

BURGH BUZZ



Burntisland's Free Community Magazine

Previous issues at www.burghbuzz.org.uk

August 2023

Issue No 88



Games Day on The Links

The town welcomed visitors for the 369th staging of the Burntisland Highland Games on the third Monday in July, a busy day and a return to more normal Scottish weather after last year's scorcher!

The traditional "Exiles Reception" in the morning was hosted by the Community Council at the Burgh Chambers, featuring local dignitaries, the Summer King & Queen, Community Award winners, and other invited guests.

This was also attended by former Burntisland residents from Australia, China, and England.

Following the reception, Burntisland & District Pipe Band, in their centenary year, led the parade along the High Street to the games arena.

The event was officially opened at 12 noon by former Citizen of the Year Carole-anne Crossan, the first woman in the role of Honorary Chieftan at the games.

The traditional games day activities took place during the afternoon with highland dancing, running, cycling, and heavy events.

An increased entry of 11 local runners took on the challenge of the Binn Race just after 3 pm, with first time entrant John Cotton the winner in a time of 25:11.

Thanks to all the volunteers and the organising committee for ensuring the second oldest Highland Games in the world successfully continues each year.



Community Council elections

Burntisland needs you! The Community Council is looking for new members to join its ranks and help represent the town.

Why should you be interested? In a nutshell, if there are fewer than 8 nominations there will be no Community Council in Burntisland for the first time in 45 years. The Community Council meets monthly and is the only statutory body which is focused exclusively on Burntisland—whether its people, infrastructure or its environment.

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.

The closing date for nominations is **Thursday 31st August**. Nomination forms and more information can be found at www.fife.gov.uk/communitycouncils

If more than 15 nominations are submitted there will be an election by postal voting closing on 28th September. Check the Community Council website www.burntislandccc.org.uk for more info.

Community Action Plan published—see page 5

BURNTISLAND'S COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

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

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From the Editor

First of all, apologies for the late publication of this edition.

Hopefully you've all had a good summer so far, even if the weather did go back to a more typical Scottish summer in July!

Well done to the volunteers at the Big Green Market for their efforts as they celebrate two years running the monthly markets. It's great that they've raised £24,000 in that time for 21 community groups, and also helped to recirculate second-hand items saving them from landfill.

A new Community Action Plan setting out priorities for the next five years has now been published, following the surveys and a community engagement event earlier in the year. You can find out more on page 5—make sure you get yourself a copy either online or in print, and have a read to see how you can help get involved to make things happen.

It is also vital for Burntisland that the Community Council has enough members in order to take forward the Action Plan and other projects. If you feel you can help represent the town please consider joining the Community Council to ensure the organisation continues.

Finally, we were saddened to learn of the death of Neil McLeod in June. Neil had been an advertiser in the Burgh Buzz for a few years before his passing, and we offer our condolences to all of Neil's family and friends. Neil's wife Carol is raising money for the charity OurBrainBank UK, you can find more information at:

www.justgiving.com/page/carol-mcleod-1689346725052

Michael Booth, Editor

Events Group—Bonfire Night & Fireworks Display

Despite having a strong committee and office bearers in place, we have been unable to organise a Bonfire & Fireworks Display for November of this year.

The main reasons for this were: a massive rise in costs, and a reluctance from the Council and Police to grant us permission as there were no planned local events in Kirkcaldy and Dunfermline to help spread out spectators.

The AGM of the Events Group will be held in the Sands Hotel on Sunday 17th September at 2 pm. All are welcome to attend.

Ailsa Powrie, Events Group Chair ailsapowrie@gmail.com

Beacon Runners



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Your Community Council

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

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

Members:

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

Contacts:

Chair — Alex MacDonald
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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.

In-person surgeries will be held in the Library from 10–11am on Saturday 26th August, 16th September, and 14th October

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 the 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 three meetings are: 11th August, 8th September, and 13th October.**

Members of the public are welcome to attend or to raise matters of interest to them. Meetings are also available to join using Zoom videoconferencing—please contact the Secretary or Chair if you wish to join online via Zoom.

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.

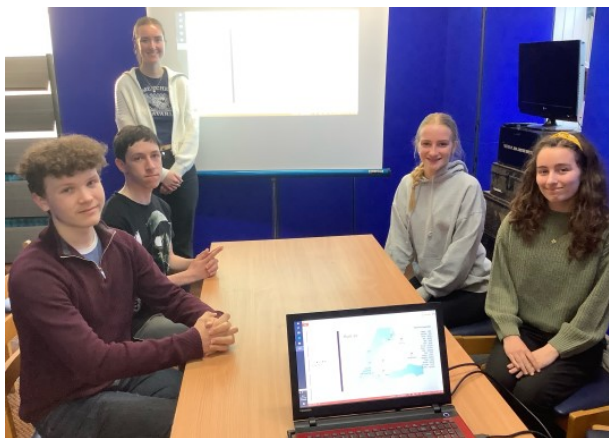
- We have been in touch with Fife Council's Parking Management team in order to request additional patrols for enforcement of parking regulations. Cars are often parked on double yellow lines, overstay the permitted time or ignore the marked bays. All should receive a Penalty Charge Notice.
- We're very grateful to Compass Catering and ExxonMobil for sponsoring this year's Exiles Reception in the Burgh Chambers on Games Day. Feedback from those who attended was excellent.
- The new hearing to seek a second pharmacy for Burntisland has again been delayed by NHS Fife. The original application was refused but the appeal was successful. After much prodding and pushing, a tentative date was given of June / July this year. That has now been revised to "potentially September" – more than a year after the successful appeal.
- Fife Council say that flooding at the Kirkton during periods of exceptional rainfall should be resolved by the end of Autumn.
- We are very concerned at proposals to change the Scottish Government constituency boundaries. On current plans, Burntisland would be co-located with Cowdenbeath but not with Kinghorn or Kirkcaldy. We have said that such a step would disenfranchise local people, as so many of our transport, shopping, education and government services are via Kirkcaldy.
- Background discussions continue in order to identify and secure funding to replace the Links water feature, which is now at end-of-life.
- The new Community Action Plan is now available online and in hard copy. It will provide essential help for any local group seeking to raise funds or plan their activities over the next 5 years. We have worked in close partnership with the Burntisland Community Development Trust and also the STAR Development Group and we're very grateful for their excellent work.
- Christmas lights this year will be upgraded to include projected lights at St Andrew's Court, new sparkling lights at Union Street and extra fairy lights at the War Memorial. Depending on future fund-raising it might also be possible to acquire projected lights for the Kirkgate.
- Community Council elections will take place in September of this year. There can be up to 15 members but there must be at least 7 for the Community Council to continue in any form. It's a vital step for anyone who wants Burntisland to be a safer, healthier and happier place to live. Candidates must be on the local electoral register and be nominated by two other people. Nomination forms are now be available, to be submitted by the end of August.
- As in previous years, a small service to mark Merchant Navy Day will be held outside the Burgh Chambers on Friday 1st September at 10.45am.
- The new foot and cycle paths across Meadowfield, linking the Primary School to Glebe Place and the Kerr Court car park, were officially opened in June by Provost of Fife, Cllr Jim Leishman.



Burntisland-Flekkefjord Town Twinning

In 2020 we were all set to continue our Twinning Link with Flekkefjord when Covid struck. The young people were in place, the flight tickets bought and suddenly like millions of others we realised that we would have to cancel. Our link which started in 1946, the second oldest in Europe, was having to be put on hold. In 2021 and 2022 we again had to stop but plans were put in place for 2023.

So began our adventure with Lucy, Maya, Olivia, Sam, and Adam who will represent the town in Flekkefjord for a week in August. Together with their parents they have helped to fundraise for the trip, have formed contacts with their hosts and have even attended Norwegian lessons. The group will be led by Mark Kisby.



Norwegian lessons with Catherine from Edinburgh Uni

Next year they will welcome back their Norwegian friends who will spend time in Burntisland, Fife and Scotland.

Every five years Flekkefjord hosts an International Week when they bring together representatives of all the other communities with whom they have links. These are Bollnas Sweden, Misburg Germany, Morse Denmark and Elbow Lake Minnesota USA.

Burntisland will be represented by four members of the Town Twinning Committee and two representatives of Fife Council, including Fife Provost Jim Leishman



The party representing Burntisland

The experiences which our young people will encounter will be unique and will continue our 76 year history of putting Burntisland on the European map.

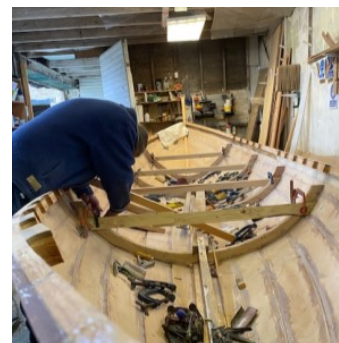
George Kay

Black Rocks Rowing Club



In our last update we advised that the boat build was making good progress and that we hoped to complete the boat by the end of the summer.

A very small team has been working away all summer and we are now at the stage of completing the internal fittings. We need to install the thwarts (seats), complete the gunwhales (top edge of the boat), build and fit a rudder. Once all this and a few more jobs are complete, the boat needs to be sanded down and painted.



Much of this work is painstakingly slow and progress can be hard to discern at times. The team is a band of mostly unskilled but enthusiastic amateurs but we have been aided by a professional boat builder who has generously gifted his time and expertise to keep things moving forward.

We are about to start investing in the necessary safety equipment and the design for mooring the boat is being finalised.

Our first social event since Covid was a summer barbeque at Cromwell Kitchen and we are grateful to Geoff and Yvonne for hosting a very successful event. We hope to organise more social events in the coming months.

We anticipate that by the time the next Burgh Buzz is published our boat will be complete. Visit www.burntislandrowing.org.uk or our Facebook page to keep up to date.

Brian Morley



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**BURNTISLAND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT TRUST**

Have you read the new Burntisland Community Action Plan 2023–2028 yet? It has been flying off the shelves, with huge queues of people desperate to grab a copy fresh off the press, some left sobbing when it looked like stocks were running low—it is a riveting read indeed!

OK, maybe we are exaggerating ever-so-slightly, but along with Burntisland Community Council, we are pretty pleased with the final document, which of course is the result of all of the insight, feedback and great ideas that have come from the community (that's YOU!)

We've fielded many questions about the new CAP, and when someone openly asks a question, there's usually several more people thinking the same too, so here are some answers to share about what the new Community Action Plan means to Burntisland.

Why go to all that effort, couldn't we have adopted a plan from another town, people care about the same stuff surely?

Well no, at the CAP prioritising event, when 400 people came to help us prioritise action, the top three issues were:

1. Station access
2. Shutting off the harbour area to the community and
3. Closure of the Post Office and last bank in the High Street. These are all Burntisland specific issues and many specific community solutions were put forward.

