



CRAIL MATTERS

incorporating About Crail

W/C 1 May No 12
Free

Crail Festival 2017: Notable “Firsts”

Not surprisingly this year's busy programme includes many time honoured favourites for adults and children alike including the Art Festival, Festival Quiz, Street Market, Putting Green, Workshops (Art, Drama, Ceramics, Fused Glass and Krafty Kids), Rock Pool Guddle, Crabbing and Sandcastle Competitions, Fossil Hunt, and the Craft Fair.



Vladimir McTavish with his irrepressible Stand Up Comedy Night, Red Wine Productions presenting “The Wit and Humour

of Alan Bennett” and Robin Laing with his “Whisky Bard Show and Tasting” make a very welcome return to Crail.

However, elsewhere in the programme we have an intriguing number of Notable “Firsts” which will certainly provide wonderful entertainment. The world of music is particularly well showcased. Horse McDonald, a real Scottish 'star', supported by The Coaltown Daisies, will get the Festival off to a spectacular start. Crail Folk Club's 30th Anniversary Concert ensures that high quality folk music is well to the fore. The splendid acoustics in Holy Trinity will resonate with the melodic, expressive, stirring sounds from Michael Durrant's classical guitar. Trio Ecossaise, with three highly talented Scottish musicians, will also perform in Holy Trinity.



The trio of performances in Holy Trinity is rounded off by the remarkably versatile Hilary James and Simon Mayor who blend Irish ballad with rousing Handel and their own outrageous comic songs. Hilary and Simon make a second appearance with their highly acclaimed Musical Mystery Family Show.



The Bevvv Sisters are sure to evoke memories of classic sister acts such as the Beverleys, the Andrews, and the Boswells but their repertoire goes much further!



The true, natural talent of Edwina Hayes, an evocative singer songwriter, will provide a fitting finale to our 2017 Festival.

Culture Cafe I at Julia's Eatery is an opportunity for a soup and sandwich lunch and entertainment from local musicians. Culture Cafe II is the same style but music and poetry will both feature.

Probably the most novel events this year will be the 6 Archery Sessions in the Castle Grounds for 7 years and over, alongside the Falconry, an opportunity not only to visit the static display but also watch the amazing display by these wonderful birds of prey. It will be an unforgettable experience for young and old alike.

Dates, timings and further details can be found at www.crailfestival.com.

Crail Rowing Club takes to the land



On Saturday 15 April, Crail Rowing Club began their sixth season with a fund-raising challenge to row 50km on land.

Honeypot owners Graham and Edna kindly allowed the club to put up their red gazebo in the forecourt outside the cafe. Using two rowing machines, 16 club members then split into two teams, the Partans and the Ghiomaichs (Gaelic for crabs and lobsters), and competed against each other to row 25km in the fastest time. Cafe customers enjoying their morning coffees and local shoppers looked on as club members sweated away on the machines, sprinting 500m at a time. The

teams were closely matched and completed the challenge in just under two hours, the Partans beating the Ghiomaichs by a mere three minutes.

Skiff “Partan” was also put on display, looking immaculate after her winter refurbishment. The event was organised to encourage newcomers to join the club and to raise equal funds for Crail's British Legion Hall and Crail Rowing Club. Donations from passers-by and sponsorship monies amounted to £1,782.26.

“This has been a fantastic start to the season!” said Club Convenor David Fraser. “It's been great for members to participate together in a fun event, raise some much needed funds and get our rowing muscles back into action after the winter. Everyone did really well, completing the challenge more than 30 minutes faster than anticipated. We are very grateful for the generous donations from the community, passers-by and sponsors.”

Crail Rowing Club was formed in 2010 to build the skiff as a community project and began rowing in 2012. Since then the club has competed in a number of regattas across Scotland and seen success in the first two St Ayles Skiff World Championships, the ladies 40+ team winning gold last year in Northern Ireland. Members are looking forward to attending more regattas this year including Ullapool, Broughty Ferry, Queensferry and finishing with freshwater sprints at Loch Tummel.

Anyone wishing to join Crail Rowing Club should contact the secretary via the club website or Facebook page.

