

Pittenweem Post

13 June 2025, Issue No. 30

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£1 or more
would be very
welcome

PITTENWEEM GIRL RAISES NEARLY £900 FOR SCOTTISH MOUNTAIN RESCUE - *Climbing High* - safely, sustainably while inspiring others

Raising more than £850 for her chosen charity was not even the best part of Olivia's Year 6 project. She challenged herself with building a climbing wall, gathered a crowd for a coastal walk (that she safely led), and initiated relationships with professional climbers and superstars in the world of mountaineering.

All Year 6 students at St Leonards School must select a topic of their choice to investigate and then present to the wider school community. Deciding on a topic was a challenge as Olivia Andrew, aged 10, has many interests. After narrowing down a few sport-related topics, she landed on climbing. This interest was sparked through taking a few climbing lessons at the University Sports Centre, St Andrews, as well as being a regular rock hopper in her home village of Pittenweem.

Once a topic was selected, Olivia read about several aspects of climbing, namely how the sport enhances lives, the equipment needed, how to best prepare for expeditions, effects of climbing on the environment and researched well-known people involved in climbing. Then she had to create an action focused on her chosen topic which would bring change to the wider community. She decided to organise a sponsored walk to bring attention to the importance of safety and environmental sustainability in hiking, bouldering and climbing. This is when her communication with Scottish Mountain Rescue (SMR) started. Olivia sent an email to the charity and quickly received a response and then set up a Just Giving page in which all donations would go to SMR. In support, the SMR sent Olivia a package containing a banner, tee shirt, badge and pamphlets detailing what the charity impressively accomplishes – and all through generous volunteers. She was off and (safely) running! Olivia carefully planned a coastal walk, advertised for the big day and hosted 24 people on her out-and-back adventure. This wonderful turnout of friends and families for her sponsored walk ended up far exceeding her initial fundraising goal of £100.

Reflecting on her work with SMR, Olivia says that one day she may want to climb Mount Everest or, at least, Largo Law!

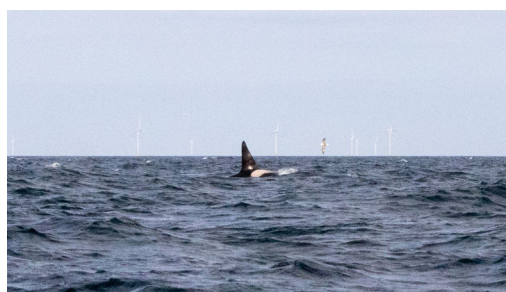
For more information on Scottish Mountain Rescue please go to:

<https://www.scottishmountainrescue.org>



RARE VISITORS TO THE EAST NEUK!

Monday 2 June brought great excitement and rare visitors to the East Neuk. Busta the largest member of the 65s - a pod of Orca from the Northern Isles community of killer whales. Pittenweem was gripped with Orca fever as wildlife enthusiasts from all over Fife and further afield gathered at the West Braes shore watch site to watch in amazement as these majestic mammals visited our coastline. Busta's amazing fin stands at an impressive 6 feet tall and is judged to be in his 40s. Dolphins and minke whales were also viewed on the day.



Orca pod also sighted off the East Neuk on Monday 9th June – so may be regular visitors!



NATIONAL TRUST FOR SCOTLAND – KELLIE CASTLE

The Edinburgh Sketcher at Kellie Castle

Join us at Kellie Castle & Garden for an exciting sketching workshop with Mark, the Edinburgh Sketcher. Mark will share over a decade of tips and tricks focusing on depth, perspective and composition to ignite your creativity whilst you immerse yourself in the beauty and historic environment of Kellie Castle.

Perfect for all skill levels. This is a fabulous opportunity to practise speed-sketching outdoors with ink and watercolour. All materials are provided. Perfect for history enthusiasts and art lovers.

