



Kinross Newsletter



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DEADLINE

for the January/February Issue

2.00 pm, Monday

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for publication on

Saturday 24 January 2009

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 - see below right). All items may be subject to editing. Please also see our Letters Policy on page 2.

Submit your item (except adverts) in one of the following ways:

Email: editor@kinrossnewsletter.org

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Front cover: Heritage Trail photo - John Glen

Advertising in the Newsletter

Typed Adverts – New rates effective from December 2008

A typed advert may be placed for one or more months. These adverts are text only (no graphics allowed). There are two rates:

Up to NINE lines (including blank lines) £7.00 per insertion

TEN to FIFTEEN lines (including blank lines) £11.00 per insertion

As a guide, eight words is the maximum that can be fitted on a line. To place a Typed Advert, contact our Advertising Manager, Ann Harley (see left for contact details). You will need to send her:

- Your name, address, telephone number and, optionally, email address.
- The wording of your advert.
- A note of the number of insertions required.
- Your remittance – cheques payable to “Kinross Newsletter”.

Send all this to the Advertising Manager by the normal monthly Newsletter deadline (see top of left-hand column for date).

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 the Advertising Manager to see if you can go on to our billing list.

Printed (Display) Adverts

These run for blocks of six calendar months, which run from April to September (six issues) and October to March (five issues). To go on our waiting list, please contact our Advertising Manager.

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

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

We welcome your views on all matters to do with life in Kinross-shire, so please keep the letters coming in.

Please also remember that January is a strange month for us. There is no Newsletter at the start of the month; instead we have a joint January/February issue. The deadline will seem really early compared to a normal month – it is **Monday 12 January**, for publication on Saturday 24 January.

The Newsletter team wishes all our readers and contributors a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Letters Policy

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

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Support for football in Kinross

7.11.08

In October Tom Muirhead wrote of the 'lack of recognition and support that Kinross High School and in particular the PE staff have given to football'.

Through your publication I would like to respond to that statement on behalf of the school.

The support and promotion of any single sport in a school is done in two ways; firstly through the curriculum and secondly by providing opportunities outwith the curriculum, i.e. extra-curricular activities.

Within the curriculum, here at KHS, we support and thereby promote a wide range of sporting activities. We teach both team and individual sports throughout the six years of a pupil's education. We are in fact one of a few secondary schools who have offered PE as part of our core curriculum in S5/6, before the Scottish Government's recent guidelines concerning physical activity for all pupils. Throughout those six years our PE courses are organised in blocks of activity. Football, Mr Muirhead's principal concern, is always offered on an annual basis as are a number of others. In that way we ensure that football is treated exactly the same as the other sports. At other points in our courses a choice of activity is sometimes offered and at these times football is often the pupils' chosen activity and we support this on these occasions.

Outwith the curriculum, in extra-curricular activities, the school is dependent upon staff giving of their own time. In this regard we are limited to those staff who choose to give and in which areas they wish to do so. Our extra-curricular programme is not only limited to the sporting arena.

On a weekly basis we offer some 55 different extra-curricular clubs and activities which our pupils can access and many of them do.

It would be wrong of me to suggest that this programme is limited in any way and I believe it would stand up to programmes offered by many other schools.

Of these 55 activities there are three dedicated to football and there are four dedicated to rugby, both offering an opportunity for girls.

I would counter Mr Muirhead's assertion that football has a lack of support and recognition in Kinross High School.

On the matter of sporting tours abroad for a school football team, I would be delighted to support this venture in any way I could. It would require staff to be interested in doing so, to organise the event and to forego their holiday, in order to accompany the young people. These voluntary commitments of KHS staff are a matter of individual choice. The parents and pupils of KHS benefit in many ways from the contributions of our staff to the extra curricular programme.

We do better to encourage those individuals who make this level of commitment and not to castigate those who do not.

R H Keatings, Headteacher
Kinross High School



Home Reports and Selling Your Home 17.11.08

From 1 December the Scottish Executive has decided that every property placed onto the market will require a Home Report. Properties on the market before this date will not require a report and there will be some other exceptions including new houses.

There are three main items which comprise the report:

1. The property questionnaire, completed by the seller or their agent with various information about the property.
2. An energy performance certificate (EPC), which will require a visit by a suitably qualified surveyor or 'Energy Inspector',
3. A survey valuation, again provided by an approved RICS surveyor.

The cost for the report will be met by the seller. (There will be deferred payment options available). The perceived benefit of the report is that the purchaser may not have to get a survey carried out and will have more information about the property they intend buying. Whether all purchasers will accept a survey provided by the seller remains to be seen. It should also be noted that it will be the decision of the seller whether or not they make the report available to all enquirers. They can refuse to make the report available if (1) they think the enquirer cannot afford the property, (2) the enquirer is not really interested or (3) they do not want to sell to that enquirer.

At Andersons we are unsure of the merit of several aspects of the legislation, especially the survey valuation requirement which in the current market conditions may need updated on several occasions at the expense of the seller. We are also concerned that if a potential seller decides that after commissioning their valuation, the "value" of their property is such that they decide not to proceed they will have incurred a considerable expense. Our main reservation, however, is the timing of the launch of this scheme and whether house sellers need such extra expense in the worst property market any of us have experienced.

However, barring a last minute volte-face, the scheme will be implemented and we will be happy to advise all house sellers on all aspects of this new legislation. It should also be noted that this legislation also applies to properties marketed privately, i.e. not through an agent.

In addition to the above, all properties sold after 4 January will require an EPC, as will all new tenancies. Interesting times!

Further information is available on our website at www.andersons-kinross.co.uk and from other selling agents.

John J Kenny, Property Manager
Andersons Solicitors
40 High Street, Kinross

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Heritage Trail - Grahamstone

09.11.08

Having sampled the new and beautiful stage of the Heritage Trail my wife and I find it a joy. We however can only walk it as unfortunately our days of cycling are past. Living as we do in Kinnesswood we can only reach the Trail initially by car by driving either to the car park at Findatie or Burleigh Sands (the Loch Leven Larder approach path being too muddy for safety in winter).

This is most unsatisfactory because there is also a proper road at Grahamstone leading directly to the Trail but there is a walk of over a mile to the Trail because the road is treated as private, and of course one must return the same distance - so two extra unnecessary miles. I would have thought that it would have been possible to have a small car park at the Grahamstone Trail gate which would not affect the farm, or otherwise this beautiful new part of the Trail will not be readily reachable for walkers. This would be a great shame. I am tired out before I even start the Trail walk knowing that I have also to walk back! I would like to think that a new arrangement could be effective.

It is not as if the amount of traffic at Grahamstone would be excessive. Most motorists would reach the Trail from the entrances at the Kirkgate, Burleigh Sands, Findatie or Vane Farm. Even if motorists could drive to the Trail at weekends when the farm is not busy that would be better than what is available at present. I assume the owners of Grahamstone naturally as owners have set the present guidelines. I shall be glad to know that something can be done about this or my wife and I and others will be restricted to use certain parts of the Trail only. This will be very disappointing and unnecessary.

Ian A C Whyte
18 Whitecraigs, Kinnesswood

Do we need a new bus service?

17.11.08

Since the opening of the Loch Leven Heritage Trail I have been asked if it would be possible for a new bus service to be introduced which would run at regular intervals around Loch Leven.

I think this is a very good idea but to have any chance of bringing it about I will have to try and prove there is a demand for it and that people will use it.

I see a lot of benefits from the introduction of such a service. It will provide much better services for the villages and communities around the loch. It will allow the many people who come to walk the Loch Leven Heritage Trail to walk part of the route and use the bus to return. It will provide a bus service for people who want to visit the RSPB Centre at Vane Farm. An added bonus is that it would give much better public transport links for those living on the south end of Kinross to the Park & Ride and the new health centre, Kinross Library and Museum and the rest of the new Kinross Community Campus when they open at the end of next year.

If you think that you would use such a bus service please let me know, either by email: wbrobertson@pkc.gov.uk or writing to me at 85 South Street, Milnathort KY13 9XT. Alternatively you can phone on 01577 865178.

Councillor Willie Robertson

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News & Articles

MEP praises Trail

Elspeth Attwooll, MEP for Scotland, swapped the campaign trail in Glenrothes for the newly-opened Heritage Trail in the first week of November. After her visit the Lib Dem MEP said, "I must congratulate all the local people whose hard work made this possible. It is a beautifully designed trail in a beautiful part of the world. I'm sure that it'll serve the local community well for generations to come, and also benefit the local economy by attracting many more tourists into the area."

She was accompanied on her visit by Councillor George Hayton, leader of the Liberal Democrat Group in Perth & Kinross. He added, "Loch Leven is a hugely important European nature reserve. The heritage trail now makes it much more accessible than ever before while safeguarding the natural environment. We all look forward to the future when hopefully the trail will be extended to complete the circuit of the loch."

A report on the official opening of the Trail can be found on page 5.

New bridge opens

The new bridge over the River Forth was opened on 19 November by First Minister Alex Salmond. The £120m crossing, named the Clackmannanshire Bridge, was built to ease congestion on the Kincardine Bridge.

Earlier this year local Councillors Mike Barnacle and Willie Robertson wrote to Transport Scotland to express their concern that the new bridge will bring increased volumes of traffic along the A977 and urged the agency to take appropriate measures. More recently residents in communities such as Balado, Crook of Devon, Drum, Blairingone and Powmill have submitted a petition with over 1000 signatures to the Scottish Parliament, calling for around £1.5 million to be spent on traffic mitigation measures along the A977 such as roundabouts, pavements, pedestrian crossings and improved signage.

Councillor Barnacle leaves Lib Dems

Councillor Mike Barnacle has resigned from the Liberal Democrat group on Perth & Kinross Council, and from the Lib Dem/SNP coalition ruling administration.

Councillor Barnacle resigned as Vice Convenor of the Development Control Committee in May this year in protest at his colleagues' attitude to certain planning matters, including a failure to address the shortcomings of P&KC's Housing in the Countryside policy. This further resignation is founded on those concerns.

In a letter to George Hayton, leader of the Liberal Democrat group on the Council, Cllr Barnacle writes: "Of greatest disappointment to me is the failure of the Liberal Group at the Council to address my expressed concerns, about the party's strategy in the administration and reasons for resignation from Development Control over planning issues, in any meaningful way."

Councillor Barnacle is not joining the opposition at the Council. He stated: "I intend to adopt the stance of an independent ward councillor representing the views of my constituents to the best of my ability and voting on issues according to conscience and community wishes."

Top Awards for 1st For Balloons owner

The owner of a Kinross-shire events decoration company has won two prizes in a national competition and the title 'Balloon Decorator of the Year'.

Hayley Allcoat has been in the balloons and floral decorations industry for over 15 years and started 1st For Balloons seven years ago as a home based business in Crook of Devon. After tremendous growth in her business in the last two years she decided that the next step to becoming recognised as a leading balloon decorator was to start taking part in national competitions. NABAS, The Balloon Association, holds a Festival of Balloon Arts every year in Warwickshire with an annual dinner dance, a trade exhibition and competitions.



'Balloon Decorator of the Year' Hayley Allcoat

"I entered three of the four competitions for the experience, not thinking that I would be in with a chance of winning first time around," said Hayley.

This year's theme for the show was 1001 Arabian Nights, so for the large scale sculpture Hayley decided to create a belly dancer vacuuming a flying carpet with the title 'Do the sheikh and vac and put the magic back'. One of the judges said, "Hayley put a lot of effort into using many different techniques to create a brilliant design. We particularly liked the humour of the design."

Early this year Hayley achieved the industry recognised top qualification of Certified Balloon Artist and she hopes that this, together with her new title, will help her in what is going to be a tough time for any small business.

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Loch Leven Heritage Project

by Felicity Martin

What a wonderful day for the opening! On Monday, 3 November, Kinross-shire primary and secondary pupils joined Mark Beaumont to launch the Loch Leven Heritage Trail by cycling around it. Initially their fingers were nipped by frost, but by the time they arrived at Kinross Pier the blazing sun had warmed the air and they were comfortable in their bright yellow T-shirts.

These T-shirts were all different. On the back they carried the names of many community and funding organisations that had helped the project, and on the front they said, "Well done TRACKS".

Mark, the Guinness World Record Holder for cycling around the world, then performed a wee ceremony while the BBC TV and press photographers caught the action. He presented the youngsters with medals representing various heritage sites around the loch, symbolically passing this heritage on to the next generation.



Kinross-shire schools pupils with Mark Beaumont at the opening of the Trail. Photo: John Glen

A good crowd gathered to watch Andrew Thin, Chairman of Scottish Natural Heritage, cut a ribbon across the stone gateway feature at Kinross Pier. He commented on how the new path gives unprecedented access to the National Nature Reserve at Loch Leven and added that, although the trail doesn't go all the way around the loch, the firm intention is to complete the circuit in future.

Project Director Neil Kilpatrick spoke about the contribution the trail is making to the area, "As an innovative 'open-air museum' it provides everyone with the opportunity to enjoy and learn about the rich variety of natural and cultural heritage in this area. The trail is a marvellous and lasting asset for the people of Kinross-shire and is expected to attract an additional 100,000 visitors a year to Loch Leven, with consequent benefits to the local economy."

Chairman of TRACKS, Councillor Willie Roberston, thanked so many people for coming along to the opening and highlighted the local benefits of the trail. "The project has brought together communities around the loch and created a strategic link with access networks developed by local groups. The trail is a resource accessible to all and is

already helping to promote healthier lifestyles."

Copies of the Loch Leven Heritage Trail leaflet were handed out at the opening. You should have received one in your October Kinross newsletter, but if you want more you can get paper copies from many outlets around Kinross, including the Tourist Office in County Buildings, the Boathouse Bistro at the Pier (closed for the winter), Loch Leven's Larder, RSPB Vane Farm and some local shops. It is also available as a file you can download from the Kinross Community Council website (www.kinross.cc) – look for Local Leaflets under the Community menu option.

As well as the Heritage Trail, the leaflet shows other paths, including links to Milnathort, Wester Balgedie, Kinnesswood, Scotlandwell and the north end of Kinross (via Sunnypark). The trail should encourage people from the wider area to use places such as Portmoak Wood, the Michael Bruce Trail and National Cycle Route 1 by providing safe, off-road access to them.

Creation of the trail has already increased visitor numbers to some of the attractions on or near the route. At Channel Farm, Emma and Robin Niven have seen a huge surge in the number of visitors to Loch Leven's Larder since putting in their nature walk, which links to the trail. The Nature Reserve at Vane Farm is also busier; the RSPB are now planning to redevelop their site to better handle more visitors.

So what now? Well, TRACKS continues with its work, with project officer Jackie Yuill liaising with communities about path and environmental projects. And there are more opportunities than ever before for volunteers to become involved in helping to care for Loch Leven, with TRACKS working closely with Scottish Natural Heritage and RSPB on activities such as wildlife recording, trail warden work and tree planting. An excellent example of the volunteer effort was the work of the SNH volunteers to effect a litter clear-up on the Trail the week before the Opening. Anybody wishing to volunteer should contact Craig Nisbet of SNH on 01577 864439.

Now that the project is finished, TRACKS has handed over responsibility for maintenance of the path to P&KC. If you notice any problems, such as the flood damage that occurred last winter, get in touch with Alistair Godfrey of P&KC on 01738 475258. SNH are looking after all the heritage aspects of the trail, including the artwork and interpretation, so if you see an issue with seats, signs or such like, contact the local reserve staff at Kinross Pier, tel. 01577 864439.

Many people have asked about what's happening regarding extending the Loch Leven Heritage Trail beyond Vane Farm so people can continue off-road back to Kinross. A year ago, the Feasibility Study into this section reported that goose studies need to be conducted before a route could be negotiated. The first of these was carried out from October 2007 to the end of March 2008 and a second is currently under way. TRACKS will consolidate this information into an Environmental Study report this winter and will then discuss the issue further with Scottish Natural Heritage, RSPB, landowners and other interested parties. Once a route can be established TRACKS will press on with the tasks of gaining planning consent and raising the necessary funds. Meantime, TRACKS wishes to record its thanks to all the people who made the trail possible and hopes that everyone will gain great pleasure from using the trail.

News from the Health Centre



So far this year, we have vaccinated over 1,800 patients against the flu virus. However, quite a number of people have not yet come forward to have the vaccination. If you are over 65 or under 65 and in an 'At Risk' group, we would encourage you to come for the vaccination. Those who are 'At Risk' are those who have chronic respiratory disease or chronic heart disease and those who have chronic renal, liver or neurological disease. Those who have diabetes or are immuno-compromised are also 'At Risk.' Any patients in any of these categories should please phone the Health Centre on 01577 862112 and make an appointment for the flu vaccination.

The Health Centre will be closed for a four day period over Christmas and again over New Year. There is always an increase in the number of requests for repeat medication just before Christmas and it would help both the GPs and the pharmacists if these requests could be submitted in plenty of time. We would therefore ask that all **requests for repeat medication** could be submitted by **Thursday 18 December**. Thank you.

The doctors and all the staff at the Health Centre would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a merry Christmas and a happy and peaceful New Year.

MSP nominates reprieved post office for national award

Crook of Devon post office in Kinross-shire has been nominated by Keith Brown MSP in the Scottish Countryside Alliance Awards, previously known as the Best Rural Retailer competition. The prestigious awards recognise businesses for their service to communities or rural life.

Keith Brown said, "The community outpouring in support of Crook of Devon post office showed just how valued a part of the village that shop is. Hundreds of post offices across the UK are being closed but only a handful are being saved. Crook of Devon went through such a long spell where the proposed closure meant doom and gloom that I think they deserve a bit of special recognition now, and that is why I am nominating them in this competition."

Winners of the awards will be announced in January 2009.

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Further information: **BARBARA – 01259 781446**

Primary pupils at Parliament

On Friday 7 November we visited the Scottish Parliament. When we arrived we were met by the education officers and they talked to us about the Parliament and showed us a replica of the mace and the microphone/voting console each MSP has on their desk in the debating chamber. Then they took us on a tour of the Parliament. We went into the Debating Chamber and saw the real mace and where the MSPs and the Presiding Officer sits.

After our tour we were met by Keith Brown MSP and Richard Simpson MSP. They answered lots of our questions and then they took us up to their offices and let us sit in their meditation chair. We had a great visit to the Scottish Parliament and learnt lots!!

Primary 7a, Kinross Primary School



Kinross Primary School pupils with Keith Brown MSP

Santa's spectacular entrance



Dobbies Garden Centre in Kinross welcomed a special guest on Sunday 23 November when Santa arrived in style in a Rolls Royce. Kinross High School choir added to the festive atmosphere by singing carols.

Santa is in residence in his grotto at Dobbies every weekend before Christmas, and on Christmas Eve. Tickets are £5 and can be booked in advance.

Visitors to Dobbies can leave a special thought, a message for a loved one or just wish for that special Christmas present using the Christmas Wish Tree. Wish baubles can be purchased from the information desk and all proceeds go to CHAS Rachel House.

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Kinross Learning Centre January Programme

The full programme is listed below, but to find out more or to book your place, please contact Kinross Learning Centre on 01577 863863, call into the centre at Swansacre, Kinross, or email pc.kinross@perth.uhi.ac.uk



Computing



If you can't get your computer to do what you want, try one of our taught computing classes. You'll get to grips with basic word processing, tackle the internet and email or learn what to do when things go wrong!

Welcome to Computing	Monday 2 Feb	7 - 9 pm	8 weeks	£45
Welcome to Computing	Tuesday 3 Feb	2 - 4 pm	8 weeks	£45

Digital Photography



Get more from your digital camera and correct common faults in photos you've taken!

These courses will introduce you to the basics of digital photography and image editing using Photoshop.

Digital Photography - Beginner	Wednesday 21 Jan	7 - 9 pm	10 weeks	£65
Digital Photography - Beginners	Wednesday 21 Jan	2.30-4.30 pm	10 weeks	£65

Languages



Use the dark winter months to prepare for your summer holidays. French, German Italian and Spanish at various levels will provide vocabulary, grammar and the confidence to deal with everyday situations.

Beginners Spanish	Monday 19 Jan	7 - 9pm	10 weeks	£55
Advanced Spanish Conversation	Monday 19 Jan	9.45-11.45 pm	10 weeks	£55
Beginners German	Wednesday 21 Jan	7 - 9 pm	10 weeks	£55
Improving your Italian Conversation	Tuesday 20 Jan	3.30-5.30pm	10 weeks	£55
Improving your French Conversation	Tuesday 20 Jan	1.15 - 3.15 pm	10 weeks	£55
Advanced French Conversation	Tuesday 20 Jan	10.30am-12.30pm	10 weeks	£55

Arts and Crafts

Develop your artistic talents, and bring that creative sparkle into your life!

Bouquets and Buttonholes	Wednesday 21 Jan	2 - 4 pm	6 weeks	£38
Contemporary Acrylic Painting	Monday 19 Jan	7 - 9 pm	10 weeks	£55
Glass and Porcelain Painting	Wednesday 21 Jan	9.45-11.45 pm	10 weeks	£55
Patchwork and Quilting	Tuesday 20 Jan	10.30-12.30 pm	10 weeks	£55
Textile Art 2	Tuesday 20 Jan	1.30-3.30 pm	10 weeks	£55
Watercolours 1	Thursday 22 Jan	1.30-3.30 pm	10 weeks	£55
Watercolours 2	Wednesday 21 Jan	1.30-3.30 pm	10 weeks	£55
Watercolours 6	Monday 19 Jan	2 - 4 pm	10 weeks	£55

General Interest

There's always something to capture your imagination at your local learning centre

Introduction to Antiques	Friday 23 Jan	9.30 - 11.30 am	10 weeks	£55
Introduction to Philosophy	Monday 19 Jan	2 - 4 pm	10 weeks	£55
SelfHypnosis	Thursday 22 Jan	10 am - noon	10 weeks	£55
The Da Vinci Code: Study of Renaissance Art	Thursday 22 Jan	2 - 4 pm	10 weeks	£55



All of these courses qualify for ILA funding. Please ask us for more details.

