CRAIL MATTERS

Incorporating The Kingsbarns Eagle



29 March Issue No. 351 Free - donations welcome - suggested donation £2.00

www.crailmatters.com

REMEMBER - The clocks go forward by one hour at 1am on 31 March 2024.



Before



After



Tollbooth Wynd

Readers may recall last week we raised the problems residents of Tollbooth Wynd are having after Scottish Power replaced the housing for an existing electricity transformer with a much larger housing. The pictures above show the previous transformer building (Before) and the new transformer building (After). No planning permission was sought for this work, nor were local residents notified before it started. Tollbooth Wynd is in the Crail Conservation area, where any works are subject to strict planning controls. The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas (Scotland) Act 1997 requires '…..special attention shall be paid to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of that area..' in the determination of planning consent. Residents have objected to Scottish Power about this work, but have received no adequate response.

Scottish Power now appear to be in process of submitting a retrospective planning application for this work to Fife Council. This application appears in the Weekly Update of Development Applications (week ending 24 March) issued by Fife Council on page 45 at the end of all the applications, and is described as 'No assigned Ward' despite the works concerned being within Crail. At the time of writing this application does not appear in the listing of planning applications in the Fife Council Digital Planning Portal, which means objections to the proposal cannot be registered.

The Community Council considered this at its meeting on 25 March, and unanimously condemned the actions of Scottish Power and called for the original structure to be re-instated. Scottish Power have been contacted and a formal complaint has been made. In the event of a retrospective planning application being made and validated, residents have 21 days to lodge objections once the application is available on the Planning Portal.

This has been a very distressing period for the property owners near to this site, and the callous and insensitive handling of this by Scottish Power has added to stress. In addition, the way this work has been undertaken suggests a broader contempt for both our community and the planning rules. We understand that as a result of representations made, discussions are now underway to negotiate an acceptable resolution. Crail Matters will continue to follow this, and will notify readers of further developments.

Land and Buildings at the Harbour slipway

Concerns have been raised about the condition of the building and land leased to Deveron/MacNeill at the harbour. This land is Common Good property, and it falls on Fife Council to manage lettings, etc. as well as the state of the buildings.

This matter was raised at the Community Council meeting of 25 March. There are serious concerns about public safety due to the unsafe walls, lack of fencing, lack of maintenance and housekeeping, reported rats etc. There has been no indication or contact from Fife Council to indicate that anything has been done about this.





East Neuk Friends of CHAS
The East Neuk Friends of CHAS founder member Kate Stuttard presented Rami Okasha, Chief Executive Officer of CHAS, with a cheque for £4250 at their AGM on 22nd March.

After the meeting there was a Cheese, wine and cakes celebration for the 20th Anniversary of the Group's start up in 2004. Over the 20 years almost £80,000 has been raised for CHAS.

The evening was enjoyed by the group and several friends from the village and our grateful thanks go out to all our friends and helpers without whom this would not have been possible.



Crail Art Group
Crail Art Group are back in our Easter Exhibition home at the Kirk Hall in Marketgate. Come along and meet the artists & enjoy teas and coffees courtesy of the lovely folk in the Kirk Hall. A lucky visitor will also win our raffle, leaving with a superb art box full of goodies to help you start or pursue this creative pursuit.
Friday 29th March 11.00am to 4.00pm.
Saturday 30th March 1.00pm to 4.00pm.
Sunday 31st March 12.00am to 4.00pm.
Monday 1st April 10.00am to 4.00pm.

We look forward to meeting friends old and new.

Crail Community Partnership - Annual General Meeting

The Community Partnership's AGM will take place in Crail Community Hall on the evening of **Tuesday 2nd April at 7pm.**
Everyone is most welcome to come along and hear about all the projects the Partnership has been working on over the last twelve months. The meeting will be followed by an update from Professor Will Cresswell on the great progress being made with the wetland development: "Turning tarmac into wetland: success at Kilminning".
And if all that's not enough, there'll be wine and nibbles as well.
Please help us plan for seating and catering by confirming your attendance to crailcommunitypartnership@gmail.com.

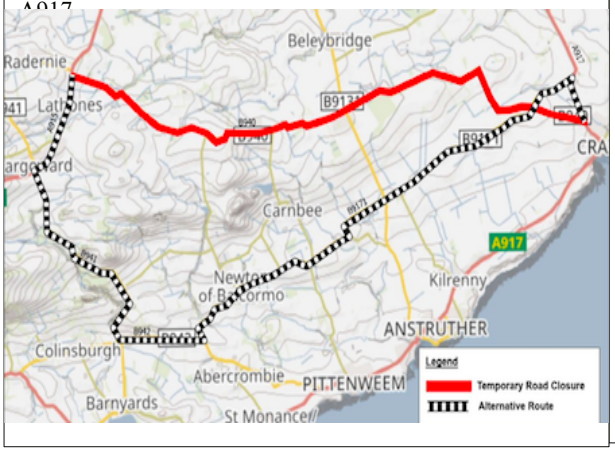


Crail Community Council

In response to concerns raised about the Harbour and also Fife Councils stewardshipf of Crail Common Good fund, the Community Council at its meeting 25 March established 2 sub committees. - the first to look a the state of the harbour, with a view to developing tangible proposal to improve it and to make representations, and the second, jointly with Crail Community Partnership, to look at Crail Common Good Fund and to explore ways to improve the administration of Common Good assets in the interests of the Crail community, and to make proposals for better management of Crail Common Good assets.