Ex-Fife Councillor Elizabeth Riches to stand as Scottish Liberal Democrat Parliamentary Candidate

The Scottish Liberal Democrats have announced that their candidate for the North East Fife Parliamentary constituency will be Elizabeth Riches. Mrs Riches has represented the East Neuk and Landward constituency on Fife Council for 27 years. The current MP is Steven Gethins, SNP, who took the seat with a 4,344 majority in the 2015 elections. The previous incumbent was Sir Menzies Campbell. “I want to be the Member of Parliament for North East Fife so that I can stand up in Westminster for our area. North East Fife deserves a representative who will put the needs of the local area first”. Mrs Riches said; “I will aim to provide a first class service for the constituency just like Menzies Campbell and I will work as part of a strong local team alongside our councillors and Willie Rennie.... Local people rejected independence by a large margin and should have an MP who can speak for them. Scottish independence is not in the interests of the academic, fishing, farming and tourism sectors”.

Menzies Campbell said: “Elizabeth Riches is outstanding and will be an outstanding Member of Parliament for North East Fife. I have known her for many years and have admired her tenacity, political judgement and energy. She will be a tremendous advocate for every corner of the constituency.”

The incumbent MP, Steven Gethins said “ We now have crucial local elections coming up and I wish her well in her council election bid in Cowdenbeath...After that I look forward to the General Election and debating giving North East Fife the strong voice it needs at Westminster and standing up to the Tories.”

The date of the General election is 8 June.

Fife Council Elections

After the public meeting last week, all Candidates were asked to respond to this question:
What do you think the most pressing issue is facing Crail, and what will you do about it?

Here are their responses.

Margaret Harper (SNP)

It seems that one of the main problems that Crail will be facing in the near future will be the Bridge closure at Kilrenny in June. The knock on effect at this time of year when many events and visitors come to contribute to the Crail economy is not good. This will also effect those who use public transport to the surgery in Anstruther etc., and use services in other coastal parts will be part of this disruption, .

Elected members must realise that at this time of year will be the most sensible time to repair the bridge as the burn should not be in spate, therefore a good road network to Crail must be made for local access from the western coastal towns to Crail. Elected members must ensure that adequate road signage is in place to Crail from Colinsburgh/ Anstruther/ and warnings from Kingsbarns Direction. A resurfacing programme on the Colinsburgh straight turn off to Crail road, and in places pothole fill ,to ensure that this road can take the extra traffic (this has to take place before repairs are made at the Kilrenny bridge is essential).

Linda Holt (Conservative and Unionist)

Immediately pressing issues facing Crail are the condition of roads and pavements, speeding and the need for a central 20mph zone, insufficient bus services, the future of the library premises and community hall, and poor connectivity. A councillor has a clear and obvious duty to press relevant officers at Fife Council and other individuals and bodies for solutions to these problems.

However, by far the largest challenge facing Crail, which isn't going to go away, is the pressure for development. If elected, I will play a key role in this, ensuring that people are kept as fully and timeously informed as possible about applications and plans and given maximal opportunity to make their voices heard in the planning and development process. I will also be a very vocal advocate both in committee meetings and with Fife Council officers for the community's views on development, and in particular its needs and fears.

I will insist that potential impacts of development on existing infrastructure (such as roads, education and health services, and businesses in Crail) are addressed before major development begins. I would also argue as strongly as possible that new housing is restricted to families intending to live and work locally, and that as much as possible is affordable. Development doesn't just mean housing, of course. One way of making development more generally reflect community priorities

is via a Community Action Plan, and I would like to work with everyone in Crail to create and implement one.

John Docherty (SNP)

When asked to identify one issue that is the most important to deal with, I would have to say that it is difficult to highlight a single issue, I have identified a number of issues that are interrelated and are of equal priority.

As the children of today are the adults of tomorrow I would push for continual investment into our local Primary school so as to give every child the ability to achieve their full potential.

Due to the housing situation, I would fight to ensure that Crail and in particular the 'locals' have access to good quality, affordable housing. I would aim to do this, by pushing for Council/Private housing to be built in, our, surrounding Crail.

