



# T h e F e r r y N e w s

Issue 66

[www.ferrynews.co.uk](http://www.ferrynews.co.uk)

## The West Bay Steering Group

For six years now there has been a question mark hanging over the future of West Bay. This is the area of land and piers currently occupied by The Boat Club and by Balfour Beatty who use the area as a car park. Last November, a number of community groups, local councillors and Fife Council officials got together under the auspices of North Queensferry Community Council to discuss the future of the area.

The groups involved represent a very wide range of community interests: The Community Council, Community Centre, School Parent Council, Transition Initiative Group, Boat Club, Sailing Club, Save Our Bay and Heritage Trust. Over the last 6 months the members of the group have had 3 consultation mornings which have been guided by an independent facilitator paid for by Fife Council. These meetings have found a strong consensus around the idea of community ownership and the desire to look after the land in a way which keeps the area public and which benefits all the users of the bay area.

To develop this further the group has now formalised itself as the West Bay Steering Group. The aim of this group is to work together to identify the community's needs and wishes, to develop a sustainable plan for the area and to bring into being an appropriate accountable trust or body to take ownership of the land.

During the consultation mornings, the West Bay Steering Group members have agreed on a set of shared values for this area. There are also lots of ideas within the group about what sort of development might be possible. This is a community project so the next step is to establish a wider consultation with the community about what you would like to see happening in West Bay. That's why we're setting up a **'Big Breakfast' Drop in consultation morning on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> November** at the Community Centre.

The idea is that during the morning residents can drop in to the community centre. There will be display boards with information about the area and the Steering Group. There will be people on hand from West Bay Steering Group and Fife Council to answer any questions you may have. There will be a chance to have

a think about the area and put forward your thoughts and ideas. What sort of West Bay would you like to see? It will only take a few minutes to drop in and have your say and there will be bacon rolls and tea and coffee available in order to help the brain cells get into gear on a chilly Saturday morning

The West Bay Steering Group is run through The Community Council. If you would like to know more or desire any further information then please attend the next Community Council meeting which will be held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm in the Community Centre.

## Community Centre

On Saturday September 4 the Annual General Meeting of the Community Centre was held, this time with a difference. The date exactly coincided with the opening ceremony in 1992 and invitations were sent to all residents to come to 'a trip down memory lane' and view video footage of the construction of the centre eighteen years ago. Amongst those attending were several who had been in at the beginning and over wine and cheese after the formal proceedings many reminiscences were shared. Exhibition panels were displayed by the Gala Committee, Parent and Toddler Group, and the North Queensferry Transition Initiative

The committee marked the long and distinguished service of Jimmy Dyce to the Centre by a presentation of an inscribed Quaich. This was accepted by Greta Dyce along with the good wishes of all to Jimmy for a speedy recovery from his operation.

The existing committee (Iain Whyte, Jill Brown, Brian Armstrong, Christina MacKenzie, Greta Dyce and Lucy Macaulay) were re-elected and two further members, Leonard Gray and Adam Nosal, co-opted to the committee since the AGM had their election confirmed. Despite appeals for more nominations none were forthcoming. There are still spaces on the committee and anyone interested should contact the Secretary at 417429.

A further fundraising event is planned for Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November (close to St Andrew's Day) which we hope will be well supported.

*Iain Whyte*

## *Ferry Birds – May to Sept 2010*

The breeding birds around the village seem to have done reasonably well. In June broods of **aiders** came and went in West Bay. Many small young don't survive the onslaught from the bigger gulls, although enough appear to do so to maintain overall numbers. The **common terns** on the derelict pier also seem to have done well. I saw about 80 adults there in May and several young later on. I didn't monitor them as closely as I did last year, but I think they were fairly successful. The local **peregrines** were successful as were the **sand martins** in the quarry. In early September I saw about 200 **swallows** and **sand martins** on the power lines at the quarry entrance. I also saw 4 well-grown young **shelducks** with their parents in Inverkeithing Inner Bay in the middle of August. It is difficult to know how well the commoner resident birds fared. I have certainly seen plenty of **robins**, **goldfinches** and **long-tailed tits** on my walks around the village although there seem to be fewer **house sparrows** and **starlings**. On a walk around the North Queensferry peninsula on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of October I saw 35 different kinds of bird. I took in most of the different habitats such as the lower village, West Bay, Ferry Loch, the Water Tank and the coastal path. The highlights included a **treecreeper** in the woods by the side of Ferry Road, 2 **buzzards** over the north end of the Road Bridge, a **peregrine** over the quarry and a **grey wagtail** at Port Laing. Other good counts were

about 40 **redshanks** on the floating mooring in West Bay, nearly 30 **oystercatchers** on the rocky beach just west of the Road Bridge, and 3 **great-crested grebes** in Inverkeithing Inner Bay.

I wrote in May that I had heard a **green woodpecker** in the village several times. Unfortunately I have nothing further to report. Anyone who may have heard or seen one please let me know. Other more unusual birds I have seen or heard over the summer have included a **tawny owl** calling on the evening of the 19<sup>th</sup> of August, a **sparrowhawk** over The Brae on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of September and a **peregrine** which was found injured in a garden in the lower village. This was a female which had a damaged wing. It was caught, fed and watered and then taken to The SPCA Middlebank Wildlife Centre where, as far as I know, it remains. Although not unusual, **grey herons** have been seen in West Bay and on the rocky islands between the Railway Pier and the Road Bridge and I saw 7 of them hanging around at high tide above the shoreline between the Road Bridge and St Margaret's Marsh in September.

