

Sun shines on Games Day

The 372nd staging of Burntisland Highland Games marked the height of the town's summer season on a hot and sunny third Monday in July, alongside the annual fairground and market stalls.

The "Exiles Reception" in the morning was hosted by the Burntisland Community Council in the historic Burgh Chambers. Local dignitaries, elected representatives, invited guests, Town Twinners, and Civic Week's Royal Party were all welcomed by Deputy Fife Provost Dave Dempsey. Also in attendance were former Burntisland residents from England, Australia, as well as elsewhere in Fife.

Following the reception, Burntisland & District Pipe Band led the parade along the High Street to the games arena, where the event was officially opened at 12 noon by Honorary Chieftain Gordon Langlands.

The traditional games day activities took place throughout the day with highland dancing, running, cycling and heavy events on show for spectators.



Photo credit: Ian McCracken

The Binn Race saw a field of 20 local runners taking on the hill challenge in the exhausting afternoon sun. After trailing at the top, Shaun Keatings made it back to the finish in front to win in a time of 25:20, ahead of Ian Taylor and John Cotton.

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



Celebrating 80 years of Town Twinning

This year marks the 80th anniversary of Burntisland's historic Town Twinning link with Flekkefjord in Norway.

The arrangement dates back to 1946 and was commemorated in July with the rededication of the cairn on the Links and unveiling of a new information panel.

The twinning week began ahead of Highland Games Day which allowed the Mayor of Flekkefjord, with fellow dignitaries, and the youth exchange twins to all participate in the Civic Reception before joining the parade along the High Street to the games arena.

Those participating in the youth exchange enjoyed a packed week of activities and trips, before finishing with a ceilidh, in the second year for our twinning after they visited Norway last summer.

Continued on page 10.



BURNTISLAND'S COMMUNITY MAGAZINE SINCE 1998

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

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From the Editor

Hope you've all had an enjoyable summer.

It's been great to have the big wheel on the Links as a focal point for the duration of the summer—pictured below lit up blue ahead of Scotland's opening World Cup match in June.

Well done to everyone who has helped make the various events over the summer a success. It's always a pleasure to highlight the work of groups and organisations in the town, their milestones, and all the volunteers who make it happen. Some are on the lookout for more support, so if you are in a position to offer your help I'm sure they will be most grateful.

As covered in our previous edition, the Heritage Centre has now moved upstairs above the Library. If you've not been to visit recently then there's still time, where you can learn more about updates on their search for the Blessing of Burntisland. Look out for further openings as the 1883 model railway is expected to relocate into the hall later in the year.

Turning to the next big annual event for the town and visitors, the Bonfire & Fireworks committee is looking for your support—both in terms of volunteers on the night and financial help with their crowdfunder—to ensure the organised display runs smoothly. Further details are on page 6.

We have a busy events diary on page 26, and to complement this there is now an online version of the diary listings, helping groups co-ordinate and also publicise events which may only be known about after the Buzz print deadline has passed. Get in touch to contribute events and you can check it out or at: www.burghbuzz.org.uk/calendar

Michael Booth, Editor

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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: Eliza Twaddle
Vice Chair: Jim Sheridan
Treasurer: Carol McLeod
Secretary: Anne Smith

Members:

Matthew Bradshaw Tim Hailey
Jonna Lange Ken Littlemore
Alex MacDonald Lynne Worthington

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 150 Kinghorn Road, Burntisland, KY3 9JU

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 at Cornerstone Café in the Parish Church Halls from 12–1pm on Wednesday 16th September and 21st 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 to arrange a one to one appointment.

Community Council Bullets.....

Your Community Council holds its regular meetings on the third Tuesday of each month at 7pm. **Dates for the next meetings: Wednesday 26th August (Sands Hotel), Tuesday 15th September (60 High Street), Tuesday 20th October (venue to be confirmed).**

Members of the public are welcome to attend or to raise matters of interest. If possible, please email items you'd like discussed to the Secretary a week before the meeting so they can be more easily accommodated in the agenda.

As there is no step-free access to the venue, meetings are also available to join using Zoom videoconferencing—please contact the Secretary if you wish to join online via Zoom.

A summary of issues discussed during recent meetings is set out below. Full minutes are available on the Community Council website.

- **Games Day:** This year our annual 'Exiles Reception' also welcomed Burntisland Town Twinning Group and visitors from our Twin Town of Flekkefjord, Norway. Police Scotland have stopped policing road closures for community events, except for Remembrance Sunday. Therefore, this year we had to arrange volunteers to man barriers for the parade – well done everyone. Many thanks to all the volunteers and community groups who helped make the annual Games Day a success.
- **Links Splash pad:** The refurbished water playpark was officially opened on 2nd July and is very popular. It is open April – October, 8am – 8pm. Thank you to Fife Council, Fife Environmental Trust, all who contributed to the Crowdfunder, those who completed the original CC survey in 2022, and the Burntisland School Parent Council members who signed the petition in 2025. Thanks to our elected members who ensured the project proceeded as the community wanted.
- **Railway Station:** We have the Network Rail feasibility study on step free access thanks to our Freedom of Information Request. It's on our website (with estimated costs redacted). Several options are feasible. Our local MP, Melanie Ward, supports our call for a fully accessible Burntisland station, as do our Fife Councillors and Claire Baker MSP. Melanie will report the results of her community survey in September. We also call for shelter on both platforms, something refused so far by ScotRail.
- **Burgh Chambers:** When the old office was made ready for the Cash Access UK Banking Hub, the heating for the rest of the building was cut off! Fife Council have committed £250,000 for works to replace the heating system and for access improvements, including a lift for those unable to manage stairs. The building is not available to community groups until current renovation works are complete.
- **Burntisland Common Good Fund and assets:** Fife Council Kirkcaldy Area Community Manager has offered to attend one of our public meetings to address our concerns about the Council management of the Fund and Assets. She recently told us that Fife Council is temporarily pausing grants to community groups from the Common Good Fund. This is to help fund the work to the Burgh Chambers. The CC told Fife Council that we do not agree to this. Funds were already taken from the Common Good Fund to enable the Banking Hub.
- **Christmas lights:** We plan to have the lights on for a slightly longer period over the winter to include other festivals in addition to Christmas and New Year, e.g. Diwali and Burns Night. We seek donations and plan events to support the annual costs, which are no longer fully covered by a Fife Council grant. Please support us.
- **Recurrent flooding:** Scottish Water are scheduled to report to us in September on what they intend to do, if anything, to prevent the repeated flooding of Kirkton Road, the park, and Haugh Road when there is heavy rain. The problem is lack of capacity in the combined sewer system.
- **Other:** Road safety improvements; damage to the war memorial; inconsiderate and illegal parking; a possible second pharmacy; pothole and culvert problems; concerns over antisocial behaviour—your community council speaks up for improvements in Burntisland. Please see our website for full minutes of our regular meetings. We are pleased to work with other community groups on projects and issues of joint concern.

Burntisland Heritage

Discover Burntisland's Hidden Treasures at the new Heritage Centre

Have you visited the Burntisland Heritage Centre in its new home in the Upper Library Halls? Whether you're a lifelong resident, researching your family history, or simply curious about our town's fascinating past, there's something here for everyone. We open with special exhibition topics, Burntisland: Port of Grace and The Search for Charles I's Lost Baggage Ferry.



Step back into the 17th century and uncover the story of Burntisland's historic harbour and the enduring mystery of the King's lost baggage ferry. Discover the evidence, explore the history and learn about the search that continues today.

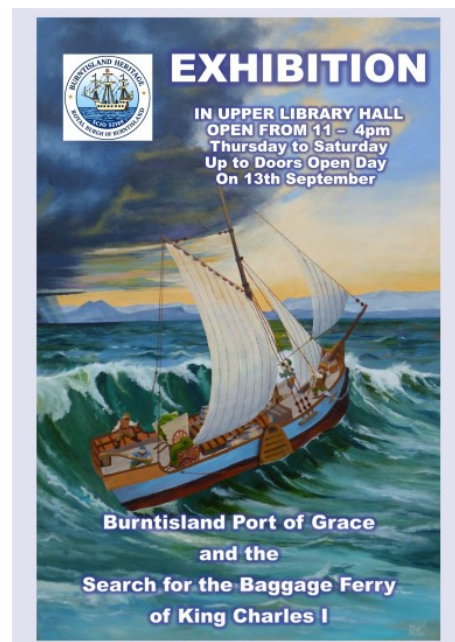
Browse an extensive collection celebrating Burntisland's rich heritage, including: old postcards and scrapbook collections; school photographs through the years; civic week memories; family history and burial records; records of local organisations and churches; Burntisland's businesses and industries; historic maps and much, much more.

Whether you're tracing your family roots, reliving memories, or discovering something new about our town, you'll find plenty to explore.

While you are here you can view our large collection of model ships and an extensive collection display of local fossils.

Whether you have ten minutes or an hour, there's always something new to discover. Come upstairs, we look forward to welcoming you!

The Heritage Centre is open on Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 11am to 4pm up to and including Doors Open Day on 13th September. Later in the autumn following some general works to the hall, visitors will have the opportunity to see the national



award-winning Burntisland 1883 model railway on display in its new permanent home.

To find out more, check out our website www.burntislandheritage.org.uk

Ian Archibald

Charity Afternoon Tea

Thank you everyone who attended our annual Charity Afternoon Tea in the Funeral Home on 11th July. It was a busy old day and very well attended.

Sincere thanks to Tom Courts Butchers, On A Roll, Niaroo Business services, Call-Clean who kindly laundered our table covers, and friends for their donations of delicious goodies.

A special thank you to Carole-anne Crossan, Jem Mathewson, Rachael Paterson, Shirley Evans, Teddy and Errin for keeping everyone topped up with drinks and food, and not forgetting Neil who was busy in the kitchen.

We are so lucky to have received many donations for our tombola and raffle from friends, family and business on our High Street.

Through your generosity we raised £870 for the British Red Cross. Thank you all for your help and support. We will see you all again next year.

Darren Rankin



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**BURNTISLAND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT TRUST**

It's been an incredibly busy and exciting few months for Burntisland Community Development Trust, with volunteers working hard to deliver new events, community projects and opportunities that celebrate and enhance our town.

One of the highlights of the summer was the Burntisland Civic Week Fishing Competition, which attracted anglers of all ages and was widely praised as a well-organised, family-friendly event. Following its success, the Trust is now exploring plans to make it an annual event, with future competitions likely to take place during the final two weeks of the summer holidays in August, when fishing conditions are at their best.



The Trust also hosted its first-ever Beer Festival on Games Day, welcoming hundreds of people throughout the day to enjoy local craft beers in a safe and friendly atmosphere. The festival brought something new to Burntisland's biggest annual event and provided residents and visitors alike with somewhere to relax and socialise at a time when the town's hospitality offering had been significantly reduced.

The Burntisland Photo Competition has also been a fantastic success, attracting entries that celebrate the beauty, history and character of our town. Judging and public voting is taking place

during August, with the winning photographs and prize presentation taking place on Sunday 30th August, at the Monthly Makers Market, in the Music Hall on Thistle Street.

We're also delighted to announce that our new Love Burntisland merchandise is now available. You can purchase a range of locally branded products from Pretty Presents on the High Street and at the Monthly Makers Market at the Music Hall, with an online shop launching on the BCDT website soon, making it even easier for people to show their support for Burntisland wherever they are.