How will this help the group I am involved with to get the funding we need?

One thing funders need to see is evidence of need and community buy in. If your group is one of the many who are already delivering activities relevant to the CAP, the



Burntisland specific priorities were highlighted for action



summary document and the supporting ones will contain evidence to help convince a funder that you are worth backing. We have already created three bespoke reports with quotes, statistics and priorities for three groups, looking at issues very relevant to them. We can do the same for you.

Shouldn't we have a Local Place Plan now instead of a CAP?

Great question, and one we considered very carefully last year before all the work began. Fife Council is hoping that communities will create Local Place Plans to help inform the decisions that impact on the local land use. By having a new CAP, we now have a really good idea of what Burntislanders like, don't like and what they want to see changed. Many of these are about the actual places and land use in and around town, so they can feed directly into a Local Place Plan. Our questionnaires, community conversations and big event were all designed with collecting feedback that would be useful for this.

The Plan is for 5 years, who is responsible for making it happen?

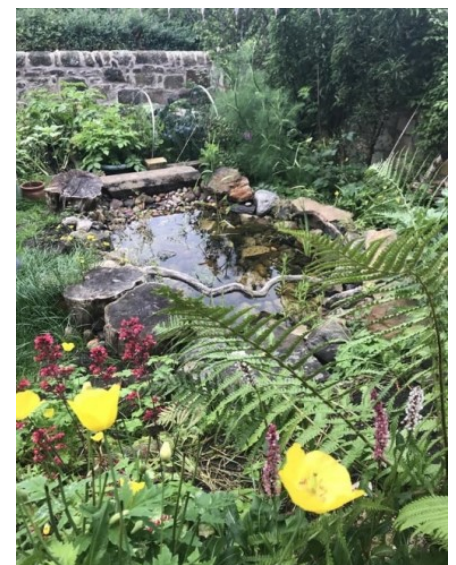
The CAP plan belongs to the whole community and everyone has a role to play in making it come to life! The Development Trust and Community Council have committed to reviewing the plan every six months, which we hope to do by throwing the doors open and inviting you all to come and take part in discussions around the issues that interest you the most. Watch out for the first community forum happening towards the end of the year.

Nothing will ever change anyway, so why bother?

Things are already happening! The CAP strengthens the hand of people who are already working on priority issues and some new conversations are starting to

take place. A small group of people have started to talk about the possibility of an artist/makers hub in town and others are interested to look at the possibility of creating a secure dog exercise/training area.

A Burntisland biodiversity action group is emerging from the Climate Café events and representatives recently met with Fife Council to discuss the potential for reducing weedkiller use in town and increasing local biodiversity. The CAP was used as evidence of the community's interest in making Burntisland more environmentally sustainable. The group are highlighting wildlife friendly gardens on their Facebook page Burntisland Biodiversity so do join them if your garden is an oasis for wildlife or you would like to find out more.



A beautiful Burntisland garden celebrating biodiversity

If you would like a paper copy of the new CAP you can pick one up from Burntisland Library or just contact us and we will drop one off to you. You can also download the document by visiting our website www.burntisland-trust.org or by scanning the QR code below.

If any of the ideas highlighted here, or anything else in the CAP interests you, please do get in touch with us and let's include you in the big conversations that are happening.

Jo & Nicki, Development Officers (job share)

DevelopmentOfficers@burntisland-trust.org



Celebrating two years of



We celebrated our second birthday at our July market—two full years after our first ever event! We managed to sneak an extra piece of cake or two in the hands of our volunteers. The party atmosphere meant we had a really fun and bustling market, raising a whopping £1,150 for the Burntisland Highland Games Committee.

In the last year we've grown so much, raising £4,200 more than in our first year. This means we've been able to contribute to other community causes with emergency donations in between markets. It's so rewarding knowing that the hard work and generosity of the town spreads across the whole community.

Best volunteers on earth

If you've read our articles before you know how much we LOVE our volunteers. They are so generous with their time and come along every month with bags of energy and banter. They make the market fun, they're brilliant with our customers and they drive a hard bargain if you ask them to haggle!

We have lots of volunteers out on the stalls, chatting to customers but we have more

folk behind the scenes. People come early to help us unload the van and set up, others arrive late to help us take the whole lot down. Each and every one, wherever they like to work and whatever they contribute, has a massive part to play on the growth of the BGM.

We couldn't run the market without the volunteers. We say this all the time, but we genuinely have some of the best people helping us out in the whole world and we're a properly happy and efficient team now. We asked them recently why they come back month after month:

"I always feel appreciated.....when you turn up at the hall you get the warmest welcome anywhere"

"Love the idea of being part of the circular economy, providing a real service to the community"

"I have met lots of lovely people who enjoy coming to BGM and getting a bargain"

"love that the money remains in the community"

"great people, great fun, I always look forward to the first Friday and Saturday of the month"

What goes around comes around

Another reason we've been able to grow this year is down to the quality of donations we receive every month. It's helped us grow our reputation - with visitors travelling from

outside Fife to shop with us every month. With more visitors comes more donations so we have higher quality of stock (thanks to you lovely people who donate), a faster turnaround on products (thanks to the volunteers getting stuck in) and more funds coming in (thanks to all of you lovely customers!).

What's next for the Big GREEN Market?

We're firm believers in the saying 'if it's not broken, don't fix it' so we're going to keep doing what we're doing because we love doing it! We are part of Burntisland Community Development Trust and love the fact that we are doing our bit to help the Trust create a greener future and a more connected community.

If you are inspired to join our mission we'd love to have you join our team! Get in touch or just come along to a market and speak to one of us. And if you'd like to support us by donating great quality items, all you need to do is bring the donations along with you when you next visit the Big Green Market. You'll find us in the Parish Church Halls at West Leven Street on the first Friday (12 noon–4 pm) and Saturday (10 am–1 pm) of each month.

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

Burntisland Over 70s Christmas Treat

A number of fundraising events have been arranged and will take place over the coming months. Indeed at the time of writing, two of these events have already been held. Firstly the committee had a wine and water stall on The Links for Civic Week Parade Day which proved to be very popular indeed.

We also had our 2024 calendars on sale, which feature photos from around Burntisland, all taken by the very talented Maxine Stewart. Calendars are available from The Star, The Olive Tree, Bel & Etta,

and Chapter & Verse in Burntisland and are priced at £6 each.

The second event held was a fundraising BBQ, held in The Star beer garden on 2nd July, hosted by committee chairman Allan Cooper. Many thanks to all the committee members who helped organize these events and of course to everyone who attended and took part.

We also have an upcoming bingo afternoon at Burntisland Bowling Club on Sunday 27th August and a race night at

The Star on 29th December to which all are invited – these have proved very popular events in years gone by.

And last but certainly not least, the annual Over 70s Christmas Treat will be held at The Kingswood Hotel on Saturday 2nd December and as always this is open to anyone over 70 residing in Burntisland. Everyone attending can look forward to a 3 course meal, entertainment and a gift from Santa. Transport is also provided.

As always, we are extremely grateful to everyone for their kind donations and their support throughout the year. Without you, it just wouldn't be possible.

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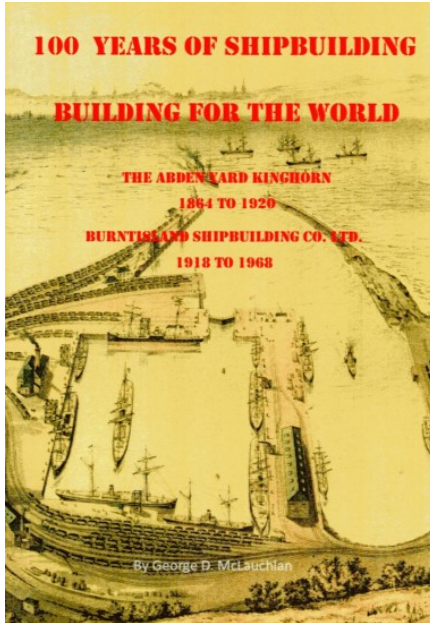
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Burntisland Heritage Trust

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

Our Summer Exhibition, which opened this year on June 17th, offers you the chance to step back in time to the early days of the steamship and to shipbuilding in Burntisland and Kinghorn.



To accompany this year's exhibition, we have published a book, "100 Years of Shipbuilding: Building for the World". This looks at the Abden Yard in Kinghorn which operated between 1864–1920, and the Burntisland Shipbuilding Co. Ltd. 1918 to 1968.

The publication looks at the Kinghorn yard renowned for its paddle steamers such as the "Willie Muir", and the liner "SS Travencore", operated by the P&O shipping company among many others. Just as the Abden works was closing, Burntisland Shipbuilding Co. was opening. In the fifty years of operation the yard built over 400 ships.

The book covers the history of both yards in depth and also has full lists of the ships built at both yards. Written by Trustee George McLauchlan, the book is available from the Heritage Centre during exhibition opening hours or by emailing us at burntislandheritage@gmail.com

The exhibition is open from 11am–4pm on Thursday, Friday and Saturday until 26th August, as well as on Doors Open Day on Sunday 10th September.

While promoting this year's exhibition we are also working on next years. We are hoping to make "The High Street" a feature and included in it will be the town's Gasworks.

If you have any pictures, artefacts or photographs of the works in Thistle Street please contact us at the above email or phone George on 07769 869479.

George McLauchlan



*The Port and Rose Street pictured in 1929,
with the Gasworks on Thistle Street*

Coronation Afternoon Tea

On Monday 8th May we held a charity afternoon tea in celebration of the Coronation and to raise funds for the British Red Cross. Due to the volume of people wishing to come along we had to spilt the afternoon tea into two sittings. We raised a wonderful £517.17 for the British Red Cross. We're hoping to make our Afternoon Tea an annual event to help this great cause.



Thank you to On a Roll cafe, Tom Courts Butchers and Niaroo Business services for their donations of the sweet and savoury treats. Thank you also to Carol-anne Crossan, Rachel Paterson, Jem Mathewson for helping to look after the guests.

Darren Rankin

Burntisland & Kinghorn Rotary Club

Rotary Needs You!

Last year Burntisland and Kinghorn Rotary celebrated its 40th Anniversary. The club has a proud tradition of helping our local community over this period.

Do you agree with our motto of 'Service Above Self'? Would you like to give back to our community in an international organisation which is both traditional and progressive? We meet every Tuesday at 6.30pm in the Sands Hotel. It would be great to see you there.

Derek Thomson



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Burntisland Primary School

We have had a very busy and exciting year this year and would like to share some of the learning we have enjoyed most over the last term and what we are most looking forward to next year.

