



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

Community Council

Well 2018 is rushing along, we are nearly half way through the year... and your Community Council is still busy tidying up 2017 strands and trying to make in-roads into issues affecting or likely to affect local residents and the environment.

Transport, both air and road, have continued to be of concern. The changes to flight paths from Edinburgh Airport are still developing and village hopes for some sort of resolution to our traffic problems (parking, speeding and heavy vehicles) are no nearer being solved as Fife Council will only initiate a Traffic Management Plan if plans are submitted for a specific project which requires one.....very much a 'chicken and egg' situation.

Previous Ferry News note the concerns of Pierhead residents over antisocial behaviour - these remain a worrying issue. The intended meeting with Fife Council (councillors and officers), the police, community council and local residents still needs to take place to look at the best way forward: it is expected in the near future.

Fife Police continue to support Pierhead residents as part of their overall responsibility of the village. Each month the Community Council receives a local police report on the village which can be verbally given by an officer at a council meeting or we receive a written report prior to the meeting. The report contains such information as the number of calls in the previous month (8 from 12 April to 10 May) and if any crime file was opened (one during the same time). In this instance it concerned an intended theft at the Ferrybridge Hotel. If anyone has any information in relation to this incident it can be passed to the police by calling 101 and quoting the reference number PS-20180504-0146.

We continue to have valuable support from our Fife councillors who work with us on local issues such as: removing the graffiti at the rail bridge, minimising the odour from the sewage works, investigating the brightness of the lights on the new bridge and providing public toilets in the village. One councillor is also working with a group of residents to find funding and take action to renovate Pierhead play park.

A particularly worthwhile project taking place in the village is the provision of

defibrillators. The community council is working with the Community Trust, the Community Centre committee and the village Heritage Trust to install four defibrillators: at the community centre, the station, the marina and possibly somewhere near the Albert.

Your council has also continued with its usual responsibilities of assessing planning applications, reporting and monitoring village snags such as the corroded traffic pole opposite the Albert and the hole in the sea wall in Battery Road and attempting to solve public concerns such as the use of private CCTV and particularly important- the future of the Albert Hotel.

Finally your council has contacted Virgin Broadband over its withdrawal from its plans for North Queensferry. A Virgin broadband representative has been invited to talk at the beginning of our June meeting (14 June).

For further information on topics in these notes please see the minutes of our monthly meetings on our website: www.nqcc.co.uk. The current draft minutes are also displayed on the village notice boards and at the Community Centre.

To contact us about your village concerns please email nqccsecretary@livingwater.org.uk. or leave a note for us at the community centre.

The Community Council meets at 7.30pm on the second Thursday of each month (except August) in the community centre. We hope to see you on 14 June, 12 July and 13 September. **You are very welcome.**

Village planting

A village decorated with tubs of flowers, a Brae full of plants and scents. This is what we all would like however to make this happen we need people willing to help. Planting the Brae and the tubs is a village responsibility – it is up to you to make this happen.

There are no costs involved just time and a willingness to help.

For more details please contact the Secretary of the Community Council
07932120515

nqccsecretary@livingwater.org.uk

Rotary Club of Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay - Junefest 2018

How do you fancy relaxing by the banks of the Forth, sharing a gin or beer with friends? Well look no further than Junefest 2018! The event, hosted by Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay Rotary Club, takes place on 22 and 23 June this year, in the grounds of Dalgety Bay Sailing Club.

This is the 3rd year of Junefest, and it promises to be even bigger and better than before. Last year over 600 people attended over the 2 days, and more than £7,000 was raised, and shared among local charities. Junefest is quickly establishing itself as one of the main social events of the year in the area and is a great opportunity for the community to come together and relax in a fantastic environment.

On both evenings there will be live music in the marquee, and Saturday afternoon provides the opportunity for families to attend. This year children will be entertained by, among other things, a mobile zoo and there will be a performance by CISS, a children's music and dance group from Inverkeithing.

Almost all beers and gins sold at Junefest are sourced from within a 50 miles radius of the event, and is a fantastic opportunity to sample drinks you don't see in your local pubs or supermarkets. Hot food will also be on sale from Bliss Catering of Dalgety Bay.

If you would like to attend then tickets are on sale now from www.jumblebee.co.uk/Junefest2018, tickets are priced £5, children can attend free of charge on the Saturday afternoon.

Any local businesses who are interested in sponsorship at Junefest should contact ldbrotary.fundraising@gmail.com, or 07920 081841. Sponsorship opportunities are available starting at £75.

Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay Rotary Club look forward to welcoming you to Junefest 2018!

