced academy group, Greig Carscadden who was a beginner when he joined the Academy has twice won the Junior Club Championship and is again representing the club in Fife Champion of Champions event. Marisa Foley won The Boys and Girls Clubs of Scotland final at Muirfield early in the year and is on her way to defend her title after winning the regional qualifying for this year's competition earlier this month.

Similarly, the reduction in handicaps by 11 year-old Dexter Blackwood (13 handicap) and 10 year-old Arran Haig (32 handicap) is an amazing achievement showing the quality of the coaching.


Also, after achieving the remarkable feat of a hole in one at the 5th hole in competition, Dexter bought a couple of bottles of Irn-Bru in place of the traditional whisky to leave at the bar. Normally a hole in one in a competition earns a gin hamper unfortunately, not when you are only 11! So the clubhouse bar manager, Sheena Donson, arranged for Dexter (pictured with Craig Armstrong, PGA Coach) to receive a hamper of age-appropriate treats.

The Academy coaching will be taking a break over the winter and will return in March for our third year. There is space for any budding Rory McIlroy or Catriona Matthew to join us, with youngsters from 5-16 registered it is aimed at the whole community and it would be great to see more boys and girls from non-golfing families coming to try golf. For more details or information please contact juniors@burntislandgolfhouseclub.co.uk



Colin Blackwood





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Burntisland & District Pipe Band

We are proud to announce that our drum team were crowned Scottish Champions on 31st July at the Championships held in Dumbarton. The band overall placed another very impressive 5th, and our Mini Drum Major took home the 3rd place trophy in her first Major competition. But the night's celebrations belonged to the drum corps who are absolutely amazing, credit to the tutors and to Burntisland's very own Erica for leading them.

The first weekend of August began on Friday night with the opening of the Lammas Fair in Inverkeithing. Saturday saw the band team up with Glenrothes & District to lead the parade and open the Highland Games. Lots of our pipers took part in the solo competition, with many of them picking up medals.

The next day the band went to Bridge of Allan Highland Games where we were a sniff away from winning—coming second is only acceptable when it's behind our wee pals from Lochgelly. Our Drum Major Catherine Spears though went one better than the band and came first!

A week later at the World Pipe Band Championships, Catherine walked away from the final major of the season with a 6th place in her first worlds, with the band coming 7th just missing out on the prizes by the tiniest of margins.



Later in August our *old yin* drum major Graeme Wyse competed in his first ever competition in Rothesay. Graeme came away with an amazing 2nd place! We are all very proud of him for his valiant efforts.

The penultimate piping and drumming competition of the year was at Peebles Highland Games in early September, and what a day we had. The band managed to pick up a whopping eight trophies!

1st for both the band and drummers in the NovB/4B grade, and 2nd in NovA/4A. 1st for Marching and Discipline in NovA/4A, 1st for Drum Major Catherine, 2nd for Drum Major Graeme, and we were also crowned L&B Champion of Champions. But best of all, the band won the street march prize with the Snake of Destiny, our Pipe Major's favourite trophy of the year!

What a crazily successful season we've had, and we managed to gather heaps more trophies and certificates at the Brechin Solos. It takes a lot of courage to stand up on your own and be judged. Hats off to all of the youngsters for taking part.

In 2023 Burntisland's pipe band will be celebrating 100 years, so keep an eye out for upcoming events in the town and online. We hope that you will all join us in helping to celebrate this milestone!

Thank you all for your continued support for our wee band! If you'd like to keep up to date, please follow us on Facebook at

www.facebook.com/burntislandanddistrictpipeband

Leading Drummer Erica Wyse



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Burntisland-Flekkefjord Town Twinning

One of Burntisland's oldest associations is our twinning link with Flekkefjord in Norway. The link goes back to 1946 and is the second oldest link in Europe. In that time hundreds of young people have participated in the exchange and many have still kept in touch with their partner twinner.

In 2020 we had an exchange programme in place when Covid struck and wrecked our plans. We hope to resume our partnership in 2023 and it will begin with five young people making the journey to Norway in August.



Lucy, Sam, Adam, Maya, and Olivia will represent the town next year and then welcome their Norwegian counterparts back to Burntisland in 2024. It is a unique opportunity to share life in a traditional Norwegian family. This coming year will see Flekkefjord restart its International Week with representatives from not only Burntisland but also Denmark, Sweden, Germany, and Minnesota participating. Our young people will be participating in International Week as part of their exchange.

We witnessed a huge interest when looking for our cohort. This enthusiasm is really encouraging but like many volunteer groups in the town we are short of people to help us organise this very traditional Burntisland project. If you'd like to learn more about the group or about helping please get in touch.

George Kay, c1lgeo@outlook.com

Chilled Church

Chilled Church continues to meet every third Sunday morning, rotating between Erskine, Kinghorn and Burntisland Parish Church. In recent months we've been looking at some of Jesus's best known parables, and in upcoming services we'll be focusing on various followers of Jesus, as set out in the gospels.

Chilled Church is a new approach to church in Burntisland and Kinghorn, which launched in February. Services are informal and relaxed; great for all ages—everyone is welcome. They include videos, short talks, table-top activities, bible readings and contemporary worship, all accompanied by good chat, hot drinks and a snack.

Details of upcoming services are listed below, and posted on the Chilled Church Facebook page (just search for Chilled Church). You'll be most welcome.

Upcoming Chilled Church services:

- ♦ Sunday 6 November at Kinghorn Church Halls, 11am
- ♦ Sunday 27 November at Erskine Church, Burntisland, 11am
- ♦ Sunday 18 December at Burntisland Church Halls, 11am
- ♦ Sunday 8 January at Kinghorn Church Halls, 11am

Toll Community Centre & Community Hub



It is my honour to lead a committed and hard working team of staff, volunteers, and Trustees, that have all made a real difference to the Burntisland Community, and who continue to do so.

Despite the many challenges faced throughout the last few years, and the more recent staffing and IT issues, I would very much like to emphasise, and reassure you, that the Community Centre and Community Hub are both open and operating as normal. This is thanks to the tremendous support of the volunteers and the wider community, who are helping to keep the Centre operational.

We've not been visible on our Facebook page recently, due to IT access issues, and occasionally operating on reduced hours in the Centre Office, but we are open and you can contact us.

Email: enquiries@tollcentre.org.uk or

Phone/answerphone, Toll Community Centre: (01592) 872854

Please do get in touch if you have any questions or requests for hall/room bookings and we'll get back to you as soon as possible.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, the Toll Community Centre, in partnership with Burntisland Community Council, changed the way we conducted our core business. The BEAT initiative was formed, whereby we listened to the community of Burntisland and provided services such as food parcels, prescription pick-up, free bus passes for vaccinations, school bag activity packs, and more.

As we navigate and negotiate our way through the twists and turns of post Covid-19 pandemic, where BEAT is no longer in existence, the Management Committee and staff, are keen to work towards effective strategies to "Life after Covid, at the Toll", whereby we concentrate on our core business, pre-pandemic.

