



CRAIL MATTERS

W/C 23 September 2019. No 125 Free - donations welcome
Suggested hard copy Donation 40p

Crail: The Jewel of the East Neuk.

Crail Folk Club

Another entertaining show with the John Ward Trio, and another good turnout. Next up we have a Singers' Night on **Thursday 26th September 8pm Crail Town Hall BYOB**. The Singers' Nights have been attracting large numbers of performers, and equally large numbers of listeners throughout 2019. Come along and see for yourself - just £1.

Our next guest night WILL be great entertainment with 'veteran' country blues singer and guitarist Dave Peabody joined by German classical violinist Regina Mudrich. A bit of jazz, a bit of blues and some flamboyant playing. Full details and tickets www.craillfolkclub.org.uk.

East Neuk Community Emergency Plan

The Resilient Communities initiative follows the principle of communities and individuals harnessing and developing local response and expertise to help themselves during an emergency in a way that complements the response of emergency services and other emergency responders.

Emergencies happen, and can include severe weather, floods, fires and major transport accidents. Preparing your community and your family for these types of events will make it easier to recover following the impact of an emergency.

Being aware of the risks that you as a community or family may encounter, and who within your community might be able to assist, could make your community better prepared to cope with an emergency.

Local emergency responders will always have to prioritise those in greatest need during an emergency, especially where life is in danger. During these times you, as a community, need to know how to help yourself and those around you until assistance arrives.

A resilient community tends to be achieved by using a Community Emergency Plan framework. The ethos of such a Community Emergency Plan is to formulate and co-ordinate voluntary support and assistance and direct this to those that require it within a community, in a non-mechanised manner of response.

It should be noted that a Community Emergency Plan is not there to reduce or replace a response from the emergency services or the local authority but should complement and support the overall response.

The aim of East Neuk Community Emergency Plan is to help the communities and individuals of the East Neuk to prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies in a way that complements the work of the local emergency responders.

Historically, the East Neuk has had few incidents which have caused major concerns. Crail was cut off for 4 days in March 2010 when severe weather closed all roads into and out of the town. Although there were shortages of bread and milk, local shop keepers managed to bring in limited supplies which went some way to replacing the usual bulk deliveries

**IN A
COMMUNITY EMERGENCY**

Call
East Neuk Community Emergency Planning Team
0800 999 6543

To report an emergency that may affect others in your community

If unanswered - your call will be reviewed
and you will receive a response within 2 hours.

In a Life-threatening Emergency always Dial 999

Produced by:-
E.N.C.E.P.T



which couldn't get through. Because of the short duration of the incident, other food stuffs were unaffected and local shops were able to meet an increase in customer numbers due to the need to shop locally.

In March 2018, East Neuk communities were again cut off for 3-4 days due to heavy snow falls (the Beast from the East). Emergency services such as ambulances were unable to get through and snow ploughs became stranded. Local volunteers responded to the emergency on an ad hoc basis as

other support services are centralised in Kirkaldy & Glenrothes. Local farmers used diggers & ploughs to open the roads and RNLI Crews delivered medicines in addition to public-spirited acts by locals.

Concerns for the East Neuk Today Additional to the distress and disruption severe weather incidents can bring to communities other risks could pose issues for the residents of Fife. They include:

Coastal Incidents As a coastal community, the East Neuk may have to deal with incidents involving spillages from ships enroute to Grangemouth, Rosyth, Hound Point and Braefoot Bay. Cargoes regularly passing coastal communities include:

Containerised dry goods: Spillage of containerised goods would not have a detrimental effect on East Neuk coastal towns since these would be less likely to cause pollution and would be easily cleaned up. The main problem would probably be looting of high value goods.

Heavy oils: Spillage of oils would have a dramatic effect on the towns if the beach and coastline were affected, as this would inevitably have an effect on tourism.

Liquid Petroleum Gas: In the event of an incident involving an LPG carrier in the vicinity of the East Neuk, the worst case scenario would be an explosion resulting damage to properties in the vicinity of the blast and pollutants being spread over large areas of the towns.

Passenger vessels: There are also a number of large passenger vessels using the Forth and, as with all ships, there is the remote possibility of a ship losing power and grounding on the shoreline of the East Neuk. Again, this could result in a large number of possibly traumatised passengers being dis-

gorged at local harbours who may require counselling, as well as accommodation and general support.

