



# CRAIL MATTERS

*incorporating About Crail*

W/C 22 May No 15

Free



## Crail Priory Doocot Project - Archaeological Dig

The long awaited Doocot restoration project will be starting on Thursday 1st June with an exploratory archaeological dig conducted by Addyman Archaeology from Edinburgh. The dig will be supervised by Tom Addyman, Liz Jones and Jenni Morrison from Addyman Archaeology ([www.addyman-archaeology.co.uk](http://www.addyman-archaeology.co.uk)) and 2 local archaeologists, Jo Hambly and Tom Dawson, who have kindly volunteered to help with the project.



Volunteers are very welcome to join in the project on any of the 4 days, either to observe or become involved in the dig. The programme is printed below, and if you would like to participate in the project, have a look and see which day(s) would suit you best and come along. So that we can have some idea of numbers, it would be extremely helpful if you could let us know when you intend to come either by e-mail to [sandyyoung2@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sandyyoung2@hotmail.co.uk), phone 01333 451393 or drop a note in to Double Dykes, Roome Bay Avenue, Crail KY10 3TR. We look forward to seeing you there.

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### Community event outline plan

**Thursday 1st June:** Liz Jones (AA), Tom Dawson, Jo Hambly

10am – 4pm. Volunteers welcome.

Opening trenches 1 and 2 for excavation.

Crail Primary School – 11am – 3pm. Times to be confirmed by school.

**Friday 2nd June:** Liz Jones, Jenni Morrison (AA)

10am – 4pm. Volunteers welcome.

Excavation of Trenches 1, 2 and clearing of doocot interior.

**Saturday 3rd June:** Jenni Morrison, Tom Addyman (AA)

10am – 1pm. Site training in Historic Building recording, further excavation & recording. Volunteers welcome.

2pm – 4pm. Tom Addyman walkabout tour of Doocot and buildings in Crail. All welcome.

**Sunday 4th June:** Tom Addyman (AA), Tom Dawson, Jo Hambly

10am – 4pm. Volunteers welcome.

Photogrammetry of inside of doocot. Completion of excavation & recording and backfilling of trenches.

## Crail in Bloom Plant Sale

Saturday 27th May 10am-noon

Corner of Castle St and High St - next to Green's  
Lots of lovely plants to choose from both decorative and edible!

## Crail Folk Club

Crail Folk Club has a Singers Night on Thursday 25th May in Crail Town Hall 8pm BYOB. Our Singers Nights are an opportunity for local performers and visitors alike to demonstrate their talents. We are fortunate in Crail, and surrounding districts, to have so many talented singers and musicians so always a high standard. If, like me, you are not one of them just come along anyway and enjoy listening – it only costs £1.

## Crail Festival Box Office

Crail Festival Box Office will be open 10am- 12 Noon on Saturday 27 May on the first floor in Crail Town Hall. An ideal opportunity to get tickets for your favourite events. Thereafter tickets will be available online at [www.crailfestival.com](http://www.crailfestival.com) from noon on Tuesday 30 May. The Box Office will feature open daily during the Festival 19-29 July. Great entertainment will be on your doorstep!

## Crail Community Choir

The choir will meet in the Town Hall on Monday 22 May at 7.30pm

This will be the last evening of this session.

The new session will begin on Monday 4 September

## Karail

If anyone would like to receive the Karail electronically in the future please send Heather an email ([heatheraird@btinternet.com](mailto:heatheraird@btinternet.com)) to indicate this and she will add you to the list.

## Crail Kirk

Sunday 28th May there is a Joint Service at Anstruther Harbour at 11am. No Church in Crail.

## A Tale of Two Towns

We recently found ourselves quite unexpectedly in Robin Hood's Bay, a lovely fishing village on the edge of the North York Moors National Park. We were struck by the many similarities to Crail and both areas depend heavily on tourism. Both towns have lovely winding streets and a steep hill down to the beach where fishing boats are launched (much steeper than Shoregate!). The locals were friendly and helpful, not unlike Crail, with lovely restaurants and cosy cafes. It's a quiet and peaceful place that attracts many coastal walkers and other tourists again, not unlike Crail however, there the similarities end.