What's on in Perth

Summer 2018, in the newly refurbished Theatre and wonderful Concert Hall, there are a number of fantastic shows and events planned. From Perth Festival of the Arts at the end of May, the Youth Arts Festival from 14 to 17 June and the famous Southern Fried Festival from 26 to 29 July, there is something for everyone.

In addition there are the regular classical Lunchtime Concerts and Piano Sundays. Comedy from Ed Byrne, Fred MacAulay, Jason Manford and Sarah Millican. Plus entertaining evenings with The Michael Jackson HIStory Show, Ricky Ross, Bowie Experience, Elkie Brooks and Little Mix Magic. See the full programme by visiting www.horsecross.co.uk or pick up a brochure at the Community Centre.

Toddler Group

North Queensferry Toddlers are looking for new parents to join our friendly and fun group!

We meet every Thursday morning at the Community Centre. With loads of toys and a small soft play there is 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. We have regular events such as Easter Crafts, Sports Day, Halloween and Christmas Parties. We also have days out to The Beach, The Fire Station, Soft Play etc. There is also a Facebook page and WhatsApp group for arranging playdates.

The Group meets between 9.30 and 11.15am every week and we are also open during School holidays. Even if you cannot make it along regularly do pop by whenever you can and do let us know if you would 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 is £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!

Pilates Classes



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Monday	8.00-9.00pm	SQ Rosebery Main Hall
Tuesday	10.30-11.30am	SQ Rosebery Small Hall
Tuesday	12.45-1.45pm	Davidsons Mains Parish Church
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

Contact: [Amanda Johnstone](mailto:amanda@simplypilates.org)

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Tel: 07787 321571

Email: amanda@simplypilates.org

Web: www.simplypilates.org

Ferry Birds – Jan to May 2018

The weather in March and April seems to have affected the local bird life quite significantly. The beach at Port Laing was witness to the deadly effect of the cold easterly winds. I found several dead **guillemots**, a few **puffins** and at least 1 **kit-tiwake** there in March. On a brighter note there was a live **guillemot** in West Bay on the 19th of March and the relatively sheltered West Bay was regularly used by small groups of **aiders** and a pair of **mallard** and 2 **mute swans** were there on the 23rd of the month. **Shelducks** have also been constantly present in West Bay feeding on the exposed mud. Up to 30 have been seen and there were still several in the Bay at the beginning of May. There have been several kinds of wader in West Bay along with the **redshanks**, **curlews** and **oystercatchers**. I saw 3 **turnstones** close to the beach on the 17th of March, 2 **dunlins** with the **redshanks** on the floating mooring on the 13th and the highlight, a **black-tailed godwit**, with 5 **redshanks** on the 4th of May. Most of the **redshanks** have now left the Bay to get to their breeding areas in Scotland and Iceland.

The other wintering coastal birds seem to have been here in lower numbers. They were probably also affected by the weather. A small group of 8 **red-breasted mergansers** were off Cruickness Point on the 21st of March and a grand total of 3 **great-crested grebes** were at the same place on the 10th of January. A few **goldeneye** ducks could be seen from the coastal path or in Inverkeithing Inner Bay but there were not many. In contrast several **little grebes** could be seen from the shoreline between the Guvy pier and Cruickness Point throughout the winter. One even came into West Bay at the end of January.

The first sign of breeding activity amongst the sea birds was, of course, the **fulmars** on Inchgarvie. I saw them first on the 4th of January but they had disappeared by the next day. This coming and going carried on 'til early February and now there are always some on the island and 3 or 4 pairs on the quarry face above Deep Sea World.

The first summer visitor to be heard and seen was the **chiffchaff**. I normally first hear them in the middle of March but the first for me this year were on the 8th of April when I heard them singing in 5 or 6 places from the coastal path to Jamestown. I had, however, been away the previous week so they could have been around earlier in the month although that would still have been later than usual. The **chiffchaffs** were soon followed by **black-caps** and **willow warblers** all trying to proclaim their territories in the village and on the coastal path. I have not seen any **common terns** yet but I have heard and seen a few **sandwich terns** the first at Kinghorn but also one at the mouth of West Bay in the last week of April. The **common terns** should be here soon so that they can get on with their breeding on Long Craig.

Other interesting sightings have included a **grey wagtail** on the West Bay beach on the 17th of March and a **grey heron** on the Guvy pier in the middle of January. There was a small flock of **red-wings** in the sea buckthorn on railway pier on the 8th of February and 2 optimistic **song thrushes** were singing near the station on the 26th of January.

Despite the weather there seem to be plenty of our resident species such as **robins**, **wrens**, **black-birds** and **chaffinches** around all getting ready to create the next generation to keep the natural world thriving.

As usual a plea to leave some of your garden unmanaged so that the insects and other invertebrates on which many of our birds depend can thrive.