Primary 1 have most enjoyed their Expressive Arts lessons this year. The children have commented that they have been singing and learning all about music through the decades.

In Literacy the class felt that their focus on The Rainbow Fish was great fun and that this really helped them to learn their sounds and develop their writing skills. They also explained that they have been learning about writing sentences and using capital letters, full stops and connectives!

P1 have also been learning about different emotion words through our Emotion Works approach and they did this through various non-fiction stories, which they really enjoyed.

All three classes visited Pittenweem Beach and thoroughly enjoyed this trip, as well as their trips to the school garden to learn about planting.

Primary 2 have most enjoyed their learning in Numeracy this year. They have been learning about the formal written method for addition and subtraction and this has helped them to solve more challenging calculations.

In Literacy, the children feel they have developed their skills in imaginative writing and they have created some pretty amazing characters to write about!

The classes feel they have learned lots about the different Emotion Works Cogs and that they can now explain what each of the cogs represents.

Primary 3 have most enjoyed their outdoor learning experiences this year, especially their trip to the woods! The children have explained that they understand that being outdoors is a great way to help you feel happy and that they understand being active and taking notice outdoors is part of The 5 Ways to Wellbeing.

In Literacy, the children have been speaking about powerful vocabulary and have been developing the use of this in their writing.

Primary 3/4 wanted to add that they particularly enjoyed their Egypt topic and learnt a lot about people in the past and the impact this has had on people today.

Primary 4 commented that they really enjoyed their art lessons this year and that they learnt a lot of new skills during these lessons.

PE featured highly in P4's favourite things from this year and they explained that they enjoyed when this took place outdoors. They understand the importance of being outside and how this can help your mental wellbeing as well as your physical wellbeing.

Primary 5 felt that their most enjoyable learning this year was Health and Wellbeing related. Firstly, Loose Parts Play. The children have loved using the Loose Parts Play equipment to demonstrate their

creativity and problem solving skills, using the parts to invent some pretty amazing moving vehicles!

The children also enjoyed their baking lessons and found that they learnt a lot about food safety and food hygiene.

In Literacy, the children explained that they loved their daily writing lessons and found that doing this each day had helped them develop new skills at a faster pace.

Primary 6 absolutely loved their Natural Disasters topic, learning about the ways in which the Earth's plates move and can cause natural disasters such as tsunamis, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. The classes visited Dynamic Earth at the end of Term 4 and commented that it was a great place to learn even more about this topic!

In Literacy, the children have enjoyed their Reflective Reading tasks and they explored lots of their newly learnt reading skills through Running Wild by Michael Morpurgo.

P6 are really looking forward to next year, becoming P7s, and taking on some of the leadership roles within the school.

Primary 7 commented that they have had a fantastic year!

They explained that their most memorable moments have been the Primary 7 show, the Leavers Service, getting their Yearbooks and all of the transition events.

We wish all of our Primary 7 children the best of luck as they take their next steps in their educational journey!

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Burntisland Playgroup

We say the same thing every year and are saying it once again—what a quick year we've had! The past 12 months have been filled with lots of fun and laughter, happiness and excitement.

Our garden work is continuing with the support of TCV – The Conservation Volunteers. We have created a lovely area in the garden for the children to be able to plant their own vegetables, learn, and encourage wildlife into explore the area. The children have really enjoyed watching the changes even if it has meant limited access to the garden over the last few weeks.

This year we have been out and about exploring the town. We have visited the woods which is a firm favourite, the beach, travelled on the bus around the town, visited the train station, the castle, the high street, the docks, the recycling centre. The list is endless. We continue to utilise the town to support our interests and learning wherever we can.



Our most recent interest has been “bugs and beasts!” We have been investigating all the bugs and beasts in our garden and we have been learning how they can help us. We cared for our butterflies and learned about the life cycle of them. We have planted sunflowers and watched those grow as well as our strawberries and apple tree. Unfortunately, we don't get too many of our strawberries as they are ready just after we break up. We have also been supporting transitions into the school with support from Burntisland Primary School.

We participated in Civic Week as usual. This year's theme was “Around the World” and we chose to dress as animals from around the world. Unfortunately we did not claim the top prize but quite a few of our “animals” were given a “golden ticket.” Thank you to the Civic Week Committee who ensure this event continues.

As the summer holidays approach it is always bittersweet. Watching the children who have been with us for two years and

sharing their excitement for their next step in their education but also saddened that they are leaving us. We are incredibly thankful that parents are continuing to choose our setting for their children's Early Education.

We will be having our annual Halloween Disco at the Toll Centre over Halloween weekend. Please keep an eye out for confirmed date and times as well as when to buy tickets.

We have some limited space available for the coming session from August 2023 – June 2024. We accept children from 2 years 10 months to the start of Primary 1. We accept applications all year round for children to attend our setting. If you are interested or wish to have further information please contact burntislandplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk or alternatively visit our Facebook page.

Playgroup is open from 8.45am till 2.45pm term time. We are in partnership with Fife Council so are able to offer 24 funded spaces from the term after your child's 3rd birthday. We follow the same curriculum as the nursery, where children have opportunities for learning through a wide variety of activities and resources both indoors and outdoors.

Rebecca McColm



Burntisland Out of School Service (BOSS)

We have had a busy summer of fun and adventure at BOSS with a record number of sessions being booked over the 6 week holiday period. Highlights of what we have been up to are shared on our Facebook page, please do have a look!

At the end of the holiday club we bid farewell to our Deputy Manager Pauline who will be missed by everyone and we are very much looking forward to building new relationships within our team in the future.

We are looking forward to starting the new school year and welcoming back families and meeting those who are joining the BOSS family for the very first time. We still have some availability for breakfast club and after school club and would love to hear from you!

We are delighted to be one of the chosen organisations of the current Tesco Community Grant Scheme and would love any of the Burgh Buzz readers to consider sharing their tokens with BOSS should they be in any of the following Tesco stores: Dalgety Bay, Dunfermline (Aberdour Road, Duloch, Fire Station), and Rosyth.

There is still another couple of months for the Co-op local community fund and we are very grateful to everyone who has nominated BOSS as their chosen organisation. It is not too late to become a member and help any of the local causes!!

We are also preparing for our Annual General Meeting in the autumn. As a charitable organisation we depend on parent volunteers to join our committee for us to open our doors to all families and we invite all of our parents and carers to consider volunteering for a role on our committee. If you are one of our BOSS families and are interested in being involved in the committee let us know!

Finally, it may still feel very much like summer but we will be opening our consultation for our October holiday club at the start of September, so if you are not already on our mailing list please get in touch by emailing the address below.

For all enquiries call 07702801132 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 Shipyard FC

By the time you read this we will have started the new season, a campaign that will see the Club competing in the East of Scotland League's Second Division following our relegation on the last day of the season back in May.

A lot has happened since then as we now have a new manager in place following Dave Costello's decision to step down. Costy remains at the Club as a coach. Lee Richardson is now the manager of the Club with Fergus Lockhart joining as his assistant. Lee played for the Club in our amateur days and also had a coaching role at the Shippy following his retiral from playing. Costy's assistant Dean Ewing left the Club at the conclusion of the season and we thank Deano for his time and effort in his two years with us.

The pre-season build up has been going well with the team putting in some decent performances and the new signings are bedding in well, both enhancing the quality and depth of the squad. Last season saw us have an average attendance of just over 100 and we thank everyone who came out to back us. It would be great to build on that in the next campaign as we endeavour to make a quick return to the First Division and also do well in the cup competitions.

In June we again hosted the annual Civic Week 5-a-side tournament. The event was well attended and enjoyed by competitors and spectators alike, however, it was a sombre occasion as we learned of the sad and untimely passing of Neil McLeod.

As ever we are always looking for more volunteers to help the Club function as well as possible, whether that be on matchdays or during the week helping out with the grass cutting and general maintenance around the ground. We are also seeking a matchday photographer so our website and social media platforms have up to date and current pictures or videos to publish. Please contact a committee member should you be interested in assisting the Club.

Andrew Beveridge



ABK Probus Club

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



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

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

If you think you may be interested in Probus you are very welcome to come along to a meeting as a guest. Should you then be interested in joining the Probus Club we have an applications form available or you can contact John Bradshaw, President via email: yezaby42@gmail.com or phone 01592 872228.

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Burntisland Hedgehog Haven

We have been overwhelmed with the support and generosity we've had from the community since opening the rescue!

It was great to be able to have a stall during Civic Week and meet lots of people who love hedgehogs as much as we do.

It's been a busy Spring/early Summer with lots of poorly hedgehogs coming in. This is mostly because it was such a warm autumn, so hedgehogs bred later but then the weather suddenly turned colder and the juveniles hadn't had enough time to gain enough fat stores. They would have struggled with hibernation and become weak with no natural food around. This then weakens their systems and they begin to become seriously unwell.

This is where we need people to recognise the signs of a hedgehog in need.

Hedgehogs do not sunbathe. If you see one out in the day laying in the sun it needs rescuing. They lay out in the open to get warm as they are so poorly they can't regulate their body temperature.

Hedgehogs do not come out in the day. The only exception to this is a nesting female who will be in a hurry or have nesting materials in her mouth.

Please don't delay in calling us if you see a hedgehog out in the day as time is rarely on their side. Please do not leave them for a day or two as it could be too late by then.

Hoglets are born anytime between May and the autumn. We had our first hoglet into the rescue in June which was found along the coastal path at Kinghorn by Bruce Meldrum. We are not sure what had happened for the hoglet to be away from the nest with no sign of mum as he was only 11 days old.

We named him Bruce (after his finder) and with lots of love and care he has come on brilliantly. He is definitely a little fighter! Thank you Bruce for saving him.

With the warmer weather now here hedgehogs and other wildlife would appreciate a shallow bowl of water in your garden. If you would like to feed hedgehogs the best food to put out is good quality (high meat content) kitten biscuits. Wet cat /dog food is also ok but please be careful of flies laying eggs on it.

Never offer milk or mealworms as milk can kill and mealworms can cause metabolic bone disease in hedgehogs.

At this time of year a lot of hedgehogs become maimed by garden strimmers and mowers. Please check long grass first as hedgehogs will not run away from noise but instead roll themselves into a ball.

Please try to avoid using chemicals, pesticides and strong cleaning agents in your garden as these can cause horrific burns and poisoning to hedgehogs.

If you find a hedgehog in need of help please secure it in a high sided box with a towel and call us but please DO NOT offer food.

And if you ever need any advice regarding hedgehogs please get in touch. Check our Facebook page for updates, call us on 07577 000328 or email burntislandhedgehoghaven@gmail.com Thank you!

