The Ferry News

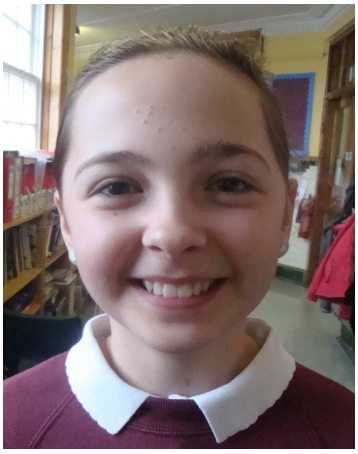
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GALA 2012

It's almost that time of year again, summer, blue skies, picnics and THE GALA!!!

Congratulations to Nathan Sullivan and Rebecca Drury, King and Queen 2012.





As always we have a full week of activities planned. There will be all the usual favourites plus we have a few new ideas tucked up our sleeves……

Gala Week will run from Saturday 16th June to Saturday 23rd June. See separate Itinerary for times and venues.

The week will take the same format as previous years with only a couple of changes.

The fishing competition is on shore only. Area to be fished covers Port Laing to the Road Bridge. Weight is of full bag, non-gutted fish. Weigh-in will take place at the end of the raft race, Railway Pier on Sunday.

The proposed Cycle Landmark race this year will also start at the Community Centre, along Brock Street , join Ferryhill Road to the Comfort Store and back again. The junior landmark (s1-s3) will turn at Garth Hill. Watch Facebook for confirmation.

The Running Landmark has also been revamped for 2012. To allow Emma McLachlan and David Steen a Gala Day free from running, the Bridge Race will now take place on the Tuesday evening. The senior Landmark will leave from the Community Centre, along Brock Street, down The Brae, along Main Road, up the bridge steps, across the bridge, back again and finish at the Community Centre. The ½ Landmark, s1-s3, will race down the steps across the bridge and back again. We hope to see as many runners as possible now that we have taken the uphill Brae from the finish line!

Gala Day, Saturday – 23rd June – 12:00-4:00pm

North Queensferry has been holding Gala Days since the 1950s and we continue the tradition by beginning the day's events with the Gala Parade. The appointed Gala King greets the Gala Queen and Ladies in Waiting at the Pier (just past The Albert!) and a procession forms. A pipe band leads the procession up the Brae, continues along Brock Street to the Queen Margaret playing fields where a traditional ceremony marks the start of Gala Day. This year children from the nursery to p4 will be making their own flags to wave as they take part in the procession.

Throughout the day there are free activities and rides for all ages. We will have Splat the Rat, face painting, a fancy dress competition (Olympics theme) and a petting zoo amongst this year's delights.

Stalls and performances are encouraged. If you wish to take part in Gala Day please speak to a member of the committee as soon as possible.

The Willie Myles trophy will this year be award to the winners of the Tug-of-War.

Continued on page 3

Ferry Birds - January to May 2012

I am never sure about the first signs of spring in terms of the arrival or departure of various species. The weather, of course, is a deciding factor for some birds, but the first birds returning to their breeding areas were, as usual, the **fulmars** on Inchgarvie. The first I saw were on the sea cliffs facing North Queensferry on the 13th of January. They were there, on and off, for the next 2 months before taking up semi-permanent residence and the birds will now be incubating eggs. **Fulmars** also breed on the quarry face above Deep Sea World and there were a few back there on the 23rd of February. The pair take turns on the nest whilst one wanders far and wide searching for food. The next signs of the breeding season are the resident birds which start singing to proclaim their territories. **Dunnocks, song thrushes, robins** and **chaffinches** were in full flow by the second week in February and more recently the **blackbirds** and **wrens** have joined in. These resident birds are joined by the end of March by the first returning birds from Africa. The first, right on cue, were **chiffchaffs**. Port Laing again proving popular although there were many others taking up positions along the coastal path**. Blackcaps** were about a month later in the middle of April and again there were several males singing loudly along the path. Other returning birds include **Sandwich terns** which were off Carlingnose Point on the 17th of April and **willow warblers** which, although there are some, seem to be in short supply around the village. One species I have not yet seen is the **sand martin** which normally breed in Cruickness quarry. I suppose it is not surprising that each spring brings different patterns of returning birds when you remember that the different species winter in different parts of Africa and are dependent on the availability of food in different places and also experience different weather along their routes back to Scotland.

