



# CRAIL MATTERS

W/C 5 November 2018. No 84 Free - donations welcome  
Suggested hard copy Donation 40p

## *Crail; The Jewel of the East Neuk.*

### **Lest we forget Remembering**

*"Sharing tales of those we've lost is how we keep from really losing them."*  
— Mitch Albom

*"Then, suddenly again, Christopher Robin, who was still looking at the world, with his chin in his hand, called out "Pooh!" "Yes?" said Pooh. "When I'm--when--Pooh!" "Yes, Christopher Robin?" "I'm not going to do Nothing any more." "Never again?" "Well, not so much. They don't let you." Pooh waited for him to go on, but he was silent again. "Yes, Christopher Robin?" said Pooh helpfully. "Pooh, when I'm--you know--when I'm not doing Nothing, will you come up here sometimes?" "Just me?" "Yes, Pooh." "Will you be here too?" "Yes Pooh, I will be really. I promise I will be Pooh." "That's good," said Pooh. "Pooh, promise you won't forget about me, ever. Not even when I'm a hundred." Pooh thought for a little. "How old shall I be then?" "Ninety-nine." Pooh nodded. "I promise," he said. Still with his eyes on the world Christopher Robin put out a hand and felt Pooh's paw. "Pooh," said Christopher Robin earnestly, "if I--if I'm not quite--" he stopped and tried again-- "Pooh, whatever happens, you will understand, won't you?" "Understand what?" "Oh, nothing." He laughed and jumped to his feet. "Come on!" "Where?" said Pooh. "Anywhere." said Christopher Robin.*

*So, they went off together. But wherever they go, and whatever happens to them on the way, in that enchanted place on the top of the Forest, a little boy and his Bear will always be playing."*  
— A.A. Milne, *The House at Pooh Corner*

Our tales are often ways of expressing our memories, and in our memories, as in Christopher Robin's, there are always enchanted places where we don't forget, and can see again those we have lost. Those enchanted places also encompass and are shared with and by our children and broader family – in a sense this gives us a kind of immortality. To lose this, as Amy Harmon captures when writing of a more recent consequence of aggression, the Holocaust, is of enormous significance *"Our immortality comes through our children and their children. Through our roots and branches. The family is immortality. And Hitler has destroyed not just branches and roots, but entire family trees, forests. All of them, gone."* To remember the forty-four men of Crail who died in the First World War is not simply to recognise their absence, but to acknowledge that in their deaths, and those of millions of their contemporaries, so threads of the future were changed; the roots and branches of our forests, as Amy Harmon might say, were lost.

We therefore not only remember the forty-four men recorded on our War Memorial, but their families, friends and communities that were impoverished by their absence. We also know that whilst forty-four men were killed, many who survived were injured in both body and mind. Their lives were changed by the war, as were the lives of their families and community. Women in particular very often carry the burden of managing when families are disrupted, dealing with grief, coping with a family, managing a sudden drop in income and living with the loss of certainty, the loss of dreams. We remember them too.

War produces loss; soldiers and civilians die and are injured. From our contemporary perspective, we look back on the enormous losses of the First World War with horror, rightly so of course, and many of us feel perplexed at how contemporary commentators often justified the carnage with reference to patriotism or glorifying war. Indeed, many of the men who died were volunteers, another source of perplexity given our understanding now of the nature of that war. But understanding the past from our modern perspective is fraught with danger and we need to recognise the deceptive qualities of perspective and the illusions of hindsight, for we now live in a very different world. Many of the men we remember who died may well have never travelled beyond the East Neuk; probably knew nothing of the broader picture of the war they were fighting in but were rooted in a sense of belonging and shared experience that perhaps we find difficult to understand now.

When we remember the men associated with Crail who died or remember those whose lives were blighted through injury or distress, we are not judging the past – *"The past is a foreign county; they do things differently there"* – but recognising the personal and community significance of that loss. Therein lies the pride we feel in wearing a poppy.