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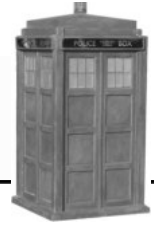
126 High Street, Kinross

For more information and appointment

Please call

Tel: 01577 864521 M: 07837127538

Police Box



As this is the last edition of Police Box for the year 2008 we would like to wish all the readers a happy, safe and trouble free festive season.

Festive Policing

During the festive period, to provide public reassurance and prevent crime, we intend to carry out a number of focused activities. These will include more high visibility patrols including additional foot patrols in Kinross and Milnathort intended to target anti-social behaviour, regular road checks to deter travelling criminals and target drink/drug driving and other road traffic offences, and regular visits to licensed premises and the seizure of alcohol from under age persons.

Seasonal Crime Prevention Tips

In the run up to Christmas, crime figures often rise and criminals will target homes where they might expect to find expensive presents, extra cash, alcohol and other such items in abundance. They will also target cars in which property is left and visible to them either in the form of newly purchased presents or handbags etc. This Christmas we would remind you to be vigilant and hopefully the following tips might come in useful.

With regard to house security make sure that all windows and doors are locked when premises are empty and it is a good idea to leave a light or two on as well. Timers can be obtained that ensure lights go on at the appropriate time if you are not there to do so yourself. Do not leave property lying about that can be seen by persons looking in windows and at this time of year wrapped presents round the Christmas tree are a temptation to would-be criminals. Please also ensure that garages and sheds are kept locked, especially if they contain valuable items of property.

Thefts from vehicles are also common and to limit the chances of becoming a victim of this type of crime ensure

that property is not left in the vehicle in a manner that makes it visible to passers by. If you return to your vehicle to drop off items of Christmas shopping you may have been seen doing so and may wish to consider moving it to another location before continuing with your shopping.

When out shopping take care of wallets and handbags, particularly if they contain cash and credit cards etc, as this type of property left unattended for even a second is a prime target for sneak thieves and opportunists. Remember not to keep your pin numbers in your wallet or handbag.

Finally, when disposing of packaging that had contained expensive Christmas presents such as electrical goods, ensure it is not left in a manner that advertises to the criminal you have new items in the house.

With a little care and presence of mind you can make it hard for the criminal and go a long way to ensuring a crime free Christmas.

CRIME STOPPERS Telephone Number 0800 555 111

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 0845 600 5705.

Kinross - **Constable Ronnie Child**. Milnathort, Kinnesswood & Scotlandwell - **Constable Graham Stephen**. Cleish and Blairadam, Crook of Devon, Powmill, Blairingone, Cambo and Glenfarg areas - **Constable Lynne Petrie**.

Volunteers Needed!



"Enabling People to be Heard" is the aim of Independent Advocacy Perth & Kinross and we try to help ensure that the views and opinions of people with learning and physical disabilities, mental illness, dementia and older people are heard and respected.

An independent voice can help with all sorts of issues, for example employment, benefits, housing, family issues and health. If you enjoy a challenge and feel that you can work with and support someone to have their voice heard, our next seven week volunteer training course starts on **Wednesday 4 February 2009.**

For more information please contact us at 90 Tay Street, Perth, telephone 01738 587887, email: enquiry@iapk.org.uk or look us up at www.iapk.org.uk

New website for ceilidh band

The Orwell Ceilidh Band website has been changed somewhat and can now only be found at: www.orwellceilidhband.co.uk

PKAVS appointment

Gordon Duncan has recently been appointed Volunteer Centre Development Officer with Perth & Kinross Association of Voluntary Service (PKAVS). PKAVS runs a range of projects supporting the community of Perth & Kinross.

Gordon welcomes anyone who wishes to find out about volunteering to drop in to the Volunteer Centre at Kinross on Wednesday mornings at Swansacre, just off the High Street, 9.30am-11.30am. Alternatively, prospective volunteers can phone Perth (01738) 567076 to arrange an appointment or Gordon can be emailed at: gordon.duncan@pkavs.org.uk

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Community Council News



The Community Council News is produced from edited draft CC minutes. Some CCs have full minutes on their websites. Full Kinross CC minutes are lodged in the local Library and County Buildings. All Community Council meetings are open to the general public.

Kinross Community Council

News from the November Meeting

CCLrs D Cuthbert (Chair), S Bathgate, D Colliar, D Mackay, M Blyth, C Watson, I Jack, M Scott (Secy) and J Richardson were present at the meeting on 5 November. Also in attendance were P&K Cllr K Baird, Sgt S Williamson of Tayside Police, Jane McNaughton and Dr McCracken from the Health Centre and six members of the public. Apologies were received from CCLr L Mackay and P&K Cllrs W Robertson and M Barnacle.

Co-opted Member: The Chairman welcomed the new co-opted member, Joe Richardson. Another new member, Barry Davies, had given his apologies as he was unable to attend.

Minutes of 1 Oct: The Secy read out a letter from Eileen Thomas, Editor of the Newsletter, who objected to the wording of the previous minutes. It was agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on 1 October should be amended to reflect that Mrs Thomas had formally requested that the CC minute Newsletter Sub-Committee Meetings and that she had stated that she had received confirmation from P&KC that she is not covered by the CC insurance policy.

Police Report: Sgt Sandra Williamson introduced herself. She reported on break-ins in the Kinross area in October which have been detected. She then explained a review of communications. When a person phones the handling centre, the call is categorised and given a priority rating.

New Health Centre: Jane McNaughton, Practice Manager, and Dr McCracken gave a presentation on the new health centre. Artist's impressions and diagrams of elevations and layouts of the proposed building were displayed. A member of public asked if they had any concerns as to the road junction, the School being built opposite them. They said yes, they were concerned, and had raised this issue as in their opinion the road junction could not cope with the added traffic. However, traffic studies have been carried out and they hold a letter of guarantee from P&KC stating that P&KC foresee no difficulty here. The Secy is to write to P&KC asking for clarification regarding access to the school and health centre for pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

Newsletter Sub Committee: Cllr Watson reported on the meeting held recently with Tony, Ross and Eileen from the Newsletter Team and CCLr Blyth.

The status of the Newsletter needs to be formalised for various reasons, including tax. CCLr Watson explained three possible options: Unincorporated Association, a Trust or a Company Limited by Guarantee. The recommendation of the sub-committee is the latter, with application for charitable status. CCLr Watson provided a quote of £800 for his firm to carry out this work, including the cost of applying for charitable status. The directors would be members of the CC and the Newsletter team. Surplus funds could still be donated to worthy causes. It was agreed that CCLr Watson should arrange for a company limited by guarantee to be formed and to apply for charitable status – the costs to be met by the Newsletter funds. This is agreed

with the proviso that the CC still controls the Newsletter by holding the majority of Directors and Shareholding members.

CCLr Watson stated that there were supplementary matters which required discussion. The purpose of the charitable association will need to be defined. He suggested that a separate meeting be held to discuss such matters and that the outcome be brought back to a CC meeting for determination.

Insurance: CCLr Watson explained that none of the Newsletter team, or the CC, are currently covered and are liable to Court action for material published in the Newsletter. CCLr Colliar had obtained a quote for media cover for around £425. CCLr Watson stated that the insurance should also cover legal costs as well as damages.

It was agreed that cover MUST be put in place, however the draft Policy would be checked first. It was further agreed that this should be to the satisfaction of Eileen and Ross from the Newsletter team and that payment would be made from the Newsletter fund. CCLr Colliar will arrange for the draft Policy to be delivered to Ross and Eileen.

Matters Arising from previous meeting

Levenfields path: David Stubbs from P&KC forwarded an email: GS Brown will not move on this. A site meeting was to be arranged with G S Brown. The Secy also confirmed that Cllr Robertson had arranged a meeting last month with the residents in Montgomery Way etc. It was agreed that the CC should write to G S Brown asking that this path be reopened.

Millbridge Car Park: P&KC agree that something should be done in this area. However, owing to budget limits, this would not be until next year.

Derelict Building, Swansacre: The Chair has yet to draft an article for the newspaper. Cllr Baird reported that P&KC has confirmed that bracing work is to go ahead. The Council and a Housing Association are looking into the costs of conversion. Cllr Baird was asked to obtain more detail from the Council on this matter. A letter was also received from Pipers Row/Swansacre residents highlighting the urgent need for action and the possibility of a claim against the Council in the event of an injury to pedestrians or vehicles.

Planning applications received

The following applications were noted:

08/01916/LBC 8 School Wynd, extension to dwellinghouse;
08/01908/MOD Gellybank Cottage (modification of existing consent), erection of dwelling house and garage;
08/01960/OUT Mushroom Farm, Balado, demolition of existing shed and buildings, erection of a dwellinghouse, garage and store;
08/02043/MOD Hillside Farm, modification to previous consent;
08/01976/FUL 133 Lathro Park, alteration and extension to dwellinghouse;
08/02030/LBC Watchtower, Kirkgate Park, alterations and refurbishment;
08/02064/FUL 1 Lathro Lane, removal of existing conservatory and extension to dwelling house;
08/02097/FUL 46 Montgomery Street, alterations to form Dormer windows, erection of porch and conservatory.

08/01648/MW Modification of Condition 10 Balado Quarry: This relates to an amendment to the opening times to 6.30am. It was agreed that the CC would write to P&KC to object to the application to extend the opening hours of the Gravel Pit.

Pier Road: The CC was not given the opportunity to comment on the revised application. Despite five objections being received from neighbours, only two appeared on the Council website and the matter was determined under delegated powers. Cllr Baird was asked to request an internal audit of this matter within P&KC.

Applications approved by P&KC

Extension to dwelling house at 10 Hatchbank Lane; ATM at Post Office, High Street; Deletion of condition 15 of previous consent at Kellieside (08/00885/FUL); Erection of a dwelling house (in outline) at land west of Balado House; Erection of two dwelling houses and two flats at former warehouse in Pier Road; Formation of access gateway in walled garden at land at Burnbrae (listed building consent).

Applications withdrawn: Erection of dwelling house at 6 Broom Road (08/01721/FUL).

Report from Perth & Kinross Cllr K Baird

Town Hall: At a P&KC meeting on 19 November the short list of who is going to market the town hall will be approved. The Chair stated that the Town Hall Sub-Committee withdrew from the court case in February this year rather than extend the matter to June. We are now in November and an agent has yet to be appointed. The delay in this matter is entirely due to P&KC.

Heritage Trail/Toilets: The opening was very successful. However, the lack of toilets at Kirkgate Park was mentioned by a number of people. Cllr Baird emailed the Council to ask when APCs at Kirkgate Park and the Park and Ride would be installed. The reply stated that budget limits would not allow for this at this time, the cost being £30k alone with the additional cost of demolition of the existing building etc. Cllr Baird stated that agreement was reached in January 2007 that both these APCs would be put in place and the current situation was unacceptable. She will pursue this again.



The boarded up toilets at Kirkgate Park. The Council has failed to provide an APC here as agreed.

Recycling Centre: CCllr Blyth said the gates had been closed at 9.30am on a Sunday recently, although opening times are 9am to 5pm. It was explained that the public has to be kept out if lorries are clearing skips.

Drains: Cllr Jack raised the subject of bad drains. Cllr Baird said they are cleared at least twice a year.

Correspondence

Rubble in High Street: P&KC was unable to trace the property owners and arranged to have the debris uplifted at P&KC's expense.

Grass cutting: Nigel Taylor of P&KC met with the Chairman and Kinross in Bloom reps on 29 September to discuss maintenance in Kinross. From a Council point of view they are on top of grass cutting. Wet weather caused clumping of cuttings. The last time the Myre and North Cemetery were inspected they looked within Council standards. The main area of catch up has been weed control. It was commented that some householders pay for a grass cutting service along with their rent, equating to £1 a week. CCllr Mackay stated that this is not carried out to the agreed standards. The CC will write to P&KC requesting a copy of the contract for this service. CCllr Mackay will also endeavour to obtain this information. The Chair stated that much of the work carried out in this area fails to conform to procedures and standards set down in Council literature. Cllr Baird stated that the quality of ground maintenance is to be reviewed next year.

Stagecoach East Scotland: Service 23 was withdrawn from the Park & Ride due to not having enough time to cover all of the route. The service struggles to cover the cost of its operation and so to add in extra resources was not an option. People wishing to transfer onto the Citylink network are still able to do so at Kinross town centre. Whilst they understand the frustration with this service, it was seen as the only solution to enable them to maintain the existing frequency of service through this area. The CC will reply that it would like this service to be reinstated into the Park & Ride.

Planning Aid: Dates of training courses for CCllrs were given. No decision was made regarding attendance.

Provost's Lamp: The Council is willing to exchange the new glass panel with one bearing the coat of arms. The Council proposes using perspex rather than glass. The Council said the existing coat of arms was wrong and sent a copy of the CC coat of arms. The Secy is to reply that the replacement panel should show the Burgh coat of arms, not the CC arms.

The Register of Electors can be inspected at the Kinross Area Office.

Other Business

Remembrance Sunday: CCllrs were asked to attend the ceremony at the County Buildings on 9 November.

Mud on roads inc A977: complaints were made about this. It was said that farmers depositing mud on a road are responsible for clearing it up. It is an offence not to do so.

Light Up Kinross: Arrangements for this year's event were given. A substantial grant was received from the Kinross-shire Fund to purchase new lights. However, as the funding has only recently been received, it was decided not to purchase new lights this year. However, the committee hope to make some slight improvements; pea lights will be placed in the trees at Gacé Gardens. CCllr Cuthbert suggested that some lights be placed in the trees at the Market Park.

The next meeting of Kinross CC will take place on Wednesday 3 December at 7.30pm in the Masonic Hall.

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

Milnathort Community Council News from the November Meeting

CCllr Giacopazzi, Chairman, welcomed CCllrs Lamont, Smith, Porter, Bennet and Thomson to the meeting held on 13 November. Also in attendance were Minute Secretary E Rougvie, PC Lynn Petrie, and two members of the public. Apologies were received from CCllr Cottingham.

Police matters: PC Petrie reported that there had been three daytime domestic break-ins within three weeks in Kinross and Milnathort. She urged people to be vigilant and to be good neighbours by reporting any suspicious or unusual activities. The police would much rather attend what may turn out to be a false alarm than to find out afterwards that someone had seen something and not reported it. PC Petrie said that householders should make use of alarms and timers for lights, and ensure that windows and doors are secure and that garages and outbuildings are locked. If they are to return home after dark, they should close curtains or blinds so that it is harder to assess whether someone is in or not.

Training event: P&KC have indicated that there are three places available for the Planning Aid for Scotland training event on 24 January, not four as originally thought. CCllrs Smith, Lamont and Porter will attend.

Flooding: CCllr Giacopazzi had received an e-mail from P&K Cllr Baird which she had forwarded from P&KC engineer Peter Dickson. It was anticipated that work to install a pump station in Back Loan would be completed by next March and that work would get under way next summer at 5 Wester Loan to replace the temporary wall. The CC noted with relief that recent heavy rain had not resulted in flooding, but were dismayed that some of the sandbags that had been issued to householders had been slashed and thrown in the burn.



*Kinross-shire schools pupils led by Mark Beaumont at the grand opening of the Loch Leven Heritage Trail
Photo: John Glen*

Opening of Heritage Trail: CCllrs Thomson and Porter had attended this event and reported that it had been a beautiful day and that the opening had been extremely well-organised. Everyone concerned was to be congratulated. However CCllr Thomson felt that the RSPB were responsible for holding up the final part of the project. This was disputed by Jackie Yuill, TRACKS project officer, who said there had been positive dialogue with the RSPB and SNH. CCllr Porter expressed concerns that there were no toilets on the route, but after discussion it was considered that there was adequate provision at Vane Farm, the Pier and Channel Farm.

Donaldson Park: CCllr Bennet has been corresponding with P&KC about Donaldson Park. There had been a lot of dog dirt there recently, including on the bark under the swings. P&KC will dispatch a dog warden, but didn't feel that installing a low fence around the play area, as she had suggested, would be appropriate. However after discussion it was agreed the CC would fully support her in pushing for this. There are a number of unsupervised dogs running about the village and irresponsible owners are urged to keep them under control and pick up after them. CCllr Bennet also reported that there is now a bench by the swings and by the end of this financial year another climbing frame is to be installed.

Road safety: CCllr Bennet had had a letter from P&KC outlining the results of the pedestrian surveys undertaken in Stirling Road, South Street and New Road during June to determine pedestrian flow and crossing locations. Additional traffic survey data is currently being collated in order to compare summer/non-term with autumn/term traffic flows. Upgraded pedestrian facilities have been identified at Wester Loan in the form of dropped kerbs, and the possibility of a build-out at the New Road/Victoria Avenue/Burleigh Road junction is being assessed in an effort to reduce vehicle speeds, assist pedestrian movement and discourage some drivers from using the junction as a turning area. Another build-out is being considered in South Street near the Church Street junction to assist pedestrians crossing South Street and improve the public transport infrastructure. Alterations to the kerblines around the Cross have been considered, but may not be possible due to the turning radius required for larger vehicles to negotiate this junction. The traffic survey data reveals that some drivers are driving at an inappropriate, rather than excessive, speed along New Road. This information has been shared with Tayside Police's Road Policing Unit. There are no current proposals to relocate, or provide any additional, pedestrian crossing facility on New Road. The existing zebra crossing at the west of New Road is suitably located to service the commercial and retail premises on New Road and South Street. P&KC had also received a letter from Elizabeth Smith MSP on behalf of a constituent regarding the speed of traffic in Milnathort. They have responded to her and advised P&K Cllrs Baird and Robertson of her concerns.

Parking: CCllr Thomson raised concerns about lorries parking on the east end of New Road and vehicles parked bumper to bumper at the west end of Victoria Avenue. She felt there should be yellow lines there. However it was considered that this would not be favoured because they would then have to be enforced by the police.

Chemist shop: There was then a brief discussion about what would happen to the building in South Street formerly occupied by the pharmacy, which has now moved to New Road. It was thought likely to be absorbed into housing.

Milnathort in Bloom: A letter was received from Milnathort in Bloom indicating that they have bought £100 worth of bluebells for **Tillywhally Wood**. The CC will reimburse them for this outlay, as previously agreed.

Military exercises: A letter was received from the Army indicating that there would be low-flying exercises at Tummel Forest between November 17-27. This was considered to be a waste of paper since it was irrelevant to Milnathort and it was agreed that CCllr Giacopazzi would ask them to correspond by e-mail in future.

Planning matters: The following applications were noted:

Alterations to dwellinghouse at 2 Stirling Road; removal of occupancy condition to previous consent at Hillside Farm; erection of an agricultural shed at Holton Farm; extension to dwellinghouse at Riccarton Cottage, Athronhall; alterations and extension to The Manse, 3 Perth Road.

Kinross-shire Forum: CCllr Giacomazzi gave a full report on a meeting of the Kinross-shire Forum, which he and CCllr Smith had attended and at which he had acted as minute taker. Also in attendance had been P&K Cllrs, CC chairs, members of Friends of Rural Kinross-shire and Kinross Civic Trust, and three P&KC planning officials. Among the items discussed were the changes to the planning application process that had recently come into effect; population growth projections; the effect of the credit crunch on the construction industry; housing in the countryside; steading conversions and developer contributions. Another meeting was planned for 4 December to discuss the formation of a proper constitution. CCllr Giacomazzi was concerned that the forum in its present form, while including the Friends of Rural Kinross-shire and Kinross Civic Trust, neither of which was democratically elected, was closed to any other community groups such as the Kinross-shire Partnership. He was supported by a member of the public who felt it was inappropriate for these two bodies to have such a significant input when they were neither elected nor accountable. Their views should be represented at CC level, and he was unhappy that they had undue influence with senior officials. The Kinross-shire Partnership was the only group legitimately entitled to attend because they didn't have a single-issue agenda. CCllr Giacomazzi will take these views forward to the next meeting, which he will once again attend with CCllr Smith.

Seats at Tillywhally Wood: CCllr Bennet confirmed that she had received a quote for £270 for the repair and renewal of seats at Tillywhally Wood. It was agreed that this will be discussed further at the January meeting.

The next meeting of Milnathort Community Council will be held on Thursday 11 December in Milnathort Primary School.

Milnathort CC minutes are posted on www.kinross.cc

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Portmoak Community Council News from the November Meeting

A meeting was held on 11 November at Portmoak Primary School. In attendance were Wendy MacPhedran (Chairwoman), Mike Hally, Stuart Garvie, Charles Weedon, Alistair Smith, Margaret Wilson, PC Stephen and several members of the public.

Police Report: The Police reported that there had been three break-ins in the Kinross area recently. The Police read out a report on how they have put in place steps to improve their call handling. They will send a copy to the CC.

Chairwoman's Report: The Chairwoman reported on the recent matter on the **flooding** of Bruce Road, following the recent spate of rain. This is not a new issue, but there needs to be a long term solution. A resident has contacted Scottish Water on a number of occasions as the water seems to come from near their pump station. SW feel that there needs to be more drainage gullies in the road, particularly near the top of the road. The CC feels that there needs to be a professional inspection to the situation. The Secretary will write to SW, P&KC Roads, the local landowner and A & J Stephens who are about to build new houses on the hillside.