Although a conservation area, there are double yellow lines in Robin Hood's Bay to prevent locals and visitors from parking discourteously with parking charges in the car parks provided at very reasonable costs. Almost every second person we encountered had a dog (although not a Yorkshire Terrier to be found) but the streets were completely free of dog mess and there was no litter lying around either. The very comfortable number 93 bus service from Robin Hood's Bay to Scarborough, Whitby, Guisbrough and Middlesbrough ran every 30 minutes even on Sundays and for the sum of £5.50 each (no concessions), we were able to hop on and off the service all day wherever we felt like stopping. Contrast this with the number 95 Service to St. Andrews – an hourly service, often in very old buses

which regularly break down. The cost of the service from Crail to St Andrews is £8.00 return or £8.70 for a day rider ticket. The rural roads in the North York National Park are exceptionally good, unlike North East Fife where there are more patches than road on many routes. You didn't have to worry about wrecking your tyres on unexpectedly deep potholes and the road markings were clear and sharp in Yorkshire.



On investigating, I quickly discovered that the North Yorkshire County Council spent 14.6% of its budget on Highways, Roads and Transport in 2015/16. It took a great deal longer to work my way through the vast amount of information on the Fife Council website to establish what was spent on Transportation and Roads in Fife during the same period. Fife Council's spent 5.26% of its budget on Transportation and Roads.

The roads in Glenrothes and in Kirkcaldy appear to be in far better condition than those in North East Fife which contains some of the most beautiful small towns and villages in the County, let's hope the next Administration, of whatever persuasion, can appreciate the need for good roads and transport for visitors and locals alike. Visitors will be much more inclined to return to North East Fife if they leave with their vehicle intact.

JM

### Vote for Your Favourite Fife Conservation Area

Fife has 48 Conservation areas, of which Crail is one. Welcome to Fife has launched a vote to find Fife's best conservation area to celebrate the 50 years since the passing of the Civic Amenities Act in 1967. This is a way to raise the profile of Crail, so take this opportunity to vote at:

<http://www.welcometofife.com/highlight/celebrating-fifes-heritage>



### Annual Beach Clean

27 May

1000-1200

Assemble Legion Hall

Please bring a pair of gloves. Bags and

Lifters will be supplied

Tea/Coffee available from 1215 onwards

**ALL WELCOME**



## Consultation on proposed 20 mph Bill

Mark Ruskell, the Scottish Green Party MSP, intends to propose a 20mph bill in the Scottish Parliament, and has launched a public consultation.

The bill proposes reducing the default speed limit on restricted roads from 30mph to 20mph, whilst giving local councils the power to retain specific streets as 30mph zones where suitable, e.g. as designated through routes. Whilst Fife Council has lead the way in recent years by designating over 4,000 20mph streets across the county, the approach in Scotland to date has been piecemeal, resulting in some local councils having no permanent 20mph zones in place at all.

The Scottish Greens believe that setting a lower speed limit by default is the best way to address this inequality, and ensure all our communities are safe places to walk, cycle, scoot and play.

Evidence from the rollout of previous 20mph schemes across the UK suggests that it is significantly cheaper to have a national 20mph default limit rollout as opposed to each local authority implementing their own scheme, such as Edinburgh's recent 20mph rollout. It is estimated that a national default limit will cost in the region of £4.3m compared with an estimated £17.2m if every local authority in Scotland were to replicate an Edinburgh-style 20mph scheme.

These figures also include the costs of an accompanying awareness raising campaign, which are recognised to be a key element for encouraging the public to adopt 20mph as a new norm.

A summary of the consultation document and the full consultation document can be downloaded from the Scottish Parliament Website (<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/gettinginvolved/104723.aspx>). You are encouraged to submit your responses via the Scottish Parliament's Smart Survey system at: [www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/20mphSpeedLimits](http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/20mphSpeedLimits).



## Crail Matters

Editorial Team Volunteers

### Would you like to help our Editorial Team produce Crail Matters?

We would like to invite anyone who might have an interest in working with us to contact us at: [crailmatters@gmail.com](mailto:crailmatters@gmail.com).

Crail Matters is growing. We currently distribute around 750 copies of each issue, of which 120 or so are hard copy, and the rest digital. That is of course very small by national journalism standards, but in terms of a local weekly newsletter, it is not a bad achievement. And we can see it growing further, as we engage with other East Neuk communities, and as we develop other publishing initiatives, including ebook and other production.

There are all sorts of roles that can be filled - reporting and writing material, editorial involvement, working on compiling the issues, helping with production and distribution. There are also other publishing activities that from time to time emerge, and we are very open to proposals that meet individual interests.

### 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

Our short story Award and Prize has been established to encourage creative writing in Crail, and the East Neuk in general. The award will consist of a cash prize of £50 and a certificate, and selected entries will be published in Crail Matters, and may also be included in a collected anthology which may be published by Crab Publishing. Stories can be on any theme or subject, but must be original and written in english for adult or young adult readers. Entrants must be 16 years or over.

