



CRAIL MATTERS

W/C 26 November 2018. No 87 Free - donations welcome

Suggested hard copy Donation 40p

Crail; The Jewel of the East Neuk.

Crail Charrette

Crail Community Partnership have been awarded £25,000 by the Scottish Government to continue the Charrette programme, phase 1 of which was implemented 12 May earlier this year. This additional funding is an important development for Crail, and offers the community an opportunity to further express their views and also influence future developments. It also marks a recognition by the Scottish Government of the efforts made by the Crail community to prepare itself to meet future challenges.

The report of the first phase of the Charrette programme - Decide Crail's Future - can be found at <https://crailmatters.com/crail-charrette-vision-report/>

Five key principles emerged from the Phase 1 meeting that should shape any planning for the future of Crail:

- New development must enhance the centre and develop a sense of community.
- New housing proposed for Crail must include homes affordable to young people and families to encourage a diverse resident population.
- New development must encourage growth in sustainable tourism and small businesses.
- New development must actively improve community services and facilities.
- All new development must be phased and the growth of Crail must be managed, sustainable and integrated with the existing settlement.

The further phases of the Charrette which this funding will enable will explore how these principles can be implemented in the future. Once completed, the Charrette will allow the Crail community to have a real stake in the future. The Charrette has the support of a wide range of community organisations and also has the support of Fife Council's Planning Department - "Fife Council has decided to hold back on work on the development framework (of the local development plan) until the conclusion of the charrette as it has become clear that the Crail Charrette offers a valuable opportunity to inform the framework."

Crail Community Partnership are holding a public meeting in Crail Kirk Hall on Monday 3rd December at 7.30pm to report back on the 1st stage of the Charrette and to detail their future plans for stages 2 and 3. All are welcome.

Golf Hotel

Our winter hours have begun, with a slightly reduced menu. We will also be serving take-away teas, coffees and breakfast rolls every day from 8am to 12noon.

MONDAY - SUNDAY
12 noon – 8.00pm

'Winter Special' Piazza D'oro Coffee & Freshly made Scones, Butter & Jam £3.50
Served from 9am everyday

Our Festive Season menu will be served from 1st December. We're also doing a Boxing Day Brunch 11-4 this year and Hogmanay Dinners 7 – 8pm. Bookings only please for the Festive Menu and Hogmanay. New Years Day lunches will be served 12 noon – 5pm.

Dates for Diary: Steve from Eden Mill is hosting a GIN NIGHT on Friday 15th December. Tickets £15.00 (available from the Hotel) include 3 Gins, Tastings, Canapes, Quiz and Fun. Our annual Quiz night will be held on 2nd January 2019, teams of four £10.00 per team. Please register your interest with the bar staff. You can also find out all details on our Facebook page.



Crail Christmas Tree

The Tree will be lit at 5.00pm on Saturday 1 December. Santa will arrive at 4.30pm. Mince pies and mulled wine will be available. Donations to Sick Kids, Edinburgh.

WILD CRAIL

Will Cresswell,

with Photographs by John Anderson



It was very mild and without any wind on the morning of the 23rd. The sea was just a rolling light swell and relatively calm. I took a visitor out to Fife Ness first thing to see some gannets – the visitor lives in Paris and seabirds are in short supply. Unusually there were no gannets apart from a distant juvenile struggling past in the absence of wind. It is getting late in the season and gannets head off for their winter holiday in the Bay of Biscay about now for the next three months. The consolation was an extended pod of bottle-nosed dol-



phins passing by at about 100 metres giving great views. They were heading up the coast towards St Andrews bay in a long line, with some nearly leaping out of the water and others milling about as if fishing. They are always hard to count but at least 30 and probably 50 passed over ten minutes.

I was out around Crail on Saturday the 17th and Fife Ness and Balcomie the following Sunday. A relatively quiet weekend but there are always memorable moments. In Denburn I was watching the now resident long-tailed tit flock moving noisily through the canopy when a blue tit with them gave a frantic alarm call and they all dived into cover, down to the still leafy bushes below the trees. Seconds later a male sparrowhawk passed through, zig-zagging through the upper branches, too late to catch anything. It was gone just as quickly as it appeared and within half a minute the tit flock was reinstated, noisy and bustling again. I watched grey wagtails along the stream in Denburn and further down at its mouth in Roome Bay, enjoying their bright flash of yellow as an inoculation against the dull grey of the weather that weekend. I flushed a couple of woodcock at Fife Ness – they disturbed the stillness of an almost empty Patch. Sea watching was all the usual winter wildfowl – long-tailed ducks,



