

Forth Sight

Issue No. 28
Spring 2016

In this issue:

National Marine Plan Interactive

**Marine Planning through Eco-
system Services**

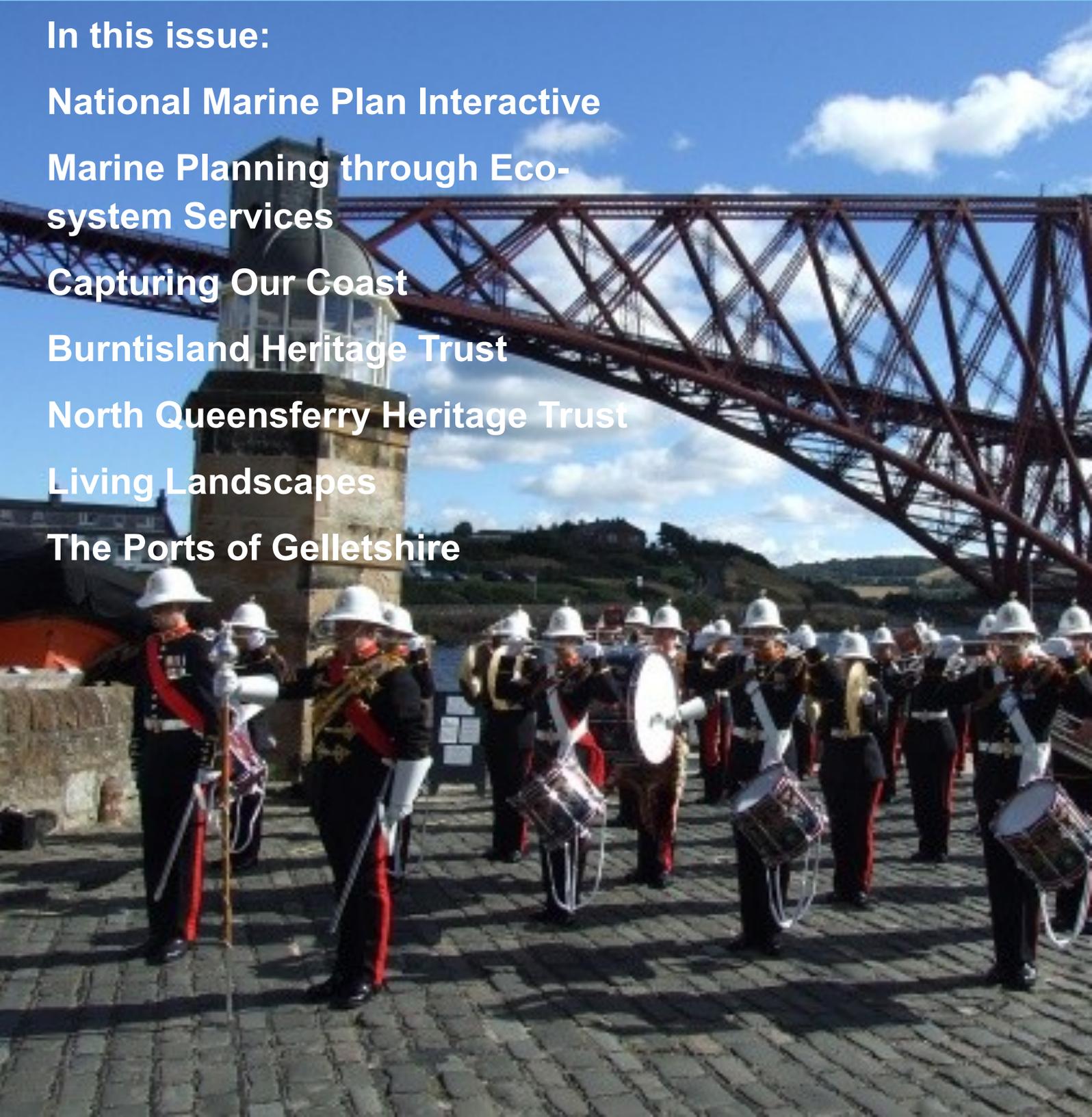
Capturing Our Coast

Burntisland Heritage Trust

North Queensferry Heritage Trust

Living Landscapes

The Ports of Gelletshire



Welcome From The Chair, Ruth Briggs



I'd like to use this edition of 'Forth Sight' to publicly welcome Chris Cutts back as our Forum Manager. When Frances Edwards left the Forum last October, for a post with the English Marine Management Organisation and after two very successful years with us, we carried out a full recruitment exercise. Chris had completed his contract with Falkirk Community Trust, applied and was successful at interview. Naturally, he's hit the ground running (or perhaps I should say the water at full throttle) and is continuing our programme of meetings, events, discussions and support for national and local coastal management projects.

