



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

Issue 68

www.ferrynews.co.uk

## Community Centre

The Annual Burns Ceilidh in January was a great success and enjoyed by the approximately 100 people who attended. Thanks are due to the generosity of local businesses and individuals in donating superb prizes for the draw. The event raised £900 for the Centre funds.

Those who have been up at the Community Centre in recent days will be aware of extensive water damage caused by a burst pipe around the turn of the year.

The finalisation of the insurance claim has taken some time but we hope soon to be starting the building repairs necessary before the new kitchen is fitted, an enhanced asset which has been partly enabled by a grant from Fife Council and which will greatly enhance the potential use for functions and other bookings.

The Management Committee continues to work cooperatively with other organisations in the village. The Centre has recently contributed to the cost of a replacement notice board in Brock Street organised by the Community Council and discussions are being held with the Heritage Trust regarding the display of a photographic exhibition on the Forth Bridge. The Youth Club meet in the Centre and at our last meeting the Committee heard a report from Community Education Worker Claire Donaldson of Fife Council. The Committee was encouraged by plans to organise an activity weekend at Dalguise Centre in Perthshire and agreed to contribute a grant to this venture whilst suggesting other sources of potential funding. Dalguise House was the summer home of Beatrix Potter!

Iain Whyte

### The Tinker Lass

The Tinker Lassie smiled at me,  
wi lip's as rid as cherries;  
wi sidelang glance she caught ma ee,  
amangst the fields o berries.

Wi finger's deft she plucked the fruit,  
an drapped them in her pinnie;  
then proffered ane for me tae sook,  
sayin, "Here Ma Geordie Hinny"

Wi eager lip's Ah took the fruit,  
her hand allowed tae ling'er;

## Church

It was October 2010 when Rev Chris Park retired as our minister and many people imagine that things come to a bit of a standstill when there's a vacancy. Nothing could be further from the truth, as you will see from the various things planned for the coming months.

The vacancy does mean, however, that extra time and care is spent on searching for a new minister and this process is now underway.

North Queensferry Church has a well-established link with Inverkeithing Parish Church and the person who is appointed as minister for North Queensferry will also be the minister for Inverkeithing. In the meantime, we welcome comments and views about how this next phase of our life as a church might strengthen the relationship between church and community.

Yours sincerely,

Rev Jayne Scott, Interim Moderator

## Walking Group

Despite the fairly poor weather at the start of the year we managed to complete most of the programmed walks, though sometimes rather damply. There are still a couple of walks on our current programme and we are working on the follow-up covering July to December. Watch out for it appearing on the notice boards around the village or contact Janet on 416734.

If you've been thinking about taking some exercise then do come and join us on the walks. They vary from 3 to 5 miles but can usually be shortened.

she gaid me sic a langrous look,  
ah sooked her juicy fing'er.

She lached an said, "Ye're awfu bold",  
and shook her flaxen tresses;  
then, joy an extacy untold,  
she returned ma caresses ..

An sae ah kissed they ruby lip's,  
they lip's as rid as cherries;  
till lang, lang efter, the Sun had dipped,  
allow the fields o berries ...

Robert Menzies Banks

## *Ferry Birds -January to May 2011 by John Done*

Fortunately for the avian visitors and residents of North Queensferry the cold weather of November and December didn't last. In the new year the numbers of sea ducks did pick up a little, but were still lower than a few years ago. The highest number of **red-breasted mergansers** was 32 in Port Laing on the 10<sup>th</sup> of March and there were about 80 **eiders** sheltering from the wind off Port Laing on the 21<sup>st</sup>. There were also a few **grebes** along the coast during the early part of the year. The stars of West Bay were the **shelducks** which peaked at 11 on the 5<sup>th</sup> of January. There has been at least one **shelduck** in the bay at the beginning of May and I wonder if a pair is nesting. They usually nest in holes, often in old rabbit burrows, but the sides of West Bay where there are boulder slopes may give the pair enough cover for a nest. Keep a look out in the next few weeks. The **shelducks** were joined on a few occasions by one or two **mallards** and the **redshanks**, **curlews** **oystercatchers** and a few **turnstones** were there all the time. The **redshanks** and **curlews** disappeared about the usual date to return to their breeding grounds. I searched in vain for any waders in West Bay on the 24<sup>th</sup> of April although I did see 2 **oystercatchers** there the following day.

Most of our summer visitors have now well and truly arrived. The first, as usual, were **chiffchaffs**. My first was one calling at Carlingnose Point on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March. Thereafter they seemed to be everywhere and were joined about a week later by **sand martins** and **blackcaps**. The **sand martins** have now re-formed their colony in Cruicks Quarry and you will see dozens from the coastal path near the quarry entrance along with a few **swallows**. I have also seen one or two **swallows** in the village. The most ubiquitous summer visitor is the **willow warbler** which, as long as there are a few trees around, settles down and starts singing. The most recent summer visitors to arrive are the **common terns**. I saw a few flying around Long Craig on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of May calling incessantly with many of them carrying a sand eel in their bills. You can just imagine the **eiders** thinking there goes our peace and quiet for a few months and just looking forward to the autumn when the **terns** go back to West Africa!

