



Kinross Newsletter



Founded in 1977 by Mrs Nan Walker, MBE

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DEADLINE for the April Issue

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Contributions for inclusion in the Newsletter

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

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Letters

Editorial

Asking the Community

Consultation is the name of the game this month.

The main purpose of a community council is to ascertain, co-ordinate and express the views of the community to the local authority and other public bodies. Kinross CC has produced a questionnaire to gather the community's views on the future of Kinross (page 12).

The proposed Core Path Network is mentioned throughout the Newsletter. Find out how to view it and comment on it on page 4.

Dogs

A recurrent theme is the practices of dog walkers on the heritage trail. We have had several letters this month on this subject and there is a special feature on page 8 by SNH.

The Place to Be

Kinross-shire is the place to be in the second weekend in March. There are three days of entertainment to be had at the Milnathort Folk Festival, plus the Better Place to Live Fair in Kinross High School on Saturday 8th. Details of both are on page 4.

Farewell

Farewell to the Rev Dr John Munro, who conducts his last service as Minister of Kinross Parish Church at the end of this month, and very best wishes to him and his wife Pat in their retirement.

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 Letters will not be published unless the sender's name and address are supplied and they are prepared to have them published along with their letter.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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Dog Fouling

18.02.08

Following up on A Milne's letter in the previous issue on the same subject, I too would like to express my disgust at the shameful behaviour of some dog owners using the new Loch Leven Heritage Trail. Recently, 20 bags of dog poo were picked out of the undergrowth along a 500 yard stretch of the path which is an utter disgrace. Regardless of their contents, these plastic bags are an environmental disaster anyway but particularly so around Loch Leven National Nature Reserve.

In all fairness, this potential problem was foreseen prior to the opening of the path. When a dog 'performs' at the start of a walk along the trail, there is an understandable reluctance to carry the bag for mile after mile – a shameful, sly lob into the undergrowth and the problem is solved for the owner. Dog litter bins every several hundred yards along the path are simply not practical because who is going to empty and clean them? Some dog owners have taken to hanging their bags on gates and fence posts under the pretext of collecting them on the way back – judging by the number of bags remaining hanging for days on end, there is obviously the Loch Leven equivalent of the Bermuda Triangle where dogs and their owners are getting lost and never returning!

The recent announcement of the move to make Kinross-shire into the first plastic bag free county is to be applauded and dog owners using the Heritage Trail should take the lead. I realize that it is politically correct nowadays for owners to pick up dog poo in plastic bags and they are to be applauded for their diligence. However, this measure was primarily designed to keep town pavements clean and parks safe for children to play in. On a linear path such as the Heritage Trail, a different code of practice should be in place. Instead of owners removing the offending object in a plastic bag, deposits laid on the path by dogs should be flicked into the undergrowth using a trowel or stick where it will do no harm and degrade naturally. It is time for commonsense to come to the fore.

Jamie Montgomery

Kinross House

29.01.08

Dogs

I refer to the report of the Milnathort Community Council in the issue of January/February 08.

The problem of owners picking up after their dogs then leaving the bags about was discussed. This practice is gruesome. To encapsulate the mess in plastic which may in some cases take hundreds of years to degrade is much worse than leaving the mess which would degrade reasonably quickly.

Where there is a formal situation, i.e. a park, a bag and bin is always the answer. For wilder country I sometimes wonder whether a neatly performed burial is not greener.

While not wishing to see country paths bedecked with notices and bins, I do feel that the crassness of leaving mess bags about should be publicised, at the very least to prevent guilt-ridden dogs owners like me walking about carrying the output of one's own dog and also that of others, in the name of the beauty of the countryside.

Iain W D Forde

Causeway end, Main Street, Scotlandwell

Lochside Heritage Trail**14.02.08**

My name is Des Cochrane. I am a BASC registered goose guide based at the Lomond Country Inn Kinnesswood. I have been a professional shooting guide for over 15 years now around Fife and Kinross, controlling the wild goose population of Pinkfoot and Greylag geese around the farmlands of Loch Leven, one of which is Findatie farm, for example. I abide by the guidelines set by the BASC for codes of practice for inland goose shooting.

I wish to pass comment on the above trail. Loch Leven is a major roost for wintering wild geese. The above trail passes very close in places to two major roosts. I have seen many members of the public allow their dogs to run at and disturb these geese in their roost time. I have seen dog owners allow their dogs to bark and snarl at walkers on the trail, totally unaware of their responsibilities.

I think the trail is fantastic to get families and children aware of nature and exploring is a great education. I do junior wildfowl courses for children as well. Out of the shooting season I take children all over Europe skiing and adventure courses.

If you're looking for a **dog warden**, my name is top of the list.

Des Cochrane

Lomond Country Inn, Kinnesswood, KY13 9HN

Flooding**31.01.08**

Is Perth and Kinross Council Planning Department and SEPA going to create a flooding disaster in Smith Street, Kinross and surrounding areas by allowing G.S. Brown Construction and other contractors, including their own environment department, to discharge site and rain water from their building sites into the Clash Burn? I am led to believe that stringent measures were to be applied to the various sites before planning permission was granted. If these measures have not been adhered to, why has P&KC and SEPA not brought charges as the contamination of the Clash Burn (Myre Burn) has been ongoing for the past two years.

There was an attempt to clean out the burn. The debris that has been removed has been left lying on the banks of the burn - only to be blown back in by the wind, and what is left is thrown back in by children in the area, especially when the weather improves and the lighter nights appear.

Whatever happened to the good old fashioned Foreman and his squad? Whatever assignment they were given was carried out efficiently and to their employer's satisfaction

Philip Urquhart

Myre Cottage, 11 Smith Street, Kinross

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Marie Curie Daffodil Appeal**23.01.08**

As a local Marie Curie Cancer Care Nurse, I am calling on people from Central Scotland, Tayside & Fife to give up just two hours of their time during March to help raise vital funds for the charity's annual Great Daffodil Appeal, supported by *Yellow Pages*.

By donating a little of your spare time to collect in the street, distribute daffodil boxes or help out with other fundraising, you will help make it possible for Marie Curie Nurses to carry on making a difference to the lives of people with terminal illnesses nationwide.

Marie Curie cancer care provides free high quality nursing, to give terminally ill people the choice of dying at home supported by their families.

This year the charity expects to provide free care to around 27,000 terminally ill patients in the community and its ten hospices, but unfortunately there is an ever increasing demand for the service. With your help we can continue to give people in your community free specialist end-of-life nursing care.

Every donation for a daffodil will help the charity towards their appeal target of £5.5 million so, if you can help with fundraising in March, please contact Dee Orme, Community Fundraiser for Marie Curie Cancer Care on 0131 456 3727.

Thank you in advance for your support. Your help will make a difference to thousands of people.

Christine Allardyce

Bridge of Allan

Marie Curie Nurse of the Year

Bike Accident**19.02.08**

Just a very short, however very sincere, note of thanks to all who helped Neil Herron in his fairly dramatic cycle accident on the 19 February. Particular thanks goes to Ruriadh and Colm (for their level headedness and kindness waiting to see if Neil was ok), Pat (for her kindness and very nice blanket) and the gentleman who phoned for the ambulance (and waiting to see if there was anything else he could do). As always the emergency services were brilliant - thank you to our local police who attended very rapidly and to the ambulance service for their excellent work. Neil managed to break his arm and injure his ankle and feels as though he's been put through a mangle, however he will mend... Thanks once again.

Sheila Herron

37 Westerloan, Milnathort

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News & Articles

Better Place to Live Fair

Pretty much everything you need to know about Kinross is there at the **Better Place to Live Fair** on **Saturday 8 March**. The Fair opens at 10am and closes at 1pm. Come early to the **Kinross High School** and hear the opening speech from head teacher, Dick Keatings.

The fair has attracted a record 53 stands, ranging from Kinross in Bloom to the Scottish Parliament. The people who staff these stands have a wealth of information about Kinross-shire. This is your best chance to get direct answers on the topics that interest you. Remember, the Fair takes place only once every two years, so don't miss this occasion to learn more about your local area. There will also be opportunities to buy crafts, hand-made jewellery, chocolates and so much more, all from enterprising small businesses. Children are especially welcome – there's an activity corner and street football facilities.



The Swansacre Playgroup stall at the 2006 Fair

Refreshments will be available, and it's an unmissable opportunity to join neighbours and friends in celebrating what's good about Kinross-shire. The Fair appeals to all ages and backgrounds, and it attracts greater participation every time.

Come along on **Saturday 8 March** and join in this success.

Core Path Consultation

P&KC's Core Paths Plan proposals are now available for people to view and pass comment on.

Under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 it is the duty of local authorities to draw up a system of paths (core paths) sufficient for the purpose of giving the public reasonable access throughout their area.

As a result of extensive public and landowner consultation, the access team have drawn up a series of core paths proposal maps. The maps can be viewed online at www.pkc.gov.uk, Pullar House in Perth, **The County Buildings** in Kinross and the **Kinross Library**. Comments forms are also available at these places.

This phase of the consultation offers an opportunity for all interested parties to make sure the Council has produced the best plan possible. The public can comment informally until **31 March 2008**.

Comments will be taken into account when preparing the Draft Core Paths Plan, which will be the subject of a formal

statutory 12-week consultation period expected to begin in June 2008.

Having checked the plan, there is NO proposal for a path on Gallowhill Road (see Kinross CC, p 14), so that is one suggestion people might like to make.



Gallowhill Road: Should there be a path?

Crackin' Ceilidh

This year's **Milnathort Folk Festival** takes place over the weekend of **7, 8 and 9 March**.

Special guests this year are: Michael Marra, Iain Anderson (Fiddle) and Steven Carcary Scottish Dance Band.

With Festival Artists: Gaberlunzie, Tich Frier, Neil Paterson, Colin Ramage, John Watt and Wildfire.

Friday 7 **CEILIDH** with **Steven Carcary Scottish Dance Band** at 8pm in the Thistle Hotel. Tickets £8.

Saturday 8 **The Orwell Gird Championships** and Children's Street Games in Milnathort Primary School playground at 12 noon.

Saturday 8 **MICHAEL MARRA** + support in Milnathort Town Hall at 7pm. Tickets £8.

Saturday 8 **GABERLUNZIE** + Festival Guests in the Thistle Hotel at 9pm. Tickets £8.

Sunday 9 **YOUTH CONCERT** in the Thistle Hotel at 2pm.
Sunday 9 **FINAL CONCERT** at 7.30pm in the Thistle Hotel with **Tich Frier**, featuring all Festival Artists left standing. Tickets £8.

Tickets are available from Common Grounds (Scout Hall, Church Street, Milnathort), the Post Office, Milnathort, or telephone 863000.

Full information can be found at www.milnathort.info



Gaberlunzie will be appearing live at the Milnathort Folk Festival

News from the Health Centre



Nurse Practitioner role

If you phone the health centre for an appointment you may be offered an appointment with our nurse practitioner, Lynne Pollock. However, many people may not be familiar with the role of the nurse practitioner. The following therefore summarises her experience, qualifications and the scope of her practice.

Lynne is a registered nurse who has many years of experience in general practice. She has a BA in Nursing Studies and has continued her studies throughout her career. She qualified as a Nurse Practitioner in October 2007 and is currently working towards a Masters degree in Advanced Practice with the University of Cumbria. The training that she has undergone to achieve nurse practitioner status includes diagnosis and management of common medical conditions including acute and chronic illnesses, and the provision of a wide range of health care.

A nurse practitioner is not a mini doctor and neither is she a cheap alternative to a general practitioner. She is part of the primary care skill mix, providing much the same care as that provided by the general practitioner.

A nurse practitioner can:

- See patients of all ages, although Lynne will normally see patients from the age of one year upwards
- Work autonomously in diagnosing, evaluating and managing acute and chronic illness e.g. pneumonia, asthma, high blood pressure and many more.
- Obtain a medical history and carry out a physical examination
- Order, perform and interpret diagnostic studies e.g. blood results, x-rays, scans
- Prescribe medication
- Provide women's health screening, family planning, and travel health advice
- Prescribe physiotherapy referral and other rehabilitating treatments appropriate to the individual patient.
- Collaborate with clinical colleagues and other health professionals, and refer patients as required
- Counsel and educate patients on health beliefs, self-care abilities and treatment options.

Lynne maintains a close working relationship with the doctors, especially the duty doctor each day. If she feels that a medical problem is complex and needs GP advice, she will arrange for the patient to be seen by a doctor.

Nurse Practitioners are becoming a more regular feature of NHS surgeries as they are able to help with a wide range of health problems. The Health Centre is fortunate to have a member of the nursing team with these skills and would encourage patients to see Lynne if offered the opportunity.

Missed Appointments

We have noticed recently that there has been an increase in the number of appointments which are missed. In January, over 150 appointments were not kept. 70 of these appointments were with GPs, 30 were appointments for blood tests and the remainder were appointments with the nurses in chronic disease management or minor illness

clinics or in the treatment room. These appointments represent over 32 hours of GP and nurse time. Based on the private sector charge out rate of £50 per hour for a GP, the GP appointments alone represent a loss of £3,500 per month, or £42,000 per annum of taxpayers money.

When appointments are booked but not used, it increases the waiting time for other patients and reduces the number of appointments available to them. We appreciate that it may sometimes not be possible to keep an appointment, but we would ask that the surgery is telephoned to cancel or re-arrange the appointment. We will continue to monitor the number of missed appointments, but are hopeful that current high rate will reduce in the coming months. With thanks for your co-operation.

Loch Leven Community Campus

On a beautiful sunny day on 13 February, a brief ceremony took place to mark the start of construction of the new Loch Leven Community Campus, which will provide a new High School and facilities for the whole Kinross-shire community.

Mr Dick Keatings, Head Teacher of Kinross High School, said the new school would provide a life-changing opportunity for pupils and the community. He cut the first turf on the site, assisted by Rebecca Ramsay, currently a first year pupil at Kinross High. Six local pupils of different ages were on hand to witness the turf cutting – each representing one of the year groups that will use the school when it opens in October 2009.

Councillor George Hayton, Deputy Leader of the administration, said that he was sure we will see something really quite wonderful develop at Lethangie.

Members of the High School User Group, a consultative forum formed in 2003, witnessed the turf-cutting event, along with Perth & Kinross Councillors, teachers, staff from the Investment in Learning Programme and employees of Laing O'Rourke, the construction company.



Head Teacher Dick Keatings with pupils representing P6 to S4

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Loch Leven Heritage Project

As happened last winter, heavy rain caused flooding around Loch Leven in January. Water rose across parts of the trail, so access wasn't possible without getting your feet wet. At Findatie, wind-driven waves washed away a bit of the path. Similarly, near Mary's Gate the burn running beside the golf course overflowed and scoured the path. These areas of damage will be repaired in the near future.

Fortunately, this time round contractors weren't trying to trail build on the waterlogged ground. There has been a winter lull in work and the third and final phase will start in mid March. This will create the 'missing link' between the Pow Burn and Findatie. TRACKS have awarded the path-building contract to MacLarty Limited, the contractors who built phase 2 of the trail.

The only work currently happening on the ground is the landscaping of Findatie car park, which is nearly complete. Planning permission has been obtained to double the size of the Burleigh Sands car park and there will also be work in the spring to tidy up the Kinross Pier car park.

Although quiet on the ground, the project team have been doing a great deal behind the scenes, especially in developing the interpretation aspects of the project. Designs are being agreed, and artists and crafts people commissioned. The features they are working on will be installed during the spring and summer, so that they are all in place by the time phase 3 is completed in late summer.

Gateway features

One of the key elements of the interpretation plan is to create 'gateways' to the trail at the three major access points: Kinross Pier, Burleigh Sands and Findatie. These are where the largest number of people will join the path and, at the same time, enter the National Nature Reserve. The aim is to give them the feeling that they are crossing the threshold to somewhere special.

Aaron Lawton, who is managing the interpretation aspects of the project, explained how the gateway design (shown here) was arrived at.

"We felt that 'vertical' gateways would be inappropriate in a natural setting, so we looked instead at low 'horizontal' gateways – defined spaces that mark entry points and can hold information and seats.

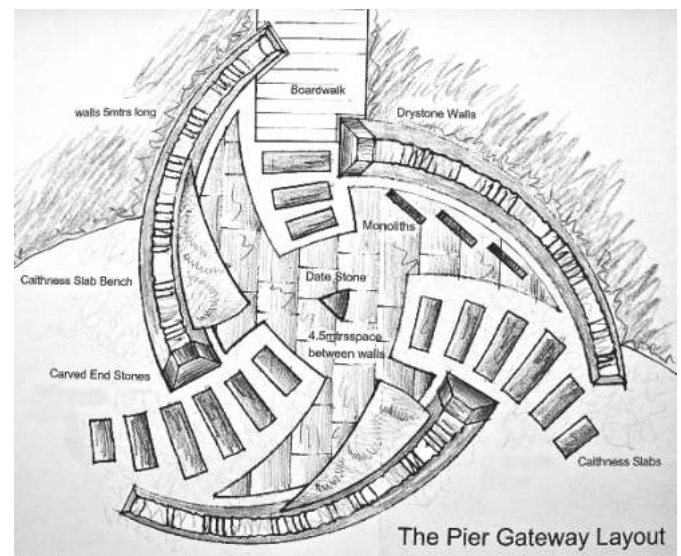
"Inspiration came from stone sheep fanks (enclosures for holding sheep) with their circular shape. We have chosen a design by David Wilson of Perth that has three stone walls with gaps for people to pass through. David has done work all over Scotland, including features at the roundabouts on the approach to Edinburgh airport.

"We want the gateways not only to be visually attractive, with lovely shapes and quality materials, but also to communicate a sense of the local heritage to those using the trail.



"The large end stones in each wall will be carved with relevant images that reflect the stories associated with that place. We haven't chosen final designs for these yet, but we've been looking at some examples – for instance a trout, a fishing fly or a curling stone for Kinross Pier, a place with strong associations to the loch's sporting heritage.

"Every gateway will also contain a couple of seats and three large slabs of Caithness flagstone resembling standing stones, each supporting a panel of information. One panel will have a map of the trail to help people get their bearings and decide where they're going. Another will contain information about the National Nature Reserve and the species that can be seen around each location at various times of year. The third will provide more information on the local heritage, for instance at Findatie about the lowering of the loch and the use of the water in the River Leven Cut for mills and distilleries downstream.



"We will use similar stone slabs for information panels at other places where people can join the trail without going through the gateways, for instance at Mary's Gate.