The other less obvious sign of the breeding season is the total disappearance of the wintering **redshanks** in West Bay. I have not seen one there since the middle of April whereas about 40 were regularly following the edge of the water throughout the winter. They have gone north and west to their breeding grounds in Iceland. The **redshanks** were accompanied throughout the winter by **oystercatchers** and **curlews** and were joined on a few occasions by one or two **turnstones** and **dunlins**. Other birds have also left the area for their breeding grounds. **Red-breasted mergansers** and **goldeneyes** have all gone with a notable exodus of 25 **mergansers** at Port Laing at the beginning of March. They were displaying off Port Laing on the 9th and I didn't see a single bird on the 10th. Other wintering birds on the sea were 7 **great-crested grebes** with about 20 **mergansers** and 20 **goldeneyes** on the 14th of January and **little grebes** close inshore at Port Laing and Cruickness Point on several occasions in January and February.

The best sighting of uncommon birds was a flock of about 14 **waxwings** near the station on the 23rd of January. Just as my train arrived they flew into a tree; trust Scotrail to be on time when I would have liked a few minutes to admire them! I have also heard **tawny owls** hooting from the trees round Northcliffe. They call on still cold nights to settle territorial disputes and I heard one on the 14th and 26th of January and the 23rd of March. Another unusual sighting was a **green woodpecker** by the pond at Jamestown on the 9th of February. It took off from the ground as I approached showing off its yellow rump as it flew away. **Green woodpeckers** are very fond of ants and often feed on the ground. They are a common sight on golf courses in their main breeding areas in England. Other less obvious species around the village have included **tree sparrows** by the coastal path near the derelict pier on the 13th of March and a **collared dove** near The Brae on the 12th of April. These doves were common in the lower part of the village a few years ago so let's hope they are making a come back. A pair of **mallard** ducks has been in West Bay off and on during April. **Mallards** are, I suppose, the archetypal duck, a small number of which winter in Inverkeithing Inner Bay, but they are not that common in West Bay. Up to 4 **shelducks** have also been present in West Bay during the winter. **Yellowhammers** seem to have maintained their comeback which I noted last year. I have heard and seen them several times whilst walking towards Inverkeithing along Ferryhills road. The **peregrine falcons** have been quite conspicuous flying over the village and soaring over the quarry. There were 2 of them there on the 2nd of May having an altercation with a **raven**. One of the **falcons** swooped down towards the **raven** which was perched on a post near the viewing platform making a tremendous noise. Just before I saw the **peregrines** I had looked into the quarry and seen what I assume was the **raven's** nest. **Ravens** are early nesters and the commotion was probably because there were young on the nest.

Please go easy on the garden clearing so that you don't disturb the nesting birds. I am sure you will all agree its better to give the birds a safe haven to bring up their young than to have a neat immaculate garden. Tidiness is, after all, a human concept and it is probably the untidy corners of the garden where the birds can find most of their food.

Gala continued from front page

We are expecting lots of teams to form/re-form amongst the streets of North Queensferry!

We are also looking at re-vamping the Best Dressed House/Table competition and introducing 'The Best Dressed Pitch'. So dress up your gazebo, adorn your travel rug or decorate your camping chair, a judge may be on the field on Gala Day!

The free food bags for the village children (up to s4) will once again be donated by The Queensferry Hotel. The vouchers for the food will be distributed via the school. We are aware that there are many children in the village who do not attend North Queensferry Primary School. Can you please make yourselves known either through a member of the committee, Facebook or our email address and we will arrange to deliver to you.

The 'Tea Ladies' will be offering a tempting selection of sandwiches and cakes from the Community Centre. We've also added Kangaroo and Buffalo burgers to the choice on the field.

The Gala Ceilidh will round off the week's activities. This is a family event and was phenomenally popular last year. Tickets will be sold on a first come, first served basis via our 'Ticketmaster'. Please watch our Facebook page and S1 for date of sale.

Can all 2011 winners please ensure trophies and shields are returned, engraved to the Committee by the 8th June.

A photographer will be in attendance at most gala events. If you do not wish yourself, or your child, to be photographed please make yourself known to a member of the committee.