Paths Matters: The response to the Core Path Network proposals need to be submitted to P&KC before Christmas. The CC will discuss this at its next meeting.

Road Safety: The CC is still awaiting the surfacing works to be carried out at Auchmuir bridge and Wester Balgedie. P&KC Roads have not responded on the matter of high friction surfacing at the Howgait, Scotlandwell.

Planning Matters

08/01984/OUT Partial demolition, conversion and new build to form a residential development (in outline), East Brackley House Kinross: The CC will object to this application as it contravenes a number of policies in the Kinross Area Local Plan.

08/01739/FUL Installation of a solid fuel stove and flue 10 Bankfoot Park Scotlandwell: No comment.

Kilmagad: One of the residents at Kilmagadwood proposed thanks to all the 105 people who had written objecting to the recent application for three new houses at Kilmagadwood, which had recently been refused by P&KC Development Control Committee.

Other Matters

Post Office: The Chairwoman asked anyone who had any complaints about the service being provided by the new Post Office Van to let her know. Also the new Post Box has not been installed and the present one on the shop wall will not cope with the amount of mail anticipated at Christmas time.

Hedge: The hedge running alongside the road between Easter Balgedie and Kinnesswood is hanging over the footway and needs cutting back. The Secretary will contact P&KC Roads.

The next meeting of Portmoak CC will be on Tuesday 9 December at 7.30pm in the Portmoak Primary School.

Contributors

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Use one side of the paper only

Fossoway and District CC News from the November Meeting

In attendance at the meeting held on 4 November in Cambo Village Hall were: A Morrison, A Lavery, I Farquhar, H Johnson, H Wallace and P&K Cllr M Barnacle and 13 members of the public. Apologies were received from Trudy Duffy-Wigman.

There were no declarations of interest.

Election: There will be an election on **Saturday 7 February 2009** for CC members. Welcome to anyone who may be interested to come forward. Would like if possible to have representation for Blairingone.

Convention: There is an invitation to the Convention of P&K CCs. We will be re-affirming the position re steading development and the CC is happy to hear any other views which people would like raised.

Signs: The "slowing down" signs do not appear to be operating properly. Cllr Barnacle agreed that something needed to be done about this and undertook to take this forward.

Hotel: It was noted again that there does not appear to have been anything done in relation to the security of the Gartwhinzean Hotel.

A977 petition: There are now more than 1000 signatures. Cllr Barnacle stated his view is that there should be representations made re measures on the A977 in advance of the opening of the Kincardine Bridge.

Perth and Kinross Councillors reports

CC Funding: Cllr Barnacle confirmed that he had sent an e-mail in support of the letter by the Chairman.

Sewerage system: There have been representations re the sewerage system at Drum. Two households have experienced flooding.

Draft Core Paths: Members of the public expressed their serious concerns that the proposed paths run through business premises including areas with livestock which is considered a very serious risk and, it was alleged, cost implications in terms of increases in insurance premiums etc. It was felt that alternatives had not been given due consideration and that representations to date had been largely ignored. Cllr Barnacle agreed to take the matter forward. Cllr Barnacle stated that if a route is not altered then the matter will go to public enquiry, but it was accepted that it is better to resolve matters sooner rather than later. A Morrison agreed that alternatives should be considered, especially where proposed routing is through farm steadings and the curtilage of farms.

Monarch Deer Farm: Cllr Barnacle advised that there had been further correspondence in relation to this. We await the findings of the Reporter. It is felt that if permission is granted, that this will call into question the long-term development strategy.

Kinross-shire Forum: meeting due on 10 November. Growth projections will be on the agenda. Cllr Barnacle indicated that he is pleased that there is to be a review of **Housing in the Countryside policy**, and has made suggestions but feels there is not likely to be any real tightening in relation to the policy.

A Morrison confirmed that representations had been made in relation to Developers Contributions including the point that rural areas should be considered differently from more urban areas; also that there should be ring fencing of funds.

Planning Matters

It was confirmed that the CC in making its recommendations had not to date taken into account objections posted on the P&KC website (these comments were made in respect of one application: 08/02017/OUT refers).

A member of the public expressed concern that there had been felling of a copse area without permission. There was an opposing view as to whether the area in question at Drum could be properly termed a "copse". Cllr Barnacle stated that none of this had been intimated to him and the point was stressed that the CC should be copied into objections by those making the objections; information often comes to the attention of the CC too late to allow it to make any meaningful representations or comments. It would be helpful to be informed of any views expressed for or against planning matters. Ian Farquhar confirmed that taking into account the comments made at the meeting, the recommendation remained the same.

Applications

08/01833/OUT Residential development (in outline) adjacent to The Meadows, Vicars Bridge Road, Blairingone for Fred Saunders. This application is for the erection of 2 dwelling houses. Conclusion: recommend refusal. Note that premature applications to develop land under an unapproved Development Strategy is to be discouraged in the interest of controlling development in sensitive rural areas until there has been full consideration of the implications of such development within the context of the affected settlement.

08/01867/FUL Alterations and extension to dwelling house, Cairnwell, Drum for Mr & Mrs A Abel. Conclusion:

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recommend approval.

08/01892/FUL Erection of aerial runway and high ropes courses at the Scripture Union, Lendrick Muir, Rumbling Bridge for the Scripture Union. Conclusion: recommend approval subject to a noise assessment study to ensure that in the long term both the present and any future occupancy of the Coach House would not be adversely affected by noise.

08/01893/FUL Erection of garage and garden room at Dunisla, Crook of Devon for S Shand. This application is for the erection of two single storey independent structures comprising a garden room facing the Mill Lade and a garage with carport and storage space on the north side of the driveway. Conclusion: recommend approval of the garden room and garage/carport proposals only and a re-appraisal of the pavings proposals to minimise any contribution to flood risk.

08/01919/MOD Modification of existing consent (06/01875/FUL) Change of house type and erection of garage/car port, Westernmuirhead Farm, Solsgirth for Mr & Mrs Read. Conclusion: recommend approval.

08/02017/OUT Erection of a dwelling house (in outline) site north of Craighead Lodge, Drum for Hamilton Graham. This application is for the development of a new house in a rural setting within a scattered group of 5 or 6 dwellings. Conclusion: recommend deferral on the grounds that while a case for development may be argued, the Council does not have the benefit of an Advisory Plan at this time and granting permission in advance of the approval of the Long Term Development Strategy proposals may precipitate

development at the Craighead building group. The Deferral status to remain until an Advisory Plan or other Development Plan is available.

Other Business

The sewerage system seemed to be working well at the beginning of the year but there is a letter from Gordon Brown indicating that there have been problems recently during periods of heavy rain. It appears that a number of chambers have still to be sealed. Anyone experiencing problems should get in touch with Scottish Water and should copy in the CC to correspondence.

Signs: The CC was asked to look into the continuing problem of the relocation of the village sign at Powmill; the sign has not yet been moved. There was some discussion about road signs generally, with particular reference to unauthorised signs and notices, and how these can present a distraction or be unsightly if there are too many. Cllr Barnacle confirmed that P&KC can require removal of signs. If signs are on the roadside the Roads Dept has responsibility for dealing with them.

Shelter: A member of the public raised the question as to whether a shelter could be provided for children who are picked up in Powmill at the foot of Gartwhinzean Loan as they are often soaked in poor weather.

Phone box: There was a question as to whether the phone box in Crook of Devon was likely to be removed. There is a sign in the kiosk indicating that this will be the case.

The next meeting of Fossoway & District CC will take place on Tuesday 2 December at Fossoway Primary School.

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Cleish & Blairadam CC

News from the October Meeting

The Community Council, having had to postpone their advertised meeting, met on Tuesday 11 November in Cleish Village Hall and was attended by all six CCllrs, P&K Cllr Mike Barnacle and 1 member of the public (is this a record?). The Cleish & Blairadam Newsletter Editor was also in attendance. Apologies were received from P&K Cllr Kathleen Baird

Crime Prevention: Unfortunately no member of the Tayside Police was able to attend. There had been a break-in at Strathardle, Cockairney Feus, and a substantial amount of property stolen. There was speculation that a car had been parked in the Cleish Church car park and the burglars had then walked down the Millennium walk and over the burn. Whether or not this turns out to be the case, it emphasises the necessity of being watchful and to note anything which might arouse our suspicions, for example strange cars parked at unusual times of day. Most importantly, descriptions of cars and their registration numbers should be noted and reports to the police made immediately. Telephone number - 0845 6005705 for non emergency calls.

All members of the public are asked to lock all shed and barn doors, to remove ignition keys from cars when parked and to be mindful that not only garden and farm machinery are targets but all scrap metal. Please also be wary of suspicious telephone calls and of giving any information as to when the householder might not be at home. Such a lot of warnings but this will help the Police to do their essential work more efficiently.

It was reported that activity on the hill road has begun again - again report any suspicious vehicles.

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Tracks and Trails: Plans of the Draft Core Path Network are available for inspection in Kinross along with forms inviting response from all members of the public; these should be returned by 31 December. Cllr Barnacle said that John Stevenson had experienced difficulty in making contact with Dave Stubbs in spite of many efforts and his comments had not been taken up which was very disappointing. The CC will study the map before their next meeting; it was emphasised that what had been left out, ie. any connecting path between Cleish and Fossoway, is almost as important as what had been included.



Information megaliths at the start of the Heritage Trail

Heritage Trail: There had been a great opening which had been attended by a large crowd. The Chairman expressed the thanks of the CC to everyone involved in every way, and a letter of thanks will be sent to Cllr Robertson with a copy to Neil Kilpatrick. This will be a wonderful facility for Kinross-shire and will be enjoyed by people of all ages and tastes.

Community Council Training: There are to be courses for Planning for People - one at Bimam Institute on 22 November and one at Auchterarder on 24 January. It was agreed that two members of the CC would attend the latter.

Planning - Procedural Changes: The Chairman with Trish Kitchen and Sandy Morton from Cleish and Blairadam CC had attended a meeting of the Kinross-shire Forum on 10 November. This had been extremely long but it was thought quite positive. It had been pointed out that the lines of communication between the Council and CCs are not good and the fact that letters of objection from CCs did not count in the total submitted seemed to surprise the Cllrs who had not appreciated this point. The Planners seemed to be in favour of one Development Plan for Perth and Kinross, and Cllr Mike Barnacle said it was important that Kinross-shire should retain their own plan. Cllr Barnacle was very sceptical about the projection as to population growth and said there was no infrastructure plan to back up these projections.

As regards the future of the Kinross-shire Forum, the CC agreed that this should be formalised with representatives from the six CCs, the elected members, FORK, the Civic Trust and the Kinross Partnership. Other bodies could be asked to attend as and when desired.

The next meeting is on 4 December.

Planning Applications

Greenacres: Cllr Barnacle expressed his willingness to set up a meeting with the residents, the Planners, the Enforcement Officer and representatives from the CC. This would help to clarify the concern that all applications seem

to be approved retrospectively and to find out what future plans might be.

Flockhouse: Erection of 4 houses with garages - this has been approved unanimously despite substantial local representation against this development. The CC again expressed their disquiet as to how this decision had been reached. It is perceived that the Council is not interested in local issues and is ready to ignore representations from local residents. A letter from the CC to this effect is to be sent to all Cllrs.

Woodlands, Nivingston: A new access on to the hill road. There seems to be no need for this and it is also an Area of Greater Landscape Value where it would have a visual impact. The CC to ask for any decision to be deferred until the result of the Nivingston appeal is known.

Pending:

Cleish Mill Farm: these plans have been amended but not significantly. The demolition of the stone built steading is still planned and despite assurances that the original stone will be used there is no sure indication that this is the case.

Despite having been informed that the original letters of objection still stand, it was agreed that there would be no harm in the CC writing again. They would also question the size of the application area.

The following applications are still pending: Gairneybridge Caravan Site, Cleish Mains Steading, Chance Inn Farm, Dunvegan, Birchwood Cottage.

Approval has been given for Mill Hill Blairforge (4 stables and tackroom), Lochran Farm (2 houses), Plot A, Keltybridge.

Roads

Flooding at Beaufort Cottage: The road had been resurfaced, raising the level, and the kerb was therefore lower as it had received no attention. Water was flowing down the hill from Templeton, no doubt due to the felling of trees. The road itself was also subject to flooding, and this would have serious results should there be freezing conditions. There had already been three traffic accidents, including one Police Car, all the result of cars aquaplaning.

Middleton Bridge: It had been noted that there were tyre tracks near to the parapet.

Junction of B9097 and North Road: There had been a complaint from the driver of a tractor that the signage was not visible from such a high vehicle.

Road between Middleton Park and Blairadam House: It had been noted that there had been some vandalism with young saplings having been pulled up - these are expensive to replace and any help in preventing this damage would be welcome. There has also been damage to the woodland area - please help to preserve this valuable asset. The ditch to the south of Blairadam is blocked by fallen trees.

A977 and B9097: Improvements to the former were proposed and a letter had been received asking for the CC's view on the re-trunking of this road. As nobody knows what "re-trunking" means no response is possible until this word can be explained. Cllr Barnacle has asked for a survey of HGLVs using these roads.

Forestry Commission: Victoria Crick had intimated that she would like to attend a CC Meeting. Agreed that she should be invited.

Cleish and Blairadam Newsletter: It was agreed that future copies should be sent to the A K Bell Library in Perth.

The next meeting of Cleish & Blairadam CC will take place on Monday 8 December at Tabernacle Hall.

Website: www.cleish.org



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Club & Community Group News

Common Grounds



Greetings from Common Grounds as we complete yet another very successful year. By the time you read this we will have held our AGM and our Management Committee for 2008/2009 will be in place; do please support them in any way you can.

For the first time, in order to keep our fire burning (as we were running out of logs), a supply has been bought in. Please, any one with even just a few tree branches or logs to spare, do get in touch with us.

Over the past several months our financial position is much improved. Now we can send even more help to projects in Africa, and long may this continue. Very many thanks to all our members who made this possible.

Any person out there who could fill our vacancy for a treasurer, please contact us. If you are interested or know someone who may be interested, please contact James (01577 864452) or Linda (01577 865045).

Very soon we shall be starting our **Christmas raffle**, with lots of nice prizes including a Fairtrade Hamper. The draw will take place on the afternoon of **Saturday 20 December**.

The purchase of units on wheels for displaying Fairtrade goods etc are proving a great boon, as is the new shelving in the storage area. Again, very many thanks to all involved.

On behalf of Common Grounds the Season's Greetings to one and all.

Projects/Events

- To mark the end of The International Year of Sanitation 2008, we supported Water Aid's project to spread the word about the global sanitation crisis. There are 2.5 billion people in the world that do not even have a toilet.
- We have some new jewellery made by the children of the Balcraig orphanage in Kibera - the largest slum in Kenya. In conjunction with Milnathort Primary School we are holding a **Project Lunch** at 12.30pm on **Tuesday 2 December** in the Guide and Scout Hall, Milnathort. Bruce Stewart from Tradecraft will let us know about their work. Please do come along and support the children. They are trying to become more involved in their own community and also to learn about other communities around the world, especially in Kenya.
- At the project lunch on Tuesday 2 December you can enjoy homemade soup and bread/cakes and coffee.

Fairtrade: Come and see our selection of Fairtrade goods, second hand books, locally crafted cards for all occasions and have a cup of something warm and enjoy some of our homemade baking.

Book Club: At the moment we have a full membership but please feel free to phone Marlene Whyte on 01592 840371 to put your name on the waiting list.

Common Grounds is a wonderful opportunity to Volunteer, and if anyone has a couple of free hours a week we would love to hear from you. We are open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 10am to 3pm in the Guide and Scout Hall, Milnathort. Please drop in for a chat or telephone one of the contacts below.

Contacts outside of opening hours are: James Henry (Convener) 01577 864452, Linda Freeman (Secretary) 01577 865045 and Pat Payne (Project Co-ordinator) 01577 862715.

Caption Competition



What do you think they are saying?

Either bring in your idea to Common Grounds at the Guide and Scout Hall, Church Street, Milnathort or send your ideas to The Secretary, Common Grounds, 64 Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8AU by **31 January 2009**, in not more than 25 words.

Prizes: 2 x £10 Vouchers to be spent in Common Grounds.

We will need your Name and Contact telephone number. Names of winners will be published in a later edition of the Newsletter.

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Kinross and District Art Club



At this time of year our thoughts turn to what we have done over the past 12 months and the celebrations we enjoy at the end of the month. We will be doing this on **6 December** when we will be holding our **Annual General Meeting** at 2pm in the Millbridge Hall.

This year we will be reflecting on the very successful Annual Art Exhibition we held in September and celebrating the complimentary expressions from the many visitors of the high standard of the 138 paintings on display. Many members were also personally very happy that of the 38 paintings sold these included one or more of theirs, that they had enjoyed painting during the Spring and Winter club meetings or at one of our four 'outdoor' Summer excursions to local places of interest like Aldie Castle.

At the AGM we will be discussing changes that we can make to encourage new members to take up painting for the first time, or who have done some and would like to be inspired to put brush and paint to paper again in friendly company. This is an open invitation to anyone of any age to join us at 2pm on Tuesdays in the Millbridge Hall for two hours - with a tea break of course.

If you would like to create a masterpiece that your friends or family never knew you had in you, or just make a start on a new absorbing hobby, come and join us by phoning 01577 863361, talking to any member or simply turning up at the Millbridge Hall. You will be very welcome.

Light Up Kinross

**Christmas light switch on,
Monday 1 December**

The procession will leave from the Church Centre at 6.45pm and will parade up the High Street to the County Buildings with the switch on at 7pm. Representatives from Big Day Out (T in the Park) have been invited to switch on the Christmas lights. There will also be a short Fireworks display. A collection for **Light Up Kinross** will be held on the evening. Please give generously, all contributions help towards providing a better display for the town.

The Committee has been awarded a substantial grant from the Kinross-shire Fund to purchase new lights. However, this funding has only recently been received, and rather than rush into any decision at this time, it has been decided not to proceed until early 2009. We appreciate that this news is disappointing but are working towards creating a better and improved display next year.

We are grateful to the businesses/traders in the town for their continued support, without which we would be unable to cover the costs of erecting the lights each year. As mentioned above, collection boxes will be circulated on the evening and throughout the year are displayed in a number of shops in the town. Any contributions are appreciated. Our fund-raising members have also organised a **DISCO** to be held in the Windlestrae Hotel on **Friday 5 December**. Tickets may still be available, at £5 each; please contact Julie Lowe on 07813 684563 or Angela Hendry on 07719 892331.



Kinross-shire

Plastic Bag Free Campaign



Kinross-shire Plastic Bag Free Campaign is underway to join the global movement which recognises the harm which disposable plastic bags can have on wildlife and the environment.

A recent poster competition for Kinross-shire primary school children received 80 entries and was won by Lewis Houston of Fossoway Primary School. He will be presented with a prize at RSPB Vane Farm on 20 December. Also highly commended were the entries by Hannah Aird, Murray Houston and Pamela Shah, all of Fossoway school. The winning entry will appear on the front cover of the January/February 2009 Newsletter.

All the entries will be on display at Vane Farm during the week beginning 15 December and everyone is most welcome to go and view them.

There will also be a talk about the campaign at Vane Farm on **Thursday 18 December**, 7.30pm.

Kinross & Ochil Walking Group

(affiliated to The Ramblers' Association, Scotland)

Whether you're new to walking, returning to walking or a regular walker, take advantage of our winter programme to try out a walk with us before joining the Ramblers' Association. Walks are led by volunteer leaders from the group members. For December and January we have three walks in different parts of our regular walking area. The first is between Christmas and New Year – a great chance to blow away the cobwebs and walk off some of that Christmas pudding!

Sunday 28 December: Around the Lochs in the Lomond Hills – 6.5 miles. Starting from Holl Reservoir, walk towards Glenvale, then return along Ballo reservoir, with wonderful views. Children welcome if fit. No dogs. Meet at Holl Reservoir car park at 10am. (This K&O Group walk forms part of The Ramblers' Festival of Winter Walks.)

Saturday 10 January: The Three Towers; Sauchie, Alloa and Clackmannan – 9 miles. A low level walk taking in 3 historic towers and a small section of Gartmorn dam. Some road walking (limited) but with wonderful views of the Ochils to compensate. Short incline to Clackmannan Tower. Children welcome if fit. Dogs on leads welcome. Meet at Sauchie Equestrian Centre at 10am.

Sunday 25 January: Leavin' Leven – 8 miles. A gentle walk taking in the beach and some minor roads. Not suitable for children. Dogs on leads welcome. Meet at the car park along from the caravan site at 10am.

Particularly at this time of year, all of these walks require appropriate clothing and equipment including boots and waterproofs. Walks are of up to 4.5 hours duration and a packed lunch/warm drink should be brought.

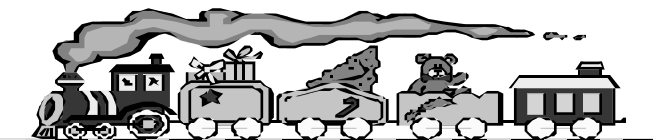
For further information on walking with the group, or joining the Ramblers' Association, see our group website, www.koramblers.org.uk or the Ramblers' website www.ramblers.org.uk

Subscriptions to the Newsletter

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

For further details see www.kinrossnewsletter.org or phone Ann Harley on 01577 864512 or email

subscriptions@kinrossnewsletter.org



Fossoway Church Christmas Tree Festival, Crook of Devon

Thursday 11 December 10am - 8pm

Friday 12 December 10am - 6pm

Saturday 13 December 10am - 5pm

Tickets £3 including refreshments (Children Free)

Saturday 13 December, Brighton Praise Singers 7 - 9pm

Christmas Concert

Tickets £5 including Mulled Wine and Christmas Pies



Twinkle twinkle little star, how I wonder where you are!

