

**Burntisland's Free Community Magazine** 

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COLLS PRAEMINO DEDIT ON

**Issue No 87** 

# **Civic Week Royal Party 2023**

This year's Summer King & Queen and Royal Party has been announced.

The selection of the Royal Party was made at assembly in the Primary School, with names drawn by Community Award winners Bill Kirkhope and Joana Barron.

The crowning ceremony and fundraiser disco will take place on Saturday 17th June, during this year's Civic Week programme which runs from Friday 16th to Sunday 25th June—see full details on page 16.

Summer King:	Leo Fraser
Summer Queen:	Kai Chatikobo
First Attendant:	Thomas Robertson
Second Attendant:	Orla Noble
Page Boy:	Finley Longhurst
Flower Girl:	May Coull



May 2023

# **Burntisland Hedgehog Haven**

Did you know we have an abundance of hedgehogs living in the town? We are so lucky to have them here as they are now on the red list vulnerable to extinction.

In 1950, there were an estimated 36 million hedgehogs in the UK, but in recent years it is now said there are only around 1 million left with numbers falling by 97%. The plight of the hedgehog really saddens me and I would hate to lose them altogether.

### How my love of hedgehogs began...

I never saw any hedgehogs growing up on the south coast of England. When we moved to Burntisland I soon realised there was a good population here. I started to learn as much as I could about them and began leaving food out in the garden. Sure enough in they came and it was good to see the food disappearing! We even set up some cameras to be able to watch them.

My first encounter with a sick hedgehog wasn't as good. I rang the Forth Hedgehog Hospital in Rosyth but they were full so I called the SSPCA. They took some details and told me it sounded fine and to just release it when it got dark.

I felt uneasy doing this as it was a windy and rainy night. My instincts told me to bring him in and the poor thing was so cold, so I warmed him up with a hot water bottle and he looked so much better. I then made the mistake of going to bed. Poor "Spike" didn't survive the night, as he needed to be kept warm and I shouldn't have let that hot water bottle cool down.

### How the Hedgehog Haven came about...

The following year my husband and I encountered three hedgehogs out in the day looking very poorly on separate occasions. One was covered in fly strike and I knew it was a race against time before the eggs hatched into maggots and the poor thing would start to be eaten alive. I rang the Hedgehog Hospital but again they were full so I grabbed a toothbrush and tweezers and set to work to get the fly eggs off.

After removing them we headed up to the wildlife hospital at Fishcross. It's such a trek and with so many hedgehogs needing help it set the wheels in motion to try and learn more of the medical side of hedgehog care.

I began volunteering at Forth Hedgehog Hospital on Saturdays, which soon turned into two mornings a week. I then saw a post on Facebook from Sandy Boyd who was closing his rescue in Wormit and was looking for someone to take over. I purchased some of his equipment and then became a fosterer for



the Forth Hedgehog Hospital to help free up cages so more hedgehogs could be admitted. Sandy's books and leaflets on hedgehog care really got me interested in going further and setting up my own rescue. These lovely spiky friends need all the help they can get!

So if you see a hedgehog out in the day which is not moving with purpose (i.e. it doesn't have nesting materials in its mouth or in a hurry) please secure it in a high sided box and contact us as it will need help. Hedgehogs do not sunbathe and ones that do are extremely ill even if they look ok. Healthy hedgehogs only come out at night with the exception of nesting or nursing mums.

Check our Facebook page for updates or call us on 07577 000328. Thank you! Sharon Longhurst



## **BURNTISLAND'S COMMUNITY MAGAZINE** Featuring — Local issues, organisations, events, people and more

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Editor & Design — Michael Booth email: editor@burghbuzz.org.uk

Advertising Coordinator — Natalie Lewis email: advertising@burghbuzz.org.uk

**Distribution** — Burntisland Community Development Trust, email: **distribution@burghbuzz.org.uk** 

**Editorial Committee** — Linda Briscoe, Paul Briscoe, Bill Kirkhope, Scott McCartney, and Dave McPherson

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# From the Editor

It's a jam-packed 28 page edition and a full events diary (page 26), as we look forward to all the activities taking place this summer, with the Shows, Civic Week, Highland Games, Live on the Links (in the Sands), exhibitions and lots more happening.

Rather topically, our front page covers an upcoming coronation of our own. It was great to attend the selection of the Royal Party at the Primary School assembly, a lot of excitement on the first Monday back after the Easter holidays!

We also introduce Burntisland Hedgehog Haven, a small rescue in the town which treats and rehabilitates wild hedgehogs. Always encouraging to know people are looking out for wildlife in need.

The very first issue of the Burgh Buzz back in 1998 featured a page listing details of "Burntisland's Clubs and Societies". This current edition includes the work of the *What's Happening* group, who have put together a list of activities and groups for young people. You can find it on page 17, feel free to cut out and keep.

Special thanks to all of our volunteer distributors who continue to make sure the Buzz reaches every household in the town.

Hope you have an enjoyable summer season and you can take advantage of all the natural amenities the town has to offer.

## Michael Booth, Editor

# **Community Council elections**

In August of this year there will be an opportunity to build a new Community Council, whose members are full of vibrancy and creativity, for the four years ahead.

Why should you be interested? In a nutshell, if there are fewer than 7 nominations there will be no Community Council in Burntisland for the first time in 45 years. The Community Council is the only statutory body which is focused exclusively on Burntisland— whether its people, its infrastructure or its environment.

With a tiny regular income of around £1,200, we actually manage budgets of about 10 times that in the current financial year—and it has been much higher for special projects.

The focus of new projects will be entirely at the discretion of the new Community Council and will take into account the key findings of the new Community Action Plan. So it might include the provision of post office and banking facilities; making the train station more accessible; re-opening public access to the harbour; managing the impact of the summer fair; or whatever other initiatives would make Burntisland a better, safer and happier place to live.

To put your name forward, you must be on the current electoral register for Burntisland and be nominated by two people who are also on that register.

The closing date for nominations will be **Thursday 31st August**. Nomination forms will be available nearer the time, but as a starting point you might like to attend some of the Community Council meetings before then. Currently on the second Friday evening of each month in the Burgh Chambers, it is likely that all future meetings will also be available via Zoom.

The current members will also welcome enquiries and will direct you to the most appropriate source of information.

Alex MacDonald, Community Council Chair

## **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: Vice Chair: Treasurer: Secretary: Alex MacDonald Brendan Burns Fiona Watson Anne Smith

### Members:

Tim Hailey Jim Sheridan Lynne Ralph Ken Littlemore Clare Slater Carol McLeod Elizabeth McLaughlan

### **Contacts:**

Chair — Alex MacDonald 1 Craig Court, Burntisland. KY3 0AT t: 01592 873314 e: alex\_mac@btinternet.com

Secretary — Anne Smith burntislandcc@outlook.com

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 to meet with constituents at a time to suit them (except Sunday or Monday), contact via text/email. An in-person surgery will be held in the Library on Saturday 13th May at 10–11am.

### **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 resume on dates to be announced after summer months. In the meantime please contact Julie directly for a one to one appointment.

# **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 two meetings are: 12th May and 9th June. There is no meeting in July.** 

Members of the public are welcome to attend or to raise matters of interest to them. A summary of issues discussed during the last three meetings is set out below. Full minutes can also be found on the Community Council website.

- We have escalated to the Chief Executive of NHS Fife our concerns about the current pharmacy service in Burntisland. In turn, NHS Fife are responsible for approving or rejecting proposals for an alternative or additional pharmacy. It is now 8 months since the most recent appeal against rejection was upheld, but there is no evidence so far of any action having been taken by NHS Fife.
- A number of small grants have been made to local organisations, namely Floral Action Burntisland, Burntisland Heritage Trust and the Central Burntisland Tenants and Residents Association.
- The community notice board at Union Street has now been refurbished. Access is available via the Toll Community Hub, the library, Burntisland Community Development Trust or the Community Council Secretary.
- The Community Event at the school on 18th March was hugely successful, with over 400 people and over 20 local groups attending. The results are currently being fed in to the resulting Community Action Plan for the next several years.
- Some 30 years after first having been requested, an upgraded path is being constructed between Glebe Place and Meadowfield, with an extra path connecting from Kerr Court.
- The Common Good Fund has been used to buy equipment which will enable future Community Council meetings to be streamed via Zoom. The kit will also be available to other local organisations who use the Burgh Chambers or who have independent access to an appropriate Wi-Fi router. Online access to our meetings should be requested via the Chair.
- It is now very likely that the water feature on the Links is at the end of its operational life. There are no funds immediately available which would allow an early replacement to be installed. We continue to press Fife Council for enhanced funding and/or fundraising.
- Plans are in hand for the renewal and/or extension of Christmas lights, with up to £5,000 being committed for this year.
- We were sorry to learn that Yvonne Crombie has now moved away from Burntisland and has stood down as a member. She has played a very valuable role in planning the Exiles Reception, in helping to judge the Scots Verse competition and in facilitating the overall response to the Covid restrictions. We wish her well.

# **Community Award Presentation**

In February, a civic reception was held in the historic Burgh Chambers to honour the winners of the annual Community Award. For the first time, this year the Community Council conferred awards in all three available categories.

The individual award winner and recipient of the Citizen's Shield is Bill Kirkhope. The group award shield was presented to Central Burntisland Tenants and Residents Association, represented by Lynne and Paul. And the inaugural winner of the young person award is Joana Barron.

All three received a personalised certificate, presented by Alex MacDonald and Cllr Julie MacDougall.

David Torrance MSP also presented a framed copy of his Scottish Parliament motions, which recognised each winner.



# **Preloved Pop Up Boutique**

LA Preloved Pop Up Boutique is pleased to announce their first event on Thursday 11th May from 4–8pm in the Burntisland Sands Hotel.

Lots of people have beautiful clothes and accessories that they no longer or have never worn. The items are too high end for charity shops and dealing with online selling sites can be a pain. This way people can clear through their wardrobes, make some money and their buyers get some gorgeous pieces. There will be preloved branded clothes, shoes and handbags such as Ralph Lauren, Karen Millen, Jimmy Choo, Mulberry, Gucci, Monsoon, John Lewis, Dune, Alexander McQueen, Per Una and loads of other brands. **Think of it as a posh car boot sale!** 

We have 10 sellers on the night and their items range from petit to tall, size 6-16 clothes, size 4-9 ladies shoes and various price points and styles. There will also be a selection of men's and children's clothing. Hopefully plenty to suit all.

We will be asking ideally if people pay cash for smaller items or for larger ticket items you can pay direct to the seller by BACS. There will be a credit card machine there also for larger payments. In the ethos of recycling we also ask you bring your own shopping bags.

On the night we will not be taking in donations. We are hoping the first event will be a success and we can do again. If you wish to sell in any future events you can get in touch via



get in fouch via laprelovedboutique@gmail.com or follow the Facebook page "LA Preloved Pop Up Boutique" and send a message.

The Burntisland Sands Hotel will be open for drinks and food if you want to make a night of it.

Look forward to seeing you all there.

Lee-Anne Purvis

Welcome to the latest edition of the Burgh Polis. **PC Cooper** and myself **PC Farley** have been in and around the Burntisland area with greater frequency in recent months.





During this time we have been able to re-establish relationships with members of the community allowing us to develop a better intelligence picture of the ongoing issues within the area.

With this we were able to execute a warrant for drugs on the High Street during the most recent quarter. We are actively developing intelligence all the time to allow us to carry out further operations of a similar nature.

Please come and speak with us if you see us out and about. We're continuing the Police surgeries held in Toll Community Hub on Burntisland High Street, with our next surgery scheduled for Thursday 25th May, 10am–12pm.

Due to the dynamic nature of policing we are unable to offer a Burntisland surgery in June. We will however be in Kinghorn Community Centre on Tuesday 20th June at 10am–12pm.