Behind the scenes, work continues on a number of exciting community projects, including the Shanks Pier redevelopment, new mural proposals for the Links, biodiversity initiatives, improved visitor information, and a range of other projects aimed at making Burntisland an even better place to live, work and visit.

Could You Help?

Everything the Trust achieves is made possible by local volunteers who generously give their time, ideas and enthusiasm. As more projects gather momentum, we're looking for additional volunteers and trustees to help turn these ideas into reality.

Whether you can spare a few hours a month, have a particular skill to offer, or simply want to play a part in shaping Burntisland's future, we'd love to hear from you. Every extra pair of hands helps us deliver more for our community.

If you'd like to get involved, please get in touch with Burntisland Community Development Trust through our Facebook page, website, or by speaking to one of our trustees.

www.bcdt.org.uk

Kerrie-Anne Jarvis



Transforming Shanks Pier

Forth Ports, the owner and operator of Burntisland Harbour, and the Burntisland Community Development Trust (BCDT) are working together to transform the Shanks Pier area into a welcoming community space that celebrates Burntisland's rich maritime and industrial heritage, while improving public access to this area of the port and supporting local wildlife.

The project is currently being developed in partnership with the local community. Earlier this year, BCDT carried out a public consultation, sharing their ideas for the future of the two-acre site. The feedback is helping to shape the project.

The emerging vision includes creating an attractive waterfront space that encourages responsible enjoyment of the harbour, enhances biodiversity, celebrates the area's heritage, and provides opportunities for community activities and local events. The first phase of the project will look to tidy up the area's pathways and safety barriers to allow public access.



Future phases will explore opportunities to enhance the site's natural environment by creating habitats that support local wildlife, while respecting the area's ecology. BCDT hopes to work with local environmental organisations and volunteers to help shape this work. BCDT also hopes to collaborate with the Burntisland Heritage Trust to develop interpretation celebrating the history of Shanks Pier and the wider Burntisland Harbour.

Boat Owners Asked to Get in Touch

To enable ground investigations and preparation works to progress, Forth Ports is asking anyone who owns a vessel currently located on the land at Shanks Pier, or knows someone who does, to make contact with Lucy Harris at

LucyEmma.Harris@forthports.co.uk before 30th September.

Community Activities

Alongside the development of the project, BCDT and Forth Ports are working together on a programme of community activities designed to celebrate Burntisland's waterfront. These include fishing and photography competitions, with further volunteering opportunities expected as the project progresses.

Andy Lamb, Forth Ports Asset Manager for Burntisland, said:

"This is an exciting opportunity for Burntisland. This partnership with the Burntisland Community Development Trust and the wider community will deliver a significant accessible space at Shanks Pier that improves the connection between the town and harbour."

Flavia McIntosh, Chair of BCDT, said: "This project is about reconnecting people with Burntisland's waterfront while protecting and celebrating what makes it special. From the beginning, we've wanted the community to help shape its future, and we're looking forward to working with residents, volunteers, and local organisations to bring this vision to life."

Burntisland & Kinghorn Rotary Club



The new President David Kelley took office at the end of June, taking over from Lesley Main and concluding her excellent and very active year in post.



One of the main highlights of the past year has been the collaboration with other local Clubs to facilitate improved charity fundraising, such as the highly successful Antiques Valuation day with Inverkeithing & Dalgety Bay and the Pilgrim Way Walk with another 11 Clubs taking part raising over £6,000 for Fife Young Carers. Our latest collaborative venture with the Rotary Club of Kirkcaldy is a Cherished Car Tour through Fife on 6th September to raise funds for significant charities in Scotland.

As well as these joint events the Club continues to support primary pupils at

Burntisland, Kinghorn & Auchtertool with outward bound opportunities, local walks, schools quiz nights and Burns competitions, not forgetting the continuing Rotary Rambles with walks in and around the towns. One recent initiative was to arrange a collection of pre-owned children's books to Burntisland Primary youngsters to encourage reading as part of a nationwide Rotary campaign.

It is also our intention to further expand our influence with Balwearie Secondary School where many of the youngsters from the local primaries continue their education. To that end, the Club took part in an event at the school to mark the unveiling of plaques dedicated to Polar Adventure.

One plaque honours Captain Robert Falcon Scott and the sail training ship named after him and is sited beside the figurehead from the ship whilst a second commends the achievements of pupils who attended the Polar Expedition to Finland this year. The Club and the school each provided a plaque, all supplemented by a talk on the training ship by our Honorary Member Hamish Brown.

In addition to the Club's efforts to enhance the community we are looking for candidates to be considered for our biennial 'Young Citizen Award' for young people between 16 and 25 who have contributed to the community in any significant way over recent times. Recommendations should be forwarded to any member of the Club or the Hon. Secretary as listed below.

The Club meets at the Burntisland Sands Hotel on Tuesday evenings at 6.30pm with the upcoming interesting range of speakers:

26th Aug. – Ian Archibald – Mary Somerville
22nd Sep. – Sam McAuliffe – The Geology & Fossils of Burntisland
13th Oct. – Linda Ballingall – Titanic voices from the past
10th Nov. – Jon Bald – Wartime Memorabilia
24th Nov. – Tom Courts – My Life

Naturally any visitors are very welcome to attend for the optional meal at 6.30pm by advising the Hon. Secretary Derek Thomson 01337 860654 / 07714 769824 or email:

delta.tango662@gmail.com

Derek Thomson

Bonfire & Fireworks Night

Preparations for the annual Bonfire & Fireworks Display on the Links are well underway, and we're looking forward to another fantastic community event!

Date: Wednesday 4th November

Time: Radio Lollipop from 6pm, Bonfire lit at 7pm followed by the Fireworks display

Organising this event relies on the support of a large team of volunteers, both in the months leading up to the event and on the night itself. We are currently looking for volunteers to help as:

- Collection Bucket Stewards
- Admin / Catering Stewards
- Volunteer Safety Stewards (to assist during pallet deliveries and support the Crexcell Stewards on the night)

If you'd like to get involved, we'd love to hear from you! Please email burntislandbonfirecommittee@gmail.com or send us a message via the Burntisland Firework Display Facebook page.

In the May edition of the Burgh Buzz, we shared that last year, the public generously contributed 35% of the total cost of the event—an incredible show of community support, thank you!

This year, however, the situation is more challenging. The total cost of staging the event is £14,700, and with reduced grant funding this year, we are facing a significant shortfall. Without increased public support, it becomes much harder to ensure the event can go ahead at the same scale and quality that everyone enjoys.

We are therefore asking, if you are able, please consider making a donation—every contribution, large or small, makes a difference in helping us keep this much-loved community tradition alive.

Please support us by donating through our Crowdfunder page:



www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/burntisland-bonfire-and-fireworks-display-2026 or scan the QR code below to access the page.

You can also access the Crowdfunder via the Burntisland Firework Display Facebook page. We'll continue to post updates there throughout the coming months.

Please also look out for our collection boxes and posters with QR codes in shops, cafés and bars around the town.

Safety Reminders—Please do not bring sparklers, as they can be dangerous in a large crowd. Where possible, please leave pets at home. If you do bring a pet, please ensure it is kept on a lead at all times.

Thank you once again for your continued support. We couldn't put on this event without our amazing community. We can't wait to see you there!

John Harrower



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Burntisland Bowling Club

Since opening for the outdoor season in April, we have been making great progress on the bowling front—mainly due to the fine weather. We have welcomed many of our kindred clubs to our green for annual friendly matches and all games have been fully attended, both home and away with this set to continue throughout the season.



We had a very successful event on Highland Games Day with record number of members, family, friends and visiting clubs through the gates in the very hot weather. We would like to thank everyone who came along and also to those members who worked hard to help make it successful.

On the external front, Dorothy Whyte did the club proud in reaching the district finals in the Ladies Scottish single-handed championship, just missing out on a trip to Northfield for the finals. "Well done, Dorothy"! Also externally the Gents League team are excelling in the West Fife and look on track to be promoted from Division 3.

After a very successful Open Triples on Sunday 16th August, again fully subscribed, our thanks go to Forth Ports Burntisland for their very generous and kind sponsorship.

As we head towards the later end of the season, please keep an eye out for other events both bowling and social on our Facebook page, which is **Burntisland Bowling Club Social**. Any enquires can be forwarded by email secretary@burntislandbowlingclub.org.uk.

Jim Connor, Secretary

www.burntislandbowlingclub.org.uk

Burntisland Shipyard FC



It seems the summers just get shorter and shorter for football clubs as we commenced pre-season training in mid-June. Following a handful of warm-up matches, which included a 3-1 win against Burntisland United for the Norrie Stenton Shield, we kicked off the EOS Second Division campaign with a home match against Stoneyburn FC. Shippy came out on top edging a seven-goal thriller 4-3 in front of a very healthy crowd of 114.

The town's support is always most welcome and I'm sure those in attendance would have thoroughly enjoyed the match and catering on offer. We have since twice travelled to West Lothian to face Livingston United and Pumpherston and remain unbeaten following a draw and then a win against those teams. By the time you read this article we will have played local rivals Kirkcaldy & Dysart in a cup tie and a further two league matches, all at Recreation Park.



We hosted the Civic Week 5-a-side tournaments in June which was a great success with many teams competing in all age categories, and the legend that is Jim Leishman turning up to present the kids with their medals. We also held our own kids fun day on Sunday 26th July and despite some horrific weather everyone had a great time enjoying the fun and games together with the excellent food and drinks on offer. The downpours certainly never dampened the children's spirits as they happily played in the rain.

As mentioned in our previous article we are still looking for volunteers and/or committee members to help the Club grow. Anyone interested should contact the Club through its Facebook page or speak to a current committee member in person.

Enjoy the rest of your summer and hopefully we will see you at "The Shippy". **Andrew Beveridge, Secretary**



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Burntisland Amateur Swimming Club

CELEBRATING
140
YEARS OF BASC

We are celebrating our 140th anniversary in 2026, making us one of the oldest continuously running swimming clubs in Scotland. BASC's heritage is built on community spirit, volunteer dedication, and a love of the water that has endured everything from world wars to pool closures to pandemics. This year, we're honouring that legacy with a full calendar of events, special commemorations, and plenty of opportunities for our swimmers to make new memories.

From Paddle Steamers to Poolside

The club's story began in August 1886, when Edinburgh's Trinity Swimming Club chartered a paddle steamer and sailed across the Forth to Burntisland. Around 150 visiting swimmers staged a spectacular display at the West Breakwater, featuring competitive races, diving exhibitions, and lifesaving demonstrations. Local enthusiasm was instant: within a week, **Burntisland Amateur Swimming Club and Humane Society** had been formed.

Our first Club Captain, James Hardie, won the inaugural harbour race, and the original medals from that day remain proudly preserved in our archive.

In the early decades, BASC was known for its open-water events, including the famous "Bay Swim," which remained a community favourite well into the 1980s. The opening of the Burntisland Bathing Pool in 1936 transformed club galas into major summer attractions. Crowds flocked to themed races, water polo matches, novelty games, pillow fights over the water, bathing beauty pageants, and even "midnight bathing" under floodlights and bunting.

