



CRAIL MATTERS



Incorporating The Kingsbarns Eagle

15 NOVEMBER ISSUE No. 383 FREE - DONATIONS WELCOME -

Crail Matters Annual Calendar now available

Many of our readers have bought our Calendar over the past few years, and this year, due to popular demand for early production, we are again producing a 13-month calendar for 2025 (which includes January 2026). We are basing the Calendar around local photographs produced by local



photographers (including of course Colin Morrison). For a limited period, we are offering this year's Calendar for **£12** (+ postage if applicable). Once this print run is sold, the price will increase. To order please email crailmatters@gmail.com, or contact Julie Middleton. Calendars can be dispatched within a few days after receipt of the order.



CRAIL AIRFIELD DEVELOPMENT RISKS CREATING A "DEATH-TRAP", WARNS COMMUNITY COUNCIL



Plans to develop an old airfield site outside Crail risk creating a "death-trap" on a narrow local road, the local Community Council has warned. The former Royal Naval Air Station has fallen into disrepair and West-Lothian based Ground Developments Limited want to redevelop it with a mixture of holiday homes, leisure and commercial spaces.

But the only access lies along a cul-de-sac which passes through the so-called "Denburn Narrows", a traffic bottleneck with a narrow pavement next to a high wall. Concerns about access and traffic issues were raised during public consultations in 2023.

When the planning application for the development was submitted to the North-East Fife Planning Committee in September 2024, it was refused on grounds of road safety and the "proper planning of the area". Over 200 objections and no supporting comments recorded on the local Planning Portal. Ground Developments Limited now intend to lodge an appeal against the refusal.

David Jerdan, chair of Crail Community Council, said: "Most people agree that the old airfield has turned into an eye-sore and something needs to be done with it. But this is not the way. If we get much more traffic passing through the narrows, it's only a matter of time before someone gets injured or worse. It's a potential death-trap."

Sarah Morrison, vice-chair of Crail Community Partnership, added: "Developing the airfield could benefit Crail greatly, but we first need a new access road in line with Fife Council's own policy on cul-de-sacs. In addition, our Local Place Plan stipulates that no development should be permitted on the site until an alternative to the narrows has been built."

The Community Council intends to appoint a professional team of a planning consultant, a traffic consultant and a legal advisor to represent them at the appeal and forcefully put forward the policy reasons why planning permission should not be granted. They need £10,000 to cover the costs, Crail Community Partnership is setting up a Crowdfunder which will be launched in Crail Matters on Friday 15th November.

Ground Developments Limited has until the 19th of December to lodge their appeal. There is a very short time period to react to an appeal, so the Community Council is preparing this course of action in advance of the 19th December.

If no appeal is lodged then the donations submitted will be refunded. Please support this important initiative that is focused on protecting our community.

There will be an Open Consultation Session on Saturday 16th from 10:00 to 11:00 in Crail Community Hall. If you would like discuss this initiative with representatives from Crail Community Council and Crail Community Partnership. Or if you would like support the project but not want to use the online Crowdfunder Application, we can arrange alternate donation methods.

How To Support This Initiative:

To access Crowdfunder use this hyperlink:

[Crail Airfield Development Risks](#)

Or, use the QR Code:

Or, go to: <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk>

Explore for: Crail

Choose: AIRFIELD DEVELOPMENT RISKS CREATING A "DEATH TRAP"

Or to arrange another form of donation (cheque, cash or BACS) please contact Crail Community Partnership:

Email: crailcommunitypartnership@gmail.com

Phone: 01333 451206 or 07823 521957



The Memorial Gates

The Memorial Gates at the then named St Mary's Church were dedicated on the 19th November 1921. The names of the 44 local men who lost their lives in the 1st World War are engraved on a plaque on the left hand post.

The gates were re dedicated on the 14th August 1949, with a plaque bearing the names of the 20 local men lost in the 2nd World War on the right hand post.



But what many people do not know, is that there was an alternative design and location for the war memorial. The sketch below shows that the alternative proposed site for the war memorial was on the end wall of what is now Crail Museum and Heritage Centre, at the junction of Marketgate and Tolbooth Wynd. The cottage that now houses The Airfield Room in the museum, would have needed to be demolished to make room for this proposal.