Strictly speaking the **fulmars** on Inchgarvie and the quarry above Deep Sea World are the first summer visitors to return, but they are only away from their nesting areas for perhaps 10 weeks in early autumn and can be seen at some colonies on the east coast of Scotland off and on throughout the winter. Birds return to Inchgarvie in January and hang around for a few days before disappearing and returning several days later. This behaviour continues until early May when the eggs are laid. The adults share the incubation until the eggs hatch after about 50 days and 40 days later the young fledged.

I have had quite a few unusual sightings over the past few months. Some of these may have been the result of the cold weather in November and December, but

they also illustrate how tough some of our birds are. **Goldcrests** are the smallest British (and European) bird weighing about 6 grams and I was very pleased to see one in my garden on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March and another one near Port Laing on the 18<sup>th</sup> of March. How they had managed to survive the cold spell I can't imagine. I saw a **brambling** amongst a flock of **chaffinches** from the coastal path on the 12<sup>th</sup> of February. **Bramblings** are regular winter visitors to Scotland and have bred a few times. They are closely related to **chaffinches** and breed widely in Scandinavia. There were also a few **tree sparrows** in the flock. **Tree sparrows** are a slightly smaller, neater version of the **house sparrow** with a brown top of the head and a distinctive brown 'ear' spot. They declined in the UK between 1970 and 1995 by almost 90%, but have recovered since then. My recent observations seem to agree with this. I used to see them at Port Laing 20 years ago and I have seen them from the coastal path near the derelict pier a couple of times recently. Another bird which has declined in Scotland is the **kestrel**. It used to be very common; often seen hovering above motorway verges searching for voles and mice. Although they do appear to be less common I saw a pair of **kestrels** by the mouth of the Keithing burn in Inverkeithing on the 16<sup>th</sup> of March and also one perched on one of the cranes in the breakers yard on the 8<sup>th</sup> of May. Other interesting sightings have included 2 **ravens** over the quarry on the 11<sup>th</sup> of February, a pair of **shoveler** ducks on the sea near Port Laing on the 7<sup>th</sup> of April and **peregrine falcons** over the quarry several times in March, April and May. Another resurgent bird on Ferryhills is the **yellowhammer**. I have heard several calling while walking towards Jamestown. As its name suggests the male has a brilliant yellow head which makes it remarkably inconspicuous when it is perched on top of a gorse bush in full flower. This is another bird which seems to be making a local comeback.

On a non-bird topic many of you will have seen the hundreds, if not thousands of black flies around the gorse on Ferryhills. They are **St Mark's flies**. They are meant to appear (you've guessed) about the 25<sup>th</sup> of April. The males are the obvious ones as they dangle their legs beneath their bodies. They are flying around looking for females and after mating and laying their eggs in the soil only live for about a week. Their larvae live in the leaf litter and the adults emerge in April and May the following year to start all over again. The huge numbers may be a consequence of the cold spell last winter. The snow will have covered the leaf litter and so hidden the larvae and pupae from their predators. The snow also acts as an insulating layer and will have protected them from the intense cold. You may have seen reports in The Press of this theory being used to predict that there will be huge numbers of midges in the Highlands this summer. You have been warned!

## Community Council

Since the previous issue of Ferry News your Community Councillors have been busy on a number of issues affecting the community. Thanks to the efforts of Myles Fitt and Colin Bell, the new North Queensferry Community Council website is now live! This revamped site is intended to give you the latest news regarding key issues affecting the village which the Community Council is discussing, such as the plans for further blasting at Cruicks Quarry and the proposals for a biomass plant in nearby Rosyth. We also want the website to act as THE point of information about what is going on in the village. We will advertise any relevant activity in our 'news' section and include it on our diary planner. The website also gives the usual background information about what the Community Council is and does, who your Community Councillors are and how to contact them. We want this website to work for you so if you have any events you want advertised or have any suggestions for improving the site please contact Myles Fitt (email via the NQCC website). In the meantime please let others know about the website and how they can use it so it can be of benefit to all in the community. The website address is [www.nqcc.co.uk](http://www.nqcc.co.uk). Hope you can visit it soon.

By the time this goes to print, the various flower tubs around the village and the Jubilee Well area of The Brae will have been weeded and replanted, thanks to the sterling efforts of Jan Short and a few helpers. If you are able to assist her in the future, please give her a call on 416492 and let her have your contact details. Hopefully, we shall soon take delivery of a new village notice board, funded to a large degree by generous donations from the Community Centre, Heritage Trust and Carbon Cutters Initiative, to replace the very dilapidated one at the station.