The national Scottish Coastal Forum brings together the partners and official bodies involved in all Scotland's seaward-facing partnerships and works closely with the government body (and key funder) Marine Scotland. There is steady progress towards the establishment of Scotland's first Marine Planning Partnerships (MPP). We take particular interest in the experience currently being gained by our sister body the Clyde Forum which, like us, comprises several Local Authorities and other bodies with responsibilities and interests in their coastal waters. They have recently become Scotland's first official MPP. We also look forward to working ever closer with our neighbours in the Tay Estuary Forum towards implementation of the Forth & Tay Scottish Marine Region. And you may wish to note their annual conference coming up soon, on 22nd April (details on their website).

I wonder whether we always recognise and celebrate enough the 'specialness' of the Forth area? It's very easy, isn't it, to live and work in an area and take for granted its features, attributes and resources. But the wealth of birds and other marine life, landscapes (seascapes), islands, geology, beaches and coast walks, fisheries, iconic structures and villages, ports and harbours is outstanding, recognised in part through international designation. The role of the Forum is to facilitate maintenance or enhancement of its value for people (whether in education, leisure, work or as a wider resource), its appropriate use, management and 'joined-up' development planning. I am delighted that this edition of Forth Sight includes contributions from people representing national, local and charity interests; a true reflection of the breadth of involvement and the variety of perspectives we seek to link together.

We want your project ideas! Although the 2016-17 business plan for the Forum's board and staff is now underway there is potential scope to develop other projects of benefit to members and communities. Of course they'd need funding and/or other resources, but our staff are always open to ideas and may be able to help with joint approaches for support. I hope you find this issue of Forth Sight interesting; thank you to Chris and Sharon for again compiling a diverse suite of articles, and to all authors for their contributions.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'R. F. Briggs'.

Management Group: City of Edinburgh Council *Julie Dewar (Planning)*, The Crown Estate *Paul Bancks*, Falkirk Council *Richard Broadley and Mandy Brown (Planning)*, Fife Council *Johanna Willi (Biodiversity)*, Forth Estuary Forum *Christopher Cutts*, Forth Ports Ltd *Derek McGlashan*, RSPB *David Anderson*, RYA Scotland *Graham Russell*, Scottish Natural Heritage *Malcolm Fraser*, Scottish Power *Richard Christie*.

Directors: Ruth Briggs *Chair*, Derek McGlashan, Iain Rennick, Ian Howarth, Hugh Henderson, Tom Brock.

Staff: Christopher Cutts, *Forum Manager*, Sharon Waugh, *Administrator*.

'Forth Sight' view

Forum Manager, Christopher Cutts



CONTENTS

- 2 Welcome from Forum Chair
- 3 'Forth Sight' view
- 4 The Three Ports of Gellertshire
- 6 Edinburgh Living Landscape
- 8 North Queensferry Heritage Trust
- 10 Capturing Our Coast
- 12 Burntisland Heritage Trust
- 14 The CORPORATES Project
- 15 National Marine Plan Interactive Update

'Forth Sight' is a bi-annual publication on all matters concerning the work of the Forth Estuary Forum and sustainable development of the Firth of Forth.

The next edition is due out in Autumn 2016. News, reviews and articles are welcome - as too are sponsorships.

Contact staff for copy deadline.

Are you on our mailing list? Make sure that you receive 'Forth Sight' and our regular eNews Bulletins directly to your inbox. Contact us as below.

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The views in this newsletter represent those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Forum.

Cover: North Queensferry Light Tower, courtesy of the North Queensferry Heritage Trust

Firstly, let me thank Ruth, Sharon, the Management Group, Directors and Forum members for their warm welcome after two years away. It's a pleasure to be back! I have settled back in, helped by the Forum Conference taking place a couple of weeks after I started. Many thanks to Sharon and Frances for organising that. The conference 'Routes along the Forth' was well attended with an interesting range of speakers and discussions, and allowed me to catch up with old friends. The presentations are available on our website.

Another thing which Sharon and Frances organised but which I carried out was the members event to the National Museums of Scotland Collections Centre in Granton in February. This was also very well attended and gave a fascinating insight into the workings of the Museum which the public rarely see. Many thanks to Sankurie Pye and Fiona Ware for organising this visit.