Just imagine attending the annual Remembrance Service at this rather small location, with today's traffic and possible 'Thrash' participants passing by.....



Crail Folk Club

Crail Folk Club has only two guest nights left in 2024 so lets make an effort to sell them out. Kris Drever on 28th November has already done just that. There are a few tickets left for Bruce Molsky on 21st. Now he is coming all the way from New York to make it happen so I think the least we can do is travel that short distance to the Community Hall. Agreed? Bruce has some CV, the great and the good speak well of him:



"Bruce Molsky is one of those great players who 'gets it': has all the links to the past but is happy not to be chained to it" - Mark Knopfler
"An incredible power of history and tradition in his vocal" - Linda Ronstadt

"One of the world's premier Appalachian-style fiddlers" - Bloomberg News

Excitement is also building for our Christmas Party on December 12th. You may have spotted that it was sold out and then it wasn't as we've added ten more tickets to the capacity. A bit of a burden for the catering staff as they will have to produce more mince pies so show your appreciation. Remember it is FREE

Check it all out at www.crailfolkclub.org.uk

Local Services

PO High Street South Monday 1400-1545,
Tuesday 1400-1545,
Wednesday 1400-1545

Bank - Marketgate Crail Thursday 1100-1130

Library - Marketgate Crail Thursday 1000 - 1045 fortnightly



Last Recommended Posting Dates for Christmas.

U.K.
Royal Mail 2nd Class & 2nd Class Signed for
Wednesday, 18 December

International
Cyprus, Eastern Europe, Greece, Iceland,
Monday, 2 December
Malta, Turkey, & Western Europe

Local Coffee Business Seeking Premises

A new coffee roasting start-up based in the East Neuk is looking for a small commercial space to begin business. The company aims to produce delicious coffee for the local community, and will have a strong emphasis on sustainability. If you have a small space that could be leased in support of this exciting local venture or would be interested in hearing more about it, please contact Sam at samjamesrobertson@gmail.com.



The Inn at Kingsbarns: November Events

We have a wide range of events scheduled this November at The Inn at Kingsbarns, all listed below, and starting with an Open Mic night tonight! We hope to see many of you there!

Bingo

Friday 15th November 10.30am - 11.30am
£2 per person, includes cake and tea or coffee

Community Woodland Clean Up

Monday 18th November 10.30am
Join us as we clean up the woodland at Back Stile - the morning will start with bacon or egg rolls and coffee at the Inn, followed by a clean up in the woods, and ending with soup and bread back in the warmth of The Inn. Do call to let us know if you plan to join and bring your gloves or litter picker to get stuck in!
£5 per person

Knit & Natter

Friday 22nd November 10.30am - noon
Bring your own knitting (or other craft!)
£2 per person - includes cake and tea or coffee

For further information about any of the community events or to book a table at The Inn call 01334 880778



Remembrance Sunday: What's Different about the Scottish Poppy?

Traditional remembrance events at local war memorials are held across Scotland every Remembrance Sunday. Many of those taking part will be wearing poppies - more than 100 years after the tradition started. They're not all the same, though.

So, what's different about the Scottish poppy?

The Scottish poppy has the same recognisable blood red colour, but it has four-lobed petals and no leaf. That is in contrast to the poppy used in the rest of the UK, which has two petals and sometimes sports a green leaf. Poppies sold in Scotland are made at Lady Haig's poppy factory in Edinburgh. When it was founded back in 1926, it introduced a different style of poppy - designed by Lady Haig - and has stuck to it ever since.

Poppyscotland, which raises money to support armed forces north of the border, also said it would be "botanically incorrect" to add a leaf. They were traditionally made by veterans. A team of 33 veterans - all with disabilities and vulnerabilities - are still working at the poppy factory. They have served in conflicts from Northern Ireland in the 1970s to the war in Afghanistan and subsequent operations. But this year they have been performing tasks other than making poppies, including assembling wreaths. That's because, for the second year, all the poppies are now plastic-free and are made with a machine. Poppyscotland has produced two million for this year's appeal, and 50% of the material used is made from recycled coffee cups.

The green plastic stem and black button in the centre of the poppy have been done away with to reduce plastic waste. By 2026, these new-style poppies will have completely replaced the plastic and paper ones that we've been used to in the past.