Work should be submitted by **9 June, 2017** to [crailmatters@gmail.com](mailto:crailmatters@gmail.com). Authors should be resident in the East Neuk, or be able to show significant association with the area. See [www.crabpublishing.co.uk](http://www.crabpublishing.co.uk) for Conditions of Entry.

## TIPS FOR HOLIDAY PET CARE.

If you share your life with a pet, you can't just get up and go, so you have two options. You can either take your pet with you or make some "babysitting" arrangements. Taking your pet with you is much easier than it used to be, as hotel, and holiday cottage owners are increasingly aware that many people prefer to have their pets with them. A simple search on the internet for "pet friendly accommodation" will return results of all types from self catering to hotels and B&B. If you are looking for hotel or B&B then make sure what the rules are. "Can the animal stay in your room? Is it possible to leave your animal while you visit a restaurant? Is there an extra charge for the animal?"



These are some questions which you should ask. Self catering tends to be dog friendly, though some charge extra for a pet or pets. Again, it's best to check with the owners first. You should also enquire as to whether the accommodation has a safe fenced garden, and walks to suit all leg lengths. You'd be surprised how many dogs get lost while on holiday, a very distressing thing to happen.



You may, of course, wish to take your dog abroad with you. A pet passport is mandatory, and should be organised well in advance. You should also find out from the ferry or airline company what steps you have to take. Just as humans can fall ill on holiday, so can pets. Check your pet insurance details to find out what sort of cover you will have at your holiday destination. (Are trips overseas included?) Are there local diseases? It's

best to visit your vets beforehand. They will be able to advise you of any special requirements you may need.

When motoring with your pet, make sure that they are comfortable and safe. Always use a harness or cage in a car, as serious injury can result if a dog is involved in a traffic accident. Make sure you have plenty water and make frequent stops.

You may, of course prefer to leave your pets at home, so satisfactory provision must be made for them. It's not usually difficult to find someone to look after any animals in hutches, but make sure that the person can be relied upon.

Dogs sometimes stay with friends, which is a good idea especially if the dog knows the friend, as this is much less stressful than a complete stranger. Some people have friends come to stay in their house while they are away. This is the easiest solution for the dog, but again, it's best if the dog is familiar with the visitor. Nobody wants the situation where the dog thinks the sitter is an intruder!

Having someone else look after your pet is a big ask. You are asking someone to assume responsibility for your animal's health and welfare. Satisfy yourself that you can trust this person, and make sure that they have your vet's contact details. It's a good idea to write down details of the animal's daily routine including a feeding guide, walking information if appropriate, and with regard to dogs the need for supervision. If you are fortunate to be able to make this type of arrangement, I'd make sure you reward your friend in an appropriate way!



Boarding kennels and catteries are also an option. These are establishments which should provide an enjoyable experience for a dog or cat. Visits to the kennel or cattery are a very good idea, and take your dog with you. The professionals running these establishments are well used to being asked searching questions, so reassure yourself before your animal goes. I have left my dogs at a local kennels, and was fairly anxious about this. The owner sent me photographs and a short video of my dogs playing outside which I thought was a very kind gesture. I would use them again. Whatever holiday arrangements you make for your pets, one thing is important. You must plan ahead carefully in plenty of time. You may even wish to have a "trial weekend" to iron out any problems or questions. Careful planning means that everyone has an enjoyable break. Let's hope the weather plays its part!

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# Crail festival



We are proud to present on our website details of what we are confident is a superb programme for our 2017 Festival. Brochures have recently been widely distributed and we here continue to provide the opportunity to become a Friend of Crail Festival by making a financial contribution to help us make the Festival a big success.

You can do this by sending a donation along with a copy of the donation form below. (The form is also available on the Friends' page of the Festival website [www.craillfestival.com](http://www.craillfestival.com).) As a small thank you, Friends will be invited to the Art Exhibition Preview and reception on the 18th July at 7:30pm in the Town Hall.

Many thanks in advance for whatever you are able to contribute if you do decide to join the list of Friends, which will be published here in due course. We are sure that you will enjoy this year's programme.

The Crail Festival Committee

(The Royal Burgh of Crail Festival Society Trust (known as Crail Festival Society) is a Charity; Charity No SC020929)

To Crail Festival Society, c/o Ian J Brown,  
17 Kirk Wynd, Crail, KY10 3TW

I wish to donate the sum of £..... and either  
enclose a cheque payable to Crail Festival Society  
( ) or have donated by BACS to Crail Festival So-  
ciety,  
Account Number 00126738, Sort Code 83-17-19 ( )  
Please tick above as appropriate.

