



PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE



## **The Standing Stanes of Lundin**

See Stories about the Stanes on page 7

*Photo: Upper Largo Camera Club*

**March 2022**

**Issue 6**

An LCT Publication



**Price: Free Distribution**

Donations welcome: see page 2

## Editorial

We hope that you were not expecting Issue 6 of *Largo Links* in February. As we explained in the last issue, we have set each production back by a month, allowing all who contribute to the magazine a little rest over the Christmas-New Year period. Your Editorial Team have certainly welcomed this respite.

Initially, we distributed an A5 format. There was some demand for a large-print edition, so we now print a few A4 booklets. Requests arrived for an online version and an email version. These were supplied on the LCT website and via an electronic subscribers list.

Now, some people would like a paper version mailed to them. This, of course, will cost us postage. We propose that if you send the editor a book of 2<sup>nd</sup> class stamps (postal address on the next page), we will send copies to the address you indicate.

In the *Letters to the Editor* page is a suggestion that we run a *Births-Marriages-Deaths* (or *Family Notices*) column. We imagine that these will be confined to short text-only messages which would be free in the next issue. After that, we might consider a small charge. Anyone, of course, could take out an advertisement e.g. for someone's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. A one-column box up to 6 cm high would cost either £10 or £15.

We hope you continue to enjoy reading our community newsletter.

Deadlines for the next issue are:

**Distribution** in June

**Advertising** by 1 May

**Reports** by 8 May

## Donations

There are collecting cans in Zaphar's and Andy's shops, and in the Library. We are very grateful to all who contribute to our publication in this way.

You may, of course, send your donation direct to the Editor. We have a postbox in the Library.

### by Text or Online

You can send us £3 directly through a smartphone (see the instructions in the box in the next column).

Or, if you are feeling a little more generous, you can go online and send us whatever you care to give. And, if you can register for Gift Aid, your donation will be that much more valuable.



There are two electronic donation platforms with:

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† **LARGO COMMUNITIES TOGETHER** needs to raise funds for this and for other charitable purposes.

## How to contact, support or feature in *Largo Links*

*Largo Links* is a community magazine. As such, we rely on you to tell us about the many and varied activities which take place.

There are several methods by which you can let us know what is on.

**Editor:** You may wish to send the Editor a letter to be published on our *Letters Page*, to suggest a topic which may be covered in future issues, or on any other matter.

by email: [editorlargoLinks@gmail.com](mailto:editorlargoLinks@gmail.com)  
or by letter: Editor, *Largo Links*,  
c/o The Library, 7 Lundin Square,  
Lundin Links, KY8 6BH

**Reports:** An article, with non-commercial content, which lets us know what has been happening or anything that would be of interest to our readers. Please try to keep it as short as possible. If it has to be re-written, we will try to agree a new wording with you. These reports are free of charge.

Contact one of our reporters:

[carolinemboswell@btinternet.com](mailto:carolinemboswell@btinternet.com) or [largoLinksreporter@gmail.com](mailto:largoLinksreporter@gmail.com)

**Advertisements:** These are boxes within the magazine, paid-for by size.

Advertisements are for all commercial entries and any business or organisation wishing to attract custom by letting readers know what they have to offer or what they are looking for. We are grateful to all who support the magazine in this way.

Contact: [largoLinksadvertising@gmail.com](mailto:largoLinksadvertising@gmail.com)

**Events Diary:** If you have such an event planned, please let us know. Normally, the entry in the diary will be a single line with the name of the event, the date and time and the venue. These entries are free of charge. Should you wish to give our readers more information about your event, please consider placing an advertisement in *Largo Links*.

Our Events Editor also looks after the Directory of phone numbers as well as the Directory of useful web addresses which is hosted on the LCT website:

Contact: [largoLinksevents@gmail.com](mailto:largoLinksevents@gmail.com)

**Family Notices:** For the next issue we propose to run a family notices page. If you have such a notice, please contact the Editor. For the next issue, only, they will be free-of-charge. If this page is popular, we will make it permanent, but may consider a small charge for such notices.

**Donations:** Your donations are necessary to keep your magazine free to the people of the Largo Area. If everyone donated just £3 per year we could keep the magazine going for the foreseeable future.

For methods of how to donate, see the item on page 2.

In the case of paid-for advertising, we will always look for your approval before publishing. For items which are free to you, we can't guarantee that your entry will be published or not be shortened. This is subject to space and at the Editor's discretion.



If you would like to see more of Iain Green's cartoons, visit his Facebook page:



Iain Green Art



The Editor is James Kay.

He has been ably assisted by:

Caroline Boswell, Eileen Reynolds,  
Fiona McCaul, Fiona Wyllie,  
John Ross, Kirsty Chatwin-Lee, Matt  
Allan and Roger Ferguson.

Our Production costs are largely met by  
our advertisers.

Please mention, wherever possible,  
that you saw an advertisement in



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## The Post Office


The PO Van will call on:

Mondays:	Lundin Links	9.00 – 11.00
	Upper Largo	11.15 – 12.15
Tuesdays:	Lower Largo	11.25 – 12.25
	Lundin Links	12.30 – 13.30
Wednesdays:	Lundin Links	10.15 – 11.15
	Upper Largo	11.25 – 12.25

These times were correct at the time of  
publication. They may be subject to change.

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OFFICE

Once this magazine has been published, it can be read online at:  
**[www.largocommunitiestogether.org.uk](http://www.largocommunitiestogether.org.uk)**

Click on the button labelled:  Issues of Largo Links:



## Largo House Access

As spring approaches we are starting to see green shoots emerging. Snowdrops have done their thing and daffs are about to give us all a spring show. There are some amazing displays of both near and around Largo House.

Wouldn't it be lovely if we could persuade the owners of Largo Estate of the benefits to the community of simple path access through parts of the Estate? A path linking Lower Largo and Lundin Links with Upper Largo would be so helpful. There is an existing estate road (called the "Rhododendron Walk" by many) completely overgrown just to the west of Mercury Motors which could be extended by a simple path around Largo House linking with East Drive in Upper Largo. This could provide safe daylight access between the villages plus a possible terrific loop walk by walking down the Serpentine walk. It would also bolster any campaigning for a pedestrian crossing around Mercury Motors which has been considered to service the bus stop.

It would be great if we could have a safe extended walk that could include Lower Largo, the beach, the woods of the Serpentine, then up to the Church in Upper Largo, the views of Largo Bay in front of Largo House, then down through Lundin Links under the iconic viaduct, finally finishing with a pint or a coffee at The Crusoe or The Aurrie. There aren't many one-hour walks that could offer all that variety. We could also pop in and collect our vegetables and flowers from the Largo Estate Gardeners *en route*.

The link path has been suggested several times to the owners of Largo Estate as a priority. So far, they are citing safety concerns as their main problem. LCT would be delighted to work with Largo Estate to see how this might be addressed. We need to keep up the conversations with Largo Estate, Paths For All as well as local Councillors and the Community Council.

*Largo House Group, LCT*



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## Vacancy - Advertising Editor



We are looking for a volunteer for the role of **Advertising Editor** to replace our previous team member, who has set up a system which works very well. The new Advertising Editor will contact potential advertisers for each issue – both to confirm continuing adverts, and to discuss/negotiate requirements with new advertisers.

Originators may submit their own artwork, or give us instructions – and a member of the team will create it.

If you have an interest in this position, please contact the Editor:  
[editorlargo@links.org.uk](mailto:editorlargo@links.org.uk)

## A Wild and Windy Winter

We've certainly had a battering over the last few months, with the stormy weather causing significant disruptions to some of us, and mild inconveniences to others. Whether it's roads being blocked by fallen trees, power-cuts to our homes or even the rough seas getting a bit too close for comfort, it's been a dramatic turn of events.

Out there in the turbulent tides, the Grey Seals have come to the end of their breeding season. Also called Atlantic Seals (*Halichoerus grypus*), these are the larger of the two species of seals that can be seen, with adult males (bulls) weighing in excess of 200kg and over 2m in length. The smaller Harbour, or 'Common' Seals (*Phoca vitulina*) are not quite as common as they used to be, with a significant decline in populations seen recently. Another helpful identification tool in addition to size difference is that Grey Seals have a large, broad snout, which is where the Latin name, translated as 'Hook-nosed Sea-pig', comes from. Harbour Seals have a much shorter snout, and face-on look more Labrador-like. Harbour Seals also come in a variety of colours and have a habit of lifting their heads and feet in a banana shaped outline whilst at rest.

Both species of seal can be seen hauled out of the water on the rocks at low tide and sometimes they can be incredibly camouflaged amongst the exposed seaweed. It's very important for these animals to have these periods out of the water, to rest, digest their meals and moult their coats. If you're lucky enough to see them basking on the rocks, please enjoy them from a distance by giving them plenty of space and keeping dogs close to heel. Disturbance at these haul-out sites can be considerably detrimental to the welfare of these fantastic animals with whom we share the coast.

