



Kinross Newsletter



Founded in 1977 by Mrs Nan Walker, MBE

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DEADLINE
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Contributions for inclusion in the Newsletter

The Newsletter welcomes items from clubs, community organisations and individuals for publication. This is free of charge (we only charge for commercial advertising). All items may be subject to editing. Please also see our Letters Policy on page 2.

Submit your item in one of the following ways:

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Advertising in the Newsletter

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A Typed Advert is £10.00 per insertion and may be placed for one or more months. These adverts are text only, no graphics allowed. Fifteen lines (including blank lines) is the maximum permitted. As a guide, eight words maximum on a line. To place a Typed Advert, send the following:

- Your full name and address details and a telephone number.
- Your e-mail address (optional).
- The wording of your advert.
- A note of the number of insertions required.
- Your remittance (£10 per insertion) payable to "Kinross Newsletter".

Send all the above to our Advertising Manager, Mrs Ann Harley, by the normal monthly Newsletter deadline (see left for contact details).

The Newsletter reserves the right to vary the physical size of these adverts from issue to issue according to the space available.

If you wish to place a Typed Advert on a permanent or semi-permanent basis, contact our Advertising Manager to see if you can go on to our billing list.

Printed (Display) Adverts

These run for six months at a time. There are a fixed number of pages available for Printed Adverts. Regrettably there are currently no vacant slots. To go on our waiting list, please contact our Advertising Manager.

The Newsletter reserves the right to refuse or amend any advertisement or submission and accepts no liability for any omission or inaccuracy.

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Letters

Editorial

A Happy New Year to all our readers! With a new year comes more change and innovation. Tony has been hard at work and has designed a lovely website dedicated to all Newsletter matters. So if you need to submit an article for the Newsletter but can't find your most recent issue to check the deadline, just log on to our site and you'll find deadline dates for the whole year! Businesses can find out all about how to advertise in the Newsletter. There are hints and tips on how to submit articles and advice on which member of the team to contact depending on your query. We will also publish selected articles on line, particularly where lack of space in the Newsletter has restricted us from publishing as many photos as we would like. Our website address is: **www.kinrossnewsletter.org** There will be a link to us from the kinross.cc website and vice versa, so you can easily hop between the two for all your community information needs. To go along with our new website address we have a whole 'matching set' of new email addresses for the team. So I am afraid this means the email address for sending items to the Newsletter is changing again (for the second time in just seven months – sorry!) Please start to use the new address from now on:

editor@kinrossnewsletter.org

The good news is we should not have to change email addresses for years, even if the team members change!

Do you Feel Inspired by the Railway Age? Kinross CC has been asked to suggest some street names for the new housing development near Somerfield (see p. 32). The CC has settled on a railway theme, but still needs to come up with specific names. If you would like to suggest any, please contact a member of Kinross CC before the next meeting on 7 February (see p. 43 for contact details).

Kinross CC Election: The current three-year term is due to end this Spring. If you are interested in community matters, why not think about becoming a Community Councillor? A form will be printed in next month's Newsletter. If more than eleven nominations are received, an election will take place in April.

We reserve the right not to publish any letter. Letters will not be published unless the sender's name and address are supplied and they are prepared to have them published along with their letter. Please note that the Newsletter does not necessarily agree with any of the views expressed on these pages.

Abbreviations Used

P&KC = Perth & Kinross Council
CC = Community Council Cllr. = Councillor
CCllr = Community Councillor

Wind Farms in the Ochil Hills

20.01.07

Public Inquiries are currently being held into proposals for four Wind Farms to be built in the Ochil Hills. Perth & Kinross Council has already rejected these proposals with very strong support from many local residents and amenity groups – there have been nearly 1500 objections from the public. PKC and a group headed by Friends of the Ochils, supported by the Ramblers Association and FORK are lodging strong opposition to these developments at the Public Inquiries. We are all fully supportive of the need for renewable energy and the reduction of greenhouse gases but this must be done in an efficient way and effective way. Our objection is the impact these wind farms will have on an area of great natural beauty – within the hills and visually from significant distances over Kinross-shire and Fife. Apart from the turbines themselves, which some people find attractive, there is the permanent scarring on the landscape from the access roads and the visual impact of the pylons and transmission lines – these have been brushed aside as not directly relevant at the individual Public Inquiries. In a number of European countries large clusters of wind turbines have been located at ports and in industrial areas which mitigates the impact on the countryside but there is still a question mark over the efficacy in terms of contribution to reducing CO₂ emission.

The much more important factor is that wind farms are a very inefficient means of generating electricity, largely because they only produce power on an intermittent basis – if the wind is too strong or below a certain threshold they cannot operate. In practice the overall output will be in the region of 30% of design capacity which is studiously omitted by most of the media and the power companies. Wind farms do not provide a reliable source of electricity and the supply network must continue to be dependent on conventional power stations for both industrial and domestic power. As of April last year, 88 wind farms were operational or approved in Scotland but there is no chance whatsoever of even the combined output leading to the closure of a single conventional power station. In fact the more wind farms the greater the need for back up from conventional power generation. So where is the benefit? It was admitted at one Public Inquiry that there would be no tangible effect on CO₂ reduction from individual wind farms. Wind farms are being heavily subsidised by public funds and the National Audit Office estimates that the cost of wind power is out of all proportion to the benefits to the consumer. The Advertising Standards Authority has also said that the benefit of wind farms is being significantly over stated. These are the unpalatable

facts the UK Government does not want voiced because their case is that wind farms are making a positive contribution to the reduction in CO2 emission and thereby meeting their obligation under the Kyoto Agreement but in fact it is a purely cosmetic exercise.

Over the next decade there will be an increased demand for electricity arising from growth in housing and from industry and commerce, so there will be an increased demand on the output from conventional power source just to keep pace with growth. As far as reducing CO2 emission is concerned there is little hope as it will all be swamped by increase in road usage and the expansion of air traffic.

Are we totally condemning wind generated electricity? No, a number of schemes are in already operating using wind turbines for sheltered housing, schools and industrial buildings but even these need to be assessed in cost effective terms. However, this is where the focus and the subsidy should be, as it will more likely reduce demand from the national grid and directly have a financial benefit to users, but this will require a major change from the power companies who at present do not want either cuts in use or input from private systems. There is however enormous potential for such schemes at sports centres, office blocks, factories, housing developments and even farms. Wind generation at the micro level, combined with greater use of solar power would lead to direct benefits in terms of reducing demand for hydrocarbon fuel and concurrently reducing CO2 emission. This will be far more effective and much lower cost than subsidising industrial scale wind farms. Why then is the Scottish Executive prepared to follow the misguided policy of the UK Government and ruin vast tracts of the Scottish countryside when there are more effective, and lower cost, ways to achieve the goals we all seek? This is one of the key questions we should all be asking our MSPs and Local Councillors in the run up to the May elections.

Jim Christie
Westcrook Way, Crook of Devon
On behalf of the members of
Friends of Rural Kinross-shire (FORK)

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Open Letter to Perth and Kinross Council 21.01.07

I am writing to ask your council to reconsider and explain their decision to sell Kinross Town Hall for residential purposes.

A lot has happened since your council's original decision in November 2002.

1. Many house building developments (some large) have been instigated or completed in southern and western Kinross. There are potentially many more in the pipeline e.g. the Auction Mart application.
2. The population of Kinross-shire is projected to grow by almost 25% to the year 2020.
3. You yourselves have identified the need for an area based initiative (ABI) for Kinross-shire which involves pursuing avenues assisting in infrastructure development as well as encouraging local employment and development through Tourism and Business.
4. You approved in 2003 a Document entitled: 'Towards a Sustainable Future'.
5. 2,400 Kinross residents indicated that they consider the Town Hall/Library should be 'retained by Perth & Kinross Council (PKC) and renovated and restored ...so as to provide facilities for the community.'
6. Perth Concert Hall has been developed and built in Perth.
7. Perth City Hall has been subject to public consultation over its future use, a business plan developed and this is now being implemented.
8. Despite having a state of the art Community School the community of Auchterarder are requesting continued use of their own Town Hall.

I will deal with each point in turn.

1. I have tried very hard to see the sense in providing residential accommodation in the Kinross town centre, but I can find none. There would appear to be ample residential building works going on in more appropriate locations.
2. The 25% projected rise in population in the next thirteen years needs some consideration. Even if the Community School proposed at Lethangie is adequate for that increase there will certainly be pressure on available space. Due to legal requirements for the provision of education being the primary use of the school, it would seem erroneous to rely on this new space being adequate to also provide for an expanding community's use.
3. It seems extremely logical that the future of the Town hall/Library building incorporate some of the ABI objectives. Tourism especially, seems extremely unlikely to flourish in a Town Centre which is predominantly residential. Visitors as well as Kinross-shire residents could positively benefit from rethinking the use for the current building.
4. I have reviewed your policy document, Towards a Sustainable Future and I can find no policy which

would support the current course of action. On the other hand, I can find several which contradict it (these are only two of those).

For example, Environment and Resources Policy 8 states: *'New development which would adversely affect listed building, conservation areas, scheduled ancient monuments... will not be permitted unless there is proven public interest where social economic and safety considerations outweighs the cultural interest in the site.'*

Page 19 of that document refers to *'Protecting the role of town centres'*.

Sustainable Communities Policy 8 states: *'Town centres will continue to be the main focus for investment in employment, retail, leisure and other service provision as they are accessible by all sectors of the community.... Development in ... town centres will be encouraged to improve their role and improve their vitality.'*

5. I'm sure the Kinross residents would applaud all of the above policies. They seem eminently sensible to a sustainable community. They would also wonder why a lot of effort has obviously gone into producing such a policy document only for it, in this case, to be ignored.
6. The situation with the Concert Hall and City Hall in Perth shows that where there is political will, funds can be sourced, plans generated, instigated and publicly favourable outcomes implemented. I am not sure how accessible this project has been. I have not seen events there advertised in the Kinross Newsletter or on Kinross.cc, nor have I seen anything regarding the provision of transport for events held there.
7. There has been NO public consultation over the use of the Town Hall/Library building since all the above mentioned developments.
8. Enough said.

There are many possible uses of the Town Hall which would satisfy your own policies, these could include:

A Community Space - dedicated to community use in the town centre area.

A Youth Centre - Kinross is currently home to a large population of young people who DO NOT have any year round resource dedicated to their social needs.

A Business Centre - Something similar to the Alloa Business centre. Kinross needs employers, after all 56% of people travel more than 2km to work. It is also home to a rich human resource, both those being educated locally as well as many others who would have much to contribute to a thriving local and regional economy.

A Retail Centre - with a population projected to keep growing 25% every 20 years, such a use could prove beneficial in the longer term

A Cultural Centre - I would imagine visitors would be likely to visit a centre proximal to the natural and cultural heritage of Kinross as well as its retail centre.

More likely than they would be to visit anything on a school site on the town periphery. Such a centre could incorporate many of the above suggestions.

All of the above would concur with Perth & Kinross Council 'Towards a Sustainable Future' policies as follows:

Sustainable Economy Policy 8

All new retail floor space will be directed to town centres

Sustainable Economic Policy 9

Local plans will encourage the sustainable development of the tourist industry in P & K and support proposals which:

Improve the quality of facilities

Offer the potential for providing local income and employment

Are suitable for resident as well as visitor use

Do not significantly damage the natural or built heritage

Once the Town Hall building is gone, it is gone. It is a space which, if properly planned and used, could be hugely beneficial to the development of Kinross as well as providing much needed infrastructure for a fast expanding community.

I would urge you to reconsider your decision.

Susan Bathgate

High Street, Kinross

(Submitted as an individual, not as a representative of any organisation)

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News & Articles

Save NHS Dentistry Campaign

It's almost a year since one of our Kinross dentists closed her doors to many NHS patients, which prompted some residents in Kinross to form the campaign to "Save NHS Dentistry" locally and across Scotland.

We have met regularly most months since then, collected 1200 signatures and lodged an e-petition with the Scottish Parliament which gained a further 144 names. We know it's a generalised problem but there is still a great amount of local concern. We took our petition to the Parliament's Petitions Committee in December and got press and media coverage in the Aberdeen Press & Journal and the Perthshire Advertiser (Friday 15/12/06); whilst Sheila Green and Felicity Garvie spoke to Radio Tay about the issues. The Petitions Committee will revisit our petition in the new year. When it does, local MSP Bruce Crawford has agreed to come with us and speak on our behalf. We don't expect things to change over night, but we are determined not to let up on this because we don't want to see any further privatisation of health and dental services.



Save NHS Dentistry representatives at the Scottish Parliament. L to R: Sheila Green, Keith Green, Felicity Garvie, Eileen Thomas, Jim Davidson.

Some of us also have specific problems such as not being able to get children registered with an NHS dentist or not being accepted onto NHS dentists' lists in other regions such as Fife. Longer term we are hoping that the new health centre will be able to accommodate dental facilities to cover the local need; or that at least a mobile dentist can be persuaded to visit Kinross to service those who currently aren't able to register with an NHS dentist.

Our next meeting is on **Wednesday 14 February** (sorry, not very romantic!) at Kinross Church Centre at 7 pm. We welcome any newcomers and thank all those who gave their time and energy to keep the campaign going throughout 2006. And we promise not to get any less vocal in 2007, particularly as there are elections coming up...!
Felicity Garvie

Research on Tourism

Is your business directly or indirectly involved in tourism? If so, could you spare a few minutes to take part in some important Kinross-shire tourism research? The research is being conducted by Highland Business Research on behalf of Perth and Kinross Council and its purpose is to inform and assist the activities of the Tourism Association, Kinross-shire Partnership and local businesses. The information provided will be treated with the strictest of confidence and will be used to provide a benchmark for future tourism development within the area. The survey should take no more than ten minutes to complete and your assistance is very much appreciated. To take the online survey, type this link into your web browser:

www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=206643095110

(Or go to www.kinross.cc and click on the links from there). As part of this research, visitor surveys (printed forms, complete with stamped return envelopes) are also being conducted across Kinross-shire for distribution to visitors during February and early March. If you work in the tourism sector and are able to pass these visitor surveys to your guests in the coming weeks, please let Vicky Brock at Highland Business Research know how many surveys you require by emailing vicky@highlandbusinessresearch.com and she will arrange for them to be delivered to you.

Kirkgate Park Improvements

Tenders have been received for the Phase 1 improvement works in Kirkgate Park. The works include new footpaths, seating, play equipment, planting and earthworks which will realise much of the Master Plan developed between the Perth and Kinross Council and the Friends of Kirkgate Park. There have, however, been a number of queries which are to be discussed with the lowest tenderers before the contract can be awarded. Those discussions will have been completed by 25 January to allow the successful contractor to commence works for the middle of February 2007 as planned. Full details of the works will be available when the contractor has been appointed.



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Drawing from Life

Over the last few months, local residents have been discovering their creative skills at Life Drawing classes in Millbridge Hall. The course has proved popular with residents of varying ages and interests. For some participants this is a chance to have a go at something new, while others are working on professional portfolios. This creates a healthy mix within the group, where participants can learn from each other under the direction of tutor John Strachan. John is a graduate from Kingston College of Art and Design and worked for many years in London as a general designer as well as teaching in various colleges around Britain. Although now retired, John still teaches drawing and painting, part time, through the University of St. Andrews, Madras College in St. Andrews and The Steeple Arts Centre in Newburgh, Fife. John describes the course as follows:

“Seeing is a different process to looking. Looking is for survival. Seeing involves different perceptions, including order, beauty, balance, quality of relationship and subtlety.

“Over the weeks, working from both male and female models, the course has covered the basic principles of drawing from life. Students have been introduced to a range of drawing materials and techniques, from quick animated sketches to long poses.

“If you can learn to draw the figure well, which is difficult, you will be able to draw most things. I believe life drawing is an invaluable way of increasing ones sensitivity, sense of proportion and perspective and of course, ones drawing ability.”

Nobody is excluded from these classes. If you are really interested, you will be surprised by how much progress you can make.... and you will start to see things differently. New members are welcome and should contact Liz on 01738 477849 for more information. These classes are run by P&KC Arts Development.

Grants Surgery

If you are interested in making an application for a grant to Perth & Kinross Council or perhaps other external funders, such as the Lottery, why not get some assistance through a local Grants Surgery?

The next surgery will be held on **Wednesday 21 February** at Swansacre Learning Centre between 9.30am - 11.00am.

To book a place or express an interest in future opportunities contact Robert Graham, Capacity Building Worker, Kinross Learning Base, Kinross High School. Tel: 01557 863 439 or email: rgraham@kinrosshigh.pkc.sch.uk

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Credit Unions – once one of Scotland’s best kept secrets, but not anymore!

Credit unions are financial co-operatives, owned and managed by their members. They are regulated by the FSA in the same way as all the other major providers are. This assures members of financial security, as their deposits are covered by the government-run Financial Services Compensation Scheme.

Kinross-shire is surrounded by successful Credit Unions but doesn’t have a Credit Union of its own. Clackmannanshire; Kelty; Benarty and North East Fife are all covered by community based credit unions.

Scotland has 130 credit unions with about 200,000 members and assets of £300m. There are nearly 100,000 members of credit unions in Glasgow alone - that's about 14% of the population.

It is accepted that about 20% of the adult population are denied banking services and have to seek alternative sources for their borrowing. The home credit industry, known more commonly as doorstep lending, strategically targets the financially excluded and charges a minimum interest rate of 177% on small loans. Typically, a loan of £300 repaid over 55 weeks will require a total repayment of £477.

Credit unions are now the first choice for financial services for a growing number of people across Scotland. The most recent figures from the Financial Services Authority to June 2006 show that there are 529 credit unions in the UK with approximately £500m in assets.

Scottish credit unions generally pay an annual dividend on savings of between 2% and 5%. Borrowing is very affordable from a credit union at a monthly rate of 1% on the outstanding loan balance. That's an APR of 12.68%, which compares favourably with rates on credit and store cards which often charge 15% to 30%, particularly if you are on a low income.

Credit unions are primarily thrift organisations which encourage members to take control of their own finances, both as borrowers and savers. Through the repayment history that they establish, members create a borrowing environment where loans, based on the capacity to repay, are generally granted on demand. They are assured too that credit union revenue will remain in their community for the common good.

An introductory awareness raising meeting is being held at the Kinross Community Learning Base, Kinross High School on **Tuesday 6 March** from 2.00 – 3.00pm for anyone who might be interested in finding out more or who might be interested in setting up a steering group in Kinross-shire.

To book a place or for further information contact Robert Graham, Capacity Building Worker on 01557 863 439 or by email rgraham@kinrosshigh.pkc.sch.uk

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WHEN ANSWERING ADVERTISEMENTS**

Upgrade your computing skills for as little as £10!

If you'd like to improve your IT skills in the New Year, but think you can't afford it, the Scottish Executive's Individual Learning Account (ILA) Scheme and Kinross Learning Centre could help.

Whether you are looking to get back to work, improve your promotion prospects or simply learning for fun, the centre offers an extensive range of "open access" courses, designed for those who need the flexibility to study at their own pace, fitting learning around other commitments, such as family and full or part-time employment.



Many of these are eligible for ILA funding, which means that if you earn less than £15,000 you could get £200 towards training costs. Even if you earn more than that, you are still entitled to

£100 towards computer training.

Courses which qualify for this funding include Information Technology 1 and 2. These will give you a firm grounding in all aspects of computing. Using Microsoft Office software, you'll gain a good working knowledge of word-processing, spreadsheet, database and presentation packages for home or office use.

There is also the option to work towards the European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL), a must for your CV! It's designed to cover key concepts in computing including, Basic Concepts of IT; File Management; Word Processing; Spreadsheets; Databases, Presentation and the Internet and is now being asked for by employers recruiting new staff.

To find out more contact Maureen Ross at Kinross Learning Centre on 01577 863863 or visit Swansacre, Kinross.

Children 1st

The Kinross Action Group of Children 1st would like to thank everyone in Kinross-shire and beyond who contributed to all their fund-raising last year. Sunshine Week in the springtime was a great success; we raised £1,392.42, which we were really pleased with as once again we did better than the year before! Many thanks go especially to Jo Houldsworth and Audrey Skene, who organised the collecting, but also to all our collectors and all the local businesses who helped raise such a fine amount.