I would also, continue to fight for any road repairs to be done quickly and using materials that make the repair last longer than they seem to do now. I would seek to improve our cycle paths and pavements, this would be done by ensuring our roads and transportation services get the funding they need to fulfil their role.

Support is also needed for health care, local farming, fishing and tourism.

These issues have been high on my agenda for the last five years and by voting for me again to represent you I promise to work hard for you using the experience I have, indeed the only candidate, to have that experience, so the people, that make Crail the place it is, know they have a Councillor that is there for them.

Benjamin Bridgman (Green)

I believe that the most pressing issue facing Crail is the lack of affordable housing, driven in no small part by the volume of holiday homes. Repeated plans for more expensive newbuild housing in the area do not meet local needs.

With the support of the local community, I would be interested in pushing for a 'local occupancy clause' on new housing in Crail. This would mean that planning permission for a new housing would only be granted if developers could prove that the homes would be occupied by people who either live or work in the local area. A similar system operates in the English Lake District, and I see no reason why this could not be implemented in the East Neuk.

The number of households in the private rented sector

has doubled across Scotland over the past ten years, and rent levels have increased substantially – far beyond the rate of wage increases. Crail is especially vulnerable to this due to the pressure of St Andrews. The new Private Housing (Tenancies) Act, coming into force later this year, includes the provision for local authorities to apply to the Scottish Government to introduce private sector rent controls in specific rent hotspots. Subject to consultation with local residents, I will push for Fife Council to take advantage of this new opportunity in our area to help prevent spiralling rent levels.

Alisdair Gilbert (Liberal Democrat)

I truly appreciated the warm welcome and effort Crail Community Council went to in the Hustings at the town hall on Monday the 24th. After the meeting, we were asked by Max Taylor to “identify the most pressing issue facing Crail, and what will you do about it?”

This is a very interesting question, what would be considered a pressing issue to one individual within a community may not appear important to another. Community groups are very important to me in helping identify issues that have a consensus of individuals from that specific community. As a Councillor, you have to ensure these groups are adequately resourced to enable them to fulfil their objective. What has to be kept in mind as a prospective Councillor is that these issues might not be unique to the community be it hamlet, village, town, ward or Kingdom. Communication and feedback are vital to ensure that members of the community are engaged and empowered in discovering their destination; if you don't the process will de-rail. As a Councillor, I shall facilitate discussions, signpost others and liaise with the parties involved be it other groups, council officers, MSP or MPs. Any issue any community face will not succeed without this kind of work being done.

Working hard with others, supporting volunteers and groups in all communities, gathering momentum in other areas through sharing experiences and knowledge will ensure any issue brought to me will be seen through to a conclusion that will ensure the traditional, distinctive community nature of East Neuk and Landward continues.

Rosalind Garton (Labour)

As a Scottish Labour activist the matter that concerns me most is the issue of the very small supply of affordable housing in the town. Families find that their children have little hope of remaining in Crail when they grow up because of high rents and house prices, driven by the very high number of holiday homes in the town. The large number of unoccupied houses

then threatens local businesses and, much more worryingly, local primary schools. A balanced distribution of all the generations makes, for me, a balanced and thriving community.

Scottish Labour in Fife is committed to addressing the problem of holiday homes, which threaten the viability of local communities and primary schools, and reduce housing opportunities for local people. It is also committed to increasing the number of affordable houses in the area.

William Poreous (Lib Dem)

My fellow Liberal Democrat prospective councillor Alisdair Gilbert and I have met many of you on your doorsteps in recent weeks and we attended a Hustings last night and met more of you there in Crail Town Hall. It became obvious that while there were many concerns the item of most concern in the hall that night is the viability of Crail long term as a place to live, work and enjoy. I think all us on the Hustings Panel recognised

- this and if elected my plans would be :
- Work with others - is there for example common ground here with other Community Councils ? , have organisations like ENCAP already got some evidence ?
- Plan a full survey of residents and businesses alike to identify the issues such as second homes, schooling, transport, policing and local businesses `s viability .
- Approach Fife Council to see what they have in both powers and finance to resolve these issues.