The workshop runs between 10:30am to 1:30pm on Friday 20 June and prices include light refreshments. Tickets are available from the Kellie Castle and Garden Eventbrite Page.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/edinburgh-sketcher-at-kellie-castle-tickets-1230427895959?aff=oddtcreator>



NEW FISH AND CHIP RESTAURANT FOR PITTENWEEM

Plans have been submitted to Fife Council on behalf of David Lowrie for the construction of a fish and chip restaurant and take away. This will be a replacement for the former chip shop destroyed in the devastating fire in August 2022.

David says “As a local family business, we are delighted to be able to rebuild the former chip shop which has been an eyesore in Pittenweem High Street for a long time. The fire damage was so great that we have no choice but to demolish the original building but we have taken care in our plans to design the new building in a sympathetic way to the original. The new restaurant will have a traditional take away on the ground floor and a sit-in restaurant on the first floor. We await the decision of Fife Council and hope to begin demolition within 3-4 months and have the new restaurant open by Easter 2026”

Full details of the proposed development can be viewed on the Fife Council Planning Portal
<https://planning.fife.gov.uk/>

25/01097/FULL Erection of restaurant (Class 3) and hot food take away (Demolition of existing building), 5 High Street Pittenweem Anstruther Fife KY10 2LA



OBITUARY – ISABELLA McASLAN (1935 – 2025) ARTIST AND TEACHER

Isobel died peacefully at home at the Gyles, aged 89. Born in Glasgow, Isobel was educated in Scotland and Switzerland, before studying at the Glasgow School of Art. After graduation, she worked in the US and France and married fellow artist Ewen McAslan. In 1967, with three children in tow, they left to make a life in Canada where Isobel seeking work outside the home was her first foray into breaking the traditions of patriarchy, something she continued to do throughout her life. Deeply involved in women's issues, particularly in relation to art, she presented papers at conferences and published essays.

Retiring in 1994, Isobel and Ewen returned to their beloved Scotland and settled in Pittenweem, where they continued to paint, exhibiting in the Pittenweem Arts Festival. Isobel became active as a board member. After Ewen's death in 2008, her involvement in the Pittenweem community took the form of her helping to set up the Pittenweem Community Library, where she volunteered for many years and was a huge supporter of all its activities. Sociable, uncompromising, and community-minded, Isobel remained to the end that rebellious woman who chose her life and chose to be an artist.

Her family wish to thank her many friends and neighbours in Pittenweem for their care of Isobel over several years and say she could not have found a better place to wind up. A celebration of Isobel's life will be held at the Coastline Community Church on Friday 13 June at 3pm, where everyone is welcome. She is much missed.

PITTENWEEM COMMUNITY CRAFTS - 'Arrr! Ship ahoy, me hearties!'

Pete the gnome pirate has been parading and planning plundering in Pittenweem. He's heard there will be treasure aplenty at this year's Arts Festival and he'll be heading upstairs at the Coastline Community Church on Session Street to scope out the crafted loot.

The Pittenweem Community Crafts group and friends have been busy creating all kinds of beautiful handmade goods. As well as Pete the knitted pirate, there will be crochet creations, woolly jumpers, socks, quilts, cards and much more. Their talents will be on show and available to purchase during the Arts Festival. All items have been kindly donated so that every penny raised can be gifted to this year's chosen charities: RNLI (Anstruther) and Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance (SCAA).



If you are a crafter and wish to make something to help our cause, there's still just enough time to create and donate anything along our 'Ship ahoy!' theme. Details can be found on our Facebook and Instagram pages.

See you there! Pittenweem Community Crafts group.

EAST NEUK OF FIFE PROBUS CLUB

On Tuesday 3 June a number of our members went on their summer outing to Perth Museum where we were able to see the Stone of Destiny, initially treated to a visual presentation surrounding us on the walls.

About the Stone of Destiny

The Stone of Destiny is an ancient symbol of Scottish monarchy and kingdom. A king-making stone, it was used in the inauguration of Scottish monarchs at Scone, 3 miles upriver of Perth on the River Tay. Its first documented use was in 1249 for the inauguration of the boy-king, Alexander III.