The Christmas Fair was held on 15 November, back in Kinross House, which looked simply wonderful as always. Many thanks are due to Mr. and Mrs. Jamie Montgomery, for allowing us to hold it here and for helping us so much. It went really well and we raised £2,032, again more than we raised last time. As usual, there were wonderful stalls selling all sorts of things; Christmas cards and cakes, beeswax candles, scent and

bath goodies, hats, jackets and velvet scarves, beautiful jewellery, books, wooden carvings, photo frames and food. You could even buy a Christmas tree (kilted, no less!). Present ideas of every kind to shop for and tea, coffee and biscuits, or soup to keep you going.

Once again I would like to thank all the stall holders who came and donated some of their profit to Children 1st, all the people who very kindly donated prizes for the raffle, those who baked for us and all the committee who helped so much to make the day a success. And of course all the people who came to the bazaar to support us and who made the day such a success. All the money made goes to help Scottish children who are deprived, neglected or abused; Children 1st support them and their families through difficult times and really make a difference to their lives.

If there are any volunteers in the area who would like to help our Action Group, we would be very pleased to have you join the team. Please contact me, Bridie Graham, on 01577-862070.

News from the Health Centre

There have been some recent changes in the way the appointment system at the Health Centre operates. St Serf's Medical Practice participated in the Advanced Access system for two years, but comments in the Patient Satisfaction Survey indicated that some aspects of the system could be improved. We have therefore reviewed the appointment system for both practices and decided to expand the triage system. Three members of our experienced nursing team will now speak to the majority of patients who request a same day appointment. They will ask patients for information about their condition to ascertain the nature and urgency of the condition. They will then offer the patient the most appropriate appointment. The appointment will always be on the same day if the condition requires immediate attention. Patients with non-urgent conditions will generally be offered appointments for another day. The appointment may be in the Minor Illness Clinics run by the senior nurses, as they can deal with many conditions previously dealt with by the doctors. Those who wish to pre-book appointments may do so, though we would ask you not to book more than 4 weeks in advance. We hope that these changes will ensure an appropriate balance of appointments both for those who have urgent conditions and those who wish to pre-book their appointment.

Each month this year, we will focus on a different health promotion topic. February's topic is the health of Young People and there is a display in the waiting room with relevant posters and leaflets. If you have suggestions for topics, then do contact the Practice Manager at the Health Centre.

Loch Leven Heritage Project

Short days, gales and floods are not ideal conditions for path construction, nevertheless work on the Loch Leven Heritage Project trail around the loch has continued during December and January. The first phase of the TRACKS project, due for completion by the end of April 2007, will run from Kinross around the north shore to the Pow Burn. The ground has been very waterlogged in the Kinross area, so the contractors J M Dewar have focussed on the far end of the phase one section, near the Pow Burn. The Pow Burn drains into Loch Leven in the northeast, below Channel Farm – home of Scotland's Larder.

John Dewar explained how the team is coping: "We started before Christmas near Kinross House, but the loch was so high that the water was back to where we needed to work. So we moved our equipment round to the Pow Burn and have built about 700m of new path towards Burleigh Sands, as far as the old cemetery. "Now we've moved to Burleigh Sands in order to work eastwards to join up with the path by the cemetery. The weather has been atrocious, so it has been rather stop-start, but we expect to have this phase finished on time."

The architectural firm RMJM has just completed the interpretation study. Their recommendations as to how to interpret the natural and human history of the area are now being considered by the project steering group. Their report includes ideas about what type of artworks and interpretation panels would be most appealing and educational for people using the trail.

There is good news for all who hope that the planned 13.5km trail can be extended all the way round the loch to complete the circle. Perth and Kinross Council has awarded TRACKS £10,000 to do a feasibility study into a route from Vane Farm to Kinross. This proved the most problematic area when the Loch Leven Heritage Project was being developed. The decision was taken to leave it out of the project and to tackle the major part of the circuit where agreement could be reached – from Kinross clockwise to Vane Farm.

The TRACKS committee has appointed Peter Scott to undertake the Feasibility Study and he is now in the middle of the work. Of course, if a route can be agreed to complete the link, TRACKS will have to seek extra funding to do the work on top of the existing project. Other activity related to, but additional to the Loch Leven Heritage Project, concerns the need to expand the Burleigh Sands car park, which will become even more popular once the project is completed and more people visit to use the path. TRACKS has been discussing this with Scottish Natural Heritage and the landowner, Kinross Estates, with a view to submitting a planning application to Perth and Kinross Council.



So, despite the weather, work is proceeding behind the scenes to deliver the project and to look at potential enhancements. This is an exciting time for TRACKS, as their vision of enabling many more people to enjoy Kinross-shire's greatest natural feature gradually takes shape.

Charity Cycle Event at Kinross House

Dozens of youngsters from local playgroups and nurseries are set to take part in a sponsored cycle around the gardens of Kinross House to raise funds for Cancer Research UK. The event will take place on **Sunday 4 March** and is being organised by Crook of Devon woman Julie Rose, who organised a similar event last year which raised £1,400 for the charity.

Julie said, "last year 67 children took part, this year we are aiming to have at least 180 children. My two daughters attend Fossoway School and the school children are tremendous in supporting this event." She added, "special thanks go to Jamie Montgomery of Kinross House for permission to use the estate for a second year."



Julie Rose and participants at last year's event

This year, the following playgroups and nurseries are participating: Dollar Under Fives, Fossoway Pre-School Group, Lochleven Twos Club, Fossoway Toddlers, Swansacre Playgroup, Portmoak Under 5s, Milnathort Babies and Toddlers, Glenfarg Village Playschool and Lochleven Babies and Toddlers.

Children who are not entering as part of these organized groups are also welcome to participate, but must register with Julie to receive a sponsor form prior to the event. Julie can be contacted by e-mail at julesmrose@yahoo.co.uk or by telephone on 01577 480051.

Upon completion of the sponsored cycle, each child will receive a certificate and snack.

Julie will be raising further funds for Cancer Research UK in April when she takes part in the **London Marathon**. She hopes to raise at least £4,000. If you would like to sponsor her, you can do so on the following website: www.justgiving.com/juliemrose

Milnathort Flooding

An action group has been formed by some residents of Milnathort following dissatisfaction with P&KC's response to the flooding which occurred on 13 and 14 December.

At the time of writing, the Post Office, chip shop and Jolly Beggars are still closed, and several families are being housed in temporary accommodation following the deluge which occurred when local waterways burst their banks following days of exceptionally heavy rain. It appears that flood water also surcharged from the drainage system.



Questions are being asked as to why the flood defence works, completed in August 2006 at a cost of £500,000, failed to cope with the floodwater. Arup Scotland, who designed the flood alleviation scheme and supervised construction, sent staff to Milnathort on 14 December to examine the situation. A report is being prepared by Arup staff who were not involved in the original design.

Meanwhile, a report submitted to P&KC's Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee on 17 January by the Executive Director (Environment) has been criticised for inaccuracies. It lists just 17 commercial, industrial and domestic properties in Milnathort that had been affected. The report can be downloaded from the Committee Information section of the Council's website: www.pkc.gov.uk

Parts of Kinross were also affected by the flooding. Anyone in Milnathort or Kinross whose property was affected and who thinks they have been "missed" by the Council is urged to make contact with P&KC.

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Kinross-shire Civic Trust

Architectural Award Scheme 2007

Renovations, Extensions and Conversions



Entries are invited for this award, which was initiated in 1991 to give encouragement and recognition to architectural design and construction work of merit within the area of Kinross-shire and Glenfarg. Any type of renovation, extension or conversion may be submitted, subject to the entry conditions set out below.

The closing date for entries is 30 June 2007.

The judging panel will consist of assessors with experience of this type of scheme, who reside and practice outside the scheme area. Judging will take place in autumn 2007.

The awards will consist of a plaque, for display at the building, with certificates for the winning architect and client. The award results will be announced in the press.

Conditions of Entry

1. All works for consideration must have been carried out and completed between 2002 and 30 June 2007.
2. The assessors will inspect all the sites and will consider the following points:
 - a) the general standard of design and its impact on the surrounding area.
 - b) the standard of construction and finish
 - c) the extent to which the project achieves innovation and initiative in order to achieve the desired result.
3. Entries may be submitted by client or architect, but both must agree to the submission of the entry.

Further details and entry forms may be obtained from:
Mrs. Bridget Lindsay, Kinross-shire Civic Trust
Architectural Award Committee
Balgedie House, Easter Balgedie
By Kinross, KY13 9HQ
01592 840252

KCT Best Kept Village Award 2007

The Best Kept Village and Best Kept Hamlet Awards will be judged this year in the second week of August. The aim of the competition is for villages to be 'Best Kept' on a continuing basis, not just for one day. The exact date of the judging will not, therefore, be announced. Entry forms will be sent to Village Organisers in March.

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Town Hall and Library

Progress with the court case was depressingly slow last year, and we have not been able to write anything of substance for some time, so we briefly summarise below some earlier stages of this matter before reporting some developments.

Background

A decision was taken at the Council's Strategic Policy and Resources Committee (SP&RC) in February 2002 to sell the Town Hall and Library. Local people claimed the Council did not have the right to sell the buildings as they had been donated to the local community in perpetuity, i.e. they were part of the common good. Because a question had arisen regarding P&KC's right to dispose of the buildings, P&KC was obliged under Section 75 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 to petition the Sheriff Court for permission to sell. They did this in August 2005. They had already found a purchaser offering £185,000. The Council proposed putting approximately £66,500 of this into the Kinross Common Good Fund, whilst retaining the remaining £118,500 (approx). The reasons for retaining this sum were: (1) although P&KC acknowledged that the Town Hall was common good, it felt the Library was not and (2) P&KC wanted to withhold a sum to cover maintenance costs expended over recent years on the buildings and the cost of setting up the portacabin library.

Kinross CC was accepted into the legal process in the Sheriff Court as respondent in the case. In January 2006 the Sheriff agreed to sist, or suspend, the court case while both sides jointly obtained the opinion of a QC on certain points of law. Both sides were to be bound by the QC's opinion. Due principally to staff changes at P&KC, the QC was not instructed until May, and his opinion not supplied until late August. In early September the CC's solicitor asked P&KC how they intended to proceed, and a formal response to this enquiry was not received until 1 December 2006.

Following receipt of the QC's opinion, fresh decisions relating to the court case were made at some P&KC Committees.

Development 1

In November the Executive sub committee of the SP&RC resolved "That in relation to the court action regarding Kinross Town Hall and the Kinross Carnegie Free Library, the whole of the property be conceded to be part of the common good fund, and that the whole proceeds should be paid into the Kinross Common Good Fund without any deductions for historic maintenance costs."

Development 2

On 20 December the Kinross Common Good Fund Committee was reconvened for the first time in many years. The remit of Common Good Fund Committees is to:

- determine all matters involving the disbursement of Common Good Fund monies
- determine all matters relating to property or land or other assets held by the Common Good Funds.

As there is only £596.12 in the fund there have been no surpluses worth disbursing to good causes in recent years. It would seem, however, that someone had remembered the second part of the remit. The Committee consisted of Local Councillors George Hayton (Kinross Town) and Willie Robertson (Milnathort and North Kinross), plus Jimmy Doig and Willie Wilson (Convener and Vice-Convener of the SP&RC). We do not know exactly what the Common Good Fund Committee was being asked to decide, as Council officers recommended that the report to the committee (by the Head of Property) should be excluded from the public and press under Schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

However, we thought the Common Good Fund Committee was probably being asked to approve the earlier decision of the SP&RC to sell the buildings. We applied to send a deputation. Eileen addressed the committee and also answered questions for ten minutes. We urged the committee to reconsider the Council's decision to sell. We reminded them that 2,400 of their local constituents had signed a petition stating their belief that the Town Hall and Library buildings were gifted to the local people and that the local authority had an obligation to restore and maintain them. We also argued that a compromise solution, whereby perhaps part of the buildings could be converted to commercial use (office or retail) whilst restoring the Town Hall for community use would be more beneficial to the town than converting all of the buildings to flats, which is the use they will be put to if the deal the Council hopes to conclude goes ahead. We had also submitted a six-page letter detailing these and many other points. The Committee's discussion took place in private. It seems our pleas were not successful: the Committee agreed to homologate (or ratify) the decision made by the SP&R Committee in 2002 to sell the buildings. We understand that the CGFC has also agreed that any maintenance costs as from 20 December 2006 should come from the Common Good Fund.

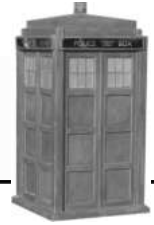
The Next Step

Although the Council's new resolution (to put all proceeds into the Common Good Fund) is an improvement on the original petition, we still believe this is a woeful under-valuing of the buildings, due to years of neglect by the Council.

We expect P&KC to follow up their committee decisions with an amended petition to the Sheriff Court and for the case to resume. We will continue to oppose the sale of the buildings.

Eileen Thomas & Dave Cuthbert
Kinross CC Town Hall sub committee

Police Box



Festive Policing: We are happy to report that the holiday period passed with no more problems than we would normally encounter during any weekend in the year. However, there were two shop windows in Kinross High Street broken and several related incidents of graffiti whereby properties had “tags” spray-painted on them. In both cases persons were identified as being responsible and reports have been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

Parking on Pavements: Recently there have been complaints received at Kinross Police Office in connection with vehicles being parked on pavements. The main concerns are that pedestrians and other pavement users are having to negotiate a way around the obstruction and in some cases that means stepping onto the road. You will appreciate that this is not best practice for pedestrians who are young children or indeed persons pushing prams, due to traffic already on the road. This problem has arisen in most villages in the Kinross beat area. Where possible, Kinross officers will endeavour to respond to such complaints and deal with the matter accordingly. In some cases, persons have been reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

Visibility in the Dark: Some complaints have also been received in connection with non-vehicular road users who

are putting themselves (and others) in danger by not wearing adequate clothing, which highlights their presence, on the roads. It is advisable for persons who jog, cycle or use horses on the roads, to wear clothing, where possible, which is fluorescent or reflective, during the hours of darkness. This will give any drivers of vehicles an indication of their presence on the road and hopefully avoid any collisions.

Crime Stoppers - Telephone Number 0800 555 111

This telephone number is a freephone number unless you are using a mobile phone, which any member of the public can contact at any time, if they have information relating to criminal activity of any sort. It is, if you wish, confidential and you will not be contacted if you choose to remain anonymous. Community Crime Officers (details shown below) can be contacted at Kinross Police Office on 01577 863571.

Kinross - Constable Ronnie Child.

Milnathort, Kinnesswood & Scotlandwell - Constable Marissa Hardie

Cleish and Blairadam, Crook of Devon, Powmill, Blairingone, Carnbo and Glenfarg areas - Constable Toni Pedersen.

Photograph Competition

Congratulations to Elizabeth Graham, winner of the Kinross Newsletter and Community Website Photograph Competition. Her photograph “Furrows”, entered in the Dramatic Kinross-shire category, was judged the overall winning photograph. Talented Elizabeth also won the Ancient Landmarks of Kinross-shire category. Full competition results are as follows:



Ancient Landmarks of Kinross-shire

1st “Burleigh Castle” by Elizabeth Graham, The Wing, Lethangie, Kinross

2nd “Burleigh Castle” by Dugald McIntyre, 25 Old Perth Road, Milnathort

Dramatic Kinross-shire

1st “Furrows” by Elizabeth Graham, The Wing, Lethangie, Kinross

2nd “Reflected Glow” by Lyn Haworth, 15 Auld Mart Road, Milnathort

The winning photograph is shown on the front cover of this Newsletter and all entries can be viewed at www.kinross.cc.

Thank you to all those who entered the competition. Although there were a number of good entries, none were in the Kinross Town or Villages of Kinross-shire categories. The website team will continue to welcome additions to the photo library at www.kinross.cc

The winner and runners-up are invited to attend the February meeting of Kinross CC, when they will be presented with framed certificates and the overall winner will receive a piece of South Lissens pottery.

Portmoak Wedding Exhibition

Something Old . . . Something New



We’re planning **something new** for the 2007 Portmoak Festival this summer – a wedding exhibition in Portmoak Church. We’re looking for wedding dresses, accessories and photographs from anyone who has connections with the Kinross-shire area, and Portmoak in particular. **Something old** – we’d like to include your grandmother’s wedding or even your great granny’s dress as well as your own. A dress for every decade would be perfect. **Something borrowed** – that’s where you come in. If you have anything you’d be prepared to lend for the show we’d like to hear from you. **And something blue?** Not all wedding dresses are white:

Married in white, you’ve chosen all right
Married in blue, love ever true,
Married in brown, live out of town,
Married in grey, live far away
Married in green, a shame to be seen.

We are also looking for dressmaker’s dummies for the display and any information at all on Portmoak and local weddings. This is a perfect excuse to go up into the attic or into the back of the wardrobe and dig out your memories.

Contact: Lesley Botten, Weavers Croft, Main Street, Kinnesswood. Telephone 01592 840120, email lesley.botten@iscali.co.uk



Club & Community Group News

Portmoak Film Society

December treats and January feats

Local children and their parents packed into a festively decorated Portmoak Hall on 28 December for the Wallace & Gromit movie "Curse of the Were-Rabbit". This was PFS' first Christmas family film and judging by the laughter and popcorn munching, it was a great success with old and young alike! In true W&G tradition the film was packed with corny one-liners like "What's up dog" and "the buck stops here", my personal favourites. Many thanks to the ladies for lots of treats like the ice cream and butterscotch popcorn - just like in a real cinema, only much nicer and half the price!

At the beginning of December, PFS held a Local Craft Fair which was well attended and provided visitors with an early opportunity to acquire some beautiful Christmas presents. It raised £360 for PFS funds and thanks again to all the helpers - another event in the annual PFS calendar which is sure to feature again.

The January film was "Touching the Void", a very moving and tense recreation of the true story of two British climbers who very nearly didn't survive the descent from 21,000 feet in the Peruvian mountains. The 30 film-goers who braved the high winds to see it voted it almost unanimously "excellent" and there was more than one comment about the "North Face of the Bishop" to be heard afterwards!

The next film, to be shown on **Saturday 10 February** at 7.30 p.m. is "**A very long engagement**". The French film made in 2004 stars Audrey Tatou (of "Amélie" fame) as a young woman in post-World War I France who refuses to believe that her soldier fiancé has perished in the trenches.

If you aren't a PFS member but would like to see this film, find one who has a season ticket and come as their guest for £4. Enjoy the friendly atmosphere of the "cinema on your doorstep". With a big screen and new sound system, the experience lacks none of the quality you will pay twice the amount for at the nearest Odeon!

For more info log on to:

www.portmoakfilmsociety.org.uk

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to arrange a collection time

VANS AND TRAILERS ALSO WELCOME

Kinross and District Art Club

The Chairman, Committee and Members of the Kinross and District Art Club extend belated New Year Wishes to all readers of this column.

After a break for the Christmas celebration, the Club started their Spring Term meetings in the Millbridge Hall, Kinross on 9 January. Our weekly meetings will be held on Tuesdays at 2 pm and will continue until 29 May (**except** on 27 February when the National Blood Transfusion Unit uses the Hall).

It was with sadness that just before Christmas we learned of the passing of Victor Clark. Victor was a long time, loyal and respected member who enjoyed his painting and the camaraderie of the Club. Even with his disability, Victor kept a keen sense of humour. He will be missed from our meetings and our condolences are with Cathie and family at this difficult time.

We look forward to meeting any new members who would wish to join the club and pursue the hobby. Details may be obtained by telephone 01577 864391.

Milnathort and Portmoak Tenants and Residents Association

A meeting was held at the Thistle Hotel, Milnathort in December which was to have been an Annual General Meeting but due to us being 'non quorate' an informal meeting was held. Those residents who did turn up and were treated to an excellent talk by Councillor Willie Robertson on local affairs and later Liz Sweeney from Community Scotland spoke to us and listened to our comments on various subjects. We finished a most enjoyable meeting with coffee and mince pies and I wish to thank Muriel Miller of Perth Tenants and Residents Federation, Liz Sweeney of Community Scotland, and Councillor Robertson of Milnathort for their contribution.

