

Kinross Newsletter



Founded in 1977 by Mrs Nan Walker, MBE

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DEADLINE for the May Issue

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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:

Email: editor@kinrossnewsletter.org

Post: Mrs E Thomas

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KY138AU

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Front cover photograph of Kinross House by Jamie Montgomery (www.kinross.cc photo library)

Advertising in the Newsletter

Typed Adverts

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 in accuracy.

Editor Eileen Thomas Typesetting and Layout Tony Dyson Word Processing Julia Fulton
Advertising Ann Harley Treasurer Ross McConnell Distribution Craig Williams Subscriptions Ann Harley

Letters



Editorial

Ouestion Your Candidates

There will be a Hustings in Kinross on 25 April, giving you the chance to put questions to the candidates who will be standing in this area for election to the Scottish Parliament. This will take place in Kinross Parish Church at 7.30pm. You can read more about it on pages 19 and 40.

Also on the subject of elections, there is a guide on page 7 to the new voting system – the Single Transferable Vote – to elect Local Councils. Both the Local Government and the Scottish Parliament elections take place on 3 May.

No vote is necessary for Kinross Community Council. No new candidates came forward and with six of the former Community Councillors staying on there are five vacant seats.

Local Talent

Well done to the tremendous number of local children (and adults!) who achieved success at this year's Perform in Perth (see page 34) and our apologies if we have missed anyone or any of the awards.

Newsletter Contributions

It is great that we are regularly receiving a good number of letters – they are the lifeblood of the Newsletter – please keep them coming. Kinross is obviously a very active place, as we know from trying to fit all the news of clubs, groups, sports people and more into the Newsletter! This is another bumper 44-page edition. Again, keep the reports coming in (well in advance of the deadline would be much appreciated!)

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

Community Website

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

www.kinross.cc

Milnathort Flooding Impact

6.03.07

In view of the recent serious flooding in Milnathort, I was surprised to note that no questions were raised by Milnathort CC on the potential impact of the proposed Tillyrie wind turbines on local hydrology.

The proposed turbines will have huge concrete bases and associated facilities (including access roads and borrow pits) which will undoubtedly have an adverse effect on the rainwater runoff from the site to local burns (e.g. Teeny burn), which ultimately flow through Milnathort village.

Surely all future construction and development activity in and around Milnathort must be considered in the light of the potential to exacerbate the risk of flooding?

GM Lindsay Whinfield Gardens, Kinross

Loch Leven Heritage Project "Interpretation"

05.03.07

In the March 2007 Newsletter it stated that "Interpretation means - increasing understanding of history".

This was with reference to the Loch Leven Path which lies largely on ground exposed by the lowering of the water level in 1830. One of the best buildings to illustrate this event is the working Sluice House at Findatie. Visible from a high point of the road and adjacent to the car park it would be a perfect site for an interpretation board on the new path.

Unfortunately P&KC, against the advice of their officials, gave planning permission for chalets overlooking the Sluice House, which, when they are built, will spoil the environs and the view from the road. This view includes St Serf's Island, once a Culdee Priory, and the whole sweep of the loch and the Lomond Hills beyond. Where better to bring people onto the path round Loch Leven and display its heritage?

When all this is obscured by chalets the opportunity will be lost. What is a reasonable interpretation of that?

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Wanted: Scotland Supporters 15.03.07

Since 2003, as part of Euro 2004 Campaign, I have taken my son and his friend to watch Scotland at Hampden Park and have been a fully paid up member of The Scotland Supporters Club.

We have lived the Highs and Lows of following Scotland; we were there when Scotland took a point from the mighty Germans (2003) and Italians (2005), and danced in the terraces when we beat the Dutch (2003) and France (2006), although we have also had to endure the heartache of being beaten by Sweden and Switzerland.

At present, we are looking forward to forthcoming matches against Georgia, Lithuania, Ukraine and Italy, in Scotland's quest to make it to the Euro Championships 2008.

We are looking for like-minded supporters to form a local Scotland Supporter Club 'Kinnesswood Tartan Army', which would see us travel to all matches as a large group of supporters on a bus which will add to the atmosphere of the whole day. Membership to this club would also involve social and fund-raising events, in addition to home and away match day fixtures.

If you are interested in becoming involved in establishing a local Scotland Supporters club, please contact me at:thebert1314@btintemet.com

Together we can live the dream....

Bert Thomson 5 Brough Terrace, Kinnesswood, tel: 01592 840893



Rowan & Hamish set off for Hampden; Scotland 1 V France 0

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Pylon Query 14.03

Hi - I am looking for some help from the people of Kinross and surrounding areas. This question is baffling our family and many other people I have spoken to for answers!

Can anyone give us any information regarding the pylons that run along the hills from Vane Farm to Cleish? They appear to be yellow on one side and grey on the other - why? Is this just to look pretty or is there a practical reason!

I have emailed Hydro Electric for information but as yet none is forthcoming.

Isobel Syme 3 Fruix. Kinross, tel: 01577 850356

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News & Articles



Loch Leven Heritage Project

During March, good progress has been made in finishing off the trail section between Mary's Gate and the Pow Burn, a distance of

nearly 4 kilometres. However, the higher than average rainfall so far this year has raised the level of the loch and the surrounding water table. At the time of writing, the section of shore between Kinross Boathouse and Mary's Gate is too waterlogged to take in the trail building machinery. TRACKS hope that it will be possible to complete this work by the end of April and to open Phase 1 of the path soon after.

The path being constructed in this area is expected to be the most popular part of the trail. Thanks to the generosity of the Kinross Estate Company, it will open up public access to a new part of the shore. In addition to accessing the main heritage trail, people will be able to do a circular walk from Kinross, following the trail from Kirkgate Park past the front of Kinross House to Mary's Gate, turning left up the side of the golf course and rejoining the main road at the north end of the town. The contractor, J M Dewar, will upgrade the path that runs along the north side of the golf course from Mary's Gate to Sunnypark.

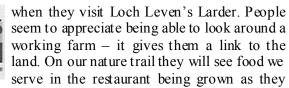
A further enhancement of the trail between the Boathouse and Mary's Gate is the new bird hide that has been installed by TRACKS in a large reed bed on the lochside. This is a particularly attractive site in a peaceful location with fine views over the loch to Bishop Hill and Loch Leven castle. It is likely to be popular with both birdwatchers and walkers.

Upgrading the path from Mary's Gate to the bridge over the Queich before Burleigh Sands has been another element of Phase 1. TRACKS apologises to users who were excluded from this section while the work was being done.

An exciting development is happening at the northeast end of the Phase 1 path. Robin and Emma Niven of Channel Farm, home of Loch Leven's Larder, are creating a nature trail that will link to the Loch Leven Heritage Trail. That means that when Phase 1 opens, users won't come to a dead end at Pow Burn, but will be able to continue across the fields to the A911. This opens up a variety of options: stop for refreshments, catch a bus back to Kinross, or keep going into the Lomond Hills or up on to the rights of way that skirt the hills.

Robin Niven says, "We plan to integrate with the Loch Leven Heritage Project by providing a spoke from the main trail. We are doing this by laying a grass path around our lower fields and linking it to the lochside trail.

"A lot of our customers want something more to do



walk through a variety of wildlife habitats around the arable fields. We are steadily enhancing these habitats, for instance by sowing species-rich grassland and putting in hedgehog and bird nesting boxes."

Although Phase 1 is still being completed, the project's steering group are already looking ahead to the work to follow. They recently reviewed preliminary designs for a bridge over the River Leven at Findatie. The bridge, which will have a span of about 25 metres, will be built as a part of Phase 2.



A section of the new path between Burleigh Sands and Pow Burn. Photo: Neil Kilpatrick

TRACKS project officer Janet Croft would like to thank all the volunteers who gave their time and input to the two survey days she had planned for 21 and 25 March. The purpose of the initial survey at Burleigh Sands was to measure usage before the new sections of path open.

Another survey is planned for August (when it should be warmer!) and Janet is keen to hear from anyone who can assist for a couple of half days. The proposed days are Wednesday 15 August and Sunday 19 August. Give her a ring on 01577 864105 to volunteer or find out more.

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Launch of Kinross-shire Logo

The Kinross-shire Tourism Group (KTG) decided, many months ago, that it would be a benefit to tourism in the area if we had a logo, something bright and active to catch some of the highlights of our wonderful area.

There was no doubt that Kinrossshire already had a clear identity in the minds of local residents. Anyone who has tried to effect positive change locally or raise some funds for a local group or cause cannot fail to feel a weight KINROSS-SHIRE of support from the community. A logo is a way of visually



The Friendly County

expressing the strength of community that exists.

KTG did not anticipate using it to attract visitors to come to Kinross-shire. Instead we saw the logo making an impact when people arrive here. We hope Logo stickers will be displayed in car and shop windows and will appear on local publications and stationery. This, alongside community events and attractions, will impress visitors and celebrate for ourselves that Kinross-shire has great community spirit and that it is indeed "The Friendly County".

So with the help of local graphic design companies, representatives of the Community Councils and responses to surveys in the Newsletter and at the Kinross Show, we have arrived at our super, colourful logo which we are delighted to launch at the Spring Fair on 14 April.

Run the Kinross PTA 10 K

Kinross High School Parent Teacher Association is once again holding a 10 km run.

It is traffic free and runs around the grounds of Kinross house. It is an accurately measured, flat and easy course with no hills! It loops back on itself a couple of times, so you get to see the leaders and how your friends are doing on the night. There are refreshments after the race!

The event takes place on Thursday 26 April and starts at 7.30pm. Registration is at the High school, where you can also change into running gear.

Please come and do the run and help the High school whilst you get fit at the same time.

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Outdoor Curling Returns to Kinross (reprise!)

Last month we published an excellent photo of the newly refurbished curling pond in Kinross, taken by Rachel Forbes. Unfortunately the photograph was truncated during the printing process to show only a pair of feet and a patch of ice! Our sincere apologies to Rachel and Kinross Curling Club for the mistake. To make amends, here is the photograph again, as it should have been.



The restored pond in use on 7 Feb. Photo: Rachel Forbes

Perth & Kinross Leisure

Entertainment this Easter

Perth and Kinross Leisure's Easter leisure Programme for pre-school and school age children will run from Monday 2 April to Friday 13 April. There are Full Day Camps at Perth, Crieff and Auchterarder with all other sites offering single sessions

In Kinross there will be football and multi-sport activities at King George V playing field and a range of water-based activities at Loch Leven Leisure. These will include: Kiddie Kickers for 3 to 6 year olds, Crash Course Lessons for non-swimmers and improvers, Rookie Lifeguard, Inflatable pool session, Canoeing, Snorkelling and Wet 'n' Wild.

Some activities may already be fully booked as bookings began on 5 March, but check with Loch Leven Leisure for details: telephone 01577 863368. More information can be found by logging on to www.liveactive.co.uk

Thistle Hotel

Scott McCallum, Manager of The Thistle Hotel in Milnathort would like to refute rumours that the Thistle Hotel is closing, to be turned into flats. Mr McCallum wishes to state, via the Newsletter, that these rumours are totally unfounded: The Thistle Hotel is licensed and is trading as normal.

Kinross Learning Centre launches varied spring programme
If you're a keen amateur photographer, but feel that you and your digital camera are capable of a whole lot more, the Digital Photography courses on offer in Kinross Learning Centre later this month could be just what you're looking for.

The Stage 1 course is designed for those who have a little knowledge but want to be able to make the most of their camera, download images onto a computer and rectify common faults.

Designed specifically for those who already have a thorough grounding in photography and the use of PCs, the Stage 2 course concentrates on editing techniques using Photoshop, including retouching, photomontage, layers and levels.

The spring programme also includes a floral art class which will help you be creative with spring and early summer blooms. As well as teaching the basic principles of design. Floral Art – Spring into Summer will cover conditioning blooms and foliage to maximise the lifespan of your arrangement.

Alternative therapies feature in the new programme with self-hypnosis and homeopathy on offer for those who prefer a more holistic approach to well-being.

Those planning a trip to Spain or Italy this summer are catered for with the eight week Holiday Spanish and Italian courses which will teach you everyday vocabulary and grammar to get by in typical holiday situations.

And of course, the ever-popular beginners computing course Welcome to Computing is available twice each week to suit those who have free time during the day as well as those who can only commit to study in the evening.

To find out more about the range of options or to book your place, call 01577 863863 or drop in to the Centre at Swansacre, Kinross.

The full programme is as follows:

Course	Start Date	Time	Duration	Cost
Art of Drawing 4	Mon 23 Apr	7-9pm	10 weeks	£52
Art of Drawing 6	Wed 25 Apr	9.30-11.30am	10 weeks	£52
Basic Maths and English	Thursdays	10am-noon	Ongoing	FREE
Digital Photography 1	Wed 25 Apr	2.30 -4.30pm	10 weeks	£60
Digital Photography 2	Wed 25 Apr	7-9 pm	10 weeks	£48
Floral Art: Spring into Summer	Wed 25 Apr	2-4pm	5 weeks	£30
French 8	Tue 24 Apr	10.30am-12.30pm	10 weeks	£52
Holiday Spanish	Wed 25 Apr	7 – 9 pm	8 weeks	£38
Holiday Italian	Wed 25 Apr	7 – 9 pm	8 weeks	£38
Introduction to Homeopathy	Thu 26 Apr	9.30-11.30am	6 weeks	£35
Italian 3	Tue 24 Apr	2-4 pm	10 weeks	£52
Patchwork and Quilting	Tue 1 May	9.30-11.30am	5 weeks	£30
Self Hypnosis	Thu 26 Apr	1 – 3 pm	6 weeks	£35
Sage Payroll	Thu 26 Apr	3-5pm	5 weeks	£53
Spanish 2	Mon 23 Apr	7-9pm	10 weeks	£52
Spanish 6	Fri 27 Apr	9.30-11.30am	10 weeks	£52
Watercolours Stage 3	Wed 25 Apr	2-4pm	10 weeks	£52
Watercolours Stage 6	Mon 23 Apr	2-4pm	10 weeks	£52
Watercolours Stage 2	Thu 26 Apr	1.30-3.30pm	10 weeks	£52
Welcome to Computing	Mon 23 Apr	7-9pm	8 weeks	£42
Welcome to Computing	Tue 24 Apr	2-4pm	8 weeks	£42

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What do you want to know about T in the Park?

There wasn't much response to this request last month, so here goes again!

Last year the T in the Park organisers produced an information leaflet called "A Guide for Local Residents". It contained the following information:

- telephone numbers for the Perth & Kinross Council Helpline, the Police and T in the Park Local Resident Enquiry lines
- details of traffic arrangements, such as road closures and one-way systems in operation for the festival weekend
- advice on the recommended walking route to the festival
- a description of the shuttle bus route
- taxi telephone numbers
- a map of the site and rules on admission
- dates and opening times of the festival
- firework warning

A similar leaflet will be produced again this year, but the organisers would like to hear first from local people. What information would you like to see in the leaflet? Send your suggestions as soon as possible to Kinross CC. You can do this by email to kcc@macthomas.org.uk or by post to the Kinross CC Secretary, 50 Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8AU or leave a message on the Bulletin Board on the www.kinross.cc website.

Cycling Fundraiser a Success

The sponsored cycle held on 4 March at Kinross House was a great success. Nearly 200 children turned up from ages 2 to 9 and participated in push-alongs, tricycles, bikes and even parents on bikes with the child seat on the back.

Organiser Julie Rose estimates that the event raised at least £2500. This money is in aid of Cancer Research UK for a place in the New York Marathon in November 2007 and the London Marathon in April 2008. Julie has had to withdraw from the London Marathon this year due to an injury.

Groups taking part in the cycle were: Fossoway Toddlers, Fossoway Pre-School Group, Dollar under Fives, Lochleven Twos Club, Swansacre Playgroup, Portmoak Under 5s, Milnathort Babies and Toddlers, Lochleven Babies and Toddlers and children from Fossoway Nursery and Primary School and Kinross Primary School.

Julie said, "I would like to thank everyone for coming along and supporting the event on a cold but bright Sunday moming and special thanks to everyone who helped make the event the success that it was and especially Jo Ramsay who helped immensely leading up to and on the day.

"Also thanks to Kinross House Gardens for such a fantastic venue, Cree8 for their donation of the certificates and Asda for their chocolate bars.

"With the cycle, men's leg wax and raffle I am on target to raise £5500 this year for Cancer Research UK."

Voting in your Local Council Elections

On 3 May 2007, the system for electing councillors will change to a form of Proportional Representation known as Single Transferable Vote (STV), replacing the previous first-past-the-post system.

The sizes of council wards will be increased and either three or four Councillors will be elected to each ward. Kinross-shire will have four councillors.

When you vote you will be asked to rank candidates in order of preference (1, 2, 3 etc) rather than by making a single choice with a cross (X).