Name: .....

Address: .....

.....

.....

email: .....

Telephone: .....

Donations will be acknowledged on the website.  
If you DO NOT wish your name published, please  
tick here ( )

## Gift Aid Scheme

Please sign and date this section of the form if you wish to make your donation under the Gift Aid Scheme through which the Society can reclaim tax on the donation you make. This will increase each donation by 25% providing you have paid sufficient Income Tax.

Signature of Taxpayer

.....

Date.....

## Crail Rowing Club 50km Land-Row Challenge

After some last minute donations, the final total raised by the Row Challenge came to £1805.00.



Subsequently, Crail Rowing club were pleased to present £902.50 of this to the Legion Hall.

*On behalf of Crail Rowing Club, Jude Gallon-Fry and David Jerdan presenting to Jenny Brett a cheque for £902.50 for Crail's British Legion Hall.*

## BARNSMUIR FARM SHOP

Opening Sunday 21st May.  
Open every day 10am - 6pm  
Fresh fruit and veg straight from the fields.

## Planning Notices

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. Application withdrawn



## ROYAL BURGH OF CRAIL AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL NOTES



### **Crail Town Hall**

As indicated in previous Community Council Notes, an informal meeting was held on Wednesday 17 May to discuss preliminary ways forward for developing a proposal for the management of the Town Hall. The meeting was attended by a number of stakeholders from different organisations that had an interest in using, or developing, the Hall. Those present agreed that they were committed to further exploring ways of managing the Town Hall as a whole. It was also agreed that the next step should be a public meeting, where everyone interested is invited to attend and express their views, and if agreement can be reached, identify a Working Group to develop in detail plans for management and development of the Hall. As a preliminary to a public meeting, however, it was also agreed that the Community Council should request Fife Council to undertake a survey of the fabric of the Town Hall, indicating remedial action necessary.

The Town Hall is an iconic building of Crail. It would seem a travesty if we were unable to secure it for future generations, but there can be no mistaking the financial and personal challenges this will present. Recent experience in the campaign to retain the Library in Crail yielded little. Whilst there was strong and vocal support for retaining the Library, the numbers who were prepared to volunteer and actually do something was abysmally small - and the absence of a volunteer structure to sustain it was of course the principle reason the Library was closed. We can only hope this is not again the outcome.

### **A note from the Emergency Planning Committee**

Progress on the development of a Crail Resilience Plan is proceeding. A meeting has been held with Fife Council Officials, and we hope that the plan will be presented to the Community Council shortly.

The focus of the Crail plan will be create a capacity to respond to emergency situations, giving us the ability to complement the response of statutory authorities. Other communities in Scotland have shown how valuable such support can be, in terms of provision of emergency accommodation before emergency responders can reach an area for example, or support for elderly or infirmed community members in a prolonged power outage. A good example of how what seem to be small events

might generate a major incident recently occurred in Kettle. A small garage fire lead to a major emergency, including evacuation of householders, when it was realised that the garage contained acetylene welding equipment. This is a good example of where a small scale incident could have a significant impact and could happen anywhere, as it all depends on what forgotten things are in people's garden sheds!

### **Annual Beach Clean - Reminder**

Our annual Beach clean and general tidy up will take place on Saturday 27 May. We hope as many people as possible will want to join in. Assemble at the Legion Hall at 1000am, and the group will divide into a number of parties to work in different locations. From 1215 onwards, tea and coffee will be available in the Legion Hall. Please bring a pair of gloves, but we will provide bags and lifters. Last year's event was a great success, and generally people seemed to enjoy the experience - we hope this year will be as much fun.

### **Bus Service Changes**

The Community Council have been informed by Stage Coach Buses of a number of bus service changes from 5 June. Of particular concern to Crail, Service 95: Leven – Anstruther – St Andrews - will have minor timetable revisions to maintain and improve connections with revised service X58/X60 at Leven. An additional weekday journey from St Andrews at 1450 to Leven is introduced.

For details see [https://tiskon-maps-stagecoachbus.s3.amazonaws.com/Timetables/East%20Scotland/Fife/TEMPORARY/ESCOT\\_Fife\\_95.pdf](https://tiskon-maps-stagecoachbus.s3.amazonaws.com/Timetables/East%20Scotland/Fife/TEMPORARY/ESCOT_Fife_95.pdf)

Service X58/X60: St Andrews – Leven – Kirkcaldy – Ferrytoll P&R – Edinburgh. A revised timetable is introduced to improve reliability and accommodate a forthcoming long-term closure of Hope Street, Inverkeithing. Service X60 reverts to serving Dalgety Bay rail station only, with the diversion via Moray Way North discontinued. At Inverkeithing both routes now run via Hillend Road serving the bus stops at Fraser Avenue.