I would like to urge residents and tenants to come to the next AGM which will be in April.

Mike Twaddle, Secretary

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Probus Club



There was a change of style for the December meeting. Instead of the usual speaker, the members were entertained by a concert party calling themselves "The Third Generation" and consisting of four ladies. The Pianist was Eileen Atkinson, the Tap Dancer Lily Hutchison, the poetry recitations were given by Lucy Hunter and Katie Adamson, who describes herself as a singer, was the Leader of the group. The ladies stretch in age from 74 to 87 but despite their years are extremely active and gave a first class performance. The show consisted of three acts interspersed by poetry reading and a display of tap dancing. For the first act Lily, Lucy and Katie appeared as London costermongers dressed in the traditional style and sang a selection of songs all connected with London, starting with "Maybe it's because I'm a Londoner". The second act featured songs with an American theme, with the ladies dressed in costumes which had an American feel such as the stars and stripes while the third act centered round Christmas and the costumes were again on this theme. The two poems were the "The Kirk Mouse" and "Jenny and the Microwave", while Lily Hutchison gave a faultless display of tap dancing on a round board which had been the top of a table. Arthur Wallace gave the vote of thanks.

The speaker for the meeting on 3 January was Richard Hynd, and his subject, the Restoration of Vintage Cars. He divided vintage car enthusiasts into three groups, (1) Those who liked to own vintage cars and showed them at car rallies, (2) Those who liked to drive vintage cars - getting to know the inner working (3) Those who liked to restore vintage cars - Richard fell into this group.

Richard started over thirty years ago by acquiring an MG (TA series), which was in a ruinous state. Then he found a second MG which was rusting away in a garage. He went on to acquire four vintage cars, the two MGs already referred to, a 1927 flat-nosed Morris Oxford, and a 1926 bull-nosed Morris Cowley, He said it would be ten years at least before he is finished restoring this last car.

He then mentioned the great difficulty in obtaining spares. As can be imagined the dealers have stopped selling spares for these eighty-year-old cars long ago. But spares can still be found in the strangest of places, such as garage sales, from information on the internet and in magazines, car boot sales and in particular from the Autojumble Sale held in Beaulieu, a little place just south of Southampton. One of the most interesting sources of supply are a couple of firms who specialise in obtaining replica spares from the far East. These spares are absolutely identical to the genuine article but hand made in places like Taiwan.

The enthusiasts come from all walks of life, but all find vintage cars great fun and are united in a fellowship

with a great sense of camaraderie. Malcolm Mason gave the vote of thanks.

At the meeting on 17 January, Bill Stark, a former President of the Dunfermline Probus Club entertained us with a fascinating series of slides taken on a visit to the Canadian Rockies. He started in Calgary with some very impressive pictures of the city and of the buildings erected for the Winter Olympics and showed us some of the arenas used for the Calgary Stampede and its Parade which were clearly quite a highlight of his visit. He then moved on through some quite barren areas of countryside with remarkable sculptures of limestone known as "hoodoos" formed by the action of wind and weather over the centuries to the city of Banff with its sulphur springs and caves and famous for the magnificent but expensive Banff Springs Hotel. He took us up the gondola lift to Sulphur Mountain where, even in July, there was still a good covering of snow and unfortunately also a lot of low cloud which rather spoiled the views.

We then moved to another Canadian Pacific Hotel, Chateau Lake Louise, beside the Lake and with a beautiful view of Mount Victoria, still snow covered, at the other end of the lake. He took us along the Bow River and showed us a selection of pictures of lakes of an incredible blue and often with beautiful reflections of the surrounding mountains and with forests of tall, lodge-pole pine trees and including some of the wild life of chipmunks and ground squirrels. The mountainsides are very steep in places with trees clinging onto what seems to be almost bare rock and with waterfalls which appear out of the rock and sometimes disappear again into caves or tunnels. He then took us to the Athabasca Glacier and on to one of the special snow vehicles that are able to travel up the immense glacier that feeds the Athabasca River with melt water that finally arrives in the Atlantic Ocean far to the east. The final destination in the Rockies was Mount Robson, the highest peak in Canada.

Bill Stark then moved on to Vancouver and showed us some of the striking modern buildings in the city and the very beautiful flowers in the Queen Elizabeth Gardens including an amazing display of fuchsias and more beautiful gardens at Stanley Park with some resident skunks. After a short cruise along the coast from Vancouver they crossed to Vancouver Island and visited Victoria and the Butchart Gardens which occupy the site of a former quarry which has been transformed by the Butchart family into a magnificent garden and is now open to the public, again with a wonderful floral display including plants from around the world and also a number of statues. It's impossible to convey in words the beauty and magnificence of the scenery that Bill Stark showed us in his slides and a vote of thanks proposed by Jim King was warmly supported by the members.

Kinross & District Rotary Club



The guest speaker at the meeting on 20 November was Mary Erica Zimmer, a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar from Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Erica is currently being sponsored by the local Rotary Club in the USA to attend St Andrews University where she is studying Mediaeval English. Her lively talk detailed her ambitions to pursue a career in education. She also described the impact hurricane Katrina had had on her family and the important part the Shelter Box scheme supported by Kinross Rotary Club had been in providing immediate assistance to the many people made homeless.

Chris & Lyn Willsher from Dalqueich came to the meeting on 27 November to relate the interesting details of their recent holiday to Svalbard in the far north of Norway. One of the main purposes of their visit was to see polar bears in their natural environment and Lyn described the excitement of recording each sighting. Indeed the whole presentation was backed up by some wonderful shots featuring the local wildlife.

President Eddie MacKay had the pleasure of welcoming Daniel Harper to the meeting held on 11 December. Daniel, an ex-pupil of Kinross High School, gave a thought-provoking talk on the ten months he spent working for the synod of the main Presbyterian Church in Malawi. Whilst in the country he spent time in the countryside and in Blantyre doing a wide variety of jobs. He had been involved in organising youth conferences, the Mangochi flood disaster and had suffered a traumatic armed robbery when he lost all his possessions and had thought his life was in severe danger.

The Club was saddened to hear of the death of Rotarian Bert Gibson on 8 December. Bert, who had been ill for some time, was a respected founder member of the Kinross & District Club and a past President.

As in past years, several Rotarians assisted with the Lighting Up Kinross project as part of the Christmas preparations.

The annual Christmas Dinner was held in the Windlestrae Hotel on 18 December. Musical crackers ably conducted by Rotarian, Dugald McIntyre, preceded a 'Who wants to be a Millionaire' game organised by Rotarian Barry Davies when Rotarian Kelvin Reay surprised the gathering by winning the top prize. If only it had been the real thing!

At the meeting held on 15 January a cheque for £900 was presented to Jamie Montgomery as the Club's contribution to the Kinross-shire Partnership following the annual golf tournament.

At the same meeting Andrew Caulfield, secretary of the successful Kinross Boxing Club, gave a very interesting talk on the workings of the Club. Andrew, an ex-international amateur boxer and European referee, is currently preparing to sit the World AIBA

examination. Andrew presented President Eddie MacKay with a pair of mini boxing gloves signed by the Club's patron, Dick McTaggart that will be used by the Rotary Club as part of its future fund-raising ventures.

Common Grounds

We held our AGM on 24 November in the Church Street Hall, Milnathort attended by over twenty of our members. For the coming year the appointments were: Convener, James Henry; V. Convener, Robbert Hermanns; Secretary, Linda Freeman; Treasurer, John Colebourn; Project Co-ordinator, Pat Payne; Ass. PC, Sheila Wardell; Volunteer Reps, Maureen Eadie and Claudette Hudes. A thanks was recorded to Keith Watson for again auditing our accounts.

Despite the loss of the shop in South Street, we are still managing to make monthly donations of up to £1000 to African projects. Worthy causes supported include Tear Fund, Impact Zanzibar and a promotion of beekeeping, Hives Save Lives.

Current events: An interesting illustrated talk 'Sunrise Malawi' by Mr George Devine, Chairman of the UK-Africa Scout Fellowship, in the Church Street Hall on 19 January covered an expedition to Malawi in 2005 and the planning for a follow up in 2007. The event was well-attended and rounded off suitably by the presentation of a £500 cheque to assist with the refurbishment of a scout training camp which the 2007 expedition will be working on. The Perth Strathspey and Reel Society concert in the Church Centre, Kinross on Saturday 27 January in support of our project will, we hope, have attracted good support.

Projects: An ongoing project is in support of Water-Aid. Producing knitted squares to add to Water Aid's river of wool, which is to be used to highlight the importance of clean water. Many thanks to everyone who has donated blue wool. In January we sent £1000 to the Zamumtima Zimawahara project where a community of 500 live, a high proportion of whom are blind and 60 families are headed by children. The project aims to train health workers to give home-based care for people with HIV/AIDS. Thank you to all our customers and those who support us in so many different ways.

Please note that we are now open on **Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays**, in the Church Street Hall, from 10am to 3pm. Come and enjoy tea, coffee and home baking before a real log fire and buy something from our range of Fairtrade goods, crafts and pre-loved books.

Community Website

For contact details of community groups, hall bookings, job vacancies, leisure and visitor information and much more, visit

www.kinross.cc



Lomond Antiques and Collectors Club



Kinross-shire Historical Society



Members and guests braved floods and road closures to reach the club's Christmas party. As ever, the buffet supper provided by members tasted every bit as good as it looked. Joe's Seasonal Challenge ranged from Mary, Queen of Scots to Zara Philips and from vegetarians to Viagra. Correct, absolutely nothing to do with antiques, but great fun. The club will resume in February.

Kinross Pipe Band

Success for Youngsters in Pitlochry

The up and coming youngsters of the Pipe Band did themselves proud recently at the Robert Wiseman Dairies Vale of Atholl Pipe Band Junior Piping and Drumming Contest, held in Pitlochry High School on Saturday 20 January.

It was a long day for everyone, starting with the trek up to Pitlochry to be there for the chanter competitions starting at 9.30am, and then not finishing until the prizes were announced, which was nearly 6pm by the time the very busy competitions were all complete.

There was quite a haul of prizes from our players at the end of the day: From the Drum Corps, Daniel Pickering (13) won 1st prize in the 12 – 18 years Drumming on Pad, Cameron Elder (13) collected 3rd place for Novice Side Drumming, and Alexander Cox (9) picked up 6th place for Novice Drumming on Pad. From the Pipe Corps, Sean Kellett (12) came 2nd in the 11 – 12 years Chanter, and 4th in the 12 and Under Novice Piping, while Magnus Pickering (10) came 4th in the 10 and Under Chanter.

Well done to all who took part, not just the prize winners, as everyone had clearly practised hard for this event, and the competing fields were all large and of a high standard!

Meanwhile, the Band is now planning the Summer Season for 2007 and is actively on the lookout for new members, **particularly pipers**, to swell the ranks. Alex Murphy has recently taken the decision on health grounds to retire from active playing, along with Drew Dalrymple who had to reluctantly hang his Glengarry up at the end of last year for the same reason. (Alex will continue to tutor the youngsters, however, and advise the Band on all issues). We owe a huge vote of thanks to both for their playing service over the years. However, this leaves the Pipe Corps in particular very thin on the ground for being able to commit to attending competitions this year. We would therefore ***strongly urge any pipers out there in the community*** to come along and support your local Pipe Band! ***Come on – this is our heritage – don't let it waste away !!!***

For any further information, call Nigel Kellett 01577 863738, or Alex Murphy 01577 862803, or visit the website, www.kinross-pipe-band.co.uk

At the end of a wild, wet and windy day, Mrs Sheila Pitcairn FSA (Scotland), LHG,

from Dunfermline Heritage Society braved the elements to speak to members of the Kinross-shire Historical Society at their November monthly meeting. Her subject was "Malcolm, Margaret and Wallace" and she revealed encyclopaedic knowledge of Scottish history and over 40 years of research. With enthusiasm and humour she brought these 13th Century rulers to life, telling us that Queen Margaret wanted to be a nun, not a queen, that she brought Roman Catholicism to Scotland and that as the church became very wealthy the Dunfermline Monastery was the biggest and best. Twenty Kings and Queens were buried in Dunfermline. The audience, some 76 members and guests, would surely agree with Chairman Robin Eadie who said that he wished Mrs Pitcairn had taught him history.

It wasn't the sausage rolls and mince pies that lured the citizens of Kinross-shire to the December meeting. It was the speaker, Dr David Munro with his talk entitled "The Roads, Railways and Routeways of Kinross-shire." David speaks to audiences all over the world, so we are very privileged that he stays amongst us and observes and records this area, the landscape and the history.

David's talk was illustrated with marvellous slides of maps, old postcards, a watercolour painting and photographs ancient and modern. A map of West Fife by Blaeu in 1654 did not indicate any roads, but the existence of routeways can be found from other sources, including the first road improvement legislation passed in 1555 for the improvement of roads in and out of Scottish burghs. Tolls were raised as early as 1599 at Gaimeybridge and an act of 1699 advanced the building of roads and bridges using statute labour. The later Turnpike Acts passed during the late 18th and early 19th centuries established many of the roads we now use today.

By 1790, the Green Inn in Kinross was a well-known hostelry and from 1790 to 1848, the Inn and Kinross benefited from the heyday of the coaching era. The first train arrived in the county in March 1858 and Kinross subsequently became a railway junction as well as a road junction. In the 1890s, after the building of the Forth Bridge, a line was pushed through to Perth via Mawcarse and Glenfarg. The era of the railway came to an end in 1970 when the last train passed through the county.

David's talk brought us right up to the present day. TRACKS is now helping to change the landscape (and future maps) with the routeway around Loch Leven.

As Director of the Scottish Geographical Society, Dr Munro holds the same position as the famous explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton who was the Director 100 years ago. The Historical Society thanks David Munro most sincerely for finding time to talk to us again.

(See Notices for details of next meetings).

Kinross Camera Club

Kinross Camera Club meets each Thursday in the Church Centre, Kinross, from 7.30pm. Come along and chat to members, see the images they produce and find out more about what the club can offer photographers of all levels and interests. As ever, this season offers a varied programme of speakers, practical evenings, competitions and other events, catering for traditional and digital photographers of all abilities.

The Camera Club would like to wish all members and supporters, old and new, a very Happy New Year. The post-Christmas season is underway, and there's plenty going on for all. The club has enjoyed great talks from members Duncan MacEnhill, Reg Gray, Malcolm Sugden and Stewart Niven. It's great to see that members are working on such a wide variety of photographic interests – keep up the good work!

The second round of the League Competition was judged by Al Buntin from Dundee. This was a themed round, and asked the members to interpret the theme of 'People'. The overall competition is now neck-and-neck, with only a few points between the leaders. Everything now hinges on the third and final round of competition.

The club also competed in a slide competition with Cupar and St Andrews Camera Clubs, coming second to St Andrews in a tough competition.

The Club would also like to thank the Royal Bank of Scotland for their kind donation and continued support of the group.

The syllabus for the current season is on the club's website. The website is updated extremely frequently, and it's the best way to find out what's happening in the club. It's a busy time of year for the committee and plans are well underway for the 2007-2008 season too! **Forthcoming events** include the following:

- 1 Feb – AGM.
- 8 Feb – 'Landscapes' by Brian Clarke from Crail.
- 15 Feb – Slide fun night
- 22 Feb – '6 of the Best' – discussion evening

The digital group continues to meet this year on the **4th Wednesday of each month** in the Stables, Crook of Devon. If you are interested in digital photography please contact the camera club for more information on what's on offer. Please see the website or contact a committee member for more information.

Click Tips for February

It's definitely chilly outside, but what better excuse to get out and about than practising with your camera! People are often disappointed when they see their shots and they appear blurred and out-of-focus. But there's a few things you can do to help you get pin sharp shots.

Firstly, think about the subject you're shooting. If it's an action shot, for example a sporting event, to capture the action you'll need to use a fast shutter speed. The faster the activity, the faster the shutter speed is a



general rule to follow. Using a faster film speed or upping the ISO rating on a digital camera to ISO 400, 800 or even more, will also help but be aware your pictures may appear a little more grainy as a result.

Think about how the camera is supported. If you're holding your camera by hand, make sure you won't shift off-balance. You don't need expensive tripods to keep the camera stable, look for a wall, a fence post or any other prop you can rest your camera on or against. A bean bag, or a bag full of rice, really helps to keep things stable.

Finally, once you mastered the art of getting things IN focus, why not try deliberately getting them OUT of focus! Make sure your camera is stable then slow down the shutter speed to capture running water in a sheer white veil.

Alternatively, why not try panning, which is an effective technique when photographing cars, sport, or other activities with lots of movement. Select a slow shutter speed, focus on your subject, as they move, follow them with the camera. This technique can be very effective as it blurs the background and creates a real sense of movement.

Remember, if you want to know more about all things photography-related, contact Kinross Camera Club.

For more information on Kinross Camera Club, visit our website: www.kinrosscamerclub.org

Kinross Children's Gala

We would like to bring to the attention of the people of Kinross the committee have decided due to lack of interest in running the Gala it shall be disbanded.

The funds held at present by our committee shall be distributed to other worthwhile causes within the community. This is in accordance with the rules drawn up by our constitution.

Kinross Garden Group

Our December meeting, attended by 27 members and visitors, was addressed by



Betty Ivey of Cupar who gave us a very interesting and humorous talk entitled "Walk on the Wild Side".

On 11 January, 39 members and visitors attended a very enjoyable Festive Lunch at the Thistle Hotel, Milnathort.

Our next meeting is on **Thursday 8 February** in the Millbridge Halls, Kinross at 2pm. We will be delighted to welcome Steve McNamara of Branklyn Gardens who will give a talk on "**Branklyn Gardens and its Plants**". We hope to see as many members and friends as possible at this meeting.

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Fair Break Café

2007 in the café gets off to a good start with an interesting programme of regular and new activities/events.

Our local Labour MP, **Gordon Banks**, is holding an **advice surgery** in the Café on **Friday 2 February** 5pm until 6pm.

Our regular monthly **Amnesty Letter Writing** sessions continue, with the next meeting on **Sunday 4 February** 7.30pm until 9pm. Non-members welcome. On **Thursday 15 February** from 7pm until 9pm, we're having a **Crystal and Gem Workshop** run by local crystal therapist and Reiki master, Lyn Haworth. Lyn will be 'introducing us to the wonderful world of crystals, with practical tips on using crystals in your life and with a short guided meditation'. Numbers are limited so please let us know if you're interested (contact Marg on 01577 863557). Donations to Fair Break welcome in lieu of fee.

New events include regular Saturday morning **story telling for children** (every **Saturday** between 10.30am and 12 noon). We look forward to a special display of books from the lovely Barefoot Books for children. Bookstall and story-telling 10am until 12.30pm on **Saturday 24 February**.

We're delighted to welcome back **Malcolm Cowie** with his easy listening music and friendly banter. Malc will be playing on **Saturday 24 February** 2pm until 3.30pm.

New events include the **Heaven and Earth Club**, a discussion group which will meet to talk about topics raised in the Sunday programme of the same name (hosted by Gloria Hunniford). All those interested are welcome. The first meeting is on **Sunday 25 February** 4pm until 5pm in Fair Break. Further dates to be arranged. For more information contact John or Pat Munro on 01577 862952.

A very important national event is **Fairtrade Fortnight 26 February until 11 March**. As a fairtrade café, we'll be providing information about activities and materials. We'll be having special promotions in the Café during this fortnight.

Our outreach programme continues with fairtrade presentations in January at the Crook of Devon WRI, Lochgelly Men's Probud and a stall at the Fairtrade Conference in Perth.

We're always keen to promote the work of local artists. We're currently displaying the work of three local painters: David Robertson, Sybil Galbraith and Wendy Houston.

All profits from the shop go to nominated projects (usually in Africa). Before Christmas we sent £500 to the Amazon Hope Project in Peru. Our current project is a Youth Livestock Project in Ghana.