Offshore Windfarms: There is planning in place for a large-scale wind farm to be established of the East coast of Fife. Various stages of exploration have been completed and the project is moving forward. Whilst the installation of the structures is in progress and the cable laying to shore-based stations is being carried out there will be a heightened risk to all vessels transiting in and out of the Firth of Forth.

Although the wind farm is to be situated east of Fifeness, should an incident occur the possibility of a high number of casualties being landed into our communities is high.

Crail Airfield: Aircraft can land at the airfield by prior arrangement. There is the remote possibility of an aircraft overshooting the landing strip and crashing into homes or caravans at Sauchope.

Human Criminal Activity: In the light of incidents dating from Dunblane to, more recently, Cardiff, this type of large-scale activity should be considered.

Local Schools: There are large numbers of pupils located in small locations during term times

Missing Persons: There are ever increasing numbers of persons enjoying the coastal walks surrounding the East Neuk often getting into difficulty in some of the remote areas.

There has also been a steady increase in persons going missing from our community for personal reasons.

The Emergency Plan has been developed to address these potential problems, should they arise, in a flexible and sensitive way. Details of the Emergency Plan can be found on the Crail Matters website - www.crailmatters.com. For further information, contact Julie Middleton at crailcommunitycouncil@gmail.com

Mobile Library

The mobile library calls at Marketgate from 10:00 to 11:00 every 2nd Thursday.
Next Date: 26th September

Crail Community Choir



Schedule to Christmas

The Choir starts at 7.30pm

- September 23 Town Hall
- September 30 Church Hall
- October 14 Town Hall
- October 21 Town Hall
- October 28 Church Hall
- November 4 Town Hall
- November 11 Town Hall
- November 18 Town Hall
- November 25 Community Hall
- November 27 Concert

RNLI Coffee Morning

Saturday 28th September

10am at Crail Town Hall.



Christmas Cards and Calendars on sale and usual stalls.

All Welcome.

WILD CRAIL

Will Cresswell,

with Photographs by John Anderson



The weekend of the 14-15th was a continuation of the theme of the last three weeks – steady westerly winds and little unusual migration – although with a bit of a gale on the Saturday. At least the pink-footed geese came in all weekend. On the Sunday there were flocks flying past Crail, but most far out to sea, battling against the wind as they flew past the May Island into the inner Forth. Some flocks came directly over Crail as it was getting dark, but high and it was only the distant honking that gave them away. It was a clear, moonlit night so I expect they kept coming. The autumn is really here when the pink-feet arrive in big numbers. Another clear sign of autumn – the steady passage of meadow pipits flying from east to west along the coast over Crail – was going on all last week.



marsh harrier

It was a little bit depressing at Kilminning on Saturday 14th. The wind made birding difficult and I suspect there wasn't anything there anyway: even the blackcaps have now moved on. I tried walking across a few stubble fields looking for Lapland buntings but the fields are still empty – only one or two yellowhammers and meadow pipits, and no skylarks as yet. The best bird was a female type marsh harrier quartering over the stubble at Blacklaws Farm, just north of Kil-

renny on the following Sunday morning.

My birding is largely being restricted to sea watching from my house in the evening at the moment, and as the nights are drawing in, even this opportunity is getting less and less. On the evening of the 17th it was already getting dark by 6:45, but between 6:10 and 6:35 I had two arctic skua, one great skua, a sooty shearwater, two manx shearwaters and a red-throated diver past, all going east except for the diver. There were lots of kittiwakes rafting far out and a steady stream of gannets – now nearly 50:50 adults versus juveniles. It looks like it has been a great year for the gannets on the Bass Rock.



juvenile gannet



pale bellied brent goose

Four pale-bellied brent geese came past Crail on the evening of the 18th, heading into the Forth during a brief seawatch: my first brents of the winter. It's goose season in September. We get the pink-feet in first, often very early in September, Brents mid September and then Barnacles at the end. The other geese – greylags and bean geese usually turn up in October, and if we are very lucky rarer ones too. We haven't had a rare goose winter since 2011, when we had a few bean geese (both types) and white-fronted geese with the pink-foot flocks between Crail and Anstruther, or 2007 when we even had a snow goose (from North America) out at Damside, just north of Crail. We need cold weather right across Europe (and further inland in the UK) to bring the rarer geese, and the big pink-footed goose flocks that carry them, to East

Neuk fields. This has become a scarce commodity as north-western Europe in particular has warmed up in the winter. It has become hard to tell whether many species that have become scarcer in the UK during winter have just been not bothering to come here because it remains nice in central Europe, or whether they have genuinely declined in population. A bit of both I should think. We can still expect goose winters though, even if they are less frequent, and we can always hope that this winter might just be another one.

