



CRAIL MATTERS

W/C 29 October 2018. No 83 Free - donations welcome
Suggested hard copy Donation 40p

Crail; The Jewel of the East Neuk.

Halloween Notes from Crail Preservation Society



Take a daytime Halloween stroll round Crail Churchyard. "Grade A Listed" usually suggests a building of historic importance, but here the Walls themselves with the mural Monuments, the Gravestones and the Dead House have their own listing. The latter, also known as a Mortsafe, is behind the church. It is a small castellated building with a slit window and stout door above which is the sinister carving:

ERECTED for securing the DEAD
ANN :DOM :MDCCCXXVI.

From the 18th. century medical students were required to study anatomy. As the legal supply of bodies from executed criminals was limited, a lucrative industry grew up, particularly near university towns, where £7-£10 per cadaver could be earned! To thwart the Body Snatchers or Resurrectionists from grave robbing, it became necessary to protect new graves with metal cage covers or heavy stone slabs. An armed guard could be hired or poor families would keep a grim watch overnight, in the cold and the dark. The Sexton's Book in Crail records measures being taken to protect graves in the early 1820's.

Crail Church built the Mortsafe, paid for by public subscription, and after 1826 coffins were placed there for 6 to 12 weeks before normal burial.

A new Anatomy Bill in 1832, brought in new regulations for those studying the human body, and ended the grisly history of the Body Snatchers.

Anne Black



Wednesday Sunset over Kirkmay. *David Mann*

Crail Community Choir

Come along and join us!

Monday, 29 October 2018

7.30pm in the **Kirk Hall**, Crail

All Adults Welcome

£1 per night

Need more information?

Phone

Catriona - 01333 450398

Liz - 01333 450122



Crail Preservation Society

Cheese and Wine Party

Friday 9 November 2018 Crail Town Hall at 7.30pm

(Members - special General Meeting at 7.00pm)

Tickets £10 from Greens in High Street

or any committee member.

Scottish Charities No. SCO16960

Rental House Wanted

We are a professional responsible couple looking for a 2+ bedroom, unfurnished house to rent in Crail or surrounding area that accepts pets.

As landlords to our own rental house, we understand how a property should be respected. Would love to hear from you. 07927446287.

Lest we forget

We continue our listing of the forty four men associated with Crail who died in the first World War. We will particularly remember these men on the centenary of the ending of that war on Remembrance Sunday this year.

Driver Alexander Robertson (aged 24): Royal Engineers
Died of wounds UK 1918

Private William Sands (named as William Hannah on Memorial) (aged 19): Machine Gun Corps
Killed in Action Flanders 1917

Private John C. Sime (aged ?): Canadian Infantry
Killed in action Ypres 1916

Private William Simpson (aged 19): Seaforth Highlanders
Killed in action Belgium 1918

Private (Trooper) Robert Skinner (aged 24): Royal Dragoons
Died of wounds France 1917

Private John Smith (aged 17): Black Watch
Killed in action Mesopotamia 1916

Lance Corporal James D. Spence (aged 25): Scots Guards
Killed in action France 1918

Gunner David Swankie (aged 31): Royal Garrison Artillery
Killed in action France 1917

Private Robert Swankie (aged 33): Machine Gun Corps
Killed in action Western Front 1918

Seaman George Watson (aged 22): Royal Naval Reserve
Killed at sea 1918

Lieutenant Thomas J. White MC (aged 23): Royal Field Artillery
Killed in action France 1917

Private John Woodcock (aged 23): Seaforth Highlanders
Killed in action France 1918

Sapper William Woodcock (aged 24): Royal Engineers
Killed in action Somme 1918

(Acknowledgement: In Commemoration of the men of Crail who died in the Great War 1914-1919. Crail History Group 2013. Available from the Museum)



They went with songs to the battle, they were young,
Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow.
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted,
They fell with their faces to the foe.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.