Volunteers welcome!

We're always delighted to hear from anyone who would be interested in contributing in any way to

activities in the Café. For more information about Fair Break activities please contact Marg Meade at 01577 863557, email margmeade@hotmail.com or pop into the Café at 28 South Street, Milnathort.

Diabetes UK (Scotland)

Kinross Voluntary Group

The next meeting of the Kinross Voluntary Group will be on **17 February**, when a speaker from a Pharmaceutical Company will talk about insulin pumps.

At the December meeting, the Powmill Quilting Group presented a cheque to the group for £500 to be used in our funds. The cheque was presented by Muriel Markland who was supported by Elizabeth Johnson and Ann Melville. This gives us a very welcome boost and will enable us to support research and ourselves for Diabetes UK.

The meeting was also attended by Yvonne Kellet, the Diabetic Support Nurse from Lochleven Health Centre. We shall be pleased to see her any time she is able to join us.

We meet in the Millbridge Hall, Kinross at 10.15am for 10.30am. If you need any further information about the group please contact: Vivian (Area Liaison Volunteer Diabetes UK) 01738 635826, Linda 01577 861217 or Allan 01577 862986.

Kinross-shire 50 Plus Club

The members enjoyed their New Year party on 4 January, with entertainment being provided by "String Sounds".



Friday Walks: The "Sair Heid" walk goes from success to success, with 30 gathered at the Tyndal-Bruce monument on Falkland Hill, enjoying the glorious sunshine of the only good day for weeks. They all made their way down the hill in excellent spirits - being thoroughly warmed inside and outside - ready to enjoy the soup and sandwiches served at Warbeck's in Falkland.

Sadly the appalling weather on the following Friday forced the cancellation of the walk from Monimail.

9 February: A one way walk from Alva along the back roads all the way to Muckhart. This is a good 9 miles, with a long steep climb out of Dollar.

23 February: A circular walk, starting at the Hermitage, Dunkeld, along the River Braan to Rumbling Bridge, and returning by Inver. This is an old favourite along good paths, and at least 7 miles long.

February meeting: The speaker on **1 February** will be Gordon Small on "The History of the Courier & Advertiser".

DEADLINE FOR ALL ARTICLES
5.00 pm, MONDAY 19 February
for Publication on Saturday 3 March

Potager Garden

Did you make a New Year resolution to get fitter and eat more healthily? We can help. The Potager is a community garden which encourages individuals and groups to learn more about all types of gardening. Whether you want to learn how to grow your own food, better flowers or join the small group of volunteers who maintain the garden we would love to hear from you. All ages, abilities and levels of experience welcome. There are also some DIY jobs that we need help with so if you could spare just a couple of hours to help mend the cold frames or paint the shed please ring Barbara Graham 01577 865238 or email barbara.graham@which.net. Perth College will be running an evening course on Horticultural Practices in the garden from March. Further details of this are available from Kinross Learning Centre (01577 863863).



Portmoak Hall 100 Club

November Draw

1st No 49 Muriel Markland, Perth
2nd No 89 Mike Thomson, Kinnesswood
3rd No 54 Ishbel Wallace, Kinnesswood

December Draw

1st No 10 Clare Cappon, Kinnesswood
2nd No 39 Lottie Williamson, Scotlandwell
3rd No 112 Sheila Drysdale, Kinnesswood

Kinross in Bloom

A Happy New Year to all - we are already planning ahead for lots of colour for summer 2007, and it won't be too long before the spring bulbs are coming up.

If you want to support us by joining our 200 Club (£1 a month and half the proceeds paid out as prizes) contact Diane McDiarmid on 865943. December's winners were: 1st Mr and Mrs Watson £25, 2nd Kate Francis £15, 3rd Sandy Ferguson £10 and 4th Lady Montgomery £5.

January's winners: 1st Betty McBain £25, 2nd Alistair Kinnear £15, 3rd Mr and Mrs Wallace £10 and 4th Aileen Sorbie £5.

You may already have seen the plans for the 'Gateway' or entrance marker to Kinross - we have some feedback already, but do let us have your views. We would like to thank Exxon Mobil who have a Volunteer Involvement Programme, and under the terms of this have given us a generous donation. Many thanks to Alastair Bathgate for taking the time and trouble to apply for this money for us.

To find out more about us, see www.kinrossinbloom.co.uk



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Sports News

Kinross Cricket Club

AGM: The club AGM took place on 8 December at the Green Hotel. Club chairman, Ken Reilly stated that there was “no doubt that the bar had been raised considerably over the past year. The club has gone from a small club meandering along sedately to a growing dynamic club with some exceptionally talented young players”. He said that he hoped the club would build on the extremely strong foundations laid over the past year and continue to develop on all fronts. He applauded the 1st XI for their strong performance in the Strathmore Union 3rd division and acknowledged the trophy the club received for being league runners up – a fantastic effort in our first year playing league cricket. He was delighted with the success of the junior section growing to over 90 junior members and highlighted the success on the field with the under 13 team winning the Scottish Cup. He praised the youngsters for their excellent standards of behaviour and positive attitude in training and thanked the coaches for their sterling efforts and commitment.

The committee was elected as follows:

Chairman	-	Ken Reilly
Secretary	-	Kirsteen Ross
Treasurer	-	Alan Harper
Club Captain	-	John Ross
Vice Captain	-	Simon Lopez
Junior Convenor	-	Pete Smith
Social Secretary	-	Alistair McLaren

Winter Training – 1st & 2nd XI

Senior Winter Training will take place at Queen Anne High School, Dunfermline on the following Wednesday nights from 8pm to 10pm:

14, 28 February; 7, 14, 21, 28 March.

New adult members will be made very welcome. Please email secretary@kinrosscc.co.uk to book a place at these sessions or contact John Ross on 07740 785 097.

Perth and Kinross Team Of The Year Award

Kinross Cricket Club under-13 team has been nominated for the Perth & Kinross Sports Council Team Of The Year Award for their success winning the MCC “Spirit of Cricket” Scottish Cup in June 2006. The winners will be announced at the Perth and Kinross Sports Personality Of The Year awards ceremony held at the AK Bell library on the 1st March. Fingers crossed!

New Cricket Ground Development at Kinross House

On Tuesday 19 December, a delegation of club members and their families attended the Perth & Kinross Council planning control meeting to put forward our case to overturn the recommendation made by the Planning Department to decline our

application to site a small wooden pavilion/ changing rooms in the grounds of Kinross House. Club captain, John Ross made an impassioned plea to Councillors and supporting statements were prepared by several parents. The club is delighted to announce that their arguments persuaded the Council to overturn the recommendation to decline our planning request and full permission has now been granted. The committee wishes to thank everyone who has worked hard to see this planning issue to a successful close and to those who sent letters of support to the Council. Work is scheduled to commence in Spring this year. This change of location will provide far superior facilities for all members and enable the club to grow even more.

Brothers Selected to Tour South Africa

Congratulations to brothers, James and Peter Ross who are celebrating at the news they have been selected for the Scotland Under 15s tour to South Africa in March 2007. The 16-day tour starts in Port Elizabeth on the South East coast and works its way across the country with the final matches being played in Cape Town. This is the first time Cricket Scotland has ever arranged a junior tour of this type and both boys say they are honoured to have been selected to play.

Fantastic Collection of Tesco Sport For Clubs and Schools vouchers

Thank you very much to everyone who has donated Tesco Sports vouchers to the cricket club. We have received the marvellous total of 2956 vouchers. This will enable us to purchase a significant quantity of outdoor match balls and indoor training balls for all ages of junior players as well as kinder cricket equipment for our younger members.

New Coaches

Congratulations to Simon Lopez and John Muncey for passing their level one cricket coaching course written and practical exams. The club now boasts an incredible 2 level 2 coaches, 6 level one coaches and 4 Intro level coaches.

New members, young, old, in-between, beginners and experienced alike are always welcome at the club. Details of the new outdoor season will be in next month's issue.

You can keep up to date by looking at our club website – www.kinrosscc.co.uk

DEADLINE FOR ALL ARTICLES

**5.00 pm, MONDAY 19 February
for Publication on Saturday 3 March**

Kinross Curling Club

The season has now reached the half-way point and a number of competitions are reaching their conclusions.



Rankine Cup. The rink of L McCleary, G Baird, D Sweeney and A Smith have won the cup with a game in hand. The remainder is very, very tight with any one of four vying for the Hogg Trophy and six going for the runner up spot.

Jubilee Salver. The final will be between the rinks of B Melville and G Hutcheson. Gregor will be looking for revenge after being beaten in the section game following a pick up.

Lomond League. The Club are top after the opening seven games, but by only 1 point. With a further eight games to go, the competition could go any way.

Province Bonspiel. Provisionally the Club won the two-rink competition playing against Kinross Ladies and Bishopshire. Should the weather be favourable, the game will be played again outside with the outside result standing.

Bank of Scotland Double Header. A tight start to the game but a 5 at the second saw the McCleary rink settle. The 5 was needed as D Clydesdale was being troubled by some steady play from an experienced Boreland (Inverkeithing) rink. The Club ran out the winners and will play the quarter final on 29 January.

Orwell Friendly. The first four games of this eight-game tie were all won by Kinross, going into the second session 20 shots up. The rinks in the second session all relaxed a little too much and were haemorrhaging shots left right and centre. After four ends Orwell were only just behind. A rallying pep talk from the President and Match Secretary did the job and Kinross retained the Gallowhill Cup by some 14 shots.

Kinross Curling Club, representing Loch Leven Province, won the **Scottish Province Championship**, played over seven games at Greenacres Ice Rink. Kinross were represented by David Clydesdale (skip), Lee McCleary, Alistair Wood and Douglas Gordon. The rink was unbeaten over the weekend and won a tight final against Borders Province by 5:4.

Sandy Nelson, Martin Sutherland, Dave Beveridge and Jim Taylor will go forward to the **Scottish Rink Championship** in Kilmarnock. They defeated a Dunfermline rink to qualify for the finals and restored Club pride after the other two Kinross rinks crashed out. The second half of the season will see the commencement of the Poole Trophy, Montgomery Trophy and conclusion of the Pairs, Jubilee Salver, Gallowhill Ploughshare and that all important Dunfermline friendly. Will Kinross retain? The 9th of March will reveal all.

Kinross Curling Club always welcomes new members and any new or experienced curlers wishing to join the Club or to discuss what curling may have to offer should contact Match Secretary, Alistair Wood on Kinross 862749.

Kinross Curling School

Based at the Green Hotel Kinross

We are holding a **Beginners Course** at the above venue, on **Saturday 10 / Sunday 11 February**.

Time of course is 9.45am / 12.30pm on both days.

Cost is only £35.00.

What to wear: warm loose trousers, an extra fleece, and bring with you **CLEANED SOLED TRAINERS**, not to be worn until in the ice rink.

This course is for anyone over 16 years, if interested please contact Ena Stevenson at Tel 01383850257,

Email enastevenson@aol.com

If you have children interested in trying curling, we have two after school clubs on a Monday and Thursday, age from 8 / 12 years.

For those children between 12 and 16 years, if they attend Kinross high, we have a session on Mondays at 4.30pm, see notices in School.

Otherwise contact same as above.

Kinross Rugby Football Club

Training on Tuesday and Thursday evenings

from 7pm until 9pm. Remember that New Year resolution you made... Everyone welcome.

For information and photos of our league and Scottish Cup trips, log on to www.kinrossrugby.com

Clubhouse open for all Six Nation games and all big football games on Sky and Setanta.

Sportsman's Brunch 25 February at 12 noon. Over 18s £10 per ticket, available from Clubhouse.

Clubhouse at KGV Playing fields, the Muirs. Tel: 01577 861773. Hope to see you in for some light refreshments!



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Kinross Road Runners

Twenty four Kinross Road Runners ran the annual club handicap race on 10 December. Runners were set off at intervals decided by the coach, Roger Stark. Sue Whisler led from the start to finish 1st whilst Andy Johns overtook twenty runners to finish 2nd. The race was followed by the presentation of club trophies. Gordon Donnachie won the Men's Championship, Judith Dobson won the Ladies Championship and Isabella Carmichael was voted Athlete of the Year.

Gordon Donnachie, Isabella Carmichael, Judith Dobson and Christine Myerscough took a break from Christmas shopping to run Fife AC's Falkland Festival race on 16 December. The 6-mile race on tracks between Falkland and Strathmiglo attracted a field of 144 runners. Gordon and Isabella ran together in 57:35, Judith Dobson finished in 47:07 and Christine Myerscough finished in 50:31.

There has been a good turn out for winter training, despite the wet and windy weather, as runners get fit for Spring races including our own race, **the Loch Leven Half Marathon, on 19 May**. The Loch Leven Half Marathon has a reputation as a friendly race and regularly attracts a field of 500 runners who enjoy the local scenery. Entries are now available on line at www.Born2run.co.uk. The website provides a 10-week half marathon training schedule which is suitable for beginners, and Kinross Road Runners can provide support and advice to anyone interested in running the race this year. We meet at 7pm on Wednesday evenings at Loch Leven Health Centre car park. More information about the club, including the training schedule, is available on our web site (www.kinrossroadrunners.co.uk) and on the club notice board in the Leisure centre.

Kinross Badminton Club

The Club has some new members in the Senior Section while the Junior Section, which continues to thrive, has a waiting list until next session. Members should note entries for the club's annual tournament and the Kate Francis Open Competition should be handed in by **16 February** at the High School games hall.



Kinross Squash Club

Now's the time to make those New Year resolutions happen.....???

Get Fit – Play Squash!

The mini leagues are a great way of getting a few games each month with different people of your same standard of your own squash.

You can join the mini leagues by contacting Peter Hookham on 01577 - 861003.

Enrolment forms to join the Kinross squash club are available on the notice board at the rear of the squash courts in Kinross leisure centre.

Last months winners of the mini leagues were:-

Premier League	- Jim Marshall
League 1	- Andrew Marshall
League 2	- Calum Johnston
League 3	- David White
League 4	- Barry Davies
League 5	- Fergus Dowds

Team News

In the Fife Squash League the Kinross team finished up before the Christmas break with an excellent 16-5 home win over last season's champions Dalgety Bay. Another good result followed by beating a stronger than usual Glenrothes 'A' team by 16-9 away. With 9 matches played out of 16 Kinross are lying 4th in the league table on 111 points, only 2 points behind Glenrothes 'B' and Woodmill who share 2nd place. Kirkcaldy lead the way on 123 points.

We are fortunate to have two excellent juniors, the only juniors playing in the Fife League, namely Andrew Marshall and David Gordon, who hold down the top positions at 1 & 2 in the team. Maturity, experience and creaking bones are provided by Archie Melville, Mike Cheshire, Jim Marshall and Peter Hookham who compete for the other 3 places.

Kinross Squash Club look forward to seeing some new faces on the courts during 2007 and ensure you of a warm and friendly welcome if you decide to join the mini leagues or offer to play for the team.

Kinross Tennis Club

The Tennis Season is getting nearer and for the enthusiasts this is a cheering thought when the weather is so drab. The AGM was held in November and the Committee for the next season is:

President - Robin McHugh; Secretary - Kay Mitchell; Treasurer - Elma McCulloch; Ladies Captain - Gail Nelson; Committee Members - Lex Aitken, Elaine Jessop, David Mitchell and Charmian Reid.

It is planned to have a **Quiz Night on Wednesday 28 February 2007** and details will be sent out to members about this soon.

For further information about the Tennis Club please contact Elma McCulloch on 863401 or Kay Mitchell on 864087.



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News from the Rurals

BISHOPSHIRE - The members held their Christmas party at Lochend Farm Shop, where Helen had prepared a delicious buffet. Instead of exchanging gifts, there was the opportunity of donating to SWRI's latest project, 'Fund a Farm', which will help provide farms for poor people in Africa.

Competitions:

Tree decoration - Elaine Matthews

Favourite Christmas photo - Elaine Matthews

For the first meeting of 2007 the members provided the entertainment. Sylvia told of her 'adventures' out east, especially with the toilets. Margaret organised a fun game, and others contributed anecdotes.

Competitions:

Toilet limerick - Margaret Crighton

Open sandwich - Janette Gardiner

CLEISH - President Dorothy Morris welcomed 24 members and friends to the December meeting. Business was attended to, then in a change from our usual we had 4 Christmas corners in various crafts. A quiz, a smellie quiz, followed by supper and raffle.

Competitions:

Flower of the Month - Marion Bisset

Mince Pies - Ann Bayne

Christmas Card (any craft) - Effie Wallace

President Dorothy Morris welcomed 19 members to the January meeting. Business was attended to then the Reverend Joanne and Don Finlay were introduced, who gave us a splendid hour of singing and keyboard playing on the theme of amour. Chris Pilling gave the vote of thanks. Supper was served then a small raffle held.

Competitions:

Flower of the Month - Margaret Kilpatrick

Vegetarian Supper Dish - Margaret Kilpatrick

Pretty Hanky - Fiona Bamfather

GLENFARG - President Mrs Margaret Scott welcomed members and introduced the speaker, Mrs Margaret Gillies Brown, the author of Far from The Rowan Tree, who gave a moving account of the trials and tribulations of her family's emigration to Alberta, Canada in 1959. Told without self-pity and with a certain amount of humour, it nonetheless highlighted the horrors faced by emigrants living in isolation in a strange country.

Mrs Scott proposed the vote of thanks.

Competitions:

Potted Plant - Liz Yull

Round of Shortbread - Allison Messenger

Bookmark - Allison Messenger

CROOK OF DEVON - Mrs Arbuckle presided over the January meeting and wished all members a very Happy New Year.

After business was concluded she welcomed Mrs Pat Payne and Mrs Margaret Mead who gave us a very interesting and informative talk and slide show on the work and support Fairtrade do and give to Third World producers. Mrs Isobel Mechan gave the vote of thanks.

Competitions:

Flower of the Month - I. Mill

Wholemeal scones - I. Mill

POWMILL - At the November meeting, President Mrs Mary Wilson introduced the guest speaker, Sir R Stewart of Arndean. He began his talk about the family tree of the Stewarts and the Christies of Cowden Castle. The lady curator of Dollar Museum showed slides of the castle and the beautiful Japanese Garden. Miss Ella Christie in the 1900's travelled in many countries. While in Japan she met a lady Taika Honda and later on was introduced to a gentleman from Japan called Matsus. They both helped Miss E Christie to design and create a beautiful 5 acre Japanese Garden at Cowden Castle, before Matsus died here in 1937.

It was an excellent and interesting talk. Mrs R Briscoe gave the vote of thanks. A delicious tea was provided by Mrs E Clark and Mrs E Shand.

Sir R Stewart and the lady curator judged the three competitions and the results were as follows:

Photograph of a Garden - Mrs E Johnston

Three Gypsy Creams - Mrs J Buchanan

Garden Gem - Mrs M Wilson

October's Sale of Work raised £500.

For our Christmas celebrations Powmill had a sedate evening with a lovely meal at the Castle Campbell Hotel, in Dollar. Mrs R Briscoe read aloud a short humorous poem about Powmill SWRI ladies. Three competitions were judged and results were as follows:

A Party Hat - Mrs C Stewart

Small Box with a selection - Mrs E Johnston

of Four Sweets

Garden Gem - Mrs M Wilson

MILNATHORT - We were well entertained at the November meeting by visiting Rural, Bridge of Earn who gave an informative and varied programme.

Competitions:

Baby's cardigan - E. Thomson

Fruit loaf - E. Thomson

Flower of the month - G. Drysdale

CARNBO – Members enjoyed a lively and interesting meeting when Gillian Stewart and three of her friends, Sheena, Isla and Sam demonstrated belly dancing. It really was a fun night and Gillian, who teaches a class in Kinross, explained the origins of belly dancing. This form of belly dancing originated in Egypt and is called Raqs al Sharqi which translated means “quivering heart”. The ladies wore very exotic costumes in lovely colours. The belts had lots of coins sewn on them; belly dancers used to be paid in coins and these would be sewn on to their costumes. The ladies demonstrated a veil dance and a stick dance, this latter used to be performed by men but has been taken over by ladies. Belly dancing is a wonderful form of exercise as it uses all parts of the body. Gillian invited our members to put on the belts she had brought with her and try some of the moves. After a little reticence, many of our members tried it and had great fun.

