

## QDCC Communications Report - May 2019



Your Page Insights summary for  
Queensferry & District Community  
Council

27 April – 24 May

8.5K	7.1K	26
Post reach	Post engagements	New Page likes
+21%	+24%	+4%

Trends compare the current and previous 28-day periods.

The [QDCC Facebook page](#) remains the most popular public interaction media with over 2,900 followers and supporting our website

The [Visit Queensferry Facebook page](#) continues to grow in popularity with 830+ followers.

Lots of events happening in and around Queensferry this year, listed in the events tab on the [What's on in South Queensferry Facebook page](#). Please encourage any organisers to add their events to this now 'go to' list.

### Local Social media

The **Fly Open Air Festival** at Hopetoun drew some complaints and discussion. Traffic, including buses and taxis, missing/ignoring the unmanned diversion signage at the Hopetoun crossroads and travelling along Farquhar Terrace/ Society Rd only to be turned back. Pedestrians urinating in open residential areas. There also appears to have been an issue with the coach supplier and the number of available buses was reduced significantly from what was agreed resulting in up to 3 hour wait for some festival goers. Mixed views on the 'noise'.

The **Port Edgar Open Weekend** appeared to go well, popular again and no reported issues, similarly with the **Race for Life** event at Hopetoun.

There appears to be an issue with **Killicrankie Path** in Dalmeny Park being used by a few cars. A barrier was removed over four months ago and 'a councillor' was contacted about it by a resident but no visible action has been taken since.

Issue raised with partial blockage (pic right) of the path from **Scotmid's car park** to the old railway path due to car park space not being marked otherwise and a public bin location. Cllr Work pursuing last.



Published proposed changes by **Stagecoach** to bus services affecting Queensferry do not appear to have drawn much interest at this point. However, the changes are a bit complex with some services discontinuing and some replaced. Combined with new timetables, any issues may not be realised until after the implementation from 29<sup>th</sup> July. [Stagecoach proposed changes here](#), comments by 7<sup>th</sup> June.

The fourth **High St public consultation event** was well attended again and no feedback positive or negative from the **TW South Scotstoun public exhibition**.

The **CPR Week** was welcomed locally with over 350 people trained in CPR and the use of defibrillators. Thanks to Anne Mitchell, St John and all involved in this initiative.

## Youth Engagement.

Isla continues to engage with QCHS and has now recruited a Sports Development Worker, Lynsey Brown, a part-time PHD student to look at facilities and events for young people, initially over the summer holidays, then beyond. We have access to a grant of £5k specifically aimed at 14+ youths and after putting out the word locally, we have eight notes of interest from organisers. We also have approx £11k for the Youth Talk Project.

QCHS are also driving a **Community Event** on the evening of 13th June, 6pm-9pm. It aims to highlight awareness, inclusion and understanding of some challenges facing today's young people. [Register here to attend.](#)

### **Queensferry and Kirkliston Community Event**

**#makingadifferencetogether**

**WHEN?** Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June, 2019 Queensferry High School, 6pm

**WHAT?** This event is an opportunity for every member of the school community to come together to understand some of the challenges that young people face in the 21<sup>st</sup> century

**WHY?** It can be both exciting and challenging living as a young person in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. As adults:

**HOW?** There will be an exciting opportunity to participate in conversation cafes to explore as a community what we can do to support young people to enable them to lead fulfilling adult lives.

You will have the opportunity to participate in 2 out of the 6 conversation cafes. They will focus on the following areas:

1. Increasing awareness and understanding of Mental Health
2. Screening of the 'Resilience film' focused on Adverse Childhood Experiences (if you opt for this conversation cafe then you will only participate in this one cafe)
3. Understanding Autism Spectrum Disorder
4. Respect for life, learning and work – how do we build positive relationships?
5. Understanding how to support the LGBT Community more effectively
6. Increasing awareness and understanding of post school destinations and pathways

**TO SIGN UP PLEASE CLICK LINK IN THE EMAIL BY**

**Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May**

**\*\*KEYNOTE SPEAKER : MR JOHN LOUGHTON (Social Entrepreneur Scran Academy, Scottish Youth Parliament, Big Brother Winner, Leadership speaker, Founder and CEO, Dare2Lead)\*\***

**Let's come together, learn together and work together.**

**#makingadifferencetogether #community #ittakesacomunitytoraiseachild**

## Cruise Liners Update

### *Coach Management*

The saga continues, disappointingly. The season started 10<sup>th</sup> May followed by three liners last week. The new interim system from CEC to reduce coach space allocation as the day progresses was not introduced until the third visit, an arrangement within CEC not communicated to anyone locally. Keith and I attended that trial along with Dave Sinclair, Gordon McOmish, Chris Spence (all CEC) and Henrique Luis (Ironsides Farrar). Whilst the system went reasonably ok, giving back a small amount of public space, the results of later in the evening have not been fed back from CEC. This system will operate flexibly depending on the size of ship and volume of coaches.