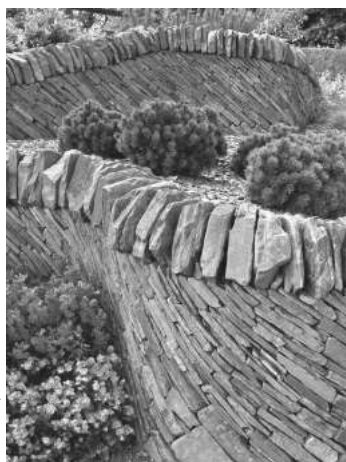
"I see the carvings on the stone walls as clues to the local heritage, there to whet visitor's appetites. If they create the 'itch' to know more, people can read the information panels or look at the website when they get home."

Materials are on order and work will start on constructing the gateways in a few weeks.

Meantime, designs are being agreed for another special place – a viewpoint overlooking the loch to the east of Kirkgate Park. Finding a suitable design for this location has been a challenge, as it is located between protected sites that form significant parts of the built and natural heritage. Kinross House and the Watchtower are behind the viewpoint and an internationally important goose roost lies in front.

Rather than build a new wall adjoining an ancient one, a softer material has been chosen as a boundary – a beech hedge. As well as being attractive in its own right, this will hide any dogs that are accompanying visitors from the sight of geese. It seems the wild birds are more tolerant of people than they are of our four-legged friends, who can easily scare them into taking flight.

You can see more of the proposed designs for the planned gateway features on our articles online page at www.kinrossnewsletter.org



An example of David Wilson's work

Perth Museum & Art Gallery George Street, Perth

Tel: 01738 632488

Perth Museum and Art Gallery has two major exhibitions running at the moment which are well worth taking time out to view.



Gillies to Bellany – Scottish Art of the 1960s 15 December 2007 – 3 May 2008

This exhibition seeks to look at the explosion of new ideas that flourished during the creative decade of the 1960s. This was a time of change and innovation in the worlds of politics, science, technology and commerce; it was a time of experimentation and development for the visual arts too. Many new galleries were established in the 1960s and some were run by co-operatives of artists. John Houston, a founder member of the 57 Gallery in Edinburgh is represented. Some explored new directions such as Ian Hamilton Finlay who introduced Conceptual art to Scotland and Scottish Realism, seen in the work of John Bellany. Increasing numbers attended the four main art schools in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee and Aberdeen. W G Gillies was a highly influential teacher at Edinburgh and his contribution to Scottish art is represented by a Still Life dated 1960 and a late landscape, as well as a number of works by some of his former pupils including Robin Philipson.

A selection of interactive activities for families complement the exhibition and a display of objects from the museum's 1960's loan kits will be in the entrance hall.

A Glimpse of the Floating World 19 January – 14 June 2008

A Glimpse of the Floating World explores Japanese art of the 19th century and draws on the little known Japanese collections of Perth Museum and Art Gallery.

'Floating world' was a term used to describe the entertainment districts of Japanese cities where tea-houses and kabuki theatres flourished, a world set apart from mainstream Japanese society.

The exhibition includes original woodblock prints by some of the masters of the art such as Hokusai and Hiroshige as well as examples of lacquer ware, ceramics, enamels, netsuke, swords and sword guards. Through these prints and objects visitors can catch a glimpse of the traditional Japanese art and culture of the tea house, geishas, Samurai and life in Japan during the 19th century when it was first explored by visitors from the West.

A programme of lunchtime lectures and demonstrations including Ikebana, Bonsai and Calligraphy, complement the exhibition. These will take place between February and April 2008.

Perth Museum and Art Gallery is open Monday – Saturday, 10.00am until 5.00pm. Admission is free.

DRIVING TUITION

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Dobbies help Walking on Air

Dobbies Garden Centre has presented a cheque for £247 to Walking on Air, a local charity which provides a sense of adventure for disabled people, enabling them to soar like birds on a modified K21 glider.

A Christmas charity evening in October kick-started the fundraising. Visitors paying £1 enjoyed festive and horticultural demonstrations, live music from the Proud Clansmen and mince pies and mulled wine.

Funds were also raised through the Dobbies Christmas Wish Tree in December. Customers left special thoughts for the season, a loved one, or just wished for what they wanted for Christmas on special baubles costing 50 pence.

Cathal Gowdy, General Manager for Dobbies in Kinross, said: "Thank you to all our customers who helped us raise such an excellent amount of money for the charity. It was a pleasure to have been a part of such a worthy cause."



Fi McLaughlin, Plant Manager at Dobbies presents the cheque to Andrew Gordon from Walking on Air

Spring Events at Dobbies Garden Centre, Kinross

Lavender Week, Monday 3 to Tuesday 11 March.

Supporting the Lavender Trust at Breast Cancer Care, there are special offers and a lavender beauty product charity prize draw.

Spring Preview Evening, Thursday 13 March, 5pm to 8pm. See Dobbies' new spring range and take advantage of special offers and discounts. An evening of live musical entertainment, spring-themed demos, seasonal horticultural talks and more. All customers can enjoy a complimentary glass of wine on arrival. Gardening Club Members will also receive double points on purchases.

Easter Bunny Treasure Hunt, Friday 21 to Monday 24 March. Free for children of all ages, search for Easter Bunny images hidden around the garden centre to win a mini Lindt chocolate bunny.

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Tips For Dog Walkers at Loch Leven National Nature Reserve

Over a third of visits to the UK countryside are made with a dog as a companion and dog walkers are the most significant repeat users of paths, tracks and trails.

Now that more of the Loch Leven Heritage Trail (LLHT) around Loch Leven is open and with spring around the corner, SNH Nature Reserve Staff thought this would be an ideal time to provide some advice to dog walkers on the Reserve. Nearly all of the Trail is within the boundary of Loch Leven National Nature Reserve (NNR) and it offers people the opportunity to explore and enjoy the wonderful wildlife spectacle. However, taking access to this special place comes with responsibilities to ensure we all cause minimal disturbance.

Dogs are by nature hunters, and birds, by nature, are prey. These ancestral roles mean that dog owners have an added responsibility on the nature reserve to ensure that our four legged friends cause as little disturbance as possible.



Why we need to take special care at Loch Leven

Dogs have been bred and domesticated for thousands of years, so are not a natural part of Britain's wildlife. They are, in fact, man's companion. They are also, however, seen as a major predator by wildlife. When a spaniel or a labrador quarters an area, they are in reality, looking for prey to hunt or retrieve. This has the potential to create large scale disturbance to wildlife throughout the nature reserve. A dog's bark is enough to disturb and affect a brood of ducks taking shelter along the shoreline or in the many burns and ditches running through the marshes into the loch. Even though you may not see your dog chasing a bird or a squirrel, these animals sense your dog's presence and move away. Not only does this reduce the number and variety of wildlife in the area where dogs are not under proper control but it also means that someone else walking in the area is less likely to see and hear wildlife.

Unfortunately, SNH staff have come across various incidents where dogs have been running out of control and causing disturbance on the path. These have included: a dog chasing a roe deer near Mary's Gate, dogs swimming in the North Quiche, where water voles, kingfishers and otters are all present and dogs down on the shore of the loch disturbing areas where birds are congregating to feed and shelter. In addition, a clear up in December found more than 30 used dog bags, and many incidents of dog mess simply

left in the short section between the Kirkgate and Mary's Gate.

One of the principal reasons people want to visit Loch Leven is because it's a quiet haven for wildlife; we have a combined responsibility to ensure it stays that way. We hope that by getting out the message about the special qualities of the Loch and the impact that dogs can have on wildlife and amenity, that people will be considerate to others.

Please, remember you're on one of Scotland's 55 National Nature Reserves and if you have your dog with you on a walk on the Trail, keep it beside you.

Did you know?

The Scottish Outdoor Access Code gives guidance on how people (and pets) should behave in the countryside when visiting places like Loch Leven. Everyone using the Heritage Trail, whether they're a dog owner or not, should follow the guidance in the Code. Details can be found on www.outdooraccess-scotland.com and a range of helpful leaflets, including one for dog owners, help explain our rights and responsibilities.

The Dog Fouling (Scotland) Act 2003 makes it an offence for owners to fail to clear up after their dogs and fines of up to £500 can be given. If you see someone failing to clear up after their dog, you can report this to the Perth & Kinross Council Dog Warden on 01738 475000. You can dispose of dog waste in any litter bin, but please use dog waste bins if there is one, or take it home with you.

SNH's Local Access Guidance for Loch Leven NNR is set out in leaflets available around the loch at access points.

Dog walkers: Top tips for enjoying your visit to Loch Leven

- Don't forget your lead and dog bags when you leave the house.
- The open grass areas found toward the end of Kirkgate Park, and Burleigh Sands give owners an opportunity to let their dog off the leash to chase a ball, roll around and explore. The sandy areas of Burleigh, Kirkgate park and Findatie give owners a chance to let their dog get close to the water.
- Please keep your dog under close control whilst on the rest of the Heritage Trail – this means on a short lead (2m or less) or close at heel (within a metre or so of your feet) and able to respond to your commands.
- There are some areas where your dog might want to go for a swim – please stop them from swimming anywhere other than the sands at Kirkgate, Burleigh or Findatie.
- Please help others to enjoy their visit by cleaning up after your dog – it's against the law not to! You can use any bin on the trail to dispose of your dog mess, but if a red dog dirt bin is nearby, please use it.

Kinross High School Citizenship Quaich

Ethos of the Award

Good citizenship and education for citizenship should motivate young people to be active and responsible members of their local, national and global communities. Citizenship involves building bridges between schools and their communities to help young people develop knowledge and understanding of, and respect and care for, their community and the wider world.

The awards will recognise outstanding commitment and achievement in the community by a Kinross High School pupil or group of pupils in their respective year groups.

There are three Citizenship Cups to be awarded each year covering the following year groups:

1st and 2nd Years, 3rd and 4th Years, 5th and 6th Years

In making your nomination(s) you may wish to consider young people who have or are developing as responsible citizens. This might be indicated in the following ways:

- Showing respect for others;
- Commitment to participate responsibly in the political, economic, social and cultural life of the local and wider community;
- Wanting to make a positive difference in the quality of life of individuals or groups of people in the local and wider community.

Which might enable them to improve their:

- Knowledge and understanding of the world, Scotland and Kinross and its place in it;
- Understanding of different beliefs and cultures;
- Decision-making process;
- Understanding of environmental, scientific and technical issues;
- Development of their views on moral and ethical issues.

These awards are to be presented on the evening of the High School Prize Giving in June 2008 for each of the year groups.

What the School Council needs from you are:

Written nominations with supporting evidence from all members of the community. This would include all external clubs, societies and organisations as well as from Kinross High School pupils and staff. Nominations should be brief and limited to no more than one side of A4. Alternatively you may use the tear off nomination form provided on this page.

Nominations and supporting evidence should be sent to the address shown no later than **1.00pm on Monday 2 June 2008**.

Please return your completed nomination to: Kinross High School Citizenship Quaich, The Kinross High School Council, The School Secretary, Kinross High School, 8 High Street, Kinross, KY13 8AW. Nominations should arrive no later than 1.00 pm on Monday 2 June 2008.

Kinross High School Citizenship Quaich - 2008 Nomination Form

Name of person, persons or organisation making the nomination:

.....

Contact postal address and telephone number of person, persons or organisation making the nomination:

.....

I/We wish to nominate the following Kinross High School pupil (or pupils) for the award of the 2008 Kinross High School Citizenship Cup:

Pupil/ Groups of pupils full name:

.....

School year category (Circle as appropriate):

1st & 2nd

3rd & 4th

5th & 6th

Reason for nomination:

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Kinross-shire Plastic Bag Free Campaign

Following the lead of other UK towns and counties, an initiative is underway to make Kinross-shire Plastic Bag Free. The campaign already has the support of local councillor Willie Robertson, local traders, Perth & Kinross Council and Kinross-shire Partnership.

It's not so long ago that shops began giving out free plastic carrier bags. Before the 1970s, we took our own bags and baskets to the shops or reused the store's cardboard boxes. Now, 13 billion plastic bags are given out each year in the UK (Defra, 2007).

Plastic bags have a negative impact on the environment - non-renewable energy and resources are needed to produce them and they damage wildlife when they're discarded. They form highly visible litter; they're lightweight so are easily blown around and often end up dangling from trees and bushes.

On average we use a plastic bag for 12 minutes before discarding it (United Nations Environmental Programme, 2006). It then takes 500 to 1000 years to degrade. When they do decay, the plastic breaks into smaller and smaller toxic particles that pollute soil, rivers, lakes and oceans.

Plastic bag litter is damaging to wildlife, particularly in the marine environment, killing at least 100,000 birds, whales, seals and turtles every year (Laist, 1997). Turtles and albatrosses mistake plastic bags for their prey, jellyfish and squid. According to marine biologists, there were hardly any plastic bags to be found in oceans in the 1970s and 1980s; they are now everywhere.

The following gives you an idea of the impact plastic bags have in the marine environment:

- A dead Minke whale washed up on the Normandy coast in 2002 had 800g of plastic bags, including UK supermarket bags, in its stomach (GECC, 2002, quoted by 'Keep Wales Tidy', 2006);
- In Galloway, in 1998 a leatherback turtle, a species which is on the World Conservation Union's endangered Red List, was found dead with plastic bags obstructing its innards. (MCS, 2008);
- A rare Cuviers Beaked Whale was washed up dead in Mull in 2004. Its gut was found to be completely blocked by plastic bags (Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust, 2004, at www.adoptabeach.org.uk).

After an animal is killed by plastic bags, its body decomposes and the plastic is released back into the environment, where it can kill again.

Plastic bags also harm wildlife by entangling animals, restricting their movement and leading to starvation, drowning or suffocation.

How can you help Kinross-shire to be Plastic Bag Free?

It's easy!

- Take your own long-lasting bags with you when you go shopping and politely refuse plastic carriers offered to you. Keep a few bags in your car or handbag so that you're not 'caught out'.
- If you're handy with a sewing machine, make your own bags from old curtains, duvet covers, etc. For instructions, go to www.morsbags.com
- Reuse any plastic bags you do have.
- Compost kitchen waste rather than fill up your bin – that way you'll need fewer bin liners.

Visit us at the Perth and Kinross Council 'Waste Aware' stand at the 'Better Place to Live Fair', Kinross High School, **Saturday 8 March**.

If you would like to offer your support to the campaign, email: sarah.eaton@care4free.net

For all of the above information, and more, please visit these websites:

www.abolishplasticbags.org.uk
www.plasticbagfree.com
www.wearewhatwedo.org
www.getseriousworld.com
www.grownupgreen.org.uk
www.adoptabeach.org.uk
www.theendofplasticbags.co.uk
www.reduce-the-use.com



Home-Start seeks parent volunteers



A charitable organisation which has been supporting young families throughout Perthshire for the past 23 years is seeking more volunteers to help meet the demand for its services.

Home-Start Perth depends absolutely on parent volunteers: there are over 300 Home-Start schemes throughout the UK – but there wouldn't be one without the amazing voluntary work force.

What is Home-Start? It's a very simple concept, nothing whatsoever to do with the AA and getting your car started, but everything to do with recognising the needs of families with young children.

Families are referred to the scheme – usually by their health visitor – when experiencing a short term hiccup or going through a rough patch and another pair of hands and a listening ear may be welcomed. Situations where stress levels are likely to be high include: multiple births, post-natal depression, illness in either parent or child, isolation, loneliness, being new to the area, bereavement – all manner of difficulties.

Home-Start volunteers, all having parenting experience and remembering their own 'ups and downs', are matched with a family whom they will visit once a week with the aim of making a positive difference. That 'difference' may not be huge but enough for parents and children to feel that their needs have been acknowledged and accepted and that there may well be a way forward.

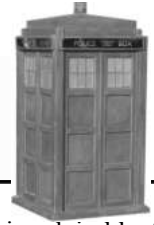
Every prospective volunteer attends a mandatory Preparation Course and has references taken up, including CRBS disclosure, before being matched with a family.

The course has eight sessions and reflects on a variety of topics affecting family life. It is informal, not academic and allows the Co-ordinators to get to know everyone, which helps with the matching process. There is an ongoing support programme and also social events.

All expenses, including travelling to the Preparation Course, are covered.

The next Course will be in March. If you are a parent or grandparent with a little time on your hands, why not use your own valuable life experience to help support a struggling young family?

Interested? Please phone 01738 638847 for an information pack.



Police Box

Kinross Police Station

We were recently concerned to learn that some members of the public delayed reporting crimes because they were under the impression that Kinross Police Station was not continuously manned. We would like to reassure you that the Kinross Section is manned 24 hours a day, albeit the office may not be. Under normal circumstances between 0900 hours and 1700 hours, Monday to Friday, somebody will be on the premises to attend to the public. However at times when this is not the case, such as during the night, you will still be able to get through to the police by phoning Kinross Police Office on 01577 863571. Calls to the Police Office, if not answered, will be diverted to our Divisional Headquarters at Perth where somebody will take your call and pass the information on to the local officers to take appropriate action. If your call is an emergency or that of a serious nature that requires immediate police attendance then do not-hesitate to phone 999.

Should anyone, at any time, attend at Kinross Police Office and find it unmanned there is a telephone at the door that will connect you to Perth and the operator will take your call and deal with it in the manner as described above.

Visibility in the dark

Some complaints have also been received in connection with non-vehicular road users who are putting themselves (and others) in danger by not wearing adequate clothing, which

highlights their presence, on the roads. It is advisable for persons who jog, cycle or use horses on the roads, to wear clothing, where possible, which is fluorescent or reflective during the hours of darkness. This will give any drivers of vehicles an indication of their presence on the road and hopefully avoid any collisions. This has become particularly noticeable in the early hours of the morning with youths on newspaper delivery rounds and again it should be reiterated the requirements to have adequate lighting on their bikes and to wear suitable reflective clothing.

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 cannot be contacted if you choose to remain anonymous. Community Liaison Officers (details shown below) can be contacted at Kinross Police Office on 01577 863571.

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

Geese help local turf grower

Hungry geese have solved a climate change headache for owners of a turf farm on the banks of Loch Leven. With their grass still growing during the winter months, Stewartsturf at Kinnesswood Farm can't risk damaging their fields with heavy mowing machinery. But thousands of geese are doing the job for them!

"Grass growth is still going on in winter, but there's no way we can touch it, especially as we've had so much rain lately," says Duncan Forbes, co-owner of Stewartsturf.

The solution? Pink-Footed geese from Iceland and Greenland and native Greylags that have swooped in to feast on their land. The farm is just across the loch from the RSPB Vane Farm nature reserve, which welcomes up to 22,000 Pink-Footed geese every year, as well as anything between 500 and 1000 of their Greylag cousins.