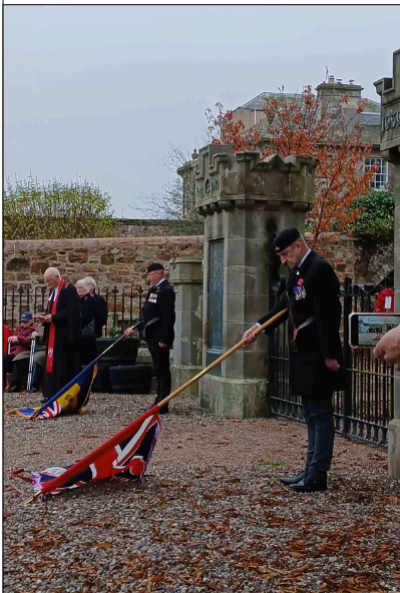
When did the Scottish poppy come into being?

The poppy as a symbol of remembrance was started by the American humanitarian Moira Michael, who was inspired by Lt Colonel John McCrae's poem In Flanders Fields, describing the small plants growing on the graves of soldiers buried in northern France and Belgium during World War One. She began the poppy wearing and others soon followed.

However, after the first Poppy Appeal in 1921, demand for the simple symbol could not be fulfilled north of the border.

So, in 1926, Lady Haig - wife of Field Marshal Earl Haig - decided to open a poppy-making factory in Edinburgh, which would be staffed by a team of disabled war veterans.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-34711800>



*Some Photos of Remembrance Sunday in Crail
By Valencia Sowry*



SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH
ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
MARYGATE, PITTENWEEM
SCOTTISH CHARITY NO. SCO 10982

DISASTERS EMERGENCY COMMITTEE **MIDDLE EAST HUMANITARIAN APPEAL**

'Drop In Day' at St John's 9th November.

VERY MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO SUPPORTED THIS EVENT IN ANY WAY.

A GRAND TOTAL OF £790.25 HAS BEEN RAISED FOR THE APPEAL — A GREAT RESULT!

As the UK Government will fund-match all donations given by the public in this appeal, this figure equates to £1,580.50

The DEC brings together 15 leading UK aid charities to raise funds quickly and efficiently at times of humanitarian crisis overseas.

Christmas Party Night £18

WITH DANGER ZONE

Crail Community Hall
7th of December
8pm

for tickets email
crailcommunityevents@outlook.com

Please Join us for a

Christmas TEA DANCE

LIVE MUSIC WITH KRISTINA & CRAIG, AFTERNOON TEA, GLASS OF FIZZ, GAMES AND CRAFTS FOR CHILDREN IN THE SMALL HALL

SUNDAY 8TH DECEMBER
1-5PM

Crail Community Hall

£3 ENTRY WITH PROCEEDS GOING TO THE BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION
FREE ENTRY FOR OVER 65's AND UNDER 5's

No Planning Applications this Week

What have they done?

That was the front-page headline in a UK tabloid newspaper, when it became clear that Donald Trump had won the US Presidential election. It suggested puzzlement – to put it mildly; division – “them” and “us”; and possibly horrified anticipation.

Many people to whom I talk have been appalled by the outcome, and many, too, have been puzzled. I certainly fall into the “puzzled” category, and so I thought that the matter deserved closer thought.

An American journalist, speaking on BBC radio (but not in a news programme), spoke of her experience of Trump: “Of course, he says lots of things that he doesn’t mean” – as if this were a small matter. She did have a concern, however: “How are we meant to report the truth when almost every speech [of Trump’s] contains factual inaccuracies?”

To me it is sad and disconcerting to think that we have to listen to a world leader through a filter of disbelief. Coincidentally, I came across a letter I had written to a friend at the time of Boris Johnson’s appointment as Prime Minister: it was not his relative lack of experience that unsettled me, I wrote, but “his apparent lack of concern over accuracy, truthfulness and facts v rumours”.

It now seems that people voted for Johnson because they believed (a) that he would “get Brexit done” and (b) that Brexit would mean a better quality of life for the UK electorate. Trump voters seem to have elected him because they think that he will (a) “make America great again” and (b) that this will mean a better standard of living for them. Both are inward-looking reactions, with little or no apparent concern for each country’s standing in the wider world. The general consensus now seems to be that Brexit has not made life better in the UK. We can only wait to see what happens to living standards in the US in the next four years.