The onset of autumn was (a little early maybe?) as usual heralded by the return of a few **redshanks** to West Bay. Having been absent for most of May and June a few were spotted in the last week of June which maintains their remarkably consistent date of return over the last few years. The **Sandwich terns** then appeared in good numbers at the end of July. They seem to move from their breeding grounds to

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## Transition Initiative

The Transition Initiative is delighted to introduce our Carbon Cutters energy efficiency project team. Our Project Coordinator, Gina Martin and two Energy Advisers, Neil MacDougall and Jess Woodall started in June and have been busy establishing our Carbon Cutters energy efficiency project in the village.

The funding we received from the Climate Challenge Fund has enabled us to set up a free home energy efficiency support service which is available to anyone in the village who would like to take part. As part of the service, we're offering home energy visits and advice and support on how to reduce energy bills and improve energy efficiency in the home. We're also working with the Energy Savings Scotland advice centre and Fife Council to help people access financial assistance and discounts which might be available.

Since we started in June we have signed up over 40 households to Carbon Cutters and have already identified potential savings of around 20% on their energy bills through simple measures such as loft insulation, installing heating controls, changing to energy efficient light bulbs and switching off appli-

ances when not in use. For the households we have worked with so far, these relatively straightforward changes could save them between £250 and £800 on their energy bills. This success is putting us well on the way to reducing our CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the village by 51 tonnes by March next year so a big thank you to everyone who has taken part so far!

Carbon Cutters now has our office established in the Community Centre and anyone can pop in for some advice during our Advice Place opening times (**Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10am to 12pm**). We have also developed a library of books on energy efficiency which is available to anyone to borrow.

Our next phase of work is to link in with community groups in the village and we are available to come and give a small presentation to your group on the work we're doing and how we might be able to help you.

If you would like some advice on any aspect of your energy use, please come and see us at the Advice Place or contact Gina Martin on 07796 099697, or email [nqcarboncutters@gmail.com](mailto:nqcarboncutters@gmail.com)

The Forth Estuary at this time to fatten up before they migrate to West Africa for the winter. They often fly around in pairs with the young birds calling for food and being fed on the surface when the adult has caught a sand eel. The young have also to learn to catch their own food before they start their migration. I saw several **Sandwich terns** from the coastal path near Kirkcaldy on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of October. Another sign of the changing seasons is the return of **little grebes** and **great-crested grebes** to the coast. There was a pair of the latter in Inverkeithing Inner Bay on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October and 5 **little grebes** there on the 5<sup>th</sup> of October.

Autumn is the time to see **gannets** in Inverkeithing Bay. In favourable conditions hundreds can be seen circling round, on the water and occasionally diving into the sea searching for food. The bird walk on the 18<sup>th</sup> of September was well timed. I reckoned there were at least 300 **gannets**, nearly all immature birds, in the bay. The young having been fattened up on the nests on the Bass Rock are often so full of food that they have difficulty taking off from the sea. Except for the **gannets** we didn't see many birds on the walk although there were a few **Sandwich terns** and **aiders** along the coast and we did hear a **chiffchaff** in the trees at the south end of Port Laing. The earlier family nature walk on the 30<sup>th</sup> of June was rather disappointing mainly I think because it was the evening when Andy Murray was playing at Wimbledon. He won the match

hands down.

Some of you will have seen the articles in the press about a decline in the numbers of **chaffinches**. It has been suggested that this has been caused by dirty bird feeders. Don't stop feeding the birds this winter but clean the feeder thoroughly before you use it and clean it regularly thereafter.

Management of the plants on Carlingnose Reserve began in October. The grassland will be cut and some of the gorse and other invasive species will be removed. This is all part of the work which has to be done to maintain the calcareous grassland which is, of course, the reason why it is a reserve in the first place. One of the plants which grow in this habitat is the **field gentian**. This seemed to have disappeared from the reserve but made a big comeback this year. The plant grows where the grass is short and is often associated with areas where rabbits graze. At the beginning of August I counted at least 50 flowering spikes on the reserve. It has beautiful blue-violet bell-shaped flowers which often only open in sunshine. It is great that the plant has reappeared and let us all hope that it is here to stay. The other plants of particular importance on the reserve are **bloody cranesbill**, **lesser meadow-rue** and **dropwort**. They all seem to have done well this year and, with the continuing success of the **common terns** means the reserve is in great shape.

*John Done*

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## Sailing Club

The North Queensferry Sailing Club has finished its first season and the boats have now been tucked up for the winter. The season has been a great success on many fronts, with a good number of kids turning up to have some fun on the water. Lessons have also been a success with a fair number of kids now competent enough to take boats out themselves (although the rescue boats and instructors were never far away!).

We have also had another generous round of funding from the Community Council which has allowed us to buy more safety gear to keep people warm and safe when they are taking part in sailing. We would again like to say thank you to the Community Council for their continued help. On that note we would also like to say thank you to Network Rail and Balfour Beatty for stepping in to provide boat storage at the Rail Bridge. This season would definitely not have happened without their help!