A little stint was found at Fife Ness on the afternoon of the 18th and then later on Balcomie Beach. I got back to Crail too late to chase it but went out to the beach at lunchtime the following day. There were very few waders on the beach – a handful of dunlin and ringed plover, but roosting among them, a little stint.

It was a warm afternoon and clearly none of the waders were hungry, barely feeding the half an hour I was there, despite it being low tide. Because it was roosting right next to the dunlins and plovers I could really appreciate just how small little stints are. It is fine thinking about bar-tailed godwits migrating thousands of kilometres on a single fuel tank of fat, and the same then for much smaller knot, but when you realise that little stints also do the same – when they are the size of a sparrow – you realise that birds, and particularly shorebirds, can do almost anything. It was a nice bird to see again on the Crail patch – they are once every two year birds, usually turning up on Balcomie Beach. The rest of the patch remained resolutely quiet with barely anything passing Fife Ness of note while I was there except a few sandwich terns and some wigeon. I did encounter a weasel dashing across the road into a bramble bush as I arrived though, which is always a pleasure to see. I squeaked for a few minutes like a demented mouse but couldn't tempt it out for a photo – only my dog was interested.



little stint

Letters to the Editor

All letters to Crail Matters must supply names and addresses. If requested we will withhold names. Letters are published as received, and reflect or represent the views of the author, not the Editors.

Denburn Park

Sir,

Reference the recent CPS statement entitled “Denburn Park” in Crail Matters Issue No 124 dated 16th September 2019.

Having recently discussed this issue with several Crail residents and in particular those living in the immediate vicinity of the area in question, I am yet to speak with anybody in favour of the changes being proposed by CPS as outlined in the Crail Matters. In fact, it would appear that everyone would prefer to have the field left as it is rather than have it changed into a wooded area under the guise of this being an enhancement of the “environment and biodiversity of Crail”. Therefore, this letter raises a few recent concerns raised by myself and several residents of Crail. It would appear from the annotations made by Mr Cresswell that he talks on behalf of all members of the Crail Preservation Society. It is mentioned that 500 people were involved in a Charette consultation during the past 18 months to identify this area for change of use. I ask – is this change of use already a fait accompli?

I ask as it would appear that there has been no vote, ballot or consultation with the people of Crail – the very people to whom the plot of land was bequeathed. Therefore, I ask for an open consultation and ballot with the people of Crail on this matter rather than the alienation of the majority of the residents and home owners by limiting a so-called consultation to asking people for ideas by emailing Mr Cresswell directly. Such a method of “consultation” is a closed loop where any letters of concern can easily be side-lined on the determination by a minority group to make the radical changes happen.

The timescale for the proposed changes as stated by Mr Cresswell is extremely short therefore, I can only assume that this is due to the fact that the farmers tenancy is reportedly due for renewal in March 2020. As per my initial letter to the editor in Newsletter No 122 and emulated by Rachael Schreitter’s with her comments in Newsletter No. 123 – Full information regarding any proposed changes should be widely available to the public. It is suggested that the CPS should do a leaflet drop or survey and hold an information event outlining the proposed plans so that all residents and home owners are appraised and are therefore included for participation.

The CPS must have preliminary plans at this stage as they have stated that they want to have a clear plan for the CPS meeting in December with the outlook to commencement of work scopes in March 2020. It has also been stated that there are sufficient funds for purchasing of gates, etc. Therefore, can any preliminary plans be made available to the wider public for public opinion, inclusion and comment? It is believed that planning permission would be re-

quired for a change of use of this magnitude therefore can it be ascertained if this has been considered / applied for? The entire area of land under scrutiny actually has a preservation order as does some of the adjacent properties as it is contained within the conservation area therefore would the changes proposed actually be allowed in the first place?