Taken as war loot by King Edward I of England fifty years after Alexander became king, the Stone was carried to Westminster Abbey in London; a symbol of Edward's victory and his perceived right to rule. Returning home to Perthshire for the first time in 700 years, this iconic artefact is still used to crown kings and queens of the United Kingdom today, including the coronation of King Charles III in May 2023.

Lunch followed in the Stone Cafe and then we had free time to explore the many exhibits before returning to Anstruther by coach.

Probus meetings resume on Tuesday 7 October at 10.00 in Coastline Community Church.

Emily Noakes, ENOF Probus Secretary,

t:07506646481 e:emilyn007@btinternet.com

Images of the Stone of Destiny, © Culture Perth and Kinross



SUMMER EVENTS AT ARDROSS

We're delighted to invite you to our **Summer Supper Club – Farm to Barn on Thursday 26 June**, a relaxed and welcoming evening celebrating local food at its best. Set at Pratis in their cosy barn on the farm, we'll be serving a thoughtfully prepared menu featuring our own grass-fed lamb and seasonal produce – with 98% of the ingredients coming from our farm or within Fife.

Over the course of the evening, Nikki and their talented chef will guide you through the meal, sharing the stories behind the ingredients, how they were grown, and how they've been brought together on your plate.

If you love good food, great conversation, and a strong sense of place, this is an evening not to be missed.

Spaces are limited, so please get in touch to reserve your seat at the table. www.ardrossfarm.co.uk



We've also got our **Summer Food Fair on Saturday 5 July 10am – 4pm**. Come along and meet our suppliers, try their fantastic products and support local. Upstairs in our loft.



CHILDREN'S ART FOR ST JOHN'S 220TH ANNIVERSARY

St. John the Evangelist, Marygate, Pittenweem, was built in 1805 on ground previously occupied by the medieval Priory. To mark the 220th anniversary of the church, the children of Pittenweem Primary School created works of art inspired by an historical timeline of events, provided by Professor R. A. Lodge, stretching from the time of the birth of Christ to the foundation of St. John's.

From a rich history of the local area, and national events, the children were particularly inspired by the arrival of Irish missionaries in Scotland, like St. Columba on Iona and St. Ethernan on the Isle of May, who came to spread the Gospel and establish Christian communities. The pupils produced heraldic art commemorating the two countries of Ireland and Scotland and even St. Fillan's glowing arm!

They painted pictures of the Cave named after St. Fillan, in Cove Wynd, which is consecrated for worship and is still open to tourists and pilgrims. It has been a place of prayer for many centuries and was a focus of special devotion to St. Mary Magdalene before the Reformation.

The children's young imaginations were also captured by Viking raiders on the Isle of May and the Black Death which halved the population of Europe during the Middle Ages. Viking longships aplenty and scenes of plague doctors and tombstones in Pittenweem's ancient graveyard were created by the children illustrating these traumatic events.

Perhaps more serenely, the older children produced art which represented stained glass. They allowed themselves to be inspired by the name of Pittenweem ("Place of the Cave", in Gaelic), as well as by fish, the sea, and the sign of the Cross in their beautiful representations of stained-glass windows.

The art is still on show in St. John's, which is open daily, and was visited during the weekend of 24th and 25th May by the children who created it and by members of their families. It was wonderful to welcome members of our community, some of whom had not been in St. John's before, to experience the beauty and peace of the church, the amazing children's art, and to learn more about the shared history of our area and nation. Wendy Chamberlain, M.P., visited us on the Sunday and, all in all, it was a special weekend for St. John's and for our village and area as we celebrated a shared heritage and a common future. You are most welcome to come and visit St. John's, Marygate, and St. Fillan's Cave, Cove Wynd, for quiet reflection, peace, and a bit of history.



MEMORIAL BENCHES FOR PITTENWEEM

Pittenweem Fishermen's Memorial Association have recently placed two new benches at the north-east corner inside the cemetery boundary. They would like to thank Fife Council



Bereavement Services for their work in siting the benches, and the ease of negotiations in achieving the work required. It is hoped this will be a peaceful resting place for those who wish to spend a little more time paying their respects to family and friends.