On the not so positive side, we were not able to do anything with the many adults who have joined the



club. This has been disappointing and is mainly down to 'logistics and staffing issues' i.e. not enough boats, rescue boats, instructors or rescue boat drivers. So our winter jobs for this year, in addition to maintenance of the boats and laying moorings (oh, we now have permission to lay moorings in the bay at the town pier!), will be to put another person through the RYA instructor course and to get more people trained on driving rescue boats. This will allow us to run more lessons next year for everyone that wants to take part.

So, over the winter we are putting together the agenda for next year. In addition to a season's worth of sailing lessons for kids and adults we also hope to hold a few 'socials' in the village, for members and non members alike. We will give details of the agenda and when sailing lessons will be taking place nearer the time but in the meantime if anyone is interested in joining the North Queensferry Sailing Club, please contact Paul Tucker on 416 385 or download an application form from our web site at <http://www.northqueensferrysc.co.uk>.

## Talking about books

We have been quietly meeting once every month and getting on with it for years without making a fuss. But we thought that we should come out and let everyone in on our secret.

There is a reading group in the village. And since we have just put together our subscriptions to start another year, we know that we must have been around for four years. Because we have been just the right size, we have not been seeking more members. But we have recently lost some core members, and there is space for new members to join in the fun. Charmaine and George McKissock, who left the village a few months ago, were two of the founding members of the group. And Jenny and Martin Eastwood are also planning to move south.

When we started, we chose to join up with Fife Libraries reading-group service. It is very simple, and it has worked really well. We each pay about £1.50 for the year. And Fife Libraries sends us a box of ten copies of a book for us to read and talk about. The library service now has between 150 and 200 sets of books at its reading-group headquarters in Kirkcaldy. When we started there were already almost 100 other reading groups signed up with Fife Libraries. The reading group service keeps account of which books we have had, so that they can be sure to send us something new each time.

We take it in turn to meet in members' houses. We meet on a Sunday afternoon at 4 pm, and settle down to talk about the book that we have had for the last month. At the end of the meeting, we all get to find out what our next book will be.

The beauty of relying on Fife Libraries is that we never know what will turn up. Every so often we get copies of the complete list of books for reading-groups, and each time the list is longer. We must have had more than 40 books to read and discuss over our four years. And many of them have been complete surprises. Those of us who have not been accustomed to reading works of fiction (setting aside that holiday novel or that airport detective story) have enjoyed a double pleasure.

One pleasure is the discovery of books that we would never have chosen for ourselves. And there have been many authors who have been new to all or most of us, and whose other books we want to go away and find for ourselves. The second pleasure is one that all of us have enjoyed. If you are going to talk about a book that you have read, you need to stop and think in order to work out what the book has meant to you. And then it is really interesting to hear how the same book has affected other members of the group.

It is rare for us all to agree on liking a particular book, but even when we do it is for different reasons.

Usually, opinions are divided and it makes for long discussions to discover why someone has disliked some aspects of a book that you found exceptionally good. There have been books that have beaten us and one or two that we have all disliked – but always for different reasons. For me, finding what the other members of the group have made of a book has been a doubling of the pleasure of reading. In the light of what one reader has said about a book, I have heard other members of the group say that they must go back and read that passage, or the whole book, again.

We have read Sebastian Faulk's *Birdsong*, Isabelle Allende's *Daughter of Fortune*, Nicholas Montsarrat's *The Cruel Sea*, Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Flyer*, Cormac McCarthy's *The Road* (before the film came out), Michael Frayn's *Headlong*, and Mary Ann Shaffer's *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*. A real mixture, and almost every book that has come our way, we have felt, was worth the effort and taught us something.

Right now, there are spaces in the groups for some new members. We are limited to about 12 people, because we get 10 copies of each book (and fortunately there are one or two couples who can share a copy). There is also the matter of getting all the group sat down in someone's house (but there are often one or two people who cannot come, and have to send their views on the book with someone else). Probably the most important reason to limit the size of the group is the need to give everyone a chance to tell the group their take on the book in hand, and to do that within a couple of hours.

Of course, if lots and lots of potential new reading group members came forward, there would be nothing to stop us from forming a second (or a third) reading group, meeting on a different day at a different time. Apart from a handful of curious readers, the only requirement for the functioning of the group is for one member to be willing to collect and return the blue crates of books to Inverkeithing Library, which is where they are delivered from the Kirkcaldy HQ.

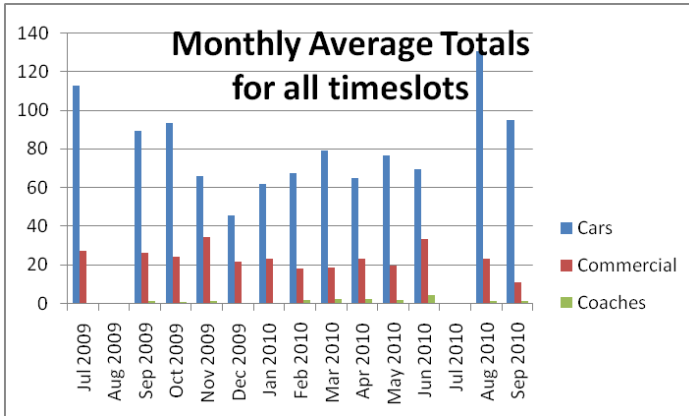
If you are interested in joining the existing group, which meets on the second Sunday of each month at 4 pm, get in touch with Carol Dean (phone 418781, or email [carol@triple-f.co.uk](mailto:carol@triple-f.co.uk)). She is our book-collector-deliverer at present. If you are interested, but you would prefer another day or another time, then Carol will collect the names and see if there are enough to start a second group.