Put a "1" beside the candidate you like best, then a "2" beside your second choice, "3" beside your third choice and so on. You can express preferences for as many or as few candidates as you like.

The numbers you use must be in sequence. If you make a mistake, your vote will be valid up to when you made the error – for example, if you miss out a "4" and just rank 1, 2, 3 and 5, only your first three preferences will be valid.

The candidates you vote for may be from the same party, from several different parties or be independents – but every single choice counts!

If your first choice has already won enough votes to be elected, or is eliminated as a result of having the least number of votes, then your vote is transferred to your second choice and potentially on to your third choice and so on, until either three or four candidates have been elected, depending on the size of the ward.

For more information visit www.votescotland.com

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Megabus comes to Park and Ride

The Park and Ride facility (currently under construction next to Somerfield's supermarket) is due to start operating in April.

Megabus will call in at the new facility, doubling the frequency of Edinburgh buses serving Kinross, though seats on the cheap, no-frills Megabus service have to be booked in advance via the internet.

Once the Park and Ride is open, there will be changes to the Citylink Edinburgh-Perth bus service. The Citylink bus will leave the M90 at junction 6 (rather than junction 5 at present), stop at the Park and Ride, proceed along Station Road and then north to Milnathort. This means it will no longer serve the Town Hall bus stop, but will stop at Kirklands Hotel for northbound services and at Lomond Mews for southbound services.

Other local bus services may also alter their routes to serve the Park and Ride. These and other timetable changes will take effect from 16 April.

Improvements to some local bus services took effect on 8 January. Service 56A journeys on Friday and Saturday evenings have been re-timed to depart Perth Bus Station at 2250. This provides a later public transport option for homeward travel from leisure and social activities. Service 204 afternoon journeys on the Wednesday and Saturday timetable now depart up to 15 minutes later allowing passengers more time in both Dollar and Vane Farm.

Details of all bus services for this area can be found in the "Kinross-shire and Bridge of Earn Area" Local Public Transport Guide. Copies are available from various sources throughout Kinross-shire, including most of the county's Post Offices, the P&KC Area Office at the County Buildings and the temporary Kinross Library. See www.kinross.cc for a full list. The current version of the Transport Guide, effective from 8 January, will be replaced by an updated version to take account of all the changes happening from 16 April.

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Ian Mackay 01577 864751

Cheers Ian!

The current Newsletter team, associates and past colleagues of Ian Thomson gathered for a lunch at the Green Hotel on 26 February to mark Ian's retirement from the Newsletter. Ian was presented with an engraved whisky decanter and glasses in recognition of his 14 years' involvement with the Newsletter, nine as Joint Editor



lan rais es a glass at his retirement lunch

Nominations for Kinross CC

Only six nominations were received for the eleven places on Kinross CC. The nominations are: Margaret Blyth, David Colliar, David Cuthbert, Carole Drummond, Ian Jack and Dorothy Mackay.

The Annual General Meeting of Kinross CC will take place on Wednesday 18 April at 7.30pm in the Octagonal Room of the Millbridge Hall. Please note the change from the usual venue.

Kinross CC will only meet on the first Wednesday in April (in the Masonic Hall) if any planning issues of great importance arise.

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Under Age Drinking

This month we would like to highlight the problems and some of the offences that can be committed in relation to underage drinking. Kinross, like almost every other small town in the country, has a number of young people who consume alcohol at various locations and by doing so regularly become intoxicated. Unfortunately, a number of those involved then indulge in anti-social behaviour such vandalism, breach of the peace and careless disposal of litter, including glass bottles that are often broken. The alcohol is obtained by several methods and most common is by the young people persuading a person over eighteen to buy it for them. Often these agents are strangers who are approached outside or near to the off sales premises where the alcohol is bought. However, by doing so, these persons are guilty of the offence of purchasing alcohol for persons under 18, which is a contravention of the Licensing (Scotland) Act, 1976, Section 68:

"A person shall not knowingly act as agent for a person under 18 in the purchase of alcoholic liquor, nor shall any person knowingly buy or attempt to buy alcoholic liquor for consumption in a bar in licensed premises by a person under 18."

In Kinross our retail outlets engaged in Off Sales are alert to these problems and tend to take a responsible approach. Recently two persons have been barred from one particular shop having been suspected of trying to purchase alcohol for persons under 18. It should be noted that where there is clear evidence that such offences have been committed, those responsible will be reported.

Many responsible parents try to educate their children to understand about alcohol by allowing the youngsters to sample it at home in controlled surroundings. This is obviously more preferable than risking a situation where a young person will take alcohol for the first time without understanding its effects and in an environment that is

clearly not safe, particularly should they over indulge. However, parents should be aware that some young persons have, in the past, removed this alcohol from their homes and consumed it outside. This of course places the young person at risk and may render the parent liable for

prosecution.

Recently, officers have also been in the situation where they have had to arrest a young person who was so intoxicated that the behaviour of that young person was extreme, to the point of collapse later on and had to be taken to hospital. It is imperative that parents impress upon their children the dangers of excessive alcohol consumption. (In the case of a young person, the volume of alcohol consumption is likely to be a lot less than a fully grown adult). It is not outwith the realms of possibility that a young person could lose their life through collapsing somewhere where there is no one to take care of them.

It should also be noted that drinking alcohol in public places in Kinross and Milnathort is also an offence.

Crime Stoppers - Telephone Number 0800555111

This telephone number is a free phone 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 can be contacted at Kinross Police Office on 01577 863571.

Kinross – Constable Ronnie Child; Milnathort, Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell – Constable Graham Stephen; Cleish and Blairadam, Crook of Devon, Powmill, Blairingone, Cambo and Glen farg areas – Constable Toni Pedersen.

Photograph Competition

We will try to show you all the winning photographs from the Community Website photo competition over the coming months if space permits.



Here is "Burleigh Castle" by Dugald McIntyre, which won second prize in the "Ancient Landmarks" section of the competition.



Community Council News



Kinross Community Council

News from the March Meeting

Present at the meeting held on 7 March were: CCllrs David Colliar (Chairman), David Cuthbert (Vice-Chairman), Eileen Thomas (Secretary), Ross McConnell, Margaret Blyth and Dot Mackay. Also in attendance were P&K Cllrs M Barnacle and G Hayton; Margaret Scott (Minute Secretary), PC Toni Pedersen and six members of the public; CCllr Paul Zarb and P&K Cllr Robertson were absent. Apologies were received from CCllrs Ian Jack and Carole Drummond.

Police Report: PC Toni Pedersen reported that as from 27 February the penalties in relation to the use of a mobile phone while driving have increased. Offenders may now receive a £60 fine and three penalty points on their Licence. This offence previously carried a £30 non-endorsable penalty.

Play Equipment: the toddler swings in Davies Park are to be replaced.

Sand and Gravel at Balado: Following a recent meeting attended by CCllr Colliar, a Committee was formed and Kinross CC were asked to Chair the meetings. CC Cuthbert will attend future meetings as Chairman. They will liaise with the contractors in relation to the development and planning application.

Tactran Draft Regional Transport Strategy: A Questionnaire is available for completion; however comments can be submitted in writing if preferred. The CC will forward their comments using the second option.

Planning Applications Received

The CC raised no comment on the following applications: 06/02648/NID Perth and Kinross Council Depot, Clashburn

Close, Bridgend Industrial Estate: Extension to existing recycling centre for additional containers for general waste/green waste/timber/metal/inert.

07/00004/FUL 8 Wilson Court: Extension to dwellinghouse 07/00193/PN Fruix Farm, Gairneybridge: Erection of a machinery store: This application has been approved.

06/02541/FUL 80 High Street and 2 Swansacre:

Conversion of building to form four flats. The plans were available for perusal by the CC.

07/00126/REM Cruachan, Old Cleish Road, Kinross: Erection of two detached dwellinghouses and garages. The Chairman mentioned that he had perused the plans on the Council Website and that access is from the existing driveway.

07/00270/FUL 3 George Drive, Kinross: Demolition of existing garage and erection of a replacement double garage and bedroom extension.

Planning Applications Determined

Having checked these from the Council Website, the Chairman advised that no major applications were determined over the last month.

Report from P&K Councillors

Cllr Hayton commented on the revised capacity figures for the Schools which were published recently in the Press.

He mentioned that a one way system would be operational in Bowton Road as from the end of the month. This would ease the traffic flow to the School. Bowton Road is also scheduled to be resurfaced this year; this will include the pavements and the kerbs will be lowered where necessary.

Cllr Barnacle raised the subject of the litter control in the town. Successful schemes are currently in place in Blairgowrie and Perth and it was hoped that a similar scheme could be established in Kinross. This would take the form of Litter Patrols and would involve liaison with the Schools, Shops and Police.

General Correspondence

The Secretary read out the general correspondence which included:

A number of invitations to the CC;

Bus Service Contracts/Timetables – the public were asked to comment and in some areas there has been an improved service;

Renewal of Licences at Millers Bar and an Off-Sale Licence for R Scott, Hopefield, Springfield Road;

AGM of Convention of P&K CCs on 25 March - CCllr Thomas will represent the CC.

Other Business

Community Council Election – Nomination Forms are available in the March Newsletter. The forms have to be returned by 14 March, with the Election to take place, if necessary, on 19 April.

Town Hall – CCllr Thomas advised that she had received a telephone call from the Solicitor and the Sist is to be recalled and a Court Hearing set.

Springfield Road – CCllr Cuthbert queried the works being carried out in Springfield Road. The road is to be widened. A second path was also requested.

The Annual General Meeting of Kinross CC is to be held in the Octagonal Room of the Millbridge Hall on Wednesday 18 April at 7.30pm.

NOTE: Should any business require to be conducted prior to the AGM, a meeting will be held on **4** April for this purpose. Community Councillors will be notified accordingly.



The eyesore building at the corner of Swansacre and High St. Soon to be converted to flats?

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.

Milnathort Community Council News from the March Meeting and AGM

In attendance at the meeting held on 8 March were: CCllrs Giacopazzi (Chairman), Porter, Smith, Thomson and Cottingham; minute secretary E Rougvie, P&K Cllrs W Robertson and K Baird; PC Binnie, Tayside Police, and five members of the public. Apologies were received from CCllrs Bennet and Ross.

Police matters: PC Binnie said that there were no significant crime patterns to report, but a couple of worrying incidents had taken place. The previous day an elderly gentleman had been persuaded to part with £500 by bogus workmen, and the public were being asked for their help. He said there were three men in their 20s and 30s, and a fourth man who was older. They were driving a white Ford transit van carrying extendable ladders. CCllr Giacopazzi said he thought that the men had been into his shop that morning, and said he would hand the CCTV tapes to the police. PC Binnie also said that a high-value vehicle had been being targeted, and urged people to be alert to such incidents. He reported that the police were pursuing people using mobile phones while driving. A member of the public expressed concern about the speed of vehicles in New Road. After discussion, the CC formally requested that the police take action at the eastern end of the road by way of speed trapping.

Matters arising: CCllrs Porter and Thomson reported on their visit to a conference about future planning which had been held in Dundee. CCllr Thomson said it had been a very constructive day, and the main points which had emerged were that community councils should have more say in planning matters; that there should be more consultation with local people, and that there should be more transparency. CCllr Giacopazzi commented that perhaps the CC should try to involve itself more with the Convention of CCs.

Flooding issues: CCllr Cottingham summarised the interim report provided by Atkins, the independent assessor, into the causes of December's floods. He said that there were still a lot of uncertainties and a range of scenarios had been presented. After discussion, P&K Cllr Robertson said that he had asked for everyone who had been affected to be sent a copy of the report, and once the finalised report was released there would be a meeting at which all unanswered questions would be addressed.

Planning: The following applications were noted: modification to approved scheme at 16 Linden Park Terrace; formation of access and erection of a garage at 25 Bridge fauld Road.

CCllr Giacopazzi referred to a letter received from James Strathie about an application for four houses and garages at Mawcarse, which expressed concern about the proximity of the A91 and the volume of traffic. After discussion, it was agreed to suggest to the roads department that this be taken into consideration.

Pitdownies: CCllr Giacopazzi said that an application to build 60 houses at the Pitdownies was most concerning. The site had been designated for housing in the Local Plan, but the CC would be in dereliction of their duty if they didn't look at any proposed new developments in relation to issues of drainage. In addition, he expressed concern about the issue of school capacity, since the education department

was already objecting to single site applications on this basis. He questioned how sites in Milnathort were being identified for development when there was no infrastructure to support this. There followed a lengthy discussion about education provision, during which P&K Cllr Robertson said he didn't feel this was a major issue, since education was a demand-led service. His main concern was about drainage, and he said he had written to Sarah Boyack, Transport & Environment Minister, demanding that Scottish Water address the problem, since they had been negligent in this respect. After further discussion, it was agreed that the CC would lodge an objection on the grounds of drainage and express concern about the possible lack of education provision.

Alterations and change of use to form four houses at 2-8 South Street: concerns were expressed about the fact that this building formerly the Village Stores, was on a flood plain, but it was agreed that it was an eyesore and that anything that could be done to improve the centre of the village would be welcome. As SEPA had a different standard for businesses in terms of identifying flood plains, the ideal outcome would be to have two shops below and two flats above, which would fall into the category of affordable housing. It was agreed that the CC would like to see the building brought back into use, but they would raise concerns about the density of the proposed housing and the lack of parking.

CC election: CCllr Giacopazzi undertook to make the necessary arrangements for the forthcoming election.

Correspondence: An invitation by SEPA to a conference about the Tay estuary was noted.

It was agreed that CCllr Cottingham would respond to a letter from TACTRAN about the likelihood of increased traffic on the A977 with the arrival of the new Kincardine Bridge. P&K Cllr Robertson said that he and P&K Cllr Barnacle were pushing to get the road upgraded.

The Kinross-shire Fund is now in a position to start making small grants of up to £1000 to community groups and CCllr Giacopazzi hoped that requests would start to come forward.

A letter from the Scottish Executive about anti-social noise teams was noted. P&K Cllr Robertson said that such a team had been set up in P&KC.

It was agreed to send off for a booklet about affordable housing, following a request for comments about the issue of sustainable development. P&K Cllr said that money was available to buy land to offer to housing associations, but that P&KC had been unable to proceed because Scottish Water had not agreed to provide drainage.

It was agreed to put Scottish Executive leaflets in the Post Office which gave people the opportunity to comment on the National Planning Framework.

Other Business

CCllr Giacopazzi raised a complaint from a member of the public about an anti-social dog which regularly fouled on her doorstep and in her garden. The dog had also snarled at paper delivery girls. P&K Cllr Robertson agreed to speak to the Council's dog wardens.

CCIIr Smith commented on the improved parking in Church Street since new lines had been drawn. Gritters were also now able to access the road when necessary.

P&K Cllr Robertson agreed to take up the issue of a fallen tree which was still lying in Donaldson Park.

Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the last AGM were noted, since CCllr Giacopazzi was the only CCllr who had been in attendance. Chairman's statement: On behalf of CCllr Giacopazzi, CCllr read out the chairman's report as follows:

'It's really supposed to be the Secretary's statement, but since our CC doesn't have one, I suppose it'll just have to be me again this year!

First the good news: after lobbying by our CC and Councillor Robertson, the quality of drinking water in Milnathort has improved dramatically. Gone is the nasty smell of chlorine. Thank you, Scottish Water. What took you so long?

Our village has enjoyed a relatively crime-free year. The traditional complaints relating to "youth annoyance", as the police call it, have not happened. In my experience there are some years when there are few complaints, and other years when the village is plagued by bad behaviour; it's mostly down to the particular crop of individuals in their early teens. It could also be to do with the establishment of the skate boarding park at Lathro. This has proved a great hit. Positive news again: we continue to benefit from our

Positive news again: we continue to benefit from our dedicated band of Milnathort in Bloom volunteers who slave away selflessly and for no remuneration in the summer months, to keep the village looking its best. Oh, and the little white haired lady on her knees on the pavement hasn't fallen; it's just Jessie picking weeds!

Now for the less good stuff Flooding. Ah, yes, the one which half a million pounds worth of flood defences should have prevented. As I stood in my business premises on the night of the 13th December last, waist deep in freezing water, I couldn't help thinking how much worse it was for my neighbours whose homes had been devastated for the second time in thirteen years. At least I was going home to a dry house. The emergency services and Perth and Kinross Council did what they could under the circumstances, but the consequences of that night are still all too apparent, months later.

A Flood Prevention Action Group was set up by Lesley Watson and Dawn Ramage (thank you, ladies) to establish what had gone wrong with the flood defences in place, and to see a way to preventing a recurrence in the future. The group scored an early victory in securing an independent assessment of why the defences failed. The engineers, Atkins, yesterday issued an interim report which concludes that there are so many variables in the equation that we may never know. It might have been the earth embankment which gave way, or possibly the service ducts crossing the culvert, or maybe a combination. Possibly it was just a huge volume of water; more than a "once in a hundred year event". Further studies are being undertaken. I, for one, will be greatly relieved when the summer comes.