Sharon Longhurst



Tom Courts
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Burntisland Golf House Club

We are now in the height of the summer golfing season and the Golf Club has been really busy. We recently held our club championship finals, and the winners and runners up were:

- **Club Champion** Blaine McGowan, runner up James Murie Jnr
- **Ladies Bronze Champion** Carol Morrison, runner up Dorothy Browne
- **Ladies Champion** Marisa Foley, runner up Kerry Foley
- **Snr Scratch Champion** John Noble, runner up David Costello
- **Snr Handicap Champion** Dave Galloway, runner up Graham Turzynski
- **Club B Champion** Sean Hawkins, runner up Andy Ronney
- **Junior Champion** Greg Carscadden, runner up Dexter Blackwood



Our fundraising efforts continue with Ambition 125, a fund to take forward clubhouse and course enhancements.

We held a Sports Dinner on 14th July and were entertained by Cameron Young Magic as well as two-time PGA Champion Alastair Forsyth. The evening included an auction of golfing memorabilia and other lots, raising a total of over £2000.

We have recently launched a Grand Raffle. Tickets, on sale at £1 each, will provide a chance to win an array of fabulous prizes:

- Four night stay in Aviemore House for up to 5 people, with a fourball voucher for Kingussie Golf Club
- Fourball voucher for the prestigious Royal Dornoch Golf Club
- Mottocaddy power trolley (or £350 cash)
- Callaway Paradym Driver (or £150 cash)
- And many more prizes!

Tickets are on sale in the Club Lounge and Pro shop until 29th September. The raffle is open to all (over 18) including non-golfers. The draw takes place on 30th September.

So far, we have raised £44,666 towards our total target of £75,000 investment. This will not only see enhancements to the course and clubhouse, we also aim to make the game of golf more equally accessible to men, women, beginners and those on low income. For example, we have established a girls golf group, and recently started affordable group coaching session for new lady golfers. Both have proved popular and there is even a waiting list for the next ladies' session.

The Clubhouse remains open to everyone in the Burntisland community. We offer day membership and annual social membership for those who want to pop in after a walk, come in for a meal, or book our facilities for a private function. Our social functions run regularly throughout the year and are open to all. Upcoming events include:

- 26th August—Karismatic Duo
- 30th September—125th Anniversary Dinner Dance
- 4th November—Painted Wolf

If you are interested in golf, or our social scene, please do get in touch with the club. We will make you very welcome.

www.burntislandgolfhouseclub.co.uk 01592 874093

Jim Galloway, Captain



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Live on the Links

Our 40th anniversary event in June was another big success, due to the excellent artists who gave up their time to play to a welcoming community, with many saying how much they had enjoyed playing.



Lots of people to thank for making it happen. Fiona Combe for running the event, Gus Munn for being the longstanding MC and to Stuart Mackie for getting a great sound with the new gear.

Thanks to Mike Delaitre for the setup, Brian Whyte for his help, Rab Watson & family and Malky for getting us there and back. Thank you to the Evolve Group for printing the posters, Jason for having us at the Sands Hotel, and to Ronnie Mackie for running the Sunday event.

And a big thank you to everyone who turned out to support us, which helps encourage the continuation of a music festival in the town.



Next year we will be looking to avoid clashing with other musical events in the town and in particular with Silverburn and Civic Week. At present the first Saturday in June has been suggested.

It was my intention to stand down, but on the Saturday when I looked around at so many people enjoying themselves it would have been a crime to put the future at risk, so I will carry on to help Fiona take Burntisland's music festival into the future at her request.

www.facebook.com/LiveOnTheLinks

Charlie Kilgour

Local Business Updates

in association with Totally Locally Burntisland

A number of local businesses achieved success at the recent Scottish Independent Retail Awards.

Winners in their category:

- The Happy Go Lucky Dog Company, Independent Pet Supplies
- C.Sinclair Fresh Fish Merchants, Fishmonger
- Novelli's, Coffee Shop (Central)
- The Cromwell Kitchen, Eatery (Central Region) and overall Eatery of The Year!



Highly Commended in their category: Tom Courts, Butcher of the year; Macauley's Fruit & Veg, Fresh Produce Provider

Darren Rankin Funeral Directors has been awarded Independent Funeral Directors of the Years (Fife), for the second year running at The Prestige awards.

Earlier in the summer, Wildbells was awarded Best Young Business at the Fife Chamber of Commerce awards.

Well done everyone!

East Coast Chiro, run by registered chiropractor Lynsey Watson, has opened next to Albavet on the High Street. www.eastcoastchiro.com

Fusion Kitchen has also opened on the High Street since the last issue of the Buzz.

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



Burntisland United AFC

1973–2023—50 years anniversary

The upcoming season sees Burntisland United AFC celebrate 50 years of playing amateur football in the Fife leagues. The club was established in 1973 by Bob Doig, Alan Watson, and Joe Laird, and will be competing in the Kingdom of Fife Conference in the 2023–24 season.

Hundreds of local boys, some young some old, have graced 'The Toll' over the years (now the 'New Toll'!) with many boys progressing on to much higher levels.

Many locals still within the community have helped the club behind the scenes and to each and everyone of them we are indebted and grateful and without each one of them the club would not have survived for 50 years.

Success and disappointments have followed the club throughout our history but we continue to strive to give as many

local boys the platform to showcase their skills with the hope of going on to fulfil their dreams.

Myself and Billy Millar have been involved with the club over the last 15-20 years but we are looking for anyone who has information on players, teams and photos etc. from United's early years in the 70s, 80s and 90s to get in touch.

We are hoping to celebrate with a 50 year reunion towards the end of the season/early 2024, so if you have any information or photographs involving the team from any era please email myself or Billy.

Brian Lindsay, Manager

brianlindsay312@gmail.com

Billy Millar bill-millar@hotmail.co.uk



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Civic Week 2023



The rain stayed away for another successful parade day in June, with the Pipe Band leading newly crowned Summer King & Queen Leo Fraser and Kai Chatikobo and their Royal Party along the High Street.

This year, the route was extended to take the parade along Kinghorn Road to the Erskine Church, then down through The Links to Radio Lollipop's roadshow and various free activities during the afternoon.

The "Around the World" theme on saw lots of countries represented and a variety of colourful costumes. Best dressed group was award to the Scouts with their Chinese dragon.

The committee would like to thank Liza Simpson of Funkidz Partyz for taking on the role of Royal Party organiser. Thanks also to Carole-anne Crossan for acting as Master of Ceremonies at the crowning ceremony, and to Community Award winners Bill Kirkhope and Joana Barron for helping during Civic Week.

The Shop window competition kicked-off our programme of events, with the Royal Party judging Rankin Funeral Directors as the winner.

On Beach Day we had a record turnout for the sandcastle competition with lots of fantastic entries. The raft race in the afternoon featured three crews, with HMS Beacon the winners in their makeshift raft.

Thanks to Tom Courts for sponsoring the prizes, as well as the RNLI Lifeboat & Lifeguards, and Divebunker for their support.

The Royal Party tried their hand at bowls and played crazy golf. Later in the week the King & Queen visited the Sailing Club to help start their race and had a tour of the boats on the pontoons.

The 5-a-side football tournament was once again hosted by Burntisland Shipyard, featuring six adult teams. Bobo Baldys were the winners against last year's champions YBT in the final.

It was an emotional day, as with heavy hearts we marked the tragic loss of Neil Macleod with a minutes applause before kick-off. The shield has now been dedicated to his memory and renamed as The Neil McLeod Memorial Trophy, a worthy and fitting tribute to a man who loved the town, his team and football so dearly.

Thanks to Raith Rovers Community Foundation for helping with the primary school games, Burger Island for the BBQ, The Fix Fife, The Roasting Project, Olive Tree Cafe, and On a roll who provided donations for our cake stall.

We had a successful night at the Golf Club on the second Saturday, featuring the fantastic Cut the Cake function band. It was great to have the return of Des and the



Dingoes at The Star on the final day of Civic Week, despite the rain everyone had a great time under the marquee and big brollies!

As ever we are grateful for the support from all our programme sponsors: Albavet, Bel & Etta, Briggs Marine, Burger Island, Burntisland Sands Hotel, C.Sinclair Fresh Fish Merchants, Call-Clean Dry Cleaners, Evolve Group, Funkidz Partyz, Gooz Turkish Takeaway, Jason's Newsagents, Kingdom Amusements, Novelli's, One One Four, Pretty Presents, Rankin Funeral Directors, Righteous Rides, Scott Pallets, Smarter Tax, SM Autos, The Star Tavern, Time for You, Tom Courts Butchers

Look out for details of our upcoming AGM as we plan ahead for next year's events. Civic Week relies on volunteers so if you would like to get involved or if you have any feedback, please get in touch—email: burntislandcivicweek@gmail.com or message our Facebook page.





David Torrance MSP

Kirkcaldy Constituency

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

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

@ david.torrance.msp@parliament.scot

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Burntisland First Aid Services Trust

In one of our most exciting moves ever we are about to buy property which will serve as a first aid training and resource centre. It will also restore activity to part of our High Street and enable a stronger police presence in Burntisland.

We have reached agreement in principle to buy the former police station at 60 High Street. We still have some details to finalise, but we will be carrying out internal improvements which will allow us to schedule public classes more regularly. It will also enhance the training facilities available to our own volunteers.



Every year we attend nearly 200 events, not just in Fife but across 7 local authority areas. In July alone we were in Edinburgh, East Lothian, and Perth & Kinross, as well as Fife. That means we have a lot of kit to manage, both for public events and for education. We've outgrown our current rented premises and it's clearly the right time for us to move forward.

We still have a lot to do in terms of fund-raising and upgrades to the property, so it won't be an overnight change. One room will be reserved for use by Police Scotland, so they will have a presence in Burntisland for at least the next 5 years. One room will be shared between ourselves, police and other local organisations.

The rest will be for us to develop as a first-class training centre and as an expertly-managed base for storing and deploying our kit, whether for training or for real life. We may also be able to lease individual rooms for other purposes.

In August we will be looking after people who become ill or are injured at any of three Pony Club events, an agricultural show, a gala, two polo matches, the Scottish Vintage Bus Museum and also the British Touring Car Championship at Knockhill. That variety means that our volunteers are able to choose which events they want to attend, whilst also keeping their skills and experience up to date.

Our overall kit includes five public-access defibrillators in Burntisland, of which four have been taken to incidents and used to deliver up to three shocks. There is never any guarantee that a life will be saved, but there is no doubt at all that they give the patient the best possible chance of a successful outcome.

We're very happy to provide training on request, either as certificated courses or as something less formal, but our diary is very full so forward planning is essential. We also welcome new volunteers, whether already trained or willing to work towards new qualifications. Our new property means that we will also be able to offer local volunteering opportunities for property maintenance and similar work. Enquiries are welcome at any time to admin@bfast.org.uk



Alex MacDonald, Chairman

Central Burntisland Tenants & Residents Association

Central Burntisland TRA recently received national recognition for its work in the community at an award ceremony held in Glasgow. It was a very proud moment for all the representatives from not only the TRA but also for the Tenants Participation Officer from Fife Council.