Resilience Through the Years

Like many amateur clubs, BASC faced significant challenges during both World Wars. Open-water events were suspended as the Firth of Forth became a fortified naval zone, and many of the club's young men were called up for service. The club's Humane Society roots remained vital, with volunteers continuing to teach essential water safety skills to local children.

The closure of the open-air pool in 1979 brought another difficult chapter. For nearly two decades BASC operated without a home pool, transporting swimmers to Kirkcaldy and beyond. Thanks to determined campaigning and community



fundraising, the Beacon Leisure Centre opened in 1997, restoring a local base for training.

More recently, the Covid pandemic brought another pause to club activities. Once again, the swimming community rallied round, and neighbouring Fife clubs gave up their own water time so that BASC swimmers could return to training before the Beacon reopened.

Our People Make All the Difference

People have always been at the heart of BASC. Volunteers, parents, coaches, and swimmers have shaped the club's character across generations. BASC stalwarts Olive Grayson & Bob Main share their memories, achievements and hopes for the future.

Bob's early memories capture a different era of club life: "Clubs ran 'friendly galas', and we would hire a coach to travel together as a team. We'd go to places like Dumfries, stay with local families, and invite clubs to visit us. It fostered a great team spirit."

His long service has been marked by steady leadership and a commitment to continuity:

"The biggest change was getting a pool in Burntisland, after lots of campaigning. Thanks to Club figures such as Tom Courts Snr, Bill Davidson and Ken Nimmo we managed to keep the club going when there was no pool in Burntisland."

Olive's proudest moment reflects not just personal achievement, but the club's wider purpose: "Being made Citizen of the Year (2013). We saw this as a recognition of what the swimming club did for the children of Burntisland."

A welcoming, friendly environment is something Olive hopes will endure: "I hope the club will continue to thrive and continue to be as friendly as it has always been."

Together, Olive and Bob's stories show how BASC's strength has always come from its people—those who teach, organise, encourage, and quietly keep everything running behind the scenes.

Other standouts include:

George Bruce, Superintendent of the open-air pool from 1936, was famous for teaching lessons while standing in the chilly water wearing full-length fisherman's waders. A memorial trophy in his name is still awarded at our Club Championships—currently held by Callum Fraser.

Tracy Wiscombe (née Barber) began her journey at BASC before becoming one of Scotland's most successful para-athletes, earning 39 international medals.

To mark this special anniversary, BASC is hosting a series of events throughout 2026, including: an Anniversary Gala in September, warm-weather training camp in Lanzarote for 30 swimmers in October, ceilidh and awards ceremony in November.

Commemorative caps and T-shirts are being produced for all members, special thanks go out to SNF Water Science for their sponsorship.

Alongside the pride and excitement surrounding our anniversary celebrations, our swimmers continue to shine competitively—from local leagues to national meets—proudly representing Burntisland on the Scottish stage.

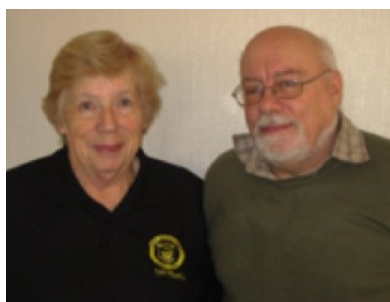
BASC welcomes anyone who can swim at least one length of a recognisable stroke. For more info or to arrange to come along for an assessment please visit our website: www.burntislandswimmingclub.co.uk or email: bascenquiries@hotmail.com. We would love to hear from you!

Help Us Build the BASC Archive

As part of our 140th anniversary, we are developing a club archive to preserve BASC's history for future generations. If you have memories, photographs, programmes, medals, or stories, we would be delighted to include them. Every contribution—no matter how small—helps us tell the story of Burntisland's swimming community.

Pictured: "Burntisland Win Forth Swim" in 1966; BASC legends Olive and Bob; the Burntisland Town Council Championship Cup first awarded to R Watson in 1938, and Club Captains for 2026: Edith Milsop and Sorren Duncan-Clark with their captaincy medals.

Laura Scotland



Burntisland Sailing Club

Summer Fun On The Water

The Buzz has proved to be a great billboard for BSC. New members attracted by the last issue continue to gain sailing experience and take maximum advantage of all the opportunities to become well versed, active participants during the summer and autumn.

Full to bursting is the best way to describe BSC's moorings and pontoon berths. As they are full to capacity the only new members we can accommodate are non boat owners who wish to help sail the existing fleet.

The Summer Series of races on Fridays and Mondays evenings, will be complete by publication of this issue. The competition has been well fought despite the unusual weather. Blustery conditions, often falling to light airs during the races has given race

officers some complex decisions to make, adding to the interest (and post-race discussions!).

The Commodore's Sail Past and Regatta was blessed by fair weather in July. A large number of club boats took the opportunity to Dress Overall with all the flags and pennants they could hoist. The Black Rocks Rowing Club's skiff managed to keep up at the tail, by no means an easy feat.

A Welcome Gift—BSC is in the process of laying new race marks and isolated danger buoys in the vicinity of Burntisland harbour, Starley Burn and the Black Rock.

To that end we are absolutely delighted to have received a very welcome donation of navigation buoys and mooring equipment from Briggs Marine which will go a long way towards helping BSC provide a professional installation.

There will always be opportunities for interested people to come out for a sail and experience our varied and exciting sport.

For more information contact:

admin@burntislandsailing.org.uk

David Holdsworth BEM

www.burntislandsailing.org.uk



Burntisland United AFC

After being well travelled between the Shippy's Recreation Park and Myers Park in Kinghorn over the last 22 years, especially during construction of the new school, Burntisland United AFC are hoping to be playing their home games once more at the Toll Park with changing facilities onsite.

In partnership with the Toll Community Centre and with great support from their Manager, Cairinne, and Trustees, a planning application has been approved by Fife Council for the berthing of two Portacabins to the rear of the building on the red ash ground. These will be converted into changing facilities for Burntisland United AFC and used as additional facilities for the centre.

With the prospect of more home games at "The Toll", Burntisland United AFC are looking to drive forward. We are reaching out for local volunteers to come along and get involved with the committee side or match day running of the club in whatever capacity they can offer, no matter how large or small.

Burntisland United AFC currently play in the Kingdom of Fife Premiership on a Saturday afternoon with 2pm kick-offs, so if you feel you can offer up a couple of hours every second Saturday please get in touch.

Brian Lindsay, Chairperson

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Burntisland–Flekkefjord

Town Twinning

Twinning Youth Exchange 2026

For the twinning it was the start of a packed week of activities. The highlight of which was the ceilidh, a special evening of traditional Scottish music, dancing, laughter and friendship.



The ceilidh has become the traditional final activity for our friends from Flekkefjord. It's a chance to say a huge thank you to everyone who has played a part in making the exchange possible especially the families who opened their homes and our own youth for representing Burntisland so well.

The dancing takes place in the very same venue used for the original meeting in 1946 which laid the foundations of the twinning. Eighty years later, to be still be meeting in the same hall is a wonderful reminder of our enduring friendship.

The music for the evening was provided by the fantastic Skelpit Lug Ceilidh Band, who did a brilliant job of not only providing the music but also calling the dances and guiding everyone through the steps. For many of those attending, it was their first experience of a ceilidh but it didn't take long for everyone to get involved. Before long, the dance floor was full, with young and old alike joining in, laughing and enjoying themselves.

A great example of what the twinning relationship is all about: bringing people together, sharing our cultures and traditions, and creating memories that will last for years to come.

The evening also included some fantastic half-time entertainment. Mirren Redpath treated everyone to some lovely Highland dancing, showcasing traditional Scottish dance to our visitors. We were also entertained by singer songwriter Daisy Reed who played some of her own material as well as some traditional songs. Both home grown Burntisland talents! No ceilidh would be complete without refreshments and some fantastic sausage rolls went down extremely well. A big thanks to Tom Courts for helping to keep everyone fuelled for the dancing!

By the end of the night, the hall was full of smiles, laughter and tired but happy dancers. It was a fantastic evening and a truly fitting way to give our Norwegian friends a proper Scottish send-off. It takes a community to make an exchange like this happen, the warmth, generosity and enthusiasm shown throughout the week have been truly fantastic.



80th Anniversary Cairn Rededication

Representatives from Burntisland and Flekkefjord gathered at the Town Twinning Cairn on Burntisland Links on Wednesday 22nd July for a special rededication ceremony marking 80 years of friendship between the two communities.

The ceremony formed part of the wider 80th anniversary celebrations and brought together the visiting Flekkefjord delegation, Burntisland representatives, local families, residents, past twins, and all those taking part in the 2026 exchange.

Deputy Fife Provost Dave Dempsey and the Mayor of Flekkefjord, Torbjørn Klungland, officially unveiled a new commemorative plaque on the cairn—which has a special connection to Norway as it is built from stone brought from the Flekkefjord area. It therefore stands as a physical symbol of the lasting link between the two communities.

At the same time, Jan Sigbjørnsen and George Kay unveiled an information board telling the story of the twinning link and the friendship that has developed between Burntisland and Flekkefjord over the past 80 years. George has been instrumental in supporting and helping to sustain the twinning for almost 30 years.

Speeches were given by Burntisland Town Twinning Chair Mark Kisby and Mayor Klungland. Both thanked everyone who has contributed their time, work and commitment to the twinning. They reflected on the importance of establishing the link in 1946, in the years immediately following the Second World War, and on how valuable the initiative remains today. Through the continuing youth exchange, young people are given opportunities to broaden their horizons, build friendships and develop greater understanding of other cultures. These connections continue to support the original aims of fostering friendship and promoting peace.

Music was provided by Zander Mulholland & Isabella Bradshaw, who played bagpipes and drums to mark the occasion.

The new plaque reads:

"This plaque marks 80 years of the twinning link between Burntisland and Flekkefjord in Norway.

Nurturing young people, bridging cultures, and promoting peace through friendship and understanding.

Støtte ungdom, bygge broer mellom kulturer og fremme fred gjennom vennskap og forståelse.

July 2026"

The rededication celebrated not only the history of the twinning link, but also the many volunteers, host families, community representatives and young people who have helped to keep it active and meaningful across eight decades.

To see pictures and read more about the activities of the twinning youth exchange and the 80th celebration please visit our website

www.burntislandtwinning.org.uk

Mark Kisby, Chair



Toll Community Centre & Hub

We've had a fantastic, action packed summer at the Toll! Our Family Fun sessions welcomed over 100 people across the school holidays. A massive thank you to the Active Schools Young Ambassadors for helping us plan and deliver these sessions.

Our Toll on Tour events were another huge hit, with overwhelming feedback from our activities up at the Point—with plenty of kids asking, "Can we do this every day?" We are now looking into funding options to hopefully make this a regular offering.

We were also blown away by the response to our Fairy House sessions, with over 100 attendees across the first two sessions! Our sincere thanks go to Lynn Brannan from Fife Council for funding the sessions and Kat Hall for creating the incredible fairy houses that inspired the idea and keeping us all right!

Regular Groups Returning: While our Tuesday Toddlers group ran at different times over the summer, we return to our normal schedule (Tuesdays, 9:15am–10:30am) after the school holidays. Aimed at families with children aged 0–4, it's a wonderful space for play, cuppas, and chats.

We are also delighted to host the Royal Voluntary Service (RVS), who now offer an activities and lunch club for ages 60+ every Thursday from 11:30am to 2pm. Pop along for activities, a spot of lunch, and plenty of cuppas and conversation!