As for me, I have to get on with reading this month's book – *The Book Thief*, by Markus Zusak – do you know it? Just reading what I can find on the internet about the book and the author makes it sound really intriguing.

Trevor Watkins



**North Queensferry Traffic Survey Summary,  
for North Queensferry Heritage Trust**

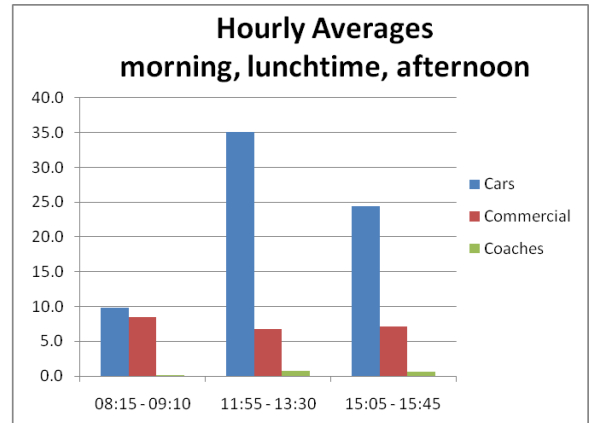


Over the past school year, Mark Wallace, our lollipop man, has been conducting an informal traffic survey, as he safeguards children crossing the road, in the morning, lunchtime and afternoon. The survey lists the number of cars, commercial vehicles (vans and lorries) and coaches passing the War Memorial on two days each month.

Traffic was recorded from 08:30 to 09:15; from 11:55 to 13:30; and from 15:05 to 15:45.

This first chart shows how the traffic has varied throughout the year. The Commercial Vehicle and Coach traffic is pretty steady, while the number of cars seems to increase in the summer months.

The second chart shows how traffic varies across the three sample periods. There are about 8 commercial vehicles per hour morning, noon and afternoon. Car traffic averages about 10 cars per hour in the morning, peaks around 35 cars per hour at lunchtime, and drops to about 24 cars per hour in the afternoon slot.



**WALKING GROUP**

The group have had a successful summer of interesting walks and reasonable weather. Our programme continues with the following walks for the remainder of the year. All levels are welcome to join – it is a fun way to get a little exercise and fresh air.

Contact Janet King on [jsking1@btinternet.co.uk](mailto:jsking1@btinternet.co.uk) or 416734 with any queries.

Walks leave from the Church car park at 10 am  
Dates for 2010:

- Oct 27<sup>th</sup> Aberdour via Heughs circular 4 miles
- Nov 10<sup>th</sup> Rumbling Bridge circular 4 miles
- Nov 24<sup>th</sup> Dollar Bank circular 3 miles
- Dec 8<sup>th</sup> Water of Leith from Art Gallery linear
- Dec 22<sup>nd</sup> Townhill Loch & Woods circular 4 miles



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## Boat Festival

The Inaugural Traditional Boat Festival, hosted at the Ferry Pier by North Queensferry Boat Club and supported by Celebrating Fife, has been seen by all as a runaway success. Over 800 visitors came through the gate during the afternoon despite competition from larger events such as Dunfermline Athletic playing at home and the Leuchers Air Show.

It all got off to a brilliant start with children from North Queensferry Primary School opening the show with songs from the sea, performed faultlessly to a large audience of proud parents, club members and visitors alike. From this there was no going back. The kids fairground rides hardly stopped all day, going round and round and swinging up and down. Then there was the bouncy castle to finish it off. For mum and dad the craft fair was offering an excellent choice of ware, accompanied by the craft demonstrations from our friends from Gal Gael in Govan, who were demonstrating how to spin and weave. There was also traditional blacksmithing. Again for the children there was the Rosyth Model Club and their power boats for steering around the pond, though it was clear that there were a lot of grown up kids having a go. Unfortunately the Reaper was unable to attend as hoped but we were well supported with boats from many harbours around the Firth of Forth. There was excellent food on sale in our cafe, where you could enjoy your cup of tea whilst listening to many live musical performances.

Arguably the star attraction were the boats from the coastal rowing project, who put on a few races for the benefit of the festival. However, in the combative nature of these races, there was no quarter given anywhere. North Queensferry Boat Club are looking to take the lead in acquiring one of these boats for

the NQ community. Already there are approximately 17 boats around the Forth and beyond. South Queensferry have purchased their kit and are busy building it now. Working with James Lawson from the Heritage Trust, NQBC are keen to resurrect the racing between these two historic towns.

We have been asked by so many people if we shall do this again next year and I can confirm that we are certainly looking to follow it up in 2011 but it is going to be a hard act to follow.