We are aware that this quarter will bring in better weather and as a result an influx of visitors, please be aware of any issues raised by this. We also ask you remain vigilant in relation to bogus workmen as mentioned last issue, please look out for any neighbours you believe to be elderly or vulnerable and using the details below please alert us to anything you think may be suspicious. We anticipate a rise potentially in Anti-Social Behaviour due to the longer evenings and better weather, again please raise any concerns via the usual contact methods.

We have also seen more of and will continue to be a presence in relation to speeding motorists as we are fully aware that this is an emotive issue for Burntisland residents and will take appropriate action where necessary.

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





"So good to see so many people here today talking about what is important to them"

### "Brilliant event, thank you! I talked to lots of people and made great contacts. Planning a community programme now"

These were just some of the lovely written comments we received at the Community Action Plan prioritising event in March.

Working with the Community Council and a small army of community minded volunteers, we were delighted to welcome 400 people through the doors see the results of the householder surveys and stakeholder interviews. 22 community groups took a table at the event giving them the chance to showcase their work and opportunities to network and connect. Dr Bike and the Toll Centre joined forces to offer free bikes for children whilst the Broomhill Garden Club and the Big Green Market had yet more activities for the younger members of our community.

We had free tea and coffee available throughout the day along with delicious cake supplied by the Cornerstone Community Café. The fabulous Pipe Band opened the event at 11am and we were further entertained by the Primary School's String Group, Andrea McDonalds School of Highland Dancing and George Fisher with his new extended version of 'Who'll feed Sammy'.

Sammy the seal was very much on people's minds as they cast their seven votes for the initiatives and projects they most wanted to see happen. Reopening access to the harbour was high on the community's agenda, along with action on the lack of Post Office/banking facilities in the High Street which is causing difficulties for residents and businesses alike. Also very high on the list was proper access to the railway station and revisiting the current arrangements for the summer Shows. These are all issues very specific to Burntisland and specific community solutions were suggested by many voters.

Many people left their contact details and asked to be kept up to date with developments and progress in the themes they were most interested in, and even more people indicated they wanted to get involved in being part of the changes they wanted to see. If you didn't manage to get along on 18th March, it isn't too late to get involved in key issues. If you want a tidal pool, facilities for motorhomes, safe areas to exercise your dog or any other ideas that you suggested in your own survey, e-mail us and we we'll keep you in the loop.

Now the votes have all been counted, we

are working towards the creation of a new Community Action Plan to share with you all in the next few weeks. We want the new plan to be regularly reviewed and be responsive to new issues and opportunities, could you play a part in the new review group?

### Burntisland Green Homes Open Doors

Have you installed energy efficiency measures or made efforts to make your home more environmentally friendly? Are you



willing to have people visit you to see what you have done? Or would you like to visit others and hear their experience first hand? We are busy finalising the details of the day but please get in touch with **kittyoconnor@hotmail.co.uk** to find out more and put Saturday 17th June in your diary!

To find out more about our work and how you can get involved and have your voice heard, contact Development Officers Jo & Nicki through our website at

www.burntisland-trust.org, follow us on Facebook or email us at

DevelopmentOfficers@burntisland-

**trust.org**. Let's work together as a community to make Burntisland the best possible place it can be to live and work in!



We kicked off our 2023 markets in February (after a well-earned break in January) and we're off to a flying start. Thanks to the town's generosity – and massive support from our volunteers – we have raised over £3,500 for the Town Twinning group, Floral Action Burntisland and Civic Week.

We have also been able to offer small donations to the local foodbank for essential items, the Burntisland Beach Clean group for new equipment, and to support the excellent work of the Community Café.

### Busting the 'best bargain' myths

Back in the early days of the BGM, if you wanted to grab a bargain, you had to queue up early doors at the Parish Church Halls and get in with the rest of the keen bargain hunters. But that was because we were still building our stock and supplies. Only a few people would donate through the month, so the best bargains would be out first and wouldn't be replenished over the market.

Now it's not the case. We're so well-known that people usually bring a couple of donation bags to each market. That means

## The Big GREEN Market Burntisland

we can replenish our stock on both days (thanks to our volunteers who sort the back room and keep everything on rotation!)

So now, you don't need to join the queue to grab the goodies. Bargains – the very best ones – are available throughout both days, and often some of the real treasure doesn't hit the shelves till later in the day.

### Donations are always welcome...unless...

If you're doing a wee spring clean and pulling together some items to donate, here's what we can accept: good quality clothing, shoes, handbags, jewellery, bric-abrac, household items, books, vinyl, crafting supplies, toys and games.

We can't accept electricals because we can't guarantee they're safe when we sell them (we don't have funds to conduct PAT testing). We don't have storage for larger items or furniture, and we have so many CDs/DVDs that aren't shifting.

You'd be surprised what else turns up at the Big GREEN Market. We've had to bin some

unusual items over the years, including outof-date medicine, torn or unclean garments and second-hand underwear. If you're doubting donating an item, ask yourself, 'If I saw this-would I buy it?' If the answer's no then it's probably seen better days, so please don't add it to your bag.

### Next market dates

May 5 & 6: Burntisland Heritage Trust June 2 & 3: Museum of Communication July 7 & 8: Burntisland Highland Games

### Fancy giving a helping hand?

We could do with a few more helpers on Friday mornings 9–11.30am and Saturday afternoons 1.15–3.15pm. It's a lovely way to spend a few hours a month helping us set up and/or take down the market. And we always give our volunteers a coffee voucher for The Fix to say thanks for your hard work.

If you'd like to be involved, email: biggreenmarket.burntisland@gmail.com or get in touch on our Facebook Page: facebook.com/BurntislandGreenMarket

## **Burntisland Primary School**

In Numeracy, **Primary 1** have been learning about adding and subtracting, and have been learning to identify the values of different coins. They have loved pretending to be shopkeepers as they learn how to use the correct coins to pay for products! They have started learning how to read o'clock and half past the hour on a clock.

In Literacy, the P1 children have been learning new sounds, and have been trying to use capital letters, finger spaces, full stops and, for a challenge, they have been trying to use connectives. They have also been learning how to identify 'true', 'false' and 'can't tell' information in stories.

As part of their Health and Wellbeing, they have been taking part in P.E. where they have been perfecting their ball skills by throwing, catching and dribbling. As well identifying adults who they can go to in and out of school if they need support.

Their topic has been fairy tales. In this topic, they have been learning about the different parts of castles, traditional fairy tales and flags.

**Primary 2** children have been focusing on trying to start learning their times tables by counting in 5's, 10's and 2's. They have been developing their understanding of subtraction too!

In Literacy, they have been learning how to place words in alphabetical order and they have been writing trickier sentences with connectives and openers. They have also been learning to recall stories.

In Health and Wellbeing, they have been learning to have a growth mindset. In P.E. they have been dancing and taking part in Cosmic Yoga. Their recent topic was The Human Body and their new topic is Space.

This term, children in **Primary 3 and Primary 3/4** have been learning all about Ancient Egypt as their topic and doing some art including hieroglyphics and creating their own Egyptian Gods.

In Numeracy and Maths, they have been ordering fractions and learning about halves and quarters. They have also been focused on addition and subtractions and they are developing their understanding of time using analogue and digital clocks.

As part of their writing they have been learning how to write creatively, using similes in their stories. They have also been doing writing daily, as the whole school have, to improve their tools for writing.

In ICT they have been learning how to sign into Glow and they have been improving their typing skills.

P3 and P3/4 have enjoyed taking part in Kitbag sessions with Miss Shiels, going out at least once a day for their Daily 15 and they have been learning all about Emotion Works with Mr Bryson.

**Primary 4 and Primary 4/5** have been learning all about Vikings as their topic this term. They have learned where they came from, what type of boats they had, the type of houses they had, what was in their houses and what their long boats looked like. Their Viking based art looks amazing!

In Numeracy, they have been developing their understanding of multiplication and division and they have been working on different strategies to use to solve multiplication and division calculations.

In writing, the focus has been using adjectives to enhance their writing further, as well as trying to use commas accurately.

In Health and Wellbeing, the focus has been on understanding different relationships and how to manage different relationships.

The topic in **Primary 5** has been learning about the mind and body. They have been finding out about what a healthy diet is and learning strategies to keep the mind healthy as well as how to keep the body healthy physically. Kitbag sessions have also been a part of their Health and Wellbeing.

In Literacy, they have been using skimming and scanning of their class novel which is The Train to Impossible Places. During Daily Write, they have been focusing on adjectives and openers. To inspire their writing, they have used films and objects. They have been doing a wide range of maths which includes measurement, angles, perimeter, area and percentage.

Football, gymnastics and orienteering have been a part of their PE as well as hockey and volleyball.

In ICT, P5 have been using Publisher and PowerPoint and they have also been learning about online safety.

The topic in **Primary 6** is the Titanic and they have been doing art associated with it and lots of research. Children have really enjoyed this and made 3D models as part of their homework.



In Literacy, P6 children have been focused on punctuation and activities in relation to The Titanic Detective Agency, which is their class novel. They have also been writing newspaper reports.

In ICT, the children have been using Excel and have been using Zu3D to create animation. P6 have also used this time to do research on their topic.

Children in **Primary 7** have had a focus on adding and subtracting fractions, decimals and percentages in their Numeracy and Maths work. This has been a really challenging topic!

In Literacy, the children have been trying to use ambitious vocabulary to improve their work in their Daily Write. They have been reading Divided City and recently finished The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas. For their WW2 topic, P7 have been learning about the dig for victory campaign and V.E. day.

For P.E. they are taking part in athletics activities, and have just finished their rugby sessions. Also, as part of their Health and Wellbeing, they learned about how important it is to have a healthy diet and good sleep pattern by looking at the 5 Ways to Wellbeing.



With all the shrubbery having died back it's been a perfect chance to clear some of the less accessible areas around the town.

We have been taking part in Keep Scotland Beautiful's Spring Clean campaign, and held a number of litter picks. Firstly, up at the Broomhill viewpoint where we cleared 10 bags of rubbish and also managed to get the council grounds maintenance team to come and cut all the bushes back, so thank you to them. Another litter pick was at the Toll Park and the Cot Burn where we cleared 7 bags full plus other bigger items.

The play park and wooded area along the Haugh Road has also been given a good clean up which resulted in 13 bags full plus lots of fly tipped items.

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## **Keep Burntisland Beautiful**

We then cleared 21 bags of rubbish and multiple larger items including 12 tyres from the bushes around The Point. Lots of old rubbish as one of the crisp packets we picked up was from 2008!



This is on top of our lovely members who litter pick on daily walks around the town. Thank you to everyone who helps keep Burntisland beautiful and to everyone who has come along to support our litter picks!

Fife Street Champions are holding a Big Rubbish Weekend on 20th and 21st May where there will be litter picks all over Fife. **We will be holding one at The Point,** where we can clean up the small beach area on Sunday 21st May at 9.30-11am. Meet at the small parking area by the Seamill pond. We will have litter pickers to borrow and it would be lovely to see a few new faces! Sharon Longhurst

**Burntisland Out of School Service (BOSS)** 

We are thrilled to be enjoying the warmer weather and the lighter evenings at BOSS and extremely grateful for the success of our holiday club during the Easter holidays. We were open for three days each week and every day was packed with fun! Check out the Facebook link below for photos of all our shenanigans. We are already



planning for the summer holiday club so if you are not already on our mailing list and you would like to receive our booking information please get in touch using the contact details below.

We will be playing outdoors as much as possible during this summer term as well as getting more involved in our community. This was a key aspect of our improvement plan so we will also be planning activities with the children such as beach cleans and library visits and we are keen to collaborate with other Burntisland community groups.

We will also be making the most of the remaining time together with our amazing P7 children ahead of them moving to high school. Following the children's journey throughout their primary years is one of the best parts of our role at BOSS and we wish all our children an amazing last te

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children an amazing last term!

