The Ferry News

Heritage Trust - October 2024 - a busy autumn!

This autumn the Heritage Trust has been particularly busy with the Village Show, West Fife Doors Open Day, the 60th Anniversary of the Forth Road Bridge AND of course, the Ferry900 exhibition, at the station and South Queensferry Doors Open Day.

In addition, Barnardo's and Balfour Beatty 'Your View' (Trips up the Bridge) were running throughout the Doors Open Day weekend. Many thanks to the Trust's helpers for all these events, and in particular for



local Ferry Skipper Stephen Reid and his brother, First Mate and Shipwright Robert Reid.

Village Show 2024 - 30/31st August

The Village Show helpers did a great job in pulling together a successful show. There were entries in all sections and Sarah Brown was back presenting the prizes. This year, there were new trophies donated by John Done and a model of the Old Pier Light Tower by Sculptor Scott Gleed, in memory of John Clemmens.

Village Show winners:-

Heritage Trust Shield - Arial Wallace **-** for the most contribution to heritage. The shield was accompanied by an Amazon voucher.

Maureen Trotter Trophy - Pam Bell for the highest number of points in all categories.

Connie Dennison Vase - Pam Bell for the best pot plant.

Women's Institute Cup - Ann Bain for the best home baking.

Special Children's cups - Robbie Wallace and **Callum Bell** for the most points accrued from entries and prizes.





Bob Cubin Trophy - Sandra Hood

Jonn Done Cup- Robbie Wallace for the best photograph of flora or fauna.

John Done Trophy - Garry Irvine for the best professional photograph.

John Clemmens Award - Eric Hood **-** for the most innovative or impressive craft.

Jubilee Cup - Robbie Wallace for being the overall children's points winner

West Fife Doors Open days - 21/22nd September enabled The Heritage Trust to open a number of locations:-

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October '24

Continued from front page

Forth Bridge Heritage Centre at the Station held two exhibitions:-

John Clemmen's Steam Train photographs

Ferry900 Exhibition in the old Station Ticket Office.



● Some of the crowd greeting the Queen when she arrived at Edinburgh's Assembly Rooms for lunch after the opening ceremony.

Tears from crew as last ferry moves off

SIRENS blasting a requiem, the last Forth ferry faded into gathering fog off South Queensferry last night.

given immediately.
Captain Mason said later: "The Queen was fascinated by the view and was reluctant to leave the bridge."

Visitors not only enjoyed the displays but also had an opportunity to meet Skipper Stephen Reid, and First Mate, Shipwright Robert Reid.

St James Chapel opened all weekend enabling visitors to browse around the ancient gravestones. If you would like access to the chapel, please get in touch with the Trust via email:- NQHTinfo@gmail.com.

Forth Bridges Lighthouse Museum - on the Town Pier was busier than usual with many Barnardo's 'Your View' visitors popping in

Forth Road Bridge 60th Anniversary and Ferry900 - 4th September. Transport Scotland put on an exhibition about the Forth Road Bridge in the Transport Scotland Education Centre, South Queensferry which was visited by schools as well as the public.. Again Skipper Stephen Reid and First Mate, Shipwright Robert Reid attended and were much appreciated by all visitors.

As part of the 60th Anniversary many people took the opportunity to enjoy a ride on a vintage bus across the Forth Road Bridge..



Barnardo's Children Charity and Network Rail - 20-22nd September.

The public enjoyed 'going up the Bridge' - an annual fundraiser for Barnardo's. While waiting to 'go up' there was an opportunity to view the Trust's heritage exhibition hosted by Balfour Beatty under the Fife Tower of the Bridge.

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North Queensferry Climate Action Network (NQCAN)- One year on

Around this time last year, two villagers had a conversation and found that they agreed that it would be great if North Queensferry could have its own green electricity energy perhaps supplied by a local wind turbine. They had both heard of communities in Scotland who had been supported to install wind turbines.

North Queensferry Community Trust encouraged them to go ahead on its behalf, to see if there were others in the village who might share an active concern for community action in the face of climate change. There were/are plenty of people concerned to find ways to make the changes that we know are essential.

Under the auspices of the Community Trust, NQ Climate Action Network became established as an informal group/ network now involving around sixty people or households in the village. Over a series of open talks, meetings and discussions in the Community Centre, four complementary areas of action have recruited villagers who are exploring the subject and planning actions. Groups are working on improving home insulation and changing to green heating; better ways to get around (public transport, greener vehicles, more walking and cycling); caring for nature and countering biodiversity loss - and, of course, green energy generation.

Village Show table

North Queensferry Climate Action Network had a table at the Village Show, advertising what the Network has begun to work on. A table held an interesting competition: how many of the 497 houses in the village do you think have solar panels generating green electricity? There were lots of guesses, and the winner received a bottle of wine for coming closest to the answer -34 houses – only about 6.8% of village houses.

