



# BayBurn Life

An occasional publication for the Helen's Bay and Crawfordsburn areas

Issue: 29 Autumn/Winter 2018

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and at www.bayburn.com

FREE

Welcome to the 29<sup>th</sup> edition of the *BayBurn Life*. Our last issue headlined future developments in Crawfordsburn - now they are happening. In spring, the Spar changed hands and the Loaf Pottery opened. We feature articles on both. Now, the demolition of the Country Club has begun to make way for the Village Brow housing scheme. And the Old Inn has had a spruce-up with new thatch ridging – the *BayBurn Life* editor was fortunate to catch a moment with the expert thatcher.



The Updated Village Plan is nearing completion, including two scoping studies already underway on potential environmental improvements to Station Square and the Crawfordsburn Dam 'nature reserve'. The Residents Association have been actively involved with preparing the Plan, as well with the proposals for 21 Bridge Road South.

Forthcoming events include an afternoon tea with **Bangor Ladies Choir in St John's Church Hall on Saturday 10 November** (see article on page 4), our two much-appreciated open-air Christmas Carol evenings, the Christmas Eve charity dip, and the Helen's Bay Players' production from 16-19 January.

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## **Robinson's Spar and Post Office**

Post early for Christmas is always good advice, and thanks to Peter Robinson residents in Crawfordsburn and Helen's Bay should be able to do just that in our local Spar.

Many readers of the *BayBurn Life* are patrons of the garage and Spar in Crawfordsburn, well run by members of the McCormick family for over 60 years, and now owned by Peter Robinson since April of this year.

Peter has recently finished a major refurbishment of the shop, reflecting the twin themes of change and continuity. He told the *BayBurn Life's* editor that he was determined to '*retain the character of this community*

*shop - it has the feel of an artisan store with plenty of local product*'.



Peter said that he aims to provide a Post Office Local in the shop by no later than early December. This facility will provide 90% of the services of a main Post Office branch, including mail, stamps and pensions. (When the *BayBurn Life* campaigned to retain the iconic red pillar box in Main Street, little did we think that we might get a Post Office back too. It is many years since the last such facility in Crawfordsburn run by the late Emma Graham and her sister was closed.)

The Spar is running a promotion with 5p off every litre of petrol for customers spending £10 in the shop. Peter has already responded to requests from regulars to keep certain ranges of products, and plans to expand the gluten-free and Vegan ranges as demand increases. In the garage area, the provision of air and water has resumed. As regulars will know, the splendid staff have stayed on, with the valuable expertise of knowing customers individually.

While Peter also runs a couple of other businesses on the Antrim side of the Lough, he emphasises that he is keen to spend time in Crawfordsburn, and to be approachable to the local community. Peter will also be providing a community noticeboard in the shop to publicise forthcoming local events.

If you haven't been already, do pop in and make use of another of our great local services.

## **Only Austrian Reeds are Good Enough**

As many eagle-eyed readers will have noted, part of the Old Inn's traditional thatch has been given a spruce-up. The *BayBurn Life* editor was lucky enough to catch Omagh-born thatcher, Mark Taggart, at his work.

Mark has been plying his expertise for over 25 years, here, in Donegal and in Britain. As he explained, thatching can be done with a range of materials, but for longevity and sustainability, one cannot beat water reeds imported from Austria. While reeds do of course grow locally, they are too soft for thatching, as a result of so many nitrates and other nutrients washing down into watercourses. Good quality thatch can last for up to 50 years, and exceptionally, with a proper-pitched roof (at 55°), a good deal more.

Mark said that up until now there has been no regulation or specification in relation to standards of thatching in Northern Ireland. This was a lacuna, given that the Northern Ireland government had been providing grants of up to 80% for renewal of existing thatched roofs. If the depth of thatch is too shallow, water will penetrate, with potentially disastrous consequences for both the thatch and the building it covers.

In the context of thatching, a *scallop* is not a shellfish, but the bent wood used to pin the thatch in place. And the term *scraw* refers to the layer of sod underneath the thatch and above the rafters, traditionally used in many remoter Irish dwellings. (Could this be a description of how the pre-Celtic people in Ireland were permitted to remain, provided they ‘lived underground’, Mark wonders?)