EAST NEUK EMERGENCY TRUST (ENET SC044210)



ENET is a very small charity that does very big things for individuals and families living in the East Neuk Locality postcode areas, which are KY9, KY10 and part of KY8.

We are here to help those who are experiencing some sort of emergency and are unable access funds to help. For example,

- ENET bought washing machines for families who do not have one.
- It paid for a monthly bus ticket to Dundee for a person with a child in Ninewells so they could visit daily.
- It bought beds for children who were sleeping on the floor.
- It paid for someone to do accredited learning so they could secure a job.
- It bought clothes so a child could go on a school trip.

There are no set goods or services that ENET helps with, but it must be a genuine emergency and deemed necessary. Goods are bought from a supplier and cash is not given to applicants. We can't pay off debts or give out cash.

People cannot apply directly to ENET. The referral must come from an agency or service such as, Housing, Social Work, GP, Health Visitor, Foodbank, or another public sector service or third sector agency.

The application form is on our webpage - <https://eastneukemergencytrust.wordpress.com/>

ENET can act quickly. Applications are looked at and acted upon within 3 days and as soon as a decision is made, the applicant is contacted. No one is left waiting for an unreasonably long time.

Funds are limited as we rely on donations and fund-raisers, such as bag packing at Anstruther Co-Op. As we only help those in the East Neuk, fund-raising is limited to that area. 100% of all money raised goes to support applications. There are no outgoing costs.

Every year at the AGM we hope to say that this local charity is no longer needed, but this day never comes and as long as local people need support we will continue to raise funds and help out.

If anyone is interested in joining our very small committee, made up of people from a number of the East Neuk villages, or has any fund-raising ideas, please contact us through the webpage. We'd love to hear from you.

RTS ENERGY METER SWITCH-OFF

The Radio Teleswitch Service (RTS), which uses radio signals to switch electricity meters between different tariffs, is scheduled to switch off on 30 June. This will affect customers with RTS meters, as they will need to upgrade to a smart meter. [Ofgem](#) and other energy providers are contacting customers to arrange upgrades, which are essential to ensure heating and hot water systems continue to function properly and avoid incorrect billing.

Willie Rennie and Wendy Chamberlain have raised concerns about the number of households whose RTS energy meters have yet to be replaced before the planned shut-down of the system on 30 June. Thousands of households across Fife still have the old meters, and work to replace them is slow.

Wendy raised the case of a constituent who has spent three years trying to get her meter replaced, only for no one to turn up to her latest appointment last week. She criticised energy companies for not taking the situation seriously enough.

To upgrade your RTS meter, contact your electricity supplier who will be able to tell you when you can have a smart meter installed.

BUSINESS FOCUS - NICHOLSON'S ICE-CREAM SHOP, MID SHORE

Everyone knows Pittenweem's Ice Cream Shop, its flower troughs bringing festivity, its list of ice cream flavours tempting passersby and literally hundreds of sweeties to choose from inside. Brought up on a farm and earning his sixpence pocket money, John knew the value of hard work from a young age. His shop holds a photo of his grandfather delivering milk on his float. What was once Adamson's became Muirs bakery until it closed in the 1950s and became a dumping ground for fishermen's junk until John, who worked at Grangemuir Farm, and his mother Marianne Burnett, a confectioner with Fisher and Donaldson, made the bold decision to buy the property in 1987. Thirty-eight years later the shop has gone from strength to strength and is now the second longest business with the same owner in Pittenweem. Only Barnett's is older.