Electric Wheels

NQCAN participated in the Fife Climate Festival with an Electric Wheels event held as part of the Harbour Yard Open Day. Five people brought their electric cars, and several people brought along their e-bikes as talking points for visitors. People were able to discuss with owners about the costs of buying and the benefits of using an EV (electric vehicle) or an e-bike. The electric cars attracted a good deal less attention, it is fair to say, than the e-bikes.

Biodiversity and Green Transport

The Biodiversity Group promoted No Mow May and have been raising awareness of the need to protec nesting wading birds. The Transport Group promoted rerouting the coastal path off roads and possible improvements to bus routes.

Insulating and heating our homes

Most of us could improve the efficiency of our houses with better insulation, better windows and doors, and, of course, better insulation would bring reduced heating costs. We also know that we must replace our gas boilers that drive our central heating and hot water. These changes are likely to cost a lot of money, although they could also bring lower bills.

Continues overleaf

North Queensferry Climate Action Network - One year on – continued

NQCAN plans to host a session with Home Energy Scotland, the government-funded body which offers free, impartial advice on energy saving and keeping warm at home. They also advise on eligibility for support from the Scottish Government funded Warmer Homes Scotland programme.

Following an open session with plenty of opportunity for questions and discussion, individual home-owners will be able to make an appointment for one of Home Energy Scotland's experts to visit and assess the home. This will result in a report that will advise on improvements, such as installing solar panels, a battery and a heat-pump (and their approximate costs, available grants and benefits in terms of savings on running costs)

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Forthview Parish Church North Queensferry

The Church in North Queensferry, which is currently led in worship by Rev. Ewan Ritchie is progressing to the next stage in the appointment of three ministers to join the Team Ministry for Fife: Forthview Parish Church.

To enable this next step, the Church will be closed (no services) on 27 October and 3 November. On these dates services will be conducted by Rev. Sarah Smith at Rosyth and Dalgety Bay and Rev. Andrea Fraser at Aberdour and Dalgety Bay. Timings are as follows:

27 October - Sarah at Rosyth 10am; Dalgety Bay11.30am.
3 November - Andrea at Aberdour 10am; Dalgety Bay 11.30am

Rev. Ewan Ritchie will continue to conduct services at North Queensferry until Rev. Elané Sassenberg leads worship on a date to be confirmed in early 2025.

On Sunday 10 November, Rev. Ewan Ritchie will conduct Remembrance Sunday service at 10am with an early finish allowing those who wish, to attend the War Memorial at 11am.

Normal services will then continue. A Family Service, with tea/coffee/bacon roll served at 9.30am prior to the service, will be held on **Sunday 1 December** to mark the start of Advent.

Please look out for more information on Forthview Parish Church's festive services where all are welcome.

Deep Sea World

In the last edition of FerryNews, Deep Sea World communicated on the progress of the refurbishment of its seal pool to provide a more naturalistic environment for the resident harbour seals, improved water quality management and enriched play areas. The works were completed for an opening at the start of the summer holidays and the new exhibit has been well received by the public visitors and zoo industry specialists alike. The new pool still gathers water from the Forth, but has an improved state of the art ozone system to control the unwanted development of green algae.

The Deep Sea World Seals had been homed at the sister aquarium in Tynemouth for the duration of the works with the other seals in the Aspro group. This gathering together of the group gave the opportunity to consider some welfare and future population issues and it was decided that an all male group would return to Deep Sea World. North Queensferry is now home for Benji and Cody, who returned to Scotland from Tynemouth, but also Marvolo (see picture) and Sofus who were resident at the Aquarium on Tynemouth Bay. This meant that Deep Sea World stalwart Laura and her son Nova (born in the summer of 2023) remains in the group down south. Nova will not reach sexual maturity for a few more years and the separation of males and females will allow a controlled future breeding programme. Nova has proven himself an inquisitive and playful individual, keen to keep an eye on the visitors through the Tynemouth seal pool's underwater viewing window.

In other news the old Amazon exhibit within Deep Sea World is currently being redeveloped as a Mangrove display. The Amazon fish including Giant Pacu, Red Tailed Catfish and Alligator Gar were moved to a new display alongside the Frog Room. The fish in the display have attained large sizes which supports the message of the 'Big Fish Campaign' which serves to warn aquarists that some species can rapidly outgrow their tanks, and it may not always be humanely possible to dispose of them.

Deep Sea World is now exploring research opportunities to understand the behaviour, conservation and welfare of these animals and contributes directly to the BIAZA (British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums) Pinniped Working Group.

As part of its Conservation and Sustainability programmes Deep Sea world has been engaged in recent years with beach cleans on the shores around North Queensferry, with activity at Port Laing, Cults Ness, South and East Bay. Our **next beach clean will be at East Bay on Sunday 1st December** (keep an eye on social media for timings), which we last visited in June 2023. Beach cleans are organised events supported by Fife Council where members of the Deep Sea World team and volunteers can gather to remove litter and debris. The primary goal is to reduce pollution, which poses significant threats to marine life and ecosystems. Items such as plastic bottles, fiishing nets, and other debris can cause harm to wildlife and contribute to the broader issue of ocean pollution.