There are now fewer than 150 thatched listed cottages left in Northern Ireland. We are fortunate to have a fine example of the art in Crawfordsburn.

### **Christmas Eve Dip**

by Doug Ferguson

This will take place, as usual, on Helen’s Bay beach on Monday 24 December. This year, the starting whistle will blow at 12.30pm SHARP for the customary ONE minute Dip. We do recommend that participants arrive about 12.15pm to ensure that they are ready for the start whistle. For the uninitiated, earlier years can be viewed on U-tube.

The charity collections this year will be in aid of:-  
Macmillan Cancer Support ( Northern Ireland),

[www.macmillan.org.uk](http://www.macmillan.org.uk); and  
Asra Hawariat School Fund (Ethiopia),  
[www.asrahawariatschool.org](http://www.asrahawariatschool.org).

Refreshments will be served to participants and supporters alike, in St John’s Church Hall, immediately after the Dip. The Hall is located in Fort Road about 300m up the hill from the public car park and the beach.

**Helen’s Bay**  
Presbyterian Church  
*faith - family - friendship*

**Christmas Craft Fair**  
**Sat 1st December**  
**10am - 3pm**

Adults £3 (includes refreshments)  
Children’s Activities 10.30am-12.30pm  
\* LOCAL CRAFTS \*

### **Helen’s Bay Players Winter Production**

**‘Wanted - One Body!’** by Charles Dyer, **16-19**  
**January, 8pm, St John’s Church Hall.**

‘Greenacres’ is the family home of the late Charles Barraclough and the icing on the cake for his future heirs. But who stands to inherit his millions, and will it be by foul means or fair? Family and faithful servants wait with baited breath to hear the last will and testament, to be read by a pair of Solicitors, only to learn that his body which was in a coffin in the study has mysteriously vanished along with the will! Both step-daughters die in mysterious circumstances; everyone has a reason for wanting them dead due to their habit of bribery and blackmail, but who did it? The aggressive chauffeur? The victimised secretary? The dippy maid? The insane undertaker? Or the deaf and blind Doctor?

In the best Hammer horror tradition, the action takes place in a classic old dark house set amidst rising flood waters and swirling mists on the edge of the lonely marshes.

**‘Wanted - One Body!’** is a classic murder mystery of disappearing bodies, a sliding panel and howls in the night. A who-dunnit and a thriller, but with the accent on laughter, its evergreen popularity testifies to its warmth wit and thrills, and hilarious fun for audience and actors alike.

**Tickets** can be purchased in advance from Square Cut in Station Square, Helen’s Bay, through the Ards and North Down Council Visitor Information Centre (or website) in Bangor, or at the door on the night.

If you would like to be a member of the Helen’s Bay Players ensemble in any capacity (on stage, front of house, behind the scenes etc) just go on the Helen’s Bay Players Facebook page.

## **Crawfordsburn Country Park**

Nikki Ardill has been the Warden at Crawfordsburn Country Park for five years. Later in November she is leaving, on well-deserved promotion, to another part of the civil service.

The community has been very fortunate to have her. Despite her staff having been reduced in this period by 50% and financial cuts, she has ensured a high level of service to the public. The Park remains the most highly visited in Northern Ireland.

Nikki has always been ready to talk to anyone, and the Residents Association have benefitted from her willingness to contribute her expertise and address our public meetings. She has worked immensely long hours, being seen on the beach cleaning up herself late at night (on one occasion close to midnight). And, as a landscape architect, she brought valuable professional skills.



She is leaving a considerable physical legacy – the route to the top of the Glen reopened with new bridges, the ramp for wheelchairs at the mouth of the river (in time for our glorious summer just past), a play area beside the geological park and imaginative wooden sculptures round the Park. And by Christmas, there will be handrails installed by the steps onto Helen's Bay beach (at the request of residents and others).

We wish Nikki well, and are glad that the Park will be in good hands when she goes.

### **The Chief Constable we might have had?**

Talking to Linda McCormick last month was a trip down memory lane. Her father Jack had opened a garage on Christmas Eve 1955 on the corner site in Crawfordsburn. (Jack had been offered as an alternative the field that is now the hotel's car park.) Jack was an expert mechanic - he was also a rally driver who competed in the Circuit of Ireland several times.

