

Craigie

Wonderful collection

"A recent photograph in The Courier showed the market in Long Wynd," writes Keith Walker of Dundee. "In the picture on the right, I've 'replaced' Long Wynd near the pedestrian crossing in the Market Gate near the car park in South Tay Street (Mid Kirk Style was 'in the shadow of the Auld Steeple).

"The black and white photograph is from the wonderful collection in the Wellgate Local History Library. My colour photograph shows the Globe Bar in the background at the West Port/Hawkhill.

"Regarding the blue commemorative plaque to artist/writer Joseph Lee—instead of placing the plaque near the tenement which no longer exists in Airlie Place, why not install it at No 4 Argyle Place, Thomson Street (top west side), where Joseph Lee and his wife spent the last year or two of his life after returning to Dundee from London?"

Tuttie's Neuk

I have had a call from Bill Fleming of Arbroath who was interested in the recent item about Tuttie's Neuk.

Bill, who is a retired butcher, explains that in the 18th Century, many folk kept a cow and there was common grazing land on which to feed them. "The town herdsman would come and drive the cattle to the grazing land which was situated where the old bathing pool was," he says.

"Then he would retire to what was called Tuttie's Nook, to wait while the



cattle grazed. At the appointed time he would tootle his horn and the cattle would begin to move, recognising that the horn was the sign that it was time to go back home.

"The town had grazing land in the west end of town, opposite Keptie Pond. There is a street there called Nolt Loan Road – an old Angus word for a cow is 'nowt', which is what the street name originated from.

"When I was working as a butcher, I used to go to the market at Forfar every Monday and, very often, someone would tell me that they had 'brought a nowt in' for me to see."

Emotive topics

Named after a line from a Philip Larkin poem, Never Such Innocence is the official First World War centenary charity for young people, committed to educating the next generation about the Great War and its continuing impact on

Keith Walker of Dundee has put together this composite picture of the Long Wynd area, mentioned in Craigie recently. See more on top left.

• If you have a story for Craigie email: craigie@thecourier.co.uk

our lives today. Over the past four years, the charity has provided the opportunity for young people to engage during the centenary period, running an annual poetry, art and song competition and giving its winners a participating voice in centenary commemoration events all over the world.

The competition received a phenomenal response, with over 11,000 contributions from 47 countries. Its winners have performed in front of members of the Royal Family, the Prime Minister and Scottish First Minister, heads of the Army, Navy and RAF, and in local communities from Blackwood to Belfast, Shetland to Sunderland, and Germany to Greece.

Never Such Innocence is marking the culmination of the charity's work so far by publishing a moving anthology that celebrates how children have responded to the centenary commemorations, tackling challenging, emotive topics with respect, thought and creativity.

More than 70 paintings and more than 75 poems feature in the book. The Never Such Innocence anthology of poetry is published by Never Such Innocence in hardback, price £19.99, and is available from Amazon and all good bookshops.

Eminent fiddler

"James Scott Skinner, the eminent composer and fiddler, lived in Monikie from 1899-1909, and during this time was a great friend of Alexander McPherson, a coal merchant in Kirriemuir," emails Andrew Lendrum.

"I am researching aspects of his life and wonder if anyone knows how he got to know the McPherson family and whether Alexander was a pupil as well as a supporter of Scott Skinner. Any information about the connection would be helpful.

"Skinner wrote several tunes as a result of this Kirriemuir connection, including The Laird of Thrums (For Alexander McPherson), The Kirrie Kebbuck (a cheese) and the Thrums Cairn.

"Skinner had a 'housekeeper', Mrs Lily Richards, when he lived in Aberdeen in the last five years of his life and he asked David Waterson, the Brechin painter, to paint her. I know Skinner sent a photograph of Mrs Richards to Waterson, and asked in his letters how the painting was progressing. I wonder if anyone knows whether this painting was completed and where it might be now."



"At this time of year it's often possible to make friends with a robin," says Eric Niven. "This one was at Morton Lochs in Tentsmuir forest. I'm not sure if he's my friend yet but I'll keep trying."



"Regarding a recent item about the removal of love locks from the footbridge in Pitlochry," says Pat McGregor of Blairgowrie, "here is a novel way a German community is continuing the tradition without endangering bridges etc."

DINGBATS

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name.



Solution: Back page

GARFIELD BY JIM DAVIS