INVERKEITHING MEDICAL GROUP

Quality Practice Award RCGP 2011 - 2016

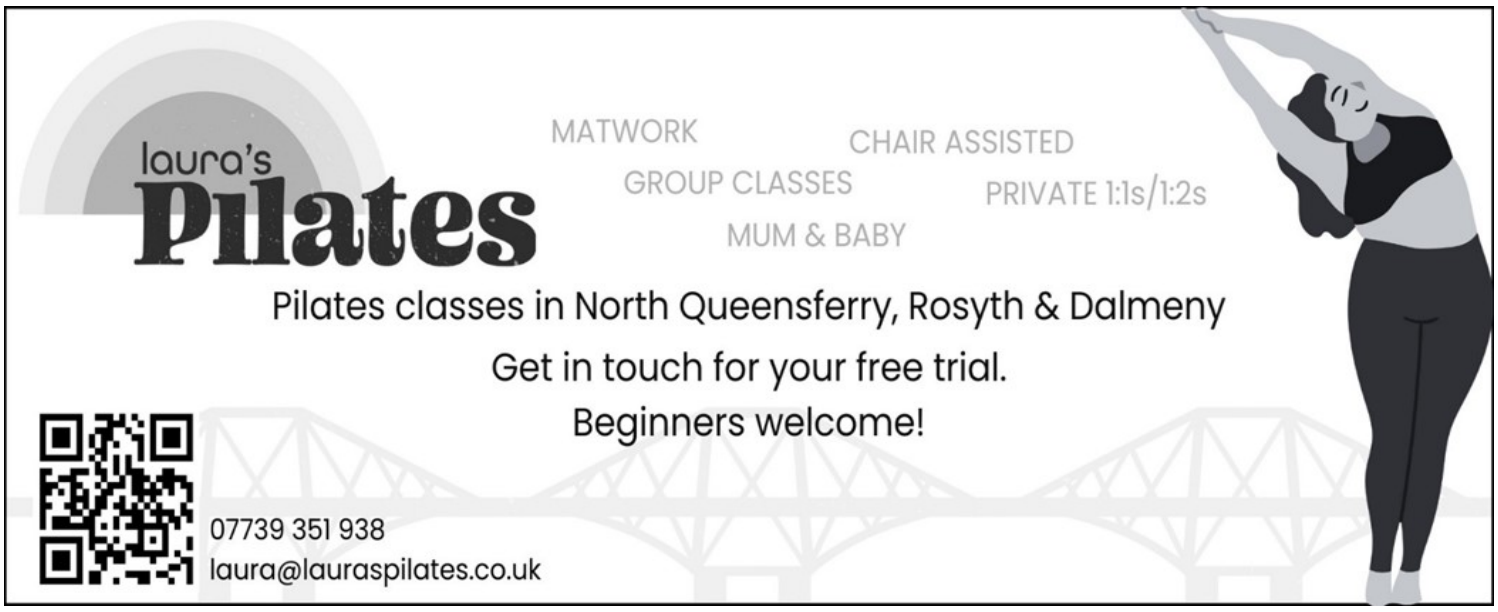
Www.inverkeithingmedicalgroup.scot.nhs.uk

Cervical Screening

Around six women in Scotland are diagnosed with cervical cancer every week. The best way to prevent this is to attend your cervical screening appointment when you receive your letter. Cervical screening is a quick way of finding out if you have Human Papillomavirus (HPV) which causes almost 99% of cervical cancers.

You've received your cervical screening letter, what's next? The surgery runs clinics on multiple days to allow you to plan your appointment around work and/or life commitments. A screening appointment is approximately twenty minutes in length and allows nurses to gather some information about your general health as well as taking the opportunity to obtain a blood pressure reading. Our role as nurses is to ensure patients feel comfortable, well informed and in control of their appointment and there are different tips which may help to make this happen. Firstly, if you feel worried, scared or have had a bad experience in the past please let us know so we can offer reassurance and discuss how best to support you. The clinic room is a safe, confidential space where we can talk through any concerns you may have. Secondly, patients are always fully in control of their appointment, and should you wish to see any of the equipment we use or have any questions about the screening process please ask and we would be more than happy to show you. Some patients may also find that listening to music or bringing a friend can help them relax during their appointment. Most importantly we don't mind if you have odd or holey socks on or haven't had time to shave your legs, all we are concerned about is that you have come for your cervical screening and that we have made the experience as best for you as possible!

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Brock Street Play Park Refurbishment---Update

Brock Street Play Park's stall at the recent North Queensferry Village Show was a big success.
On display was the proposed playpark layout and a fund barometer indicating how much money has been secured, and how much has been pledged. We secured a further £61.00 for the fund through the 'Guess the Number of Sweets in the Jar' raffle !

Many thanks to the 'Assistants' from NQ Primary School who managed the stall on the day and counted the takings - on numerous occasions!!

Our overall target is £162K and we now have £125K secured, so along with a number of possible pledges, we are very close to meeting our target. In addition, a donation of £1,000 was recently received from the NQ Children's Gala Committee and this is held in a restricted fund. Very much appreciated.