## November the 5th: Help us make fireworks less frightening for animals

### How to calm dogs during fireworks

- Walk them during daylight hours to avoid times when fireworks are likely to be set off
- Close windows and curtains to muffle the sound of fireworks
- Put on some music to mask the firework sounds
- Create a quiet space where your dog can feel in control
- Create some hiding places around your home

### Cats

- Provide hiding places in your home
- Cats can become more stressed if they're outside during fireworks
- Microchip your cats in case they're startled and escape outside

### Small animals

- Partly cover outside cages and pens with blankets so an area is soundproofed and hidden, but allow another area for the animals to look out
- Provide bedding small animals can burrow in
- Consider bringing them indoors – this will need to be done gradually so plan ahead

### Keeping horses safe during fireworks

It's not just animals in the home that can be scared of fireworks - horses can be too.

- If you have a horse out in a field, check locally to see if there are going to be any firework displays in your area
- Where possible - tell the organisers of firework displays that horses are nearby and ask them to set off their fireworks in the opposite direction
- For top tips on keeping your horse safe and secure during the firework season - please follow the advice from the British Horse Society

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## 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.



**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

### Crail Community Choir

Come along and join us!

Monday, 5 November 2018  
7.30pm in the Town Hall, Crail  
All Adults Welcome  
£1 per night  
Need more information?  
Phone  
Catriona - 01333 450398  
Liz - 01333 450122

### Crail Preservation Society NOTICE

The Cheese and Wine Party in the Town Hall planned for Friday 9th November has been **postponed**. This is due to competing events that evening having an impact on everyone's tickets sales. Those of you who have bought tickets from Greens can get their refund from Paul Hutchinson. Please note though that the Crail Preservation Society "Special General Meeting" will go ahead that evening as planned at 7pm in the Town Hall.

### Crail British Legion

Our November meeting will be on Wednesday 7th at 2.15 pm. (remember our new time). We welcome back Mr. Ronald Sandford of Kingsbarns who always gives us a very interesting and informative talk. All welcome.

# WILD CRAIL

*Will Cresswell,*

*with Photographs by John Anderson*



Most migration happens at night and out of sight. One day things aren't here and the next day they are. But on the 25th (Oct) it was obvious. At dawn I had a brambling going over the garden making its grumpy croaking call. And then it was a steady stream of flocks of siskin, linnets, meadow pipits and skylarks, with a few redwings, redpolls and blackbirds mixed in. They come in from the sea at Fife Ness and then continue along the coast, so pass Crail heading towards Anstruther. It's not quite Gibraltar or Istanbul, but if you sit up on the top of the cliff at West Braes it's our own migratory watch point as the flocks come past nearly at eye level. The joker in the pack was a flock of about 30 tree sparrows. Or 90 of them if the same flock didn't come past three times. The tree sparrows are still dashing up and down the coast looking for somewhere to spend the winter as they have been doing since August. There are some signs that they are settling down: there have been five on my garden feeder this week, hopefully back again for the winter. They have been absent since fledging chicks in June after breeding in one my bird boxes for the first time.

On the 27th the northerly wind made it feel raw out at Fife Ness. I sea watched for an hour in the early morning squinting into the glare. There was some passage of ducks – regular small flocks of long-tailed ducks, velvet and common scoters, wigeon and teal and a single goldeneye and red-breasted merganser. One red throated diver going south and a great northern diver heading north. The auks and kittiwakes were passing a long way out and there were no fulmars at all. The main show was out of sight I should think. At Balcomie Beach there was a big mat of newly washed in kelp and a large number of gulls feeding around it. The wind was strong enough that the black-headed gulls, and even a few herring gulls, were kiting over the seaweed in the surf like petrels – literally walking on the water with their wings outstretched.