Temporary Road Closure B940

Temporary Road Closure B940, from A915 Higham Toll to A917 Crail 01/04/24 at 00.01hrs to 26/04/24 at 23.59hrs to allow carriageway resurfacing works to be carried out in safety. The alternative route for through vehicular traffic is via A915 Largoward, B941, B942 Colinsburgh, B9171 and A917.



Temporary Road Closure B942 Easter Pitcorthie

The alternative route for through vehicular traffic is via B942 Colinsburgh and A917 Elie & St Monans from **01/04/24** at 07.00hrs to **03/05/24** at 23.59hrs, or until earlier completion of the works, to allow carriageway resurfacing works to be carried out in safety.

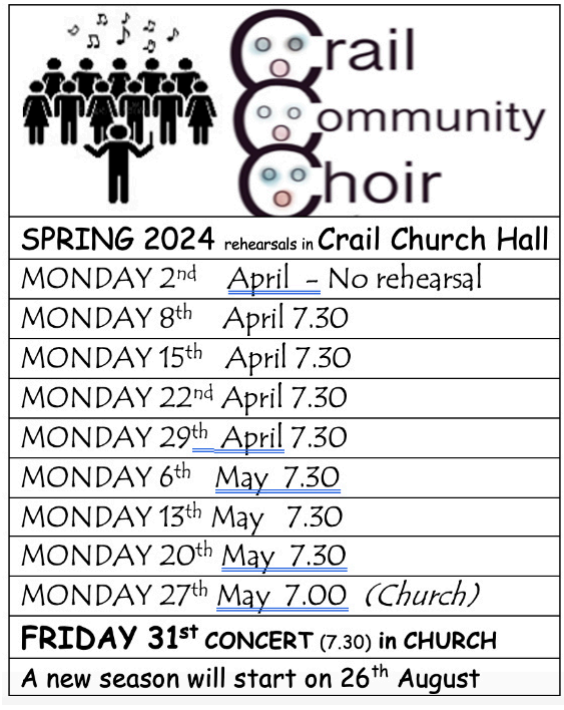


Kingsbarns

Reference	Address	Proposal	Date Registered	Applicant	Agent	Comments Expiry Date
24/00585/LBC	Smarag Lady Wynd Kingsbarns St Andrews Fife KY16 8SU	Listed Building Consent for installation of replacement windows to dwellinghouse	18/03/2024	Mr G Bowden Smarag Lady Wynd Kingsbarns St Andrews Fife	John Gordon 3 Dean Acres Comrie Dunfermline Scotland KY12 9XS	25/04/2024
24/00586/FULL	Smarag Lady Wynd Kingsbarns St Andrews Fife KY16 8SU	Installation of replacement windows to dwellinghouse	18/03/2024	Mr G Bowden Smarag Lady Wynd Kingsbarns St Andrews Fife KY16 8SU	John Gordon 3 Dean Acres Comrie Dunfermline Scotland KY12 9XS	25/04/2024

Neart Na Gaoithe (NnG) offshore wind farm

Recent reports suggest that delays in the construction phase for the Neart Na Gaoithe (NnG) offshore wind farm means the vessel used to transport the turbine towers, blades and nacelles to the North Sea has moved to another job, halting that phase of construction, The completion date for the project, expected to be 2024, is now further delayed. Since work began, 35 turbines have been taken to sea by the Blue Tern – a self-propelled jack-up offshore wind turbine construction vessel owned by Norwegian firm Fred Olsen Windcarrier. 19 turbines are still to be installed at the 40 square mile site, around 10 miles off the Fife coast. NnG are in discussions to identify another vessel, but dates have to be confirmed.





Wonky Walkers Welcome at Cambo *Colin Morrison*

Negative Buoyancy by Aleks Scholz

The SPORTS feature

The wait was finally over: We had our Final Four weekend, for the first time hosted in the Royal Burgh. And although in the end the favourite came out on top (sorry, spoiler alert), it wasn't a foregone conclusion by any means. In the first semi-finals on Saturday, the local team, the Thirdpart Thunder, came close to the shocking upset, and were only narrowly beaten by the mighty Dons of Dunino. It was pouring down with rain, for the entire match, the goal posts literally moving in the storm, the grass turned instantly into mud, and not even the veterans from the New Neuk League, back in the Golden Age, remembered pitch conditions that were any worse. What a dogfight we witnessed. Lots of credit to the Thunder who, seemingly urged onwards by the gale-force winds, earned third place on Sunday, a magnificent achievement for the young up-and-coming squad.

The second game of the day in what oldtimers know as Crail Coliseum was almost boring by comparison. The weather brightened up, and when the Sun came out and the Elephants finally managed to touch the zone, most of the crowd was already in the pub, too one-sided was the match. Elie didn't really stand a chance in this one, the Anstruther Ants never looked back, and eventually won in dominant fashion on differential in the sixth, a killer strike by their back seven. Didn't even need floodlights for this one. (Not that Fife Council has bothered to fix the lights, despite all our valiant efforts at the complaints box.)

Once the early Sunday dog walkers had made their rounds, and the early Sunday churchgoers had gone home, it was time for the big finale, a showdown if there ever was one, Anstruther Ants vs Dons of Dunino, the soulful attack squad against the ruthless forces of nature. The weather decided to stay out of it, and presented itself in a blank, grey, calm manner. The Ants struck first, with their number two forcing its way into the power circle, slithering, crouching, and finally assisting to eight who finished masterfully. The fun didn't last long, as the Dons managed a direct hit almost from the royal box, not even bothering to celebrate afterwards. That's the attitude of a five time champ. The audience was divided in opinion and mood.