Thanks also, to everyone who has made a donation to date through our Crowdfunding Page on the Just Giving platform.
The current total is as follows:

Initial crowd funding page:	£619.00
Current crowd funding page:	£2,914.00
Total:	£3,533.00

The Brock Street Play Park's target is £4,000.00 and, with your generosity, it is expected to be achieved. The fund has already met the target set in the Conditional Grant of £30K from Fife Environmental Trust: we had to demonstrate a 10% contribution from the local community ie. £3k. So "Well Done!" and thanks.

The Crowdfunding page is scheduled to come offline in December 2024, so don't delay If you wish to make a donation, no matter how small. Please log on to: -

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/david-neill-3

Our web page has a picture of the Forth Rail Bridge

Easier still, use the QR code:

Library of Things

Would you like a Library of Things in North Queensferry?



Libraries of Things have been around for years. They are a way for a community to share all sorts of things such as tents, tools, children's toys and furniture or gardening equipment. They could be things people don't use often or donations of things from someone having a clear out.

Libraries of Things save money. Do we all need to have our own party gazebo or disco ball? Some things, such as an electric drill or a sewing machine are only needed now and then
Libraries of Things save energy. If we want to move towards net zero, we need to reduce, reuse, repair and recycle.

There are about 400 Libraries of Things around the world. Edinburgh Tool Library and Edinburgh Games Library are the closest ones to us. Further away, Share Salisbury has a library of things ranging from bongo drums and carpet cleaners to Giant Jenga.

Sharing can bring people together. Some of the existing libraries can provide helpful advice based on their experience of making sharing libraries work.
Edinburgh Tool Library - https://edinburghtoollibrary.org.uk
and Share Salisbury at https://sharesalisbury.co.uk/ .
There's also a government initiative to support sharing and repair networks:
https://shareandrepair.scot/ .

North Queensferry has many questions to answer about a Library of Things. Where would we keep it? Who would look after it? How would people know what was available? How would borrowing work? Would there be a payment? How would we keep track on things? How would we make sure items were safe to use? How would we make sure people knew how to use things? And more……?

As part of making sure that things in the library were safe would be a repair team. Aberdour, Burntisland and Culross are already running regular Repair Cafes that mend clothes, bags and household hardware.
Could North Queensferry grow a repair team into a Repair Cafe, perhaps joining forces with neighbouring villages?
Could we create a Library of Things in North Queensferry? If you are interested, please contact:-
Lucie Macaulay - nq.community.trust@gmail.com
Jane Hesketh - nq.climate.action.network@gmail.com

Seasonal singing!

The ‘Take It To The Bridge’ village singing group invites you to join them for Christmas carol practice sessions! The group will be meeting in the Small Hall of the Community Centre every Wednesday from November 20th 6.30-8pm. There's no need to commit to all four evenings - just come along for a sing-song. And don't worry if you can't read music; all the songs are classics!
Mark your calendars!



On **Wednesday December 18th** from 6.30-8pm, the group will be bringing Christmas Carols to the streets of NQ. We'll start at the light-house and head up to Brock Street. All donations will go to Inverkeithing Food Bank.

Come and join us in spreading holiday cheer throughout the village!

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The North Queensferry Arts & Crafts have been in the Community Centre since the the Centre opened in 1992.We meet on a Tuesday night at 7pm until 9pm, all are welcome to come and join us. Our numbers have fluctuated over the years but there is a small core group that have been there from the very beginning in 1992.

We don’t often work as a group, We mostly bring our own knitting or craft items to work on our own projects, but last month we did all make sock gnomes, .



New Flightpaths for More Aircraft and Noise Over North Queensferry

November consultation by Edinburgh Airport on changes to flight paths that will impact the village.

Aircraft Noise has a detrimental impact on people's health. The government recognises this impact which has been demonstrated by numerous studies of health outcomes for people exposed to noise compared to others who are not. The impact is analogous to the impact of smoking in that it happens even if people have beliefs or opinions that it doesn't matter. It does matter.

Government recognised studies have shown that for every 10 decibels of sound increase there is a10% increase in risk of Hypertension which is linked to increased risk of heart attacks, Dementia and Stroke. Noise at night is particularly detrimental to restorative sleep. Likewise, noise reduces the ability of children to concentrate at school and is damaging to their educational attainments.

There are requirements on Edinburgh Airport to minimise noise impact when and where possible. The Airport is currently applying to make changes to the flight paths of aircraft that overfly many communities, and the Airport must consult with the communities on those changes.

Edinburgh Airport will propose several significant changes to the present flow of air traffic which will **directly impact North Queensferry residents.**

Currently most traffic to London and Europe is routed by heading east over Livingston then turning south. That route has been determined to be troublesome with congestion as these flights merge with other traffic from the midlands. Edinburgh Airport is going to propose re-routing much of this traffic to turn right out of the airport and then climbing over North Queensferry while continuing to bank and head towards the south or head up the Forth towards Europe.