I would like to say a massive thanks to all the visitors who attended on the day, the exhibitors, the crews of all the boats, NQ Primary School, the Coastal Rowing Teams who had so much fun and generated so much interest, the Sea Cadets, the Rotary, Deep Sea World, Gal Gael, RNLI, Palmers, Fife Council and most importantly all the members of North Queensferry Boat Club who worked very hard to give North Queensferry a day to be proud of and an opportunity to build on a community event that could become a keystone event in Fife's cultural calendar.

**Request:** if you were down at the festival and took photographs, we would like you to share them with us. We are hoping to build up a portfolio of the event and are looking for visitors to send in any photographs to us on [johnky11@hotmail.com](mailto:johnky11@hotmail.com)

**Coastal Rowing Project:** If you are interested in being part of the North Queensferry experience and want to crew, please note that NQBC are intending to have an open evening to inform you more about the racing, with invited speakers coming along to share their experiences. Please note that one boat can have many teams of any permutation, all men, all women, mixed gender, OAP's, under 16. It is whatever you want. Visit our web site for more info [www.northqueensferryboatclub.co.uk](http://www.northqueensferryboatclub.co.uk).

## Remembrance Sunday

This year's annual Service of Remembrance will be held at the Village War Memorial on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November, commencing at 1050 a.m. The service will be conducted by Rev. Dr Iain MacRobert, the Salvation Army Band will play for us and tea and coffee will be available at the Albert Hotel after the service.

This is very much a whole community event, which has been well supported in the past and it is hoped that this year will be no exception. Should anyone wish to play an individual role at the ceremony, perhaps to read the Eulogy to the Fallen or to play a lament, please contact Brian Armstrong on 417429. He can also acquire Remembrance Crosses, should anyone wish to place one as a personal tribute to an individual or an association.



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## Why watching TV at school can be a good thing.

Scotland's first school-based TV network has been launched across Fife thanks to a pioneering initiative to promote healthy-living information to the region's secondary pupils.

The idea comes from Fife Sports and Leisure Trust, Fife's leading provider of sports and leisure facilities and makes use of plasma screens fitted in all 19 secondary schools.

The screens will be managed centrally by the Trust and will feature a range of content such as cookery displays, video case studies showcasing pupils' active lifestyles, general public information films and newsfeeds.

Over 21,000 Fife pupils will have access to the plasma screens which are positioned in communal areas around school buildings.

The idea for the school TV network was developed by Steve Donnelly, Multimedia Coordinator, Fife Sports and Leisure Trust. He explains: "I became aware of the screens through work I was doing with the schools and I felt that there was potential to widen their use to incorporate health and lifestyle messages aimed at young people.

"Following discussions and support from a partner organisation and the schools' Business Managers, I took responsibility for networking all the screens, so that content can be shown on a Fife-wide basis or by individual schools, allowing messages to be tailored as necessary.

"Eventually, I hope that schools will encourage pupils to generate content for display, such as fashion shows, battle of the bands and school projects, and that the network becomes a catalyst for creativity which both young people and staff can enjoy."

Supporting the initiative and contributing its very own budding celebrity chef is Catering and Cleaning Services, a division of Fife Council, which operates the region's school kitchen and dining facilities.

Keith Breasley, Services Hospitality Services Officer for Catering and Cleaning Services, said: "Although we were using the screens prior to the Trust's involvement to display menu information and catering updates, we feel this initiative will allow us to engage far more effectively with pupils.

"Messages about healthy eating and active lifestyles go hand-in-hand, so when Steve came to me with his idea I thought it was a really exciting opportunity and we were more than happy to work in partnership to get all the schools on board."

Tom Will, one of the organisation's chefs, will feature regularly on the network demonstrating how to

prepare simple healthy meals and he's turned out to be a natural in front of the camera.

Tom added: "I have to say I was a bit nervous to begin with, although I'm an experienced chef, it's the first time I've had to cook in front of the camera – but I think I got the hang of it and I'm looking forward to my next star appearance!"

Rector of Glenwood High School, Neil McNeil, said: "This is an excellent opportunity to add to the work of Glenwood High School in addressing the national health and well being agenda.

"Furthermore, it will offer opportunities for pupils to become involved in what should be displayed, in their school, for maximum impact. This, in turn, leads to them becoming responsible people who make an effective contribution to society. For once I am comfortable with my pupils watching more television."

Fife Sports and Leisure Trust's Chief Executive, Ed Watson, added: "The Trust has always had a good working relationship with the area's schools – it's important to us that pupils can take full advantage of our facilities and activities on offer and enjoy an active lifestyle.

"The Trust's initiative to co-ordinate and manage the plasma screens is taking our relationship a step further and offers a fantastic opportunity to engage more closely with young people. This is true not just for us, but also other partner organisations across Fife, such as NHS Fife, Fife Council and Police, who can now use the TV network to promote their own messages relevant to secondary pupils."

### **NORTH QUEENSFERRY** **CHURCH FETE**

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**ENTRY DONATION : Child 50p**

**Adult £1.50 Concession 75p**

includes afternoon tea/  
coffee/home baking

## Gala

We are already looking ahead to next year, and have planned the first of our fundraisers for the 2011 Gala.