It was a stalemate afterwards, for much of the afternoon. We all grew restless. Some in the uncharacteristically unrowdy crowd were forgetting about the rather static game, and instead started thinking about the corn bunting season. Are we still going to be here Monday morning? Who is going to feed the cats? Or write this very sports column? And then, like lightning, or maybe something very unlike lightning, the Ants' final chap sorted it out, in a majestic blow to the upper shore. Ants smash it in 2024, and take the trophy down the road, see you next year.



Pothole Gallery: The Orchard Park Patchwork



Burns of Crail: nameless stream in West Braes

This could be your space!

If you want to contribute to Crail Matters, with interesting stories or an illustration of what buoyancy is, or pictures of litter or potholes or dogs or burns, please do get in touch and email us. Also, don't forget to switch the clocks to summer time.

Tides in Crail for March 29-April 4

The days are now well over 13 hours long, and less and less of the tide cycle happens under the disguise of the night. On Sunday we get - for the first time this year - two high tides between sunrise and sunset. No time to hide anymore, monsters of the sea.

Weather outlook

A pleasant weekend followed, again, by a cold and rainy week, perhaps. March was wetter than usual, again. Spring is slow, again, and it feels like I am going to write this from now on every week until around mid August.

Moon



Know about Crail's Organisations



Crail Museum

The Crail Preservation Society (CPS) opened the Crail Museum & Heritage Centre in 1979. The seeds of a museum were already noted in the Annual Report of 1967 – a gift of an impression from the Burgh Seal was given to the CPS by Mr Nicholson. It goes on "It is important that old documents, pictures and other material of historic interest relating to the town should be preserved….". In1975 the Town Council ceased to exist under the Reform of Local Government in Scotland, but shortly before this they gifted 62 Marketgate to the Society for the purpose of a museum showcasing the history of Crail. By 1978 work on the building had begun, at a cost of £23,00. It was opened on 13th July by Mrs Calder, was staffed by volunteers every day until the end of September and 3000 visitors viewed the exhibitions. In the second year, the exhibitions featured the Royal Burgh, Church, Shoemaking, Crail Pottery and Fishing.

In 1981, Tolbooth House 64 Marketgate, was acquired as an extension, becoming, in 1984, the main entrance leading to a reception/shop and tourist information and thence into the original building via a connecting doorway. It currently houses the Airfield Room with the outside Store below.

The Museum was settling down. The volunteers, who not only opened the Museum to visitors during the summer, also documented, cared for the collection and mounted exhibitions during at least two days per week throughout the year; they attended many courses on collections care and we became known as the museum whose volunteers 'cascaded' the information to others. This all still happens today. By 1991 the Museum had been awarded Provisional Registration in the Museums and Galleries Commission's scheme to raise standards in all UK museums, and full registration was granted in 1992 when the Museum split from the CPS to be an independent trust. Links were still maintained as a majority of trustees were appointed by the CPS.

For a period of over 20 years the local Tourist Board and then VisitScotland supported the Museum by providing a paid Tourist Assistant whenever the Museum was open. This was a great help in that only one museum volunteer was required.

As the millennium approached it was decided to re-organise the layout of the museum and refresh it after 20 years. Grants, including from the Heritage Lottery Fund, were obtained to return the main entrance to 62 Marketgate, and to increase the size of the shop to generate more income. The total cost was £27,000 and on completion found the layout much as it is today. Work on the alterations started in October 1999 after the exhibitions closed and the artefacts were packed away in new temporary storage. Even the outer store had to be emptied. By the following March the museum was back up and preparing new exhibitions for an Easter opening.

Recently there have been two semi-permanent exhibitions on the ground floor about the Royal Burgh and Crail Airfield. Upstairs are three exhibitions, one of which is changed in rotation every year and all others refreshed so there is always something new to see. Over the years subjects have covered all aspects of life in Crail and weekly Guided Walks around the Burgh have been hosted.

Since 1992 the Museum has always achieved Full Registration or Accreditation, as the current scheme is now called, by continually raising standards of governance, care of the collection and visitor experience. The latest application for Accreditation has to be submitted later this year. In 2015, Crail Museum Trust was replaced by Crail Museum & Heritage Centre, a Scottish Charities Incorporated Organisation (SCIO).

Jonathan Armitage











Dog Fouling

Whilst it might seem like a minor inconvenience (unless you are affected), dog fouling can pose several significant dangers to both human health and the environment.

1. Dog faeces can carry harmful bacteria, parasites, and viruses such as E. coli, Salmonella, and roundworms. These pathogens can cause a range of illnesses in humans, including gastrointestinal infections, skin infections, and respiratory issues.
2. When dog waste is not promptly removed, bacteria and parasites can spread to other animals and contaminate water sources, soil, and vegetation, leading to the transmission of diseases and infections among pets and wildlife.
3. Dog faeces contain nutrients like nitrogen and phosphorus, which can contribute to nutrient pollution when washed into water bodies through rainfall or irrigation runoff. This nutrient enrichment can lead to algal blooms, oxygen depletion, and harm to aquatic ecosystems.
4. Accumulated dog waste can emit foul odours that make public spaces unpleasant for residents, visitors, and other animals. The smell of dog faeces can also attract pests such as flies, rodents, and insects, further exacerbating hygiene and health concerns.
5. Wet or decomposing dog faeces on pavements, pathways, and other pedestrian areas can create slippery surfaces, increasing the risk of slips, falls, and injuries, particularly for children, the elderly, and individuals with mobility impairments.
6. Dog fouling can create tension and conflict within communities, as responsible pet owners may become frustrated with the behaviour of negligent owners who fail to clean up after their dogs. This can lead to disputes, neighbourhood deterioration, and a breakdown of social cohesion.