One thing in certain, though, our community cannot undergo this ordeal again; quite apart from the cost in human misery, there has been a loss to the commercial area of the village and some businesses may never open again. The Post Office was sorely missed during its refurbishment; this is a wake-up call to us all about the value of supporting and retaining a Post Office in Milnathort. Meanwhile we eagerly await the findings and recommendations of the engineers. This time they must come up with a cast iron scheme; if not Lesley and Dawn will be after them!

The proposed wind turbine cluster on Carleith Hill has

already created a great deal of heat; even before it has been built! Heat, but, sadly not much light; the proposers of wind power, which includes the Scottish Executive, claim that renewable energy is the only way mankind will avoid environmental catastrophe, with the possible extinction of our species. The opponents see wind power as a distraction, claiming that it is an ineffective way of energy generation. So you have your choice; either the turbines are graceful kinetic sculptures, or merely inappropriate industrial structures.

It is not the remit of any community council to decide these issues although individual community councillors may have personal views. All we can do is assess the suitability of any wind farm application in light of council policies and the prevailing circumstances. Every decision which produces winners, in planning matters, also produces losers; this does not justify calling into question the impartiality of a community council which has honestly, diligently and with few resources given its honest opinion.

It is not in the power of community councils to grant planning consents; we are merely statutory consultees. Planning permission is granted in another place by another group of the good and great. It would be wise to maintain a sense of proportion in relation to the importance of a community council's input to the planning process.

The pressure to develop land continues to bear down on the fragile in frastructure of our village with several substantial developments currently seeking approval. Does Milnathort School have the places to accommodate the anticipated new intake? Is there sewer capacity? Can the Burn take any more run-off? Surely it is the remit of strategic planning to supply adequate infrastructure where the Area Local Plan identifies development sites?

Whether any or all of the community councillors are still in place after the election, the next 12 months are going to be very interesting.'

Treasurer's report: in the absence of the treasurer, CCllr Giacopazzi reported that the CC had a balance of £764.64.

The next meeting of Milnathort CC will take place in the Town Hall on Thursday 12 April at 7.30pm.

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Deadline for all Articles

5.00 pm, MO NDAY 16 April for Publication on Saturday 28 April

Cleish & Blairadam CC

The CC met in Cleish Village Hall on Monday 19 February and was attended by five CCllrs, P&K Cllr Mike Barnacle, PC Child, the C&B newsletter editor and 17 members of the public. Apologies were received from Cllr Catriona Cully.

Crime Prevention: PC Child had nothing to report. There had been a break-in in the Boreland area earlier in the year but it appeared this had not been reported; PC Child said he would find out if there was anything on the records. However, this is a timely reminder to everyone to be ever watchful and to keep all houses and outbuildings safely locked.

Wind Farms: We now await the proceedings and outcomes of the conjoined Planning Appeal which is due to begin on 27 February.

Tracks and Trails: The Chairman had tried to contact John Stevenson, the coordinator of the Working Group, but had had no feedback. It is understood that the consultation with the local landowners was continuing and this might take some time.

Planning

The following new applications had been received:

Flockhouse New Farmhouse: No questions and no comments.

Mill House, Blairadam: Application for storage shed to east of Dullomuir Farm: No objections from the neighbours or the village residents.

Green acres: There has been an application for the plot to the south side of what was the old road to Cleish. This whole development continues to concern the community The CC had repeatedly asked the Council for a master plan for which they are still waiting. They have now been told that there are no resources available for this provision. The Planning Department has been asked to investigate unauthorised development and a reinforcement notice has now been served. However, work continues on a daily basis, and even where no permission has been given, trees have been planted around a site which is outwith the boundary. P&KC will be kept informed as to what is going on

Play Area on field to north of Cleish Cemetery: Permission has been given for this. There will be no structures and no markings, and it is for use by the children of the village and occasionally by the school. The Council has asked for a hedge to be planted - but there was no detail as to what kind and where and how long.

Binn Cottage and West Mains Farm, Cleish: Both these applications have been refused.

Pending: Kinnaird, Templeton, Sunnyside, Static Caravan at Flockhouse, Nivingston. Cllr Barnacle said he had received more objections to the Nivingston application than to any other at any time.

Flockhouse Steading: This application has now been heard at the Development Control Committee, on the insistence of the applicant, and has been approved subject to agreeing conditions. Cllr Barnacle had been advised that he could not recommend refusal on the grounds of Educational Provision, but no reason for such advice had been given. He had hoped for a protocol on education but this was still being looked at. This gave rise to much discussion. The CC was concerned as to why Cllr Barnacle was advised not to object on the grounds of Education, and also why the

application was heard on the applicant's insistence. It was agreed the CC should raise these matters with the Council. They would also emphasise the Education Protocol should be in place before decisions are reached as educational capacity is of great importance with the impact on small developments.

Review of Development Standards Service: The CC had written expressing their dissatisfaction over the service, especially as they received no response to their comments. Thus far there had been no response but a telephone call from Gordon Macfarlane intimated he would call back. We await the outcome.

Housing in the Countryside: Cllr Barnacle said there would be no review before the Election. The question of Affordable Housing Policies was now on the web, and comments are requested by 16 March. The Secretary will download this and circulate it to the CC, provided it is not too large. A paper copy will be asked for. One of the questions to be considered was whether affordable housing should be in rural areas or in village settlements. A member of the public asked what was affordable housing, but there seems to be no answer to this.

Populations Projections and Structure Plan Review: Following the joint meeting of CCs on 8 November, Cllr Barnacle said that the draft letter had been supported by CCs, FORK and also the Civic Trust. The Planners agreed with the comments and concerns on population projections as expressed by the joint meeting.

Modernisation of the Planning System: It was reported that Peter Marshall hopes to come to the March meeting but as this is the AGM of the CC it would not matter if he postponed his attendance until May. It was agreed that he might be given a list of questions beforehand or, alternatively, the CC might receive a copy of his presentation beforehand so that they can prepare questions. It was pointed out that what he had to say on the Long Term Strategy would be very important.

Roads

Lights at Middleton Park: The money has been received but the work has not yet been done.

The road from Maryburgh roadend to Keltybridge is a real mess but agreed to wait until the work at Middleton Park has been completed.

Cleish Mill Bends: a considerable length of wall has been demolished. It was suggested that a letter might be sent to the top ten users of the B9097 asking for caution in driving

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Home 01577 865415 Mobile 07765167982 on these roads. However this might present some problems and such a letter will be discussed first. It was pointed out that the rural community needs many of these heavy vehicles to have access for essential deliveries. It was also noted that some drivers used "sat-nav" systems which sometimes are less helpful than a map.

Sawmill Road: This had been severely flooded where the road goes under the Motorway; this had been caused by a blocked grid at the motorway culvert with the result that the burn was overflowing and water was running through the village. This had been dealt with.

Flooding at west end of Cleish: This had been quite dramatic but thanks to the skill and goodwill of Fred Whalley this had been cleared - the flooding was due to a plastic container blocking the drain.

Bonfire Night on 5 November: There had been a complaint about the volume of noise generated by fireworks at Middleton Park; some of these fireworks had been extremely large and the area of the fallout had been very wide, with a certain amount of damage. It was agreed that perhaps those who had let them off were unaware of their possible impact and suggested that a warning notice be put into the C&B Newsletter in October.

20 mph Speed Limit in Cleish

Fred Whalley and Richard Jeffrey had had a meeting with an official from the Roads Department; two men in yellow jackets had been seen in the village on 16 February so perhaps something might happen.

The Annual General Meeting of Cleish & Blairadam CC was due to take place on Monday 19 March.

The next meeting will take place on 14 May in Cleish.

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Portmoak Community Council

News from the March meeting

In attendance at the meeting held on 13 March were: Wendy MacPhedran (Chairwoman), Sue Mitchell-Henry, Bob Drysdale, Jo Morrell, Jim Shepherd, Alistair Smith, P&K Cllr Mike Barnacle, PC and several members of the public.

Police Report: The Police reported that there had been a man calling at doors in the county asking for money and they asked the public to be aware. There had been attempt to steal a car along at Mawcarse and they were aware of bogus tradesmen trying to carry out work for old people in Milnathort

The Police reminded the meeting of the change in the law regarding the illegal use of mobile phones in cars while driving. The Fine has now been doubled and will attract three penalty points on a driver's licence. The Police are at present carrying out a campaign against the illegal use of phones.

Secretary's Report

Portmoak Gala Fund. The Secy had received a letter from Portmoak Gala Fund asking if the Gala can come again under the umbrella of the CC insurance. The Secy will write to P&KC.

Convention of P&K CCs. The Annual General Meeting will be on 25 March at Tulloch Community Centre. National Planning Framework. The Secy had received a letter from the Scottish Executive enclosing leaflets for distribution to the public asking for a response on basic issues for the National Planning Framework (NPF2). These were distributed to the meeting.

Review of Development Standards. The Secy had received a letter from the Development Department, P&KC on proposed amendments for procedures for the relationships between the Department and the CCs with regard to handling Planning Applications.

Anti-Social Noise Team. The Secy had received a letter from P&KC Anti-Social Noise Team, introducing themselves and asking if the CC would like a visit. The Secy will write asking them to come to a CC meeting.

P&KC Development Control. The Secy had received a letter from P&KC Development Control explaining amendments to their procedures for relating to Community Councils, the principal one being increasing the time for CCs responding to 21 days instead of 14.

Annual General Meeting. Portmoak CC's AGM will take place at the next monthly meeting on **10 April**.

Paths Group

CCllr Bob Drysdale reported on the last meeting of the Paths Group.

The acquisition of the land between Woodmarch and Scotlandwell has still not been resolved. The final way forward would be by Compulsory Order, but the matter is in the hands of P&KC to resolve.

There will be a site meeting between Mr Callum Robertson, Balneathill Farm, Dave Morris, Ramblers Association, Charlie McConnell (Paths Group) and Ni all Lobley, P&KC Ranger to resolve the question of signage for walkers around the farm.

There has been a competition at Portmoak Primary School for signs for the Michael Bruce Trail (Tetley Trail) and for the signs for the Path in the community. The signs have been judged and a first and a runner up awarded in both categories. The Prizes will awarded on 26 June.

The monies still available in the Tetley Trail Account were discussed and it was agreed that these monies should be kept for maintenance purposes for the Trail. That was what the money was given for in the first place.



Port moak Church & Loch Leven from the Tetley Trail

Kinross-shire Fund

CCllr Drysdale reported that the Fund is now active and they are looking for application for grants up to £1000. Bob Drysdale will contact Paul Haslam to arrange for a link from the CC web site to the Fund site.

A911

The Secy had received a further response from P&KC Roads regarding the CC's letter on matters regarding the A911. In summary, work on the Auchmuir Bridge bend is programmed for 2011/12, the number of HGVs using the A911 is no greater than other A-class roads in the area, the question of speed limits is being considered following a new National Directive and the CC's proposals for Traffic Calming in Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell have not been considered yet.

The CC consider this response extremely disappointing regarding the amount of time that has been taken. The Secy will respond.

Planning Matters

Erection of timber garage and store, The Coach House, Arnot Tower, Leslie: Although the CC had no direct objection to this application, it is concerned at its proximity to Arnot Tower and the possibility of its being converted into a dwelling house in the future.

Extension to dwellinghouse, 3-4 Middleburn Cottages, Kirkness: No comment.

Demolish and replace cottage and build new house at Wester Balgedie Farm Cottage: There have been seven local objections to this application. The CC will object as it is contrary to the Local Plan, is in a Conservation Area, the demolition of the cottage is not justified and the new proposals will impact strongly on the local village.

Erection of 7 holiday chalets and a reception building with associated road, access, parking, tree planting, Larch Cottage: The CC will object to this application as it is contrary to the Local Plan as it contravenes Policy 2 Policy 49 Airfield Safeguarding Zone and Policy 54 Area of Great Landscape Value. The CC is concerned that these houses can be easily converted into domestic dwellings, that there is no great need for chalets in the area as there already is a development for 13 chalets at Findatie and this proposal is a further creation of mini-townships in the middle of the countryside.

Perth & Kinross Councillor Barnacle

Dryside Road – following discussion it was agreed that there would be a further traffic count on the Dryside Road in the Summer.

Cllr Barnacle confirmed that there was an allowance in the paths programme for a footpath at Auchmuir Bridge. Stuart D'All, P&KC will write to the CC.

Following the last CC meeting Cllr Barnacle had investigated whether there had been any consultation on the Kinnesswood Play Area. He reported that there had been a display at the school in September 2006. Members of the audience complained that they had children at pre-primary school age and they had not been consulted. The feeling of the meeting was that due allowance had been made for children of all ages. The Contract will start on 5 March and last for 8 weeks

The Rubbish Vehicle has had problems using the road around Bishop Terrace following the completion of the new loop road. P&KC Roads and Environment will discuss.

Other Matters

CCllr Bob Drysdale reported on the AGM of the Kinross-shire Partnership. The Leventor project is still to proceed even although its application for funds failed. Balado is to be flagged up as a centre for outdoor activities. Kinross CC website is carrying a forthcoming events diary. TRACKS was complimented on the start of the construction work for Phase 1. The new Kinross-shire Logo is to be launched soon.

There was a question about the number of Brown Tourist signs that had been erected in the community. There was concern that if this was to continue there would be a dreadful proliferation of signs all over the area. The Secy will write to Jillian Murray, P&KC Roads.

Stephens Field Meeting. The Chairwoman reminded everyone about the public meeting that will take place in the Portmoak Village Hall on 18 April at 7.00pm.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 10 April at 7.30pm in the Portmoak Village Hall.

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Fossoway & District CC

News from the March Meeting

In attendance at the meeting held on 5 March were: I Booth (Chair), F Watt, G Pease, two Tayside Police representatives and 24 members of the public. Apologies for absence were received from P&K Cllr M Barnacle and R Dalton.

At this point the eight newly nominated candidates were called to take their places on the CC.

They are: Isabel Booth from Blairingone, Lynn Boulter from Powmill, Trudy Duffy-Wigman from Crook of Devon, Ian Farquhar from Powmill, Alexander Morrison from the Drum (not present, on holiday), Fred Saunders from Blairingone (not present, on holiday), Lorna Stronach also from Blairingone (absent) and Hugh Wallace from Crook of Devon. George Pease is to remain for a couple of months to assist in the handing over of the planning remit to the new CCllrs (as a co-opted member).

Community Policing

The police officers present requested vigilance by members of the community, make notes of anything unusual etc.

They also advised the meeting of the change in legislation regarding mobile phone use in vehicles and the extent of the punishment that can be applied. It should be noted that Tayside police are adopting zero tolerance towards offenders and they will be punished.

Public members asked the Police for help with two problems in the area, i.e. youths loitering in Blairingone, and the constant disregard for the parking restrictions outside Fossoway School, which causes a knock-on detrimental effect to the utilisation of the safer routes to school. The police will follow these points up.

Planning Matters

06/01995 FUL Bridleway at Broomhill: no site meeting as yet.

07/00318/FUL Change of use from farm steading to form 7 dwellings and alterations and extension to farmhouse, Claysike, Fossoway.

07/00312/OUT Construction of 4 new houses at Muirfield Drum: it should be noted that this is a re-submission due to a revision following earlier local objections.

07/00084/ FUL Erection of a rural business development, offices and house, plot on land to the south of Craigton Farm Road, Rumblingbridge.

07/00085/FUL Rural business class development on Plot 2 also at Craigton Farm Road Rumblingbridge.

07/00427/FUL Erection of a dwellinghouse at Eastfield Fossoway.

Having looked at all these, and listened to the views of the public within the meeting, Cllr Pease will pass comments as appropriate and as outlined and discussed within the meeting back to P&KC.

Other Business

Change of meeting night as from April to a Tuesday.

New CCllrs were asked to stay behind at the close of the meeting to apportion tasks.

The next meeting of Fossoway & District CC will take place in Carnbo Village Hall on Tuesday 3 April 2007 at 7.30pm.

CONTRIBUTORS - PLEASE WRITE OR TYPE CLEARLY AND LEAVE A MARGIN USE ONE SIDE OF THE PAPER ONLY

Down Memory Lane



Kinross Parish Choir



Opening of Milnathort Golf Club House c. early 1930s
David Meldrum, Jessie Anderson (Perth), Clem Montgomery,
Lady P.R. Montgomery, Captain Kininmonth

Photographs - courtesy of Kiuross-shire Historical Society

Club & Community Group News



Save NHS Dentistry Campaign

The campaign group met again in March, joined by three people who have recently moved to Kinross. Their stories are typical of the predicament many Kinross folk and their families find themselves in. Because they can't get their children registered here, one couple continues to visit their dentist in Northern Ireland and the other lady still has her dentist in Cambuslang, Glasgo w. We find it simply unacceptable that people have to go such lengths for a service which should be free and local, as the NHS was envisaged when it was set up 50 years ago.