*Dominic Rye, Conservation Officer- Fife Coast and Countryside Trust*

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## Lundin Ladies' Golf Club



*The clubhouse*

The 9-hole LLGC, formally constituted in 1891, is an independent club with its own clubhouse, course and staff. It has only lady members and is one of the oldest such clubs in existence. Gentlemen can play the course as season ticket holders

and there is currently an active junior section for both girls and boys.

The course, designed by James Braid, plays to par 68 and is 2,365 yards long. The standard nine has seven par 4s and two par 3s.

Two impressive features of the course are Largo Law, an extinct volcano, which dominates the view to the east while the three tall unsculptured and irregularly shaped pillars of red sandstone, which form the most impressive group of Standing Stones in Fife, can be found midway along the second fairway.

## Standing Stanes of Lundin

Standing stones are found across the world but the people who built them and why they did so remain mysterious. The group of three red sandstone megaliths on the second fairway of the Lundin Links Ladies Golf Course has been the subject of much debate. A scheduled monument since 1937, the tallest stone measures over five metres in height. The three stones are thought to be of a similar depth below ground. The Old Statistical Account of 1792 noted that there were *"fragments of a fourth, which seems to have been of equal magnitude with the other three"*.

Over the centuries the Lundin stones have been suggested to be: the gravestones of Danish chiefs fallen in battle; of Roman origin; or the remains of a Druid temple. Latest thinking suggests that the stones were part of a larger ceremonial complex dating back to around 3,000 years BCE or earlier. Obviously, the feature was important enough to warrant the huge effort involved in its construction at a time of very limited technology. The stones were built to last and to be seen from a distance. The full facts of their origin and function may never be known, and so the words of this old poem (first published in the *St Andrews Citizen* of 17 August 1895) continue to be fitting:

"How came you here? Who bade you stand?  
Grim sentinels o'er sea and land?  
Did grateful nation you uprear,  
In mem'ry of a patriot dear?  
Did some repulsed invader sue  
For leave to lay his slain 'neath you?  
Or were your sides, in days of yore,  
Oft stained with sacrificial gore?  
No picture, symbol, nor a word  
You bear, to shew what you record:  
Nor threat nor bribe can make you tell  
The secret which you keep too well."

Those interested can read more about local history at:

[Lundinlinks.weebly.com](http://Lundinlinks.weebly.com)



### Two views of the Stanes o' Lundie

Firstly, an old drawing of the Stanes before a Golf Course was made round them.

Secondly, a photograph showing the Stanes fenced off. In 1922, the single enclosure was replaced by two, allowing play through the middle. Nowadays, they are open.

Local rules must have been different back in the day. A website called [nationalclubgolfer.com](http://nationalclubgolfer.com) contains the following information about the Lundin Ladies Golf Club:

Can you imagine them building a golf course around Stonehenge?

If the only question on your mind was whether you can get a free drop if you are impeded by the stones, then where is your sense of history?

But, no, you don't. In a local rule, they're considered an integral part of the course and no relief is given.

Harsh? Perhaps - but you'd better steer well clear

## Potato Gnocchi

This year I have decided to continue my Celebrating Seasonal Fife programme. There will be posts on Facebook and mentions on other social media sites. It's really just to try and help bring awareness of what is in season in Fife so that we can celebrate it! I have also decided to celebrate the (not so) humble potato as we have two great producers of them locally - Blacketyside and Ardross. Both tell you what the varieties are and it's worth understanding that different varieties have different cooking characteristics. So here is a recipe for March, April, it's for potato gnocchi, which, once made will go with a variety of dressings or sauces. Wild garlic will be available, so do try with that.

*My son Byam has a business called Trotter's Independent Condiments.*

*They make a wild garlic pesto, which works very well.*

1 kg floury potatoes

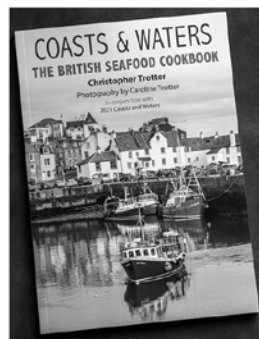
*Desiree, red Duke of York, King Edward or my favourite Manitou available at Blacketyside.*

200g plain flour

3 egg yolks

Salt and pepper

- Peel and cook the potatoes in boiling water or steam them.
- Drain and return to hob over a low heat to really dry them out.
- Mash thoroughly or pass through a ricer.
- Make a well in the middle and incorporate the egg yolks, flour and seasoning and work into a ball.
- Cut into 4 and then using lots of flour roll out into a "rope" then cut into 2-3 cm lengths.
- You can then roll them gently on a flour coated fork to give ridges which when cooked help to take up any sauce. Remember the flour prevents sticking.
- Bring a pan of salted water to the boil and drop the gnocchi in and when they come to the surface they will be cooked. Lift out and drain, toss in your chosen sauce.



Christopher is an award-winning food writer. His books, including *Coasts & Waters*, may be bought from his website:

**[www.christophertrotter.co.uk](http://www.christophertrotter.co.uk)**

They are also available at Blacketyside Farm Shop, or you may contact him directly:

**07739 049639.**

## Reading Largo Links



Most of you will be reading this magazine through a delivery to your house by our team of volunteers. There are other ways to get your magazine.

### Businesses & Library

We place copies of our magazine in the Library and in various business premises throughout the area.

### Large-Print

If you live in our delivery area and would like a large-print magazine, please let us know and we will deliver one.

### Online

Each issue is on the Largo Communities Together website:

[www.largocommunitiestogether.org.uk](http://www.largocommunitiestogether.org.uk)

### By email

We have an email subscription list. If you would like to receive your magazine this way, send us your email address.

### By post

This is a new proposal. If you send us a book of 2<sup>nd</sup> Class stamps, we will send an A5 booklet to the address (UK only) indicated. (We will include a renewal notice when the stamps run out.)

### Contacts

There is a list of contacts on Page 3.

## Fete at Largo House

A splendid ball and supper was given at Largo House on the 18th Instant, at which upwards of eighty distinguished individuals were present. At One, the party sat down to an elegant supper; After which, dancing resumed, and kept up with great spirit till Five in the morning. The General (Durham) and his Lady were not, in the meantime, forgetful of the comforts and amusements of their poorer neighbours. A scaffolding was erected around the house, to enable them to feast their eyes with a view of the splendid interior; And that their other senses may be gratified, a comfortable supper was provided for them in Lee's Inn. Such attentions as these, mark a considerate liberality, and deserve to be recorded.

*Caledonian Mercury 27/10/1827*

Note: Lee's Inn is now the Upper Largo Hotel.

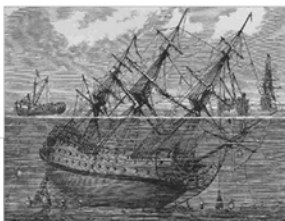
## Large Cannon

A large cannon which belonged to the Royal George when she sank off Spithead in August 1782 and which was recovered last year, has lately been sent down from Portsmouth to General Durham, and is now placed in front of Largo House, Fifeshire. It is a 32 pounder and weighs nearly 3 tons. It bears the marks of having lain upwards of half a century in the bottom of the deep.

*Caledonian Mercury 8/4/1837*

*Editor's Note:* The General's brother (later Admiral) was a junior Officer of the Watch when the *Royal George* sank, with over 800 drowned.

The Wreck of the  
*Royal George*





## **Largo Pre School Playgroup**

*Registered Charity- SC016254*

A longstanding service in the local community, we are an early learning and childcare provider based in the Montrave Hall, Lundin Links.

Spaces available for children aged 2 years 6 months - 5 years.

As a Fife Council partner provider, funded places are available.

For more information and an application form please contact us on:

*[largoplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:largoplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk)*

**07917 743564**

## Largo Pier: Where we were and where we are

In the previous edition of *Largo Links*, I mentioned the massive efforts made to restore the Pier following the damage sustained in 1926. Fund raising activities were many and varied, ranging from Life Saving and Diving Displays to the Pierrott Shows. In 1935, Mr O'Reilly and the "Serenaders" were performing.



*A somewhat older picture of the Pier*

So where are we now at the beginning of 2022 with the repair and restoration work? Good progress is being made by the Consultant Engineers and Quantity Surveyors on the completion of the RIBA Stage 3 Document, scheduled for the end of March. This is absolutely essential before we can proceed with applications for major grant funding. We have been successful in our applications for smaller grants receiving £15,500 from the Crown Estates and £4,950 from the Levenmouth Reconnected Scheme. We have engaged Consultants to assist with our major grant funding applications and the Pier Group are currently working on a further application to Levenmouth Reconnected for a much larger sum.

