

CRAIL PRESERVATION SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Spring 2010



Denburn wood and Denburn Field

Activities in Denburn continue with work parties meeting on the first Saturday of each month, 10am – noon. Tea, coffee and tools provided. Much heavy work was done on an extra day on 20th March, when we spread turr on most of the paths. The Crail Preservation Society paid for it, Victor Reynolds organised it and Winston Kilfedder moved half of it to the road end so we didn't have so

far to barrow it. Lighter work was provided by the thousands of polystyrene bits blown about the village by the high winds.

We have had help from pupils from Waid Academy who moved a lot of the red chippings in the pond back onto the paths, and on 31st March our Ranger, Dierdre Munro, will lead children from each class in Crail School in transplanting snowdrops to what will become their patch at the top of the wood. Anne Black and Anna Brannan will be in attendance from CPS, and as a reward should feature in a photo in the East Fife Mail.

Is anyone interested in helping with opening up a new patch for wild flowers in Denburn Field? With habitat for birds and insects such as butterflies declining, the CPS would like to help redress the balance through our own small bit.

The hanging baskets will be appearing again. I believe most people feel they add to the enjoyment of nations. More flowers can never be a bad thing! I remember a couple of years ago joining an admiring crowd round Tom Hutchon's baskets outside the butcher's shop, where a humming-bird hawk moth was having a leisurely nectar breakfast.

If you can contribute in any way to another project we would be grateful. Jeni Auchinleck, Kate Eggo, and I, Kathleen Main, are taking over the management of the tubs from Peter Anderson, who has done it for many years. We fairly got a shock when we discovered how much it costs to plant them up! It would be much cheaper to grow everything ourselves, but it would be a huge commitment, and we plan to proceed carefully at first. However, a most enjoyable coffee morning on 27th March, organised by the Community Council raised £421, so we look forward to some cheerful tubs come the summer. We will probably need another coffee morning in the autumn, to buy bulbs etc for the winter and spring, so if you would be able to help by baking, contributing towards the raffle or helping on the day we would be happy to hear from you.

Fund Raising

Auction of Collectables - Friday 4th June

The auction will be targeted on auctioning possibly 90 items that can loosely be called collectables. David Jerdan has agreed to put his auctioneering talents to the test. Keeps eyes open for further details.

Jazz on a Summer's Evening – Saturday 26th June

We are repeating this highly successful event again this year. Jazz will be provided by THE MAJOR GROOVE in the grounds of Wormiston House from 5 – 9pm.

This time, all of the music will be from the one venue in front of the house, although you will be able to wander through the beautiful gardens as well.

Members are encouraged to invite guests and bring along your own picnic hamper and refreshments + portable chairs, tables etc.

Tickets are priced at £10 each and will be available from The Jerdan Gallery and committee members.

Wine and Cheese - Friday 22nd October

This popular event will again feature wine, cheese and other 'nibbles' at 7.30pm in the Town Hall. Tickets at £5 will be available from The Jerdan Gallery and committee members.

Museum

A recommended visit. Crail Museum has two excellent exhibitions this summer, both photographic. One, from the 1890s, is photographs taken by Erskine Beveridge. He took photographs all over Scotland and America but these are just of Crail where he spent a number of summers and stayed at Kirkmay House. Although his wealth came from linen mills in Dunfermline, he was a very talented amateur photographer. He was also the first person to use photography in recording graveyards and he did a very detailed survey of our graveyard and published the "Churchyard Memorials of Crail". Members of CPS and the Museum repeated this survey a hundred years later and the results are in the Museum. The second exhibition is of photographs of boats and fishermen in the 1960s taken by George Simpson who was born and brought up in Crail. They are a record of a small slice of social history. The Provost's robes on display in the Museum were worn by his father as the last Provost of Crail. Both collections of photographs demonstrate that what made Crail attractive over the last hundred years is still contributing to that attractiveness.

Open weekends during May and daily during June to 3 October.

Committee

At the AGM, February 2010, the following office bearers and committee members were elected or continued in post as appropriate.

President	Prof. Paul Wilkinson	Members	Sue Bradman
Chairman	David Jerdan		Kathleen Main
Vice-Chairman	Jonathan Armitage		Kate Freeth
Secretary	Alan Dunlop		Hugh Dykes
Treasurer	Iain Inglis		Dr. Jack Jarvis
			Anna Brannan
			Donald Mathieson

Membership

A large fraction of members have paid their membership fees in a timely fashion which is much appreciated.

Gift Aid

Many of those who have paid their subscriptions have completed the Declaration Form which allows the payment to be included in the Gift Aid Scheme. As a result, the Society will receive £125 for every £100 received from these members, the additional £25 being paid to the Society by HM Revenue & Customs.

This payment is a refund of 20% tax paid by the donor and the only requirement to be met when completing the Declaration Form is that sufficient tax has been paid to cover this refund. Those who pay higher rate tax can claim the difference between the higher rate of tax (40 per cent) and the basic rate of tax (20 per cent) on the total (gross) value of their donation.

Chairman's Charity Row

Your Chairman, David Jerdan, has embarked on a huge challenge to raise funds for charity.

David said "I am planning to row, within this calendar year (on an indoor rowing machine!) from Drummole at the tip of the Mull of Galloway, up along the west coast road route through Girvan, Greenock and Oban to Durness. Along the north coast to John O'Groats, back down to Inverness, along to Fraserburgh, down to Dundee, then Crail and ending up in Eyemouth. That is officially 1033.35 miles or (as rowing machines don't recognise miles) 1,663,010 metres. For those of you who need help with the maths I need to average 32,000 metres per week. I can assure you that is a stiff challenge."

To encourage me, I hope that you will sponsor one or both of my chosen charities.

The RNLI is probably known to everyone. Living in Crail we are acutely aware of the immense service that the Lifeboat service provides. They rely entirely on donations.

Crail Community Trust has been set up as a registered charity to raise funds to benefit the community in Crail. There are many worthy projects needing funding.

Both charities are very deserving of your support. He is aiming to raise a total of at least £10,000 and hopes sponsors will dig deep and go for at least a penny a mile.

You can sponsor David by visiting his online fundraising web pages by going to www.justgiving.com and typing in David Jerdan under 'Friends name'. Choose which charity to support, or to give to both.

You can pay by credit or debit card, and the money will go directly to the charity. Where supporters are UK taxpayers, the charity will automatically receive 28% extra in Gift Aid, which makes Justgiving the most efficient way of sponsoring David.

Alternatively you can hand in a donation to David at the Jerdan Gallery.