John Done

Contributions

for the next issue

are to be with us by

Friday 5th October 2018

to:

7 Carlingnose Park

E: mary@ferrynews.org.uk



Fife Hair Loss Support Group

invite you to join us

for Afternoon Tea

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- Stylish Touch – a style consultant

or

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WHEN: Sat 2nd June 2018 from 2pm till 4pm

WHERE: Dunfermline Abbey Church Halls,
6 Abbey Park Place, Dunfermline
KY12 7PD

CONTACT: fife@alopecia.org.uk

In Memory of Lance Corporal James Dobbie

This letter was sent just over a century ago (April 19th 1918 – the author misdated it) by a Sergeant serving in France to a couple in Torryburn. Their son, Lance-Corporal James Dobbie, part of the Sergeant's unit, had

been killed in action nine days previously. The North Queensferry connection is through Pam and Colin Bell, Colin being a direct descendant of Mr & Mrs Dobbie to whom the letter's addressed.

Re: Lance Corporal James Dobbie
Royal Engineers.

France
April 19th 1918.

Dear Mr and Mrs Dobbie,

I am taking the liberty of writing a letter to you conveying the sympathy of the Company to you and your family, on the death of Jimmy in action out here on Wednesday April 10th 1918

No words written by me can adequately express how sorry we are to lose him as a companion and splendid soldier and we all feel his loss keenly but our sorrow at his fall can be nothing to that felt by the dear ones left to mourn him, and our hearts go out to you in this your trial and sadness.

Jimmy was my chum and I miss him so much that I can at times hardly believe that he has gone to return no more to us on this earth, but I try to console myself with the thought the dear Baddie has gone to a place where grief and sorrow are no more and these things are planned by a High Divinity in whose hands we are.

Jimmy's death was instantaneous and I am positive he felt no pain. I was unaware that he had fallen till some time after the event and when I heard that Jimmy was dead I immediately went to him but life was gone from him by the time I got to his side. Poor boy he looked so peaceful and quite natural. How I wish I had been with him at the time.

The Germans had broken through our line and the F Special Company had to stand to and help to hold them. On Wednesday evening we had to attack to prevent the Germans out-flanking us and it was during the episode that Jimmy met his death by a bullet. We then had to

We then had to retreat so hurriedly that we had no time to bury him, we were all anxious to take him away and give him a decent resting-place but circumstances over which we had no control prevented it. Officers of the company we also had to leave behind on the ground as order had been given to retire.

I expect that the sad news has reached you before now and I hope, as Jimmy's buddy that you excuse me for taking upon myself to write as I thought you would like to know more of the circumstances than are told by the official telegram.

It is always the best that are taken and everyone including Officers and NCO's knew Jimmy to be a good clean-living boy and as brave and fearless as a lion in the trenches where he also had earned a good name by his hard work. It is poor consolation to us all to know that time heals many wounds and in such trials as this we all are apt to forget that we shall gather together again in the great world to come.

Edwards T. G. 29017

F Special Coy,

R.E.

B.E.F

FRANCE

Pinned Sgt.



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Jog Scotland

Jog Scotland Session for beginners in North Queensferry takes place every Wednesday. Meet at North Queensferry Railway Station at 0930am.

Keith Bremner, the group's Jog Leader, said: "This new group will be suitable for complete beginners. It doesn't matter if you're nervous about starting to exercise, we promise to make it a relaxed, enjoyable experience and build up your confidence in a friendly atmosphere."

jogscotland, which was established in 2002, now comprises a network of thousands of runners, right across the country. Members take part in friendly jog groups based in the community, sports centres and workplaces, doing everything from a short, gentle jog/walk to marathon training. Our trained Jog Leaders know help members gradually build both fitness and confidence to make sure members stay active for the long term. Nobody is "too slow" to join jogscotland. Groups are available for joggers of all levels, from complete beginners to long-distance runners. Beginner sessions start with just 30 seconds of jogging at a time, with walk

Forth Bridge Heritage Centre @ the Station

North Queensferry Heritage Trust (NQHT) is keeping tabs on the latest renovations by ScotRail at the station which is managed by the Trust. Some time ago, the original slate roofing was surveyed and new slates were recommended - yes, no surprise after 100 plus years! Today, as you know, you are lucky to get a 25-year warranty on modern slates! The replacement Welsh quarried slates are the most appropriate type that match the existing slates. Along with the slates there are some other remedial works being addressed.



The original sash windows overlooking the carpark were no longer working and had been jammed closed. These are also being replaced with Georgian Wired double glazed units. There has been careful attention made to ensure that the grade B listed building holds onto its Victorian heritage by

breaks in between to catch your breath. Our programmes gradually increase the amount of jogging in each session at a level that is achievable. Within 20 weeks of starting as a complete beginner, you will probably be able to run 5K (three miles). The emphasis at every jogscotland group is on enjoying exercise and supporting one another in a friendly atmosphere.