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 07702 801132 or email at **bossburntisland@gmail.com** 

We regularly share our activities on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/ BurntislandOutOfSchoolService and more information about BOSS, our team and our committee can be found on our website www.bossburntisland.co.uk

Anne Laidlaw, Club Manager

# **Burntisland Playgroup**

The last term of playgroup before the summer is now upon us and hopefully it will bring with it some sunshine! We have been patiently waiting for our garden to be updated and finally we are going to see some movement on this! Hopefully by the time you are reading this we are out enjoying our willow den, firepit area, rain garden and we are using our raised beds to plant some food for new playgroup year. We are very thankful for The Conservation Volunteers Scotland and the Toll Community Centre committee who are helping us with this transformation.

This past term we have been very busy in our learning. We have taken the lead from the children and their interests this term have been wide and exciting. We have looked at weather, visiting the library for books and creating our own weather garden to monitor the types of weather we have been seeing. We created our own cloud within the setting and in some jars we created water funnels. After this interest we moved onto dinosaurs and into space. We have learned dinosaur names, created a land for them to live in, had a volcano and explored jobs to do with dinosaurs and we became palaeontologists.

Our committee and parents are busy thinking of an idea for us to participate in our favourite event of the year—Civic Week Parade Day. Our children all really look forward to joining in and getting dressed up. As reigning champions we are looking forward to seeing this year's competition!

We have been preparing for our new intake for August and we still have a few spaces available within Playgroup. If your child is turning three between 1st March 2023 and 28th February 2024 then we may have a space for you.





Our opening times are Monday to Friday term time, 8.45am until 2.45pm. We understand how difficult it can be to find a place you are comfortable with for your child. Please feel free to pop in or email us and we can arrange a visit for you to meet the staff and see the setting. Our email address is

burntislandplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk

### Rebecca McColm

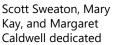




# **Floral Action Burntisland**

After a very successful 2022, the FAB AGM took place on 24th February at The Sands Hotel. Many changes have happened notably that some of our founding

members took the hard decision to step down from the committee.



years to keeping the town looking beautiful and I'm sure you will all agree that when the group started 11 years ago no one could have imagined the success that FAB has had! I am sure all in Burntisland share my own gratitude for their passion and drive to create the success of FAB's work in our community.

We would also like to give a personal shout out to Hamish Brown for his dedication and hard work he has undertaken with the snowdrop displays he has developed since the 1960s! It was lovely to hear him speak so passionately at the AGM.

Looking ahead the new committee, albeit without a chairperson, have all gathered to share our collective vision for the year ahead. At the time of writing we are hoping our volunteer event at The Kingswood Hotel is a success and we can continue with the many projects we undertake.

We met our target to raise enough funds to install a memorial bench to all the dedicated service personnel which we aim to have in situ at the War Memorial. Many thanks to all in the town who donated.

We held a very successful

social event at the end of January where many families gathered, danced, quizzed and celebrated our 10th Anniversary. FAB were fortunate enough to have a slot at the Big GREEN Market in March so a massive thank you to them for their support.

In my role as secretary I've also been looking at the sustainability of FAB and in doing so the decision was taken to digitise things. So if you have some of our baskets or sponsor a basket tree keep an eye out for any emails in the coming weeks.

We have planned for restoration works of the sea wall this year and hopefully work will commence later in the summer.

Unfortunately, our hard work has been hampered by some negativity surrounding our sponsor signs which needed replaced due to, what we believe, deliberate tampering. It has saddened us that we have had to work to rectify this and financially bear the brunt of this.

On a more positive note, we will be commencing our work to install our floral displays in the coming months, so our town will be flourishing again for the hive of activity the summer season brings.

If volunteering with us is something you would love to hear more about, please get in touch via our Facebook page or by emailing **secretaryfab@gmail.com** 

### Irene Megaw, Secretary.



This summer down by the station the Platform Artists are holding their first ever Summer School on 11-14th July.

Various workshops will be on offer, each lasting one or two days. Among the techniques offered will be ringmaking and other jewellery, on-loom tapestry weaving, drawing and painting including sketching outdoors and drawing the figure.

Artist tutors will include Grace Girvan, Sally Grant, Susie Redman, Sheena Watson, Lara Scouller, Sophie McKay Knight, and Leo du Feu. At the end of the week there will be a celebratory event for all those who took part. Prices start at £95 per day and vary workshop-to-workshop.

Keep an eye on "Platform Studios" on Facebook and @studiosplatform on Instagram for full details appearing very soon, or contact any of the artists.



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Burgh Buzz • May 2023

# **Burntisland & Kinghorn Rotary Club**

With spring upon us the Club is now fully into raising funds for the many long running and new commitments we intend to support this Rotary year and into next. After our traditional coffee morning in April, our next event is a Casino Night to raise funds for the My Name'5 Doddie charity as well as other projects. This will be held in the Kingswood Hotel on Friday 5th May at 7pm. Tickets are available from the Kingswood, any Club Rotarians, or contact davekelley9@gmail.com

With the better weather the Club will continue its commitment to improving the pollinators around the Ecology Centre at Kinghorn Loch as part of Rotary's worldwide commitment to improve the environment. A further commitment to 'Lend with Care' will continue where funds are committed to the organisation which arranges finance to lowincome projects started in various poor countries and is then repaid over a set

period. It should be said that this has been extremely successful in recent years.

Our joint activities will be continuing with New4U children's clothing project in cooperation with our local Rotary partners whilst supporting Rotary in Fife with funding Fife Young Carers & Disability Sport Fife as well as Books Abroad and tools to the Ecology Centre.

In March, we held our annual Primary School Quiz for the first time since 2020 and what a night it was. We had a great turnout from three Primary Schools in our



local area, along with their supporting families. The winners by a small margin were "The Best of BPS". Thank you to Burntisland Primary School who hosted the evening and to all who helped on the night.

It's also that time of year again when we are looking for a "Young Citizen " aged 16-25 from the Auchtertool, Burntisland or Kinghorn area. Someone who has gone over and above to help in their community! Do you know of someone? Get in touch via **bandkyouthaward@gmail.com**.

As always, the Club are open to new members or those who wish to see what goes on at the weekly meetings in the Sands Hotel. Come along on Tuesday evenings at 6.45pm or contact myself **delta.tango662@gmail.com** or our Secretary David Lamond **davidlamond888@gmail.com** 

Derek Thomson

# **Burntisland Heritage Summer Exhibition**

### 100 Years of Shipbuilding—Burntisland and Kinghorn building for the world

This year we are offering a bumper helping. From Saturday 17th June you can step back in time to the early days of the steamship and to shipbuilding in Burntisland and Kinghorn. Our 2023 exhibition takes you from the early days of the Iron Screw Steamer to the specialist ships of the late 1960s and 100 years of supplying ships to the world.

The Abden Yard of John Key & Sons opened in 1868 and at that time was at the forefront of Iron shipbuilding driven by Kirkcaldy built steam engines. We look at the beautiful iron framed sailing ships launched by the yard, the first iron Whaler and the wonderful Paddle Steamers such as the Willie Muir. The yard supplied many of the steamships plying the world's oceans delivering goods and emigrants to the farflung empire.

Just as Kinghorn was closing a modern yard was opening in Burntisland. Driven by the

demands of WWI and the extraordinary drive of two brilliant brothers. We look at the innovation that saw the yard go from a bare stretch of land to the launch of its first ship within 12 months. We examine the 'Burntisland Economy Ship', that saw the yard through the hungry thirties. The amazing WWII effort that saw production break all records and the innovations that helped the Allies win the war.

Step into the 1950s and 1960s where specialisation was required to survive. As ships grew larger Burntisland was unable to compete and like the Abden yard 50 years before, time caught up with it.

All of this ties in with our model boat collection which we exhibited for the first time last year.

We hold complete detailed records of every ship built in the town and every Burntisland Shipyard Journal published. Come in and look round this FREE exhibition and browse our extensive collection of local news cuttings and photographs.



The Exhibition will be open from 11am to 4pm every Thursday, Friday and Saturday, from 17th June up to the end of August.

Pictured is the Halifax City, built 1964, in the Welland Canal in Ontario, Canada.

### Ian Archibald



# Live on the Links at 40

Burntisland's live music festival, Live on the Links, (or wherever), has without a fanfare or trumpets reached its 40th anniversary this year. The Links has a bandstand, uncovered and until recently unpowered, used for events like the Crowning of the Summer Queen next to the fairground.

Back in 1983, with a band rehearsing progressive music and nowhere to play it, I found another use for the bandstand. With permission easily obtained locally, along with Steve MacAndrew and Chas Gemmill, we organised a festival, with my band Boxed Set, Scarlet Lies, and Rab Watson's Troops of Tomorrow playing that afternoon.

The first Saturday in August was picked because by that late in the summer season, the shows would have naturally moved from the front giving us space. Sponsorship from local traders paid for the canopy, sound system and electricity generator, and we played our music to our friends, with some of it captured on early VHS tape. Along with our pals from Kinghorn and Kirkcaldy, we numbered around 350 midafternoon, as reported in the Fife Leader.



A year later we repeated the event, with John Cooper paying for the generator while the canopy and sound system was donated directly by sponsors. I dropped out after that, and further events were organised by Chas among others, but mainly by Rab. It was found to be easier to get a curtainsided lorry than cover the bandstand and different locations on the Links were tried, with turning to face the town bringing Gus close to being arrested! The last of these was really in 2000, when permissions came with further costs and it looked to be over.

In 2008 I mentioned to Rab that it was 25 years since our first event. We decided in principle to attempt to hold an anniversary event, in particular in memory of our bandmates and friends who had passed away. We were offered a vacant slot in the Civic Week marquee programme, and we sold tickets to pay for the sound system.

With the success of this event and having raised only part of the money on the night needed to buy a memorial seat, I decided to hold further events called "Too Cauld for the Links", at Pettycur Bay Caravan Park offseason in November. Two were held, one of which made money and the second one lost it again, as poor attendance didn't cover the costs.



Late 2013, I decided to create a funk band, since I had a notion after 30 years inactivity, and after a guest spot with Rab, to play live again. We rehearsed in the Smugglers, and having paid so many times for hire of a sound system I bought my own in 2014.

So in 2016, Rab and I made our triumphant return to the Links. As a joke I had decided to parody Rick Wakeman with the wide sleeves of a wizard's costume. Since I had no band by then I performed two pieces of my own playing solo piano to open the festival.



Rab had invested in a gazebo to cover the bandstand in case of rain, however in the afternoon the wind blew it off completely! And it turned out that the sound system I owned wasn't powerful enough to play outdoors. In addition, things had changed since the 80s. We no longer had as much room, the weather was less predictable, and drinking alcohol outdoors was controlled. We also needed licences and insurance, electrical test certificates and permission from the council and the police.

With our return to the bandstand I was able to keep the promise to put a memorial on the Links, and bought a brass plaque with the money left from the Pettycur events.



### 24th & 25th June, Burntisland Sands Hotel

We were encouraged by a community survey which showed enthusiasm for having a festival, although frequent calls for young people to help on the day fell largely on deaf ears. It did possibly encourage Fife Council to provide power to the bandstand. It appeared that we were finally achieving recognition of some sort in the town.

In 2018 I proudly played my own music again, with the Wizards of Progg. It's what I had created the event for. A year later, in what would turn out to be the final event on the Links, the day ended with torrential rain in the early evening. By that time though we had expanded to have bands playing in the pubs as well over the weekend, and we held a successful Chill out Sunday in the Sands Hotel.

Covid prevented the 2020 and 2021 events, but Rab announced that with rising costs, he would no longer underwrite the festival. The gazebo was also lying in bits needing repaired, and that having once again borne the responsibility of setting up the stage and taking it down, he was calling it a day.

With music licenses, insurance, and the hassle of fencing around the beer tent, it was no longer about playing music for our friends. Everyone was making money, except the musicians, and we had lost our independence. The cost had risen to £1500.

