





Issue 75 October 2013 <u>www.ferrynews.org.uk</u>

Community Centre

The Community Centre Management Committee are very happy to announce that Fife Council, after a lot of prodding and negotiating on our behalf by Councillor Mike Shirkie, have decided to renew the original lease of the land on which the Community Centre sits for a further 25 years. This means that the building itself remains in community ownership rather than becoming the property of Fife Council as had originally been proposed. This seems like an important victory for common sense over bureaucratic box-ticking and we are very grateful to everyone who helped us to retain ownership of this building which was built by villagers for villagers.

The area of land that has been designated for the Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) will be included in the lease and this will allow us to apply for a variety of grants to fund the project. We had a phenomenally successful Ladies Night during the summer which raised £3000 for the MUGA and now we will be able to go out and look for the rest of the money that is required.

Another new development is that we now have a large door at the back of the building allowing easy access to the huge storage area under the floor. In the spring we will be having a big clear out and re-organisation of the area and might even be able to raise funds for the centre by hiring out long-term storage space. We are also creating a website to help us to advertise the facilities at the Community Centre more widely to groups and individuals who might like to use it for events and activities. We will be looking for photos of interesting events that have taken place here that could be used on the website.

Thanks for all your support,

Lucie Macaulay (chair)

Coastal Rowing Club

North Queensferry Coastal Rowing Club has gone from strength to strength over the summer starting with a fantastic trip to the first ever World Skiff Racing Championship in Ullapool at which we won a car (!) in the raffle, which more than made up for not doing quite so well in the medal league table. The car has now been sold so our financial situation is secure and we have made donations to NQ Boat Club and the Scottish Coastal Rowing Association.

We came back from Ullapool with a lot of rowers who were very motivated to get better at racing and to research all the technicalities of oar-lengths and rowing technique which would improve our chances. We were, therefore, very happy indeed to win the inaugural North Queensferry vs South Queensferry race across the Forth and celebrated in style. This race will now become an annual event and next year's

"Queensferry Challenge" will be part of the Forth Bridges Festival celebrating the 50th birthday of the Forth Road Bridge.

We've taken part in several regattas over the season and had a great time doing blindfold rowing in Anstruther, racing up the River Nith, battling the wind in South Queensferry and tackling the rapids on the River Tweed as well as taking more leisurely trips to the cafe in Limekilns, out to a few cruise ships for a nosey and around the bridges to spot seals and dolphins. We will continue rowing right through the autumn and winter with sessions on Saturdays and Sundays, tides and weather permitting.

Please come and have a go - it's suitable for all ages and levels of fitness.

Email:

n.queensferrycoastalrowingclub@yahoo.com Facebook:

North Queensferry Coastal Rowing Club

Ferry Birds – May to September 2013

The common terns nesting on the derelict pier appeared to be successful again this year. I counted over 150 adults there in the early summer and there were lots of young being fed sand eels later on. The common terns disappeared at the end of August with just a few on the pier on the 31st and only the odd one or two being seen after that. Sandwich terns only occasionally breed in the area, but come into the Estuary in late summer to feed up for their migration to West Africa. They often appear in twos with an adult being chased around by a young bird begging for food. Any terns you see or hear in September or October are nearly always this species. Other breeding birds I have noted over the summer are the eiders with young in West Bay and near Port Laing and the fulmars on the quarry by Deep Sea World. The shelduck which had wintered in West Bay went off to breed elsewhere and I did see a few young with adults in Inverkeithing Inner Bay in mid July.