There will be thirty one twinkling, beautifully decorated Christmas Trees on display at Fossoway Church Christmas Tree Festival. The trees have been sponsored by local groups, families, friends and local businesses depicting what they do. Why not come along and choose the winning tree – it is your vote that counts.

On Thursday 11 December, Santa will be at the church all day to meet the children and receive that very important letter!! We are also hosting a poster painting competition for all Fossoway Primary School Children. The design of the poster should contain a Christmas tree and the winning posters will be on display throughout the Festival. There will be a first and second prize for each age group from four/five to twelve years.

On Friday 12 December in addition to being open all day, we are having a special Christmas Soup and Sandwich Lunch costing £3 from 12.00pm to 2.00pm.

On Saturday 13 December at 7.00pm we are fortunately to have once again the Brighton Praise Singers who are giving a special Christmas Concert. Christmas Pies and Mulled Wine will be served at the end of the evening (Tickets £5). There will be musical interludes throughout the Christmas Tree Festival.

Anyone interested in finding out more about the Festival or requiring tickets should contact Jan King, 01577 840524 or Betty Stirling 01577 840312.

Inner Wheel Club of Kinross & District



Following the October meeting on the 13th, Alison, our President, welcomed Rotary President Malcolm Mapp who gave us a preview of known Rotary events for the year and then gave a very interesting talk on his schooldays at Dulwich College.

At our November meeting, Allan Hill, Director of Food and Beverages at the Gleneagles Hotel, came with his head pastry chef Neil. First, a very informative talk on the history and cost of running the hotel was given before Neil demonstrated the art of decorating cakes and gave an insight into what his job entailed. The successful evening concluded with a vote of thanks from Jessie Mitchell.

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Probus Club



Mr Hank John is a speaker who is much in demand. When he spoke to the Probus Club on 5 November, he had already spoken to two other clubs, the Lady Probus Club at Kirkcaldy in the morning, and the Rotary at Cowdenbeath at lunch time. It is not surprising that he is such a popular speaker for he gave the members a humorous and informative account of his life. He was born on the West Indian island of Aruba in 1951, but when Frank was five, he and his parents moved from Aruba to the Caribbean island of St Vincent.

Hank came to Britain in 1969 to join the Royal Navy, and rose to become a Chief Petty Officer in the service. In 1978 there was an opportunity for Hank to serve on the atomic-powered submarine, Renown, being fitted out at the Rosyth dockyard. So Hank and his family moved to Dalgety Bay. Hank left the Royal Navy in 1983 and started up his own travel business, Caledonia Travel, in Inverkeithing. As well as being a prominent businessman in Fife, he has been much involved in the life of the community. He is a member of a number of organizations, such as Rotary and the Gideons. He is also President of the local Pipe Band and has been asked to be Chieftain of the Inverkeithing Highland Games. For some time he has been a "Justice of the Peace" and often sits on the Magistrates bench. He feels this is an awesome responsibility. But Hank has not forgotten his roots in the West Indies and he and his wife support a Bible camp set up in the Caribbean for teenagers. On behalf of the club, Harry McLennan thanked Hank for his lively and amusing talk.

The Probus Club is holding its Christmas lunch on Wednesday 10 December.

Swansacre Playgroup



Swansacre Playgroup is delighted to announce the arrival of a very special visitor!! It seems that when Santa Claus flew over Swansacre Playgroup premises last year he could not believe the state of disrepair that the roof was in, and, as the children at Swansacre have always been close to his heart, he has asked us if he could sponsor an event to help us raise the £5000+ required to fix the roof!!

With a sprinkling of magic dust on the toy shed in the garden and a collection of his best elves, Swansacre Playgroup will be turned into a magical wonderland! For just £5 children can enjoy a refreshment, a visit to Santa, a craft activity, play on a bouncy castle and a small gift. In addition to this there will be mulled wine, tray bakes, teas, coffees, tombola and tattoos to purchase - something to keep everyone happy. It'll beat standing in a queue in a shopping centre.

The festivities will take place on **Saturday 6 December**, 10am - 12 noon and 1pm - 3pm. Time slots must be booked in advance by phoning the playgroup (862071).

Tickets are £5 each with a £1 reduction for subsequent children in one family. Look forward to seeing you there.



Portmoak Film Society

Epic Treat In Store For Christmas

November's showing of "The Assassination of Jesse James" starring Brad Pitt as the eponymous bandit and Casey Affleck as his creepy killer (both brilliant in their roles) divided the audience's opinions like no other film previously shown. Of the roughly 40 people present, only half gave it a 'good' rating on the marble count. Perhaps some film-goers were expecting a Western-style film, but this was nothing like it. I had seen it before, so knew what to expect and actually I enjoyed it even more the second time round.

It is a slow-moving, beautifully filmed drama with a menacing undercurrent played out on panoramic Missouri landscapes. Without wanting to sound pretentious, it feels more arthouse than Hollywood. Not everyone saw it that way though; after the intermission there were definitely fewer people in the hall, and one audience member suggested going round to his house as he had just painted a wall which we might want to watch! Well, you know what they say: you can't please all the people all the time!

For our December film, everyone should know what to expect and no apologies here for the length of this epic: Peter O'Toole and Omar Sharif (swoon...) in "Lawrence of Arabia". I'm sure no preview is needed, so come prepared for a fabulous long night. **PLEASE NOTE:** This film will start at 7pm because of the length and there will be an interval! So make sure you mark **Saturday 13 December** in your diary - and **10 January** too, as the Newsletter covers both months this time. We will be showing the 2006 film "Black Book" directed by Paul Verhoeven about a young Jewish woman in the Netherlands who becomes a spy for the resistance during World War II. This film will start at the normal time of 7.30pm.

For more information about our 2008/09 programme, visit our website at www.portmoakfilmsociety.org.uk

Kinross & District Town Twinning Association

Chairperson Jean Paterson welcomed members to the Annual General Meeting of the Town Twinning Association. A cheese and wine evening followed an illustrated talk by Dick Crighton based on his coach driving experiences through Europe. It is the turn of Kinross-shire people to visit Gacé next summer at the end of July and anyone interested should contact secretary David Munro for further details (tel 01577 862126). The October and November 50 club winners were Margaret Dick and Robin Lambie.



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Kinross Boys & Girls Brigade



The Company celebrated 125 years of the Boys' Brigade over the middle weekend of November. It has been a busy time for the Kinross Company, starting on 2 November with the Battalion church parade. As drill medal winners last session, Kinross boys made up the colour party which marched with the 4th Dunfermline band from St John Street along High Street to the North Church. A lively service was conducted by Battalion chaplain Bill Hastings. The following weekend was to have been the local armistice parade but due to weather conditions it was cancelled for only the second time in thirty years. Despite this disappointment Jack Boyter played the last post and Sgt Andrew Hutchison laid the poppy wreath at the war memorial on behalf of the Kinross Company.

A celebration dinner dance was held at the Windlestrae Hotel on Saturday 15 November and around 50 enjoyed a wonderful meal followed by ceilidh dancing.



Former BB Captain Alex Melville (centre) playing the bugle as a boy in the Company

On Sunday 16 November around 100 members and ex-members, along with three former Company Captains: Jim Clark, Bill Daniels and Alex Melville, marched behind the bugle band down the Muirs and along Station Road to the Parish Church for the afternoon enrolment and 125 year celebrations. At the conclusion of the service, members and ex-members marched behind the bugle band for a salute at the war memorial where the three former captains watched the parade pay their due respects to former stalwarts of the Company. The parade dismissed from the High School playground to the Church Centre where there was a large display of memorabilia including original roll books, documents, newspaper reports and hundreds of photographs spread over the last 68 years.

In national competitions the Kinross Company lost out in the first round of the table tennis competition but won convincingly in the first round of the badminton.

In battalion competitions the Company section finished as runners up in the table tennis competition and the junior section mini-volleyball competition was won by the Kinross boys for the first time ever lifting the John Hood trophy in an exciting final against Scone BB.

Deadline for all Articles

2.00 pm, MONDAY 12 January
for publication on Saturday 24 January

Kinross High School

Here is a summary of news from Term 1:



Drama Department: With the addition of a second member of staff, the department has been able to arrange further extra curricular trips across all courses. The Standard Grade drama pupils enjoyed a backstage tour of Perth Theatre in September and an evening trip to see 'Something Wicked This Way Comes'. Higher and Advanced Higher pupils attended a performance of 'Mother Courage' at Dundee Rep and will return to Perth Theatre in November to see Tennessee Williams' 'A Streetcar Named Desire'. There is a new drama Blog which is an excellent tool for the pupils to use for revision, check test dates and more. Anyone can access the Blog at dramakhs.edublogs.org

Advanced Higher Drama has run this session for the first time in Perth & Kinross. The three AH pupils successfully staged a production of plays that they had written and directed at Perth Studio Theatre on 1st October.

Probationer Teachers: KHS welcomed five Probationer teachers this August. Pamela Devine joined the Modern Languages Department, Linda Donaldson to History, Stacey MacNab to Drama, Steven Robertson to CDT and Judith Watson to Home Economics.

Learning Resource Centre (LRC): Mrs White has replaced Mrs Green who retired after almost 20 years service. At the beginning of term, 45 pupils (S2 & S3) visited the Edinburgh International Book Festival with Mrs White, Mrs Rintoul and Mr McIntosh. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the day, especially since it was sunny! And they got a quick glimpse of Sir Sean Connery! The students went to hour-long talks given by authors Julie Bertagna (Future Shock) and Tim Bowler (Dangerous Worlds).

The Books.Fun Club runs every Tuesday lunchtime, with around 15 S1 – S3 pupils attending. Pupils play games, have competitions and of course discuss books and films. Last term, pupils successfully read and voted for their favourite short-listed Carnegie Award book.

Every Friday lunchtime there is a **Board Games Club**; this is still in its infancy, but as the session progresses it is hoped there will be more participation by all years.

From November there will be a new **after-school club** on Monday nights. This will focus on memory skills, study techniques, creative thinking, learning styles etc. There are also plans to run a **Manga Club** next term.

Good news! The LRC has been awarded £8500 from the Awards for All Lottery Fund to buy **new books** for the new **Community Library**. Next term old and damaged book will be removed and gradually replaced with new titles over the coming months.

French Exchange: We played host to 34 pupils from Gacé in September. They enjoyed trips to Stirling and Edinburgh; a nature study visit to Vane Farm; a fact-finding quiz around Kinross, a morning in school including lessons in drama and social dancing; and a ten-pin bowling competition at Dunfermline. A well-attended Ceilidh rounded off the week.

Overseas students: Three sixteen-year-old girls from very different backgrounds have chosen to take on fifth year at KHS to improve their English and experience Scottish Highers. The girls are: Lara Wust from Switzerland, Luisa Manguinho from Recife in Brazil and Hannah Raspe from Dusseldorf, Germany.

Maths Competition: Mr Findlay of KHS was one of the organisers of the Perth & Kinross 'Enterprising Maths Day' which took place in Perth College at the end of September.

Kinross High School

Session 2008/09

Amendment to dates for Parents

Parent-Teacher Evenings	S4 Tuesday 27 January
Parent Information Evenings	S4 Course Choice Evening, Tues 17 March
Christmas Concert	10 December, 7pm start
S4 Work Experience week	18-22 May – Cancelled

Kinross High School

Events & Fundraising Committee

(formerly KHS PTA)

Family quiz night: Parents and pupils (both High School and Primary School age) enjoyed the Quiz Night on Friday 7 November. In between munching seemingly endless supplies of crisps and popcorn, the teams answered questions ranging from 'name the four telly-tubbies' to 'in what year was Mary Queen of Scots imprisoned on the island in Loch Leven?' The committee would like to thank all those who came along to support the event, and congratulations to the team 'Wood Louse' who were the champions and to 'π & Chips', the champions at the 'other end'. We hope to run this event again next year and hope even more people will be able to attend.

Christmas Craft Fair: The Committee is hosting a Christmas Craft Fair on **Saturday 6 December** from 10am until 1pm in the Assembly Hall in Kinross High School. Admission is free. Tea/coffee and delicious home baking will also be on sale in the dining hall. If you require any further details please contact Elaine Carruthers at KHS (01577 866125) or by e-mail:

ecarruthers@kinrosshigh.pkc.sch.uk

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Kinross High School Parent Council

% Kinross High School, 8 High Street, Kinross, KY13 8AW

The Kinross High School Parent Council combines the activities of the old Kinross High School Board and the Parents Teacher Association into a single body. The objectives of the KHSPC are broadly to represent the views of the parents of pupils at the school in the areas of education and welfare. The elected officers for 2008/09 are: Andy Williams (Chair) 01577 861682; Jaffey Weir (Vice Chair) 01577 865780; Denis Sweeney (Treasurer) 01577 861651. The Clerk is Helen Glover. If you wish to raise any issue regarding the KHSPC and parental involvement in the High School please don't hesitate to contact one of the above officers. Alternatively you may write to the Clerk care of the school address noted above.

School Uniform

The question of school uniform is a recurring theme for the KHSPC. After due consultation there is a consensus amongst parents and school staff that the wearing of uniform provides a positive aspect of the school, and is one that reinforces and supports the character of both the individual pupil and the school itself. The choice of type of uniform has been discussed at length and again the consensus is that the iconic purple school blazer remains in favour.

With the pending move to the new high school in the autumn of 2009, the KHSPC has proposed that the senior school, the S5 and S6 pupils, be strongly encouraged as far as is practicable to adopt the wearing of the purple blazer in time for the move to the new campus. It is hoped that the blazer will then in time be progressively adopted by the remainder of the school. The KHSPC hopes that parents will fully support this important move.

There are however recognized problems with the supply, quality and cost of the blazers. Together with the High School, the KHSPC is investigating the supply of an appropriate range of blazers. It is hoped that we will be in a position to recommend suitable suppliers early in the New Year.

KHSPC Website - Active 1 January 2009

A new KHSPC website is currently under construction and it is hoped it will become fully active by 1 January. The website will provide a focus for communication between the KHSPC, the school's parents and the wider local community. It will provide a means for posting KHSPC meeting minutes, correspondence and details of forthcoming KHSPC sponsored and supported events.

Duke of Edinburgh Award –

Volunteer Helpers Needed

The pupils of Kinross High School have long benefited from the school sponsored Duke of Edinburgh Award personal development programme, with dozens of pupils successfully completing the successive Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards each year. The Award programme challenges the individual pupil to volunteer to help in the community; become fitter through structured physical activities; develop new personal skills and talents; and undertake an adventurous expedition. The programme is popular at the school and is usually oversubscribed each year at each level. The limiting factor in the number of pupils allowed onto the programme each year is the availability of adult helpers from outside the school staff, and in particular for helping with the adventurous expedition phases. The KHSPC fully supports the good work of the school's Duke of Edinburgh Award programme and asks that any parent or member of the local community who may be able to help to please contact the Head Teacher, Dick Keatings, at the above school address or via email at:

rkeatings@kinrosshigh.pkc.sch.uk.

Forthcoming KHSPC Events

The next KHSPC meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday 13 January 2009** starting at 7.15pm at the High School. Parents and guardians of pupils attending Kinross High School are most welcome to attend the meeting.

There are two forthcoming events organised by the KHSPC Events and Fundraising Committee:

Saturday 6 December Christmas Craft Fair

High School main hall.

Friday 20 February K Factor Talent Competition

High School main hall.

The Kinross-shire Civic Trust

The Kinross-shire Civic Trust Shield Presentation



The Trust was pleased to welcome members and award winners to the Award ceremony for this competition, held on Thursday 6 November at the Windlestrae Hotel. The presentation was followed by a very informative talk by Chris Stark of the Forestry Commission on Woods for Nature which highlighted the very many ways in which the Commission is able to assist in preserving woodlands in the countryside.

Kinross-shire Forum

The Forum is an amalgamation of all the Kinross-shire Community Councils, the Kinross-shire Civic Trust and FORK. The Forum had a presentation from Roland Bean, Peter Marshall and Nick Brian from the Development Control Department of Perth and Kinross Council. The presentation covered the new Planning Act, the proposed Growth figures which will be included in the new Structure Plans, the re-consideration of the amended Housing in the Countryside Policy and proposed Developer contributions to new developments. All of these will be considered by the

Council in the new year. The presentation prompted considerable response from the Forum and the Forum will meet again at the beginning of December to prepare a vigorous response to the Council.

Next Year's Programme

The Executive Committee will be holding a meeting in November to decide on the programme for the Trust next year. This will be published in the January edition of the Kinross Newsletter.

The objects of the Trust are to stimulate public interest in, and care for, the good appearance of the towns, villages and rural environment of Kinross-shire, to maintain the essential character and identity of Kinross-shire, to encourage high standards of architecture, amenity and planning, to help conserve buildings and monuments of historic interest and to eliminate and prevent ugliness in the form of bad design, neglect and pollution.

If you are interested and care about Kinross-shire, please come along to any of our events. We would be very pleased to see you. The Trust is always looking for people to help in running the Trust.

Contact: Alistair Smith, Chairman 01592 840215.

Milnathort School Association

Last year the MSA raised over £5000 for Milnathort Primary School, and we would like to thank everyone who helped throughout the year.

Our main events last year were our annual Hallowe'en Disco for the children, Christmas Bazaar and Summer Fair. We also held an Auction Night and Summer Ceilidh, both of which were enjoyed by everyone that attended.

A special thank you must go to Mark Koziel and Susan Park who brought £1500 to the school as part of a Matching Funds grant provided by their employers HBOS and RBS.

Also, last year our Depute Head teacher, Nikki Drew, and Susan Park applied for a Supergrounds Award from Susan's employer RBS. They worked very hard putting together a very complicated and time-consuming application. At the start of term we were informed our application had been successful. The hard work has really only just begun, but over the course of this school year, the school will receive £4,000 to improve the school grounds.

Hallowe'en this year was lots of fun. The children once again thoroughly enjoyed the Hallowe'en disco, and a big thank you to everyone who helped make it such a great night making the effort to dress up – you all looked great!

Our annual **Christmas Bazaar** will be held on **Saturday 6 December** in the school hall from 10am until 12 noon. Last year we raised just over £1,000 and this year's event is set to be just as good for children and adults alike. The School Choir will once again delight us with some Christmas songs to open the Bazaar. There will be plenty of shopping opportunities, as well as all the fun stalls and games that the kids love, including Cake and Candy, Tattoos, Face Painting, Bottle stall, Pocket Money stall, Card stalls, Jewellery stalls and many more favourites. Entry is £1 per adult, which includes tea/coffee/juice and a mince pie. **PLEASE COME ALONG AND JOIN THE FUN!**

The MSA is actively promoting a way of raising money for the school at no extra cost to you! Sound good? It is!

Easyfundraising.org.uk

Approximately 90% of all retailers are on the site, and if you do a lot of internet shopping, this is the site for you – and us! You simply go through easyfundraising.co.uk, register your Charity/Organisation as Milnathort School Association, and shop as usual, and the school gets a percentage of what you spend. So far we have raised nearly £100, and that is just from MSA members! Please remember us when doing your Christmas shopping this year – there really is no catch.

If you wish to contact the MSA, please contact Susan Britton on 01577 863385 or susanjbritton@yahoo.co.uk. Thanks for your support.

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Milnathort Primary School Parent Council

A summary of a meeting held on 29 September. Present: Chair: B Barker; Vice-Chair: W Cambers; Council Members: J Walker, R Millar, A Malcolm, G Freeman, M Longstaffe; Headteacher: A Howe; Clerk: S Herron.

Parent Drop In: The children had been very enthusiastic but there was a disappointing turnout of only three parents. It was agreed to advertise differently next time. A good link had been established between the school and Common Grounds for future projects.

Homework Audit: The steering group had met. A questionnaire was being drafted.

Internet Safety: RM suggested a workshop for January. The Community Police would be able to support this event. AH requested that cluster schools are also invited to the event.

Walking Bus: Ongoing and on track.

Participate in Rights Respecting School Award: Staff had received training. Steering groups were up and running.

Parental Involvement Grant: Alice Getley (Growing Ideas) had submitted invoices for items purchased.

Parent Forum on 15 September: BB thanked everyone for their support and attendance. Draft minutes to be displayed in the Community Window.

HT Report can be viewed in the Community Window of Milnathort PS. The only other item raised at the meeting was regarding the industrial action on 24 September. A general concern re Health and Safety in the blanket opening of all P&K schools. Agreed a letter should go to P&KC re this. RM to draft. Copy to Willie Robertson for comment.

New School: Community Risk Workshop – It had been voiced with Dick Keatings about the lack of notice and poor timing of this event (2pm in the afternoon with very little notice). Parents' concerns re the access to the school during the day by members of the public were raised. ML agreed to draft an email to Mr Keatings expressing our concerns regarding all of these issues.

Membership to SPCA: Agreed to renew this.

Membership to Scottish Parent Teacher Council: Agreed not to affiliate to this.

Parental Involvement Strategy Consultation: Individual responses to clerk who would forward to Pullar House.

Parent Council Chair Meeting 17.9.08: (Full notes available on application to the Clerk.) It was noted that the October holidays will be slightly later each year with dates settling in 2011.

Curriculum for Excellence DVD: Agreed to show at next meeting.

Parent Council Self Evaluation Questionnaire: Working group of JW, AM and GF to draft a response, revert to council and submit before deadline of 1.11.08.

Financial Report: Summary £1020.34 in credit of which £388.89 is Parental Involvement Grant.