This is the time of year things really heat up for us here on the committee and I am once again appealing for 'Friends of the Gala'. We need help to hang the bunting, steward the races, set up on gala day, collect litter, sponsor the events, sell raffle tickets, ……you name it, we probably need help with it. Please get in touch via the usual places to help where you can.

In other news North Queensferry Gala Committee is now a registered charity (thanks Nigel!)..

Finally, a huge thank you to Colm Allen, Daniel Howie, David Steen and Nick Whiddett who cycled a whopping 160 miles in 2 days to raise funds for the Gala. If you haven't yet sponsored them feel free to speak to a member of the committee on Gala Day.

Looking forward to a fantastic Gala 2012 with you all!!!

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Snippets from a life changing trip

A. The Journey

We set off with the words of Church of Scotland's Carol Finlay's response to our questions about what to expect in Hohoe ringing in our ears, "You are both seasoned travellers you will be fine!!!" Nothing could or would have prepared us for our arrival in Ghana.

As retired teachers and caravaners, we have been used to planning school trips and family holidays in this country and abroad for all of our adult lives. We had never set off on a journey not knowing how we were going to get to our final destination nor indeed where, or with whom, we were going to stay.

The flight from Edinburgh to Amsterdam was pleasant and uneventful and with the luggage booked straight through to Accra the transfer to our flight to Ghana was simple, allowing 2 hours to navigate our way to the next departure gate and have something to eat.

On boarding the plane it quickly became apparent that we were the only "whites" to be travelling that day. "Whites" is a term used in Ghana that we quickly learned had no racial or any other overtones attached to it. It merely described us as white people as opposed to black people. Never the less when being described as, or being introduced to others as, "whites", took a bit of getting used to.

So the learning process began, as stated in our blog at www.coswmc.wordpress.com "Every day became a school day."

Safely landed in Accra at 9.30pm, we slowly made our way through passport control, picking up our baggage we then joined the queue for customs, which was even slower . We were still blissfully unaware of where we were staying that evening.

One finds it hard to express the relief which washed over us when we heard a thick African voice over the tannoy announce, "Would Mr Douglas Short and Mrs Jan Short please report to the information desk in the main hall."

Thank the Lord. There is someone in Africa who knows us and is expecting us.



Douglas, Solomon and Jan

It was a delight to be reunited with Rev Dr Solomon Sule-Saa whom we met during his visit to Scotland the previous year and also to meet Rev Gershon Agbi, Michael who would later turn into Super Tro Tro man (Ref CofS blog) and Francis who was to be our driver the following day.

Our first night was spent in Doris's house in Accra.



Jan and Doris

We arrived during a power cut, (Something that we had to become accustomed to during our stay in Ghana.) however the lack of power in no way detracted from the warmth and friendliness of her welcome and hospitality. There was also a slight sense of relief when just before going to sleep we became aware through the whirring of the fan above our beds that the power had come on again and we would have some respite from the heat which must have been in the 40's.

Next morning we headed north on the road to Hohoe, a journey of some 140 miles on roads which resembled the craters on the surface of the moon, only slightly smaller but more numerous. The journey out of Accra was extremely interesting as at every road junction and traffic light we were greeted by street vendors who were selling everything from, fruit and vegetables, to electrical equipment, paint brushes, furniture, street maps and dodgy DVD's. A sort of Tesco/B&Q/WHSmiths on legs. One could only marvel at the fact that there were not more of them injured as they danced with their goods between the cars as motor bikes weaved their way past.

On route to Hohoe we paid a visit of respect to Rev Felix Ashante who is the Chairman of the Volta Presbytery. He welcomed us warmly before showing us round his school at Annum. Then further on our journey we stopped to experience fresh coconut milk, straight from a coconut, before finally arriving at the Mission House in Hohoe.



Douglas, Rev Ashante, Jan, Francis and Rev Agbi



The School at Annum

North Queensferry Boat Club

On Sunday 6 May, North Queensferry Boat Club launched the community Coastal Rowing Skiff onto the Forth in front of a crowd of several hundred well-wishers who had come along to witness the historic event. NQBC promised to source this skiff for the community on the back of the very successful 2010 Boat and Harbour Festival. It has taken two years to source finance, build and paint it in readiness for the launch. Two failed lottery bids followed by a successful Awards for All application got us the green light to purchase one kit. Then our good financial management of the original award gained us funds to purchase a second skiff for the community. So if you missed the first launch you'll get another chance around September with North Queensferry Skiff No Two.