On Mondays we have Sittercise 12:30–1:30pm and Sewing Group 6:30–8:30pm, then Kickboxing 6:30–7:30pm on Wednesdays, and Crafts class (16+) 9:30am–12pm on Fridays.

There's also the Junior Youth Club (P5–7) 6:30–8pm on a Tuesday and Only Girls on Thursday 4–5:30pm—contact Fife Council's Lynn Brannan, via Lynn.Brannan@fife.gov.uk for more information.

Development and Team Updates: Behind the scenes, we've been working closely with Burntisland United AFC to secure dedicated changing facilities. Portacabins are now in place on our land, and our next step is seeking funding to kit them out as both changing rooms and a versatile multi-purpose space for extra Toll activities.

We're also thrilled to welcome Mike, our new Admin Assistant, to the team! With Mike on board, we're aiming to increase member engagement and share more regular updates. If you'd like to become a member and keep up to date with everything happening at the Toll, drop us an email.

Volunteer and Committee Opportunities: As our team and activity schedule grow, we need your help to keep the momentum going! Could you offer a little time to support the Toll? Whether it's helping run a one-off activity, offering regular group support, organising spaces, helping out at events, or bringing a brand new activity to the centre, we'd love to hear from you!

We are also looking for new Board and Committee Members. If you'd like to help shape the future direction of the Toll, support daily operations, and make a real impact in our local community, please get in touch or come along to an upcoming meeting.

High Street Hub Update: The Hub on the High Street is still busy and provides a friendly, central community space right in the heart of Burntisland. We are currently looking for passionate local volunteers to help us with the Hub, welcoming visitors, organising donations, and keeping things running smoothly. If you have a few hours to spare each week and want to meet great people while supporting your town, please get in touch with us!

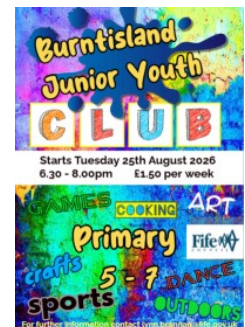
Cycling in Burntisland with Greener Kirkcaldy: We are excited to share that we are teaming up with Greener Kirkcaldy to help bring more cycling opportunities to the town! Together, we aim to encourage active travel, organise fun local bike activities, and help residents feel more confident on two wheels. If you are passionate about cycling, sustainable transport, or would simply like to help support and shape these activities in our community, we would love to hear from you! Please get in touch with us to find out more.

Cairinne Macdonald, Centre Manager

Website: www.tollcentre.org.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/TheTollCommunityCentre

Email: enquiries@tollcentre.org.uk or Phone: 01592 872854



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Friends of Burntisland Old Parish Church

FoBOPC's Vision is: *To keep Burntisland Old Parish Church a publicly accessible heritage asset for the foreseeable future and for the good of the community.*

Our progress so far: FoBOPC community group formed after a public meeting in the church in February 2025. We applied for grant funding for a Feasibility Study of options to meet our vision for the future of the building and by March 2026 we had secured funding from the Architectural Heritage Fund and Fife Council Local Area Committee Planning budget. A final Burntisland Common Good Fund grant in June 2026 completed the necessary funding. We engaged Fife Historic Buildings Trust and Community Enterprise who have been working together on the Feasibility Study and Business Plan. These are now almost complete. Arc Architects have surveyed the condition of the building—good for its age but some issues—and have developed proposals for potential minor changes to improve visitor experience e.g. better toilets, access, and information.

Our community consultation in numbers:

- ◆ February 2025, over 200 people attended a community meeting in the church.
- ◆ September 2025, we held community engagement events at the Big Green Market and Doors Open days. Over 225 people spoke to us.
- ◆ March 2026, 256 people responded to a community survey.
- ◆ May and July 2026, we held Open Day events in the church which 273 people attended. (A small grant from the



Community Ownership Support Service helped support the events.)

What people said: There is overwhelming support for preserving the building, with 99% of respondents considering it important or very important to retain it for future generations. The church is widely recognised as a historic landmark, as well as a place of cultural, spiritual and community significance.

There is also strong support for community ownership in principle, with 93% of respondents in favour. The key motivations for supporting the project are preserving heritage, creating community space and contributing to the local economy. In terms of future use, respondents expressed strongest support for:

- faith and life events (e.g. weddings, funerals, seasonal services)
- cultural uses (e.g. concerts, performances, events)
- educational uses (e.g. exhibitions, guided tours)

Options for the future: Our first thoughts were for a transfer of building ownership to Historic Environment Scotland (HES). As you may know from national media, HES has been having a lot of problems. It has not been able to accept any buildings into state care for several years. The building owners, the General Trustees of the Church of Scotland, previously told the Church

Working Group that they would consider an off-market transfer to a suitably constituted community group. We could upgrade our FoBOPC constitution to take that route to community ownership. However, we are concerned about covering long-term running costs, particularly insurance, and the burden of responsibility on volunteers.

In July, as part of the Feasibility Study, four Options to meet our Vision were proposed and shared with visitors on the Open Days:

- A: Transfer of building ownership to the charity Historic Churches Scotland (SC024407) with day-to-day management by a community group.
- B: Community group ownership
- C: Community group ownership funded by an endowment
- D: A campus model of the church and halls with a shared partnership ownership.

Of these, Option A is the most attractive as it meets the FoBOPC vision with the lowest risks. However, this can only be an option if the building owners and HCS charity both agree. No decisions have yet been made.

ReACH project: We are delighted that Burntisland Old Parish Church was chosen as one of ten Scottish churches for this national heritage project by the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland with Scotland's Churches Trust. The team will start their project on **4th and 5th September**.

We have a new FoBOPC website: Our website is now up and running, though still under development: www.fobopc.co.uk You can learn more about us and this wonderful building; join as a member; and make donations online. We are also on Facebook and Instagram.



Help Shape the Story of Burntisland Old Parish Church

Burntisland Old Parish Church is one of ten churches across Scotland chosen as a case study as part of the Research in Action on Church Heritage (ReACH) project, led by the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland and Scotland's Churches Trust.

Working alongside the Friends of Burntisland Old Parish Church (FoBOPC), we're exploring not only the remarkable history and architecture of this unique building, but also what it has meant – and continues to mean – to the people of Burntisland.

Whether you've worshipped there, attended a wedding or funeral, performed in a concert, visited a coffee morning, played in

the churchyard as a child, or simply admired the building from the High Street, your memories are an important part of its story.

ReaCH and FoBOPC are delighted to be holding a **Community Open Day on Saturday 5th September**, where everyone is welcome to come along, explore the church and find out more about the project. We'll be announcing a full programme of free activities soon on the ReACH social media, and e-newsletter but you can expect opportunities to discover more about the church's fascinating heritage, share your own memories, and meet the team working to document this special place.

A key part of the project is understanding the social value of the church – the personal connections, memories and experiences that make it meaningful to local people. We're collecting stories from anyone with a connection to Burntisland Old Parish Church, whether those memories are

religious or not. You can also contribute copies of photographs, documents, programmes or other memorabilia, either digitally or in the memory box at Burntisland Old Parish Church.

If you have more to share, we'd love to hear from you. Dr Emily Johnston (FSAScot) will also be carrying out oral history interviews as part of the project the morning of the event, preserving local memories for future generations. If you'd like to take part, or have questions about donating memories or photographs, please get in touch at emily@socantscot.org.

Every story, memory and photograph helps build a richer picture of Burntisland Old Parish Church and the place it holds in the community. We hope to see you on 5th September!

Dr Emily Johnston, ReACH Community Officer
www.churchheritage.scot

Burntisland First Aid Services Trust

Thanks to a very generous donation from Shell at Mossmorran we have now replaced one of our public-access defibrillators, bringing us back up to six in Burntisland and Kinghorn.



All six have been taken to incidents—some of them multiple times. They give a patient who is in cardiac arrest the best possible chance of surviving, but easy access and speed of use are critical. We emphasise that point in all of our public classes. Since January we've taught the key skills to over 60 people, either in our Burntisland centre or on the client's premises.



We run all of our classes according to demand, with the most common courses either one day on the most life-threatening emergencies or three days on a wider range of injury and illness. Autumn gives us the opportunity to offer part-time courses scheduled over a few evenings so we welcome enquiries, enabling us to plan ahead. All courses are nationally-recognised and meet the key requirements for work as well as home and leisure.

The changing season also means that we look forward to a different range of events.



In September we'll be looking after about 2,000 students at a music festival; we'll take care of some exceptionally fit gymnasts performing their skills on horseback; and we'll support farming families strolling back in time to the vehicles and methods of yesteryear.

Nearer to home, we will this year support three different bonfire and fireworks displays, culminating in a substantial family event at Knockhill.



We'll do our best to answer all enquiries about courses, events or volunteering, so please drop us a line via enquiries@bfast.org.uk

Alex MacDonald

www.bfast.org.uk

Burntisland Over 70s Christmas Treat

Here's an update on our recent events and fundraising activities.

Following the success of last year's visit, we returned to Links View Care Home on 30th April. It was another superb afternoon, with wonderful entertainment from Kirk James and a delicious meal provided by the Kingswood Hotel. We hope this event brought some enjoyment to those who were unable to attend our main Christmas event.



Our fundraising has also been very successful. We raised £157.50 at the Civic Week event and a fantastic £323 at Burntisland Bowling Club on Highland Games Day. A huge thank you to everyone who supported these events and contributed so generously.

We're delighted to announce our next event:

Magical Musical Memories of Stage and Screen on Friday 18th September at 7.30pm in the Kingswood Hotel.

Tickets: £10 available from: Kingswood Hotel, The Star, Travel Island or any committee member. We hope to see many of you there for what promises to be a wonderful evening of entertainment!

Burntisland Junior Youth Theatre

Great news! We've found a new leader—Margot Lane.

Burntisland Junior Youth Theatre (JYT) is for children in Primary 3 to P7 and gives kids a space to grow their imaginations, confidence and creativity.

Workshops restart on Tuesday 8th September, from 4–5.30pm in the Music Hall, Thistle Street.

There are spaces for new kids joining, so get in touch to find out more or register your youngster. For now, retiring leader, Ann Thallon is still the first point of contact. Email her on ann@annandthal.plus.com

Ann Thallon



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Civic Week 2026—"Celebrating Scotland"



We held another successful Civic Week in June, but this time doing things a bit differently with the Crowning ceremony hosted at the Links bandstand for the first time since 2010, separate to Parade Day.

On Saturday 6th June the rain stayed away as the Royal Party were piped through the Links to the bandstand, where Mia Clark and Gregor Henderson were crowned as Summer Queen and King. It was great to see lots of people coming out to support!

This year's theme was "Celebrating Scotland" which saw a busy parade along a blustery High Street on the following weekend, led by the Pipe Band, before returning to the Parish Church Halls for the after party.

Best dressed group was awarded to Andrea McDonald's Highland Dancers who looked amazing in their traditional highland outfits.

Our thanks to Citizen of the Year John Harrower as well as Aileen & Jane from Group Award Winners Community Suppers for their help with the Crowning ceremony and choosing the Shop Window winners.