common scoters, eiders and goldeneyes passing – but exciting because of the now easterly wind building up the waves. The red-breasted mergansers and the shags fishing the surf were having a hard time in the disturbed water. There were a couple

of kittiwake flocks far out and as I watched one, trying to dream up sabine's gulls from the juveniles among it, I picked up a skua chasing a kittiwake even further out. A herring gull then tried to join in the chase giving a good size comparison to clinch the identification as an arctic skua – this late it is almost more likely to be a pomarine skua. The only slightly unusual bird of the weekend was a redpoll on a gorse bush alongside Crail golf course. Being perched rather than the more usual flyover, I could identify it as a lesser redpoll, the British sub-species of redpoll (and formerly a species in its own right). Redpolls were split into several species but they are really only one, varying in size and the paleness of their plumage along an east-west and north-south gradient. But when paler Arctic birds jump down, or browner, larger continental birds jump across to join the British redpolls, then they can seem quite different. A really pale Arctic type redpoll is a thing of great beauty and well worth seeing even if it is not a full species, so I will keep checking them.



I saw a couple of colour-ringed black-headed gulls among the roost on the rocks just below the entrance to the Saucehope Caravan Park (always a good place to check!) on the 4th of November. I googled the colour-ring register – there are pages of schemes for individuals ringing gulls throughout Europe. Each has their own "scheme identifier" – a particular colour of ring or a particular sequence of numbers. Gull rings can be larger and so many have alpha-numeric codes as you can see from the photo. They are a bit trickier to read but with a photo through a telescope you can be very sure you haven't made a mistake. I found the two schemes within a few minutes: the yellow ring bird comes from a scheme in Aberdeen, so I assume the bird was ringed there and the green ringed bird from Norway. I emailed both schemes and heard back from the Norwegian Natural History Museum last week. JP08 was ringed as a chick on the 15th June 2014 near Oslo; it winters with us at Crail and Kilminning, having been seen twice in 2017 and now by me this year, and it breeds near Oslo, about 17 km from where it was born, and 880 km from



Crail as the gull flies. The longevity record for a black-headed gull is over 30 years so watch out for this Crail winter resident over the next few years. Like most migrant birds, it is very likely to stay faithful to its winter and breeding site for the rest of its life. The sea was really rough last week – it settled down a bit last Thursday but the day before the waves were metres high crashing into Crail on the south easterly wind. The nearly full moon added to the drama after dark, with lots of pink-footed geese passing over to feed in the moonlit fields between Crail and St Andrews.

A map of all the sightings of JP08 – winter in blue, spring and autumn black, and red summer (one where it was born and the other where it now breeds)

Community Council Notes

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Community Council will be at 7.15pm on Monday 26 November in The Town Hall. All members of the Crail community are invited to attend. Agenda items will include the Crail Charrette, the current situation regarding Out of Hours Hospital Services, Leaking pipes at the Hen’s Ladder, arrangements for the Crail Christmas Tree, etc.



Crail Charrette

The Community Council are very pleased that the Scottish Government have awarded £25,000 to the Crail Partnership to continue the Charrette process. We believe this is a very important initiative that will allow our community to seriously influence new developments not simply in terms of the new building proposals, but in a much wider way. Concern has been expressed that a lot of effort and attention is focussed on the physical environment, whereas many of the needs of Crail relate to personal and social issues. We hope that the Charrette process will allow this wider perspective to be developed. The Partnership offers an opportunity for Crail to speak with one voice on issues of concern, and the Community Council welcomes this and will fully participate. The Community Council also congratulates the Community Council of Elie and Earlsferry who were also successful in being awarded funds to develop a Charrette. The Communities Secretary, Aileen Campbell said: “The best people to decide the future of their local community are the people who live there.’ We heartily agree.

East Neuk Communities Emergency Planning Team (ENCEPT)

A meeting of ENCEPT took place on Wednesday, 21 November. The towns and villages within the East Neuk have now all supplied Emergency Plans with key locations detailed. Fife Council has agreed to supply 10 – 15 posters, Hi-Viz vests for volunteers and a sum of money would be available to purchase emergency packs. It was suggested that packs include torches, snow shovels, radios and enquiries are ongoing for costing these packs. Costs had been obtained for an 0800 free phone number for use in emergency situations. Some of the villages do not currently have Community Councils however, local organisations had been identified and they are keen to be involved. It was agreed that an exercise to test efficiencies would take place early next year. Volunteers will be sought thereafter.