Stewartsturf is Scotland's top turf grower, a family-owned company run by Graeme Forbes and his son Duncan. Stewarts started life in 1894 and has supplied everyone from greenkeepers and grounds men at Gleneagles and Murrayfield, to gardeners all over the UK.

"The geese usually arrive at dawn, and it's quite incredible to watch," says Duncan.

"It can be quite misty on the banks of the loch and they just drop out of the sky. The sheer volume of them is amazing and the noise is incredible.

"They munch away on the grass but they seldom cause damage, although it would be helpful if they'd learn to walk

up and down in straight lines.

"Geese are grazing animals, like flying sheep really," says Dave Jones, senior warden at the RSPB's Vane Farm.

"Their main food is grass, and if it's growing it's more nutritious for them.

"Sometimes they go on to winter cereals and eat other things like fragments of potatoes or neeps."

The Pink-Footed geese began to arrive in September last year, and will remain at Loch Leven until spring.

Duncan says the geese act as a marker of seasonal change.

"Our turf business is very seasonal, so we're massively busy all through spring and summer supplying landscapers and domestic gardens, as well as sports grounds and golf courses.

"When the geese arrive, things begin to slow down. And when they're ready to leave, that's when we pick up."

If you want to catch a glimpse of the geese, the ideal spot is from the Loch Leven Heritage Trail.



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Ian Mackay 01577 864751

The future of Kinross Questionnaire

Kinross Community Council are interested in your views.

We are investigating what people want Kinross to be like in the next 10 to 15 years.

Please help us by completing this questionnaire and sending it to **Dave Cuthbert, 8 Highfield Circle, Kinross, KY13 8RZ**

Where there are several choices of response please select the one most relevant to yourself.

If you do not wish to remove this page, questionnaires can be downloaded from www.kinross.cc

1	What sort of town would you like Kinross to be?			
	Commuter Town <input type="checkbox"/>	Self Sustained with jobs for residents <input type="checkbox"/>	Strong Tourism Base <input type="checkbox"/>	Other Please Specify _____
2	Would you like to see the railway restored to connect with the existing system at Cowdenbeath and Bridge of Earn offering potential journeys to Edinburgh and Perth?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
3	Do you think there should be more jobs in Kinross?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
4	If so, what type of jobs would you like to see added to Kinross?			
	Unskilled <input type="checkbox"/>	Part time <input type="checkbox"/>	Office <input type="checkbox"/>	Small Business Incentive <input type="checkbox"/> Other Please Specify _____
5	Are there enough sports facilities available in Kinross?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
6	Would you like to see water sports on Loch Leven, if so which ones?			
	Sail craft <input type="checkbox"/>	Rowing Boats <input type="checkbox"/>	Motor craft <input type="checkbox"/>	None due to wildlife disturbance <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
7	Would you like to see more major events at Balado in addition to T in the Park?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
8	Do you think the Town Centre should be improved?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
9	If so, how?			
	Part Pedestrianisation <input type="checkbox"/>	Retail Development <input type="checkbox"/>	Business Development <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Art & Music Centre <input type="checkbox"/>	Other Please Specify: _____		
10	Is there enough parking available in the town centre?			
	Long term		Short term paid	
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
			Short term unpaid	
			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
11	Kinross Primary School is getting close to its capacity, which option do you think is the most appropriate?			
	Add to existing school <input type="checkbox"/>	Build a second school <input type="checkbox"/>	Relocate to the old High School Site <input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____
12	What would encourage you to shop in Kinross?			
	Large Supermarket Presence <input type="checkbox"/>	Retail Park Presence <input type="checkbox"/>	Local Market/Events <input type="checkbox"/>	Cafes & Eating places <input type="checkbox"/>
	Small Specialist Shops <input type="checkbox"/>	Attractive Setting <input type="checkbox"/>	Ample parking <input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____
13	Should there be roundabouts at either end of Springfield Road?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
14	How would you like to see the Town Hall building used?			
	Private Housing <input type="checkbox"/>	Business Centre <input type="checkbox"/>	Arts & Music Centre <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Youth & Community Space <input type="checkbox"/>	Retail Centre <input type="checkbox"/>	Other Please Specify: _____	
15	If the Primary school does not move into the Old High School, how would you like to see the old Kinross High School site being used?			
	Private Housing <input type="checkbox"/>	Business/Retail Centre <input type="checkbox"/>	Arts & Music Centre <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Youth & Community Space <input type="checkbox"/>	Retained as a Public Building <input type="checkbox"/>	Other Please Specify: _____	
16	Is there enough for the young people of Kinross to do?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
17	What would encourage the young people of Kinross to stay in the area?			
	Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Appropriate Training Opportunities <input type="checkbox"/>	Appropriate Jobs <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Appropriate Housing <input type="checkbox"/>	Good Transport Links <input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____	
18	What do you like about living in Kinross?			
19	Where do you work?			
20	Do you have any further comments			

Community Council News



All Community Council meetings are open to the general public.

Kinross Community Council

News from the January Meeting

Present at the meeting held on 9 January were: CCllrs D Colliar (Chairman), D Cuthbert, I Jack (Treasurer), M Blyth, D Mackay, C Watson, J Drummond, C Drummond, S Bathgate and M Scott (Secy). Also in attendance were: P&K Cllr S Miller, PC Lynn Petrie and six members of the public. Apologies for absence were received from CCllr L Mackay and P&K Cllrs W Robertson and M Barnacle.

Police Report

The recent act of vandalism mentioned previously has now been successfully detected and a report will be submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

The drink-driving campaign in Tayside over the four-week period at Christmas/New Year resulted in 64 drivers being charged with drink driving and four related to drugs. This is a similar record to last year. The figures in respect of collisions were 379 non-injury and 47 resulting in injuries. There were two fatalities. CCllr Drummond enquired if the figures greatly increase over the festive period in comparison to the rest of the year. PC Petrie was unable to provide any information in this regard.

CCllr Blyth raised the matter of the speeding cars in the Muirs and asked if there was a possibility of a camera being sited at this location. PC Petrie advised that such a measure would be in the remit of the local Police.



Speeding cars a problem in the Muirs
Photo: Pauline Watson, www.kinross.cc photolibrary

Planning Applications

05/02457/FUL Scottish Motor Auction: proposed residential development and ancillary works (72 dwelling houses and 125 flats). The Secy has written to Planning requesting an extension to the deadline for comment on the above.

07/02474/FUL Chance Inn Farm, Kinross: Demolition of existing buildings and erection of 17 dwelling houses, 4 affordable dwelling houses and associated garaged and roads. It was agreed that we should forward a "holding letter" requesting sight of the plans and other information and to request that they defer reaching any decision on this

application until we are in a position to forward comments following our meeting in February.

A general discussion was held on the subject of Planning and the CC's role in relation to the consultation process. The Chairman explained that the Statutory Consultees are Roads and Transport, Scottish Water, SEPA and Environment Services. The CC are also given the opportunity to comment on applications. Mr Alexander advised that with the exception of the CC, the comments received from these bodies may determine whether or not an application is refused. However, the Council have a duty to inform the CC of all applications which fall within our jurisdiction and any comments made by the CC are taken into account in determining an application.

Applications Approved

Erection of 22 dwelling houses at Hattonburn Farm, Milnathort, Kinross.

07/02615/PN Hillside House, Kinross: Erection of a general purpose building. CCllr D Mackay mentioned that she had not received any notification of this application.

07/02379/FUL Loch Leven Leisure Centre, Kinross: Siting of a storage container.

06/01755/FUL Braelin, Kinross: Change of Use from agricultural land to assembly and leisure (class 11).

Perth & Kinross Councillors

Cllr Miller requested that the CC support the KGV Playing Field Committee.

Signage: A number of street signs had been removed from locations in Kinross, Causeway Court being reported by Cllr Miller. It was mentioned that signage was to be in place on certain roads. This was raised in November, and has not yet been carried out.

Enforcement: The banners have re-appeared at Somerfield. The Enforcement Officer was to address this matter. Cllr Miller mentioned that there was another enforcement issue he had raised with P&KC regarding a property in Sandport.

Flooding: CCllr Bathgate had received a call from Mr Karon, a High Street resident, requesting details of who to approach regarding flooding at the front of his house. Cllr Miller suggested that his contact details be given to Mr Karon and he would address the matter.

Correspondence Received

Myre Park: A communication has been received from P&KC advising that they are aware of the condition of the car park and have been carrying out some drainage works to help prevent some of the flooding problems. In addition they are obtaining quotes for works to improve the surface.

Core Paths Planning Consultation: Proposals for core paths have been drawn up for much of Perth and Kinross. These are now available to view as a series of maps. Our own Ward is still undergoing local consultation but the plan will be made available no later than 31 January. The CC will receive a copy of a map for its area. The informal

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consultation on the core paths plan proposals is to 31 March 2008, with the formal statutory consultation on the Draft Core Plan around April 2008. The plans are available for perusal on www.pkc.gov.uk and at Pullar House, 35 Kinnoull Street, Perth, and from the local council office. Leaflets were also received informing of procedures etc and these include a response form for feedback. Anyone with an interest in the plan may provide comments.



*Path of the former railway, near M90.
Part of the proposed core path network*

Health meeting: P&KC Community Health Partnership plan to hold a Committee Meeting in Kinross in 2008 and would like to invite members of the CC to attend. The Secy has asked for further information.

Other Business

Courier complaint: In conjunction with Eileen (representing the Newsletter) an article was published in the Courier answering the comments made by Mr Grant.

Branches: There are overhanging branches in Station Road. This is the responsibility of the house owners.

Town Hall: An update was given by CCllr Cuthbert.

Footpaths: The Chairman questioned the construction of a new footpath at Cleish Road. There was no consultation or information provided and it was agreed that we should approach P&KC for clarification. The Chairman mentioned that the CC had previously requested the construction of a pavement at Gallowhill Road to Milnathort. It was told that there was no budget available for such a proposal. Mr Alexander mentioned that this may be adopted in the Core Paths scheme. Cllr Miller will investigate.

Housing in the Countryside Policy: A member of the public asked if Cllr Miller could clarify the Council's stance in relation to the farming community reducing their livestock capacity in order to reach the targets to be met with regard to phosphates on the land. Cllr Miller was unable to provide an answer to this question. The Chairman stated that the CC were concerned at the number of farms that were going out of business.

T in the Park: A closed meeting is to be held on 14 January to discuss the Traffic Management Plan for 2008. The Committee were asked to pass on any questions to Margaret Blyth prior to the date of the meeting.

Development Plan for Kinross/Future of the Town: It was agreed that a meeting be held in the Green Hotel on 21 January to discuss the future development of the town.

Laptop: The Secy's computer had broken down and it was agreed that a laptop be purchased for use in taking minutes

etc. The Treasurer had purchased the computer and this was handed over to the Secy this evening.

News from the February Meeting

Present at the meeting held on 6 February were: CCllrs D Colliar, S Bathgate, D Mackay, J Drummond, C Drummond and M Scott. Also in attendance were: P&K Cllrs Baird, Barnacle, Miller and Robertson; two representatives from P&KC, John McCrone (Conservation and Regeneration Manager) and Rachel Haworth (Conservation Officer); a representative from the Police and six members of the public. Apologies for absence were received from CCllrs Watson, Blyth, Jack and Cuthbert.

Police Report

Theft of scrap value metal continues to occur in this area. There was an incident of a high value theft at the Wind Farm in Glendevon towards the end of last month.

The T In The Park liaison officer for 2008 is Sergeant David Rankine and any T in the Park issues should be addressed to him. A dedicated phone line is to be set up. In the meantime, however, he can be contacted by phoning the local police office.

CCllr J Drummond enquired if the figures for drink-driving greatly increased over the festive period in comparison to the rest of the year and if there was a significant margin. The information was not available this evening, however a report can be provided by the Police. It was probable that there would be a noticeable increase; the police certainly stop more vehicles at this time of year.

Report from Conservation Officers

The Chairman introduced John McCrone and Rachel Haworth who were invited to discuss issues in relation to the conservation area in the town. The CC had occasion to write to P&KC recently querying the painting of properties in the High Street conservation area. It was confirmed by Mr McCrone that conditions are imposed on proprietors in conservation areas and it is their duty to uphold these. Our communication will have been passed on to the Enforcement Officer who will be addressing these issues.

Mr McCrone explained the structure of his department and summarised their duties. Rachel Haworth also deals with Listed Building Consent applications in conservation areas. They provide a specialist service to planning officers in terms of applications as to how they affect the environment and a broader role in regeneration. The department provides advice to people regarding heritage and assistance through grant schemes and major investments. This section was only established two years ago and they are catching up on the backlog of development grants. Funding is available from Historic Scotland and the Heritage Lottery Fund to promote development and upgrade of towns.

The Kinross conservation area was originally designated in 1979 and extended in 1989. Improvements have been carried out within the last ten years to the High Street, Town Hall, Swansacre, Avenue Road, Kirkgate Park and Gacé Park. A façade improvement scheme was also carried out in the early 90s, which included School Wynd and the High Street; a number of properties received work under this plan.

In 1995 a comprehensive strategy plan was prepared for the town centre; this also involved the preparation of a document to secure funding.

Focus is held on improving the town centre on the back of the proposed relief road (which should reduce traffic through the High Street allowing the widening of pavements

etc.). Grant assistance is available to owners, subject to securing funding from other agencies. It was to be hoped that the Council will allocate budget funds, to match funding from other sources.

An up-to-date appraisal of the conservation area is required. This will involve consultation with the CC and the community on suggested proposals. This work is programmed for later this year. The timescale for gathering all information should be around two years.

The building at Swansacre is to be made safe and secure and is to be remarketed. Maintenance at the Kirkgate is ongoing and improvements at the graveyard in association with TRACKS are planned.

Regarding the colour of the shop fronts in the High Street, Mr McCrone advised that the responsibility of buildings rests with the owners; the Council are only able to step in if works are carried out which are adverse to any conditions imposed. Improvements are to be encouraged. However, any proposed exterior decoration in a conservation area should have gone through the planning process to confirm whether it is the appropriate colour etc. Should an Enforcement Officer be called out and, as in the case raised by the CC, if a building has been painted and the colour not authorised by the Council, there may be repercussions on the owners for carrying out this work without the required consent. However, Mr McCrone advised that Enforcement is a complicated process.

A new Enforcement Officer, Ray Short, had been appointed within the last two weeks.

Permitted development may be restricted in a conservation area.

Trees are protected in a conservation area. Consent is required from the Felling Commission for felling trees. Should this not be sought prior to the removal of a number of trees (outwith a Tree Preservation area) then enforcement action may be taken.

CCllr Bathgate questioned whether Kinross would apply for economic designation in a HL fund. Mr McCrone confirmed that Sandra Macrae did some work on economic structure and Kinross is relatively buoyant. An argument would have to be made that there is regeneration need here.

Mr McCrone offered to provide the CC with a copy of the General Guidance Notes relating to conservation areas. The Chairman also asked for leaflets and a map showing the Kinross conservation area. These will be provided by Mr McCrone. He will also forward some information on the repair and maintenance of historic buildings.

A query was raised regarding consultation and the granting of Listed Building Consent. This is under review at the moment. Historic Scotland grants Listed Building Consent.

Currently there is no requirement to consult with the owner of a property in relation to the granting of Listed Building Consent, however as a matter of courtesy most are notified.

Another member of the public raised a question regarding the planned review, asking if there were specific guidelines for the Kinross area and if it was their intention to seek Section 75 Agreements. Mr McCrone answered that the proposal was to carry out an appraisal guidance to update the current plan. This would cover all level of details regarding signage, colour of buildings etc; a template requires to be in place.

Mr McCrone and Rachel Haworth were thanked for their attendance and for presenting such an informative report.

Matters Arising from January Meeting

Planning: Cllr Barnacle commented that the CC is consulted in terms of planning applications, however a proposal was made at a Council Meeting prior to Christmas to fix the number of objections raised against planning applications to five. Cllr Barnacle was totally against this move. CCllr J Drummond stated that the role of the CC has effectively been reduced as a result of this and it was intolerable that we were not consulted prior to this decision being taken. Cllr Robertson was also opposed to this move. The Head of Development Standards has the power to reject an application in cases where there are less than five objections.

We are to write to Perth and Kinross Association of Community Councils raising the point with them as this affects all CCs in the area. It was also suggested that we should write to the Chief Executive.

Cllr Baird will also raise this matter at the next Scrutiny Meeting, when Planning Officers will be in attendance. We are to write to her asking that she pursue this on our behalf and ask for an explanation as to why the CCs were not consulted in relation to the change in policy. Cllr Barnacle will also raise this matter at the next Development Control Meeting and the Housing in the Countryside Meeting.

Cllr Miller stated that he attended the Committee Meeting and was in favour of the Committee's final decision.

Footpath at Cleish Road: Cllr Barnacle explained that he had been pursuing this matter for some time, having been consulted by a family living in the vicinity of Cleish Road. One of the family members uses a wheelchair and they had asked if a footpath could be a possibility to allow access to the town.

Planning Matters

07/02781/FUL Land to the rear of 106 High Street, Kinross: Renewal of planning consent (03/00541/FUL) for the erection of two dwelling houses on land at rear of High Street (back of Town Hall). The Chairman asked that a

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clause be inserted to this proposal that access rights be agreed for the maintenance of the side and rear of the Town Hall. The CC agreed that we should write to the Council with this request.

07/02474/FUL Chance Inn Farm, Kinross for Caledonian Trust plc: Demolition of Steading Buildings and erection of 17 dwelling houses, four affordable dwelling houses and associated garages and roads. Cllr Barnacle produced a copy letter submitted by Cleish & Blairadam CC in objection to this application. Although the location does not fall within their jurisdiction, they write that the volume and scale of the proposed development and the overall intrusion in the open countryside is of great concern to them, being within the borders of their Parish. They continue their letter by stating that this is an unacceptable and totally inappropriate urban development in the open countryside and contrary to a number of policies in the Kinross Local Area Plan and Housing in the Countryside Policy. After considering the plans and a comment made by a member of the public, the matter was discussed further. It was agreed that we should object to this application on similar grounds raised in the correspondence from Cleish and Fossoway CC. Drainage was also of major concern.

Cllr Barnacle has received a list of Affordable Housing sites from Head of Housing. A number of builders include the construction of "affordable houses" within their developments; the alternative is for the builders to contribute a sum of money. These sums are then retained by P&KC until a site is identified. There is a scarcity of suitable locations in Perth and Kinross for such development. The developers offer "Affordable Housing" in their planning applications as a means of securing the site, but the majority opt for the contribution option as the inclusion of this type of property can have an adverse affect on house sales. Cllr Barnacle has raised concerns regarding this. A question was raised as to whether, should the Developer of the Motor Auction site follow the contribution option, the retained funds would be utilised for affordable housing in the Kinross area or towards the construction of properties in other locations in Perth and Kinross. The difficulty, as mentioned above, is in securing these sites.

