The Ferry News

Issue 101
Jun 2022

Village Show

North Queensferry Heritage Trust

Finally, after two years, there will be a bumper Village Show at the Community Complex on Saturday 27 August. This Heritage Trust has held the Village Show for the past twenty years. It has always been a valuable event in the village calendar that has been sorely missed. For those people new to the village the Village Show is a wonderful opportunity to exhibit your talents and provides a relaxed, happy and friendly afternoon meeting new and old friends while enjoying a cup of tea and home baking.

Come along and see what your fellow villagers have made, grown and cooked – everything from apples to potatoes to jam, chutney and cakes. Why not enter something yourself? Marvel at the fantastic arts and crafts made by talented residents and enjoy the entries in the photography section covering such diverse topics as transport, litter and holidays. And don't forget there are some nice trophies to win, something the children and others always appreciate.

Local children are not forgotten as young pupils from the primary school will be exhibiting their jam jars, decorated at school with the Jubilee in mind, while older pupils will display their Jubilee crowns. The Show has numerous different categories for young individuals to enter including photographs and art work. Children, seven years and under, can enter six categories including an edible tray garden or a collage of litter, while children from eight to twelve years will, among other things, be able to show their cooking skills with cup cakes and their imagination in making an animal from a fruit or vegetable. Older children will have a chance to exhibit their special Lego model, something grown from seed, or a painting or drawing.

The major part of the Village Show however concentrates on what grows in North Queensferry. As expected there will be plenty of vegetables and fruit competing for prizes and a cup. There will also be ample flowers and examples of the modern trend of growing pot plants. While baking and making preserves might not be to everyone's liking, we all marvel at the things produced especially items in the 'Free from' category of baking.

The end of the Show winds up with a raffle of most of the produce. This is a good opportunity to take home a delicious cake, some tasty preserves and 'home grown' vegetables.

Save the date, Saturday 27 August. North Queensferry Heritage Trust hopes you can visit, and you have an enjoyable afternoon at our VIllage Show.

Lin Collis, on behalf of North Queensferry Heritage Trust

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The printing costs of Ferry News are paid by the operator of the Community Centre and MUGA, the Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation known as North Queensferry Community Complex, but they have no responsibility for the editorial or advertising content in either the hard copy or electronic versions.

Local Action Plan

The Local Action Plan Forum has met several times now to discuss the Local Action Plan published earlier this year. We are working on the "what, when, and how" of delivering the ideas detailed in the Local Action Plan. The plan is broken down into **five** broad themes:

Natural Space is looking at the cycling, walking, accessibility, and green spaces in the village. We are looking to develop the paths around the village and improve cycle routes out of the village. We are looking to develop the Community Complex with an outdoor gym or trim trail, skate area and additional decking and seating.

Traffic and Parking is aimed at traffic calming measures and improved parking options. We are looking to add additional parking in various areas in the village (with appropriate resident consultation!), change some speed limits, and introduce traffic exclusion zones to improve safety and accessibility.

Community Facilities & Activities is aiming to improve the recreational facilities and activities in the village. The Community Complex is looking to start up local cinema nights as well as coffee mornings and possibly even a Prosecco/drinks evening. We have already sourced tennis nets for the MUGA and are working on improving the website and attracting more classes to the Centre. The Centre playpark refurbishment has also started planning the first steps.

Work and Local Economy is looking at the tourism and volunteer opportunities in the village. We are working with the Forth Bridges Area Tourism team to improve tourism signage around the village as well as promoting North Queensferry as a walking and cycling destination.

The School theme is based on the views and ideas of the school children. The children are concerned about accessibility around the village, having more trees and more facilities for them for recreation. We will be working with the school to develop these ideas further.

There is a lot more detail in each of the themes. We are planning on displaying all the ideas at the next village show. In the meantime if you would like to know more please email letstalkaboutnorthqueensferry@fife.gov.uk or speak to any committee member of the Community Complex, Community Council or Community Trust.

NQ Community Council

Your Community Council meets at 7.30pm on the second Thursday of each month.

Minutes of the previous meeting are on the village notice boards and on the Council's website: www.nqcc.co.uk.

Everyone is very welcome to attend

NQ Community Trust

To become a member and for further information about the Community Trust please contact-

http://www.nqcommunitytrust.org.uk/

VILLAGE
COFFEE MORNING
IN
NORTH QUEENSFERRY CHURCH
ON ALTERNATE WEDNESDAYS



10.30 TO 12 NOON
ALL AGES WELCOME
2022 Dates are:

July	**6**	**20**	
August	**3**	**17**	**31**
September	**14**	**28**	
October	**12**	**26**	
November	**9**	**23**	

Activities at the North Queensferry Community Complex

Dog training

Dog Trainer, Saffi Rowan has been working with dogs in North Queensferry since she was 13. Google Fife Dog Training to find Saffi on Facebook or through her website to access a registration form

Yoga

We have 3 yoga classes a week in our Small Hall
Mondays & Wednesdays 7 to 8.30

with Nacho
downwardfacingdog@protonmail.com

Friday 9.30 to 10.30 am

With Anne Guilton

anneyoga4everybody@gmail.com

Toddlers

Our Parent and Toddler group meet every Thursday at 930 until 1130 in our small hall.