Whilst NQBC was responsible for this initiative, the building of the boat has seen a brilliant response from a cross section of the community. Frank Wood, a retired Joiner from Inverkeithing, built the skiff from scratch; several members of the newly formed NQ Coastal Rowing Club assisted with painting and varnishing prior to the launch; Brian Kerr, a Carnegie College lecturer, donated his sign writing services; the children of NQ Primary School painted the Viking style shields that hung over the sides of the skiff. The Primary Children, the NQ Heritage Trust and other members of the community all suggested names reflective of the village. Members of the newly formed NQCRC voted and chose “St Margaret's Hope”.



At 3pm on the day, lifelong resident and retired Ferry skipper Jim Taylor (88) named the skiff and anointed her with a good old Scottish Malt before the new crew carried her down and launched her onto the Forth amid loud cheers and applause from both NQ residents and the crews of the visiting community skiffs from Anstruther, Newhaven, Greenock and South Queensferry, who came along to support us.

North Queensferry Boat Club has also created the North Queensferry Coastal Rowing Club, which is a stand-alone, independently constituted organisation responsible for management and care of the skiff whilst representing North Queensferry in community rowing regattas around the country. Future news and comment shall come direct from NQCRC rather than NQBC.

The next initiative is to work with the South Queensferry Coastal Rowing Club to set up annual skiff racing across the Forth between the two villages, resurrecting the historic regattas of yesteryear. If you are interested in being part of the developing NQCRC and representing your village or just want to be part of a good social initiative then please visit http://scottishcoastalrowing.org/contact-details/ and look up NQ contacts.

North Queensferry Boat Club members are very proud of what they have done with this community initiative, taking an idea and developing it to the betterment of the area, integrating a cross section of the community and creating an environment that is encouraging more of the community into the heart of the harbour.

Other NQBC business - with summer just around the corner visitors to the harbour will note the increase in members’ boats being put into the water and on their moorings. Also, NQBC were honoured to assist the makers of the film “Railway Man” by positioning two timber clinker-built rowing dinghies allowing the film makers to get a shot which would create an atmosphere from around 1945.

Remember - keep an eye out for the announcement of the second skiff launch around September.



Heritage Trust

Many residents will remember the booklet '**Reminiscing 100 years 1890 – 1990'** published by the Heritage Trust to celebrate the centennial of the Forth Bridge.

The content was compiled from residents taking a trip down 'memory lane' and this particular story we hope you will still find both interesting and amusing.

The story of 'Village Characters' was brought to mind as a result of the location filming carried out around the Town Pier area on the morning of 30th April for the story of 'The Railway Man'. The film is the story of Eric Lomax, a railway enthusiast and surviving hero of the infamous Burma Railway.



Filming a scene from 'The Railwayman' on the Town Pier

A cast of characters, camera men and location personnel all assembled. Those appearing in front of camera were all dressed in the style worn around the time of the second world war. The exterior of some houses had to be altered to fit the period, with



Part of Pierhead Buildins transformed to 1945

rows of washing and a car used as props. The two leading actors Colin Firth and Nicole Kidman were not, unfortunately, required for filming but Jeremy Irvine who starred in the film 'Warhorse' was spotted in various scenes. Around midday the entire crew and actors left, leaving the pier area tidy, and departed to their next location in Perth. The main part of the film is to be shot in Thailand and Australia but we hope that North Queensferry will get mentioned in the location credits.

Characters in one way or another have always played an important part in the 'folklore' of the village.