The committee would also like to thank the Erskine Church, SH Removals, and Piper Andy Aitken for help with the crowning, Carole-anne Crossan for being our Master of Ceremonies, Rev Alex Ritchie, FAB, Andrea McDonald's highland dancers, BFAST for first aid support at events,

the Fire Brigade, The Lovely Wedding Car Company, and 101 Height for Hire for putting up the High Street bunting this summer.

Our programme of events began with an excellent Shop Window competition which saw Travel Island chosen as the winner by the Royal Party. The children also tried their hand at bowls, attended the Dog Show on the Links, and spent an evening at the Sailing Club.

The 5-a-side football tournament featured seven adult teams in the afternoon. Bobo Baldys claimed the Neil McLeod Memorial Trophy for a fourth time in a feisty final.

Thanks again to Burntisland Shipyard FC, Iain Miller & Shaun Keatings, Burger Island, On a Roll and Sunrise Bakehouse for the cake donations, and Fife Provost Jim Leishman who was on hand to present medals for the youth teams.

To go with our theme we had a fantastic night on the dancefloor at the Golf Club with "Scotland Rocks" band, shout out to Briggs for sponsoring for the event.

On Beach Day we had another excellent turnout for the sandcastle competition in the sun. The Raft Race was won by David and Eve Bauld aboard "Sinking Haggis". Big thanks to Alan Peden for building the rafts. Thanks also to Tom Courts for sponsoring the event, plus Divebunker, RNLI Lifeboat,

and Black Rocks Rowing Club for being on the water.

As ever we are grateful for the support from all our programme sponsors: Bel & Etta, Briggs Marine, Burger Island, Café Verde, Call-Clean Dry Cleaners, Kingdom Amusements, Novelli's, Rankin Funeral Directors, Sands Hotel, Scott Pallets, Smarter Tax, SM Autos, Tom Courts Butchers, Travel Island, as well as all of the local businesses and shops for their kind raffle donations.

None of this would have been possible without the hard work of all those mentioned and the volunteer committee. If you would like to get involved please email burntislandcivicweek@gmail.com or message our Facebook page.

Our AGM will take place on Sunday 4th October at 2pm in the Sands Hotel as we look ahead to plan next year's events.

Amanda Jones, Chair





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Beacon Runners

The highlight of the running summer are the big local races—Black Rock, Binn Hill and Donkey Brae. We had over 25 club runners at the Black Rock and Donkey Brae races and just under half of the field at the Binn Hill race on Games Day. These big club races are fantastically positive experiences and a great way for people who are new to taking part in running races to get into it with the rest of the club behind them.

The camaraderie and spirit around the club is most evident on these days with enthusiastic support for all runners.



Everyone runs for themselves and while winning isn't the be all and end all it's great to call out when people do. So huge congratulations to Mel Hindle, 1st overall female at the Binn race and Eddie Doyle, 1st in his age category at the Donkey Brae. Amazing effort by both on very hot days!

The local races attract large numbers of club members but there are a lot of other races on the running calendar and the Beacon Runners attend many of them. Since May the club has been represented at 17 different races including 10K events in Dalgety Bay, Edinburgh, and Glenrothes; half marathons in Edinburgh and Loch Leven; hill races up Dumyat, Benarty and Glamaig and ultra marathons in the Lake District and the Cairngorms.

There are too many to list but huge congratulations to all our runners who've taken part in a race already this year! We've got the Kirkcaldy half marathon and other races lined up in the months to come so still plenty of running to be done.

We've been doing extra sessions over the summer to let people recce the route of the local races and get some extra training

runs in. We've also still got a regular group of parkrunners who can be found at Kirkcaldy or touring the country/world for their Saturday 5K fix!

We increased our numbers following a successful three weeks of 'Come and Try' sessions as part of the Civic Week programme but are always open to new members. **We meet every Monday from 7-8pm** in a variety of locations—mainly in Burntisland—for a planned session led by two of our coaches. If you'd like to find out more about us, check out our website www.beaconrunners.co.uk and if you'd be interested in coming along to one of our sessions, get in touch and we'll make sure you're welcomed and looked after.



The Big GREEN Market Burntisland

CELEBRATING FIVE YEARS OF THE BIG GREEN MARKET

July saw the BGM reach five years old, and what a blast those five years have been.

It all started with a walk along Burntisland beach, back in the strange in-between days of Covid. The town felt like a shadow of itself, our brilliant community groups were struggling, and one of us (nobody quite remembers who!) said "there must be something we can do to help." And so, on that beach, with no real plan and a lot of hope, the Big Green Market was born.

Five years on and it's grown into something none of us could have imagined back then. What started as five friends has become a proper team effort, a rolling rota of volunteers, a small army of local shoppers and donors, and a huge web of community groups who've all played their part. It's a simple enough idea really: sell pre-loved and donated goods, keep good stuff out of landfill, and put every penny of profit straight back into Burntisland.

And somehow, doing that simple idea month after month, year after year, is how you end up raising **£62,859** for the town (yes, we still can't quite believe that number either).

We've had ups and downs along the way: hall moves, storage woes, funding wins, a Community Group of the Year award, not one but two commendations at the Scottish Parliament, and more cups of tea than we can count. Through it all, one thing's stayed the same: none of it happens without you. The shoppers who come back every month,



the donors who trust us with their unwanted treasures, the volunteers who give up their Fridays and Saturdays, and the community groups doing incredible work across Burntisland.

This has been a five-year love letter to the town, written by all of us together.

The Birthday Market

Our July market was extra special, with birthday bargains galore (five items of clothing for a fiver was a personal favourite) and we spent the weekend soaking up all the love from you lot.

Instead of fundraising for one group this time, we ran flash grants, wee boosts of cash for groups needing a hand with a specific project, going to the Forth Islands Heritage Trust seals project, Burntisland Playgroup, Burntisland swimming group, the Community Suppers group and £250 to the Highland Games. Five groups helped in one go, not bad!

We also had the BEST news to share. Thanks

to funding from The Corra Foundation and ongoing support from the Community Lottery Fund, the Repair Cafe is now running every single month alongside the market.

What's Next for the BGM?

We've been taking a break over August, so the market's back with a bang in September, when we'll be raising funds for our core funds (volunteer share and repair sessions, repair cafe and other BGM costs). October's market will be in aid of Burntisland Heritage Trust.

Don't forget that the Repair Cafe runs 10am to 12pm on the Saturday. Bring us your broken bikes (our bike guy had nobody at all last month, and that's a crying shame), your toasters and lamps, your ripped seams and holey jumpers. Our fixers will do their very best to sort them, for free, and keep good stuff out of landfill.

And speaking of volunteers, we're always on the lookout for more! We're doing well for numbers just now, but folk come and go, so it's always good to keep the momentum up. We're especially keen for help with the 1pm to 2.30pm pack away shift (no heavy lifting required) and front of house relief. Get in touch through our Facebook page if you fancy joining the team.

Want market dates and Repair Cafe news before anyone else? Join the BGM mailing list: <http://eepurl.com/iUgCXQ>

As ever, the mantra stands: before you buy, TRY the Big Green Market first. Here's to the next five years! **Team Green x**

Burntisland Hedgehog Haven

It's been a great summer for those of us who enjoy the sun but it's not been good at all for wildlife, particularly hedgehogs.

For hedgehogs it's been one of the worst years and definitely the worst we have seen since opening the rescue.

Hedgehogs have come in so dehydrated that we could barely see their eyes as they were so sunken. So many have come in emaciated through not being able to find enough to eat due to the ground being so dry and hard that the insects have buried down to find damp soil.

It's been a tough few months with us even having to close for short periods due to being at full capacity. With up to 14 calls daily as soon as a rescue place became available it was filled within the hour.

Unfortunately it was the same story all over the UK. So many hoglets abandoned due to their mothers having to search further for food and water which also sadly increases their chances of becoming a road casualty.

Road deaths have been high and we would like to remind people to take care when driving as hedgehogs are living more and more in our gardens and community woodlands.

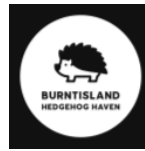
Our current campaign is for Transport Scotland to approve the use of the Small Animal warning road signs which have

now been in use in England for the past two years but are still yet to be introduced in Scotland.

We are calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to introduce these in areas where there are high fatalities of hedgehogs or other animals such as red squirrels.

It is believed that 335,000 hedgehogs are killed on UK roads every year.

For an animal on the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) red list as a near threatened species these animals deserve all the help we can give them as in less than 20 years they could become extinct completely.



Help us bring life-saving road signs to Scotland

Sign our petition to protect Scotland's hedgehogs

SIGN THE PETITION

SHARE WITH OTHERS

CHECK YOUR EMAIL

SAVE HEDGEHOGS

Please take a look and add your signature to our petition to the Scottish Parliament by going online to: petitions.parliament.scot/petitions/PE2213

Thank you to everyone for your continued support.

Please remember a hedgehog out in the day is NOT ok. It is still breeding season and hedgehogs will also soon be preparing their nests for the winter so please continue to be careful in your gardens and leave the leaves for the hedgehogs to enjoy!

Photos show some of the lone hoglets whose mothers were killed on the road.

www.burntislandhedgehoghaven.co.uk

07577 000328

Sharon Longhurst

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Burntisland & Kinghorn Foodbank

Compassion and community—two years on. It's now two years since we set up the Burntisland & Kinghorn Foodbank, taking over from Kirkcaldy Foodbank to ensure that local people in urgent need have food.

In that time we've given out over 3,600 parcels, with peak demand at the start of the year (January – February), and worked with other local organisations to support Christmas meals.

We wish we weren't needed – but since we definitely are, we're very grateful for the compassion and continued generosity of our local community. You've shown your support in so many ways—giving your time to packing parcels, chatting with supermarket shoppers, helping clients, donating through regular pledges or collection boxes, and at events including the Black Rock race, music nights and the Big Green Market.

A few key moments from then to now are pictured below, including: Co-chair Katie with our elf friends from the Big Green Market, the TruTones at our annual celebration, Trustees Wendy, Pat, Joanna and Katie receiving the Community Award in 2025, extra items at the Burntisland pickup, our Reverse Advent Calendar, and the list we share with Morrisons shoppers.

The biggest recent development for us is starting our new collections in Kinghorn on a Saturday morning. This offers a new option for people who may find it difficult to travel to Burntisland, or who find it difficult to visit on the Tuesday/Friday. We've had positive feedback and numbers have increased since we started in January—in May we gave out over 40 parcels.

So far donations have, on average, enabled us to meet our costs, but pressures are increasing in so many areas and people are struggling with the cost of living. Please consider a monthly donation—you can find all the details on our website at www.bkfoodbank.org.uk

We have an amazing bunch of volunteers and if you're able to give your time, we are currently looking for more help with:

Monthly Morrisons Collection: The first Saturday of each month we welcome shoppers to Morrisons in Kirkcaldy, and ask that they pick up an item from our shopping list to add to our trolley. These collections bring in a lot of food each month (and are really joyful – it's great to see the pride shoppers have in contributing practically). Our volunteers work in pairs and take a two-hour slot. Recently we've only had enough volunteers to do this for 4 hours and so it would be great to add another couple of volunteers to the rota so we can collect for 6 hours once a month.

Kinghorn frontline: We'd love to build our volunteer team in Kinghorn further, so we have more people to help distribute the parcels to those who come into the Community Centre, and to transport the parcels from Burntisland (and crates back when we're finished). You'd be joining a friendly and supportive team who create a really welcoming space in our community on a Saturday morning.