Meetings for 2008/9: 24 November 2008, 12 January 2009, 9 March, 27 April and 15 June. All to be held on a Monday evening, 7pm at Milnathort Primary School.

A full copy of past, ratified, minutes are available in the school office. If you wish to contact the MPSPC please contact Sheila Herron on 01577 864015 or Sheila_herron@tiscali.co.uk



Kinross & District Rotary Club



This year's Shoe Box Appeal has resulted in just over 400 boxes being filled by the pupils of the local schools. The boxes are now ready to be sent for distribution in Eastern Europe. All the boxes from the Rotary Clubs in the area are being collected in a Perth distribution centre and we are very grateful to David Buchan of Thomas Buchan & Sons, Kinnesswood for kindly offering to deliver the boxes from Kinross & Dunfermline to the centre.

Not all disasters are widely reported. So it has been with the recent hurricanes in Haiti and the Turks & Caicos Islands, the earthquake in Kyrgyzstan and the flooding of the Koshi River in Nepal. However Shelter Box, the disaster relief charity supported by Rotary International and the local Kinross Club, has responded to all these events. The boxes containing ten man tents, tools, cooking equipment and water purification systems were quickly on the scene to provide much needed initial support.

Rotarian Jim Paterson took us on a trip down memory lane at the meeting on 20 October when he recalled his memories from the 1940's and 50's of life in Kinross and Milnathort. Starting with a walk from his farm at Gallowhill to downtown Kinross he told of the many changes that had taken place over the years. The most memorable were the arrival of electricity, the growth of housing, the decline of local suppliers and the closure of the railway and markets.

An unusually high rainfall on 1 April 1967 in Aden caused the local landscape to change colour and provided a lasting memory for the Rev Jon Magee who has named his first book "Barren Rocks to Living Stones" after the event. Rev Magee, speaking at the Rotary Club meeting on 10 November, related his experiences whilst living in Aden as a teenager and the effect they had on his later life. He recalled that writing the book during a period of ill health had given him the opportunity to record and reflect on his religious beliefs and his perception of life in general.

After the meeting the Rotarians joined up with the members of Inner Wheel and listened to an interesting talk on the history of Gleneagles Hotel given by Alan Hill, their Director of Food and Beverages. Following the talk, chef Neil Mugg demonstrated his skills in decorating cakes which no doubt many of those present will try to emulate over the next few weeks.

CHAS Shops News

Christmas Party Wear at Bazaar 1

Have you any Christmas outfits or party wear in your wardrobe that you will never wear? Why not donate your tired party wear and pick up a fresh Christmas outfit for just a few pounds at the CHAS charity shop in Kinross?

Sunday Opening in the CHAS Gift Shop

Visit the Gift Shop for Christmas shopping with refreshments on **Sundays 7 and 14 December** from 12 noon until 4pm.

Volunteering

Join our CHAS volunteering teams this Christmas season in mail order, the Bazaar charity shops and the Gift Shop. Please contact Frances Todd on 01577 865557 for more details.



Children's Hospice Association Scotland
Sharing the Gift

Kinross-shire Round Table



In all honesty November got off to a bit of a bad start. We had planned our second Toddlethon in aid of Children in Need in Kirkgate Park on Sunday 2 November. We had contacted all the schools and playgroups we could think of, put posters up in town and had the date in two editions of the Newsletter diary page. Last year we raised over £700 on a rather drab afternoon so we had high hopes as the day dawned bright, the new Scout tent was assembled, balloons were inflated, Pudsey himself turned up and nothing. Not a single toddler turned up apart, that is, from one group who wanted to blag free balloons for the bairn but didn't want to give anything to charity.

We would love to hear from anyone as to why no-one wanted to Toddle. Was the weather too good? Was it the wrong day/time of day/too far in advance of Children in Need night? Did any of the schools/nurseries/playgroups actually pass on the information? Did anyone see the posters/entries in the Newsletter? We seriously do need feedback so that we can decide whether to run the event next year and understand what we can do to improve attendance. You can contact us via the website or drop us a line care of The Green Hotel.

Toddle apart, November has had its up side. We held a convivial evening in the Kirkstyle Inn at Dunning in the company of Tablers from Crieff and Perth Strathearn and then took on even more Tablers from the whole of Strath Tay and Fife go-karting at Knockhill. The stewards' enquiries may ongoing for some time!

Also in November planning and preparation reached a frenetic pace for the **Santa Collection**, which supports good causes in Kinross-shire. We will be bringing Santa in his sleigh out on the following nights in December to:

- Monday 8th - Portmoak, Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell
- Tuesday 9th - Keltie
- Wednesday 10th - Milnathort
- Thursday 11th - Kinross South
- Friday 12th - Fossoway, Crook of Devon
- Saturday 13th - well earned rest day!
- Sunday 14th - Kinross North
- Monday 15th - Ballingry

The sleigh will also be putting in an appearance at Light Up Kinross and Tablers will be assisting at the event. Anyone not sure what Table is about but interested in helping at the above events as an introduction to Tabling in action is more than welcome. We will be meeting to recover somewhere quiet, and without too many carols, on the 23rd.

If any of the above sounds like the sort of thing you would like to become involved in, then give us a call. Round Table is an organisation for young men of 18-45 and has a sister organisation in Ladies Circle for young women. It is all about having fun and putting something back into the community at the same time.

Our full programme and details of events are available on www.kinross-shire.org and you can e-mail us on Table@macpherson.plus.com or call on 864713.

Contributors – please send your item well before the deadline if you can

Summer's End Market

Kinross Local Events Organisation

A last minute change of venue to Kinross High School didn't seem to hamper the turn out for a market on 25 October organised by the newly formed Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation (KLEO). Many thanks to Dick Keatings, P&KC School Lets Staff and Kinross High janitorial staff for averting the failure of the event predicted by weather conditions. Thanks also to those who had done so much preparation for Market Park and the volunteers poised to make that location happen.

The bright and interesting stalls positioned in the two halls of Kinross High were teeming with people for much of the 3-hour event. Organisers and stall holders would like to thank the public for their support as around 1000 appeared in appalling weather conditions.

Kid's activities provided by Swansacre Playgroup are always terrific and there were quite a few Halloween guises providing entertainment. Thanks to the many volunteers who manned stalls, doors, car parks and bars through the day. Thanks also to our entertainers from Kinross High: Chamber Group, Nick Lauener, Ruaridh plus one and also Handle with Care, who cheered the scene with some tunes.

The Ceilidh relocated to Milnathort Town Hall and a fun time was had by a wide age range. Thanks to Angus Wilson for last minute help.

This was a first effort for the KLEO committee and thanks are due to them for a great effort and quick relocation manoeuvres. KLEO spirits also appear undampened despite things not going to plan and are keen to hear your views on this event and possible future events. Please see www.kleo.org.uk email susan@kleo.org.uk. We would also like you to contact us if we have inconvenienced you in any way through our activities. We cannot make plan alternatives if we are in the dark!

Kinross-shire Historical Society



On Monday 17 November, there was a good turnout of members and visitors for a very interesting talk entitled 'Shipwrecks and Protected Wrecks in the Forth' by Ian Archibald of Burntisland Heritage Trust. He explained the long history of the Firth of Forth as an international waterway and showed illustrations of some early maps. There are hundreds of wrecks in the waters between the Montrose Basin and St Abbs Head, many in the Forth. Wrecks occur due to bad weather, human error and warfare. During World War II some ships were mined in the Forth and are now war graves. A cluster of wrecks around the Isle of May are the result of a series of errors involving two flotillas of naval ships and submarines during World War I. One hundred men died and are now commemorated in Anstruther.

Historic Scotland has a regime for protecting wrecks and permission is required before divers can go down. Ian Archibald explained some of the techniques used on the seabed when divers are exploring a wreck. He spoke of dives he has done looking for the Blessing, a small boat that went down off Burntisland in a storm on 10 July 1633. It was on its way to Charles I's ship the Dreadnought, laden with royal possessions when King Charles was in Burntisland during a royal Progress in Scotland. The talk was much enjoyed and a warm vote of thanks was given by committee member David Walker.

See Notices, p40, for details of the next meeting.

Kinross-shire Volunteer Group And Rural Outreach Scheme



Our fund raising Burns Supper will be held in the Windlestrae Hotel on **Monday 19 January 2009**. This time we will be starting the evening a little earlier, 6.30pm for 7.00pm, to prevent what has sometimes been a late finish. Tickets will be available as usual from mid December – contact Ann Munro, 01577 840196 or Bill Michie, 01592 840602.

This is always a very good night with great company and excellent entertainment, so don't miss it. If anyone would prefer vegetarian haggis, please say when you buy your ticket.

We have received several donations over the past couple of months and would like to thank Kinross Rotary, Lodge St Serf, Cambo Hall Assn, David and Rea Roulston and several clients for their generosity. As I have said before, we very much appreciate this assistance from our local community as it enables us to keep on being of assistance to those local residents who depend on us. Thank you again.

Friends of Kirkgate Park disbands



The AGM was held in September, with all the current committee standing down. No new members made themselves known so the committee agreed to disband the group, and to ensure that the remaining funds are spent as we agreed. The principal funding support has been allocated to assist in the completion of the Watchtower work, which is under the direction of the Perth & Kinross Heritage Trust and P&KC. We will also support a carved oak bench in the Park (the inscription is distilled from the 'writing workshop' carried out at the recent Discovery Day), and the remainder of our funds will be transferred to a group who plan to undertake public events around Kinross, including events in Kirkgate Park.

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Kinross-shire 50 Plus Club



At the November meeting, Jim Noble of the Seagull Trust gave an interesting talk on "sailing for people who are disabled".

Accompanied with slides, he gave an account of the regeneration of the Union Canal, showed the various types of barges used for sailing and, with a group on board one of the barges, took us a cruise along the canal describing the involvement of the Trust and the enjoyment of the group on board. The Trust received The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service 2007, of which they are very proud.

Charity Concert: On **27 February 2009**, The East Fife Male Voice Choir will give a concert in the Parish Church at 7.30pm. Cost £5. In aid of the Peruvian Street Children.

Friday Walks: There is only 1 walk in December, with Boxing Day landing on one of our Fridays.

12 December: Deep Sea World, North Queensferry, through Inverkeithing, to St David's Bay, and back again.

9 January: "The Sair Heid Walk" at Falkland, from the duck pond of Falkland House to the Monument, and back for soup and sandwiches at Warbeck's, in Falkland.

23 January: Our usual winter walk round Kinnoull Hill, Deuchney Hill and Coronation Way.

All the walks start from the Millbridge Car Park at 9.30am.

Hillwalkers: 24 October started wet and windy but, with (blind) confidence in the weather forecast, we set off from Old Blair via the impressive Hercules Gardens on the Atholl Estate to walk the circuit of Glen Banvie and Bruar Falls. By the time we had visited The Whim folly, the drizzle stopped and we were treated to a bright Autumn day, interrupted only by our first snow shower of the season at the top of the Glen. To complete an excellent day, as we returned by the gardens, we were piped back to the car-park to the tune of Bonnie Dundee, played at the fastest tempo ever heard by anyone in our group.

On 7 November, our re-scheduled walk from St Andrews to Crail also started in rain but again dried to a bright, if cold and windy day. Unfortunately the most undulating part of the path between St Andrews and Boar Hills had suffered from the wet weather and the slippery conditions underfoot meant that this walk was not as enjoyable as on previous occasions.

To start the New Year we are planning two local walks:

On **16 January** we will tackle Benarty Hill from Lochore, a distance of about eight miles and a modest 250 feet of ascent.

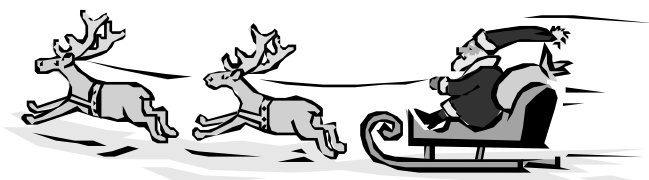
30 January will see us venture up Glen Vale, past John Knox's Pulpit and over Bishop Hill, a walk of about eight miles and some 1200 feet of ascent.

December Meeting: At the meeting on **4 December**, the speaker will be Rhoda Fothergill on "Perth".

Portmoak Hall 100 Club

October Draw

1st	No 60	Margaret Crighton, Scotlandwell
2nd	No 44	Robin Cairncross, Wester Balgedie
3rd	No 76	Margaret Baird, Righead, Ballingry



Lomond Antiques and Collectors Club



An enthusiastic speaker is always a joy to listen to, and they don't come much more enthusiastic than our November speaker, Simon Crutchley from the Edinburgh Royal Botanical Gardens. His topic was "The People and Plants who Have Changed our Gardens". In a stunningly colourful power point presentation, he focused on the plant explorers who travelled to the Himalayas and China. China itself holds about one eighth of the world's plants.

Approximately one hundred and fifty years ago, the first plantmen were French missionaries who sent samples home. Before long many British Botanical Gardens, landowners and nurseries sent experts out to bring back seeds and samples.

Many explorers went out from Scotland, including Euan Cox from Glendoick, George Forest from Falkirk, Augustine Henry from Dundee, Joseph Hooker from Glasgow, George Sheriff from Kirriemuir and Sir George Taylor from Dunbar.

Among the numerous species now familiar in gardens, but brought back by these well travelled heroes, are mecanopsis, clematis, daphne, the Regal Lily, primulae, and of course, rhododendron.

Nowadays, the emphasis is on protection of the flora, forests and mosses in situ. Simon, who has several trips to China under his belt, anticipates another visit soon. We were fortunate to hear about his experiences and those of his predecessors.

Kinross Garden Group



Our November meeting, attended by 60 members and visitors was addressed by Peter Timoney, Head Gardener at Scone Palace who gave a talk on "Growing Orchids Successfully". We were delighted with the display of Orchids he brought with him and impressed with his knowledge and enthusiasm.

Our next meeting is on **Thursday 11 December** in the Millbridge Halls, Kinross at 2pm. We will be delighted to welcome Julia Corden who will give a talk on "The Explorer's Garden at Pitlochry".

Our Festive Lunch takes place on **Thursday 15 January** at the Windlestrae Hotel, Kinross, meeting there at 12.30pm for 1pm. Money to be paid for this at the December meeting.

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Sports News



Kinross Kobras

A Kinross Kobras hockey team won the Perthshire U12 tournament against junior hockey teams from all over Scotland at Auchterarder on Sunday 2 November. The team made up of Adam Sweeney, Alex Noble, Alex Wilson, David McIntyre, Jack Kinloch and Charlotte went through the pool stages undefeated, playing teams from Auchterarder, Dundee Wanderers, Inverness, Western Wildcats and Perthshire. Having topped Pool B they were drawn against the bigger Dundee Wanderers team in the semi-finals and held on in a tight game to win 1 – Nil. The runners up in Pool B also won their semi-final against the bigger Inverness team so the final was between Kinross and Western Wildcats. The score was Nil – Nil at the end of regulation time in a very close and hard fought game so it went into extra time. Just before the end of extra time (and with who knows what looming after that) Alex N. scrambled the ball into the goal to clinch a famous victory. The winning team came home with a cup, and medals all round!



The Kinross Kobras winning team

Throughout the tournament the defence of Jack and Alex Wilson conceded only one or two goals in all matches, David and Charlotte ran the midfield and Alex Noble and Adam played up front. The team scored about 14 goals in total with Alex Noble, Adam and David all on the score sheet. This is the first silverware for the club trophy cabinet and it may be some time before any other Kinross team beats Western Wildcats in a match as they are one of the top clubs in the UK. The Kinross Kobras train on a Thursday night 6.30 – 7.30 at the KGV pitch and is open to all youngsters from P5 upwards.

Community Website

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

Kinross Ladies Hockey Club



The end of October brought with it a busy time for the hockey club, with indoor matches on Tuesdays, training on Wednesday, and matches on both Saturdays and Sundays. In addition Halloween brought with it the annual Pink Night for Kinross Ladies, with all involved toting pink accoutrements in some form or another. In addition to a lot of fun being had, a grand total of £140 was raised for Breast Cancer Research.

Indoor

With no practice at indoor hockey since the close of last season, the first match against Wanderers 1st XI proved to be a rude awakening, with the final score a dizzying 0 - 17. Thankfully the scores progressively improved; in the second round loss to Madras the score was limited to 3 - 6, and most recently the third round brought a win of 6 - 3 over Wanderers 2nd XI.

1st XI

The end of October was disappointing by the 1st IX team's high standards, with losses to Grove 3rds (0 - 1) and Perthshire 1sts (2 - 3) in league matches. The cup match against Watsonians 3rds was a different matter with a strong win of 7 - 0. High scoring remained the name of the day for the following two league matches, both against St Andrews Uni 2nds with wins of 4 - 1 and 13 - 1 respectively. The league match on 15 November was a more closely fought affair against Madras, with a final score of 1 - 1.

2nd IX

The end of October saw the 2nd XI travelling far and wide on away games. A windy Saturday at DISC saw a very closely fought match against Wanderers come to a 0 - 1 loss, with a 1 - 4 loss to Brechin Ladies the following day. Heavier defeats were still to come, against Madras (0 - 6), and the return match against Brechin (1 - 5). In the most recent game against St Andrew's Uni 2nds we were awarded a score of 5 - 0, unfortunately only as the result of our opponents conceding. Nevertheless given that the lopsided scores have not done justice to the spirited play, hopefully this may be the turn of the tide.

Training

Training continues from 6.30 - 8pm on a Wednesday night at the All Weather Pitch at King George V Playing Fields. We are glad to see good numbers of new members coming to training. Anyone not keen to play, but with a yearning to be a hockey umpire is equally welcome to contact the club, as training is available through the club. For contact details see www.kinrossladieshockey.co.uk

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Kinross Cricket Club

Annual Awards Evening

The club annual awards dinner was held on 15 November at the Green Hotel. Chairman, Ken Reilly welcomed the members and our four guests, Sir David Montgomery, Alistair Dowell (our oldest surviving member, aged 88) and his two companions George Hutchison and Jim Cook. The following received awards:

1st XI

Batsman of the Year	Peter Ross
Bowler of the Year	John Ross
Fielder of the Year	Michael Smith

2nd XI

Batsman of the Year	Findlay Watt
Bowler of the Year	Findlay Watt
Fielder of the Year	Pete Smith

1st and 2nd XI Combined

The Richard Oldham Trophy for Best Bowling Performance	John Ross (7 wickets for 20 runs off 6.5 overs)
Best Batting Performance	James Ross (125 Not Out)

Ladies

Batsman of the Year	Hannah Taylor
Bowler of the Year	Christina Farrar
Fielder of the Year	Katie Sculthorp
Best Bowling Performance	Heather Hale (2 wickets for 7 runs in 3 overs)

Best Batting Performance

Fiona Willis (25 not out)

Mid Week League

Batsman of the Year	Stuart Brand
Bowler of the Year	Drew Weir
U-18 Bowler of the Year	Calum Watson
U-18 Batsman of the Year	Drew Weir

The club mid-week league team won the Fi fè and Kinross mid-week league tournament in 2008. Player, Stuart Brand was presented with the trophy in the absence of the successful team captain, Simon Lopez.

Other Awards

The John Stewart Trophy

for services to the club, as selected by the Club Captain, John Muncey

John Ross

Centurion Awards

Embroidered ties were presented to all players who scored centuries this season

James Ross and

Peter Ross

Kinross Cricket Club *Player of the Year*

Peter Ross

as selected by the Club Playing Committee

Club member, Danny Harper gave an appreciation of Club Chairman, Ken Reilly's very substantial contribution to the club over the past 11 years. This was in recognition of his forthcoming retirement as Club Chairman and 2nd XI captain. He was presented with an engraved paperweight as a thank-you from the club.

Keith Watson was presented with a gift for operating the scoreboard every week, often several times a week throughout the season.

Club scorers for the 1st XI, Hannah Lopez and Kirsteen Ross were presented with beautifully engraved pens in recognition of their work scoring throughout the 2008 season.

Mrs Jane McLaren was thanked for organising the dinner. She was presented with a bouquet of flowers by Chairman, Ken Reilly.

Anthony Drew was presented with a bottle of whisky to thank him for the really wonderful job he had done producing the evening's awards presentation and for the superb videos he had made of the activities that have gone on at the club



over the past 12 months. These videos were much enjoyed on the night. It was an outstanding production of the very highest quality.

Junior Club Of The Year

Kinross Cricket Club was very proud to be jointly awarded **Junior Club of The Year** at the 2008 Lloyds TSB Scotland Scottish National Cricket Awards held at a reception in Edinburgh. Kinross Cricket Club and the Huntly Highlanders are the only clubs in Scotland to receive Cricket Scotland's TOPClub Silver award, as part of the governing body's development programme. This involved meeting strict criteria, which included having the appropriate number of Level 2 qualified coaches, opportunities for girls and boys to play, a clear pathway to excellence, a volunteering strategy in place, equity and child protection policies and active schools partnerships with at least four local schools. John Ross, Head Coach of Kinross Cricket Club said "Developing an excellent junior section and identifying a clear development pathway has been crucial to our success winning three junior Scottish Cup titles in only three full seasons of junior cricket at the club. We have taken our junior membership to 140 boys and girls under the age of 16 in a very short period of time and have trained 21 coaches from Intro level to UKCC2. Our newly built ground at Kinross House offers excellent facilities and a safe and fun learning environment for all the children. We have active schools partnerships with all the Kinross-shire Primary Schools and we look forward to strengthening our relationship with Kinross High, especially with the new sports facilities that will be available when the new school building is finished next summer. We offer year round coaching and a dedicated girls and ladies section with qualified female coaches. The future of cricket in Kinross looks very bright for many years to come. Many thanks to the very many people that have helped and encouraged us and full credit goes to our wonderful coaching team and club committee for their drive and determination."