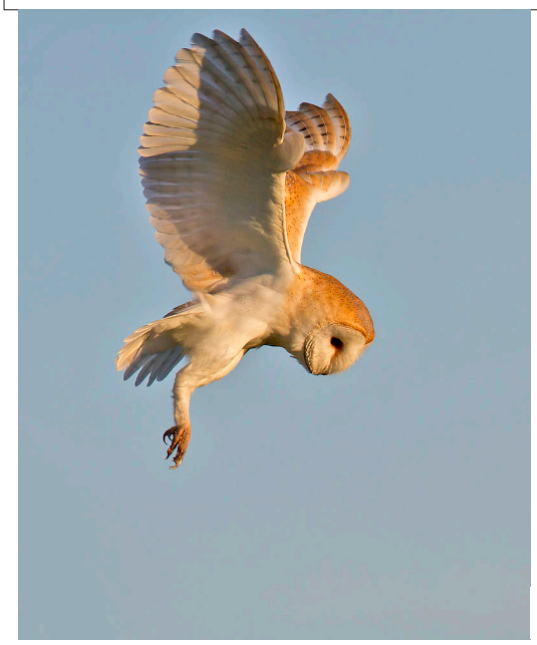
To mitigate the dangers of dog fouling, it's essential for pet owners to promptly clean up after their dogs using bags and dispose of the waste properly either in designated bins or take it home.
Dog owners have a legal duty to clean up every time their dog fouls in a public place. It is an offence if you do not clean up after your dog and may result in a fixed penalty notice of £80. It is an offence not to provide your name and address to the officer when asked and it could result in a fine of £500.
It is lawful to convict the accused dog owner on the evidence of one witness. Use this form to report someone for not cleaning up after their dog.
https://www.fife.gov.uk/services/form-pages/report-dog-fouling

Wild Crail

Photos John Anderson

I had my first chiffchaffs on the Crail patch on the morning of the 24th. Two along the lower bit of the Kenly Burn and then a third in the middle of Kingsbarns. I had them all last week in St Andrews with my first on the 18th. This is reasonably early, or extremely early compared to forty year ago. Mid-March rather than late March is now the norm for their arrival. I was walking the loop from Kingsbarns to Kenly Water on the 24th, along the coast and then back inland via Pitmilly. I was hoping to connect with a snow bunting reported from the 21st in the sheep field between the Drony Road and Red Sands. Looking for a snow bunting in a big field of half-eaten brown and white turnip fragments was a tricky ask and I didn't succeed. There were a lot of skylarks and starlings among the sheep though. At Lower Kenly there were the usual ducks – a few teal, mallard, wigeon and a red-breasted merganser – and the usual greenshank.

On the 25th and overnight we had 17mm of rain; on the 27th another 12mm. A lot of rain. There was a barn owl reported in daylight just outside of Crail on the 26th, and then it was hunting along West Braes by the ruined salmon bothy on the 27th. They can't hunt during wet nights so this bird must have been a very hungry bird, having to brave the buzzards. We are over 60mm for the month making it moderately less wet than the last 6 months, but still a lot of rain. The trend is down though – April should be dryer and then that is the end of the wet season. Well, we shall see. I was worried about the possible water levels and overtopping at Kilminning, but on the 26th after the first bit of heavy rain there was just a gentle flow into the new marsh and burn. I lowered the final water level by about 12cm anyway so that we can strengthen the overspill area on the work day on Sunday 31st. A (the) pair of mallards flew in to land on the new pond as I left it. There were another couple of chiffchaffs calling at Kilminning, but otherwise it was cold and very unspring like.



Barn Owl



Chiffchaff

Don't Forget: Kilminning Community Nature Reserve Sunday March 31st – planting day! 10:00 – 16:00. Help needed. Meet here: https://w3w.co/riskiest.irritable.slant



The wetland construction has been completed and the tarmac is covered with soil. Please come along on Sunday, March 31st to help us prepare and clean up the nature reserve ready for nature and the spring. The main priority is to sow the wildflower meadow on the newly covered tarmac.

The weather is looking dry, followed by rain on Monday, which is ideal.

Please bring tools – particularly strong rakes, a spade and a bucket. If you have any spare please label them and bring them along too. There will hopefully be a crowd of St Andrews students there with muscles and enthusiasm but no tools. If you can't make it but can lend some tools (particularly strong rakes), please drop them off at 8, High Street South (opposite the co-op, behind the hedge with all the other equipment for Sunday accumulating there) on Saturday 30th. Or phone Will Cresswell on 07792897150 and I will pick them up. Just make sure they are labelled so they can find their way back to you.

Easter Reflection 2024- Easter – a Good Time to Talk about Death
Peter Neilson

Adrian Chiles, broadcaster and journalist, has gone public about his shock when his 86-year-old father died recently. His father's death was not a shock. It was expected. But Chiles was "shocked at how shocked he was". As a man in his late 50's he had not experienced death first hand – a blessing he recognises not given to many. He has suggested we talk more about this human inevitability.

Another journalist wrote around the same time about his experience of suffering a heart attack and facing the stark question, "Is this what dying is like?" As a relatively fit and healthy man in his sixties, he suddenly found himself on the life-saving end of our National Health Service and seeing the caring heart amidst the systemic challenges. He has survived long enough to write about it!