There is no statutory obligation to provide a dental service to anyone in Scotland, not even elderly citizens or youngsters under 18 and we know of so many similar stories.

Felicity Garvie reported from her meeting with the Director of P&K Community Health Partnership. These meetings will take place regularly so that the community continues to be updated on progress and can have an input into the CHP's strategy.

There appear to be about 14,000 people in P&K without any dentist, with particular areas of need being Perth city, NW Perthshire, Crieff and Kinross-shire. To address this, in the longer term, a new "Teach and Treat" centre is envisaged in Perth, with nine salaried dentists, some of which will be in an outreach service, to be ready in 2009. In the medium term, the CHP are looking for premises for two dentists in Perth. In the short term, as reported last month, the CHP is looking to send a mobile dental unit to Kinross from about May onwards. The frequency of such visits is still to be determined and the CHP may do a "public surgery" in Kinross to find out how many people are in need of such a service. This has to be seen as a success for our group, for without our persistent pressure over the last year, we would not be high on the CHP's list of priorities.

We were also told that the dental helpline, or "Linkline" as it is to be called, will be up and running very soon and this fact will be publicised when it's ready, but we are unclear as to exactly how people will find out about it. We will try to get more information on this for you.

For unregistered children, please use the Drumhar Health Centre in Perth where every child will be seen and care continued for 18 months. (Tel: 01738 564261)

Our petition is still at the Scottish Parliament, along with others on the need for more NHS dental services in other parts of Scotland and will be reviewed in March.

If you are a subscriber to "Which?" magazine, look out for the "We Want You" column on page 4 of the

March issue. "Which?" are asking if their readers have had problems finding an NHS dentist, and how easy it is to get appointments for check-ups and emergency treatment. Write with your experiences to Nikki Ratcliff at Help Wanted, PO Box 44, Hertford X, SG14 1SH.

We are pleased to announce that, partly due to our initiative, Kinross Churches Together has organised a political hustings for parliamentary candidates on **Wednesday 25 April** at 7.30pm in the Parish Church. We will be going along to ask a few searching questions about what the parties plan to do to ensure that everyone has access to a local, NHS dentist. We would encourage you to come along too and see what they have to say!

Before that, though, the group will have another meeting with the CHP and report back to the next monthly meeting on **We dnesday 11 April** at 7 pm in the Church Centre, as usual.

If you can't make it, but would like to make contact with the group, please phone Felicity Garvie on 01592 840825.

Kinross & District Rotary Club

The Rotary Month

Rarely, if ever, has a guest speaker at a Kinross Rotary Meeting given his talk accompanied by slides, verse and song. Such was the enjoyable occasion when Russell Young talked to the Club on 19 February. Russell's talk was centered on the theme "Colours throughout the Year" and featured some great slides on various aspects of the Scottish countryside.

The next meeting was informed by Dr Nicklas Sandberg of the importance of regular chiropractic examinations to ensure a healthy lifestyle. Nicklas, who practices in Perth, emphasised the importance of correct spinal alignment if the problems of vertebral sublaxation complex were to be avoided. At the same meeting President Eddie MacKay had the pleasure of inducting new member, Alistair Wallace.

A fellow Rotarian from the Innerleithen, Walkerburn and Traquair Club, Robin Tatler talked to the members and some guests from the Howe of Fife Club on the work of Project Scotland in tackling youth issues across Scotland. Robin told the meeting that since the launch in May 2005, Project Scotland had delivered life-changing volunteering experiences to over 1000 young people across Scotland, working with over 130 partner charities. Robin was accompanied by local lass, Heather Graham, who described her own experiences which had led to her being attached to the Scottish Executive cataloguing the works of art at Victoria Quay.

The K Factor

On 23 February the **Parent Teacher Association of Kinross High School** presented the K factor!



This was a talent show open to anyone in S1 to S6, with so much interest that auditions had to be held to whittle it down to 14 acts. There was a wide range of talent, from rock to ceilidh, bagpipes to Irish dancing, solo singers to dance groups.

Compère for the night was PTA Chairman Niall Simpson, who superbly built up an introduction to each act. The judges were Douglas Alexander, Brian Carol, Angie Brand and Ian Jarvie, a former pupil and winner of the previous talent show.

Winner of the top prize for the best band was "Lucky Thirteen", comprising Andy Megginson, Robert Poller, Andy Clark and Alex Hooman, who won the fabulous prize of an afternoon's recording session at the Substation Recording Studios in Rosyth.

Winner of the best entertainer was Ellie McKearon, who sang the Labi Saffri song "Something Inside so Strong". With a stunning voice, Ellie sang unaccompanied, and put a lot of feeling and emphasis into the song. For this she won a visit to a recording studio in Glasgo w, and a trip to see a concert and how it was all put together. This prize was kindly donated by Events for T in the Park.

The overall "Reach for the Stars" K factor winners, with the most promising act, were Jennifer MacKessack and Helen McKenna who sang "My Heart will go on" together.

A highlight of the evening was the appearance on stage of the staff band, the Imposters. Elaine Kinnell (PE), Emma Jack (Biology), Pete Linton (CDT) and Mark Sommerville (English) performed a spectacular show of Scissor Sisters' "I Don't Feel Like Dancing" and ABBA's "Mamma Mia".

All in all, it was a fabulous night, jam packed with music, talent and fun!!!

Kinross High School Board

Members have attended various meetings throughout the country in preparation for the introduction of Parent Councils. The Board was well represented at the recent meeting of the new school User Group, when concems were raised about the final exterior appearance of the building, parking for the library, catering facilities for pupils, security and the possibility of vending vans parking in the vicinity.

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Portmoak Film Society

Final curtain about to fall on the second film season Once again a good crowd gathered at Portmoak Hall to watch the March movie, "Capote". It may not have been the most popular of the films we have shown in this season, with about 60% of the audience awarding it a "good" on the marble count, rather than very good or excellent.

This might have been due to the voice of the main character, played very convincingly by Philip Seymour Hoffman, which was quite difficult to understand until you got used to it. Especially as his character, the New Yorker magazine's writer Truman Capote, was not particularly likeable. However, it probably was one of the more thought-provoking films PFS has shown, with almost the entire audience staying in their seats for the credits, presumably mulling over the ethics of Capote's attempts to get inside the mind of a cold-blooded killer. I found it difficult to say in the end whether Capote or the killer was more manipulative and damaged by the whole episode. Interestingly, it took Capote four years to write his revolutionary novel and he never wrote again for the rest of his life.

Before the final curtain falls on the 2006/07 season, we have one more film – which will be Surprise Movie – on **14 April** in Portmoak at 7.30 pm. So you'll have to come along to find out what it is! We will also hold the AGM of the PFS to elect a new committee and will be helped in this onerous task by cheese and wine.

I'm tempted to say "that's all, folks!" – but Portmoak Film Society rides again into its third season after the summer. Film selection has already begun, with democratic input from our audiences, so look forward in the August Newsletter to information about a mouth-watering line-up for local movie maniacs!

For more info log onto: www.portmoakfilmsociety.org.uk



Lomond Antiques and Collectors Club



At short notice, Win Harley stepped in to speak to members about the recent developments at "One of Fife's Hidden Gems". The gem in question is the Fife Folk Museum in the charming village of Ceres. The museum has grown considerably since its inception in 1968 in old weavers' cottages and the 1673 weigh house. In January of this year, Maryanne Millar was appointed as Curator and she has great hopes and plans. Improved opening hours mean the museum is now open in the summer months from 11.30am until 4.30pm, seven days a week. Opening is scheduled for 15 April.

PLEASE MENTION THE "NEWSLETTER" WHEN ANSWERING ADVERTISEMENTS

Kinross Boys & Girls Brigade

In Battalion competitions the Company has By had mixed success over the past month. In the annual Drill and PE competitions the

Company failed to retain the PE rosebowl trophy and finished in third place overall in both competitions. In the Battalion basketball competition the Company defeated all-comers to win the coveted silver cup. In the Junior Section 5-a-side football competition the Kinross side reached the semi-finals losing out to the eventual winners.

The end of March sees the Junior Section minivolleyball tournament take place at Bell's Sports Centre and the popular midnight hike leaving from Kinnoull Church on the final Friday of March.

The Company's two volleyball teams are still competing in the Perth & District Volleyball Recreational League with three sets of fixtures remaining before the season comes to an end.

Two youth teams participated in Scotland's largest youth volleyball tournament, The Cardinal Sports Youth Cup at Meadowbank Sports Centre and the senior team of Sam Dick, Andrew Lauener, Jamie Booth and Andrew Hutchison finished as bronze medal winners competing against teams as far afield as Ayrshire and Orkney. There will be one team entered for the Scottish Open Volleyball Tournament held over the last weekend in May on Perth's North Inch.

A number of bookings have already been made for the hire of the Company's marquee tent over the coming months. The 40×20 white tent is available for hire at £170 per occasion.

Kinross & District Town Twinning Association

Kinross & District Town Twinning Association is preparing for the summer visit of our friends from Gacé in Normandy.

The DVD of last summer's Sound and Light Show will be in Kinross soon – watch out for details of the Première Launch and a unique opportunity to share in this wonderful experience.

A Spring Fayre will be held on **Saturday 26 May** at the Smiddy House, adjacent to Kinross Town Hall.

This year's visit of our Gacé friends will take place in the first week of August and host families are encouraged to participate in this special occasion. The committee is currently planning a programme of events and visits for the Gacé visit in August. Anyone interested in joining the Association, or hosting a French family should contact secretary David Munro (01577 862126) for further details.

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

Probus Club

Ken Kennedy is one of two part-time astronomers at the Mills Observatory in Dundee and was the guest speaker at the



Probus Meeting on 7 March. His subject had the intriguing title, "A Quick Tour of the Universe". Thinking of the size and complexity of the universe, one might think it an impossible task, but Ken Kennedy managed to explain the various theories about the origin and fate of the universe simply and clearly. He illustrated his talk with a lovely set of pictures.

Very simply 100 years ago most astronomers considered that the universe was a static body of stars, but then in 1924 Edwin Hubble discovered that all the stars without exemption are racing away from one another and, far from being static, the universe is expanding. Now the general consensus among astronomers is that the universe is about 13.6 billion years old and started with a cataclysmic explosion, usually called the Big Bang. Ken explained in outline how the stars came into being and how our own solar system was born. He then gave us a thumb-nail sketch of the solar system including the planets and explained about the asteroids and comets. Finally he produced two small meteorites which were handed round the members – most interesting. Jim Ferrier gave the vote of thanks.

Friends of Kirkgate Park



If you've been at Kirkgate Park you will see work has indeed commenced and some of the path work is starting to take shape

Minutes from liaison meetings are available at www.friendsofkirkgatepark.co.uk

If you have any burning queries, e-mail me at susan@friendsofkirkgatepark.co.uk

The Friends are helping out at **The Spring Fair**, at Market Park on **Saturday 14 April** 11am-3pm. This is instead of our Easter Event which we held in Kirkgate Park at this time last year. Note the change of venue; we feel it's best to leave the works to proceed at the moment.

The activities planned are similar to last year, including the sack race where the ultra competitive parents were unleashed and I discovered it is not possible to laugh and jump at the same time. Who would've thought! Come and join the fun! There's lots for smaller kids too!

Orwell Book Club

This Book Club now meets on the first Tuesday of each month in the Church Street Hall, Milnathort. The next meeting will be on **3 April**. New members are always welcome. Please come along to any meeting or contact Marlene Whyte, tel no: 01592 840371.

Kinross-Shire Volunteer Group and Rural Outreach Scheme



We have, as usual, been kept busy over the past few months carrying out journeys to hospitals, health centres etc, taking residents in our district wherever they need to go and giving a helping hand when needed.

We have also enjoyed two social evenings; firstly our annual Burns Supper held in the Windlestrae Hotel on 22 January. This event seems to be more successful year on year; we always have very talented and entertaining speakers and performers who seem able to bring out different aspects of Burns life for us to think about and the musical items let us all enjoy a song.

Then, on 27 February, again at the Windlestrae Hotel, we were honoured when Provost Bob Scott hosted a civic reception to celebrate our Silver Jubilee. He paid tribute to the professionalism and value of our work and presented founder members and some others of our Group with tokens of appreciation. It was a very pleasant evening with former volunteers meeting the current drivers and everyone enjoying a good blether.

We were happy to welcome two members of Kinross Round Table who joined us at the reception and gave us a cheque for £500; a very welcome donation and we thank them for their generosity.

I would like to give advance notice of our Annual General Meeting, which will be held on Wednesday 16 May in the Church Centre – details next month.

Diabetes UK (Scotland) Kinross Voluntary Group

The next meeting of the Kinross Voluntary Group will be on **21 April**. Hopefully we will be having a talk from two diabetics on how they manage their diabetes, or not as the case may be!!

At our meeting on Saturday we had a very interesting and informative talk from Margaret Henderson of Medtronic Ltd about Insulin Pumps along with a demonstration of the pumps. We are grateful to Margaret for travelling so far to speak to us.

We now have a Joint Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary for the group. Now we would like to see some more members; if anyone has any suggestions or ideas on how to make this group as successful as others we would like to hear from you and would welcome your support.

We meet at 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) on 01738 635826, Linda on 01577 861217 or Allan on 01577 862986.

Community Website

For contact details of community groups, hall bookings, job vacancies, leisure and visitor information and much more, visit **www.kinross.cc**

Common Grounds Charity No. SC031582

Common Grounds continues to steadily rebuild its position and the level of contribution it is making to projects with the backing it receive from its loyal volunteers and growing number of patrons. It has been especially heartening to welcome new friends and volunteers to consolidate this position.

Projects. In March we were delighted to be able to donate £1000 to Mary's Meals in Liberia. This month the project we are supporting is Vet-Aid, Mozambique. In a land of deluge and drought there is a limited crop-based agriculture and many families are presently mainly dependent upon livestock. Vet-Aid aim to help by distributing goats and poultry, assisting with the improvement of cash crops and the access to markets.

Fairtrade. The Common Grounds stall at the Church Centre Fairtrade Fair and Coffee Morning raised £50. Thank you to everyone for their support.

Circumstances limit the amount of stock we can carry, but we have catalogues for customer viewing which illustrate the wide variety of Fairtrade goods available, from which we are pleased to take orders.

Folk Festival. The weekend was for us an outstanding success, particularly on the Saturday with the concert at Common Grounds which went on late into the evening. A big thank you to Lindsey, Gil and Dave, who performed throughout the day, and to the other visiting artistes for their contributions. Also, many thanks are due to the volunteers who manned the extra shifts.

Book Club. We are pleased that the Book Club is returning to CG and will again be holding regular meetings, on the first Tuesday of the Month in the Church Street Hall.

Drop In. If you have not already experienced the CG hospitality, come and visit us in the Church Street Hall. Enjoy a cup of tea or coffee, home baking, Fairtrade goods, books, crafts, gifts including jewellery and pottery (lookout for bargains), and the special welcome of a log fire. Open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays between 10am and 3pm.

Contacts: Shirley Morgan 864745, Jim Henry 864452 or Pat Payne 862715.

Kinross Garden Group

Our March meeting, attended by 34 members and visitors, was addressed by

Nikki Jennings of the Scottish Crop Research Institute, Invergowrie who gave us a very interesting talk on "New Raspberry Plant Introductions".

Our next meeting is on **Thursday 12 April** in Millbridge Halls, Kinross at 2pm We will be delighted to welcome Ian Douglas to give us a talk entitled "The Redwood Trail".

Kinross-shire Historical Society

A talk entitled The Tay, The Tay was given by Willie Shand on 19 February, and what an amazing evening his audience enjoyed. With fantastic slides, which were all his own photographs, Willie showed us the river Tay from the source to the sea, a distance of 120 miles. The longest river in Scotland.

The history along the Tay was as spectacular as the scenery. In the mid 17th century, there was a Lady of Lawers who was thought to have had second sight and most of her predictions have already come true. She said that a tree would split a church in two and indeed when an ash tree grewtall, 150 years later it did split a church in two and in 1843 the Church of Scotland also split in two.

Continuing to follow the Tay, one castle had a beheading pit with a viewing terrace. In Kenmore on 2 September 1784, the water in Loch Tay was affected by the Lisbon earthquake and a wave went back and forth for five days because Loch Tay is on the Fearman fault line. In Aberfeldy visitors can see General Wade's bridge of 1732 and the Black Watch memorial. In Dunkeld, Telford's bridge, which had cost £34,000 to build, can be admired. It was a toll bridge, and after the railway came, people rioted in 1868, objecting to have to pay tolls to catch a train on the other side of the river.