Talking of local businesses some large increases in business rates have been imposed on them in April 2017 – many are considering appeals and seek urgent relief – how can Fife Council help here ?

- Liaise with your local MSP Willie Rennie to lobby the Scottish Parliament for assistance and at Westminster MPs.
- Having been in touch with St Ives Town Council and studied their Neighbourhood Plan which enshrines in law a need to properly manage second home ownership and other material matters I would like you all to consider inviting one of their representatives to visit us and explain their achievements.

Living ,Viable , Long Term Communities in the East Neuk and Landward is the Only Way forward for us , our children and for our visitors.

The Editorial Team of Crail Matters would like to thank the prospective councillors for submitting these views. We hope they will aid our readers make their voting decision.

Good Companions

Good Companions will meet on Tuesday 2 nd May in the Kirk Hall at 1:30pm. All welcome'

Christian Aid Week 14 th – 20 th May

2017 celebrates the 60 th anniversary of Christian Aid Week. Churches throughout the UK and Ireland will be joining together to support the work of Christian Aid partners throughout the world. Christian Aid envelope collection at Crail Kirk, the popular quiz sheets will be available at the church door and at Chatbite, and the main fundraising event will be a barbeque in the new KirkHall Garden on June 4 th after morning worship.

Crail Art Group

Crail Art Group would like to thank the 436 Visitors to our Easter Exhibition in the Kirk Hall and also all those who helped. 40 paintings and many craft items and cards were sold resulting in the Church receiving £412.

The Raffle Painting kindly donated by Fiona Hill was won by Marion Boyd, a local lady, who was delighted.

Look out for information of our pre-Christmas event in the legion hall.

Corn Bunting Project

Crail is participating in the Corn Bunting Project. Corn buntings are seed-eating birds of lowland arable and mixed farmland. The corn bunting has declined by around 90% since the 1970s, and we are very fortunate in the East Neuk of Fife to have one of the few remaining strongholds in Scotland. The area adjacent to Bow Butts that currently has a 'yellow' discolouration will be sown with a bee and bunting seed mix. This includes cereals and flowers and provides much needed food in the wintertime (winter starvation is one of the biggest challenges the birds face) as well as safe nesting space in the summer.

Kingsbarns Community Council

Kingsbarns Community Council will meet on Monday May 8 at 7.00pm in the Memorial Hall, when the objections to the applications for the Ricoh Ladies Golf Tournament at Kingsbarns Golf club will be discussed.

Crail Community Choir

Crail Community Choir will meet at 7.30pm in the Town Hall on Monday 1st May.

Everyone will be made very welcome.

There is no obligation to attend every week.

Close to Caipie Caves. Brian Halliday



Retirement of Elizabeth Riches and Donald Macgregor

At the Crail Community Council Meeting of 24 April, presentations were made to Councillors Elizabeth Riches and Donald Macgregor to mark their retirement from the East Neuk and Landward ward. Particular tribute was paid to both Councillors for their tireless work on behalf of their constituents and in particular to the efforts both have made to represent the Crail community. In response, Councillor Riches, on behalf of both, thanked the Council and the people of Crail for their support. Mrs Riches is standing as a Liberal Democrat candidate in the Fife council elections for the Cowdenbeath consistency; Mr Macgregor is retiring from politics, and John Docherty is standing for reelection.

WILD CRAIL

Will Cresswell,

with Photographs by John Anderson



I haven't been in Denburn much recently so I can't say when it arrived, but there was a blackcap singing there



on the 22nd April. My first in Crail for the year, although one has been singing outside my office in St Andrews for a week before that. Denburn is a very busy place this spring with several rook pairs now nesting there, expanding out presumably from the rookery in Beech Walk Park; a very nice looking new magpie nest complete with its domed top, the usual carrion crow nests and the resident sparrowhawk nest – all within a few tens of meters of each other. I think they probably all sit a bit uneasily together – any/or will take another's eggs or chicks.