The Charity/Pop-Up shop in the High Street is still operating, thanks to our volunteers. Fairshare food supplies and very limited emergency food parcels are still available. The Hub is also used for the monthly Police public meetings. Meanwhile in the Community Centre, BOSS, Playgroup, Wednesday Club, Slimming World, Sewing class, Sitter size class, Bike Project, and First Aid training continue with their ongoing programmes.

We are keen to ensure that the Centre and Hub are on a solid footing as we face increasing energy costs and continue to operate for the community. But we realise that change in our service can create anxiety for the Staff, Members and Volunteers as well as the Burntisland community, and the Trustees are keen to communicate any such changes to you, through our Toll Community Centre Facebook page, as soon as access has been restored.

We are working together with the Community Development Trust by providing input for their updating of the Community Action Plan, developing new volunteering opportunities to work with the Centre and our partners, and establishing improved use of the Centre hire and the Hub as a safe and private place for external agencies to meet with clients from the town.

Looking forward, the Bike project will be open for sale of bikes of all ages, we offer free Wi-Fi usage at the Hub and Community Centre, plus competitive hall and room hire rates. Watch this space for the return of the Youth Club in conjunction with Fife Council, as well as Children and Family Events.

What activities or community events would you like to see running from the Toll Centre? Get in touch and let us know.

On behalf of Trustees, Staff, Members and Volunteers, who are all part of the Burntisland community, we are committed to sharing the vision of the Toll Community Centre and Toll Community Hub which is bringing us together, with business open, as usual for YOU. I also thank you for patience and appreciate your support.

David Mitchell, Acting Chair

Burntisland Harbour Access Trust

Forth Ports finally met with representatives of Burntisland Harbour Access Trust, Burntisland Community Development Trust and Burntisland Community Council on 5th October. At that time they were waiting to hear if their bid to set up a green freeport had been accepted. By the time you read this we'll probably know. Google "Forth Ports Freeport" for links to more info.

They anticipate that most activity would be centred on the West Dock but the East Dock would be available if needed as a "complementary" area. Existing tenants will retain access under the terms of their leases/agreements. Burntisland will not be able to access Forth Ports funds for development but will become a customs site should Forth Ports be successful and third parties wish to develop a bonded warehouse.

Fife Council is part of the bid consortium. You might wonder how the Council was able to make an objective decision about allowing the harbour to be fenced off when it had a vested interest. We're looking into the possibility that planning guidelines were breached. Forth Ports admitted that the freeport has been under discussion with the Council for at least two years but said that they have been unable until now to keep the community informed because it's been commercially sensitive, with non-disclosure agreements having been signed. They will now be happy to meet periodically.

We proposed that passes could be issued for entry to the public, like at other freeports, but they flatly rejected this using health and safety as the reason.

What a freeport would mean for the town, such as employment, is anyone's guess at this stage. The prospect of increased HGV passage through the town was raised, to which their response was that in another of their ports a development was turned down for that reason.

If their freeport bid is unsuccessful, they said they will be looking to develop the land anyway.

Regardless of what else happens, or doesn't, the new gates will be operational as soon as the equipment is ready. The fence and gate across the breakwater were installed in the wrong place and will be moved back to the position shown on the plans attached to the Listed Building Consent, i.e. to align with the fence along the eastern end of Scott Pallets. This means that only the first 40 metres or so of the breakwater will be accessible, which is especially bad news for anglers.



They admitted that the lifting derrick on Shanks' Pier shouldn't have been moved. Fife Council has asked for a retrospective Listed Building Consent application or for it to be reinstated. We pointed out that they would need to be mindful of Listed Building requirements when planning any development, which they acknowledged.

They stated that they would consider allowing us to continue using the area below South View but there are no guarantees that it won't be required at some point.

They acknowledged the existence of an old document granting rights to Burntisland residents to use the outer harbour but stated that it was written in an ancient dialect that doesn't translate well and nobody could understand it. We're trying to trace this document.

They said they will take responsibility for clearance of litter on site and along the seaward side of the breakwater.

They are adamant that the community right to buy will never be triggered as "Forth Ports don't sell land". Well...they have sold

land before, including very substantial areas for development at Leith for example, and with the current unstable political and economic situation, which may continue for some time, things may change.

Will it happen? The last 40 years have seen proposals for an oil rig graving dock, a chalk processing plant and a residential development, none of which saw the light of day. The Alcan Blue Shed did come but was redundant almost immediately.

Where do we go from here? We could accept the locked breakwater gates, retreat to the Scholars' Brae viewing platform to look across at what might have been and reminisce about the good old days. Or we could say – who do they think they are?! They have locked off a much loved community asset. If we value our health, our heritage, our community, or value our values we need to do something. We're not giving up – we're in for the long haul. And let's not forget that we also have our right to buy registered over the land owned by Network Rail, which stretches eastwards from the railway station to the access road where it joins Lammerlaws Road.

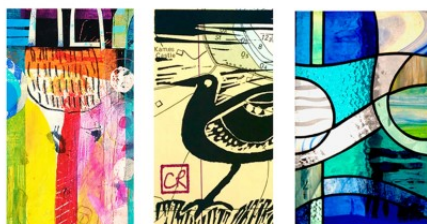
If you haven't already done so, please join the Trust, give us your support and keep abreast of the latest developments – better than watching helplessly from a seat on the Scholars' Brae! You can download membership application forms from www.burntislandharbour.co.uk or collect a hard copy from Grain & Sustain in the High Street. Completed forms can be returned online or handed in at Grain & Sustain or the post box at 253B High Street (The Space Upstairs between the Co-op and the Roasting Project). **BHAT**



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Burntisland Bowling Club

With the worst of Covid behind it, the Club's 2022 internal competitions were able to be completed during an enjoyable season. Internal competition winners for the season include:

Ladies' Competitions: Dorothy Whyte (Ladies Championship, Seniors' Cup, President's Plate); Margaret Farnes (Morrison Cup, Helen Mann Cup); Rosemary Lascelles (Isabel Muir Cup); Audrey Colville (Festival Cup); Lorna Murdoch & Margaret Farnes (Nomination Pairs); Margaret Farnes & Dorothy Whyte (Ballot Pairs); Rosemary Lascelles & Dorothy Whyte (Two Bowl Pairs); Ruth Willis, Judy Panton & Carol Wilson (Triples);

Men's Competitions: Paul Graham (Men's Championship); Stevie McAughey (Ian Muir Trophy, Bob Meldrum Handicap); Martin Hunter (Stevenson Cup); Jack Clews (President's Cup); Derek Connor (Over 65s); Brian Fleming (Senior Cup); Brian Fleming & Stevie McAughey (Ballot Pairs); Stephen Croxford & Paul Graham (Nomination Pairs); Paul Graham, Kenneth Harper & Jack Clews (Triples);

West Fife League: In their first year competing in the league, the Club's men won the 3rd Division and will now be promoted to play in the 2nd Division next year.