A member of the public commented that taking into account the proposed development in the town there is an urgent need to build a new sewage system. It was further commented that P&KC require to amend the Local Plan to allow the proposed development. We have invited Peter Marshall to our next meeting to discuss the proposed development of the Scottish Motor Auction site.

Planning Applications Approved or Withdrawn

The following applications have been approved by P&KC: 07/02247/ADV 132 - 134 High Street (Raj Mahal), display of a sign; 07/02187/FUL Burleigh Sands Public Car Park, proposed enlargement of existing rural car park by 20 spaces, selective tree felling and landscape works; 05/02004/FUL Land at Turfhill Steading, Turfhill House, Kinross, proposed conversion of existing farm steading to four dwellinghouses with garages and demolition of brick sheds and proposed extensions.

The following applications have been withdrawn: 07/02639/FUL Land at Baltree Farm, Hatchbank Road, Gairneybank: Construction of Riding Centre, Kennels and Cattery; 07/02640/FUL Land adjacent to Hatchbank Road, Gairneybank: Construction of four new houses.

Report from Perth & Kinross Councillors

The Recycling Centre should be completed in early March. **Core Path Planning:** the plans are still awaited. CCllr Cuthbert has access to these. CCllr Bathgate mentioned that having viewed the plan she could find no trace of Nivingston. It was confirmed that this should be incorporated in the draft plan.

Roads: Cllr Barnacle has now met with representatives from the Roads Department and addressed the points which he raised in a letter to the Council last Autumn. The A977 was included in this discussion. The problem is that there is limited budget. Cllr Barnacle stated that although Government approval was received for the tourist signage on the motorway, the branding money has dried up. He suggested that we should pursue the placement of this sign, possibly through funding from the Partnership. This matter is to be raised at the Partnership AGM.

Cllr Barnacle is to meet with the Roads Officer and the liaison group on 7 Feb in relation to Balado Crossroads. CCllr J Drummond requested that the **Fairtrade signs** be replaced. These were taken down prior to T in the Park.

Cllr Barnacle stated that he had been pursuing the repairs to **Myre Park** and mentioned that a **Housing in the Countryside Meeting** had been convened.

Cllr Robertson advised that he written to the Roads Department in relation to the **footpath at Gallowhill Road** and asked that they provide a costing for this work and a timescale. Funding may be available from another source. The Chairman advised that T in the Park did offer, some years ago, to contribute 50/50 with the Council.

He has also asked that they investigate the **Fish Tail junction** as a number of accidents have occurred at this site and consideration should be given to making this safer.



CC approves idea of Primary School move into old High School

Current High School site: Following a brief consultation with the Chairman on the current High School site, a letter was drawn up and signed by all four Cllrs and forwarded to the Director of Education and Director's Services asking for the area to be considered as a site for the **Primary School**. Both the Chairman and Cllr Robertson visited the **Hayfield Wildlife Garden Site**, which has now been abandoned. It was noted that the plan proposed originally was to transfer the Primary School to the High School location, however this has since been discounted. It would be more economical for the Primary School to move to the High School and to sell the Primary School/Hayfield Garden site, which is better placed for housing. The Primary School would not require the whole of the site and consideration

should be given to utilising the remainder of the area. The Primary School is now over 40 years old and costing a lot of money to maintain. The accommodation is stretched to the limit with portacabins housing the overspill. It was questioned whether **tennis courts** are to be included at the new High School site and if the construction of further courts would be a viable proposition.

After discussion it was agreed that the CC should also write to the Children's Services endorsing the proposal to move the Primary School to the existing High School site.

It was believed that an agreement was reached to transfer any balance of funds held by these organisations (Hayfield Wildlife Garden etc.) following dissolution into the Common Good Fund for Kinross.

Cllr Robertson reported that a recent meeting was held in relation to the **Town Hall**. A considerable amount of money has been spent on this building recently in maintenance costs, including the eradication of dry rot and the payment of insurance. A court hearing has been set for 18 February.

Flooding: Cllr Robertson commented on the flooding at the bottom of Kinross. Various properties were affected, e.g. Queich Place. He has asked the authorities to carry out further investigation with a view to alleviating this problem. The Loch level was high again. A discussion is being held between all the various organisations responsible to try to do something about this. CCllr D Mackay mentioned that the area at Westhall/Tannery was also affected. Cllr Miller confirmed that he had spoken to various householders who experienced problems, including Mr Karon from the High Street. Scottish Water is to be contacted. The areas affected included MacDonald Avenue and Montgomery Way and there were reports of a significant amount of water running from the G S Brown site. The Flooding Officer is to address this problem with the developer.



*T in the Park: Campsite to open a day earlier this year
Photo: Alfredo Rosso, Kinross.cc photo library*

T in the Park: Cllr Miller attended the meeting and advised that the plan is to open the campsite a day earlier (Thursday) which would hopefully reduce the volume of traffic. With regard to the problems experienced in Cambo, and in an effort to discourage drinking in the buses, Citylink are to store any alcohol as luggage and every effort will be made to keep the travellers inside the buses. T in the Park are also to construct ramps. The application from T in the Park (re. opening campsite on Thursday) is to be considered at the Licensing Committee on 13 Feb. Cllrs may attend. The Chairman read out a letter received from P&KC in October 2007 advising that Mr Wilson would respond to his

letter on his return from holiday - he is still waiting for this response.

Cllr Baird mentioned that she had asked for a copy of the Minutes from the Meeting she attended last year (in relation to T in the Park). These have not been produced.

Cllr Barnacle stated that his impression is that they are trying to address all our concerns. The Police have made various improvements to the Traffic Plan.

A member of the public enquired as to the conditions imposed in the Licence in relation to the removal of rubbish. The Chairman believed that the timescale may be 10 days. The priority is to clear a way out for traffic and then to uplift from the campsite and surrounding area. Mention was made of the mountain of tents which were discarded last year. Such items are recycled by donating to other sources.

Correspondence

Public Toilet Campaign (Aberfeldy CC): 17 CCs have indicated their support to this campaign as at 7 December (with just one against). A petition has been started.

Rates: Account for Non Domestic Rates received from P&KC recording a zero balance. This covers the period from 1/05/06 to 31/3/07. 100% relief of £152.66.

Lodge St Serf: Invitation to attend the Better Place to Live Fair. Also advising that Lodge St Serf are having an Open Doors day in the Masonic Hall that day.

Letter received from **Keith Brown, MSP** asking for dates of CC meetings. He is keen to develop a close working relationship with the CCs in his constituency and it is his intention to attend at least one CC meeting for each CC within his constituency over the coming year. The Secy has provided the information requested.

National Nature Reserve: Email received from SNH in relation to Loch Leven NNR Management Plan. SNH has now completed its consultation on the proposed management of the NNR for the next six years. The consultation report is available from their website.

Proposed variations to various Traffic Management Orders: Variation to the A977 Crook of Devon 30/40 mph speed limits. A new housing development is being built on the site of the old sawmill at Balgowan on the C410 Madderty to Crieff Road and the variation is to introduce a 40 mph speed limit at this location. The other proposed variations relate to the 30 mph speed limit on the A977 to be extended north-eastwards to a point beyond the extent of the part time 20 mph limit. This will reduce part of what is currently a 40 mph limit to 30 mph. The 40 mph speed limit at the east end of Drum be extended to take it beyond

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the last property on the north side of the road and a 30 mph speed limit be introduced on a short section of the B9097 east of the junction with the A977. **No Waiting at any time waiting restrictions, Burns Begg Street and St Ronans Drive, Kinross.** Proposed no waiting at any time restrictions on Burns Begg Street/Old Causeway, and High Street at St Ronan's Drive. Problems are being experienced by motorists accessing Burns-Begg Street due to inconsiderate parking, and also residents exiting St Ronan's Drive onto High Street. The recommendation is that "No Waiting at Any Time" restrictions be introduced at both locations. The CC accepts these proposals.



Burns Begg Street at the junction with Old Causeway

Fossway & District CC response to our communication. The content of the letter reads that Mr Saunders is insistent that Colin Rodger of DF Concerts chaired the T in the Park meeting in May 2007. Cllr Barnacle, who was also present at the meeting, stated that it was not clear at the start of the meeting who was in the chair. Colin Rodger of DF Concerts did all the talking and Mr Colliar had inputs. This matter was discussed at the FDCC meeting on 6 November and the Chair stated that there would appear to have been an element of misunderstanding and felt that they had addressed the issues and suggested closing the matter and this was agreed by all present. Mr Alexander advised that he had attended a recent FDCC meeting and had been verbally abused by the Chairperson who questioned his attendance as "he did not live in the village". Mr Alexander asked that a retraction be demanded from FDCC, however comments from both Cllr Barnacle and the Chairman were against pursuing this matter further. It was mentioned that Mr Saunders was late in arriving at the meeting and may not

have understood what had occurred prior to his arrival. Cllr Barnacle also advised that Fred Saunders had resigned due to ill health. He further mentioned that he was uncertain as to who was chairing this meeting and it was also confirmed that Colin Rodger addressed the meeting on a number of issues in relation to T in the Park. The Chairman confirmed that he had made the various introductions at the beginning of the meeting and it was noted that KCC arranged the meeting.

Any Other Business

Roads in Kinross: CCllr Scott said there is still a problem with rainfall collecting in the High Street (and other roads around Kinross); people are then soaked by cars passing and throwing up water over them. The drainage problems in the town still require to be addressed.

Green bins: CCllr Scott enquired if there was any plan to change the collection of the green bins to a fortnightly basis. Cllr Robertson advised that this has already been introduced successfully in Perth and will be effected in Kinross at a later date. Should large families require a second bin, this can be acquired free of charge from P&KC. The basis of this scheme is to encourage householders to recycle items; the costs involved in using landfill are excessive.

CC Meetings: Letter received from P&KC advising that the local Secondary School can be booked free of charge for CC meetings. The Chairman stated that the CC formerly met in the County Buildings and it was to be hoped that the CC might again be in a position to do so.

Better Place to Live Fair: This is being held in Kinross High School on 8 March. Assistance is required from CC members on the day. Carole and John Drummond have offered to set up the stall on the evening before. The format will follow as last year, but with the addition of the Questionnaire.

Green Road Play Park: CCllr D Mackay advised that only one panel (barrier) has been set in place. Vehicles are still turning in this area and creating ruts in the grass. A second barrier is required and we are to write to the Council in this regard.

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Planning Policies: Cllr Robertson advised that a meeting is to be held in the Windlestrae Hotel on 13 February regarding planning policies and will be attended by a Senior Planning Officer. An invitation was given for two members of the CC to attend. The Chairman and Cllr D Mackay (Planning Officer) will be present. Cllr John Drummond indicated an interest and will also attend. The four local Cllrs will be present.

Access: Cllr Bathgate questioned the route from the High School to the Park and Ride and its accessibility by wheelchair users.

T in the Park meeting planned for 25 March.

Kinross Town Hall: After due consideration it has been agreed that we withdraw from further negotiation in this matter. Acceptable concessions have been received from P&KC and matters should reach a conclusion at the Court Hearing on 18 February. Cllr Cuthbert was absent this evening but a fuller report will be provided.

The AGM of Kinross CC will be held at the April meeting.

The Newsletter AGM will take place at the May meeting.

Light Up Kinross: although still under the umbrella of KCC, this sub-committee are to break away and form their own organisation. They will adopt a constitution and investigate applying for funding from various sources with the hope of upgrading the Christmas lights.

Future of Kinross Meeting held on 21 January. A Questionnaire has been prepared for circulation to the public. Letters are to be written to various Council Departments. The Cllrs are to receive a copy of this Questionnaire.

Litter on M90: It was agreed that the CC should write to Bear Scotland regarding this.

The next meeting of Kinross CC will be held in the Masonic Hall on Wednesday 5 March at 7.30pm.

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

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

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Cleish & Blairadam CC

News from the February Meeting

The meeting on 11 February was attended by five CCllrs, P&K Cllr Mike Barnacle, Sgt Ward and PC Child, 21 members of the public and the Cleish & Blairadam Newsletter editor. Apologies for absence were received from Richard Jeffrey.

Crime Prevention: Sgt Ward said there was little to report, apart from the theft of some power tools from Nivingston. A green transit van had been seen in the area at the time. Any other information will of course be welcomed.

T in the Park: The officer dedicated to this event is Sgt Rankine.

It was reported that the activities on the hill road had begun again, especially at the entrance to the Till Hill pathway. Some of the litter left behind is extremely unpleasant to put it mildly and a complainant had been subjected to offensive abuse. However the Police had not received any reports of any of the above, and it was stressed that any such incidents should be reported at once and action would be taken.

Sgt Ward said there is now a new single non-emergency telephone number: 01738 621141. This telephone number will always be answered and officers informed so that appropriate action can be taken. 999 is still the number for emergencies. (While Kinross Police Station is staffed during the day there is not always someone to answer the telephone.)

Tracks and Trails: The draft Core Path network proposals have just been received, and may be inspected at the Council Offices and the Library in Kinross. Any comments should then be sent to the CC. The Cleish Tracks and Trails Group will be asked to pull together a presentation. The Loch Leven Nature Reserve plan is now completed and is on the website.

Planning - New Applications

Chance Inn Farm: Although this is not in our parish it borders on our area and a development, such as has been proposed, for 17 houses plus 4 affordable houses and associated garages, would impinge on Cleish and surroundings and is contrary to the Housing in the Countryside policy. The CC to object.

Boreland Farm: Demolition of farm buildings and erection of 10 houses. The objections of the CC to the previous application still stand, despite there being 3 fewer houses. The scale and style of the proposed development is inappropriate to the area and there will be serious impact on the roads and the whole surrounding area. Cllr Barnacle has asked for an independent report on the condition of the steading.

Cleish Mains: Erection of 1 dwelling house - application now withdrawn.

Cleish Mill Farm: Proposed demolition of redundant steadings and steel portal frames, erection of 5 dwelling houses and associated access and landscaping. Agreed to object to the manner of the proposed development as being unsympathetic to the site, including the size and number of houses which would overwhelm the surroundings. Nobody objected to the conversion of the steading but not on this scale. Also the proposed access road would leave potential for further development.

Cleish Mill Farm: Erection of two houses with landscaping and shared access of above. Objection proposed and agreed - this development is on a greenfield site, the houses are too high, and the proposal breaches the

Council's policy on rural housing, the Local Area Plan and the Structure Plan. There would also be problems of sewerage - but that would be for SEPA to consider.

Dunvegan: As there is no detail of the position of the house on the site it is not possible to comment.

Maryburgh: 4 houses in field to north of Silver End Cottage - the CC felt the density was too great but would consider a maximum of two houses designed in keeping with the linear development on opposite side of the road.

Fruix Farm: Proposal to convert agricultural sheds erected in 2007 to storage units. Clarification to be sought as to the purpose and number of units.

Planning Applications - Pending

Nivingston 1 & 2, Flockhouse not in February list; Meadows - gone to appeal; Greenacres, both - no results; Templeton - appeal dismissed; Kinnauld - approved on appeal; Tillyrie Wind Farm - no result

Housing in the Countryside Policy: A meeting involving all Kinross-shire CCs and Glenfarg plus all representative groups and members of P&KC is to be held when pressing matters will be discussed, such as pressure on housing, burdens on the infrastructure, population projections, and special emphasis on the possible changing face of Kinross-shire from a county based on agriculture to one of settlements providing housing for commuters to the central belt.

Roads

In answer to our request for storm drains to be installed instead of the present unsatisfactory road drains, the information provided was that storm drains cost £630 to install instead of £60 for each of the present system. Ah well, we can but try.

The pressing problem of the increasing volume and size of traffic, especially on B9097, was fully discussed. Traffic at Cleish Mill bends has a potential for accidents, but until something really serious happens it appears that nothing can be done. However, a survey is to be done, and it is hoped that this surveying will be visible to all road users. As for the work recently done on the surfaces at the Cleish Mill bends, nobody seemed to have noticed any difference. Future warning signs have been mentioned, also studs - we shall wait and see. There have also been huge container trucks using the road from Cleish to the Powmill junction so the problem is undoubtedly increasing.

Mention was made of the state of the road where the Cleish - Powmill road crosses the border into Fife. It was suggested that Fife Roads Department be contacted.

Maryburgh and Keltiebridge - repairs badly needed.

It was agreed to invite Gillian Robertson to come to see the

whole of the roads problem for herself.

Pumping Station at Abbots Wynd: Still the problem of unwanted articles being flushed into the system continues despite pleas not to put them into the toilets. The Secretary has produced a flier to be given to each household and hopes this will make a difference.

Keith Brown, MSP would like to attend a CC meeting. It was agreed this should be possible provided appropriate notice is given.

Cleish Website, www.cleish.org: This is now functioning with between one and five visits per day. It was agreed a little more advertising would be helpful. This could be done with the help of the booklet, "The Story of Cleish".

Campaign to save Kinross Town Hall: This is not to be pursued any further. The site is to be sold with the money realised going to the Common Good Fund.

Cleish School: Cleish Primary School need a new badge and would like to tell the CC about this. It was agreed that we would welcome some of the pupils at our next meeting to come and tell us what they have in mind.

The next meeting of Cleish & Blairadam CC will take place on Monday 17 March in Cleish Hall at 7.25pm. Please note earlier time.

The Story of Cleish

A small booklet is available to anyone interested and may be had from the porch of Cleish Church or from Catharine Erskine, Cleish House. The printing of this booklet was made possible thanks to the generosity of many people, and the proceeds from the sale are given to the Church. The cost is £1.50 but of course larger donations are always very welcome.



Cleish Village Hall Photo: Pauline Watson, kinross.cc photo library

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Milnathort Community Council

News from the February meeting

CCllr Giacopazzi, Chairman, welcomed CCllrs Porter, Thomson, Smith and Bennet to the meeting held on 14 February. Also in attendance were P&K Cllrs Robertson and Baird, Minute Secretary E Rougvie, PC Ronnie Child and nine members of the public. Apologies were received from CCllr Cottingham.

The Minutes of January meeting were proposed by CCllr Smith and seconded by CCllr Thomson, CCllr Smith having pointed out that he had attended the T in the Park meeting on 14 January and not CCllr Lamont.

Police matters

PC Child reported that another two cars had been broken into at Burleigh Sands and investigations were ongoing.