John, known affectionately as Sweetie John, was joined full time by his sister Nancy Robertson around twenty years ago. The hours are long – open February to November, 7 days a week. John didn't close till 8.30pm on the last day of May, a sunny Saturday, to the delight of the holidaymakers to find it open. He's spent his whole working life adapting. The business took a long time to become established and in 1993 he and his mum opened an additional shop in Anstruther, but after six years focused on Pittenweem. Holiday makers can now be found all the year round as opposed to holiday time only, and trade has grown year on year. Initially mother and son produced chocolate, which they sold wholesale; production stopped in 1998. They kept getting requests for ice cream and now John sells Janetta's Award Winning Ice Cream, the supplier dictating the 20 flavours on offer. Vanilla, Raspberry Ripple and Soft Whippy sell best. Children like Bubblegum and folk enjoy trying new tastes. John himself is partial to Vanilla.

Among the sweeties, which the hard-working Nancy bags up in the afternoon, Rhubarb and Custard, Soor Plooms and Chocolate Gingers are the best sellers and the tablet from Buchanans of Greenock. We all remember old favourites from Oddfellows to Puff Candy. John says some like Butter Brazils and Iced Caramels are no longer made, but he tries hard to acquire any that customers particularly request. A sign of the times, everything is meticulously labelled from 'Gluten' or 'Sugar Free' to 'Vegan' and the immaculate stock charts are an art form in themselves. Sadly, children are unacquainted with lots of the sweets, thus increasing the chance of manufacturers stopping production. Increased regulations seem to have forced many sweet shops to close, but Nicholsons is well and truly on the map. In the last couple of days alone, sweets are winging their way to Spain and New Zealand. Famous customers? They've had more than their fair share – Judy Murray, Lynda Bellingham, Lorraine Kelly and Joan Rivers – to name a few! Ian Stewart (Stu) of Rolling Stones fame was a relation of Marianne, and John says ruefully that Mick Jagger was spied at the door of the shop one evening – sadly that evening they had actually closed on time!

Some may remember when John opened up the shop – a truckle bed graced what is now the serving area. Others remember Pete the African Grey parrot who sat outside on a pole in a cardboard box with 'Killer Parrot' above him and died at the ripe old age of 49. We all regret the untimely death of Betsy, the fifth rescue dog John owned – and trained as a puppy. It's a tribute to John that £700 was raised for SSPA last year from the sale of sweetie jars. The excited words 'There's the sweetie shop!' can be heard every day and the queue often stretching down Mid Shore says it all.



PITTENWEEM ARTS FESTIVAL 2025

An Odyssey of Art Unfolds on Scotland's East Coast 2 - 9 August 2025, Pittenweem

This August, Scotland's most captivating coastal arts celebration returns with an adventurous new spirit. The Pittenweem Arts Festival invites you to embark on "**An Odyssey of Art**" – an inspiring journey through creativity, community, and the vibrant village of Pittenweem. From 2–9 August, more than 180 artists will exhibit their work across homes, studios, gardens and public spaces, transforming the village into a dynamic, walkable extraordinary experience for art lovers, families and first-time explorers alike.



Invited Artist 2025: Gail McGarva – Honouring Lost Voices of the Sea

This year's invited artist is the acclaimed traditional boat builder and storyteller Gail McGarva, recently honoured with the President's Award from King Charles through Heritage Crafts for her contribution to endangered crafts. Her moving exhibition, *Disappearing Lines*, a tribute to endangered boat traditions and the voices of maritime communities. Central to her installation is The Story Boat – a miniature theatre housed in a restored Dorset fishing boat, where audiences will be immersed in soundscapes and stories of vanishing coastal cultures. It is both a poetic and poignant addition to the Festival's seafaring spirit.

Showcasing Emerging Talent

The 2025 Henderson Bursary Award winner is Aimie Harding, whose work evokes memory and emotion through experimental media. In a Festival first, a group exhibition of bursary runners-up will also be presented in the Art Rooms on the High Street, recognising the remarkable quality of submissions and offering visitors a fresh encounter with Scotland's rising artistic voices.

Events & Entertainment for All

The Festival launches with a spectacular Opening Gala featuring circus acts, competitions, live music, crafts and more. The week is packed with family workshops, talks, hands-on art sessions, films, and performances including Admiral Fallow and Rebecca Vasmant Ensemble.