Interesting sightings I have had in the last 4 months have included a peregrine falcon over the school on the 1st of October and a few sightings of them over the Cruickness quarry. A raven was flying over the quarry on the 30th of August and earlier in the year one was being mobbed by some crows on the 27th of May over Carlingnose. Evidence of the end of the breeding season further north was the return of the redshanks to West Bay. As usual the wintering flock had disappeared by the end of April and then one was back there on 26th of June which was about a week earlier than last year. There are now between 30 and 40 in the Bay. The gannets did their usual show in Inverkeithing Bay on the 2nd of October. There were at least 100 individuals (nearly all dark immature birds) circling round the bay. Other signs of the season have been a whimbrel calling then appearing overhead near Port Laing on the 3rd of September, a small group of Brent geese over the sea between Port Laing and Cruickness Point on the 19th and 2 red-throated divers over the reserve on the 24th. These sightings illustrate nicely the role the area has for these birds. The whimbrel was passing through on the way to Africa and, no doubt had a feed in the area, Brent geese breed in the Arctic and winter in small numbers in SE Scotland while the red-throated divers were probably birds from Northern Scotland coming to the Forth Estuary for the winter. Other sightings

of migrating birds have been a wheatear at Cruickness Point on the September 6th and a common sandpiper in Inverkeithing Inner Bay on August 20th.

Locally the tree sparrows have been reported from Mount Hooly Crescent and I think they often join the house sparrows in the bushes near the station. An evening visit to the Ferry loch on the 17th of July was rewarded with the sight of several swallows, sand martins and swifts feeding on the insects above the loch and a coot being pestered by its well-grown young on the loch itself. The area round the water tank on Ferry Hills is a good spot for buzzards which perch on the power line poles and yellowhammers on the wires. The bushes between the tank and the quarry are also a good spot to hear and see whitethroats, willow warblers and chiffchaffs in the summer. These warblers are also quite common in the bushes and trees along the coastal path between North Queensferry and Jamestown. There are often one or two blackbirds feeding on the grassy triangle between The Brae and Mount Hooly Crescent and in July I was alerted to a songthrush bashing a snail against a paving slab in my garden. The places that the thrushes use are called anvils and can often be identified by the array of empty snail shells scattered around.

The field gentians on the Carlingnose Point reserve did not flower this year. The lesser meadow-rue was abundant around the rocky knoll on the Carlingnose reserve, but the dropwort didn't show very well either. There is more dropwort on Ferryhills which produced a few flowering heads, but nothing like the usual display. I wonder if this was a consequence of the cool windy spell of weather we had in March. The annual cutting of the grassland at Carlingnose will be done in the next few weeks. This is done to ensure that the gorse does not take over and the optimum conditions for these rare plants are maintained.

The ivy around the village is now starting to flower and provide sustenance for various insects such as hover flies, wasps and houseflies. These insects will not make it through the winter, but provide our common garden birds with food as they build up their reserves to give themselves a better chance of survival. Any wilder corners of your garden will also help by sheltering slugs and snails for the blackbirds and thrushes to feast on so please leave some places in your garden untidy to give these denizens of damp dark places a place to live.

Gala

I would like to start by thanking everyone for their help and support in producing yet another fantastic gala day! The feedback we have received has been very positive and we appreciate all comments. Our Facebook page has been a very useful tool in keeping most people updated and gives you an opportunity to have your say.

As you may be aware, we fundraise throughout the year so we can continue to have a successful gala. We are one of the few galas left who can offer a gala day which is mainly free of charge. We would not be able to do this without your continued support. Therefore if you have any fundraising ideas we would love to hear from you. Our gala week will start on Saturday 7th June 2014 with gala day taking place on Saturday 14th June.

It is that time of year again when the nights get darker and we start to think of the ghosts and ghouls! If you have any lurking about your house then please bring them along to our Children's Halloween Party at the North Queensferry Community Centre on Sunday 27th October from 3pm-4.30pm. There will be lots of fun and games for your little terrors to take part in!!! This is a free event however donations would be warmly welcomed. We would ask that an adult accompany all children.

The Rotary Club of Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay Around 200 walkers took part in the rotary club's 11th annual charity walk, from Inverkeithing to the Silver Sands in Aberdour, on Saturday 14th September. Thanks to them and their sponsors over £5,000 was raised for local charities and the Pancreatic Cancer Research Fund. The walk is now one of west Fife's principal charity events and, since the club's first walk in 2002, more than £40,000 has been raised for charity.

