



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

## Gala

Happy New Year!!

We had a fantastic end to 2013.

The Halloween party was brilliant fun, lovely to see so much effort from our fellow villagers. The costumes and pumpkins were outstanding and the new scariest cake and creepiest biscuit competition really brought out the hidden talents amongst you!

The Christmas Fayre took place on a cold, dark and very wet November evening, we were delighted at the numbers who turned out to join us! We had changed the venue this year and other than an unforeseen bottleneck this new layout made for a really cosy and intimate atmosphere. There were a different variety of stalls from previous years (with a few old favourites!) and the feedback from both stallholders and shoppers has been very positive. We raised £1560 for gala funds. The date for 2014 will be confirmed shortly, I would urge anybody interested in taking a stall this year to get in touch asap.

We are revamping our fundraising this year. There will be no sponsored event pre gala. Nor will there be a race night. We will be announcing details shortly of a musical tribute night, very exciting!!! Gala week runs from 7<sup>th</sup> June to Gala Day on the 14<sup>th</sup> June. The theme this year is the Commonwealth.

We welcome your feedback and input on all things Gala and encourage you to get in touch with us via email ([northqueensferrygala@hotmail.com](mailto:northqueensferrygala@hotmail.com)), comment on Facebook or join us at a meeting.

## Dunfermline & Inverkeithing (Fundraising) Branch of the

**RNLI** would like to extend their thanks to the village for their donations in the door-to-door collection in June, we collected £428.26. In total £5,206.33 was donated from Dunfermline, Inverkeithing, Limekilns, North Queensferry, and Hillend . Thank you



## Chernobyl Children's Life Line

Once more, 2013 was a good year for CCLL. 10 youngsters spent a healthy and happy respite month in West Fife. This was possible only with the support of our local community. In the village, North Queensferry Church again raised funds and helped with our Thank you Coffee Evening; Jen Foster treated all the visitors to a hair-do - the salon experience represents untold luxury for the children; and many individuals collected for us. We will miss Janet (King)'s enthusiasm and practical support. Thank you, all!

Preparations are now afoot for 2014. We hope to bring 12 children, but we need more host families. If any villagers are able and willing to look after a pair of children for 2 weeks this summer, we would love to hear from you. Many activities are organised for the group. Please call 418781 or speak to me for more information.. I promise not to twist your arms!!

Carol Dean

### VILLAGE COFFEE MORNINGS

You are warmly invited to meet in the **Church on alternate Wednesdays from 10:30 to 12:00** for coffee/tea and chat. All ages are welcome – call Christine on 413372 to arrange transport if required

Dates for January to June 2014 are:

January	8	22	
February	5	19	
March	5	19	
April	2	16	30
May	14	28	
June	11	25	



## Ferry Birds Oct 2013 to Jan 2014

West Bay has been the usual focus for waterside birds in the autumn and winter. The mainstays are the **redshanks** which number about 35. They are joined by a good number of **oystercatchers**, 2 or 3 **curlews** and there has also been a single **dunlin** and a few **turnstones** feeding amongst the seaweed in the bay. The most obvious birds in the bay are, however, the **shelducks**. There have been up to 11 feeding in the bay and sitting on the floating mooring as the tide covers the mud. As last year there have been several **mallards** with the **shelducks**. There are also **black-headed** and **herring gulls** as well as the occasional **common gull** which, as avid readers of these articles will remember, are not that common.

Port Laing is where the **red-breasted mergansers** and **goldeneyes** congregate. The number of **mergansers** peaked in November when I counted 71 on the 15<sup>th</sup>, but they seem to have disappeared by early January and been replaced by between 10 and 20 **goldeneyes**. Both these species breed in Scotland although there are only a few pairs of the latter in the Spey valley. These ducks have been joined by a few **little grebes** and up to 11 **great-crested grebes** and I have also seen a **red-throated diver** on 2 occasions, the last being the 3<sup>rd</sup> January. I have had a fair number of sightings of the less common birds around the village. I saw a **raven** over Carlingnose reserve on the 13<sup>th</sup> of December and one over the railway station on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of January. A **mistle thrush** was calling near the school on the 26<sup>th</sup> of November. I also heard and saw a small flock of **redwing** flying over The Brae on the 19<sup>th</sup> of October. The **redwings** come to Scotland in the winter to avoid the cold weather in Scandinavia, but the numbers that appear here vary greatly being dependent on the severity of the weather. Another visitor from Scandinavia in the winter is the smallest European bird the **goldcrest**. They join our resident **goldcrests** and I have seen or heard them in several places along the coastal path. This bird weighs between 5 and 7