Brexit does not seem to have enhanced the UK’s reputation in the world, either; nor has it addressed the immigration problem. What a second Trump presidency will mean for conflicts in which the US is involved, and for people who want to leave their own countries to make a new life in the States, remains to be seen.

And yet, if we were to take a different perspective from our inward-looking one, we would see things quite differently. Say you were a supporter of a particular football team, not its same-city rival: you might be quite strenuously opposed to any idea that you and the rival supporters had anything in common. But if your city were engaged in an ongoing rivalry with another – perhaps in the East of the country, whereas yours was in the West ... – all of you football supporters might metaphorically band together in defence of your city. And if your nation felt itself to be, in some way, in competition with a neighbouring one, albeit in the same kingdom, you might join with the citizens of that other city in standing up for your nation. If that kingdom were to be (let’s hope not) at war with another country, you might well be on the side of your own – no matter which of its home nations you belonged to. If your continent were to be threatened by another – might you stand shoulder to shoulder with the population of that previously threatening nation, against the other continent’s power?

And if – in the fictional scenario of Douglas Adams’s wonderful *Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy* – our planet were to be threatened with destruction by the Vogons: wouldn’t we all be united in our fight against that? Perhaps we have more in common with one another than we sometimes realise.

Shared Lives Fife Carer says

“I have enjoyed every minute of being a Shared Lives carer and would recommend this as a way of life”

Alternative Formats
The information included in this publication can be made available in large print, braille, audio CD/ tape and British Sign Language interpretation on request by calling 03451 55 55 00.

Language lines
خط هاتف اللغة العربية: 03451 55 55 77
සමාජ සේවා කොටස සඳහා දුරකථන අංකය: 03451 55 55 99
中文語言熱線電話: 03451 55 55 88
Polskojęzyczna linia telefoniczna: 03451 55 55 44
آرڈرمان کے لیے کال کریں: 03451 55 55 66

Shared Lives Fife has over 30 years of experience matching adults who require support. Carers come from all walks of life and can be single, couples or families.

To find out more please contact:
Shared Lives Fife
Tel: 03451 555555 Ext 460677
www.fifedirect.org.uk/sharedlives
SharedLives.Fife@fife.gov.uk

shared lives Fife

shared lives Fife
Become a Shared Lives Fife Carer
Can you make a difference to adults and older adults who need support in Fife

Scottish Book Trust Book Week Scotland

Book Week Scotland
18–24 November 2024

Without stories, there is no hope.

Bin Collections.
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>

What is Shared Lives Fife?
Shared Lives Fife is a highly flexible form of support for adults of all ages who require additional support to live independently in their community. Shared Lives Fife Carers can provide support for:
• A few hours a week
• Short breaks in the Carer’s home
• Living with a Carer sharing their home

What is involved in applying to become a Shared Lives Fife Carer?
Enquiry
Home Visit
Application
Checks and References
Assessment Process
Approval by Panel

Benefits of being a Shared Lives Fife Carer
• A real sense of achievement
• Enabling adults and older adults who require additional support, live their lives in a meaningful way
• Making a difference in your community
• You will be self employed and receive a fee for the support you provide.

Could you be a Shared Lives Fife Carer? Are you:
• Patient and committed?
• Interested in supporting adults and older adults, have more independence, choice and control over their lives?
• Open to including someone in your everyday life?
• Willing to provide someone with the care and support they require, including individuals diagnosed with dementia?

Ordinary people doing extraordinary things

shared lives Fife

“Shared Lives Fife gives me something to look forward to and a purpose in life. It is such a difference to know that I am not alone”

Crail Bin Collections
Tuesday, November 19, 2024 Cans and Plastics / Green Bin
Tuesday, November 26, 2024 Landfill / Blue Bin
Tuesday, December 3, 2024 Paper and Cardboard / Grey Bin
Tuesday, December 10, 2024 Food and Garden Waste / Brown Bin
Tuesday, December 17, 2024 Cans and Plastics / Green Bin

Kingsbarns Bin Collections
Tuesday, November 19, 2024 Landfill / Blue Bin
Tuesday, November 26, 2024 Paper and Cardboard / Grey Bin
Tuesday, December 3, 2024 Food and Garden Waste / Brown Bin
Tuesday, December 10, 2024 Landfill / Blue Bin
Tuesday, December 17, 2024 Cans and Plastics / Green Bin

Crail Community Partnership

In conjunction with
Home Energy Scotland Sustainability Workshops
16 & 30 January 2025



Where is your home on the EPC scale?