Easter is a good time to talk about death. It is about Jesus of Nazareth, a young man who died while still in his 30s. He talked openly with his friends about dying well in advance. Some were in denial about it and wanted to protect him. Some were confused and full of questions. Some were just afraid and ran away from it all. Recognise yourself?

Jesus set his face like flint and walked towards his death with open eyes. Every time he spoke about his death, he added a note of hope that he would rise again. Nobody believed that bit either.

In a speech at his last meal, he spoke of going to prepare a place in his Father's presence so that his followers might join him there. He kept lifting their eyes to the possibility of something "beyond". That promise has brought comfort to many.

Adrian Chiles talks about the last few days and hours with his father. Many of us will have known that mysterious time of waiting for that final breath when – in the words of Chiles – the "himness" of his father had vanished.

For Jesus that moment was not passive. His last breath was one of active trust in God. "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Jesus not only gave away his life. He gave away his death – into the hands of God whose love is stronger than death.

And if the many accounts of Easter encounters with the Risen Jesus are to be believed, he was not disappointed.

Easter is a good time to talk about death because it invites us to believe death is not the end. Jesus waits to take us by the hand and lead us into the presence of God.

Worship Resources

Most Holy Trinity Church on Westgate North, Crail.
Refer to web site http:// www.stjamesparishstandrews.org.ukSunday Mass changed from 8.45am to 9.00am

St John's Episcopal Church, Marygate, Pittenweem.
Holy communion each Sunday at 11.30am. The church is open daily and is also a drop off point for the East Neuk Foodbank. Holy Communion led by Revd Elaine Ryder.

Coastline Community Church, Pittenweem.
Our morning service with Sunday school starts at 10.30am every Sunday.
All welcome!
https://coastlinechurch.org.uk/
Tel. 01333 312041

Kilrenny Parish Church
Sunday services are at 9.45am each week. Services are recorded, and are available on the church website, along with additional information on events.
Church Website: - https://e-voice.org.uk/kilrenny/

Kingsbarns Parish Church,
All are welcome at this friendly village church. Sunday services are at 10.00 am each week. For more information, please contact Rev. Wotherspoon, 07711706634,
wotherspoonrig@btinternet.com

Crail Parish Church

Our interim moderator is the Revd. Nigel Robb.

Services will be at 11.30 am unless otherwise stated. Tea and coffee will be available from 10.45 am except on Easter Sunday.

29th March Good Friday – Joint Service at Crail Church at 7.00 pm
31st March Easter Day – Early morning service at Triangle Park at 8.00am followed by bacon butties in the Kirk Hall
31st March Easter Day – Service at Crail Church at 11.30 am.

Chatbite – Every Wednesday in the Kirk Hall from 10.00am to 12.00pm. Come along and enjoy home baking and hospitality. Lots of books to choose your new read from too. All most welcome.

Easter Coffee Morning - will be held on Saturday 30th March from 10.00 am to 12 noon. Donations of baking and raffle prizes would be most welcome .All welcome.

Guild – Will meet on Thursday 4th April at 2.00pm in the Kirk Hall. Lynn Muir will give a talk "Travels around the world" All welcome.

Prayer Group – Will resume on Thursday 18th April.

Easter



at Kingsbarns Church

SATURDAY 30TH MARCH

OPEN CHURCH 2.00- 5.00

Come to enjoy music, refreshments and flowers

SUNDAY 31ST MARCH:

EASTER DAY

Family Service at 10.00 am

Everyone is very welcome

Care about the future of Crail? Be a Trustee of the Community Partnership

Crail Community Partnership exists to help ensure a viable and sustainable future for Crail. Its priorities are set out in the local action plan and a key part of its work is returning land to community ownership so that appropriately long-term plans can be made. The current rewilding at Kilminning is a prime example of the Partnership in action.

The Partnership is registered as a charity, so members of the Board are known as Trustees. Two vacancies have arisen which need to be filled at the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 2nd April. One Trustee has to be a person on the Crail electoral roll, while the other position is open to all.

No special training is needed, just the willingness to invest some time and effort into enhancing Crail's community and its environment.

If you would like to apply, or learn more about it, please contact David Jerdan at: crailcommunitypartnership@gmail.com

ATTENTION ALL BOOKWORMS

I plan to be back with my bookstall at the Easter Fayre in Community Hall, **Saturday 30 and Sunday 31 March.** At time of writing, exact location not known but probably in the smaller hall at the back, and no I am not planning to dash off to leap on stage and join the others in a few Christmas carols, but am grateful for the offers to mind the stall if I have to rush home to replenish stocks. I look forward to selling or just chatting about pre-loved BOOKS: children's and adult, fiction and non-fiction, some first published 100 years ago, some just published, authors who set their whodunnits in this area and those who write about cosy crime at the Pole, also drawing your attention to books recently published by some very nice people I happen to know. As always I reserve a special place in my heart for those who reckon not to like books, (it's never too late to change!) and sympathy for grown-ups who like a little escapism reading of life at Linbury Court or the Chalet School but don't like to admit to this. Any purchases you wish to make can be discreetly placed in a plain brown paper bag or a fancy little giftsized bag which other Fayre-goers will assume contains cakes or crafts so there is no embarrassment caused. All vols still £1 each but no obligation to buy. To regular customers may I remind you the clocks go forward that weekend so there is one hour less reading time on the Sunday - please adjust your purchases accordingly but do return on the second day as I shall be bringing yet more stock from home.

