



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

## Pierhead Play Park

You are possibly aware that work commenced on the refurbishment of the Play Park in late August 2019, as planned. However, both the Project and Contractor had to overcome a number of issues which consequently delayed the Works. Another issue was the amount of drilling which had to be undertaken to ensure the equipment was set to the correct elevations. Apologies to the residents local to the Park for this inconvenience.

On the plus side, the use of Battery Road Car Park for the Contractors Site Establishment minimised traffic flow and congestion at the Pierhead. This was a huge success.

Work continues with the installation of safety matting and landscaping, which by the time of issue of this edition of the Ferry News, will hopefully be in the final stages, if not complete.

The Community Project Group would like to take this opportunity to thank all those involved in the Project, including:

- Fife Council, who co-ordinated the Works and acted as Project Managers.
- Hawthorn Heights, the Contractor, for their sensitivity and understanding.
- The Sponsors, who will be named on the Play Park sign.
- The residents local to the Play Park for their support and understanding.

We intend to have an official opening of the Play Park and, "Naming of the Boat."

We will keep you posted through the usual channels (Community Centre, Primary School and Rankins Coffee Shop), once the details have been finalised.

Also, our web site is:  
[www.pierheadplayparkproject.org.uk](http://www.pierheadplayparkproject.org.uk)

This Project has taken some 20 months from inception to completion, with hours of unpaid work carried out by the Community Project Group, but the final result has certainly been worth all the effort---a Play Park we should be proud of.

### Footnote:

Once the Play Park is complete there will be a period of some 2-3 weeks to give the new turf time to bed in. In addition the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) must undertake a full and independent inspection of the Park and then issue a Safety Certificate. So there will be a period when the Play Park looks complete but access will be restricted. We'll just have hold on for a little longer, before the fun begins!

*North Queensferry Church*

*Christmas Service*

*10am Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December*

*Join us in our 'Café Church'  
for Christmas Hymns, Crafts  
and*

*A Nativity from Scratch*

*Watch night Service*

*Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December Carols  
from 11pm Service at 11.30pm*

## Brock Street Parking

Parking in Brock Street is a problem. No-one disputes that but there are differing views on what to do, so, back in the summer, Cllrs Barratt and Dempsey dropped a survey form through each door in the street. It listed some ideas, worked out with the Community Council, and asked for opinions. Whatever changes are made in the future, they need to have the support of those who'll be living next to them.

Replies came back by email and via Wright's – thanks to Alex for that. As well as the yes/no-type questions summarised below, we asked for comments. And we got a huge number, far more than can fit in here. It'll take time to go through those, it'll take more time to come up with concrete proposals and it'll no doubt take even more time to find the money to pay for improvements. However, if you don't set out, you never arrive. So, for now, here are the questions and the answers we received.

### Community Centre & MUGA

There were complaints when the MUGA first opened. We wanted to know whether that's sorted itself out.

**Qn.** Has the MUGA made the parking problem worse? 50% Yes, 50% No

The Community Centre car park was lined down one side, which makes it easier to fit more cars in. The Community Centre Management Committee is looking into extending the car a little to allow parking on the side away from the Centre. Another option is to create extra parking on the other side of the playing fields, where the garages currently sit.

**Qn.** Would you like to see extra parking at the lower side of the playing fields? 85% Yes, 15% No

### Parking for Residents & Visitors

Car ownership is now far greater than was envisaged when the houses were built. Two possibilities for extra parking spaces are

The area between the flats  
(between nos 114 & 116)

The grassed area halfway up (in front of nos 26-44)

We included sketches of possible schemes, courtesy of Jim George of North Queensferry Community Council.