On Saturday 13th November we will be running a Race Night in the Community Centre. This is a family event and all ages are welcome. Doors open at 6:30pm, and the first race will run at 7:00pm.

Tickets are available on the night; Family ticket £5.00, or £2.00 per person. Get a group together and come along and have some fun. BYOB

See posters around the village or visit the S1 Northqueensferry website for further details.

### Gala Review

The North Queensferry Gala Committee organise an annual event in June, which encompasses a full week's programme of activities such as fishing, running and bike races, talent night, and a fun way to test your knowledge of North Queensferry with a treasure/scavenger hunt. We are always at the mercy of the weather but this year the sun shone and our events enjoyed a good deal of sunshine!

We received a lot of help during the week, and many thanks to everyone who came along to support and participate.

Gala Week kicked off with a hugely successful Raft Race. We had a record number of entrants, and many thanks to everyone who devoted so much time and effort into the creative designs and decorations of their rafts. The Raft Race Sponsors, The Queensferry Hotel provided a new trophy which this year's winners the Lager Louts will try and hold onto. Many thanks to the NQ Sailing Club who put on a BBQ and also provided the safety boat and some rides for the kids after the final of the Raft Race. The day was really well attended, and a great way to kick off Gala Week. Get your ideas ready for next year's race & take on the Lager Louts!

Throughout Gala week, there was a variety of events for all ages. There were running and bike riding races for the Nursery and Primary school children. For the high school students and bigger kids (or adults!), the Landmark Race is increasing in popularity. If you have not taken part before, the race starts from the Church and continues down the hill to the Comfort Store - and back again (bike and running are done on separate nights). Having held the adult bike trophy for the past 3 years, Nichol Kerr pipped Kevin Storie to the post and took this year's trophy. However, Emma McLaughlin proved too tough for the ladies and took the running trophy for the second year in a row.

Congratulations to Sandy Strang and Annie Macaulay who won the Jnr Boys / Girls Landmark race. We hope to see you both next year to take on your challengers!

The Primary football matches were well attended

and the finals were held on Gala day. Many thanks to those who helped run these events.

Having managed to get the netball courts re-painted, (a big improvement on the chalk courts we used last year) the girls/ladies netball matches were as competitive as ever (although no major injuries were reported)! Many thanks to Stacey who has run the netball matches for the past few years.

Congratulations to "Fin Mic Diva" aka Finlay Price who won the North Queensferry Talent Night. Finlay was able to overcome some technical difficulties and wowed everyone with her version of Don't Stop Believing ... which she managed to sing without a backing track. Well done Finlay.

The Treasure/Scavenger Hunt was hugely popular and many thanks to all teams for their creativity and enthusiasm. Well done to team Jack who won, beating the Fizzy Bizzy Bees by a narrow margin.

Gala Day, held on the 19th June, was one of our most successful. It started off with the traditional ceremony where our beautiful Gala Queen Mairi Taylor was greeted from the boat by Robbie Jack, this year's Gala King. The Inverkeithing Pipe Band led the procession from the Pier up to the playing fields where families and friends were able to relax. The gala day festivities themselves were well received in glorious sunshine and there were plenty of activities for the kids to do; including an inflatable climbing wall, quad bikes, rides for the smaller kids, face painters, tattoos and much more. We also had an Irish dance exhibition from some very talented pupils from North Queensferry Primary school. A highland dance troupe gave us a wonderful display of Scottish dancing, including some individual performances, which was enjoyed by the crowd.

If anyone has any suggestions for next year, we would love to hear from you. Please drop us an email at northqueensferrygala@hotmail.com

### Committee News

We recently held our AGM and are delighted to welcome some new members to the committee. Our office bearers were all re-elected and are;

Danny Howie	Chairman	417 891
Keren van den Broek	Treasurer	414 674
Merrin Storie	Secretary	411 403

We hold our committee meetings on the last Thursday of each month at the Albert Hotel from 7:30pm. You are welcome to come along to hear some of our ideas for next year ... or perhaps to share some ideas of your own. Our meetings are open, so please feel welcome to join us.

Too busy to be on the committee? Like to help out occasionally? Then Friends of the Gala might be for you! For further information, please contact Sue Kerr on 420 393, or register your interest by dropping us an email: northqueensferrygala@hotmail.com



## Rotary Club

More than 30 West Fife clubs and organisations were represented on the Rotary Club's fundraising walk on Sunday 12 September. Most of the 160 plus walkers completed the 6 mile course, from the Ballast Bank in Inverkeithing to the Silver Sands in Aberdour, in under 3 hours and then enjoyed a barbecue prepared by local scouts. The walk is expected to raise around £5,000 for Rotary charities and most participants will be able to retain 50% of their sponsorship for use in their own organisation. Participating clubs and organisations included various scout groups, Bayside FC, Dalgety Bay Day Care, Friends of Encongolweni and Aberdour's Village in Bloom committee.

Since the Rotary club's first walk in 2003 more than £25,000 has been raised for local charities with the largest share going to the Children's Hospice Association of Scotland.

In recent weeks the Rotary club has provided a number of water boxes for use in the area of Pakistan devastated by floods. The boxes allow families access to clean drinking water and so help to prevent the water borne diseases that often accompany flooding.