No movement on our suggested interim relocation of the Lothian x99 to the large disabled bays currently allocated to taxis. A follow up visit by Dave Sinclair for the morning of 3<sup>rd</sup> June has been arranged to view the issues first hand at peak.

We have requested again that the offsite stacking/ just in time collection concept be seriously discussed with all relevant parties. This we have been promised will be initiated by a meeting with all parties. Disappointing that almost one year since we explicitly suggested this concept following our study, these discussions have not been held to date.

### *Toilets/ General Facilities*

Thanks to cllr Young for initiating and arranging a site visit at the Hawes Pier earlier in the month with cllr Lesley McInnes and Gareth Barwell (CEC). Keith, Louise and I discussed the issues with coach and taxi traffic management and the condition of the public toilets which LM and GB witnessed firsthand. Agreement that the impression is not great and a new modern toilet module would be desirable, however, funding will need sourced.

### *General Tourism in Queensferry*

Tourism is controlling Queensferry not vice versa as it needs to be. Our view is that CEC are pandering to the cruise operators, at the cost of the local businesses, and neglecting to reinvest in Queensferry's tourism, despite complaints from the centre of Edinburgh about overcrowding due to the density of city centre visitors.

Meanwhile, **Forth Ports**, who control and reap the revenue from all the other Forth cruise ship capable ports – Leith, Newhaven & Rosyth, continue to invest and improve. Rosyth has now had a dock cleared so passengers can walk from the ship through a sheltered bridge straight in to the purpose built Ferry Terminal. FP are also in serious discussion with cruise ship operators with a view to move more ships from Queensferry to Newhaven, as well as the feasibility study being conducted on Burntisland; all potentially jeopardising almost £0.5m direct revenue to CEC and compounding the centric overcrowding.

From the initial meeting of the elected members **Tourism and Communities Working Group** on 'The Impact of Tourism on Residents', there was some strong public voice towards following Amsterdam in restricting tourism in the city centre rather than seeking to spread the load and protect the local economic benefits.

**The Forth Bridges Area Tourism Strategy** launched last month covers Queensferry but is predominantly driven from Fife, in our experience, and requires support and funding to implement.

## Other business

Network Rail will be holding two public exhibitions on the proposed Forth Bridge Experience 11<sup>th</sup> June and 18<sup>th</sup> July, both 3pm-7pm at Orocco Pier.

Two local businesses won Scotland's Business Awards, **Maisies**, Best Gift Shop in Edinburgh and **Bikers Cove**, The Community Award, both for the second consecutive year.

With the help of Joyce Faulkner, Neil and I arranged a **VAT Run** meeting with Iwan Thomas, Rachel Barrington and Lesley Gould with a view to reviving the VAT Run committee under Rachel's chair. An AGM is to be arranged by Iwan and Rachel soon. Joyce has kindly offered some support.

**Local Events** – Queensferry has a busy schedule of events this year. Please encourage any local organisers to create a 'Facebook event' which will get picked up and added to the [What's on in South Queensferry Facebook Events page](#) chronological list, increasing the reach significantly.

### *My QDCC representations/meetings attended:*

*24<sup>th</sup> Apr: Forth Bridges Tourism Strategy Launch, North Queensferry*

*26<sup>th</sup> April: QCHS Management re: Career Pathways for community event w/Ali Mitchell and Neil.*

*Mon 29<sup>th</sup> April: High St Drop In and South Scotstoun TW mtg.*

*30<sup>th</sup> April: Youth Engagement w/ Isla, Lynsey, Neil, David*

*1<sup>st</sup> May: QCHS Community Event group meeting*

*3<sup>rd</sup> May: cllr McInnes, cllr Young, Gareth Barwell, Keith re: Hawes promenade issues*

*8<sup>th</sup> May: Tourism and Communities Working Group meeting, City Chambers.*

*10<sup>th</sup> May: VAT Run w/ Iwan Thomas, Rachel Barrington, Lesley Gould, Neil, re: committee revival.*

*15<sup>th</sup> May: CruiseForth Strategic meeting, Rosyth.*

*16<sup>th</sup> May: Youth Engagement update w/ Isla and Neil.*

*22<sup>nd</sup> May: Cruise ship site meeting Hawes Promenade w/ DS, GO,CS, HL, Keith.*

*23<sup>rd</sup> May: QCHS Community Event group meeting*

G.McKinley, 26<sup>th</sup> May 2019