*Jimmy Simpson, Chair, Pier Sub Group of LCT*

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## Lundie Theatre Group

Having been rehearsing for nearly 2 years we were delighted to welcome back audiences to our performance of *Full Circle* by Janet Shaw in November. We were very lucky to find some new, enthusiastic members to help the production and have recruited more to support the upcoming presentation of *Blithe Spirit* by Noel Coward - 12th, 13th and 14th May at the Montrave Hall - 7.30pm. A spiritualist medium holds a séance for a writer who, unbeknownst to her, is getting material for his new book, but accidentally summons the spirit of his deceased first wife, which leads to an increasingly complex love triangle with his current wife of five years.

We meet on Thursday evenings in the Montrave Hall and would love to see new faces, whether that be for treading the boards, set-building, costumes, props or make up.

Get in touch for more details

Brenda - [bs.lundie@gmail.com](mailto:bs.lundie@gmail.com)

## New Gilston & Woodside WI

Our members thoroughly enjoyed meeting for coffee at the Upper Largo Hotel in February and March. The good news is that face-to-face meetings will resume on Thursday 21 April. All members warmly welcomed.

Maggie - [jmf102@btinternet.com](mailto:jmf102@btinternet.com)

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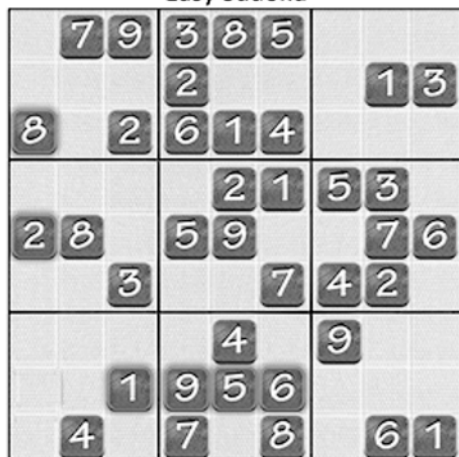
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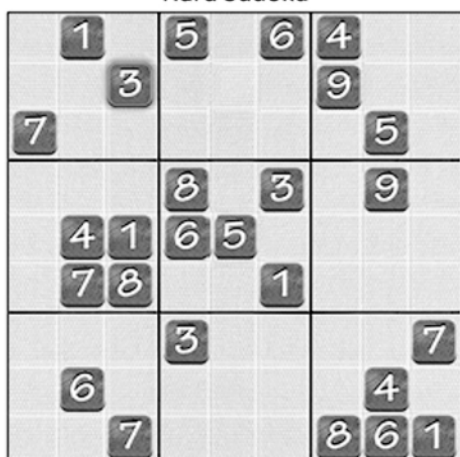


## Puzzle Page

**Easy Sudoku**



**Hard Sudoku**



**Brainteaser**

This diagram shows 4 matches, representing a cocktail glass. Inside the glass is a cherry.  
Can you, by moving JUST TWO matches, turn the glass upside-down, with the cherry outside the glass?



**Countdown**

Use + - x ÷ to make the large number on the right. It may not be necessary to use all the small numbers.

75	25	8	6	2	1	<b>494</b>
75	50	25	6	5	3	<b>282</b>
9	8	7	4	2	1	<b>359</b>

*Solutions on page 34*

## Largo Bay Art Society

This year's regular club sessions have been disrupted but we now have a full calendar for the rest of the year. Our weekly meetings are held every Wednesday evening, 7pm to 9pm at The Stables, Upper Largo.

Along with weekly meetings where we have demonstrations, guest artists and group events, we also have 2 more life model sessions planned. These are to be held at Montrave Hall with the first

session on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April and then 7<sup>th</sup> May. If you would like to come and join in these untutored life drawing sessions, you can book by contacting Sue for more details on

*semilne160@gmail.com*

New members are always welcome, so come along and enjoy some art-focused time and meet new friends. Check out the website for more dates and events:

*www.largobayartsociety.weebly.com*

## Childhood memories of the Railway

As we await the return of the railway, at least as far as Leven, the *Largo Links* team thought it would be interesting to publish any stories anyone might have about the railway when it ran through Lundin Links and Lower Largo.

I was brought to Lundin Links each July from the age of 3, for my summer holidays, in the few years before the Beeching cuts removed the railway and consigned the viaduct to a mere architectural curiosity.

We stayed in one of the houses on Woodlands Road that overlooked the railway and the viaduct. It was only a few yards away on the other side of a creosoted fence, as was the signal that controlled access to the viaduct.

We had trains running behind our house at home, but they weren't as close as these and we didn't have a signal at home to let us know when a train was coming and so this was one of the things I always looked forward to seeing, and it has remained one of my clearest memories, (along with the smell of the creosote on the fence).

My brother and I would hear a clanking noise and run to the window to wait, or if we were playing in the garden and heard it we'd run out to the fence. The signal would be up. Was the train in the station, or was it coming from Leven? All too soon, the train had gone, a few minutes later the signal would clang back down, bouncing a few times before coming to a rest, and we'd return to what we were doing until the next time.



*This is the signal mentioned, as seen from Woodlands Road in 1962.*

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Tel: 01333 320 008 Mob: 07930 917 493

Email: [seascape.largo@gmail.com](mailto:seascape.largo@gmail.com)

*Above is an engraving of the Largo artist, William Ballingall, 1876.*

*Below is an extract from Queen Victoria's Journal, 1842.*

The Scottish fisherwomen are the most striking looking people and are generally young and pretty women, very clean and very Dutch looking, with their white caps and bright coloured petticoats. They never marry out of their class.

## Stuart's Bakers & Butchers

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# Largo Area Community Council

## Developers Fail To Make Hotel Safe

Despite repeated requests from the local Community Council and Fife Council, developers have failed to make the Lundin Links Hotel safe. The iconic Tudor style structure of the Lundin Links Hotel has been left derelict for several years by Developers since the hotel closed and has been allowed to fall into disrepair.

Peter Aitken, Chairman of LACC said:-

“We have now asked Fife Council to resecure/reboard the premises and charge the cost to the developers.

On the evening of Sunday 16.01.22 intruders caused damage to the premises and the police had to be called. The word and figures “Satan 666” have been daubed in red paint on the white walls of the interior. Intruders regularly leave the lights on inside the premises. The emergency lighting is still on. Birds fly in and out of the broken windows and the doors are not secure. A tree in the hotel grounds fell on top of a parked car. The hotel was even set on fire one year.

We have discovered that the delay in building the 35 new flats is due to a dispute between the developers and Scottish Water about the cost of a new surface water drainage system as Scottish Water will not allow the existing surface water drainage system to be used.

In the circumstances I have suggested to the developers that the matter should be remitted to the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman for adjudication.

Planning Consent was issued for conversion of the hotel to 35 flats years ago but the work has never been carried out. The same developers purchased Greenfield House Alloa from the local Council in 2017. Again planning consent was obtained and again the building was left derelict for several years. Eventually the developers sold it back to the local council. In frustration the Community Council have now asked Wendy Chamberlain MP and Jenny Gilruth MSP to intervene but they are discovering the same difficulty in obtaining responses from the developers. However it is

hoped the pressure from the Community Council, Fife Council, the MP and the MSP will yield results”

---

There was a meeting of LACC on 17 January. Two extracts from the minutes:

### **Fife Development Plan:**

We have been given advance notice of the upcoming Development Plan consultation which begins early in the New Year but may only go on for eight weeks.

Largo Estate have allowed Campion Homes to survey the field to the north of Selkirk Grove. In the New Year LACC will need to hear the wishes of the community on any proposal.

Leafletting every household could be a possibility or placing a very prominent article in the *Largo Links* magazine, however this is not due out till March.

It may be that, if the Local Development Plan states that more housing is needed in the area, we should try to identify bits of land that we would prefer to be developed.

We will get the chance to put in representations when the time comes but until then we can be coming up with possible suggestions as to the wishes of the community, e.g., the site at Selkirk Grove is the gateway to the East Neuk, there would be a loss of greenbelt and there is a strong wish to retain the identity and character of our village.

**Next meeting of LACC: 21 February**

---

### **ForthWind Turbine**

Mr. Aitken contacted ForthWind Ltd to clarify the important points of the offshore demonstration project at Methil. There will be only one turbine and one mast. The proposed development will last for 25 years from the date that the turbine is first commissioned. The meteorological Mast however will only be in place for 5 years and there is provision in place for decommissioning.