As the stars that shall be bright when we are dust,
Moving in marches upon the heavenly plain,
As the stars that are starry in the time of our darkness,
To the end, to the end, they remain.

Laurence Binyon

Crail festival

A date for your diaries! Crail Festival AGM will be held in the Kirk Hall at 8pm on Tuesday 6 Nov 2018. Everyone is welcome to attend. The Chairman will present an overview of this year's very successful event. The Treasurer will discuss the Accounts and hopefully confirm a small surplus. The Festival Committee for 2018-2019 will be announced. Anyone interested in becoming a Member of this Committee please come along to this AGM. After the AGM we will be seriously considering the content of next year's Festival 17-27 July 2019.



Bruce Memorial Crail Kirk *David Jerdan*

Planning Matters – October 2018

There are 2 planning applications being processed at present that are of general interest.

- The owners of Crail airfield have applied for consent to extend the current permission to hold car boot sales, for a further 3 years.
- Fife Council Property Services have secured funding, and have applied for listed building consent to carry out repairs and stabilisation works to churchyard walls, and in particular the mutual wall between the cemetery and 1/3 Marketgate North, incorporating the mural monument 'William Bruce of Symbister' dated 1630. This monument, which is of National importance, is in poor condition and at risk should the boundary wall in which it is incorporated collapse. The monument is currently fenced off for safety reasons.

DJ

Crail Table Tennis Club



It will be a fun but competitive night for players at Crail Table Tennis Club this week. Our local players are now entering a third season and everything takes place at the Community Hall every Tuesday from 19.00. Everyone is welcome, annual membership is free. This week, however, sees a change from normal proceedings when Crail host some of "The Rascals" squad down from St Andrews for the first friendly match of the season.

St Andrews Table Tennis Club have several teams and many of their players compete in the Dundee and District Table Tennis Association league and cup competitions and as such, the game is eagerly anticipated.

The club would also like to take the opportunity to offer a message of sincere thanks for the financial support from the local person who generously donated funds towards the running of our club.

Pictured here are some of the Crail squad members From left to right
Graham Anderson , Gabriel Tobon , Glen Rickman, John Carlton and Iain "Smasher" Mills

Crail Primary School

Winter Fair

Saturday 10th November

2pm-4pm

Crail Community Hall

Bottle Stall, Christmas Hamper Raffle, Children's Games,
Preloved Toys, Christmas Craft, Home Baking, Face Painting

Adults £2
Children £1
includes tea,
coffee &
mince pie

CHARITY CHRISTMAS CARD & GIFT SALE

Various charities represented
Animal welfare, Erskine hospital
Crail Museum, Crail Church ,
MacMillan, Myeloma UK, Kidney research,
Ghurkha's, Poppy Scotland
And many more stalls
Teas and Coffees served
Crail Kirk Hall
(Organised by Crail Church)
(Charity No: SC001601)
Saturday 3rd November
10.00AM – 1.00PM

Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir,
Fife Council have no record of the 4 grit bins which the residents of Carr Crescent, Felkington Avenue and Lamont Terrace had to purchase 8 years ago as none were available from the Council.
However after further discussions they have agreed to return OUR bin which was removed on 7th September.
This will be placed in the Courtyard of 20/28 Lamont Terrace and topped up with sand/grit within 3 weeks.
This little action has helped to restore our faith in Fife Council.

R.D. Webster



A Halloween party poster featuring four cartoon children in costumes: a pirate, a witch, a skeleton, and a devil. The background includes a full moon, bats, and a crow. Text on the poster includes 'FREE FOR ALL FAMILIES', 'Halloween', 'DISCO PARTY', 'GAMES - MUSIC - SNACKS - AND MORE', 'Wednesday 31st October | 6-7:30pm', and 'ANSTRUTHER LOWER TOWN HALL'.