Linda and her older brother John helped out in the garage from the end of their primary school days. Linda recalled that in those days, before the Government bought Crawfordsburn Glen for a Country Park, they could wander freely down to the beach on the track between the shop and the Inn.

No doubt customers complained about the price of petrol, but when she was serving at the pumps in her school

uniform, you could buy 4 gallons for £1. Mind you, one generous local resident, the owner of a shirt factory, had a Daimler Sovereign which took 14 gallons in each of its 2 petrol tanks! He regularly gave Linda a three pence tip, with a bit of Kit-Kat for the garage dog, and every so often a stylish new shirt for her father.



Linda says it was the characters and some of the visitors that will remain longest in her memory. Val Doonican stayed often in the Old Inn, and James Young was a regular caller too, with other famous faces.

Many readers will remember the Esso Company's 'Put a tiger in your tank' campaign; Linda remembers giving away dozens of tiger hats to young patrons of the garage. They started selling local produce at the garage in the 1970s, and in 1990, the garage workshops were replaced with the Spar shop. Over the subsequent years with Linda and John the shop blossomed into the facility that the village and many others have so appreciated.

It was hard work, Linda makes plain. The long hours were unrelenting, and she woke every morning of the week at 5am. She probably managed on as little sleep as Mrs Thatcher famously needed. That's the side of it she is not missing, (along with the countless road closures!).

The garage almost certainly held the record in the Bangor area for the longest-running privately-owned business on its own site - at 63 years. She thanks all the customers who supported the business over the years, and those who gave her cards or sent letters when she retired.

We asked Linda if she had entertained thoughts of another career. She said she might have joined the police; given her redoubtable energy and presence, could she have been the first woman Chief Constable we never had?

(The image is of Linda with Vivian Duncan and Charles Pople at the presentation of a painting to Linda, on behalf of the Helen's Bay and Crawfordsburn Residents Association.)



### **Roy and Daphne Patton**

The *BayBurn Life* wishes to note the retirement in the summer of the Very Rev Roy Patton from Ballygilbert Church.

Roy and his wife Daphne had served Ballygilbert for just on 24 years - Roy being its ninth Minister since

1842. In that time, he had carried out well over 100 christenings and trained up no less than four currently serving Ministers. He had led trips overseas to Romania, Malawi and Kenya.

In addition Roy had been elected to serve as Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, for a year from May 2012.

Roy and Daphne were as one observer put it, 'a formidable team'. They had lived for many years in Helen's Bay, and have moved to Bangor West. We wish them a long and happy retirement.

### **A Boston Tea Party in Crawfordsburn**



Loaf Pottery recently hosted a group of 16 visitors to the Borough as part of a tourism exchange with a social enterprise based in Boston, USA TILL Inc.

TILL Inc. offer a range of services to people with disabilities, one of which is 'TILL Travel' that offers people with learning differences the opportunity to gain interpersonal and social skills through travel. The group began their day with a visit to Titanic Belfast and then a tour of the City Hall. They finished the day in Loaf Pottery where they took part in a pottery class and enjoyed dinner while being entertained by an Irish dancer.

The trip hosted by NOW Group was also an opportunity to announce a new tri-partite social enterprise collaboration between NOW Group, TILL Inc. and the Irish International Immigrant Center which hopes to support groups of people with learning difficulties and autism to take new adventures and share their learning through transatlantic tours.

Loaf Pottery and Coffee Shop has been operating for six months on Main Street, Crawfordsburn and has brought a much-loved space back to life with pottery classes, craft sessions and an event venue. Everyone is welcome to visit the building and sample their great coffee and homemade treats and it now also offers a brunch, lunch and pizza menu.

Loaf Pottery is a social enterprise providing paid jobs and training opportunities for local people with learning difficulties and autism. With four permanent

jobs already in place (two of which are ring-fenced for NOW participants) plans are to increase the training opportunities in the coffee shop and pottery, with an additional eight placements per week on site. NOW are really interested in hearing from local people with learning difficulties and autism interested in gaining training experience with a view to moving into paid jobs in the future.

NOW are keen to build links with local schools, community organisations and groups to build collaborations and make sure Loaf Pottery becomes part of what makes the Crawfordsburn area very special. They are looking to work with Camphill Glencraig to include their organic produce in the supply-chain. It's early days but the hope is their new spring crops will include lots of vegetables which can be used in soups and salads.