Frances initiated a series of topic workshops while she was here, the first of which was on harbour dredging, held in Dunfermline. I am currently organising the next workshop, to be on coastal erosion along the Forth, which will be held in Dunbar. Further details will follow on our website and newsletters. Furthermore, our annual conference this year will be held on the 17th November, so put the date in your diaries now!

We are pleased to present a wide range of articles in this edition of 'Forth Sight'. The wealth of local knowledge and enthusiasm for natural and cultural heritage, carried out by local voluntary heritage groups, is truly humbling. It was my pleasure to give a presentation on the Forum to one of these groups, the Gellet Society, earlier in the year. In return they have provided a fascinating article on the history of three harbours in Gellertshire. Together with articles from Burntisland and North Queensferry Heritage Trusts, this edition demonstrates the enthusiasm and esteem that residents hold the Forth in.

Of course, the Forth is constantly changing, and it is this local knowledge which should be incorporated into coastal and marine management now the National Marine Plan is in place. Modern tools, such as the National Marine Plan Interactive, stakeholder events such as the CORPORATES programme, and citizen science through the Capturing our Coast programme, all make use of local stakeholder knowledge and enthusiasm, and these are all outlined in the following pages.

Naturally, all these sectors (voluntary and statutory) must be aware of each other, which is where the Local Coastal Partnerships, of which the Forum is one, have such an important role to play through communication, publications and facilitation. As ever, we are busy planning for 2016/17, and we will keep you informed through our twitter feed @forthestuary, eNews Bulletins, workshops, conferences and this newsletter. Best wishes to everyone with an interest in the Forth.



The Three Ports of Gelletshire

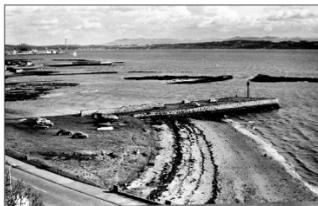
The Lands of Gellet

The word "Gellet" has had many different spellings over the ages, Gallald, Gelland, Gallots, Gullett, Gellald but the most learned thoughts are that it is of Irish origin and translated means the white shore or cliff. This aptly describes the shore line between Limekilns and Charlestown prior to the extensive Elgin lime works and quarries that existed there from 1750 -1900.

When the Romans sailed up the Forth Estuary to construct Antonine's Wall they would have observed a large white rock face rising above the shore line in this area, rather like mini Cliffs of Dover.

Alas today much of this rock has been removed, to feed the massive lime kilns of Charlestown, and much of what remains is covered by trees. No doubt the Romans would have used this limestone to create the mortar to build the various fortifications and bath houses along the route of the Antonine Wall.

The "Schire of Gelland" was a gift from King Edgar (first son of Malcolm Canmore/St Margaret) to the monks of Dunfermline Abbey. This is stated in an early Royal Charter of 1098 and there are also many references to the revenues obtained from the Port of Gellet which was Lymekilles.



Limekilns Harbour

Limekilns flourished under the auspices of its superiors the Halketts of Pitfirrane. Here and at Brucehaven great shipments of coal and lime were made over the years. The volume was such that nearly 50 vessels were registered at Limekilns and were kept busy moving their cargo to all parts of the European Continent. This was in the days prior to steamships and railways but the clippers, renowned as the fastest vessels of their day, are all gone. All that remains today are the remnants of the harbour walls, the outer "guauts" or entrance of the port and the old stone pier.

The solidly built houses of the village testify to the comfortable circumstances of generations of skippers and well-to-do seamen. The place that knew them and thrived under them, knows them no more.

Brucehaven Harbour

Travelling to the east of Limekilns along the Red Row and towards Brucehaven or Capernaum Pier as it is called by many of the locals, you walk through a corridor of time where the ancient industries of the Forth were practised. Salt making, fish curing, rope making, soap making and ship building all took place along this corridor of medieval time. Much evidence remains and can be discovered during a pleasant walk from Limekilns to Brucehaven.

The Three Ports of Gelletshire

The pier at Brucehaven was built by George Chalmers in 1774-76 for his coal trade. Chalmers was a prominent merchant from Edinburgh who traded and eventually settled in Dunfermline. He lived in Pittencrief House located in the "Glen Park" of Dunfermline. He owned lands rich in coal to the north of Dunfermline and was competing with the "Coal Barons" of the day: the Halketts, the Bruces and the Wellwoods.