The Airport is proposing three different options:

Option 1 flights will climb over North Queensferry at between 5000 and 7000ft above us. 7000 ft is similar to the present height of the air traffic over Inverkeithing.This will happen on the 70% of days when the wind is from the west.

Option 3 flights will carry on towards Linlithgow before beginning to turn and will then be over North Queensferry at approximately 18000ft. This option will have much less impact on North Queensferry.

Option 2 is a compromise and planes will fly over the village at an intermediate height.

The decision on which option will be taken forward will depend on how many people's health will be impacted across each of the optional routes and **it will depend on the communities' response**. It may also be dependent on the airlines response and industry influence **so our voice and its strength is vital to the decisions which will be made on our behalf by the Civil Aviation Authority who oversee the process.**

The Community Council's representation on the Edinburgh Airport Noise Advisory Board has made a difference. The existing route that flies over Inverkeithing and has an impact on the east of the village will likely be pushed further north of Dalgety Bay and will then be higher by the time it reaches North Queensferry. That route will also carry less traffic since all of the European traffic to the east will

continue straight down the Forth. Traffic to the south will continue to be spread between this new adjusted route and the existing route that turns south over East Lothian.

All of the route changes will be required to be supported by evidence of the noise impact on people and this evidence should be clearly illustrated in the consultation material. **When the material is made public the Community Council would urge you to review, question and respond to it and will arrange to answer any questions independently of the airport.** Edinburgh Airport have also said they are willing to come to discuss the proposals with the community. The Community Council recommends that this offer is taken up and **asks you to prepare for the consultation by writing to the airport and requesting to be included in their community contact.** This is our opportunity to ensure the best possible outcome for our village.

Details are available at the CAA's application portal at Airspace change proposal public view:-

caa.co.uk

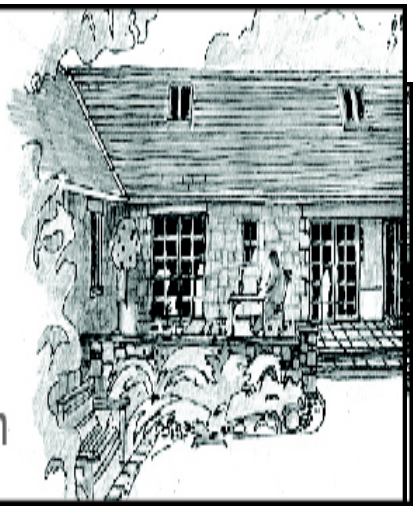
Noise Action Plan

On a closely related matter every five years Edinburgh Airport is required by the Scottish Government to lay out plans to reduce, wherever possible, the impact of noise from their operations on surrounding communities.

Their last plan from 2018 to 2023 is available at 'Noise Action Plan'– Homepage (edinburghairport.com) The consultation for this update and the new plan is due to commence on the 17th October and will continue for a nine week period. **Please take up your opportunity to give feedback and provide a response from communities.**

The impact of noise can be reduced by providing noise insulation close to the airport, by rerouting planes away from people where possible and by alterations to flight procedures and the type of aircraft flown.

Edinburgh airport has input on all of these options and will respond if there is enough support from the public to do so. Night flights in particular can be disturbing.

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North Queensferry Local Action Plan Community Forum

The North Queensferry Local Action Plan 2021 – 2024 outcomes and actions have been taken forward by the Community Forum.

These were identified through a wide-ranging community consultation gathering information through questionnaires, hand delivered to every household in the village, along with online questionnaires, engagement with local businesses and pupils of North Queensferry Primary School, Information was also received directly from a variety of community groups and voluntary organisations.

All this information was presented at four community workshops, where village residents were invited to categorise it into short, medium and long term outcomes. This became the North Queensferry Local Action Plan.

This plan was ratified and recommended for implementation at the March 2021 South and West Fife Area Committee. The Area Committee also endorsed the establishment of a North Queensferry Local Action Plan Community Forum, along with awarding it £15k to assist the development of the Forum and to fund 'early winners' identified in the local action plan.

The Forum wishes to acknowledge the helpful role the North Queensferry Community Trust have played in this process by holding the funding awarded to the Community Forum from the South and West Fife Area Committee.

The Forum has engaged with all relevant Fife Council and partnership agencies to progress all the outcomes in the North Queensferry Local Action Plan.

The Community Forum produced the list of outcomes (see opposite page) in the local action plan, the majority of which are being led by North Queensferry community groups ,working in conjunction with Fife Council services and others . The community groups including North Queensferry Community Complex, LAP Community Forum, North Queensferry Community Council, North Queensferry Community Trust, Community Action Network, Ward Councillors and North Queensferry Primary School pupils and staff.