BLAIRINGONE - President Mary Ramsay welcomed members to a Christmas meal in Saline Hotel, Saline. A joint Christmas party with Powmill WRI was held for the children which was very successful. Santa Claus arrived to give each child a parcel. President Mary Ramsay welcomed a good turnout to the first meeting of the new year. Members thoroughly enjoyed seeing a beautiful display of bead necklaces, bracelets, brooches, pictures etc, all made by our secretary Mrs Fiona Clark.

Competitions:

Sausage rolls	-	Mary Croy
Fancy Candle	-	Betty Wardrop
Flower of the Month	-	Maureen Scullion

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Nature

Vane Farm



Greetings for 2007 from Vane Farm.

Hope you have all recovered from you festive hangovers n stuff. So another year begins as the auld wan disappears in the distance.

This year is a milestone year for Vane Farm as it's 40 years since we first bought the reserve, oor Ruby Anniversary kinda thing. A lot o changes have happened during that time both on the reserve and in terms of staff. If any of you out there have any pictures especially old uns before the place became whit it is the day, or tales tae regale aboot the place please give me a shout.

We are holding a big open day on **Sunday 17 June** to celebrate, so please make a space in yer diary for that wan, it wid be nice tae see ye tae see ye nice as the sayin goes.

Talkin aboot events we now have for your perusal copies of our 2007 events programme available from Vane. Did I mention that last time? ... hmmm... if a did apologies, it's me age.

Right then oan tae birdie things, Egbert is still howkin around the place lookin fine as per usual. Ducks are startin tae pair up for the coming breeding season, must be the mild weather. No long noo till the spring. Geese seem to have been a bit erratic but we certainly have several thousand still in the area. We sometimes see a few hundred during the day, but they seem to have been coming back in to roost efter dusk, nae easy tae see when they are dark coloured and the nicht is black.

Hippo spotted on the reserve !! well no as such. We now have a new range of eco friendly goods in the shop, a hippo bein wan o them. Whits a hippo yer wonderin, well other than the big beastie that runs aboot Africa it's a thing to go in yer cistern tae save watter. The idea bein it saves as much good water goin in tae yer watter closet, cos it disnae need tae be foo fur a flush, which then saves... eh watter! Seriously tho, even although we have had a lot of rain lately water is a resource we need to conserve so the more the better. We have these hippos for sale in the shop if you would like to buy one for a modest sum o siller, very easy to install in the cistern. Much easier than the African variety which widnae fit in yer cistern, infact if ye tried it, it wid bust the cistern, yer loo the bath the basin infact the whole bathroom and ye wid end up getting arrestit fur cruelty tae animals so jist come tae Vane, much safer and easier.

Fatballs oh yes! Several folks have asked us ower the years if we sell fatballs? Well now the answer is aye! Sold in buckets of 50 at an excellent price compared to

some suppliers, but am no gonnæ tell ye whit price - ye have tae come and see fur yersel. Anyway we now have them and several other new wildlife garden products in the shop. Have a wee jaunt along and see whits oan offer.

Staff news, nae changes since last year, still the same. The Field Teachers cos they're staff, have been doing a new project called " Bird Friendly Schools" where local schools have signed up free of charge to enrol in the project. We supply them with free nestboxes and bird feeders and a bag of birdfood to get them started. The teachers then go out to each school and talk to the kids about how to identify the birds around them, how to encourage them to visit feeders etc and try to spark an interest in nature. They make three visits to each school culminating in the " Big Schools Birdwatch" which runs in conjunction with the national "Big Garden Birdwatch the RSPB do every year at the end of January. Hope you did your own survey and submitted your results.

Paul has been a busy boy this month, or so he tells me, and has not managed to pit sumthin doon on paper about Loch Leven. He sends his profuse apologies and promises that normal service will be resumed next month. So I guess that's it fur noo.

See till next month keep on keeping on.

Colin.

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Weather



October Weather Report From Carnbo

October this year turned out to be 'balmy' in more ways than one! Temperatures were above normal both by night and day, with the high humidity and cloudy conditions and some rain most days, the feeling was of a wet month, but in truth rainfall was just about the 30 year average.

Rainfall for month 130 mm (104% of average)

Heaviest fall 31 mm (25th)

Highest temperature 15°C (13th)

Lowest temperature 1°C (27th)

Average temperature 9.2°C (1.5°C above normal)

One day with a maximum below 10°C (31st)

No days with a maximum above 20°C

Two nights with ground frost (very low)

No air frost recorded Snow not recorded

Cloud cover 75%

November Weather Report From Carnbo

November was a rather unsettled month, with a very wet spell mid month. Temperatures were not far from the long term average. First snow seen, Ochil Hills on the 17th.

Rainfall for month 151 mm (124% of average)

Heaviest fall 22 mm (15th)

Highest temperature 11°C (6th)

Lowest temperature -2°C (19th)

Average temperature 5.1°C

Seven days with a maximum above 10°C

No ice days (maximum below 0°C)

Thirteen nights with ground frost (lowest -4°C 2nd)

Air frost recorded on 6 nights

Snow not recorded Thunder not recorded

December Weather Report From Carnbo

December 2006 was a record breaking month, but unfortunately this was due to the very high rainfall total recorded, this being the highest for at least 40 years, and the highest 24 hour total for about 90 years on the 13th.

These heavy rainfall totals caused by extra energy in the North Atlantic lead to strong, very mild and humid air streams crossing the country until Christmas week.

Rainfall for month 249 mm (210% of average)

Heaviest fall 80.1 mm (13th)

Highest temperature 11°C (29th)

Lowest temperature -3°C (19th)

Average temperature 3.4°C

3 days with maximum above 10°C

No ice days (maximum temperature below 0°C)

Snow not recorded this December

Air Frost 9 nights

Ground Frost 19 nights

One day with thunder 31st

One day with hail 31st

Highs and lows, weatherwise, of 2006

Total rainfall	1313 mm (110% of average)
Highest monthly total	December 249 mm
Lowest monthly total	April 51 mm
Highest 24 hr	80.1 mm (13th December)
Rain days	202 (0.2 mm or above)
Wet days	158 (1.0 mm or above)
Highest temperature	26°C (25th July)
Lowest temperature	-8°C (31st January)
Average temperature	7.8°C (slightly above normal)

Coldest month January with 1.5°C

Warmest month July with 15.4°C

Snow recorded on 15 days, with total depth 37 cms

Snowiest month March

Ground frost 133 nights

Air frost 59 nights

Thunder days 5

Most notable features of the year: Lack of snow during January and February, wonderful Summer weather during July, and the exceptional rainfall of December.

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Farming



Black, White and Green

As most little boys love tractors will tell you; tractors nowadays are huge! Mechanisation of farming began after the Second World War and revolutionised agriculture. The nation was hungry after enduring food rationing and it was government policy to make sure that farmers could produce a plentiful supply of food in order that Britain become self sufficient. In much the same way as a computer revolutionised office practices, the tractor changed agriculture forever. Ploughing was made quicker and easier, plus the plough could turn over more soil. Breaking the ground down after ploughing was simple as the tractor could easily pull a harrow over the soil to create a perfect seedbed. Yields improved instantly and ever since, farmers have been perfecting the use of the tractor and its implements to improve yields, ease the workload and improve efficiency. These iron horses have grown larger over time and obviously consume a lot of energy but their influence has guaranteed the nation a plentiful supply of good food.

One thing that the inventors have not been able to mechanise yet is the humble farm dog. Just as our grandfathers and their grandfathers before them used a Collie dog to round up the sheep, all sheep farmers still rely on a dog for this kind of work. Sheep move quickly and no person or quad bike can nip from side to side as nimbly or as cleverly as a trained Collie. They are light on their feet and can reach sheep on steep ground easily. In this weather they are a blessing because they can move about the wet fields without trace. The sheepdog has many roles to play. Firstly they 'gather.' That is they are sent out from the gate of a field to gather up all the sheep and bring them together so that the whole batch are ready to be moved. Then they must 'drive.' This is the process of moving the sheep forward, keeping them together and headed in the right direction. A strong dog will also be able to 'force' the sheep through a gate or over a burn or into the sheep pens. At lambing time, the shepherd will rely on his Collie to assist in catching any ewe that needs help lambing. The dog will run alongside the ewe and slow it down until the shepherd gets a grip and catches the sheep. The dog does all this work quietly, without barking or using its teeth. Keeping the sheep as calm as possible is best for all concerned and a good sheepdog can do all these things and also be a good family friend.

In these days where we rely increasingly on technology and fossil fuel, the sheepdog represents the greenest, most environmentally sound workhorse on the farm. If you are lucky enough to get an opportunity to watch a sheepdog in action, it is both an amazing display of skill and a real kindness to our environment.

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Hedgehog Blog



Hattie the Hedgehog's Winter Diary

Early November

I've been really poorly! I am so pleased that Mum H took me in. I've got something called lungworm but the medicine I've been given didn't make me much better. I got very dehydrated and had to go to the vets (Alphavets - who were VERY kind to me!). I was given fluids and antibiotics intravenously and, within a couple of days, I felt much better. I need to take it easy and keep warm, as well as taking more antibiotics. Mum H thinks I don't know.....but she's been putting the antibiotics onto crushed digestive biscuits with honey on top - yum, yum!!!! Mum H does something called Reiki and Crystal Therapy on me - and these are helping me get better too!

Mid-November

I'm now putting on lots of weight and feeling much better! I'm drinking plenty of water and eating hedgehog biscuits as well as tinned kitten food (no milk though, and no gravy, jelly or fish flavoured food). As a special treat, I get sultanas and a wee bit of banana! Mum H puts me out in a run in the garden every morning. Seems she's building up the time I'm outdoors, as well as building up my muscles! She's very kind though, as she doesn't put me out when it's very cold or raining.

Early December

I'm now out in my garden run for about half an hour every day. I love to be reminded of the smells of the outdoors! I know that I'll be released into the garden in the spring - when I can get back to eating lots of scrummy slugs, snails and wiggly worms! I've had lots of visitors to see me and enjoy getting wakened up for a wee treat! My Auntie Chris is going to look after me for a few days, when Mum H goes away. Something called 'Christmas' is coming - and everyone seems to be getting very excited about it! I'm still sleeping in cosy jumpers - they've all been donated by people who know Mum H (thank you all!).

January

Well, I'm getting very big now and I have been out in my run for up to an hour at a time! I've not been out in all the rain and wind, though! I've had a bit more lungworm, so Mum H has been giving me powdered medicine and I'm feeling the benefit of it! Mum H is very pleased with me as I am now (usually!) something called 'cage trained', which makes her life much easier!



See more pictures of Hattie on our new website, www.kinrossnewsletter.org

Useful Hedgehog websites and contacts

www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk

www.britishwildlifehelpline.com

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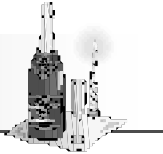
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Congratulations



Walter and Alison **HAMILTON** of Milnathort are delighted to announce the engagement of their daughter **CLAIRE** to Michael Reekie of Ballingry.

Both families are delighted to announce the engagement, on Christmas Day, of **ANNA MORRISON** and **EUAN GOUDIE**.

Norma **ANDERSON** is delighted to announce the marriage of her younger daughter **VALERIE** to **DOUGLAS INGLIS**, Edinburgh on 16 December 2006.

James and Joanne **ANDERSON** of Milnathort are pleased to announce the long awaited arrival of their son **JOSH** on 10 October 2006. A first grandson for Charlie and Beth Foley of Milnathort, Alison Anderson of Dunfermline and a second grandson for Jim and Isabel Anderson of Cardenden.

Craig and Lynsey **WALLACE** are delighted to announce the birth of their son **LACHLAN** on 23 December 2006. First grandchild for Robert and Jennifer Wallace, Milnathort and second grandchild for Alex and Elizabeth McLean, Berwick on Tweed.

Helen and Donald **MUIR** would like to congratulate their son **STEPHEN** on gaining the degree of Batchelor of Science in Chemistry from The University of Edinburgh.

Former pupil of Kinross High School, **DEBORAH COOK** from North Street, Milnathort, graduated Doctor of Philosophy at Glamorgan University, Wales, on 20 December 2006. Deborah is currently working in the Welsh Assembly.

STEVEN ANDERSON recently passed the Membership Exams for The Royal College of General Practitioners.

ISHBEL McFARLANE of Burnbrae, Kinross will appear in the second round of 'University Challenge' as part of the Edinburgh University team competing against Corpus Christi College, Oxford. The BBC2 programme is expected to be broadcast on 5 February.

SIR DAVID MONTGOMERY has been awarded the Royal Victorian Order CVO. Last year Sir David retired as Lord Lieutenant of Perth & Kinross, a post he had held since 1995.

JOHNNY CLAVERING and **NICHOLAS TIMPSON** of **SEGGIEBANK FARM** have been awarded the Gold Purdey Award for Game and Conservation. Hugh Fearnley Whittingstall presented the prestigious award and a cheque for £5,000 in November.

Three year old **JENNA BAILEY** of Kinross was chosen as a regional winner of the Children's Traffic Club in Scotland, a resource which helps parents and

nurseries to promote road safety at a very young age. Jenna received her prizes at a road safety evening hosted by Kinross & District Rotary Club.

JAMES ROSS of Springfield Park, Kinross has passed Trinity College grade 5 classical guitar exam with distinction. James is taught by James Liddle of Dollar Academy. Congratulations from mum, dad and all the family.

MORAG ELWIS successfully passed Grade VI Viola in the Associated Board exams in November 2006. She is a pupil of Gareth Clemson B. Mus.

At the Annual Solo Piping and Drumming competition, **G. KELLOW** of Kinross achieved 1st prize for Drumming in the 14-years and Under section.

Thanks



JAMES AND JOANNE ANDERSON would like to thank everyone for the cards and gifts received on the arrival of their son Josh. Also thanks to the staff at Ninewells, PRI and the Kinross community midwives.

MRS JEAN SHEARER of Crook of Devon would like to thank all family, friends and customers of Fossoway Store for their help, visits and flowers during her recent stay in hospital. Also thanks to all staff of Wards 11 and 19 at Queen Margaret Hospital, Dunfermline and the Gynae ward at Perth Royal Infirmary.

SCOTLANDWELL IN BLOOM would like to extend their thanks to John and Brenda Bird (Kinnesswood) for their donation of Christmas trees. Thanks also to Wellside Powerwash who assisted with the felling and delivery of the trees. We were able to put Christmas trees in the grounds of the Well Country Inn, Lochend Farm Shop, Orwell Church and the Manse. The group would also like to thank the organisers of the Hogmanay Party held in Portmoak Village Hall (Carol Eadie and Ann Archibald), not only for organising a great event, but also for the donation of £50 towards In-Bloom funds - it is very much appreciated.

KINROSS QUILTERS would like to thank most sincerely everyone who took part this year in buying raffle tickets for our Blue/White Dresden plate design quilt in aid of CHAS. We have realised the fantastic sum of £934. Many thanks to all who took part. The quilt was won by Mrs E Winton, Perth. Cushions won by M. McLauchlin, Kirkcaldy.

KIRSTY, DAVID AND TRISH JAMIESON would like to thank all friends, neighbours, relatives, and the teachers and parents of pupils of Milnathort Primary School and Nursery for the cards, flowers and the many telephone enquiries received during Kirsty's illness. A very special thank you to Mike for your wonderful support. Kirsty is now well on the way to recovery but all the kindness and support we received helped us through a very difficult few weeks.

TOM WEBSTER would like to thank all his friends who donated to his favourite charity CHAS, especially the Quality Hotel Perth, the Methven Old Folks, Blairingone WRI and friends at the Donaldson Smiddy. We have raised £300 last year. Many thanks again to all.

DOT, LORRAINE AND DONALD would like to thank everybody who came to celebrate the Hogmanay party in the Masonic Hall. We do hope everybody enjoyed themselves. Also a big thank you to all those who donated prizes for the raffle. To the bar staff who did a great job a big thank you.

JIM MCGREGOR would like to thank those who arranged and attended his surprise 80th Birthday Party in October and to the Orwell Bowling Club for allowing generously providing the venue. £250 was raised and donated to Mr Adamson's cancer Clinic in Dundee.

BILL MOWAT: I would like to thank David for the great disco, Jinty for lovely buffet and everyone for all the cards and gifts I received for my 60th birthday. Hope you all enjoyed the party as much as I did.

On Monday 4 December, **ORWELL OLD FOLKS ASSOCIATION** entertained a large number of senior citizens in Milnathort Town Hall. An excellent meal was followed by members of Alan Small's Early Learners Ceilidh Band who provided a most enjoyable evening's entertainment. Thanks are expressed to all the committee and helpers who organised this much appreciated event.

MRS JESSIE PORTER would like to thank everybody in Kinross-shire who hired and used Milnathort Town Hall during her office as Chairperson of the committee and also a big thanks to the local tradesmen who came to our rescue in emergencies, and hope you continue your support to the new committee in the future years.

A group of **KINROSS HIGH SCHOOL** senior pupils, while working towards Gold and Silver Awards in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, supported Blythswood Care as their Community Project and co-ordinated, collected, packed and checked Shoeboxes for the 2006 Appeal. Four of them also worked in Cleish and Perth collecting centres. All of them organised fund-raising events in the school, raising £487.56 for Blythswood Care.

Pupils at **KINROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL** have collected more than 600 pairs of shoes for the Blue Peter Shoe Biz appeal, which aims to raise money for poor children in Malawi through the recycling of old shoes.

KINROSS-SHIRE DAY CENTRE would like to thank the pupils of Kinross High School for their generous donation of £207.56 collected before Christmas, and to the staff of the P.E. department for

all their help. Thanks also to the congregation at the Christmas Services in Kinross Parish Church for their donation of £306.04.

All at **SWANSACRE PLAYGROUP** would like to say a big thank you to the local businesses who donated some great prizes for this year's festive raffle. Thanks to all those who bought tickets helping to raise £538, with a further £70 being raised through Santa Post. Thank you also to the Kinross Road Runners for their kind donation.

As we start a new year there are spaces available in all sessions, please give Angela a call on 865480 or Playgroup 862071 or check out our new website www.swansacre.co.uk.

Milnathort Post Office: EVELYN and STAN would like to thank, most sincerely, Janet and Beth, friends, neighbours and customers, for their help and good wishes during the period of the flood. Your support meant a lot to us and we hope to see you soon when we're back trading. The P.O. side should be open first but, as yet, we cannot give an exact date.

Cycle accident on Station Road, 13 December: Thank you from the bottom of my heart, to all you kind people who came rushing to my aid on that awful windy Wednesday. I had no idea I had been blown off my bike as I lay unconscious on Station Road and I have no memory of my accident. Thank you especially to Susan Bode, Sergeant Steele, and my neighbour, Anna, who all sought help and blankets, and looked after me on my bike. Thank you to the paramedics who got me into the safety of Queen Margaret Hospital, Dunfermline, and to all those friends and neighbours, thank you for all the flowers, cards and kindness. A safe, healthy new year to you all from Irene Radley.

3rd KINROSS BROWNIES made Christmas cards and a snowman box filled with chocolates for the members of the Kinross Day Centre and would like to thank Shafiq Siddique of Costcutters and Somerfield's for each donating a tin of Heroes and making this possible. I personally would like to thank Anne Miller, Valerie Birrell and Lesley Spencer for helping out at Brownies every week and thanks also to Janice Grant and Margaret Spence for all their support and advice.

Janice Webster

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Community Council News

Kinross Community Council News from the December Meeting

Present at the meeting held on 6 December 2006 were: CCllrs D Colliar (Chair), D Cuthbert, R McConnell, C Drummond, D Mackay and M Blyth. Also present were P&K Cllrs M Barnacle and G Hayton, Mrs M Scott (Min Secy), Sergeant Wilson, PC Child and five members of the public. Apologies were received from CCllrs P Zarb and I Jack, and from CCllr Thomas who, due to a prior commitment, arrived towards the end of the meeting.