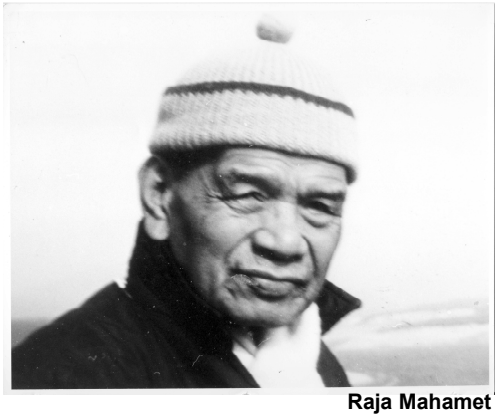
Village Characters

Every village has its well-remembered characters and North Queensferry is no exception. Mr Donaldson who was the grandfather of the Marwood sisters, is remembered by Peter Roberts because he was the village lamplighter. "There were only oil lamps in those days," recalls Peter. "Old Donaldson as we called him had a long silvery beard which came way down to his middle. Every day he had to check the oil lamps all round the village, trimming the wicks, cleaning the globes and filling them with paraffin oil. He sometimes let us boys help him and then he would give us one penny. Well, there was always a rush to help him when we saw him, but if you were not careful he would say, "No, you broke a globe last time, so you are not helping again." Peter says "I used to make sure that I was careful, because I wanted the penny for sweets, and the minute I got it I was off to Mrs. Chalmers wee shop to spend it."

The Maywood sisters remember an old lady who was called 'The Nut Brown Maiden.' "Her skin was as brown as a kipper," remembers Margaret, " and she liked her pint pot of ale."

Mary Burns remembers Tommy Turner, who rode about the village on a tricycle. He had a peg leg and he stuck it in a syrup tin so that he could pedal. "We used to shout out to him and he would race after us, his peg leg going up and down in the syrup tin!" laughs Mary.

Another well remembered character was Raja Mahamet who was Pierman for the 'Queensferry Passage' at the north side for many years. He was also an accomplished violin player. The children of the village especially loved when he flew his home made kites at Queen Margaret's playing fields and he usually helped them to make their own kites to fly in the Gala competition. Rajah's daughter, Maggie, was a post lady for the village for 28 years and his grand-daughter May has been the Brownie leader in the village for 28 years, which shows dedication.



Raja Mahamet

A Busy Wee Place

Many of the old residents claim that the village used to be quite industrious in the old days. There was the quarry workings with the boats coming in, at the wee quarry bay, to Balds pier. When the bigger ships came up river they had to take on board a 'pilot' and the pilot boat house was situated at the far end of Battery Road, behind where the north cantilever of the bridge stands. Although the building is no longer there, the slipway where the pilot boat operated from is still in use by local boat owners to this day. Tom Muir's father and older brother, Hugh, were both pilot boat men for many years before Hugh became skipper on the ferryboats. This summer a television crew from Pebble Mill came to the village to do a programme about the Centenary of the bridge. Tom Muir got chatting to the chap who was doing the interviews and it turned out that many years ago his grandfather had been a 'pilot man' and had stayed at the pilot boat cottage with his wife and triplet daughters. Tom remembered the occasion as he had been there at the time with his own father. As Tom remarked, “It’s a small world indeed!" At the other end of the village, there was the freight railway which brought goods to be shipped by ferryboat to the Lothians and there was also a ship breakers yard.

Bald's business grew and expanded from horse and cart to a fleet of lorries. Jim remembers when he bought his first lorry, which cost him £1200, his Uncle Willie said, "Man, you're daft, wasting money on that. You will never make it pay." Well Jim proved him wrong because it wasn't long before he had several more and they were all fully used.

With all the hustle and bustle of the industrious side of the village, it meant quite a lucrative economy for the tradesmen of the village shops. There was 'Peggy's' the dairy on the corner of Post Office Lane and 'Stocks' the grocer, (where the Wee Restaurant is now). Miss Davison had a sweet shop (where Blether by The Bridge is now). Mrs Reid ran the Post Office next to Stocks and sold toys, knitting wool, patterns and buttons, and ran the Christmas club. Mrs Frazer sold sweets and lemonade from her house in Main Street and there was the chip shop in Battery Road (where the flats are now). There was even a Doctors surgery in 'Hampton Court' which later moved to Main Street in the old building next to 'Ivy Cottage'. And of course there was the paper shop and the two hotels.

Willie Penny told me that when his father lived in the T.P./B.C. house on Main Street, he sold beer from a barrel to villagers who came along with their own jug to take home but it was not a proper ale house like the hotels.

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Thursday	10.30-11.30am	Dalgety Parish Church
Thursday	12.15-1.15pm	NQ Community Centre
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“MAE WEST” an the JEELY JARS

As far as Jamie and his pals, Tam, Fred, and Eddie, were concerned; pocket money had not yet been invented. Living in the little Fifeshire village of Craigpoint, in the years between the two Great Wars, their fathers had to work hard enough in the local Quarries, just to keep their families in the bare essentials of life.
Nevertheless, although they didn’t have a shop in their tiny village, to spend money in, somehow, every week, a few coppers had to be raised, to ensure they could attend the Saturday afternoon Matinee, at the “Picture Palace”, in the nearby town. There they would sit, enthralled; following the serial adventures of “Casey”, “Tom Mix”, and other celluloid heroes. A few extra coppers were of course required, to purchase the obligatory bar of “Mackintoshes” toffee, “Pandrops”, or whatever.