The TRA work very much in the background, trying to improve the central Burntisland area. We are involved in many projects and work with a number of community groups, such as the Burntisland Community Development Trust, Burntisland Beautiful, FAB and, of course, Fife Council. One of our up-and-coming projects is the purchase of possibly two 'Buddy Benches', (cost permitting). These benches will probably be situated on Somerville St and Somerville Sq; the benches are meant to be a place where people can meet new and old friends alike.



We have in recent months located a number of planters around the area, which residents are now maintaining; these planters go a long way towards brightening the area up, so thank you to all the volunteers that are looking after the planters.

We have had one failure this month, one of the seagull-proof bins the TRA purchased was set alight, damaging it beyond use, so we are now looking at ways of funding a replacement bin. The seagull-proof bins have been a very positive improvement to the town, reducing the amount of damage caused by gulls (litter and birds swooping to snatch food). The cost of a replacement seagull-proof bin will be circa £500, so if anybody has any ideas on how we can fundraise this amount of money, please get in touch with me through our Facebook group.

Iain Ralph, CBTRA

Chilled Church

Chilled Church has been running for 17 months now, rotating between Erskine, Kinghorn and Burntisland Parish church, and delivering a slightly alternative, interactive and informal church service for all ages.

Since last autumn we've been focusing on different aspects of Christ's life and teaching, and in upcoming services we'll be looking at some of the apostle Paul's letters. If you're looking for a relaxed and engaging approach to church on a Sunday morning, or simply a hot drink and good chat, why not come along? You will be very welcome. Upcoming services are listed below.

- ◆ Sunday 3 September, Burntisland Church Halls, 11am.
- ◆ Sunday 24 September, Kinghorn Church Halls, 11am.
- ◆ Sunday 15 October, Erskine Church, Burntisland, 11am.
- ◆ Sunday 5 November, Burntisland Church Halls, 11am.

Want to know a bit more? See:

www.burntislandparishchurch.org/chilled-church/

What's Happening? Group

In the previous issue of the Burgh Buzz, we included a list of activities and groups for young people. This is now available online and will be kept up to date with the latest info—it can be viewed online by scanning the QR code on your phone.

The What's Happening group is now concentrating on collecting a list of all clubs, groups and activities in the town for adults.



If you are part of a club or group which we might not already know about and wish to be included in the list, please get in touch with us.

Everyone is welcome to join our informal meetings, in the Heritage Centre at 7pm on the last Thursday of the month. To find out more, contact Jane via:

WhatsHappeningBurntisland@gmail.com

Burntisland & District Pipe Band

The outdoor band season is in full swing, heading towards the World Championships in August. With two bands competing now there's a lot more chances for the band to pick up trophies!

In May we participated in contests at Dunbar and Dollar Academy, where our grade 4A band picked up first places in both as well as winning the drumming!

The NovB band picked up 4th place at Dunbar and 5th at Dollar, while the NovB drummers lifted the title that day claiming best drum corps in their grade.



At the of May we then took on the challenge of piping and drumming our way up The Binn to help raise funds for the band!

June was the busiest month by far for the band with Civic Week, galas and other engagements as well as competitions. It's fair to say we all needed a rest after this month!

We kicked off June with Markinch where the 4A band picked up 1st place and NovB 3rd. Then it was onto Lochore where our 4A band competed and once again claimed the top prize.

At the end of June both bands and our junior drum major Catherine Spears competed at the European Championships in Aberdeen. An early 5am wake up call was worth it in the end as we are now European Champions!

Not only has our band been crowned European Champions but Catherine fought off fierce competition to also be crowned European Champion. Huge well done to everyone involved with the band behind the scenes and to the players for putting in the effort at practices. Lots more to play for this year so lets fill that trophy shelf!



We also had a trip to the capital in July to play at The Edinburgh Festival Carnival, performing along side hundreds of other performers was pretty awesome!

Thank you all for your continued support for our wee band. By the time you read this we'll have competed at the Scottish Championships so if you'd like to keep up to date, please follow us at www.facebook.com/burntislandanddistrictpipeband

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Toll Community Centre & Community Hub



Hello everyone. My name is Allan Beattie and I am the newly appointed Toll Community Centre Manager. After living, and working in Edinburgh for over 20 years, myself, my wife and son, and our cockapoo, took the decision to move to Burntisland in late 2019. I have very fond memories of holidaying here with my family as a young lad, and I am so proud to call this beautiful town my home.

I have lots of experience of working as an outdoor Youth Development Worker for young people helping to improve their personal development skills. I love the great outdoors and spend my leisure time with my family walking our dog, hill climbing, camping and cycling.

My immediate priorities, having been in post for a few weeks now, is to support the Trustees getting the Community Centre infrastructure up to date, so we can continue to provide quality, affordable community facilities. My short-term goal is to get the Centre back to being a Community Centre, in line with our Constitution and mission statements. I have been exceptionally busy, networking and introducing myself, in order that I can develop some great partnership work. I am hoping to have the youth club back up and running soon, hoping to see the return of the Music Group, introduce new and exciting projects in the near future, as we need to concentrate on delivering our core values for the people of Burntisland, whilst achieving project delivery outcomes.

I am really grateful for all the support and encouragement that I have received from all the people I have met so far, and I am keen to develop new effective relationships with direct partner organisations/ service providers, who will have mainstream specialist skills and experience, who can continue to deliver much needed services



and support for the community of Burntisland who have had an incredibly tough time over the last few years.

Moving forward, I am keen to work together to achieve key areas in the community action plan, establish improved use of the Toll Community Centre hire and offer external agencies use of a safe and private place to meet with clients from Burntisland Community.

I am also keen to develop volunteering opportunities and would ask if anyone who is interested in volunteering with us, and has a few spare hours per week, to please get in touch. Likewise, I would like to increase the membership of the Toll Community Centre. Together we are stronger, and this unity will help make us the best version of us, we can possibly be.

There is no time like the present, and no present like time.

The Toll Community Centre has a new Facebook page and I will be regularly updating this with information, as well as having regular features in the Burgh Buzz.

If you see me out and about, please do stop and say hello or get in touch.

Email: enquiries@tollcentre.org.uk
Telephone/answerphone: 01592 872854

Allan Beattie, Manager

We are delighted to welcome Allan Beattie as our new Toll Community Centre Manager. Allan comes to us with a wealth of practical and managerial experience and is committed to continue our partnership working with donations to Burntisland foodbank and Cornerstone café. Allan is also keen to reintroduce key partners to make use of the free room at the back of the Toll Hub to help meet the needs within the community, whilst driving forward community groups and events.

I would like to thank the Board of Trustees, staff and volunteers for their continued, unwavering support, over the last year, and just a wee update below, to share with you on what has been happening to date and what services the Community Centre and Hub provide, but is not exhaustive:

- Charity/Pop Up shop in the High Street, with free rolls and cakes and Fareshare once a week.
- We have a new till now so everyone can now receive a receipt.
- Police use the Hub facility for public meetings on monthly basis
- Developed Toll Community Centre Membership and Volunteer forms
- Toll and Hub fitted with interlinked alarms
- BOSS, Playgroup, Wednesday Club, slimming world, sewing class, Sitter size class, First Aid training all use the community Centre. We have been advised to put a temporary halt to the bike project, due to Health & Safety regulations
- New IT, Security and Media systems have been updated
- Competitive room and hall hire rates

On behalf of Trustees, I would like to thank the wider community for giving Allan such a warm welcome and positive messages of support, and please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.

David Mitchell, Chairperson

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Girlguiding at the Parish Church Halls

This has been an exciting term! In May, Guides, Brownies and Rainbows from the Parish and Erskine units got together to celebrate the Coronation. The hall was decorated with bunting, balloons and flags and looked very impressive.

Brownies and Rainbows made their own crowns to wear and everyone enjoyed sitting on the throne to have their photos taken. Around the hall we set up a range of traditional funfair games and activities, such as hook the duck, roll a penny, giant Jenga, hoopla and pin the jewel on the crown. We had lots of popcorn, candy floss and a chocolate fountain to enjoy throughout the evening. Everyone had a great time and went home with souvenir badges, medals and photos.

Guides, Brownies and Rainbows also got together for this year's Civic Week parade. The girls wore flags from around the world and with their matching t-shirts and ribbons all looked very colourful. The breeze made them look like multicoloured butterflies as they walked along Kinghorn Road. We also had a Tombola on the Links to raise funds for our use of the halls, thank you to everyone who supported us.

Units are now on holiday for the summer and will be back to meetings at the start of the new school year.

1st Burntisland Guides have once again been busy working on their programme. We have been learning about work roles, and what skills are involved with making products we all take for granted. We also spent an evening tasting branded and supermarket own brand foods and deciding which ones we liked best.

Interesting that the most expensive didn't always come out on top.

The Unit spent an evening talking about the food eaten by astronauts, the Guides then designed and made their own packaging for space food. This was trickier than expected and we did have a few design flaws to think about.

Guides are once again looking after the planter outside the library on the High Street. Guides tidied up the planter and put in a selection of new flowering plants. They will pop down to water the plants on a rota basis over the summer and we look forward to a colourful display.

Guides enjoyed a supper hike at the end of term learning how to light fires safely and cooking sausages and cheesy dreams. Parents joined us at the end of the evening for a presentation of badges. This year we presented three Bronze awards, a great way to end a busy year.

1st Burntisland Brownies have been learning about their town. We went on a community walk to look at all the points of interest, and were lucky to see the fire engine. An enjoyable walk especially as we stopped off for ice cream from Novelli's on the way back.

The unit celebrated Earth Day by making and planting seed bombs and sunflowers. We also took part in the Coronation party and the Civic Week parade; everyone had a great time.

Brownies joined the Rainbows for their end of term party on the Links, everyone had fun playing sports and games and finished the evening with hot dogs, ice lollies and s'mores.

One of our Brownies completed their charity badge, growing and selling plants and raising £105.50 for UNICEF's work to support children affected by the conflict in Ukraine, well done.

It's been another fun term at **1st Burntisland Rainbows**. We all enjoyed taking part in the Civic Week parade. There was a bit of wind which was great for our flag butterfly wings!

We also enjoyed a lovely evening at the Broomhill Community Garden where we worked on our Nature badges by going on a bug hunt and planting Sunflower seeds.

Bonnie made her Rainbow Promise in the willow den surrounded by her friends. Congratulations Bonnie!

We have also learned about road safety this term and had fun taking turns at being a lollipop lady!