Hoping to seeing regular and new customers also some of the regular stallholders.

PITTENWEEM COMMUNITY LIBRARY AND INFORMATION CENTRE

SPRING 2024 EVENING TALKS

AN EVENING WITH JAMES OSWALD

Best-selling crime novelist and Fife farmer



THURSDAY 11 APRIL

Doors open 7pm, talk starts 7.30pm

Tea and biscuits included in the ticket price

Coastline Community Church

21 Session Street, Pittenweem KY10 2QL

Tickets: £6 available from the Library

Opening hours: Mon & Wed 2-5pm; Fri & Sat 10am-1pm

Pittenweem Library Cove Wynd, Pittenweem KY10 2LE

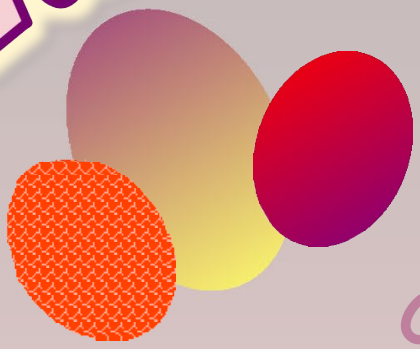
WEB: pittenweemlibrary.org.uk **EMAIL:** library@pittclic.org.uk

FACEBOOK: @pittclic

Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation – Charity number SC047013



Easter Fayre



30 & 31 March

11 am – 4 pm

Crail Community Hall

www.crailcommunityhall.co.uk

Don't miss out on the Easter Weekend Craft Fair featuring loads of interesting new stalls among some old favourites. We'll have textiles, sea-glass and beach-craft, cards, paintings and print, soaps and scented wares as well as food and drink, and Whoopie Bakes from St Andrews running the Café. Make sure your Easter walk will bring you past Crail Community Hall.

Visit our Craft and Food Stalls and enjoy some refreshments in our Cafe



St John's Lectures 2024

We are pleased to welcome

Ethel Quayle CBE

Professor of Forensic Clinical Psychology
School of Health in Social Science at the University of Edinburgh.

'Guarding Against the Shadows: Artificial Intelligence as friend or foe?'



With over 20 years of research working with sex offenders and victims, and researching technology-mediated crimes against children, Ethel Quayle brings a wealth of experience to the topic of Artificial Intelligence. Collaborating internationally with government and non-government agencies in the context of research, policy and practice, she plays an active role in a number of EU, UK Home Office and Scottish government organisations.

Friday 19th April 2024 at 7.30pm
St John's Episcopal Church, Marygate, Pittenweem

Please reserve free tickets by email:
lectures.stjohns@eastneuk-episcopal.co.uk
All welcome/Refreshments

St John's Episcopal Church is a registered Charity No SC010982

Spring Forward

The clocks are going forward this weekend and while most people will remember to change them, don't forget to adjust your heating controls and timers.



Coastline Friendship Club

All welcome for a bowl of soup, a cuppa and a blether!

Meets every fortnight on a Friday
11.30-1.30pm, Crail Community Hall
Next dates: 16 Feb, 1 & 15 Mar, 12 & 26 Apr

Coastline Community Church
Charity no. SC052258
01333 312041
www.coastlinechurch.org.uk

DISCOVER CRAIL
On A GUIDED WALK

Easter Sunday
31 March 2024



MEET AT THE MUSEUM
2.15pm for 2.30pm Start

Adults - £5: Young People (10-17 years) - £3
Children under 10 - Free

TOUR LASTS 1.5-2 HOURS

Tickets available online at
www.crailmuseum.uk/walks
Or from the Museum Shop

Crail Museum & Heritage Centre - SCIO Charity No. SC023505

Reminder: Big Plastic Count Deadline 31st March

Over 73,000 people had submitted their results for this year's *Big Plastic Count* by Monday of this week. If you haven't yet sent yours in, please be aware that the deadline is Sunday 31st March. It only takes a couple of minutes, and they will send you a summary report in return. You can submit your results at: https://thebigplasticcount.com/submit/auth



Brown bin collection dates in Fife will revert to normal 11 March. Online collection calendars have been updated, so please check yours to confirm your next scheduled collection here: www.fife.gov.uk/bincalendar
For more information on recycling and what can be recycled in your brown bins, visit: https://link.eastne.uk/bins

PO High Street South	Bank - Marketgate Crail	Library - Marketgate Crail
Monday 1400-1545, Tuesday 1400-1545, Wednesday 1400-1545	Thursday 1100-1130	Thursday 1000 - 1045 fortnightly

Crail Collection	Kingsbarns Collection
April 3 Green bin	April 9 Green bin
April 10 Brown and Blue bins	April 16 Brown and Blue bins
April 17 Grey bin	April 23 Grey bin

DO YOU HAVE AN INTEREST
IN THEATRE?
WOULD YOU LIKE TO APPEAR
ON STAGE OR
ASSIST BACKSTAGE?
DO YOU HAVE SOME FREE
TIME TO SPARE?

IF SO, THE ST ANDREWS PLAY
CLUB WOULD LOVE TO HEAR
FROM YOU!



THE ST ANDREWS PLAY CLUB NEEDS YOU!

