



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

Community Council

The Community Council met again on 9 September after a summer break: there was not a meeting in August.

The meeting started with an interesting presentation from Dunfermline Advocacy which has been working in Dunfermline and West Fife since 1992 providing friendship and support to vulnerable and/or isolated people within the community. The Community Council was asked to assist in spreading awareness of Dunfermline Advocacy and its work.

The majority of items on the agenda were matters recurring from month to month such as the police report, planning applications, updates from local groups, the local councillor's report, floral enhancement and reports from such committees as the Forth Tourist Group and Transport Scotland's North Community Forum which deals with community issues concerning the new bridge.

In addition the subject of the relocation of the Beamer Rock Lighthouse was considered as Fife Council are eager to hear the Community Council's views on this development. We decided to issue household surveys to investigate public opinion in those parts of the village which would be most affected by lorries transporting stone and possible later by tourist traffic, with household surveys. At the same time we placed similar survey papers at the community centre, the shop, Rankin's and the two hotels at the bottom

of the village so as to ensure that all village residents were able to 'have their say'.

Community councillors also looked at ways to curb the village's overgrown vegetation growing out from private residences and encroaching on public pavements; considered the extension of the coastal path to take in St Margaret's Hope; discussed the use of funding from Cruik's Quarry Environment Trust for seating at Port Laing and replacement tubs for village planting; deliberated on plans for the village Remembrance Service; replied to Edinburgh Airport's consultation about flight paths over the Forth and decided on how the Community Council could best be represented at the village show- that was achieved with a snag map inviting residents to identify village problems such as signage on the Brae to deter long vehicles.

For more information about North Queensferry's Community Council and to put forward a village issue needing action, please go to:

<http://www.nqcc.co.uk/feedback.asp>

or

speak to one of your councillors (a current list of names and contacts is up in the community centre)

or

come along to a Community Council meeting.

All residents of North Queensferry are welcome to attend the North Queensferry Community Council monthly meetings held on the second Thursday of every month, 7.30pm at the North Queensferry Community Centre, Brock Street, KY11 1JD

Forthcoming Monthly Meetings:

13 October 2016	10 November 2016	08 December 2016
12 January 2017	09 February 2017	09 March 2017
13 April 2017	11 May 2017	08 June 2017
13 July 2017	No Meeting in August 2017	

Royal National Lifeboat Institute Dunfermline & Inverkeithing Branch

Our branch members would like to thank, once again, the Villagers of North Queensferry for their generous donations made during the door-to-door collecting in June of this year.

Along with North Queensferry our door-to-door collections were also undertaken in Dunfermline, Inverkeithing and Limekilns. The total amount collected was £3,891.50 of which North Queensferry Villagers contributed £492.28.

Thank you

Village Coffee Morning

There is a fortnightly "get together" in the Church for coffee and a chat every second Wednesday, from 10:30 to 12 noon – the dates for the remainder of 2016 are shown below. This is aimed at all villagers, not just the Church congregation, so why not come along. A lift can be arranged for anyone who has difficulty walking there – contact Chris Duguid on 413372.

2016 Coffee Morning Timetable			
October	5	19	
November	2	16	30
December	7	21	

School Parent Council

The parent council would like to announce the following events :

1) School garden tidy - 29/10/16 1-3pm.

The school is very proud of its garden and appreciates the hard work several parents and children put into it. However due to vandalism occurring outside school hours there is some work needed to help restore it. We are holding a two hour session to try to bring everyone together to help start restore it - so bring a spade and some gloves and help us to make our garden great again

2) **Parent council AGM - 2/11/16 at 7pm** at the school - all welcome

3) Christmas Fayre 3/12/16 2pm-4pm

The Christmas Fayre is the parent council's biggest fundraiser which allows us to help the school with projects they might not otherwise be able to do. E.g. This year we have paid for Generation Science to come to the school, contributed to taking the whole school to the pantomime and paid for 4 iPads. Tickets to the Christmas Fayre cost £1 for a child, £2 for an adult or £5 for a family. The ticket allows entry to the whole Fayre where there will be the following - visit to Santa, tea, coffee and juice, access to all stalls including toy stall, face painting, home baking and many more. Raffle tickets will also be distributed around the village which offers some great prizes. Please help the parent council support our school. Look forward to seeing you at our events.

The parent council is always looking for more members so If anyone would like to join the parent council please contact Bill Foreman (chair), Anne Thynne (secretary) or Keren van den Broek (treasurer) for more info.

Thank You

A big thank you to the organisers and patrons of the Village Coffee Morning for their contribution of £60 towards the costs of producing the Ferry News.