Mixed Competitions: Margaret Farnes & Martin Hunter (Mixed Pairs); Paul Graham (Equal Footing).

The season came to a close with the traditional final day's match between teams representing the Treasurer or the Secretary. The Secretary's teams won overall whilst a team skipped by the Secretary Richard Perry, assisted by Kathryn Cooper and Roger Bemrose, won by the widest margin and so were awarded the George Gibson Trophy.

Richard Perry



Burntisland Cancer Research UK Local Committee

The Committee would like to thank all those who have supported their recent fundraising events. The Big Green Market raised over £170 and Burntisland Bowling Club raised over £830.

Our next event is Dine and Dance with Des and the Dingoes in Burntisland Golf Club on Saturday 12th November. Tickets are sold out, however, please speak to a committee member to go on a waiting list.

Thank you all for your continued support, it really does make a difference.

Mary Lynch



Events Group Bonfire Night & Fireworks

The AGM for the Events Group, which runs the Bonfire Night and Fireworks on the Links, will take place on Sunday 27th November at 2pm in the Sands Hotel.

The event relies on volunteers to ensure it goes ahead—without more committee members there will be no Bonfire & Fireworks on the Links in 2023

Anyone interested in attending the AGM, joining the committee, or becoming an office bearer (as Secretary or Treasurer), please get in touch with the Events Group Chair, **Ailsa Powrie** via ailsapowrie@gmail.com



Civic Week

After the successful return of Civic Week this summer, planning begins for next year's events.

Our AGM will be held on Sunday 13th November at 3pm in the Jubilee Tavern.

Please come along to find out more about Civic Week and how you can help support this tradition, as we are looking for additional volunteers next year.

In 2023, Civic Week will take place from Friday 16th to Sunday 25th June.

If you are interested in helping out but are unable to attend the AGM, please get in touch via our Facebook page or email burntislandcivicweek@gmail.com for information.

Amanda Jones

Beacon Runners



Burntisland's friendly running club welcomes runners of all levels

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www.facebook.com/Runrecover

neil@macnicol.co.uk

07930 396022

Girlguiding at the Parish Church Halls



It has been good to get everyone back and busy in their units after the summer break.

Guides, Brownies and Rainbows are holding a coffee evening on Monday 28th November in the Parish Church Halls from 6–8pm to raise funds for our use of the halls. Come along and enjoy a cuppa and a browse around the sales tables, we will have toys, games and books, gifts, home baking, a tombola, guess the hamper and much more.

We will also have a table at the Big Green Market on Friday 2nd and Saturday 3rd December, call in and support us.

1st Burntisland Guides

Guides have been busy working on a programme of activities, this term we have been practicing interior design and DIY skills. The patrols have designed and made their ideal room in a cardboard box, they have enjoyed using match pots and left-over wallpaper to decorate their 'box' room, fitting carpets and even making some items of furniture.

Guides took some time out one evening to remember Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, they talked about her role as Patron of Girlguiding and her time as a Guide. The Guides made suncatchers to record their memories.

Guides have been learning how to knit and after a discussion about the cost-of-living crisis are putting their new skills into practice knitting squares to make knee blankets, these will be gifted and put to good use over the colder weather.

The unit applied for and was awarded funding through Generation CashBack for a trip into Edinburgh. Guides had a great day in the city, riding on the Hop On Hop Off bus and visiting Dynamic earth where we survived a volcanic eruption and came face to face with a sabre toothed tiger. We ended our day with a visit to McDonald's before heading back to the bus station for our journey home. A second trip is planned for later in the year, again to Edinburgh but this time a visit to the Theatre.

1st Burntisland Brownies

Brownies have been very active this term. We had a sports night on the Links, the Brownies enjoyed getting together outdoors and had great fun playing games and using the parachute.

We made kites and decorated them in memory of the late Queen. We then went outside to test them; the Brownies were both delighted and amazed when they actually flew. One of our Brownies went to Holyrood and laid flowers for the Queen on behalf of the unit.

Brownies took part in a sponsored walk across the Forth Road Bridge to raise funds for our unit. The weather was good, it was a lovely morning, the Brownies did a fantastic job and had great fun along the way

1st Burntisland Rainbows

It's been another busy term at Rainbows. We have been working on our Drawing badge and have had fun using lots of different materials to draw with including a fun evening outside using chalk!

We held a special evening to remember our Patron the Queen. We learned all about her Majesty's role in Guiding and the Rainbows made Remembrance plates.

We were very lucky with the weather for our sponsored walk over the Forth Road Bridge to help raise funds for our unit. The Rainbows did great and were very happy to beat the Brownies across the bridge.

We are looking forward to lots of fun things next term including our Halloween party, our coffee evening, helping at the Big Green Market and of course our Christmas party.

Spaces are available in all units, contact us for more information or register online at www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus and we will get in touch with you.

Units meet in the Parish Church Halls on Monday evenings.

Guides: 7 to 9pm
burntislandguides@gmail.com

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

Rainbows: 5 to 6pm
1burntislandrainbows@gmail.com

Jean Priestley



The Ecology Centre

The various shades of Autumn are taking over our wonderful site as summer becomes a distant memory. Why not come along for a walk around the loch and enjoy the changing seasons. You might even spot some of our staff and volunteers working away, busy as ever.

Education Team

What a busy time it's been since schools returned after the summer holidays! Amongst other things our education team have been back out working with P1-P3 classes at St Marie's Primary School, welcoming a John Muir Awards group from St Andrews High School and even starting a new nature nurture group from North Muirton Primary in Perth. A smaller group of children who are educated "at home" have also been enjoying outdoor learning sessions here in our woodlands at Kinghorn Loch and exploring the Fife coast.

We are also really excited to announce a new relationship with Balwearie High School who have been doing weekly Forest School sessions; working towards a FOLA Level 4 qualification. The group have been doing litter picking and practicing woodland management techniques, making dens/shelters and of course enjoying campfire snacks.

Site Work

Our site team and volunteers are going to be kept busy over the Autumn and Winter months. Thanks to a grant awarded by Paths for All, work will be carried out to



rebuild the Tree Tops pathway which will benefit everyone who enjoys walking in the lochside area.

The boardwalk by the pond will also be rebuilt thanks to funding from Fife Environment Trust. This will be a wonderful addition to the area, after the amazing work carried out to clear the pond earlier in the year.

And, 1,400 trees will be planted before Spring in the Gallowhill Plantation area. These trees have been kindly donated by The Conservation Volunteers and the Woodland Trust.

So, our team have their hands full!

Christmas Events

With Christmas just around the corner, we have a couple of events lined up at The Ecology Centre. On Saturday 3rd of December we have our annual Wreath Making workshops led by Tricia. The cost is £30 and there is a choice of a morning or afternoon session. Mince pies and non-alcoholic mulled wine are provided along

with all the natural materials required for your creation. Please see our website for further information.