grams so you would get 4 or 5 to the ounce. Imagine this tiny animal flying across the North Sea! It must be wind-assisted, but even so an amazing journey. I have just read that a **goldcrest** which was ringed at Fife Ness in October 1988 was found in Finland in September 1989 so this bird had probably done the journey twice. **Collared doves** were common in the village several years ago, but seem to have disappeared so one near the station on the 18<sup>th</sup> of December was a good sighting. Let's hope they come back and breed. Other less common birds have been a **grey wagtail** feeding on the grassy patch half way up The Brae on the 11<sup>th</sup> of January and probably the same one on the rocks near the play area at Pierhead Buildings on the 13<sup>th</sup>.

Several people have asked me about numbers of common birds such as **house sparrows** and **starlings**. I think that the **house sparrows** are doing quite well, but they seem to have quite specific areas where they feed and roost. These include the bushes around the station, the beech hedges in Carlingnose Way and the ivy at St James' Chapel. Walking past any of these spots you will hear the almost continual chatter which will stop abruptly as you get too close. **Starlings** have on the other hand declined significantly in the village. I remember very noisy summer groups of adults and young in many of the open areas in the village and on the power cables on Ferryhills. The numbers of these groups and the numbers in them have definitely declined. During my walks near Kinghorn, however, I often see up to 150 **starlings** by the path up to the loch. Bird populations fluctuate quite widely depending on the weather when the young birds fledge, the availability of food at crucial times and, of course the winter weather when they are at their most vulnerable. It is the long term trend in numbers which is important and nationally it does appear that both these species are, indeed, declining.

One of our resident birds is anticipating the coming of spring. Recently a **song thrush** has been

*Cont....*

## *Ferry Birds Cont*

singing off and on near The Brae and one was in my garden on the 13<sup>th</sup> January busily searching the leaf litter for juicy invertebrates. Other resident birds such as robins, blackbirds and blue and great tits are also advertising their presence by calling from the bushes and trees around the village.

After failing to appear for the Bird Walk on the 11<sup>th</sup> January fulmars were back in force on Inchgarvie on the 14<sup>th</sup>.

The maintenance of the Carlingnose Reserve was done in two phases this year. The grass was cut in November and then some of the gorse, dog rose,

hawthorn and cotoneaster at the edges of the grassland were cut in December. The area of grassland was increased this time so we can but hope that the rare plants continue to thrive. As part of the management, I, with the help of 2 new residents of the village, am doing some work on the reserve which results in piles of kindling by the path. If you see one as you walk through the reserve please take some of it with you if you can use it.

*John Done*

---

## **The Rotary Club of Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay**

The Rotary Club of Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay, whose communities also include Rosyth, North Queensferry and Aberdour, continues its very active programme of support for local organisations. With almost all the sponsorship for the club's annual charity walk now in, more than £7000 has been raised for Pancreatic Cancer Research and local charities. And the charity prize raffle is likely to contribute over £1000: thanks to all those who contributed. The draw will take place in early February. The club's next major fundraising event is its annual coffee morning, to be held in the church hall, Aberdour on Saturday 1 March, from 10 am to 12 noon. In addition to coffee and cakes there will be book and household goods stalls, a raffle and a tombola. Tickets at £1.50 can be obtained from any club member or bought at the door on the day. And the club looks forward to a team from North Queensferry Primary School competing in the popular primary school quiz at Inverkeithing High School on 19 March. Good luck to them.

## **Neighbourhood Watch**

A branch of Neighbourhood Watch exists for North Queensferry. Neighbourhood Watch can provide a useful service for a village like ours by discouraging various types of anti-social behaviour and inform-

ing residents of possible risks and ways of reducing them. But recently our branch has become inactive. We would welcome new members to the committee and suggestions about how we could provide better services to village residents.