In 2021 I finally met Stuart Nicol and finding out his pedigree as a drummer, we decided to play together, in a revival of The Wizards of Progg. Of course, we would need somewhere to play, so I took up the offer of a free hall hire and ran Live at the Links over two days at The Sands Hotel in 2022. I had a sound system big enough for there, and no worries about the weather!

2023 will be the 40th Anniversary. I want to step down too, but I also want to reach a nice round number and we need to have somewhere for The Wizards to play. Things have come full circle.

This year in particular, we have a lineup designed to get feet tapping immediately. "No easy start" says Howling Al, who will open the proceedings at Burntisland Sands Hotel on Saturday 24th June, with a wide range of bands plus a DJ. That's followed by solo artists and duos and a more chilled day on the Sunday 25th, organised by Ronnie Mackie. The event will be run by Fiona Combe.

Lastly a big thank you to everyone whose enthusiasm has kept the event going for so long, all the musicians, sponsors, the volunteers and our families without which an event like this couldn't happen. And thank you Burntisland for giving us a warm welcome.

www.facebook.com/LiveOnTheLinks

**Charlie Kilgour** 









BURNTISLAND BUTCHERS



## Black Rocks Rowing Club

A brief update on progress with building the skiff. If you've been keeping up to date you will know the problems we encountered, getting the club established and building our boat. Well, we hope to have the project completed by the end of the summer.



It now looks like a boat but there is still a fair bit of work to do. We draw on some expertise available to us but the work has been done, in the main, by amateurs.

Over the next few months we need to put effort into recruiting more members. Rowing is for all, no matter your level of fitness or experience. If you think you might be interested in getting involved completing the boat or you are simply thinking you might enjoy rowing—why not have a look at our website and get in touch: www.burntislandrowing.org.uk.

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# Local Business Updates

in association with Totally Locally Burntisland

Another successful Fiver Fest took place in March, with over 40 businesses participating.

Home & Gifts has opened in the former Murdoch's store.

114 has opened a pop-up wine shop on the High Street, as work continues to expand their premises into a licensed cafe and deli.

Aye Candy Sweet Shop - Christina Davies has taken over from June as the new owner.

Macauley's Fruit & Veg has been nominated as a regional finalist in this year's Farm Shop & Deli Show retailer awards.

Tom Courts has commissioned a trophy for the first ever World Haggis Competition taking place this month.

Reflections Hairdressers has now closed, with Kirsty and Neve having moved into Hair.comb.

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



# **Burntisland Shipyard FC**

As we come out of the winter months the team is in a precarious position at the bottom end of the First Division table. At the time of writing this article there are nine games left, so 27 points to be played for, with survival still very much in our own hands. But time is running out, with defeat to a couple of relegation rivals recently damaging. Hopefully many of you can get along and support the team in the closing stages of the season, at one of the three home matches in May.

One of the biggest problems we have encountered this year has been postponed matches due to waterlogging, which has resulted in a lack of continuity, sometimes for up to three weeks in a row. This is halting any momentum that the boys have been building up and it is a huge frustration for the management team. The pitch is as soft as it has ever been with one area in particular, the goalmouth at the Meadowfield end, causing us the most concern. The pitch is not draining as efficiently as it once did. Anyone who may be able to assist in solving the problem is welcome to contact the Club.

Once again, the Club will be hosting the Civic Week 5-a-side tournaments with the



event taking place on Saturday 24th June, for both youths and adults teams. A week later, our Kids Fun Day will take place on Saturday 1st July.

Our long standing Chairman, Andy MacDougall, is retiring at the end of the season and the Club would like to publicly thank Andy for the contribution he has made over many years. His hard work and commitment will be difficult to replace. The Club made a presentation to Andy at our recent "Race Night" where an engraved whisky glass and a couple of bottles of his favourite malt whiskies were gratefully received. On the subject of the "Race Night" we would like to thank all the local businesses who helped ensure the event was an enormous success.

### Andrew Beveridge

# **Burntisland Bowling Club**

The Club was unable to form a committee at the AGM however after calling a subsequent EGM with the membership, a working committee was formed to take us through to opening day, albeit without a President or Vice-President. Thankfully these positions were filled on opening day with long term member Paul Graham installed as President, ably assisted by Rodger Bemrose as V-P. With a full committee now in place the club is looking forward to another fun and successful bowling season.

Pictured is our oldest member George Patterson, throwing the first jack of the 2023 season. George is 90 years young and still actively bowling indoors and out on the

green. Also pictured are the winners of the first trophy of the season, in the President vs Vice-President match, Lorna Murdoch, skip Brian Fleming, and Barry Booth. **Jim Connor, Secretary** 



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

Alarms can either be self-installed or professionally installed.

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  $\pounds185$  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.

We use premium alarms which come with 10-year battery life. To book your installation or order your alarms, please call 01383 435993 or email us at office@rgmheating.co.uk.







# **Burntisland & District Pipe Band**

In February, the band hosted our annual coffee morning which went down a treat. There was a lot of faces which was great to see! We managed to raise an incredible £470, so thank you to everyone who attended and helped our wee town's band.

At the end of March the band had the honour of playing at the Rugby Youth Cup Finals at BT Murrayfield in Edinburgh. Playing the national anthem on the pitch at Murrayfield is an honour a lot of our young players will certainly not forget! Thank you Mhairi Hay for organising it.

The first weekend in April saw the band make the trip across the forth to Livingston to compete in the Lothian & Borders Scottish Championships for both solo and band playing. Amazing playing from all our young people especially for those that were competing for the first time in solos or with the band. We even scooped some prizes to show for it! Well done to those who picked up prizes! Awesome result for our Grade 4A band who smashed their performance and bagged 1st place!

We are now looking forward to the summer, playing in the community and at competitions. And as part of our 100th anniversary celebrations the band is being invited to play at the Edinburgh Festival Carnival parade on Princes Street on 16th July!

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



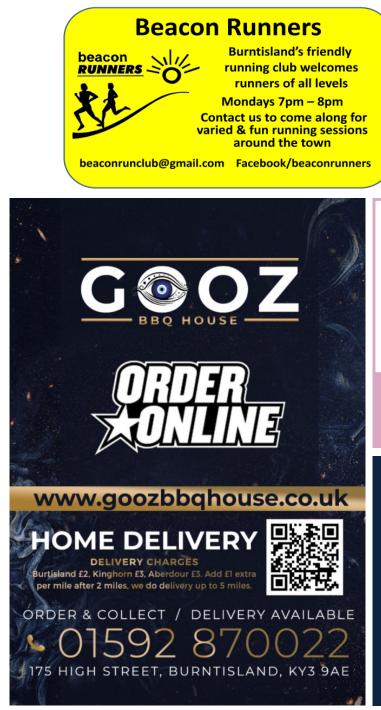


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### 14 Burgh Buzz • May 2023

The new golfing season is underway following the traditional Captain v Vice-Captain season-opener competition. Our annual fixture list has been published and is packed with competitions for gents, ladies, juniors and mixed teams.

As detailed in the last issue, Burntisland Golf House Club celebrates its 125th Anniversary this year. As part of our celebrations, we will have a range of special events throughout the 2023 season. These include a number of special golfing competitions, social events, and a grand prize raffle later in the year.

To mark the milestone, we have launched Ambition 125, a development plan to make clubhouse improvements and course enhancements. As part of Ambition 125 we aim to make both the game of golf, and the great social scene within the Club, more accessible to people in the local community and wider area.

This summer we plan to run a series of activities aimed at golfing beginners, or returners. (How many readers have a set of clubs in a cupboard or in the garage, which has not seen the light of day for years?!). We are developing ideas, including:

- 'come and try golf' sessions (free but subject to pre-booking)
- accessible and affordable short coaching sessions building on the success of our junior's academy
- buddying system for new members and beginners

Golden Charter

# **Burntisland Golf House Club**

The Club is open to new members and has a range of membership categories and prices including an affordable "Lifestyle Membership". As a registered Community Amateur Sports Club BGHC is committed to making golf as accessible as possible for people on low incomes.

BGHC has a strong and active Ladies Section who have made great strides to encourage more lady golfers to come and try the game, and to join in their social scene too. Their numbers are growing, and they would love to encourage anyone who has ever fancied trying golf to get in touch. They are a friendly section of all ages, with weekly competitions, fun events and various groups who play and meet socially throughout the year.

On the social side, we are promoting our Social Membership for non-golfers. This provides all the benefits of Club membership, just without the golf. Social Members can book use of the lounge for private functions, use all the club facilities, and attend social functions throughout the year. A good deal for just £30.

Whilst BGHC is technically a private club, we always welcome visitors both golfing and non-golfing. Our lounge and restaurant are open to visitors who, by signing the visitors book, can call in for a warming drink or bite to eat. The team, including Bar Manager Sheena and Chef Sean, is ready to ensure everyone gets a



warm welcome and leaves well-watered and well-fed. Our snug bar is dog-friendly, so we can welcome four-legged visitors too who can sample some free doggie treats. Our new outdoor seating area is ready for the summer, where members and visitors can enjoy alfresco food & drink with a view of the approach to the 18th green.

Burntisland Golf House Club (and its predecessor Burntisland Golf Club) is a Burntisland institution. We have been up at Dodhead for 125 years providing a great golfing experience and a vibrant social scene.

For some, golf as a sport (and golf clubs in general) can be perceived as a little elite and a bit unapproachable. Our aim as part of Ambition 125 is to dispel that myth, make golf accessible, and make the clubhouse more open and welcoming to the local community.

Please come up and pay us a visit. Have a drink or a bite to eat. Find out more about the club and its members.

www.burntislandgolfhouseclub.co.uk 01592 874093

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# **Museum of Communication Exhibition 2023**

## When Broadcasting Came to Scotland

Each year the Museum of Communication based at 131 High Street in Burntisland opens for a public exhibition. Last year we had a successful and well attended exhibition to commemorate the 100 years since broadcasting started in Britain. Thank you to everyone who supported us!

In 2023 we are celebrating the centenary of public broadcasting in Scotland. The exhibition opens on Saturday 13th May, everyone is welcome. It will appeal to all ages and will run until the end of September. There will be **no charge** for entry although donations towards the work of this unique charity are always welcome.



Take a Look inside the history of Broadcasting in Scotland at MoC

The exhibition will feature famous radio and TV programmes and events illustrated by items from our collection - crystal set radios, valve wirelesses and TVs, recalling the great moments in broadcasting history, events of the day and other memorabilia. We will have a broadcast demonstration for young people to enjoy and explain some of the technical aspects of broadcasting. We also will show how broadcasting has evolved into today's world of online streaming, smartphones and HDTV.

The first radio service in Scotland was launched by the British Broadcasting Company on 6 March 1923. Station was called **SSC** and located in Bath Street in Glasgow. The small crowed studio often housed an orchestra, pipe band, choir, solo singers, actors and speech-makers trying to send news, current affairs, sport, religious addresses and entertainment into people's homes. The service quickly expanded to



include the new stations based in Aberdeen, Dundee, and Edinburgh.

Edinburgh's studio was located in the back premises of a music shop on George Street, broadcasting local afternoon and *Children's Hour* productions and evening programmes on Friday nights. The output from Scottish stations was even picked up in the United States during 1924! In 1927, the BBC combined the local stations into the BBC Regional Programme. These merged to form the BBC Home Service in 1939, and, apart from a break in the Second World War, it had some national 'opt outs' until the establishment of a separate BBC Radio Scotland in 1978.

In 1935, BBC Scotland moved Broadcasting House to North Park House in Queen Margaret Drive, a site partly chosen due to the attraction of the nearby tennis courts, gardens and bowling greens!