A Village in Zones, a Festival in Motion

To make the most of this unique village-wide celebration, this year's Festival introduces zoned maps to guide visitors through curated areas of artistic discovery. From tucked-away studios to public halls and outdoor installations, these maps will make it even easier to see more, explore more, and connect with artists at every turn.

More Information: www.pittenweemartsfestival.co.uk/ (Facebook, Instagram, TikTok)

General Enquiries: info@pittenweemartsfestival.co.uk

Rachael Loughlan, Festival Administrator: rachael@pittenweemarts.com t: 01333 313109

A NEW PLAYPARK FOR PITTENWEEM

If your own brood have grown and flown, or if you never reared any at all, you might not be familiar with the playpark behind the school.

Bereft of playthings for over two years, there is now a much-deserved, long-awaited, state-of-the-art, shiny and fabulous PLAYPARK!!



At long last our children can enjoy meeting their friends and playing together in a safe, happy space. And so can the grown-ups. Designed to be fully inclusive for children of all ages and abilities the playpark has no boundaries and includes a youth shelter for our older children. Dog owners are politely reminded to ensure that their off-lead pooches are attended to with their toileting: **PLEASE PICK UP YOUR POO!**

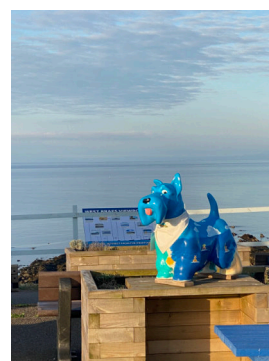
To make this space even better, a mural will be installed later in the year. A partnership project between the Pittenweem Play Park Project, Pittenweem Primary School and Pittenweem Arts Festival is currently working with all the pupils towards an exhibition of art work during the Arts Festival, and a permanent installation on the wall around the playpark in September. Further details will follow in the lead up to the event. We are delighted to have the support of the Arts Festival with this special project and funding from Fife Council.

The Play Park Project would like to thank all the people who helped to make this happen, but special thanks need to go to our children and young people; their patience in waiting and watching for so long has been impressive. Now go have fun!!

WEST BRAES PROJECT – TIDAL SEA POOL

The new Sea Valve has been replaced by Covenburn Contractors. Thanks also to Fife Council for their ongoing support.

Thank you to everyone who donates to [The West Braes Project](#). Every penny helps whether playing crazy golf, buying refreshments and merchandise at the hut, sponsoring a hole or donating through the donations box at the top of the steps or through PayPal. Thank you, thank you, thank you!



SAVE THE BIRDS ON THE BASS ROCK!

STOP PRESS!

GOVERNMENT OFFSHORE WINDFARM CONSULTATION IN PITTENWEEM

The Scottish government has started a consultation on its Updated Sectoral Marine Plan for Offshore Wind Energy and will be holding an event in Pittenweem where people will be able to speak directly to officials.

Monday 30 June 2025

12 noon – 9pm

6pm formal presentation of findings, followed by Q&A

Pittenweem New Town Hall, Session Street


Wildlife charities are deeply concerned about the welfare of birds on the Bass Rock, a SSSI. The Bass is a sanctuary for the world's largest colony of northern gannets, as well as shags, guillemots, razorbills and others and is internationally famous



National Theatre Live

A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE

by TENNESSEE WILLIAMS direction BENEDICT ANDREWS
A Young Vic / Joshua Andrews co-production




Young Vic

Gillian Anderson (*Sex Education*), Vanessa Kirby (*The Crown*), and Ben Foster (*Lone Survivor*) lead the cast in Tennessee Williams' timeless masterpiece, returning to cinemas.

As Blanche's fragile world crumbles, she turns to her sister Stella for solace – but her downward spiral brings her face to face with the brutal, unforgiving Stanley Kowalski.

From visionary director Benedict Andrews, this acclaimed production was filmed live during a sold-out run at the Young Vic Theatre in 2014.