Since the contract for the Forth Replacement Crossing was awarded, Community Forums have been established to provide effective community engagement with Transport Scotland and the three main contractors. Community Councillors will attend

the forums concerned, which the general public are entitled to attend as observers. Transport Scotland will also arrange a 'meet the contractor' meeting soon, which will take the form of a public meeting. The date will be promulgated when known.

Although the recent warm weather has pushed it to the back of people's minds, some work has been done on how in future we can provide a more effective self help, community based response to the type of severe weather we experienced in December.

In these and all its activities the Community Council remains very conscious that it must represent impartially the views and concerns of all residents. It is hoped that the new website will provide an additional opportunity for people to contact us with their concerns, questions and views. Meetings continue to be held in the Community Centre on the second Thursday of each month, commencing at 7.30 pm. The next meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> June will be preceded by the AGM, also commencing at 7.30 pm, to which everyone is warmly invited. Minutes of meetings are available on the new website, in addition to being posted on village notice boards.

Brian Armstrong Chairman (01383 417429)

## Toddler & Baby Group

The North Queensferry Toddler & Baby Group meets every Thursday morning in the Community Centre from 9.30 - 11.15am (cost £1.50 per family). We are a busy, lively group and we always love to see new members. In addition to the children enjoying the toys and soft-play at the Centre (and the adults enjoying a cuppa and a chat!), we also from time to time arrange other fun things for the kids, from teddy bears' picnics and small shows, to sports days and trips to the beach. Please note that while we are open throughout most of the summer holidays, we are closed the first 2 weeks in August.

Tracy Macleod, Chairperson 07946 295524  
Bonnie Crichton, Secretary 07411 809988  
Catherine Maclaurin, Treasurer 07810 832305



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## Boat Club

The Boat Club continues to grow bigger and busier as each year goes by, with many community milestone events to be organised and managed. Our membership has now increased to well over 100 and with our friends from Dunfermline Sub Aqua joining us and enquiries being made from a Fife Sea Kayak and Canoe Club. They are attracted to NQBC because of the forward thinking, ambition and community spirited contribution the club demonstrates. The Boat and Harbour Festival has put North Queensferry on the events map; soon there shall be the resurrection of the Skiff racing between North and South Queensferry, (see article below), with the North Queensferry Team being made up and managed not by NQBC but by self organising local people who are proud to represent their village in the true sense and spirit. We have invited two skiffs from other communities to visit the harbour in June during the Gala Raft race. Why not come along, have a go and get the bug for skiff racing.

NQBC through the North Queensferry Harbour Trust are currently negotiating with Fife Council with regards to taking over of the management of the harbour area or purchasing it outright. On completion of this agreement the NQHT shall then be in a position to seek funding to support the strategic aims of creating a community hub that supports all of the maritime needs in the area, an annual Boat and Harbour Festival, the NQ Coastal Rowing Team, a Boat Building School and a keystone community building that supports community needs

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### Coastal Rowing Skiff - An invitation to come along and have a go on Sunday 12 June

After last years extremely successful Boat and Harbour Festival, North Queensferry Boat Club made a promise to gift to the NQ community a Scottish Coastal Rowing Skiff. We can now report that we have bought the frame, moulds and planking in readiness for the build. The original thought was to have as many people involved with the build as possible. However after visiting other rowing communities around the Forth who have already built one or more of the skiffs, on their advice and experience we have decided to keep the build team to two or three people for the purpose of continuity.

South Queensferry launched their skiff in April and the whole event was attended by a crowd of several hundred. They have taken the Skiff to heart and are putting their teams together and challenging us and other communities to race. So whilst we're

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### Boat and Harbour Festival 28 August 2011

The NQ Boat and Harbour Festival has been put back 24 hours to Sunday 28 August. This year it shall be part of a Weekend of Fun with the NQ Heritage Trust's Village Show on the Saturday and our festival following on the Sunday.

This year we have booked the Scottish Fisheries Museum's Iconic Herring Drifter the Reaper to be the main marine attraction, with various other interesting and traditional crafts, plus there shall be visiting Sea Kayak groups, boat rides out to the Bridges (weather permitting), a Sub Aqua display, plus the Coastal Rowing Projects events. On land we shall have the

with education space, exhibition galleries, toilets, showers, open to everyone as always. It is the intention of the NQHT to have on the management committee representatives with full voting rights from all of the community groups. This is not restricted to just the maritime communities utilising the harbour but also individuals who are invited to express an interest in representing the local community on the NQHT's management committee. Anyone interested in representing the local community should communicate this interest by initially contacting us on [info@northqueensferryboatclub.co.uk](mailto:info@northqueensferryboatclub.co.uk) for more information.