YOUR Crail Residents ONLY
Bin collection day is a Wednesday
 4aWed / 313

PLEASE NOTE!
 Brown bins will now only be collected every 4 weeks during the winter months. The dates below highlight the days your brown bin will not be collected.

October 2018

3	10	17	24	31
---	----	----	----	----

November 2018

7	14	21	28
---	----	----	----

December 2018

5	12	19	23	30
---	----	----	----	----

January 2019

9	16	23	30
---	----	----	----

February 2019

6	13	DOWNLOAD YOUR NEW BIN CALENDAR
---	----	--------------------------------

CHANGE TO YOUR BIN COLLECTION DAY!
 FROM 18TH FEBRUARY 2019 YOUR BIN COLLECTION DAY MAY BE CHANGING.
 YOU WILL NEED TO DOWNLOAD A NEW CALENDAR AT THIS TIME TO GET YOUR NEW COLLECTION DATES:
www.fifedirect.org.uk/bincalendar

Blue & brown bin Grey bin only Blue bin only Green bin only Weekend collection



You are invited to the
Anstruther Philharmonic Society's

MERRY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Michael Downes, Conductor

Handel's Dixit Dominus & sing-along carols

SOLOISTS: Soprano Georgia Curwen, Soprano Kristel Knudsen,
Alto Emma Barker, Tenor Andrew Mundy, Bass Ross McArthur
ORGANIST: Andrew Macintosh and The New Cellardyke Orchestra

9th December 7:00 PM

CRAIL PARISH CHURCH

tickets £10 at door or from members
children 12 under free with paying adult

please join us after for warm mince pies and mulled wine



Reflections on Waiting

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

Those of us from an older generation (and also perhaps those not so old) will recognise the above as the first verse of the great Advent hymn 'O come, O come, Emmanuel' – also known as Veni, veni Emmanuel. This hymn has its roots in the ancient plainsong Antiphons used at the service of Vespers during the last seven days before Christmas Day. The Latin Antiphons have their origins in at least the 8th Century, but this hymn was known in German in the 18th Century and in English in the 19th Century. The plainsong melody we most often use to sing the hymn probably has its origin in 15th Century France.

It is a hymn of waiting; of looking forward to the expected arrival of the Messiah in two senses - a mundane sense of foreshadowing the celebration of Christmas, but figuratively and more dramatically in looking forward to both our death and resurrection in Christ's return.

O come, Thou Key of David, come
And open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

But waiting is not something that characterises modern living. We don't even seem to wait for Christmas, which increasingly is detached from its religious significance to become a celebration of consumption and spending. More generally, in our everyday lives things that in the past might have taken planning, and pleasurable anticipation, can happen very quickly; we no longer have to make an occasion of going into a town to shop for example – we can shop from our homes using the Internet and get the same day, or next day, delivery. It becomes a routine almost unthinking way of shopping. We are bombarded with adverts that encourage a sense of immediate gratification and 'our right' to fulfil our desires NOW. Such perhaps is the modern way.

This comes at a price. Increasingly we see the weaknesses of such a focus on immediacy in terms of effects on mental health. Enhanced levels of stress, a sense of inferiority or aggravation when we can't afford something, and the all too often disappointment when whatever we have fails to meet the expectations generated by advertising. Perhaps as a remedy we need to learn that there is virtue and pleasure in anticipation rather than immediate consumption and that waiting through embracing the present has its pleasures too. The current fashionable attention given to mindfulness as a means of addressing and improving mental wellbeing addresses this, not from a religious perspective but from that of mental health. Although essentially secular in character, the mindfulness movement draws our attention to the importance of the everyday qualities of our lives.

Life goes on regardless, and we are remarkably powerless to affect some of the big issues that are changing around us. Given this, the immediacy of spending and consumption will do little to change anything in the long term. Perhaps as our response, even if we are not religious, we might recognise the contemporary value of Advent as a call to wait, to reflect on where we are now, to anticipate and to embrace a future – this has both religious and secular resonances we should value. Advent Sunday is 2 December.