This is a great place to meet other young families in the village, and a chance for little ones to create bonds with their age mates that may endure throughout their nursery and school years and beyond.

Arts and Crafts

We have an Arts and Crafts group running on Thursday nights from 7.00 until 9.30.

The group has been going for many years now and if you would like to join them contact Jill Brown at jill.ebe@talktalk.net

Youth Club

We would love to see new members for our youth club which meets on Thursday evenings in our Main Hall.

There are a number of awards that our young ones can train for at the Youth Club and these can count towards their academic qualifications.

P4 to P7 pupils meet in our Main Hall from 6.15 to 7.30

S1 and above meet 7.45 to 9.15

Ukulele

We have had a block of ukulele classes running through September/October. The teacher, Ivy Partridge, is great fun and the lessons superb. We would like to have her back again but need more people to join.

Ukulele was introduced into schools a few years ago as a replacement for recorder lessons, and it is this that has led to a huge uptake in adult players throughout the UK

Social Cafe

We have a social cafe running on Wednesdays from 10 until 1230. If you are over 65 and wish to register for this just come along any Wednesday.

If you would like to book a space within the Community Centre or the Multi Use Games Area, please email at nq.community.centre@gmail.com.

Alternatively you are welcome to pop in on a Thursday morning to make inquiries in person or to pick up food waste bags from our front lobby.

KarenTrotter (Facilities' Supervisor/artist in residence)

A Circular Library on the Fife Circle

There is something new in the waiting-room of our North Queensferry Heritage Trust railway station. It's a "book swap" – like a book-shop, but free.

There is a small bookcase in the corner of the waiting-room with a selection of all sorts of paperback books. The "book swap" notice invites people to take a look, and, if they find a book that looks interesting, to take it away with them. There are books for all ages, including some books full of pictures for young children, and some on the bottom shelf for very young readers.

They are free to pass on to someone else, to keep, or to return. Even better, put another book in its place. That would help to make it into a circulating library on the Fife Circle line!

If you are going to the station to catch a train, or just passing, take a look. You might find a book that makes your day, of even changes your view of the world. Books can do that. And if you have a spare paperback or two that someone else might enjoy, why not add them to the circulating stock in the book-case.

We can swap books among ourselves in the village via the "book swap". And we can make North Queensferry a more welcoming place to the many visitors who come to walk on the coastal path, to see the Forth Bridge, or take their children to Deep Sea World.

"That's the thing about books. They let you travel without moving your feet." Jhumpa Lahiri

North Queensferry Community Trust

NQ Community Trust is a charity set up in 2011 by local residents to work on projects to provide and improve facilities and services in the village. It has been managing the West Bay Harbour and Old Railway Pier for 6 years and also worked with a local group to build the new Pierhead Playground. It is currently working on plans to bring the Albert pub back into use.

Over the last year some major improvements have been carried out by volunteers at the harbour including landscaping and providing better facilities for boat owners. There is now a public toilet and CCTV covering the whole site. Three containers and a new modular building are now in place providing storage for Lothian Sea Kayak Club and two new community workshop spaces are currently being fitted out.

You can find out more details at our website:

www.nqcommunitytrust.org.uk

or contact

nq.community.trust@gmail.com

Who do you think you are?

by North Queensferry Heritage Trust

We all want to know where we came from, but not everyone manages to work it all out. Most of us are not celebrities and don't have a friendly TV channel to sponsor the research!

The Heritage Trust is planning a number of additions to our website around this theme. We have been in touch with locals and people further afield with roots in the village, who are working on their family trees, such as the Balds and McRitchies. If you think you have old stories about these families do get in touch via the email address below. However, we thought it might be worthwhile making a few suggestions to help you build your own family tree a wee bit easier.

Obviously, the first step is to talk and note any and all stories our elderly relatives tell us. The sooner this is done the better. As we all know, age-related illnesses sometimes prevent us from that opportunity. So grab that opportunity as soon as you can! This can be made easier by some free apps on your mobile or computer - for example, the audio recorder and camera. Everyone in the family can do the same thing. Other apps allow collaborative working, such as Geni.com, Ancestry.com, etc.

However, the old fashion approach can also be very useful… yes, a long roll of paper! If you can pin it up on a wall, so much the better as everyone can see it, and maybe inclined to help as well! A family tree is, after all, a family affair! A good bit of advice here is to use a pencil for the information you haven't confirmed, and once confirmed write it in pen, and of course, pin any old photos there too to remind you... just remember to place them in cellophane envelopes so you don't damage the photo.

There are also a number of excellent and effective sources out there…

Scotland's People - for online access to the Old Parish Registers (OPRs) and Censuses, brilliantly indexed. They do charge modest rates and great value.

Google - of course! Very useful for miscellaneous facts… just remember to go through all the hits - not just the top page!

Rootschat.com - a very useful and free online forum that has been going strong since 2003!

RootsIreland.ie - another useful site. Unfortunately, many records have been destroyed due to the 1920 troubles.