Home Energy Scotland is the **ONLY** place to get free advice on Scottish Government grants and interest free loans



Crail Community Hall,
St Andrews Road,
Crail
FREE
<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/crail-community-partnership>



Come and visit our
Book & Jigsaw "Café"
on
Wednesdays 2pm—4pm
(Starting on 30th October)
in
Kilrenny Church Lounge
Browse, borrow or buy books
(we have a large selection!)
Share a Jigsaw
(we've lots of those too!)
Meet and make friends

Coastline Friendship Club

**All welcome for homemade soup,
a cuppa and a blether!**


Meets every fortnight on a Friday
11.30-1.30pm, Crail Community Hall
Next dates: 8 & 22 Nov, 6 Dec




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

Kiddies Corner

Jigsaw tables



Crail in Bloom!



KARAWANE
GLOBAL DANCEFLOOR SOUNDS
FROM SALSA TO SOUKOUS



SATURDAY 16TH NOVEMBER
Tickets £15
8pm-1am



FUTTLE
Bowhouse, St Monans

Christmas Concert
Sunday, 1 December 2024 - 7.30 pm
Crail Community Hall

Featuring
'The Alleycats' & 'JazzWorks' from
St Andrews University




Tickets: £10 adults, £5 under 16
Pre-booking through
www.crailcommunityhall.co.uk



Coffee Morning
Sat. 16th November, '24

Doors open - 10.00a.m.
**Legion Hall,
Nethergate**

All welcome

Raffle - Home baking



Crail Primary Christmas Fair
Come along & join us
on
Saturday 7th December
at
Crail Community Hall
2.30pm-5pm

Stalls, Raffle, Afternoon Tea & Refreshments

All proceeds go to
Crail Parent Council Funds

Quiz Nights

Crail Community Hall
Saturdays 7.30 pm
18 January
22 February
29 March

Information and team registration:
www.crailcommunityhall.co.uk
crailcommunityhall@gmail.com

WILD CRAIL



Will Cresswell,

Photos: John Anderson - Egret & Coot. Will Cresswell - Merlin

I visited Carnbee Reservoir last Saturday in the vague hope of one of the *great white egrets* that are touring Fife at the moment. There have been five and perhaps as many as seven around Fife since the late summer, as the species continues its spread into Scotland. Even ten years ago, great white egrets were a rarity in the UK. Now we have tens of pairs breeding, and it bred for the first time in Scotland this year. Great egrets used to be confined to south-east Europe and sub-Saharan Africa, but they have spread right across Europe in the last 40 years, and are finally colonising us. Like the collared dove that was unknown in the UK 100 years, something changed allowing it to spread its range. Climate change will have helped but it is probably more likely to be some behavioural change – perhaps feeding on something that is common in man influenced waterways, or a shift in nesting habitat – that has allowed great egrets to become super successful. During my last visit to the Netherlands, I saw great egrets along the dikes as commonly as I saw grey herons. This is where we are heading. The question is then – when will I see one on the Crail Patch? Any day now I should think, although our lack of fresh water is a real handicap. I suspect I will see my first one passing along the coast. So far I know of two records from near Crail – one flying over Dunino, seen by a student surveying corn buntings (virtue has its rewards), and another flying over from the May Island. They are spectacular birds. As big as a grey heron but pure white like a little egret, and with a huge, bright yellow bill.