Packers: One of the behind-the-scenes roles for volunteers is in our packing team, who put together parcels in our store, ready to go down to the distribution at the Salvation Army Hall. Usually these volunteers gather in the evening to prepare the parcels, or meet the day after our Morrisons collection to count and put all the food away.

Drop us an email if you'd like some more information about any of these volunteer opportunities.

Two key dates for your diary...

Our annual celebration – Saturday 5th September at the Sands Hotel, Burntisland. With music from the TruTones, snacks, chat and dancing! Kids welcome. For tickets, get in touch via email or message our Facebook page.

Our Annual General Meeting – Tuesday 22nd September at the Salvation Army Hall, Burntisland. This will include a presentation and discussion of our Annual Report and future plans for the Foodbank. Open to all, but to vote you need to be a member. We are always pleased to have more members – all you need to do is be over 16 and live locally, visit www.bkfoodbank.org.uk/member/ for details. We do need your application by Monday 14th September, so that it can be reviewed at the Board meeting before the AGM.

If you ever need us, pop in to see our friendly volunteers—we help anyone who asks, you don't need an appointment or any kind of referral. Please tell anyone you know who is struggling. We can help with food (including pet food) and we can also put you in touch with benefits and energy advice.

Burntisland: Tuesdays and Fridays 12–2pm at the Salvation Army Hall on Lonsdale Crescent, KY3 0BN

Kinghorn: Saturday mornings 10.30am–12pm at the Community Centre, Rossland Place, KY3 9SS

Please check our website www.bkfoodbank.org.uk or email contact@bkfoodbank.org.uk



Shopping List

- Soup tins or packets
- Pot noodles/super noodles
- Tins of meat
- Tins of fish
- Custard/rice pudding
- Tins of fruit
- Tins of potatoes
- Cereal
- Uht milk
- Tea
- Coffee
- Sugar
- Long life juice
- Squash/diluting juice
- Toilet roll
- Toiletries
- Pet food

Please give generously.
We can't do it without you.

Need help or want to help?

www.bkfoodbank.org.uk
contact@bkfoodbank.org.uk
Salvation Army, 40 Lonsdale Crescent,
Burntisland, KY3 0BN

Burntisland & Kinghorn Foodbank SCIO Charity Number SC053410



Burntisland Community Suppers

Hurrah! Burntisland Community Suppers plan to restart in November. We are looking forward to welcoming diners again.

Planning is underway for a volunteer training and get together in October for new and old volunteers.

The suppers project runs with support from Burntisland Community Development Trust. We aim to give local people a chance to come along to make new friends in a social setting over a tasty meal without worrying

about costs or having to come with someone. We operate on a Pay What You Can basis.

The project also provides training opportunities for volunteers and brings the community together at the darkest time of the year. We run from 5-6.30pm on Saturdays at the Salvation Army Hall. Come and join us in November!

For more info or to volunteer check out our website. www.burntislandsuppers.org.uk



Museum of Communication

When Screens Were Small, but the Magic Seemed Huge

The Museum of Communication's new Exhibition, entitled 'When Screens Were Small, but the Magic Seemed Huge' is open on Wednesdays and Saturdays between 11am and 4pm until Saturday 26th September.

Visitors can see vintage TV equipment, learn about how it all began and what new technologies came as a result, go in front of a studio camera and play some retro-computer games. There will be plenty of exciting hands-on learning for children and nostalgia for adults. Please come along and see for yourself!

On Wednesday 23rd September, Museum Chairman Prof. Tom Stevenson will give a lecture entitled '100 Years of Television', marking a centenary that is a significant milestone in the history of mass communication.



Over the last 100 years, television has evolved from primitive beginnings through John Logie Baird's mechanical system, electronic broadcasting and digital transmission to internet streaming. The technologies may have changed, but television's core purposes in informing, educating and entertaining people remain immutable. The lecture highlights items that can be seen in the Museum.

See the Museum's website at www.museumofcommunication.org.uk for details of all events. There is an entry fee of £5 for lectures.

Please remember that the Museum of Communication is run entirely by volunteers. Please contact us on enquiries@mocft.co.uk if you'd consider joining us! There are opportunities to help out with this year's Exhibition.

David W. Brown



2026 EXHIBITION "WHEN SCREENS WERE SMALL BUT THE MAGIC FELT HUGE"

100 Years of Television

Come in to see vintage TV equipment, learn about how it all began, what new technologies came as a result, go in front of a studio camera and play some retrocomputer games too.

Entry is free and everyone is welcome

Museum of Communication

You Must See This!

Opens May to end
September
Wednesdays and
Saturdays only

11am to 4pm
last entry 3.30pm

Free Entry for All!

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Burntisland KY3 9AA
www.museumofcommunication.org.uk
email: enquiries@mocft.co.uk

Scottish Charity SC022004
Dates and Times

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Burntisland & District Pipe Band

It has been an incredibly busy, rewarding, and music-filled summer for the band. We've had the privilege of performing for our local community at the annual Highland Games and leading the way during the vibrant Civic Week parade. It is always a highlight of our year and a wonderful reminder of why we love doing what we do.

While we love our local community performances, we have also been fiercely representing our hometown on the national and international competitive circuit. Both our Grade 3A band and our Novice Juvenile B band have been traveling to competitions throughout the summer, and we are incredibly proud to report that both have met with fantastic success.

Particular highlights have been 5th and 6th place finishes for the NovB team at the Scottish and European Championships respectively, but we are especially proud of the Grade 3A team. They travelled to the UK championships in Northern Ireland, coming in 1st place then followed this up with wins at the Scottish and European championships. Huge well done all!



But it isn't just our pipers and drummers making waves! Our Juvenile, Junior, and Adult drum majors have also been stepping out in style, flourishing their maces and competing brilliantly across their respective grades. Their poise, discipline, and sharp drill have earned them well-deserved recognition and added another fantastic layer of pride to our band's achievements this year.

Particular results of note are a very successful day out for Drum Major Wyse at the Annan Riding of the March contest in early July, with an overall first place, alongside prizes for best dressed and best on parade. Our younger 'Drummies' shone at the European Championships at the end of June with Junior Drum Major Ivy Campbell placing 5th, and our Juvenile Drum Major(s) Catherine Spears placing 3rd, Thea Craig placing 5th and Logan Clark placing 6th. Well done to them on all their results across the season so far—there are too many placings to mention them all!

None of this success happens by accident. We want to take this opportunity to extend a huge, heartfelt thank you to our incredibly dedicated tutor team. As always, they have gone above and beyond, pouring their time, expertise, and endless patience into shaping our musicians and performers. Their tireless work behind the scenes is the absolute foundation of our band's continued growth. Continued thanks also goes to our long-time sponsors, Briggs Marine. Your support makes what we do possible.

As we look to the future, we are always eager to welcome new faces into our ranks. We are always happy to hear from potential new members & learners. Whether you want to pick up the chanter, a pair of drumsticks or a mace for the very first time, we have the right team in place to teach you.

Now, all eyes are fixed firmly on the horizon as we prepare for the absolute pinnacle of the piping calendar: The World Pipe Band Championships in Glasgow. If you want to follow our journey to Glasgow and keep up to date with all our latest news, competition results, and upcoming community events, the best place to find us is on Facebook.

Morag and Susan Cotton

Floral Action Burntisland

FCCAN Garden Party: Thanks to Fife Communities Climate Action Network (FCCAN) and Fife Climate Fund as part of Fife Climate Festival, FAB was able to host a lovely multi generation garden party with the residents of Allan Court on 28th June.



We had residents, neighbours, family members, FAB volunteers, locals and young visitors from the Broomhill Community Garden Kids Club all popping in for a chat and a cuppa. Tam, one of Allan Court's residents, provided the entertainment and had us singing and dancing in the sun.

A big thank you to Burntisland Fry for the sustainably sourced fish suppers, alongside refreshments in reusable mugs; all helping to make it a joyful day with a slightly lighter environmental footprint too. It was a wonderful afternoon and we felt lucky to be part of it. Plus the sun came out which felt like a minor miracle at the time! Thank you to everyone who helped make it happen.

Summer baskets: The summer hanging baskets and flower planters around town were successfully installed at the beginning of June. This is a major undertaking for our FAB volunteers, so thanks so everyone who was able to help out on the night! Thanks also to KromBie cherry picker hire for helping out on the night too.



The flowers and planters around town are now all looking FABulous and with this year's amazing summer sunshine are requiring at least twice weekly watering to keep looking their best. A huge thank you to all the FAB volunteers in the town who take the time to keep the plants watered and looking blooming marvellous!

Bowser: Thanks to some additional funding we now have two watering bowsters for the High St/Links area, this makes watering a much easier process as we can have 2 teams of volunteers topping up the water.....you might have seen some of them out and about, please stop and say hello!

If you're interested in **volunteering with FAB**, we'd love to hear from you. Visit our website

www.floralactionburntisland.co.uk or

Email us at: contact@floralactionburntisland.co.uk
secretaryfab@gmail.com

Adele Osborne, Chairperson



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Burntisland Harbour Access Trust

Would you believe it? One year ago Burntislanders joined us, BHAT, for a March and Rally on the East Dock—lovely weather and a great turn out, thanks. We wanted to raise Fife Council's awareness of the community's frustration at being locked out of the East Dock.

In September 2025, at the request of our local councillors, Fife Council's cabinet considered its position regarding access rights and rights of way around the East Dock. The Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 focuses on "responsible access"; it does not supersede the earlier Countryside (Scotland) Act 1967 that considers "rights of way".

Prior to the meeting Fife's Access Officer walked the East Dock with the BHAT chair and submitted his opinion. Fife refused to send a copy of the opinion to BHAT but did "liaise" with Forth Ports.



After 6 months and a successful Freedom of Information appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner, we obtained the Access Officer's opinion. You can read it at the following link: www.bhat.org.uk/post/what-the-access-officer-says/

You may feel that the Access Officer doubted the strength of the Forth Ports case for fencing off the East Dock. The authors of the report submitting evidence to the cabinet may have shared these doubts as they omitted this, the most

recent and relevant, opinion, preferring to submit an earlier, 2021 opinion. The submitted evidence also omitted any reference to the provisions of the Countryside (Scotland) 1967 Act.

Where next? The Fife Cabinet accepted the evidence submitted and, unsurprisingly, did not consider enforcement action "to have Forth Ports restore community access" appropriate. The cabinet added that Fife officers should monitor the situation, assist the community and land interests and consider any new information that may come to light. BHAT is now shining a light on overlooked legislation and a relevant yet ignored opinion.

Is Fife Council listening? We will let you know!

BHAT



Central Burntisland Tenants & Residents Association

During the summer months CBTRA has been working with Safer Communities and Community Police on addressing a range of anti social behaviours, from reducing dog fouling on our streets to improving safety.

We continue to supply dog waste bags on the High Street for public use and welcome any donation towards the cost of this, donations can be handed in to 'On a Roll' on the High Street.

Sadly we still have one or two lazy dog owners who do not clean up after their dog. Did you know you can report them to Safer Communities and they may receive a fine, and whilst this is a last resort the fine is quite significant if measured against picking up after pets.

Please help us to keep our High Street clean!

We meet again in August after our summer break, second Tuesday of the month at 6.30pm in 'On a Roll' café, you are all most welcome.