Opening the Queensferry Crossing

The Queensferry Crossing known by locals as the 'New Bridge' is scheduled to open in May 2017. As we all know the scale of the structure is truly impressive so it is only right that celebrations for its opening are appropriate and memorable to village residents as well as people from far afield.

Tentative plans are underway for this celebration. These could include an official opening, a weekend for people to walk the bridge, a firework display and perhaps a day of public festivities in South Queensferry which can more easily accommodate large crowds. The celebration committee is also looking at activities on the water which may involve local boat and rowing clubs as well as individual boats.

North Queensferry could be supported to put something on in the village such as the lamplight procession and historical pageant held for the Forth Bridge centenary - it is up to the village to come up with something.

Any ideas please contact a member of North Queensferry Community Council or use our website: www.nqcc.co.uk



Remembrance Sunday

This year's annual Service of Remembrance will be held at the Village War Memorial on Sunday 13th November, commencing at 1050 a.m. It is the Salvation Army Band will play for us and tea and coffee will be available at the Albert Hotel after the service.

This is very much a whole community event, which has been well supported in the past and it is hoped that this year will be no exception. Should anyone wish to play an individual role at the ceremony, perhaps to read the Eulogy to the Fallen or to play a lament, please contact Dave Bonas on 07824381611.

War Memorial Archive

This Memorial Archive is the result of a decision in 2014 by some members of North Queensferry Heritage Trust to seek to discover the stories behind the names on our village War Memorial. By this time, all living memory of those in the First World War was lost and increasingly few were left who had direct memory of the participants in the Second World War. This has inevitably complicated the task of research.

The research group initially consulted the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, Scottish National War Memorial at Edinburgh Castle (SNWM), Imperial War Museum UK National Inventory of War Memorials and the 1911 Census. Other sources are mentioned in the text, but the group wished to acknowledge the assistance of the members of the web-based Scottish War Memorials Project. In respect of the actual Memorial they also have had information from the Imperial War Museum.

It is noticeable that all those commemorated here are men. Women played their part in both wars, but this village appears to have been fortunate enough not to have had to record the loss of any. Naval vessels in the Forth, Rosyth Dockyard and the Forth Rail Bridge were the potential targets of the first aid raid on Britain during the Second World War but the village itself escaped any direct attacks in both wars.

A version intended for publication as a booklet (80 pages of A5) has been generated and a PDF copy can be downloaded via <http://www.northqueensferrylighttower.com/memorial/index.html>

Women's Rural Institute

North Queensferry branch of the Scottish Women's Rural Institutes held its first meeting of the 2016/2017 session on Thursday 22nd September. A well attended meeting heard Linda McDougal, our guest speaker, enlightened us about 'Soroptimism'.

At our next meeting, which is scheduled to take place on Thursday 27th October, Sian Harris will give a talk on 'Fabric Applique'.

Following that on November 24th, we will be holding a social evening when Isla West will teach us the art of 'Belly Dancing'.

All our meetings are held in the Church Hall, Ferryhills Road, commencing at 7.15 for 7.30.

Further information can be obtained from Kate Condie, secretary 01383 824813.



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Rights of way – general notes

Public rights of way have been in existence since time immemorial: they are a common law right, established by use of a route over many years. The first thing to say is that rights of way law in Scotland is almost completely different from that in England and Wales. In Scotland, to be a public right of way a route must meet four criteria;

- It must join two public places
- It must follow a more or less defined route
- It must have been used openly and peaceably
- it must have been used for a period of at least 20 years.

Public rights of way are generally on privately owned land. The public have a right to be on the land for the purpose of crossing it to get to somewhere. In the past this may have been for work or attending Church, but now it is accepted that recreational use of the path is also acceptable. The public have certain other rights, such as clearing back vegetation and erecting stiles, bridges etc. to facilitate their use of the route.

Local authorities have a duty to keep rights of way open, but that does not include maintenance. If a path has become blocked by vegetation that is not the Council's responsibility. If however, a locked gate appears, or the public are told to leave by the landowner, then that is when the Council must act.

In Scotland there is no definitive list of public rights of way. Between the local authority and 'Scotways', Scotland's national rights of way charity, there is a list of known rights of way kept, but many other paths may fit the criteria and not be recorded. Or local people may all know it is a right of way and call it one, but it is not recorded anywhere.. It is still a right of way if it fits the criteria.

As with many things in life, public rights of way are a grey area, yet it is one in which every local person has a role to play. Use and enjoy the paths as often as you can and that will help to keep our Common Law heritage alive.