No great egrets at Carnbee, but the usual suspects – teal, wigeon, mallards, goldeneyes, little grebes and moorhens. A couple of snipe and a water rail calling half-heartedly. Two raven flew over from Kellie Law to have a look at me. They are always curious. A lone person in an open landscape merits investigation. Ravens are clever, opportunistic scavengers and they know how to exploit situations, without putting themselves in danger. They circle (it's almost always a pair), cronking to each other, keeping separate and at a safe distance. They can be a menace if you are trying to monitor ground nesting birds, deliberately watching from a great height to see where the nests are that you might be visiting. But that day there was nothing to see apart from me tramping through the marshy western end in search of water rails so they soon drifted back towards Gillinghill. As I got back to my car a falcon flew very low over an adjacent sheep field, before gliding up to perch on the hawthorn hedge above the reservoir. A female *merlin*. I watched it in the gloom and then tried to play grandmother's footsteps with it to get close enough for a decent photo. Always a hopeless pursuit. You never sneak up on or get close to a merlin unless you get lucky and it perches nearby, having not seen where you are sitting. But this is not very likely. Merlins are incredibly observant. I have watched them launch attacks on flying skylarks that are several kilometers away – the merlin looks like it is just randomly dashing up into the sky, but if you keep watching it, you finally see the tiny dot of the lark it is chasing as the merlin finally stoops. Peregrines may be the baddest falcon in town, but merlins outclass them in many ways in my opinion. Merlins can hunt in any style – on the ground like a buzzard, by surprise like a sparrowhawk, plucking prey out of the air like a hobby, with stoops like a peregrine, or their own very long pursuits which merlins hunting larks specialise in. The thrush size males can also hunt with a thrush mimicking flight. Their flurry of wing beats followed by a dip in their flight as they close their wings for a second (like a mistle thrush or a great spotted woodpecker) makes them look very unlike a bird of prey, allowing a merlin to get close enough to surprise shorebirds like dunlin, without the benefit of any cover to hide their approach. They are a Swiss-army knife raptor. If it were possible to live a day as a bird, spending it as a merlin would be pretty exciting.

As I left Carnbee I was struck – as with my last visit – by the absence of *coots*. This has become a theme in the last few months. Everywhere I go to look for coots to add to a random day or week list – like Cameron Reservoir, or various ponds in Perthshire last weekend – I am not seeing any. They are common species, that likes people and that doesn't migrate: it might be bald as a coot, but it is also common as a coot. So their absence is a puzzle. Goshawks? They like eating coots and goshawks are spreading into the East Neuk... but this is unlikely because their disappearance from Perthshire ponds, where goshawks have been for a while, has also only just happened. Bird flu? Perhaps more likely. Keeping a bird list – as I can't help myself doing – may be a bit of a nerdy disorder, but it is also the only way to notice what you are not seeing – what is absent. Coots in the area are now something to really look out for, rather than to take for granted. I can't do anything about bird flu, but noticing other species' disappearance from around Crail, for reasons we can do something about, is the first step to conserving them.



Great white egret



Merlin



Coot



Scottish Country Dancing

If from your school days you can remember how to do reels of three & rights & lefts, for physical & mental exercise &, of course, enjoyment you might like to join our friendly, welcoming group of Scottish Country

Dancers. We meet every Wednesday evening from October to March in Crail Town Hall at 7.30pm starting on Wednesday October 16th

For further information email: elspeth@roomebay.me.uk



Rehearsals weekly – Monday 7.30–9 pm in Church Hall.

New Singers Always Welcome.

Autumn Rehearsals at 7.30pm	2 nd December Community Hall
In Church Hall Except 2 nd Dec.	5 th December (Thursday) Concert
18 th November	9 th December Social Night in Church Hall
25 th November	

Outstanding Event Highlights

Make sure you book your tickets now!



Saturday, 30/11 & Sunday, 1/12 2024, 11am – 4 pm
Christmas Fayre and Concert

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/craik-community-partnership>

Two-day Christmas Fayre with over 32 stalls, café and musical performances from Craik Primary School as well as our tradition Christmas Concert on Sunday Night. Enjoy a look around a great variety of Christmas stalls featuring wonderfully creative presents from local producers. There is something for the whole family. Make sure you stop to sample some delicious cakes and other refreshments available for take away or sit in at the Christmas Café. Tickets for the Christmas Concert are available for purchase now. Entry to the Fayre is free.

Saturdays, 18/1, 22/2 and 29/3/2025, 7 pm
Quiz Nights

To brighten up the dark winter evenings three quiz nights are scheduled with the first one taking place on 18 January. Which team will be Craik's best quizzers? Teams are allowed a maximum of six quizzers.