Herring Gull



Arctic Skua

The continuing northerly wind straight down from Spitsbergen and along the Norway coast brought some white-billed divers along the east coast. This high arctic diver is really rare and I haven't seen one in the UK. Two passed Fife Ness in two days the weekend before last so I have been sea watching with a lot of hope. On the 28th I had a close black-throated diver and some red-throated divers, and the day before the great northern, but no luck with a white-billed. They are even bigger and bulkier looking than great northern and their bill is so pale it can look like they have just grabbed a banana. There was plenty to entertain that morning from Fife Ness anyway – a great skua and an arctic skua, lots of kittiwakes passing far out and probably some little gulls in with them, and a steady stream of wildfowl as the day before, but perhaps more common scoters and fewer long tailed ducks.

I spent some of the 29th guiding a birding friend of a colleague who hadn't been birding in the UK before. It was great to be with someone who got excited at seeing their first dunnoek, reed bunting and meadow pipit. A flock of greenfinches on the beach at West Sands was suddenly not something to be glanced at, but instead something to be properly looked at and appreciated. Greenfinches really are outrageously bright green and yellow, and really interesting to look at as they foraged among the marram grass. A goldfinch on a fence among a flock of linnets is a real star when you haven't seen one before. Malcolm is from California – a great birding location – and so it was also interesting being reminded of the similarities and differences between two widely separated parts of the world. Things in common like Slavonian grebes, dunlin, sanderling, a peregrine, red-breasted mergansers, things nearly in common like grey herons and golden plovers, and things that were major rarities to him in his patch like common ringed plovers or long-tailed duck. True to form being with an American we found an American rarity that you wouldn't look at twice at off any Californian beach – two drake surf scoters in amongst the hundreds of common scoters in St Andrews Bay. As I got excited about picking out these rarities (although there are 1 or 2 in St Andrews Bay most winters) I noticed Malcolm more interested in a pied wagtail at our feet and then a rook on the railing beside us: both of them lifers for him. We finished off at Fife Ness with beautiful late afternoon light and a busy sea with hundreds of kittiwakes passing and a couple of arctic skuas, a great skua and a manx shearwater. And the brilliant highlight of a Sabine's gull just as we arrived. I have only ever seen 4 Sabine's gulls before in my life: one in Barrow Alaska, two off Senegal and one flying past Crail into the Forth about a decade ago. Here was another about 50 metres out dipping over the sea like a kittiwake but with its very distinctive brown white and black triangles back pattern. I followed it as it went further out to sea before losing it when it landed on the water. It was a good bird for Malcolm



Gannet over stormy sea

too but his first ever gannets that were nearby were much more attention grabbing. The Sabine's gull is a great bird to get again for the Crail list, almost like a new bird. Two in 16 years is pretty rare. This autumn is not turning out to be too bad, for a bad autumn.

After the short spell of easterlies at the start of last week there was a red-breasted flycatcher reported from the Patch at Fife Ness late afternoon on Tuesday the 30th. I was down there just after first light the next day to hopefully catch up with it. I was slightly pes-



Red-breasted Flycatcher

simistic because the night before was clear and with light westerly winds so good for a migrant to continue its journey. Luck tends to average out, so my poor luck at the weekend before of just missing white-billed divers was evened out again (although arguably that was done with the Sabine's gull on the Monday) with the flycatcher popping up right in front of me within thirty seconds of arriving in the right area. It looked at me, I looked at it – getting the black tail with its white sides and the eye ring and general small flycatcheriness – and then it was gone into the denser cover of the pine trees around the ringing hut. I then spent 40 minutes wandering around the patch looking for it again, wondering if I had imagined it. I should have stayed where I first saw it. When I staked out the area about 20 metres northeast of the ringing hut and just waited for it, I got to see it every few minutes. They really move about, never staying on a perch for more than a few seconds before dropping to the ground to pick something up and then dashing off to the next perch a few metres away. You do get good views but like hummingbirds, the bird has to come to you rather than you chasing the bird. A couple of views were really nice so I could eliminate taiga flycatcher – the very far east Siberian version of the red-breasted flycatcher that has only been recognised as a separate species. Late season red-breasted flycatchers – they usually turn up in September or early October - are more likely to be taiga flycatchers. But the bird this morning lacked a whiter throat patch, had orangey-buff tones (not greyish) on the breast and an almost entirely pale horn coloured bill (rather than mostly blackish). The other clinching character for taiga – the black upper tail coverts was impossible to see and I doubt you can use it in the field unless it the bird is right in front of you, or you can get photos to enlarge later. Anyway, a clear red-breasted flycatcher and about my 8th one for the Crail list. The Crail year list is making a late season comeback and is now up to 153.