The harbour became the home of the Brucehaven Shipbuilders. In 1823, 200 carpenters and many boys were employed. Most of the wood used was imported from the Continent by ships returning from deliveries of coal and lime. Many of the famous "Indian tea clippers" were built at Brucehaven.



Charlestown Harbour

In the mid 1700's land management and the industrial revolution were changing the coastline of Gelletshire. The Earl of Elgin's land holdings were modest then, in comparison to that at the end of the 20th Century, but the Broomhall Estate had an enormous seam of accessible limestone which could be easily worked and put to use. In 1752 the 5th Earl decided to exploit this limestone and created a new village of 100 houses to accommodate the workforce for mining the limestone and operating the kilns.

Central to the whole success of the enterprise was Charlestown Harbour. The inner harbour and pier were completed by 1761 and then in 1824 it was extended with the creation of a new outer harbour. Many tons of coal per day were required to fire the 14 operational kilns, so the Earls of Elgin bought lands (north of Dunfermline) which were rich in coal seams. This led to the development of many waggon ways and railways: a large network evolved into what was known as The Elgin Railway.

From this harbour developed the first passenger railway service in Scotland. When he emigrated to America, Andrew Carnegie travelled by a horse drawn passenger service from Dunfermline to Charlestown railway station. Here one could buy a ticket at the harbour office to any part in the world. Many folks left for the Empire – Australia, New Zealand and Canada. Some like the Carnegies opted for the U.S.A.



One of the few remnants of the Lime industry is the Gellet Rock. This is a huge pinnacle of a rock (60 x 60 ft) that sits on what remains of the limestone ridge between Charlestown and Limekilns. It is a reminder to the extent of this industry and the shoreline of the white cliffs of Gelletshire.

Robin Sharp, Secretary, The Gellet Society
www.gellet-society.org.uk

Edinburgh Living Landscape

Nature in your neighbourhood

The Edinburgh Living Landscape is a partnership project between the Scottish Wildlife Trust, City of Edinburgh Council, Edinburgh & Lothians Green-space Trust, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh and GreenSurge. It is made up of a range of projects that aims to create, restore and connect green areas of the city and make attractive and biodiverse landscapes that can be enjoyed by residents and visitors. Landscapes will be healthy, nature rich and resilient to climate change. Other organisations are also lending support to the initiative, including Edinburgh University, SEPA, the Cockburn Association, and the OPENspace Research Centre.



What does a Living Landscape look like?

For parks and green spaces, the Edinburgh Living Landscape will mean changes to how some of our outdoor spaces look. The project involves a range of measures, including:

- reducing the frequency of grass cutting in some areas and allowing natural grassland to thrive;
- mowing walkways through areas of meadow so they can still be explored and enjoyed;
- increasing use of herbaceous perennial planting; and
- tree-planting and creating woodlands in the longer term.

Benefits of a Living Landscape

Sowing flowering plants and reducing the grass cutting frequency, to allow habitats to develop more naturally, offers the following benefits :

- biodiversity increases as birds, mammals and insects are attracted to more natural, wilder areas;
- the associated costs of intensively maintained areas of grassland can be reduced;
- planting flowering species adds colour to the cityscape throughout the year; and
- less regular cutting slows rainwater run-off and helps lock-up carbon in soils, reducing carbon dioxide release.





Which areas are being considered?

Areas that are being adapted include those where the grass is not used for any particular recreational purpose and is labour intensive to maintain. These are typically steep banks, under groups of trees, small areas which are fenced off and difficult to operate machines in and large, seldom used areas - sometimes referred to as 'green deserts'.

Local teams have identified sites where the frequency of grass-cutting can be reduced without any impact on recreational use and parks officers have briefed over 300 people at various community and neighbourhood forums, providing the opportunity for comment and suggestions.

Progress across the city

151 sites are now being managed as part of the programme, 78 of which are naturalised grass sites (35ha) and 73 that are floral meadows, including our natural heritage sites, urban pollinator sites (in conjunction with Edinburgh University) and five sites that were sown by local schools in nearby parks. Qualitative monitoring of each site took place throughout Spring/Summer 2015 and public comments and feedback were collated. An online photography competition was also run to help promote the programme and attracted over 200 entries.

2016 will see a consolidation of these 'Phase 1' sites and a gradual progression into other parts of our green estate to include additional sites.