For further information and to register your team email craikcommunityhall@gmail.com

Sunday, 1 December 2024, 7.30 pm
Christmas Concert with The Alleycats and JazzWorks

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/craik-community-partnership>

We continue in our tradition featuring two groups from St Andrews University, who's outstanding quality and ability will make, yet again, for an amazing concert night. On Sunday evening the large hall will be resounding with joyful and happy music from a wide variety of genres including some seasonal tunes. This will be a concert of two halves. In the first part we will be treated to some festive music with a twist by JazzWorks, while the second half will feature the A Cappella Champions 2017 - The Alleycats. **Get your tickets now!**

We look forward to seeing you at Craik Community Hall!

<https://www.craikcommunityhall.co.uk/>



Newsletter

Issue no 10/2024

Welcome to the Craik Community Hall Newsletter

This week concluded our first year of screening National Theatre Live at the Hall with performances becoming increasingly popular with the Craik community, most of them being sell-outs. The next screening is scheduled for February 2025 and others will follow! Make sure you get your tickets.

Our immediate focus is on Christmas Events. The annual Christmas Fayre is back on 30 November and 1 December. We will be treated to a musical performance by Craik's primary pupils on Saturday at 12 noon and 1.30 pm in the large hall and by young musicians from Waid Academy on Sunday.

Our Christmas Concert tradition concludes the Fayre weekend with performances by the Alleycats and JazzWorks. Both groups, as in previous years, hailing from St Andrews University and promising a treat for the ears and soul.

January, February and March see the return of our popular Quiz Nights. Please email craikcommunityhall@gmail.com for your team registration form.

Sustainability has been a major concern for many. We have set up two workshops to provide an introduction to the subject with potentially more to follow if there is sufficient interest.

Don't forget that the hall is available for hire for private celebrations of all kinds and various group sizes. For availability and cost please email craikcommunityhall@gmail.com.

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

See you soon!

Christmas at Craik Community Hall
 11 am – 4 pm
 Saturday 30th November & Sunday 1st December

- * Christmas Café
- * Craft & Art Stalls
- * Musical Performances Saturday & Sunday 12 & 1.30 pm
- * Seasonal Concert Sunday 7.30 pm
- * Free Entry to Fayre

Information and concert tickets www.craikcommunityhall.co.uk

Craik Community Hall - St Andrews Road - Craik - KY10 3UH
craikcommunityhall@gmail.com - 07496 860831 - <https://www.craikcommunityhall.co.uk/>

Important Dates

30 November & 1 December
 11 am-4 pm
 Christmas Fayre

1 December -7.30 pm
 Christmas Concert

5 December -7.30 pm
 Craik Choir Concert

18/1, 22/2, 29/3/25-7.30 pm
 Quiz Nights

16 & 30 January - 8.00 pm
 Sustainability Workshops

26 January -3 pm
 Bluegrass Concert with the Fountaineers

Regular Events

Tuesdays - 17.00
 Barre Class with Alice Mooney

Tuesdays - 18.15
 Youth Club Table Tennis

Tuesdays - 19.00
 Badminton

Wednesdays - 9.15, 10.30, 11.40
 Pilates with Judy Drew

Wednesdays-14.00 - 16.00
 Pickleball

2nd and 4th Thursday - 20.00
 Folk Club

Fridays lunch club every two weeks 11.30 - 13.30
 Coastline Friendship Club re-started 13/9/24

PITTENWEEM COMMUNITY LIBRARY AND INFORMATION CENTRE

AUTUMN 2024 EVENING TALKS

DEEP TIME EARTH HISTORY AS SEEN THROUGH SCOTTISH-COLOURED GLASSES

Professor Tony Prave, geologist and Earth historian

Scotland's unique geology is recognised and envied worldwide. Tonight's talk will focus on how the study of Scottish rocks has revolutionised our thinking about the history of the Earth in deep time.

THURSDAY 28 NOVEMBER
 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@pittcllc.org.uk
 FACEBOOK: @pittcllc

Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation – Charity number SC047013

Slow Puncture

I'd use every one of them - each tiny symbol / sign - to 'light up' my words . . . and write eye-catching lines: the comma; the colon; the ellipsis; the slash; the question mark; the hyphen; the en and em dash.