We finished the term with a fun evening down the Links with the Brownies where we played games, ate hotdogs and cooled off with ice lollies. Eilidh received her Bronze award and Anna received her Gold award! Well done girls and have a wonderful time at Brownies Anna!

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





11th Fife (Burntisland) Scout Group

The whole group has been very busy this term. We held a couple of fundraisers for our summer camp with the Scouts and Explorers holding a beetle drive and coffee morning. Thanks to everyone that helped by organising, baking, setting up and tidying up. A massive thank you as well to all the local companies that contributed prizes for our raffles. Over the two events we raised almost £1,000.

We also took part in the Civic Week parade with each section choosing a country. Our Beavers looked amazing as Australia, especially the kangaroo leaders, our Cubs chose Japan and were awesome with their headbands and flags. The Scouts and Explorers chose China and won the group award with their large Chinese dragons!

We welcomed new leaders with Susan, Cara, and Liam completing their initial training and Craig and Pete completing their change of role training. We've also had a few leader awards given out this term, from 5 or 10 year service awards for Cat, Karen, Kevin, Lorraine, Owen, Shirley and Simone. Completion of Training Wood badge for Emma and Joana and Chief Scout Commendation for Good Service to Craig, Davie, Michelle and Simone. Well Done Everyone!

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



We started our summer term by welcoming 5 new beavers into the two sections and completing lots of different badges. We enjoyed being outdoors in all weather by having a hike along the coastal path, den building and some fire lighting. The beavers went to Pets at Home where they got to handle a variety of animals including hamsters, guinea pigs and a range of reptiles. The beavers loved asking lots of questions and learning interesting facts to help towards their animal friend badge.

The beavers enjoyed their first outdoor camp at Wemyss campsite where they all helped to put up and bring down tents. They completed their air activities badge with a small hike around the campsite. At night the beavers had fun learning new songs at the campfire and enjoying tasty s'mores.

Shirley Kent and Simone Thomson, Beaver Scout Leaders



Monday and Thursday Cubs had a busy term. We started it by joining the District at the yearly St Georges Day Parade where we all celebrated Scouting together. We then popped along to Broomhill Gardens where we did some weeding and planting. Our Cub Camp was held at Fordell Firs where we took part in lots of exciting activities.

This term we also popped down to the beach for a sandcastle competition and had a hike to The Stoney Beach near Aberdour. We took our maps with us on the hike to get some experience of using them in a real setting. After this we headed back outside to earn our Athletics Badge by having a Sports Day, cooked a Sausage sizzle and did some den Building. We finished up the term with a trip to Novelli's.

Michelle Paton, Cub Leader



Scouts have also been out and about this term. We started with the yearly St George's Day Parade to celebrate Scouting then went up to Kilmundy woods to learn about fire safety, make a fire and cook s'mores. Both Wednesday and Thursday Scouts also worked on the cyclist badge learning about bike maintenance and cycling to Kinghorn. Wednesday Scouts were out and about around town working on their Photography badge by taking lots of different photos. Whilst Thursday scouts tried Frisbee Golf in the woods and had a sausage sizzle.



Both groups enjoyed a challenge camp with the explorers at Crook of Devon. The camp included a team event, with challenges to earn points that included building a river crossing to get the team to safety, getting a teddy bear over the river without getting them wet and completing a scavenger hunt around site. It was a lovely



sunny weekend and we even got a chance to cool down in the river.

Everyone finished the term off with a trip to Novellis and games on the Links.

Davie Laing (Wednesday Scout Leader) and Craig Paton (Thursday Scout Leader)

EXPLORERS

Some of our members gained Top Awards, with Gold Chief Scout to Adam, Ben and Isabelle, Platinum Chief Scout and Bronze Duke of Edinburgh to Keir and Callum, Bronze Duke of Edinburgh to Owen, Josh and Andrew, Young Leader Belt to Isla and the highest award achievable in Scouting the Queens Scout Award to Ruth. A great achievement and effort by everyone.

We enjoyed a challenge camp with the scouts at Crook of Devon taking part in a day of challenges to earn points and prizes, including building a bridge, rescuing a teddy bear, and making fire to boil an egg. Explorers have also had a small hike up the Binn learning about navigation and compasses, learned some tennis skills, did some baking for our coffee morning and had a Photo scavenger hunt around town. We finished off term with a trip to paintball where we all had great fun and it wasn't too sore.

Davie and Kerry, Explorer Leaders



Burntisland Amateur Swimming Club

Everyone at Burntisland Amateur Swimming Club has had a blast over these past few months. We've enjoyed lots of exiting events, including the Civic Week parade, outings, and the Distance Swim.

For this years' Civic Week, BASC participated in the "Around the World" parade. We had loads of fun parading around Burntisland with all the other clubs. During Civic Week BASC hold a gala called the Civic Week Sprints. This fun event is a highlight of the club calendar. We do two

strokes instead of the usual four (backstroke and freestyle), with heats and finals for each age group. Medals for the top three swimmers in each category were presented after the finals, as well as participation medals for everyone who came along and gave it their all in the pool.

BASC were very happy to hold our club Distance Swim for the first time since before the Covid-19 lockdowns. This event involves the swimmers completing as many lengths of the pool as possible in one hour, without stopping. The Squads however, did a non-stop relay, with prizes.

Well done to the first placed team, Sam Milroy, Jimmy Flanagan, Leanne Murray and Matthew Scotland, swimming 3,100m in 40 minutes. All swimmers who participated receive a certificate with the distance they swam to the nearest increment. This is a fun event which the swimmers always enjoy, and they are often amazed at just how far they can swim!

I would like to give a big shoutout to all the volunteers who helped make these fantastic events happen. Everyone at BASC really appreciates what you do for the club, so thank you!

With the summer officially here and the weather getting warmer, BASC enjoyed an outing to Lochore Meadows for their Fun Day. We had lots of fun kayaking, stand-up paddleboarding, and playing games on the grass in the lovely Scottish sunshine. Earlier in the summer, the Development and District Squads went to the Wildshore Aqua Park in Dundee, where everyone had fun playing on the big inflatable course.

For the summer holidays the swimmers had a well-deserved two-week break, before training resumed on Tuesday 18th July. Have a great summer everyone!

Swimming is a great way to stay active, meet new people, and engage with your local community. Burntisland Swimming Club 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.burntislandswimmingclub.co.uk or email: bascenquiries@hotmail.com

Matthew Scotland



Medals galore for the Mackenzie brothers at this year's BASC Civic Week Sprints! Dillon (8) and Flynn (6 ½)

Burntisland Parish Church

Did you know that Burntisland Parish Church has a Prospects Group? Our group in Burntisland has been going for 15 years, since May 2008. People come to us from Burntisland, Kirkcaldy, Kelty, and in the past from Cowdenbeath and Glenrothes. We are a mixture of people with learning disabilities, carers and helpers, but basically like to think of ourselves as 'all friends together' (the name of another Prospects group in Kinross). Another group, in Brighton, call themselves 'Friends of Jesus' which also describes well what the groups are all about.

For those who may not know, Prospects Across Scotland (PAS) is a small Scottish charity focused on the relationship between people with learning disabilities and the Church.

There are around 30 Prospects groups in Scotland who meet in person or on Zoom

and are connected to churches of different denominations. Prospects Across Scotland have developed an accessible website where you can find information and news: www.prospectsacrossscotland.org.uk

Our group meets monthly on the second Saturday from 10.30am, starting with a cuppa and catch up then moving onto news, our welcome song, Bible teaching and worship, sometimes with drama, and also using crafts and activities. We finish with lunch together. Our next meetings will be 12th August and 9th September. We would love to welcome new folks along.

Linda Sharp and Penny, an elder in Kelty church, lead from the front, members of the group take part in Bible readings and prayers, and Ann Brownlie makes lovely soup for our lunch. Alan helps with the technology including the sound system. We are not slick and perfect – but that just

reflects reality and we all have a laugh when things go wrong sometimes!

We would really appreciate some more regular helpers, and we know from our own and others' past experience that people find it enjoyable being involved and getting to know the folks who come to our group. We need folks who are willing to make tea and coffee and wash up, volunteers to help with making and serving soup for about 15 people, and if anyone plays an instrument and would like to lead worship that would be great – at the moment we just use YouTube videos. Also, if you have a gift for telling a Bible story in a lively and accessible way, we would welcome your input! Please speak to me or get in touch if you'd like to know more!

Linda Sharp (01592 870198)



Erskine Church

Well it may be summer-time, but as I'm typing this the rain is battering against my study window!

I hope that by the time you're reading this update, another very successful Burntisland Games Day will have taken place (Monday 17th July). It's such a great opportunity to welcome people to our town and enjoy an event which has such a long tradition. Last year was a scorching day of brilliant sunshine, so here's hoping that history has repeated itself!

Along with our BEK partner churches we revived Lite Bite on Wednesday mornings during the summer holidays, something we'd also hope to organise regularly during the autumn and winter months.

Erskine's next legendary coffee and pancakes morning will be held in our halls on Saturday 2nd September from 10am as usual. Then comes our Autumn Fayre on Saturday 28th October. You'll be able to find more details on our Facebook page. Please also check out the posters which'll be displayed around the town. You'd be very welcome at any of these events, do make a note of these dates.

Message. Recently I've been using this famous Bible verse a lot, 'Three things will last forever-faith, hope, and love-and the greatest of these is love' (1 Corinthians 13.13, NLT).

Time is very precious, life itself can be so short. What we must try and do is share some of these precious qualities with

others as we experience life's journey. It's vital to make a difference to others by the things we say and through our actions.

When you're with those you care about, indeed when you're just out and about doing ordinary things in our community, try to show as much faith, hope and love to others as you possibly can. Believe me, it's worth it!

Our weekly service time remains on Sundays at 11am and you can certainly join us for an hour of meaningful worship.

Have a great summer. Take time to relax. Keep safe and well.

Rev. Alexander Ritchie



St Joseph's Church

I have just returned from the Annual Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. It was a very successful week, but exhausting for me as I am the Pilgrimage Director. We had around 160 pilgrims with us from all over the Archdiocese of St Andrews and Edinburgh. Many happy memories were made, and it wasn't all prayer and penance, with plenty of opportunity to socialise.

Unfortunately the journey home wasn't so good. It was a very bumpy flight and a very heavy landing, followed by serious delays in offloading vulnerable passengers and

around 4 hours delay in baggage delivery. As one of the ground staff said, "Welcome to Edinburgh Airport on a Friday!" If you have a holiday planned, I hope your journey is smoother!

It has been a very busy time in the parish of late, I really don't know where time has gone. The month of January seemed to drag and now, all of a sudden, we're in July. There have been many different celebrations: Marriage, First Holy Communion and sadly all too many Funerals.