We were shown amazing views of Perth from St John's Kirk and heard that St John's toun was the name taken by Perth football club, St Johnstone.

With more history and magnificent views, the Tay reaches Dundee, which once had sixty jute mills and is famous for jute, jam and journalism. It was interesting to learn that rope-making is the oldest industry in the world.

At Tayport, the Tay is two miles wide and after travelling 120 miles the Tay carries more water to the sea than the rivers Thames and Severn put together.

To listen to Willie Shand's talk and admire his exceptional photography brought Perthshire's history to life. A most appreciative vote of thanks was given by Mr Eric Campbell who has spent over 50 years fishing on the River Tay.

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Kinross-shire 50 Plus Club

The AGM was held on 1 March and after business was concluded, a warm welcome was given to Douglas Watson, Chocolatier,



who gave an interesting talk on the origin of chocolate and the art of making it. Douglas attended a course in chocolate making, and now, as a hobby, makes his own chocolates. He kindly brought samples of his chocolates which we had with our afternoon tea - very tasty and most enjoyable. A vote of thanks was given to Douglas.

Lochgelly Musical Society (Thoroughly Modern Millie): The coach will leave at 6.15pm from bus stop opposite The Green and then 6.20pm from stop opp. Town Hall.

Friday Walks: For the second time this year we had to cancel a walk. The heavy sleety showers and the poor forecast for 9 March, meant that there was no point in going along the Fife Coast, past all the daffodils on our way to St Bride's Kirk. We hope for better weather with two new walks planned for next month

6 April: A long one-way walk of 9 miles, along the cycle track from Dunfermline, as far as the Kincardine Road, near Castlehill Mine. This is tarmac all the way and is on the track of an old railway line - and no chance of anyone getting lost.

20 April: Another 9 mile walk, and this time from Bankfoot, through the uninhabited Glen Garr, and finishing near the village of Inver - not too far from the Hermitage. The route is on farm roads and on hill tracks, with some gentle inclines. For this walk we will leave at the earlier time of 9am.

Hillwalkers: Our 2007 season starts in April and our intention is to meet twice monthly. We will meet at 8.30am at Millbridge Hall and whenever possible we will use the community minibus. We will start the season with two of our easier routes.

13 April: Our first walk will be over Birnam Hill, a walk of 6 miles, climbing 1100 feet, a Grade B+route.

27 April: We are walking the Edzell Riverside Walk, this is 7.5 miles with negligible climbing, Grade C.

If you would like to know more about our group, phone Bill Blair on 01577 864450

Next Meeting - 5 April - The speaker will be David J McAllister of The National Trust for Scotland on "The National Trust".

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Fair Break Café

There has been a lot of exciting activity in the shop this past month including:

Fairtrade Fortnight, which kept us busy distributing literature, posters and fairly traded products to schools, church groups and businesses who were holding special events. We also took part in the Fairtrade Fayre in Kinross along with other local establishments. Thanks to the Fairtrade Steering Committee for including us in such a successful community event.

Red Nose Day the following week was a fun filled event that had the volunteers sporting red noses, dressing up and telling silly jokes to our bemused ccustomers. Generous donations of a new bicycle and art work, and £10 for an Ian Fleming book found on the shelf by a young James Bond fan helped us to raise £120 for Comic Relief, and a good time was had by all. Thanks to all who supported this worthwhile, two day event.

Project News - We were pleased to be able to send £500 to the Childrens Fund of Malawi, introduced to us by Magdalene Sacranie from Crieff. This sum will be doubled by the Trust that supports this project. In April we will be supporting the work of SCIAF, a Scotland wide organisation that has established self help projects in Uganda, Cambodia and Haiti.

Knitting News - A very big THANK YOU goes out to Nancy, Liz and Marion for the 20 colourful sweaters they have knitted for "Feed the Children" this winter. This project was introduced to us by Marie Young from Kinross and taken up with great enthusiasm. The sweaters will bring warmth and comfort to 20 children in African hospitals.

On a lighter (and musical) note - We were delighted to play host to some fine musicians on the Crackin' Ceilidh Weekend. Local artists, as well as the winners of the gird race kicked off events with some fine music for us to enjoy, along with John Meade's yummie stovies.

Monthly Meetings in the Café included:

The Heaven and Earth Club which is proving to be a very lively discussion group that debates the issues raised on the Sunday morning BBC show of the same name. Why not join us and bring a friend to the next one on 15 April from 4-5pm. Fairtrade coffee and biscuits included for only £1.

Saturday Morning Story Telling for Parents and Tots. Thanks to Barefoot Books for sending along some great new books for children and a wonderful story teller that delighted the many folk who came along. Our next special guest will be Lyn Haworth from Milnathort who has written her own fairy story which includes Hattie the Hedgehog who will make a guest appearance on Saturday, April 14, between 11 and 12 noon.

Amnesty International - The local group will try to meet on Sunday 29 April to write letters on behalf of

people who are being imprisoned unjustly. Non members welcome.

Finally, A Very Big Thank You to all our volunteers and patrons for their on-going support and dedication to our work. Thanks also to two Duke of Edinburgh students from Kinross High, Fraser and David who will be helping us out on Saturdays. We welcome their interest and enthusiasm. But we still could use more help on weekdays. So anyone interested in giving of their time and talents for 3 hours per week on a regular or casual basis, please contact Marg Meade at 01577 863557 or pop into the shop for a coffee and a chat.

Kinross in Bloom



Aren't the daffodils lovely? If you have a suggestion for places around the town where spring bulbs would really brighten

things up, do let us know - we plan to plant more bulbs in September and would really like your ideas.

Our plans for an attractive 'Welcome to Kinross' entrance marker are progressing. It would save us a lot of money if we can provide the stones for the low walls that form part of the design - if you have some you don't need or know someone who does - please get in touch.

We're currently planning for of colour in the summer baskets and tubs. We're going to have a new polytunnel where we can look after the plants from delivery in early May to putting the baskets around the town in early June. If our new polytunnel isn't ready in time, does anyone have suitable space that we could use for a few days or weeks? Again, do get in touch.

To contact us, call Diane McDiarmid on 865943 - it's the same number to support what we do by joining our 200 Club (£1 a month and half the proceeds paid out as monthly prizes). February's winners were: 1st Jean Miller £25, 2nd Anne Miller £15, 3rd Nora Elliott £10 and 4th Christine Degnan £5.

Find out more about us at www.kinrossinbloomco.uk

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Sports News



Fencing

Harry Moncreiff (20) from Crook of Devon has been awarded World Class Talent funding by UK Sport. Harry is a member of the British Men's Sabre Team, the Scottish number one and is currently third in the British rankings. The funding is awarded to athletes to compete effectively on the world circuit.

He has also been awarded a British Olympic Association Silver Passport, which offers exclusive benefits to athletes who have been nominated by their National Governing Body of Sport as a potential future Olympians.

Kinross Badminton Club

The annual tournaments for the Seniors and the Juniors are currently underway.

Results will appear in the May

Newsletter. The Junior Club will close on Thursday

29 March and reopen on 30 August. The Senior Club will reopen for the summer term on Thursday 19 April and will meet every Thursday until 21 June. The presentation of trophies will take place at a June barbecue – date and venue to be confirmed.

Kinross Road Runners

Kinross Road Runners were represented at nine races over the last four weeks at varying distances and over a variety of terrain. The Bishop Hill race on 4 March was the shortest but steepest race with runners racing to the top of White Craigs and back from Portmoak. Christine Myerscough was 2nd FV40 in 27:54 ahead of husband John (30:43) and Sandy MacCalman (36:50).

There were two 5-mile road races at Kings Buildings (KB) on 24 February and Cupar on 10 March. The fastest time was recorded by Chris Pratt (33:15) at KB followed by Kate Ives (33:27) at Cupar. Gordon Donnachie improved his time from 41:15 at KB to 39:39 at Cupar. Geoff Bilton ran KB in 39:49, whilst Sue Whisler and Claire Lumsden ran Cupar in 47:58 and 49:07 respectively.

John Myerscough was the only Kinross Road Runner at Gartmorn 6 on 11 March. He completed this multiterrain race which circumnavigates Gartmorn Dam near Alloa in 47:45.

There were two 10-mile races on 4 March but Arbroath was for ladies only so the men ran Lasswade. Chris Pratt was fastest at Lasswade in 70:28 followed by Judith Dobson in 73.14 at Arbroath. Gill Lopez, Isabel Carmichael, Julia Melville and Val Findlay all ran personal best times of 81.19, 81.26, 81.42 and 87.01 respectively. Gordon Donnachie was next fastest at Lasswade in 88:25. Linda Palmer and Ann Malcolm finished together in 89.56 followed by Sue

Thomson in 105:54 with Joanne Koziel and Jean Dawson crossing the finishing line together in 106:25. The ladies were rewarded with an excellent goody bag and the welcome return of carrot cake at Arbroath.

Kinross Road Runners ran at Paris, Inverness and Alloa Half Marathons in conditions ranging from a balmy 17°C in Paris to a strong head wind and snow at Alloa. Steve Crawford recorded the fastest time at Inverness on 11 March completing this relatively flat course in 1:22:50. Chris Pratt ran a personal best time in Paris of 1:33:31 then ran Alloa the following week in 1:37:30. Kate Ives ran a personal best time to lead the Kinross runners back at Alloa finishing 1:35:30 closely followed by Andy Johns who also ran a personal best time of 1:36:03. Chris Pratt was next to finish just ahead of Judith Dobson (1:37:45). Hazel Porter ran well in the windy conditions to complete her first Half Marathon in 1:40:33. Coach Roger Stark was next back in 1:47:30 followed by Isabel Carmichael in 1:49:05. Training partners Gill Lopez and Anne Wilson ran together in 1:52:10 followed by Geoff Bilton (2:00:33), Gordon Donnachie (2:07:33) and Keith Logan (2:20:00).

Kinross Road Runners welcome runners of all ages and abilities. We meet on Wednesday night at 7pm in Loch Leven Health Centre Car Park. Copies of the training schedule are available on our notice board in Loch Leven Leisure centre or on our web site www.kinrossroadrunners.co.uk.

Kinross Volleyball Club

The Kinross Volleyball Club continues to meet at Kinross High School games hall on Monday evenings with junior training 8-9 pm and adult training 9-10 pm. Congratulations to the BB Junior teams who competed in the Cardinal Sports Youth Cup being held in Edinburgh's Meadowbank Stadium with one team winning the bronze medal position.

Kinross Scotrange blew their chances of winning the Premier League competition, losing their final match of the season by two sets to one against Mental Blocks. This meant that they finished one point behind league winners Volley Mixtures. Kinross Kintronics continued their poor premier season with a lack of consistency in their play.

The Club is preparing to enter teams in this year's Scottish Open Volleyball Tournament at Perth over the last weekend in May and then to enter teams in the De Haan International Tournament in Belgium over the middle weekend in August.

The Club continues to meet on Monday evenings at Kinross High School games hall 8-10 pm, with 8-9 pm being designated for junior training. New members always welcome.

Kinross Cricket Club on BBC Radio Scotland

Kinross Cricket Club was featured on the Johnnie Beattie Radio Scotland Sports Weekly programme on Saturday 24 March. This was part of a series of cricket "specials" to celebrate Scotland's participation in the Cricket World Cup. Kinross Cricket Club was chosen as a model of success having won the under 13 Scottish Championships on our first time entering the tournament in 2006 and having secured a fabulous new ground with excellent new facilities and attracting nearly 100 youngsters to the game in a very short period of time. This has been all been achieved with the hard work of the players, the commitment of the coaches, the support of parents and the vision of the committee to take the club to the next level. Well done to all. It's great the world can know what a fantastic club we are! If you missed the programme, you can listen again on the internet.

Go to www.bbc.co.uk/radioscotland; once there, select A-Z Programme at top of page, go down to Sports Weekly at the bottom of the list and then follow the link to listen to the programme.

Family Quiz Night

The date for the fundraising quiz night has been changed to 7.30 pm on **Saturday 21 April** and will now be held at the Lomond Hotel in Kinnesswood. Teams should consist of 4 people (aged 10 and up) and the cost to enter a team is £10. To enter, contact Andrea Jackson on 07986 403 840.



Team of the Year - Kinross Under 13s

Perth & Kinross Team of the Year

Kinross Under 13 team has been voted TEAM OF THE YEAR by the Perth & Kinross Sports Council at last night's Sports Personality Of The Year Awards. The team collected a beautiful engraved plate which was presented by Mr Bill Fraser, of the Sports Council. The other teams shortlisted for the award were also of a very high calibre - the Perthshire Rugby Club and Perthshire Swimming Club and so there were a few bitten nails whilst we waited to see who was going to win. This is a great accolade for the club

and shows that the hard work put in by all the players and coaches really pays off. The Sports Council commented how nice it was to see a team so smartly dressed and looking and behaving like a team. The cup winning team was Peter Ross, Alex Scott-Gray, Scott Weir, James Tree, Fraser Stewart, George Buchanan-Smith, Daniel Franklin, Gavin Lauder, Charles Beamish, Nicholas Farrar, Fraser Doig, Chris James, Iain Kennedy, and Rory Weir and coached by Pete Smith. We now have the dates for the 2007 Scottish Cup and we have to go and do it all again. Eight players are young enough to remain in the under 13 team again this year and the squad looks to be a formidable one. We look forward to a warm and sunny summer and hopefully enjoying this wonderful success over again.

Kinross Cricket Club Community Sixes Challenge

We have been delighted with the interest in our cricket 6s competition. The date for this will be **Saturday 9 June**. This event is open to any club, business or community organisation in Kinross-shire. (Suitable for age 16+). The cricket club will be hosting the event and NOT playing. Teams should be 6-side. They can consist of men or women or be mixed. No knowledge or previous experience of cricket is necessary. All equipment and instruction will be given by the cricket club. If you are interested and would like to enter a team or get more information, please email secretary@kinrosscc.co.uk

Club Receives £10,000 Grant

The club was thrilled to be awarded a grant for £10,000 recently from the SportScotland/Lottery backed "Awards for All" scheme. This money is being used to fund a new top of the range artificial wicket and practice nets. This will enable young cricketers to learn to play on a consistent surface with no loss of bounce over time which allows coaches to teach attacking shots of the front and back foot and encourages bowlers to bowl a proper length. The practice nets will be fully mobile and are light yet sturdy. The back of the nets opens fully to allow wicket keepers to practice in a safe environment. This is a fabulous addition to our new ground which is currently being developed at Kinross House.

Primary and Secondary School Coaching

Kinross Cricket Club has been working in Kinross Primary School every Friday over the last 5 weeks introducing the game of cricket to youngsters in Primary 4 and 5. These taster sessions have been organised through the local Active Schools coordinator. We hope that the children (and teachers) have really enjoyed themselves and discovered what a varied and exciting sport cricket is and we hope they will come along to coaching (see dates and info for coaching below).

The coaches also enjoyed a "cricket taster" day at Kinross High School on 15 March. They were delighted to see everyone getting involved and

enjoying themselves and the comment from one of the PE teachers that it was the first time she had seen 4th year girls so involved in a sport was particularly rewarding. Again it is hoped that some of the young men and ladies will come along to the club to continue playing cricket. (Coaching dates below)

The First Inter-District Girls Cricket Tournament Girls

On Sunday 18 March, in Edinburgh, Cricket Scotland held the first ever Girls Indoor U17 Inter-District tournament. Three young members of Kinross CC played for Central District: Christina Farrar (10), Claire Jackson (10) and Lori Kellett (10). They played against teams from Angus and the South. Claire was the team's wicket keeper and did some very good work behind the stumps. Christina and Lori were two of the four bowlers used with Christina taking 3 wickets (bowled) with 2 back-to-back in the same over. The three all batted well and the running between the wickets was very strong in the partnership of Christina and Claire, scoring the bulk of the team's runs against the South.

New Season

A reminder that the 2007 outdoor season coaching dates are as follows:

Juniors (Boys and Girls) starting **Monday 16 April** from 6.15pm to 8pm

Ladies Cricket (S1 to adult) starting **Thursday 19 April** 6.30pm to 8pm (Coached by female coach and separate from men's team)

Men's Cricket starting (age 16+) Thursday 19 April 6.30 to 8.30pm

New members at all levels will be very welcome. No experience or equipment necessary. Just come along.

Kinross Ladies Hockey Club

The Midlands Leagues are now finished, Kinross I finishing second in the First Division to Madras by one point only, the two losses against Perthshire proving to be very costly. The position of Kinross II is yet to be finalised, but hopefully will be mid table.

For the first time ever, both teams are through to the semi-finals of the Midlands Knockout cup - Kinross I meet Perthshire (hopefully with a bit more success this time!) and Kinross II are drawn against Madras. An all Kinross final would certainly be a 'first'.