We are holding a Christmas Market on Saturday 10th December. The event will run from 10am–3pm with a variety of stallholders. The café will be open with some festive treats. A lovely way to 'shop local' and support a local charity.

If you are interested in being a stallholder at the Christmas Market, please see our website for booking details.

Nest Café

Our Nest Café is open Thursday until Monday serving hot drinks, tasty food and yummy cakes. Pop in, warm yourself up and say hello to our friendly staff. The café is open 9am–3.30pm. Takeaway is available 7 days a week.

Tool shed

Remember we can make use of your old tools. We recently sent donated tools, refurbished by our volunteers, to Uganda. So, if you are having a clear out of tools contact toolshed@theecologycentre.org to donate them to The Ecology Centre.

Volunteering

If you are interested in volunteering at the Centre, please contact Lee@theecologycentre.org. There are volunteering opportunities on site, in the office or in the Café.

Burntisland & Kinghorn Rotary Club

The new Rotary year began in July, with Susan Leslie taking over as President from David Kelley. Since then, the Club has decided to change the format of the weekly meeting on a trial basis by a move to discuss outstanding matters prior to the meal. This may attract possible future members to attend without having a meal.



Now the pandemic has faded a little, the Club is gradually returning to more normal aspects of Rotary life with emphasis on helping those in more unfortunate circumstances around the world. A £500 contribution to Disasters Emergency

Committee Pakistan Flood Relief, Lend With Care funding small businesses around the world, New4U our joint venture with other Fife Clubs and supporting a number of other local organisations. As a member of Rotary in Fife we assist in providing help to Fife Young Carers and Disability Sport Fife.

All this necessitates fundraising and among other things we organised a Race Night in October at the Sands Hotel with sponsored races and horses which proved very successful and thoroughly enjoyable. There were eight races in total creating much excitement, in particular the last in which each horse was auctioned off and the winning owner received a prize. Overall £1,745 was raised—a big thank you to the following list of contributors on behalf of CHAS (Children's Hospices Across Scotland), and other local charities:

SM Autos, AMG Cherry Brook Enterprises, Boyd Legal Ltd, Tom Courts Butchers, Links Guest House, The Sands Hotel, Novelli's, Links Fish Bar, The Roasting Project,

Co-op, Purvis Plumbing & Heating, Olive Tree Café, C&C Plastering & Roughcasting, Romano's Fish Bar, Stuart Studios Health, Dorwin MG, Maitland Motors, Kingdom Amusements, The Auld Hoose, The Harbour View, and Fords Daly Legal.



For those of you unfamiliar with the Rotary Organisation it may seem that all we do is volunteer and fundraise, but while these are very satisfying there are also many opportunities to socialise. Apart from the weekly meetings at which we occasionally invite interesting speakers on all subjects, there are opportunities for sports with other Clubs and internationally for golf, curling etc. plus the opportunity to attend national and international conferences. To find out more contact our Secretary David Lamond davidlamond888@gmail.com, myself delta.tango662@gmail.com or any Rotarian.

Derek Thomson

Burntisland Amateur Swimming Club

It's been a while since Burntisland Amateur Swimming Club last posted an update in the Burgh Buzz. In that time we've welcomed many new swimmers, volunteers and coaches to the team, and we've enjoyed settling back into our regular routine of battling uncooperative goggles, swimming training lap after training lap, and celebrating "PBs", after the disruption of the past two years.

Recently, the team competed in the Fife Novice League at Michael Woods Sports & Leisure Centre in Glenrothes, where there were many great swims and personal bests. Several younger swimmers competed for the first time and it was brilliant to see them brave the busy warmup, and go on to swim confidently in their races. A highlight of the day was when the Novice Relay "A" team won their event with time to spare, excellently described by chairperson Bridget Fraser as having "enough time for a cup of tea at the end while they waited for the other teams to finish." Rowan, Gracie, Sam and Matthew made their club proud, as did all swimmers representing BASC.

Next up for us are the Club Championship finals on Saturday 12th November, where swimmers compete for the coveted team trophies, which have been handed down

within the club for many years. Many of the races promise to be dramatic finishes between teammates, as we saw in the recent Club Championship heats!

In the 10 and under girls 50m breaststroke, three of the girls finished less than one second apart! Good luck to Lara, Lorelei and Bonnie in the final! And in the 12 and under boys 100m IM heat, Callum and Sam swam exactly the same time, down to the millisecond! A special shout out goes to the only 8 and under girl competing in the Club Championship heats this year. Lily's performances were inspiring, and had all us 90's era mums doing an internal "zig-a-zig-ahhh!" as we cheered her on against the boys. All said, this year's Club Championships promise to be lots of fun for all, in and out of the pool.

Also coming up is the BASC Awards Presentation Evening and Family Ceilidh on Saturday 2nd December. We are looking forward to seeing all our members and celebrating the team's achievements over the past year.

Swimming is a great way to stay active, meet new friends, and engage with your local community.



Let's hear from one of our swimmers about their experience at Burntisland Amateur Swimming Club, and what makes swimming important to them.

Name: Zoë Scotland

Age: 8

Joined BASC: November 2020

Level: Session one; lane two

Favourite stroke: Breaststroke

Proudest swimming moment: When I won my heat in the girls 8-10 25m breaststroke at Fife Novice League

Best thing about swimming: Getting to have fun with my friends!

Burntisland Amateur Swimming Club is open to anyone that can swim at least one length of a recognisable stroke.

For more information or to arrange to come along for an assessment please check out our website

www.burntislandswimmingclub.co.uk or email: bascenquiries@hotmail.com

Laura Scotland



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REACHING OUT

It has been a busy autumn term at Starley Hall with our young people taking part in a plethora of activities, experiences and projects. We have restarted our informative Twitter account—follow us @StarleyHall

Developing Young Workforce—Russell from CALA Homes visited our school to give a talk on the building trade. It was useful for the young people to gain an understanding of health and safety on building sites as well as exploring potential career options available to them. We hope to follow up with a tour of the site in Aberdour in the New Year.



Several of our senior pupils started part-time courses this term at Fife College. This gives them a taste of college life and helps to prepare them for their next steps.

Creativity—Hilary's art classes have been getting creative customising clothing and trainers. Transformers enthusiast Rae designed himself Autobot-themed trainers, rock music fan Shane opted for AC-DC inspired shoes, while Kyle designed himself a fabulous new t-shirt with a picture of him on his favourite Number 7 bus!



Out and About—The Historical Visits group have enjoyed being out and about exploring local places of interest, including Carnock cemetery and St Fillan's cave

As part of his Expressive Arts course, Shane enjoyed a visit to Kirkcaldy Art Gallery to see the Jack Vettriano exhibition.



Fundraising—Liz and Linda's popular home-baking stall raised an amazing £155! Josh has been busy shopping for items to donate to Kirkcaldy Food Bank.