Rights of Way, North Queensferry

Rights of Way in North Queensferry include: the coastal path; the coastal path to Carlingnose View; around Helen Place leading to Old Kirk Road; the path from Old Kirk Road to the coastal path up Piggyery Steps; access to West bay from Main Street via Charles Black Lane; the path from the Road Bridge to Queensferry Lodge Hotel and down to Main Road and the path from Ferry Barns to Main Road (near the Road Bridge).

Recording and identifying Rights of Way is still 'work in progress' at Fife Council as records are improved throughout Fife, including North Queensferry, greatly adding to the richness of our heritage. More information is available from:-

Fife Council Outdoor Access Team, Tel 01592 583239 e-mail – outdooraccess@fife.gov.uk and **Scotways website**: <https://www.scotways.com>

Gala 2017

First the good news - there will be a gala in 2017. After a disappointing AGM & EGM and with me stepping in as Secretary, we managed to get our four core members to form a committee. Welcome Kevin & Lee Myles.

We have so many children turn up to Gala Week and Gala Day yet the words 'Committee Member' scare people. We know you're busy but could you give us a couple of hours to help at fundraising events, stewarding for races, medal giving and on Gala Day?

We need names and numbers of people we can contact a few days before the event instead of scurrying around at the last minute. If you're interested, please contact a committee member or message us through our Gala page. It's so much easier with lots of hands to help.

Our first fundraising event is our Xmas Fayre on Wednesday 9th November from 6.30pm – 9.00pm at the Community Centre. Tickets are £5, including a glass of fizz, Christmas pie or shortbread and entry into the raffle. There will be a large variety of stalls selling lots of unusual items - a great time to start your Christmas shopping, catch up with friends and grab yourself a bargain. Tickets available soon – watch our Gala page.

There will be no Halloween party this year but there will be a Christmas Cinema Showing on Sunday 18th December (time to be confirmed). Name of the film not decided yet but if you have any ideas then please let us know

Gala Week 2017 will begin on Saturday 3rd June leading up to our Gala Day on Saturday 10th. Once again we hope we can make it a great day for everyone.



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The Rotary Club of Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay

The Rotary Club has been active over the summer, taking children from Chernobyl to Carnie Fruit Farm for a day out, supporting Rotary's Kids Out in Dunfermline and raising funds across its communities, including at the North Queensferry Village Show. A very special hats off to local resident Dr Ken Ritchie who has raised over £1500 for Prostate Scotland by cycling the John Muir Way from the west coast to Dunbar in East Lothian. You can still contribute to this worthwhile cause through the Rotary Club's My Donate page. And worth a look at the Prostate Scotland website to learn more about this important condition and what's being done to reduce its effects.

North Queensferry Toddlers...

...are looking for new parents to join our friendly and fun group! We meet every Thursday morning up at the Community Centre, and with loads of

toys and a small soft play there's plenty to keep babies and toddlers amused while parents have a well-earned cup of tea or coffee. It is a small group, so it's a great way for you and your child to make friends and find out what is going on locally. There's also a Facebook page and WhatsApp group for arranging playdates at the beach and events – like the coming-soon, not-to-be missed, Halloween Party (27th October)!

The group meets between 9.30 and 11.15am every week, and we are also open during school holidays. Even if you can't make it along regularly do pop by whenever you can, and do let us know if you'd like to be kept up to date on special events.

Babies are welcome, and mums with bumps who want company too. Your first week is free, and after that it's just £1.50 each week, to cover the cost of tea, coffee and a healthy snack for your child.

Everyone is welcome, and we look forward to seeing you there!

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Wednesday	10.00-11.00am	Davidsons Mains Parish Church
Thursday	9.55-10.55am	Dalgety Parish Church
Thursday	11.05am-12.05pm	Dalgety Parish Church
Friday	10.00-11.00am	NQ Community Centre

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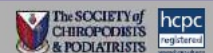
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Ferry Birds – May to September

The **redshanks** in West Bay did their usual trick of disappearing in April and returning in July.

The main influx was again in July but I did see one in West Bay on the 29th of June. There were about 25 by the end of July and I counted at least 35 on the west side of the railway pier at the end of September. Another regular happening is the **eider ducks** with young appearing in West Bay in June and I then saw groups of young with female chaperones fairly often in West Bay, Port Laing and Inverkeithing Inner Bay. The **gulls** as usual took their toll, but I saw well grown young in various places locally and between Kinghorn and Kirkcaldy from the coastal path. My count on the 5th of June along this section of the path came to 65 adults and 23 small young.