**Qn.** Are you in favour of extra parking between the flats? 93% Yes, 7% No

75% favoured an 8-bay car park with an entrance; 17% favoured a 4-bay layby; 8% gave no preference

## VILLAGE

## COFFEE MORNING



IN NORTH QUEENSFERRY CHURCH

ON ALTERNATE WEDNESDAYS

10:30 TO 12 NOON

ALL AGES WELCOME

### Dates as follows:

<b>2019</b>	November	6	20
	December	4	18
<b>2020</b>	January	15	29
	February	12	26
	March	11	25
	April	8	22
	May	6	20
	June	3	17

## **Brock Street Parking cont ...**

**Qn.** Are you in favour of extra parking on the grassed area halfway up?  
93% Yes, 7% No

We included a sketch with 13 angled bays round the edge of the grass. 69% said they liked it

Some residents are concerned about parking on the wide area of pavement at the turning on the left halfway up Brock Street, particularly when school-kids are about. This concern is not shared by Fife Council's Traffic management team.

**Qn.** Are you concerned about parking on the wide sections of pavement?  
57% Yes, 43% No

### **School Traffic**

Every school in Fife has a problem with traffic at the start and end of the school day. Schools, along with the Police and others, draw up Travel Plans to encourage pupils to walk or cycle but that's not going to eliminate cars, not least because the school and nursery attract kids from outwith the village, which is important in a time of a falling school roll.

We didn't have any specific ideas here, so we asked "What would improve the traffic situation at the start and end of the school day?" and got a lot of interesting ideas.

### **Commuters**

It's part of national strategy for houses to be built in this part of Fife, in part to

feed a growth in jobs in Edinburgh. Plans are in place around Dunfermline for several thousand more houses, many of whose occupants will want to commute by train. In Inverkeithing, commuter parking spreads ever further from the station and some commuters are realising that they can trade a less frequent service and less chance of a seat for a parking place close to North Queensferry station. That shows up in Brock Street, Carlingnose and on Ferryhills Road. Again, the solution isn't obvious. Residents' Parking, which limits non-permit holders to three hours, is an option outside houses but would be difficult to justify elsewhere. And enforcement will always be an issue.

We asked "What, if anything, should be done about commuter parking?" and again got a lot of ideas.

### **Next?**

The councillors look again at the detail, discuss it with the professionals, try to work up a proposal that's effective and affordable then bring it back to the community for comment.

## **68th Fife Scout Group**

(Inverkeithing)

**New Members Welcome**

**Come along for a trial visit**

Beavers (6 to 8 years): Tuesdays 6.15-7.30pm

Cubs (8 to 10 years): Thursdays 6.30-8.00pm

Scouts (11 to 14 years): Mondays 6.30-8.30pm

Explorer: Mondays 8.30-10.00pm

**BP Hall, Hope Street, Inverkeithing**

Please email [kevinlloyd6@msn.com](mailto:kevinlloyd6@msn.com) with any enquiries

## **Recycling glass**

If you are unhappy about the loss of the glass recycling service at the top of the village (the station) contact your Community Council:-

[ngccsecretary@livingwater.org.uk](mailto:ngccsecretary@livingwater.org.uk)

or one of your local councillors

## Fife Historic Buildings Trust

### *Making Heritage Live - 19th November @ The Station*

North Queensferry Heritage Trust's November talk is from Fife Historic Buildings Trust. This Trust is a registered charity based at Kinghorn and works with others to find new uses for buildings at risk throughout Fife. We look forward to the talk on 19th November in the Meeting Room of the North Queensferry Railway Station, at 7:30 PM.

FHBT have helped deliver over £30m in historic environment regeneration projects in Fife, supporting town centres, businesses, tourism and local communities.

Fife has a particularly rich and varied heritage with over 6,200 listed buildings and 48 conservation areas. Fife Historic Buildings Trust was formed in 1997 by Fife Council – our primary aim to restore historic buildings in Fife. The Trust is an independent Buildings Preservation Trust.

All our projects begin not just with a building, but also with a range of partners:

- an organisation with a passion to save a building in their community, or with an idea for how it could be used;
- a supportive funder who believes in the project;
- a talented design team who can overcome the technical challenges of repairing derelict buildings and

inspire all with a vision for their future appearance;

- experienced contractors with the traditional skills needed to bring a building back to life.

Along the way our projects deliver a range of benefits such as:

- community capacity development
- economic development
- skills training in traditional construction methods and heritage building restoration
- improving health and wellbeing.