Crailers’ fears for this area is that if the farmers tenancy is not renewed and the area in question is indeed subject to a change of use that it will become completely overgrown and instead of enhancing the area it will become an eyesore such as has happened to one of the pavements bordering the field. As we are all aware, the tarmac pavement on the West side of Roomebay Avenue was removed over two years ago – some may say the resultant overgrown and now unusable area is an environmentally friendly wildflower border as had been suggested by someone in Crail Matters Issue No 20 of 26th June 2017 - however many locals, myself included would suggest it is an untidy eyesore which is detrimental to the beauty of the village – it is overgrown with weeds, littered with rubbish, broken branches and dog excrement, additionally there are seedling trees which will in a short time damage the road, retaining wall and infrastructure. When visitors park their cars on this particular street, they have to negotiate all sorts of undesirable conditions to exit their cars. Although this is a different issue to that regarding the field it actually reflects what will become of the sheep field if it is left to its own devices with the proposed so-called “wildflower meadows”. The enclosed apple orchard as planted recently is testament to how the area can become overgrown if unattended.

Mr Cresswell has stated that “The National Trust for Scotland have approved the change of use”. I would suggest that the National Trust for Scotland would equally give their full approval for the area of land to be left as it is – an Open Space – which after all was the terms and conditions of the land bequeathed to the people of Crail. It is all well and good to suggest the opening of the burn and form a pond. The burn was re-directed a long time ago as it caused flooding in the lower areas of the field – the lowest point which forms the lower gardens of the properties on the West side of Roomebay Avenue. Therefore, can the CPS guarantee that they will plan accordingly if such radical changes were made that this is considered and that if flooding were to occur that they would have the funds available to rectify this?

Can the CPS advise what they manage regarding the field other than agreeing tenancy with the farmer? It would appear that the fields boundaries have not been maintained in a very long time. If the area were to be turned into a park then boundary walls and fences would have to be factored in as another cost consideration

On a historical note – Mr Cresswell decreed that the sheep field is named “Denburn Park” and that it has only recently been used for grazing sheep, prior to that he advised it was used for donkeys and prior to that it was allegedly a dump. On a point of recorded history - the sheep field was 100 years ago named “Bylaw’s Croft” and was defined at that time as being “Arable Land” and from memory it has been used for grazing sheep for at least the past 50 years

I find it unacceptable that the CPS have not had the courtesy to at the very least contact the owners of the properties immediately surrounding the field. It is evident this whole latest proposal is being steamrollered through similarly to the apple orchard in the corner which was planted with no consultation with the neighbouring and adjacent properties. Ironically, this fenced off orchard in such a short time has become the untidiest area of the sheep field as the environmentally friendly sheep have no access to naturally “mow” the grass with the result that the area is an overgrown, barely tended wilderness. There are few villages that can boast a much-admired rolling field containing grazing sheep within the town boundaries which is surrounded with footpaths which have wonderful scenic views both within the village and towards the sea. Changing the field to form a woodland will divide the village and change the landscape... forever.

Alex Bowman

GP Services

Sir,

Counsellor Bill Porteous recently forwarded a copy of your latest Crail Matters dated 6th September 2019 suggesting that one of the partners here respond to Counsellor Linda Holt’s headline grabbing letter.

We are hard working and ever aspiring to improve access to our services, and rather despondent at the continual criticism we are receiving as we our resources are extremely limited and consultations in General practice have risen dramatically in the last years . Many GP’s are leaving practice because of the current pressures and to liken our procedures to “the boxing day sales” seems rather flippant and derogatory, I know how hard all my staff work and all the GP’s work beyond opening hours routinely to the detriment of their own well being and their families .

We have made some changes over the last year. Previously, as soon as the rota’s for the GPs were made they were put on to the system but we found that we were booked up solidly for 3 or 4 weeks at a time which meant that the GPs were having to fit emergency appointments in after their routine surgeries. This was not good practice as these appointments were not afforded appropriate time. We also have an issue with people not attending for their appointments as they had been made so far in advance.

We brought a system in where appointments were released daily however patients found that that was really

difficult. We listened to what they were saying and went to a twice weekly release of appointments.

It is busy on a Monday and Wednesday at 2pm on the phones when these appointments are made available but it isn’t necessary for patients to phone at that time to get an appointment for the following week. For example, at 5pm on a Monday and there were still over 50 appointments left for next week and over 20 on Tuesday at mid-day. Again today there are over 50 appointments still available for next week. Counsellor Holt states that priority is given to those at the desk but there are other staff members answering the phone at the same time so again this is not factual.