The **common terns** again failed to nest on the Guvy pier. I didn't notice any interest in the pier from them but Long Craig was alive with terns throughout the summer and it appeared that they bred successfully again.

Sightings of uncommon birds have included the **peregrine falcon** on the north tower of the rail bridge at the end of July and one over West Bay on the 7th of August. I have had several sightings of **ravens** including one over the station in July, at Port Laing at the beginning of October and several times during the summer over Cruickness quarry. Both these birds have bred in the quarry in recent years and they seem to have survived the partial re-opening of the quarry. I also saw a **sparrowhawk** over The Brae on the 2nd of September.

The quarry was also home to a colony of **sand martins** this summer. Careful inspection of the floor of the quarry from the watertank field indicated an array of holes in one of the piles of fine stones and dust. **Sand martins** could be spotted flying in and out of these nest sites and I watched this on several occasions during the summer. From the activity we can assume that nesting was taking place but I have no evidence to decide if they were successful.

An annual autumn happening involves groups of **gannets** - mainly immature birds- which circle round in Inverkeithing Bay. I have only seen this twice

this year. It was on the 11th of September and 5th of October when about a dozen - Including one adult - were flying round.

Sightings of more unusual birds over the summer have included a **whimbrel** flying over the Community Centre on the 10th of September, a **common sandpiper** at Cruickness Point on the 5th of August and a **lesser whitethroat** near the quarry viewpoint(!) on Ferryhills Road on the 12th of June.

The **field gentians** on Carlingnose Point reserve flowered again this year but not as prolifically as last year. I managed to find about 25 flowering stems near the rocky knoll in August. The **dropwort** appeared again in the watertank field and was also found on the reserve on the steep bank above Carlingnose View. **Lesser meadow-rue**, **bloody cranesbill** and **kidney vetch** put on a good show this summer and the **devil's bit scabious** did particularly well later in the summer. The annual cutting of the grass on the reserve has already been done and there is a possibility more maintenance will be carried out later in the year.

Finally away from the birds to the insects. They are, of course, vital as food for many of our birds so the congregation of **wasps**, **hover flies**, **house flies** and others on the ivy flowers at this time of year should be welcomed. Just have a quick look on a sunny day and see how many different kinds are busy feeding on the nectar from the flowers. I always think how events like this illustrate the interdependence of the plants, insects and birds. The ivy produces flowers which keep the insects going so the birds can feed on them. The pollination of the flowers means the ivy produces berries as food for other birds which spread the seeds from the plant. It all fits together beautifully!

John Done

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Village Show

Thank you to everyone who supported this years show. A great time was had by all and the magnificent sum of £556.80 was raised; a great start to the Defibrillator Fund. This years cup winners are:-

Jubilee Cup - Callum Bell

Maureen Trotter Cup (Preserves) - Flo McNaught (Chutney)

Bob Cubin Cup - Isobel Patterson

Children's Results			
Class	First	Second	Third
Photo: own choice (under 12)	T Bell	M Foreman	N Somerville
Design a Book Cover age 4 to 5	E Humphrey	B Muschamp	K Hunt
Design a Book Cover age 6	A Fraser	S Hay	E Somerville
Design a Book Cover age 7	E Twentyman	K Howie	I Cameron
Design a Book Cover age 8	J van den Broek	J Baker	A Chadwick
Design a Book Cover age 9	E Math	Aly M	T Frazer
Design a Book Cover age 10	P Chadwick	F Brown	L McLelan
Design a Book Cover age 11	Lucy H	N van den Broek	A Simon
A Tray or Large Plate Garden	Chloe Brierton	Callum Bell	
A Model or Craft item	B Muschamp	Callum Bell	Chloe Brierton
Crispy Cakes	E Twentyman	Callum Bell	
Decorated Biscuits	Callum Bell	Joe Howie	
Marshmallow Top Hats	Joe Howie	Callum Bell	Callum Bell
Fruit or Vegetable Top	Callum Bell		
Decorated Jam Jar	Callum Bell		
Tray or Plate Garden	Tane Bell	P Jones	Beth McGregor
A Model or Craft item	Mackenzie Foreman	Tane Bell	Emma Brierton
Tray Bake or Cereal Bar	Beth McGregor	Niamh Somerville	Mackenzie Foreman
Cup Cakes	Mackenzie Foreman		
Pancakes or Drop Scones	Beth McGregor	Tane Bell	Mackenzie Foreman
Fruit or Vegetable Top	Tane Bell	Mackenzie Foreman	
Decorated Jam Jar	Mackenzie Foreman		
A Model or Craft Item	Jemima Hair	Jemima Hair	



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