If you are interested, please contact Peter Dean (418781)

## **Community Centre**

The Community Centre Management Committee is delighted to be able to announce that it has finalised a new 25 year lease with Fife Council. This follows what have been somewhat tortuous and difficult negotiations which have dragged on for almost three years. The new lease includes the necessary additional land for the proposed Multi Use Games Area (MUGA), for which a planning application has been submitted, and will allow us to start applying for a variety of grants towards funding it.

The annual fund-raising Ceilidh will be held on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March and The Cameron Kellow Band will be there again to get everyone up on their feet. Bookings can be made with Brian Armstrong (417429), Lucie Macaulay (410572), Jill Brown (412316) or Christina McKenzie (410811). Watch the notice boards for further details!

Best wishes

Brian Armstrong (Secretary)

## NORTH QUEENSFERRY WALKING GROUP

Programme – January to June 2014

		miles
January 15	Blairadam Woods	4
29	Almondell to Calderwood	3
February 12	Powmill to Rumbling Bridge	4
26	Shiremill	3
March 12	Culross	4½
26	Aberdour Daffodil Trail	4 *
April 9	Lochore	4
23	Dalmeny House	4
May 7	Burntisland to Aberdour	4 *
21	Tetley Trail	4
June 4	Dollar Castle	3
18	Kinghorn Craigenalt	4 *

\* travel by train

Meet in the CHURCH CAR PARK at 10:00am  
where car share is organised. Walks last about 3  
hours.

Call 412874 or [eileendonaldson@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:eileendonaldson@hotmail.co.uk)  
for fuller information.

# Ceilidh Supper

featuring

## The Cameron Kellow Band

on

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March**

In

**North Queensferry  
Community Centre**

at

**7.00pm**

**Tickets £18**

Available from Brian Armstrong (417429), Lucie  
Macaulay (410572), Jill Brown (412316) or  
Christina McKenzie (410811)

**Supper of haggis, neeps and tatties served  
at 7.15pm**

**Bring Your Own Bottle**

“FOR HOME



& COUNTRY”

### SCOTTISH WOMEN'S RURAL INSTITUTES

North Queensferry Institute

Autumn/Winter 2013 - 2014

**February 27<sup>th</sup> - Mary Queen of Scots**

talk by Roy Johnson

**March 27<sup>th</sup> - Hair and Beauty**

visit to Jennifer Foster's salon, Inverkeithing

**April 24<sup>th</sup> - Recycling Art**

talk by Lucie Macaulay and AGM

**May 22<sup>nd</sup> - Corstorphine Walled Gardens**

visit to Edinburgh led by Gordon Swan

Meetings take place in N Q. Church Hall,

Ferryhills Road at 7pm for 7.30pm  
except for outings, when meeting time  
at the Church will be notified

New members and Visitors  
are always welcome

# Pilates classes



6 week block booking £48. Booked in advance.  
Suitable for all fitness levels. Max 15 in class .

#### Class Timetable

Monday	7.00-8.00pm	SQ Rosebery Main Hall
Monday	8.00-9.00pm	SQ Rosebery Main Hall
Tuesday	10.30-11.30am	SQ Rosebery Hall Upstairs
Tuesday	12.30-1.30pm	Cramond Kirk Main Hall
Wednesday	10.00-11.00am	D.Mains Parish Church
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](mailto:Amanda.Johnstone@sky.com)

5 years Qualified & Experienced Mat Level 3 Instructor

Tel: [07787 321571](tel:07787321571)

Email: [simplypilates@sky.com](mailto:simplypilates@sky.com)

Web: [www.simplypilates.org](http://www.simplypilates.org)

## Heritage Trust

As the prospect of World Heritage Status for the Forth Bridge draws closer, the Trust is organising a series of events that much reflect the heritage values of this area.

We started the year off with a nature walk with our local bird expert John Done. We wandered down to the Bay, listening to robins and watching the birdlife. We then wandered up to Carlingnose Reserve, with a stop at some of the heritage sites en route.