Television had a sombre start in Scotland with the broadcast of the funeral of King George VI on 15 February 1952. The Kirk O'Shotts transmitter broadcast programmes that came from London but some with Scottish content. The first Scottish broadcast was from Edinburgh's large music studio to the whole of the UK. The show featured a prayer of dedication, a speech by the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, followed by ten minutes of Scottish country dancing. A BBC manager in London said the "Speeches were dreadful- most depressing." Luckily, the audience was won over with programmes such as the first TV play, JM Barrie's 'The Old Lady Shows Her Medals', news and parliamentary coverage and the first television outside broadcast at the Edinburgh Festival Tattoo.

By the mid-60s TV and radio coverage had reached over 97% of Scotland. The 'Great Glen Chain', a ribbon of links and transmitters across Scotland was expensive to set up but showed that the BBC was earnestly extending its services to outlying and thinly populated areas. BBC2 started in Scotland in July 1966 and the BBC launched regular colour transmissions in July 1967. A mobile control room was used to make the first Scottish colour programme, *Ring in the New*, for that year's Hogmanay. Eventually, BBC Scotland established the right to optout of the network more and more.



In 1980, to celebrate 50 years of broadcasting from Edinburgh's Queen Street studios, Radio Scotland's *Good Morning Scotland* was televised, pioneering breakfast television. The TV hit of the '80s was comedy drama *Tutti Frutti*, written by John Byrne and launched the careers of Robbie Coltrane, Emma Thompson and Richard Wilson.

Following the creation of several new stations, Radio Highland, Radio Aberdeen, Radio Orkney, Radio Shetland and Radio nan Eilean, the first national radio station was launched. Radio Scotland opened with a televised ceremony at Glasgow's Kelvin Hall in November 1978.

BBC Scotland increased the number of programmes it made to be shown on the networks, an ambition greatly aided by the move of BBC Scotland's new headquarters to BBC Pacific Quay in 2007 where state of the art digital studios were built and by the decision of the BBC centrally to move a number of programme departments, out of London.

BBC Scotland now makes a wide variety of programmes for numerous networks - the network radio, the terrestrial TV channels and digital stations such as CBeebies. This month will see the coronation of King Charles III.



Broadcasting equipment in Scotland's first radio station, Glasgow 1923

Everyone will be welcome to come in to see the exhibition on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 13th May until the end of September. The museum is a registered charity and run by enthusiastic volunteers. If anyone would like more information, please contact the museum by email: **enquires@mocft.co.uk** or visit our website:

www.museumofcommunication.org.uk



The museum featured in a recent BBC Scotland documentary covering 100 Years of Scottish Broadcasting, with Kaye Adams speaking to the MoC's John Blackie - you can catch it on the iPlayer: **www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m001k4xy** 

# Burntisland Civic Week 2023—"Around the World"

This year's Civic Week will take place from Friday 16th to Sunday 25th June—look out for the programme of events leaflet which will be delivered to all households.

Our theme for Parade Day this year is "Around the World", we're looking forward to seeing all the wonderful costume ideas!

The front cover of the programme will feature artwork from Maia McLeod of Primary 5, the winner of our competition to create an "Around the World" themed design. Each class took part last term with some fantastic designs making it tough to choose a winner!



We're kicking off Civic Week by hosting a Family Ceilidh in conjunction with the Pipe Band on Friday 16th June. That's followed by Parade Day including the Crowning of the Summer King & Queen in the Parish Church with Funkidz Partyz hosting our Royal Party family disco. Plus we'll have the return of the Beach Day & Raft Race on the first Sunday.

As ever, the committee is grateful to all the local businesses and organisations who provide financial support to make Civic Week possible. Thanks also go to the Big GREEN Market for the donation of the proceeds from their market in April.

You can keep up to date by visiting our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/ BurntislandCivicWeek or if you want to get in touch email:

### burntislandcivicweek@gmail.com

### Friday 16th June

Shop window competition, 3.30pm

Family Ceilidh—Parish Church Hall, 7–10pm

### Saturday 17th June

Crowning of the Summer King & Queen, 1.15pm, Parade along the High Street from 1.45pm followed by Fancy dress prizes at Radio Lollipop and free activities on the Links

Royal Party Funkidz Partyz Family Disco and Talent Show—Parish Church Hall, 6–8pm

### Sunday 18th June

Family Beach Day—sandcastle competition, 11am, BBQ, other activities, Raft Race, 3pm

Civic Week Pairs Bowling competition— 1.30pm

Mirth of Forth Comedy afternoon at The Star, 3:30–5:30pm

### Monday 19th June

Pool competition—Crown Tavern, 8pm

**Tuesday 20th June** Dominoes competition—Jubilee Tavern, 8pm

### Wednesday 21st June

Pre-school kids Storytime—Library, 10.30am

### Thursday 22nd June

Quiz—Sands Hotel, 7.30 for 8pm Darts competition—Silver Tassie, 8pm

### Friday 23rd June

Sailing Club Civic Week Cup race, 7pm Guided Evening Heritage Town Walk, 7pm Bingo Night—Jubilee Tavern, 7.30pm

### Saturday 24th June

5-a-side Football Tournaments at Recreation Park—youths (10.30am) and adults (2–4pm)

Outer Heritage Walk over The Binn, 1pm Live Music at the Golf Club, 8pm–late

Sunday 25th June



# If you have any issues or concerns please get in touch at :

- @ david.torrance.msp@parliament.scot
- 🛛 53 Kirk Wynd, Kirkcaldy, KY1 1EH

**6** 01592 200349

# **David Torrance MSP**

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

# SCAN FOR LINKS TO MY SOCIAL MEDIA



### 1st Burntisland Girlguiding

Parish Church Halls on Mondays Rainbows—girls aged 4-7, 5-6pm Brownies—girls aged 7-10, 5-6.30pm Guides—girls aged 10-14, 7-9pm Cost: £30 for term, uniform optional Contact: www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus

### 11th Fife (Burntisland) Scout Group Parish Church Halls

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Beavers—Boys and girls aged 6-8, Mon: 5.45-6.45pm or Thu: 5.45-6.45pm Cubs—Boys and girls aged 8-10.5 Mon: 7-8.15pm or Thu: 6-7.15pm Scouts—Boys and girls 10.5-14 Wed: 7pm-9pm or Thu: 7pm-9pm Explorers—(age 14-18), Thu: 7.15-9.15pm Current waiting list, contact to be added Cost: £10 per month, extra for camps/events Contact: Kerry Laing, 11thfife@gmail.com

#### Air Training Corps 775 (Burntisland) Squadron—age 12 to 18

Mon and Thu: 7-9.30pm, Unity Hall, Links Place. Cadets can participate in flying aircraft and gliders, Duke of Edinburgh award and other adventure training.

**Cost**: £12 per month, uniform provided free. Need black parade shoes. £60 for 8 day summer camp. Young people can work towards BTEC certificates (e.g. cyber security) **Contact**: www.facebook.com/775Burntisland Mark Hall, oc775@rafac.mod.gov.uk

### **Burntisland Out of School Service (BOSS)**

Term time and non-term time childcare for primary school aged boys and girls (4-12). Based in the Toll Community Centre walking to and from the Primary School. Breakfast club 7.45-9am, after school 3-6pm **Cost**: (2022/23 school year): £5.55 breakfast club, £12.75 after school club Holiday Club: £25 full day (8am-6pm) and £14 half day (8am-1pm or 1pm-6pm) Childcare vouchers and other schemes accepted. Healthy snack and activities included. **Contact**: Anne Laidlaw, Manager 07702 801132 bossburntisland@gmail.com www.facebook.com/

BurntislandOutOfSchoolService

### Broomhill Garden Kids Club—age 1-8

Tuesday: 3.30-4.30pm, May to October. Must be accompanied by an adult Broomhill Allotments, Manse Lane. Outdoor fun for kids! Growing, cooking, nature, craft, ecology and conservation activities. Equipment supplied. **Cost**: Free although donations welcome. **Contact**: Maggie, www.facebook.com/ broomhillcommunitygardenkidsclub

### **Burntisland Primary School, Primary 6&7**

Multi sports youth work, sport and other activities, Fridays 3-5pm **Cost**: Free, all equipment provided **Contact**: jack.brennan@ssf.org.uk 07729045685

### **Church Youth Group Primary 4-7**

Burntisland Parish Church, Fridays 6-9pm, first three weeks each month. Dedicated space, pool table. Main focus on fun, learning and community. Some faith related activity. Holiday club running in July from Kinghorn. **Cost**: Free **Contact**: Adrian 07481 127799 adrian.bekchurches@gmail.com www.facebook.com/people/BEK-Youth/100089422703018/

#### Football—age 10-16 at the Beacon Cost: Free Contact: Dean.Ewing@fife.gov.uk

### Football—Raith Rovers Community Foundation at the Beacon Leisure Centre

Mini Rovers (age 3-5), Thu: 16.45-17.30 Cost: £18 per month Skill Centres (age 6-12), Thu: 16.45-17.45 **Cost**: £20 per month Possible financial support from active schools if needed **Contact**: calum.byres@raithrovers.net

### Highland Dancing—age 21/2 to adult

Tuesdays - Parish Church Intermediate - 6-7pm, Advanced - 7-8pm Fridays - Space Upstairs P2 and over - Beginners 5-6pm, Advanced -6.20-7.20pm and 7.40–8.40pm Saturdays - Parish Church 21/2 to P1 - Beginners 10-10.50am, Intermediate/Advanced 11am-12.30pm **Cost**: £4.50, First term pay each session then termly. Shoes available to borrow to start **Contact**: Andrea McDonald 07980 737685 Andreamcdonald81@yahoo.co.uk www.facebook.com/

and reamcdonald school of highland dance 1

### Junior Golf Club—age 5-17

**Cost**: £20 per block of 5 lessons in Junior Academy Group Coaching. Membership: under 16: £10 per year, age 16-17: £80. Weekly coaching & competitions for age 5-17, from complete beginner to advanced. No equipment needed **Contact**: Colin Blackwood, juniors@burntislandgolfhouseclub.co.uk

### Karate JKS Scotland, all ages

Parish Church Halls, Tue: 5-6pm (age 12 and under), 6-7pm (all ages) **Cost**: free first session trial, £22 per month for 5 classes, £80 for starter pack with all equipment. **Contact**: Instructor Sarah Queen, 6th Dan www.kaishikarate.co.uk 07956 590978, email: info@kaishikarate.co.uk

### Pipe Band—age 8 upwards

Pipe Band hall, East Leven Street. Mon and Thu: 6.30-9.30pm. Opportunities to learn all sections of the band - bagpipes, drums and drum majoring. **Cost**: First month free, then £12 per month covering tuition, uniform and transport. **Contact**: bizland@outlook.com or www.facebook.com/ burntislandanddistrictpipeband

### Playgroup—age 2yrs 10 months - 5 years

Toll Centre, Mon-Fri: 8.45am-2.45pm **Cost**: Self funded places: £22 a day before a child turns 3. Government funding takes over payment from the term after a child's 3rd birthday and their place would become fully funded. If parents/carers do not wish to use their government funding at the playgroup the daily fee increases to £38.

**Contact**: Rebecca McColm, Manager burntislandplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk or phone Toll Community Centre weekdays in term time.

### **Burntisland Amateur Swimming Club**

Beacon Leisure Centre, from 5 years. The club is open to anyone who can swim a length of a recognisable stroke. Training: Tue, Sat, Sun for teaching groups. Coaching squads: Mon, Tue, Thu, Sat. **Cost**: Monthly fees from £25 per swimmer **Contact**: bascenquiries@hotmail.com for more info or to arrange for an assessment.

### Swimming Lessons - Learn to Swim

**Programme at the Beacon Leisure Centre** Early years, pre-school, swim skills 1-4 and club ready. Check Fife Leisure website for details or ask at the Beacon. **Cost**: various by direct debit

**Contact**: fifeleisure.org.uk/locations/beacon

### GTF Taekwon Do—age 4-adult, all grades

Friday: 6.30pm - 7.30pm Parish Church Halls. No special clothing needed for the first 6 months. Builds confidence and discipline. Instructors work round your level and try to work to children's needs.