## Lundin Bowling Club Open Weekend



Saturday May 7<sup>th</sup> and Sunday May 8<sup>th</sup> 2022

Anytime between 10am and 8pm

Come along and try lawn bowls, a game for all the family to enjoy. We have sponge bowls for youngsters, junior bowls and a range of adult bowls that you can use on the day. Our members will be there to show you what to do and answer questions.

If you join our club, you will get

4 free coaching sessions and half price membership for the first year, just £50!

A bargain to be able to play outdoors from Mid April to end September

And of course there is the social side too.

Come along and give it a try.

Email: [secretarylundinbowling@gmail.com](mailto:secretarylundinbowling@gmail.com) for more information.



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## Update from Largo Estate

Over the Winter the Largo Estate Horticulture Team have continued work in the Walled Garden to prepare it for another growing season. This year we are aiming to make 40 veg boxes available for purchase locally and we will begin running volunteer sessions inviting folk to join us in the garden to learn about our ecological growing methods. Most of our current vegetable beds have been cleared, composted and covered over to protect them from the elements. We begin sowing seeds for the garden in late February all the way through to September and are very excited to use our new propagation tunnel for this purpose!

We will use the large cropping poly-tunnel to grow delicious fruiting crops such as tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, aubergines, chillies, and beans. We are even hoping to try out a few melons. Watch this space! Some of our flower crops will also reside here too. If you'd like to be one of the lucky folk who gets to enjoy Largo grown tomatoes and cucumbers you can sign up for subscriptions to our produce by emailing [sales@largoestate.co.uk](mailto:sales@largoestate.co.uk) and through our website in due course.

The flower plot is set to double in size with Erin and Lindsey's planning and we are working on propagating more perennials this year such as Echinops, Astrantia, Astilbe and more varieties of Rudbeckia than we knew we needed! We are beginning to consider how to incorporate shrubs into the garden and planning for long term ornamental plantings that offer foliage for the flower enterprise and that also gives a nod to the original formal beauty that the garden would have once had. We will continue to sell a limited number of arranged bouquets through our website and are hopeful to establish connections with florists across Fife who are particularly interested in sustainable practices.

We have also started work in the walled orchard to put pathways in place so that people can access some of this area if visiting to collect their veg and flower orders, or if attending one of our planned open days. We are active on social media, aiming to share about our work and keep folk updated on the project's progress, so please do have a look at some of our work there too.

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Website

[www.mercurymotorsport.co.uk](http://www.mercurymotorsport.co.uk)

*By Kirsty Chatwin-Lee, Largo Links reporter*

I recently had the pleasure of chatting with Kate McLeod, Largo Library Committee member, regarding the Largo Lockdown Archive initiative to capture and preserve how local individuals have been touched by the global Coronavirus pandemic.

We all hear, on a daily basis, the infection, hospitalisation and mortality statistics, how each government is responding to the scientific guidance and what that means for our daily lives, and how the vaccine programme is hopefully minimising the long-term impact. However, we don't hear very often the personal stories of how Covid-19 has, and still is impacting, local communities and local people; how they're coping, how their lives have changed whether for the better or for the worse, or what will be their most abiding memories.

Records and photographs from the last pandemic, the Spanish Flu, in 1918 have, to some degree, given a picture of what life was like for those affected then but they're not comprehensive. For this pandemic The National Archives will once again be capturing and preserving the national picture, however, to get a more granular view of personal stories of the ordinary man, woman and child it takes a local initiative to plug that gap. The prevalence of social media platforms and modern technological devices now affords us, as individuals, the ability to be a 'citizen archivist'. We can capture how we have been affected by this pandemic on a more personal level that might otherwise be lost forever, or never captured at all.

Within our community we have seen some great projects starting up that might never have happened were it not for the Coronavirus. This newsletter for a start was born out of a desire to keep everyone connected and abreast of community developments in the wake of complete isolation, and the Swans of a Beach launched their sea swimming group in the hope that the well-documented effects of open water swimming on mental health and well-being would help residents cope on a psychological level. However, there is much more going on in our community that is worthy of capture, no matter how insignificant it may seem.

Kate McLeod, a researcher with considerable experience dealing with emotions and the effects of loss and change, raised the notion of creating a local Covid-19 archive within the community of Lundin Links and Largo, with the Largo Library Committee. The Largo Lockdown Archive project is now seeking to crowdsource content, by asking you, our local residents, to submit something that represents you and the pandemic.

How has Covid-19 affected you? Have you joined a group? Done any voluntary work? Started a new hobby, or taken up an old one? Learnt to play an instrument, or a new language? Moved home? Started a new job, or lost one? Made new friends or lost some? Spent more time in your garden, or in your house? Or has there been a moment during this pandemic that will forever be etched in your memory?



## ... You and the Pandemic!

The format can be anything. It could be represented in artwork, poetry, creative writing, personal stories, photographs, videos, journals. They can be any size or any length. What you choose to submit is entirely up to you as it represents 'You and the Pandemic'.

For me, apart from moving to Lundin Links in November of 2020, one of my most defining moments was with my toddler son during a local indoor sports class just after the second lockdown. He came running up to me, pulled down my mask, kissed me and then pulled the mask back over my mouth and nose. It was a fleeting moment but for me captured, so concisely, how a two-year-old understood his world and my obligations. I wonder how he will look back on this in ten – or twenty – years. This will form part of my submission to the archive.

Should we ever be in the unfortunate position of such a pandemic occurring again in the future, an archive, such as this, will help to give hope and comfort to those living through it. Hope that human resilience and determination to survive and thrive by any means will prevail. The future needs to learn from the past. Let us be a vessel to channel our experiences and make them available to our descendants so it may enrich their lives and shine a light on ours.

If you would like to contribute to the collective memory, you can send your submission either named or anonymously, if so preferred:

**by email to [largolockdown@gmail.com](mailto:largolockdown@gmail.com),  
posted to the Largo Library on Crescent Road,  
or handed in to the Library in person.**



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## Jenny Gilruth MSP



**Member of the Scottish Parliament for  
Mid Fife and Glenrothes Constituency**

covering Lundin Links and the Largos

I am currently holding telephone surgeries.

For an appointment, please contact me on:

**E:** [Jenny.Gilruth.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:Jenny.Gilruth.msp@parliament.scot) **T:** 01592 764815

The cost of this publication has been met from parliamentary resources.

## Coastbusters Community Walking Group

The Community walking group continues. The dates and walk details are listed in the diary section. The start times have changed - Plodders and Striders start at 10:30am and Strollers at 2pm.

The numbers attending are being limited so, if you wish to attend, please contact Moira or Yvonne before coming along.

Yvonne Stephenson 07813 378512

Moira Bell 07717 572035

## Lundin Bowling Club

We are looking forward to the start of the new season in April when hopefully things will feel more like normal. We hope to have an open day in May, the date to be confirmed, when you can come along with your family and have a try at bowling. If you like it, we will provide free coaching sessions to get you started. The green is open anytime after 10am during daylight hours and a rink can be booked using the booking system you will see on our website at

[www.lundinbowlingclub.org.uk](http://www.lundinbowlingclub.org.uk)

You will also find information there about competitions and friendlies once the season is underway. We also hope to have some fundraising events this year when the bar will be open and we will be able to welcome the community to come and join us. Cocktails at the Green is poised to return in the summer!

## The Studio, 114 Main Street, Lower Largo

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Open by appointment

01333 320174 [smartanderson@live.co.uk](mailto:smartanderson@live.co.uk)

## Largo Library and Community Hub



Largo Library and Community Hub is open and our volunteers are working very hard to ensure there is a great selection of books waiting for you! Please pop in to browse, borrow and return books. We also have books and DVDs for sale, printing and photocopying services, free Wi-Fi and local information; and don't forget to collect your free food waste disposal bags. We are happy to accept your good quality book donations and there is a Book World book bank outside the library so you can recycle any unwanted older books.

We can't wait to get started with our popular programme of film nights, evening literary events, Bookbug and Science Saturdays as soon as we are able. We have introduced measures to keep you safe, including hand sanitiser, limiting visitor numbers, face masks, Perspex screens and enhanced cleaning practices. We look forward to seeing you at 7 Lundin Square, Lundin Links KY8 6BH

Tuesday 2–5pm

Wednesday 10-1pm,

Thursday 10-1 and 2-5pm

Saturday 10am-1pm.

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## Medical Research

In March 2021 the law regarding organ and tissue donation changed in Scotland to the "opt out" system. However, you may not be aware that you can donate your whole body for research purposes and this does require registration.

It's a simple process and your bequest will help medical, dental and science students to learn about the structure and function of the human body, contribute to the education and training of healthcare and allied professionals and aid research projects. If accepted (almost always the case), all arrangements are made by the university.