Police Report

PC Child introduced Sgt Wilson.

There have been a number of crimes in relation to cars, involving break-in and stealing from cars and the theft of vehicles. From information received from a member of the public, a person has been arrested, charged and held responsible for a total of nine incidents. The Police are grateful for any information received from the public and ask that any suspicious behaviour be reported to them as early detection can prevent crimes taking place.

The Police now have the use of two cycles. Certain locations, which previously had to be accessed on foot, can now be reached more quickly.

CCllr Drummond commended the Police on their prompt response (within seven minutes) to an incident at the Millbridge Hall during the Art Club Exhibition, when a fight broke out in the vicinity of the hall. PC Child advised that one or two people were charged in relation to this incident.

Cllr Barnacle questioned the publication of Safety Mobile Camera locations. Sgt Wilson explained that making people aware of the siting of these cameras was in an effort to prevent accidents on certain roads where speeding has been recognized and the public have raised concerns in this regard.

On behalf of the CC, the Chairman thanked the officers who were on duty during both the Remembrance Day Parade and Light Up Kinross for their assistance at these events. He also thanked the representatives for their attendance this evening and wished them well for 2007.

Matters Arising

ABI Action Plan: CCllr Cuthbert will represent the CC at the Steering Group, first meeting on 18 December.

Golfball: Cllr Barnacle advised that the site has not yet changed hands. The glare has not been reduced significantly. The lighting is required for security reasons. The Chairman suggested that if the screen had been replaced at the time of damage, this problem would not have arisen.

Planning Matters

Planning Applications: The CC raised no comments on the following: Installation of a single 0.3m diameter transmission dish to existing mast at the Green Hotel (06/02406/FUL); Erection of a steel storage container at Costutter Supermarket, Green Road (0602199/FUL); Erection of a dwelling house at gap site at Myre Terrace (06/0244/FUL); various applications for alterations to domestic properties.

Tillyrie Wind Cluster: A large document was available for

perusal in relation to the proposed installation (a resubmission of an earlier application) of five wind turbines in the hills north of Milnathort. To be discussed at the January meeting.

Report from Perth & Kinross Councillors

Structure Plan Population and Housing Projections: A copy of a letter written by Cllr Barnacle to the Chief Executive of P&KC was circulated to the CC members prior to the meeting. In this letter Cllr Barnacle summarised the issues raised by those attending a recent meeting with regard to the Structure Plan Population and Housing Projections and other related matters and highlighted concerns regarding the reference in the Local Plan to a 25% increase in housing population. The letter also mentions the concerns expressed regarding the continuing loss of land zoned for industrial development in Kinross-shire to housing and the scarcity of land to accommodate offices and small workshops. It was agreed the CC would write to P&KC endorsing Cllr Barnacle's letter.

Balado Quarry Site: CCllr Barnacle reported that liaison is to take place between residents, P&KC, landowner, developer etc. A number of issues have been raised, such as road silage and private water supply.

A977: It was confirmed that the widening of this roadway was included as a condition in the recent negotiations.

Cllr Hayton reported on various matters and issues that have arisen since the last CC meeting.

He advised that an ongoing refurbishment of **council housing** was taking place.

A request has been made to P&KC for an additional **footpath** in the Green Park area. A map is required detailing the exact location for this pathway.

Two footpaths are also required to the rear of **Millbridge** car park, adjacent to the Housing Association development, the old paths having been fenced off during construction of the housing estate.

Station Road: The situation with the rainwater is still an ongoing problem and permission is required to run this into a drainage system (soak away). However, Scottish Water do not have funding for this facility.

The Swansacre building is still under negotiation.

Sandport Mews: It was noted that properties are being advertised for sale in Sandport Mews. The Chairman questioned whether this address was official. It was confirmed that the Council did not pass this.

Cllr Hayton advised that four **street names** are required for the G S Brown Development. To be discussed at next meeting.

It was noted that the **pathway** down to the new Cleish Road is on the west side of the road (not east side as planned).

Approval has been received from the Executive for the **Kinross-shire sign** on the motorway.

CCllr Blyth mentioned that a member of the public had advised that there are no **baby swings** at Davies Park. It was commented that parties unknown removed these.

Green Road: CCllr Mackay questioned whether work was currently being carried out by the Council in this area. The Cllrs were unable to confirm this.

Cllr Blyth raised the matter of **dog fouling** in public parks

and footpaths. A suggestion was made that we request the services of the Dog Warden; people have in the past been fined for allowing dog fouling in Kinross. Mention was made of the broken dog bin in the park. Cllr Barnacle will follow this up. New notices are also to be displayed.

High School : Negotiations are still ongoing.

Correspondence

Resignation: A communication was received from Brian West intimating his resignation from the CC due to increasing work commitments.

Kirkgate Park: A letter and accompanying plans were received regarding the proposed development. Funding is in place for Phase I which, it is hoped, will be completed by June 2007. Fundraising is still ongoing. **Gateway:** CCllr Cuthbert, as a representative of Kinross in Bloom, advised those present of the planned Gateway Entrance to Kinross. This would be erected in the grass triangle at the approach to the motorway and plans were available for perusal. A planning application would be submitted.

Trees: CCllr Cuthbert advised those present of Kinross in Bloom's proposal to plant trees in certain areas of Kinross, to include 120 trees around Myre Park to act as a screen between the residential areas and the industrial areas; replacement of two trees lost through vandalism in Gacé Gardens, six flowering pears to be planted in the piece of ground on Springfield Road between Argyll Road and Whinfield Drive; a number of trees are proposed for Davies Park; three spring flowering trees in the North Cemetery and four on the Sunnypark side; seven trees in Lathro Park and at site of Leisure Pool to be replaced. CCllr Colliar raised objections regarding the planting of trees at Springfield Road/Whinfield due to safety issues, i.e. sight lines for traffic. In this case it would be necessary to examine a detailed plan to confirm the position in relation to the concerns expressed. The Chairman also questioned whether it would be possible to replace the damaged uprooted trees at Argyll Road/Sutherland Drive. CCllr Cuthbert replied that the advice he received was that they could not plant in this area as the Council were unable to confirm the location of the services, however he offered to check into this again.

Christmas Lights

Complaints have been received from members of the public regarding the condition of the Christmas lights. It was explained that an electrician was engaged to check over the units, however the Council erected the lights before this service was delivered. CCllr McConnell reported that a two-day repair would be carried out the following week and certain bulbs would be replaced. The lights were operating satisfactorily prior to dismantle last year and it may be either in the removal or erection that the damage is sustained. It was also commented that since the closure of the Town Hall it has been necessary to relocate the "switch on" to the Council Offices.

Town Hall

A lengthy discussion was held on this subject. CCllr Cuthbert updated those present on the current position. The Legal Department of the Council, having now perused the Opinion, have offered a figure of £185,000 which after certain deductions would be lodged in the Common Good Fund for Kinross and utilised solely for the benefit of the people of Kinross, providing grants to voluntary organisations, such as Christmas Lights etc. The Q.C.'s fee for the Opinion and other costs would be deducted from the

figure of £185,000.00. It was also noted that missives of sale have been concluded for the Town Hall. However, the campaign at the outset was twofold, (One) to stop the sale of the buildings solely for housing development and (Two) to ensure that any sale proceeds were placed in the Common Good Fund for the Town. This latter directive has been achieved, however it was hoped that the Town Hall would remain as a focus for the centre of the Town and could be utilised as a Community Hall, with possible development of the Library and Social Work Office into flats or offices. CCllr Hayton advised that funding would not be available from the Council Budget for a project of this size and level, i.e. the repair and annual maintenance of the Hall to bring it up to a reasonable standard.

Those present were reminded that over 2,000 people signed the Petition and also a number of local people who approached the Authorities direct are also being represented by the Town Hall Committee. Their interests have to be taken into account in this matter. It was noted that should the Council proposal be accepted, the CC would have no control over the monies held in the Common Good Fund which would be administered by a Committee comprising Council Members and Local Members.

The Town Hall Sub-Committee have to reach a decision on whether to proceed with this case, appoint a Reporter to check whether the buildings can be alienated or not, and thereafter leave the decision in the hands of the Sheriff or whether to accept the proposal now received from the Council and bring this matter to an end.

The Committee Council agreed to fully support the Sub-Committee on the decision reached by them in this matter.

NHS Dentistry Campaign

CCllr Thomas advised that the local group were lodging their Petition to the Scottish Parliament.

News from the January Meeting

Present at the meeting held on 10 January in the Green Hotel were: CCllrs D Colliar (Chair), D Cuthbert, E Thomas, C Drummond, D Mackay and P Zarb. Also in attendance were P&K Cllrs W Robertson and G Hayton; Mrs M Scott (Min Secy); PC Child and 14 members of the public. The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming those present and conveying best wishes to all for 2007 and advised that the CC would continue with their efforts in representing the community of Kinross throughout this coming year. Apologies for absence were received from CCllrs R McConnell, M Blyth and I Jack and from P&K Cllr M Barnacle.

Police Report: PC Child advised that the festive season proved quiet. However, it was noted that persons were apprehended in relation to recent damage sustained to windows in the High Street and Avenue Road.

Entrance to Kirkgate Park: It was reported that the Council have added the repair of the hole in this road to their Phase I Path Improvements.

Wind Cluster at Tillyrie

The Chairman advised that letters of objection have been received by the CC in relation to this proposed development and he informed those present of their content. The main points of argument are the visual impact on Kinross and Milnathort, the effect this will have in relation to the water supply and drainage in the area and the flight of geese. It was noted that Loch Leven Special Protection areas might also be affected if this proposal goes ahead.

Mr P Hessey, the owner of a property in the close vicinity of the site, addressed those present. He advised that the turbines would be around 70/75 metres in height and will be seen from areas in Kinross. The grounds for objection include the effect this development will have on tourism, the disruption and noise, the impact on water (both public and private), the Special Protection Areas and the flight of geese. He asked if the CC would support his objection on these stated grounds.

A second member of the public also reiterated the point that the water supply will be affected. He explained that in his own case the access tracks pass by near to both the pipes and spring. No guarantees are to be given in relation to the water supply, indeed the proviso is that should any party have concerns in this regard it will be up to them to prove that the proposal will have a detrimental effect on the water supply to their property. It was noted that drainage may also be affected.

The Kinross Area Local Plan states the area as being of great landscape value.

Mrs Thomson from Tillyrie Farm then addressed the meeting. Environmental and Hydrology Reports have been produced and SEPA and Scottish Water have raised no objections. It was noted that the water is to be tested before the commencement of the works, during construction and again after completion. Mrs Thomson assured those present that the proposal is low risk and should have no detrimental affect on the water supply. A noise assessment has also been documented. She advised that a survey of the visibility areas was conducted, i.e. a street walk around Milnathort etc. and a minimum number of houses would be affected by this development. The roadway is an existing hard track and will be upgraded and widened. A bird study has also been conducted and RSPB consulted.

After discussion and comments from the CC members it was agreed that we should raise objections in relation to the visual impact on Kinross, and express our concerns in relation to the provision of the water supply to these householders. It was noted that an assurance that the water supply will be protected would be a requisite and should be covered in the Section 75 Agreement.

G S Brown House Names: The CC have been asked to put forward four suggested street names for the development near Somerfield. Cllr Hayton advised that Clashburn Road would be the title of the main road in this Development. After discussion it was agreed that names linked to the old Railway line in Kinross would be appropriate. The Chairman suggested Junction Road and it was further suggested that this should be the name of the main road. The CC will give consideration to this and the matter will be added to the Agenda for discussion at the next meeting.

Hatchbank Farm Development: The CC received a letter objecting to this housing development. As this is a recent application and not yet registered, it was agreed that this matter be left in abeyance until the next CC meeting.

Kinross Town Hall: The current situation is that the matter is to be referred back to Court, a Reporter will be appointed who will prepare a brief to be presented to the Sheriff. Cllr Hayton advised that the maintenance of the building would be paid for from the Common Good Fund. Cllr Hayton advised that the property is in a dilapidated state, in need of total overhaul. He explained that the monetary figure mentioned some years ago of £400,000 was to repair the building to an occupational standard, not to develop or

upgrade the building. He stated that it would not be economical to utilise this building as a Community Hall.

Election sub committee: An election may be necessary in April and in this connection a sub-committee was formed to organise and run same consisting of the Chairman, CCllrs Drummond and Thomas. Any other CC members can offer assistance if available.

Report from P&K Councillors

Dentistry: Cllr Robertson advised that 85 people contacted him direct in relation to the lack of NHS Dentistry in Kinross. He has passed on their details to a representative from NHS Tayside, Primary Care Services, who will write to each party and endeavour to find an NHS dentist for all.

Flooding: Cllr Robertson referred to the recent devastation in Milnathort. If anyone in Kinross was affected by the flooding over 13/14 December, can they please contact any of the Cllrs (Robertson, Hayton or Barnacle) with the details.

Advertising: If a board is bigger than 2 sq m, Planning Consent is required.

Budget: The budget for Adult Care in the Home is currently being reviewed. Both Cllrs addressed this subject and explained that due to cuts it would be difficult to maintain an adequate service. It was noted that 1% of the Council Tax brings in around £670,000.

Special Needs School in Perth: Cllr Hayton advised that work has commenced on this site and pointed out that some of Kinross children will attend this School.

Kinross School: The new School is to be known as Kinross High School. The site will be known as Loch Leven Community Campus.

General Correspondence

Mortuary: Communication requesting completion and return of Lease document. The Chairman is to remind CCllr McConnell of this matter.

Minutes of the **Convention** of Perth and Kinross Community Councils. Their next meeting is scheduled for 25 March 2007.

Other Business

CCllr Drummond enquired if a date was fixed for beginning construction on the new School. Cllr Hayton's response was no to this question.

It was remarked that a number of shops are displaying advertising boards on the pavement and, as a result, it is difficult to walk past these areas. Cllr Hayton will approach the various parties in this regard.

The next meeting of Kinross CC will take place on Wednesday 7 February at 7.30pm in the Masonic Hall.

Members of the public wishing to address the CC are requested to contact the Secretary in advance and supply a copy of any relevant papers.

Full Kinross CC Minutes are lodged in the Kinross Library and County Buildings.

LOOKING FOR CONTACT DETAILS?

Many of the local organisations, clubs and local hall booking details and other information on Kinross and the surrounding area can be found on the Kinross CC website

www.kinross.cc

Milnathort Community Council News from the January Meeting

A meeting was held on 11 January 2007 in Milnathort Primary School. CCllr Giacopazzi, Chairman, welcomed CCllrs Thomson, Bennet, Porter, Ross, and Cottingham, as well as extending a welcome to CCllr Sandy Smith, who was attending his first CC meeting. Also in attendance were P&K Cllr W Robertson, Minute Secretary E Rougvie, two members of Tayside Police and 22 members of the public.

CCllr Giacopazzi began by explaining that the December meeting had not taken place because the flooding had meant that no janitorial cover was available for the school. The minutes of the November meeting were proposed by CCllr Ross and seconded by CCllr Porter.

Police matters: PC Marissa Hardie reported that December had seen a spate of car thefts and break-ins, and a man had been detained in custody for these offences. On the matter of one of the cars being burnt out and left outside the church, she explained that it was the insurers' responsibility to move the vehicle, but for reasons she could not divulge, this had not happened on this occasion. However, despite being under no obligation to do so, the police had moved the car because a wedding was taking place. PC Hardie said that over Christmas the Safer Scotland and Drink Driving campaigns had been run, in addition to road and speed checks, and foot patrols. No drunk drivers were reported. She told the meeting that there had been a number of thefts of diesel and heating oil, and she urged those who had tanks to ensure that they were as secure as possible.

Milnathort floods: CCllr Giacopazzi told the meeting that until such time as a preliminary report was received into the cause of the floods of December 13 there was little that could be said in terms of who took responsibility. He, P&K Cllr Robertson and several people who had been affected had had a meeting with George Reid MSP, who was pursuing the matter at the highest possible level on behalf of the village, and was calling for an independent review of the flood protection scheme. A meeting was also due to be held between the Chief Executive of P&KC and the Chief Executive of Arup, who designed the scheme. A discussion followed, during which P&K Cllr Robertson said that he was to attend a meeting of P&KC's Environment and Infrastructure Committee, at which other issues relating to the flooding would be raised. He had also spoken to the Director of Transport and Planning, who had assured him that sensitivity would be used in terms of future building.



A fire engine in the centre of Milnathort during the aftermath of the flood.

Planning: Tillyrie Wind Cluster application

At this point, CCllr Thomson joined the members of the public. CCllr Cottingham gave an outline of the proposed wind farm at Tillyrie Farm submitted by John Lawrie. He

said it involved five wind turbines, each with a capacity of 850kw, producing 13,000 mgw of electricity per year to serve 2700 homes. The hubs would measure 49 metres and the masts would be a maximum height of 75 metres. Access for trucks would be a well-made road to the north of Milnathort. It was planned for the site to last for 25 years, after which it would be dismantled and removed.

CCllr Giacopazzi said that he had received 150 letters about the application: 25 letters of support had come from within Area 49; 21 from Kinross-shire and 90 from other areas. There were four letters of objection from outwith Area 49 and four from within Area 49. Mr Peter Hessey spoke to a letter he had written in which he outlined his objections on the grounds of two main areas: the impact on the landscape and visual amenity and the effect on water supplies. He questioned the effectiveness of the windmills in terms of producing electricity, and expressed concern about the impact on wildlife such as geese and osprey.

CCllr Giacopazzi read out a letter of support for the proposed development, which said it was the smallest in the Ochils; there would be little visual impact; it was remotely situated and unique in that it was being developed by a local farming family. Mr Steve Makin, consultant for the project, then outlined the history of the application, which had been turned down in 2005 when it was first considered. Since then, concerns raised by SNH and P&KC had been addressed by reducing the height of the turbines and relocating them, and a hydrological assessment had taken place which concluded that the risk to local water supplies was extremely low. The construction period was very short and would involve a low level of disruption. Mrs Dorothy Thomson assured those who had expressed their concerns about the effect on their water supply that the issue was being taken very seriously and that monitoring would take place before, during and after construction should the application be approved. In addition, they would be prepared to enter into a Section 75 Agreement, whereby if the application was successful the water supplies would be continually monitored and action taken should any problems arise.

After further discussion, CCllrs put forward their own views and the following motion was carried: 'MCC does not object to the application for a wind cluster at Tillyrie, providing the applicant enters into a legally binding agreement that he shall restore any private water supply adversely affected by the works to its original standard, at his expense. Such obligation should be enforced by conditions in the granting of permission by the Planning Authority.'

Correspondence: CCllr Bennet read a letter from the Countryside Alliance urging people to help save local Post Offices, whose future they claim is under threat. They are asked to write with their views about the importance of their local Post Office to: Jim Fitzpatrick MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Employment Relations and Postal Services, Department of Trade and Industry, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

AOB: P&K Cllr Robertson reported that the barrier in Burleigh Road was to be extended; that BEAR Scotland had a budget to repair the safety barriers on the motorway, and that a path at Burleigh Castle would be completed during this financial year. It was hoped that the path would go through the castle itself but Historic Scotland had objected to this. He also agreed to accompany CCllr Porter to see damaged walls in the village and a fence that had been knocked down behind the school.

The next meeting of the CC will take place in Milnathort Primary School on Thursday 8 February at 7.30pm.

Fossoway & District CC

News from the January Meeting

The meeting on 8 January 2007 should have taken place in the booked and advertised venue of Blairingone School; unfortunately access could not be gained and the meeting took place late thanks to a very supportive landlord in The Stables in Crook of Devon. CCllrs I Booth (Chair), R Dalton, A Chappell and F Watt were present. Also in attendance were PC Child and six members of the public. Apologies were received from S Sharp (resigned), C Danks, G Pease and P&K Cllr M Barnacle.

Police matters: Regarding speeding on Vicar's Bridge Road, a letter from Chic Haggart (Traffic & Road Safety manager P&KC) advises that a detailed examination of road layout and accident data will be carried out and the CC to be "kept advised of the outcome."