In some areas, jogscotland also offers walking groups for those who want to build up gradually to a brisk 40-minute walk - at which point they will be ready to start our beginner jogging session. We also offer buggy groups for new mums to exercise with their little ones.

To take part or find out more, visit www.jogscotland.org.uk or call 0131 539 7341. You can find your nearest group at www.jogscotland.org.uk/local-groups.

Contact: Keith Bremner before attending your first session.

Tel No:07985693559

Facebook:: Jog Scotland North Queensferry

all parties concerned including Heritage Railway Trust, Network Rail, ScotRail and the NQHT. The renovations are expected to be complete by mid-May. Please contact NQHT for any further information.

Late News... NQHT are busy preparing a new exhibition in the FBHC is being planned for October 2018 onwards. The exhibition will focus on the WW1 Naval Surrender of the German Grand Fleet in the Forth. It is titled "Destination Forth - The Last Act " which occurred 100 years ago on the 21st November 1918. More details will be shared at the NQHT's AGM on 5th June in the Community Centre at 7pm.

Ferry Property Maintenance Services

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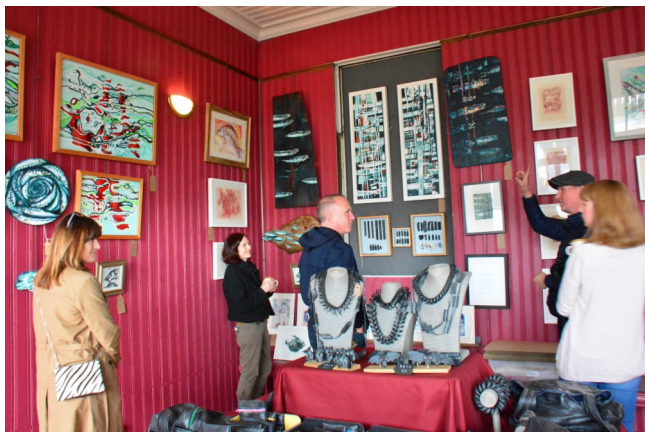
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ArtLine 2018

The ScotRail group of Community managed stations hold an Artline exhibition each year to showcase local artists. Last weekend saw this year's Artline take place on the 5th and 6th May. The event was well attended with 100 visitors over the weekend.

Other stations involved in the Artline also include Inverkeithing, Aberdour, Burntisland, Kinghorn, Kirkcaldy, Ladybank and Cupar, all reported good attendances.



Some background on Artline... the Artline has been created to highlight the railway station buildings which have been restored and adopted by individuals or groups in Fife. Previously empty rooms have found a new use such as artists' studios, heritage museums, or meeting venues. The North Queensferry Heritage Trust manages the North Queensferry Railway Station.

The original restorations were made possible by grants from the Railway Heritage Trust and the Stations Community Regeneration Fund. The Artline group was formed in 2015 to represent the adopters on the railway through Fife.

Any North Queensferry artists interested in taking part next year should get in touch with NQHT.

The Village Show

Saturday 8 September 2018

Towards the end of the summer when we begin to think about autumn...North Queensferry rejoices in a Village Show with the happy task of displaying the talent of the village. Products made by skilled residents both young and old are exhibited. There will be big and beautiful, weird and comical vegetables, garments from skilled knitters, interesting work from photographers and painters, delicate flower arrangements alongside tasty preserves, crochet and sewing, wonderful houseplants and fantastic home baking. In addition the crafts people working in the community centre will open their studios.

The 2018 show will have much of what is familiar to people who have entered before or have just

enjoyed looking around and enjoying a cup of tea/coffee and home baking. There are however a few changes so it will be worth checking the schedule when it comes out later in the summer. Such changes include the addition of a professional photography section and instead of the teddies knitted last year it will be hats. The teddies were well received by 'Knit for Peace' who sent them to Syrian refugee camps and food banks in the UK. The hats will go to a premature baby unit and again to an international charity. Knitted hats can be made to fit a child, boy or girl, from birth to ten years old. Any shape colour, design is welcome; we just ask that the hats for babies are knitted tightly so that tiny fingers will not get caught.

The 2018 children's quiz, which is undertaken for fun and not for a prize has Scotland (history, geography, sport, general knowledge, etc.) as its theme this year.

Whatever your skills from gardening and baking to photography and flower arranging, from knitting to painting and drawing - come show your talent to the village on 8 September.

Local relationship banking

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Jim Donnelly - Branch Manager

Tel: 01383 726067, Email: jado02@handelsbanken.co.uk

Handelsbanken

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