My usual Sunday morning circuit last weekend from Crail to Wormiston to the coast path via the Sea House and then back via Balcomie, Fife Ness and Saucehope felt very summery. I didn't realise it was the last warm day this week. Swallows all the way and a couple of sand martins for the Crail year list (no. 113) down on the shore. The stretch of coast from Balcomie Beach for a kilometre to the north was the best

with at least three white wagtails – these are the Continental sub-species of pied wagtail with pale grey backs and rumps,



and to my ear a more house sparrow like call. We get a few every spring at Balcomie and when there is one about there are usually some more. How much of this is just noticing them though – because if you don't pay attention then they are just another pied wagtail. Pied wagtails are so easy to identify at a distance and are everywhere that I hardly look at them: only when I am re-

mindful of white wagtails, like when a handsome pale male lands right in front of me as it did last Sunday, do I remember to really check. And then I find three in a kilometre. I started to feel paranoid so diligently checked a whole lot more pied/white wagtails and reassuringly only found piers. There were three northern wheatears (all gorgeous breeding plumage males) along the same stretch of coast, and a couple of whimbrels, so the migrant white wagtails weren't alone. The Patch at Fife Ness in contrast was very quiet apart from more swallows overhead.

Most of the swallows came in over last weekend and they are now fully back in residence in Crail and Kingsbarns. I suspect they might be wishing they had delayed another week though with the cold weather from Monday onwards.

There is a blackbird pair that has been feeding chicks



in our back garden since last week. The male blackbird is particularly fearless and if there is any digging being done it flies down and feeds close by. So close that we could notice that it had a stick stuck to it – poking out of its side as if it was impaled. And then its fearlessness became perhaps an indication of an injured bird, foregoing safety to feed at all costs because it was finding it tough going. I have a licence to catch blackbirds so put up a mist net alongside the hedge where the nest was so that I could hopefully catch the male and do something about its apparent injury. This was last Sunday when it was very windy so it wasn't very successful: a mist net works because it is not visible and if it is flapping about in the wind nothing will be foolish enough to go near it. The male regarded the net a long time as it approached the nest with a beak full of ivy berries and then went round it. I furlled the net (tightly rolled so it can't catch anything) and left it in place for

the blackbird to get used to coming and going to the nest past the net. Then early next morning I unfurled the net again and caught the blackbird within a few minutes. If a bird is going somewhere predictably, and it doesn't get more predictable than going back and forth to a nest, then catching it – when there isn't a wind – is easy. I extracted the blackbird from the net and was pleasantly surprised to find the stick was a fine rose twig, covered in thorns, but only deeply entangled in the blackbird's belly feathers. Blackbirds have a particularly thick downy layer under their contour feathers which provides some protection if they are grabbed by a sparrowhawk – the feathers get grabbed and pulled out sometimes rather than the hawk getting actual hold of the blackbird. I have seen a blackbird grabbed in flight by a sparrowhawk, seeming to explode in a puff of downy feathers as this happened. The puff of feathers may even have further confused the hawk like squid ink, allowing the blackbird to slip out of the hawk's grip and away to cover. Anyway, this adaptation was not so

good in the case of a twisted and thorny rose twig, which stuck to the down like velcro. I had to cut it out of the feathers. I let the blackbird go straight away, hopefully improved by the experience. And the story has a final happy ending. It was back feeding its chicks later in the morning, it is still doing so and it is still as fearless as ever. Normally interventions to “save” a bird don't go well but this one did. I look forward to seeing the male blackbird's chicks fledging in due course, although the very cold weather of the last few days may be a new woe for the male.

There was lovely visibility out to sea last Thursday night. Cold and little wind so no hint of a heat haze. Lots of kittiwakes going past and my first manx shearwater of the summer (no. 114 for the Crail year list). More migrants should come in this week including the first whitethroat and sedge warbler and swifts and terns as well, if it warms up again.