With so much happening NQBC are putting up temporary information stands around the harbour that shall give you information on the Boat Club, Harbour Trust and coming events. Please come down to view and to give us some feedback and your thoughts. Or why not just come down for a walk, a seat or a blether, or even all three. It is as it's always been for the twenty years NQBC has been there - an open area to all.

Finally, North Queensferry Boat Club are proud to confirm that they have selected Maggie's Fife Cancer Care as their adopted charity with a donation of £100 and further fund raising initiatives planned during this summer's events. If you have any loose change or would like to give a donation to Maggie's Fife please drop by the club and put your donation in the collection tins provided.

I look forward to seeing you all down at the harbour

Gordon Scobie  
Chairman, NQBC

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building the skiff we're also needing to be building the teams who are going to represent North Queensferry.

If you are interested in being part of the village teams then why not come along to the Harbour on the 12th June where North Queensferry Boat Club are complimenting the Gala Raft races with the invitation to Anstruther and South Queensferry Skiffs to visit the club to allow the North Queensferry public to have a go in the skiffs. Remember the teams are of any permutation of male, female, young and old. So no excuses, come along and talk to the other teams and hear how they got involved, having never thought they would ever be in a boat rowing.

Meanwhile the Boat Club have put up information boards and a gallery of pictures to wet your appetite, plus forms to express your interest in taking part. Please come down and have a look and leave your name. We look forward to seeing you.

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popular craft fair, the famous Arbroath Smokies (everybody's favourite), a unit from Fife Fire Brigade who shall be putting on a display of putting out a fire, the model boat pond shall be back for all the kids, young and old, our resident clown and of course the kids roundabouts, live music and song all day, craft demonstrations including a traditional rocking horse maker, log cutting from Gal Gaels wood Mizer, wood carving, plus much more.

The gates open at 12:30 to 17:00 with the entry being held at last years prices, Adults £4:00 children and concessions £2:00.



## West Bay Steering Group

The West Bay Steering Group recently completed an extensive consultation exercise with North Queensferry residents, including sending a questionnaire to every household in the village. As reported in the Dunfermline Press, the results of the public consultation questionnaire survey were received in March. Copies of the full report are available in the Community Centre and can also be accessed on the Community Council's new website at [www.nqcc.co.uk](http://www.nqcc.co.uk). Many constructive suggestions were made, but the main themes to emerge were a desire to keep some green and open space for residents to enjoy, to tidy up the area by removing abandoned boats and other discarded items, to create a properly delineated boat storage area and to encourage the establishment of an active boat / sailing club and other facilities that are open to all.

Since then the steering group has been busy producing a business plan and agreeing the appropriate legal framework necessary to take forward its plans to take the area into community ownership or long term lease. It has been agreed that the best way forward is the establishment of a Scottish Charity in the form of a Company Limited by Guarantee, and it is anticipated that the necessary Articles of Association and registration with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator will be completed shortly. As we move from being a 'steering group' to a legally recognised entity, it is necessary to establish a name for the Trust. **North Queensferry Community Trust** has been selected as being the most appropriate, reflecting as it does the fact that representatives of eight separate village organisations participated in the steering group.

Membership of the Trust will be open to all individuals aged 16 or over who are ordinarily resident within the electoral boundaries of North Queensferry Community Council. This reflects the strong support which emerged from the survey questionnaire that the area should be managed by the North Queensferry community for the benefit of the community. All members will be eligible to vote to elect the directors of the Trust, who will be accountable to village residents.

It would perhaps be both timely and helpful to stress that the Community Trust is wholly separate from the North Queensferry Harbour Trust, which was set up by the North Queensferry Boat Club following its withdrawal from the West Bay Steering Group.

This has nevertheless left Fife Council in a difficult position with two Trusts seeking to manage the same area. It has accordingly, as an interim solution, offered each Trust a short term lease on separate areas of the former railway pier site. The Community Trust has agreed in principle to accept such a lease, whilst its long term aim remains to

obtain a long term lease of the whole area in order fully to develop it for the good of the whole community, both residents and harbour users. The Community Trust's business plan makes provision for the continued existence of a thriving boat club on part of the site and in view of this we look forward to working co-operatively with all the users of the area.

Brian Armstrong – Chairman (01383 417429 or [brianrretired@btinternet.com](mailto:brianrretired@btinternet.com))

## Village Coffee Mornings

We continue to hold our fortnightly get-togethers in the Church on alternate Wednesdays. It is a friendly gathering for all ages and we are always delighted when we have a visit from some of the school pupils who occasionally entertain us with a poem or song. Mostly it is chat and laughter so don't be shy, we always welcome new faces.

If you need transport it can be arranged with Chris on 413372.