I think issues arises when patients would like to see a specific doctor and unfortunately since Dr Hall’s retirement with the lack of an immediate suitable replacement, patients currently may not be able to see the GP of their choice but they will be offered an appointment. We did advertise 8 months before his retirement unsuccessfully. Counsellor Holt also states that the number of missed appointments has “soared” under this system and she has written down the figures. However, this is untrue. The numbers were consistently over 130-150 in the old system. It would be perhaps more helpful to encourage her constituents to value primary care resources and encourage patients to cancel so that others may utilise this precious resource. The council also has on record our objection to the new housing built in the East Neuk dating back 2001. We stated then that we were at capacity and yet planning permissions continue to be granted. In December we are welcoming a new doctor to take over Dr Hall’s sessions and we are increasing our sessions further, so that is an extra day and a half GP time from December compared to the previous year. We are also trying to sign post patients away from seeing a GP to other health care professionals – it is not always the GP that is the most important person to discuss health matters with. We are training advanced nurse practitioners and we now have access to pharmacist time within the surgery.

I personally have been on a course recently discussing with other practices their access problems and appointment systems. There is no one system that works well. In some practices you have to phone up or attend that day for an appointment on the day, or the GP triages all the calls for any appointments through the day,(which seems like a rather inefficient use of a professional’s time).

I am very grateful for any feedback or thoughts you have on this matter. I can assure you that we are very open to suggestions and continue to work hard to serve the community. You may recall Dr Scott’s comprehensive reply to the Crail community council earlier this year. We have nothing to add to this but would be happy to speak face to face.

Dr Laura Holden

How do you solve a problem like the seagulls?



The nuisance and mess caused by urban seagulls has been well documented. Among their most recent targets were Scottish Championship football club Queen of the South, who issued a plea to fans not to feed the birds in a bid to tackle the problem.

But how did we get here and what can you do if, like the Dumfries team, you are having a bit of bother with the birds?

According to the RSPB, herring and lesser black-backed gulls using rooftops for nesting goes back as far as the 1940s.

Why they left their traditional seaside environment is less clear but abundant inland sources of food and safe, predator-free nesting sites

on rooftops were "definite factors". An increasingly "throw-away" society gave the gulls greater access to food sources, helping populations to grow.

And there, said RSPB Scotland, lies the most straightforward solution to tackling the problem. "The most effective measure to discourage seagulls nesting in urban areas is to reduce access to food and the attractiveness of nest-sites," explained a spokeswoman.

However, there are other options - even including using bird of prey kites - but how well do they work? "It is important to point out that no deterrent is always 100% effective, and more than one gadget is sometimes needed for the desired effect," said the RSPB Scotland spokeswoman. "RSPB has not tested gull deterrents and as such we cannot recommend any in particular. A deterrent must not prevent a bird access to an active nest, or trap a bird or injure it," she added.

Indeed, she stressed that the birds enjoyed protection which adds to the difficulty of dealing with them once they become an issue. "All gulls are protected in the UK under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981," she said. "But the law also recognises that control measures may be necessary under certain conditions when non-lethal methods have been exhausted and are unable to resolve human conflict." At that point, permission to kill the birds could be given. "General licences can be issued to prevent serious damage to agriculture and disease spread and to preserve public health and safety, or to conserve other wild birds," she explained. "Nuisance or damage to property are not legitimate reasons for gull control."

Scottish Natural Heritage said there were two main ways for a local authority to control gulls. "Exclusion is one - stopping the use of nests or using bird spikes - and the other is removal of nests with eggs," said a spokeswoman. "In some cases, some types of gulls can be culled, but only under licence and only as a last resort when public health is at risk and all other options have been attempted."

Dumfries and Galloway Council is one local authority that already offers a free egg and nest removal system. Indeed, it has been something of a leader in field, with Dumfries having hosted a national "gull summit" back in 2008. The following year an egg removal scheme was offered free of charge in the area for the first time. It has been credited with driving numbers down - particularly in the town centre. However, problems with the birds have continued including:

Direct stealing of food from people's hands; Swooping and dive-bombing to protect chicks; Noise issues, particularly at first light in residential areas; Mess on cars, buildings, washing, footpaths and people; Litter caused by refuse bags being ripped open

A number of different methods to tackle the problem have been tried out over the years in addition to the egg and nest removal. Falcons once flew in the skies over the town in a bid to deter roof-nesting gulls but it was deemed only a "partial success". The installation of water sprayers on buildings was unsuccessful as infra-red sensors lost effectiveness in the summer. Special "gull proof" bin bags have also been offered to businesses. However, the local authority has repeatedly urged the public to help play its part in keeping the birds at bay. New signs were put up in 2017 in a bid to stop feeding of the gulls and community safety officers also tried to discourage people from giving them food. A similar plea from Queen of the South - not to give the birds a half-time pie or chips - has appeared to help tackle their problems too. In that way, perhaps, the Scottish football club might get more media coverage for its on-the-field exploits in future rather than having to rely on its feathered friends.