Tough Mudder—A determined group of staff and young people participated in Tough Mudder's 5km event at Drumlanrig Castle. Staff were incredibly proud of how they worked together as a group to ensure that they all completed the gruelling challenge. Not only did they form a team together, but they offered help to others on the course as well!



Cycling Trip—A small group of staff and young people enjoyed an 8 mile cycle around Loch Ard. Luckily the weather was kinder than the dreich forecast and they all completed the route tired, but happy!

Makeover Magic—Our downstairs resource room has been repurposed into a mini-classroom. This project has been a team effort with a number of staff members and young people involved in removing the existing cupboards, painting the walls and fitting the boards.



Nurturing School—We have submitted our application to The National Nurturing Schools Programme to evidence our journey in embedding a nurturing culture within our school. This is based on the Six Principles of Nurture which, in our young people's words, means

1. We all learn in our own way and in our own time
2. Adults help us to feel safe in school
3. We are valued as individuals
4. What we say matters
5. What we do tells you how we feel
6. Adults help us when things change

The young people enjoyed lots of activities during the October break including a trip to Landmark Forest Adventure Park, Go-Ape, go-karting, fishing, horse-riding and attending an SPFL football match.

Our fundraising plans are already under way looking at how we can support our community over the festive period including Macmillan Cancer Support and the Burntisland Giving Tree. Our skilled and hard-working young people have supported a number of community projects over the years including making Buddy Benches for local schools and the Guy for the Bonfire and Fireworks Night. Please get in touch via info@starleyhall.co.uk or the school office on 01383 860314 if you would like to explore a project for 2023.

We hope you make lots of happy memories over the festive season. Our best wishes to you all for the New Year.

Tracy Duffin, Principal Teacher

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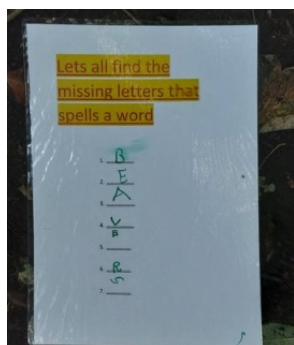
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11th Fife (Burntisland) Scout Group



We started our Autumn term by welcoming ten new Beavers into the Scout group. We have had a busy term learning, with some outdoor activities including a scavenger hunt and using a map around Kinghorn Loch. The children completed their cyclist badge by learning how to be safe while using a bike, checking over their bike and showing control around a short course, navigating around cones and hoops. Lots of badges have been achieved and presented.



We had an exciting visit from Titch, a puppy in training with the Guide Dogs, learning all about the great work they do, and we raised £200 by collecting change in little jars and donations - thank you!

The children are looking forward to their upcoming cook sleepover in November.

Shirley Kent and Simone Thomson, Beaver Scout Leaders



The Cubs started back the term practising how to confidently put up and take down our tents before we headed off to camp. We then had a good weekend in the September sunshine building dens, lighting fires, learning navigation, practising archery, playing frisbee golf and designing our own t-shirts.

We visited the Museum of Communication to learn about one hundred years of broadcasting at their exhibition. We also visited the Frog Life environmental project to learn how to take care of our local wildlife and build hotels for them to live in.

Michelle Paton, Cub Scout Leader



Monday Scouts have been working on the Physical Activity badge by doing a variety of sports including 5-a-side football and fitness sessions. We continued the inter-section Archery competition between Monday and Thursday sections, with this term's trophy being won by the Monday Scouts.

We visited a local wetland with Frog Life, a charity working to improve the habitat of amphibians and reptiles. We investigated and learned about native Scottish species, we also made seed bombs for native wildflowers which we scattered.

This term finished with our Scouts making candle lamps out of clay as they learned about the upcoming Hindu and Sikh Diwali festival.

Davie Laing, Monday Scouts Leader



Thursday Scouts started the summer with a busy joint summer camp with the Monday Scouts. We spent our first night sleeping on the airfield at the Scottish Glider Centre. Then headed up to Crook of Devon for a further two nights where we hiked, had water fights, and explored the local area.

After the holidays we came back to a busy programme including archery, cycling and navigation. We have also been practicing our football skills for the upcoming District Football Competition.

Craig Paton, Thursday Scouts Leader



11th Fife (Burntisland) Scout Group

Group Scout Leader: Kerry Laing – Tel: 07517 374459

Email: 11thfife@gmail.com

District Commissioner: Derek Dunsire – Tel: 07905 227493

Email: dc@scoutskirkcaldy.org.uk

Scottish Registered Charity Number - SC031394



EXPLORERS



Our Explorers had a summer camp near Paisley at a former sanatorium which is one of the most haunted places in Scotland with several ghosts being regularly reported there. While there, the Explorers took part in climbing, archery, laser tag, an escape room, and spent a day at an indoor snow sports centre for sledging and skiing with a number of them earning their snow sports badge.

We have been cooking and trying different things from across the world including Estonian Folk Dancing, Brazilian Chocolate Truffles and Mexican Gods Eye craft. Explorers have been planning their Duke of Edinburgh Expeditions that will take place soon and had a visit to Cowdenbeath Stock Cars and Cowdenbeath Wetlands to learn about the Frog Life project along with willow weaving.

Davie and Kerry, Explorer Leaders

CFOS Festive Pop-up

Central Fife Open Studios will be holding their Festive Pop-Up at the Burntisland Heritage Trust and Glisk Gallery on Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th December, with an opening evening on Friday 2nd December.

The Pop-Up will feature a variety of work from CFOS members including painting, prints, textiles, jewellery, ceramics, homewares, lyrical art, handmade books and cards.

It will run alongside The Platform Artists Christmas open studios, making it the perfect opportunity for Christmas shopping from small, local, independent businesses.

Glisk Gallery, 113-115 High Street

Burntisland Heritage Trust, 4 Kirkgate

Friday 2nd December, 5.30–8pm
Saturday 3rd & Sunday 4th December, 10.30am–4.30pm

Christmas Open Studios

Platform Studios and Burntisland Railway Station Studio

Saturday 3rd & Sunday 4th December, 11am–4pm

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Burntisland Parish Church

In September, four Elders received Long Service certificates in the Parish Church. Mr Gardner Brownlie and Miss Mary Reekie for 40 years, along with Mr Ken Cameron, Mrs Ann Smith, and Mr Andrew Duffin for 30 years.

These were presented by Rev John C Duncan MBE who had returned to the Church where he had been Minister for 13 years and had ordained all Elders. Very Rev Dr Russell Barr was also in attendance as he led worship.



Joint Service of all Churches

22nd January 2023, 6pm
at St Joseph's Church
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

St Serf's Scottish Episcopal Church

Here come the colours of autumn and the first of the leaves falling.

We enjoyed the produce from the church garden and were able to share courgettes, potatoes, broad beans and runner beans with unsuspecting passers-by! Now we can leave the garden to the small creatures in the bug hotels, meadow grass and undergrowth where they will over winter.