Road safety: CCllr Bennet said that a child had been knocked down and injured by a car outside the Town Hall, which prompted a lengthy discussion about road safety in the village. CCllr Bennet said she had contacted P&KC's Safer Routes to School co-ordinator with a view to having someone along to address the CC on road safety issues. Of particular concern were the increased traffic generated during the construction of the new high school; lack of crossings in the village; poor visibility at the mini-roundabout, illegal parking at bus stops and drivers' disregard of the 20mph signs at the school. A member of the public said she had contacted P&KC's head of roads after her mother had almost been hit



*Road safety is a growing concern in Milnathort
Photo: John McPake, www.kinross.cc photo library*

by a high-performance car in New Road. She felt that some people were using Milnathort for 'recreational driving' and was particularly concerned about the junction at Victoria Avenue. PC Child stressed that it was important that incidents of speeding or unsafe driving were reported to the Police. Following further discussion, it was agreed that CCllr would contact Jim Valentine, P&KC's head of roads, as well as the Road Policing Unit either in Perth or at Tayside Police HQ in Dundee.

Matters Arising

Hays Court: P&K Cllr Robertson reported that he still not had an enforcement officer's report, two months after concerns were raised about the new development at Hays Court. He will pursue this.

Kinross Walk: CCllr Giacopazzi confirmed that he had written to Kinross CC and P&KC in support of extending the path between the A91 and Gallowhill Farm Road to create a complete walk.

Dog fouling: CCllr Bennet said she had written to P&KC about dog fouling but as yet had had no response. Cllr Baird

suggested that she or anyone else with a complaint should phone the Council's 'Customer First' number as then the call would definitely then be logged. Cllr Robertson said he'd had an e-mail confirming that the matter was being dealt with and that following this year's budget there would be more resources available for the dog warden service.

Planning Matters

The following applications were noted: erection of a garage at Struan Park, Perth Road; extension to Berrybrae Cottage, Tillyrie.

Site of former Ochil Hills Hospital, proposed variation of condition 12 of previous planning application: Since there was no indication of what this condition related to, it was agreed to ask CCllr Cottingham to investigate and take whatever action he felt necessary.

CCllr Giacopazzi reported on a meeting concerning the 2006 Building in the Countryside policy that had been adopted by P&KC. It was attended mainly by groups from rural areas who objected to building in the countryside. In general, MCC had always been supportive of steadings developments. The Council had been working on a policy that would be stricter but would still have to respect instructions from the Scottish government to re-define stack yards as brownfield sites. The CC will be further consulted in April.

The CC then heard from a delegation representing the applicants who had applied for outline permission for the formation of agricultural related businesses including retail, business, industrial and storage and distribution on land to the north of Old Perth Road. The CC had agreed to lodge an objection to this at their November meeting on the basis that the location was unsuitable. After lengthy discussion, the CC felt it would be inappropriate to change their stance although they sympathised with the apparent unavailability of sites, despite there being a number in the village zoned for industrial use. Local businesses should be supported and jobs safeguarded. It was agreed to invite Paul Kyle, P&KC's economic development officer, to address a future meeting of the CC on this issue.

Correspondence

Letter from Keith Brown MSP offering to address the CC on environmental issues. Noted.

An invitation from Lodge St Serf No 327 to A Better Places to Live Fair at Kinross High School on 8 March. CCllr Porter will attend.

Notification from the MoD about low-flying exercises between 11 and 21 February. Noted.

Letter from P&KC about the Core Paths planning consultation. Proposals are available online at www.pkc.gov.uk or can be viewed at 21 High Street, Kinross. CCllr Thomson will report on the issue at the next meeting.

Copy of P&KC's Community Engagement Strategy. CCllr Giacopazzi was dismayed at the impenetrable language used in the document and at the amount of money that had been spent producing it. CCllr Smith agreed to try to make sense of it.

Other Business

CCllr Giacopazzi agreed to contact Websters about trees that were affecting the light in some houses in Marshall Place.

P&K Cllrs Robertson and Baird will try to get improvements carried out in Marshall Place following complaints about lack of salt bins and blocked drains.

Next meeting: Milnathort CC will hold its AGM on Thursday 13 March at 7.30pm in Milnathort Primary School.

Portmoak Community Council

News from the February Meeting

A meeting was held on Tuesday 12 February at Portmoak Primary School. In attendance were Wendy MacPhedran (Chairwoman), Sue Mitchell-Henry, Jim Shepherd, Alistair Smith, Margaret Wilson, P&K Cllrs Mike Barnacle and Sandy Miller, PC Child and several members of the public.

Police Report

PC Child had little to report apart from two break-ins to cars at Burleigh Sands Car Park.

The Police Liaison officer for the T-in-the-Park event this year at Kinross will be Sgt David Rankine.



Portmoak Village Hall

Chairwoman's Report

The Chairwoman reported on the current situation on the path running down the side of the Portmoak Village Hall. At present efforts are being made to transfer the ownership of the land to the Village Hall Committee.

The Convention of Perth and Kinross Community Councils Annual General Meeting will be held in Perth on 30 March. The Chairwoman will attend.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary read a letter from the Ministry of Defence notifying of a Low Flying Exercise in the Tummel Area from 11 to 21 February.

The Secretary had received a letter from the CC's solicitor enclosing draft missive for the transfer of the land above Whitecraigs from Stephens to the CC. The document will be circulated to the CCllrs for their comments.

The Secretary read a letter from Mr George Brown of Whitecraigs regarding flooding that had taken place in his garden during the recent very heavy rains. The Chairwoman informed the meeting that the P&KC Senior Ranger was looking into the matter.

Paths Group

The Secretary had received a copy of the Core Path Network Proposals Map from P&KC for the CC's

consideration. There will be a **public meeting** on **4 March** at Portmoak Primary School at 7.30pm when there will be a presentation of the Core Path proposals and the public will have an opportunity to discuss and respond to the proposals. P&KC are having discussions with the landowners for the next stage of the path between Woodmarch and the Portmoak Hall. Money has been set aside by P&KC for this work in the coming financial year.

A911

The Secretary had written to P&KC Roads regarding a complaint at the last meeting regarding the drainage gullies on the A911. P&KC Roads had responded, explaining that during times of high run-off and high water table, the surface water was unable to run away and so if the water froze it broke up the asphalt surrounds to the gullies.

There was a report of a pothole in the A911 at Auchmuir Bridge. The secretary will report this to P&KC Roads.

Cllr Barnacle had had a meeting with P&KC Roads following his letter covering several road matters including the A911. One matter he raised was the increase in the number of HGVs using the A911. P&KC Roads responded that there was no evidence for this. Cllr Barnacle proposed that they carry out an up to date survey. The CC proposed that Gillian Robertson of P&KC Roads be invited to come to the next CC to explain what proposals P&KC Roads had for the A911.

Planning Matters

07/02744/LBC Proposed addition of a velux window, Well Cottage, Well Road, Scotlandwell: There were no comments apart from the window needing to be a 'conservation style' one.

08/00148/MOD Modification of existing consent for erection of house (05/01687/FUL), plot B, Gamekeepers Road, Kinnesswood. There were no comments.

Internal Audit P&KC Planning Department

The Secretary had received a copy of an internal audit that had been carried out on P&KC Development Control Department, which severely criticised the performance of the department. The Secretary highlighted the six most serious points raised. Cllr Barnacle responded by citing a letter from Mr Roland Bean on these points. First of all, Cllr Barnacle pointed out that the audit had been carried out between 2003 and 2006 and that much had happened since then in the department. Two years ago a Conservation Area Section had been created and this now deals with matters on Listed Buildings among others. There is now more detailed information for officers clarifying powers of delegation. Post approval changes to application consents are now more limited and controlled. Internal applications will now be dealt with by separate members of the department. Proper Guidance is now being set up for the guidance of officers on the interpretation of the local and structure plans.

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Enforcement is now being strengthened and will now be pro-active rather than re-active.

Cllr Miller endorsed the matters raised by Cllr Barnacle. He is particularly concerned that Flood Assessment potential surveys be carried out for future applications.

The CC trusts that these measures will be effective but will watch matters carefully for the future.

Levenmouth Farm Application

This application was deferred at the December meeting and is coming up again at the February meeting. The deferral was due to a lack of definition of what constitutes a 'settlement'. This is vital as it refers to a Civil Aviation Authority Regulation, which bans all aircraft movements under 1000 feet and within a 600m radius of any settlement. If Levenmouth Farm development was to constitute a 'settlement' this would be a serious threat to the SGU operating at Portmoak Airfield. At the December meeting of the CC, which was very well attended, there was overwhelming support for the continued operation of the SGU as being a vital asset to the community both locally and nationally.

Perth & Kinross Councillors

Cllr Barnacle pointed out that there was to be a meeting the

following evening (13 February) hosted by himself and Cllr Robertson and also attended by Cllrs Kathleen Baird and Sandy Miller to discuss the amended 'Housing in the Country' Policy. This would be attended by representatives from all the Kinross-shire CCs, the Civic Trust and FORK. Cllr Barnacle also intended to raise the matter of the proposed amendments to the population growth figures for Kinross-shire. P&KC's April 06 Review of the Structure Plan indicated an expected 25% increase in population in Kinross-shire between 2000 and 2020, and on top of this, they now expect Kinross-shire to have to share the burden of Perth/Kinross' additional 23% increase in-migration and 43% increase in pensioners.

Other Matters

There was a complaint that there had been no gritting up and around the bus route to the Portmoak School. The Secretary will write to P&KC Roads.

The matter was raised of Glenlomond being referred to as a village in various advertising matters when really it was a hamlet.

The next meeting of Portmoak CC will be on Tuesday 11 March at 7.30pm in the Portmoak Primary School
Visit our Web Site at www.portmoak.co.uk

PORTMOAK COMMUNITY COUNCIL TRI-ANNUAL ELECTION

There will be an Election for the Community Councillors in May this year. The Community Council is allowed to have eight Community Councillors. The Community Council acts as the link between the Community and Perth and Kinross Council and endeavours to reflect the opinions of the community at large. Portmoak CC has always been a very proactive CC and has shown great initiative in successfully managing several community projects, and is well regarded by the rest of the Perth and Kinross CCs.

If you are interested in promoting the community you would be very welcome to join the Community Council.

Nomination Forms may be obtained from the Secretary, Alistair Smith, Ashtrees, Wester Balgedie, KY13 9HE, tel 01592 840215. All Nominees, Proposers and Seconders must be on the current Electoral Roll for Portmoak.

PORTMOAK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

NOMINATION FORM FOR ELECTION OF COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS 2008

	NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE	DATE
NOMINEE				
PROPOSER				
SECONDER				

Nominations to be returned completed to the Secretary, Alistair Smith, Ashtrees, Wester Balgedie, tel 01592 840215 by **Monday 7 April 2008**. All Nominees, Proposers and Seconders must be on the Portmoak Community Electoral Roll at the latest declaration.

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Tuesdays * 12 – 1pm (Gentle Yoga & Relaxation)

MUCKHART VILLAGE HALL

Thursday's 10.30 – 12 noon & 7.30 – 9pm

Further information: **BARBARA – 01259 781446**

Fossoway & District CC

News from the February Meeting

In attendance are the meeting held on 5 February in Cambo Hall were: I Booth (Chair), I Farquhar, T Duffy-Wigman, H Wallace, L Stronach, P&K Cllr M Barnacle and 48 members of the public. Apologies were received from L Boulter, H Johnstone and A Morrison.

Community Policing: The community police officer reported the results of the festive Drink Driving Campaign over the 4-week festive period.

He reported a high value theft of copper wire at the Wind Farm at Glendevon and would ask anyone with any information of awareness of large vehicles in that area to contact them.

Sgt Dave Rankine is the T in the Park liaison officer.

It was suggested that 7am would be a good time to under go speed checks in Cambo. The officer said he would pass on this information. Cllr M Barnacle reported he would bring this up at a meeting he is to attend.

Minutes of the last Meeting: The meeting regarding T in the Park was in May, not September.

Chair's Report: Three items dominated throughout the year:

1. Roads and road safety: Several measures will be or have been put in place including speed checks, repeater signs to be installed, 20mph restrictions in Crook of Devon around the school and more signage issues have been raised with P&KC. We expect this to continue to be a dominating issue this coming year, with the increase in traffic the new Kincardine Bridge will bring. The safety of our communities will be high on our agenda and we, with Cllr Barnacle in particular, will try to highlight this and keep it high on everyone's agenda.

2. T in the Park: After a well attended meeting where local people felt they could vent their opinions of how this event affected themselves and their communities, our representatives have attended several meetings to listen to plans to make sure this year's event can take place with the minimum of disruption to the local communities.

3. The Housing in the Countryside Policy: We highlighted the mounting pressure from developers to our communities. We have helped to establish a clear Strategy Plan with others and hope to ensure this is adhered to. This part of our work is increasing and as volunteers carries a large workload and a strain on the limited finances available to us.

Treasurer's Report: We receive an annual grant of £300 from P&KC. This money is largely spent on rental of the halls for our meetings. This doesn't leave much to pay out of pocket expenses to our CCllrs for admin or petrol to cover site visits. We intend to change some venues to reduce costs.

T in the Park: H Johnstone and T Duffy-Wigman attended a meeting. Discussions included: Thursday opening to help regulate traffic, no entertainment is proposed; More parking to be made available; Community Liaison Officers in every village; More mobile police units to be available. This is not an exhaustive list. Cllr Barnacle felt the meeting addressed many points brought to their attention from our area. We note T in the Park does contribute money to the Kinross-shire Fund. We must find a way to ensure the communities most affected share in the benefits of this.

Draft Core Path Plan: B Wheatley spoke regarding this.

Housing in the Countryside: I Booth and I Farquhar are to attend a meeting to discuss this policy.

Perth & Kinross Councillor M Barnacle

Mike had written to Scottish Water regarding the holes in the road at Powmill.

He discussed the Kinross-shire Fund report.

Progress was made regarding the out of school club at Crook of Devon. There is parental support for siting this in the school.

Recent review of polling stations: Blairingone has lost the station at the school and now will use Moubray Hall, Powmill.

Road maintenance issues to be discussed at upcoming meeting: Cllr Barnacle will discuss pot holes on A977 (Scottish Water not P&KC); dangerous dip in Blairingone Main Street.

Flooding at Drum: this was not mentioned in the flood report - Mike to rectify this point. Susan Veitch wants detailed information of flooding in Drum.

Planning

07/02656/FUL Formation of a new access road, Gateside Barn, Fossoway: FDCC recommends refusal because of the access arrangements.

07/02770/FUL Demolition of an existing house and the erection of a new Dwelling house at Ashgrove Villa, Crook of Devon: FDCC recommends approval.

07/02805/FUL Erection of a new dwelling house, Greenparks, Church Road, Crook of Devon: FDCC recommends refusal because the conditions applied to the extant approval will still apply notwithstanding the applicant's proposal that the site is now two plots.

08/00007/FUL Erection of 2 dwelling houses at Dunollie, Fossoway: FDCC recommends approval.

08/00118/OUT Proposed housing development (in outline) Monarch Deer Park, Crook of Devon for G S Brown Construction Ltd: FDCC recommends refusal because the current KALP designates the site for 'village setting pending adoption, or otherwise, of the Strategy Group Plan for the area in turn requiring prior community, landowner and developer consultations, and for a full investigation of the flood risk implications at the site.' This CC would strongly recommend that individuals or groups within the villages of Crook of Devon and Rumbling Bridge, with strong views in favour or in opposition to this proposed development, meet to consider the fuller implications of such development and to consider their responses. It is felt large-scale development applications should be refused until the Strategy Plan is finalised. We are not happy with community consultations being largely ignored.

A member of the public circulated information with information on how to object or support this development. Please send a copy of any objections and / or support which have been sent to P&KC's Planning Dept to Cllr Barnacle.

Affordable Housing: FDCC are not in agreement when affordable housing is used as an excuse to support development. Affordable housing needs to be in areas with suitable resources i.e. good transport links, access to shops and schools and doctors.

Some of the General Correspondence

Objections to planning applications 05/02389/REM (to be discussed further at the next CC Meeting); Objections to 08/00118/OUT; A Briscoe on amendment to minutes; FORK commenting on Housing in the Countryside; Anne Sutherland offering to speak regarding access and signage in Lendrick Muir.

The next meeting of Fossoway & District CC will take place on 4 March in Crook of Devon (venue to be confirmed).



Club & Community Group News

Kinross High School



Badminton Results: Excellent results were achieved in a competition at Bell's Sports Centre recently, with trophies for:

Patrick MacHugh - U16 singles and doubles winner
 Callum Graham - U16 boys doubles winner
 Alessia Palmieri - U16 singles winner
 Rory Cooper & Christine Sorbie - U16 mixed doubles winners
 Nathan Hutchison & Catriona Blair - U16 mixed doubles runners up.

Coffee Morning: After a successful coffee morning in December, we have decided to hold another on Easter Saturday between 10am and 12pm in Kinross Church Centre. So if you fancy spending your morning a little differently or you simply wish to support a good cause make sure you stop by on **Saturday 23 March**. All the money we raise will go towards funds for Blythswood Shoebox Appeal for food, clothes etc. If a fun-filled morning of cakes, sweets and entertainment takes your fancy, make a note in your diary. Children and adults of all ages welcome. Tickets are £2 (adults), £1 (children) and include unlimited tea/coffee and complimentary cakes & biscuits. In addition there will be a cake and candy stall and raffle. We look forward to seeing you there.

Kinross High School Shoebox Team

Potager Garden



Your community Garden in Bowton Road has been open on fine days during the winter months and various repairs have been taking place. On 13 February the weather was really great for our 'Seed Exchange'. Andy Ness our Gardening Advisor was present. Another 'Seed Exchange' will be held on **Wednesday 12 March**, 1pm - 3pm; please do come along, Andy will be available to advise again.

We will be promoting the work of Potager Garden at the **Better Place to Live Fair** on **Saturday 8 March**, 10am - 1pm. The Primary School children will be promoting the Garden at an **Enterprise Event** on **Thursday 20 March**, 10-2pm. Both these events will be held at the High School. Please come and support us.

I would like to thank this community for the very generous donations we have received recently and long may this continue for the successful running of this special place. We have just applied for Lottery Funding with the help of the BTCV (British Trust Conservation Volunteers) to transform the entrance of the Garden. We will hear in June if we are successful, and a copy of the application will be available at the 'Seed Exchange' or by email.

In April, the work with the children from the Primary School, the After School Club and Gardening Course will commence. If you would like to attend the Gardening Course or be involved with any aspect of the Garden, please get in touch with Michelle Hardaker, address: 57 Bowton Road, Kinross. Telephone 01577 862622 or email dhardaker@tiscali.co.uk

Common Grounds Charity No. SC031582

Now that we are entering the third month of the year we are back into the full swing of things at the coffee shop, looking forward to the better weather and the visitors that this should bring.