Devonshaw Quarry: Further letter sent to Environment Service re identification of current owner and reply awaited.

Footways for Lendrickmuir Road: Letter sent to Environment Service with request for consideration of provision of footways.

Safety Camera on A977: Letter from Tayside police/Safety Camera Partnership. Must be seen, must be aware, used as entering a dangerous stretch of road, re accident analysis statistics.

Community Policing

PC Child highlighted the benefits gained over the festive period of the new police shift pattern, which gives a better deployment of manpower at potentially critical hours.

He was questioned on the need for riders to be visible, highlighting the danger of the dark horse ridden by a rider in dark clothes on a very dull day. Several people agreed that this was cause for concern, on both minor and relatively major roads within the Fossoway area. This problem will be highlighted in Police Box in the next newsletter, to assist in the prevention of avoidable accidents.

Perth & Kinross Council Business

CCllr Chappell substituting for P&K Cllr Barnacle:

Devonshaw Quarry: Cllr. Barnacle has again spoken with Jim Dawson (Environment Service). Responsibility for the quarry and its surroundings rests with the owner. Mr Dawson continues to pursue his enquiry with the Land Registry.

Dog Bins, Blairingone: Tom Brydon (P&KC) has 'toured' Blairingone, investigating the dog bin situation. He does not propose to add a further dog bin. However, he has identified three areas requiring 'signage'. It appears that the dog bins are not being used and Mr Brydon has detected incidents of fouling. If a resident knows of any individual who permits their dog to foul and is willing to advise P&KC staff of the name of the individual in absolute confidence, then the offending individual will be visited by P&KC officials.

Dog Bins, Powmill and Crook of Devon: There is a possibility that a dog bin will be provided in Powmill and at the Primary School in Crook of Devon.

Bridle Way/Foot Path: Cllr Barnacle met with Mrs Turnbull regarding the proposed bridle way/foot path adjoining her land. Cllr Barnacle shares some of Mrs Turnbull's concerns. Cllr Barnacle proposes that Mrs Turnbull and Mrs Brown meet on site with the area Planning Officer with a view to resolving the difficulties. Cllr Barnacle suggests that Fossoway CC submits a 'holding objection' to the application for formation of the

bridle way, pending resolution of the difficulties.

Housing Growth in Kinross-shire: Cllr Barnacle wishes to remind the CC if they wish to provide a view on his letter regarding future Kinross-shire Housing Growth, which was sent to the P&KC Chief Executive, Bernadette Malone, in November last year.

Planning Matters

The CC had no objections to the following applications: 06/02473/FUL Muirhead Farm, Blairingone (an agricultural worker's house); 06/02727/OUT Crook of Devon House, Main Street, Crook of Devon (two house development within current village boundary); 06/02575/FUL Units 3 & 4, The Coach House, Rumbling Bridge.

06/02516/FUL Land to east of Cambo village: with the status of Hallhill steading now clarified (no longer a farm steading) but two domestic dwellings this application is for a newly classified gap site. Nine letters of support from the village have been received. No objections from the CC.

06/01995/FUL Bridleway at Broomhill Cottage, Drum: the CC will send a letter requesting a "holding objection" until a site meeting can be organised.

06/02617/FUL Church Conversion, Blairingone: no objections from the CC; however, local residents have objected primarily on the grounds of access.

06/02345/OUT Four dwelling houses on land at Rumbling Bridge Nursing Home: The CC objecting on the following grounds: a) against KALP Policy 91, b) Village amenity site, especially with Gorge, c) Restrict garden ground available to residents, and diminish the quality of the setting of the nursing Home.

General Correspondence

The CC has received a number of letters from Cambo residents (nine homes) in support of Mr & Mrs Drysdale's proposals for a single dwelling house in Cambo village.

Other Business

An appeal is being made for new CC members; several members are due to step down, some have resigned already, and some were only co-opted on till February 2007 to fill gaps created by the aforementioned. It is in everybody's interests to be Community Aware and one of the easiest, pro-active ways is to become a Community Councillor. Interested individuals should in the first instance contact Isabel Booth (Chair) on 01259 742 524.

Member of the public raised the question of the CC representation on the Board of "The Hollies" School, and the need for representation or not on various other entities; this matter will be looked into and the duties of the Community Councillors clarified for the next meeting in February.

CCllr Dalton gave a brief summary of the CC's current finances. It was noted that while still expected accounts to be met until next P&KC grant in May 07, there were sufficient funds to allocate a £135 grant to Cambo Hall. This allocation was agreed by the CC.

The next meeting of Fossoway and District CC will take place at Crook of Devon Church Hall on Monday 5 February at 7.30pm.

DEADLINE FOR ALL ARTICLES

**5.00 pm, MONDAY 19 February
for Publication on Saturday 3 March**

Cleish & Blairadam CC

News from the December Meeting

The Community Council met in the Tabernacle Hall, Blairadam on Monday 11 December and was attended by all six CCllrs, P&K Cllr M Barnacle, PC Child, the C&B newsletter editor and 20 members of the public.

Crime Prevention: PC Child, in place of PC Pedersen, said there was little to report, as there had been no incidents of housebreaking in the area. Valiant Roadchecks were continuing and the Festive Road Safety Campaign would be in operation. This is also an opportunity to remind everyone to be vigilant with their home security, making sure that doors are firmly locked, sheds kept safe, and a light kept switched on whenever you are out.

Wind Farms: There is now a further application for 5 wind turbines at Tillyrie; this is additional to the applications already received. It was pointed out that it is difficult for most members of the community to appraise each application as not all the information was readily available. Cllr Barnacle said that the Public Enquiry beginning on 27 February would not include the revised Tillyrie application. After discussion it was agreed that the CC should write to P&KC with the view that the application was premature and that a decision should await the outcome of the Public Enquiry.

Tracks and Trails: Work on the walk around Loch Leven has now begun. Perhaps in the future our Tracks and Trails might have a link-up.

Planning

Shepherd's Neuk and Stable Block: The Secy will look at the plan and note the size of the proposed feed store.

Land to north of Greenacres: There is a proposed extension from 4 sites by a further 4 sites; work seems to be going on despite no permission having been given. It would appear that once again there has been a breach of the planning regulations. The CC have asked for a proper development plan, but this request has been ignored. The CC will write to the Council in the strongest possible terms saying that a proper plan should be delivered and that the Council should define a boundary before any development is approved.

Nivingston House: An application has been lodged for development of 16 houses, 7 in the garden and a further 9 outside, over two phases. It was proposed that this application be rejected on the following grounds: density, effect on surroundings, the scale (too big), access to the site, the design which is suburban, totally unsuited to a rural landscape, and the impact on the school and the village. Other points raised were that such a development would be on the edge of an AGLV, the surrounding roads really cannot take any more traffic, and utilities such as electricity and water are already under pressure. There is no doubt that there is a strong feeling in the Community against such a development. The CC will write to the Council with their objections. All those with views about this application should write to the Director of Planning with copy letters to Cllr Barnacle (this is most important).

Further observations were that the Flockhouse and Sunnyside developments would also have impacts.

West Mains Farm and Binn Cottage: These applications are to be reconsidered as planning permission was refused under delegated powers and the applications should have gone to Committee.

Flockhouse (Caravan): Permission has not yet been granted;

this application is pending as is that for the steading development. At Flockhouse Farm, application for the demolition of the outbuildings and for 7 new houses has been withdrawn.

Sunnyside: Further information is sought

Templeton: New application for one house submitted.

Kinnaird: No decision as yet.

Housing in the Countryside: The Chairman reported that he had attended a meeting in Kinross organised by Cllr Barnacle; this was attended by representatives of all the CCs and Cllr Robertson. A letter had been drafted from all those attending, expressing concerns on the housing increase in Kinross-shire, of which this is just a summary. There is deep concern at the implementation of the present housing policy and the development of brownfield sites. Small steading developments are all right but large housing developments are not. The other concern was the question of affordable housing. The possibility of a 20 year strategy plan should be considered. The CC would write and endorse this letter. Cllr Barnacle reported that this letter has now been sent to the Chief Executive.

Modernisation of the Planning System: It was suggested that the CC might have a presentation, hopefully from Peter Marshall, at either of our February or March meetings.

Roads: Various points were raised, namely the finish on the Blairforge pathway, mud on the road from Middleton Park, the lights at Middleton Park which have still not been changed despite assurances from the developer, the desirability of better signage at the Kinnaird Bends, the poor quality of the signs at Cleish Mill Bends (contrary to belief they were not blown off, they just fell off), better signage at Carsegour. There is also the matter of mud on the roads, but this is a difficult problem at this time of year.

Grant to Community Council: This had now been received.

Dates of Community Council Meetings: The following dates have now been confirmed: 19 February, Cleish; 19 March, Tabernacle, Blairadam; 14 May, Cleish; 25 June, Tabernacle, Blairadam; 27 August, Cleish; 27 October, Tabernacle, Blairadam; 10 December, Cleish.

The next meeting of Cleish & Blairadam CC will take place on Monday 19 February at 7.30pm in Cleish Village Hall.

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WHEN ANSWERING ADVERTISEMENTS**

Portmoak Community Council

News from the December meeting

A meeting was held on Tuesday 12 December 2006 at Portmoak Primary School. In attendance were Wendy MacPhedran (Chairwoman), Sue Mitchell-Henry, Bob Drysdale, Jim Shepherd, Alistair Smith, P&K Cllr Mike Barnacle, WPC Hardie and several members of the public.

Police Report

The Police are advising everyone to make sure that their fuel oil is securely locked against theft. In Perthshire there have been instances of break-ins to houses, stealing car keys for high value cars and stealing them.

Secretary's Report

Kinross Gateway Sign: The Secy had received drawings from Kinross in Bloom showing their proposals for sign just off Junction 6 on the M90. The CC was in agreement with the proposals.

Mrs Clydesdale Bench: The Secy was pleased to report that P&K Roads had repositioned the bench and this was very satisfactory. He has written to P&K thanking them. There is a plaque which can now be positioned on the bench dedicated to Mrs Clydesdale.

Paths Group

The Chairwoman reported on her meetings with the Farm and Wildlife Advisory Group regarding the land being offered by Stephens. They will prepare a report on the possibilities of management and the provision of such things as a viewpoint and forward it to the CC.

The Secy explained the background to the Stephens land. Stephens have to prepare a landscape management plan as part of their planning application. They approached the CC with a view to obtaining the community's cooperation and also to handing over the ownership to the community. The Chairwoman had a meeting in Edinburgh with the Development Trust Association of Scotland to obtain advice as to how the CC could proceed to set up a system to obtain the ownership of the land. Essentially, the CC would create a Trust, which would be separate from the CC with a Board of Trustees, one of whom could be a CCllr. The CC proposed to have a separate public meeting to explain all this to the Community in January.

Niall Lobley, P&K Senior Ranger, explained at the last Paths Group meeting it was agreed that the Tetley Trail be re-branded the Michael Bruce Trail. The local Primary School is being asked to help with the production of suitable path signs.

They were also looking at the raising of funds for the updating and provisions of paths in the area, in particular the Path up the side of the Bishophill Golf Course and for the future maintenance of the Stephen's land.

Callum Robertson, Balneathill Farm, read a letter from his solicitor, informing him that P&K understood that he no longer wished to proceed with the Land Agreement for the Tetley Trail passing through his land. The CC had understood that following Mr Robertson concluding a Land Management plan with Scottish Executive, that the Land Agreement was no longer required by Mr Robertson. Mr Robertson confirmed that he still wished an Agreement. The Secy will write to the CC's lawyer.

Kinross-shire Fund

CCllr Drysdale reported on the last meeting at which the priorities were looked at. The next meeting will be on 12 March 2007.

A911

Cllr Barnacle had spoken to Jillian Grey, P&KC, who had apologised for the delay in replying to the CC's letter of August. There is a major review of road speed being conducted in the UK and this may influence the P&KC response. Cllr Barnacle has set up a meeting with Ms Gray for 21 December, on site, to discuss the increased traffic using the Dryside Road now that it has been hard surfaced.

Planning Matters

06/02111/FUL Installation of a wood burning stove and flue, Inis Bheatha, Back Dykes Road, Kinnesswood: No comment.

06/02231/FUL Erection of a conservatory, 3 Loch Leven Court, Wester Balgedie: No comment.

06/02251/OUT Proposed residential development involving conversion of steading buildings (in outline), Grahamstone Farm, Kinnesswood: The CC agreed to object strongly to this application as no details have been provided for the development and the land area proposed seems to extend into greenfield areas.

06/02472/FUL Erection of five wind turbines etc, land at Tillyrie Farm, Milnathort. The CC agreed to write that this application should be considered along with the four other applications, which are part of a Public Local Inquiry at the moment. The CC felt that this application came nearest to the Guidelines of P&KC and therefore for that reason would prefer it to all the others. However, it would not wish to see consent given to Tillyrie and also to one of the others being considered by the PLI.

Proposed Amendments to Structure Plan, amended Housing in the Countryside Plan and Affordable Housing Cllr Barnacle had forwarded a draft letter to the Chief Executive regarding these matters. The CC had amended and added to the letter, which strongly supported the opposition to these Planning Proposals by P&KC and that they should be urgently re-considered.

Cllr Barnacle

Cllr Barnacle reported on a meeting with Sue Allan of P&KC Outdoor Services on future works to the play area at Kinnesswood, following consultation with the school children.

There have been complaints that the new Bus Loop is not working, but Cllr Barnacle pointed out that the work is not yet complete.

Cllr Barnacle had received a briefing note on Fly-tipping, which at present is under SEPA. This is being discussed and complaints are being monitored. A new facility for waste is about to be created at Turfhill for Kinross-shire and it is hoped this will be much better than the present facilities.

Cllr Barnacle had received complaints about the road markings and lack of cat's eyes on the South loch road. He had discussed this with Stuart D'All, P&KC Roads.

A meeting of Portmoak CC was due to have taken place on 9 January.

The next meeting of Portmoak CC will take place on Tuesday 13 February.

The Newsletter reserves the right to refuse or amend any advertisement or submissions and accepts no liability for any omission or inaccuracy.

Kinross Churches Together



Kinross Parish Church

Church of Scotland

Station Road, Kinross Telephone: (01577) 862570
 Rev Dr John Munro Telephone: (01577) 862952
 Website: www.kinrossparishchurch.org
 E-mail: kinrossparishchurch@btinternet.com

February Services

4th 10.30am service. Sarah Samanyika on Malawi. Informal Communion

11th 10.30 am service, led by Rev Joanne Finlay

18th 10.30am service led by John Munro. Junior Church Holiday

25th 10.30am Guide Thinking Day Family Service, with music by 'Crossfire' (Crèche available upstairs at the Church).

Midweek Worship: Each Wednesday in the Reading room of the Church Centre, 10.45am-11.15am

Pram Service: Every Tuesday at 10am in the Church Centre led by the Rev Evelyn Cairns. All babies or toddlers welcome, accompanied by carers!

Whyte Court: First Tuesday of the month at 2.30pm

Causeway Court: Last Tuesday of the month at 2.30pm

All are welcome to these services.

Kinross Church Centre: This suite of halls is the property of Kinross Parish Church. For enquiries and bookings, please contact Helena Cant (862923) or e mail: helenacant@aol.com

Saturday break: Most Saturday mornings, tea, coffee and fresh baking are available 10am-12 noon. A second-hand bookstall is usually open.

Enquiries: Session Clerk: Mrs Linda Williamson, 15 St Mary's Place, Kinross (862789)

Kinross-shire Churches Together Lent Studies.

Theme: Can we build a better world?

Tuesdays at 7.30pm 27th February to 20th March.

Venue: St James' Church Hall, Kinross

Orwell and Portmoak Parish Church

Church of Scotland

Locum – Rev D Stenhouse 01577 866992

Sunday Worship, Junior Church and crèche:

10am Portmoak Church, 11.30am Orwell Church

Prayer Meeting held 30mins before each service

Service at Ashley House: first Thursday of the month at 2.30pm

Services at Levenshulme: first and third Tuesdays of the month at 4pm

Fusion Club for P5 – S1

@spire: Orwell Hall on the second and last Friday of the month

Communion at Portmoak Church – Sunday 4 Feb

Communion at Orwell Church – Sunday 4 March

World Day of Prayer Friday 2 March at 7.30pm in Portmoak Church

St Paul's Scottish Episcopal Church

Muir, Kinross, KY13 8AY

Rev Dr Marion Keston Telephone: (01577) 866834

Website: www.stpauls-kinross.co.uk

February Services

Sun 4 Epiphany 5. 8.30am, Holy Communion. 11am, Sung Eucharist. 10.30am, Prayers for Healing.

Wed 7 10.30am, Prayers for Healing.

Sun 11 Epiphany 6. 8.30am, Holy Communion. 11am, Sung Eucharist.

Sun 18 Epiphany 7. 8.30am, Holy Communion. 11am, Morning worship for all ages.

Wed 21 Ash Wednesday. 10.30am, Holy Communion with imposition of ashes. 7.30pm, Penitential Service.

Sun 25 Lent 1. 8.30am, Holy Communion. 11am, Sung Eucharist.

Wed 28 7.30pm, Service of Worship and Spiritual exploration.

Thursday Morning group Bible Study. Everyone welcome. For further information, please contact Sarah Oxnard, telephone (01577) 864213.

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Infinite Tai Chi

Portmoak Hall

On **Thursdays** (7.45-8.45pm) we meet to discover in an informal and friendly way, how to **relax and enjoy** the simple moves of **Infinite Tai Chi**. Classes will run weekly up to 29 March and though primarily aimed at the **50+ age group**, all are welcome to join.

Interested? Then please **phone Morag** on
01592 742793 (mob. 07977 541133)

Cleish Parish Church Church of Scotland

Rev Joanne Finlay Telephone: (01577) 850231
E-mail joanne.finlay196@btinternet.com
Reader: Mr Brian Ogilvie Telephone: (01592) 840823
Session Clerk: Mr David Adams Tel: (01577) 850292
Sunday Services 11.15am
Crèche 11.15am
Junior Church 11.15am

February

Sun 4 11.15am Sacrament of Baptism.
Wed 7 7.30pm Kirk Session.
Sun 11 11.15am Rev John Munro.
Sun 18 11.15am Brian Ogilvie
Sun 25 11.15am Sacrament of Lord's Supper.

Fossoway Parish Church Church of Scotland

Rev Joanne Finlay Telephone: (01577) 850231
E-mail joanne.finlay196@btinternet.com
Reader: Mr Brian Ogilvie Telephone: (01592) 840823
Sunday Services at 9.45am
Crèche, Junior Church and Teenage Group 9.45am
Evergreens: every second Thursday in the month,
10.30am
Tots Music: Friday mornings in hall,
9.30am-10.30am; 11am-12pm
Community Choir: Wednesday evenings, 7pm-9pm

February

Sun 4 9.45am Preacher: Gordon Brown.
Sun 4 2pm "Teddy Bears Picnic": all age
worship.
Sun 8 6.30pm Congregational Board Meeting
7.30pm Kirk Session.
Sun 11 9.45am Rev John Munro.
Mon 12 7.30pm Church Choir Rehearsal.
Sun 18 Brian Ogilvie.
Sun 25 9.15am Informal communion.
9.45am Rev Joanne Finlay.
7pm Concert: Brightons Praise Choir.
Mon 26 7.30pm Church Choir Rehearsal.
Tue 27 2pm Women's Group.

St James's R C Church 5 High Street, Kinross, KY13 8AW

Father Ken McCaffrey Telephone: (01577) 863329
Email: kenmccaffrey@btopenworld.com

Mass Times Saturday Vigil 7.00pm
Sunday 9.30am

Please look out for other information on other parish activities in the Sunday newsletter.

Kinross Christian Fellowship

Further information: (01577) 863509

Jesus said, "I come among you as one who serves."

Church and Children's Sunday Club

Every Sunday at 10.30am
in the Millbridge Hall, Old Causeway, Kinross.
During each service there will be a time for
ministry and prayer for healing.