BBC News South Scotland 16 September

Crail Parish Church of Scotland (Charity registered in Scotland SC 001601) Linked with St Ayle Intimations

Stepping Stone Coffee Morning every Tuesday 10.00 - 11.30 at St Ayles@Anstruther

Chat Bite every Wednesday in the Kirk Hall 10.00-12.00.

RNLI Coffee Morning will be held in Crail Town Hall on Saturday 28th September at 10am. Christmas cards & calendars for sale + usual stalls. All welcome.

Harvest Thanksgiving will be held on Sunday 29th September. Gifts of flowers for locals, fruit, veg, dried food and tins for Anstruther Food Bank and monetary donations for Christian Aid. These can be handed into the church on Saturday 29th September between 10.00- 12noon and 2.00 – 4.00pm.

Guild: The Guild Dedication Service will be held on Sunday 6 October 2019 at the 11.15 morning service.

Blythwood Shoe Box Appeal leaflets are now available both in church and at Chat bite. Please return the filled boxes by Sunday the 3rd of November.

Pastoral visits: As we now have no locum please let the elders or myself (Helen) know if anyone requires a visit especially where people have been admitted to hospital.

Next Sunday the service will be conducted by the Revd. E Gilchrist

Intimations to be in by Thursday noon to Lisa 450035, or email (intimations@crailchurch.co.uk)

Session Clerk: Helen Armitage 450516

Latest Recommended Posting Dates for Christmas Delivery 2019



International

International Economy

Date	Destination
Saturday 5 October	Australia, Middle and Far East (except Hong Kong and Singapore), New Zealand and all other non-European destinations (except Canada, South Africa, USA)
Saturday 12 October	Canada, Hong Kong, Singapore, South Africa, USA
Saturday 2 November	Cyprus, Eastern Europe, Greece, Iceland, Malta, Turkey
Saturday 16 November	Western Europe

International Standard and International tracking and signature services

Monday 9 December	Africa, Asia, Caribbean, Central and South America, Far and Middle East
Tuesday 10 December	Cyprus, Malta
Wednesday 11 December	Eastern Europe (except Czech Republic, Poland and Slovakia)
Thursday 12 December	Australia, Greece, New Zealand and Turkey
Saturday 14 December	Canada, Czech Republic, Finland, Italy, Poland, Sweden, USA
Monday 16 December	Austria, Denmark, Germany, Iceland, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland
Wednesday 18 December	Belgium, France, Ireland, Luxembourg

HM Forces Mail - British Forces Post Office® (BFPO)

Monday 25 November	Operational HM Forces
Friday 13 December	Static HM Forces

UK

UK Inland Services

Date	Service
Wednesday 18 December	2nd Class and 2nd Class Signed For
Friday 20 December	1st Class and 1st Class Signed For and Royal Mail Tracked 48*
Saturday 21 December	Royal Mail Tracked 24*
Monday 23 December	Special Delivery Guaranteed

*Royal Mail Tracked 24 and Royal Mail Tracked 48 services are unavailable to purchase at Post Office® branches.

Royal Mail and the cruciform are trademarks of Royal Mail Group Ltd. © Royal Mail Group Ltd 2019. All rights reserved.
Royal Mail Group Ltd, registered in England and Wales, number 4138203, registered office: 100 Victoria Embankment, London, EC4Y 0HQ.

Crail in Bloom Date for your Diary

There will be a fund raising Coffee Morning at the Legion Hall, Nethergate on Saturday 12th October. All money raised goes towards the floral enhancement of Crail. The In Bloom group hope everyone has enjoyed both the Spring flowers and the bright summer Geraniums. We will soon be changing over the plants, ready for next year as autumn is upon us. So please come and enjoy a cuppa at the Legion and support Crail in Bloom.