Kinross I are also through to the semi-final of the Midlands League Cup, drawn against Madras, and to the quarter-finals of the Scottish Districts Cup, with a home game against Troon, an excellent draw in terms of travelling as it could have been an away fixture to Orkney!

Having had a run of injuries over the last few weeks we are keeping our fingers crossed that our luck changes and no more afternoons are spent in A & E! Training continues on a Wednesday 6.30pm to 8.00pm at KGV all-weather pitch.

Kinross Rugby Club

The club have had a difficult spell since the turn of the year with four defeats and two victories to show for their efforts.



January saw an epic journey to Orkney end in a 34-3 defeat, the score line was only 8-3 at half-time but in the second half Kinross visibly tired and let the islanders in for four further tries. The only Kinross points came from a solitary Spence penalty. It is fair to say that nobody is looking forward to the corresponding fixture next season!

Next up was Hillfoots in the cup and a reasonable performance saw Kinross go down 28-12 to National League One opposition, the Kinross tries came from Coll and Harley whilst Jim Handyside knocked over a conversion on his final appearance for the team before emigrating to America.

The final game of the month was away to Alloa and saw Kinross record their first victory of 2007. With a half time lead of 8-7 thanks to a Tolson try and a Spence penalty, Kinross raised their game for the second period and secured the try-bonus point thanks to scores from Coll (2) and Duncan Wood to come out 23-7 winners.

February's only game saw Kinross comprehensively turned over at home by Strathmore, with the half-time score only 8-3. Nobody would have predicted a final score of 56-3. However the score does not accurately reflect the game, which was strewn with injury stoppages. The most serious injury can be attributed to Ally Wood who suffered a fracture-dislocation of his right ankle along with a ligament rupture. The game was stopped for over an hour and with the score 18-3 with roughly 25 minutes to go, things went from bad to worse for the home team when further injuries meant they had to play the last quarter of the game with only 13 men. The Kinross points on the day game came from the boot of Iain Spence.

A fortnight later the team made the short trip to St Andrews to face the promotion-chasing St Andrews University. Another makeshift back line for Kinross saw the students gifted a number of soft scores to build up a half-time lead of 24-11, the Kinross points came courtesy of a Keith Tolson try and two Spence penalties. By full time St Andrews had run out comfortable winners with the final score line 55-18, a converted try from Stuart Mullan helped to make the result a little more respectable for Kinross.

A game against bottom side Panmure gave Kinross a chance to put the past few games behind them and chalk up their second win of the year. On a windy and rain swept day even although Kinross enjoyed territorial domination in the first half, they only had three tries and a conversion to show for their endeavours, the tries coming from Mullan (2) and Tolson, whilst Spence scored what turned out to be the only conversion of the day. It was ten minutes into the

second half before the try-bonus was secured, a succession of errors by the Panmure backs led to the ball being kicked over their own line. Chris Carragher was the quickest to react and duly scored his second try of the season. It was another twenty minutes before the fifth and final try of the day; Rab Allan made a break from the 22 but was unable to get over the line, Goudie was in support and managed to finish the move.

Kinross can now only finish fifth at best this season with Orkney poised to overtake if they win all their games in hand. However, a win against Crieff in their final game should be enough to see off the challenge from the islanders.

Even though the season is drawing to a close, training continues every Tuesday and Thursday from 7pm until 9pm. New members are always welcome.

For general club info as well as match reports and photos of the team in action please visit our website at www.kinross-rugby.com

The clubhouse is open Tuesday-Friday evenings and all day Saturday. We have both Sky and Setanta sports packages and are open for all big football and rugby games. For further info call 01577 861773.

Kinross Croquet Club

Opening of 2007 Season

Kinross Croquet Club's 2007 season will start, weather permitting, at **2pm on Monday 16 April**, when the first ball will be struck on the lawn of the Green Hotel. The club meets every Monday afternoon from 2pm to 4pm and on Wednesday evening at 5.30pm subject to the weather.

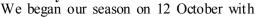
We should like to enrol new members to strengthen the Club, and we shall be doing everything we can to encourage new players. Anyone who would like to try this fascinating game, which uses the normal skills of any ball game together with tactics and strategy similar to snooker, would be very welcome. The only special equipment needed is a pair of flat-soled shoes. Just come along and have a try at any of our Monday or Wednesday sessions (provided it is not raining). We shall be happy to explain the game and to provide tuition.

The club is affiliated to the Scottish Croquet Association and members can play in competitions and tournaments run by that body. **The Scottish Short Croquet Championship** is indeed being held at Kinross again on **26 August**. The Club's own annual **Open Tournament** for players with a handicap of 11+ is on **Monday 14 May**.

We look forward to welcoming new players. The annual subscription is only £15 but newcomers may attend for a trial period of one month free of charge. For further information please call George Kirk, the Club Chairman (01383 724024) or Fred Mann, the Club Secretary, 13 Park Place, Dunfermline (01383 722368).

Kinross Curling Club

Thursday After School Club 2006/2007



34 youngsters with a good mix of boys and girls.

The mini league run in the second half of our season proved as competitive as ever, the result going down to the last game, the winners being the rink skipped by Jack Nicholson with Tom Broome, Kathryn Spain and Amy Niven. The Runner-up Skip was Fiona Spain with Lisa McGregor, Will Broome, Max Koronka and Ally Reid.

We had our annual games with Stirling Young Curlers, both home and away games. This is a great opportunity to meet and play against others in our age group, and also to have the chance to play in another ice rink. We would like to thank Kinross Masons for their generous donation towards the expense of these games.

We were once again invited to Stirling Ice Rink's under-12 Competition; this is a keenly played competition with 12 teams from as far north as Inverness to Argyll in the south taking part. Kinross rink, with skip Mark McLaren, Jack Nicholson, Tom and Will Broome, came home with winners' medals for the team target competition and Tom getting a special prize for drawing the button

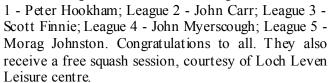
I will be sorry to lose many of my group as they are over-age; I do hope they will continue to curl and enjoy this very Scottish game into the future.

My thanks go to my willing band of coaches, and the ice rink staff for excellent ice at The Green.

Squash News

Leagues

The winners of February's leagues were: Premier League - Jim Marshall; League



Leagues continue to be played. Why not join in the fun of friendly competition and put your name down to be included. Details can be found on the notice board at the rear of the squash courts at the Loch Leven Leisure Centre.

Team

The Fife squash web site www.fifesquash.co.uk shows that all the team matches have now been completed. Kinross finish fifth in the League and just failed to make the 200 point mark.

Kinross had a comfortable victory over Lundin Links 18:2, but lost to the eventual League winners, Kirkcaldy, at the beginning of March, 18:3. The final game of the season was with Dalgety Bay and in a close-fought match Kinross were eventually beaten 14:9.



News from the Rurals



POWMILL - President Mrs M Wilson welcomed members and friends to the February meeting and introduced the guest speaker, Jess Smith. Jess talked about her family and living and travelling on the bus around parts of Scotland. The talk was very humorous, and she recited a poem. Jess signed copies of her books for the rural members.

The hostesses were Mrs L Heggie and Mrs G Taylor who gave a sumptuous tea. Jess judged the three competitions and the results were as follows:

Four Oven Scones - Mrs J Buchanan An Omament in Metal - Mrs C Stewart Garden Gem - Mrs E Johnston

CLEISH - President Dorothy Morris welcomed 20 members to the March meeting. Our speaker Isabel Brown entertained us with her eclectic repertoire and interesting tea towels. Chris Pilling gave the vote of thanks. Supper, then a small raffle was held.

Competitions:

Flower of the Month
Unusual Tea Towel
Lemon Curd

- Margaret Kilpatrick
- Katherine Erskine
- Sandra Webster

CROOK OF DEVON - President Mrs Margaret Arbuckle welcomed members to the March meeting. After business was concluded she introduced Helen McKinnon from PKAVS. Helen gave us a very interesting and informative talk and visual presentation on the many support services PKAVS offer.

Mrs Margaret Arbuckle gave the vote of thanks. Competition:

Flower of the Month - I White

BLAIRINGONE - A very interesting slide show and poems on "Colour throughout the year" was given by Mr Russell Young.

Competitions:

Pot of Jam - Agnes Murray
Photo of trees - Kate Croy
Flower of the Month - Maureen Scullion

GLENFARG - President Mrs Margaret Scott welcomed members and introduced the speaker, Mrs Christina Mercer from Cardenden. Mrs Mercer had been a prison officer in Holloway Prison for 18 years and her glimpses behind the scenes of a large female prison were fascinating and thought-provoking.

Mrs Helen Quartermaine proposed the vote of thanks. Competitions:

Bowl of bulbs - Liz Yull
Small jar of lemon curd - Irene Bettany
Limerick - Helen Mair

BISHOPSHIRE - Euna Scott gave an illustrated talk on the history and successes of Perth in Bloom. She explained how this does not merely mean flowers, but the whole picture of improving the region, with emphasis on litter and trying to educate children about this. This was an open meeting, as Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell are now involved in keeping the villages beautiful.

Competitions:

Flower picture - Margaret Crighton Butterfly cakes - Gwen Poole

MILNATHORT - This month our members were enlightened on the good works of The Prince's Trust by Ron Kitchin.

Competitions:

Easter Bonnet - L Douglas
Queen Mother's favourite recipe - J Munro
Flower of the month - C Cochrane

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KINROSS PILATES

ORWELL CHURCH HALL WEDNESDAYS 12.30PM & 1.30PM

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1 hour class - £27.00 for 6 weeks

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Booking essential as numbers are restricted

Nature



Vane Farm

Howdee folks, another month, another article. As I look oot the windae it is supposed tae be spring. However the snaw



is peltin doon it's a bit o a snell wind and no very nice. Guess winter seems to start in March these days.

Summer birds are startin to build up on the reserve tho with Pintail and Shoveler showing a marked increase. Mute Swans are also establishing territories wi the odd stooshy breckin oot fae time tae time, such is the power o spring luv. We have also heard reports of returning migrant Osprey and Sand Martin being seen and Blackbirds nesting so maybe spring is on the way after all.

Egbert is still dodging around, although he has extended his boundaries a wee bit and is noo investigating new water areas we created during the recognised winter months. He was only one of two Little Egrets reported in Scotland in February so his fame grows in stature.

As I have already mentioned, this year is Vane's 40th anniversary and we are holding several events during 2007 to celebrate. One of the main ones will be a big "Open Day" on Sunday 17 June where each and every one of you will be welcome to come along and help us celebrate - we are holding it primarily for you, the local community. It will be free entry and we hope to have lots of displays, kids stuff and entertainment to keep you all amused. We might even have a celebrity or two on show as well ye kin niver tell? If any of you have any photographs or memories of the reserve from past years, please get in touch – we would love to display them on the day.

We have been doin a bit o fencing in various areas on the reserve. We did some at the top of Vane hill recently cos we had the neebors coos on the place; they had broken through and were makin the place kinda clarty if ye get ma drift. We had a nice rodeo one day tryin to round them up — Rawhide head em up n move em out we thought. Coos fower legs, us two, ... eh ... nae contest, Coos 1 Wardens 0. However in the return match we reversed the score and rounded em up!! Oor substitute, the dug, made a big difference n tipped the balance.

We will also be doing some more fencing round the water areas in front of the centre to accommodate a forthcoming attraction (naw no tellin ye yet), so if the birds are a wee bit disturbed when you are visiting, our apologies.

Our **next event** coming up is **Birdwatching for Beginners** on **Sunday 29 April.** Two sessions will be held during the day, an adults-only one from 10am - 12 noon and a family one from 1 - 3pm. Advance booking is essential jist so we ken how many folk are attendin n stuff. Phone on the usual number or book when you are next in at Vane.

Loch Leven NNR

Hello everyone. Well, after that recent wintry blast it might have felt that spring had been postponed for a little while longer, but for the wildlife around the reserve, Spring is certainly in the air. Recently we've watched Buzzards displaying over the woodland areas and tits investigating nest-sites as well as listening to Dunnocks in full song.

In fact, by the time you read this you should have seen the first of Loch Leven's summer migrants. Usually the last week of March offers up a chance of spotting the first Ospreys and the first Sand Martins of the year. Although the traditional heralds of Spring such as our first Swallo ws or first Cuckoos tend to be rather well documented, why not keep a note of the arrivals of the rather lesser-known migrants? Over the course of April and May there are a whole suite of migrant species to keep a look out for ranging from waders to raptors and from warblers to wildfowl. All of which will be timing their arrivals with the subtle ways in which they fit into the annual cycle of the loch.

Those of you who were at the Loch Leven Discovery Day at Kirkgate Park last autumn will remember that many people joined in with the Tree Sparrow nest box building. Each of the nest boxes was individually numbered and all of them have been put up around the NNR overthe last couple of months. We'll be creating a new webpage where we'll be charting the progress of any birds that take up residency very soon. You'll be able to find the page linked from the Tayside and Clacks pages of our SNH website.

I was pleased to have had the opportunity to have had a good chat with those of you that dropped into the hide at Burleigh during our last meet the wardens day. We'll be putting on a number of these events over the course of the summer. You can see the dates for them as well as for all of the other events coming up over the course of the year at the Loch Leven pages of our website.

Cheers for now, Colin and Paul



Wetlands at Vane Farm Photo: Pauline Watson, Kinross.cc photo library

Farming



Stay on a farm?

Making a decent living from farming is not always easy, but it is not impossible. Supermarket power, Government policy, red tape, CAP reform and rising oil prices are real challenges for the farming industry. Many of these difficulties are largely outwith the control of the individual farmer. In order to take charge of the profitability of their businesses farmers have become extremely resourceful. Opening up the farm to visitors and holidaymakers is a big step but is becoming a popular form of farm diversification. Choosing a farm holiday ensures the money you spend will go directly into maintaining a viable farm business and help give the rural economy a prosperous future.

Staying on a farm offers a unique holiday experience. Fresh air, great views, long walks, peace, quiet and tranquillity are probably expected. Of course a working farm may also be making silage or harvesting grain. Possibly lambing or calving, so if you seek activity and excitement, they may also be included. If you would like the kids to learn about where their food comes from, then this is the place to explain the journey from farm to plate. Last year we stayed on a dairy farm near Dumfries; it was perfect. Well off the beaten track, with stunning views of the surrounding countryside, a friendly farmer's wife who had made sure the accommodation was cared for and cleaned to a high standard, even our own donkey called Jinny that visited each evening for an apple or a polo mint! Half way through the holiday we were invited to watch the milking. We set off eagerly and stood quietly as each cow entered the milking parlour. As she stands, four suction-fuelled cups hold onto each of her four teats and gently ease out the milk. It is then possible to see the milk fill into a big glass jar above. It is an amazing experience for a child and they will never think milk just comes from a supermarket shelf after they have experienced watching "the milking". Unfortunately for our children, I don't think they will ever forget getting splattered with really runny cow pat material. Another valuable lesson learned, farms are fun but can be mucky too!

If farm life is not for you, it is still possible to support these types of diversified business at home or when you are on holiday. Farm shops, restaurants and cafes are springing up all over Scotland. So if it is a family lunch or a quick cup of coffee you are after, look out for a farm shop – you should receive a warm welcome and it is likely that the delicious home baking will have you returning again and again!

Subscriptions to the Newsletter

Useful for readers living outside the distribution area of the Newsletter, a subscription service is available.

Phone Mrs Ann Harley on 01577 864512,

or email subscriptions@kinrossnewsletter.org

Weather



February Weather Report From Carnbo

February this year turned out to be the coldest of the three Winter months, also less stormy, but still changeable and wet at times. The only significant snow of the season fell during the second week.

Rainfall for month 143 mm (143% of average)

Heaviest fall 29 mm (27th)
Highest temperature 9°C (1st)
Lowest temperature -6°C (6th)
Average temperature 3.3°C
No days with maximum above 10°C

No ice days (maximum temperature below 0°C)

5 snow days, 6 days with lying snow, total depth 11.5cms

Ground Frost 19 nights (lowest temp -9°C 6th)

Cloud cover 50%
Thunder not recorded

The vital statistics of Winter 06 - 07 Weatherwise

Total rainfall 588 mm (165% of average)
Heaviest fall 80.5 mm (13th December)
Highest temperature 11°C (29th December)
Lowest temperature -6°C (6th February)

Average temperature 3.5°C (1.5°C above average)

6 days with temperature above 10°C

No ice days recorded (max temp below 0°C)

Air frost 26 nights

8 snow days (long term average 16!)

Cloud cover 58% Thunder not recorded

Overall a wet, stormy mild Winter, especially wet in early December and January. Snowfall totals once again very low.

Main feature: Almost complete absence of winds from an Easterly direction. Very stormy, South West air streams early in the Winter, this leading to some flooding.