Once all research has been completed (usually within 3 years of death) your body is cremated and the ashes made available to friends and family. A service is held each year at the University Chaplaincy for the friends and family of all donors cremated that year. Contacts:

01382 388825

*bodydonation@dundee.ac.uk*

## The Arts Society Fife

The Arts Society Fife is a friendly local society. We meet on a monthly basis from September until June with our members coming from all over Fife. We host monthly lectures on a variety of arts subjects. Members also have the opportunity to volunteer for arts and heritage projects.

Our lectures for our 2020/21 season were all online. We continued with online lectures for the start of our 2021/22 session because of the ongoing pandemic. By the time this magazine is distributed we very much hope to have returned solely to live lectures at The Corn Exchange, Cupar. More information can be found on our website.

Future lectures:

12<sup>th</sup> April 2022, 2pm

"Arts and Crafts Ceramics" by Paul Atterbury  
Paul is a regular expert featured on the Antiques Road Show and his particular area of interest is ceramics.

10<sup>th</sup> May 2022, 2pm

"I am The Very Model" by Peter Medhurst  
Accompanying himself on the piano, Peter will entertain us with all things Gilbert and Sullivan.

14<sup>th</sup> June 2022

"The Treasures of Chatsworth and the Collectors Responsible" by Simon Seligman  
(Note: this may be subject to change.)  
Simon will tell us all about the wonderful collection of treasures within Chatsworth House.

Lectures are open to members and non-members. Non-member guests are encouraged to make a donation. For further information:-

Visit: [www.theartssocietyfife.org.uk](http://www.theartssocietyfife.org.uk)

Email: [info@theartssocietyfife.org.uk](mailto:info@theartssocietyfife.org.uk)

## Largo Cottages



**Largo Cottages**  
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Cosy pet friendly holiday cottages in Lundin Links, Upper & Lower Largo

Visit our website for more details:

[www.largocottages.co.uk](http://www.largocottages.co.uk)

01333 360301

## Upper Largo Camera Club

The Camera Club is attended by a small group of friendly people interested in photography. The club aims to facilitate the development of its members' photographic skills.

We include local field trips, in-house projects, discussion on members' photographs with constructive comments and talks/advice on the use of their cameras.

The club also takes part in some small local exhibitions.

Meetings are normally at 7.30pm on a Monday evening in the Simpson Institute Upper Largo, subject to Covid rules. Our members can post photographs on our Facebook page. We are meeting partly on Zoom but mix this with photography projects.



If you would like to know more, contact Ian Macfarlane on 077525 96380 or at [ianmacfarlane157@btinternet.com](mailto:ianmacfarlane157@btinternet.com)

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## LOOKING FOR OUR 'FOREVER HOME'

If you, or anyone you know, are considering putting their Lower Largo home on the market this year, we would love to hear from you. We currently live in West Lothian and are both teachers in Edinburgh. Having enjoyed so many happy holidays in the East Neuk of Fife, as retirement now approaches, we are hoping to make our future home here. Nowhere have we found more welcoming and friendly than Lower Largo. It is without any doubt our favourite East Neuk village and we would love one day to be part of your amazing community.

We could be cash buyers and are also completely flexible about when to relocate, ready to move in at any time - as soon as next month if required - but equally happy to wait until later in the year. Finding our perfect home is what's important and would be well worth waiting for!

We hope we will be forgiven for this somewhat unusual way of house- hunting, but it might just help someone avoid the more stressful and expensive process of putting their home on the market. It could also allow us to get ahead of buyers who are only interested in an occasional holiday home or yet another letting opportunity, and we might at last be successful in finding our 'forever home'.

Please do get in touch if you have any information or suggestions that might help us. Thank you.

**Chris & Elizabeth Black**

[ChrisElizabethB@aol.com](mailto:ChrisElizabethB@aol.com)

Mobile: 07986 514 599





## UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

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# **Largo Area Coronavirus Response Team**

## **Resilience in the Largo Communities**

We hear the word “Resilience” used on a regular basis these days; from reality TV stars on their “journey” to reach the series finale, through nations standing up to foreign aggressors to the global response to pandemic disease. In short, it means many things to many people.

A useful definition is “the capacity of an individual, community or system to adapt in order to sustain an acceptable level of function, structure and identity”; but what does that actually mean?

On an individual level we demonstrate our resilience on a daily basis; we somehow manage to get through each day regardless of what the world throws at us; no hot water for that quick shower before work, the car won’t start, bus is running late, the kids are ill or the school’s closed and we need to organise childcare within the hour. The very epitome of individual resilience is the former resident of Lower Largo Alexander Selkirk, who managed to adapt well enough to survive for over four years alone on a deserted island. For most of us, whilst it’s unlikely we’ll have to deal with such an extreme scenario, we overcome most things that could spoil our day by a little bit of pre-planning and having an informal back up plan in place. At a systemic level, society follows a similar pattern. At a regional, national and international level, we depend on our governments to consider what could go wrong, what impact it could have, who might be affected and if we can’t find a way to prevent it happening, how we can

mitigate the effects. Ultimately, that’s why we have our precious emergency services such as Police, Fire, Ambulance and Health Services, and organisations such as the Scottish Environment Protection Agency.

When it comes to community resilience, we’ve seen over recent years that there can be gaps in our preparedness; importantly this is not something which is unique in any way to the Largo villages but exists across the country, in fact across the world! Where things affect wide geographical areas, for example severe weather events, emergency service resources can be stretched and through necessity, will be allocated on a priority basis focusing on those areas at most risk or in greatest danger, meaning that there may be times when we have to come together and fill those gaps.

As a community we can become more resilient by applying the same principles set out above at individual and systemic levels; a bit of forethought and a bit of planning!

Over the last two years, the work of the Largo Area Covid Response Team (LACRT) is a good example of this type of community resilience. The team has developed a range of support for the Largo area communities to supplement existing services; examples are the telephone befriending service, the Support to Connect signposting service and the Support in times of need fund, providing financial support with essentials for those in need.

## **Resilience** *(cont)*

As the effects associated with Covid begin to subside, the LACRT aim to broaden their role; to identify what gaps exist in the preparedness of our community and to develop a plan to help fill those gaps to improve our resilience as a community in future. This work can't, and mustn't, be done in isolation however; we need to do this together! We have done some work already, taking account of existing National and Regional Risk assessments which have been carried out, we know what some of the likely impacts are. In order to develop this further we're looking for your help; we'd like you to tell us what events have taken place historically which have impacted on you, your family, your business or your village and what we, as a community could do help lessen that impact. We're not here to fight fires or chase criminals, we leave that to the experts, but as set out above, we want to give some thought to what we CAN do, and plan accordingly.

We'll be asking for your views as part of the Community Consultation taking place over the coming months, but we'd also like you to get in touch directly using the email address above.

Together we can make ourselves more resilient as a community!

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## **Watching our figures**

After Christmas and with the possibility of summer holidays again, it's the time of year that some of us start looking at our figures again. The LACRT too has been

looking at its figures, but in this case it's the statistical ones, not our waistlines. Over the course of the pandemic, team members have been given a weekly statistical report on the number of new Coronavirus cases, hospitalisations and deaths, both locally and nationally. In Scotland, figures are broken down as far as neighbourhoods, and we can see how the number of cases in Largo might compare with Leven or Kennoway for example, or our bigger cities. Early on in the pandemic it was rare for any team member or their friends or relatives to have had direct contact with the virus, but that soon changed and the Largo communities have sadly suffered their share of morbidity and mortality.

Keeping the team up to date helps planning both the type and scale of our response to the virus, and allows informed discussion on the safe development of our projects including the helpline, essential food deliveries, our befriending service, support to Happy Beaches, local schools and food banks to name but a few. With the successful rollout of vaccination and boosters, we could see that despite the surge in new cases, there were far fewer hospital admissions and deaths than might have been expected.

Statistics won't stop the pandemic, but can act as an early warning for emerging new strains, and can highlight the success and relative safety of the immunisation programme and counter the deliberate misinformation that still abounds.

### **Upper Largo Telephone Box**

Many iconic red telephone boxes across the country have been refurbished and repurposed for use into mini community hubs. British Telecom, in cooperation with Community Heartbeat Trust (CHT), have offered opportunities of adopting these historic structures to repurpose in ways important to the communities through their Adopt a Kiosk programme. The phone box on St Andrews Road, Upper Largo had fallen into a state of dangerous disrepair and was leaning at an unsafe angle. LACRT decided to apply to CHT to adopt the structure for community use, and to transform it into a phone box to be proud of.

Funded through LACRT's Civic Pride grant from Development Trust Scotland, the telephone box has been renovated to a high standard by Alan Moffat and his team member, Seamus. It is now on a firm base with lining, shelving, electricity and USB point. Coats of bright shiny red paint on its exterior.