Familysearch.org - is the Mormon heritage site, and it enables the building and sharing of family trees.

British Newspaper Archive - is also a useful resource for anything reported in the newspapers across the country.

We hope this is of help… need help… contact us at NQHTinfo@gmail.com

Garry Irvine - NQHT

Brock Street Play Park

The children of the village had their say in the development of the recent North Queensferry Local Action Plan and one of the items mentioned is to try and upgrade the existing Play Park adjacent to the NQ Community Complex.

The current Park is drab, uninviting and in need of more exciting, challenging and inclusive apparatus.

A Sub-Group has been formed consisting of the current school captains, senior pupils, Head Teacher along with a member of the Steering Group.

Currently the Sub-Group is concentrating on ideas from the rest of the school and other sources to develop an exciting play area suitable to the space available (and budget!)

Funding is an important factor, but firstly, we need the support of the village to endorse any external funding. Survey Sheets confirming support for the venture have been issued and can be found at the school, the church, Alex Store, Rankins, The Wee Restaurant and the Community Complex.

Please sign up and support this venture for the children, thanks.

North Queensferry Community Trust

(Scottish Guarantee Company SC402773, Scottish Charity Number SC042598

Membership Form

Name:……..

Address: ……..……..……..……..
……..……..……..
……..……..……..

Landline number: ……..……..……..……..

Mobile number: ……..……..……..

E-mail address: ……..……..……..……..

I apply to become a Member and accept the terms of the Articles of Association (The Articles can be viewed at www.nqcommunitytrust.org.uk)

Signed: ……..……..……Date: ……..

I am aged 16 or over (please tick)……..▫

I am under 16 but over 10 and my Date of Birth is ……..……

I'm interested in becoming a Trustee of the Trust (over 15's only)...▫

If you have any ideas about facilities, services or events that you would like to see in NQ please add them here:

……..……..……..

……..……

……..

……..

Please return this form to: North Queensferry Community Trust
3 Carlingnose Point, North Queensferry, KY11 1ER

NQ Walking Group

It is 15 years since the North Queensferry walking Group was set up and it has been meeting every second Wednesday ever since, come rain or shine, if the forecast is doubtful an alternative walk is agreed upon.

Everyone meets at 10am in the church car park and fill up whatever cars are volunteered.

It is open to anyone, resident or not and is not affiliated to any organisation. It is very much an open group with no hierarchy and no costs. Participants are encouraged to suggest new walks or to put forward those they have enjoyed to be included in the six monthly programme.

As the years have gone by the walks have been developed to broaden the scope to allow all abilities to participate. Hence the two mileages on the same walk . Very seldom at present does any walk exceed 5 miles with some much shorter. Generally everyone departs at the same time and somehow all arrive back together.

Where it is possible and depending on the cars and timing the opportunity is often taken for a light lunch.

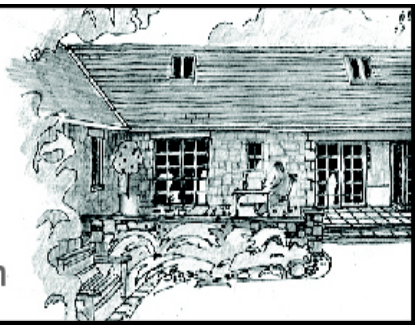
PS dogs are very welcome.

DATE	WALK	TYPE	DISTANCE	WALK
	St Margarets Hope	C	2 or 4 miles	A new walk on our doorstep, short route around the marsh, or longer along the sea wall to Rosyth Castle and back. This is mainly on reclaimed ground which infilled what was once St Margarets Hope anchorage.
	Townhill Loch	C	2 or 4 miles	The shorter walk around the Loch with plenty of wildlife on good tarmac paths. The longer is into the woods behind Townhill on reasonable paths passing the old power station and the long removed coal mines.
	Blairadam Forest	C	2 or 4 miles	The short walk is on fairly good but undulating paths through mature oak wood crisscrossing the Kelty Burn on stone bridges. The longer route is generally on good paths through Oak Birch and Beech woods. Evidence of the Blairenbathie pits can still be seen.
.	Crombie to Torryburn	C	3 miles	Starting from the car park at Torryburn we follow the foreshore to the hamlet of Crombie before turning inland and over open farmland to Crombie Old Parish Church ruin. Down through the woods to the foreshore and back to Torryburn.
.	Balbirnie House	C	3.5 miles	Tree colours should be to the fore as we walk through Balbirnie estate on this mainly woodland wander which also covers the Balbirnie standing stones.
	Linlithgow Loch	C	2.5 miles	Starting at the Palace or the car park opposite Bonnyton House. Good paths (In case it snows !) Round the loch clockwise or widdershins, Ducks, Drakes, Palaces and countryside.
	Loch Leven	L	You choose.	Starting at either Loch Leven's Larder or Findattie car park (Loch Leven Lodges) and walk as short or as far as you wish, either right or left. Whichever way plenty of wildlife.

For further information contact Eileen Donaldson :- 01383 412874

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Knowing your Community Council

North Queensferry Community Council (NQCC) supports, influences and makes positive changes in the village yet many residents know little about it.