The club has a very strong relationship with all of its local primary schools, including North Queensferry, and is active in the community, supporting local organisations and clubs. It meets every Wednesday at 12.30 in the Queensferry Hotel where lunch is usually followed by a short talk by a guest speaker representing a local charity or business. If you would like to become more involved in your community and would welcome the fellowship the club offers, think about coming along to one of our lunch time meetings or get in touch with our secretary for more information on the club's activities bob.tait@btinternet.com.





Visitors to the 'Ferrie'

The constitution of the Heritage Trust states as one of its objectives: To monitor environmental (including architectural) changes whilst allowing for the growth of tourism. The Trust does precisely that and more to encourage changes to take place, which fit in with the wishes of the community, in a responsible manner. An example of this policy in action is the refurbishment of the light tower on the Town Pier and its subsequent opening as a visitor attraction. This was an important part of the grant funding the Trust was given. Like the other much larger visitor attraction in North Queensferry visitors coming to see what is on offer is the 'lifeblood' of both operations.

Another more recent example is the refurbishment of the station building by the North Queensferry Station Trust due to be completed by April 2014.

The Heritage Trust publishes the only brochure on the North Queensferry area. This is well distributed in all local hotels, restaurants, B&B's, Ferrytoll bus terminal and Visit Scotland tourist information centres in Edinburgh, Dunfermline and St Andrews. The brochure content suggests that walking in the area or around the historic part of the village, to see how the ferry terminal has developed over the centuries, is the best way to appreciate the changes which have taken place and to understand the reasons why new changes can be proposed and managed.

For the past ten years the Heritage Trust has been part of the Doors Open Day initiative, organised by Fife Council, offering a guided walking tour of the village with the assistance of volunteers from the village. Since 2010, when the light tower refurbishment was completed, a visit to the tower and adjacent exhibition on the ferries has been added.

This year on Sunday 22nd September over 80 people visited the light tower and 30 came on the guided walk, including 2 babies in prams. They had all seen the recent publicity on the Forth Bridges Festival and the proposed visitor centre for the Forth Bridge and wished to have more information. All visitors to this event receive a copy of the North Queensferry brochure and the Fact Sheets the Trust publishes separately on the pier, the village itself and St James's chapel as a designated Ancient Monument.

This press announcement gave the opportunity to tell the up to date story, whilst standing under the bridge, looking over to the proposed visitor centre site before moving on to the Forth Bridge Memorial and St James's Chapel.

The visitors book in the 'fisherman's hut' records peoples' experience, from many different countries, of not only visiting the light tower but North Queensferry as a destination and one or two are worth mentioning, as these are typical of many.

Date	Name	Address	
20-6-13	DirkJoussen	Amsterdom Netlenlonas	Hice mersen liked the Jahthorse very well of stored, nice job
28.6.13	R.+H.Freimann	Zurich, Switzerland	nice job . Interesting bridge great work
28-6-13	Refer # Alic Kennington	Bolton. Lancashire	Very informative exhibition mank
29.6.13	Kathleen e Tong Penningtan	Ayur, Ayushine	A national Treasure, excellent
30/06/13	Maria Leonor Cedeno	London - Forest hill	Very nice. Job.
30106/13	chelsy Diana	Edinburgh.	great work. Great Ser Vices.
30/06/13	Fernanda Mendeza	London-South East	great exhibition and information Creat wok.

Local information on where to eat, where can I get a cup of coffee, is there anything else to see in North Queensferry or even where to park, is constantly being asked for from Eric, our guide. All these questions are noted and our next brochure will incorporate information on all these requests.

Some conclusions can reasonably be drawn from the Trust's three years of experience in running the light tower as a visitor attraction and to some extent looking after the Town pier. On a daily basis this can mean picking up litter, moving objects that have arrived on the tide and generally cleaning the paved areas. Tribute must be made to the excellent floral arrangements which are looked after separately by a dedicated group of ladies.

If the local community including the hotels, B&B's, restaurants and café wish visitors to come in increasing numbers because new attractions are being added then these will have to be carefully managed by the community who in turn are reinforced by the local authority with clear instructions and good signage on what is available to see, where to park, even if that means a park and ride option is considered best for long term planning.