As well as housing important public health and resilient community information, LACRT has discussed with Kirkton of Largo Primary School how the space could be used by the children for project work. The children are very excited about the prospect of using the phone box. They will be discussing and sharing their ideas with LACRT very soon. Thanks are expressed to all of those involved in the restoration of the phone box and in its future use as a mini community hub.

*Nora Conlin, Secretary LCT/ LACRT*

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### **Largo Friends + Neighbours**

continues to provide a telephone befriending service to anyone in the Largo area who feels isolated from friends, family or the community. This service is provided by volunteers who live in the community. In addition, if anyone is finding it difficult to do their shopping independently, we can now provide a shopping buddy to accompany you and provide support.

If you would like to make use of any of the services provided by Largo Friends and Neighbours or would like to become a volunteer, please contact the LACRT helpline on **08000 999 3465**.

Jean, the co-ordinator of Largo Friends and Neighbours, will then get in touch with further details.



*The telephone box, as it was before  
and after the restoration.*



**Need help with digital technology?**

LACRT provides IT (*Information Technology*) support for those in the Largo area who need help with their phone, iPad, laptop or computer. Whether you need to find out how to send emails, use Facebook, make your printer work, have a video call with friends abroad, or you just wonder what you can do with that laptop your family generously gave you for Christmas ..... we can probably help you. If you just want to try this clever (but scary) stuff for the first time, we also have some small tablet computers available for you to borrow.

To find out more, just phone the LACRT Helpline **0800 999 3465**.

**Love Where You Live;  
There is NO Planet B!**



**Happy Beaches-Fife**

LACRT is working with Happy Beaches to help play our part - helping to organise beach cleans, supplying equipment and encouraging community support. See Happy Beaches on Facebook for more information on local beach clean ups. Beach cleaning equipment can be found in front of Andy's store Lower Largo. Thanks in anticipation of your help.

*Dumbarnie Links*

*Upper Largo*

*Fife, KY8 6JQ*

*44 (0) 1334 845 945*



**DUMBARNIE**  
LINKS

*[www.dumbarnielinks.com](http://www.dumbarnielinks.com)*



## Largo Communities Together

Largo Communities Together want to thank Barbara Simpson for her service to the board as she steps down and we wish her all the best for the future. We are also pleased to have two recent additions to the team. Alistair Brown joins the board to lead with marketing and communications. Priya Logan is the new development officer and our board and community will benefit from her assistance on existing projects, as well as on our upcoming project, which is explained below.



As you will notice, there is a postcard included with this issue of the Largo Links. Largo Communities Together are excited to help build our community's own Local Place Plan and these postcards are our first step in understanding what is most important to you.

A Local Place Plan is a way of ensuring that we use the resources we have in a way that works best for everyone. Our goal is to create a plan for the future from your hopes, ideas and solutions.

It will eventually be lodged with Fife Council and inform Fife and National plans as well as provide us with clear priorities to work on.

We are looking for an overview at this point, this is the beginning and there will be lots of time for you to explore these questions in more depth in the future.

Details about how to return the postcards are on the front of the cards. We appreciate your time and help.

- Golf tuition for all levels.
- Gift vouchers available.
- Men's golf clothing from all leading brands.
- Everything for the discerning golfer in store.
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Fife

## Largo Parish Church

In the May 2021 issue of *Largo Links* were a couple of articles about the Durham Hall (pages 6 and 7) and its history. In the mid-1950s the Durham Hall was acquired by the then St David's Church. When the congregations of St David's and Largo Newburn united in 2018 to form Largo Parish Church the St David's church building was sold but the Durham Hall was kept by the now united congregation.



In early 2020 we started to look at refurbishing the Durham Hall into a church-community centre but then Covid interrupted things. In the summer of 2021 we found that some of the old wooden sash frames were rotting so we have just replaced all the windows in the hall. If you are passing by the Durham Hall, you will see new PVC windows which have made the hall brighter, as well as warmer.

We have continued our weekly services throughout the Omicron outbreak and we welcome everyone to come and worship with us. Easter will be on the 17th April this year: please watch our Church Website page or Facebook page for details of Lent and Holy Week services.

Soon Easter will be upon us. This is a time when we are reminded that God has not forgotten or abandoned us. God's great gift of grace was given to us in Christ Jesus, a living sacrifice, who has saved us from sin, death, and even alienation from God. I pray that you will know and feel the peace and comforting grace of God: you are not alone, you are loved, and you are valued by a gracious God. I wish you all a blessed Lent and Easter.

*Rev Gavin Boswell - The Minister*

Website: [www.largochurches.org.uk](http://www.largochurches.org.uk)  
FaceBook: Largo Parish Church  
Email: [infoLargoChurches@gmail.com](mailto:infoLargoChurches@gmail.com)

## Lundie Theatre Group



Presents

### Blithe Spirit

In the Montrave Hall at 7.30pm

Thursday May 12<sup>th</sup> - Friday May 13<sup>th</sup> - Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup>

Tickets £8 (Concessions: £6)

will be available from Zaphar's and Andy's stores from beginning of May

## Accessible Aurrie

The Aurrie, Largo's cafe and arts venue opened in July in the former Largo Baptist Church. It was bought by Andy and Carol Duff and the cafe is run by David Peacock and Helen Ross, of Lily's Larder fame.

The Aurrie was not accessible for disabled people who use a powered wheelchair. The side entrance has a short flight of steps, and a two-inch doorstep and a tight, right-angled turn at the Main Street entrance. The pavement had no dropped kerb, making it even more inaccessible.



Undeterred by these difficulties, Helen and David set about finding a solution. As Helen used to work at Leuchie House, the National Respite Centre in North

Berwick, she understands the importance of inclusion. She has worked extremely hard to make it accessible in time for Largo Arts Weekend. That hard work finally paid off, and Kitty Walker was the first wheelchair user to cross the threshold. Kitty is a regular guest at Leuchie House and has known Helen for many years. She's been restricted to the outdoor seating area all summer so she was delighted to be able to see the inside. "It looks fantastic inside. I'm really grateful to everyone at The Aurrie, and especially Helen, for making it so easy for me to get in. We'll definitely be back regularly".

On their Facebook page, Helen posted, "It's so important to us that everyone can enjoy the space inside".

Jan Kerr

## John Archer Fishmerchant

Main Street, Lower Largo



Tues – Fri: 7.30 – 1.00

Sat: 8.00 – 10.30



Selling from the van in front of the Old Fish Shed

Contact No: 01333 329850  
if you would like fish delivered

## John Ripley, VC (1866 – 1933)

Corporal John Ripley originally came from Keith and then Montrose but spent most of his working life at St Andrews as a slater and chimney sweep. He survived the war and now lies in Largo Cemetery with his wife Jane Laing and her family. He was buried with full military honours in 1933.



unable to regain his former alertness. Cpl Ripley was one of the oldest recipients to receive the Victoria Cross.

By the year 2000 the grave of John Ripley and the Laing family had fallen into disrepair, the headstone was chipped and had become separated from its plinth. The most recent inscription on the headstone was 1939.

Before retiring John Ripley was a soldier of the Black Watch Territorials for 18 years. When war was declared in 1914, he initially worked as a recruiting sergeant. Soon, he recruited himself. Despite the upper age limit for enlisting being 41, he volunteered for active service – at the age of 47.

After training Cpl Ripley was sent to join the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion The Black Watch Regiment and by February 1915 he was in the trenches of France. After action at Rue du Bois to the south of Neuve Chapelle on 9<sup>th</sup> May he was awarded the highest possible military honour, the Victoria Cross. The Regiment was bogged down after several attacks to scale the German lines without success. Cpl Ripley led the final assault and reached the enemy parapet which he scaled and from where he directed troops into the gaps in the German wire defences. With seven or eight men he managed to gain a position which he continued to hold until all his men had fallen and he himself had been badly wounded in the head. He never completely recovered from his wound, it left him deaf in one ear and he was

The Largo Area Community Council made every effort to find a family member but alas without success, so they took on responsibility for each stage of repair. Stuart Mackie of Glenrothes had served in the Black Watch and volunteered to carry out remedial work that included remounting the headstone on to the plinth. After contacting the Black Watch and gaining the regiment's financial help, the grave was returned to its original condition with the addition of a sculptured inscription on the plinth that denoted John Ripley's name and his award.

On a rainy Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2001 a service of rededication took place conducted by the Regimental Chaplain Revd Alex Forsyth. Also present were representatives from the Community Council, the Colonel of the Regiment, several branches of the Black Watch Assoc. including Army Cadets and veterans from Forfar together with members of the Largo community. A piper from the 51<sup>st</sup> Highland Regiment played a lament.