The Pottery is also delighted to welcome Sean Martin from Glencraig back to the pottery and you will see him back working at the wheel on Thursdays alongside resident potter Josh Lyness.

Loaf Pottery are offering 10% off food and drink on presentation of this voucher.

(See *Forthcoming Events for Loaf Pottery's Autumn/Winter Programme of Workshops and Events*. Class places are limited and must be booked in advance. To book call 028 9185 3340 or email [pottery@loafcatering.com](mailto:pottery@loafcatering.com).)



### **Afternoon Tea on 10 November with Bangor Ladies Choir, presented by Loaf Pottery**

St John's Church Hall in Helen's Bay is hosting a performance from Bangor Ladies Choir, as well as NOW Group participants, at 2pm on Saturday 10 November. The Loaf Pottery is facilitating an afternoon of music, afternoon tea and craft stalls.

There will also be stalls selling items from the Pottery and a raffle with fantastic prizes. The proceeds will go to the NOW Group Community Opportunities Arts Fund to buy equipment for participants with learning difficulties and autism, support them to attend events and various other arts activities that will help develop their skills and independence.

In 2016 Bangor Ladies Choir celebrated 40 years of singing together. From a choir which began with 11 members to the 65 members now, they have gone from strength to strength, singing in many prestigious venues

throughout Europe and beyond. The Choir have sung with well-known artistes such as Aled Jones, Hayley Westenra, Jonathan Ansell, Lesley Garrett, Phil Coulter and recently Brian Kennedy.

**Tickets are priced at £10** and are available online at [www.nowgroup.org/blog](http://www.nowgroup.org/blog) or in person at Loaf Pottery, 24 Main Street, Crawfordsburn, BT19 1JE. Doors open at 2pm, and the performance starts 2.30pm. **Afternoon tea will be provided by Loaf Catering.**

You can find out more about NOW at [www.nowgroup.org](http://www.nowgroup.org) and Bangor Ladies Choir at [www.bangorladieschoir.co.uk](http://www.bangorladieschoir.co.uk).

### **Helen's Bay and Crawfordsburn Residents Association Activities**



In addition to its normal fare, (including liaising with the Council to provide a new picnic bench at the Fort Road play park - above), this year the Helen's Bay and Crawfordsburn Residents Association Committee has been at the heart of three consultation exercises, each with significant implications for the future of the local community.

First, there was a requirement from the Council to update the Helen's Bay and Crawfordsburn **Village Plan** (2013). During this year, the Committee have held several meetings with the Consultant and Council Officers, and have commented on drafts of the new Plan. It seems that the same issues that were prominent five years ago still exercise the minds of residents – in particular, traffic management and roads matters.

Ahead of the finalisation of the Plan, the Council has approved two scoping studies for projects identified by residents as local priorities. One would be environmentally enhancing Station Square, while the other would be a look at improving the Crawfordsburn Dam/Glen River Corridor, as a mini nature reserve. There will be further public consultation.

Second, the Ards and North Down Council's Planning officers have not yet taken a final view on the **planning application in respect of 21 Bridge Road South**. Readers will recall that the developers (MJM Prime) had requested permission to build a total of 15 dwellings on the 10 acre site which includes the now-dilapidated farmhouse and a former commercial waste

operation. Over the summer, the Residents Association's Committee requested a meeting with the Planning Officers, but this was refused. The Committee then wrote a letter broadly supportive of the application, directly reflecting the conclusions of the previous public meeting hosted by the Association.

At the time of writing, it was unclear whether the next step might be a pre-determination hearing which members of the public could also attend, or a later recommendation on the application from the Planning Officers to the Council's Planning Committee.

Third, the Association facilitated two public discussions, at St John's Church Hall, as part of the consultation between AECOM on behalf of the Council and local residents about the proposed **Cycle Greenway from Helen's Bay to Newtownards** along the route of the existing Carriage Drive/Ulster Way. At the meeting in the summer, it was clear that the majority of those present was against the creation/expansion of the existing path as a Greenway, with some recognition that limited practical improvements for walkers and other users such as better drainage (in the boggy parts in winter) might be welcome.