### 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: 5<sup>th</sup> November** in the Community Hall from 2:15pm.

**Guild: Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> November** at 2:15pm in the Kirk Hall. Talk is about "Chas" by Liz Rankin

**Crail Primary Winter Fair** is on **Saturday, 10th November** from **2-4pm** in the Community Hall.

Stalls will include Luxury Hampers Raffle, Face Painting and Homebaking as well as Homemade crafts, Weight of the Cake and Guess the Gin. Lots of games too. **Entry is £2** for tea/coffee, mince pies and shortbread.

Please come along and support the school and Parent Council. All proceeds will go towards the purchase of playground equipment. Thank you.

**Jimmy Aird** is collecting Bottles for the Bottle stall at the School Winter Fair, if anyone would like to donate any bottles please hand them into Jimmy's office by **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> 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

There will be a Session meeting on **Tuesday 13th November** at 7.00pm in the Kirk Hall.

We are inviting you specially to join us on **Sunday 18 November at 3pm** for *A Time to Remember* in Crail Church for a short service, time to light a candle of remembrance and then share some reminiscences over a cup of tea together.

Thanksgiving Potluck Fundraiser on **24th November** in the Kirk Hall from 7pm to 9:30pm. Watch here for more information

### 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.pittclie.org.uk](http://www.pittclie.org.uk)

Email: [library@pittclie.org.uk](mailto:library@pittclie.org.uk)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pittclie/](https://www.facebook.com/pittclie/)

**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**

## Crail Folk Club

### THE MILE ROSES: CONTEMPORARY BRITISH FOLK WITH A NOD TO NASHVILLE

Born out of a musical interest in both British folk and the transatlantic connections to new country and Americana, this trio are now fast gaining a reputation across the UK folk scene. Their original songs and close three part harmonies are accompanied by guitars, fretless bass, cittern, mandolin and fiddles.



Kate Bramley, Simon Haworth & Kari Macleod are three singer songwriters with eclectic and diverse roots yet somehow they seamlessly come together to create an utterly original and joyful sound. From haunting ballads to swinging country, celtic roots to driving folk choruses, this band are guaranteed to show audiences a good night out.

"The Mile Roses have built up a head of steam and are in demand...I have the greatest admiration for this line-up, unassuming and dedicated to what they are doing...the future looks bright." FOLK NORTH WEST.

as the folk-bluegrass fusion band, Sweetgrass, based out of Montana, USA. She has one solo album on Tantobie Records 'Little Canaan'. She is also an established playwright celebrating 20 years of professional theatre touring with her own company in 2018.

Kate Bramley is a fine singer and instrumentalist, best known as fiddler and vocalist touring internationally for the North East folk band Jez Lowe & the Bad Pennies, as well

Guitarist and singer Simon Haworth (Fellside Records) played bass with Jez Lowe & the Bad Pennies from July 1998 until March 2004 touring in Holland, Belgium, Denmark, Australia, USA and Canada as well as extensively across the UK. He also toured as accompanist with BBC Radio 2 Folk Award winner Carlene Anglim and top fiddle & Northumbrian Pipes duo, Tom McConville & Pauline Cato before forming a 4 year musical relationship with champion Northumbrian Piper Andy May. He also plays in top NE based ceilidh band Real to Reel.

Kari Macleod is a virtuoso fiddler, unique singer and Americana-style songwriter originally from Tain in Ross-shire, now based in Newcastle, who released her much acclaimed debut solo album in 2016 with a series of concerts from her own band The Fugitives. She is a graduate of the Newcastle University Folk Music Degree course and is also a fine artist whose recent commissions include the original artwork for Jez Lowe's first novel 'The Dillenn Doll' released in 2017.