## BloomIN Largo

The BloomIN  
Largo Open  
Garden event will  
be held on the  
weekend of  
**18/19 June 2022**  
in Lower Largo,  
Upper Largo and



Lundin Links when around 20 gardens,  
window boxes, tubs, boats and growing  
spaces will be on display. **BloomIN Largo**  
is a local celebration of outdoor spaces  
and how nurturing them has helped us  
through the recent challenging times. We  
hope that visiting the gardens will delight  
and inspire you. This event has been  
organised by a local group for the benefit  
of others in the villages. For a donation of  
£5 per adult (valid for both days) you will  
receive a map highlighting the  
participating spaces. Any surplus will be  
donated to local charities (decided by a  
poll of participating gardeners).  
We would love to hear from anyone who  
could volunteer to steward during the  
event or donate plants for plant stalls.

*Yvonne Stephenson*

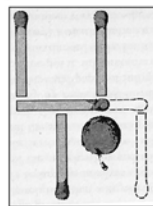
*stephenonyjw@gmail.com 078133785112*

## Echoes from the past...

**Teacher wanted** for the school of New  
Gilston, Parish of Largo. The ordinary  
branches are required. The  
emoluments average about 40L per  
annum. Candidates must appear, with  
their certificates, at the schoolroom, on  
Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> instant, at 5 o'clock, PM.

*Fife Herald, August 4, 1836.*

## Puzzles: Solutions



Brain teaser

$$350 + 9 = 359$$

$$50 * 7 = 350; \quad 5 * 10 = 50;$$

$$8 + 2 = 10; \quad 4 + 1 = 5;$$

$$500 - 6 = 494; \quad 5 * 100 = 500;$$

$$8 - 2 - 1 = 5; \quad 25 + 75 = 100;$$

$$47 * 6 = 282; \quad 50 - 3 = 47;$$

Countdown

5	3	7	9	4	2	8	6	1
8	6	2	7	1	5	3	4	9
1	9	4	3	6	8	5	2	7
9	7	8	4	2	1	6	3	5
3	4	1	6	5	9	7	8	2
6	2	5	8	7	3	1	9	4
7	8	6	1	9	4	2	5	3
4	5	3	2	8	7	9	1	6
2	1	9	5	3	6	4	7	8

Hard Sudoku

9	4	5	7	3	8	2	6	1
7	2	1	9	5	6	3	8	4
3	6	8	1	4	2	9	5	7
5	1	3	8	6	7	4	2	9
2	8	4	5	9	3	1	7	6
6	9	7	4	2	1	5	3	8
8	3	2	6	1	4	7	9	5
4	5	6	2	7	9	8	1	3
1	7	9	3	8	5	6	4	2

Easy Sudoku

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Lundin Links KY8 6AF

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Mobile: 07939 413425

email: david.w.nicoll@hotmail.co.uk

## Letters to the Editor

### An addition to the magazine?

I am writing to suggest a possible new feature in the magazine which would allow local residents to record significant events – a *Births, Marriages & Deaths* column.

Whether you would charge for this, or offer it as a service to the community, could be left to the editorial team.

C.C.H. Black

Editor's Note: In a past edition of the *Scots Magazine* (1 July, 1808) the following notice appeared:

*BIRTHS: At Gilston House, Fifeshire, the Lady of General Moncrieff, a daughter.*

We are sure that you could improve on this! If you would like to place a notice in the next edition of *Largo Links*, let us know. If it proves to be a popular feature we will make it permanent.

### John Ripley, VC

You sent us the article which will appear in the March issue of *Largo Links*, and asked if we had anything to add. The Black Watch's magazine, *Red Hackle*, notes that a ceremony was held in Keith (Corporal Ripley's birthplace) on the centenary of the action leading to his award. Those participating included a party from The Black Watch battalion at Fort George and members of the Inverness Branch of the Association. In the presence of the Vice Lord Lieutenant of Banffshire, and with many onlookers, the ceremony was introduced by Councillor Wright, convener of Moray Council. John Ripley's great-great nephew, Mr Stephen Ripley, spoke about Ripley's life and times and Lieutenant General Sir Alistair Irwin then told the story of the action that led to the award. A commemorative stone was unveiled.

You may also wish to know that a similar ceremony was held in Guardbridge, Fife. It was in honour of Corporal David Finlay, who won a VC on the same day during the same action.

Fiona Connah

*The Black Watch Castle & Museum*

### Traffic Calming Measures in Lundin Links

So far, the new speed bumps have had a bad review in local social media and specifically in the Lundin Links and Largo Community pages a few examples of which are listed below:

- *Poorly thought out. Hardly a welcome to the East Neuk of Fife on the Fife coastal road with 13 speed bumps and a rundown hotel.* 😞
- *These speed and constant safety concerns raised by many both residents and pedestrians walking up to the village from the bridge or taking their life in their hands still trying to cross to Mill Wynd.*
- *Already witnessed quite a few drivers swerving to avoid the bumps as well as experiencing the increased noise and fume pollution from stop starts and the loud bangs when large empty trucks cross them. Goodness knows what visitors now think of our village.*

**There was a consultation process and the Community Council published a notice in this magazine (Feb 2021) outlining options.**

- **Few local residents responded.**

**There was also a public meeting of the Community Council where this was discussed.**

- **Few local residents attended.**

### Comment:

- If the numerous residents who have put posts on social media after the calming measures were installed had contacted the Community Council after the Largo Links article their views could have been taken into consideration.
- The profile /shape of the most recent "speed bumps" appear to be different from the earlier ones and are likely to cause damage to smaller road vehicles passing over them at even 15mph
- Perhaps the Lundin Links and Largo Community pages or a similar social media may be an additional place to engage with the local community in such matters.

Roger Ferguson

# Largo Estate Walled Garden

Erin, Kathy and Lindsey have been busy preparing the garden for the 2022 season having composted and covered over existing vegetable beds, ready for planting up in Spring. We plan to increase our growing area in order to make 40 boxes of seasonal produce available for local purchase June - November 2022. Our boxes were popular last year and subscriptions are limited.

To reserve your veg box for the season please contact [sales@largoestate.co.uk](mailto:sales@largoestate.co.uk) where we can arrange a deposit.

We will also have flexible options such as bi-weekly boxes or 4 weeks of boxes - perfect if you are planning a holiday! These will be available on our website along with an increased selection of flowers so adding your bouquet to a veg box will also be easy.



LARGO  
SCOTLAND



Open days will be held on June 18th/19th in collaboration with BloomIN Largo, in July for Largo Arts week and August with Flowers from the Farm - where produce and pick your own flowers sessions will be available alongside other activities. Sign up to our newsletter via our website and follow our social media to stay up to date.

Volunteer sessions will run from March/April - contact [volunteers@largoestate.co.uk](mailto:volunteers@largoestate.co.uk) to apply.

INSTAGRAM: @LARGOESTATE

FACEBOOK: @LARGOESTATEFIFE

07768519757

[INFO@LARGOESTATE.CO.UK](mailto:INFO@LARGOESTATE.CO.UK)

[WWW.LARGOESTATE.CO.UK](http://WWW.LARGOESTATE.CO.UK)



## Fife Herald 30/11/1854

### NEW GILSTON

Royal Patriotic Fund – This locality is taking its fair share in this good work, a few pounds having already been raised.

Presentation – Miss Augusta Wylde, of Gilston, has presented the inhabitants of this place and neighbourhood with upwards of 60 volumes of excellent books and a case for their preservation, as the commencement of a library. This is but one of many instances of this young Lady's liberality, and we are quite

sure, as our correspondent says, that the best way in which the inhabitants can show their gratitude for such rare benevolence, is by making a good use of the books.

**Note 1:** *The Royal Patriotic Fund was set up in 1854 by Queen Victoria who was concerned for the wellbeing of the widows and children of servicemen dying in the Crimean War. At this time the state did not assume any responsibility for the families of its soldiers and sailors.*

**Note2:** *interesting in this, the Queen's Platinum Jubilee year. Can anyone tell us what became of this library?*

# levenmouth

## PRINTERS AND SIGNS



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### Online Directory ("Local Business Directory")

There is a directory of useful website and email addresses. It is hosted on the website of Largo Communities Together.