Projects. Thanks to the continuing generosity of our customers and the hard work of our volunteers, we have been able to send £500 to the 'Sound Seekers' programme in Sierra Leone – one of the poorest countries in the world and with the highest under five mortality rate. In addition to a mobile clinic the HARK programme provides other essential elements including the secondment of local staff, training and setting up a HARK office with plans for an ongoing programme of outreach visits across the country.

The 'Tools with a Mission' project can still use any unwanted hand tools. Any you wish to dispose of can be handed into the Hall during opening times.

Fairtrade. The new Traidcraft Spring catalogue is now available at Common Grounds. If you are looking for something different, it is worth a browse through and it also offers a way to take an active part in the promotion of the Fairtrade principle.

During the **Fairtrade Fortnight**, from **25 February to 9 March**, Common Grounds, in addition to the usual Fairtrade teas and coffees for customers to try and to buy, will have a selection of cakes and dishes made from Fairtrade ingredients. There will also be a Fairtrade stall at the **Better Place to Live Fair**, which takes place in Kinross High School from 10am to 1pm on **Saturday 8 March**. For more information, contact Pat Payne.

Book Club. The club held its first meeting in February. If you wish more information, please phone Marlene Whyte on 01592 840371.

Events. On the afternoon of **Saturday 1st March**, 'Seatangle' – Tom and Kayren – will be playing in the Hall, between 1pm and 3pm. Come in and enjoy some entertainment with your tea or coffee and home baking.

Invitation. While we have been fortunate in recently welcoming one or two new volunteers, we are always on the lookout for more. Particularly for the middle part of the year, when holidays are taken, resources can be stretched. So if you can spare a few hours to help out and make new friends, give one of our contacts a call or come in and speak to one of the volunteers.

Common Grounds is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 10 am to 3 pm in the Church Street Hall, Milnathort.

Contacts outside opening hours are: Shirley Morgan on 864745, Jim Henry on 864452 or Pat Payne on 862715.

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Kinross Pipe Band

Towards the end of November a number of our younger members took part in the Branch solo competitions up in Edzell, and acquitted themselves very well indeed. Altogether, we were proud to be represented by no less than 6 competitors, and between them they came away with 4 prizes! Sean Kellett (13) managed 5th place in the Novice Piping, Douglas Weir (13) took 4th place in the Under 15 March, Strathspey and Reel, while from the Drum Corps Alexander Cox (10) won first place in the Novice Drumming and Cameron Elder (13) also took first prize in the Under 14 Drumming, making it the second year in a row that Kinross have lifted this trophy. Well done to them, and indeed all who took part. Lewis Cox (8) and Ailsa Morris (13), both competing for the first time, also acquitted themselves well in Drumming on Pad and Chanter respectively.



Competitors at Edzell

Back Row (Left to Right): Ailsa Morris, Douglas Weir, Sean Kellett, Cameron Elder. Front Row (Left to Right): Lewis Cox, Alexander Cox

Still on competition news, many of the same names took part in the Robert Wiseman Daries Vale of Atholl Pipe Band competitions in Pitlochry in January, and this time Ross Mathieson (13) and Cathen Clark (9) were also competing on the Drumming Pad for the first time. This time everyone who competed from the Band did extremely well in a high level of competition, and gained places varying from 3rd to 6th in their various events, but special congratulations again go to Cameron Elder, who took first place in the Under 14 Drumming. The other placings were: Novice Drumming: Alexander Cox (10) 3rd, Lewis Cox (8) 4th; U12 Drumming on Pad: Lewis Cox 4th, Cathen Clark (10) 5th; U14 Drumming on Pad: Ross Mathieson (13) 6th; U16 March, Strathspey and Reel: Douglas Weir (13) 4th; U16 Jig: Douglas Weir 6th.

The Band has just taken delivery of a full set of new drums, funded by the Lottery award in August last year, and these will be put to very good use as we further develop the Drum Corps this season. We were delighted in January to be presented with a cheque for £2,000 by the Kinross Round Table, which will also go towards much needed new kit. Our very sincere thanks go to the Round Table for this extremely generous donation.

We are in the process of firming up the calendar for the 2008 competition and engagement season as we write, and will publish the key dates a little later in the year, but all indications are that 2008 is going to be another busy season, with significantly more competitions than last year. In

particular, we expect to go to three of the five "Major competitions" this year: the British Championships in Birmingham at the end of June, the World Championships in Glasgow and the Cowal Championships in Dunoon, both in August. We are also planning a repeat of our very successful Pipe Band Ceilidh, almost certainly to be held around mid-May. Watch this space for further details as this is bound to be another popular event!

This month the Band will be performing a "Beat the Retreat" for a delegation of visitors at Edinburgh Castle, and on Saturday 8 May we will be both performing and manning a stall at the Kinross Better Place to Live Fair where we will have pipes and drums on display, a collection of photos and trophies and we will of course be delighted to answer any questions and demonstrate the basics of piping and drumming. This will be a busy day as we also have yet another solo competition for the pipers taking place the same day in Perth.

As always, we are still very much on the lookout for new members, particularly anyone with piping experience. In January we delivered a leaflet to every door in Kinross, Milnathort and Kelty encouraging any "closet" pipers and drummers to come along for a practice! It is vitally important that we can grow the Band, both with young learners and with more experienced players. We have two practices a week - on Mondays and Thursdays - so anyone wishing to come along is very welcome on either or both days.

For any information, please contact Nigel Kellett, (01577 863738) Alex Murphy (01577 862803) or visit the website at www.kinross-pipe-band.co.uk

Kinross-shire 50 Plus Club



At the February meeting, Stuart Bonnar, a Coastal Ranger, gave an interesting talk on the coastal path from North Queensferry to Leven.

He gave us a splendid insight into the work involved by a Ranger, accompanied with slides of the walk. We were shown impressive photographs of the wild life, plants, and the countryside. A most enjoyable talk, and a hearty applause was given by the audience.

Friday Walks: The Friday walkers were glad to have a day out at the beginning of February, going from Gartmorn Dam, in Clackmannan, along the Linn Mill walk. Even though they had to dodge the puddles lying on some of the farm roads, the day became perfect when the sun came out at the lunch spot beside the ruined mill.

7 March: Balbimie Park and Star circular walk - this is a new one for the club, and starts off along woodland paths in Balbimie, then across Star Moss using a narrow track and, eventually back through the woods at Kirkfothar. This is an easy six-mile walk, with only one short stretch before reaching Star, with an incline.

21 March: Gleneagles to Blackford and back - this is one of the walks which had to be cancelled due to atrocious weather in the winter. This is an easy there and back walk of six miles or so, with the opportunity of having lunch at Baxter's in Blackford, for those who would like to travel with a light rucksack.

Although some new members have joined the group at the end of the year from our waiting list, it is unlikely that we will take any new members for some time.

March Meeting: The AGM is on **6 March** and the speaker will be Gavin Anderson, photographer, on "Underwater Photography".

Kinross in Bloom



The last few months have been very productive for the Bloom committee. We have obtained a grant from the Arthur & Margaret Thomson Trust that will help fund the Kinross Gateway project. The final details with full costs are being finalised and work should start in the autumn.

We have been very fortunate to have been granted space in one of the poly-tunnels at Hattonburn and this will allow us to get the plants in earlier and make up the baskets, allowing them time to get their toes down before they face the rigours of a Scottish summer! This is a great boon to us and we hope that the displays will be even better this year.

Last year watering all the baskets, barrels and planters proved to be quite a challenge so we have decided to invest in a larger watering buggy that should speed up the time taken to "do the rounds". We have been struggling with only a handful of committee members and a few volunteers to keep the hanging baskets and tubs sufficiently watered so your help would be much appreciated. If you enjoy seeing Kinross in Bloom then please spare us a little of your time and contact Aileen on 01577 861477 for further information. No committee obligations necessary.

We will have a stall at the Better Place to Live Fair so why not come and have a chat with us there.

200 Club winners for November to January are as follows:

November: £20 Anne Robbie, £15 Laura Cuthbert, £10 Betty Hamilton, £5 Rosie Cuthbert.

December: £20 Anne Porter, £15 Christina Degnan, £10 Paul Baughan, £5 Edith Oswald.

January: £20 Paul Baughan, £15 Violet Henry, £10 N Butler, £5 Mr A J MacDonald.

If you would like to join our 200 Club then please contact Aileen on the above number. Half of the proceeds are given out in prizes so the more people, the bigger the prizes!!

Please help us to keep Kinross Blooming – your support would be appreciated.



Lomond Antiques and Collectors Club



At the first meeting of the new year, the Club was fortunate to have as speaker, local art enthusiast, Eddie McKay, former proprietor of the Dunkeld Gallery. He chose to focus on three Scottish artists, Joseph Crawhall, J D Ferguson and Anne Redpath. Crawhall, although less well known than the others, was one of the inner circle of the Glasgow Boys and was much influenced by the French Impressionists and also by the Dutch school. Much of his work is evidence of time spent in North Africa and also in Spain. He captured the movement of horses magnificently and also the energy and brutality of the bullfight. Members were encouraged to see several of his works in the Burrell Collection.

J D Ferguson, to be seen in Perth, was the most versatile of the Colourists, and, although influenced by the Fauves, he was entirely self-taught. A first-rate draughtsman, he focused on painting people. His sojourns in Morocco, Paris, London and Glasgow all played a part in his work. He is regarded to this day as hugely influential.

Anne Redpath was another well-travelled artist who was particularly successful painting flowers, still-lives and landscapes. Members enjoyed hearing about her social life in Edinburgh. The works of each artist was stunningly illustrated, courtesy of the talents of Pauline Watson.

Family Week Celebrating 21 Years!

Can you believe it!

This year is the 21st that Family Week has been running!

Perhaps you came along as a child or helped out in the past. If you have, we would love to hear from you! Please send your snippets of

family week memories, stories, incidents or whatever to Moira Hookham, St Ronan's, St Ronan's Dr, Kinross. We hope to compile them to use in one of our celebrations in the summer. If you would like to be invited to this celebration (or know of someone who would), to meet old friends and helpers, please give your contact details to the same address. Look forward to hearing from you!



Kinross & District Rotary Club



Well known local farmer, George Lawrie, was the guest speaker at the mid January meeting of the Club. George did an excellent job in persuading everyone of the merits of buying Scottish and in particular buying local farm produce. In addition, the current traceability and quality assurance schemes meant that food produced in Scotland was now at a much higher standard than imported products. George also detailed the various environmental improvement schemes that had been carried out on his farm and the resultant increase in the number of species now to be found in the area. The vote of thanks was given by Rotarian Mike Thomson.

A party of members and their wives visited the Scottish Parliament on 17 January where they met local MSP Keith Brown, took part in a tour of the building and sat in the public gallery during First Minister's Question Time.

Rotarian David Reid chaired a successful Burns Night organised by the Kinross-Shire Volunteer Group and Rural Outreach Scheme held in the Windlestrae Hotel. The evening consisted of the traditional toasts and a mix of song, prose and poetry. Rotarian Kelvin Reay addressed the haggis and Rotarian Jim Paterson, suitably dressed for the occasion, gave an excellent rendition of Holy Willie's Prayer.

It looks like another evening will be required for Rotarian Rev John Hegarty to complete his life story, such is the depth of his experiences in the ministry. On a previous occasion John had entertained with anecdotes from his early days and at the end of February meeting he related his experiences whilst the minister at High Camtyne Church in Glasgow for ten years. His talk ended with the Hegarty family arriving at St John's in Cupar in 1997 so we look forward to the next and perhaps final edition of this fascinating tale.

The Club will be manning a stall at the Better Place to Live Fair and Charity Hypermarket to be held in Kinross High School on **Saturday 8 March**. The members present will be happy to explain to visitors the ideals and objectives of the Rotary movement.

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Probus Club



The first item on the agenda for the first meeting in January was the introduction of a new member to the club, and Alex Johnston, standing in for the President for the afternoon, welcomed Roger Bromley to the club.

The speaker for the afternoon was Mr Colin Shaw and his subject **"A Summer on Mull"**. The summer in question was 2006 when Colin had spent the summer on the island to support the sea eagle project. These magnificent birds of prey became extinct in Britain in the early 1900s, but they were reintroduced to the island of Rum in 1975 and to Mull ten years later.

Because sea eagles are territorial birds – they tend to use the same nest year after year – the RSPB have established a hide and a viewing site beside the nest occupied by a pair of mature sea eagles who have been named Skye and Frisa. Sea eagles will start building, or in the case of Skye and Frisa rebuilding, the nest in January. The eggs are laid about April and then after 38 days of incubation the young chicks hatch out.

Because sea eagles are very big birds – their wing span is two and a half metres – the chicks grow at a phenomenal rate, but before they are ready to fly the RSPB like to tag and ring them. So one intrepid member of the RSPB team clambered up the tree trunk to the nest and lowered the chicks down to the ground where they are tagged and ringed before being returned to the nest.

Skye and Frisa are considered good parents and have produced chicks every year for some time. The two in 2006 were both male and were named Haggis and Oatmeal (quickly reduced to Oatie).

Colin had used his time well on the island and the members were treated to a wonderful series of photographs of wild birds and animals on Mull. Colin mentioned that the RSPB is involved with the Project to establish sea eagles to the East coast of Scotland.

Jim Ritchie proposed the vote of thanks.

Poetry is often thought of as rather an effeminate subject for the male members of society, but Peter O'Reilly's subject for the meeting on 21 January was **"Enjoying Poetry"**, and he certainly showed that poetry is a real treasure for all, and the more you know about it the more you appreciated it.

First he mentioned the ingredients of poetry and the five essential parts of any poem:

1. Rhythm – the basis for all poetry is rhythm.
2. Words – All poets are wonderful wordsmiths and conjure up a beautiful picture.
3. Sound – Words have a sound and this can be used by the poet. As an example, think of John Masefield's poem "Cargoes". There is a difference between the lyrical words describing the "stately Spanish galleons" and the cacophony of sounds depicting the "Dirty British coaster".
4. Imagination, and
5. Rhyme, but to be effective the rhyme has to be subtle.

Poetry can be nostalgic, reflective, even funny, but to be really effective it must catch the feelings, and express the emotions in telling and memorable phrases. Peter felt that reading poetry to young children was a joy, as it stimulated their imagination and gave them something to remember. Peter's granddaughter had just turned five and he had written a few lines on her birthday card especially for her.

Duncan Stenhouse gave the vote of thanks saying it was a joy

to listen to a speaker who was an authority on his subject and also an enthusiast.

The speaker for the meeting on 6 February was Miss Vanda Salmon and the title for her talk was **"A Remarkable Lady"**. The lady in question was Nancy, Lady Astor. Vanda was Lady Astor's private secretary for three and a half years during her retirement.

Lady Astor's main claim to fame was being the first woman to take her seat as an MP in the House of Commons in 1919. Her husband, William Waldorf Astor, had represented the Plymouth constituency but when his father died, Waldorf Astor inherited the title of Viscount Astor and automatically became a member of the House of Lords, necessitating a by-election in Plymouth. His wife Nancy was chosen to represent the Conservatives and she won the by-election and held the seat for 26 years until she retired.

Vanda managed to give a lovely word-picture of her, with her wit and charm, her outspoken views on such subjects as alcohol and politics, and her generous attitude to other people. In particular, Vanda mentioned the war years when Lady Astor stood by the people of Plymouth, going into the air raid shelters during the bombing and encouraging the armed forces and their supporting services in the city of Plymouth. As Vanda said, "truly a remarkable lady".

Kinross-shire Historical Society



Ian Whyte, a member of the Kinross-shire Historical Society, gave a talk to their January meeting entitled "Traditions, Champions and Change". With excellent slides he illustrated the story of the Royal and Ancient golf club of St Andrews of which he has been a member for 25 years.

Ian told us that the origin of the game of golf is obscure but it is known that James II banned golf because it interfered with archery. On 14 May 1754, 22 gentlemen formed the Society of St Andrews golfers. They met fortnightly for golf and dinner, playing 22 holes, 11 holes out and 11 holes back. Ten years later this was reduced to 18 holes.

Initially, Perth Golfing Society was made Royal in 1833 and the following year William IV granted the style Royal and Ancient to the Society of St Andrews golfers which then became the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews. It was not St Andrews who held the first Open Championship but Prestwick. The trophy was an ornate belt which was ultimately won 3 times by Tommy Morris junior, who was then able to keep it. In 1872 a new award, the now famous claret jug (costing originally £30), was presented to the winner. The first name engraved upon it was Tommy Morris. It was interesting to learn that in the 1850s and 1860s, golf balls cost 2/- (old money) each and a maker could only produce about 20 balls a week. When balls became cheaper, golf became more popular. Amongst the many interesting traditions of the club is the ceremony for the new Captain each September. He tees off at 8am and the caddies race to retrieve his ball. Whoever returns it to the Captain receives a gold sovereign.

There are 1800 members of the Royal and Ancient. Some are former heads of state, some are famous. 1050 come from the UK, the rest come from overseas and only 100 members are citizens of St Andrews. There are no lady members - as yet.

Ian finished by saying that the Royal and Ancient will continue to face challenges, to champion the game of golf and to act as one of its guardians, as it has done for the past 254 years.

The Kinross-shire Civic Trust



The Kinross-shire Civic Trust was founded in 1991. It is a non-profit-making amenity association affiliated to The Scottish Civic Trust whose patron is HRH The Prince of Wales.

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.

To help achieve this, the Trust looks at all Planning Applications in Kinross-shire on a monthly basis, maintains close links with Perth and Kinross Council on all matters relating to planning and public amenities as well as local and national land use and conservation organisations and encouraging people to take an interest in the natural and man-made environment by organizing informative talks and visits.

The Trust regards such planning matters as the Area of Great Landscape Value designations for strategic parts of the county, Conservation Area designations and other important controls as vital to the preservation of beautiful Kinross-shire. The Trust has always had a keen input into the successive Kinross Area Local Plans as they have been set up.

The Trust also runs an Awards Committee that supervises the Best Kept Village Scheme for Kinross-shire, and which runs annually, Architectural Competitions for Best New-build and Best Restoration projects on a bi-annual basis and Woodland Project competitions.

The Trust is always keen to welcome new members particularly people who have recently moved to the area. For further information, contact the Chairman, Alistair Smith, 01592 840215.

The Trust will be holding its **Annual General Meeting** on **Wednesday 7 May** at the Windlestrae Hotel at 7.30pm. Please come and hear what the Trust has been doing and what its plans are for the coming year.