Your Community Council wants to reach out to the village and in so doing will hopefully change residents' perception of it. To start this process we have put together a list of our achievements along with what we have supported and influenced over recent years as well as what we are still working on,

Through initiating and lobbying NQCC has achieved:-

Councillors made a successful challenge, (through a call to the Secretary of State), to an Airport Change Proposal that would have created a low level flight path directly over the village. So far any new flight path is forestalled but lobbying continues.

The installation of a hand rail at the station steps making them safer for residents and visitors.

The installation and funding to secure the defibrillator at the bus stop by the Albert.

The installation of a sign and road markings for a bus stop beside the Church.

Minimising the smell at Dunfermline waste water works on the B981.

Improvements with Hound Point through dialogue and liaison with INEOS, an international chemical company.

Resurfacing of Main Road, Old Kirk Road and Main Street and replacing the rumble strip.

Providing the annual village Christmas tree and promoting 'Village of Light'.

Providing seagull proof bins in Battery Road Car Park.

Arranging the annual Armistice Day service.

Reinstallation of a seat at the viewpoint by the Road Bridge and Doubletree.

Fife Council clean up of the recycling area at Deep Sea World.

Reporting fly tipping.

We have also had some direct positive achievements:-

Attended regular meetings to minimise travel disruption during the building of the Queensferry Crossing and took on the registration process enabling people to walk across the new bridge on the day it was opened. NQCC initiated a 'party' in the community centre the same day.

We organise beach cleans- usually twice a year

Financially we support village floral displays through the Community Council's sub group: the Floral Enhancement group.

A small grant scheme for COVID relief was administered during the pandemic.

Zoom meetings were held during the COVID epidemic and these encouraged more residents to attend the monthly meeting.

By continual lobbying we sought to remove an abandoned car at the station.

We keep in touch with our Ward councillors and reporting any village matters requiring attention.

Your community council actively supported:-

The revamping of the children's play park at Pierhead though the Community Trust.

Extended and improved parking at the Community Centre.

We are consulted on:-

All planning applications
Any proposals for new signs such as those for the Pilgrims' Way and Forth Bridges tourism.

NQCC is represented on:-

World Heritage Management Group

St Margaret's Marsh Management Group (Transport Scotland, BEAR, Nature Scot. And Fife Coast and Countryside Trust)

Edinburgh Airport Noise Advisory Board.

We are still working on:-

Minimising disruption from the Forth Rail Bridge works by attending weekly meetings with Network Rail and Balfour Beatty.

Finding solutions to Pierhead issues concerning vehicle parking and antisocial behaviour along with trying to tackle the Joy Riders and car racers who use the village roads, car parks and Pierhead nightly.

Providing a public toilet in the village at Battery Road car park.

Promoting the diversion of the coastal path off the B981 around Admiralty House.

Organising landscaping of the Brae.

Finding a community future for The Albert.

Reinstating the Marker Stone which was moved for the construction of the Queensferry Crossing.

Seeking solutions for the parking issues in Brock Street.

Better communication with village residents.

An improved Community Council website.

You would be very welcome to join us at one our monthly meetings which take place on the second Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in the Community Centre

Contributions

for the next issue of the Ferry News

are to be with us by

Friday 14th October 2022

to:

7 Carlingnose Park

E: mary@ferrynews.org.uk

101 Facts about North Queensferry

This is the 101st edition of the Ferry News! To celebrate this momentous occasion, we have listed 101 facts about North Queensferry. We hope you find some ones you didn't know before. Enjoy!!