In stanzas 1-2, it was all there on show (Was there nothing not used? The short answer: No!) But then I came to an unfortunate juncture: my punctuation, you see, got a slow puncture

and those small, helpful marks which let my words breathe and made me understood, all started to leave. Hyphens unhappened semi colons got missed apostrophes went awol in commaless lists.

"And what of the question marks Oh yes even those (while my brackets and speech marks forgot how to close When the last comma left there was nowhere to pause my words floated by in one endless clause

and no one could tell once the full stops departed where one sentence ended and another one started capitals absconded and meaning left too as the breaks between stanzas bowed then withdrew just like the line breaks then all sense gotblurred thelastthingtogowasthegapsbetweenwordsbrianbilston

Letter to the Editor

Sirs,
 During the summer I have admired the floral displays throughout Craik. The subtle mix of colours, the peachy apricot begonias set off by the white pelargoniums must have given others pleasure too.

May I, through your columns, thank all the volunteers who raise the money for plants and compost and then plant up the tubs and troughs and keep them watered and tidy?

Well done!

VJB

Christmas at Crail Community Hall
 11 am - 4 pm
 Saturday 30th November &
 Sunday 1st December



- ★ Christmas Café
- ★ Craft & Art Stalls
- ★ Musical Performances

Saturday & Sunday
 12 & 1.30 pm

- ★ Seasonal Concert
- ★ Free Entry to Foyre

Information and concert tickets
www.craillcommunityhall.co.uk

Could you review events for Crail Matters?

We have received several requests for an increase in reviews of events held in Crail – particularly the programme of events run in the Community Hall, but others as well. If you plan on attending an event and are willing to write a review, please let us know. We would also be very interested in appointing someone to regularly review events – by arrangement we will if necessary provide access, tickets, etc.

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
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Alternatively, by cheque to:

Crab Publishing
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 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.



The Crail Seagull has its eye on you

Did you miss me last week? I hope I haven't been upsetting folks again?

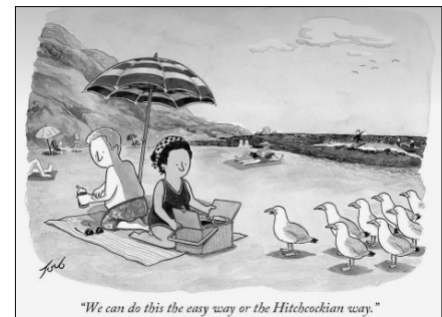
I took a trip to St Monans the other day to see a few friends. We had a collective swoop around and at the back of the new houses opposite The Bowhouse, are 39 allotments with huts (I counted them). One of my chums told me that they're organised by Peter Duncan of Fife Council and he liaises with the Primary School who helped plant some fruit trees and had also drawn and painted the signs. I wonder if any allotments are planned for Crail?



Having read the ramblings of 'Slow Puncture', here's some advice on how to write good (were they drunk when they wrote this?):

1. Avoid Alliteration Always.
2. Comparisons are as bad as cliches.
3. Be more or less specific.
4. Prepositions are not words to end a sentence with.
5. Avoid cliches like the plague, they're old hat.
6. Comparisons are as bad as cliches.
7. Writers should never generalise.
8. Seven. Be consistent.
9. Don't be redundant; don't use more words than necessary; it's highly superfluous
10. Who needs rhetorical questions?
11. Exaggeration is a billion times worse than understatement.

You can thank me later.



Worship Resources

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

St John's Episcopal Church, Marygate, Pittenweem. Pentecost 26. Communion 1130 Rev David Gordon

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 not be served prior to the service on 10th November.

17th November – Holy Communion - Revd Dr Ian McEwan
 24th November – Revd Dr Ian McEwan

Streaming - Sunday services are live streamed as video recordings, which can be publically accessed from our YouTube channel or via Crail Church website.

Display of Nativity Scenes – Wanted – to borrow for a weekend - 7th and 8th December. We would be delighted if you could lend us a Nativity set (any size) or anything connected to the Nativity (eg. Angels). We will take great care of them. If you can help, please contact Diana (451790)



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, Alex Scholz, Isla Reid, Max Taylor, Peter Salkeld, Valencia Sowry. Phone contact 07557884148. 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