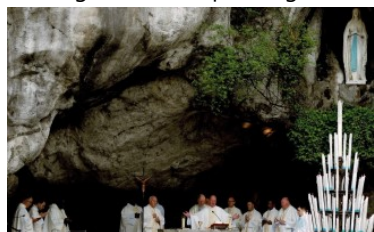
We are very grateful to the Knit and Knatter Group (which meets in the Church Hall on Wednesday mornings) for providing new planters for Church Patio. It is looking really lovely, though the plants have suffered a bit with the wind and rain we have had recently.

Next year we will celebrate an important anniversary – the first Mass was celebrated in the current Church building on 10th March 1974. So we will be planning to celebrate the 50th anniversary next year and by luck the anniversary will fall on a Sunday.

There are a few social events in the planning too, but nothing is finalised as yet. We hope there be a Race Night in the autumn—these are great fundraisers but also great fun! Details will be in our weekly newsletter, which is available on our website: www.stjosephsburntisland.co.uk

I wish you all a good and happy summer. Take good care and may you know God's blessing.

Fr James Tracey



St Serf's Scottish Episcopal Church

As the world wakes up to the reality of climate change and the urgent need to minimise the actions that cause it, we can all try to play our part as groups, organisations and communities.

The Scottish Episcopal churches are aiming to achieve Net Zero carbon emissions by 2030 and here in Burntisland, St Serf's is making a determined effort to work towards that aim. Old buildings and antiquated heating systems make it difficult for many of us to achieve such ambitions but the important thing is to acknowledge that we have no option but to try - and then to make a start, however small.

Since we established a working eco-group we are taking small but determined steps to green our immediate environment and lifestyle. From a standing start, where we really didn't know quite where to begin, we have now become members of Eco-Congregation Scotland and are about to undergo an energy audit.

As well as helping us to prioritise our goals, this will hopefully also reveal sources of funding that we might access in order to undertake vital adaptations. If this has caught your attention and you would like more information, please contact our eco-convenor, Geoff Smith

geoff.smith276@hotmail.com or pop into

church when you see the door open and speak to someone.

Throughout the summer, we have been holding open house on Thursday afternoons, when anyone passing can come in and have a cup of tea/coffee and a chat. So far, we have been able to meet in our lovely (eco!) garden and enjoy the sunshine.

However, our very exciting news is that we now have a social space at the back of the church. We celebrated our new space with a cheese and wine evening on St Serf's Day (1st July).

The plan is that once the new school term starts, the space will be open every Thursday afternoon so that anyone passing by to pick up children from school or nursery can come inside and have a cuppa and a chat. You might think it would be a



good idea to have a school uniform exchange or to have babies'/toddlers' activities. Share your ideas—we're listening!

We are also repeating our mega-successful autumn series on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm. Events are free but donations are welcome. Here's taste of what's in store:

Events will include talks by Ian Archibald and David and there will be a film night. All the events are free (although donations are welcome) and include a glass of wine or juice. For a full list and further details of these events, see the notice of local events on page 26.

And then on Sunday 15th October at 7.30pm we have a return visit from singer/songwriter Gareth Davies-Jones. This will be a ticketed event, costing £10. Look out for posters around the town nearer the time.

We very much look forward to welcoming you to our new space and of course to share worship with us or just to be there and listen any Sunday. We start at 10 am and always enjoy refreshments and time together afterwards.

May your work and your free time this summer be richly blessed.

Rev Carol Latimer



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Burntisland Harbour Access Trust

The BHAT story is simple. We remain focused on obtaining community access to the East Dock, particularly the Breakwater area. In the long term we seek to buy the whole East Dock. We have registered the community interest with the Scottish Government, which gives us first refusal on purchasing the dock area. We also have the ambition to develop the dock area as a community asset. Our next step is to invoke the community right to buy abandoned, neglected and detrimental land.



However, the decision to award Forth Ports the potential to develop Burntisland as part of their Green Freeport initiative may provide the stimulus to create an industrial complex that benefits the Burntisland Community (jobs etc); this would reverse the neglect of the past 30 years. We would not stand in the way of any beneficial development, provided community access to the breakwater is restored, but we believe that the Freeport is not incompatible with community use of the East Dock. A multi-use development offers the greatest overall potential.

In the meantime, we have to be realistic and accept that sooner or later the fence is going to fixed permanently. Do we have a legal case to insist on public access? We think so, and we've spent a lot of time researching this. In our favour we have identified:

- Legally enforceable 'title burdens' applying to various parts of the harbour, which place contractual obligations on Forth Ports to provide open community access.
- Various Harbour Acts requiring open access to parts of the harbour
- Forth Ports have also acknowledged that customary rights of access for fisherman exist over Shank's Pier (also known as the Dead Boats / Western Peninsula), although this hasn't stopped them fencing it off.
- The more recent Right to Roam legislation may also provide some further rights.

So why can't we simply demand that public access be reinstated? The problem here lies in the role of Forth Ports as the Harbour Authority, a status which provides them with the ability to create bylaws. So, whilst there is no doubt, for example, that Forth Ports are required to provide open public access by the existing 'title burdens', and potentially by the Harbour Acts, what we don't know is whether these requirements

can be nullified by bylaws. The earlier Harbour Authority, before privatisation, for example, did pass bylaws restricting access but these were never enforced. It's noteworthy that the annual breakwater angling competition ran from at least around 1977 to 1996 with no challenge from the Authority or from Forth Ports.

It's a highly complex legal issue so we now need expert legal advice to support our case. As we all know, lawyers don't come cheap, so we now are launching our 'Open the Gates' fundraising campaign. The target is £8000. To date, we have raised, or had pledged, £1,500 from August's Big Green Market proceeds, £750 from anonymous donors and £271 donated through the Burntisland Acoustic Music Club.

All supporters can now donate to the 'Open the Gates' Legal Fund directly to our Bank Account:

Name: Burntisland Harbour Access Trust Limited

Sort Code: 80-22-60

Account Number: 25337568

Or you can contribute via our online Crowdfunder link below. Thank you.

www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/open-the-gates-legal-fund

www.burntislandharbour.co.uk

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Barbara Ellis, is on a mission is to empower people to courageously break through physical and emotional pain and trauma to create a life filled with comfort, peace and joy.

If you would like to know how this is achievable then you can find Barbara at her Optimum Health Clinic situated right here in Burntisland. You can contact Barbara on the information below or drop into Amanda's Podiatry and pick up a leaflet.

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Craigencalt Rural Community Trust

The Trust was pleased to take part in Civic Week again, offering one of its favourite walks. The sun shone, the tide was out so we could stride across the beach to Kinghorn, stopping to look at some large 'Lions Mane' jellyfish along the way. We took a short break, taking in the superb views across the Firth to the bridges, at a viewpoint historically named on old maps as 'Lady Balgonie's seat'. We returned to Burntisland, inland, via Binnend. The walk took a leisurely pace, chatting and enjoying several points of interest.

A few weeks earlier the Trust had gathered for our annual Friends evening at The Sands Hotel to review the springtime Walking Festival. The treat of the evening was a talk by Hamish Brown, Patron of the Trust. Hamish spoke about his new book 'The Fife Coastal Path' with its huge depth of detail. Hamish spoke about the many fascinating things you come across as you travel the coastal path. The audience was very taken with his presentation and, as he



only covered part of the coastal route, he has agreed to return soon to describe the next section.

The Walking Group made a special trip to Auchtertool Kirk and Puddledub Nature Reserve in June. As always we enjoyed our trip to the kirk. Sadly, the kirk is under the threat of closure so we really hope a strong community case can be put forward to save it. At Puddledub we were treated to a lovely welcome of refreshments and a walk around the nature reserve to see the sand martins enjoying their summer residence.

The wildlife at Kinghorn Loch is thriving, the swans have six thriving cygnets and the great crested grebes have had two broods. There are now thousands of tiny toads and frogs jumping about in the woodland as they leave the loch to find a lifetime home. Unfortunately it has not been possible to do moth surveys this year as George Guthrie is awaiting an eye operation. We wish him well and look forward to his return.



The summer always brings challenges of path maintenance, and with help some have been cut back. We also hope to complete our Rock Rest Project by the end of the summer so we are always pleased to see new faces. If you would like to help please get in touch, email:

info@craigencalttrust.org.uk or phone 07740 999514.

Marilyn Edwards

Burntisland Parish Church

Christian Aid week took place from 14th-20th May, and it went very well. The total raised by Erskine UF Church and the Parish Church together was £1,296, along with £78.75 added from gift aid. The coffee morning for the project to help farmers in Malawi was very busy, thank you to all who supported it. The Christian Aid quiz was also fun, it raised £50 and the winner of the £10 M&S voucher was Jenny Thomas of Allan Court.

The Parish Church will be open for visitors on Saturday 9th & Sunday 10th September, 2-4 pm as part of **Doors Open Day**. This is in addition to the historic building being open to visitors on Thursday, Friday & Saturday afternoons from 2-4pm until 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.



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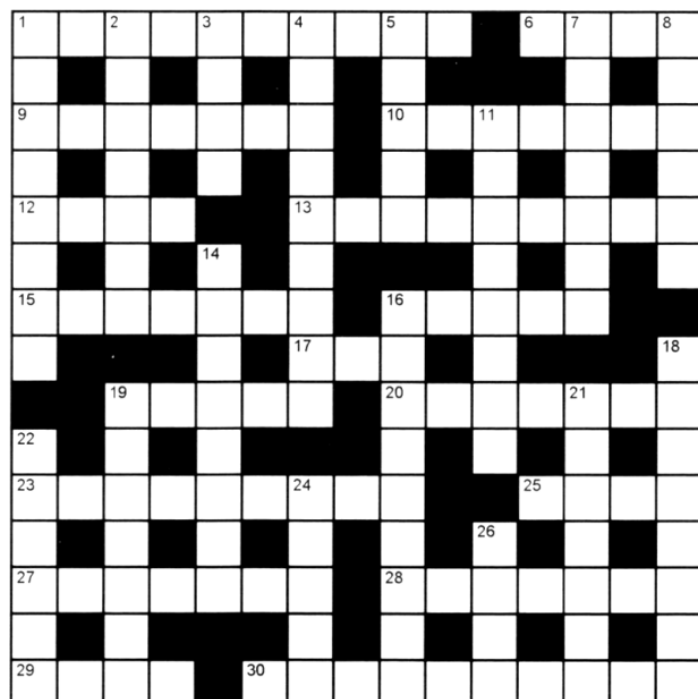
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THE PRIZE CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1. Neither young old (6-4)
6. Assistance (4)
9. Surviving Fragment (7)
10. Beseech (7)
12. Public houses (4)
13. Wesleyan (9)
15. Very old (7)
16. Tempest (5)
17. Greek letter E (3)
19. Substantial (5)
20. Confound (7)
23. Highly confidential (3-6)
25. Proficient (4)
27. Farm vehicle (7)
28. Opposed (7)
29. Karate blow (4)
30. Toys (10)

DOWN

1. Sweet almond paste (8)
2. Devilish (7)
3. Be in front (4)
4. Tried (9)
5. Decree (5)
7. Self-centred (7)
8. Folds in cloth (6)
11. Deep (8)
14. Recklessly determined (8)
16. Refuge (9)
18. Fire resistant material (8)
19. Female singing voice (7)
21. Middle east country (7)
22. TV or radio interference (6)
24. Not urban. (5)
26. Johann Sebastian, composer(4)

May Crossword Solution

Across: 1. Needlessly, 6 Scam, 9 Georgia, 10 Cavalry, 12 Trip, 13 Balalaika, 15 Amnesia, 16 Sects, 17 Rut, 19 Sited, 20 Antlers, 23 Quadruple, 25 Kipi, 27 Addicts, 28 Abreast, 29 Hard, 30 Barefooted.