Left to right: John Ross, Kinross Head Coach, Kirsteen Ross, Kinross CC Secretary, presented by Tino Weeraratna of Cricket Scotland.

Christmas Party

The annual fundraising Christmas party is being held on Friday 28 November at the Windlestrae Hotel. See the club website for details. (www.kinrosscc.co.uk)

AGM

The Club AGM is being held on **Thursday 4 December** at the Green Hotel, Kinross. See the club website for details.

Ladies Indoor Winter Coaching

Ladies indoor winter cricket training is being held weekly at Craigclowan Prep School, Perth starting on **8 January** at 7.15pm. A full list of dates can be found on the club website. New members aged 12+ will be very welcome.

Kinross Road Runners



Happy Christmas to all Kinross Road Runners! Keep up the steady running over the festive period and it will be likely that you will have to make one less new year's resolution. This time of year can be very stressful. Running is one of the most effective treatments for stress and is ideal because it's so accessible and above all achievable. The social aspect of running with your local Kinross Road Runners brings support and encouragement to keep taking aerobic exercise.

Kinross Road Runners meet every Wednesday night at 7pm at the Health centre car park but we are hoping to move soon and have a new rendezvous location at the Rugby Club at the KGV playing fields. Training on Wednesday nights is accessible to runners of any level. Just make yourself known that you are new to the club and you are assured of a warm welcome.

Two dates for your diary:

9 January is the Road Runners **Annual Dinner**. We are again holding this at Loch Leven's Larder. Following on from the success of this venue last year we are extending the evening to incorporate prize giving and awards. Please let Val Finlay know if you are going to attend and check your e-mails for further details.

19 January is the Road Runners **AGM**. This will be held at the Rugby club at 7.30pm; coffee and bar available. Come along and have your say as to what you would like your club to undertake in 2009!

Kinross Ladies had success at the Hartley Relays organised by Anster Ladies running club. The venue changes each year and this November the race was held at Shell Bay near Elie. Teams of five ran a mile course twice on a glorious Sunday morning with fine views across the Forth to the distant Pentlands. Last year Kinross ladies were second to Forfar ladies but this year the team of Judith Dobson, Hazel Porter, Christine Myerscough, Patricia Milne and Jane Gibson were victorious. Well done ladies! The men's team faced some very strong and classy opposition and Chris Pratt, Alistair Black, Roy Paterson, Scott Finlay and Peter Edgerton could only manage fourth place. In the Glen Clova half marathon the Kinross ladies Judith Dobson, Patricia Milne and Anne Wilson all ran well to secure third ladies team position.

Busy time for Kinross curler

Local curler John Kenny has had a busy (and much travelled) time since the season began in September. John skipped his team mates Marie O'Kane, Tony Tierney and Gillian Drury to victory in the Irish Mixed Championship, earning the right to represent Ireland in the European mixed Championships in Kitzbuhel, Austria in October. The team finished eleventh, losing out to eventual winners Germany. John did however win the sportsmanship trophy voted for by his fellow competitors.

John is also skip of the Irish men's team this year which won two international bonspiels in November, including The Alps Pitzpokal Cup in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany. Assuming John recovers from a knee injury, he will skip the Irish men's team of Peter Wilson, Neil Fyfe, Bill Gray and John Furey at the European Championships in Omskoldsvik, Sweden later this month.

Position	Name	Time
ABRaS Mina 10k (Dubai)		17 Oct 2008
	Gill Lopez	50:25
Jedburgh Half Marathon		19 Oct 2008
242nd	Linda Palmer	1:49:32
271st	Valery Finlay	1:51:44 PB
311th	Ann Malcolm	1:55:23
Aviemore Half Marathon		19 Oct 2008
43rd	Andrew Johns	1:28:07 PB
128th	Judith Dobson	1:38:12 2nd FSV
322nd	Isabella Carmichael	1:49:46
Scone Palace 10k (Cancer Research)		19 Oct 2008
	Sarah Eaton	1:06:00
Palma Half Marathon - Mallorca		19 Oct 2008
	Chris Pratt	1:43:49
Nightmare (Loch Leven Trail) 10k		29 Oct 2008
<i>(Run with head torches in the dark!)</i>		
12th	Stephen Crawford	40:40
19th	Martin Hill	43:18
54th	Keith Logan	60:22
Templeton Woods (Dundee) 10m		2 Nov 2008
58th	Peter Edgerton	1:08:54
111th	Judith Dobson	1:15:33 2nd FSV
278nd	Sandy MacCalman	1:41:41
Eddies Half Marathon (Fort William)		2 Nov 2008
87th	Isabella Carmichael	1:45:37 1st FSV PB
Dublin Marathon		2 Nov 2008
2448th	Roy Paterson	3:44:28
Glen Clova Half Marathon		8 Nov 2008
37th	Chris Pratt	1:30:22
56th	Roy Patterson	1:33:09
60th	Martin Hill	1:33:53
65th	Patricia Milne	1:34:11 1st FSV
97th	Ronnie Ritchie	1:39:16
99th	Judith Dobson	1:39:37
125th	Calum Stark	1:44:08
165th	Anne Wilson	1:50:08
168th	Gillian Lopez	1:50:40
171st	Jane Gibson	1:51:08
180th	Isabella Carmichael	1:52:45
181st	Geoff Bilton	1:52:45
250th	Anne MacIntyre	1:51:00
252nd	Sandy MacCalman	2:11:22
267th	Joanne Koziel	2:30:27

Kinross Curling School



Kinross Curling School is holding its second **Come and Try on Saturday**

13 December at 12.15pm; it is an open invitation to all, and it is free. If some of your friends or family wish to attend, and you think it is not for you, come along anyway and view the fun from behind the glass, while enjoying a cup of tea or coffee.

To all **Kinross High School** pupils, where are you? We are missing you at the rink!! We are holding a free **Come and Try on Monday 1 December** from 4.30pm to 5.30pm, for all ages – hope to see lots of you there.

The first of our two **Curling Clinics** is to be held on **Tuesday 9 December** at 7pm in the Green Hotel, as it is a classroom session on Tactics and Scenarios. The second one is on **Monday 15 December** at 7.45pm. It is on-ice and the topic will be Handles and Angles. Both cost £12.00.

At the turn of the year, we start off with another **Curling Clinic**, on **Thursday 8 January** at 5.45pm; the subject will be your balance, timing, and the use of stop watches.

On **11, 17 and 18 January**, we are holding another **Beginners Course**, from 11.45am to 2.30pm each day; cost is £50.00 for the course.

Kinross Volleyball Club

In the Perth & District Recreational Volleyball League, Kinross teams have had mixed success in both recreational and premier league matches.

Dunfermline played Kinross Boys and Girls Brigade to open the recreational league fixtures and the youngsters in the Kinross side have a lot of learning to do as the Fifa side had a fairly easy 25-12; 25-16 win.

Kat Thomson's Scotrange II played their opening fixture against local rivals Kinross BGB and what an enthralling match it turned out to be. Young Connor Boyle was in form for Scotrange whilst Nick Lauener performed some heroics for the Kinross side. The first set was finely poised with first Scotrange having set point at 24-23 only for BGB to then have set point at 25-24 before Scotrange sealed the points winning 27-25. The second set was equally as close with Scotrange scraping victory with the last play of the game to win 14-13.

Scotrange II played Mongrels in their second game of the season and the early stages of the set were evenly matched with the score standing at 11 points each. A run of 10 points on the trot saw Mongrels take control to run in a 25-15 first set scoreline. The second set followed a similar pattern with Mongrels scraping ahead in the last few minutes to lead 20-13 at full time.

So with the opening fixtures out of the way last year's champions, Kinross BB have scored maximum points along with See Me and Dunfermline.

In the Premier League, champions Scotrange got off to the worst possible start, losing by two sets to love against Hitting Bricks. Their second game of the season was against local rivals Kintronics and in a close game it was Scotrange who finished on top to secure victory but both teams will have to improve their play over the coming weeks as the season gets underway.

Kinross BB in Mini-Volleyball Triumph

Junior Section boys from Perth Battalion met at Bell's Sports Centre on Tuesday evening to compete for the John Hood Mini-Volleyball Trophy with a total of eight teams taking part in this popular annual competition.

Teams from Perth, Scone, Bankfoot and Kinross played in two sections of four teams with the top two teams in each section progressing to the knock-out cross-over semi-finals. At the end of the competition it was last year's beaten finalists 1st Kinross Company who went one better to lift the trophy for the first time defeating Scone in an exciting final. Mark Cathro, Andrew Beveridge and Adam Sweeney were the boys who were delighted to receive the trophy from Battalion Executive member Ally Melville.

Local Coaching Sessions

More and more local people are coming along to Kinross Volleyball Club's Monday evening coaching sessions with a number of new youngsters both male and female learning the skills involved from 8 - 10pm in the High School games hall.

Images of Kinross-shire

Photographs can be downloaded free of charge from the www.kinross.cc

Photo Library

Subjects include Historic Kinross-shire, Loch Leven, Fauna and Flora, Countryside, Villages, Local Projects and Events.

Kinross Otters ASC



Although you may not have heard from the swimming club for some time, it is alive, well and definitely thriving!

Over the past year the club has gone from strength to strength. We currently have two teams competing in the Midland District with great success. The second team were promoted to the 2nd division last year and, on Saturday 8 November 2008 had the pleasure of not only raising the trophy as winners of the division but are also now in the 1st division for 2009. The first team were to have competed in the 1st division in 2008, but due to reorganization of the Midland district found themselves in the position of being promoted to the Premier division. Coaches and swimmers alike rose to the challenge and came a very creditable 2nd place. However, DCA, who were overall winners, should watch out - we intend to come back stronger than ever in 2009!



Kinross Otters Premier Division Team

Our swimmers also took part in over 20 open meets throughout the year with many individual successes.

As a result of all this hard work, we found ourselves in the position of having to look at the structure of the club and assess if we could make better use of the training time available and ensure that all levels of ability are catered for. Therefore in January 2009 we will be moving to a 4 squad structure instead of our current 6 squads and introducing some alterations to the training times. This allows us to accommodate swimmers on the basis of ability rather than age and will also go a long way to addressing the issue of our current waiting list. So, we look forward to an exciting and challenging year.

Our coaching team is also gaining strength. We now have two level 3 coaches, three level 2 coaches and four at level 1. On the technical side we have two judges, ten timekeepers - two of whom are chief timekeepers - and one recorder. In the New Year we will be running further courses for timekeepers and judges.

In the immediate future we have our own Club Championships. These will take place on **Sunday 30 November & Sunday 7 December** from 4pm - 6pm for Junior Club, and **Monday 1 December** from 6.30pm - 9pm and **Saturday 6 December** from 3pm - 6pm for Senior Club.

For further information on the club please check our notice board which is located in the cafeteria area of Loch Leven Leisure Centre or contact Angela Wilcox on 01577 862976.

Please mention The Newsletter when answering advertisements

Kinross Squash Club

The squash season is well under way and the Kinross Squash Club leagues have seen a lot of activity with some very close competitive matches being played.

Winners of the October leagues were:

Premier	Archie Melville
League 1	Peter Hookham
League 2	Simon Dyson
League 3	John Coleburn
League 4	Rory MacLeod / Alison Greenshields
League 5	Drew McQuillan
League 6	David Sharman

Mike Cheshire has had to take an unexpected lay off from squash. We all wish him a speedy recovery and look forward to the day he makes his return to the courts.

To join the squash leagues please add your name to the results sheet which is pinned on the squash notice board. You will then be included in the next month's listings.

Monthly club nights are usually set for the last Thursday of the month from 7pm till 9ish. Games are handicapped to give all a chance to win. These games can be played as competitively or as relaxed as you wish and provide the opportunity to pit your skill against a better player and perhaps pick up a few playing tips. They are a great way for getting out more and meeting like minded people.

Kinross Squash Club currently do not have a team representing us in the Fiè league. If you have played team squash in the past or are currently playing and are keen to form a Kinross Squash Team to play so as to play squash at a higher level please contact Peter Hookham (telephone number on notice board).

Finally, a happy Christmas to all Kinross Squash Club members. Keep playing over the festive season and have a great New Year.

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Kinross Cycle Club

Kinross Cycling Club, your local sports cycling club, has kept their wheels turning now for over 6 months. We are still keen to attract more members. We hear of so many ex-cyclist and see numerous individuals out pedalling. Why not come and join us? So take a deep breath and meet up at Kinross High School at 9am on Sunday mornings. The only way to see if we are too fast is to come and try.

Join the e-group for more information at:

<http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/kinrosscyclingclub/>

New members are always welcome but at the moment we have no beginners in our group. Our members at present are all able to participate in a 2-3 hour ride covering 30-50 miles. This usually involves hills (and there a few in Kinross-shire!) which can be a challenge but we do wait at the top for slower cyclists to catch up!

We are now entering the Winter season where average speeds tend to be lower and runs tend to be a bit more relaxed. Now is the time to put in the miles at a low/medium intensity level. Please use your judgment regarding adverse weather - if you are the only one who turns up to Kinross High School at 9am on a Sunday morning, safe to say you are either 1) dedicated 2) mad or 3) dedicated and mad! Keep cycling.

Results of the Kinross Cycle Club inaugural end of season Hill Climb Competition, Sunday 9 November

The 2 mile climb started from the gates of Nivingston House near Cleish and climbed for 2 miles to the car park at Loch Glow (121m climb in 3300m). The climb is very varied with an initial steep section and plenty of twists and turns to hide the degree of steepness to come. The road has a switch back to guarantee that at some stage there should be a battle with the wind and there are sections when gear changes are required so that a degree of speed can be achieved. However, short steep sections at 1½ miles catch those who have gone off too quickly and the decision when to stand on the pedals and push is critical. This is a long hill climb and the final sprint to the line requires that a small amount of energy is held back in reserve to keep the pedals spinning for a fast finish.

23 hardy soles ventures out on a very wild November morning. The conditions were exceptionally wet with a blustery breeze. The ferocious wind was swirling in ever changing directions making the ascent extremely challenging. The slippery road had puddle from the overnight rain and combined with the autumn leaves made sections greasy. Riders were set off in minute intervals and the results of the main category winners are shown below. A big thank you goes to Christine M for accurate time keeping.

The day was finished off with a sporting ride around Loch Leven trying to race ever darkening clouds without success.

Position	Name	Cat	Time
1	Ken Ogilvie	Vintage	12 min 23 sec
2	Roddy Pattison	Vet	13 min 11 sec
3	John Myerscough	Super Vet	14 min 00 sec
4	Matt Smallwood	Senior	15 min 05 sec





News from the Rurals

Kinross Group SWRI held their Autumn Meeting at Milnathort on 8 November. Mrs F Drysdale, President welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Milnathort SWRI for hosting the meeting. Entertainment was by Carnbo SWRI who were the winners of the National 30 Minute Variety Competition.

Competition winners were:

Unusual Thimble	1. Ena Thomson, Milnathort
	2. C Cochrane, Milnathort
	3. M Arbuckle, Crook of Devon
Family Photograph	1. E Johnston, Powmill
	2. E Thomson, Milnathort
	3. M White, Cambo.

BISHOPSHIRE - As the speaker was unable to come, our own member Jenny Sword stood in at the last minute. Our longest-serving member, she spoke of life in the Rural over the past 60 years, telling us of all the activities that used to take place. Other members then joined in reminiscing about the entertainment we used to perform, and the many laughs we had.

Competitions:

Safety slogan	- Avril Rogers
Two muffins	- Brenda Bird

CLEISH - Mrs Margaret Kilpatrick welcomed all members and guests to Cleish SWRI's celebration of their 80th Birthday on 13 October when a party was held in Cleish Village Hall. The fifty two members and guests present were treated to an excellent meal catered by David Barnett of Cellardyke and entertained by members of the Dollar Drama Group.

There were tales told of the letters to and fro pre the setting up, the birth of the Cleish Institute eighty years ago and of those first members walking over the fields aided only by the light of the full moon.

The evening concluded with votes of thanks on behalf of guess and also the Cleish members.

CROOK OF DEVON - Mrs Margaret Arbuckle welcomed members to the November meeting. Mrs Chris Bennett, one of our members, then gave a very interesting talk on her collection of snuff bottles which she has been collecting since the 1970s. She also brought some of her collection along to show us; the detail and work in some of them was unbelievable. Mrs I White gave the vote of thanks.

Competitions:

Pretty cup and saucer	- M Arbuckle
Flower of the Month	- A Johnson



CARNBO - President Eileen Thomson welcomed a large turnout of members for our hands on Christmas Craff. There were three different crafts being demonstrated: Floral Art, Christmas card making and Christmas Tree decoration. All the members went away with lots of ideas and new skills. The vote of thanks was given by Mrs Christine Dawson.

Competitions:

Flower of the Month	- Mrs Rosemary Hudson
Decorated Parcel	- Mrs Barbara Nicol

We would also like to apologise to anyone who came to the Coffee Morning which was due to be held on 8 November, but unfortunately we had to reschedule to an earlier date. Our thanks to all who supported our Coffee Morning in such dreadful weather conditions.

GLENFARG - At the November meeting Lynne Smith prepared delicious chocolate goodies and sweets to be sampled by eager members. She also showed products beautifully wrapped for Christmas presents. Janette Kirkland gave the vote of thanks.

On 8 January Ella Fisher will show slides from her Charity Cycle Run Through Poland to raise money for the Marie Curie Cancer Fund - a warm welcome to everyone.

Competitions:

Christmas Table Mat	- A Messenger
Four Marzipan Sweets	- J Kirkland
Flower of the Month	- S Harley

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Out & About



Vane Farm



Autumn hiz so far produced some interesting bird sightings. First we hid a very strong claim for a **chough**, a member o the crow family that ye normally find oan the west coast. It wud o been a first record for Perth & Kinross and wiz spied oan Vane Hill oan 10 September. Unfortunately, no awe it's features wiz notit doon and it wiz rejectit by the local records committee. A young **hobby** was seen hawkin for black darter dragonflies oan the raised mire on 22 September. Also, 16 October wiz a guid day wi a ringtail **hen harrier** & first year **gannet** recordit. A **pectoral sandpiper**, another rare yin, appearit oan the flood oan 12 October reportit by a visitor. We hiv also hid guid numbers o **snipe** n a few **jack snipe** flushed when inspectin areas cut bi the Softrak machine. Another highlight wiz a **spoonbill** ower the loch on 30 and 31 October.

Other sightings fae the visitor centre include **sea eagle** wi the odd bird kickin around in the area, **short-eared owl**, **Greenland white-fronted goose**, **slavonian grebes**, **common scoter** and redhead n drake **smew**.

Reinstatement o the bund that hods back Carden Flood is noo completit. In order to lower watter levels furr this work, a new ditch hiz been howkit at the outflow. This hiz draint the flood very effectively and the shoreline o exposed food rich mud n freshly cut vegetation has been pullin in up tae 100 whooper swans, 3000 pinkies and ither waders n wildfowl.

Despite awfa wet n clarty ground conditions, the Softrak managed tae flail large swathes o rank rush-dominatit vegetation, cuttin and collectin ower twa hunner tonnes o material, which is noo a big compost heap although the kye still chow awa at it whin the mood taks them. We hiv also begun tae build-up a team o volunteers tae help wi practical management oan site. They hiv been bashin the scrubby vegetation in front o the Gillman hide, greatly improvin the view and attractin grazin geese.

Christmas continues in ye olde shop wi cairds, calendars n festive kinna stuff still available tae purchase.

The full openin o the Heritage Trail hiz so far been very popular wi hunners o fowk oot for a wee daunder and indeed a oan the bike. Lately a few sows hiv been walkin richt along wur wetland trail as weel thinking it is pairt o the heritage trail; nae problem, except when ye hiv the dug wi ye!! Please remember that we are a nature reserve n yer dug, if it's runnin lowse no under close control, kin cause major disturbance tae wildlife. So if ye bring the dug gonnæ no tak it doon the wetland trail jist gonnæ no, ta muchly.

Wur next events comin up are, continuin the winter talks programme, we hiv a **talk by Alan Stewart the Tayside Wildlife Crime Officer** on his job fighting wildlife crime. It will be held at Vane on **Wednesday 3 December** at 7.30pm and will be a very popular talk a shid imagine. Please book in advance to reserve a place. Free for RSPB members and normal admission charges per person for non members. We are also holdin "**Crafty Christmas**" for the wee people oan **Sunday 6 December** from 10am - 4pm festive fun n crafty type stuff n that. Mair details on baith fae Vane if yer interestit.

That's it fur noo. Festive wishes tae ye awe frae staff at Vane. Ta ta fur 2008 see ya in 2009.

Colin.

Loch Leven NNR



With the recent opening of the Heritage Trail there has been a lot of media interest in Loch Leven NNR. The new path now takes you right round to Vane Farm, past some particularly sensitive areas of the reserve on the east shore. We hope that all locals and visitors will enjoy the new accessibility responsibly and respectfully. Further developments around the reserve include the opening of the new Kingfisher Hide, at the site of the old Burleigh Hide. It gained its name from the frequent visits paid to Ron Gillieard by the resident Kingfisher, presumably curious as to what this new structure being constructed on the loch was. If you are in the hide, keep a look out for an electric blue flash of the little angler.



The new Kingfisher Hide

A few other sightings have had staff excited, not least the Eurasian Spoonbill spotted for a day this month. It was the first Spoonbill seen at Loch Leven in over 9 years. Common Scoter, Smew and Red-breasted Merganser have also grabbed our attention, and have joined our fluctuating population of Pink-footed Geese as part of a rich tapestry o ornithological interest here.