**Cost**: £25 per month (children), £30 (adults). This can include attendance at other classes in Glenrothes and Kinghorn. Reduction if more than one child or parent and child. **Contact**: Shirley Cunningham, 07999 355954 Master Alan Cunningham 07515 388037 asctkd@icloud.com www.gtfscotland.com

### **Inspire Theatre Workshops**

The Space Upstairs, Wed: age 4-7, 3.30-4.30pm, age 7-11 4.45-6pm Child Development company focusing on their 4 Cs: Concentration, Communication, Coordination, and Confidence, through highenergy and unique drama, dance and singing activities

**Cost**: £30-37 per month. Free trial available **Contact**: Jen Macdonnell 07854 481585 admin@inspiretheatreworkshops.co.uk www.facebook.com/inspiretheatreworkshops

### Youth Clubs—P4-7, Toll Centre

Ruth Judge, Community Worker is recruiting Volunteer Youth Workers. Anyone interested should contact: Ruth.Judge@fife.gov.uk Training and opportunity for progression to paid work with older children

### Young Islanders Parent & Toddler Group

Mon and Thu 9.30-11.30am in Parish Church Halls. **Cost**: £2 per child, £1 each additional child. First time is free. **Contact**: Amy Drysdale www.facebook.com/ groups/burntislandtoddlers

### Junior Youth Theatre—P3-7 boys & girls

Young Community Hall, Thistle Street Tuesday: 4-5.30pm **Cost**: £2 per workshop **Contact**: ann@annandthal.plus.com

### Youth Theatre—age 11 to 21 years

Young Community Hall, Thistle Street Wednesday: 7pm-9pm, **Cost**: £2 **Contact**: Karen Speirs www.facebook.com/ BurntislandYouthTheatre/

### Activities & groups for young people

At the heart of any community is people spending time with one another. There are loads of things going on in the town but not everyone knows about them all.

The **What's Happening group** has been formed to help share what is going on and enable citizens to enjoy activities together and develop new activities. The results of our first collaborative project, to find out about activities for children and young people in Burntisland are detailed here.

Everyone is welcome to join our informal meetings, in the Heritage Centre at 7pm on the last Thursday of the month. If you want to know more, contact Jane via: WhatsHappeningBurntisland@gmail.com

# starley out

It has been a busy and exciting time in school as we welcomed winter giving way to spring! Our grounds have come to life with trees blossoming and flowers starting to push through.

Historical Visits—The historical visits group has been out and about visiting sites of interest. This term has included a trip to the formidable Doune Castle which dates largely back to the 14th century. The castle proved familiar to Game of Thrones fans on the visit as it was used as the set for Winterfell in the popular TV series. The group also enjoyed a visit to Huntingtower Castle on the outskirts of Perth. They were relieved not to catch a glimpse of the resident ghost Lady Greensleeves!



Creativity—Hilary has supported the young people to ignite their creativity as they each work on their individual creative projects. As part of his ASDAN Expressive Arts qualification, Rae completed a fantastic piece of work inspired by one of his favourite superhero films, Avengers: Endgame.



After a visit to Kirkcaldy Art Gallery, Shane was inspired to create his own steampunk painting.



Fife Coastal Path—Fraser led a small group to complete another stretch of the path. They walked an impressive seven miles from Crombie to the iconic Forth Bridge.

Hospitality—Liz's popular hospitality classes have seen many young people experience success in the kitchen. Dean has produced several dishes including Chicken Tikka Masala. He followed the complex steps in this challenging recipe to produce a delicious curry.

A number of young people have been busy completing their written tasks before making a range of practical dishes as part of their national qualification coursework. The young people demonstrated great skill at weighing and measuring accurately, following safety and hygiene rules, and timing the dishes correctly. Our young chefs often take their dishes away to share at home.



Staff and young people have been enjoying freshly made treats on Monday break times. The group has received praise for taking special dietary needs into account. As part of their Literacy qualification, one of our senior classes has been learning about healthy hearts through their online research. They have already started planning to host a special 'healthy heart' event next term with lots of information and practical suggestions to share.

Outdoor Learning—A cross-team collaboration of enthusiastic and creative staff, are developing our grounds for learning and play. The first project is creating a sensory trail which sounds like an exciting development! Watch this space! If you have any suggestions for our sensory trail that you would like to share with us, please get in touch via info@starleyhall.co.uk

### Tracy Duffin, Principal Teacher





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We started our spring term by welcoming 5 new beavers into the two sections and completing lots of different badges. For the first time we completed the photography badge. The Beavers had fun creating collages by using different pictures and learning how to use digital cameras around Burntisland taking different photos and completing a colour scavenger hunt.

The Beavers have also enjoyed visiting the Burntisland Parish Church learning about local history. Also, working towards their book reader badge and ending the term by being outdoors in the local environment. In the summer term we have 8 beavers moving up to cubs to start their next adventure. We look forward to our first outdoor camp in May for all of our beaver scouts



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



This Term the Cubs were busy! We started the term by celebrating Chinese New Year and tried some origami. We then spent time practicing our knots and used these skills to complete some pioneering projects. We did some baking and made yummy cakes. We also did some Easter craft and made baskets which were only complete once the chocolate eggs were added. We finished the term with a trip to the Broomhill Community Garden where we helped with some planting and enjoyed some smores at the camp fire.

### By Cub Leader Michelle Paton





Over Wednesday and Thursday Scouts it has been really busy this term. Some Scouts took the lead with planning and running some of their own sessions to share their Scouting knowledge and skills with the other members of their Troop. The Scouts did an excellent job doing this, with each Patrol Leader and their Assistant taking charge of the evening. Our Scouts also celebrated Chinese New Year by learning about the culture of China, tasting some of its food and making Origami. Then they jumped right into something closer to home the next week and had a Burns Night. All the good celebrations come around at once! They had a game of giant team Cluedo, using the hall as the board and guessing Whodunnit.

The Scouts continued to develop their navigation, first aid and expedition cooking skills. Wednesday Scouts earned the Communicator badge by learning some sign language and morse code and Thursday scouts finished off the term with some archery and pioneering which everyone improved their skills and abilities in. Both Wednesday and Thursday Scouts had a sleepover in the hall where we watched a movie and played some games before going to the Edinburgh International Climbing Arena where we had a brilliant day climbing.

### **David Laing and Craig Paton, Scout** Leaders

# EXPLORERS

Explorers have had a few camps over the last few months from a Halloween survival one in Edinburgh, A Xmas sleepover in the church halls and an 80's themed camp with Karaoke, Disco, Generation game and making Tie Dye t-shirts. They have also successfully completed their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Expedition and completed a First Aid Course. We had a small archery competition, made some paracord keyrings, tried a game of Dungeons and Dragons and did some cooking and baking. We have also had some Top Awards given out, with Platinum Chief Scout and Bronze Duke of Edinburgh to Finlay, Isla, Erin, Jasmin, Alice and Rosie. Diamond Chief Scout to Ruth

Young Leader Belts to Keir, Alice, Rosie, Niamh and Owen. One of Network members, Ruth, was selected as a small group from across Scotland to represent Scottish Scouts to have the amazing opportunity to take part in the Kings Coronation in London.

#### Davie and Kerry, Explorer Leaders

Group Scout Leader: Kerry Laing 07517 374459, 11thfife@gmail.com

District Commissioner: Derek Dunsire -Tel: 07905 227493

Email: dc@scoutskirkcaldy.org.uk

Scottish Registered Charity Number -SCO31394



# **Girlguiding at the Parish Church Halls**

Guides, Brownies and Rainbows from Burntisland and Kinghorn District got together in the Burntisland Parish halls on 20th February to celebrate Thinking Day. It was great to get all the units together,

Guides, Brownies and Rainbows learned about recycling through games and activities and made peace doves, and musical instruments to take home with them.



Units have been fundraising

again this term. You may have seen the Guides, Brownies and Rainbows staffing an Easter Tombola and book stall on the High Street on 1st April. Thank you to everyone who supported us, we had a successful morning and will be putting the money raised towards the cost of using the halls.

### **1st Burntisland Guides**

The Guides have been working on their programme of activities and have been learning about managing their finances, and looking for constellations in the night sky. They also enjoyed a very exciting evening carrying out a range of science experiments.

Guides have celebrated Chinese New Year, patrols cooked a Chinese dish and then shared it with each other, they have all learned a new recipe to try at home. The unit also enjoyed celebrating Pancake Day, cooking pancakes and trying a variety of toppings. Guides were very busy on the evening before Mother's Day making cards and gifts. They created small displays using artificial flowers and put them into hand decorated pottery flower holders.

Guides used the last of the funds from Generation Cashback to help support a trip to Hollywood Bowl in Dunfermline. There were some impressive scores, several strikes and great fun was had by all.

Guides are designing new Carmichael Centre badges to enter into a competition to have their design made into fabric badges for sale at the Centre. We have our fingers crossed that we have a winner amongst them.

### **1st Burntisland Brownies**

Brownies have been busy this term working towards their theme awards and interest badges. We have been crafting, baking and learning first aid skills. The Brownies have found out where all the AEDs (Defibrillators) are in our town.

The Brownies have worked extremely hard this term with five of them receiving their Bronze award and six their Silver award. Leaders are all very proud of them. As part of our world Thinking Day celebrations, Brownies wore their uniform to school.

A highlight for our unit this term was our pancake day celebrations. Brownies made their own pancakes and enjoyed eating them, after covering them in yummy chocolate spread of course!

### **1st Burntisland Rainbows**

It's been another busy term at Rainbows with lots of badges earned. We have been working on our Skills for my Future theme and had an evening of fixing things. The girls learned how to change batteries by unscrewing the battery compartment on various items. They learned to fix a puncture and investigated what materials were best to repair a variety of items.

We also completed our First Aid stage 1 badges where the girls learned how clean a wound and apply a plaster and also how to wrap a bandage. We also learned how to wash our hands correctly and how to treat bites and stings. Both evenings were fun with lots of important skills learned.

We also had fun going on a bear hunt to celebrate World Book Day and we attended the PALS event at Dalgety Bay where the girls had a fun afternoon of games, crafts and songs with other Rainbow units from Fife.

We finished the term at Wonder World as a special treat for all the girls for working so hard and we had some special awards to give out. Bee achieved her Bronze award this term. Anna achieved her Silver award and Emily received the top award in Rainbows which is the Gold award! Not only this but Emily has completed every single Interest badge in Rainbows and is our first Rainbow to do this so Emily received a special certificate to recognise her achievement. Congratulations Emily and we know you will make a super Brownie next term!

We are so very proud of all the girl's achievements and we look forward to the coming term for some summer fun.

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 burntislandbrownies1st@outlook.com

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

Jean Priestley



## **Burntisland Amateur Swimming Club**

Swimmers at the club have been having lots of fun in the past few months. We have been crushing personal bests and enjoying all the different competitions. We've had swimmers excelling in the pool and getting moved up into more advanced levels.

On Saturday 25th February we had many swimmers competing at the Glenrothes Spring Meet. Team BASC achieved some great times, and everyone had fun cheering on and encouraging their team mates.

Back at the Beacon, swimmers were testing their sprints during the timed swims, which took place on 21st and 28th February. These swims are for getting times for upcoming swim meets as well as giving new swimmers the chance to try out their



Matthew and Callum at the Royal Commonwealth Pool

dives and turns for the first time and enjoy the racing atmosphere.

In March we were very happy to welcome back the Novice League and Fife League competitions. It was great to see some swimmers participating in the Novice League for the first time. There were a few nerves, but they all did brilliantly.

We also had swimmers qualify for the East District Age Group Championships on 25th & 26th March at the Royal Commonwealth Pool in Edinburgh. The 50-metre pool completely changes the style and atmosphere of a race. Anna Smith, Matthew Scotland, and Callum Fraser attended, and all did fantastically well.