## Baby and Toddler Group

The North Queensferry Baby and Toddler group meet every Thursday morning in the Community Centre from 9:30 – 11:30am. We are an active group and always welcome new members.

We are currently fund raising to upgrade our existing soft play area in the community centre. In September we held an Oops-a-daisy morning which included a theatre performance, face painting and daisy planting. The morning was a great success and we raised £254.

We have a number of events coming up these are:-

**Thursday 4th November** - Autumn party, the children can come dressed up and go dooking for apples.

**Thursday 11th November** – A photographer from Photo-Electric going to be in at 10-12 and 3-4.

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November** – AGM

In December we are having a Christmas Party for the children and one for the grown ups too!

Just a reminder also that there will be no meetings on the 21<sup>st</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> October as the centre is shut.

Please contact either

Lynoa Cattanach (Chairperson) 415171  
Catherine Maclaurin (Treasurer) 411113  
Emma McLachlan (Secretary) 415315  
for any further information.

## Contributions for the next issue

are to be with us by  
Friday 14th January 2011  
to  
7 Carlingnose Park  
or  
mary@ferrynews.co.uk.

## FIFE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

would like to extend their wishes to everyone over

THE FESTIVE PERIOD

with their Fire Safety Christmas Message

Be careful with Decorations, Tree lights, Candles,

Overloading Sockets, Alcohol, Cigarettes

and Cooking

**MERRY XMAS!**

## Pilates classes



Simply Pilates

Pilates consists of a series of exercises to rebalance the body, achieve better posture and improve movement & body strength. 6 week block booking, booked in advance.

Suitable for all fitness levels - Cost £45.

### Pilates Class Timetable

Tuesday	10.30-11.30am	SQ Rosebery Hall
Wednesday	7.00-8.00pm	NQ Community Centre
Wednesday	8.00-9.00pm	NQ Community Centre
Thursday	10.30-11.30am	Dalgety Parish Church
Thursday	12.15-1.15pm	NQ Community Centre
Friday	10.30-11.30am	NQ Community Centre

**Contact:**

**Amanda Johnstone**

**Fully Qualified Mat Level 3 Pilates Instructor(REPS)**

**Tel: 07787 321571**

**Email: JohAman@aol.com**

**One to One consultations also available**

# VILLAGE SHOW RESULTS 2010

	First	Second	Third		First	Second	Third
<b>Vegetables</b>				<b>Home Baking</b>			
Basket or Dish of Mixed Vegetables.	E Donaldson	A Monteith	M Rae	Oven Scones: 4	L Watt	E Greer	E Donaldson
Tomatoes: one dish of 3 red or yellow	E Donaldson	W Brown		Sponge Cake with a Filling: any variety	S Hood	S Kerr	L Watt
Cherry Tomatoes: one dish of 6 red or yellow	L Mackie	E Donaldson	A Monteith	Fruit Loaf / Cake	A Monteith	E Greer	M Paterson
Onions: one dish of 3	A Monteith	W Brown	E Donaldson	Muffins: 3 of any flavour	S Hood	M Paterson	M Paterson
Potatoes: one dish of 3	E Donaldson	M Rae	W Brown	Four Pancakes or Drop Scones	L McIntyre	S Rankin	P Bell
Beetroot: one dish of 3	E Donaldson	A Monteith	M Rae	Four Tattie Scones	P Bell	P Bell	
Runner or French beans: one dish of 6	A Monteith	E Wilson	W Brown	Ginger Bread: 1lb loaf tin	M Paterson	A Monteith	
Any other vegetable: one dish of 3 of the same	A Monteith	W Brown	E Donaldson	Four Shortbread biscuits OR one Round	S Rankin	A Monteith	
Basket or Dish of Salad selection	W Brown			Six squares of Tablet or Fudge	S Hood	E Greer	A Monteith
				Six Meringue Shells	L Watt	J Beaton	A Monteith
<b>Flowers</b>				<b>Floral Arrangement</b>			
Roses: 3 blooms of any variety	B Paterson	B Paterson	B Paterson	An arrangement representing the essence of Fife	P Bell	E Algie	F McNaught
One Vase of Pinks or Carnations: 3 stems	A Monteith			Miniature Flower Arrangement: fresh or dried,	F McNaught	J Burns	P Bell
Sweet Peas: mixed, 6 stems, same or mixed	E Donaldson	C Allan	E Greer	Lunch Table Arrangement: low	F McNaught	C Dennison	E Algie
Hydrangea: 3 blooms any colour, same or mixed	E Donaldson	A Monteith					
Summer Annuals: 4 to 6 blooms, same or mixed	E Donaldson			<b>Sewing</b>			
Flowering Bush or Climber: 3 stems	E Donaldson			Embroidery Item (including smocking)	F McNaught	F George	F George
Herbaceous: 6 stems, same or mixed	E Donaldson	E Wilson	P Bell	Any Soft Toy: sewn or knitted	N McConnachie	F McNaught	
				Patchwork Item	E Reynolds		
<b>Pot Plants</b>				Quilted Item	J Anastasio	M Millar	
Foliage only	C Dennison	L Evans	P Bell				
Flowering Plant	E Donaldson	B Paterson		<b>Knitting &amp; Crochet</b>			
Pelargonium (Geranium)	E Donaldson			Any Knitted Item	M Alderton	N McConnachie	M Paterson
Begonia	E Reynolds			Any Crochet Item: cotton or rayon	F McNaught		
Fuchsia: any variety in bloom	E Reynolds	E Donaldson	J Beaton	Any Crochet Item: wool	N McConnachie	F McNaught	
One Cactus or Group of Cacti	M Paterson	M Paterson	M Paterson				
Ornamental Grass	P Bell			<b>Crafts</b>			
				Hobby Craft Item	J Anastasio	I West	I West
<b>Preserves</b>				Model: any item	S Hood	I West	
Fruit Jam: any fruit	E Donaldson	E Greer	L Watt	Hand Made Greeting Card, with envelope	J Moir	S Hood	S Hood
Lemon Curd	J Burns	L Watt	L Mackie	Painting	K Trotter	F George	E Greer
Chutney	M Paterson	M Paterson	F McNaught	Drawing	F McNaught	J Moir	
				Hand made item from recycled material	J Bell		
				<b>Photography</b>			
				Winter Scene	D Symington	L MacDougall	M Dooley
				Fife Folk	M Dooley	N MacDougall	M Dooley
				Panoramic: any subject	O James	B Armstrong	N MacDougall
				Holiday Scene: any location	A Hansen	M Anastasio	N MacDougall
				Animals	O James	D Symington	M Dooley
				Scottish Humour	O James	D Symington	M Dooley
				Close Up	M Anastasio	G Irvine	L MacDougall
The Bob Cubin Cup		Eileen Donaldson					
The Maureen Trotter Cup		Mike Dooley					
The Jubilee Cup		Sarah Rankin					