Grass Cutting, Rotovating
Hedge Trimming, Tree Pruning
Turfing, Slab Laying, Fencing
work undertaken

I. Robertson, Station Road, Crook of Devon Telephone: **Fossoway 01577 840526**

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Hedgehog Blog



Hattie the Hedgehog's Winter Diary

March

Well, you'll never guess what I did this month! I went to visit the Portmoak Brownies!

I was quite excited about my trip out, as it was the longest time I'd ever been in a car - all those strange noises and bumps! I had a good sniff about in the hall and enjoyed meeting the Brownies. I knew Brown Owl already; she's my Auntie Chris who's looked after me when Mum H has been away.

Anyway, the Brownies were lovely to me and didn't scare me at all. I also secretly suspect that they thought I was very beautiful - in a prickly sort of way?! They were very clever too, as they seemed to know the answers to all the questions that Mum H asked them about hedgehogs! Apparently, I'm now an honorary Brownie - quite an honour!

I also have some very interesting news. Mum H saw a hedgehog in the garden on 14th March. She was very anxious as this is quite early for my relatives to be waking up from hibernation. She's been putting food and water out, just in case the hedgehog comes back. Mum H was also very thrilled, as she thought it might be Ali B. That's the hedgehog she looked after last winter.

Anyway, I'm going to be visiting lots of interesting places in the next few weeks - so watch out for my diary next month!

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

Use ful Hedgehog websites and contacts www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk www.britishwildlifehelpline.com Wormit Hedgehog Care Centre Tel. 01382 - 541311



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Deadline for all Articles

5.00 pm, MO NDAY 16 April for Publication on Saturday 28 April

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

Gardens Open



Many fine gardens within easy reach of Kinross are available to visit from Spring to Autumn.

All of the gardens listed in the "Special Days Open in April" section belong to "Scotland's Gardens Scheme" (SGS). The entry fees for the gardens are donated to charity, usually split between a local good cause and the SGS charities of the year. More information is available in the "Gardens of Scotland" 2007 handbook or from the following website: gardensofscotland.org

Our front cover shows the wonderful formal gardens at **Kinross House**, open daily from April to September, 10am to 7pm. Admission: Adult £3, Concessions £2, children free. The garden is suitable for wheelchairs. Please note, Kinross House is a family home and is not open to the public.

Falkland Palace, Garden and Town Hall (National Trust for Scotland) have opened for the season, Mon-Sat 10-5, Sun 1-5. Entry is £8 adult, £20 for a family. The Palace is a superb example of Renaissance architecture, and the stunning gardens give a long-lasting display from spring-flowering cherry trees to the rich autumn colouring of maples.

Another National Trust property, **Hill of Tarvit** near Cupar, also opened for the season in March. This fine house and garden were rebuilt in 1906 by the renowned Scottish architect Sir Robert Lorimer. Opening hours until the end of May are Thu-Mon 1-5 (tearoom and shop open at noon). Entry is £8 adult, £20 for a family.

Branklyn Garden (National Trust for Scotland) on the A85 Dundee Road in Perth has outstanding collection of rhododendrons, alpines, peat-loving and herbaceous plants. It is open daily until 31 Oct, 10-5. Entry costs £5 for an adult, £14 for a family.

The garden at **Braco Castle** was laid out in the 19th century and has woodland and meadow walks, a fine show of spring flowering bulbs and mature specimen trees and shrubs. There are also rhododendrons, an ornamental pond, extensive hedging and lawns and shrubs and herbaceous borders. There are spectacular view to the Ochils. The castle and garden are just over a one-mile drive from the gates at the north end of Braco village, just west of the bridge on the A822. Admission is £3 (children free) with 40% of proceeds going to the Woodland Trust and 60% to SGS charities. The garden is open every day from 10am until 5pm until 31 October and there is partial disabled access.

Gardening Tip

To prevent squirrels and mice from stealing tulip and crocus bulbs, cover planted bulbs with soil, then chicken wire, before covering with remaining soil. This also works well with pots and containers.

Special Days Open in April

The garden at **Dowhill, Cleish, KY4 0HZ** is open on Thursdays throughout April and June, 1pm-4pm. It has ponds, rhododendrons, primulas and blue poppies. There are woodland walks to the ruins of Dowhill Castle. Admission is £3.00 (40% to CHAS). There is partial disabled access.

The gardens at Megginch Castle, Errol, are open on Sunday 15 April from 2pm to 5pm. Horticultural attractions at the 15th century turreted castle (not open) include an astrological garden, a water garden and 1,000 year-old yews and topiary. There is disabled access and refreshments are available. Admission is £3, children free. Location: A90, 12 miles west of Dundee. There is a Spring Plant Sale and Craft Fair at Cambo House, Kingsbarns on Sunday 29 April from noon to 4pm. Features include a Victorian walled garden designed around the Cambo burn, an ornamental potager, massed spring bulbs, naturalistic plantings and woodland walks to the sea. Admission charges (adult £3.50, children free) on 29 April are donated to Diabetes UK and SGS charities. On that day homemade soup and rolls will be available. Cambo House is on the A917 near St Andrews. There is partial disabled access and dogs are permitted on leads. The gardens are also open all year round from 10am to dusk.

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Subscriptions to the Newsletter

Useful for readers living outside the distribution area of the Newsletter, a subscription service is available.

Phone Mrs Ann Harley on 01577 864512,

or email subscriptions@kinrossnewsletter.org

Congratulations



Both families are delighted to announce the engagement of VIKKI DAWSON and IAIN WARDLAW on 9 December 2006.

RACHAEL BARTON and **MARK EGLING TON** became engaged on 14 February 2007. Congratulations from Rachael's Mum, Dad and all the family.

JACK and MARGARET BOYTER of 30 Green Park, Kinross celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary on 11 March 2007. They were married in the Kinross West Church. To celebrate this occasion they were joined by family and friends in Orwell Bowling Club on 11 March 2007.

MAY and **JIM PATERSON** of Gallowhill Farm celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 16 March 2007. Congratulations from all their family and friends.

CIARA ELWIS has gained a place in the flute section of the National Children's Orchestra.

Commonwealth Games star, IAN MARSDEN of Glenfarg has won the 2006 D K Thomson Award for his services to sport and charity. Some years ago, after a 2-year successful battle with leukaemia, Ian along with family and friends set up the Ian Marsden Bone Marrow Appeal. It is for his work with the appeal and for his sporting achievements that the award has been made.

Well-known Kinross hurdler **EILIDH CHILD** has been awarded a personal development grant by Perth & Kinross Sports Council. Eilidh is now in her third year at Edinburgh University.

David Sands Ltd, the convenience store chain, has recognised its staff's efforts by presenting its annual awards. **NANCY WILSON** of the Kinross shop was named a Runner-up to the Employee of the Year. David Sands Ltd last year invested in a purpose-built warehouse and head office in the town.

The High School's PTA recently presented a talent show - the K Factor - open to anyone in S1 to S6. Winners were - Best Band: Lucky Thirteen comprising ANDY MEGGINSON, ROBERT POLLER, ANDY CLARK and ALEX HOOMAN. Best Entertainer: ELLIE McKEARON. Overall K Factor winners with the most promising act: JENNIFER MACKESSACK and HELEN McKENNA.

Equestrian **JENNY MOUG** of Glenfarg RDA has won the Perth & Kinross Leisure Disability Achievement Award.

Two High School pupils, **SHONA YOUNG** and **KIRSTY PATERSON-HUNTER** have won The Courier and Chartered Institute of Bankers in Scotland Schools Junior Debating Competition. Their impressive victory is the first for the school in the 19 years the competition has been held.

DUNCAN and **MAGGIE McNAB** of Kinross have each received a Royal Warrant for use in their separate Kinross-based businesses. For the past 15 years they have provided golf course goods and helped to maintain Balmoral Castle's golf course.

In the Perth & Kinross Primary Schools Cross Country Championships, the following achieved success: P6 Girls Team - 2. Milnathort; P7 Boys 1. RORY MUIR and 2. KIERAN STUDDERS, Milnathort; Team - 1. Milnathort. Mixed Rural Race for small schools: 1. FRASER GOSS, Cleish; Team - 1. Cleish.

KINROSS CRICKET CLUB'S Under-13 Team are winners of the Perth & Kinross Sports Council Team of the Year Award after their success winning the Scottish U-13s championship

TOM KITCHIN, who grew up in Kinross-shire, is one of the youngest ever chefs to be awarded a Michelin star. He gained the award just three months after opening his restaurant, The Kitchin, in Leith.

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Local success at the 83rd Perthshire Music Festival

From Kinross Primary School

SOPHIE BREWSTER - 2nd in E Flat Cornet/Tenor Horn Solo (elementary).

HATTIE LLO YD - 1st in Trumpet Solo (beginners). **KATHRYN SPAIN** - 1st in Viola Solo (elementary).

ROBERT CAIRNS - 1st in Trombone Solo (elementary).

From Arngask Primary School

E Flat Comet/Tenor Horn Solo (beginners).

1st: LILLIAN SWANSON, 2nd: BETH DORAN, 3rd eq: SUZIE WILSON.

Bb Cornet and Flugelhom Solo (beginners)

1st: ADAM BISSET, 2nd: RACHEL VAUGHN.

Bb Euphonium/Baritone Solo (beginners)

1st: CAROL ANDREW.

From Kinross High School

DANIEL PICKERING - 1st in Trombone Solo (intermediate).

ANDREW WILCOX - 1st eq in Trumpet Solo (advanced).

GILLIAN SHACKLETON - 2nd eq in Trumpet Solo (advanced).

ROBBIE BUTLER - 2nd in Trombone Solo (advanced).

NATHANIEL HAAS - 1st eq in B flat Euphonium/Baritone Solo (advanced).

JOHANNA WEIR - 1st in B flat Euphonium/Baritone Solo (intermediate).

JENNIFER PROBERT - 3rd in B flat Cornet/FlugelHorn Solo (intermediate).

KIRSTY PATERSO N-HUNTER - 3rd in Violin Solo (intermediate).

EUAN McLEAN - 3rd in Cello Solo (intermediate).

NICK LAUENER - 3rd eq in Violin Solo (advanced). **DUNCAN JARVIE** - 3rd eq in Snare Drum (beginner); 2nd eq in Drum Kit Solo (beginner).

CALUM ANDERSON - 1st in Snare Drum Solo (intermediate); 1st in Drum Kit Solo (intermediate).

RUARIDH PATTISON - 1st in Snare Drum Solo (advanced); 1st in Xylophone Solo (open); 1st eq in Drum Kit Solo (advanced).

RUARIDH PATTISON and **ROSIE MAXTON** - 1st in Piano Duet (intermediate).

CALUM JARVIE - 2nd in Drum Kit Solo (open).

From Strathallan School

MORAG ELWIS - 1st eq in Verse Speaking (15-17); 2nd eq in Soutar Poems (15-17); 1st (with Honours) Burns Poems (15-17); 1st eq in Bible Reading (15-17).

CIARA ELWIS - 1st in Soutar Poems (13 or 14); 2nd in Flute Solo (open).

MURDO ELWIS - 1st in Accordion Solo (Intermediate - Scottish Traditional;); 1st in Alto Saxophone (beginners).

MORAG, CIARA, MURDO ELWIS - 1st in Chamber Music (intermediate).

From Glenfarg

JOE NO RRIS – Louis J Barnett Memorial Trophy

From Kinross

IRENE Mc FARLANE - 1st in Vocal Solo (Soprano-18 & over); Gold Medal winner for Vocal Solo; 2nd in Vocal Solo (Gilbert and Sullivan); 1st in Scots Poems (18 and over)

KINROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL - 1st in Schools Orchestra (elementary).

KINROSS HIGH SCHOOL - 3rd eq in Schools String Orchestra (intermediate); 3rd in Brass ensemble (Schools, advanced).

Thanks



THE SCOTTISH NATIONAL BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERIVICE would like to thank all those who supported the blood donor sessions in February. A total of 303 people volunteered to donate, which represents a great deal of help to patients all over Scotland. The service next visits Kinross on 18 and 19 June.

KINROSS-SHIRE VOLUNTEER & RURAL OUTREACH GROUP have received £500 from Kinross-shire Round Table.

WALKING ON AIR, the charity set up in Portmoak some years ago to help introduce disabled people to gliding, has received a donation of £1000 from BAE Systems Ltd of Prestwick's cycling club. This is the second time the club has donated such a sum.

KINROSS-SHIRE FAIR TRADE: A good time was had at the Fayre. Many thanks to all who came to the Fayre and coffee morning and contributed in any way to a very successful event. Special thanks to three members of the High School Moronda group who did a fantastic job washing up! Everyone's help was most appreciated and adds up to making a difference. Please keep asking for Fairtrade goods in the shops.

JIM and JOAN SIMPSON would like to thank everyone who sent cards, good wishes and presents, on the occasion of their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 12 January, which they celebrated on the Island of Madeira.

Deadline for all Articles

5.00 pm, MO NDAY 16 April for Publication on Saturday 28 April

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

Holy Week

- Sun 1 Palm Sunday Service in Kinross Parish Church at 10.30am
- Mon 2 St James' Church: Stations of the Cross 7.00pm
- Tue 3 Whyte Court Service, 2.30pm
- **Thu 5** Maundy Thursday Communion in Cleish at 7.30pm
- Fri 6 Three Hour Meditation in St Paul's from noon to 3pm. Come and go as you wish
- Sat 7 Tenebrae Service in Kinross Parish Church at 7.30pm.
- Sun 8 Easter Day Lochside Service at 7.30am, followed by breakfast at Kinross Church Centre.

 Family Service in Kinross Parish Church at 10.30am

 Big Sing Easter Hymns at Fossoway 7.30pm
- Sun 15 10.30am Morning Worship
- **Sun 22** 10.30am Morning Worship led by Rev Joanne Finlay
- Tue 24 Cause way Court Service, 2.30pm
- Sun 29 10.30am Morning Worship

Pram Service: Each Tuesday at 10am in the Church Centre. All under 3's and carers welcome.

Mid-week Service: Each Wednesday at 10.45pm in the Church Centre

All are welcome to these services.

Other events

Sunday 22 April, 7.30pm in Kinross Parish Church, East Fife Ladies Choir Concert. For more details see separate notice.

We dnes day 25 April. 7.30pm in Kinross Parish Church, Hustings for the Scottish Elections. See separate notice.

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)

St Paul's Scottish Episcopal Church

Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8AY

Rev Dr Marion Keston Telephone: (01577) 866834 Website: www.stpauls-kinross.co.uk

April Services

- Sun 1 Palm Sunday. 8.30am, Holy Communion. 11am, Sung Eucharist with distribution of Palms
- Wed 4 10.30am, Service of Healing with Holy Communion.
- **Thu 5** Maundy Thursday. 10.30am, Holy Communion.
- Fri 6 Good Friday. 12md-3pm. Meditation on the Crucifixion (12noon 2pm).

 Service (2pm 3pm).
- **Sun 8** Easter Day. 8.30am, Easter Communion. 11am, Easter Eucharist.
- Sun 15 Easter II. 8.30am, Holy Communion. 11.00am, Family Communion Service.
- Sun 22 Easter III. 8.30am, Holy Communion. 11.00am, Sung Eucharist.
- Wed25 7.30pm, Evening Worship. Theme *God in the workplace*.
- Sun 29 Easter IV. 8.30am, Holy Communion. 11.00am, Sung Eucharist (preacher Rev Ian Watt).

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

Holy Week Services Shared Services of Kinross Churches Together All welcome

- Mon 2 Monday of Holy week 7pm, Stations of the Cross St. James RC Church, Kinross
- Thu 5 Maundy Thursday 10.30am, Holy Communion St.Paul's Episcopal Church, Kinross. 7.30pm, Holy Communion Cleish Parish Church
- Fri 6 Good Friday. 10.30am noon Good Friday Happening for children (P1 to S2) Kinross Parish Church. 12 noon – 3pm Meditation on the Crucifixion St.Paul's, Kinross
- Sat 7 (feel free to come for any part of the 3 hours)
 Easter Saturday 7.30pm, Easter Vigil
 Tenebrae Service Kinross Parish Church
- Sun 8 Easter Day 7.30am, Easter Litany by
 Lochside (Kirkgate) followed by
 breakfast at Kinross Church Centre.
 7.30pm, Big Easter Sing Fossoway
 Parish Church

Cleish Parish Church Church of Scotland

Rev Joanne Finlay Telephone: (01577) 850231 E-mail joanne.finlay196@btintemet.com Reader: Mr Brian Ogilvie Telephone: (01592) 840823 Session Clerk: Mr David Adams Tel: (01577) 850292

> Sunday Services 11.15am Crè che 11.15am Junior Church 11.15am

11.15am	Palm Sunday Worship.
7.30pm	House group.
7.30pm	Kirk Session.
7.30pm	Maunday Thursday Worship
11.15am	Easter Sunday Worship
11.15am	Moring Worship.
11.15am	Rev John Munro.
7.30pm	Concert by Bydgoszcz
-	Cathedral Youth Choir
11.15am	All Age Worship.
	7.30pm 7.30pm 7.30pm 11.15am 11.15am 11.15am 7.30pm

Fossoway Parish Church Church of Scotland

Rev Joanne Finlay Telephone: (01577) 850231 E-mail joanne.finlay196@btintemet.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

April

Sun 1 9.45am Palm Sunday Worship.

