

# Practical Heraldry for the Self-Isolator

## Week 9E— Community Councils V

Our final look at the arms of Community Councils will respond to the question which has been posed, how does a Community Council go about petitioning for arms? Many Councils have already successfully done so and found them invaluable as agents of local identity and social cohesion.

1. The first step is make sure the whole Community Council is on board. The next three pages show something of the exuberance which many Community Councils have shown in their choice of arms which celebrate their local area. Each coat of arms tells you something vital and intensely local about its area of Scotland. The arms are presented here without comment in order to squeeze lots more in but the last four days have given you a taste of the type of thing Councils like to use to promote their histories, industries, geographical features etc.
2. The second thing is to work out how to pay for the petition. The approximate cost, including treasury fees, is £2500, depending on such things as the number of words and whether or not the Council is asking for the re-grant of the arms of a former council— a process called matriculation, which is a little cheaper. Many Community Councils have found the fund-raising part of the petition can be a time of great community activity and, of course, leads to a greater sense of ownership of the arms once granted.
3. The next step is to plan the design of the arms, and the Lyon Office is always pleased to help with this. If you are lucky enough to correspond to a former Council area, you may have a ready-made design but if not, you will want to think what features of the geography, history or industry uniquely encapsulate your area. In general, the simpler the better—do bear in mind that the Lord Lyon may not feel able to grant exactly what you have chosen.
4. A Petition has a set form of words—examples can be found on the Lyon Office website here: <http://www.courtofthelordlyon.scot/> where the process is explained in more detail.
5. Of course, once the arms have been granted, many Councils find it effective to produce and sell memorabilia to promote their areas—tee-shirts, pencils, car-stickers etc.
6. The presentation of the Extract of Matriculation or Letters Patent can be made into a big Local Event, some examples of which can be found on the following page.



Blairgowrie Community Council



Musselburgh Community Council



West Linton CC



Whitehills CC



Tranent CC



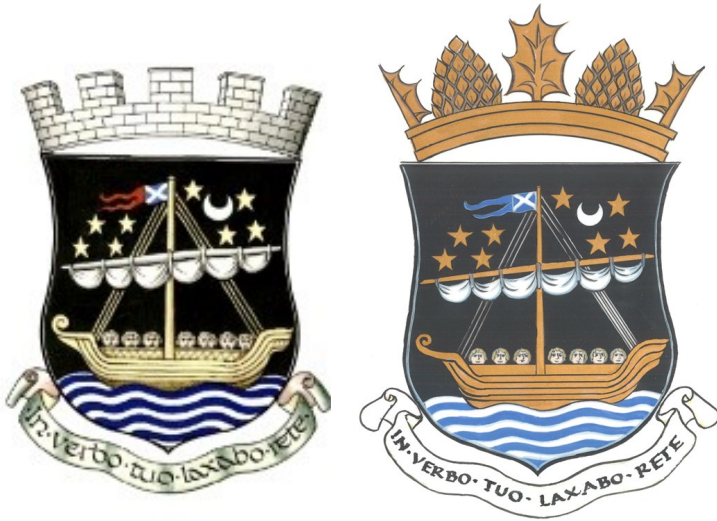
Rosehearty CC



Queensferry CC

## A Celebration: Crail Community Council

On the 18th May 2019, the Lord Lyon and Carrick Pursuivant presented the Community Council of Crail with its coat of arms. The Lord Lyon then opened the newly-renovated 16th-century Doocot and planted a cherry tree to mark the day.



The arms are those of the former Royal Burgh rematriculated with the Coronet of a Community Council and painted by Clare McCrory.



As you can clearly see in these photographs, kindly supplied by photographer Peter Salkeld, the whole town enjoyed a Gala Day, with pipe bands, Scouts and civic dignitaries all contributing to a very memorable celebration of local identity.



Banchory Community Council received its Extract of Matriculation, painted by Herald Painter Yvonne Holton, from the Lord Lyon on May 23rd 2019

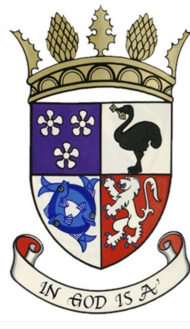
Linlithgow and Linlithgow Bridge Community Council was presented with its arms by the Lord Lyon on Easter Monday 2017.



Forfar



Fortrose



Fraserburgh



Galashiels



Gifford



Girvan



Gullane



Haddington



Hawick



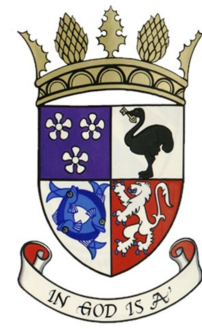
Heldon



Forfar



Fortrose



Fraserburgh



Galashiels



Gifford



Girvan



Gullane



Haddington



Hawick



Heldon



Jedburgh



Keith



Kelso



Kilrenny



Kilsyth



Kinghorn



Kinross



Kirkcudbright



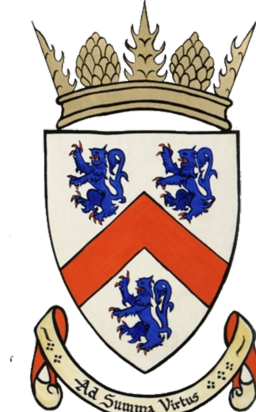
Kirkliston



Leslie



Lockerbie



Maybole



Melrose



Portknockie



Portobello



Portsoy



Prestonpans



West Linton



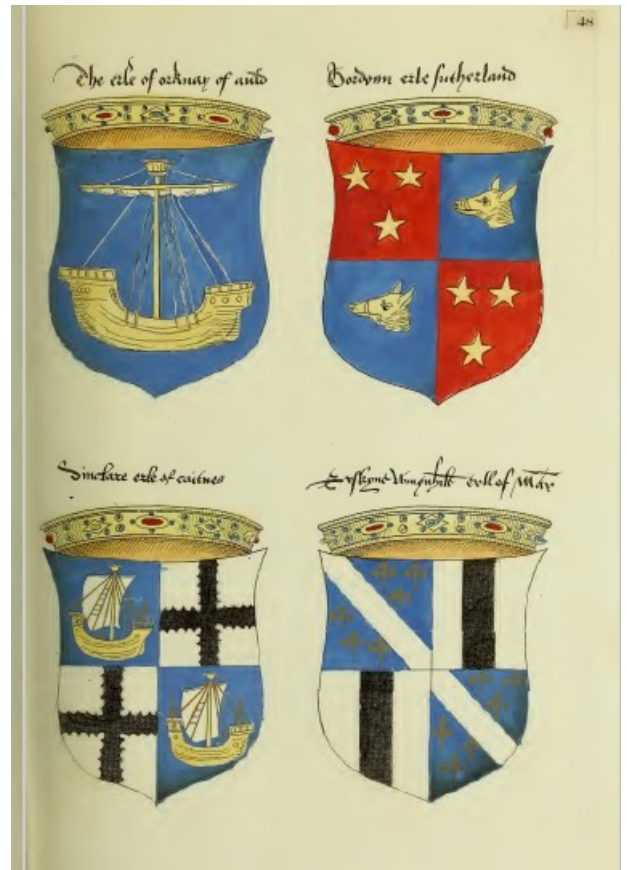
Whitehills



Wick



Wigtown



Some more blazoning practice for you (if you have done all the Community Councils), again drawn from the great 16th century armorial of Sir David Lyndsay of the Mount.