1. The Forth Bridge first opened in 1890
2. The overall length of the Forth Bridge is 2,467 metres
3. The main structure of the Forth Bridge (portal to portal) measures 1,630 metres
4. The highest point of the Forth Bridge stands 110 metres above high water and 137 metres above its foundations
5. 53,000 tonnes of steel and 6.5 million rivets were used to construct the Forth Bridge
6. 57 lives were lost during the construction of the Forth Bridge
7. The Forth Bridge was opened on 4 March 1890, by the then Duke of Rothesay (later to become King Edward VII).
8. The Forth Road bridge has a main span of 1006 metres between the two main towers
9. The total length of the Forth Road Bridge is 1 ½ miles (2.5 km)
10. The Queensferry Crossing spans 1.7 miles (2.7km) making it the longest three-tower, cable-stayed bridge in the world.
11. Although the central tower of the Queensferry Crossing is constructed on top of Beamer Rock in the centre of the Firth of Forth, the two flanking towers are each actually founded below river bed level on a giant steel cylinder, the largest being the height of the Statue of Liberty.
12. The Queensferry Crossing rises 210 metres above high tide (683ft), equivalent to approximately 48 London buses stacked on top of each other.
13. Over 23,000 miles of cabling will have been used on the Queensferry Crossing, which is almost the same distance as the circumference of the earth at the equator (24,874 miles).
14. Barrage Balloons flew over North Queensferry. The tethering links are still visible in Carlingnose Nature reserve
15. There was an 18 hole golf course in the area of Ferryhills and Cruicks Quarry
16. In 1824 the last duel in Fife was held atop Ferryhills
17. The worlds smallest working light tower sits on the Town Pier
18. The light tower reopened to the public in June 2010, when HRH The Princess Royal relit the lamp 120 years after it fell into disuse.
19. In 1651 1,500 infantry of Oliver Cromwells army landed in North Queensferry ahead of the Battle of Inverkeithing
20. On 20th July 1651 Cromwells forces were victorious in the Battle of Inverkeithing
21. Port Laing Beach had a series of aircraft and their hangars as part of Naval Defences
22. North and South Queensferry are named after Queen Margaret who landed here in 1068
23. The North Queensferry Gala procession re-enact the landing of Queen Margaret and meeting King Malcom
24. The Gala King and Queen represent Queen Margaret and King Malcolm
25. Queen Margaret is also a Saint, Pope Innocent IV canonized St. Margaret in 1250. This is why the Playing Field is sometimes St Margarets' Playing Field and sometimes Queen Margarets' Playing Field
26. The oldest inhabited house in the village, at one time the Black Cat Inn, is in Main Street
27. The oldest building in the village is the nearby early 14th century Chapel of St James
28. The last ever commercial ferry crossing of the Queen's Ferry left Hawes Pier, South Queensferry on the evening of 3 September 1964, and docked at North Queensferry shortly after.
29. On 4 September 1964 Elizabeth II opened the new Forth Road Bridge, and 800 years' continual use of the Queen's Ferry were finally brought to a close.
30. The Community Centre was built from donated portacabins in 1991.
31. North Queensferry is one of the starting points of the Fife Pilgrim Way
32. North Queensferry is located by National Cycle Route 1, a 1,022 km long cycle route from Dover to Tain in the County of Ross
33. North Queensferry is located by the EuroVelo 12 North Sea Cycle route. A 5,942km route around the coastlines of the countries that border the North Sea: Sweden, Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, England and Scotland.
34. The Fife Coastal Path runs through North Queensferry
35. North Queensferry is further West than Cardiff and Liverpool
36. North Queensferry is further North than the southern tip of Hudson Bay
37. North Queensferry is further North than Stanley, Falkland Islands is South
38. North Queensferry primary school opened in June 1914
39. The beach at Port Laing was the site of the first Naval Air Station in Scotland
40. The River Forth rises in the Trossachs. Rain falling on Ben Lomond's eastern slopes will eventually pass us by.
41. The island under the Forth Bridge is named Inchgarvie
42. Jamestown takes its name from James Reid, who converted the 19th century chemical works situat-

ed here into dwellings.

43. The Scottish Gaelic equivalent of the English name is "Port na Banrighinn" (the port of the queen).
44. The older Scottish Gaelic name is "Taobh a Tuath Chas Chaolais" meaning "[the] Northern Side of [the] Steep Strait"
45. North Queensferry is the Southernmost settlement in Fife
46. It is recorded that Mary, Queen of Scots used the ferry on the day she was transported to Loch Leven Castle where she was imprisoned in 1565.
47. The Waterloo Memorial in Main Street is a bell-shaped stone gable carved with an anchored ship and dated 1816
48. Deep Sea World holds the record for the longest underwater moving walkway in Europe.
49. The present Church building was opened in 1963. Before this, the church was in a stone building dating from 1878, at the foot of the Brae.
50. The railway tunnel North from North Queensferry is not a tunnel proper. It is a cutting with a roof added.
51. The Lost World…Where Ferryhills Road runs parallel to the train track. between NQ and Jamestown..to the west, (between road and track) lies a former quarry. It could be accessed only by a narrow opening close to the track. Between its life as a quarry and an in-fill, it provided a magical playground for Ferry youngsters.
52. Railway tunnel under Inchcolm Drive. This gave access to the Railway Pier from the Ferry Toll Area. Originally for locomotives, latterly for dare-devil teenagers to test their daring-do.
53. When the sewage station was first built, despite assurances that the smell would not be a problem, it was. Due to a topographical quirk, this meant that the Admiral's house, with its wonderful location and terrace, was greatly inconvenienced, while the accommodation for the staff, close by, to the north, downhill and in the shade did not suffer from the stench.
54. Population at last census in 2011 was 1,060.
55. There were more women than men (541 to 519).
56. The church is twinned with Hohoe in Ghana.
57. There are 36 postcodes in North Queensferry.
58. The mosaic mural at the railway station was created in 1990 by locals to mark the centenary of the Forth Rail Bridge.
59. We are 3,248 miles away from New York.
60. We currently deliver 515 Ferry News to the houses in North Queensferry
61. North Queensferry volunteer groups lease and manage the Community Centre, the MUGA, the train station building and the harbour: by the people for the people!
62. North Queensferry Coastal Rowing Club have two skiffs that were built in their workshop. They are numbers 28 and 39 registered with the Scottish Coastal Rowing Association out of more than 250 now built across Scotland and the world.
63. The second skiff is called "Ferry Sonnet" because "Write me a sonnet on the subject of the Forth Bridge" was part of computing pioneer Alan Turing's imaginary test to determine whether computers are capable of thinking.
64. Before the Forth Rail Bridge was built there used to be a train station at the harbour. Passengers could travel from Dunfermline directly to the ferry service. It had a three-storey building with a waiting room and grand restaurant with views out over the Forth.
65. In 1964 it cost 12 shillings to transport a corpse on the Ferry to South Queensferry. Approximately the same as two stallions or a three ton tractor.
66. The Albert Hotel (built around 1830) used to be Mitchell's Inn, itself on the site of the Hope Tavern; described in 1836 as "an elegant and commodious inn".
67. In 1828 1,000 cattle a day were being ferried across from NQ
68. In 1854 there were seven quarries on the NQ peninsula, the only remaining one (Cruik's) having opened in 1828
69. The Old School House, half way up The Brae was occupied by the army for three years during WWII, and only returned "badly damaged" in November 1942
70. According to Wikipedia, famous people of NQ are (or were) Gordon Brown, former Prime Minister, Iain Banks, author,. Ian Jack, journalist and Alexander Stoddart Wilson , botanist
71. Carlingnose SSI contains the rare dropwort, field gentian and bloody cranesbill - and also has some notable species of millipede and centipede
72. The Primary School was designed by Andrew Scobie and Son, 1912-14 and is a 2-storey butterfly-plan school. This building reflects the new thinking in school design shortly after the turn of the century when Scottish School Boards turned to the Open Air School concept originated by the Germans circa 1904. This school has been little altered since it was first built and its original interior fixtures and fittings are almost completely intact.
73. Famous writer Iain Banks lived here in North Queensferry
74. There was a place serving tea, drinks and ice cream at the North end of Port Laing beach – the foundations are still visible in the woods
75. There was a farm under what is now the Forth Road Bridge
76. There was a railway to the pier at West Bay
77. The final Ferry to cross was named the "Queen Margaret"
78. The Ferry Loch used to be a regular curling venue
79. If you have got to here, most residents of North