SP

St John's Episcopal Church

Coffee Morning
Church Hall, James Street, Pittenweem
Wednesday 28 November
10am-11.30am
All Welcome £2

CRAIL HISTORY SOCIETY

Tuesday 27 November 2018

7.30pm

The British Legion Hall

"Farming Yesteryear in Fife."

A Talk by Andrew Arbuckle

Author, former MSP and now

Farming Editor of The Scotsman.

Admission £2.50/free for members

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)

Sharing in Worship at Christmas and Beyond

If you would be interested in sharing in leading worship around Christmas and beyond, there will be a meeting on Wednesday 5 December at 2pm in the Kirk Hall. Our current Worship Team is very small and, as we move into the New Year, we want to expand our numbers to include any others who would enjoy leading parts of the service from time to time. Perhaps some of the folk who help in the Summer Services would think about it.

The School Children will be going down to decorate the Christmas Tree on Friday 30th November 9:30am onwards, Pancakes and sweets will be served, all children welcome.

Tree Lighting on Saturday 1st December in Crail, Santa will arrive at 4:30pm and the lights will be switched on at 5pm. The usual Mince Pies & Mulled Wine will be on offer. All donations will go to The Sick Kids in Edinburgh.

The Session would like to make a collection for Peter Neilson, if you would like to contribute, please put it into an envelope marked Peter Neilson and hand it to either Diana Brown or Helen Armitage.

Notes from Crail Primary School

P6 INTERNET SAFETY TALK

On Thursday PC Anderson from Police Scotland came to our school to deliver a talk to our P6 children about staying safe on-line. Our P6 children contributed well to the discussion and shared their own experiences of being on-line. The key message from his talk was that our children need to apply how they stay safe in the real world to the virtual world.

DOOCOT ART COMPETITION

At Assembly on Friday we welcomed Sandy Young and Ann Black to our school. They gave us an update about the Doocot. They also revealed the winners from the recent art competition our school took part in. The winners were:

Ella, Austin and Alex

The runners up were:

Matylda, Myla, Rose, Alexis, Lucia and Jack

Overall winner: **Alex**

The winners and runners up received a prize and everyone who took part received a bookmark. Alex's picture will be turned into a poster to advertise the opening of the Doocot next year.

NETBALL TOURNAMENT

Well done to our P6 and P7 children who represented our school in The Waid Academy Cluster Netball tournament on Monday. We played against 7 other schools and demonstrated sportsmanship, determination, friendship and we encouraged one another. We all had a great time!

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our poppy appeal on behalf of Poppy Scotland. Thank you to all of our responsible P7 children who visited each class area and sold the poppies. As a school in the lead up to Remembrance Day we learnt about the WWI and Remembrance Day through art, poetry, music and writing. Our P7s read aloud the names of the 44 men from Crail who died in WWI and we fell silent. Our children demonstrated lots of respect. Our P7s also visited the War Memorial in Crail and laid a poppy wreath on behalf of everyone from our school community.

WINTER FAIR

Thank you to everyone who came along to support our Win-

ter Fair on 10.11.18. It was great to see many of you there and members from our community supporting our school. We raised the fantastic amount of £1507.50 which will be put towards making improvements to our playground, as decided by our children. Thank you to our Fundraising Committee for all of your hard work and effort and to all the volunteers who helped in the lead up to the fair and on the day. We really appreciate your support!

Letter to the Editor

I completely agree with the Seagull's recent comment about the unfinished roadworks by Brownhills. Most of the work didn't really seem needed and caused bad delays, while the part that is very bad wasn't done!

Jenny Wren



The latest in Kingsbarns Golfing Fashion

Scottish Country Dancing

Crail Town Hall
Wednesday at 7:30pm
October to March

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.

Contact your Fife Councillor?

Cllr.Linda.Holt@fife.gov.uk 07725 223773.
cllr.bill.porteous@fife.gov.uk 01333 730837 or
07753982311
cllr.john.docherty@fife.gov.uk 07718 66 89 96

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

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 - respite@disabilitiesfife.org.uk
Website - YoungCarersRespite.com

CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING



10AM

SATURDAY 1ST
DECEMBER

BRITISH LEGION
HALL, CRAIL

£2
ENTRY

HOME
BAKING

RAFFLE

TO RAISE FUNDS FOR MOST HOLY TRINITY
CHURCH IN THE PARISH OF ST JAMES, ST ANDREWS

CRAIL BADMINTON CLUB

MEETS ON TUESDAYS 7 – 10 PM IN
CRAIL COMMUNITY HALL
New members welcome
Any queries:- Tel. Anne on 07769156003