Greens of Crail - reusing plastic

The scallop tubs which are quite well made and are ideal for salmon are available if anyone would prefer a reusable tub instead of a plastic bag - please ask. Also if anyone wishes to bring in their own plastic tubs for haddock there is no issue as it can simply be tared on the scales.

thanks Clem at Greens`

Skeith Surgery

Routine GP appointments - appointments released Monday at 2pm for Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday morning for the following week. Appointments released Wednesday at 2 pm for Wednesday afternoon, Thursday and Friday the following week.

Nurse appointments can be booked approx 1 month in advance.

Seagull Proof Sacks

Seagull proof sacks are available through Environment and Building Services of Fife Council. There is no cost associated with them and can be ordered by calling the environment helpline on 03451 550022. At the end of the month when FifeDirect is replaced by the new Fife.gov website then there will hopefully be the facility to order these online.



Bite & A Blether

The Waid Academy, Fife Council Catering Service and The East Neuk Befriending Service are excited to launch "Bite & A Blether". This will occur on the last Friday of the month and will commence on Friday 27th September 2019 from 2pm – 4pm (excluding school holidays).

"Bite & A Blether" is open to all members of the community aged 65 years or over. Come along and enjoy a bit of company and a bite to eat with others.

Make new friends, catch up on local news and enjoy a range of activities i.e games afternoon, singsong, musical entertainment with a fish tea at a cost of £4.50.

For further information about our exciting new venture please contact:

Ruby Urlotti
The East Neuk Frail Elderly Project
Tel: 01333 311837
Email: enproject@btinternet.com

Thank you to everyone involved for Helping to launch this exciting new venture.



Wee Crailers

Kids craft & lunch club

Crail Kirk Hall,
2nd Friday of the month, 12-2 pm

Wee Crailers is an art and craft lunch club for all ages of tiny humans and their big humans too!

Our activities have a nature and science theme to them and are, most importantly, fun!

£4 for lunch and crafts for one grown up and one wee one, then £1 for siblings taking part

Find us on Facebook @weecrailers

East Neuk Book Group

We meet in the Cocoa Tree
Pittenweem.

Come along and join us!

All welcome!

We will be discussing the following books on the first Thursday of every month. Discussion starts at 6pm but pop in from 5.30pm and have a chat with us over coffee or hot chocolate. £1 payable on the night.

Thursday 3rd October

Danny Scheinmann

Random Acts of Heroic Love

If you would like further information or would like to join our mailing list, please contact Coral

coralnapier@yahoo.co.uk

CRAIL BADMINTON CLUB

MEETS ON
TUESDAYS 7 – 10 PM
IN

CRAIL COMMUNITY HALL

The new season starts on
Tuesday 24th September

New members welcome

Any queries:- Tel. Anne on 07769156003

**Singing for the Memory
and Music and Movement
for people with Dementia and their Carers at
Kilrenny Parish Church Hall**

1.30pm-4.00pm Wednesdays

Singing for Memory **Music and Movement**

25 September	13 November
30 October	11 December
27 November	

**Community Transport
Transport service for people with visual im-
pairments in the East Fife area.**

Royal Voluntary Service volunteers provide Community Transport for trips where mobility issues can make it difficult, if not impossible, for you to use public transport or if you live in rural areas with limited transport. Trips usually include getting to or from hospital or to a GP appointment but can also include trips to the shops or into town or to social activities.

Telephone: 0330 555 0310

Email: fifegnhs@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk

Or have someone do it on your behalf:

<https://www.royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk/ourservices/service-enquiry?serviceid=884>



Crail Matters

We continue to need funds. If you have already donated, then **thank you**. If you haven't, will you consider making a donation? You can make a bank transfer to sort code 83-26-28, Account No. 15518709, or by cheque payable to 'Crab Publishing' given to any member of the Editorial Board or posted to Crab Publishing, 1 Fife Ness, Crail, KY10 3XN.

Advert/Copy Submission to Crail Matters

The Editors are happy to accept material for publication in a variety of formats, but we prefer .jpg and .pdf copy.

We would urge anyone submitting material to have regard to efficient use of space - we cannot guarantee to publish in original format large adverts designed as posters. We reserve the right to edit material.

