



June 2017 Newsletter

Dear All,

Work is continuing on the transformation of the **Burgh Chambers** into a holiday let apartment. All shops and business are open during the refurbishment - please keep supporting them, and thank you to all for your patience.

The internal works are now well underway, with the removal of modern finishes, structural repairs, repairs to the windows and upgrading of the electrics and plumbing.

The first floor main room, with extensive structural steel supports at the bay window:



Some lovely historic features have been uncovered, including dark timber panelling to the stairs and flagstones on

the stair landing. A small section of the decorative plasterwork in the main room has been removed to create a template to repair damaged and missing sections.

The decorative cornice will be repaired:



Externally the scaffolding is now in place, with a complicated structure needed to reach the dome safely. Roof repairs are underway, as are repairs to the clock tower and the leadwork on the dome. The stone façade is covered in a damaging layer of paint and cement wash, and a number of removal techniques have been trialled to find one that is effective but gentle enough not to damage the stone.

A number of **training events** were held at the Burgh Chambers in April and May: hard-hat tours for the local community proved very popular, and pupils from Bell Baxter also had a chance to visit and learn about traditional sash and case window repair.

Bell Baxter pupils at the Burgh Chambers:



The extensive scaffolding to the dome and clock tower:



The Burgh Chambers project is expected to be completed by autumn 2017, so you can start planning your stay in the historic apartment from spring 2018!

You will have seen that more scaffolding is going up around the town centre for **Building Repair Grant Scheme** projects. 28 grants have been awarded so far and expressions of interest have been submitted for the next round of applications. Due to the high level of interest, grants are limited to the priority area in the centre of Cupar.

Completed Building Repair Grant Scheme project at 39/41 Bonnygate (masonry repairs, repairs to rainwater goods and roof repairs):



The project to improve some of Cupar's **historic closes** is now moving forward. Bobber Wynd and Steeles Close have been chosen due to their central location and proximity to the key building projects, and a tender process is underway to select the design team.

If you have any questions or would like to find out more please email me at fiona@fifehistoricbuildings.org.uk or call 01592 890060.

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