The community itself effectively works together as a team that ensures visitors, who will inevitably Cont opposite

Heritage cont

come, enjoy their experience of whatever North Queensferry has to offer. The Forth bridges area will be very much under the spotlight over the next few years as changes start to take shape and the towers of the Queensferry Crossing start to appear above water.



Band of the Royal Marines at the Town Pier

Baby and Toddler Group

North Queensferry Baby and Toddler Group meets at the community centre on Thursday mornings from 9:15 - 11:15, during school term time. In the building, we have our own soft play room and loads of toys for the children. In the last several months we have had a sports day, met small furry animals with Eden's Garden, and some messy fun with Doodle and Splat art activities.

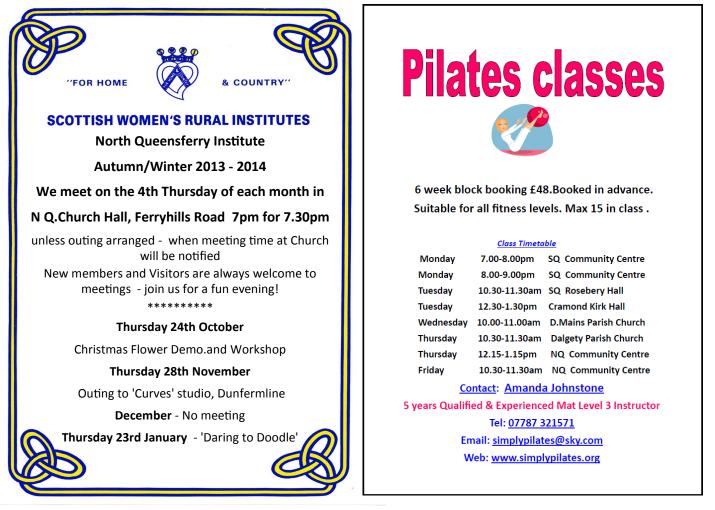


Buoy advertising the Commonwealth Games 2014

Attendance is £1.50 per family per week, though your first visit is free of charge.

We take it in turn to provide a healthy snack for the children, and there are hot drinks and biscuits to keep the adults going.

For more information please contact Agnes Stark, Chairperson, at <u>grannyagnes-play@yahoo.co.uk</u>, or on 0790918107



Ladies Dinner Evening June 2013

On behalf of Christina, Jill and myself I want to say a very big thank you to all the ladies that supported our fundraising event by attending the evening.

Once again the ladies of North Queensferry and their friends turned out to make this a fabulous evening and in the process raised funds for the Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) beside the centre.

We had great entertainment from our Michael Buble tribute act, Sandy Stran our speaker and Daniel Howie our DJ. Thanks also go to Reigus Catering for an excellent meal.

I would like to give a special mention to the following for their donations, raffle prizes and auctions experiences.

Orroco Pier, Forth Tours, Alistair Pryde Photography, Munore's Hair & Beauty, Balmoral Hotel, Rejects, Wendy Barber (George Heriot's School), Edinburgh Gin, Nailz & Divine Beauty, Jen Foster Hairdressing, Terry Myles, Ross & Sandra Innes, David Greig, Mick Schofield, Network Rail, Melanie Bell (Albert Hotel), Forth Replacement Crossing, Forth Road Bridge, Craig & Vikki Wood (The Wee Restaurant), Mike Dooley Photography, Nichol, Sue & Lucy Kerr, Ciaran Donnelly, Janet King, Carol King and Susan Reekie.

Without all these people and all you lovely ladies (that I have to say look very glamorous) that attended we would not have been able to raise the staggering sum of £3800

Village Show

The Village Show this year which took place on Saturday 30th August had a 'Natural Scotland' theme and was well attended with well over 200 visitors coming throughout the afternoon to enjoy all the exhibits or even just a cup of tea and a home baked scone. Support from the school children was also much appreciated with some excellent artwork entries. Flowers and vegetables entries were also substantially up this year which perhaps reflected the good summer weather. The results from all the show entries are printed separately. The outright winners of various categories were all presented with their prizes by Sarah Brown. The Trust was very pleased to present to a school representative a shield to be presented annually to the pupil or group who in the opinion of the teaching staff make a 'Notable contribution to Natural Heritage'.