Our events programme for 2009 has now been completed, and will shortly be available through posters in bird hides, publications, leaflets, online and through the media. To run alongside our expanding events programme, we have now arranged a more structured talks programme to run through our volunteers' meetings held throughout the year. We now have five guest speakers booked for the meetings, with Roy Dennis from Highland Foundation for Wildlife heading the bill in November 2009 with a talk about Scottish raptors. The first meeting will be held on **Wednesday 28 January 2009** at 7.30pm in the Millbridge Hall in Kinross. Our guest speaker will be **David Pickett** from **Flanders Moss National Nature Reserve**, and will be a great opportunity to learn more about other NNRs in this part of Scotland. The meetings will be open to the public, whether volunteering or not, and may be a good chance to find out what is involved in volunteering at a nature reserve. We would ask that people let us know if they plan to attend, so we can accommodate you all.

Before 2009 swings into action, we have one more event planned in the form of a **Winter Bird Walk** on **Tuesday 30 December** at 10am, meeting at The Pier. Jeremy will lead you in search of winter migrants including Redwing and Fieldfare. It may also be a great opportunity to walk off those Christmas dinners in time for the New Year! If you'd like to attend this walk, or have any queries regarding future events, please contact the reserve office on 01577 864439.

Enjoy the festivities, and take care.

Craig

Farming



The subject of financial support for agriculture has often caused great debate, with farmers accused of being "feather bedded" and allegations that innovation within agriculture is being stifled, leaving the industry uncompetitive and distorted. Payments which partially covered the cost of work such as improvement of land, buildings and infrastructure were considered by many as bad for the environment. Similarly, direct payments for agricultural activity such as a payment per cow or sheep owned or per acre of cereal grown are seen as very unfashionable and a waste of taxpayers money. The current system in place to give financial support through the European Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) aims to avoid such direct production based subsidies, although the money received by most farmers is related to what they were paid by such schemes, and practices seen as environmentally friendly are encouraged. The aim is to phase out all agricultural subsidies by 2013.

While the general public may be glad to see the end of apparently pouring huge sums of tax-payers money into a relatively small section of society, perhaps some thought should be given to why agricultural subsidies came to be, what is happening within the farming industry at present and predictions for the future.

Historically, the main reasons for the introduction of farm subsidies were to encourage the UK to be as self sufficient as possible in food production, to reduce the reliance on imports and to make this food available at a low price. Food production being subsidised by the tax payer meant that the wealthiest parts of society helped provide cheap food for the less well off since farmers were effectively compensated for selling produce at prices below the cost of production. These are basic principles which were perhaps forgotten over a number of years but which have come to the forefront of attention over the past 12 months or so, with food security and prices becoming a major concern.

Currently, food production within the UK is declining, resulting in more imports. The reasons are complicated, but certainly the present CAP system of farm payments plays a large role. Most farmers would rather not depend on subsidies, but with the high cost base of the UK agricultural industry and the UK economy, the prospect of this is remote. Globally, food reserves are at their lowest levels in 30 years with only 53 days of emergency supplies. There were 169 days of supplies only a year ago. The days of the much derided "food mountains" seem to be long gone.

Looking to the future, if farmers are to lose 'brown envelope' payments through the CAP, either farm - gate prices will have to rise to cover production costs resulting in higher food prices or British food production will cease to exist since it won't be viable.

Looking to the worldwide situation, it is predicted that demand for food will double over the next 40 years, so the long-term prospect of the UK being able to import food is uncertain.

What is a fact is that the next few years will be pivotal in shaping the agricultural industry and the nation's ability to feed itself. There will have to be clear headed thinking by British and European powers that be on how to deal with the environment and food production.

There are many complicated issues affecting farming locally and nationally and I hope I have given a brief insight into some of the main points, although it would be easy to fill numerous pages on the subject.

John

Weather



October Weather Report From Carnbo

October this year was a very unsettled, wet month, Atlantic lows moved across the area throughout the month giving rise to very heavy rainfall totals. This spell ended on the 25th with the worst storm of the month and the heaviest rainfall total (41.7mm), thereafter the weather became much colder with a strong North Wind.

Rainfall for month	224 mm (171% of normal)
Heaviest fall	41.7 mm (25th)
Highest temperature	14°C (10th)
Lowest temperature	-2°C (28th)
Average temperature	5.9°C
11 days with maximum temperature above 10°C	
2 days with maximum temperature below 5°C	
Ground frost	13 nights
Air frost	6 nights
Sunless days	7
Cloud cover	50%

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FIFE KY4 0HZ**

Do you have

Photographs of Kinross-shire

you'd be happy to share with others?

Visit www.kinross.cc to find out how to add your photos to the Photo Library. The aim of the library is to provide a resource for promoting Kinross-shire.

Congratulations



TOD – STEWART Both families are very pleased to announce the engagement of Steven Tod to Jacqui Stewart, both Kinross. Lots of love and many congratulations to you both.

Three members of staff at Seamab School, **LISA ALLAN**, **AMY HATRICK** and **ANGELA JOHNSTONE** (pictured below) successfully completed their BA Hons in Residential Social Work from Robert Gordon University.



LYN MURRAY and **STEVIE HYND** of Kinross Golf Club won the Club Handicap Champion's Cup Finals for Scotland. Both will now play in the UK finals at the Belfry in April.

Following votes by music fans, **T IN THE PARK** won the Best Line Up award at the UK Festival Awards, held in London at the end of October. T in the Park provides more acts over more stages than any other festival of a similar capacity. Some of the acts that appeared at Balado this year such as Kings of Leon and The Ting Tings also received plaudits at the UK Festival Awards. Geoff Ellis of DF Concerts was "delighted and honoured" to accept the Best Line Up award and added, "we can't wait to reveal who we've got lined up for next year's festival in the new year!"

SAFESTORE, KINROSS

A SUBSIDIARY OF David Sands Ltd
Alligin House, 2 Clashburn Close, Bridgend Industrial
Estate, Kinross KY13 8GD

Telephone: 01577 865141/Fax: 01577 865104

SAFESTORE, KINROSS offers containers which are available for customers to utilise. As it is self-storage, you will be required to load and unload the container yourself thus keeping costs to you down.

The containers will accommodate the contents of an average 2-3 bed house or are suitable as storage facilities for a small business..

Min rental period one month. Long term available.

Opening hours – Monday to Friday 7am – 7.30pm

Saturday 7am – 3pm Sunday 7am – 1.30pm

Thanks



Poppy Collection (Milnathort): Which is worse, as Harry Hill might say, my typing or my proof reading? Abject apologies for managing to lose a decade and claiming it is a mere 80 years since the end of the Great War. Heartfelt thanks to everyone in Milnathort who contributed to this year's Poppy Appeal. My thanks to the Primary School, Stewart and Smart, the Post Office, Giacopazzi, Robertson, The Zen Zone, Heaven Scent, M.B. Salon, Powmill Store and some extremely generous donors. This year's grand total came to £688.58. Thanks also to the Royal Bank for checking the coinage.
Helen Glover

Poppy Collection (Portmoak): The amount raised from the poppy collection in the Portmoak area was £522. This is the highest amount to date, and thanks go to everyone who gave so generously.

LOCHLEVEN BABIES AND TODDLERS would like to thank all those who supported their "Toddler Olympics" fund raising event earlier in the year. We raised in excess of £300 through sponsorship and our raffle - special thanks go to Forth Wines Ltd, The Complete Look, Heaven Scent/Café 98 and our members for donating items to be raffled and to the Lodge St Serf for their kind donation to our funds. It's fantastic to have such support from local businesses and we look forward to upgrading our existing play equipment in the New Year.

EVELYN & STAN MARSDEN, ex-Milnathort Post Office, would like to thank, most sincerely, all of our customers and friends for all of their "best wishes", many cards, flowers, bottles of "good cheer", and lovely gifts, on the occasion of our recent retirement. We miss you all, but know we have left you in very good hands.

THE SCOTTISH BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE is very grateful for the support received during the sessions held in October. A total of 301 people volunteered to donate, including 37 who had never been along before - a larger number than normal, due to the enthusiasm of a school teacher who arranged for some school pupils to attend. All in all, another excellent turnout and a great deal of help to patients all over Scotland. The service will visit Kinross again on 23 and 24 February 2009.

REINA WOOD warmly and sincerely thanks friends, neighbours and all who sent cards, visited, telephoned, sent flowers and offered all manner of help during her recent period of ill health. She is also grateful to all who visited Sandy in Moncreiffe Nursing Home during the six weeks she was unable to see him. God bless you all.

Need to check something in an old Newsletter?

Consult our electronic archive at

www.kinrossnewsletter.org

Issues from September 2006 to three months ago available



Kinross-shire Churches Together

Kinross Parish Church of Scotland (Charity number SC012555)

Station Road, Kinross

website: www.kinrossparishchurch.org

E-mail: kinpc@tiscali.co.uk Tel: (01577) 862570

Interim Moderator: Rev Joanne Finlay Tel: (01577) 850231

Locum: Rev Ray Gaston

Reader: Margaret Michie Tel: (01592) 840602

Session Clerk: Mrs Linda Williamson Tel: (01577) 862789

15 St Mary's Place, Kinross

Please direct pastoral enquiries on matters such as illness to Margaret Michie. In the event of a bereavement please contact Rev. Joanne Finlay.

All Sunday morning services include a crèche (age up to three), Junior Church (three to Primary 7) and JamPact (Secondary age).

December

Sun 7 10.30am *Rev. Alan Reid, Sole Nominee.

Sun 14 10.30am Confirmation of new Communicant members.

Sun 21 10.30am Nativity.

Wed 24 4.30pm Crib Service.
11.15pm Watchnight Service.

Thu 25 10.30am Christmas Day service.

Sun 28 10.30am.

*Please note that Rev. Alan Reid shall preach as Sole Nominee on 7 December. A large congregation is hoped for and at the close of worship members and adherents shall be invited to vote, by secret ballot, "for" or "against" Alan Reid as their new Minister.

Pram Service: Each Tuesday at 10am in the Church. All under 3s and carers welcome. Children's worship followed by coffee and juice. Contact Evelyn Cairns tel. 01577 863990.

Time to Pray: Second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, 7.30pm in the Church.

Midweek worship: Each Wednesday in the Reading Room of the Church Centre, 10.45am–11.15am.

Whyte Court: First Tuesday of the month at 2.30pm.

Causeway Court: Last Tuesday of the month at 2.30pm.

All are welcome to these services.

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

Crossfire: A fun evening (7.30pm to 9pm) on Sundays at the Church Centre for Secondary 1 age upwards. Contact Jaffrey Weir 01577 865780.

Premises to lease: The church welcomes the use of its premises by the wider community. It provides a suite of halls, meeting rooms and a kitchen at the Church Centre (contact Helena Cant, telephone 862923 or email helenacant@aol.com) and the main auditorium and two meeting rooms at the recently modernised church (contact Anne Miller, telephone 865610).

St James's R C Church

5 High Street, Kinross, KY13 8AW

Father Colin Golden Telephone: (01577) 863329

Website: www.stjameskinross.co.uk

Mass Times Saturday Vigil 7.00pm
Sunday 9.30am

24 Dec Carol Service followed by Midnight Mass 11.30pm

25 Dec Christmas Day Mass 11.15am

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

Orwell and Portmoak Parish Church

Church of Scotland

Rev Robert Pickles Telephone: (01577) 863461

E-mail: robert.pickles1@btopenworld.com

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 Levensen: first Tuesday of the month at 4pm

Oasis Ladies' meeting in Portmoak New Room.

10.15 - 11.45am last Friday of the month.

Fusion Orwell Hall, Mondays 6pm

@spire Orwell Church Hall, 2nd & last Fridays 7.30pm

December

Sun 7 Formal Communion - Orwell

Sun 14 Christmas Family Service – 10am Portmoak

Christmas Family Service – 11.30am Orwell

Sat 20 Carol Service – 6.30pm Portmoak

Sun 21 Carol Service – 6.30pm Orwell

Wed 24 United Family Service – 6.30pm Portmoak

Candlelight Watchnight Service at both Orwell and Portmoak: 11.30pm – 12.15am

Thu 25 United Family Service – 10.30am Orwell

January

Sun 4 Covenant Service – 10am Portmoak

Covenant Service – 11.30am Orwell

St Paul's Scottish Episcopal Church

Muir, Kinross, KY13 8AY

Rev Dr Marion Keston Telephone: (01577) 866834

Website: www.stpauls-kinross.co.uk

December Services

Sun 7 Advent 2, 8.30am, Holy Communion.

11.00am Sung Eucharist.

followed by AGM of St. Paul's congregation.

Sun 14 Advent 3, 8.30am, Holy Communion.

11.00am Sung Eucharist.

Sun 21 Advent 4, 8.30am, Holy Communion.

11.00am Holy Communion with children's Nativity play.

6.00pm Service of 9 lessons and Carols (you are invited afterwards for Mulled wine and Mince pies at Bank House).

Wed 24 Christmas Eve, 4pm, Christingle Service for children. 11.30pm Midnight Mass.

Thu 25 Christmas Day, 10.00am Christmas Communion.

Sun 28 Christmas 1, 8.30am, Holy Communion.

11.00am Family Communion (crèche but no Sunday school).

Junior Church and Crèche during the 11.00am Services.

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



Cleish Parish Church**Church of Scotland**

Rev Joanne Finlay Telephone: (01577) 850231
 E-mail: joanne.finlay196@btinternet.com
 Reader: Mr Brian Ogilvie Telephone: (01592) 840823

Sunday Services	11.15am
Crèche	11.15am
Junior Church	11.15am

November

Sun 30 11.15am Sacrament of Lord's Supper

December

Sun 7 11.15am Preacher: Rev. Brian Ogilvie
Sun 14 11.15am Nativity Sunday
 7pm Christmas Remembrance Service for the Bereaved
Sun 21 11.15am Lessons and Carols with Fossoway Church Choir
Wed 24 11.15pm Watchnight Service
Thu 25 11.15am "Bring the Toys" service
Sun 28 11.15am Reader: Margaret Michie

Tuesday 2 December: Cleish Kirk Session

Fossoway Parish Church**Church of Scotland**

Rev Joanne Finlay Telephone: (01577) 850231
 E-mail joanne.finlay196@btinternet.com
 Reader: Mr Brian Ogilvie Telephone: (01592) 840823

Sunday Services at 9.45am

"Wrigglers Group" (0-3 year olds), Junior Church and Teenage Group 9.45am

Tots Music: Friday mornings in hall, 9.30am-10.30am

Children's Yoga: Mondays 3-4pm, church hall

Housegroup/Bible Study group:
 contact Margaret Hamblin (01577 850252)

Fossoway Church Choir rehearsals:

Tuesday evenings, 7.30pm-9pm

Wednesday evenings: Joint choir rehearsals

November

Sun 30 9.45am Sacrament of Lord's Supper.

December

Sun 7 9.45am Advent Garland Service
Sat 13 7pm Brightons Praise Choir Christmas Concert
Sun 14 9.45am Nativity Sunday.
 7pm Christmas Remembrance Service for the Bereaved (Cleish Church)
Sun 21 9.45am Lessons & Carols with Fossoway Church Choir.
 6.30pm family Christingle Service.
Wed 24 11pm Carols with choir.
 11.15pm Watchnight Service.
Thu 25 9.45am "Bring the Toys" service.
Sun 28 9.45am Reader: Margaret Michie.

11-14 December - Christmas Tree Festival.

Tuesday 16 December, 6.15pm - Rumbling Bridge Nursing Home Carol Service.

Monday 22 December, 7pm - Junior Church Come Carolling - Carols around village.

Kinross Christian Fellowship

Further information: (01577) 863509

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

Church and Children's Sunday Club

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

Saturday Night Worship

Last Saturday of each month, 7.30 – 10pm

Millbridge Hall, Kinross (parking available)

Heart felt praise and worship Prayer for healing
 Opportunity for testimony Refreshments
 Books and resources Open to all

For further details contact Sarah Corsar 07795313864

Kinross Gospel Hall

Montgomery Street, Kinross

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

Recently bereaved? Needing some support?**AMONGST FRIENDS**

(Bereavement Group)

meets at the gathering room behind Portmoak Church
 on the last Thursday of the month, 7.30pm-9pm

A warm welcome awaits all. For details phone
 Hazel 01577 863461 or Marg 01577 863557

Acknowledgement

McGREGOR – Mrs McGregor and family would like to thank all friends and neighbours for the lovely cards and flowers received after the sad loss of Jim. Also many thanks to Doctors Pattison and Richmond, to Irene and district nurses and carers for their excellent care. Thanks also to Stewarts Funeral Directors for help and guidance and Mrs Margaret Michie for the lovely service in Perth Crematorium. The sum of £295 was donated to Kinross District Nurses. Hatchbank Road, Kinross.

Alpha Course - Sampler Session

The Alpha Course provides a practical introduction to the Christian faith. Over 2 million people in the UK (including many from Kinross) have already been on an Alpha course.

We are about to start a new course which will run on Sunday evenings from January to March. If you would like to find out what it would be like, you would be very welcome at an introductory "sampler" session to be held on the evening of **Sunday 7 December**.

If interested, please speak to or contact Alisdair Stewart:
 01577 862262 alisdairstewart@yahoo.com

Kinross Parish Church Outreach Group



Playgroups & Nurseries



PORTMOAK UNDER 5s

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

Playgroup (2.5yrs onwards)
Mon & Fri 10.00am-12.00am

Rising Fives (Pre School Year)
Mon 12.45 pm - 2.45pm

Contact Carolyn Robertson 01383 831129
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 - Lesley 01577 865191

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

LOCHLEVEN TWOS 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 Pam Jones 01577 864839 or Sophie Butcher 01577 863288 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 - Lucy Lomas 01577 864868

FOSSOWAY PRE-SCHOOL GROUP

Moubray Hall, Powmill

Partner-provider for P&K Education

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

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



SWANSACRE PLAYGROUP

21-23 Swansacre, Kinross

TEL: 01577 862071

www.swansacre.co.uk



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

Playgroup sessions – Mon to Fri 9.00-11.30am

Children from the age of 2 yrs welcome.

Storycraft Mon 1.15-2.45pm

Storytelling, craft & puppetry for 3-5yrs

Rising Fives Wed 1.00-3.15pm

This is complementary to Nursery

Wee Swans Fri 1.15-2.45pm

Children from the age 1 1/2yrs with parent/carers

For more information please contact Alisa 07796 213312 or Playgroup 862071.

Baby and Toddler Group – Thurs 1pm-3pm

Ante-natal to pre-school. Fun for children, coffee and chat for the parent/carers. For more information contact Caron 861607.

The premises are available to hire for **Private Functions**. We now have an Entertainments License For more information contact Kate 863309.



MILNATHORT BABIES & TODDLERS

Orwell Church Hall

Thursday & Friday, 10.00 - 11.30 am

Contacts: Liam Saunders 0788 2147524

GLENFARG BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

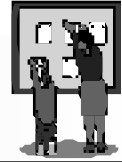
Village Hall, Greenbank Road, Glenfarg

9.30am to 11.30am during term time

A health snack is provided for children and tea/coffee and biscuits for carers.

First session free and £1.50 thereafter. All welcome.

Contact Claire on 07796 320182 or just come along.



Notices

Kinross Girls and Boys Brigade COFFEE MORNING

Church Centre, Kinross

Saturday 29 November from 10am to 12 noon.
Bottle Stall, Raffle, and a chance to pick up your Christmas cards and gifts from the CHAS Stall and Fair Trade items from the High School Fair Trade Group. Come and join us on this popular annual St Andrews Day-ish event.

LIGHT UP KINROSS

Monday 1 December

Mr & Mrs Colin Roger of Big Day Out Ltd, organisers of T in the Park, will perform the switching on ceremony.

See Santa in his Sleigh!
(leaves Church Centre at 6.45pm approx)

Switching on Ceremony at 7pm at the County Buildings

There will be Fireworks.

The Christmas Tree is provided again this year by the Kilted Christmas Tree Company.

See also page 18

KHS Events & Fundraising Committee CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

Kinross High School Assembly Hall

Saturday 6 December

10am – 1pm

Tea, Coffee, Home Baking

Milnathort School Association CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Milnathort Primary School Hall

Saturday 6 December

10am – 12 noon

Cake and Candy, Tattoos, Face Painting, Bottle stall, Pocket Money stall, Card stalls, Jewellery and more

Entry: £1 per adult

(includes tea/coffee/juice and a mince pie)

Hayfield Trust

This Trust exists to benefit the poor and needy of the Parish of Kinross.

The focus of the Trust is on specific individuals who can demonstrate that they live in the Parish of Kinross and fall within the definition of “poor and needy” and need the Trust’s assistance. If you feel that you fall within this definition and would like to apply to the Trust for money for a particular purpose, or if you have a relative or know someone in such circumstances, then please apply in writing to the name and address shown below.

It should be stressed that the funds available to provide assistance are not enormous. The annual net income of the Trust is of the order of £2,500.00.

**C C Watson, Esq
Andersons LLP**

40 High Street, Kinross, KY13 8AN

Smiddy Singers CAROLS, CAKES & CANDLES

Join the Smiddy Singers in their Annual Carol Concert in aid of charity on

Tuesday 9 December

at 7.30pm in the Church Centre, Kinross
Raffle

Admission (inc. refreshments) £3.50
or tickets available from members

Dollar Music Society

We have an exciting series of concerts for the 2008-2009 season as listed below:

7 Feb The Davinci Piano Trio (violin, cello, piano).
Programme to include works by Brahms, Mozart, Ravel.

14 Mar Ceol Alba (flute, violin, harp, bass, piano).
Programme to include Early French Dances, Scottish Pieces (Bruch), Piano solo, Mozart, Bizet.