If you have any queries or suggestions please get in touch with us at parks@edinburgh.gov.uk or 0131 529 3030





How the Boulmer Rock Light Tower will look once it is relocated (see text).

North Queensferry Heritage Trust

What does it do ?

The Heritage Trust (NQHT) is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation registration number SC 019966 and was originally constituted in May 1988.

NQHT activities can best be summarised as:

Refurbishment of Buildings with Heritage Value:

1. The light tower, built in 1817 by Robert Stevenson located on the Town Pier and refurbished by the Trust in 2010, is now open to visitors attracting some 4000 visits each year plus viewers to our 'live' webcam which can be accessed at www.northqueensferrylighttower.com

2. The Victorian railway station building constructed in 1890 and refurbished by the North Queensferry Station Trust in association with NQHT in 2014. Now operating with a visitor information area, a cafe, meeting room, Exhibition gallery and public toilets.



Projects under discussion and planning:

1. Relocation of Beamer Rock Light Tower to high ground at the north end of the Forth Road Bridge in partnership with Fife Council; the Tower is to become a marker to commemorate the end of WW1;

2. Development of the **Ferryhills Nature Trail** passing the Ferry Loch and over the railway cutting to the adjacent land leading down to the Ferryhills road;

Information boards are to be erected at strategic points on the trail and will describe:

- The history and ecology of the Ferry Loch including its association as a curling venue and why the whole area is a site of special scientific interest (SSSI);
- A detailed overview of the Battle of Inverkeithing, 1651;
- The former Dunfermline Golf Club 18 hole Course on the Ferryhills (an important recreational facility for WW1 Royal and American naval forces);
- The viewable industrial developments over the ages; and
- The story, at the site, of one of the last duels in Scotland in 1824.



3. A 'North Queensferry App' is to be developed in conjunction with St Andrew's University. Discussions are ongoing to expand the app to include information on the area surrounding the three bridges on both sides of the river.

The Trust also maintains a digital photo and audio archive and has published:

- CD's and DVD's and printed Fact sheets on the historical matters of interest;
- North Queensferry Census records 1841-1911 can now be viewed in the Station Gallery;
- The NQ Peninsula visitor brochure; and
- Stories behind the names on the War Memorial.

The Trust promotes and organises Exhibitions, Events and Walking Tours:

- A series of Talks on a range of topics over the winter months;
- The Village Show - an annual event displaying from adults and children the best of gardening produce, crafts and photography;
- Walking Tours of the historic village which include visiting the areas where, depending on the season, 'flora and fauna' can readily be seen. A number of rare species are to be found in the area. Already this year a Little Auk was seen and rescued by one of our members;
- Presentation of a shield as an annual award to the NQ Primary School pupil who shows most awareness and interest in local 'Natural Heritage';
- Current Exhibitions are: 'Blood Sweat and Vision' at Deep Sea World and 'The Indian Scottish Connection' at the Station Gallery.

For more details, please see: www.nqht.org

Membership of the Trust is largely from the North Queensferry area but not exclusively. New members are always welcome to help with any of the Trust's current activities.

Capturing Our Coast



Capturing our Coast (CoCoast) is a brand-new project that is bringing together a range of charities, universities and volunteers across the UK to investigate the fabulous diversity of marine life across our coastline. The aim of the project is learn more about a range of coastal species such as periwinkles, crabs and seaweeds. Although some of these species may seem commonplace to those who are regularly out on the seashore, there can be some hidden surprises when we take a step back and look at what is happening across the whole of the UK.

At the moment there are an array of species that have been brought over here, intentionally or inadvertently, that are making themselves at home in UK waters. Some are completely harmless and live alongside our native plants and animals. Others, like Japanese wireweed (*Sargassum muticum*) that has been colonising steadily northwards from the south coast of England, can cause problems by competing with native species for food, light or space. In order to track how these species are spreading, we need hundreds of pairs of eyes out looking all over the coastline of the UK.

It's not just non-native species that might be moving. As the sea temperature changes, species that prefer warmer waters like the black-footed limpet (*Patella depressa*) might start shifting their range northwards. However, not all species appreciate the effects of climate change. Some of the shelled species like mussels (*Mytilus* spp.) are affected by changes in pH of the oceans, which makes it more difficult for them to build the strong shells and holding threads that they need to survive.