[www.largocommunitiestogether.org.uk](http://www.largocommunitiestogether.org.uk)



Or ... if you can use QR codes, scan this to take you straight to the Online Directory

Click on the button



Community Projects

### Defibrillators can be found at the following locations:

Largoward	Village Hall - 25 St Andrews Road (A915) KY9 1HZ
Lower Largo	Andy's Store KY8 6BW
Lower Largo	Durham Hall KY8 6DL
Lundin Links	Lundin Golf Clubhouse KY8 6BA
Lundin Links	Lundin Golf Club Greenkeeper's Shed, Links Road
Lundin Links	Homelands Trust KY8 6AT
Lundin Links	Stuarts the Bakers KY8 6AQ
Lundin Links	Lundin Bowling Club, Largo Road KY8 6AH
New Gilston & Woodside	Village Hall, KY8 5TF
Upper Largo	Simpson Institute, KY8 6EN



# Largo Links Events Diary

## Regular Events:

Church of Scotland .....	Sundays .....	10:30am service in the Largo Church.
Community Council .....	Third Mon ex July & Dec .....	7pm – venues listed below & check website
Upper Largo Camera Club .....	2nd & 4th Monday, monthly .....	7.30 pm Simpson Institute
Pilates .....	Mon & Wed .....	6 -7pm, Simpson Institute
Yoga .....	Mondays .....	10am, Montrave Hall
Karate .....	Mondays & Thursdays .....	6pm, Montrave Hall
Sensory Bubble Classes .....	Tuesdays .....	9.30am, Montrave Hall
Tennis Coaching.....	Tue & Fri (starts mid Feb) ....	3.30 - 5.30pm, Simpson Institute
Crafty Quilters .....	Alternate Tues (1/2 > 17/05) .....	7-9pm, The Stables, Upper Largo
Largo Bay Art Society .....	Wed .....	7pm - 9pm, The Stables, Upper Largo
Children's Bible Class.....	Wed ( <i>temp. suspended</i> ) .....	3-5pm Simpson Institute – <i>may start in Spring</i>
Dance Class .....	Wed .....	7.30 - 9.30pm, Simpson Institute
Scottish Country Dancing .....	Wed (2 March>6th Apr) .....	2pm - 4pm, The Stables, Upper Largo
Yoga .....	Wednesdays .....	6pm, Montrave Hall
Drop-in Coffee Morning ...	Thu .....	Simpson Institute- <i>Temporarily suspended</i>
Art Club .....	Thursdays .....	2pm, Montrave Hall
Inspire Theatre Workshop .....	Fridays term time only .....	3.45pm, Montrave Hall
Largo Parents and Tots ....	Sat .....	10 -11am, Largo Library

## Occasional Events

### March 2022

Plodder Walk .....	Tuesday 1 .....	11am, Largo Library
Stroller Walk .....	Sunday 13 .....	2pm at the Temple Car Park
Community Council .....	Monday 21 .....	7pm Simpson Institute
Strider Walk .....	Saturday 26 .....	10:30am, St Monans – Anstruther & return

### April 2022

Please note that the car rally planned for April has been postponed.

Plodder Walk .....	Tuesday 5 .....	11am, Largo Library
Stroller Walk .....	Sunday 10 .....	2pm, Temple Car Park
Community Council .....	Monday 18 .....	7pm Durham Hall, Lower Largo
The Arts Society Fife .....	Tuesday 12 .....	2pm, Arts lecture, Corn Exchange, Cupar
Strider Walk .....	Saturday 23 .....	10:30am Kirkcaldy to Kinghorn (c.11km)

### May 2022

Plodder Walk .....	Tuesday 3 .....	11am, Largo Library
Stroller Walk .....	Sunday 8 .....	2pm, Temple Car Park
The Arts Society Fife .....	Tuesday 10 .....	2pm, Arts lecture, Corn Exchange, Cupar
Community Council .....	Monday 16 .....	7pm New Gilston Village Hall
Strider Walk .....	Saturday 28 .....	10:30am, Loch Ore & Harran Hill Wood c 9 km

### June 2022

Plodder Walk .....	Tuesday 7 .....	11am, Largo Library
The Arts Society Fife .....	Tuesday 14 .....	2pm, Arts lecture, Corn Exchange, Cupar
Stroller Walk .....	Sunday 12 .....	2pm, Temple Car Park
BloomIN Largo .....	Saturday 18 & Sunday 19 .....	12 noon-4pm each day (open gardens)
Strider Walk .....	Saturday 25 .....	10:30, Ceres - Scotstarvit Tower - Ceres c 11km

### July 2022

Plodder Walk .....	Tuesday 5 .....	11am, Largo Library
Stroller Walk .....	Sunday 10 .....	2pm, Temple car park
Strider Walk .....	Saturday 23 .....	10:30, Ravenscraig ←→ West Wemyss c.11km

# Local Directory - Telephone Numbers

<b>LACRT Helpline</b>	0800 999 3465	Over 50's Help	0800 1244 222
<b>Local Shops and Businesses:</b>		Psychological Services/Emotional Wellbeing of children	01592 583 349
Zaphar's Premier Store	01333 320 851	Samaritans.	116123
Stuart's of Buckhaven	01333 320 213	Scottish Gov. Business Helpline	0300 244 4000
Blacketyside Farm Shop + Meals	01333 423 034	Scottish Welfare Fund	0300 5550 265
Archer's Fish	01333 329 850	SAMH mental health ( <b>not crisis</b> )	0344 800 0550
Lundin Links Pharmacy	01333 320 274	<b>Scoonie Medical Practice</b> ( <i>Includes Leven Health Centre</i> ) Drs Hilton, Richardson, Andrew, Stevens, Cook, Barr, Stevenson & McDonald)	01333 432 588
<b>All above are currently delivering</b>			
Andy's Store (Text)	07754 329 042	Universal Credit Helpline	0800 328 5644
(Shop)	01333 329 237	Women's Aid-Fife	0808 802 5555
Allan Moncrieff Alarms	01333 320 075	Women's Aid-Scottish	0800 027 1234
Coates IT Consulting	01333 329 118	<b>Council &amp; Utilities Helpline Numbers:</b>	
Crusoe Hotel, Lower Largo	01333 406 775	Fife Council	03451 550 000
Donaldson and Son Joiners & Undertakers	01333 360 228	Fife Social Work	03451 551 503
Headrush, Upper Largo	01333 360 437	Fife Housing Register Emergency Accommodation.	03451 550 033
Hillhouse Boarding Cattery	01333 360 582	Fife Council (Roadworks/Emergencies and out of hours) ----->	03451 550 011
Janes at Nineteen	01333 320 266	Fife Rent issues	03451 550 044
Martha Watt Podiatry	07909 964 898	<b>Utilities Helpline Numbers:</b>	
Mercury Motorsport	01333 320 158	Electricity Emergency	0800 092 9290
Monturpie Guest House & Caravan Park	01333 360 254	National Gas Helpline	0800 111 999
Old Manor Hotel	01333 320 368	National Power Cut Helpline (from a mobile)	105
Penny & Black	01333 320 415	Scottish Power	0800 027 0072
The Finishing Touch	01333 320 956	Scottish Water Emergencies	08000 788 788
The Green Room (Florists)	01333 317 051	SEPA Floodline	0345 988 1188
The Studio	01333 320 174	<b>Politicians, Councillors, Churches</b>	
Upper Largo Hotel	01333 360 347	MPs / MSPs	
Upper Largo Chandlery	01333 360 217	Wendy Chamberlain, MP	01334 656 361
Vintage Barber, Lundin Links	07562 390 361	Jenny Gilruth, MSP	01592 764 815
Woodland Gardens Caravan and Camping Site	01333 360 319	<b>Local Councillors:</b>	
<b>Medical and Mental Health Helpline Numbers:</b>			
Age Scotland Helpline: <i>Confidential service for older people, carers and families. Call free</i>	0800 12 44 222	David Alexander ( <i>Co-Leader Fife Council</i> )	01592 764 815 / 03451 555555 Ext 490127
Breathing Space ( <i>low mood/anxiety</i> )	0800 83 85 87	Colin Davidson	07864 619 335
Carers UK	0808 808 7777	Graham Ritchie	01334 828 969
Childline UK	0800 1111	Alistair Suttie	07515 289 170
Citizens Advice and Rights, Fife.	0345 1400 095	Alternative number for Councillors	03451 555 555 Ext 44232
Community Police and Police Scotland	101	<b>Local Churches:</b>	
Cosy Kingdom: <i>Telephone advice service for any energy billing or supplier issues</i>	01592 807 930	Largo Parish Church	01333 320 850
Covid 19 Community Helpline	0800 952 0330	St Agatha's & St Giles RC	01333 423 809
Deaths/Still Births Registrations	0345 155 0099	St Margaret's Episcopal Church	01333 426 609
East Neuk Emergency Planning Team		Coastline Baptist Church	01333 312 041
(ENCEPT)	0800 999 6543	(Pittenweem)	
Fire and Rescue	01333 424 719		
Fife Covid 19 Helpline	0800 952 0330		
Gingerbread Lone parent Helpline	01592 725 210		
Levenmouth Police Station	0845 600 5702		
Levenmouth Foodbank	07966 502 854		
National Domestic Abuse Helpline	0808 2000 247		
National Emergency Fire, Police, Ambulance	999		
NHS 24 (includes Mental Health Hub)	111		

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