Further feedback to the Association and local residents had been promised by the Consultants, and this remains outstanding.



These items apart, members of the Committee have carried on doing what they do best, e.g. keeping an eye on planning applications, cutting brambles, picking up litter, planting daffodils, and tending flowers on the station platform etc. The Association had pressed Translink to repaint the station subway and were glad to see this done earlier this year.

### **Bayburn Fitness have just celebrated their One Year Anniversary!**

Bayburn Fitness was established by James Megaw (BSc Sport and Exercise Science) in 2017. James is a professional coach, masseur, mentor and educator, who, with five staff, has spent the last year serving over 100 members of our local community in Helen's Bay and Crawfordsburn, to become fitter.

Bayburn Fitness promotes a fun, healthy and active lifestyle by integrating exercise into residents' existing routine. It brings people together by offering a wide variety of group exercise classes on their doorstep. Group classes include Small Group PT Bootcamps, Barbells, Circuits, Interval Training, Family Fitness, Ladies Only,

Pilates, Rowing, Strength and Balance, Sports Coaching, Strength and Conditioning and Zumba. Additional support is provided to members by way of one-to-one personal training; Sarah Danaher (BSc Registered Dietitian) who leads the Nutrition seminars every Friday, 10.30-11.30am, at Loaf Pottery; pre-exercise physical assessments; sports massages and quarterly community engagement workshops.

The classes are the “Bayburn Blueprint” for supporting community members of all ages to look after their physical and mental health by moving their bodies together in a variety of classes titled: MOTION MONDAYS, TEAM TUESDAYS, METCON WEDNESDAYS, TIMED THURSDAYS, FLEX FRIDAYS and SWEAT/SOCIAL SATURDAYS.

The Bayburn Fitness family has grown in the past year. All Strength and Conditioning Classes are now co-led by James and supported by Matthew Tunnah, Ross Adair and Ryan Scollan. Susan Black leads the weekly Pilates which is ideal for flexibility, mobility and rehabilitation suitable for all levels, and Sarah Stubbs brings her dancing shoes to Zumba which improves members’ fitness, balance, coordination and mood.

Some testimony comes from the members:

J:

*‘When I signed up for the Bootcamp, I had no idea what I was in for. James, Ryan and Ross really know how to get the best out of you and your body, and push you further than you ever thought imaginable.’*

A:

*‘The FIT FOR PURPOSE Bootcamp programme was the answer to my prayers. It’s great to have such professional activity right on your doorstep! I love the fact that it is so close by, the energy in class, the bond it creates between us and the way it transformed my days and my body.’*

J:

*‘Exercise has been a turning point. It offers a total break from things which take over modern life, like my phone and emails and gives me an hour each day which is entirely for myself. It always helps to see a friendly face at Bayburn Fitness and exercise helps me to focus on the things I can achieve and gives me a great boost of self-confidence.’*

James Megaw thanks local residents, the two Helen’s Bay churches, Loaf Pottery and local sponsoring food companies for their continued support of the mission to raise physical activity levels in Northern Ireland, create jobs for aspiring health and fitness professionals, promote mental health awareness and ultimately prolong life.

You can keep up to date with all the activity on Nextdoor: Helen’s Bay, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter

@bayburn\_fitness, email jamesjoshuafitness@gmail.com or call James on 07793470324 for further details.

Bayburn Fitness would like to extend an invitation to all local residents to join them for the Bayburn Fitness Christmas Party in Helen’s Bay Golf Club on Saturday 8th December from 7pm. If you are interested please call James on 07793470324.



## CRAWFORDSBURN PRIMARY SCHOOL & BRIGHT SPARKS PRE-SCHOOL UNIT

Is your child due to start school or pre-school in September 2019?



Due to high levels of interest we would like to invite prospective parents to our



**P1 OPEN MORNING @ 10:15**  
**on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018 and**  
**Bright Sparks Open Evening @ 7:00pm**

You will be able to see the school in action with a guided tour from our Primary 7 pupils.

Crawfordsburn is very much a family school which has served the community of which it is part for many years.

The school is known for its high academic standards, exemplary behaviour of pupils and high quality pastoral care. The dedicated staff place great emphasis on creating active learning partnerships between home and school. We offer an extensive and varied range of extra-curricular activities which cater for all interests. The development proposal for a new school build will complement this child-centred environment.