Concerts take place in The Gibson Hall, Dollar Academy and start at 7.30pm. Admission is £7 per adult (no charge for children). Concerts normally last about 2 hours with an interval for refreshments. Membership of the Society available. For more information please contact Andrea Ross tel: 01259 742014 or Sarah Herdman tel: 01259 742761.

Orwell Bowling Club SOCIAL PROGRAMME FOR DECEMBER/ JANUARY

Whist is now back on the agenda !!

Tuesday Nights at 7.30pm sharp
£1.00 entry fee

All Welcome Including Beginners.

BINGO TEA

Wednesday 3 December, 7.30 sharp.

£1 entry includes refreshments.

Please bring your own cup.

HOGMANAY DANCE

Wednesday 31 December

Featuring the Dave Duncan Trio

Entry by ticket only

£3.00 (Behind bar)

8.00 - till late (No Entry After 10.00pm)

Bring your own drink and nibbles for after 10.00pm.

SOCIAL EVENING

Saturday 24 January

Dancing to the Two Robins

Bingo 8.00pm

£2.00 entry for non-members.

SOCIAL EVENING

Saturday 28 February

Dancing to Bill Smith

Bingo 8.00pm

£2.00 entry for non-members.

Kinross Floral Art Club

Thursday 11 December

at the Windlestrae Hotel, Kinross
at 7.15pm prompt

Demonstration by Mrs Ann Buchan entitled:
'A Cracker of a Christmas'

New Members and visitors welcome

Thursday 22 January

'Members Night' - Demonstration & Quiz - 7.15pm prompt
in the Windlestrae Hotel, Kinross

Kinross-shire Churches Together CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

in Kinross High School

Sunday 14 December at 3pm
Church and School choirs together with instrumental
ensembles and carols for all
All welcome. Doors open at 2.30pm

Lodge St. Serf No. 327

December

Tue 2 **Regular meeting** at 7.15pm. **Annual General Meeting**, also Annual General Meeting of Lodge St. Serf No. 327 Masonic Social Club. Approve new Constitution of Social Club.

Sat 20 **Regular meeting** at 4pm. Annual Installation of Office Bearers for ensuing twelve months. Installation to be worked by Past Master Ron Simpson of Lodge Leask No.1084 from the Province of Aberdeenshire East and Past Master Tommy Booth of Lodge Mauldslie Castle No.1630 from the Province of Lanarkshire Upper Ward.

Sun 14 **Children's Christmas Party** at 2pm. This year there will be a Face Painter with the usual other entertainment. Santa is expected around 4pm dependent on weather conditions.

January

Tue 6 Regular meeting has been **CANCELLED**.

Tue 20 **Regular meeting** at 7.15pm. Fellow Craft Degree to be conferred by Office Bearers



Free Energy Saving Advice Freephone 0800 512 012

Free, impartial advice on energy efficiency in the home, sustainable transport choices, small-scale use of micro-renewables etc. Advice to individuals, communities and small businesses.

Kinross District Counselling Services

Kinross District Counselling Services offers a new, fully supervised, confidential counselling service brought to you in association with The Web Project.

It is open to all-comers.

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

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

Kinross-shire Historical Society



Meetings are held in Kinross Parish Church, Station Road, Kinross at 7.30pm on the third Monday of each month.

Subscriptions: Adult £6; Senior Citizen £5. Visitors £2 per talk. No charge for Under 18s.

Programme for 2008-2009

15 Dec **"By Ruin'd Arnot"**: The story of Arnot Tower and the Lands of Arnot in SE Kinross-shire. Professor David Munro MBE.

19 Jan **Kinross in the 1940s**: Jim takes us on a walk through a very different Kinross. Jim Paterson, Gallowhill Farm.

16 Feb **Guddling among the Graves (part 2)**: The background, history and practicalities of Scottish graveyards and their artistic importance. Dr Hamish Brown MBE.

16 Mar **Risky Business**: A history of General Accident Insurance and some amusing claims. Susan Payne.

Annual General Meeting.

Winter Events at Vane Farm

Telephone: 01577 862355

December

Wed 3 **Fighting Wildlife Crime**: A talk by Alan Stewart, Tayside Wildlife Crime Officer (see p. 33 for more details).

Sat 6 **Crafty Christmas**: Join RSPB staff for some festive fun making seasonal crafts with a wildlife slant from 10am to 4pm.

Wed 10 **A Scottish Islands Warden**: At 7.30pm in The View Café at Vane Farm, resident warden Chris Rodger will talk about his experiences of working on a large number of Scottish Islands from Fair Isle in Shetland to Rum in the Small Isles.

Dec 18 **Can you imagine a plastic bag free Kinross-shire?** Sarah Eaton can and she will tell you how in a talk at 7.30pm at The View Café.



Blythswood Care

Somerfield's Car Park

16 December & 20 January between 10.30 am and 11 am
Further details from 862258

Citizens Advice Bureau

Surgery held on

the second and fourth Tuesday of each month
at St Paul's Church Hall, The Muirs, Kinross,
1.30pm to 3.30pm

No appointment needed. CAB services are free, confidential, independent and impartial.

Any enquiries about the service, ring 01738 564304.

Healing Rooms Kinross

The Healing Rooms (part of an international organisation) takes place every Thursday from 11.00 am to 1.00 pm in the Millbridge Hall. Healing Rooms is manned by a team of Christian volunteers from every denomination freely offering their time and prayers. Everyone is welcome and no appointment is necessary.

For further information please call 07766515950 or 07732485305 or visit www.healingrooms-scotland.com

Community Councils

Kinross: Secy: Mrs M Scott (01577) 862945

mbs21@btinternet.com

Cleish & Blairadam: Secy: Mrs M Traylor (01383) 830059,

prvtraylor@ukonline.co.uk

Milnathort: Chair: Mr J Giacomazzi (01577) 864025

joseph.giacomazzi@btopenworld.com

Fossoway & District: Secy: Trudy Duffy-Wigman (01577) 840669,

duffy.wigman@btinternet.com

Portmoak: Secy: Mr A Smith (01592) 840215

Kinross Community Councillors

Susan Bathgate	42 High Street	864742
Margaret Blyth	6 Muir Grove	
David Colliar	10 Rannoch Place	862678
Dave Cuthbert (Chair)	Highfield Circle	861001
Ian Jack (Treasurer)	Burnbrae Grange	863980
Laura Mackay	Brunthill Farm	07809232740
Dot Mackay	29 Green Park	864635
Margaret Scott (Secy)	21 Ross Street	862945
Campbell Watson (Vice Chair)	70 Muirs	862685

Perth and Kinross Councillors

Kathleen Baird, Easter Clunie, Newburgh, Fife, KY14 6EJ

Tel (home): 01337 840218.

Email: kbaird@pkc.gov.uk

Michael Barnacle, Moored, Waulkmill Road, Crook of Devon, Kinross, KY13 0UZ. Tel/Fax (home): 01577 840516.

Email: Michael@mabarnacle.freeserve.co.uk

Sandy Miller, c/o Perth & Kinross Council, 2 High Street, Perth, PH1 5PH. Tel (business): 01577 840462.

Email: SMiller@pkc.gov.uk

William Robertson, 85 South Street, Milnathort, Kinross, KY13 9XA. Tel (home): 01577 865178.

Email: wbrobertson@pkc.gov.uk

Fossoway and Cleish Community Office

A service for the Community, open:

Thursdays 2 pm - 4 pm

Saturdays 10am -12 noon

Out of hours there is an answering machine

Tel: 01577 840185 Email: fcco@btinternet.com

Waste Paper Kerbside Collection

Next uplift in Kinross, Milnathort and Glenfarg:

Thursday 18 December

You can recycle the following materials in your blue-lidded bin: Brochures, leaflets, magazines, newspapers, office quality paper and the contents of junk mail. Do not put envelopes or plastic wrappers in this wheeled bin. Place bin on kerbside by 7.30am on morning of collection.

Kinross Temporary Library County Buildings, High Street

Tel & Fax: 01577 864202

Email: kinrosslibrary@pkc.gov.uk

Opening Times

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		

Member of Parliament

for Ochil & South Perthshire Constituency

Gordon Banks MP

www.gordonbanksmp.co.uk

Email: constituency@gordonbanksmp.co.uk

For dates and locations of regular advice surgeries, or to raise any concerns you may have, please contact the constituency office: telephone 01259 721536, fax 01259 216761 or write to 49-51 High Street, Alloa, FK10 1JF.

MSP for Ochil Constituency

Keith Brown MSP

will be holding regular

surgeries throughout his constituency area.

For information on dates, locations and to book an appointment time, please contact his assistant on **01259 219333**.

Keith can also be contacted by email at

keith.brown.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

or by writing to **80 Mill Street, Alloa, FK10 1DY**

Members of the Scottish Parliament

All MSPs can be contacted at the following address:

The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

MSPs for Mid Scotland and Fife Region

Claire Baker MSP (Scot Labour) Tel: 0131 348 6759

Email: Claire.Baker.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

Ted Brocklebank MSP (Scot Cons) Tel: 0131 348 5610

Email: Ted.Brocklebank.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

Murdo Fraser MSP (Scot Cons) Tel: 0131 348 5293

Email: Murdo.Fraser.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

Christopher Harvie MSP (SNP) Tel: 0131 348 6765

Email: ChristopherHarvie.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

John Park MSP (Scot Lab) Tel: 0131 348 6753

Email: John.Park.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

Dr Richard Simpson MSP (Scot Lab) Tel: 0131 348 6756

Email: Richard.Simpson.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

Elizabeth Smith MSP (Scot Cons) Tel: 0131 348 6762

Email: Elizabeth.Smith.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

Mobile Library – Blairingone and Milnathort

Every Second Wednesday

Next visits: 3 & 17 December, 14 January

(There will be **NO** visit on 31 Dec)

Blairingone 9.30am - 9.45am

Westerloan, Milnathort 1.45pm - 3pm

Bridgefauld Road, Milnathort 3.05pm - 4pm

Any queries telephone AK Bell Library 01738 444949

Regular Library Sessions for Children

Story Telling for pre-school children takes place in Kinross Library **every Tuesday morning** from 10.30am to 11am, and **every Wednesday afternoon** from 2.15pm to 2.45pm. No need to book, just come along.

Rhythm and Rhyme sessions take place on the **last Wednesday of the month** at 9.45am at LOCH LEVEN LEISURE. All babies, toddlers and carers welcome. No need to book.

Bookstart Book Crawl for children aged 0 to 4: on each visit to the library, children are given a sticker. After collecting five stickers, they are awarded a certificate.

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

Kinross-shire *Day Centre*

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

Weekly Programme

Monday	Elderberries	1.30 pm		
Tuesday	Bingo	1.30 pm		
Wednesday	Morning Service	10.45 am,	Quiz Afternoon	1.30 pm
Thursday	Art Class	1.30 pm,	Film Afternoon	1.30 pm
Friday	Carpet Bowls	11.00am,	Scrabble	1.30 pm

Additional Events for December

Bingo Tea	Tuesday 2	at 1.45 pm
Christmas Lunch and Concert	Thursday 11	at 12 noon
Pantomime	Friday 19	at 1 pm

Holidays

Please note that the Day Centre will be closed on Wednesday 24, Thursday 25 and Friday 26 December 2008, and also Wednesday 31 December, Thursday 1 and Friday 2 January 2009. May we take this opportunity to thank all our customers and volunteers for their kind support throughout the year and to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Coffee Bar open 9 am - 4 pm, Senior Citizens Lunches Daily

Telephone: 01577 863869



LOCAL CHEMIST INFORMATION



Rowlands Pharmacy, Kinross (opposite David Sands)

Mon - Fri: 9.00 am - 6.00 pm
Saturday: 9.00 am - 5.00 pm
Sunday: 12.00 - 1.00 pm
Tel: 862422

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



Marie Curie Cancer Care GIFT WRAPPING SERVICE

As the 60th Anniversary of the Charity is nearing its culmination, this is to let you know the Christmas Gift Wrapping will take place again in the St. John's Centre, Perth. Beginning on **Friday 19 December** through till Christmas Eve. If anyone would like to help with this please contact Jackie Johnston, Community Fundraiser, Tel: 0131 561 3948, Mobile 07798 638156, or email jackiejohnston@mariecurie.org.uk

Kinross Recycling Centre Bridgend Industrial Estate

Opening Times: **Mondays to Fridays** 9am to 7pm
Saturdays and Sundays 9am to 5pm

Aluminium & Steel Cans, Car Batteries, Cardboard, Engine Oil, Fluorescent Tubes, Electricals (inc Fridges, Freezers, Televisions & Monitors), Garden Waste, Glass Bottles & Jars, Inert Waste, Metal, Paper, Phone Directories, Plastic Bottles, Textiles, Wood.

School Holidays 2008-2009

	<i>start date</i>	<i>end date</i>
Christmas Holiday	Mon 22 Dec 2008	Fri 2 Jan 2009
Spring Holiday	Mon 6 Apr 2009	Fri 17 Apr 2009
Academic year ends		Wed 1 Jul 2009

In Service Days

2008: Thursday 20 November, Friday 21 November.
2009: Tuesday 17 February, Monday 20 April.

Other Holidays

May Day: Monday 4 May 2009 (to be confirmed).
Friday 13 and Monday 16 February 2009.

Are you suffering from Macular Degeneration?

A meeting is held by the Support Group at The Blind Society, New Row, Perth on the last Wednesday of the month. If you are interested or require further details, please contact **Hazel Rennie, telephone 01738 442358.**

Christmas & New Year Holiday Arrangements



Recommended Last Posting Dates

Airmail

South & Central America, Caribbean,
Africa, Middle East, Asia,
Far East (except Japan), Australia
and New Zealand
USA, Canada, Japan, Eastern Europe
Western Europe

Fri 5 Dec
Wed 10 Dec
Fri 12 Dec

Within UK

Standard parcels
Second Class
First Class
Special Delivery

Mon 15 Dec
Thu 18 Dec
Sat 20 Dec
Tue 23 Dec

Kinross Post Office (David Sands)

From Mon 1 Dec through to Mon 22 Dec	open	8.30am - 6pm
Wed 24 Dec	open	8.30am - 12.30pm
Thu 25 Dec & Fri 26 Dec	CLOSED	
Sat 27 Dec	open	8.30am - 1pm
Wed 31 Dec	open	8.30am - 1pm
Thu 1 & Fri 2 Jan	CLOSED	
Sat 3 Jan	open	8.30am - 1pm

Rowlands Pharmacy, Kinross

Wed 24 Dec	open	9am - 6pm
Thu 25 & Fri 26 Dec	CLOSED	
Sat 27 Dec	open	9am - 5pm
Sun 28 Dec	open	12 noon - 1pm
Wed 31 Dec	open	9am - 6pm
Thu 1 Jan & Fri 2 Jan	open	12 noon - 1pm
Sat 3 Jan	open	9am - 5pm
Sun 4 Jan	open	12 noon - 1pm

Davidson's Chemist, Milnathort

Thu 25 & Fri 26 Dec	open	12 noon - 1pm
Thu 1 & Fri 2 Jan	CLOSED	

Refuse Collection

At the time of going to press (on 21 Nov), P&KC could not confirm what the refuse collection arrangements would be around Christmas and New Year, other than to say the following:

There will not be any uplifts on 25 Dec, 26 Dec, 1 Jan and 2 Jan. If your usual refuse collection day is a Thursday or Friday, then alternative uplifts will take place either before or after those holiday dates (unless there are adverse weather conditions). Arrangements will be published in the local press nearer the time.

Recycling Centre

Thu 25 & Fri 26 Dec	CLOSED
Thu 1 & Fri 2 Jan	CLOSED



Loch Leven Health Centre

Thu 25 & Fri 26 Dec	CLOSED
Thu 1 & Fri 2 Jan	CLOSED

As the Health Centre is closed at weekends, this will mean a four-day closure around Christmas, and again at New Year. When closed, Out of Hours Emergency Cover is provided by NHS 24 and the Fife Out of Hours Co-operative.

NHS 24 telephone no. 08454 242424

Health Centre Emergency no. 01577 865252

See also *Health Centre News*, page 6

Loch Leven Leisure Centre

Wed 24 Dec	open	7.15am - 4pm
Thu 25 & Fri 26 Dec	CLOSED	
Sat 27 & Sun 28 Dec	open	10am - 4pm
Mon 29 & Tue 30 Dec	open	noon - 8pm
Wed 31 Dec	open	10am - 4pm
Thu 1 & Fri 2 Jan	CLOSED	
Sat 3 & Sun 4 Jan	normal hrs	10am - 4pm
Mon 5 Jan	normal hrs	7.15am - 10pm

Registrar's, County Buildings, Kinross

Telephone 01577 867607

Wed 24 Dec close early at 3.30pm

Thu 25 Dec to Sun 4 Jan inclusive CLOSED

EXCEPT Wed 31 Dec open 9am - 1pm

Mon 5 Jan normal hours resume

Registrar's Milnathort

Registrar: Mr Sandy Smith, 21 Church Street, Milnathort.

Telephone: 01577 862536

By appointment only at all times.

Thu 25 & Fri 26 Dec	CLOSED
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Thu 1 & Fri 2 Jan	CLOSED
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Kinross Library, County Buildings

See page 41 for standard opening hours.

Wed 24 Dec	open	10am - 1pm, 2pm - 4pm*
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Thu 25 & Fri 26 Dec	CLOSED
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Sat 27 Dec	open	10am - 1pm
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Mon 29 Dec	open	10am - 1pm, 2pm - 5pm
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Tue 30 Dec	open	10am - 1pm, 2pm - 4pm*
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Wed 31 Dec - Fri 2 Jan	CLOSED
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Sat 3 Jan	normal hours resume
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* note early closing

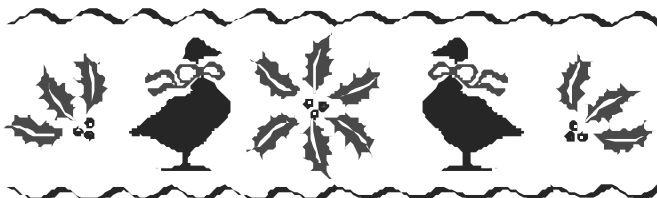
RSPB Vane Farm

Telephone: 01577 862355

Tue 25 & Wed 26 Dec	CLOSED
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Tue 1 & Wed 2 Jan	CLOSED
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There will be some early closing in between Christmas and New Year.



December			Page
Mon	1	Light Up Kinross	18, 39
Mon	1	Come and Try Curling Session for KHS pupils	29
Tue	2	Fossoway and District CC meets	14
Tue	2	Common Grounds project lunch	17
Tue	2	Lodge St Serf meets regularly	40
Wed	3	Kinross CC meets	10
Wed	3	Talk on fighting wildlife crime	33
Wed	3	Orwell Bowling Club Bingo Tea	39
Thu	4	Fifty Plus Club meets	26
Thu	4	Kinross Cricket Club AGM	28
Fri	5	Fundraising Disco for LUK	18
Sat	6	Kinross & District Art Club AGM	18
Sat	6	Swansacre Christmas Wonderland	19
Sat	6	Christmas Craft Fair, Kinross High School	21, 39
Sat	6	Milnathort School Association Christmas Bazaar	23, 39
Sun	6	Crafty Christmas craft-making for children (Vane Farm)	33, 40
Sun	7	Rev Alan Reid (sole nominee for minister) preaches	36
Mon	8	Santa in Sleigh visits Portmoak, Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell	24
Mon	8	Cleish & Blairadam CC meets	16
Tue	9	Portmoak CC meets	12
Tue	9	Smiddy Singers Carols, Cakes and Candles	39
Wed	10	Santa in Sleigh visits Milnathort	24
Wed	10	Vane farm talk: a Scottish Islands Warden	40
Thu	11	Floral Art Club meets	40
Thu	11	Santa in Sleigh visits Kinross South	24
Thu	11	Milnathort CC meets	12
Thu	11	Kinross Garden Group meets	26
Thu-Sat	11-13	Fossoway Church Christmas Tree Festival	19
Fri	12	Santa in Sleigh visits Fossoway, Crook of Devon	24
Sat	13	Come and Try Curling Session	29
Sat	13	Portmoak Film Society presents: Lawrence of Arabia	20
Sun	14	Kinross-shire Churches together Christmas Celebration	40
Sun	14	Lodge St Serf's Children's Christmas Party	40
Sun	14	Santa in Sleigh visits Kinross North	24
Mon	15	Historical Society meeting: By Ruin'd Amot	40
Thu	18	Talk on Kinross-shire Plastic Bag Free campaign	18, 40
Tue	30	Winter Bird Walk with SNH	33
Wed	31	Orwell Bowling Club Hogmanay Dance	39

January			Page
Fri	9	Kinross Road Runners Annual Dinner	29
Sat	10	Portmoak Film Society presents: Black Book	20
Sun	11	Beginners Curling Course: 1st day of 3-day course	29
Mon	12	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	1
Mon	12	Milnathort Primary School Parent Council meets	23
Tue	13	KHS Parent Council meets	22
Thu	15	Kinross Garden Group Festive Lunch	26
Mon	19	KVG-ROS Burns Supper	25
Mon	19	Kinross Road Runners AGM	29
Mon	19	Historical Society meeting: Kinross in the 1940s	40
Thu	22	Floral Art Club meets	40
Thu	22	Beekeeping classes begin, Portmoak Hall, 7pm	
Sat	24	Orwell Bowling Club Social Evening	39
Wed	28	SNH talk: David Pickett from Flanders Moss NNR	33