101 Facts about North Queensferry cont:-

Queensferry would be impressed.

80. it is estimated that around 1790 there were about 312 people in the village
81. The Wee Restaurant opened 5,198 days ago (and counting)
82. Two huge guns used to sit atop Carlingnose at the Carlingnose Battery
83. The Gala first started in the late 1940's
84. 1 million gallons of water are in the Deep Sea World tank
85. The North Queensferry Boat Club was originally formed in the year of 1953
86. North Queensferry is an anagram of "horny frequenters"
87. The Firth of Forth is a fjord, formed by the Forth Glacier in the last glacial period
88. Joseph Feeney became the youngest person to swim across the Forth in 1933 when he was 13.
89. There is a sketch of North Queensferry by J. M. W. Turner
90. The Albert Hotel was named in honour of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert's arrival in North Queensferry in 1842
91. The name Carlingnose is possibly derived from its appearance to mariners sailing up the Firth of Forth, to whom it looked like an old witch (Carling)
92. On 20 June 1916 Lt. George Paton died at Port Laing Beach protecting his troops from the blast of a grenade.
93. Whinny is Scots for Gorse. Knowe is Scots for a hillock or field head. Hence Whinnyknowe
94. Brock is Scots for Badger. Are there any up there?
95. Rankins Café opened in 2012, the previous year it was Blether by the Bridge
96. The Marina now has shipping containers for clubs and crafts to use
97. There is a picnic area at the foot of the North cantilever tower of the Forth (rail) Bridge. It will be re-opening soon.
98. In July 2015, UNESCO inscribed the Forth Bridge as the sixth World Heritage site in Scotland.
99. There are more than half a dozen stone slipways into the Forth from North Queensferry
100. There is a "secret" trapdoor in the Community Centre to a lower level full of magical items.
101. St James Chapel is traditionally said to be have been destroyed by Cromwell's troops after the battle of Inverkeithing in 1651.

Messy Church

North Queensferry Church held a very successful "Messy Church" on the afternoon of Sunday 26 June. We had 38 children attending and rather more adults, Many thanks to those who helped organise as well as to everyone who turned up and took part. As well as a short act of Worship, on a theme of happiness and joy, with guitars accompanying a sing-a-long; we had games, crafts and races (which were held in the hall as the weather was a bit doubtful).

The crafts included balloon-driven helicopter making and "Fireworks" (making a thing like a lava lamp in a jam jar - this seemed popular with dads as well as kids.) as well as more conventional bracelet making, biscuit decorating and coded verses. There were toys available to amuse the smaller ones and a Shoolen board (Like shove halfpenny) amongst other attractions.





THANK YOU, NORTH QUEENSFERRY

for all your support for "our" Chernobyl Children

As you may already know, Chernobyl Children Life Line Charity (CCLL), was set up in 1992 to support children affected by the explosion of the nuclear reactor in Chernobyl close to the Belarusian/Ukrainian border.

This support took the form of a four week respite stay with UK families for the most vulnerable children. It was achieved by volunteer groups—"Links"—which raised the necessary finances for flights to the UK, provided suitable accommodation with caring families and arranged dental and eye check ups as well as fun activities—no small undertaking!