Kate and Simon first started touring with The Mile Roses in 2015 with folk songwriter Edwina Hayes who left the trio in 2018 to continue with her solo career.

An advertisement for an artist open studio. The background is a painting of a puffin's head in profile, facing left. The text is overlaid on the image.

**Artist Open Studio**  
**Philippa Mitchell**

Weekend of  
17 & 18 November  
1 - 4pm  
4 The Maltings  
High Street South  
Crail

recent paintings, cards, gifts  
[philippa.mitchell.com](http://philippa.mitchell.com)

### Philippa Mitchell

I am a self-employed artist who has shown artwork in the Crail Festival, Pittenweem Art Festival, and with East Neuk Open Studios. I'm trying a new thing on my own by opening my studio at 4 The Maltings, High Street South, Crail, just between 1 and 4pm. I will have a display of small and larger paintings, cards, small prints and coasters for sale. My work shows local landscapes, harbours and birds, this time all originals are in oils.

### Scottish Country Dancing

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

## Whats On Scottish Fisheries Museum

**Sunday 11th November and/or Sunday 17th November,** Drop-in Crafts/Conversation on theme of 'Memory' inspired by our Lest We Forget exhibition. TBC

Please keep an eye out on our Facebook page as these events are confirmed.

<https://www.facebook.com/scotfishmuseum/>

**Wednesday 21st November,** Creative Writing Workshop for Book Week with Geoff Barker, 7pm

A creative writing workshop inspired by the theme of 'Memory' with author, Geoff Barker, including a special after-hours viewing of our current temporary exhibition "Lest We Forget" and light refreshments to get the creative juices flowing! An optional visit to whole museum from 6pm. Workshop officially starts at 7pm, finishing by 9pm. Free but donations to museum welcome. Please let the Museum know if you're interested in booking a place (no previous writing experience necessary) and keep an eye out for details on our website/Facebook Page.

[www.scotfishmuseum.org](http://www.scotfishmuseum.org) <https://www.facebook.com/scotfishmuseum/>

**24th – 25th November,** Casting the Net Project "Ring Net Bus" visiting the Scottish Fisheries Museum

The Ring Net bus was designed by Tarbert Primary School pupils to spark memories of ring net fishing for the herring. It is a product of "Casting the Net", an oral history project developed by Clyde Fisherman's Association and the Scottish Fisheries Museum, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. Over the past year, the project has toured the country, collecting memories and experiences of the ring-net fishermen and their families from around the Firth of Clyde and West

Coast of Scotland. The interior was designed and upholstered by project artists, Deirdre Nelson, with children from Tarbert Academy. The children's designs were inspired by stories from the fishermen.

Films, slideshows, oral histories and soundscapes form part of the unique digital exhibitions being shown on the bus.

The bus has been touring throughout October and November to Campbeltown, Ayrshire and Stirling and ends its tour at the Scottish Fisheries Museum in Anstruther on 24 - 25 November where it will be open at the Harbour from 11am – 4pm over the weekend. [www.scotfishmuseum.org](http://www.scotfishmuseum.org)

**26th November - 6th January 2019** Emily Noakes and Caroline MacDonald photo exhibition in Merchant's Room of Scottish Fisheries Museum Local photographers Emily and Caroline capture the best of the East Neuk and beyond in their work. Framed prints are for sale if you're looking for that special and unique Christmas gift!

Free. Monday to Saturday 10am to 4pm, Sunday 12 pm to 4pm

and, doffing a cap to December ...

**17th Oct to 20th January 2019** - Lest We Forget: Remembrances of World War 1 - an Exhibition at Scottish Fisheries Museum (SFM)

**26th November to 6th January** – Emily Noakes and Caroline MacDonald photo exhibition in Merchant's Room of SFM

**December 2nd** 'Christmassy Creativity' at SFM – drop-in seasonal crafts, stories and treats

All details (hopefully!) correct at time of going to press (unless indicated as TBC) but please check with the museum about suitability, availability etc. if you have any doubts or queries – especially if you are travelling to us for an event. Feel free to drop the Museum a line with any queries.