## North Down Bird Watching Club - 1 Year on

by Dot Blakely



It seems like more than just one year since the club moved to Crawfordsburn Country Park. But thanks to Nikki Ardill and NIEA staff, we have been made very welcome and are growing in every way. We have been working to bring people closer to what is all around them in Crawfordsburn. From March we have had a Biodiversity day, a Dawn Chorus, kids icing a shortbread bird day, fat ball making, tree ID game, etc. I think the event that both the kids, parents and club members enjoyed the most was the pond

dipping days, we all learned different things on these days. Great fun, I will still host the bird watch morning which is held on the last Thursday of the month, meeting at the Visitors Centre at 10.30am.



The Wader Watches from September to March, which went well last season, take place in the boat house (Sea Park) Helen's Bay, from 2-4pm on the first two Sundays of the month.

We will be having colouring in sheets, ID sheets, little games for kids on the beach in front of the boat house, along with binoculars and telescopes for anyone to use and club members are on hand to answer any birdie questions.

The club have a 2 minute Beach Clean set up which will be available for anyone to use at the boat house. Once you start using a litter picker, you will see litter everywhere.

Of course we would be lost without the great food in the Woodland Café, Bryan and his staff put on a lovely feast when we are hosting a talk. Everyone is very welcome to come along, new members are welcome and help is always needed.

Dot can be contacted via 07956267116, or email [dotbirdblakely@gmail.com](mailto:dotbirdblakely@gmail.com)

### Christian Aid

The Christian Aid door-to-door collection in Helen's Bay in May raised £3448.90. Thank you to those who collected and to all who contributed.



## Open Link

Every Wednesday at 10.30am to 11.45am,  
Coffee, Newspapers and Good Conversation in the  
Presbyterian Church Link

**For everyone in the community**

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**Bayburn Historical Society** meetings 8pm, Presbyterian 'Link' Hall (Sept.-March). Chair: Pat Henderson, email [paddyhen@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:paddyhen@hotmail.co.uk). Everyone welcome.

**Programme of Talks:** Nov 21, *Lady Londonderry & Family* (John Grace); 16 Jan *'Another little trouble Over'* – the unique characteristics of the Circus in Victorian & Edwardian Ireland; 20 Feb *History of the Grand Opera House* (Aina Dolan); 20 March *C S Lewis Part 2* (Sandy Smith).

### Bayburn Fitness Timetables:

#### In Helen's Bay Presbyterian Link:

<b>MONDAY</b>	IDEAL FOR STRENGTH BALANCE AND MAINTAINING INDEPENDENCE
MOTION 10.30AM - 11.15AM	
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	IDEAL FOR FLEXIBILITY MOBILITY AND REHABILITATION SUITABLE FOR ALL LEVELS
PILATES 10.15AM - 11.00AM	
<b>FRIDAY</b>	IDEAL FOR IMPROVING FITNESS, CO-ORDINATION BALANCE AND MOOD
ZUMBA 10.15AM - 11.00AM	

#### In St John's Church Hall:

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>
6.15AM - 7AM 7AM - 7.45AM 9.15AM-10AM (LADIES ONLY)	5.30PM - 6.30PM 6.30PM - 7.30PM
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>
6.15AM - 7AM 7AM - 7.45AM 9.15AM-10AM (LADIES ONLY)	5.30PM - 6.30PM 6.30PM - 7.30PM
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>SATURDAY</b>
6.15AM - 7AM 7AM - 7.45AM 9.15AM-10AM (LADIES ONLY)	8.00AM - 9.00AM

### Christmas Eve Dip – see article on Page 2

Monday 24 December, Helen's Bay beach at 12.30pm. Participants to arrive about 12.15pm.

Refreshments afterwards in St John's Church Hall.

**Christmas Carols in Crawfordsburn** with the Salvation Army, *Christmas Eve, 8pm*, around the Christmas tree in the Old Inn car park.

**Community Carols** in the Square, Helen's Bay at 7pm on Thursday 20 December. Donations of red wine and mince pies for the event can be made to Square Cut.

### Crawfordsburn Country Park

*Birdwatching Events* (see article Page 6).