I am delighted to say that four of our hardworking swimmers from Development Squad have been moved up to District Squad. Well done to Isabelle Bradshaw, Sam Milroy, Edith Milsop, and Matilda Sharpe. We also have Peter Bennett, Milo Sharpe, and Orla Théodas who have moved up to Development Squad. Keep up the great work!

Coming up in May we have the Novice and Fife League Galas, the Carnegie meet, timed swims, and an exciting social event in Dundee for the District and Development squad swimmers. Big thanks to Club Captains Gracie Flannagan and Sam Milroy for organising this, it looks like it's going to be an epic day out! Now let's hear from another one of our BASC swimmers about their experience with the club:



Name: Bonnie Murray Age: 10 Joined BASC: When I was 5 Group: Session 2 Favourite Stroke: Freestyle

**Proudest swimming moment:** When I won the breaststroke race at the Club Championships

**Best thing about swimming:** I like competing in Galas and chatting with my friends

Swimming is a great way to stay active, meet new people, and engage with your local community. BASC is open to anyone that can swim at least one length of a recognisable stroke.

For more info or to arrange to come along for an assessment please visit our website www.burntislandswimingclub.co.uk or email: bascenquiries@hotmail.com

Matthew Scotland



# **Burntisland Parish Church**

### Pigeon peas, pancakes, partnership, pastoral care, and praise at the parish.

Have you heard of pigeon peas? They're an extremely drought resistant, soil revitalising, and versatile high protein crop. The peas can be ground to make flour to make delicious bread, providing a source of income. This year the humble pigeon pea is the focus of the Christian Aid campaign -The Big Pea Challenge - to help farmers in Malawi. Cyclone Freddy caused terrible destruction in Malawi with thousands of people displaced.

### There will be a coffee morning on Saturday 20th May in Erskine Church

Hall, 10am-12noon, to raise funds for the campaign. Did you know Erskine Church is famous for its delicious pancakes? They are seriously good. Tickets are £3 from Chapter & Verse, Ann Smith, or pay at the door. 

Did you notice the return of the wooden crosses dotted around Burntisland this year? Every time I looked out on Kinghorn Road, someone had spotted that cross at our manse gate. There were a few wellpositioned on Cromwell Road, and others in Kinghorn to mark Easter.

Easter was particularly special for the local churches this year. 50 people came on the Palm Sunday afternoon walk (2nd April), when we stopped off at every place of worship in the town.



When was the last time you visited the Kirkton Church, oldest place of worship in Burntisland? A lot of work has been done to preserve the site; it offers you such a unique sense of history and faithful witness whilst you're there.

We're working hard right now to demonstrate unity and shared presence in 

The BEK partnership continues to bring changes. It has been great to see Adrian Minnie, our Children, Families and Youth Worker, start to set up new activities. A new Youth Group for secondary age young people began on 23rd April in Burntisland Parish Halls. The Friday evening Youth Group for P6-P7 youngsters is going well. One week in four it meets in Kinghorn Parish church hall and the other three in Burntisland Halls. Keep your eye on Instagram (bek\_youth) and Facebook for up -to-date information about these groups. There is a strategy in place to take forward more ideas. It's an exciting time!

Taryn Minnie is providing pulpit supply for us over the next few months prior to the proposed union with Kinghorn Parish Church. Taryn will also provide pastoral care. One of the things you'll notice about

# **Erskine Church**

the local community. It's something we genuinely feel does exist between our different traditions and congregations. It makes a lot of sense to focus on those things which bring us together rather than keep us apart. Celebrating Easter's journey & the resurrection of Jesus to new life are certainly in that category.

Our BEK partnership continues to do good stuff regularly, including Chilled Church every 3 weeks in one of our buildings. You can't possibly have missed that banner either! Adrian Minnie is getting known around the town too as our BEK worker, he's doing some rugby coaching & starting youth events.

Meaningful services followed Palm Sunday, on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday in each of our churches. Easter Sunday (9th April) was calm and bright, with that unique peace of each early morning. After services on the beach and atop the Binn (8am), those attending came back to Erskine's hall for a light but delicious breakfast.

It was fab to see 25 people on the beach. It never ceases to amaze me how much

Taryn when you meet her is her great laugh.

Our Cornerstone Café runs on a Wednesday from 12-2pm and is open to



everyone; it's worth the climb to the church hall. The food is free and the company is great. You'll always get a warm welcome.

There's a service at 11.15am on Sundays in the Church, and every three weeks Chilled Church rotates round the BEK Churches (Burntisland, Erskine, and Kinghorn) always at 11am. It's for all ages. We say it's 'altogether different and downright fun'. Why not come along and find out for yourself?

On the last Sunday of the month there's our Café Church held at 6.20pm in the Salvation Army Hall. There's always an interesting speaker and the home baking is superb! Lorna Duffin

activity there is on

Burntisland beach every week, all year round. Dog walkers, open water swimmers, people exercising or holding a silent disco, children

.....



having fun, folks combing for shells or picking up plastic debris to be recycled! It's great to see everyone out there, maybe we should be thinking about beach church...

We've been using the church hall for most services during winter, but we're back in the main sanctuary as of Sunday 30th April (Communion) for the summer months. We meet weekly at 11am, it'd be good to see you at any of our services.

Our next coffee & pancakes will be very special. It's on Saturday 20th May, 10am to 12noon and is planned as a joint effort between our local churches to raise funds for Christian Aid Week. All proceeds will be going to that very worthy cause.

Here's a Bible verse to take into the brighter days ahead. "From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the Lord is to be praised." (Psalm 113.3, NIV). Rev. Alex Ritchie

# St Joseph's Church

Warm greetings from St Joseph's. I am writing this during Easter week with much gratitude for the great celebrations we enjoyed.

We began Holy Week with the Burntisland Churches Together Walk of Witness on Palm Sunday. The Walk started here at St Joseph's and finished with a short service at St Serf's Church.

This is a highlight of the year for Churches Together and it is great that we can give witness to our common faith - there is much more unites as than divides us. Sometimes we forget that truth.

Attendance at our Services during Holy Week was excellent. Indeed, since Christmas, numbers attending our weekly services gradually increased and have returned almost to pre-Covid levels, which is great.

A reminder that we have a Vigil Mass on Saturday evenings at 5pm and Mass on Sunday mornings at 10am, followed by refreshments in the Church Hall.

The Knit and Knatter group meets on a Wednesday morning and they too have grown in number. They recently presented more woolly hats to the Mission to Seafarers. In the coming weeks we have some young people celebrating their First Holy Communion and couples celebrating marriage. It is nice to have these happy, life-giving events.

Wishing you a very pleasant Summer and if you are lucky enough to be getting away on holiday I hope you will enjoy it and return refreshed and renewed.

Wishing you every blessing. Fr James



# St Serf's Scottish Episcopal Church

As the days stretch out a bit it's good to see forward at the beginning of the 20th that a sense of community is thriving in Burntisland. Everyone's out and about in the The driving force behind this ambitious High Street, shopping locally, meeting to enjoy a coffee or an ice cream, sharing at the Hub and the Big Green Market and generally doing so well what a community is supposed to do.

Our churches are sharing that forward movement, working together increasingly to ensure that the town has a solid foundation of prayer and spiritual care. On Palm Sunday, about 50 of us set out in brilliant sunshine from St Joseph's for our annual pilgrimage, stopping first to remember our roots at Kirkton Old Church and then visiting the Salvation Army hall, the Parish Church and the Erskine Church before finishing at St Serf's for a short act of worship led by Rev. Elaine Ryder, one of the clergy team here.

Clergy and congregations alike are increasingly becoming firm friends, and here at St Serf's we are delighted to welcome to our Sunday worship new enquirers just as warmly as long-term Christians from all denominations. Our Holy Communion service (Eucharist) starts at 10am every Sunday morning.

Looking back through the church records, I noticed that St Serf's took a massive step

century when the present church was built. venture was the Reverend Henry Hardy MA, Rector of St Serf's from 1898 to 1915. His faithful record, which is a joy to read, reveals the ups and downs of the church community.

You can imagine my surprise and delight when his great-great-grandson contacted me recently to arrange a brief visit. He and his family very much enjoyed looking round the church in which his grandmother (Henry Hardy's daughter) had been married in



February 1914, and I was fascinated to hear that Henry Hardy's father was the first cousin of the author, Thomas Hardy. How widely the strands of community spread and encourage change and growth!

St Serf's is growing and with the help of local joiners Marshall & Myers, we are busy changing the layout of the back area of the church to create a much-needed space for social and community activities; so it's literally a case of "watch this space"!

And keep an eye on the garden. Last year we were able to share produce with passers -by and we encourage anyone who enjoys gardening to pull out a few weeds or help themselves to vegetables later in the year.

The churches also work together during Christian Aid Week (Sunday 14th to Saturday 20th May), which is now in full swing. This is a chance for everyone to show their awareness of the needs of the worldwide community, which after all is only an extension of our wonderful local community.

Go well this summer, and may God bless this great wee town as it reaches out to the world



**Rev Carol Latimer** 



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# **Burntisland Harbour Access Trust**

Well, the fence may be up around the harbour and the gates locked, but the *Fight the Fence* campaign has not yet conceded defeat. The results of the recent public consultation for the Community Action Plan, with restoration of harbour access figuring highly on the list of priorities which people want to see achieved, reinforce our mandate and strengthen our resolve.

We continue to explore the issue of whether the fence is actually legal. It may be that it contravenes existing rights of public access including customary rights, those conferred in the harbour acts and bylaws and in old title documents. It's a legal minefield which requires expert analysis, so we have compiled a comprehensive brief to determine if there are grounds for overturning Forth Ports' action. Our specialist lawyers' response suggests that we may have a case, so we have applied for funding to enable us to give them instructions to get to work.

The other main strand of BHAT's activity involves investigating the possibility of acquiring vacant land for community use. There are three land areas of current interest (see map: land owned by Forth Ports outlined in red, land owned by Network Rail in yellow, and thirdly land owned by Fife Council in white – namely the Roundhouse car park and the small car park opposite the Beacon)

Why do we want to purchase this land? Both Fife Council and the Scottish Government are keen to promote tourism, with an emphasis on all-weather assets. Where better than Burntisland? We have a stunning south facing maritime setting with direct rail links to Edinburgh, Dundee and Perth. We already host the Highland Games, the Shows, Civic Week and Bonfire Night, we have museums, a vibrant High Street, the Links, the beach and a range of maritime activities from whale-watching to sailing, and a heritage steeped in history as personified by the Parish Church or indeed the harbour.

What do we need? Car-parking certainly, but also a framework and land within which to develop and expand our potential. While Forth Ports strive to develop the basin area of the East Dock, they are unlikely to entertain any alternatives to Freeport activities: however the derelict railway land and car parks sit to the north and east of the basin as wasted assets. It is these areas that BHAT seeks to purchase within a framework of community use, a framework that will ultimately include the East Dock Basin and the Breakwater. BHAT has made a bold start in acquiring the legal "first refusal" on the land if it is put up for sale by Forth Ports and/or Network Rail. We have in fact written to the latter asking if they are prepared to negotiate with us without further delay for the sale of their holding, much of which lies unused and uncared for - it could be such a useful community resource.

Returning to the Community Action Plan, our stand at the Community Futures Event at the school in March was busy throughout the day. Attendees commented and voted for a variety of suggested uses of the land were it to come into public ownership. We gained a number of new members and several residents supplied details of their own history of enjoying access to the harbour over the years, all

grist to the mill when it comes to attempting to demonstrate customary rights.

We're continuing to liaise with the Fife Council's



Active Travel Officer about the proposed new pedestrian and cycle route, part of which will pass alongside the harbour. The damage to the wall on the harbour's western peninsula, caused during the botched demolition of the Butters Bros crane, has been reported to the council's Planning Enforcement Officer. The wall forms part of the Grade 2 Listed structure and the law requires that it be repaired.