Their success at obtaining funding for Inverkeithing's 'regeneration' is a typical example of their work... An **award of £1,007,700** has been made towards the five-year programme of linked heritage projects for Inverkeithing town centre, to start later in 2019. Other local activity is the refurbishment of the station house at Burntisland Station.

As members and local residents will know North Queensferry Heritage Trust is always keen to refurbish and preserve the important heritage of the area and here is an opportunity to ask questions that may help identifying future projects.



**Contributions for the next issue**

**are to be with us by**

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

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



## North Queensferry Boat Club

### The Joy of Sailing in North Queensferry

NQFBC is pleased to announce their intention to re-introduce the mooring and sailing of small sailing boats from their leased harbour in Wee Bay (locally known as *Wee Quarry Hole*) located on the east side of the village by Forthside Terrace.

In 1953, the Club started as a rowing club in the Wee Bay. With the sheltered position and the proximity of Port Laing beach for events over the years, the club quickly expanded. In 1990 the Club moved to its current location at Old Railway Pier.

The Club has now taken on a new lease for the Wee Bay harbour and preparing for upgrading the site to allow ease of access to the mooring pontoons within the small harbour area.

Membership is now open to applicants who have a desire to moor and sail within the limits of the tide, ideally suiting small open sailing boats of up to 18 feet with a lifting keel.

Membership Rates are: £75 per annum + £70 p/a mooring fees.

All enquiries can be made to:

Telephone/text: 07855 714148

or by email:

[membershipsecretary@northqueensferryboatclub.co.uk](mailto:membershipsecretary@northqueensferryboatclub.co.uk)

Web Site:-

[www.northqueensferryboatclub.co.uk](http://www.northqueensferryboatclub.co.uk)

## Gala

After the great success of this year's Gala – we are pleased to announce that the 2020 North Queensferry Gala will be held on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2020**. We hope to make this bigger and better – so any ideas please email the Gala Committee at [northqueensferrygala@hotmail.com](mailto:northqueensferrygala@hotmail.com).

Do you have any great memories of Gala's past – we're looking to hear the stories and capture the pictures to display at next year's Gala – if you have any photos you'd like to share – please get in touch!!

To support the Gala, we've a number of fundraising events planned the next event on the calendar, after Halloween, is a children's sponsored Santa Walk across the Forth Road Bridge on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> of December – keep an eye on our *North Queensferry Gala* Facebook Page for more details to come.....

Thanks again to all the Friends of the Gala who helped out last year – we're always keen to include more volunteers and supporters – so please get in touch.

**YOU COULD ADVERTISE IN THIS  
SPACE  
CONTACT**

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

## Pot Holes

Are you fed up with potholes in the roads around the village?

If so please phone:

**03451 550011**

or report to: [www.fifedirect.org.uk/pothole](http://www.fifedirect.org.uk/pothole)

## Community Council

The Community Council has been fully engaged in dealing with a number of important matters affecting the village.

First, you will be aware that over the Summer there was both the Vigour Events Forth Swimming Event and the Barnardo's "Your View at the Forth Bridge". The Vigour event last year was poorly planned and resulted in an undue amount of disturbance; so, this year, we worked hard to put pressure on both Fife Council and the organisers to improve the planning and running of the event, and this seems largely to have paid off with the event taking place with much less disruption, though we are still anxious for feedback as to any issues which might have arisen this year. If you did suffer any inconvenience, please get in touch with any of the Community Councillors to let us know.

The Barnardo's event, though quite a large scale event spread over several days, seems to have gone off without any hitches or disruption.

We have also been engaging with SEPA and the plant operators regarding smells from the Ferrytoll Water Treatment plant and disturbance from Hound Point. We have had some useful dialogue with Scottish Water (which is responsible for the Water Treatment Plant) who sent along two representatives to a Community Council Meeting at which we were able to discuss the issue in greater depth. This gave us some insight into the operation of the plant, and we agreed to keep the situation under review and feed back to Scottish Water any continuing concerns. If there are any such concerns, please contact Scottish Water on 0800 0778778 or one of your Community Councillors.