FREE FOR ALL FAMILIES

Stock Graphic

Halloween

DISCO PARTY

GAMES - MUSIC -
SNACKS - AND MORE

Wednesday | 6-7:30pm
31st October

ANSTRUTHER LOWER TOWN HALL

Crail Parish Church of Scotland

(Charity registered in Scotland SC 001601)

Intimations to be in by Thursday noon to Lisa 450035,

Helen Armitage or email to

(intimations@crailchurch.co.uk)

Locum Minister: Rev Peter Neilson

(tel: 01333 310 477)

Monday Club 29th October in the Community Hall from 2:15pm. The talk is about "Farming of Yesteryear" by Andrew Arbuckle.

Annual Christmas Card and Gift Sale on Saturday 3rd November in the Kirk Hall 10.00am - 1.00pm

The Shoe box leaflets have arrived, they will be in the church and the Kirk hall and the filled boxes should be returned to the church before 4th November.

The Remembrance Day Service on Sunday 11 November will be held at the church gates at 10.50am followed by a service in the church at 11.15. Retiring collection for Poppy Scotland. Soup and sandwiches will be served after the service in the Kirk Hall. Donations of Soup and sandwiches would be gratefully received please put your name on the list in the tower if you can help

Scottish Country Dancing

Crail Town Hall

Wednesday at 7:30pm

October to March

Senior Carers Respite Fife

Senior Carers Respite Fife are pleased to introduce our great new service - Senior Carers Respite Fife.

This is for carers 60 plus. We come to you and lend a helping hand. At a time that's convenient to you. This is a FREE service. For more information email Moira or Adele at respite@disabilitiesfife.org.uk or call on 01592 203993

Crail Table Tennis Club

It's a fun affair with some serious play and banter, the cost per session is only £3.00 and that includes free membership for the season which lasts throughout the winter months.

We play over three tables and there is rarely time to sit down, so if you are looking for things to do as the summer months drop off why not pop down and join us. If you would like to know more then please call Graham at The Honeypot on 01333 450935.

Community Hall (Side Entrance) 1900 Tuesday All welcome

PITTENWEEM COMMUNITY LIBRARY & INFORMATION CENTRE AUTUMN EVENING TALKS

SERIES DETAILS

NOVEMBER 8

The Magic World of Nano Self-Assembly: Why Geometry Matters with Dr Louis Theran, Lecturer in Mathematics

NOVEMBER 22

The Milestones and Waymarkers of Fife with local archaeologist and historian Dr Paula Martin

Pittenweem Community Library and Information Centre
Cove Wynd, Pittenweem KY10 2LE

Web: www.pittcllc.org.uk

Email: library@pittcllc.org.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/pittcllc/

All talks Coastline Community Church, Pittenweem start at 7.30 with doors open at 7pm. £5 entrance: tickets are for sale in advance at the library with any remaining tickets available at the door on the night.

Opening Hours: Mondays 2.00pm - 7.00pm; Wednesdays 1.30pm - 5.00pm; Fridays 9.30am - 1.00pm; Saturdays 10.00am - 1.00pm.

**Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation
SC047013**

RBS Community Liaison

RBS Community Liaison staff will conduct drop in sessions each Tuesday from 1000 to 1200 in Anstruther Lower Town Hall. Anyone with questions or concerns is welcome to attend.

Crail Mobile Post Office Service

Location - Along High Street

Opening times:

Monday: 1400-1600

Tuesday: 1430-1630

Wednesday: 1400-1600

CRAIL BADMINTON CLUB

MEETS ON TUESDAYS 7 – 10 PM IN
CRAIL COMMUNITY HALL

New members welcome

Any queries:- Tel. Anne on 07769156003

R.B.S. Mobile Branch Timetable

Tuesdays St. Andrews Road Car Park, Anstruther – 2.15pm -3.00pm; Thursdays North Marketgate, Crail – 10.20am 10.50am

Community Council Notes

The Community Council wish to extend their thanks to the following who have helped prepare the area in front of the War Memorial: John Rennie and Ian Mitchell, Andrew Purves, Balcomie Caravan Park, Peter Hastie, Stephen Tilbrook and Derek Wood, John Young, Jim Elder, Jimmy Aird, Denis Gowan and Victor Reynolds.