At St Serf's we marked the end of the Season of Creation with our harvest thanksgiving. It's good to remind ourselves that not only does our generous Creator provide us with plenty but also that we are stewards of that plenty. This means we don't actually own what we have but should look after and appreciate it and also share it with others.

The economic outlook is undoubtedly bleak but Burntisland folk are good at looking after each other and we were able to deliver to the Foodbank the produce we collected on harvest Sunday.

None of us knows when finances may get a bit tight this year and we may need a hand with the grocery bill. This is where the Foodbank idea helps out. The red and

yellow box in St Serf's church porch is a bank deposit box for tinned and dried goods, nappies, toiletries and other storable useful items; the Foodbank in the Salvation Army hall is the ATM where these things can be withdrawn if needed. Put it in when you're flush – take it out when you need it! It's that simple!

*All good gifts around us
are sent from heaven above;
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord,
for all his love.*

As the weather gets colder and the days shorter, our Sunday worship will slip into winter mode with shorter services and plenty of hot drinks available.



You're more than welcome to come along any Sunday morning at 10 o'clock and meet our friendly congregation.

Christmas Day falls on a Sunday this year and the Burntisland churches look forward to welcoming you to worship with them.

St Serf's Church Services

Saturday 24th December 7pm – Christmas Eve Candle-lit Eucharist (Holy Communion)

Sunday 25th 10am – Christmas Day Eucharist (Holy Communion)

New Year's Day (Sunday 1st January) – Eucharist (Holy Communion) 10am

See our Facebook page for any additional information www.facebook.com/StSerfsSEChurchBurntisland

Meanwhile, courie in and stay snug.

Autumn blessings,

Rev. Carol Latimer



St Joseph's Church

In September a busload of parishioners made a short Pilgrimage to Holy Island. This trip should have happened over two years ago, but Covid put paid to that. We were blessed with good weather (for the most part!) and celebrated Mass in St Aidan's Catholic Church. After Mass David Caldwell gave a talk on St Aidan, before people enjoyed some free time.



In October the Knit and Knatter group welcomed Jeremy Hawkings, representing the Fishermen's Mission, speaking about their work and receiving hats to be distributed to the seafarers.

The group will be holding a Coffee Morning in St Joseph's Hall on Saturday 19th November 10.30am–12.30pm. As well as teas and coffees there will be a tombola, raffle and handmade Christmas gifts and knitted toys for sale.

As I write this, Christmas seems a good bit away, but we would like to extend a very warm welcome for you to join us at our **Christmas Services**. On Christmas Eve there will be Carols at 4.30pm, followed by Mass at 5pm. On Christmas Day Mass will be celebrated at 10am.

Many people who don't attend Church on a regular basis make a special effort to come at Christmastime – we look forward to seeing you.

Fr James



Erskine Church

I well remember my first phone call with Bill Kirkhope, then editor of *The Buzz*, way back in 2012. Bill is going to be hugely missed from the role, he's kept in contact with me very faithfully over the years. Mind you, if I'd known then that I'd still be writing a contribution ten years later, I might politely have said 'no' to his kind offer to submit something from Erskine Church...

Looking back over these 10 years, it's been good to experience the spirit of community which pervades our town. That was evident in the dark days of Covid, it's also visible in the current vibrant state of our local high street. Think back to that glorious July day earlier this year when so many people thronged the town for Games Day.

Here's what's been happening, or is about to happen, that's connected with Erskine Church.

Remembrance. By the time you're reading this, Remembrance Sunday, 13th November, may have come and gone. In 2022, we remember poignantly sacrifices made during the Falklands War of 1982, 40 years ago. The two World Wars will never be forgotten, it's always fitting to honour those who give their lives in conflict everywhere. Burntisland rises to the occasion with a fine parade and sombre

remembrance together as a community at the War Memorial.

Christmas. Folks from all our local churches hope to be singing carols in Burntisland High Street (by St. Andrews Court) on Saturday 10th December at 11am. Erskine will be hosting a BEK carol service on Sunday 11th December at 6.30pm, you'd be very welcome to join us. Hopefully our legendary Watchnight service will be back this year on Saturday 24th December at 11.15pm, though we've still to make a final decision. Please check our Facebook page for any updates.

The BEK churches, along with the other congregations in the town, will have an array of events and services to mark this special season. Fear not, we'll ensure there's plenty of publicity out there nearer the time!

Erskine's congregation meets faithfully each Sunday at 11am. The Autumn Fayre is due on Saturday 29th October from 10am. It's always a busy morning with coffee and pancakes at the centre of things to bring everyone together. Our Communion service follows on Sunday 30th at 11am. Finally, a New Year Communion on 1st January 2023 at 11am. You're warmly invited to join us at any time.

Here's a great Bible verse which captures the essence of what makes Christmas really special. "The one who is the true light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world" (John 1.9, NLT).

Jesus embodies truth and light. He comes to us directly from God himself, his only son. But Jesus also distributes that divine light and hope to those who put their faith in him. That light is God's gift to all of humanity.

There's no doubt that a tough winter is ahead. We all worry about food prices, energy costs, wondering what's going to happen next. Politics are in turmoil at home, whilst conflicts rage in Ukraine and elsewhere.

As the seasons change and the days shorten, continue to keep safe and be at peace with yourself and others. I hope that the light of Christmas will always touch your life.

Rev. Alexander Ritchie



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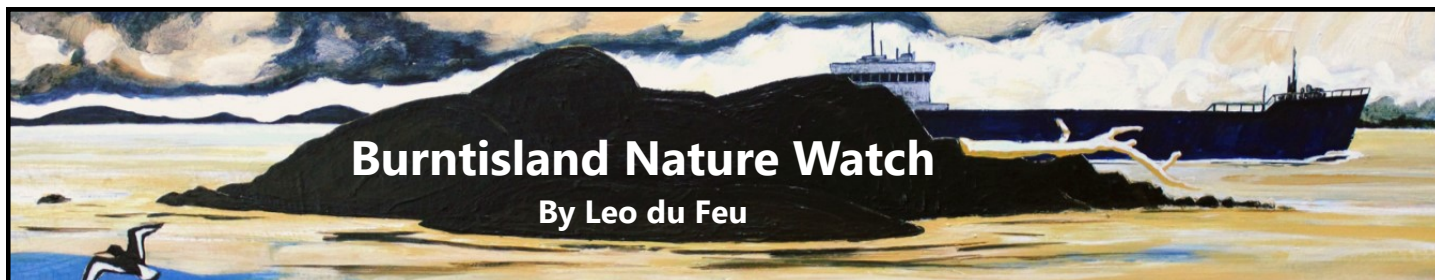
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I'm afraid I have to write about dogs this time. I'm not anti-dog, I promise. But I am anti when they're allowed to disturb wildlife.

