

# ELIE HERALD

SUMMER EDITION - MAY 2015



## Our New Fronts

Now is our winter of ...finally over and facelifts have been the order of the dark days. The Pavilion, The Golf Club, The Coffee Shop, the Ship Inn have all been subject of makeovers. We wish them all success.

**Golf House Club** – a new starters box/golf shop and the periscope has been re-instated. A far more professional approach than the previous set up where to buy a golf ball you had to go down the road to the golf shop.

### **The Coffee Shop in High Street.**

Extensive internal alterations but may not be open until the summer. Martin and Agnes Holden the new owners have not yet decided exactly what the premises will provide but it will at least be a coffee shop and it is not, as hoped, that it would also extend to short menu meals. We would urge them to consider a Pizza and Pasta place especially in the summer time. Martin and his wife are both of artistic bent – Martin is a sculptor and specialised in stone restoration whilst Agnes is an expert in glass. We are delighted they have decided to change careers although their traditional expertise may yet be called upon in the East Neuk. But still more scaffolding.....

**Ship Inn** - Our beloved Ship Inn shrouded for most of the winter in scaffolding and obscured by giant skips is on target to complete the alterations by May. The adjoining premises will be a boutique gourmet hotel - hopefully with valet parking - and the extended premises of the Bar will increase the number of covers. Graham Bucknall said "We would like to let the village know... That we apologise that the Ship is currently closed (particularly given the current stunning spell of weather) as we know that the Ship is an important part of what makes Elie attractive. We are very grateful for all of the support that so many residents have given us. Our small changes to the 19th Hole seem to have been mostly well-received, and we look forward hugely to opening the new Ship." Six double/twin en suite bedrooms in Rockview will now become part of the Ship Inn. They are running a bus around the East Neuk to and from the Ship - presumably called "The Tender".



**The Pavilion** – given a 21st Century external makeover – couldn't we all do with that ! - but the result has been a profusion of light into the café and good outdoor shelter for the possible occasions in which it might be a little inclement. All credit to the McLarens managing to keep open as the green paint went everywhere. The result is pleasing if not radically different.



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Elie & Earlsferry Community Council.  
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Comments and contributions to the Editor

## Blasts from the Past

In January 1930 the new joint Elie and Earlsferry Town Council wrestled with the problem of motto –this was the report in the newspapers



“The question of a motto for the combined burgh was discussed. The town clerk reported that he had received several suggestions. Amongst these were “Let Elie and Earlsferry Flourish”. This, it was considered, was too similar to Glasgow’s motto. Another was “Benigne Numine” “In the benign name” others were “Winds and Waves” and the adaptation the latin “Panem et Circenses” to read “By games we flourish” None of the mottos met with unanimous approval....so on 5th march 1930 the council met again.... Many suggestions were forward, Councillor Rennie moved that the motto be “The Welfare of the People in the First Place”, Councillor Webster moved “Union Nourishes Courtesy” (Unitas alit comitatem) and there was a motion to remit to a special meeting. A vote was taken and four voted for Webster’s amendment and four for the motion of postponing it to a special meeting Provost Short gave the casting vote in favour of “Unitas alit Comitatem”

...now there, bet you did not know that..it was a close call.....it could have been different !

## Summer Activities at Sports club

Full details from the Golf shop including Junior Golf Holiday camps weekly Mon-Thursday 29th June – 20th August Junior Tennis Holiday Camp Monday – Friday 29th June – 21st August

Junior Friday competitions on Baird Course Junior Ryder cup Qualifier, and various other competitions.

Full details from Gavin and his assistants.

## Butterflies

Hamish Johnston of Colinsburgh has now erected various signs around Kincaig point about the endangered butterflies. We can but hope that this might dissuade others from acts of vandalism like last time. Thanks are due to Hamish, Fife Coast and Countryside Trust and Elie Golf House Club for assisting with this project.