Lynne Ralph



Fife Historic Buildings Trust
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Broomhill Community Garden Kids Club

This year got off to a great start in May. We had a community table at the Big Green Market where we sold lots of plants, seeds, and rhubarb. A big thank you to everyone who purchased one of our plants—together, we raised £130. In addition the BGM kindly donated £1,000 from the proceeds of May's market. As we are a small community group run by volunteers, we rely on funding and donations to keep the club running, so we were hugely grateful to the Big Green Market and all their wonderful volunteers! Going forward, we are hoping to make our Plant Sale an annual event to mark the start of a new season of Garden Club.

Our sessions have been proving a great success this year. On average, we have 25 children attending a session, along with an adult, so the allotment can be a busy place on a Tuesday. Even when things are busy, you can always find a quiet space. That's what makes being outdoors special: you can choose to get involved or do your own thing. Sessions have been quieter during the summer holidays, but they always pick up again when everyone goes back to school. We continue after the holidays until our last session on Tuesday 29th October, so if you have not been along to check out Garden Club yet there is still plenty time!

What happens when it rains? Some of our mini gardeners attend in all weathers, but we also have our polytunnel. This year we reconfigured the space to allow us to use it in a way that allowed the children to move around independently. So if it does rain, we can still hold a session in the polytunnel. Some of our favourite things to do in the polytunnel are craft, draw, or play with the dinosaurs. We are always on the hunt for plastic tables and chairs suitable for toddlers, so if you have any lying around that you would like to donate, please message our Facebook page.

If you have never been along to Garden Club before, you might be wondering what we get up to. Well, this season we have been very busy planting and then looking after our vegetables as they grow. When they are ready, we will make something so everyone can have a taste. One of our favourites is when our tatties are ready, because not only is it fun digging them up, but we also make our own butter!

When we are not busy looking after our vegetables, we might play games, hunt for bugs (another favourite), cook up a feast in our mud kitchen, or toast marshmallows on the fire. During the summer holidays, we had an extra pair of hands, so we did some extra arts and crafts activities. Oh, and how

could we forget to mention our VIP visit from Cannoli the tortoise!

Something else that you might not know is that the 11th Fife Burntisland Scouts use one of our raised beds to grow their own vegetables. Their bed was getting a bit tired and starting to fall apart, so they have taken it upon themselves to work together and fix it. The first step was to empty the bed of all the earth—which was a huge task in itself, as they managed to fill three ton bags. The next step is to fix the bed before putting all the earth back in. Keep an eye on our page for progress pictures.

The Garden Club has been running for over ten years, and I am sure you will agree that it continues to be a great success. To enable us to keep the club running for many years to come, we are looking for some help. Certain parts of the Garden Club need some TLC, so we are on the lookout for anyone who might be able to help. The wood on our raised beds needs replacing, our decking area needs treating, we would absolutely love a new mud kitchen, and our willow tree is huge, so we need the help of a tree surgeon. If you can help or can put us in touch with someone who can, please message our Facebook page.

Sarah Stevenson



Parish Church guided tours

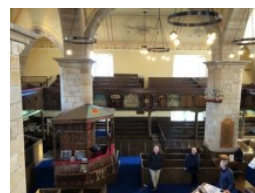
Burntisland Church of Scotland, located at the top of Kirkgate, continues to be open to visitors this summer until 29th August on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday afternoons between 2–4pm.

It will also be open as part of Doors Open Days on Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th September.

A church member will be there to give guided tours and answer any questions.

Built in 1592–1595 it is the oldest post-Reformation church still in use in Scotland, and where the new translation of the Bible was granted by King James VI in 1601.

Come and enjoy an afternoon of history with a visit to one of Scotland's most historic buildings—'The Kirk of the Bible'.



Local Business Updates

in association with **Totally Locally Burntisland**

Since the last issue of the Burgh Buzz...

Arina Meze Bar has opened, bringing a Greek restaurant to the High Street.

Poison Hair and Beauty on High Street has closed.

The Silver Tassie pub has also closed.

Aye Candy has closed on the High Street. Coastal Reflections is soon expected to relocate into the shop from their premises in Aberdour.

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



Black Rocks Rowing Club



Getting involved with Beach Day during Civic Week

In May 2024, the Black Rocks Rowing Club (BRRRC) launched our beautiful St Ayles skiff, named Irene. The skiff is a versatile 22 foot rowing boat typically crewed by four rowers with a cox steering and room for a passenger in the bow. While we row in open coastal waters, we have a safety first policy. Our club will provide all the equipment and training needed. Our boat is kept at the Burntisland Sailing Club on a floating dock.

Most of our rows are simply social in nature and allow us to enjoy the sights and sounds out on the Forth. We have social rows sometimes two to three times a week depending on weather and members availability. We also take part in competitions for those who want to.

If anyone would like to join us and try rowing, please just visit our website at www.burntislandrowing.org.uk and hit the link that takes you to our 'get involved' page. We are keen to recruit more members and we have "Come and Try" rows so you can see what it is like. Rowing is for all, no matter your level of fitness or experience. We have had a lot of people Come and Try lately and they have really enjoyed it.

Our membership has grown slowly but steadily since our launch. You can join the club as an individual or join as a family. Membership is extremely affordable so we can get new people involved. Some of our club members are complete novices and some of us are very experienced.

Brian Morley

Beacon Leisure Centre

Fun Session kids 8 to 12 years on Friday 28th August and Friday 25th September

No fun session on Friday 30th October

Limited spaces in our Learn to Swim Programme. Contact reception on 01592 583383

www.fifeleisure.org.uk/locations/beacon/

ABK Probus Club

Aberdour, Burntisland Kinghorn Probus is intended for retired men. The objective of the club is to provide opportunities for members to meet others in similar circumstances, to socialise and promote common interests.

The club meets, on the first and third Tuesday of the month, at the Kingswood Hotel from 10am to 12pm meetings generally start with coffee and time for a chat followed by any club business then a presentation by an invited speaker on any of a wide range of interesting subjects.



Why not come along to the Kingswood Hotel as our guest to meet members and listen to these interesting talks from 10am.

There is currently an active snooker subgroup who meet every Friday and others such as bowling maybe possible. We also arrange occasional outings during the year.

We would welcome new members and invite anyone interested to contact Jim Bisset (President) for further details. Telephone 07958 305349 or email jimbisset1@gmail.com

John Bruce

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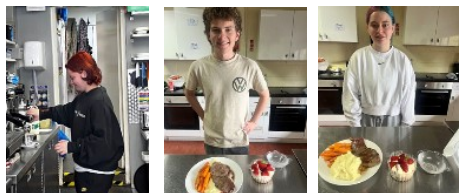
As we reach the end of another successful academic year, we have been celebrating the hard work, achievements and community spirit of our young people. From completing qualifications and developing important life skills to representing Starley Hall within the local community, it has been another busy and rewarding term with plenty to celebrate.

Life Skills in Action

Developing life skills is an important part of our curriculum, helping young people build confidence and independence for life beyond school. This term, our young people have continued to build employability skills through work experience and School College Partnership opportunities.

We are grateful to local businesses, including the Olive Tree Café and Porte Auto Services, for providing valuable work experience opportunities. These experiences help young people develop confidence, independence and practical skills while strengthening links with the local community.

Through Hospitality and other practical learning opportunities, our young people develop skills such as planning, budgeting, shopping, cooking and working together.



Recently, two of our young people enjoyed a trip to Burntisland High Street to buy ingredients for a meal they had planned together. With a budget of £10 each, they visited local businesses, including the butcher and greengrocer, where they chatted with staff about the produce before deciding what to buy. Back at school, they worked together to prepare minute steak with mashed potatoes, honey-glazed carrots

and strawberry cheesecake for dessert. They were delighted with the finished meal and should be very proud of what they achieved.



Burntisland Civic Week Parade

One of the highlights of the term was taking part in the Civic Week Parade. Our theme was "Scotland Through Our Eyes", celebrating Scotland through artwork created by our talented young people.

The artwork was inspired by photographs taken by one of our young people, Henry, of places across Scotland. In preparation for the parade, our young people worked alongside local artist Vanessa Gibson, who supported them to develop their creative ideas and transform Henry's photographs into artwork for the parade.

It was a fantastic opportunity for our young people to learn new artistic skills, build confidence and see their work become part of a large community event. The parade was a wonderful celebration of Burntisland, and our young people were incredibly proud to represent Starley Hall alongside other local groups. It was lovely to see so many members of the community enjoying the artwork and cheering everyone on as the parade made its way through the town.

Fundraising



In July, we took part in the Big Green Market to raise money for Burntisland Hedgehog Haven. Our young people worked together

to organise and run a sweet-themed tombola, and helping visitors throughout the event.

Thanks to the generosity of the local community, staff and families, we were delighted to raise £140 for this much-loved local charity. It was another fantastic opportunity for our young people to develop confidence, teamwork and communication skills while giving something back to the community.



The team at Burntisland Hedgehog Haven were delighted with the donation. As a lovely surprise, they even said they would name one of the hedgehogs after one of our young people!

End of Term Celebrations

To celebrate the end of another successful academic year, our young people enjoyed a range of end-of-term trips, giving everyone the opportunity to celebrate their achievements and make lasting memories with friends and staff after another busy and successful year.

This year's activities included Splatter Art, The Time Capsule, the Museum of Flight and a boat trip to Inchcolm Island. These visits provided opportunities to try new experiences, develop confidence and enjoy time together outside the classroom.

We would like to thank everyone who has supported Starley Hall throughout the year. We are grateful to our local community, businesses and organisations for helping our young people feel welcome, valued and connected.

Wishing everyone a happy, relaxing rest of summer. **Tracy Duffin, Principal Teacher**

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St Serf's Church

Rev Dr Karen McClain Kiefer was ordained Deacon in the Scottish Episcopal Church in June, and is currently serving at St Serf's, Burntisland (as well as St Columba's, Aberdour and St Peter's, Kirkcaldy). Karen is originally from Ohio in the U.S., where she had careers in corporate IT and project management. She came to the University of St Andrews in 2017 and gained her PhD there from the Institute for Theology, Imagination and the Arts.

Karen provides spiritual accompaniment, retreat and workshop facilitation and was a member of the Pastoral Team at the Bield at Blackruthven retreat centre near Perth. She has been active in ministry since her arrival in Scotland in 2017, and has served in various ministries in Arizona, New Mexico and Minnesota since 2002.

In addition to her academic and pastoral background, Karen has guided groups on walks, pilgrimages and tours around Scotland. She enjoys work in the arts that emphasises creative storytelling and cultural awareness, and has directed, co-curated and contributed to numerous performances and arts installations in diverse venues, with a special interest in church and cultural spaces. Karen is also a community theatre co-founder, director, improviser, a certified Advanced Playback Theatre Practitioner and member of Playback Edinburgh.

Karen has thoroughly enjoyed her time in Burntisland so far and looks forward to getting to know more members of the community and organisations here.

From Karen: "I am very moved by the warm welcome I have experienced at St Serf's and throughout the community during my first month here. I had great fun at Games Day

on 20th July and met so many wonderful residents, visitors and community leaders.

I look forward to continuing to engage more fully at St Serf's, in Burntisland Churches Together, and in the wider community, including some pilgrimage walks along the Fife Coastal Path, and connecting with local arts groups, among other things! Hope to see you soon!"