The Remembrance Service will begin at the Church Gates at 1050, preceded at 1045 by unveiling the new Memorial Bench. Soup and sandwiches will be available after the Service in the Kirk Hall. We invite all members of the Crail community to attend and commemorate this special anniversary of the centenary of the ending of the First World War.

Roome Bay play area.

Fife Council are currently carrying out an annual inspection of play areas. The inspectors at Roome Bay pointed out serious defects mainly due to corrosion of the ageing metal

frames. This has exposed several sharp edges and unstable joints. Their full report will be submitted to the Council, but informally they suggested all of the equipment is likely to be removed in the near future because it is unsafe.

The Community Council aided by Crail Community Trust continue in their efforts to raise funds for new equipment. A decision on an application to Fife Environmental Trust for funds will be known in November. Assuming this is successful the project should be able to proceed.



Next Community Council Meeting

The next meeting will be 29 October 7.15pm in Crail Town Hall. Agenda items will include consideration of a proposal from Crail Town Hall Management Committee, and the proceedings of the Standing Business Committee. The location of a potential bottle bank will also be considered. This is an opportunity for all members of the Crail community to raise issues that concern them, and all are invited to attend. Fife Councillors will be in attendance.

Do you know any young carers?

We are the respite care officers for Disabilities Fife. Carers that are actively looking for families to help. Please feel free to contact us anytime by:

Phone - 01592 203993

Email - respites@disabilitiesfife.org.uk

Website - YoungCarersRespites.com

Crail History Society

A History of Golfing in Crail

The first talk this session is on Tuesday 30th October at 7.30pm in the British Legion hall, Nethergate. The speaker is Eric Morris, former captain of Crail Golfing Society.

"We look at Crail and the Dutch connection with golf. Sauchope Links, Balcomie Links, Crail Golfing Society, The East Neuk o' Fife Golf Club and Crail Ladies Golf Club. Tom Morris, Allan Robertson and John Dickson of Waterloo feature along with some of the amusing entries from the Crail Golfing Society minutes".

Contact your Fife Councillor?

Cllr.Linda.Holt@fife.gov.uk 07725 223773.

cldr.bill.porteous@fife.gov.uk 01333 730837 or
07753982311

cldr.john.docherty@fife.gov.uk 07718 66 89 96

The Crail Seagull



I wonder if anyone can help me? Are magpies a protected bird? I know us seagulls are, and rightly so, but what does protection mean exactly? Sidney, an old uncle of mine is quite fearful of the dozens of magpies at Fifeness.

I actually saw him being mobbed by at least five magpies. I was just about to try to help him out, but Sid's a crafty old chap and made for the sea as fast as his wings could flap. Don't think the magpies like the sea as they didn't follow him over the waves. What I want to know is this. Who do I contact to get Sid and all of us protected? We had a meeting about it and think these magpies are responsible for things we're blamed for. We need some help please!

Did you know that people are saying there is no such thing as a seagull? I'm devastated!! The RSPCA have said ' "There is no such thing as a "seagull", in fact there are eleven species found in the UK; the Black Headed, Common, Great Black-backed, Glaucous, Herring, Kittewake, Iceland, Little, Mediterranean, Lesser Black-backed and Yellow-legged Gull.' This is a denial of my inviolable seagull identity; what about my rights? I think this requires a reference to the European Court of Human Rights (or the Seagull branch of it). I'll become an oppressed minority soon.

Material for inclusion in Crail Matters should be sent to crailmatters@gmail.com and received on Friday midday before publication. Any views expressed in Letters to the Editor are those of the author, and not of Crail Matters.

We reserve the right to edit copy for length and style. Submission does not guarantee inclusion.

© Crab Publishing 2018: Editorial Team this week: Helen Byres, Julie Middleton, Isla Reid, Valencia Sowry, Max Taylor, John Wilson