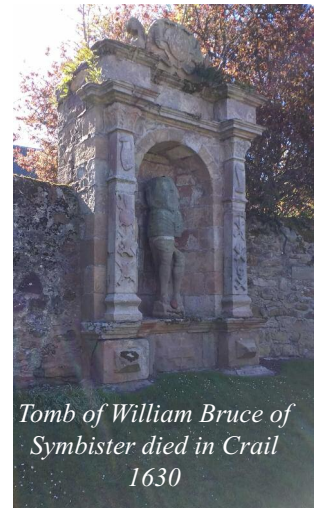
Crail Churchyard's Mural Monuments

Anne Robertson

Erskine Beveridge, who owned a linen manufacturing business in Dunfermline and was also a historian and antiquary, came to Crail in the late 19th Century and recorded details of the precious Murals situated in the walls around Crail Church. This was one of the first photographic records of churchyard memorials and the photographs were of a very high quality accompanied by detailed descriptions. Many memorials date back to the 17th Century. While doing this work Erskine Beveridge lived in Kirkmay House.

For some time it has been noticed that cracks have appeared in the stonework allowing ivy etc. to invade the structures. The last time work was done on the Murals was in the late 1960's and early 1970's.

We are very grateful to Mrs. Elizabeth Riches for starting “the ball rolling” by approaching Dr. Susan Buckham, an expert in Churchyard Monuments. Dr. Buckham visited Crail in February and together with Mrs. Riches, representatives from Crail Church and Crail Preservation Society examined the Monuments. Damage done by the growth of weeds in the cracks could be seen in most of the stones, but three of the Monuments were classed as dangerous, and if they are to be saved must be restored by a specialist. Meantime the three dangerous Monuments have been surrounded by cages to insure the safety of gardeners and visitors.



*Tomb of William Bruce of
Symbister died in Crail
1630*



A great deal of work must now be done to preserve this important part of the history of the Royal Burgh of Crail. In the first instance the History Society has agreed to arrange a talk on the subject. Dr. Kelsey Jackson Williams from Stirling University agreed with great enthusiasm to give it having used the Churchyard 'as a measuring stick for the decay of murals and other monuments in Eastern Fife'.

Dr. William's talk will take place on Tuesday, 13th June at 7.30 p.m. in the British Legion Hall.

ROYAL BURGH OF CRAIL AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL NOTES



County Council Elections

The Community Council held a successfully Public Meeting with the Council election candidates after the normal Council meeting last Monday. Well in excess of 30 members of the Crail community came, and the prospective councillors were asked a wide range of questions. A focus for many questions was the inadequacy of Fife Council provision for road repairs, and the effects of planning decisions that are contrary to publicly expressed opinion. As might be expected, the potential councillors didn't always answer questions adequately, and although there was relatively little recourse to party agendas, a number of the candidates showed weak knowledge of the issues affecting Crail.

An issue raised by several people is why are there no independent candidates, as opposed to candidates representing National political parties? It is difficult to know why this might be. A positive note is that all candidates had local links and have lived in or around the East Neuk.

A judgement we will all have to make in this election is the extent to which the elected representatives will be able to stand up to sophisticated and manipulative council officials. Being told that issues are complex, as we sometimes were, is not a substitute for being decisive in situations where as councillors they will be required to have an opinion.

The Community Council is a non political body, and it is not for the Council to recommend any particular voting strategy. But it would be naive to imagine that national issues will not play a part. However, we are entitled to stress the importance, in making a decision about who to vote for, of a capacity to ensure robust representation of our needs.

Crail Coat of Arms

The Council have recently received queries about the use of the Coat of Arms. The legal position is that the arms, officially granted by the Lord Lyon King of Arms, are the property of Crail Community Council and thus use by any other individual or organisation is incorrect. Legal advice suggests that the Community Council may give permission to a third party to display the arms with the name of the Crail Community Council to promote a joint venture or an event supported by the Council. There should, however, be no use which might suggest the arms belong to a third party, and they may not be used without permission. Failure to comply with this is

a criminal offence in Scotland. Prosecutions are brought before Lyon Court, Lord Lyon being the sole judge. Appeals from the Lyon Court can be made to the Court of Session in Edinburgh.