Wednesday, 18th June & 2nd July – 7.00 pm
Crail Community Hall – BYOB
Tickets £14
www.crailcommunityhall.co.uk



PITTENWEEM COMMUNITY LIBRARY AND INFORMATION CENTRE

EIGHTH BIRTHDAY RAFFLE

STAR PRIZES

£75 voucher for The Dory Bistro
 A lovely Lutyens style garden bench
 Champagne
 Many other prizes



Star prize

Win a fantastic meal with a voucher worth £75 at Pittenweem's wonderful Dory



Star prize

Add a touch of luxury to your garden with this lovely Lutyens style bench

Tickets on sale from Friday 6 June
Draw will take place on Friday 11 July

Tickets: £1 available from the Library
 Opening hours: Mon & Wed 2-5pm; Fri & Sat 10am-1pm

Pittenweem Library Cove Wynd, Pittenweem KY10 2LE
 WEB: pittcllc.org.uk EMAIL: library@pittcllc.org.uk FACEBOOK: @pittcllc
 Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation – Charity number SC047013

Are you planning a party, wedding, community or private event?



Crail Community Hall offers spaces for a wide variety of events. Two halls, commercial kitchen, stage, sound and lighting system make it a versatile space for private hire and use by local groups. Check out further information and our regular events.

www.crailcommunityhall.co.uk
 or contact 07496 860831
crailcommunityhall@gmail.com





Parish Church



Coffee Morning Come for a Cuppa and a Chat

Looking for something to do on a **Wednesday morning?**
Then come along for a coffee/tea and a chat/blether
and Raffle! to the Parish Church Hall.

Church Hall, James St.
Wednesdays

10.00 - 11.30 am

**Last for Summer on 25th June and
back again in August**

Special thanks to all our 'regulars' supporting
Local groups, Charities and the Parish Church

All Welcome

PITTENWEEM COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The Community Council met on 21st May. Present: Duncan Lucas (Chair), Louise McEwan, Graeme MacGilchrist (Secretary), Cllr Alycia Hayes, 2 members of the public. Apologies received: Val Morrison, Cllr Sean Dillon.

The following key matters were discussed:

- 1 Number of campervans parking at West Braes
- 2 Parking on pavements
- 3 Street signage on approach to High Street from South Loan
- 4 Updates on the playpark mural
- 5 Reports on business viability and architectural feasibility of possible community uses
Pittenweem Tollbooth
- 6 20mph zone
- 7 Planning Lists: Grangemuir retreat 25/00970/FULL; Roof tile replacement 25/00838/FULL; Fish and chip shop on High Street 25/01097/FULL

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 18th June, 7pm, New Town Hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend. The Community Council is keen to hear of anyone who might give consideration to becoming a member of the Council and is happy to discuss how they could contribute. Contacts are as follows:

Chair: Duncan Lucas duncan.lucas@btinternet.com

Secretary: Graeme MacGilchrist gmacgilchrist@googlemail.com

Full minutes of Community Council meetings are available in the Community Library and on display in the public noticeboard in the Market Square.



Bookbug Sessions

Free **story**, **song** and **rhyme** sessions for babies, toddlers, pre-school children and their families

FREE DROP-IN SESSIONS
OUTDOORS DURING THE SUMMER!
EVERY SATURDAY
starting 14 June
9.30-10.00am

Presented by Pittenweem Community Library
In the **Priory Garden on Cove Wynd.**
(Enter by the gate next to Pittenweem Community Library.)

BOOKBUG is really fun for small children, their parents, carers and grandparents!
After the session you are welcome to read and play together in the Library.

Please email library@pittcllc.org.uk for more information.
Sessions will be held indoors during wet weather.

Bookbug Sessions are fully inclusive and open to all families, regardless of age, disability, sex, gender identity, race, religion or belief, or sexual orientation. A warm welcome awaits you!