Crail Mobile Post Office Service

Location - Along High Street opposite the Beehive
Opening times:
Monday: 1400-1600
Tuesday: 1400-1600
Wednesday: 1400-1600

Crail Community Choir

Come along and join us!
Monday, 26 November 2018
7.00pm in the Community Hall, Crail
All Adults Welcome
£1 per night
Need more information?
Phone
Catriona – 01333 450398
Liz – 01333 450122

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

Crail Museum

Crail Museum opening dates for Christmas 2018
are as follows:

Saturday 24th November 11-4pm
Saturday December 1st and December 8th 11am-
4pm
January Sale - Wednesday 2nd and Thursday 3rd
11am-4pm

Crail Museum is very pleased that the painting of the
Highland Cattle by Reginald Duncan has been
cleaned and repaired and is once again hanging in
the Town Hall. The cost was partly covered by a
grant from the Ribbonfield Trust for which the
Trustees are most grateful.

Last Posting Dates for Christmas



Royal Mail UK Service

Tuesday, 18 th December	2 nd Class
Thursday, 20 th December	1st Class Royal Mail Signed For 1st Class Royal Mail Tracked 48
Friday, 21 st December	Royal Mail Tracked 24
Friday, 21 st December	Royal Mail Special Delivery Guaranteed

Royal Mail International Standard

Tuesday, 4th December	Africa, Middle East
Friday, 7 th December	Cyprus, Malta, Far East (except Poland, Czech Rep. & Slovakia)
Saturday, 8th December	Caribbean, Central & South America
Monday, 10th December	Greece, Turkey, Australia, New Zealand
Friday, 14 th December	Canada, Czech Rep., Italy, Poland, USA
Saturday, 15 th December	Finland, Sweden
Monday, 17 th December	Austria, Denmark, Germany Iceland, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland
Tuesday, 18 th December	Belgium, France, Ireland (Eire), Luxembourg

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 through-
out 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 Honey Pot on 01333 450935.
Community Hall (Side Entrance)
1900 Tuesday
All welcome

ROCKIN' ALL OVER THE WORLD

With Crail Community Choir



Wednesday 28 November 2018

7.30 pm in Crail Community Hall

Entry by donation at the door
in aid of local good causes



Coffee Morning

Crail Town Hall
Saturday 1st December
10 am – 12 noon

Tea/coffee and a mince pie – adults £2/children £1

Bottle Stall | Home Baking | Raffle



The poster features a light blue background with white snowflake patterns. At the top right is the Crail Rowing Club logo, which is a red circle containing a white rowing boat and the text 'CRAIL ROWING CLUB'. The main title 'Coffee Morning' is written in a large, elegant red cursive font. Below the title, the event details are listed in a simple black font. The bottom section of the poster features a colorful illustration of Santa Claus in a red sleigh, pulled by three brown reindeer, set against a light blue sky with snowflakes.



The Crail Seagull

Do you ever use the Mobile Post Office in Crail? I must admit I'm not a great letter writer, but my little friend Jenny Wren is. She told me that the service is now available 2-4pm Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and no longer 2.30-4.30 on Tuesdays. Well, now you know!!

All the complaints about the closure of the Out-of-Hours Hospital service don't really affect me - I don't think they'd see a seagull no matter how injured I was. But still, I can see it's an important issue. I was talking to my friend the Owl who hangs about with the Community Council, and she was telling me that they've made a complaint about the withdrawal of service, but it's been rejected on the grounds that Community Councils are not 'members of the public'. If I were an owl, I'd say what a hoot!!!! Some lawyer bird having fun no doubt and laying a complex trail to avoid actually answering anything and tying up queries by red tape. Lots of that in anything to do with the Government or Fife Council!!!

Fife Council are clearly in my sights this week. A rather inquisitive magpie I occasionally pass the time of day with had sight of an interesting Freedom of Information Request, asking for details of expenses for travel and allied costs e.g. accommodation, subsistence for journeys deemed to be on Fife Council business or representing the Council. In 2016/17 Fife Council spent £3,343,922 on this which given that the Council employ about 22,000 people comes out at about £152 per employee. Given that the right or need to claim travel expenses is not evenly distributed across all employees, that's not bad is it - lots of little jollies there I reckon!!! And they say they are short of money for essential services.

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