Sun 1 7.30pm House group.

Tue 3 7.30pm Church Choir Rehearsal.

Thur 5 10.30-12.30am Evergreens.

Sun 8 9.15am Easter Communion.

Sun 8 9.45am Easter Sunday Family Worship & decorating of the Easter Cross.

Sun 8 7.40pm Big Easter Sing (led by the

Celebrate Praise Band).

Sun 159.45am Sacrament of Baptism.Thur196.30pm Congregational Board.

7.30pm Kirk Session.

Sun 22 9.45am Rev. John Munro. Tue 24 2pm Women's Group

Sun 29 9.45am Sacrament of Baptism

Preacher: Reader: Brian Ogilvie

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 Cause way, Kinross. During each service there will be a time for ministry and prayer for healing.

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 Levenglen: first and third Tuesdays of the

month at 4pm

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

the month



Orwell Parish Church, Milnathort

St James's R C Church

5 High Street, Kinross, KY13 8AW

Father Ken McCaffrey Telephone: (01577) 863329

Website: www.stjameskinross.co.uk Email: kenmccaffrey@btopenworld.com

Mass TimesSaturday Vigil7.00pmSunday9.30am

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

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Kinross Gospel Hall

Montgomery Street, Kinross

Sunday	10.30am 12.00pm	Breaking of Bread 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)

Obituary

DONALD McGREGOR died peacefully at home on 18 March 2007, aged 53, after battling aggressive cancer

He was born in 1953 and grew up in Dundee. After leaving school at 15 he went on to work in various jobs before settling at Castleblair Ltd where he stayed for over thirty years in a senior management position. He married Irene in 1981 and they went on to have three daughters - Sarah, Stephanie and Sián. They moved Whitecraigs, Kinnesswood in 1986 and this is where they were to settle.

After taking early retirement he enjoyed long walks with his dog and spending time with his family. He was a special Papa to Aaron, son of Sarah and will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

The family would like to thank Dr McCracken and the district nurses at Lochleven Health Centre for their care and support towards the end of Donald's illness.

Acknowledgement

CHRISTINE FRASER. The Fraser family would like to thank all friends and family for the cards and flowers received after Christine passed away. Everyone has been so kind and it is much appreciated by us all.

Special thanks to Jill Balfour and the district nurses for all their help and support in the last few weeks. Thanks also to Gordon of Stewart Funeral Directors and the staff of Kirklands Hotel for all their kindness

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Easter Carnival

They wait in clusters, shy and innocent — Like children who outran their parents' cries,
And find themselves alone, in a strange place!
Then, like the snowdrop children in their shape,
Holding their bright heads high, come crocuses.
Now stretches Nature's loveliness awake
As round them soon the skyflake scyllas stand,
And primroses, with sunbeam petals spread.
A cyclamen, so delicately reared
Ventures a peep, and blushes furiously
To find herself so very pink, my dears,

Among the cooler winter-braving blues!

First come the snowdrops: studying their toes

Now new awareness stirs the warming earth, Prodded to wakefulness by eager shoots; Now tender twigs, for whom it is the first time, And ancient boughs, almost resigned to sleep, Yield gladly to the insistent surge of life – Fulfilled in fruitfulness, they celebrate The splendour of their sacrament of Spring – Bud, leaf and blossom, from their starkness born!

Now all prepare their Easter offering—
Black hedges work their green embroidery
Cheered on by chirrupped arias from above!
New lambs, fresh from the knitting needles, try
To make their shoogly, woolly legs behave—
To leap, in black bootees, up to the clouds

All fleecy like themselves! While underneath The sheltering darkness of the patient earth, In cubicles with walls of shining brown

The courtier tulips don their satin robes, 'Waiting their cue: The herald daffodils
Unfold their scrolls, their golden trumpets raise –
Soaring, triumphant, rings their hymn of praise REJOICE!

DEATH CANNOT HOLD HIM! HE IS RISEN!

Poem by Ailsa Cowie

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KINROSS CHURCH CENTRE

Mondays 7.30 - 8.45 pm

LOCHLEVEN LEISURE CENTRE, KINROSS

Tuesdays 10.00 - 11.30am & 11.30am - 12.50pm

MUCKHART VILLAGE HALL

Thursdays 10.30am – 12 noon & 7.30 – 9.00pm FOR WOMEN & MEN, YOUNGTO SENIOR

Further information: BARBARA - 01259 781446



KINROSS-SHIRE DAY CENTRE

Telephone: 01577 863869



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

PROGRAMME FOR APRIL 2007

Elderberries	Monday	2	9	16 23	30		1.30 pm
Carpet Bowls Bingo	Tuesday Tuesday	3		17 24 17 24		10.30 am	1.30 pm
Moming Service	Wednesday			18 25		10.45 am	1.50 pm
Quiz Afternoon	Wednesday	4	11	18 25			1.30 pm
Art Class	Thursday	5	12	19 26)		1.30 pm
Film Afternoon	Thursday	5	12	19 26)		1.30 pm



COFFEE BAR OPEN 9 am - 4 pm SENIOR CITIZENS LUNCHES 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 S UNDAY OPENING 12.00 - 1.00 pm Rowlands Pharmacy (opp. David Sands)

Playgroups & Nurseries

PORTMOAK UNDER 5's

Babies and Toddlers (up to 2.5yrs) Tues 10.00am-11.30am

Playgroup (2.5 yrs 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

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.

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 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

FOSSOWAY PRE-S CHOOL GROUP



Partner-provider for P&K Education

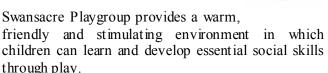
Places available for 3-5-year-olds and Rising Fives Sessions daily 9.15 – 11.45

Contact Pat Irvine 01577 840584 or www.childcarelink.gov.uk/perthandkinross

SWANS ACRE PLAYGROUP

21-23 Swansacre, Kinross TEL: 01577 862071

www.swansacre.co.uk



Playgroup sessions – Mon to Fri 9.00-11.30am Children from the age of 2 yrs welcome.

Storycraft Mon 1.15-2.45pm

Stortytelling, 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.



MILNATHORT BABIES & TODDLERS

Orwell Church Hall

Thursday & Friday, 10.00 - 11.30 am Contacts: Mary 865932, Rachel 866977 Jen 863200

GLEN FARG VILLAGE PLAYS CHOOL 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 Catherine Todd on 01577 830728.

Notices



Gardening at the Potager

Perth College is offering a ten-week gardening course at the Potager Garden, Bowton Road, Kinross. The course will include:

- So wing seeds (vegetables and perennials)
- Propagating by cuttings
- Soil preparation
- Pruning and tying

Micro-propagation and grafting

Course duration: 17 April to 19 June

Time: Tuesdays, 6.30pm to 9pm

Cost: £52 per person Location: Potager Garden

NB: This course is supported by comprehensive

support notes and a course website.

Contact: Kinross Learning Centre, Swansacre,

Kinross, KY13 8TE. Telephone: 01577 863863.

A Concert Evening in KINROSS PARISH CHURCH on Sunday 22nd April at 7.30pm

DOORS OPEN AT 7.00pm

KINROSS PARISH CHURCH INVITE YOU TO A FUND RAISING CONCERT WITH

East Fife Ladies Choir

Tickets £6.00 Concessions £4.00

Tickets available from

Isobel Miller Tel: 01577 862970

Anne Miller Tel 01577 865610

Shop at the Green, Kinross

ALL WELCOME

RECYCL-ABLE!

Would you like to recycle your cans, plastics and glass but don't have the time to get to the centre and dispose of it!

> Well, let us pick it up and recycle it for you!

Weekly domestic collection service - £3.50 per household

Call: 07789 290 811 or 01577 865834

Macmillan Cancer Support

COFFEE MORNING AND **WOOD CRAFT SALES**

The Church Centre, Kinross

Saturday 28 April 10.00am to 12 noon

Bob Stewart will be present with hand crafted, planters, trellis, bird tables, nesting boxes, feeders and

other wooden items.

Orwell Bowling Club OPENING OF THE GREEN

Saturday 21 April at 2.00 pm

New members welcome, including Juniors (under 25 age group).

Followed by evening entertainment at the Club featuring Gordon Menzies

7.30 pm for 8.00 pm

£2 per head entry

Please telephone 01577 863739 leaving name and contact number on the Club's answering machine.

Charity Disco Saturday 18 May IN AID OF SARAH SCOTT'S CHARITY

What better way to spend the evening than combining business with pleasure?

*The business - raise money for

Children with Cancer

*The pleasure - dance the night away and support a great cause!

Two local businesses the Windlestrae Hotel and Forth Wines have already offered generous sponsorship for this charity event.

Bill Russell is kindly providing the disco free of charge.

And of course the evening wouldn't be complete without a raffle with some great prizes.

If you are a local business and are willing to contribute, please get in touch.

Tickets for the Buffet & Disco cost £12.50 each and they're disappearing fast, so don't delay !!!! To buy tickets and/or donate raffle prizes, call Kinross 862426 or 865598 now!

SCOTTISH PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

Meet the candidates - Ask your questions

A HUSTINGS

will take place in Kinross Parish Church

on Wednesday 25 April at 7.30pm chaired by Mr John Stewart

Organised by Kinross Churches Together

Concert Return visit of the Bydgoszcz Cathedral Youth Choir

The concert will held in Cleish Parish Church on

Sunday 22 April at 7.30pm

Wonderful singing from this talented Polish Choir. Tickets £5, available at the door

Kinross Floral Art Club

Thursday 26 April

at the Windlestrae Hotel, Kinross at 7.15pm Demonstration by Mrs Mary Clarke entitled

"Flowers and Medicine" New Members and Visitors Welcome

Lodge St Serf 327

Tue 3 April Regular meeting at 7.15pm.

Fellow Craft Degree.

Tue 17 April Regular meeting at 7.15pm. Master

Mason Degree.

Sat 5 May Special meeting at 6.00pm. Mark

Master Mason Degree. We hope to have a Harmony following the

Degree.

Sportsman's Dinner is to be held on **Friday 20 April** at 7.00 for 7.30pm to raise funds for local good causes. Among this year's speakers is former Scotland and Glasgow Rangers winger, Wee Willie Henderson. Tickets cost £30.00 from Derek on 01577 863298 after 6.00pm. Following last year's event, some £2,200 was donated locally.

FUNDRAISING CONCERT in aid of DIABETES RESEARCH CAMPAIGN

Perth Concert Hall Saturday 14 April

George Donald, acclaimed pianist and 'Scotland the What' star and virtuoso fiddler Paul Anderson resent an evening of Scottish and classical

will present an evening of Scottish and classical music to help raise urgently needed funds to establish a clinical research centre for diabetes in PRI.

Tickets: £12, Concessions £10

Both artists are giving their time and talent for free
Tickets available from Perth Concert Hall on
0845 6126320 or tickets@horsecross.co.uk

This Concert is promoted jointly by Perth & Kinross Council and the University of Dundee

Blythswood Care

Some rfield's Car Park
17 April between 10.30 am and 11 am
Further details from 862258

Kinross-Shire Day Centre

Kin ross-Shire Day Cen tre has registered as a charity with the GREAT SCOTTISH WALK, which takes place on **10 June** around Edinburgh (6 or 12 miles) and promises to be a fun day out while raising funds for your chosen charity.

Anyone can enter either as an individual or part of a team and we would welcome anyone walking on our behalf

There are also some GREAT SCOTTISH WEE WALKS for primary school age children or under, over 2 miles at various cities in April and May.

Entry forms available at the Day Centre, 64 High Street, Kinross, telephone 863869. Even if you cannot take part in the walk we would welcome your sponsorship for anyone walking – all the staff are looking out their walking boots!

Kinross High School PTA 10 k Run

flat course – great exercise – traffic free – refreshments – changing – great fun - entries on night

Thursday 26 April Race starts at 7.30pm

Registration beforehand in the High School

Big Easter Sing

This year's Big Easter Sing will take place in Fossoway Parish Church on Sun 8 April at 7.30pm.

The music will be provided by the church praise band "Celebrate" (Don Finlay, Willie Black & friends)
If you enjoy singing both traditional and contemporary hymns then come and enjoy this year's Easter celebratory service.

Orwell and Portmoak Guild

DAFFODIL TEA

in Orwell Church Hall

Wednesday 18 April 2pm - 4pm

DRYSDALE DRAPES Curtains for your home

Independent advice on styles, suitability, and measuring for quantity of materials
Lined and interlined curtains made up for you, also pelmets, blinds, headboards, valances.
Rails, poles and fittings can be supplied
Friendly personal service

FIO NA DRYSDALE, KINRO SS 863551 Mobile: 07885 428006

Shopping with CHAS

Birthday Bargains: To celebrate its recent first birthday, the **Bazaar Charity Shop** at 76 High Street Kinross is offering great bargains in books, bric a brac and small items of furniture.

Looking for an Easter gift? Our new spring stock has just arrived with many gifts for under £10. You will always find something different at the CHAS Gift Shop.

Volunteers: If you are interested in volunteering in the Bazaar shops or the Gift Shop please contact: Louise Oliver, Charity Shop Manager on 01577 861380 or 865190 or Anne Buchan, Gift Shop Manager on 01577 865557.

CHAS Bazaars, 76 and 88 High Street, Kinross Opening hours 9.30am to 5pm Monday to Saturday. CHAS Gift Shop, 23 Avenue Road, Kinross Opening hours 10am to 5pm Monday to Saturday.

Children's Hospice Association Scotland www.chas.org.uk Charity no SC 019724

Milnathort Town Hall FAMILY FUNDRAISING DISCO

in aid of "Your Local Town Hall Refurbishment" to be held in Milnathort Town Hall

on Saturday 21 April

7pmto 11pm

Tickets: Single £2.50 each Family £7.00 Tickets available from Jane Thomson 01577 864611

Kinross-shire Tourism Group presents SPRING FAIR

Saturday 14 April



11am to 3pm

Market Park, Kinross (opposite Green Hotel)

Local Produce

Craft and Gift Stalls
Music

Bouncy Castle

Refreshments
Grand Prize Draw
Kids Easter Activities

Kinross-shire Logo Launch

Recycling of Waste Paper

P & KC Kerbside Collections

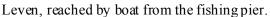
Kinross, Milnathort & Glenfarg Thursday 26 April

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.

Ferry To Lochleven Castle

The castle is on an island in Loch



Opening times: 1 April to 30 September, Monday to Sunday, 9.30am to 5.30pm.

Admission prices (including ferry fare): Adult £4.50, Child £2.25 and Concessions £3.50.

Car parking 90 metres from the ferry departure point. Café and toilets at the Fishing Academy adjacent to the pier. There are benches, lawns and toilets on the island, but access to the castle is not suitable for wheelchairs. Larger groups should contact Historic Scotland's Visitor Services Manager on 01786 431324 or the site manager on the island (mobile 0777 8040483) beforehand.

Burleigh Castle Key

Anyone wishing to visit Burleigh Castle may obtain a key between 9.30 am and 6.30 pm from:-

2 Burleigh Castle Steadings

The castle must be locked up after each visit, and the key returned. Cars should be parked at a sensible distance from the dangerous bend at the castle.

Elcho Castle

Five miles NE of Bridge of Earn on the Rhynd Road. Open daily, Apr - Sept, 9.30am - 6.30pm Admission:

Adult £3.00, Concessions £2.50, Child £1.50

St Serf's Church, Dunning

This picturesque church houses the 9th Century Dupplin Cross, a masterpiece of Pictish stonework.

Admission: free. Open: 9.30am - 5.30pm

Accessible to wheelchairs.

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@btintemet.com

BUILDING PLANS

Planning Permission – Building Warrant Building Advice – Project Management Quantity Surveying – Bills of Quantities Domestic Alterations – Large Commercial

> Professional, Prompt Service Highly Competitive Rates 40 Years Experience

For free consultation, call **John Callam M.C.I.O.B.** 01577 840735

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, orto 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

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.

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

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 Giacopazzi (01577) 864025

joseph.giacopazzi@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

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		

Mobile Library, Milnathort

Every Second Wed - next visits 11 & 25 April

Westerloan 1.45 pm - 3 pm Bridgefauld Road 3.05 pm - 4 pm Any queries: Phone (01738) 444949 A K Bell Library, Perth

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

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 (Kin ross-shire)

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

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Forward Planner

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