For details see [https://tiskon-maps-stagecoachbus.s3.amazonaws.com/Timetables/East%20Scotland/Fife/TEMPORARY/ESCOT\\_Fife\\_X58\\_X60.pdf](https://tiskon-maps-stagecoachbus.s3.amazonaws.com/Timetables/East%20Scotland/Fife/TEMPORARY/ESCOT_Fife_X58_X60.pdf)

**WILD CRAIL**  
will return next week



## Scam Warning

There have been a number of reports of local people receiving phone calls that say they are from Microsoft claiming that their computers have been hacked. The users have been asked to hand over control of their system so that "Microsoft" can see the extent of the problem! Once in, the scammer then tells the user that there are several security breaches which, for a fee, "Microsoft" can fix. THIS IS A HOAX - Microsoft (or any other utility provider) will never call you in this way. If you are cold called by any organisation, whether they say they are your bank, British Telecom, Microsoft or anyone else be immediately suspicious. Before giving out information, always check - legitimate organisations will always co-operate with you, and will understand why you want to check on whatever the reason is they have called for. If you are called on your landline, and you want to check if something is legitimate, use an alternative phone such as your mobile to check.

Your bank or the police will never ask you for your 4 digit card PIN or your online banking password. They will never ask you to withdraw money and hand over to them for safe keeping. They will never ask you to transfer money to a new account and they will never send someone to your home to collect money, PIN details, cards or cheque books. They will never ask you to purchase goods, and give them over for safe keeping.

We all need to be alert to attempts to defraud us. The Internet offers all sorts of new ways for fraudsters to operate, but remember that all frauds whether new or

old are an attempt to get you to part with money.

- 1 Be suspicious of all 'Too good to be true' offers and deals. There are no guaranteed get-rich-quick schemes.
- 2 Do not agree to offers or deals immediately. Insist on time to obtain independent/legal advice before making
- 3 Do not hand over money or sign anything until you have checked the credentials of the company or individual.
- 4 Never send money to anyone you do not know or trust, whether in the UK or abroad, or use methods of payment that you are not comfortable with.
- 5 Never give banking or personal details to anyone you do not know or trust. This information is valuable so make sure you protect it.
- 6 Always log on to a website directly rather than clicking on links provided in an email.
- 7 Do not rely solely on glowing testimonials: find solid independent evidence of a company's success.
- 8 Always get independent/legal advice if an offer involves money, time or commitment.
- 9 If you spot a scam or have been scammed, report it and get help. Contact ActionFraud on 0300 123 2040 or online at [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) Contact the Police if the suspect is known or still in the area.
- 10 Do not be embarrassed to report a scam. Because the scammers are cunning and clever there is no shame in being deceived. By reporting you will make it more difficult for them to deceive others.

An excellent free publication called 'The Little Book of Big Scams' by Sussex Police will give you more details. Get it here:  
<http://sussex.police.uk/media/1162/1-lbbs.pdf>

## *The Crail Seagull*

*An eye on our world*

You've heard of the mysterious dog poo chalker. Well there's now the even more mysterious dog poo fouler! One of my friends couldn't sleep one evening last week (between 9-10 pm), and was visiting the Co-op late - possibly Friday. He just turned, and to his surprise watched a wee dark brown dog leap over the wall of the adjoining house and have a dump in the front garden! Yucky even for seagulls! He/she was alone, and it's not clear if he/she was with someone visiting the supermarket. This purposeful dog then disap-



peared up the footpath to the side of the supermarket. Alas, my friend didn't have his mobile phone with him to photograph it. Now here's the mystery - there aren't that many wee brown dogs in Crail - who was this mysterious dog fouler out for his/her constitutional? And whose dog was it?

A correspondent last week in this illustrious newsletter asked me if I could answer some questions about sports facilities (or the lack of them, or the confusion about them). Well I can't anymore than you can! I know the Co-op gave some thousands of pounds for a football team (a mouse on Nethergate told me), but we don't seem to have goal posts or a football pitch anywhere (a fairly important starting point I would have thought). As far the rest - who knows? We Seagulls don't do sports, but I will keep my eye open as I fly around.

Material for inclusion in Crail Matters should be sent to [crailmatters@gmail.com](mailto: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