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## Fife rowers compete in the Annual Freshwater Sprints Loch Tummel, Saturday 27 October



On a bitterly cold day, but in bright sunshine and surrounded by stunning autumn colours and snow-capped mountains, members of Crail Rowing Club joined forces with fellow rowers from around Fife to compete in the Annual Freshwater Sprints held on Loch Tummel. Five Scottish regions were represented, made up of some 40 clubs from the North West, North East, South West, South East and Fife. A variety of categories were raced throughout the day at 20 minute intervals, giving all rowers an opportunity

to participate in at least one event. With a short course and flat conditions, races were closely fought throughout the day. Points were awarded in each race and Fife, with three wins and a good number of seconds and thirds, came a strong second overall. Our congratulations to winners, the North East.

Many thanks to all who came along to the **CHAS Christmas Bazaar** at Kingsbarns on 27th October . We hope you agree that it was a very busy, happy occasion. Well done to all the children who entered the Art Competition and congratulations to the winners.

We are delighted to announce that we raised over £1500 which will help the wonderful work of CHAS.

## Community Council Notes

### Remembrance Day

Children will read out the names and ages of the 44 men who died in WW1 and where possible these children will have a connection with the men. The service will start at 10.45am on Sunday 11th at the Church Gates with the memorial bench being unveiled by Jenny Brett. After the Act of Remembrance the service will then continue inside the church with readings by a serviceman from a member of the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards and the other by Waid Pupils. There will be soup and sandwiches served in the Kirk hall after the service for all.

The Community Council would like to extend its thanks to Crail In Bloom for work on the tubs at the Kirk Gate. Crail in Bloom rely on volunteers who turn out in all weathers to plant up the street tubs and troughs in Crail. Our thanks are also due to the few people who live near the Church who tend those particular tubs.

### Crail Town Hall

A planning application has been received from Fife Council Planning Authorities made by the Crail Town Hall Management Committee to modify the old library area. Because this was received too late for detailed consideration, it has been referred to the Planning sub-committee to consider, consult, and make a report on behalf of the Community Council to Fife Council Planning Department. Details of the application can be found at Fife Council Planning Portal, Reference 18/03069/LBC. It was noted that there had been no prior consultation associated with this proposal.

### House security

The Crail Community Police person informed the Community Council of the circumstances around the recent house-breaking in Crail. She emphasised that whilst this was a rare event in Crail, householders should take precautions to ensure that their property is secure and locked when unattended, and that care should be exercised when admitting anyone. She also requested that members of the public keep an eye out for those vulnerable in the community. She also outlined a relatively minor but potentially disturbing example of damage to a holiday home - lighted socks were posted through a letter box. Whilst no great damage was done, this clearly had the potential to be a very serious incident. Residents were encouraged to report to the Police any examples of what they may feel to be troubling activity that might result in a threat to property or persons; residents were also encouraged to report any example of inappropriate behaviour by groups of young people (such as noisy groups, drinking, etc.). Such reporting to the police should be made using the phone number 101 - the 999 system remains in place for emergency calls to the Police, Ambulance or Fire Service.

### Out of Hours Closure

Since the meeting at Waid Academy on 20th September, Crail and Anstruther Community Council have collected 2208 objection cards in addition to Willie Rennie's petition of over 6000. On 18th October the cards were presented to Fife Health & Social Care Partnership (FH&SCP). Local community councils have also written letters that have been sent to Michael Kellet, the director of FH&SCP.

A new action group is being established that comprises, all North East Fife councilors, Willie Rennie, St Andrews University, local GPs and all Community Councils in North East Fife. This aims to further pressure FH&SCP before final de-

cision is made.