CONTACT US BY EMAIL:
standrewsplayclub@outlook.com



WE HOLD EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR AND OUR MAIN PRODUCTION TAKES PLACE IN THE BYRE IN NOVEMBER

ANSTRUTHER PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY

SPRING CONCERT

Saturday 6th April 2024 7.30pm

MOZART
Coronation Mass

VAUGHAN WILLIAMS
Five Mystical Songs
featuring Scottish Opera Soloist

Tickets £12
from choir members or on the door

St Ayle Church
School Green
Anstruther
KY10 3HF





Come to explore

Kingsbarns Spring Gardens

SATURDAY 6TH APRIL

2.00- 4.30 PM

Tickets & map £4.00

from the Memorial Hall

Teas for a donation to church funds

Please bring cash

Hosted by Kingsbarns Parish Church: Charity no. SCO12192



Crail Community Hall

Newsletter

Issue no 5/2024

Welcome to the Crail Community Hall Newsletter

We are nearly at the end of the Hall's own events until we start our autumn/ winter programme. Our French themed Sunday afternoon in March went down a treat and attracted a big audience who had loads of fun. There are still some more highlights to come before the focus of the Hall shifts to private parties, weddings and events organised by community groups to raise funds for their varied activities. Among them are the annual Air Ambulance Coffee Morning, Seaqueen fundraisers, Crail Festival and indoor market, and much more.

However, don't miss out on the Easter Weekend Craft Fair featuring loads of interesting new stalls among some old favourites. We'll have textiles, seaglass and beach craft, cards, paintings and print, soaps and scented wares as well as food and drink, and Whoopie Bakes from St Andrews running the Café. Make sure your Easter walk will bring you past Crail Community Hall.

Unfortunately, due to the lack of interest we had to cancel our Harp Day with Karen Marshalsay. Therefore, both the kid's event and the evening concert are not taking place on April 6th.

However, a concert of a different type will rock the hall on May 25th with Liz Jones & Broken Windows are returning to Crail. Real songs, original music, unpolished natural energy. A six piece down to earth band of eclectic, world toured and well versed musicians, fronted by an idiosyncratic driving force vocalist and songwriter

Don't forget the hall is available for private celebrations throughout the year.

Further information and ticket links can be found on our website https://www.crailcommunityhall.co.uk/blog or follow us on facebook https://www.facebook.com/

See you soon!





Important Dates

30-31 March — 11 am—4 pm
Easter Craft Fair & Café

8 April — 1.30 pm-4 pm
Free Drop-in Workshop

11 May—10 am
Air Ambulance Coffee Morning

25 May—8 pm
Liz Jones & Broken Windows

17—27 July
Crail Festival—Various Events

20 July—10 am - 4 pm
Crail Festival Market

Regular Events

Tuesdays - 11.00
Yoga with Sue Jenkins

Tuesdays - 17.00
Barre Class with Alice Mooney

Tuesdays - 18.15
Youth Club Table Tennis

Tuesdays - 19.00
Badminton autumn dates tbc

Wednesdays - 9.15,10.30,11.40
Pilates with Judy Drew

Wednesdays—14.00 - 16.00
Pickleball autumn dates tbc

2nd and 4th Thursday - 20.00
Folk Club

Fridays lunch club every two weeks from 15/3
11.30 - 13.30
Coastline Friendship Club



Remembering Together is a project to co-create memorials which will honour the people we have lost, mark what has been lost and changed in our lives, and preserve the best of what we have learned and created together during the Covid pandemic. We are working with communities across Scotland to co-create Remembering Together.

Covid touches, and continues to affect, everyone in Scotland, and across the world. Coming together now and through 2023 and into 2024 gives us some space to pause, to reflect and to consider all that has happened and is still happening. Remembering Together will support many ways of being together in and remembering these months and years. We will remember those lost, remember that we are all touched by this experience, and remember that for many who were experiencing inequality already, the impact is deeper. This project is also about remembering and reconnecting with each other after periods of isolation while remembering that Covid is not over yet - this is a time of continuing change. Remembering Together will also acknowledge and embody the ways in which communities continue to support one another.

Crail Museum & Heritage Centre

2024 OPENING DATES

Easter Weekend

Thursday 28th March – Monday 1st April
Bank Holiday weekends in May and August

Weekly

Thursday 6th June – Sunday 20th October 2024

OPENING TIMES

Thursday – Saturday 11am – 4pm
Sundays 1.30pm – 4.00pm

GUIDED WALKS
Around the Royal Burgh of Crail

Sun 31st Mar, Sun 5th & Sun 26th May
And then from 9th June – 20th October

Please check our website for details
www.crailmuseum.uk
office@crailmuseum.uk

Meet at the Museum
2.15pm for 2.30pm start
Adults £5, Children (10-17) £3
Walks can be booked on our website or in the Shop

Crail Museum & Heritage Centre

2024 SEASON EVENING TALKS

Friday 3rd May
The Birds of Crail a talk by Prof Will Cresswell

Friday 21st June
Determined Women: The History of Women's Golf 1738 - 1929
By Hannah Fleming, R&A Golf Museum, St. Andrews

Friday 12th July
The Witches of Crail and the East Neuk
By Sheila Gaul, founder member of R.A.W.S.