Now, more than ever, we need to know about the animals and plants living on our shores. The UK coastline is one of the longest in Europe, and a world-class habitat. Species that live in these environments are thought to be more vulnerable to change than those living on land due to the high level of adaptation to specific environments, and yet we know far less about them. Despite the huge numbers of species living on and around the seashore, in the UK National Biodiversity Network wildlife database, only 3% of the records are from marine environments.

CoCoast hopes to change this number, by asking everyone to get involved with looking out on the seashore over the next three years. It is led by Newcastle University and funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, and involves large numbers of people working in partnership.

The Scottish Association for Marine Science in Oban is coordinating the project in Scotland, but is working with community groups, museums, field centres, conservation organisations and individuals to ensure that we can record as much of the over 6,000km of Scottish coastline as possible. It means that every survey completed in Scotland is incredibly valuable.



All the records in any part of the country will contribute to a national scientific study of the variation across the UK, and will be publicly available to supply information that can lead to changes in policy and conservation. There are a range of training opportunities for everyone who is interested in participating, from people who have never been on a rocky shore before to those who just can't get enough of learning how to identify seaweeds. There are also opportunities for people to get involved in more in-depth scientific questions about a range of species, from lugworm sperm to bird food.



If you are interested in registering or knowing more, then please visit the website www.capturingourcoast.co.uk, or if you have queries email cocoast@sams.ac.uk or call 01631 559313.



Burntisland Heritage Trust

“Burntisland was once poetically described as having its head to the hills and its feet to the sea. This is a fair description with the Firth of Forth lapping its shore to the south and the Binn rising majestically above it to the north. The summit of the Binn is approximately 600 feet above sea level.

Our local landscape provides us with fascinating insights into the past as well as beautiful places to explore and learn in.

An appreciation of nature ‘close to home’ is the first step in developing a wider ecological awareness”.

This is the opening text on one of the introductory panels in this year’s Burntisland Heritage Trust’s annual summer exhibition. The theme in 2016 is ‘Our Natural Heritage’. It will focus on the wealth and diversity of the area’s abundant and varied natural heritage.

This was identified more than two centuries ago by Mary Somerville. Mary was known as the 19th century ‘Queen of Science’ and her permanent childhood home was Burntisland where she spent most of her formative years. She was a pioneering and eminent mathematician, astronomer and geographer. In her memoirs, she described the town as a small sea port sheltered by the Binn with communal Links and a sandy bay.



This is recognizable to residents and visitors today. One of the most distinctive features of Mary Somerville’s work is her understanding of what we now accept as the ecosystem. This she understood and knew from her own observations in her childhood home of Burntisland.

In 2016 the exhibition intends to showcase this with an extensive 35 panel informative display of local photography which will cover different zones and natural heritage aspects of the surrounding area.

From the land at the summit and slopes of the Binn down through the built environment the aim is to capture images that illustrate fascinating and spectacular plants, birds and animals that grow and live on our doorstep.



The areas of interest will extend over the extensive foreshore and beyond to Inchkeith revealing the myriad of life that lives on the seabed and beneath the waves. Inchkeith will also be featured given its importance as a sanctuary in the spring and summer months for a variety of nesting seabirds. In the late autumn it is the birthplace of hundreds of grey seal pups.

The exhibition is also an opportunity to raise awareness of the richness of the town's environment and encourage efforts to maintain and protect it. Over the years the trust has worked in partnership with the local primary school. This year Burntisland Primary School has been given the opportunity to study the town's natural heritage. The Curriculum for Excellence allows the children to learn through investigation and exploration. Some of this work forms part of this exhibition in a scrapbook and sketchbook collection.

The annual heritage exhibition and historical/heritage trail walks are the Trust's core activities. The exhibitions have been held every year since 1994 with many varied and changing themes. Over the past two decades the trust has collected a huge archive of material and photographs relating to the town's rich history and heritage. Much of this is directly linked to the town's maritime links and influence of the sea and the Firth of Forth. In more recent times the themed exhibitions 'Burntisland and the Forth in Conflict' (2014) and 'Crossing the Forth' (2015) included many topics developed in partnership with the Museum of Communication which lies directly across the High Street from the heritage centre.

Burntisland Heritage Trust was established in 1993 as an informal group, and assumed formal charitable trust status in 1998. The aims of the Trust are to protect and promote all aspects of Burntisland's heritage. The free summer exhibitions have attracted many thousands of visitors from Burntisland itself, from other parts of the UK, and from many other countries. The trust is supported by a 'Friends' volunteer group whose main role is assisting with the preparation and staffing of the summer exhibitions.