They developed various means, of raising the few pence they each required, to cover their modest needs. One, was hunting the hedgerows for discarded lemonade bottles, but that took a lot of effort for a small return, as two miles was a long way to hike, to the nearest shop which would redeem them for cash.
One scheme which Tam developed, for “liberating” lost? golf balls, on the nearby course, was more lucrative, as being of smaller bulk transportation problems were negligible; also, they were a commodity always in demand.
Carrying loads however, wasn’t Tam’s problem, no, it was having to part with money, every penny he acquired, normally ended up a prisoner!
He preferred to work where possible, on a barter system, so when he discovered that the “Picture Palace”, was not averse to accepting jam jars in lieu of actual cash, then he and a few other “brass necks”, immediately took up the offer.
Whereas Jamie, Fred and Eddie, all said, “It wad gie me a red neck, staunin there, shovin aw they jeely jars ower that counter”.
Tam, unabashed replied, “Weel no me, ah’ve better things tae dae wi ma cash, as fling it awa withoot guid cause”. However the sweetie shop had no such concessions, so Tam was forced to reluctantly part, with a little of his hoard every Saturday afternoon, so that he could enjoy his favourite treat, a bar of “Mackintoshes”, which he would try to make last out by sucking slowly; but due to the frantic action on screen, generally finished before the interval.

So every Saturday afternoon, they would all traipse along the two miles to the town; Jamie, Fred and Eddie, clutching, in whatever pocket of their short trousers, was devoid of holes, their precious coppers, in their hot sticky little hands.
Whilst Tam “chinked” alongside them, carting his load of jam jars, in his mother’s old string “message bag”, heading for his weekly confrontation with “Mae West”.
She being the big blousy, dyed blonde, of inestimable age;! who presided over the kiosk and cash desk, at the Picture Palace.
She always reserved a special scowl for Tam and any other urchin, who dared pester her with the bother of handling, their grubby jam jars.

Website Story

Why the change of name? Years ago, when websites were much less common than now, we registered the name www.ferrynews.co.uk for the Ferry News website. Since then, the site has carried a What’s On, back copies of the Ferry News and various other bits and pieces about NQ.

Earlier in the year, the phone rang and a voice asked if we’d be interested in selling the name. To cut a long story short, we said yes and, with a lot of help from the purchasers we moved the Ferry News website to www.ferrynews.org.uk (which is probably where it should have been to start with as co is for businesses and org for non-commercial organisations). The selling price has gone in part to paying the ongoing hosting costs and in part as a donation to the Community Centre.

So why would anyone want to buy our web name? For the full answer, take a look on the web. You’ll find “News for the Ferry Industry” – Ferry News of a quite different sort.

Walking Group

The Walking Group have two walks left on the programme for the first half of the year –

June 6 to Aberdour - a circular walk taking in Silver Sands and Heughs (optional) 3 miles

June 20 - From Powmill to Rumbling Bridge with an option of 3 or 5 miles.

Both these walks are favourites of the group.

We will have a continuing programme for the second half of the year so watch the notice boards and the on-line diary for news. New walkers are always welcome so speak to Janet on 416734 if you are interested in finding out if this is for you.



"MAE WEST" an the JEELY JARS cont.