Finally, intriguing new padlocks have started appearing on the harbour fence. See if you can spot them next time you're walking past...

Membership of Burntisland Harbour Access Trust is free and carries no obligation. For details please see our website **www.burntislandharbour.co.uk** or phone 07972 671196.

BHAT



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# **Craigencalt Rural Community Trust**

The Trust's Walking Festival was held over two weeks in late March and early April, and was a great success once again. One of the lovely things about the festival is how it brings folk together in a convivial, upbeat atmosphere.

The various walks covered an area from the beaches beyond Braefoot Bay up to Raith Woodland in Kirkcaldy, walking the coast and countryside in equal measure. The conclusion from participants is always the same, this is such a beautiful part of Fife, a hidden jewel to be discovered by locals and visitors alike.

The last walk began in Burntisland, walking across Pettycur Sands to Kinghorn, with an inland return to Burntisland, finishing at the Sands Hotel for a celebration lunch.

## Burntisland Parish Church

The Parish Church is open to visitors on Thursday, Friday & Saturday afternoons from 2–4pm between 1st June and 31st August. Church members will be there to give guided tours.

For further information contact Ann Smith, phone 01592 873994 or e-mail annpatsmith96@gmail.com

Visits outwith these hours can also be arranged.

Many participants sent in photos from the walks and it is planned to have a Friends get-together in May to view all the photographs. Afterwards Hamish Brown will be giving a presentation on the Fife Coastal Path.





Another annual event, which has been running for fifteen years, is the 'Come and Try' day at Kinghorn Loch. This year it takes place on **Saturday 13th May from 1–4pm.** 



The range of sports activities available to try continues to grow. Canoeing, sailing, coastal rowing, paddleboarding and radiocontrolled sailing boats all use the loch. It is also a popular venue for open water swimmers, walkers and birdwatchers too. If you would like to help or just enjoy the events please get in touch, email: info@craigencalttrust.org.uk or phone 07740 999514.

**Marilyn Edwards** 





6 West Leven Street, Burntisland,

Fife, KY3 9DZ

safe

et, Phone: 01592 873248 (voicemail)

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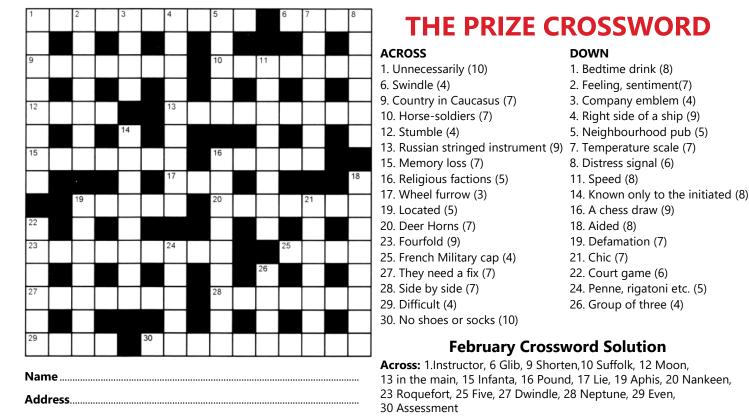
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Completed entries by 30th June to: **1 Lammerlaws Road**, **Burntisland**, **KY3 9DT** or email **paulbriscoe1@gmail.com** 

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

**Down:** 1 Insomnia, 2 Show off, 3 Ritz, 4 Cannibals, 5 Onset, 7 Leopard, 8 Bikini, 11 Frequent, 16 Penitence, 18 Indecent, 19 Acquire, 21 Epicure, 22 Bridge, 24 Obeys, 26 Apes.

### **Congratulations to our February crossword winner:** Shona Gordon, Kirkcaldy Road, Burntisland

	MAY			
	Friday	5th	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls-raising funds for Burntisland Heritage Trust	12 noon–4 pm
			Rotary Club Charity Casino night at the Kingswood Hotel, see page 9	7 pm
	Saturday	6th	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	10 am–1 pm
	Sunday	7th	Family friendly Beach Clean at the Beach House	10.30 am
	Thursday	11th	LA Preloved Pop Up Boutique at Burntisland Sands Hotel, see page 4	4 pm–8 pm
			BCDT Climate Café in the Heritage Centre	6.30 pm–8.30 pm
	Friday	12th	Community Council meeting in the Burgh Chambers	7 pm
			Acoustic Music Club in Burntisland Bowling Club	7.30 pm–10.30 pm
	Saturday	13th	"Come and Try" Day at Kinghorn Loch, see page 25	1 pm–4 pm
	Saturday	20th	Christian Aid Coffee Morning & Pancakes in the Erskine Church Hall	10 am–12 pm
>	Thursday	25th	Police Community Surgery in the Toll Community Hub, High Street	10 am–12 pm
5			What's Happening? Burntisland meeting in the Heritage Centre	7 pm–8.30 pm
5	Saturday	27th	Open Day at Burntisland Station Studio and selected Platform Studios	TBC
0	JUNE			
		ک م	Die Green Market in the Devich Church Helle , reising funde for the Museum of Communic	
D	Friday	2nd	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls—raising funds for the Museum of Communic	
	Saturday	3rd	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	10 am–1 pm
0	Sunday	4th	Family friendly Beach Clean at the Beach House	10.30 am
3	Thursday	8th	BCDT Climate Café in 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
2			day 25th June Burntisland Civic Week, see page 16 for details	7
	Friday	16th	Civic Week Family Ceilidh in the Parish Church Halls	7 pm–11 pm
5	Saturday	17th	Civic Week Parade Day—Crowning of the Summer King & Queen & Party on the Links	1 pm–4 pm
	Sunday	18th	Civic Week Beach Day and Raft Race	11 am–4 pm
	Saturday	24th	Civic Week 5-a-side football tournaments at Recreation Park	10.30 am–4 pm
24th 11th Fife Scout Group Coffee Morning at Burntisland Parish Church Halls		10 am–12 pm		
	Saturday 24th (1 pm–late) and Sunday 25th (afternoon TBC) Live on the Links in Burntisland Sands Hotel, see			
	Thursday	29th	What's Happening? Burntisland meeting in the Heritage Centre	7 pm–8.30 pm
	JULY			
	Friday	7th	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls—raising funds for the Highland Games	12 noon–4 pm
	Saturday	8th	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	10 am–1 pm
	Sunday	9th	Family friendly Beach Clean at the Beach House	10.30 am
	Friday	14th	Acoustic Music Club in Burntisland Bowling Club	7.30 pm–10.30 pm
	Monday	17th	Burntisland Highland Games	11 am–5 pm

# **Burntisland Nature Watch**

By Leo du Feu

The big Community Action Plan Event in the Primary School has now taken place. Twenty-two local groups had stalls, including **Burntisland Biodiversity** (Facebook group, formerly known as Burntisland Wildlife & Woodlands), **Burntisland Hedgehog Haven** (New to Burntisland! - please follow them on Facebook) and the Scottish Wildlife Trust. There were live music and dance performances. Greener Kirkcaldy brought e-bikes to try and refurbished kids bikes for families to take away – for free! There was such great home-baking.

Around 400 people attended and made their votes and comments on the ideas being considered for the forthcoming Community Action Plan. The results strongly show that local wildlife and habitat are of great importance to townspeople, and that we must protect and enhance what we have. Comments from the day include:

- Front gardens plant a tree / hedge / wildflowers / make a wildlife pond - so passers by see nature-full gardens and are inspired to do the same. Include hand-made signs "grass left long for nature", "sparrows nest here", "goldfinches love dandelion seeds" white marker pen on broken slates is an easy option.
- Making / improving habitats on the Links & turning empty spaces into wildlife havens.
- Nature walks / talks / drawing / painting sessions.
- Create hedgehog accessible gardens 'untidy' areas, piles of garden trimmings in the corners rather than in brown Council compost bins, small holes under fences and gates.
- Carefully consider private & public lighting as it removes the joy and awe of connecting with night sky (the stars visible from the Links and some garden areas are wonderful) and is known to

be having hugely detrimental effect on insect populations and to be disturbing to much other wildlife.

- Protect trees we still have and plant lots more.
- It's all linked improve outdoor spaces and facilities and it will encourage more people to interact with nature and to be more educated about climate.
- Council policies, particularly planning, need to focus on supporting Net Zero and protecting environment/ biodiversity.
- Stop building on our green spaces.
- Plant bus stop roofs with wild flowers.
- No more toxic spraying of green space.

An inspiring event leaving us with loads of suggestions of actions to undertake both individually and collaboratively. Post your ideas and questions on the Burntisland Biodiversity Facebook group or contact me directly. It would be great to start sharing the different skills and enthusiasms we all have.

We also asked what wildlife people have been most excited to see in the town. Answers included sparrowhawk, starlings & sparrows in numbers, house martins & swifts, bats, hedgehogs, and an owl hovering over a Ferguson Place hedge. It was me who saw the owl, 11.30pm one night. It was too small for a tawny owl, hovering flutter-winged over a tall thick privet hedge. Almost definitely a longeared owl. Was it trying to hunt small birds roosting in the hedge? Was it thinking of roosting there itself? After a few moments it flew off low and completely silent around the back of James Park houses.

My other most exciting recent sighting has been on a meandering walk from Aberdour to Burntisland via field paths, woods, country roads and coastal path. Suddenly a loud hollow drumming great! A great spotted woodpecker. It was fairly close and drumming well so we quickly managed to work out roughly which tree it was in then spot it with our binoculars. We could see the bright red under-tail which all great spotted woodpeckers have, and also could see it had no red on head or neck, telling us it was an adult female. Adult males have a smallish red rectangle on the back of their neck and juveniles have a large and obvious red patch on the very top of their head. The under-tail red of the juvenile is much paler than on adults.



The drumming of the woodpecker is a sound of Spring, made by both males and females. It is their 'song', a short, fast, drilling, made by rapid back-and-fore hammering of beak against a probably dead and hollow tree trunk or limb. It rings out far across a wood to claim and hold breeding territories. I saw one drumming on the metal cap on top of a telegraph pole alongside the Settle-Carlisle railway line, the sound was tremendous.

The rest of the year if you want to spot a great spot you need to listen for their call, a short 'kik' / 'kek', usually repeated but sometimes just heard once. Look quickly up and you may see the bouncing flight of a starling-sized bird as it flies from tree to tree. Or you might hear a treetop tap tap as a woodpecker works to retrieve grubs from a piece of dead wood.

Join our Facebook group and share your nature - Burntisland Biodiversity.

## **Broomhill Community Garden Kids Club**

New season beginning 2nd May! Kids Garden Club is an outdoor club for parents, carers and children from walking to age 8 (younger and older siblings most welcome).

We run weekly sessions which include planting, harvesting, cooking/tasting and nature/environmental education, crafts and activities. Once a month, we also have an especially popular campfire and marshmallows! We meet every Tuesday from 3.30-4.30pm at Broomhill Allotments on Manse Lane from May until the end of October (including during the school holidays!).

We are preparing for the new season, and look forward to welcoming everyone back to the garden on Tuesday 2nd May. There is no charge to attend, and no need to book – you can simply turn up! As we are an outdoor club, we do advise that children dress for the weather, and wear old clothes where possible.

For more information, or to get in touch, please visit our Facebook page www.facebook.com/ broomhillcommunity gardenkidsclub



# **Hello Burntisland!**



We are delighted that everyone has welcomed us as new owners to the Kingswood Hotel and it has been a pleasure to meet everyone so far.

The hotel is running the same way with our popular Kingswood Classic Menu and we have also introduced some different ideas.

We have a lot planned this year so please keep in touch with our Facebook and Instagram pages for all our updates. We would also like to take the opportunity to introduce our new Wedding and Events Manager Nikala who will be able to help with weddings, functions, special occasions, bespoke parties, meetings and gatherings.

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