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Portmoak Film Society

Cruz Control

February's film saw 45 film fans enjoy Pedro Almodovar's funny and touching tribute to Spanish women dealing with almost anything life (and death) can throw at them in his excellent film "Volver" starring the gorgeous Penelope Cruz. (How could she have gone out with Tom Cruise for 3 years by the way?!) 22 people gave it "excellent" and 20 "good" on the marble count - our homegrown and super-sophisticated audience response gauge.

The evening began with the good news that P&KC have granted £3,500 to PFS, enabling us to buy a projector and screen to go with our new sound system. That brings our fundraising endeavours to almost £10,000 - an amazing feat in less than three years of the Society's existence.

The season is drawing to a close but we have two more films to go as well as our AGM. The March film is "American Cousins" on **Saturday 8th** and should be good for some laughs as American mafiosi clash with their Scottish cousin in his Glasgow café. The surprise film on **12 April**, when we will also hold our **AGM**, is a great British comedy: "Saving Grace" with the versatile Brenda Blethyn in the lead role. Please note both these dates in your calendar - they promise to be fun!

We are seeing more and more new faces at our films and we would like to emphasize that you can come to Portmoak Picture Palace near Scotlandwell without a membership card and still get in even if you're on your own. There are always enough members to sign visitors in (£4 per film without a card) and we'll make you very welcome afterwards with tea, coffee and snacks.

For the final membership cards of the season (at £3 per film), contact Stuart on 01592 840638 or at the Pottery in Kinnesswood. For further info see our website at:

www.portmoakfilmsociety.org.uk

Healing Rooms Kinross

As some of you may already know *Healing Rooms Kinross* opened its doors in October of last year. This followed many months of training, prayer and preparation. Since then there has been a steady stream of visitors with very encouraging results. But, of course, for many the question is: what is Healing Rooms?

It is simply a place where people can walk in off the street, meet with small teams of trained volunteers and receive Christian healing prayer for any condition. Volunteers come from many different churches but with a common belief in the power of prayer. Healing Rooms is open to everyone irrespective of church affiliation or none, and is free. No appointments are necessary and the visitor can be sure of a warm and friendly reception. Healing Rooms is open every Thursday from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. in the Millbridge Hall, Old Causeway, Kinross.

We, the team members, believe that Jesus Christ healed the sick as the Bible states quite clearly, and that He has commissioned His followers to carry on the work. Team members regularly see people healed, quite often instantly, and occasionally over a period of time.

Healing Rooms Kinross is part of *Healing Rooms Scotland* which in turn is part of the *International Association of Healing Rooms*. More information can be obtained from visiting www.healingrooms-scotland.com or by telephoning either of the following numbers: 0766515950 or 07732485305.

Kinross-shire Volunteer Group and Rural Outreach Scheme



Successful Burns Supper

Kinross-shire Volunteer Group and Rural Outreach Scheme have done it yet again. Year after year they secure the services of local talented Burns enthusiasts to provide a thoroughly enjoyable evening. "Local" is, of course, an all-embracing term, with some of the said Locals originating from as far afield as Yorkshire.

David Reid, in the Chair, was as ebullient as ever. Once a Headie, always a Headie, so no problems keeping the party under control. The ever-welcome Willie Shand piped in the haggis, carried with aplomb by Poosie Nancy, alias Anne Munro. It fell to Kelvin Reay to address the haggis with gusto before Rev Duncan Stenhouse delivered the Selkirk Grace.

St Serf's Singers delighted the company with a wide selection of Burns' songs, including Ye Banks and Braes, John Anderson My Jo, Flow Gently Sweet Afton, Ca' the Yows, Duncan Gray and The Deil's Awa Wi th' Excise Man. What a treat to hear so many solos from the choir members. The entire company joined in singing Rantin' Rovin' Robin and Scots Wha Hae, ably accompanied by Keith Green.

The Immortal memory was proposed in word and song by Irene McFarlane. She combined her love of language and her unique musical talent to pay tribute to the Bard's songs, including Green Grow the Rashes. We learned from Irene that Burns could read and write music and play the fiddle.

Jenny McLeod treated us to one of his less well-known poems, The Address by Miss Fontanelle in 1792, before Roger Stark rose to propose the Toast to the Lasses. If ever a man was born to play his part at a Burns Supper, it is Roger. His madcap humour went down extremely well with lads and lasses alike. Rosemary Braid rose magnificently to the challenge of replying on behalf of all the lasses. Not even Burns managed to incorporate broccoli in a love song, but Rosemary did. Husband, Sandy, sitting in the body of the kirk, survived her sharp barbs with a smile.

The dimming of the lights gave the clue that Holy Willie was about to make an ethereal appearance, courtesy of Jim Patterson. Barry Davidson, President of Kinross and District Rotary Club, gave a fulsome vote of thanks to all who had contributed to the success of the evening before the entire company joined in singing Auld Lang Syne.

The efficient staff of Windlestrae Hotel served a delicious supper of soup, followed by haggis, neeps and tatties.

Kinross Garden Group



Our February meeting took place in the Millbridge Hall and was attended by 56 members and visitors. Colin Shaw, the Information Warden at the RSPB Vane Farm Nature Reserve, gave us an excellent presentation entitled "Encouraging Wildlife into our Gardens".

Our next meeting is on **Thursday 13 March** in the Millbridge Hall, Kinross at 2pm. Billy Carruthers of Binny Plants, West Lothian will give us a talk on "The skill of growing Peonies in Scotland".

Milnathort Primary School Parent Council

Summary of minutes of meeting held on 4 February 2008 at Milnathort Primary School.

Present: Chair - Bridget Barker; Vice Chair - Walter Cambers; Council Members - Janette Walker, Robin Millar, Ann Malcolm, Dave Cochrane, Gill Freeman, Headteacher - Alyson Howe, Milnathort School Association Representative - Mark Koziel, Clerk - Sheila Herron. Apologies: Michael Longstaffe, Dave Cochrane, Lynne Dunn

Communication: The working party to produce a questionnaire/leaflet has been formed and are now well on their way to issuing this. It was confirmed that Draft Minutes have been put up in the Community Window and Summary produced in the KCCN. It was suggested and agreed that the Draft Minutes are also put up in the Nursery.

Co-Opted Members: Dave Cochrane drafted a letter to go out to organisations/individuals involved in our community. Clerk to send out to relevant addressees, such as Councillors, Chaplains, MSPs, Police, other School Councils etc.

Action Plan: As part of Inspection Audits the HT will be completing a Self Evaluation Audit in the near future. This will not only help with the School Improvement Plan but also the responses from this will go towards a Vision, Value and Aims paper. The action plan for the Council will in some way be affected by the outcome of these questionnaires and the School Improvement Plan, however it is hoped that the Council will then be in a much better and clearer position of how best to support the work of the school. The children with MPS are to choose a new motto reflecting "Living and Learning Together".

Parental Involvement Grant: Parent Councils have been invited to bid for additional resources for parental involvement in schools. It was suggested and agreed that Parent Council Workshops with the parents themselves hosting informal "How to...." type workshops. Some form of a breakfast club for parents could be introduced benefiting newcomers and a supporting the Parent Workshops. Ann Malcolm to approach Emma Broadhurst of Lets Play to establish if any funding is required to support this parent lead group. There were plenty of suggestions for what the application could include to support the Parental Involvement aspect whilst also embracing sustainable and environmentally friendly items.

Meetings for 2008: 17 March; 12 May; 23 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

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Sports News



Kinross Tennis Club

Spring is nearly upon us once more and we all hope for some better weather for the start of the new tennis season at Kinross Tennis Club.



We are holding an **Open Day** on **29 March** from 10am until 3pm to officially launch the new tennis season. Everyone is welcome, so do come along for a chat or a game of tennis. Laura Grimmond, our club coach, will be available on the day and might even give you some top tips to improve your game!

From 29 March onwards we will be restarting our **club nights**. Junior club nights will be held on Tuesday evenings from 6pm to 7pm. Please note that although junior club night is supervised, no coach will be available. Senior club nights are on Wednesday evenings from 6pm onwards and senior members also meet on Sunday mornings from 10am onwards.

The first block of **junior coaching** started on Friday 22 February and runs until 14 March. **Easter holiday coaching** will also be available for junior members, followed by two ten-week coaching blocks on Friday evenings in the summer and autumn terms. Please contact Gillian McCloskey on 01577 861525 if you would like to sign up for any of the coaching sessions above or would like further information in relation to junior coaching.

Adult coaching started on Thursday 21 February and runs until 20 March from 6.30pm to 8.30pm. Coaching for **beginners** runs from 6.30pm to 7.30pm, followed by coaching for more **experienced** players. Please contact Charmian Reid on 01577 865316 if you would like to attend.

New for 2008 are the floodlights now installed on Court no. 1 and our thanks go to DC Lighting for their efficient and prompt service. This is an exciting development for the club and will help extend our tennis seasons into Spring and Autumn.

Finally, we are holding a **Quiz Night** on **19 March** at the King George V Pavilion in Kinross at 7pm. Supper will be provided and there will of course be a raffle. Tickets are £6 for adults and £3 for children and will be available on the door. Please feel free to come along and bring friends and family to join in the fun.

If you would like to join the club, help out with the juniors or just want some more information please contact me at jonesaileen@hotmail.com or 01577 865449.

Aileen Jones, Kinross Tennis Club

Kinross Cricket Club

Kinross CC Ladies fielded two teams in an indoor 6-a-side tournament against St. Andrew's University Ladies recently. This event showed much improved and confident ladies taking to the crease with good quality batting, bowling and fielding from all players. This is a great credit to the girls and women that have been playing cricket for less than a year. It was a coach's delight to see players competently batting and driving the ball with a straight bat, good calls between batsmen and fast confident running between the wickets. This bodes very well for the outdoor season. Kinross teenager, Lauren Megginson was nominated player of the tournament for her fantastic bowling taking 4 wickets for 0 runs including a triple wicket maiden. Our under-16 girls team will take part in the Cricket Scotland Fettes Westwood tournament in March giving them a chance to showcase their talents to the regional and Scottish selectors.



In to bat with Kinross Cricket Club...

Under-15 players, Scott Weir and Peter Ross depart for South Africa this month to tour with the under-15 Scotland team. Fellow under-15 player, Nick Farrar travels to La Manga, Spain to the ECC Cricket Excellence Centre on a week long scholarship with Cricket Scotland. The club wishes them lots of success.

The cricket club will be present at the Kinross Better Place to Live Fair on **8 March**. Please come along and visit our stand.

Club Head Coach, John Ross has been nominated for the Coach of the Year Award at the Perth & Kinross Sports Council "Sports Personality of the Year" Awards. Our under-13 and under-15 teams have been jointly nominated in the Team of the Year category. The awards ceremony takes place on **10 March**.

Kinross Cricket Club has an active schools partnership and is providing **cricket taster sessions** at all the Kinross-shire Primary Schools on Friday mornings from 7 March spending 4 weeks in each school. This will enable children to have a go at cricket and join the club if they find they enjoy it and want to get more involved.

Dates for the outdoor season will be published next month. The club is particularly looking for men and women to play for the adult teams. No experience or equipment necessary - just come along and have a go.

Keep up to date with what's happening at the club - see our website - www.kinrosscc.co.uk

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Kinross Curling School



Our Kinross Curling School **Curling Clinics** have proved to be a great success, and we have one more before the end of the season:

28 March 7.45 pm Handles and Angles

The ice rink closes on **Sunday 6 April** and we always hold a **TURKEY SHOOT**. It is a fantastic end to the season – it is similar to a race night but with a difference. All are welcome. This year we will be doing family tickets – find out where to get a ticket by getting in touch with me. More details in the next Newsletter.

To find out more about these courses, please read the posters scattered round the rink, or for more information contact: Ena Stevenson Tel 01383 850257

Email enastevenson@aol.com



Curling in Kinross - why not give it a try?

Kinross Bowling Club

The bowling season is almost here again. The Bowling Green opens on **Saturday 12 April** at 2.30pm.

At the AGM the new committee was elected as follows:

President	Jim Cousar	01577 840890
Vice President	Paul Allcoat	01577 863576
Secretary	George Rennie	01577 864727
Treasurer	Kelvin Reay	01577 864147

We welcome existing members back to the Green and would be delighted to see anyone interested in bowling who would like to have a go; please come along and join us in the great outdoor sport. You would be made very welcome by all the members - no age limits. Look out for the mail shots coming through your doors before too long.

Let's hope that all the wind and rain is now behind us and hope for a nice warm sunny Summer for good bowling and good fun. Watch this space for more details next month.

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Newsletter Deadlines

A list of future deadlines can be found on our website

www.kinrossnewsletter.org

Kinross Ladies Hockey Club

The league schedule was badly disrupted after the Christmas break: "all weather" pitches are playable in most weathers other than hard frost when a hockey ball becomes more like a curling stone!

However, despite this slow start, both teams began with wins: Kinross 1s beating Brechin 3 -1 (not too convincingly however!) in the Midlands Confined Cup and Kinross 2s, rather more convincingly, winning 6-2 against St Andrews university in the Midlands Confined plate.

Fortunately, Kinross 1s raised their game the next day to win 3-1 against Madras, in doing so increasing their chances of winning the first division.

The next weekend saw Kinross 2s playing Grove III in their first post-Christmas League game and were unlucky to only come away with a 1-1 draw after a spirited performance. Kinross 1s played Perthshire at home, winning 6-2 and continuing their unbeaten run this season.

Training continues on a Wednesday evening 6.30pm to 8pm at the all-weather pitch at KGV - all players, or potential players, welcome.

Carpet Bowls

Crook of Devon Carpet Bowling Club held a very successful Open Pairs Competition in the Institute, Crook of Devon on Saturday 26 January. Twenty-eight pairs from a wide area took part. Winners were:

Pairs

- 1st Neil Atchison & Willie Nichol from Aucham
- 2nd Jimmy Crammond & Karen Crammond from Monzie, Crieff
- 3rd George Turnbull & Leslie Mitchell from Crook of Devon
- 4th Susan Allan & John McCulloch from Buchanan

Singles

- 1st Harry Aird from Crook of Devon
- 2nd Colin Campbell from Gartocham

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Kinross Road Runners



A warm welcome to all the new members who have joined our illustrious band of runners in 2008. I hope you all have a great year of running whether it be to keep fit and lose a few pounds or to achieve the completion of a half marathon that you have always promised yourself.

All are welcome to join our running club and we meet Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm in the car park outside the health centre and finish about 8:00pm. Sunday morning runs start from the same place at 9:00am. If it's your first venture with the club please make yourself known and you will be assured of a warm and friendly reception.

The club's AGM was held in Milnathort Town Hall in January. Raymond Milne was elected as the new president. Joanne Koziel stepped in as new secretary and Anne Malcolm remains as Treasurer. The committee remains strong with seven additional members joining it.

Membership fee remains at only £10! Good value for a club that could change your life.?? £7 of the fee goes to Scottish Athletics and our famous fluorescent yellow running vests are subsidised at £5. A bargain!

Two large banners have arrived, purchased from the Awards for All grant. These look spectacular and will certainly add a splash of colour at any of our events. The organisation of the **25th Loch Leven Half Marathon** is well under way and we hope to see a huge turnout of local runners for this landmark event on **Saturday 17 May**.

Kinross Road Runners believe that the new school should have the best facilities for the children and local community and are keen that a running track is included. Gordon Banks has expressed his support for the inclusions of a track.

In January Kinross Road Runners fielded 3 teams in the Devils Burden Hill relay. This is hosted by Fié AC and is the largest hill running event in Scotland with over 600 runners taking part. The relay starts and finishes in Falkland and takes in the steep climb up West Lomond as well as traversing Bishop Hill and East Lomond hills.

The men's team of Ewan Findlay, Graham Robb, Steve Little, Steve Crawford, Alistair Black & John Myerscough finished in 3hrs 29mins 56sec.

The women's team of Christine Myerscough, Trish Milne, Fiona Crawford, Judith Dobson, Kate Ives & Gillian Lopez finished in 3hrs 40mins 56sec.

Chris Pratt (*Kinross Road Runners Athlete of the Year 2007*) had a superb start to the new season with a PB in his opening race, a tough multi terrain half marathon which included a thigh deep wade for 30metres through icy water.

Forfar Multi Terrain ½ Marathon 10th Nov

Position	Name	Time
10th	Chris Pratt	1:26:42
88th	John Myerscough	1:54:45

BOATHOUSE BISTRO

Advance notice of the re-opening of the

BOATHOUSE BISTRO
LOCH LEVEN

On Friday 4 April

Opening hours: 10.00am – 6pm
(7 days a week)

Kinross Squash Club



The squash leagues have continued to be in a healthy state and most leagues are hotly contested.

If you are keen to play please add your name to the bottom of the league results sheet and you will be included in the next month's table.

The winners of the January league were:

Prem league	Mike Cheshire
League 1	Crawford Heriot
League 2	Phil Seymour
League 3	Calum Johnston
League 4	Libby Wallace
League 5	Morag Johnston

Kinross Cougars



After weeks of ice, frost, rain and water-logged pitches the 2008 rugby season is FINALLY back up and running. The Cougars MINI teams (Primary 1 - Primary 7) and MIDI teams (S1 - S4) played matches on Sunday 24 February. The MINIs played away against Glenrothes, whilst the MIDI teams had a longer journey to play against Ellon Rugby in Aberdeenshire.

Regular training is back on course too. The MINIs train every Saturday morning from 10.30 - 12.00. The MIDI under 16 team trains on Wednesday evenings and the Under 14 team on Thursday evenings.

The Cougars are always looking for new players. So feel free to come along to any training session. You'll need a pair of boots and for older kids a gumshield. At this time of year a change of clothes isn't a bad idea either!

Parents are welcome to training sessions and matches as well. Come along and support the kids.

Finally, the Cougars brand new website is now up and running. Please come along and visit: www.kinrosscougars.com

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07866 961685 (mobile)

News from the Rurals

MILNATHORT - January: A Scots Night was organized for our members with entertainment from dancers of The Lawson School of Dance, singer Donald Innes and poet, musician and artist Jim Douglas. A traditional supper of stovies, trifle and shortbread followed.

Competitions:

- Gingerbread - S Wardell
- Item in Tartan - S Marshall
- Flower of the Month - E Thomson

POWMILL - President Mrs Ruth Briscoe welcomed members to the first meeting of the New Year on Wednesday 16 January in Mowbray Hall, Powmill, which took the form of an informal Burns Supper. The Haggis was carried in by Mrs J Buchanan and addressed by Mrs W Sim. Mrs R Briscoe said the "Selkirk Grace" after which the committee served Haggis, tatties, neeps and mince followed by oatcakes and cheese and shortbread. Mrs Briscoe went through various items of business for discussion and we rounded off the evening by singing some Scottish songs accompanied by Mrs M Thorn on her guitar, finishing with "Auld Lang Syne". Mrs Briscoe thanked the committee for providing the very nice meal and declared the meeting closed.