"Mae West" fascinated them, they had never come across anyone quite like her, "her hair aw flounced up like a big yella mop an her face aw pentit like a doll", as Tam would say. "Aye, ye see the wye she pits oan that lipstick", says Fred, "her tap lip's near up her nose".
That wasn't the reason though, that they had christened her "Mae West", no, that was because of her Gigantic appendages. "Ye see the wye they hing there," marvelled Tam, "nae wunner she his tae rest them oan that counter like she dis, man they mist pit an awfu strain on her shoulders".
Fred, being a rather forthright type, referred to them using a rather earthy term, which embarrassed Eddie, whose mother was a musician in the Salvation Army: "It disnae tak much skill tae rattle an bang a tambourine," Fred would say.
"Ah, bit it's kennin whaur tae rattle an whar tae bang," Eddie would answer smugly.
"Ony whe weemin hae breests, no whit ye jist said", admonished Eddie, "Ach whitiver," says Fred, "It's a marvel tae me, whye she disnae fa flat oan her face, when she bends ower tae stowe Tam's jars under that counter".!
Being a little older than the rest of them, Tam was first to leave school at fourteen, starting work alongside his father in the "Crusher" at the local Quarry.
"Hoo are ye gettin oan at wark,"? inquired Jamie. "Och no bad," he answered; "bit ah aye git aw the donkey wark, he'ill no trust me wi ony o the scientific stuff, like ilin the cogs an tichtnin the belts, aw ah git is shovelin stour an' makin tea".! "Still", said Jamie, "It must hae bin grand, pickin up yer first paye at the end o the week". "Oh aye," he admitted, "even though ma share's only hauf a doller, efter the auld lady's had her whack."!
Tam just couldn't wait to show off his new found wealth. "Ah wis gittin a bit cheesed aff cairtin aw they jeelie jars, ony wye." So on that first Saturday, he marched along "clinkless", like the rest his hand in his pocket as well, clutching his half crown tightly in his fist. "Ah cannae wait tae see the look on "Mae West's" face, when ye slap doon that siller on her counter," says Eddie wi a chuckle.

At last Tam's big moment had arrived, he stood n front of "Mae West", with a smirk on his face, slapped down his shiny half crown. "The best seat in the hoose," says he with a swagger. Her eyes nearly popped out of her head, "Whit's this"! she exclaimed, "Money"?. "Aye" says he, "hae ye niver seen a hauf croon afore"?, "Aye", she said with disdain!, "bit niver oot the pooch o a wee shauchle like ye." "Weel missis, I'll hae ma change, if ye dinnae mind, an mak shair it's richt". "Oh aye, yer change," says she, wi a malicious glint in her pentit een.

Bending down behind the counter, her massive superstructure swinging alarmingly, she emerged with a crate of around four dozen jam jars: "Ah think yel find that's aboot richt", she smirked…

Robert Menzies Banks
28 Main Street, North Queensferry, Fife KY11 IJG
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Red Cinema Returns

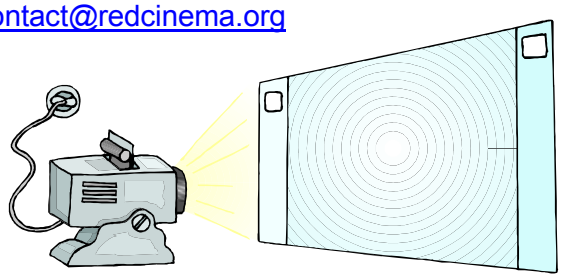
We are delighted to announce that the Red Cinema will be returning in the autumn with a line up of stonking films to entertain, thrill and delight. Exact dates are still being finalised, but (pending venue booking confirmation/funding) the programme so far looks like this....

Date	Film	Certificate
26th October	The Orphanage	15
24th November	Ponyo	U
21st December	Bad Santa	15
25th January	Trainspotting	18
16th February	Kids Choice - tell us what you want to see!	
29th March	Ladies Night - tell us what you want to see!	

Membership will go on sale in early October or you can pay on the night. Please do come along, it's a fun night with popcorn, drinks, 16ft screen and cinematic projector. Support your community cinema!

Please get in contact if you would like to get involved or have ideas, we would love to hear from you.

Like us on Facebook or email us at contact@redcinema.org



Scotland CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555 111

It is important to take precautions when people visit your home, Remember:-

WHEN THE DOORBELL RINGS...
WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

. **CHECK YOUR CHAIN**
Always put the chain on before you open the door.

. **SEE WHO IS THERE**
Look through the door viewer or window.

. **ASK FOR IDENTIFICATION**
Leave the door chain on while you check the identity card.

. **TAKE YOUR TIME**
Do not be put under pressure, if in doubt ask them to return when you can get someone else with you.

. **NEVER SIGN**
Never sign anything or .hand over money until you have fully considered the matter.

If you have any suspicions at all DO NOT LET THEM IN.

DON'T TAKE A CHANCE.
IF IN DOUBT,
KEEP THEM OUT.