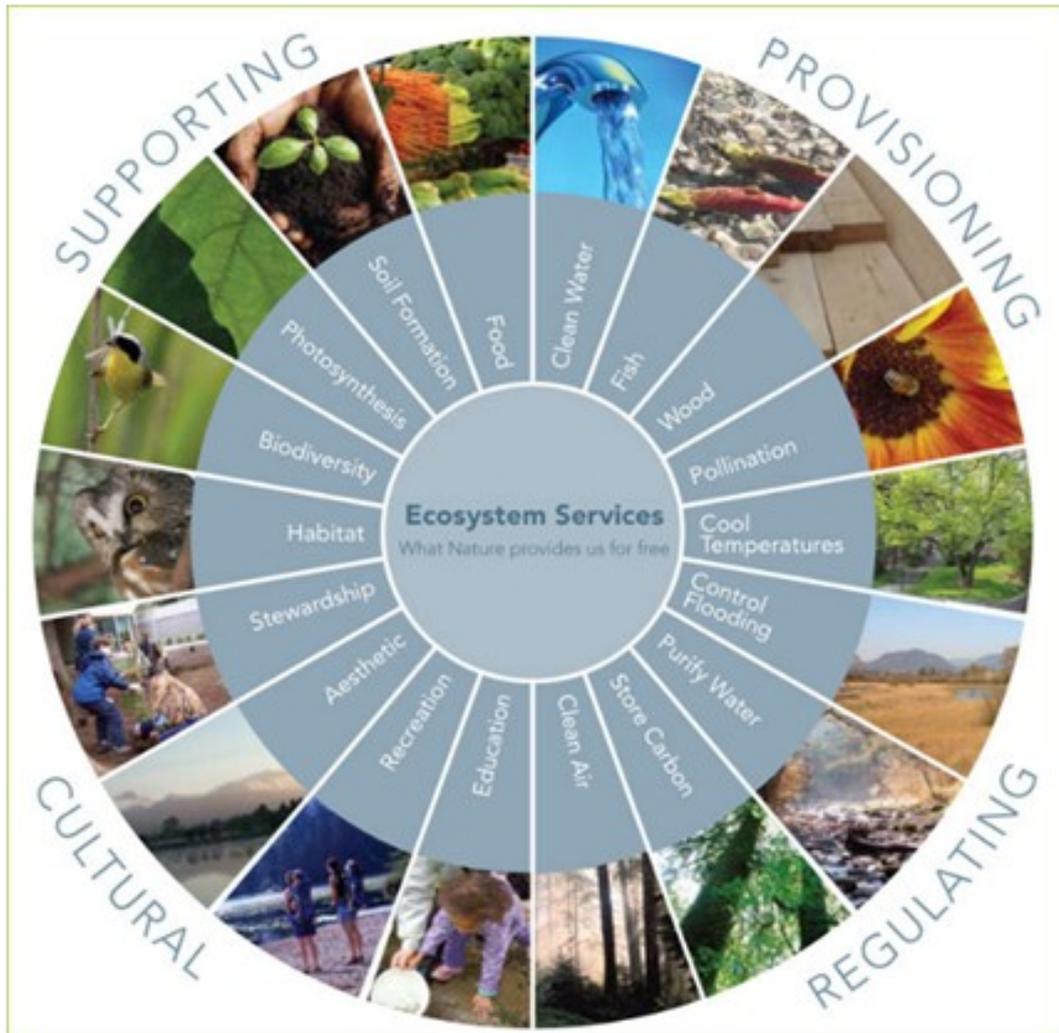


This year's exhibition is at Burntisland Heritage Centre, 4 Kirkgate, Burntisland (just round the corner from the main door of the Burgh Chambers in the High Street). The 10 week exhibition will run from 18th June to 27th August inclusive, and will be open on Wednesdays from 1.00pm to 4.00pm and on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 11.00am to 4.00pm.

Ian Archibald, Convenor

www.burntisland.net/heritage-trust.htm

The Cooperative Participatory Evaluation of Renewable Technologies on Ecosystem Services (CORPORATES) project



Ecosystem services diagram, source: metrovancover.org

Ecosystem services are a way of thinking about the benefits, services and goods humans derive from the environment. An easy one to think about is fish. Fish are classed as a *provisioning ecosystem service*, because they provide us with food. Generally ecosystem services are classed into four types – *provisioning*, which provide us with goods; *regulating*, which regulate the ecosystem, for example providing clean air; *supporting*, which support the ecosystem and other ecosystem services, for example providing food to fish; and *cultural*, which provide a non-material benefit to people, for example cultural heritage or recreation.