Towards the end of September I was walking home from the studio, thinking it would be a nice relaxing end to the day to go the longer way via the shore. Through the docks, past the Beacon. "Bark bark bark, woof woof woof woof, BARK BARK BARK BARK BARK..." A dog was racing with huge excitement across the bay. The tide was far out so it had a vast stretch of shallows to bound through. That's nice, happy doggy.

But such disturbance. For maybe five minutes I watched as it charged one group of birds, then another, then another. Full tilt, madly barking. I don't know if it was trying to catch them, nor if it could have, but it was charging at them and wild with the excitement of the chase. I was wild too.

Hundreds of birds forced into the air - oystercatcher, redshank, godwit, curlew, plover, herring gull, lesser black-back gull, black-headed gull, common gull... It even charged straight at a heron. People were staring. I halted nervously by a man I thought the owner and asked... "Not mine. It's going wild", he said. I began to think it might be lost or having a fit.

A minute later it ran from the shallows and up the beach to its owners who were standing by the prom having a chat. I slowed to ask did they realise their dog was causing such disturbance to highly sensitive and declining species. But I couldn't. I get all shaky, just about lose my voice, do lose my nerve. Failed, I walked on. Ten minutes later and home in my garden I heard the barking start up. I suppose birds had settled back to their

feeding and the dog could have its fun all over again.

A few weeks later, I was shown photos of five mute swans on the beach, two adults and three full grown young. I've never heard of swans on our beach. Have you? What a thing to see. And guess how it ended? A dog chased the swans out to sea. The owner was asked why they let that happen (someone obviously braver than me) and defensively gave the response that dogs aren't required to be on leads there.

Not required perhaps, but they are required to be under control at all times. Chasing wildlife isn't under control. Would an owner allow a dog to chase sheep up behind the Binn? Surely (hopefully) not. How can people be so unaware of our collapsing biodiversity? Don't they want their children and grandchildren to live in a world which still has wildlife? I just don't get it.

You might be thinking - What's the problem? They didn't catch anything. No wildlife was harmed in the walking of this dog. But say a bird is exhausted, hungry, unwell. Flying out of the way of a dog (or a walker/paddleboarder/photographer/jetskier/artist) uses energy. If it happens once in a day, no matter. If it happens five, ten, twenty times in a day, that could be the difference between life and death. More so if it's in the breeding season

when materials need to be gathered to build a nest, when a nest needs to be protected from predators, when food needs to be gathered to feed young, or in cold weather when lots of energy is required just to survive the night.

There was a fascinating half hour programme on BBC Radio 4 recently - "Costing The Earth, An Environmental Paw Print". Google it. I'd love you to listen to it and share with your friends. Again, it absolutely isn't anti-dog, but it's fascinating and full of interest and ideas.

WWF's most comprehensive ever study of "trends in global biodiversity and the health of our planet" has been published today as I finish this article. The Living Planet Report 2022 reveals global wildlife populations have plummeted by 69% on average since 1970. Sixty-nine percent! Every action matters.

Join the debate and share your stories and images of local wildlife and habitat on the **Burntisland Wildlife and Woodlands Facebook Group**. Recently on there we've had a gorgeous male sparrowhawk; grey partridge at the docks (a bizarre location for a rare and threatened farmland species which rarely fly far); shieldbugs, insect hotels, cormorant city, mergansers, guillemots, conkers, hedgehogs; Funghenge (that's all the explanation you're getting); and a request for people to share the locations of rowan trees around the town to help build a map of places where we might be lucky enough to spot feasting waxwings or thrushes this winter. Red berried trees but also the non-native Japanese rowans with yellow berries please. Do you have any in your garden? On your street? In your nearest park? Let us know.



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Craigencalt Rural Community Trust

There has been plenty of growth on paths to keep us busy this summer. September rain and warm sunny days extended the season by another month but we found time to keep all paths in good state for all users. Our successful Rodanbraes Path was built nearly a decade ago and some features needed brightening up. Starting with the troll, who by popular choice is now called **'Frodi'**, Kenny Munro, the local sculptor who carved him is returning to brighten up his now faded appearance.

Alongside this, the wooden bridge under which the troll sits has been given a coat of varnish, making it ready for all visitors to enjoy. The Rotary Bench at the viewpoint



George Guthrie identifying moths

has also been painted and the popular rope swing has a new seat. Further along the path the interpretation boards have been cleaned and re-stuck as they were slipping off their stands. This will keep things right for a long while.



Photo competition winner

The world of moths at Kinghorn Loch has been revealed once more by the spring and summer surveys carried out by George Guthrie. George has recorded a wide range of species, including a few new to this part of Scotland. The Pearly Underwing Moth, a migrant visitor, was found in the September survey, a first for Scotland. We are grateful to a young moth enthusiast who has collated detailed information on the moths found here, and you can view her report and pictures on our website. If

you would like to come along to a survey and see these beautiful tiny creatures please get in touch, but surveys won't happen again until next spring. Our annual photo competition was won by Anne Smith with a photo of a beautiful Speckled Wood Butterfly, showing it has been an excellent year for all these tiny insects.

The Walking Group has enjoyed lovely walks over the summer months. A highlight has to be the visit to the wonderful gardens at Glassmount House. It is a local favourite with many interesting features and is a joy to explore on each visit. We were delighted to find it had been chosen for the More4 'Garden of the Year' TV programme, where it won the Scottish garden award. Even though they were not the winners at the British final they did extremely well indeed.

In October the Walking Group returned to a monthly schedule over the winter. Please join us for these friendly, convivial events. Walks are held on the first Wednesday of each month meeting at the lay-by car park at the entrance to the Craigencalt Farm Road, starting at 10am and last approx. two hours. For all enquiries please contact info@craigencalttrust.org.uk or phone Marilyn on 07740 999514.

Marilyn Edwards



Keep Burntisland Beautiful

It was great to see our lovely town so busy for Games Day and the Bank holiday weekend but what wasn't so welcome was the mess left behind after.

I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who helped clean up the shocking mess on the Links and the beach that weekend.

It saddens me that people think it's acceptable to come to our town and leave such a mess behind.

We cleared so many bags of rubbish from the Links and on the beach which included nappies just thrown on the ground (and buried in the sand!) picnic rubbish, countless cans/bottles, wet wipes and

even picnic blankets and broken camping chairs just left on the Links.

Discarded disposable BBQs were a problem this year. These caused lots of burn marks to the grass and we're left smouldering where children were playing.

The amount of discarded beach toys on the beach was another example of waste. These were collected and handed into Grain & Sustain who had a Help Yourself Beach Toy box outside their shop. Thank you Louise Humpington! Sad to think if it had all been left it would have gone out to sea.

We are so very lucky to have so many people in our town who litter pick daily

(many not on social media). So thank you for all you do.