If you wish to know more about the North Queensferry Local Action Plan Community Forum, or to become a member of this Forum, please contact Dave Manderson : -
Email – david.manderson@fife.gov.uk
Office No – 01383 411865

North Queensferry Local Action Plan results

Description	Who	Notes, 20/8/24
Local produce shop to support local artists and better café space	Community Complex	No other location identified
Outdoor gym	Community Complex	
Green travel solutions	Community Action Network	DD to liaise with Fife Council on Shuttle Bus
Develop walking routes around the village	Community Complex, Community Action Network	CC for Ferry Loch, CAN for coastal path reroute
Traffic calming measures	Community Council + Ward Councillors	
Improve parking options, roads, walkways, signage	Community Council + Ward Councillors	'Overflow car park' w ill not be available. Karen Stewart Signage project concludes.
Brock Street Playpark refurbishment	Playpark Group (David Neill + Primary School)	Funding largely in place
Community Asset discussions focus on Community Centre: upgrading, investment and extended access for all the village	Community Complex	
Albert Hotel - community asset transfer	Community Trust	
Intergenerational Consultation on community activities and learning and development; including a social space for older adult community	Community Complex	Much already in place
TRA (Tenants and Residents Association)		No demand or obvious interest
Additional consultation with children on activities already suggested for example:	Community Complex	All discussed at community complexx monthly meetings
Outdoor gym skate park for older kids (near Community Centre)	Community Complex	Community forum, parks and open spaces, schools and youth clubs
Port, marina, heritage site and other tourism opportunities	Community Trust	No specific projects

North Queensferry's Mobile Library

The Mobile Library stops in North Queensferry fortnightly on Monday afternoons.
You can find the mobile library on Brock St, opposite the school
from 2.20pm to 2.50pm on **21st October; 4th and 18th November; 2nd and 16th December.**
There's a decent range of books in the library van, however, if you can't see what you want the staff in the Van can request books from the library catalogue and will bring them for you nest time.
Remember to take your MyFife card with you to this library .



It is worth knowing that the Mobile Library Van also keeps a stock of hearing aid batteries. You will need to show your Audiology card.

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Please send contributions for the next edition by

10 January

to

lin@ferrynews.org.uk

NOTE: in future there will be four editions annually: January, April, July, October

The printing costs of the FerryNews are paid by the Community Trust.

Community Council

Why are we here?

Although your Community Council finds itself heavily committed to dealing with the many issues which affect the village, it is good to step back and remind ourselves as to why we are here.

This is put very well on the Scottish Community Council's Website:

> "A Community Council is a voluntary organisation set up by statute by the Local Authority and run by local residents to act on behalf of its area. As the most local tier of elected representation, Community Councils play an important role in local democracy. Community Councils are comprised of people who care about their community and want to make it a better place to live."

In pursuit of this aim, the Community Council has been dealing with a large number of issues, including (but not restricted to) the following:

Roads and footpaths – A lot of pressure from the Community Council has finally led to plans for the replacement of the failed setts on the road at the War Memorial and in front of Rankins with a more suitable surface. We are also engaging with Fife Council over Rights of way and, again after a lot of hard work by the Community Council and your local Fife Councillors (who attend all meetings of the Community Council) hope very shortly to see the installation of automatic barriers at Battery Road Car Park to relieve local residents of the task of daily locking and unlocking of the car park. We have also been engaging with Fife Councillors on the proposed additional parking in Brock Street.

Edinburgh Airport Flight change proposals – Perhaps the most significant development confronting the village is the Edinburgh Airport Flight Change Consultation, which is a matter so important to the village that it features in a separate article in this edition of the FerryNews. The Community Council was successful in persuading Edinburgh Airport to extend the Consultation, so it would be **good if as many residents as possible could please respond to the consultation.**

Police Engagement – In the days of Fife Constabulary and, for a while following the setting up of Police Scotland, a police representative would regularly attend Community Council Meetings, enabling us to discuss residents' concerns directly with the police. For some time now, however, no police representative has attended, and, for a period, we did not even receive written reports from the police (though this has recently resumed). We appreciate that police have many pressures placed upon them, but we are continuing to press for at least an occasional police presence.

Forth Bridge – After a long delay (reported in the last edition of the Ferry News) Network Rail

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Community Council continued.

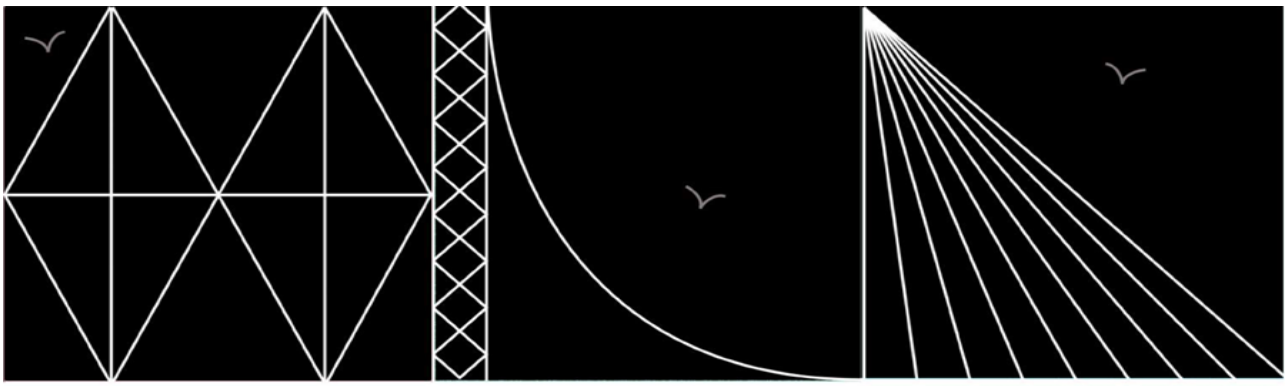
has now re-engaged on the question of the dirty water coming off the bridge, and is working up detailed proposals for the long-term remediation of the problem. These will be shared with the Community Council. Discussions are under way between Network Rail and the Community Council regarding setting up a scheme to last until the remediation work is finished, in order to deal with problems such as dirty water falling on cars, windows, paintwork and paths. Progress on the more concerning issue of falling objects is slower, but the Community Council is working with Fife Councillors, Fife Council and Fife Coast and Countryside Trust to drive a solution to this problem as well.