Kinross Gospel Hall

Montgomery Street, Kinross

Sunday	10.30am	Breaking of Bread
	12.00pm	Sunday School
	5.45pm	Prayer Meeting
	6.30pm	Gospel Meeting
Monday	7.15pm	Prayer Meeting
	8.00pm	Bible Study
Wednesday	6.30pm	Children's Club (term time)

Obituaries

MARY SNEDDON (née Dawson) of 48 Meldrum Road, Kirkcaldy, passed away peacefully aged 92 years on 15 December at Queen Margaret Hospital, Dunfermline, following a short illness.

Mary was born in Alloa and her early life was spent there and in Fallin, Stirlingshire.

In 1938 she married David Home Sneddon (Davie), Master Painter, and they set up home at 33 Swansacre, Kinross, where they lived for over 35 years. They had four children, Georgina, Jim, Maureen and David.

In 1973, Davie suffered a stroke and didn't fully recover. The Swansacre house was sold and the two of them moved to Argyll Road to a bungalow which was more easily managed.

Following Davie's death in 1984, Mary moved to McBain Place where she lived until 1988, when she moved to Kirkcaldy to be nearer her family, all of whom resided in Fife.

Although Mary spent the last eighteen years of her life in Kirkcaldy, she still kept up with friends in Kinross and had many happy memories of her life there, particularly of Swansacre, and the loch-side area where she loved to walk her Labrador dog Sally.

Baptisms

At Cleish Church on Sunday 29 October, **MILLIE SMITH**, daughter of Grant and Leigh Smith, Gellybank.

On Sunday 29 October at Cleish Church, **GRETA ROSE**, daughter of Benjamin and Rebecca Wallace, Edinburgh.



KINROSS-SHIRE DAY CENTRE

Telephone: 01577 863869



Table Tennis Carpet Bowls Videos Cards Dominoes
Daily Papers Chiropody Trips Exercises

PROGRAMME FOR FEBRUARY 2007

Elderberries	Monday	5	12	19	26	1.30 pm
Carpet Bowls	Tuesday	6	13	20	27	10.30 am
Bingo	Tuesday	6	13	20	27	1.30 pm
Morning Service	Wednesday	7	14	21	28	10.45 am
Quiz Afternoon	Wednesday	7	14	21	28	1.30 pm
Art Class	Thursday	8	15	22		1.30 pm
Film Afternoon	Thursday	8	15	22		1.30 pm



COFFEE BAR OPEN 9 am - 4 pm
SENIOR CITIZENS LUNCHEAS DAILY



LOCAL CHEMIST INFORMATION



DAVIDSON'S CHEMIST, MILNATHORT

Mon to Fri: 9.00 am - 1.00 pm & 2.00 pm - 6.00 pm

Saturday: 9.00 am - 12.30 pm

Tel: 862219



ROWLANDS PHARMACY

Mon - Fri 9.00 am - 6.00 pm

Saturday: 9.00 am - 5.00 pm

Tel: 862422

SUNDAY OPENING

12.00 - 1.00 pm

Rowlands Pharmacy

(opp. David Sands)

Playgroups & Nurseries



MILNATHORT BABIES & TODDLERS

Orwell Church Hall

Thursday & Friday, 10.00 - 11.30 am

Contacts: Mary 865932, Rachel 866977
Jen 863200

LOCHLEVEN BABIES & TODDLERS

Masonic Hall, The Muirs, Kinross

Session times

Tuesdays 9.30 - 11.15, Fridays 9.30 - 11.15

Contact - Shelagh 01577 865456

All Mothers, Fathers, and Carers with children aged birth to 3 years are welcome to attend.

PORTMOAK UNDER 5's

Babies and Toddlers (up to 2.5yrs)

Tues 10.00am-11.30am

Playgroup (2.5yrs onwards)

Mon & Fri 10.00am-12.00am

Rising Fives (Pre School Year)

Mon 12.45 pm - 2.45pm

Contact Gillian McCloskey 01577 861525

Venue - Portmoak village hall

FOSSOWAY TODDLERS

The Institute, Crook of Devon

Wednesday 9.30 a.m. - 11.15 am

All Mums to-be and Mothers, Fathers and Carers with children aged birth to 3 years are welcome to attend.

Contact - Alison Smith 01577 862310

GLENFARG VILLAGE PLAYSCHOOL

Monday, Wednesday and Friday,

9.30 am - 12 noon

We strive to create a warm, caring and inviting environment, which is stimulating and safe for all children in our care. We are a Partner-provider with P & K Education services and offer three sessions a week for grant funded children. We deliver pre-school education within the criteria set by 'Curriculum Framework for children 3 to 5'. Children aged between 2 and 5 are welcome (those aged 2-2½ if accompanied by an adult). We have two playleaders and an outside play area. For information pop in or call Lousie on 01577 830367 / Carol 01577 830851



SWANSACRE PLAYGROUP

21-23 Swansacre, Kinross

TEL: 01577 862071

www.swansacre.co.uk



Swansacre Playgroup provides a warm, friendly and stimulating environment in which children can learn and develop essential social skills through play.

Playgroup sessions – Mon to Fri 9.00-11.30am

Children from the age of 2 yrs welcome.

Storycraft Mon 1.15-2.45pm

Storytelling, craft & puppetry for 3-5yrs

MusicMakers Tue 1.00-1.45pm and 2.00-2.45pm

Music classes for all ages

Rising Fives Wed 1.00-3.15pm

This is complementary to Nursery

Wee Swans Fri 1.15-2.45pm

Children from the age 11/2yrs with parent/carer

For more information please contact Angela 865480 or Playgroup 862071.

Baby and Toddler Group – Thurs 1pm-3pm

Ante-natal to pre-school. Fun for children, coffee and chat for the parent/carer. For more information contact Bouwein 863107.

The premises are available to hire for **Private Functions**. We now have an Entertainments License For more information contact Sue 862255.

LOCHLEVEN TWO'S CLUB

Masonic Hall, The Muirs, Kinross

Thursdays 9.30 to 11.15am

Parents/Carers can bring their children aged 2 yrs to pre school age for a morning of fun in our stimulating, child centred environment. We have lots on offer including sand and water play, dressing up, crafts, story and song time! A healthy snack is available. We invite you to come along and make some new friends!

Contact Alison Smith 01577 862310 or Jennifer Roy on 01577 862296 for further details"

FOSSOWAY PRE-SCHOOL GROUP

Moubray Hall, Powmill

Partner-provider for P&K Education

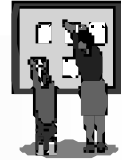
Places available for 3-5-year-olds and Rising Fives

Sessions daily 9.15 – 11.45

Contact Pat Irvine 01577 840584 or

www.childcarelink.gov.uk/perthandkinross





Notices

Fossoway Church TEDDY BEARS PICNIC

Sunday 4 February at 2pm

An All Age Service of Worship,
especially for pre-aged school children and their
families. Please bring with you your favourite teddy.
A picnic for teddies will be provided in the hall.

Lodge St Serf 327

- Tue 6 Feb** Regular meeting at 7.15pm.
Entered Apprentice Degree.
- Tue 20 Feb** Regular meeting at 7.15pm. Entered
Apprentice Degree.
- Thu 22 Feb** Visit to Lodge St John 788 to work
Fellow Craft Degree. Any Brother
wishing to go along, contact Brother
Secretary.



Kinross Floral Art Club

The Club will meet on
Thursday 22 February
at 7.15pm
in the Windlestrae Hotel, Kinross
There will be a demonstration by
Mrs Anne Munro
entitled
"Royale Flora"
New Members and Visitors Welcome

Westerloan Garage

David Colliar, Westerloan Garage, Milnathort will
cease all vehicle repairs and servicing as from Friday
2 February 2007. The staff of Westerloan Garage
would like to thank all customers for their loyal
support over the past 28 years and wish them well in
the future.

David Colliar Private Hire Taxis will continue to
operate for all your taxi requirements as normal.
Please use the same contact numbers. They are: 01577
862678 or 864037, Mobile 07766996655.

If you require any further information or advice please
do not hesitate to contact me.

David Colliar 10 Rannoch Place, Kinross

Swansacre Playgroup

Open Day

Tuesday 13 February
9.45am – 11am

Nearly New Sale

Friday 9 February 6pm-8pm
Saturday 10 February 10am – 12noon

For further details contact phone 01577 862071 or
check out our new website – www.swansacre.co.uk

Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service

The next blood donor sessions
at the Millbridge Halls, Kinross
will take place on

Monday 26 February 3.30pm to 8.00pm
Tuesday 27 February 5.00pm to 8.00pm

The Service is most grateful for the support received
from Kinross-shire.

Beekeeping in the Fife and Kinross Area

Fife Beekeepers' and Dunfermline and West Fife
Beekeepers' Associations, which also covers the
Kinross area, are very active associations and are keen
to promote beekeeping further.

For a number of years I have held beginners classes
and had a good response. I have decided to hold them
again in 2007 and any beekeeper who wishes to
increase their knowledge, or anybody keen to learn
about beekeeping with a view to keeping honeybees as
a hobby, are welcome to attend. The classes will be
held in Portmoak Village Hall between 7.30pm - 9pm
on the following Mondays:

12 and 26 February

12 and 26 March

9 April

There will be a charge to cover costs. For further
information contact me at 01592 840582.

Enid Brown, Scotlandwell

Andersons LLP, Solicitors and Estate Agents

Campbell C Watson and Mrs Loma E Miller are very
pleased to announce that as from 1st January 2007
they are Partners in the firm of Andersons LLP, 40
High Street, Kinross, KY13 8AN, carrying on the
former business of J.L. Anderson, Kinross.

We intend to continue to provide a high quality of
service to our clients and to the community.

Tel: 01577 862405 www.andersons-kinross.co.uk

Fax: 01577 862829 mail@andersons-kinross.co.uk

Perth Association for Mental Health

PAMH is a community based non-profit organisation
providing services for people recovering from mental
health problems. PAMH offers Counselling, Day
Services and hosts a Depression Support Group and
Bipolar Support Group. For more information telephone
(01738) 639657. Website: www.pamh.co.uk

LOOKING FOR CONTACT DETAILS?

Many of the local organisations, clubs and local hall
booking details and other information on Kinross and
the surrounding area can be found on the
Kinross CC website www.kinross.cc

World Day of Prayer

Friday 2 March 2007

'United under God's Tent'
A Service prepared by the
Christian women of Paraguay

Services at:

2pm Kinross Day Centre

7:30pm Portmoak Church

All are welcome!

Fossoway and Cleish Community Office

A service for the Community

Open:

Tuesdays 7-9 pm

Thursdays 2-4 pm

Saturdays 10-12 noon

Out of hours there is an answering machine

Tel: 01577 840185 Email: fccoffice@btinternet.com

Kinross-shire Historical Society



19 Feb "The Tay, The Tay"

A photographic journey in the company of
Scotland's longest river. Willie Shand

19 Mar "Remembering Cameron"

A Black Watch soldier hidden by a French
family for 4 ½ years in World War 2. Ted
Dorsett. Member of the Dunning Historical
Society.

Annual General Meeting

The Society meets in the Masonic Hall, The Muirs,
Kinross at 7.30pm on the third Monday of each month
and the second Monday in December. New members
will be made very welcome. Subscriptions: Adult
£6.00; Senior Citizen £5.00; Visitor £2.00; under 18 -
no charge.

Blythswood Care

Somerfield's Car Park

20 February between 10.30 am and 11 am

Further details from 862258

Kinross District Counselling Services

Kinross District Counselling Services offers a new,
fully supervised, confidential counselling service
brought to you in association with The Web
Project. It is open to all-comers.

To make an appointment call Hilary 07930 682902 or
Wendy 07762 892252 (donations welcome to cover
costs).

You can see us at "The Web" 28 New Road,
Milnathort, KY13 9XA.

Kinross Activity Crew

Notice of Proposed Dissolution

The trustees of the Kinross Activity Crew Fund
propose to dissolve the Kinross Activity Crew
Organisation with effect of 1st March 2007. The
organisation has been dormant for over five years and
the remaining trustees wish to cease their involvement.
The trustees have resolved to transfer any remaining
funds, after all liabilities have been met, to the
"Kinross-shire Fund" under the proviso that these be
protected for future use for the "benefit of young
people" in the Kinross-shire area.

Individuals or groups wishing to make representation
to the trustees regarding the proposed dissolution, or
transfer of funds, should do so in writing by
16 February 2007 using the address below.

The Trustees, Kinross Activity Crew
c/o Community Learning Base
Kinross High School, High Street
Kinross, KY13 8AW

Come to the Fayre

To celebrate Fairtrade Fortnight, Kinross-shire is
having a Fayre held in the Church Centre. There will
be stalls, selling Fairtrade goods, local produce and
crafts with Fairtrade baking, teas & coffees. Display
of local children's art work on the topic of Fairtrade.

Date: **Saturday 3 March**
Place: Kinross Church Centre
High Street
Time: 10 - 2

For further information contact
Pat Payne 01577 862715.

Newsletter Queries?

When is the next deadline?
How much does it cost to advertise?
Can I get a subscription?

For the answers to these questions and more,
Visit our brand new website
www.kinrossnewsletter.org

Recycling of Waste Paper

P & KC Kerbside Collections

Kinross, Milnathort & Glenfarg

Thursday 1 March

Only paper presented in blue lidded wheelie bins
will be uplifted. No envelopes, plastic wrapping or
cardboard. There will no longer be a collection for
aluminium cans.

On morning of collection place bin
on kerbside by 7.30 a.m.

Kinross Community Councillors

Mrs M Blyth	170 High Street	
D Colliar (Chair)	10 Rannoch Place	862678
D Cuthbert (Vice Chair)	Highfield Circle	861001
Mrs C Drummond	Hatchbank House	850214
I Jack (Treasurer)	Burnbrae Grange	863980
Mrs D Mackay	29 Green Park	864635
R McConnell	3 High Street	865885
Mrs E Thomas (Secy)	50 Muirs	863714
P Zarb	17 Renton Drive	

George Reid MSP

The office is open Monday to Friday 9 - 5pm.

George Reid holds regular surgeries throughout the constituency.

For advice or to make an appointment contact:

George Reid MSP

Alloa Business Centre, Whins Road

Alloa FK10 3SA - 01259 726655

george.reid.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

Andrew Arbuckle MSP

Mid-Scotland & Fife

If any constituents would like to contact Andrew to raise an issue, or to make an appointment

Please call 01738 566100 or Fax 01738 566101

Please write to Andrew at
Scottish Parliament Headquarters,
Edinburgh EH99 1SP

Email: Andrew.Arbuckle.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

Gordon Banks

MP For Ochil & South Perthshire Constituency

Regular Advice Surgeries - For dates of the locations, or to raise any concerns you may have, please contact his assistant on:

01259 721536 – Fax 01259 216761

Alternatively, write to Gordon at

49-51 High Street, Alloa FK10 1JF

or **House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA**

Perth & Kinross Councillors

GEORGE HAYTON (Kinross Town)

6 Montgomery Way, Kinross, KY13 8FD

Tel: 01577 863055 Email: gghayton@pkc.gov.uk

WILLIE ROBERTSON (Milnathort

& North Kinross)

85 South Street, Milnathort, Kinross, KY13 9XA
Tel: 01577 865178 Email: wbrobertson@pkc.gov.uk

MICHAEL BARNACLE (Kinross-shire)

Moorend, Waulkmill Road, Crook of Devon,
Kinross, KY13 0UZ Tel/Fax: 01577 840516
Email: michael@mabarnacle.freeseve.co.uk

Situations Vacant

Looking for a Job?

Have a look at the new Situations Vacant page on the Community Website www.kinross.cc

Community Councils

Kinross: Secy: Mrs E Thomas (01577) 863714
kcc@macthomas.org.uk

Cleish & Blairadam: Secy: Mrs M Traylor (01383) 830059, prvtraylor@ukonline.co.uk

Milnathort: Chair: Mr J Giacomazzi (01577) 864025
joseph.giacomazzi@btopenworld.com

Fossoway & District: Secy: Mrs C Danks (01259) 742633, celia@dawsholm.demon.co.uk

Portmoak: Secy: Mr A Smith (01592) 840215

Kinross Temporary Library

County Buildings, High Street

Tel & Fax: 01577 864202

Email: kinrosslibrary@pkc.gov.uk

OPENING HOURS (as from 3 April 2006)

Mon	10am - 1pm	2pm - 5pm	
Tue	10am - 1pm	2pm - 5pm	6pm - 8pm
Wed	10am - 1pm	2pm - 5pm	6pm - 8pm
Thu	10am - 1pm	2pm - 5pm	6pm - 8pm
Fri	10am - 1pm	2pm - 5pm	
Sat	10am - 1pm		

Kinross Recycling Centre

Bridgend Industrial Estate

Aluminium and Steel Cans, HDPE & PET Plastic Bottles,
Glass, Garden Waste, Metal, Car Batteries, Engine oil,
Electrical Equipment, Paper, Fridges & Freezers, Textiles,
Phone Directories

OPENING TIMES

	April – Sept	Oct – March
Mon	3 pm – 7 pm	1 pm – 4 pm
Tue	closed	closed
Wed	3 pm – 7 pm	1 pm – 4 pm
Thu	closed	closed
Fri	3 pm – 7 pm	1 pm – 4 pm
Sat	9 am – 7 pm	9 am – 4 pm
Sun	9 am – 7 pm	9 am – 4 pm

Mobile Library, Milnathort

Every Second Wed - next visits 14 & 28 February

Westerloan 1.45 pm - 3 pm

Bridgefauld Road 3.05 pm - 4 pm

Any queries: Phone (01738) 444949

A K Bell Library, Perth

BUILDING PLANS

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Diary For February/March

February			Page
Sun	4	Amnesty Letter Writing session, Fair Break Cafe	17
Sun	4	Teddy Bears Picnic, Fossoway Church	41
Mon	5	Fossoway & District CC meets	34
Tue	6	Lodge St Serf meets regularly	41
Tue	6	Kinross & District Art Club meets weekly	12
Wed	7	Kinross CC meets	32
Thu	8	Kinross Camera Club meets weekly	16
Thu	8	Kinross Garden Group: Branklyn Gardens and its Plants	16
Thu	8	Milnathort CC meets	33
Fri, Sat	9-10	Nearly New Sale, Swansacre Playgroup	41
Sat	10	Portmoak Film Society: A Very Long Engagement	10
Sat, Sun	10-11	Beginners Curling Course, Green Hotel Ice Rink	20
Tue	13	Portmoak CC meets	36
Tue	13	Swasacre Playgroup Open Day	41
Wed	14	Save NHS Dentistry meeting	5
Wed	14	Mobile library visits Milnathort fortnightly	43
Thu	15	Crystal and Gem Workshop, Fair Break Cafe	17
Fri	16	Deadline for entries to Badminton Club competitions	21
Sat	17	Diabetes UK Kinross Voluntary group meets	17
Mon	19	Cleish & Blairadam CC meets	35
Mon	19	Kinross-shire Historical Society meets	15, 42
Mon	19	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	1
Tue	20	Blythswood Care Collection	42
Wed	21	Grants surgery	6
Thu	22	Kinross Floral Art Club meets	41
Sat	24	Bookstall and story-telling at Fair Break Cafe	17
Sat	24	Music at Fair Break Cafe: Malcolm Cowie	17
Sun	25	Heaven and Earth Club at Fair Break Cafe	17
Sun	25	Sportsman's Brunch, Rugby Club	20
Mon-Sun	26-11	Fairtrade Fortnight	17
Mon, Tue	26-27	BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE	41
Wed	28	Camera Club Digital group meets	16
Wed	28	Kinross Tennis Club Quiz Night	21
Wed	28	Mobile library visits Milnathort fortnightly	43
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Thu	1	Kerbside waste paper collection	42
Fri	2	World Day of Prayer	42
Sat	3	Fairtrade Fayre	42
Sun	4	Children's Charity Cycle in aid of Cancer Research UK	8
Tue	6	Credit Union meeting	6
Mon	19	Kinross-shire Historical Society meets	15, 42
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Sat	19	Loch Leven Half Marathon	21
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Sun	17	Open Day at Vane Farm	24