### Crawfordsburn Primary School

Carol Service at St Gall's, 11 December at 7pm.

**Helen's Bay Players Production: 'Wanted - One Body!'** 16-19 January, 8pm in St John's Church Hall, Helen's Bay. See article Page 2

**Ladies Guild: New members welcome. Programme:**  
Wednesday 5 December, *Coach trip to The Parliament Buildings* for a Christmas lunch in The Members Dining Room. Depart St. John's Church at 12.15pm.  
Tuesday 28 January, 2.30pm. *Combined meeting with Presbyterian Women*, in The Link, Church Rd.  
Wednesday 26 February, 10.30am in St. John's church hall for *coffee and pancakes followed by a film* in The Home Cinema.  
*New members welcome. Details Lesley Dowds  
Tel: 9185 2186.*

**Loaf Pottery Events and Workshops** – also see articles on Page 4 and advert on page 14 for opening times.

**Pottery workshops**

10, 17 and 24 Nov & 1 Dec – *Make your own Christmas tree topper*, £35  
8 and 15 Dec – *Paint your own Christmas bauble*, £15  
Available during opening hours - *Paint Me, Glaze Me*, £15 (no booking required)

**Events**

8, 22, 29 November – *Pizza and Pottery nights*  
6, 13 and 20 December – *Pizza and Pottery nights available for private bookings*

15 November – *Autumn supper club*

**Craft workshops**

15 November – *Dressing your table for the season*, £60  
6 December – *Christmas Wreath Workshop*, £60

**HELEN'S BAY CHURCHES**

**Helen's Bay Presbyterian:**

**Remembrance Sunday**, 11 Nov. One service, congregation to be seated by 10.20am. HBPC hosting the Craigavad and Helen's Bay Royal British Legion.

**First Sunday of Advent (2 Nov):**

9.45am & 11.30am - with Rev Colin Megaw  
7pm *Lantern Service* (held in HBPC)

**Second Sunday of Advent (9 Nov):**

*Gift Sunday* (in support of Storehouse North Down)  
9.45am & 11.30am - with Rev Colin Megaw

**Third Sunday in Advent (16 Nov):**

9.45am - with Rev Colin Megaw  
11.30am Let's Sing Carols

**Fourth Sunday in Advent (23 Nov):**

11.30am Together with coffee from 10.45am – Incorporating the *Sunday School Nativity*.  
7pm Carols by Candlelight (collection to Simon Community)

**Christmas Eve:** 6.30pm Service led by praise group (approx. 40 mins)

**Christmas Day:** 10am Family Service with Choir and Rev Colin Megaw (collection to Children's Hospice)

**Sunday 30 December:**

11.30am Together with Rev Colin Megaw  
(Prayer time 10.30am & Coffee from 10.45am)

[www.helensbaypresbyterian.org](http://www.helensbaypresbyterian.org).

*See website for offerings and special services.*

**St. John's Church of Ireland**

Everyone, of any tradition, is more than welcome to any of our services at any other time of the year!

**Services for Christmas:**

*Sunday 2 December – Advent Service – 7pm United Lantern Service at HBPC.*

**Sunday 23 December:**

8.30am Holy Communion  
10.30am **Sunday School drama Christmas Service**  
6.30pm **Festival of 9 Lessons and Carols**

**Christmas Eve:**

11.30pm **Midnight Communion for Christmas**

**Christmas Day:**

8.30am Holy Communion  
10.30am **Family Celebration of Christmas**

**LOCAL ACTIVITIES/FACILITIES:**

**Bangor West Ladies Probus Club:** every Tuesday (except August) 10.30am, Old Inn, Crawfordsburn. All ladies welcome. Contact: Maureen Stephens, 9185 2952.

**Bayburn Fitness.** Contact James Megaw, 07793470324, email [jamesmegaw@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jamesmegaw@hotmail.co.uk)

**Bayburn Historical Society:** see *Forthcoming Events* for programme. Contact: Pat Henderson, email [paddyhen@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:paddyhen@hotmail.co.uk).

**Buses:** Bangor Office 9127 1143, [www.translink.co.uk](http://www.translink.co.uk).

**Crawfordsburn Country Park/Grey Point Fort/Café,** 9185 3621/2439/2528. See [discoverni.com](http://discoverni.com) for opening times.