The local link was the Dunfermline and West Fife Link (now the Fife Link.) We received great help from North Queensferry villagers, from, for instance, fund raising lunches, the use of the church hall for "Thank you" concerts, provision of clothing, books and toys, private donations, hair salon visits, to contacts and moral support.

"Our" children returned home happy and healthier. They are now in their early twenties—the age for marrying and child raising and planning for a brighter future, and alas, for taking up arms.

The Belarussian and Ukrainian groups visited us on alternate years. The children were indistinguishable and there were friendly feelings between people living close to the reactor, irrespective of their different nationalities. They have much in common.

It is hard to come to terms with the fact that today half of "our" lads will be volunteering to protect Ukraine and the other half are liable for conscription to attack Ukraine (and being demonised), should Belarus enter the conflict more fully.

Please keep them all in your thoughts. And thank you again for helping to make their visits to Scotland possible.

Carol Dean,

Chair, 2007-2013, CCLL Dunfermline and West Fife Link

2007—**Belarus** Dima A. Ania B. Rita K. Ania L. Andrei P. SashaY. Dima C. Aleh I. Anya B. Masha Z. Veranika T. Lena H. **2008—Belarus** Vanya Y. Max L. Alena T. Anya K. Tanya M. Ruslana S. Natasha S. Veranika K. **2009—Ukraine** Illiya T. Kiril A. Alina C. Ira M. Ivanna K. Valeriya G. Nastia A. Yuliya Y. Andriy M. Anton Z **2010**—**Ukraine** Yuliya G. Alla I. Dasha P. Yuliya S. Vlad V. Xgeniya P. Tanya P. Olga L. Nastiya A. Marta K. Bogdan G. Vitaliya S. **2011—Belarus** Valia S. Nastia H. Liza N. Katiya Y. Nastia A. Katiya U. Ilya K. Artsem A. Vlad V. Nikita M. **2012—Ukraine** Tanya K. Dasha K. Sasha S. Maks M. Olya Z. Saya R. Artem S. Yura P. Vika V. Nata S. Roma V. Voba K. **2013—Belarus** Nastiya S. Ksiusha P. Katya K. Sasha L. Lena P. Liuda K. Nazar R. Danik V. Katiya M. Nastiya L.

To see more pictures of the please go to https://nqchurch.uk/messy-church-2022/



Quarrying at the Ferry

Quarrying stone and ferrying people cattle and goods across the narrowest part of the Forth estuary was the lifeblood of the village of North Queensferry for centuries. A way of life has now gone but some of the stories live on, and hopefully there are still more to be found. This is where North Queensferry Heritage Trust (NQHT) needs your help.

Recent research by the Heritage Trust into both quarrying and ferrying, indicates that the stories unearthed so far merit additional publications. For the moment, the Trust is focusing on quarrying and the 'heritage of stone' as it directly benefited the village. We still admire the work of those who were employed there as the stone ended up across the globe!

Stonemasonry or Stonecraft is the creation of buildings, structures and sculpture using stone as the primary material. It is one of the oldest activities and professions in human history. Many of the long-lastng.ancient shelters, temples, monuments, fortific ations, roads and bridges, then lighthouses - the Light Tower at the Town Pier is a good example - were all built of stone.

Early history of the Forth shows the importance of the islands and why many of the buildings were constructed on the islands rather than on the mainland. The Abbey on the island of Inchcolm is a good example and if you look carefully you may find a Mason's mark as shown in this photo.

A mason's mark is an engraved symbol often found on dressed stone in buildings and other public structures. If you find one it is well worth recording.

For centuries North Queensferry was, largely a close-knit community, dependent on the sea and the ferry service for its existence. However by the eighteenth century, changes were afoot. In 1763, the Guildry leased land for thirteen years to Robert Campbell, a merchant from Stirling, to quarry whinstone for road paving on the guild's ground or rocks' next to the village. The following year, he gained another lease for eight years to quarry to the east of the village and by 1767 Campbell was employing 145 men, most of whom came from nearby Inverkeithing.

However, one, or possibly both, of these quarrying works in 1785 was causing problems. Complaints were made about the rubbish made by small stones being transported from the guild's quarries to the Forth and Clyde canal company. By 1785, the loads had amounted to 1,638 tons. Large-scale quarrying had arrived in the peninsula.

Quarrying was becoming an important part of North Queensferry life clearly indicated in a report by Thomas Pennant (1726-1798), the Welsh born scientist and naturalist, published in the 1770s after his tour of Scotland:



"landed in the shire of Fife, at North-Ferry, near which are the great granite quarries, which help to supply the streets of London with paving stones; many ships then waiting near to take their lading

The granite lies in great perpendicular stacks; above which is a reddish earth filled with friable micaceous nodules. The granite itself is very hard, and is all blasted with gun-powder: the cutting into shape for paving costs two shillings and eight-pence per tun, and the freight to London seven shillings."

Today we know the 'granite' is dolerite, a tough coarse-grained rock shot through with crystals. One of the best known examples of the use of dolerite is the building of Stonehenge on the Salisbury Plain.