Crail Town Hall

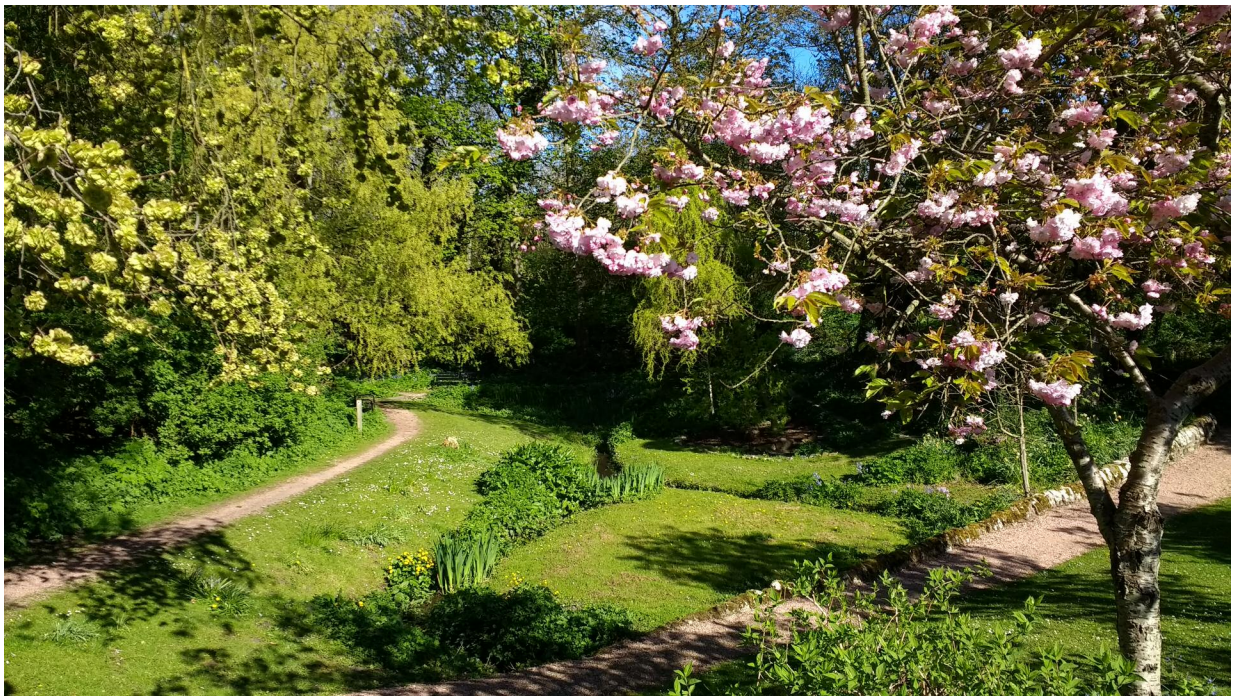
There is considerable uncertainty about the future of the Town Hall, now the Library has gone. The Town Hall is a Common Good property, which means that it cannot be disposed of by Fife Council without considerable public consultation, and in all probability requiring legal sanctioning. This contrasts with the Community Hall, which is the property of Fife Council. The Town Hall upper floor is currently leased from Fife Council (as the title holder of Common Good properties) by Crail Town Hall Management Committee.

At the last Community Council meeting, Crail Town Hall Management Committee drew the attention of the Council to a number of issues associated with retaining use of the old library provision. In particular, Fife Council have indicated that if an organisation wished to take over the whole of the building (including both the upper floor and the old library) it would require a full repairing lease with insuring for major repairs. An estimated cost for this would be around £2,500 per year. The meeting was told that the Town Hall Management Committee cannot raise this amount on an annual basis.

It was agreed that the Community Council would take the lead in exploring the possibilities of developing a structure to move forward a strategy for future use of the Town Hall, drawing on the various community organisations in Crail. This will also involve consultation with the broader Crail community. To effect this, the Council will organise a number of meetings to explore what is possible, and will develop proposals. Any proposals will need to have a clear structure, with realistic deliverables associated with a coherent financial plan.

Beach Cleanup

Although the situation does not seem to be as bad as last year, the beaches in and around Crail will benefit from a clean up. The Community Council agreed that we would hold the Beach Clean on the 27th May - keep this date in your diary! It is suggested that we all assemble at the Legion Hall at 1000am, where groups will be despatched to various locations. We really need as many people as possible to help with this, so please join us. The cleanup will finish at around 1200, and tea and coffee will then be available at the Legion Hall.