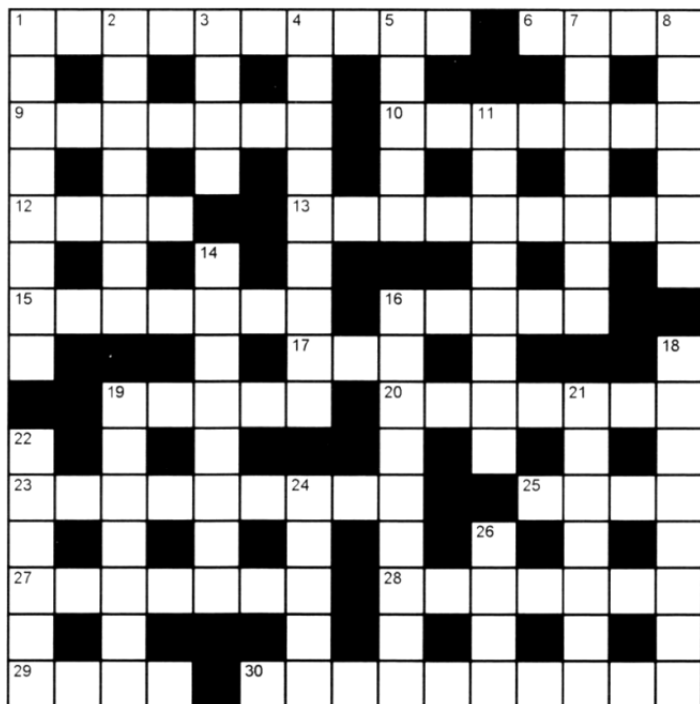
It's been a quieter couple of months for us as a group now the holiday season is over, but that will soon change as the bushes around the town are starting to die back to reveal more rubbish.

Keep a look out on our Facebook group for how to become involved and also for our upcoming events:

www.facebook.com/groups/2932100377002260

Sharon Longhurst





THE PRIZE CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1. Bizarre (10)
6. Russian Emperor (4)
9. Member of Army (7)
10. London cricket ground (3,4)
12. Analagous(4)
13. Roomy (9)
15. Beneficiary of will (7)
16. Loafer (5)
17. Theatre Play division (3)
19. Monkey (5)
20. Beseech (7)
23. Total (9)
25. Prepare publication (4)
27. Reluctance to move (7)
28. Side by side (7)
29. Teapot cover (4)
30. Southpaw (4, 6)

DOWN

1. Hindrance (8)
2. Slanting (7)
3. Kingsley —, writer(4)
4. Bargain priced (4,5)
5. Establish (3,2)
7. Redeemer (7)
8. Zestful enjoyment (6)
11. Thin slice of meat (8)
14. Loud and harsh (8)
16. Travelling place to place (9)
18. One who makes a will (8)
19. Young swans (7)
21. Experienced person (3,4)
22. Lunatic (6)
24. Proverb (5)
26. Region (4)

August Crossword Solution

Across: 1 Settlement, 6 Runt, 9 Apparel, 10 Leisure, 12 Rood, 13 Construct, 15 Conceal, 16 Beryl, 17 Era, 19 Stays, 20 Dustman, 23 Spaghetti, 25 Aria, 27 Algeria, 28 Toronto, 29 Sure, 30 Dawn Chorus.

Down: 1 Shamrock, 2 Typhoon, 3 Lord, 4 Molecules, 5 Nylon, 7 Unusual, 8 Twenty, 11 Interest, 14 Metaphor, 16 Badminton, 18 Infamous, 19 Stagger, 21 Mariner, 22 Oscars, 24 Tiara, 26 Arch.

August Crossword Winner:

Andy McLaughlin, Fairfax Court, Burntisland

Name

Address

Telephone

Completed entries by 30th December to: **1 Lammerlaws Road, Burntisland, KY3 9DT** or email paulbriscoe1@gmail.com

First correct entry drawn wins **£40** in vouchers.

Solution will appear in the next Burgh Buzz issue.

Burntisland's Events Diary

NOVEMBER

Friday	4th	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls—raising funds for Burntisland Youth Theatre	12 noon–4 pm
Saturday	5th	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	10 am–1 pm
Monday	7th	Burntisland Highland Games AGM in the Burgh Chambers	7 pm
Thursday	10th	Climate Café at the Heritage Centre	6.30 pm–8.30 pm
Friday	11th	Community Council meeting in the Burgh Chambers	7 pm
		Acoustic Music Club in Burntisland Bowling Club	7.30 pm–10.30 pm
Sunday	13th	Remembrance Sunday parade and service at the Parish Church (10.45) and War Memorial (noon)	10.15 am
		Burntisland Civic Week AGM in the Jubilee Tavern	3 pm
Saturday	19th	Coffee Morning in St Joseph's Church Hall	10.30 am–12.30 pm
		Rock for Marie Curie in the Sands Hotel	7 pm–11.30 pm
Tuesday	22nd	Blood Donation sessions in the Kingswood Hotel	2.30 pm–4 pm & 5.30 pm–7.30 pm
Sunday	27th	Events Group AGM (Bonfire & Fireworks) in the Sands Hotel	2 pm
Monday	28th	Guides, Brownies and Rainbows Coffee Evening in the Parish Church Halls	6 pm–8 pm

DECEMBER

Friday	2nd	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls—raising funds for Burntisland Girlguiding	12 noon–4 pm
		CFOs Festive Pop-up and Platform Studios, also Sat 3rd and Sun 4th, see page 21 for details	
Saturday	3rd	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	10 am–1 pm
		Over 70s Christmas Treat at the Kingswood Hotel	12 for 12.30 pm
		Christmas Lights fundraising concert with Rosyth Concert Band in the Parish Church Halls	7.30 pm
Sunday	4th	Family friendly Beach Clean at the Beach House	10.30 am
		Parent Council Christmas Fayre at the Primary School	TBC
Thursday	8th	Climate Café at the Heritage Centre	6.30 pm–8.30 pm
Friday	9th	Community Council meeting in the Burgh Chambers	7 pm
Friday	16th	Acoustic Music Club in Burntisland Bowling Club	7.30 pm–10.30 pm
Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th		Churches Christmas Services, see details on pages 22 & 23	

JANUARY 2023

Friday	13th	Community Council meeting in the Burgh Chambers	7 pm
		Acoustic Music Club in Burntisland Bowling Club	7.30 pm–10.30 pm
Saturday	28th	Floral Action Burntisland 10th Anniversary Bash at the Toll Community Centre	7 pm–midnight

FEBRUARY 2023

Friday	3rd	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls—raising funds for the Town Twinning exchange	12 noon–4 pm
Saturday	4th	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	10 am–1 pm
Sunday	5th	Family friendly Beach Clean at the Beach House	10.30 am

To include a public event taking place in February, March, or April 2023 in our next issue, please email: editor@burghbuzz.org.uk



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Christmas Day Lunch Bookings

Available between 12-2:30pm

Hogmanay Ceilidh Dinner

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Christmas Event Bookings are subject to availability and require advance booking.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and prosperous 2023.

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