The legacy of quarrying in North Queensferry, with its 7 quarries, shows how the village and geology that surrounds it are closely related. With help of some local residents and the British Geological Survey (BGS) team in Edinburgh the Heritage Trust plans to 'leave no stone unturned' to build a story of how the industry developed and what opportunities there may be in future from the only remaining quarry in the area at Cruickness.

You may recognise someone in the photo opposite and if you do, we need any information, local stories or photos you have that may have been passéd down through families. Your help is much needed to bring the heritage of this important industry to life and will be acknowledged in any publication.

You can contact North Queensferry Heritage Trust in the usual way by sending an email to:

nqhtinfo@gmail.com

James Lawson - North Queensferry Heritage Trust

North Queensferry Parent Council



It has been a busy couple of months for NQPS Parent Council organising the Plant Sale fundraiser in May and the Tombola stall for Gala day in June. We would like to say a massive thank you to everyone who came to the plant sale and also to those who visited the tombola stall.

Your support for the school, with donations and showing up to buy on the day, is very much appreciated. We raised an amazing £440 for the Plant Sale and our Tombola stall at Gala day raised £119. We've also been extremely lucky to have received a few additional generous donations which have really boosted the funds. This will help to give the kids some exciting events to look forward to in the school year.



Thanks to your generosity we were able to contribute a significant sum towards a 'whole school' trip to the Van Gogh Experience in Edinburgh in June. We are also looking to organise a silent disco after the summer holidays to welcome the children back into school for the new term.



We are always keen for parents and carers to join our meetings or get involved with the committee. After the summer holidays, we will be looking to fill the role of secretary so please do get in touch if you are interested in joining. We love being able to build community spirit and make the learning a little more exciting for the kids by supplying resources and organising fun educational events.

Parents and carers of nursery and primary aged kids can keep in touch with us by joining our email

NORTH QUEENSFERRY CHURCH IS OPEN!

We are now open again for Morning Service at 10am each Sunday.

We are following 'Covid 19 guidelines' and have socially distant seating,

hand-sanitizer, mask wearing, contact recording, and deep cleaning in place!

You can find a daily devotional and the Sunday Service on our website

and any updates on plans for any permitted future events.

nqchurch.uk

Your warm welcome has not changed!

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Olivier James: Builder
Mobile Phone: 07815029249
Email: ferrypropertymaintenanceservices@outlook.com

Narrow pavements and public paths

Are plants from your garden making pubic paths narrower?

If so, please cut them back.

North Queensferry Community Complex

History

In the 1970s the old village “institute” on the Brae was demolished. Nothing was provided to replace it, so a group of villagers formed to look at fund-raising to build a Community Centre. They were offered a number of portacabins that had been used during the construction of the Mossmorran petrochemical plant.

The group got a lease from Fife Council for some land at the top of the village and built the foundations. Once the portacabins were delivered, local joiners, electricians, plumbers and builders worked voluntarily to create a single building with two halls, a kitchen, a library and changing rooms.

The building opened in 1992 and, in later years, funds were raised to add a pitched roof and a brick skin so that the whole structure was wind and waterproof. In 2014 the lease was extended to include the land behind the Centre and in 2018 the Multi-Use Games Area was built with a 2G surface, flood-lighting and facilities for a wide range of sports. In 2021 we extended the car park. In 2022 we have a number of projects to improve the inside layout of the building to increase the number of activities we can encourage, and hope to bring in a number of outside features which will make the Complex even more useful to the community, particularly its children.

Facilities

A large hall suitable for events for up to 230 people.

Banqueting tables and chairs for 100.

A small hall with a soft-play area adjacent

A kitchen with cutlery and crockery for 100.

Small meeting rooms

Three rentable studio/office spaces (all currently fully occupied), with a fourth space coming soon.

Toilets, including a fully accessible disabled toilet

Free lending library.

Free wifi throughout the building

Community Centre Use

Weekly: dog-training classes, exercise classes, toddlers’ groups, Youth Club,

Monthly: committee meetings, craft classes, councillors’ surgeries, birthday parties

Annually: Gala Week, Village Show, Bridge Race, Fife Open Studios, polling place, community consultation events, Dog Shows, parties, weddings, dinners

Approximate footfall of 18,000 people per year, or 1500 per month, before Covid.

North Queensferry Community Complex
Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation SC 050448

Membership Form

(Membership is free at present)

The Community Centre and MUGA are managed by a voluntary committee of local residents. It is fully owned and run by the community for the community; it is busy increasing activities after the Covid lockdowns. It is now incorporated as a SCIO and needs Members who are responsible for:

electing the Trustees who manage the building and the MUGA;

giving the Trustees ideas and feedback;

holding the Trustees to account; and,

checking the accuracy of the accounts showing how the money is raised and spent.

Please become a Member to show your support for this amazing village resource. **Or help us to run activities; the limiting factor is not so much money but the work needed.**

Name: .....

Address: .....

.....

Phone number: .....

E-mail address: .....

I am aged 16 or over and wish to apply for Membership ☐

I am aged under 16 and wish to apply for Youth Membership ☐

I am interested in becoming a Trustee of the SCIO ☐

I want to join a sub-group to help run projects ☐

I am interested in .....

Signed	
Date	

Please return your completed form to the Community Centre

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