Chernobyl Brunch

This was a very joyful occasion with a large number of visitors from the village and also many regular supporters of the Chernobyl charity. We managed to raise £610 with a further £100 due on Gift Aid which was gratefully accepted by Carol Dean on behalf of the Chernobyl Children's Life Line. Thank you to all who supported this event.

Toddler & Baby Group

The North Queensferry Toddler & Baby Group meets every Thursday morning in the Community Centre from 9.30 - 11.15am (cost £1.50 per family). We are a busy, lively group and always look forward to meeting new members. In addition to the children enjoying the toys and soft-play at the Centre and the adults enjoying a cuppa and a chat, we also arrange fun activities for the kids. We are having a puppet show and sports day soon! For any additional information please contact one of our committee members.

Tracy MacLeod, Chairperson (07946 295524)

Carole Egner , Secretary (417503)

Susanne Carter , Treasurer (07957 446875)

Thank you

Just a very quick note to say thanks to everyone who voted in the council elections on 3rd May. I was particularly pleased that I managed to secure the top vote in this ward which includes Rosyth and North Queensferry.

Following the election I hope to work with as many individuals, community groups and councillors from other parties to get the very best deal for North Queensferry. Along with my running mate, Simon Tate, who did not get elected on this occasion, we made some commitments to you during the campaign and I hope to make progress on all these matters during this next term of Fife Council.

If you wish to raise an issue with me I can be contacted on 01383 739515, or by email at cllr.douglas.chapman@fife.gov.uk

Again, thanks to the many people who gave me their vote of confidence.

Cllr. Douglas Chapman



Coffee Group

The Coffee Group continues to be a popular meeting up spot on alternate Wednesdays in the Church throughout the year. It is an informal and friendly group and anyone one new coming along will be welcomed and introduced if they are on their own. Ring Chris on 413372 if you need to be collected by car



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Use it or lose it!!!

Community Centre

At the last meeting of the Community Centre Management Committee a decision was taken not to increase charges for the use of the Centre despite the decrease of our grant from Fife Council by 6.5% This was in the realisation that many groups and individuals looking for a place to hold functions have their own budgets restricted in the current economic situation. We believe that our current charges are below those made by Fife Council in their own owned and run Community Centres. The refurbished kitchen provides excellent and greatly improved facilities for anyone organising family functions or fundraising for causes and its use is included in the charge made for rooms or the hall.

We would encourage everyone planning an event in the village and any new groups being formed to give serious consideration to making the Community Centre your base. Recently two members of Fife Council staff visited the centre and were impressed by the variety of activities and the number of groups using the Centre. But we need more to use it and help us keep the prices reasonable, whilst providing good facilities and maintaining the building in good order through our recently instituted rolling programme of renovation.

It's your Community Centre – use it whenever you can!

Iain Whyte, Chair,

Community Centre Management Committee

Village Shop

I should like to draw to the attention of the villagers of North Queensferry what an excellent asset we have in the local shop. I append a list of the services they provide in addition to the large stock of goods now kept.

1. Newspaper and magazine orders taken.
2. Newspaper and magazine delivery in the morning.
3. Pay point.
4. Pay zone.
5. ATM.
6. Frozen foods - a pretty good quality selection.
7. A "health" lottery.
8. Good opening hours

Weekdays 7.00 - 6 30

Saturday. 7.00 - 6.30

Sunday's 8.00. - 4.00 pm

The village is lucky to have this ready shop.

USE IT OR WE WILL LOSE IT!!

Lilias Macdonald



Contributions

for the next issue

are to be with us by

Friday 5th October 2012

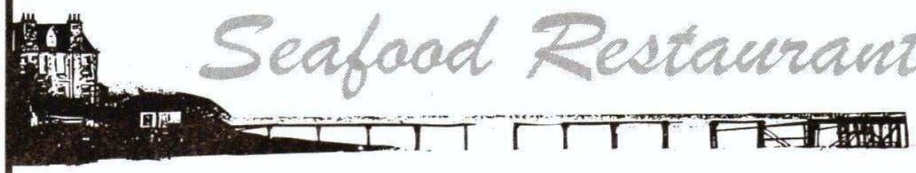
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E: **mary@ferrynews.org.uk**.

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www.roomwithaviewrestaurant.co.uk



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