**Crawfordsburn Probus Club** meets every Friday 10.30-12 noon, Old Inn. Contact Jim McCormick, 9065 4633, email [j.mccormick40@ntlworld.com](mailto:j.mccormick40@ntlworld.com) or [www.freewebs.com/bwprobus/](http://www.freewebs.com/bwprobus/).

**Crawfordsburn Scout Centre** provides a range of different outdoor activities for scouting, youth and school groups. Contact Peter Harrison on 9185 3307.

**Helen's Bay & Crawfordsburn Residents**

**Association:** Secretary Robin Masfield on 9185 3339.

**Helen's Bay Golf Club:** tel. 9185 2815.



**Helen's Bay Players:** Hon. Secretary Beth Nicholl, 07980 822879, email [bethnicholl@btinternet.com](mailto:bethnicholl@btinternet.com).

**Helen's Bay Probus Club:** meets 1st and 3rd Wed. of each month, 10.30-12 noon, Helen's Bay Golf Club. Contact John Jackson, 9065 1204, email: [johngjackson@btinternet.com](mailto:johngjackson@btinternet.com).

**Helen's Bay Royal British Legion:** meets 2nd Wed. of the month, HB Golf Club from 10.30am. Open to all inc. ex-members of the Services and auxiliary services inc. Police, Prisons, Fire & Ambulance. Contact Sec. Mrs Kay Clarke, 9079 4131.

**Helen's Bay Tennis Club:** [www.helensbaytennisclub.co.uk](http://www.helensbaytennisclub.co.uk), email [helensbaytennisclub@btinternet.com](mailto:helensbaytennisclub@btinternet.com) or tel. Rosemary, 9185 3339. Adult club play Saturdays from 2pm, Wednesdays 3pm (October-March). For junior tennis coaching contact Michael Heaslip at [northdowntennisacademy@gmail.com](mailto:northdowntennisacademy@gmail.com).

**Mobile Library Service** visits *Crawfordsburn*, Ballymullan Road every other Friday 10.55 - 11.55am and *Helen's Bay*, Church Road, 3.10 - 4.10pm. Tel. 07718 808427, [www.bangor.mobile@librariesni.org.uk](mailto:www.bangor.mobile@librariesni.org.uk).

**Montessori Pre-School Helen's Bay:** see advert, or contact Meriel Linley, 07476 241435.

**North Down Rotary Club:** meets Old Inn every Mon. 6.30pm, except Bank Holidays. Contact Alastair Walker on 9145 0855. New members always welcome.

**PSNI:** Phone 101 for non-urgent matters.

**Presbyterian Church/Hall:** Rev. Colin Megaw; see *Forthcoming Events*. Details of services, church-based activities etc on [www.helensbaypc.co.uk](http://www.helensbaypc.co.uk). Church office, 9185 3780.

**St John's Church of Ireland**, Helen's Bay; Canon Tim Kinahan, 9185 3601.

*The following activities are held in St John's Church Hall:*

**St John's Toddlers:** Monday mornings for children 0-4 years and carers (Sept.-end May). Come and join us. Contact Maureen Stephens: 9185 2952.

**Badminton Club:** Monday evenings Sept – March, junior and adult groups; contact Rosemary, 9185 3339.

**Painting Group:** Tuesdays, 7pm. New members welcome; contact Rosemary, 9185 3339.

**Brownies:** Wednesdays 6.30-7.40 (girls 7-10yrs). Contact Etta McGucken, 9185 3377.

**Rainbow Guides:** Wednesdays 5.30-6.30pm (girls 4-7yrs). Contact Etta McGucken, 9185 3377.

**The Ladies Guild:** see *Forthcoming Events*.

**Bayburn Fitness** – see article.

**Scottish Country Dancing:** Thursdays 8pm. Contact Jean McCadden, 9042 2453/07736 650653. Open for new members of all standards.

**Trains:** Translink NI Railways: [www.translink.co.uk](http://www.translink.co.uk) or call 028 90 66 66 30.

If you wish to contact the Editor or advertise in the next edition please email [bayburnlifeeditor@hotmail.com](mailto:bayburnlifeeditor@hotmail.com)



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