The Village show committee must be thanked for all the work they have done over the past few months, much of it behind the scenes, to ensure the success of the event.

Most importantly the village must be thanked for supporting the show in such a friendly way that bodes well for the future.

Contributions for the next issue

are to be with us by Friday 10th January 2014 to 7 Carlingnose Park E: mary@ferrynews.org.uk

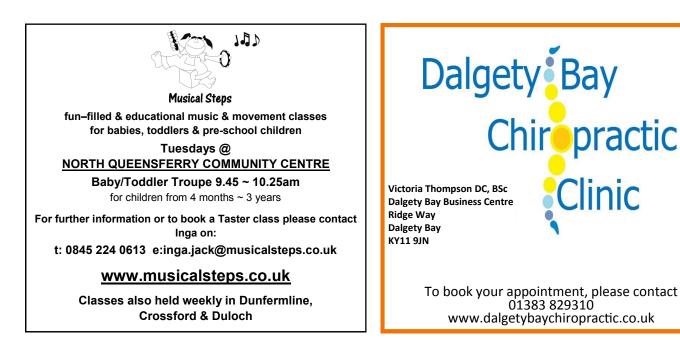
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01383 829310

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THANK YOU ALL



			VILLAGE SHC	AGE SHOW RESULTS 2013			
VEGETABLES	First D Rall	Second E Donaldeon	Third	HOME BAKING Madaira caka	First No prize awarded	Second	Third
iviliaeu vegetautes. Tomatoae	R Errington	S Hood	E Donaldson	Nauella care Oven Scones	R Wilson	Δ I ΩW	M Pateron
Cherry Tomatoes	MIOW	l Innes	E Donaldson	Snonge Cake	M Tavlor	A Forsvth	M Paterson
Onions	P Bell			Muffins	M Paterson	C Ewen	M Paterson
Leeks	M Rae			Cup Cakes	M Taylor	A Bain	
Potatoes	E Donaldson	M Rae	C Egner	Pancakes or Drop Scones	A Low		
Beetroot	M Rae	R Errington	E Donaldson	Loaf of bread	W Monteith	L Jones	
Runner or French beans	B Wilson	S Hood	P Bell	Ginger Bread	A Thoms	A Low	A Bain
Courgette	C Dean	A Monteith	E Donaldson	Shortbread	A Bain	M Paterson	A Thoms
Any other vegetable	E Donaldson			Tablet or Fudge	E Greer		
Plate of fruit	L Collis	E Donaldson	E Donaldson	Flapjack	M Paterson		
Longest runner bean	B Wilson	S Hood	S Hood	Flan / pie	M Paterson	M Paterson	
Misshapen vegetable	J Chan	E Donaldson		FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS			
FLOWERS				Natural Scotland	A Bain	F McNaught	P Bell
Roses	C Storie	B Paterson	B Paterson	Miniature Arrangement	B Wilson	A Bain	F McNaught
Specimen rose	B Paterson	B Wilson	B McKechnie	Lunch Table Arrangement	E Greer	F McNaught	
Pinks or Carnations	B Paterson	M Innes	B Paterson	Tea tray		P Bell	
Sweet Peas	A Thoms	M Innes	B Paterson	Spray/ buttonhole	E Greer	F McNaught	P Bell
Hydrangea	A Thoms	E Donaldson	M Rae	SEWING			
Pansies	E Donaldson	L Taylor		Embroidery Item	F McNaught		
Summer Annuals	M Innes	A Thoms	A Monteith	Soft Toy	F McNaught	N McConachie	
Flowering Bush or Climber	E Donaldson	B Wilson		Patchwork Item	M Paterson	M Paterson	
Herbaceous	E Donaldson	B Wilson	B Wilson	Quilted Item KNITTING & CDOCUET	F George	A Bain	
	Р Беll тт.	E Donaldson		Any Knitted Item	A Bain	M Armstrong	N McConachie
Flowering Plant	E Errington	E Errington		Crochet Item: cotton or rayon	F McNaught		
Pelargonium (Geranium)	B Paterson	C Ewen		Crochet Item: wool	E Greer	E Greer	F McNaught
Begonia	S Reekie	B Paterson		CRAFTS			
Fuchsia: any variety in bloom	E Reynolds	E Errington		Hobby Craft Item	J Anastasio	F McNaught	l West
One Cactus or Group of Cacti	M Paterson	M Paterson	M Paterson	Greeting Card	S Hood	S Hood	F McNaught
Succulents	E Reynolds	C Ewen	C Ewen	Painting	F George	F George	A Bain
Ornamental Grass	P Bell			Drawing	F McNaught		
Herbs: up to 3 varieties	P Bell			Item from recycled material	J Anastasio	C Egner	I West
EGGS				Hand made jewellery	I West	J Anastasio	
Hens eggs	M Schofield	T, A & J Fraser	S Kerr	PHOTOGRAPHY			
PRESERVES				Transport	M Anastasio	W Monteith	M Chan
Fruit Jam	M Paterson	B Wilson	E Donaldson	Panoramic	M Bell	M Low	M Anastasio
Marmalade	A Low	E Greer	E Donaldson	Holiday Scene	M Armstrong	J Done	M Anastasio
Jelly Longo Curd	A Low	L Taylor		Animals	M Bell	M Anastasio	A Hanson
	A LOW				VV INIONLEILIN D. E. min etton	NI Ariastasio Di Finington	NI Ariasiasio
CIUIIIEY	L JUILES		r wayaugu	Close Up Sport	M Ewen	S Rankin	