## Other CC news.

**We are refurbishing the glass cases outside the church.** A new pictorial map has been commissioned and it is hoped to unveil it soon. We have painted the CC minutes case.

### The perennial weathervane

May have some progress here – a manufacturer has been found and Fife Council will liaise with him to erect it soonest...Hooray! But counting chickens ... etc....

## Community Centre ?

Fife Cultural Trust have indicated that they are interested in entering into discussions about the use of the Library outwith normal Library Hours. We could make it into a sort of community centre for meetings, groups (reading sewing bees etc painting classes ?,) adult education classes and tea and chat sessions..... We need ideas of what we could hold and any help in how to run it. Please respond and don’t let this opportunity pass us by. We need a focal point in the villages and this could be it.

## Elie Fayre Day

Elie Fayre Day will be held this year on Saturday 25th July to avoid a clash with the Open Golf week-end. Last year we changed the lay-out around, worked with the local Round Table who ran the bar and the BBQ, found a series of new activities for young people including the enormously popular ‘Runaway Train’, and the big inflatable balls. Despite a showery day, much fun was had by all.

This year we have already booked the Methilhill Community Pipe Band to get us off to a rousing start in the March from Toll Green at 1pm. The Round Table are coming back, and we are working on the entertainments. I am sure that ‘train’ will be back! We are always looking for volunteers to help us run the stalls. If you could give us a help during the morning, getting things in place, or during the afternoon for a couple of hours, the committee would appreciate it tremendously. contact via CC or Peter Wilson Here’s to a sunny Elie Day!

**If you have enjoyed reading this newsletter, a small donation towards the production costs would be greatly appreciated.**

**Thank you . . .**

## Other Societies

History Society after their successful Earlsferry and Pilgrims walk at Easter are holding more walks in the summer including one in the evening so watch out for posters. We are hoping to spend time and effort tidying up Chapel Green and exposing more of the old building. Listen out for the strimmers and mowers. We also would like to put story boards round Chapel Green telling the story of the pilgrims’ journey. We have joined the Scottish Pilgrims Route Forum to develop the arm from Earlsferry to St. Andrews to go along with the one from North Queensferry via Kennoway etc to St. Andrews.

## Environmental Action Group

Elie & Earlsferry Environmental Action Group are responsible for the floral displays around the village. These displays are judged in the “Beautiful Fife Competition each year. The environment is also considered towards the total point score for the village, so they also advise Fife Council of maintenance work that needs done, to keep the village safe and attractive.

With this in mind, we will soon be cleaning and painting the railings around Toll Green. Anyone wishing to lend a hand with this project, please contact Graham Meacher (Secretary) on 330525.

## SPEUGS (AKA Sparrows)

Biogeography, as you will have guessed, is the biological study of the geographical distribution of plants and animals. [common knowledge really –ed] But I am not thinking of the difference between, say, the Serengeti (Wikipedia q.v.), the national park on the south east shores of Lake Victoria, and the savannah grassland of drier sub-tropical regions. Oh no ! My interests lie much closer to home, such as the variations to be seen between the boondocks and our village, less than a mile apart. In particular the village is home to flocks of House Sparrow (Speugs) whereas, up here, house sparrows are not to be seen, their place being taken by vociferous and voracious Tree Sparrows - they may be identified by the black patches on their cheeks. Another bird of selective distribution is the Starling which bedecks the stays of the Toll Green flagpole with military precision most evenings. Seldom do these glossy coated birds ever venture into the seclusion of the boondocks. What is the reason for seemingly discriminatory distribution of sparrows and starlings ? Is it that the menu on offer is both more generous and upmarket in the village or is it the tranquillity of the surrounds up here being more conducive to a better life style ? Who knows ? They certainly do! Contributed by “Wordbotcher” from the doonbocks.



**We are also now on Facebook – visit us and see what’s going on at:-  
“Elie and Royal Burgh of Earlsferry Community Council”**