The Cooperative Participatory Evaluation of Renewable Technologies on Ecosystem Services (CORPORATES) project has been developing a process of using this ecosystem services concept in marine management processes, to better capture the benefits and values of public and private sector stakeholders, and help facilitate discussions on valuations and

trade-offs within marine planning and management. The project used the Firth of Forth as a case study, due to the possible development of a number of large windfarms in an area important to both fishing and nature conservation.



The project included the involvement of a wide range of highly experienced stakeholders over the course of two day-long workshops in November 2014 and March 2015. While the process centred on a “live” decision-making case study, the focus of the CORPORATES project was to develop a process for knowledge exchange between stakeholders around ecosystem services rather than influencing decision-making in the Forth.

In February 2016 another workshop was held, to share the *CORPORATES* process with the future Scottish regional marine planners, including Chris Cutts from the Forth Estuary Forum. This was an interesting event, and we look forward to getting feedback on the *CORPORATES* process from those on the ground in marine planning - whether it will be useful in their work, what they require to implement it, etc.



We hope the *CORPORATES* process will provide a means for those such as yourselves – stakeholders in the marine environment – to be heard, and have your values understood by others and incorporated into future marine planning and management.

More is available on the project website (<http://www.corporatesproject.co.uk/>), including information on all those involved in the project, and a link to the recently published project report.

CORPORATES was funded by:



Marine Alliance for
Science and Technology for Scotland



National Marine Plan Interactive Update

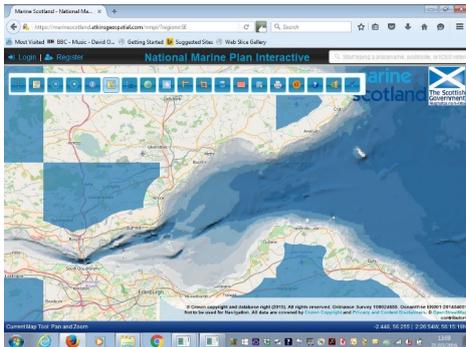
Scotland's National Marine Plan interactive (NMPi) continues to grow and evolve.

NMPi is Marine Scotland's on-line mapping portal to make spatial data and information available to all as our new marine planning responsibilities are implemented.

Recently the latest phase in NMPi's functionality development has been deployed. New layers are continually becoming available. But it is not all about increasing the layer count that isn't necessarily easy for the end user. Our latest functionality includes 'time aware' layers being added. This allows users to see a time series of data in one layer (rather than multiple layers) and animate the movement from one period to another (usually yearly). Layer names will include such terms as 'since' or '2013-2014' in their title to indicate the function. Users can access it by 'right clicking' on the layer name in the Layer Control Box. The layers including time aware data will increase over time but so far include:

- Maritime casualties since 2005;
- Marine strandings data 2013-2014 (cetaceans, seals, sharks, turtles); and
- Keep Scotland Beautiful - Blue Flag and Seaside Awards since 2012.

Users have asked if the various screen control boxes can be hidden to facilitate cleaner screen shots. There are now minimising buttons for all control boxes and the ability to hide the main tool bar (by clicking on the far right icon on it).



The main tool bar now also includes:

- Spatial query function that allows the user to draw a polygon of interest and identify the layers available for it. These can then be added to your layer control;
- Draw circle based on a user input radius;
- Zoom in and out;
- Print map option. External WMS feeds can also now be printed but only at A4 size and the printed map legend now appears on a separate page; and
- Submit Fault Report / Comment button

The data input tool bar (registered users only) now has the ability to add points by a lat / long (three format) input.

We are also working with others to improve data flow to NMPi. Scottish Natural Heritage, one of NMPi's partners, has developed a web map service (WMS) that is allowing us to replace the Priority Marine Feature layers in the Healthy and Biologically Diverse Seas section to a direct feed from SNH and with new symbols, as well as add some new layers on basking shark, minke whale and Risso's dolphin for example.

NMPi also caters for the emerging Scottish Marine Regions and some layers can be found in the 'Regions' section.

Marine Scotland welcomes feedback on NMPi at any time. Please e-mail marineplanning@gov.scot

NMPi partners: [Marine Scotland](#); [SEPA](#); [SNH](#); [Joint Nature Conservation Committee](#); [MASTS](#)