We are also having active engagement

with INEOS which is responsible for the operation of Hound Point, and several members of the Community Council visited the plant better to understand how it operates and to discuss possible mitigation measures. Again, if there are any ongoing concerns about noise or smells from Hound Point, please get in touch with a Community Councillor or via [nqccsecretary@livingwater.org.uk](mailto:nqccsecretary@livingwater.org.uk)

Following the CAA's rejection of Edinburgh Airport's original Airspace Change proposals EAL has now returned with a fresh consultation to be conducted under the new consultation regime. Although this is at a very early stage, the Community Council is not satisfied that, even at this stage, EAL has properly followed the required procedures and we have raised this directly with the CAA. We are also, as before, liaising with other community councils on this matter. Watch this space!

Within the village, we continue to be concerned by the lack of any visible progress in reopening the Albert Hotel and we continue to do all we can to stir the owners into positive action.

We have also let our concerns be known to Fife Council about the removal of the glass bins from the recycling point next to the railway station. This is especially annoying, given that we recently successfully lobbied Fife Council to keep open both of the recycling points in the village. It seems that the problem now is that Fife Council has recently invested in new glass recycling trucks which are too big to fit under either the railway bridge at the top of the Brae or the railway bridge at Jamestown. We continue to see what, if anything, can be done about restoring this useful facility.

We are now in the happy position of working through the applications from village organisations to the Community Council's Small Grants scheme.

## Community Council cont.

Your council has and will continue with its usual responsibilities of assessing planning applications, reporting and monitoring village snags, working with Fife Council and councillors on village matters and receiving monthly police reports.

Finally we were pleased to welcome Gary Bald as a new member of the Community Council – a timely reminder that there is always room for willing vol-

unteers.

If you have any issues which you would like the Community Council to look at please do not hesitate to contact us or to email the Secretary: [nqccsecretary@livingwater.org.uk](mailto:nqccsecretary@livingwater.org.uk).

For further information please look at the minutes of meetings on our website ([www.nqcc.co.uk](http://www.nqcc.co.uk)). Current (draft) minutes are displayed on the village notice boards and at the community centre.



NORTH QUEENSFERRY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND  
Charity No SCO07414

# Christmas Fair

**JOIN US ON SATURDAY 30<sup>th</sup> November AT 2PM**

CHRISTMAS BULBS & PLANTS CAKE and CANDY CHRISTMAS GIFTS  
TOYS BOOKS JEWELLERY  
TOMBOLA RAFFLE HAMPER  
GUESS THE NAME OF THE GIANT HUSKIE  
GUESS THE WEIGHT OF THE CHRISTMAS CAKE

ENTRY DONATION : Adult £4 / Children £1

**INCLUDES AFTERNOON TEA/COFFEE WITH HOME BAKING**

(Good quality) Donations can be handed in to the Church on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> Nov.  
from 6:30pm to 7:00pm or on the morning of the Fete from 10:30am to 11:30am  
Please note we **cannot** accept used electrical goods, prams or bicycles

For further information contact **Ann** tel. 01383 417734

10 per cent of the proceeds will go to a local Charity

**Come along for a delicious tea and do some Christmas Shopping!**

## Community Centre AGM

North Queensferry Community Centre AGM will be held on **Thursday November 21st at 7.30pm**. The Community Centre and Multi-Use Games Area are owned by the community and run by local residents. Please come along to support your Community Centre so we can continue to provide space for classes, meetings, parties, elections and special events.

## Community Trust

We hope you enjoyed our stall at the Village Show and it was great to have a few new members and quite a few suggestions for us to look in to, and we would be very happy to receive more suggestions.