Down: 1 Nightcap, 2 Emotion, 3 Logo, 4 Starboard, 5 Local, 7 Celsius, 8 Mayday, 11 Velocity, 14 Esoteric, 16 Stalemate, 18 Assisted, 19 Slander, 21 Elegant, 22 Squash, 24 Pasta, 26 Trio.

Congratulations to our May crossword winner:

Richard Cook, Greenmount Road North

Name

Address

Telephone

Completed entries by 30th September 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.

AUGUST

Thursday	24th	Police Community Surgery in the Toll Community Hub, High Street	10 am–12 noon
Sunday	27th	Bingo afternoon in Burntisland Bowling Club fundraising for the Over 70s Christmas Treat	TBC
Thursday	31st	What's Happening? Burntisland meeting in the Heritage Centre	7 pm–8.30 pm

SEPTEMBER

Friday	1st	Big Green Market—raising funds for St Andrew's Court Residents Association	12 noon–4 pm
Saturday	2nd	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	10 am–1 pm
Saturday	2nd	Coffee and Pancakes in the Erskine Church	10am–12 noon
	2nd & 3rd, 9th & 10th	Central Fife Open Studios, see page 27 for details	
Sunday	3rd	Family friendly Beach Clean at the Beach House	10.30 am
Thursday	7th	BCDT Climate Café at the Salvation Army Hall, Lonsdale Crescent	6.00 pm–7.30 pm
Thursday	7th	'The Arctic Explorer John Rae, The Man Who Told the Truth' a talk by Ian Archibald in St Serf's Church	7.30 pm
Friday	8th	Community Council meeting in the Burgh Chambers (also via Zoom)	7 pm
Friday	8th	Acoustic Music Club in Burntisland Bowling Club	7.30 pm–10.30 pm
Saturday	9th & Sunday 10th	Doors open day—Burntisland Parish Church	2 pm–4 pm
Sunday	10th	Doors Open Day, 100 Years of Burntisland & Kinghorn Shipbuilding Heritage Exhibition, Kirkgate	11am–4 pm
Sunday	10th	Doors Open Day for Burntisland Burgh Chambers, High Street	11am–4 pm
Thursday	21st	'Would I Lie to You' St Serf's & St Joseph's attempt to pull the wool over each other's eyes in St Serf's	7.30 pm
Monday	25th	Blood donation sessions at the Kingswood Hotel	2 pm–4 pm & 5.30 pm–7.30 pm
Thursday	28th	Police Community Surgery in the Toll Community Hub, High Street	10 am–12 noon
Thursday	28th	What's Happening? Burntisland meeting in the Heritage Centre	7 pm–8.30 pm
Thursday	28th	'The Stone of Destiny' a presentation talk by David Caldwell in St Serf's Church	7.30 pm
Saturday	30th	Burntisland 1883 Model Railway Exhibition in the Parish Church Hall	10 am–4 pm

OCTOBER

Sunday	1st	Family friendly Beach Clean at the Beach House	10.30 am
Thursday	5th	BCDT Climate Café at the Salvation Army Hall, Lonsdale Crescent	6.00 pm–7.30 pm
Friday	6th	Big Green Market—raising funds for the Christmas Lights Group	12 noon–4 pm
Friday	6th	Film Night 'The Way' "A soulful and cinematic journey" in St Serf's Church	7.30 pm
Saturday	7th	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	10 am–1 pm
Friday	13th	Community Council meeting in the Burgh Chambers (also via Zoom) TBC	7 pm
Friday	13th	Acoustic Music Club in Burntisland Bowling Club	7.30 pm–10.30 pm
Sunday	15th	Singer/songwriter Gareth Davies-Jones in St Serf's Church (see page 23 for details)	7.30 pm
Thursday	26th	What's Happening? Burntisland meeting in the Heritage Centre	7 pm–8.30 pm
Saturday	28th	Autumn Fayre in the Erskine Church	10am–12 noon

NOVEMBER

Friday	3rd	Big Green Market—raising funds for Burntisland Amateur Swimming Club	12 noon–4 pm
Saturday	4th	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	10 am–1 pm
Sunday	12th	Remembrance Sunday Services and Parade	TBC



Burntisland Nature Watch

By Leo du Feu

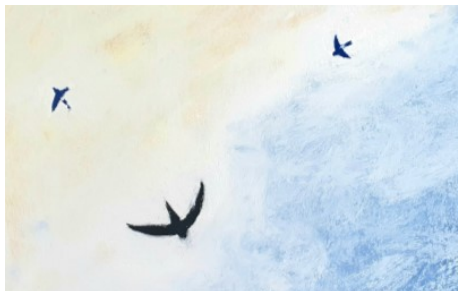
At the start of June I led a walk for Burntisland Community Development Trust's monthly Climate Cafe. The subject was swifts, swallows and house martins and I hoped we'd see them all. I knew of several swift nest sites already but on my practice walk was excited to find a place where several house martins were nesting, and a swallow nest spot.

The walk – we started by Burntisland Heritage Trust (have you seen their 100 Years of Shipbuilding exhibition yet?). I pointed out the old house martin nests under the library eaves, three or four were active up there for at least a couple of years but this year and last the martins didn't return. (then on June 28th suddenly I saw a house martin flying in and out of the end nest) House martin nests are incredible domes hanging under the eaves of buildings, formed of thousands of mud pellets brought back in beaks on trip after trip after trip.

To the bottom of the High Street, under the rail bridge, past Briggs and along Sailor's Walk – a depressing scene of overzealous and needless Council poisoning by weedkiller. Haven't they heard that 'weeds' are in fact wildflowers? That wildflowers attract flying insects. That flying insects are what swallows, martins and swifts migrate here from Africa to eat. Does anyone truly prefer dead, brown, bare to lush, green, buzzing with life?

Ignoring the scorched ground, there in the air were swallows and martins. The swallows zoomed low over our heads in and out of a doorway in the derelict two-storey harled building with the 'Forth Ports West Dock' sign, their nest inside. Swallows make similar mud nests to house martins but formed as a bowl with

fully open top rather than the house martins dome with single small circle entrance hole. The martins were flying in and out of an upper window around the side of the same building. If an application is ever submitted regarding this Listed building we must ensure Forth Ports are required to include alternative nests for both species. Two of the big issues facing these protected and Red-Listed birds are loss of nest sites and collapsing insect populations – both in our power to solve.



Suddenly we heard the call of a kestrel, circling near the high doorway on the front of the huge warehouse dominating West Dock. I'd seen the same on my scouting walk. Both times the kestrel disappeared in through the doorway. I've since watched the same several more times and we're almost certain it nests there. Really important information.

We hadn't yet seen swifts. I've told you about them before, the birds which don't land, not once, for ten or eleven months of the year. They eat (flying insects), drink (raindrops) sleep (how?), mate (!) all on the wing. They winter in Africa then arrive here in May before leaving us again as early as the end of July. They land only to lay their eggs and look after their young. They nest in small spaces inside our roofs, they fly in through the teeniest of holes

under eaves or cracks in walls and they make so little mess that they often aren't even noticed. If you know where they might nest you should stop and watch, the speed at which they fly in through gaps hardly wider than their bodies is incredible. In level flight they are the fastest bird in the world.

We headed up the steep steps at the far end of Sailor's Walk and into the Castle estate. We quickly saw our first swift. This is one of the best places in town to watch them as they nest in various houses here alongside house martins and at least one swallow pair and catch insects over the grassland of Red Pond area below, especially now that large parts have been freed to grow long.

Swifts too are in big trouble – climate breakdown overheats their wintering grounds, expands the deserts they have to fly across; insects are vanishing; historic nest sites being blocked by draught-proofing and renovations and lost by demolition. But again, it's so easy to help. Artificial nest boxes and built-in 'swift bricks' provide safe places to return to year after year and are proven to work well, especially if swift calls are played from a speaker to initially attract nest-seeking birds. All over Britain swift groups are forming, raising awareness and setting up projects to install and protect nest places. Could this happen here? At least three Burntisland houses already have swift boxes on their walls.

One last thing – over on Burntisland Biodiversity on Facebook we've started Garden of the Week (outwith summer it'll become Garden of the Month). Come and get inspired by some of our amazing local wildlife gardens.



Central Fife Open Studios

Nine Burntisland artists welcome the public to their studios on 2nd & 3rd September. A brilliant opportunity to see where your local artists work, to see what they have been creating recently and possibly even to take home an artwork or two!

Studios are spread over two parts of town – Erskine Church area and railway station area. Near to Erskine Church are Susan Smith on Ferguson Place, Margot Hailey on Craighenochie Terrace and Ken Wilson on Greenmount Drive.

Around the station area are Leo du Feu in Burntisland Station Studio on Platform 1, Susie Redman, Sheena Watson, Gingerbread Designs and Sophie McKay Knight all in the Platform Studios building immediately below the station, and Malcom Barton just round the corner on Harbour Place.

The following weekend, 9th & 10th September, all three studios near Erskine Church will be open again as will Leo at the station. The others will only be open the first weekend. This is a free event and studios will be open 10.30am to 4.30pm each day.

Visit www.centralfifeopenstudios.org or check social media for more info.

Hello Burntisland!



At The Kingswood we have settled into a busy summer holiday season and we thank you all for your support.

For summer we have introduced more outdoor spaces for families to enjoy al-fresco dining, or if out walking maybe a wee refreshment, a coffee/tea with a fresh cake or scone (children's menu available).

We have a lot planned this year so please subscribe to our Facebook and Instagram pages for updates.

Christmas and New Year will be here before you know it, so we now have our Festive Events and Dining planned and listed on our website.

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