### Dates for July to December are:

July 13 & 27

August 10 & 24

September 7 & 21

October 5 & 19

November 2 & 16 & 30

December 14

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## North Queensferry Twinned With Hohoe In Ghana

***“..as a consequence of like minded people being present at the right place at the right time and with Gods blessing, now is the time for us to pursue this route.” Rev Chris Park 2009***

North Queensferry Parish Church has a history and variety of involvement with the world church. It has a long standing support for the Chegoria Hospital, for the annual visitations of the children of Chernobyl, it promotes and supports the sending of Amnesty international Christmas cards, the Blythwood Christmas shoe box appeal and supports the Homeless World Cup. In order to promote and support these causes it engages in fund raising through coffee mornings, soup and sandwich brunches and church fetes, all of which are very well supported by the community

Following discussions in early 2009 between Rev. Chris Park and Jan and Douglas Short, and subsequently, at a public meeting, it was agreed to pursue a twinning relationship with another country.

The Kirk Session agreed that a small working group, (Rev Chris Park, Chris Duguid, Janet King, Jan Short and Douglas Short), should complete and submit our congregational profile to the Church of Scotland World Mission Council (CoS. WMC).

During 2010 we received three profiles via the CoS. WMC, one each from Kenya, Jamaica and Hohoe Presbyterian Church in Ghana. After much thought and discussion it was decided that the church in Hohoe was the one which we felt best matched our profile and as such would best help our church and community to broaden its horizons, harness its strengths for a greater good and learn through a sharing of faith and life experiences.

**Hohoe:** pronounced “Ho Whey” is in the Volta Region of the middle belt zone of Ghana. It is in the northern part of the region and has a population of approx 7000.

Hohoe is surrounded by a cluster of mountains and rich natural attractions including Mount Afadjato, the highest mountain in the country, the Wli Waterfalls, the highest falls in West Africa and the Tafi Monkey Sanctuary.

Like North Queensferry, the church in Hohoe is very much part of the community and has a very close link with the local school, funding some of the teachers salaries.

Our Head Teacher here in North Queensferry, Sally Hourston, is very enthusiastic about the twinning, so much so that she has agreed to join the committee. She sees this as an ideal way for the children to gain a wider experience of the issues relating to global citizenship.

The twinning is at the very early stages of its development, a development which has been described more as a journey, and like many journeys we are not quite sure where it might lead. Making it all the more exciting!!

If you would like to be part of the committee or just want to be kept abreast of developments (e.g. entered into an emailing list to receive notes of meetings and agendas. etc.) please contact Douglas Short at [douglas.short@sky.com](mailto:douglas.short@sky.com) or speak to any of the committee members:

Chris Duguid, Catherine Maclaurin, Sally Hourston-Jan and Douglas Short, Iain and Isobel Whyte Janet King and Bridgette Johnston

Currently we have a display of photos from Hohoe in the vestibule of the church which can be viewed during Wednesday coffee mornings or when the church is open on Sundays or for the school services.

## Scottish Women's Rural Institute (The Rural)

Following recent exploratory meetings, it is proposed to form a North Queensferry branch of the Rural in the autumn.

The first meeting is planned for Thurs Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7.30pm in the Church Hall and is open to all.

Further information will be circulated later; or contact Ann Bain (417734) or Anne Monteith (412365)

## Pilates classes



Simply Pilates

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### Pilates Class Timetable

Monday	7.00-8.00pm	SQ Community Centre
Monday	8.00-9.00pm	SQ Community Centre
Tuesday	10.30-11.30am	SQ Rosebery Hall
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: [simplypilates@sky.com](mailto:simplypilates@sky.com)**

## Community Cinema

Thanks to funding from Fife Council and the North Queensferry Transition Initiative, The Red Cinema, North Queensferry's very own Community Cinema, launched its very first test season in March 2011. The British Federation of Film Societies (BFFS) have provided the equipment – including a very impressive 16 foot screen, state of the art projector and professional sound equipment. We've done 5 screenings so far and you'll be pleased to know its not too late to join us for our family screening of Bugsy Malone on the June 12th.

The programme so far has offered an eclectic mix of films from around the world and across the ages. 'Fargo', 'My Neighbour Totoro', 'Together', 'It Happened One Night' and 'The King's Speech' have all featured so far. Knowing that people can go to the local Odeon to watch new release films (for nearly twice the price) we thought a different selection of films might be worth a try. The good news is that each screening has been universally praised, when we asked residents to score the experience at the end of the film, almost all people said they 'loved it'.

After our latest screening of the Oscar winning 1930's classic 'It Happened One Night', a Ferryhills Rd resident said *"I'm so enjoying the Red Cinema - where else could you walk round the corner from your house, bump into lot's of friends, have a glass of wine and some popcorn and watch a great film on a huge cinema screen - and all for under a fiver??"*

Each screening costs about £200, (covering licensing, Fife Council fee for the school, equipment fees, cost of black out blinds etc) so the £4 ticket doesn't quite cover our costs, but helps us along the way!