There are various projects on the go at the Marina but progress is slower than we would wish :There are a few things on the go at the West Bay Marina :

The installation of public toilets is progressing – we are undertaking contamination testing and have quotes for temporary toilets which we hope to get installed soon

We are working with planning over the proposed storage containers / workshop to understand if this is still viable in terms of how and who can use them

The repair of the holes in the sea wall by the workshop remains problematic but is still something we are working to get repaired

Through a link with Veterans First Point, which works with ex-servicemen with PTSD, a project was set up for ex-servicemen to renovate a boat donated by a member of the Boat Club

Thanks for the great response to our consultation. Between the paper and online versions we received over 120

forms back. The vast majority were from folk in the village. We will collate and publish the results soon, and there is always information on the web page

<http://www.nqcommunitytrust.org.uk/>

## Patient Participation Group

**(PPG) (Inverkeithing Medical Group)**

**Withheld or mobile or no ID numbers .....**

Please be aware if you receive a call back from a doctor or an advanced nurse practitioner, you may find the display on your phone does not show the surgery number. It can sometimes show a withheld, a mobile or a no ID number. The reason for this is during busy times when the surgery phonenumber is in high demand, staff may use mobile phones to speed up their return calls to patients. Naturally you would not want to block your line while you were waiting to speak to the surgery. In the past you may have chosen to ignore this call not realising it was someone from the surgery trying to contact you.

If you have comments or suggestions for the PPG group please contact us by leaving a note in the suggestions box at the surgery or emailing on [fife-uhb.img@nhs.net](mailto:fife-uhb.img@nhs.net). (Please do not use this email for medical matters.)

**Your Community Council meets in the Community Centre at 7.30pm on the second Thursday of each month. Everyone is welcome!**



**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)





## **Carol singing around North Queensferry**

**There will be another Carol Singing Event around the village**

**On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December** - Starting from the church in Ferryhills Rd at 6.30 (and followed by Mince Pies and Hot chocolate at the finish!)

Rehearsals to be held in the church from 6.30 on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December



**If you can hold a note or play an instrument, or merely just enjoy carols then contact Ann on 01383 417734. If you can't join us for the whole route come out and join in as we pass!**

## **Family Quiz Night**

There's a quiz night taking place at the Ferrybridge Hotel at 7pm on Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November. It's to raise funds towards local 17-year-olds Beth Lindsay and Ellie McGregor's volunteering trip to Cambodia in summer 2020. Tickets from Rankin's Café or by messaging 077749603016 or 07549234599 (we can deliver!). Adults £4, children £2, Family (2 adults 2 children) £8. Tickets selling fast!

There will be a raffle on the night with a very good selection of prizes, generously donated by local businesses. If you can't make the quiz night but want to support the girls please visit [www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/ellie-mcgregor](http://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/ellie-mcgregor).

## **Christmas Fayre**

The Christmas Fayre will take place of Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December from 12:00 till 14:00.

The school welcomes everyone for some festive fun, tea and cake and an opportunity to stock up on some christmas goodies.

Raffle tickets will be coming through your door soon, there are fantastic prizes given generously by The Wee Restaurant, Doubletree and LNER. Not forgetting the chance for a trip up the bridge.

Any donations of excellent quality unwanted gifts, toys, bottles for tombola or home baking are very welcome.

We hope to see you there,  
NQ Parent Council.

## **Narrow pavements and public paths**

Do plants from your garden make public paths narrower?

Please cut them back.

## Village Show 2019

Saturday 7 September - the sun shone and North Queensferry Village Show was a resounding success. However it was more than the sunshine which caused village residents to make their



way up to the Community Centre: they came to see the varied and interesting exhibits showing evidence of a lively village with numerous diverse activities. Proud families came to see their children's art work ranging from creatures made out of dried fruit, nuts and lentils to collages created using litter. The latter produced by the village primary school pupils were particularly colourful and imaginative. Other visitors came to view the many interesting exhibits produced by local people from the exquisite patchwork and embroidery to a tasty vegan Banana loaf and, of course, to meet old and new friends over a cup of tea and a piece of home-made cake.

The Village Show not only gives us a chance to view the wonderful things

made by North Queensferry's talented residents but also provides an opportunity to find out about (and join) village



activities such as the Boat Club, the Mother and Toddler Group and the Arts and Crafts Group. Additionally, this year, the Show provided an occasion to vote for the art work produced by primary school pupils which will be displayed on the village interpretation board near the War Memorial: a North Queensferry Primary School - Community Council project. Other new features this year included a floral demonstration by the Flower Shop in Rosyth and promotion of Gordon Brown and Alister Moffat's book 'Fife: a history from earliest times to the present day'.