Crail Table Tennis Club

Every Tuesday 19.00pm Crail Community Hall

This Tuesday, 24th September sees Crail Table Tennis Club commence its 2019/20 season, these are fun sessions and everybody is welcome. **Cost £3 per person per night.**

**CRAIL MUSEUM
AND HERITAGE
CENTRE**

MUSEUM OPENING TIMES

1st June - 27th October: Daily

Guided Walks: Wednesdays and Sundays

Monday - Saturdays: 11am - 4pm

Sundays: 1.30pm - 4pm

Admission to the Museum is FREE but donations are always gratefully received.

Guided Walks

It is not a difficult walk but there is a steep hill down to and up from the harbour.

Meet at the Museum 2.15pm for 2.30pm start, walks usually lasts 1.5 - 2 hours.

Adults £3.00 Children (10 - 17) £1.00

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

Crail Mobile Post Office Service

Location - Along High Street opposite the Beehive

Opening times:

Monday: 1400-1600

Tuesday: 1400-1600

Wednesday: 1400-1600

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

Useful Emergency Numbers

Samaritans	116 123
Breathing Space	0800 838587
Social Work Out Of Hours Emergencies	03451 55 00 99
Adult Protection Phone Line	01383 602200
Child Protection or Social Work	03451 551503
NHS24	111
Police	101
CARF (Citizen's Advice & Rights)	0345 1400 095
Homeless Emergency Number	0800 028 6231

Crail Hospital Car Service

Crail is full of good neighbours and it is they who provide the Hospital Car Service. It's only when you can't drive because you or the car is sick, or it is too daunting to think of standing in the cold, waiting for a return bus from the health centre or the dentist, or you need to get to Kirkcaldy hospital that you wish for a bit of help. Maybe you're new to Crail and don't know many people yet. That bit of help is there and has been for 54 years in Crail. It's the Hospital Car Service. If you could do with that bit of help, ring. 01333 450096.



The Crail Seagull

What's the world coming to? Reports of discarded injection needles on the beach at Elie with one picked up by a two year old? From what I can gather it is unclear whether the needle came from Elie or if it was washed up from elsewhere - if the latter in a way that's even worse, because it means they could be anywhere. I spend a lot of my time on the beaches around Crail, and to be honest I've never seen anything like that. But I'll certainly keep on the lookout now. I understand you should not pick anything like this up, but rather report it to the Police, Fife Council or the Community Council. Ugh.....



I thought it was some kind of fancy bird, but it's apparently a 'stealth bomber'. My good friend from the Islands sent me this picture he took off the Isle of Lewis this week - how about that! We're being spied on it seems. But who by - The Russians? The Americans? The Europeans? Or is it the English sussing outpost-Brexit sites to attack? Who knows?



Community Council Notes

Our new website is <https://crailcc.com/>

Next Community Council Meeting 7.15pm 30th September in the Town Hall

Roome Bay Play Area

Completed and open for use. The Roome Bay play area is open after some unavoidable delays. This was a joint project by Crail Community Council and Crail Community Trust.

The project was funded by donations from The Helen Main Trust, Crail Common Good fund, Fife Environment Trust and Fife Council. Thanks to Alan Bisset of Fife Council for his role in design and supervision.



Seagull Proof Bins

The application for funding for the seagull-proof bins has been approved.

Planning Applications

• Listed Building Consent for painting to exterior of building - Crail Museum 62 Marketgate South Marketgate Crail Anstruther Fife KY10 3TL

Ref. No: 19/01213/LBC | Received date: Mon 29 Apr 2019 | Status: Pending Consideration | Case Type: Planning Application

• Erection of outbuilding and alterations to boundary wall to front of dwellinghouse (in retrospect) - 3 Orchard Park Anstruther Road Crail Anstruther Fife KY10 3RW

Ref. No: 19/02619/FULL | Received date: Wed 04 Sep 2019 | Status: Pending Consideration | Case Type: Planning Application

Crail Bowling Club

Crail Bowling Club will close for the season on 28th September. The weekly bingo will start on 28th September and the carpet bowls on the 8th October numbers permitting.

Crail Community Partnership and Crail Charrette

Crail Community Partnership invite all members of the Crail Community to join. An application form can be found here: <https://crailmatterscom.files.wordpress.com/2019/07/membership-form-short.pdf>

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 2019: Editorial Team this week: Helen Byres, Julie Middleton, Isla Reid, Valencia Sowry, Max Taylor, John Wilson