Cllr Linda Holt advised that there was a special North East Fife area meeting to address Out of Hours Closure with representation from FH&SCP. There was letter from local doctors presented at the meeting stating that there would be a death as a result of the closure and local GPs have seen an increase in the number of early morning appointment requests. She also stressed that the current situation is not what is proposed to happen, at present the service is closed from midnight – 6am, however the plan is to completely close the service during days, nights and weekends so that neither out of hours nor minor injuries will be at St Andrews Hospital. She also advised that due to the nature of FH&SCP's report, the results are skewed as averages are taken which include Glenrothes so for example the average travel time is calculated at 20mins. She advised that there has also been a cross party debate in Holyrood where the consensus is that the situation is unacceptable. GPs were not consulted on this matter. The IJB refused to employ local GPs to cover just St Andrews as the contract would mean that they had to work in Kirkcaldy, which many GPs were not willing to do, however this has seen Fife GPs going to Dundee to do Out of Hours as the contract terms and conditions are better.

Councillor John Docherty advised that FH&SCP report of the population of St Andrews did not include the students. Also an equality impact assessment should have been carried out on each closure and proposal which it has not.

Councillor Lina Holt & Councillor Bill Porteous thanked Crail Community Council for their input to the current issues and in particular thanked Heather Aird for her efforts towards the campaign.

### Recycling point

There is still allocation needed for a recycling point in Crail, proposed sites in Crail are at the back of the East Neuk Hotel and at the Car Park of the Community Hall (which was established not suitable as the lorries cannot access the site). Other areas suggested by members of the public include – waste ground at end of Kirkmay Road and the School Car Park, where it used to be. There was also a suggestion of getting smaller bins like Kilrenny and Boarhills have.

### Speeding

Several members of public raised the issue of speeding and asked if there was not more that could be done about it. In particular Lorries, tractors and buses were speeding as well as cars along Marketgate and Balcomie. MT will email the Community Police Officer to enquire what measures could be put in place. There was also an issue raised with the Co-op lorry parking on road and causing obstruction.

The public should take caution as there is black ice on roads as we approach winter.

### Crail in Bloom

Many thanks to all those who supported the fund raising Coffee Morning held on 20th October. The final sum raised was £332.50. All the money raised goes towards plants, compost and replacing tubs and troughs. Many thanks too, to the volunteers who helped at the Coffee Morning and the generous donations to the raffle and home baking stalls.



Please join us for a  
**SPECTACULAR THANKSGIVING  
POTLUCK DINNER**  
in the Crail Kirk Hall on Saturday 24  
November @7.00pm  
Bring along a covered dish to share  
with all. Bring along wine or beer or  
soft drinks to go with your meal.

Donation entry (in aid of Food Bank)  
Raffle held as well as a live band  
All are welcome. So see you there!

### **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.

### **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 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 Honey-pot on 01333 450935.

Community Hall ( Side Entrance ) 1900 Tuesday  
All welcome

### **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

### **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.

### **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](mailto:respite@disabilitiesfife.org.uk) or call on 01592 203993

### **Crail Mobile Post Office Service**

Location - Along High Street opposite the Beehive  
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

### **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](mailto:respite@disabilitiesfife.org.uk)  
Website - [YoungCarersRespite.com](http://YoungCarersRespite.com)

## *The Crail Seagull*

Oh dear - fireworks and loud bangs!! I saw a poor cat on Balcomie Road last Wednesday night terrified by fireworks. It ran across the road, narrowly being missed by a car, and into a garden to hide I imagine amongst the undergrowth. My friend the little sparrow on Nethergate told me of something similar there, and even the old grumpy blackbird in West Braes was complaining. I'm no friend of cats, but I really did feel concern.



Speaking of cars, have you noticed how fast the cars go on Balcomie road? I think it's meant to be a 20 mph area in Crail, but it doesn't seem to make any difference to the speed the cars go at. Oddly enough, the ones I see going the fastest seem to be big cars with one occupant, heading to or from the golf club. It's not just cars though - on Sunday I spotted a bit of food near the chippie, swooped down and was narrowly missed by two cyclists going at a terrific speed. They were more interested in talking to themselves rather than looking out for a seagull, so I doubt if they even noticed me. But it could have been a child.

Material for inclusion in Crail Matters should be sent to [crailmatters@gmail.com](mailto: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.

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