Prize winners included: Jack Pomphrey, the North Queensferry Heritage Shield; Eileen Donaldson, the Bob Cubin Cup; Mino Manekshaw, the Maureen Trotter Cup; Julie Anderson the WI cup and Isla Cameron the children's winner of the Jubilee Cup.

The Village Show is organised by a group of people from the village. Planning starts straight after the Show for the coming year. We can already say that the theme for 2020 will be '**The Roaring Twenties**'.

## Ferry Birds

The **redshank** did their usual disappearing act in April although I did see one in West Bay at the beginning of May. The first were back on cue at the start of July and numbers have now built up. I reckon there were over 45 in the bay at the middle of October. There are now 3 or 4 **curlews** and maybe 5 **oystercatchers** in the bay as well.

The **eiders** were showing off their young in June. I saw young of various sizes on several days with a high count of 4 adults with 12 small young on the 7<sup>th</sup>. There was a female **goosander** with 5 well grown young in West Bay on the 9<sup>th</sup>. **Goosanders** usually nest by freshwater so what they were doing in West Bay is a bit surprising. Other nesting sea birds included at least 3 pairs of **fulmars** on the quarry face above Deep Sea World.

The **common terns** came back again as usual and probably nested on Long Craig. This year there was some activity on the dolphin in West Bay but unlike last year no nests were built. I saw quite a few **common terns** on the Guvy pier on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of July but they didn't hang around for long.

After the usual quiet period in June I had some good sightings in July. I saw several birds of prey around the middle of the month. This included a **kestrel** above The Brae on the 15<sup>th</sup> and a **sparrowhawk** there 2 days later. A **peregrine** and a **raven** were both heard and seen in the quarry also on the 15<sup>th</sup>. On the 13<sup>th</sup> a **buzzard** was being chased off by a group of gulls by the station.

Other sightings of more unusual birds have been a **yellowhammer** in the Carlingnose Point reserve on the 6<sup>th</sup> of July and a **great-spotted woodpecker** there on the 16<sup>th</sup> of July and one on 15<sup>th</sup> October at Cruickness Point.

There was a **common sandpiper** at the Point on the 6<sup>th</sup> of July as well.

The reserve at Carlingnose is there because of the plants that grow there on the calcareous grassland. This summer has been quite good for the plants with **dropwort** showing well on the East side of the rocky knoll and also outside the reserve in the watertank field at the North of the village. **Field gentians** have also done quite well while there was a superb showing of **kidney vetch** and **lesser-meadow rue** and just off the reserve by the path from the lower village there was a large patch of **wild carrot**. The annual cutting of the grass on the reserve has already been done and more cotoneaster has been removed from one side of the rocky knoll. There is a possibility more maintenance will be carried out later in the year.

*John Done*

## Pilates Classes



8 week block booking £72. Booked in advance.

Suitable for all fitness levels. Small class numbers.

### Class Timetable

Monday	6.30-7.30pm	SQ Rosebery Main Hall
Monday	7.40-8.40pm	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
Wednesday	12.00-1.00pm	SQ Rosebery Small Hall
Thursday	9.55-10.55am	Dalgety Parish Church
Thursday	11.05am-12.05pm	Dalgety Parish Church

Contact: **Amanda Johnstone**

10 years Qualified & Experienced Mat Level 3 Instructor

Tel: **07787 321571**

Email: [amanda@simplypilates.org](mailto:amanda@simplypilates.org)

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





**ROSYTH SHOWROOM (KY11 2UU)  
OPEN 7 DAYS**



*"I'd give 6 stars if I could -  
Entirely professional service,  
went out of their way  
to be helpful and considerate"*  
Miss Watters, TrustPilot Review



CALL 01383 851951  
VISIT [www.srjwindows.com](http://www.srjwindows.com)

**srjwindows**  
conservatories. sunrooms. windows. doors.