We are delighted that our speaker event in **March** will be author and local historian Hugh Walker. He will be talking about the long tradition of linen and silk in Dunfermline. In **April** we will hear from the Scottish Wildlife Trust about their reserves in Fife and the Jupiter project in Grangemouth. We then have another nature walk with John in **May** and will add in a few more heritage sites to the route.

We have begun to research the idea of developing a new local history project. We have been offered some help in training for recording oral history by staff at the new Dunfermline Museum (due to open in 2016). The new museum staff are working on two projects at the moment and have put a call out to the village for help over the next two years.

The first project is called "**Where were you the day the Forth Bridge opened**" and museum staff are really excited at the possibility of involving North Queensferry. They are also starting a project on stories of both world wars.

If anyone is interested in taking part in any of the above projects or interested to see what we can do to record the local history, please contact us so that the stories live on. Either contact us through members of the committee or leave a message via our website

<http://www.nqht.org/contact/>

**All our events will be advertised on the website and you can find us on Facebook.**

## Forth Replacement Crossing 'The Queensferry Crossing'

**Public meetings to be held on**

**Tuesday 11**

and

**Wednesday 12 February**

at

**1500hrs and 1900hrs**

**on both days.**

in

**The Contact and Education Centre**

on the left, at the south side of the road bridge

These meetings provide a chance to hear from senior staff from Transport Scotland and the contractor FCBC. There will be an update on progress with the project to date and information on upcoming works scheduled across the whole Forth Replacement Crossing area including outlines of expected work on the Queensferry and Ferrytoll junctions. Staff will be available for questions and answers from the floor and in conversation afterwards.

## Make Music

Fun preparation for learning an instrument, with puppets, tuned and untuned instruments.

At 13 Carlingnose View, N. Queensferry.

Tuesdays, 10.00 - 10.45 a.m.

and 2.00 - 2.45 p.m., from January onwards.

For more details contact

Rosemary Stanley: 01383 410758

[roseystanley@btinternet.com](mailto:roseystanley@btinternet.com)

Also available: recorder and piano lessons for

5-8 year-olds;

children's musical parties



# Room with a View

## Seafood Restaurant



To make a reservation call:  
**01383 860 402**

### OPENING TIMES

Lunches 12-2pm Wednesday-Sunday  
Dinner from 6pm Wednesday-Saturday  
Closed: Monday and Tuesday

Room with a View, Forth View Hotel,  
Hawkcraig Point, Aberdour, KY3 0TZ

*FREE Transport Available within Aberdour*

See Sample Menus and information : [www.roomwithaviewrestaurant.co.uk](http://www.roomwithaviewrestaurant.co.uk)

Follow us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/RWAVRestaurant> or

Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Room-with-a-View/185425816035](http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Room-with-a-View/185425816035)

## Police Scotland

In response to concerns that were raised at the November Community Engagement Meeting, Inverkeithing and North Queensferry Community Officers initially focussed on reducing anti-social behaviour within Inverkeithing Town Centre and Ballast Bank area.

Community teams have also worked in cooperation with Roads Policing units in an attempt to deter people from committing the types of road traffic offences that are usually associated with the Festive Period.

As a result of the action taken, a number of offences have been detected throughout Inverkeithing and North Queensferry, and there has been a marked decrease in the number of calls from the public regarding anti social behaviour during November and December.

The next Police Community Engagement Meeting for Inverkeithing and North Queensferry is due to be held at Inverkeithing High School, on Thursday the 6<sup>th</sup> of March 2014. Any members of the public who wish to raise their concerns relating to Inverkeithing and North Queensferry are welcome to attend.

Tony Rogers  
Community Sergeant (Rosyth Ward)

## Contributions

### for the next issue

are to be with us by  
Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2014  
to 7 Carlingnose Park

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

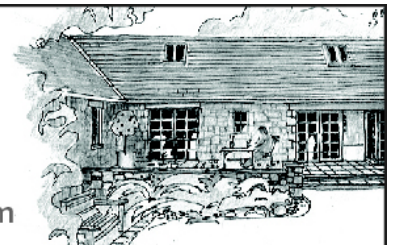


## FREE Consultation

On any property issue

Call today **01383 417 509**

[adrian@1st-architects.com](mailto:adrian@1st-architects.com) [1st-architects.com](http://1st-architects.com)





## Boat Club

There have been rumours circulating lately about the future of the old railway pier; as chairman of the Boat Club I feel it might be helpful to let you know our views on the proposal put forward by the North Queensferry Community Trust at its AGM in December. The Trust wish to decimate the ground area occupied by the Boat Club to approximately one fifth of its current size; despite us being the only paying occupants for this area and also to increase our fees substantially. As we have maintained the area on behalf of the council for 20 years we are worried there may not be adequate maintenance of the pier which might fall into disrepair and become dangerous.