VILLAGE SHOW RESULTS (Children's Classes)

PHOTOGRAPHY

Village Show			
A Model or Craft Item	S Trotter		
GENERAL (13 TO 16 YRS)			
Tallest Sunflower	C Venters-Scott	M Faulkner	O Jones
Pancakes or Drop Scones	O Jones		
Fairy Cakes: 3	M Faulkner	L Jkerr	E Chan
Tray Bake: 3 pieces	H Taylor	L Judd	
Flower decorated paper plate	Z Evans	M Thomas	
A Tray or Large Plate Garden	H Taylor = E Bonus	S Trotter	Coco & Samira
GENERAL (8 TO 12 YRS)			
Tallest Sunflower	A Hansen	C Foster	
Marshmallow Top Hats: 5	L McLachlan	T Fraser	E McLachan
Flower decorated paper plate	L McLachlan	J Carter	E Brierton
A Tray or Large Plate Garden	P Jones	L McLachlan	E McLachlan
GENERAL (7 YRS & UNDER)			
"Natural Scotland" picture age 11	S Trotter	Z Wood	Z Wood
"Natural Scotland" picture age 10	S Rahmon-Shiff	S Trotter	M Faulkner
"Natural Scotland" picture age 9	C Ramponi	D Chadwick	
"Natural Scotland" picture age 8	Z Evans	J Maclaurin	
"Natural Scotland" picture age 7	Elen	E Davidson	F Brown
"Natural Scotland" picture age 6	Millie	Jack	A Chadwick
"Natural Scotland" picture age 5	Мах	Jane	Jamie
Photo: own choice (12 yrs & under) ARTS & CRAFTS (all ages)) E Ghan	H Taylor	C Ramponi
Family (old or new)	M Anastasio	LI Toulor	C Domnoni
	M America's		

The Bob Cubin Cup The Maureen Trotter Cup The Jubilee Cup Maggie Paterson Ann Thoms Hannah Taylor

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

This year's annual Service of Remembrance will be held at the Village War Memorial on Sunday 10th November, commencing at 1050 a.m. It is hoped that the Salvation Army Band will play for us and that 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.

Church Fete and Craft Sale

2pm to 4pm Sat 2 Nov. Entrance fee includes afternoon tea. Stalls - home baking, plants, tombola, gifts, books, <u>NEW</u> art & craft by local artists, children's activities



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