So we'd like to say a very big thank you to everyone who has supported this new venture. We hope that more of you will give The Red Cinema a try at our final screening on June 12th of Bugsy Malone at 3:00 – first come first served! Thanks to a donation from the Gala committee, this one is free! Hope to see you there.

Like to get involved  
or  
find out more?  
email  
[redcinema.nq@gmail.com](mailto:redcinema.nq@gmail.com)  
or visit

[www.redcinema.org](http://www.redcinema.org)

## Heritage Trust

The Trust continues to operate the Light Tower this year as a visitor attraction. It will be open on weekends and public holidays but during the week only by appointment by telephoning 07852 437384.

The Trust has recently acquired the 1911 North Queensferry Census records to add to our archives. This information is now being processed into electronic format and it is hoped to have this available for viewing at the Village Show.

The Trust has also acquired the well established 'Forth Bridges Exhibition and artifacts' from the Forth Bridges Visitor Centre Trust (now disbanded). The intention is to add to the exhibition the latest information on the bridge refurbishment giving North Queensferry an excellent legacy of what is Scotland's best known icon. It is hoped that the exhibition, with all the additions, will also be available for viewing at the Village Show.

The 360<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Inverkeithing occurs on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2011. This battle between the Royalist forces of Scotland under Charles II and Oliver Cromwell's army is little known but was decisive in the eventual outcome of the 'English Civil War'. The consequences of the defeat of the Scottish forces played an important part in the subsequent history and development of Scotland.

The Trust, with other partners, plans to construct various **Viewing Points** on the Ferryhills overlooking the battlefield and events that led up to it. These points will be easily accessible to walkers and the proposal is to construct these on the existing defence line of the Cromwellian troop displaying the action of the battle as seen by the victorious general John Lambert.

# Room with a View

## Seafood Restaurant



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Aberdour  
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01383 860 402

Menu's will reflect weekly fish market

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Monday & Tuesday

Check out the website for sample menus and information:  
[www.roomwithaviewrestaurant.co.uk](http://www.roomwithaviewrestaurant.co.uk)



## Transition Initiative

Last year was very busy and we hope you enjoyed our Food Fest, or benefited from our Carbon Cutters project. We wanted to tell you some of the highlights of the last year and our plans for the coming months.

### Carbon Cutters Project

- 46 households in the village took part and many more came along for some one-off advice.
- We provided home energy monitors, draught-testing, thermal imaging surveys and renewable's case studies
- Most households found they could reduce their energy use by around 1/3 by adopting a range of energy saving measures from adjusting heating controls and changing lightbulbs to fitting insulation or replacing boilers.
- We exceeded our target of making 51 tonnes of carbon savings to reach 58 tonnes. This is an amazing result in less than one year and shows the level of commitment our community has made to taking action on the advice and improving how we use energy.

### Low energy light offer

Even near the end of our project our energy advisors were looking for ways to save North Queensferry

residents money. They negotiated a 10% discount for low energy light bulbs for people in the village. If you go to [www.brightlightz.co.uk](http://www.brightlightz.co.uk) and enter the code FSJ293 you will receive your discount. A flier will be sent around the village to tell you more.

### Community food forest

Wouldn't it be great to have a place where the community could get together and grow fruit and veg and other edible things? We think so and those of you who have attended our events will have seen our plans for a site beyond the Community Centre.

Unfortunately there has been a last minute difficulty with the first piece of land Fife Council offered the community. It is a bit of good news too as the land is a Site of Special Scientific Interest for its chalk grassland that is right on our doorstep. Unfortunately this means that it cannot be used as a community gardening site. Fife Council have rallied to the cause and offered us the adjacent strip of land between the edge of the original site and the community centre, including the dog-walking area. We plan to do a very similar plan for the new piece of land and of course seek the community's views. Keep a look out for our consultation in the near future.

If you would like to get in touch:

Email: [nqtransition@gmail.com](mailto:nqtransition@gmail.com)

Website [www.nqti.org.uk](http://www.nqti.org.uk)



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## The Rotary Club

In recent weeks the Rotary Club of Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay (whose area also includes North Queensferry) has been active in supporting several deserving international appeals. Water Boxes and LifeStraws, which allow families to purify water in areas affected by natural disasters, have been sent to Haiti and Pakistan and shoe boxes, filled with a range of useful household items, have been provided as part of a national Rotary initiative in support of families in eastern Europe. Nearer to home, significant financial donations have been made to MacMillan Cancer Care and to Maggie's Centres in Kirkcaldy and Edinburgh. The club's grand charity raffle, held earlier in the year, raised £1,500 for Piggy Bank Kids, the charity fronted by Sarah Brown that supports research into premature births and provides practical support to families of vulnerable new born children. The charity's recently established "granny school" has proved to be very successful in Fife and may be rolled out in other NHS areas. Two major fund raising events were held in February. A casino night in Aberdour golf club raised £1,000 for Fife SANDS, the stillbirth and neonatal death charity which supports families that have suffered the death of a baby in pregnancy or soon after birth. And the club's coffee morning and charity sale in the Church Hall, Aberdour raised over £1,250 for Rotary International's End Polio Now campaign which aims to eradicate polio from the four countries – Pakistan, Afghanistan, India and Nigeria – where it remains endemic. The Club is grateful for the support it received for both these events.