## Become a Friend of NQ Primary School

A website will be launched shortly to enlist Friends of our local school. It is there for those of you who want to support local children get the best start in life; to help you find out more about what the school and its parent council are up to; to help it celebrate its successes; and to provide an opportunity to share memories of the school.

We hope to draw Friends from local parents and carers, aunts and uncles, grandparents, former pupils and anyone who has an interest in the school as a part of North Queensferry life.

The present school will celebrate its centenary in 2014 and this will be part of how we will build towards our celebration of that.

There has already been a good show of interest in the idea – thank you for those who have responded so positively.

We will be in touch about the launch of the website and to let you know how else you can find out about becoming a Friend.

If you simply want to let us know that you have an interest, want to know more or if you simply want to declare your early interest in becoming a Friend please contact Robert McGregor (at [rj.mcgregor@btinternet.com](mailto:rj.mcgregor@btinternet.com)) or any other member of the parent council.

## Church News

As some of you may already know, we are sadly losing our Minister, Chris Park, who will be taking early retirement. To all who had the privilege of knowing Chris, he was a very caring, understanding and inspirational minister, always giving time to listen and provide words of wisdom when required. He will be sadly missed, and leaves with many good wishes and blessings for his new life.

In the meantime, anyone requiring contact with the church should contact the Session Clerk, Helen Leitch, on 01383 412522 and leave a message if not available. It is hoped that a new Minister will be appointed in the New Year.

### VILLAGE COFFEE MORNINGS

The coffee mornings are well attended with an average of 30 people who enjoy some home-baking with their tea or coffee and a lot of chat, on alternate Wednesdays from 10am to mid day. All ages attend from the School Nursery class and upwards without limit! You don't need to know anyone, just come along and you soon will. Contact Chris Duguid on 413372 if you need transport.

Dates for 2010 are:

November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>

December 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>

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## VILLAGE SHOW RESULTS 2010 (Children's Classes)

	First	Second	Third
<b>Photography</b>			
Photography (13 to 15 yrs)	F Watters	F Watters	F Watters
<b>Arts &amp; Crafts (all ages)</b>			
Scene from North Queensferry			
Aged 5	J Anderson	L McIntyre	R Campbell
Aged 6	Eric	Coco	L Morgan
Aged 7	Robbie	Ollie	Samira
Aged 8	B Linden	S Trotter	E McGregor
Aged 9	Ben R	I Barranach	A Colston
Aged 10	Finlay	Rebecca	Jack
Aged 11	B Rooney	E Colston	Georgia
Aged 12+	L Lugton	no name	T Hair
Model Scarecrow	Aislynn & Jemima = Fraser Crichton	Beth, Ewan, Rachel, Ewan, Allegra, Caitlin & Keir	Samira, Jamie, Blair, Connor, Angus, Niamh & Jemima
<b>General (7yrs &amp; under)</b>			
Tray Garden	M Timmins	C Ramponi	
"Light House" from recycled materials	E McIntyre	L McIntyre	
Crispy Cakes	D Coulston	L McIntyre	A Symes
Decorated Biscuits	C Rankin	S Rankin	Samira
Marshmallow Top Hats	C Rankin	S Rankin	E McIntyre
<b>General (8 to 12yrs)</b>			
Tray Garden	K Morrice = E McGregor	S Trotter	
"Light House" from recycled materials	T Morrice	S Clayton	
Tray Bake	K Morrice	L Kerr	C Timmins
Fairy Cakes	S Rankin	T Morrice	K Symes
<b>General (13 to 16yrs)</b>			
Model / Craft item from recycled materials	A Macaulay		



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