The Trust want to develop a multi-use building on the pier for social and corporate events and also encourage unsupervised barbecues which could be a fire risk especially if unsupervised alcohol is involved.

There is also an expression of intent to bring cruise ship passengers into the village (which might involve as many as 3,000 people at a time) into an infrastructure not designed to deal with them. Full details are available to read at the boat club members' portacabin.

The Boat Club have been relatively low profile in the village but have always supported any local group requiring assistance or financial support. Last year we had a stall at the gala. We have in the past provided funding for and built 2 rowing skiffs for the local rowing community. We have also supported Fife Sailability in preparing a boat for use with the disabled, this year we hope to liaise with the RYA Sailability section to organise boating facilities for the disabled.

We are proud of our green credentials and hope this year to make wild flower plantings to encourage the area's SSI standing and increase the wildlife on and around the pier.

As a club (we are now one of the largest on the river) which will be celebrating its 60<sup>th</sup> year of existence this year it is sad to find it so threatened that it may have to leave the area.

We have a long-standing relationship with our neighbours and local dog walkers and make our toilet facilities available to members of the public since the council demolished the local toilets without supplying an alternative at the pier.

And as always everyone is welcome on the pier.

David Stewart

Chairman

NQBC 01316250313



### Musical Steps

fun-filled & educational music & movement classes  
for babies, toddlers & pre-school children

Tuesdays @

**NORTH QUEENSFERRY COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**Baby/Toddler Troupe 9.45 ~ 10.25am**

for children from 4 months ~ 3 years

For further information or to book a Taster class please contact  
Inga on:

t: 0845 224 0613 e:inga.jack@musicalsteps.co.uk

**[www.musicalsteps.co.uk](http://www.musicalsteps.co.uk)**

Classes also held weekly in Dunfermline,  
Crossford & Duloch



Victoria Thompson DC, BSc  
Dalgety Bay Business Centre  
Ridge Way  
Dalgety Bay  
KY11 9JN

To book your appointment, please contact  
01383 829310  
[www.dalgetybaychiropractic.co.uk](http://www.dalgetybaychiropractic.co.uk)

## Dunfermline District Credit Union

We are looking for volunteers on 2 levels. We need skilled volunteers with Financial and / or Marketing Skills. They would have to be able to show considerable work experience in these fields and be willing to do volunteer work at least one day (4 hours) per week and attend a Board Meeting once per month. We would also require those with a financial background to train in all aspects of Treasury work including Money Laundering, Supervisory, Compliance and quarterly returns to Prudential Regulation Authority requirements.

Those with marketing skills would be asked to take over promotion of Dunfermline District Credit Union, although all decisions are ultimately taken at Board Level.

We also require counter assistants, to meet with customers, take cash deposits and loan repayments, and fill out new member applications, loan applications and share withdrawal applications. Extensive training will be given including Money Laundering which is compulsory for all Volunteers.

We have collection points in

Dunfermline: City Chambers, Abbeyview and St. Margarets Church Touch.

Cowdenbeath: Council Offices, High St., Cowdenbeath

Kelty: Council Offices, Kelty

Rosyth: c/o Co-operative Building, Castlandhill Road, Rosyth.

For further information please contact Jane Simons-Brown at [ddcuboard@gmail.com](mailto:ddcuboard@gmail.com)



View Examples Of Our Work And Customer  
Testimonials Online

[www.srjwindows.com](http://www.srjwindows.com)

*A Business Built On Our Reputation*

**Tel: 01383 851951**

Unit 5 & 6 Oakley Ind. Estate, Oakley, Dunfermline KY12 9QB