All are most welcome to join us for our Eucharist service on Sundays at 10 am at St Serf's on Cromwell Road, followed by lively fellowship! **Our Harvest Festival service is on Sunday 20th September at 10am.** It would be lovely to see you.



Erskine Church

It was certainly glorious weather for Games Day this year! My personal highlight is always the parade from the Burgh Chambers down to the Links. There were so many people out enjoying the bright sunshine and the procession was led by our fabulous Pipe Band. All those involved in planning the Games and its associated events always do the town very proud indeed. Well done!

Thank you from all of us in Erskine to those of you who supported our café in the church halls during the day itself. We hope you enjoyed the food and drinks, the snacks and good craic.

We continue having monthly Sunday services with our BEK partners from Burntisland & Kinghorn Parish Church. There's always a warm welcome, lively music and a thought-provoking message.

Chilled Church happens every 3 weeks too, in a very relaxed atmosphere with activities and usually some tasty treats to enjoy along the way. Please check our Facebook pages for more details with all the dates, times and venues. Why not come and join us?

Nobody likes any changes, that includes ministers! But after nearly 14 years in Burntisland and at Erskine, I've now changed direction to part-time ministry. I want to say a BIG thank you to those in the town who've been such good friends, neighbours and colleagues over that time.

Even more of a change, we've moved as a family to Kinghorn! I'll still very much be Erskine's minister, although things won't be quite the same now. But as a wise person told me, you may live in Kinghorn, but your heart will always be in Burntisland. I strongly suspect that's 100% true! And, of course, my faith travels with me wherever I go.

Next up is our **Coffee and Pancakes morning in Erskine halls** on Saturday 29th August from 10am. All the usual and very delicious goodies will be available, need we say anything more?

By the way, the United Free Church's Moderator, Rev. Jane McArthur, will be visiting Erskine on Sunday 20th September at 11am. Moderators spend a lot of time visiting congregations around Scotland, so it would be lovely if you could come along when Jane is with us here in Fife.

Enjoy the rest of the summer, it's a time to rest and relax while we have some decent temperatures. I still hope to see folks around the town, be safe and take care.

Rev. Alexander Ritchie



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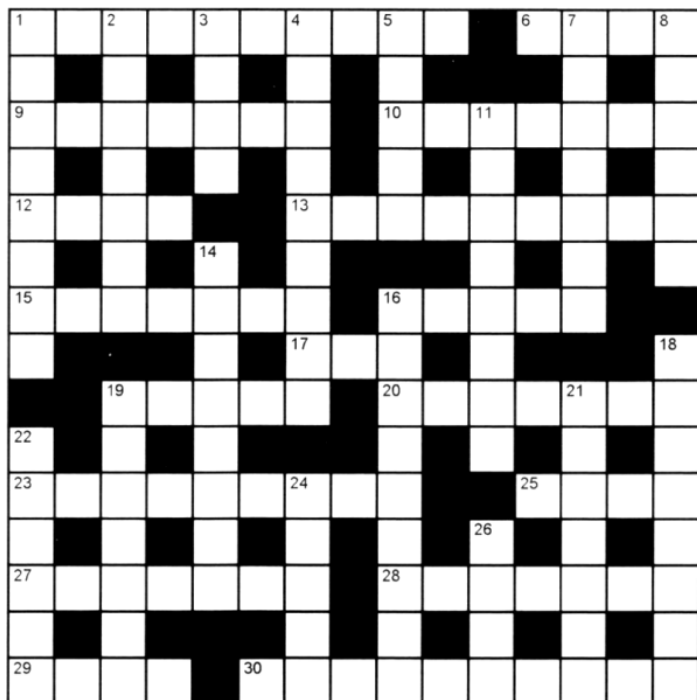
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THE PRIZE CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1. Below (10)
6. Jane Austen Novel (4)
9. Book section (7)
10. Uncertain (7)
12. Submissive (4)
13. Fondness (9)
15. Prospect (7)
16. Topic (5)
17. Female sheep (3)
19. Managed (5)
20. Posy (7)
23. Early coach/bus (9)
25. Brandy from grape residue (4)
27. State capital of Georgia (7)
28. Rowers (7)
29. Overdue (4)
30. Et cetera (3,2,5)

DOWN

1. Rare (8)
2. Most expensive (7)
3. Long tailed rodents (4)
4. Reserve for a purpose (9)
5. Robber (5)
7. ———Chevalier, Singer (7)
8. Playing a part (6)
11. Become less (8)
14. Grumble (8)
16. Dogged (9)
18. Spring bulb (8)
19. Wreath for the head (7)
21. Branch of language study (7)
22. Scribble (6)
24. Once more (5)
26. Composer of "Carmina Burana" (4)

May Crossword Solution

Across: 1 Pretending, 6 Alps, 9 Slender, 10 Cascade, 12 Iris, 13 Insolence, 15 Lesotho, 16 Synod, 17 Run, 19 Annoy, 20 Origami, 23 Harboured, 25 Stag, 27 Militia, 28 Neptune, 29 Sick, 30 Ambassador.

Down: 1 Possible, 2 Enemies, 3 Eddy, 4 Dormitory, 5 Nicks, 7 Learned, 8 Sweden, 11 Splendid, 14 Stand out, 17 Snowdonia, 18 King Lear, 19 Acrylic, 21 Astonish, 22 Thomas, 24 Realm, 26 Opus.

Congratulations to our May crossword winner:

Sandy Brown, High Street

Name

Address

Telephone

Completed entries by 15th October to: **1 Lammerlaws Road, Burntisland, KY3 9DT** or email paulbriscoe1@gmail.com

First entry drawn from the correct submissions wins **£40**.

Solution will appear in the next Burgh Buzz issue.

Burntisland's Events Diary

AUGUST

Wednesday	26th	Community Council meeting in the Sands Hotel (also online via Zoom)	7 pm
Saturday	29th	Coffee and Pancakes in the Erskine Church Hall	10 am–12 noon
Sunday	30th	Burntisland Makers Market at the Music Hall	11am–3 pm

SEPTEMBER

Thursday	3rd	Police Community Surgery in the old Police Station, 60 High Street	10–11am
Friday	4th	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	12 noon–3 pm
Saturday	5th	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls (includes Repair Café 10 am–12 noon)	10 am–1 pm
		ReACH Community Open Day at the Parish Church, see page 12	11am–3 pm
		Burntisland & Kinghorn Foodbank annual celebration in the Sands Hotel, see page 18	7–11pm
Friday	11th	Christmas Lights fundraiser Bingo Night at the Jubilee Tavern	7 pm
		Acoustic Music Club in Burntisland Bowling Club	7:30 pm–10:30 pm

Saturday 12th & Sunday 13th **Fife Doors Open Days** BFAST old Police Station, 60 High Street, 9:30am–4:45pm (Saturday only)
Burntisland Heritage Exhibition, Upper Library Halls 11am–4pm and Burntisland Parish Church, Kirkgate 2–4pm

Tuesday	15th	Community Council meeting, in 60 High Street (also online via Zoom)	7 pm
Friday	18th	Fundraiser in aid of Over 70s Christmas Treat at the Kingswood Hotel, see page 13	7:30 pm
Wednesday	23rd	Museum of Communication Talk on 100 Years of Television (also online via Zoom)	7 pm
Saturday	26th	Coffee Morning in aid of Cancer Research UK at St Joseph's Church	10:30 am–12:30 pm
Sunday	27th	Burntisland Makers Market at the Music Hall	11am–3 pm

OCTOBER

Friday	2nd	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	12 noon–3 pm
Saturday	3rd	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls (includes Repair Café 10 am–12 noon)	10 am–1 pm
Sunday	4th	Burntisland Civic Week AGM in the Sands Hotel	2 pm
Friday	9th	Police Community Surgery in the old Police Station, 60 High Street	10–11am
		Acoustic Music Club in Burntisland Bowling Club	7:30 pm–10:30 pm
Tuesday	20th	Community Council meeting, location to be confirmed (also online via Zoom)	7 pm
Sunday	25th	Burntisland Makers Market at the Music Hall	11am–3 pm
Saturday	31st	Autumn Fayre with coffee and pancakes in the Erskine Church Hall	10 am–12 noon
Saturday	31st	Traditional Halloween Party for children aged 2–10 at the Toll Community Centre	2 pm–3:30 pm

NOVEMBER

Wednesday	4th	Bonfire Night & Fireworks Display on the Links (bonfire lit at 7pm)	from 6 pm
Friday	6th	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls	12 noon–3 pm
Saturday	7th	Big Green Market in the Parish Church Halls (includes Repair Café 10 am–12 noon)	10 am–1 pm
Sunday	8th	Remembrance Sunday parade and services at the Parish Church (10:45am) and War Memorial (~12 noon)	

To include a public event taking place in November, December or January in our next issue, email: editor@burghbuzz.org.uk

You can also view an online version of this calendar with any future updates at: www.burghbuzz.org.uk/calendar

Craigencalt Rural Community Trust

The Walking Group was pleased to host a walk during Burntisland Civic Week. Our favourite route leaves Burntisland Beach to cross Pettycur Sands to Kinghorn. The tide conditions were perfect this year. It was even tempting to go out to the Black Rock. At Kinghorn we climbed the cemetery steps to stop for a snack and admire the panoramic view across Pettycur to the bridges. We proceeded to Kinghorn Loch and returned to Burntisland via Binnend. It had been a lovely walk, enjoyed by all, including folk new to longer walks.



We have enjoyed some other interesting days out this summer. A big highlight was a visit to Puddledub Nature Reserve at Auchtertool, where Caroline showed us around. It was a beautiful hot sunny day and the sand martins were hiding in the

shade of their sand bank. George, the moth man, was on hand to point out different moth species and the particular wild flowers which they rely on. We finished with tea and scones in the garden, ending a very pleasant afternoon indeed. Recently we had a lovely surprise whilst walking along Kirkcaldy prom on our way to Dysart. We came across a mural of a whale. It was so striking, and a reminder that whales are often seen around in the deep water of the Firth of Forth.

The Trust held its annual meeting at The Sands Hotel in late Spring. At the get-together this year there was a presentation by Ron Edwards entitled the 'History of Kinghorn Loch from formation as a kettlehole lake.' Although just a small, deep loch it played an important role in the evolution of Kinghorn for centuries.

It was interesting to hear that the loch has been polluted at different times throughout history. People remembered the most recent problem when the loch was polluted by Alcan. This was addressed in the 1980's and the loch has made a steady recovery ever since, to the excellent water quality enjoyed today. The loch is now well used by the community, and is a

lovely place to come and relax. In summer plenty of people come along to enjoy water sports activities, paddleboarding and swimming. The wildlife has flourished too, with the swans rearing six cygnets.

The Trust has spent further time on its new project developing the Rock Rest picnic area. Now, with encouragement there is a variety of wild flowers growing in the rockery. In time we will be taking it further up the hillside, so people will be able to get a great view of the loch and the Forth beyond.

Sun and rain together has produced a lot of growth on paths this year and the Trust has struggled to keep on top of it all. We know people enjoy a walk in the countryside and how much it can lift the spirits. Please consider contacting us to help keep our paths trimmed back. You can contact us by email info@craigencalttrust.org.uk or phone 07740 999514 for more information.

Marilyn Edwards

www.craigencalttrust.org.uk



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