A capacity audience enjoyed Inverkeithing High School's Spring Concert on 17 March, with an ambitious programme that ranged from well known classical pieces through jazz and traditional Scottish music to solo and choir singing. The concert was organised jointly by the High School music department and the Rotary Club. The proceeds from the evening amounted to £1600 and will be divided between the school's music department and the Rotary Club's fund for local charities.

Those organisations interested in participating in the Rotary Club's annual charity walk from Inverkeithing to the Silver Sands in Aberdour on Sunday 11 September should register now with John Taddei on 01383 860456. The walk is now a major charity event in West Fife. Clubs and societies that take part in the walk can contribute to the Rotary charities that benefit from the walk and at the same time raise funds for their own organisations. Last year more than 30 clubs and organisations participated in the walk, raising more than £5,000 for local charities and retaining up to 50% of what they raised for their own organisations. All those who participate enjoy a barbeque on the Silver Sands and receive a

certificate marking their achievement. Several clubs and organisations in North Queensferry took part in last year's walk. Register now for the 2011 walk.



**North Queensferry**

**Heritage Trust**

&

**Boat Club**

introduce a weekend of fun  
commencing

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2011**

**14.00 to 16.00**

with the

**Village Show**

An exhibition of village produce, traditional home crafts, floral art, photography and home baking. Sales tables, competitions, auction .....and much more  
at

**the Community Centre**

Admission: Adult 50p / Child 20p

continuing on

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2011**

**12.30 to 17.00**

with the

**Boat & Harbour Festival**

Traditional Boats - boat trips - Sub Aqua display - children's fair - craft fair - craft demonstrations - model boat pond - music and song all day plus much much more  
at

**the Old Ferry Pier**

Admission: Adult £4.00

Children/ Concessions £2.00

**Contributions for the next issue**

are to be with us by

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October

to 7 Carlingnose Park

E: [mary@ferrynews.co.uk](mailto:mary@ferrynews.co.uk)

## Messing about in Boats!

The activity schedule for this season is as follows

Day	Date	Time	Activity
Sat	May 21 <sup>st</sup>	5:00 PM	Powerboat Refresher Training
Sun	May 29 <sup>th</sup>	11:00 AM	Shakedown Sail
Tues	June 7 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 PM	General Sailing
Sun	June 12 <sup>th</sup>	10:30 AM	Powerboat Training
Tues	June 21 <sup>st</sup>	6:30 PM	Powerboat Training
Sun	June 26 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 AM	General Sailing
Sun	July 3 <sup>rd</sup>	3:30 PM	Race Training
Sun	July 10 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 AM	Race Training
Sun	July 17 <sup>th</sup>	3:00 PM	General Sailing
Sat	July 30 <sup>th</sup>	1:30 PM	Club Racing/General Sailing
Thur	Aug 4 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 PM	General Sailing
Sat	Aug 13 <sup>th</sup>	1:30 PM	Yacht Training
Fri	Aug 19 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 PM	Powerboat Training
Sun	Aug 28 <sup>th</sup>	1:00 PM	N.Q.S.C REGATTA.....!
Sun	Sept 11 <sup>th</sup>	2:00 PM	General Sailing
Mon	Sept 19 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 PM	General Sailing
Sun	Sept 25 <sup>th</sup>	12:00 PM	Club racing
Mon	Oct 3 <sup>rd</sup>	6:00 PM	General Sailing
Sun	Oct 9 <sup>th</sup>	12:00 PM	Closing Sail

With the weather looking ever better, North Queensferry Sailing Club is gearing up for the new season and is looking forward to the summer's sailing and fun. This year we will be running 4 sessions per month, with most months having two sessions at weekends and two on weekday evenings. We will have separate lessons for adults and juniors and over the season will be teaching sailing in dinghies and yachts as well as a few powerboat sessions for those of a more 'mechanical' persuasion. At the end of the summer people can put their new found skills to the test in the first ever North Queensferry Regatta.

As well as the sailing, we have a few social events planned as well. First off will be a beach BBQ / 'try a sail' day in June with the simple aim of having some fun and messing about in the water a bit. This is open to all so look out for signs around the village nearer the time to find out where and when! Over the summer we are also planning some family cruises on the Forth for both yachts and dinghies with the simple format of sail somewhere in company, BBQ or Picnic and return in the boats.