To find details of your nearest Bookbug Session, please visit scottishbooktrust.com/bookbug



FREE CONCERT



SUNDAY 6TH OF JULY 4PM
HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

ST ANDREWS

The SHAW Quartet & Friends

Soloists:

Danielle Sutcliffe - Clarinet
Katja Horvay - Oboe
Sean Elder - Viola

Haydn String Quartet Op.76 Number 1 Allegro Con Spirito
Albinoni Oboe Concerto in D minor, Op.9 No.2
Crusell Clarinet Quartet No.1 in E-Flat Major
Telemann Viola Concerto in G Major

Featuring members of North East Fife
Community Ensemble



ST MONANS 1875 FISHERMEN'S MEMORIAL GARDEN

The St Monans Memorial Garden Committee has announced plans for the creation of a dedicated Fishermen's Memorial Garden. This significant community project aims to serve as a lasting tribute to the 21 St Monans fishermen who tragically lost their lives in a devastating storm off the Norfolk coast in November 1875, and to honour the ongoing bravery of all who sail the seas.



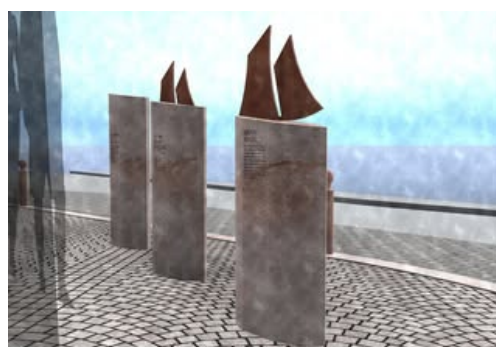
The disaster of November 1875 saw three St Monans fishing Fifies – The Quest, The Beautiful Star, and The Thane – caught in a severe storm while returning home. All 21 crew members, seven from each vessel, perished. The loss was a profound blow to the close-knit community, leaving 11 women widowed and 43 children fatherless. The village was devastated, and the tragedy also touched the community of King's Lynn, Norfolk, where eight of the recovered fishermen were laid to rest with great dignity and local support was provided to the bereaved families.



The Memorial Garden, to be located at the prominent corner of East Street and Station Road in St Monans, will provide a place of reflection and remembrance. The design, by **Fermin Beltran Dos Santos** of Fife Architects based in the village, will feature vessel-shaped pink granite memorial pedestals, one for each boat, engraved with the names of the fishermen lost. The space will also include a new community planter, seating bench, and a community notice board, set within an area of locally sourced whinstone pavers and cobblestones.



A spokesperson for the St Monans Memorial Garden Committee, Hugh Wallace, stated, "This Memorial Garden will be a poignant reminder of the sacrifices made by our fishermen, both in the 1875 tragedy and throughout our village's rich maritime history. It will be a place for quiet contemplation, education, and a tribute to the enduring spirit of our fishing community. We envision it as a space that not only honours the past but also recognises the daily courage of those who continue to work at sea."



An official Service and Opening Ceremony for the Memorial Garden is planned for November 2025, coinciding with the 150th anniversary of the tragedy. During this event, a plaque bearing the names of the 21 fishermen will be formally unveiled. The Committee hopes to welcome representatives from the local community, the King's Lynn community, and the wider fishing fraternity to mark this important occasion. The St Monans Memorial Garden Committee is dedicated to creating a beautiful and meaningful space that will stand as a testament to the village's heritage and the enduring bravery of its fishing community.

The estimated cost for the Memorial Garden project is £30,000. The Committee is launching a series of fundraising initiatives to bring these plans to fruition. Community members and well-wishers can contribute through a dedicated Crowdfunder page: <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/st-monans-1875-memorial-garden>.

Donations can also be made directly to a special "Memorial Garden" account held by St Monans Community Council: •**Sort Code: 83-24-24** •**Account: 00681159** •**Reference: MG**

Copies of the newly published Life of Janet Scott Lowrie MacKay by J. Mary Henderson are available in Pittenweem Library to borrow and buy. Janet was one of the 19 women widowed in the East Neuk Fishing Disaster of November 1875. All proceeds towards the St Monans 1875 Memorial Garden.

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