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Fife Council – All four local Fife Councillors (from three different parties) regularly attend the Community Council and work tirelessly to help the Community Council in its dealings with Fife Council – and this bears a great deal of fruit. So often what one reads about in the newspapers is the more political aspects of what Fife Council does, but there is no doubting the way that, at the Community level, all of our Fife Councillors work together with the Community Council to seek the good of the whole community.

Membership – The above is but a cross-section of the work carried out by your community councillors. However, the Community Council has recently lost a number of its members, either through people moving out of the village, or retiral, or pressure of work, meaning that fewer community councillors are having to take on an increasing amount of work. We have a real need of recruiting new members, particularly a new Secretary to help handle our correspondence, and our Treasurer is hoping soon to be able to hand over to a successor. It may be that there are residents out there who, rather like Monty Python's "What have the Romans ever done for us?" have not really appreciated just how much they can do to help the village through becoming a Community Councillor. If so, we should be delighted to hear from you. Just email: lgm@igmitchell.co.uk if you find yourself inspired to learn more.village through becoming a Community Councillor. If so, we should be delighted to hear from you. Just email igm@igmitchell.co.uk if you find yourself inspired to learn more.

Remembrance Sunday – the Remembrance Sunday commemoration (which the Community Council organises each year) will be held at the **War Memorial at 10.55 on Sunday 10th November**, following which the Community Council invites all of those attending to have coffee at Rankins (subject to there being enough room in the Cafe for everyone!). Before the ceremony at the war memorial, the Church has a remembrance service starting at 10.00 am which will finish in time for those attending to make their way down to the Memorial.



North Queensferry Community Trust was set up as a Charity in 2011 by representatives of the different community groups in NQ to work on projects to provide and improve facilities and services in the village.

The Trust's current major project is to manage NQ Marina and West Bay for which a 50 year lease was signed in 2015. The Harbour is home to NQ Boat Club and NQ Coastal Rowing Club as well as providing kayak storage for Lothian Sea Kayak Club. There are two community - use workshop spaces for a whole range of crafts and activities. The Wood Workshop is currently being managed by Rosyth Men's Shed who welcome anyone who would like to learn or practice their woodwork skills.

The Trust also works as an umbrella organisation through which any group of residents who want to make something happen in the village can get together and raise money or run a project without having to set up an entirely new organisation with its own bank account and constitution. This is how Pierhead Playpark Project successfully received grants and donations for the regeneration of the park a few years ago. The Trust is now working in a similar way to support the work of NQ Climate Action Network and is also holding the funds for the Local Action Plan and supporting the work of the Albert Community Group. You can find out more details at:-

www.nqcommunitytrust.org.uk

or you can email nq.community.trust@gmail.com

Another of the Trust's significant projects is the Trust's Part 5 Right to Buy Application under the Community Land Act for the Albert Community Group to purchase the Albert Hotel. The Application went in a year ago, in October, 2023, and Third Part Observations were received from the present owners, and responded to by the Trust in January this year. We are still waiting for a decision on the Application from the Scottish Ministers. It is very frustrating that the project cannot advance until a decision has been made, but the legislation does not impose any time limit on the Ministers to reach a decision. However, since the Application has been registered ,since last October, this prevents the owners from seeking to sell the property to any other buyer. The only other development was the submission by the owners in February 2024 for retrospective Listed Building consent for the unauthorised demolition of internal walls and other unauthorised work carried out in the basement, which Application was subsequently withdrawn.

We just have to keep on waiting for the Ministers' decision.

Harbour Yard Open Day

On Saturday September 21st we had an Open Day at the Harbour Yard. Visitors came to learn about electric vehicles and to have their broken household items and clothes mended by the expert team from Grow West Fife. By the end of the day 16 broken items had been repaired including a lamp, a radio, a record player, many items of clothing and several teddies! Rosyth Men's Shed were also on hand to show everyone the workshop space they are managing with a display of what they have been making recently a North Queensferry Coastal Rowing Club had one of their skiffs on show.



It was great to see lots of new faces: all enjoying tea and cake and making new connections.