If you are interested in learning to sail, or have a boat and would like to join us on the water this year, please either contact Paul Tucker for more information on 416 385 or visit our website at <http://www.northqueensferrysc.co.uk>

## Youth Club

Good News! The Youth Club are going on a residential experience over the summer holidays for 3 days to PGL Dalguise. This is partly funded by the Community Centre Management committee and through some local fundraising by the kids. They are all very excited and would like to thank every-

body who has contributed.

The youth club is running well and we have recruited James Kemp (a former participant) as a volunteer, and he is doing his Gold Youth Achievement Award, which is a great award for him to be taking part in. He is currently volunteering in 2 youth clubs on a regular basis and we are very proud of his progress.

North Queensferry Church

### STRAWBERRY TEA

In aid of the Ghana Twinning

will be held on

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August

from 2 to 4 pm

Minimum donation - £3 Adult / £10 family

Tea, coffee, home-baking and

**strawberries**



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## Gala Week (11th - 18th June )

It's less than a month to the start of our gala week activities and this year we are really excited to be holding some new events. We have received some great feedback, and have used a number of ideas to help shape gala week. This year our theme for all activities is - "Pirates"!

Congratulations to Jason Morgan and Finlay Price who have been elected by their peers as Gala King and Gala Queen.



New Events - our full list of events for the week is on the enclosed flyer, but here are some more details of the new events or ones that we have made changes to.

### **Saturday 11th June - Sandcastle Building Competition**

Bring your own picnic, bucket and spade and get a group together to build a sandcastle on Port Laing Beach from 1pm - 4pm. Horse rides available on the beach at £2.00 per ride.

### **Sunday 12th June - Raft Race**

This year the raft race will be a morning event and start at 10am. We had some fantastic and creative raft designs last year, so we look forward to seeing what the teams come up with using the Pirate theme. Based on your feedback, there will be a prize this year for the best dressed raft, and we will also run a Jnr and Snr competition. We have planned a BBQ and have arranged for a demonstration from the RNLI. There will also be water demonstrations and safety boat rides. Team entry forms are available at [northqueensferrygala@hotmail.com](mailto:northqueensferrygala@hotmail.com)

### **Sunday 12th June - Red Cinema Screening**

Red Cinema and the Gala have teamed up to provide a free screening of Buggy Malone. Doors open at the Primary School from 3pm. Bring your own pillow and relax and enjoy this family movie.

### **Landmark Bike (Mon 13th) and Running (Tues 14th) - for the big kids!**

This year we have made some changes to the route for the "full" race. The new course will start at the Church, continue down Ferryhills road and then turn left in the Park and Ride, cross the roundabouts and into the bottom of the village. Competitors will finish

the last hurdle of the race by going up heart break hill (or The Brae) and return to the Church. The trophies are up for grabs this year, so we hope to see all those runners and cyclists at the starting line. The race starts on both nights at 7:30pm, but registration is from 7:15pm. Get in touch with us at [northqueensferrygala@hotmail.com](mailto:northqueensferrygala@hotmail.com) if you would like a route map.

### **Thursday 16th - Traditional Games Night**

Get a team together and come up to the Community Centre at 6:30pm for a night of games. Skittles, Twister, Penalty shots and throwing games to name just a few.

### **Saturday 17th - Gala Day Family Ceilidh**

Get a table together and enjoy the fantastic Cameron Kellow Ceilidh Band. Doors open at 6:30pm at the Community Centre, and the first dance is at 7:00pm. Family tickets £5.00, or £2.00 per person.

### **Gala Day Friends and Family Ticket**

If you have friends and family that stay further afield that would like to come along to gala day, a visitors ticket is available at £3.50 per child (includes a food bag and all rides). Tickets available on gala day from the main marshall tent.

### **Raffle Prizes**

We are working hard to provide another set of fantastic prizes for our gala day raffle. Over the years we have been overwhelmed by the generosity of the donations we received. If you have something that you would like to donate, please get in contact with Linda Whiddett on 07903 853 294.

### **Friends of the Gala**

If you would like to lend a hand over the gala week or are available to help with dressing the children before the gala day parade - we would love to hear from you. Drop us an email and we will be in touch soon: [northqueensferrygala@hotmail.com](mailto:northqueensferrygala@hotmail.com)

### **Volunteers for a Beach Clean Up - 4/5th June**

In conjunction with the transition group, we are planning a beach clean up over the 1st weekend in June. If you are available, please come down to Port Laing beach and lend a hand. Watch out for posters with more details on the clean up.

### **2010 Trophy Winners**

Could all trophies be engraved and returned to a committee member by Friday 3rd June.

Our facebook site is regularly updated, so please have a look & if you would like further details - join the growing list of gala friends!

We are all looking forward to another great week of activities, and I hope that as many people can come along with their friends and family to enjoy this community event.



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