Spring Morning, Denburn Woods



Bridge strengthening work A917 Kilrenny

Fife Council plan to undertake major bridge strengthening and refurbishment work at Kilrenny on the A917 between Anstruther and Crail. On completion, the existing traffic lights will be removed and two way traffic will be restored over the bridge. The existing concrete bridge dates from 1937 and is in poor condition. Since 2001, it has been limited to single lane operation controlled by traffic lights. Temporary props are in place beneath the deck to avoid imposing a weight restriction.

It is planned to install a steel tunnel liner over the Kilrenny Burn and infill beneath the bridge deck with concrete. The new arch bridge will be clad in natural stone sympathetic to its location in the Kilrenny Conservation Area. Above deck level, the concrete parapets will also be replaced in natural stone. As the majority of the work will happen below road level, the impact on bridge traffic will be minimised during the works.

Planning Notices

- Installation of replacement windows (Completion of development certificate for 16/01679/FULL) - 3 West Green Crail Anstruther Fife KY10 3RD
- Approval required by condition for the erection of one dwellinghouse (Non-material variation for installation of dormers on application 14/01124/FULL) - Holding No 20 Thirdpart Farm Barnsmuir Crail Anstruther Fife KY10 3XD
- Erection of a domestic garage and formation of gate and fence - 22 Pinkerton Road Crail Anstruther Fife KY10 3UB
- Installation of porch and internal alterations with subdivision of existing dwelling house to form two cottages - Sea Cottage Wormiston Anstruther Fife KY10 3XH

Annual Beach Clean

27 May

1000-1200

Assemble Legion Hall

Tea/Coffee available from 1200 onwards

ALL WELCOME

Funding Crail Matters

The Editorial Team wish to thank those readers and advertisers who have very generously made donations to Crail Matters. We continue to depend on your support to maintain what we hope is an interesting and useful Newsletter.

To donate, please make cheques payable to 'Crab Publishing', or please contact us for the necessary details to make a bank transfer.

Crail Matters Short Story Award and Prize

Crail Matters has established a Short Story Award and Prize to encourage creative writing in Crail and the East Neuk in general; if this initiative is successful, we hope it will be offered on a regular basis. The award will consist of a cash prize of £50 and a certificate. In addition, selected entries will be published in Crail Matters, and may also be included in a collected anthology which may be published as an ebook by Crab Publishing. The Editorial decision in all matters is final.

Stories can be on any theme or subject but must be original and written in English, and should not be longer than 3,000 words. They must also be for adult or young adult readers; non-fiction and fiction written for children under 13 years is not eligible. Entrants must be 16 years or over. Work should be submitted by 9 June 2017 to crailmatters@gmail.com. Authors should be resident within the East Neuk, or be able to demonstrate significant association with the area. See issue 9 for Conditions for entry, or visit www.crabpublishing.co.uk

The Crail Seagull

An eye on our world



I lurked around the Town Hall on Monday night to listen to the candidates for the Council election. I wonder if it changed anyone's views? The Green man certainly seemed green (in a sort of post modern way), the Lib-Dems were appropriately equivocal, one SNP spoke more coherently than the other, the Conservative was a bit angry, and the Labour was ... well.... laboured. I

bet the Council officials will run rings round some of the candidates if they get elected, until they learn..

I think if a bunch of seagulls were having an election they would be a bit more angry. There are certainly some pretty aggressive cousins around at the moment, and I'm worried and a bit frightened of them.

I flew out to Kingsbarns, and saw all around the roads to the Golf course signs for the womens golf competition. I thought this was being objected to, and that there was a consultation exercise about it. Well it just shows you the contempt the organisers have for both public opinion and Fife Council if they are so confident that it will go ahead.

Material for inclusion in Crail Matters should be sent to crailmatters@gmail.com and received on Friday midday before publication. We reserve the right to edit copy for length and style. Submission does not guarantee inclusion.

© Crab Publishing 2017: Editorial Team this week: Graham Anderson, Julie Middleton, Isla Reid, Valencia Sowry, Max Taylor, John Wilson