Beer-brewing classes

NQ Community Trust ran a series of three sessions covering all the basics of learning to brew your own beer. They culminated in a crucial tasting session on Saturday 19th October. We had excellent and friendly tuition from a local amateur brewer who showed us how to make an IPA and a Stout without having to invest in any fancy kit.At the bottling session we learned how to measure the alcohol content and proudly bottled and capped about twenty bottles each of ''You Make Me Want to Stout 'and 'Don't IPA the Ferryman' ready for drinking a fortnight later.

Hopefully we will be having some more sessions and possibly buying some of the kit required to have more control over the brewing process so that everyone who comes to Brew school can borrow it.

Community Centre Newsletter

Great to see everyone at the Pop Up Pub on 5th October. A big thank you to Jackie Chan for organising this and to all those who helped on the night.
We hope to organise more of these and other events, including screening the Six Nations Scotland games during February and March. So look out for more information soon
.
Our usual classes continue at the centre.
Monday: Yoga 7-830pm (downwardfacingdog@protonmail.com)
Tuesday: Arts & Crafts 7-9pm
Wednesday: Art Group 2-4pm
NQ Climate Action Network 730pm-9pm (every 2nd Wednesday of the month)
Thursday: Toddlers 930-1130am
Pars foundation (small hall) 345-430pm
Pars foundation (muga) 445-545pm (Kelly@parsfoundation.co.uk)
Pilates 6-7pm (laura@lauraspilates.co.uk)
Youth Club P4-P6 6-730pm
P7+ 745-9pm
Councillor Barrat/Neal (Drop-in surgery) 7-730pm (every 2nd Thursday of the month)
NQ Community Council 730-930pm (every 2nd Thursday of the month)
Friday: Pilates 915-1015am
Chill & Chat Cafe 2-430pm (all welcome)
Sunday: Rugby Tots 930-1045am (ryan@rugbytots.co.uk)

Saffi's dog training classes are on throughout the week, all days except Friday's. Contact:-(fifedogtraining.co.uk) for more information.

We continue to have our warm space sitting area which can be used any time the centre has a caretaker present. There is also a small selection of hot and cold drinks and snacks available to purchase.
We have several rooms occupied by local artists, including Karen Trotter, a multimedia artist (contact Instragram karen.trotter1, Email karen.trotter1@gmail.com or Mobile 07765860584 to arrange a studio visit or to purchase art). Also a small business called Ecopartisans which specialise in skin care products.

We have 2 function rooms/halls available to hire for parties or events. Please contact facilities@nqcommunitycomplex.org.uk for further information.

We look forward to seeing you!

North Queensferry Walking and Strolling Group 2024-25

The meeting point is NQ Church car park every alternate Wednesday at 10.00am. Volunteer drivers will take other walkers to minimise the use of cars.

In most cases, there will be the opportunity for a coffee or light lunch.

For further information please contact **Eileen Donaldson on 01383 412874.**

Date	Walk	Type	Dis-tance	Details
30 Oct'24	Pattiesmuir	C	2-4.5 miles	This is a figure of eight walk and can be done as one of two short walks or one long one. To the North up through open farmland with views to Dunfermline Abbey etc. To the South is over the Coffin Road to Rosyth Old Church ruin (actually Limekilns), then return along the foreshore.
13 Nov'24	St David's Dalgety Bay to Ballast Bank	C	2-3 miles	Park at St. David's Harbour, then follow the Coastal Path (West) along the foreshore to the Ballast Bank, Inverkeithing and return.
27 Nov'24	Cramond Brig to Cramond Village	L	3-4 miles	Starting from the Crammond Brig car park, the walk is on generally good paths taking you to Cramond Village.
11 Dec'24	Blackness to Abercorn Church	C	4-5 miles	Starting next to Blackness Castle, generally on good level paths through woodland to Abercorn church (circa 1100's). Returning by the high or low level path. The walk can be extended to include Mid Hope Castle.
15 Jan'25	Townhill Loch, Dunfermline	C	3 miles	Starting at the car park this walk takes you around the loch then into Townhill Park and Woods. A mixture of surfaced and unsurfaced paths.
29 Jan'25	South Queensferry to Dalmeny	L	4 miles	Undulating along the foreshore on good, mainly sheltered paths passing Barnbougle Castle.
12 Feb'25	Linlithgow Loch	C	2.5 miles	An easy walk with surfaced paths, this circular walk takes you around the loch with impressive views of the palace. A good choice of cafes in Linlithgow.

Key: C—circular walk L—linear walk

Join us for a special Wellness Day on Saturday 25th January, in support of Parkinsons UK, where we come together to promote health, balance, and well-being. The event will feature Pilates and Yoga sessions, designed for all fitness levels to help you refresh your body and mind.

Alongside these activities, you'll find health and wellness tips on nutrition, movement, and self-care.

All proceeds will go directly to Parkinson's UK, helping to fund vital research and support services for those affected by the condition.

More info to follow, or get in touch with laura@lauraspilates.co.uk

**TTTT













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