Wednesday 31st July
The History of the Crail Sea Boxes
By Kelsey Williams

Friday 20th September
James Oswald, Musician - From Crail to the Court of King George 3rd
by Tom Davidson

Doors open 7pm start 7.30pm
Crail Kirk Hall
Marketgate, Crail
KY10 3TL

Tickets £5, includes light refreshments, available from www.crailmuseum.uk, from the Museum Shop or on the door

Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCO23505)



PITTENWEEM COMMUNITY LIBRARY AND INFORMATION CENTRE

SPRING 2024 EVENING TALKS

Thursday 11 APRIL
AN EVENING WITH JAMES OSWALD
James Oswald, best-selling crime writer and Fife farmer

Thursday 25 APRIL
CONVERSATIONS WITH JOAN
THE ILLUSTRATED STORY OF THE VIRTUAL COMPLETION OF JOAN EARDLEY'S *TWO CHILDREN* AND OTHER WORKS
Kate Downie, RSA

Thursday 9 MAY
WHO WAS ANDREW CARNEGIE?
Sharron McColl, Dunfermline Carnegie Library

Thursday 23 MAY
ROOTING FOR A BETTER FUTURE
Claire Pollock and Nikki Storrar, Ardross Farm

Doors open 7pm, talks start 7.30pm
Coastline Community Church
21 Session Street, Pittenweem KY10 2QL

Tickets: £6 available from the Pop-up Library, 47 High Street, Pittenweem, Wed 2–5pm or by emailing library@pittclic.org.uk until the Library reopens

Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation – Charity number SC047013

Crail Matters Donations

We currently have a circulation of our digital newspaper of well over 1,000 and we print around 40 copies per week: we have approximately 64 regular contributors - just a small increase in the numbers who regularly donate would make a big difference. So.... a huge thanks to those who do donate because you keep Crail Matters going, and a request to those who don't - please do! Should you wish to make a donation however small, here are our details:

Crab Publishing Bank Details
Payee: Crab Publishing
Royal Bank of Scotland
Sort Code: 83-26-28
A/c No.: 15518709

Alternatively, by cheque to:
Crab Publishing
1 Fife Ness
Crail
Fife KY10 3XN

If you go to our web site www.crailmatters.com there is a secure link for online donations using a credit card. You can also sign up there to receive Crail Matters.

Message from Willie Rennie MSP



This week the Scottish Parliament debated a report from the Commissioner for Fair Access who oversees progress in improving the rates of disadvantaged young people going to university. There has been substantial progress in recent years, with a 45% increase in entrants from the most deprived fifth of Scotland.
This has come in the context of rising numbers of students overall, so it has not come at the expense of young people from better-off areas.
The University of St Andrews is one example of the range of different approaches which have been taken to improve access. They offer direct education and wellbeing support and work to help disadvantaged students to ensure that they graduate. Going to university can be a life-changing experience and I will continue to support work to ensure fair access.
You can read the Commissioner's report here:
https://link.eastne.uk/fairaccess

Have you been April fooled?
A few years ago now the residents of Fifeness woke up to discover a sign stating that Fifeness was now twinned with ACTPAXAHb ASTRAKHAN.



It's safe to say that none of the Fifeness residents were fooled, and it didn't take too long for the perpetrator to be unmasked, but everyone had a laugh at it which was the intention after all!
(Perpetrator prefers anonymity.)

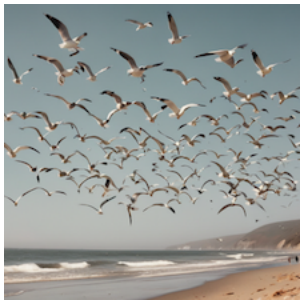
The Crail Seagull has its eye on you



Like you, the bird population have recently suffered from a devastating pandemic in which we all lost many friends. Thankfully, though not over, it's not nearly so awful, and everyone is trying to get on with life. Time for some fun I think.

For that reason we seagulls have resurrected our Spring Festival when we play different games. On Monday coming we will conclude the festival by performing our traditional dance called the Seagulls' Schottishe. It's to be held on Balcomie beach and you're welcome to come and watch, but it does start early in the morning.

It's very simple dance. We divide into two groups, sand and sky. The group on the sand form a large circle and move round, half of us going in the opposite direction to the other half, weaving in and out of each other like a chain. It can get a bit chaotic as seagulls stop to speak to old friends, causing hold ups, and colliding with others, while some of us want to maintain order, but we do our best and no one takes it too seriously. The sky group try to fly in and out of each other, the more agile ones trying to fly past as close to the other seagulls as they can without touching. Collisions do occur, but that's just part of the fun. The sand and sky groups are interchangeable, adding to the confusion.



If a seagull wants a rest it simply lands on the sand and joins in causing further chaos. If a member of the sand group wants to have a go at the air chain, they simply fly up and merge in, hoping to avoid the young daredevils who are flying even closer.



The whole dance ends in a casual sort of way as seagulls swoop off when they've had enough. The last few dancers are mocked a bit and some of the more mature seagulls refer to them as 'sea gowks' because they're still performing. Come along and watch but maintain silence and respect. There are some wooden posts standing in the sand so any land bound spectators can have a go at hopping in and out on one leg, trying not to collide with the posts. Hope we all have fun!

Gaelic gatherings over the Easter period, starting Friday 29 March in Anstruther at 10:30am in the Fisheries Cafe with a 'cofaidh 's Cabadaich'. This is an informal conversation group and beginners are welcome.

Material for inclusion in Crail Matters should be sent to crailmatters@gmail.com and received on Wednesday 5.00pm for publication in Friday issue. Any views expressed in articles or Letters to the Editor are those of the author, and not of Crail Matters. We reserve the right to edit copy for length and style. Submission does not guarantee inclusion. © Crab Publishing 2024: Editorial Team: Julie Middleton, Isla Reid, Max Taylor,, Peter Salkeld, Valencia Sowry. Phone contact 07517964273. We are regulated by IMPRESS, but initial complaints must be made to us. You can view our complaints procedure at crailmatters.com. Address for correspondence : Crail Matters Editorial Office, Crail Town Hall, Crail KY10 3UH