Competitions:

- Scotch Broth Soup - Mrs J Mitchell
- Scottish Limerick - Mrs S Buchanan
- Garden Gem - Mrs M Wilson

CARNBO - Vice President Mrs Norah Winyard welcomed members to the first meeting of 2008. Mrs C Waring gave a talk about the benefits of yoga and involved members in a few exercises. A good time was had by all.

Competitions:

- Flower of the Month - Mrs Kath Mearns
- Three pieces of Flapjack - Mrs Christine Dawson

A well-attended February meeting was warmly welcomed by Vice President Mrs Norah Winyard. Mrs Lynne Caldwell and Mr Euan McKay gave an illustrated talk on their school trip to Malawi. The visit was an exchange from Kinross High School to Livingstonia School and was most enjoyable.

Competitions:

- Flower of the Month - Mrs Josephine Paterson
- Foreign Souvenir - Mrs Frances Drysdale

A Daffodil Coffee Morning will be held in Cambo Hall on Saturday 15 March from 10am to 12 noon.

CLEISH - President Mrs Margaret Kilpatrick welcomed members to the first meeting of 2008. After business, our speaker Jenni Barke was introduced by Margaret Kilpatrick and we were given the pleasure of a talk about fine jewellery, antique and modern, advice on how to choose fine gems and even how to look for treasures on stalls and in charity shops. We can dream! After Mrs Kilpatrick gave the vote of thanks we enjoyed tea and the raffle.

Competitions:

- Flower of the Month - Sandra Webster
- Three Highlander - Ann Bayne
- Pretty Cup and Saucer - Dorothy Morris

In December we held our annual coffee, cake and carol evening. Members and friends from neighbouring Institutes joined us to enjoy a convivial evening. Entertained by Fossoway Singers, a happy evening was enjoyed by all.

CROOK OF DEVON - Mrs Margaret Arbuckle presided over the February meeting. After business was concluded she introduced Stuart Skinner who gave us an interesting talk on behind the scenes at T in the Park. Betty Paterson gave the vote of thanks.

Competitions:

- Local Memento - I. White
- Flower of the Month - I. White

BISHOPSHIRE - Niall Lobley, Senior Countryside Ranger with P&KC, spoke of his work within the eastern half of the county. His enthusiasm shone through as he explained the many different facets of his work, accompanied by slides. Members were amazed to learn of the many varieties of wildlife in our area. If you see red squirrels, do try to report the sighting to the Rangers who are trying to identify where they can be found to help save them from extinction.

Competitions:

- Flask of soup - Brenda Bird
- Local photo - Jane Turnbull

Congratulations



Fergus and Diana Sandilands, previously of Milnathort, are pleased to announce the marriage of their eldest daughter, **ASHLY JESSICA SANDILANDS**, to **TIMOTHY JOHN RUTTLEY** on 15 December 2007 on Currumbin Beach, Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia.

ELIZABETH GRAHAM, formerly of Kinross and winner of last year's Newsletter/kinross.cc photographic competition, has demonstrated her creative flair once more. She has been named as one of the ten winners in the annual Create a Chocolate Competition run by up-market mail order chocolate company, Hotel Chocolat. Beth's recipe, "Elderflower Collins", is described as "A fluffy white chocolate ganache flavoured with elderflower and Hendricks gin. It is surrounded with a thin dark chocolate shell topped with a twist of crystallised cucumber." Beth's prize is a 5kg supply of the chocolate she designed, which will feature in the boxes sampled by Hotel Chocolat's Tasting Club membership.

PAULINE BROTHERTON raised £159 on behalf of the Marie Curie Cancer Care Rochdale Support Group as the result of a plant sale and afternoon tea during the early autumn last year.

Thanks



RUTH RITCHIE and her family would like to say thank you to everyone for their help, kindness and generosity after her recent accident.

K.L.A.W.S. - Kinross Local Animal Welfare Society would like to thank Miss Halkett, the pupils of Milnathort Primary School Choir and the members of the Kinross Parish Church for the fantastic donation of £111.40. This helped greatly and very specifically with a litter of very ill abandoned kittens (who are now all well and in loving homes). Many thanks to all again.



Out & About

Vane Farm



Aye aye folks whit like the day? It's still February when I am typin this and the weather has been braw fur the last week or so.

Bright, sunny a bit cauld, but a guess ye canny get everythin at wance, so by the time you read this it should hopefully be Spring in full swing!! Jist about.

Birdie wise on the reserve we are seein signs o the breeding ducks startin tae build up and the annual juck joustin championships hiv begun. Jeeso man whit guys will dae to woo a wummin, onyway it's the yearly luv thing goin on so who are we tae complain.

We hiv experienced some "technical difficulties" as the sayin goes wi oor new camera on St Serfs. Hisnae been workin fur a week or twa cos it wiz beltit by a bolt o lightnin apparently, which kinda macks it, well, no work really. So it's been permanent nicht time on the telly screens but we hiv it awa tae the telly doctor and by the time you read this it shid be gawn again. Which is guid cos we are startin an excitin new project in the Boathouse Bistro at the pier with thanks to Kinross Estate where we will be beemin live pictures o the birds nestin on St Serfs in to a big telly screen to show folks the fantastic wildlife spectacle that unfolds during the breeding season.

From **Friday 21 March**, that's Good Friday tae you n me, we will have a member o staff in the Bistro and walkin around the area speakin tae people and telling them all about birdie relatit things on the loch as well as explaining to people whits happenin on the big screen. So if yer lookin fur something tae dae o a fine Spring morn or indeed effermane, daunder doon and learn about "Ducks wi Donna" since she's the new lass that's gonna be runnin the thing.

Some new staff in the centre again, we now have Lyn (hope that's the richt spellin or else am in trouble again!!) who will be workin part time in the shop and coffee shop, Donna who I have already mentioned, who will be doin the ABB thing in the bistro and finally Andie who is a she no a he. She is the new Visitor and Publicity Officer and replaces Jayney Buchan.

Guess that's it fur this month. Enjoy the start o spring, see ya next month.

Colin

DOG GROOMING BY KIRSTEN

Qualified Groomer
19 years experience

All types of dogs
Bathed – Trimmed – Clipped
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For an appointment or further enquiries
TEL: 0771 647 2733
or email
kirsten.k9@blueyonder.co.uk

Loch Leven NNR



This time of year is usually very exciting for local wildlife enthusiasts, with rare birds turning up more often than usual around the reserve. In the last couple of weeks we have had a Great Northern Diver, a Lesser Scaup, a Green-winged Teal, and a Glaucous Gull, all good rarities for Loch Leven NNR. A great way of keeping up to date with rarities of the bird world and specifically in your local area is by logging on to www.BirdGuides.com and exploring the Bird map function available.

Volunteer activities are continuing around the reserve. The Tree Sparrow day was a real success with the installation of 21 bird boxes on the north shore of the loch. We will be monitoring activities around these boxes over the next few months to see if any species make use of the newly available nesting areas.

Water Vole survey training has taken place, so the task of surveying Loch Leven NNR is about to begin in March. We plan to have results from our surveys available on our website when monitoring begins, so look out for that in the near future.

As mentioned last month, we are looking forward to our next volunteers' meeting at the Millbridge Hall, Kinross, where we will be welcoming Claire Smith from RSPB. Claire is the East Scotland Sea Eagle Officer, and consequently played an integral role in the reintroduction of this magnificent species to this part of Scotland. With a 5 year reintroduction project now underway, it is important that the public is aware of the species presence, so that keeping track of all the individuals and their activities is made more feasible. The meeting will be held at 6pm on Thursday 28 February. We hope that there will be a good turn out to hear what Claire has to say, and the meeting is open to all. To give us an idea of numbers expected, please contact the reserve office on 01577 864439 to express your interest in attending.



The Boathouse Hide, flooded by the rising waters of the Loch

Lastly, as you will have no doubt noticed, the water level of the loch rose significantly last week, and many parts of the Heritage Trail have become damaged, covered in reeds and vegetation, or generally covered in litter. Please bear with us, as we are working towards cleaning the reserve up as quickly as possible. I will be recruiting the help of any kind hearted volunteers who wish to help with this task in the coming days, so again, keep an eye on our website.

That's all for now folks. Please read and take note of this month's special feature about dogs on the reserve. Craig

Farming



Prioritising tasks helps to allocate time where it is most needed and most wisely spent. It is part of many folks' daily and weekly routine. The process is easier if you

- know what your goals and key tasks are
- identify relevant activities
- put all your efforts in the right direction

Farmers tend to have a lot of tasks to prioritise and generally make the process easier by following a daily routine. For livestock farmers this means that they begin each morning with feeding of the stock. They will usually pour barley along the troughs for the cattle in the shed, top up their silage and give them a clean, dry bed by rolling out bales of straw. It will usually be light enough outside by then to venture into the fields and do the same for the sheep. During feeding time, the farmer will be looking out for any animal that is not hungry, or looks unwell. Livestock welfare is always top priority, so it is important that animals are observed and any signs of disease caught early in order for treatment to be administered.

At this time of year, after this routine is finished, it will be necessary to think about ploughing to get the fields ready for the spring sowing of crops. When the soil temperature rises during March, it is time to sow barley and oats. This is a step-by-step process starting with breaking down the soil, seed drilling, and finally rolling the field flat and picking out any stones. Of course, it requires dry soil in order for the machines to work properly and for the seeds to be placed in a good seedbed for optimum germination and growth. With so much work to do in such a short time, many farmers require extra help. Some farms rely on family labour or are lucky enough to have a neighbour to help out. Alternatively, the farmer can hire a contractor who will do part or all of the work for them. Finding a contractor who is available can be a time consuming process but it is possible to get help with this too! Joining a machinery ring allows members access to the services of other members, and usually one phone call to the organisation will arrange the help required. This efficient, joint use of agricultural equipment and labour between farming and non-farming members allows top priority tasks to be carried out on the farm at the appropriate time.

Fiona

TRACE YOUR SCOTTISH ANCESTORS

We can help you trace your Scottish Ancestry
or find living relatives.

Research carried out at New Register House
in Edinburgh

Access to Births, Deaths & Marriages
from 1855 to 2003.

Earlier information from Parish Registers
from the 1500's

For FREE Evaluation Phone 01577 863186
or email: craig@scottishfamily.co.uk
or visit our web page www.scottishfamily.co.uk

Weather



January Weather Report From Carnbo

January 2008 broke all records when it came to rain fall, the rain at times was more like an Indian Monsoon and will long be remembered by Kinross-shire folk for the threat to homes and the flooding of local roads and fields.

Rainfall for month	374 mm* (271% of normal)
Heaviest fall	74.6 mm (25th)
Highest temperature	10°C (23rd)
Lowest temperature	-4°C (13th)
Average temperature	2.8°C
Air Frost	13 nights
Ground Frost	23 nights
1 day with temperature 10°C or above	
1 ice day recorded (max. temperature below 0°C)	
9 snow days, 9 days with lying snow total depth 16cms	

* The previous highest rainfall total was recorded in January 1993 with 275mm. This was the great Perth, Auchtermuchty and of course, Milnathort flood. This event was called the Braer storm named after the tanker that ran aground off Shetland at the height of the storm. The flooding was caused by the large amount of snow that fell during mid January subsequently melting very fast within two days.

Walk for Marie Curie Cancer Care



TV presenter Julia Bradbury is calling on all enthusiastic walkers, young and old, from across Central Scotland, Tayside & Fife to take part in a **"Devoted to Life Walk" at Birkhill Castle, Fife on Saturday 10 May** in support of Marie Curie Cancer Care.

It is a six-mile walk that is open to people of all ages and abilities. Birkhill Castle is set in glorious countryside on the shores of the River Tay, a short distance from St Andrews. The house is surrounded by beautiful gardens and walkers can wander through these and see a number of rare trees and plants.

Community Fundraiser for this area, Jackie Johnston, said: "Most people who are terminally ill would like to be cared for in the comfortable surroundings of their own homes. Last year the Marie Curie Nurses working in Central Scotland, Tayside & Fife made this possible for 423 people, and provided over 25,000 hours of care. I'd like to urge as many people from the area to take part, raise sponsorship, and make a real difference to those affected by cancer."

It costs £10 to register for the Birkhill Castle Devoted to Life Walk and walkers are also encouraged to raise sponsorship. High street retailers, Next, are sponsoring the event this year and all walkers will receive a free Devoted to Life t-shirt.

To sign up and take part, contact Jackie Johnston Community Fundraiser, on 0131 456 3725 or email Jackie.johnston@mariecurie.org.uk or go to www.mariecurie.org.uk/devotedtolifewalks

Deadline for all Articles
2.00 pm, MONDAY 17 March
for publication on Saturday 29 March

Small Ways to Save the Planet
Re-use envelopes instead of throwing them away.

Kinross-shire Churches Together



Kinross Parish Church Church of Scotland

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

March

- Sun 2** 10.30am & 6.30pm Quarterly Communion.
Mothering Sunday
- Fri 7** World Day of Prayer, with prayers from Guyana.
Services at 2.30pm in the Church Centre and
7pm in Kinross Parish Church.
- Sun 9** 10.30am Morning Service. 5th in Lent. Baptisms
Theme: Hope: in all things, God works for Good
- Sun 16** 10.30am Morning Service for Palm Sunday.
Theme: Facing Death, Embracing Life.

Holy Week

- Thu 20** 7pm, Maundy Thursday Communion.
- Fri 21** 7pm Tenebrae Service in Cleish Church.
- Sun 23** 10.30am, Family Service.
- Sun 30** 10.30am Morning Worship. Followed by Stated
Annual Meeting. Theme: Being Transformed.

Pram Service: Each Tuesday at 10.00am in the Church.
All under 3s and carers welcome.

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

Whyte Court: First Tuesday of the month, at 2.30 p.m.

Causeway Court: Last Tuesday of the month at 2.30 p.m.

All are welcome to these services.

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

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

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

Kinross-shire Churches Together HOLY WEEK SERVICES (All welcome)

- Mon 17** 7.00pm, Stations of the Cross
St. James RC Church
- Wed 19** 7.00pm, Holy Wednesday Service
Fossway Church
- Thu 20** 10.00am, Holy Communion
St. Pauls Episcopal Church Kinross
7.00pm, Memorial of the Last Supper
Kinross Parish Church
- Fri 21** 10am -12md, Good Friday Event for the
children of all Churches, St Pauls Hall
2.00pm, Good Friday Communion Service,
St. Pauls Church
- Sat 22** 7.00pm, Easter Vigil, St. Pauls Hall
- Easter Day** 7.30am, Lochside Service (by old jetty)
followed by break fast in the Kinross Church
Centre

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 and third Tuesdays of the
month at 4pm

Oasis – Ladies' meeting in Portmoak New Room.
10.15-11.45am last Friday of the month.

Aspire – Meeting for young teens, Orwell Hall,
last Friday evening of the month.

March 2 – Communion at Orwell

Holy Week Services

- Palm Sunday** **Family services at both Churches**
- Mon 17** 8pm at Orwell
- Tue 18** 8pm at Portmoak
- Wed 19** 8pm at Orwell
- Thu 20** 8pm Communion at Portmoak
- Good Friday 21** 8pm at Orwell
- Saturday** 11.30pm Watchnight at Portmoak
- Easter Day – Family services at both Churches**

St Paul's Scottish Episcopal Church

Muir, Kinross, KY13 8AY

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

March Services

- Sun 2** Mothering Sunday, 8.30am Holy Communion.
11.00am Sung Eucharist.
- Sun 9** Lent 5, 8.30am, Holy Communion.
11.00am, Sung Eucharist.
- Sun 16** Palm Sunday, 8.30am, Holy Communion.
11.00am Sung Eucharist.
Passion Narrative and distribution of palms
- Thu 20** Maundy Thursday, 10.00am, Holy Communion
- Fri 21** Good Friday, 10-12 md Children's Good Friday
event. 2-3pm Communion.
- Sun 23** Easter Day, 8.30am, Holy Communion.
11.00am Easter Eucharist.

Sunday School and Crèche during the 11.00am Service.

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

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

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

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

March

Sun 2	11.15am	Preacher: Brian Ogilvie
Sun 9	11.15am	Preacher: Minister
Sun 16	11.15am	All age service for Palm Sunday
Fri 21	7pm	Tenebrae service
Sun 23	11.15am	Easter Day: Minister
Sun 30	11.15am	Preacher: Brian Ogilvie

Fossoway Parish Church**Church of Scotland**

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

Sunday Services at 9.45am

Crèche, Junior Church and Teenage Group 9.45am

Tots Music: Friday mornings in hall,
 9.30am-10.30am; 11am-12pm

Community Choir: Wednesday evenings, 7pm-9pm

March

Sun 2	9.45am	Preacher: Brian Ogilvie
Sun 9	9.45am	Preacher: Minister
Sun 16	9.45am	All age service for Palm Sunday
Wed 19	7pm	Easter week service.
Sun 23	9.15am	Communion.
	9.45am	Easter Day: Minister
Sun 30	9.45am	Preacher: Brian Ogilvie

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

Fridays 9.30am - Tots Music - church hall.

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

Kinross Gospel Hall

Montgomery Street, Kinross

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

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.

Obituary

GEORGE GORDON SIME YOUNG died suddenly and unexpectedly at home in Kelty on 25 December 2007, aged 62 years. Gordon was born in Perth, then lived at 3 Hatchbank Road, Kinross. On leaving Kinross School, he did his apprenticeship Boilermaker-Welder - Welding Inspector at Rosyth Dockyard. He loved his garden, and won many prizes for same, and was well known for his "Kelsay Onions" as his father before him. He also enjoyed the Kelty Musical. He is survived by his wife, Janet, and sons, Graeme and Douglas, grandchildren and sister Margaret. He will be sadly missed.

Acknowledgement

PALMER - The family of the late Margaret Palmer wish to thank most sincerely all relatives, friends and neighbours for their kind expressions of sympathy, support and cards received during their recent sad loss. Special thanks to Rev Dr John Munro for his comforting memorial service, Gordon Stewart Funeral Directors for their caring and professional services and to all who paid their last respects at Kinross Parish Church and who donated so generously to the local Kinross charities that Margaret was involved with. It is evident that Kinross was a very special place to both Margaret and George and it is comforting to know that they spent many happy days in this community. Kinross will be fondly remembered by and Margaret and George's remaining family.

World Day of Prayer

Friday 7 March

"God's Wisdom Provides New Understanding"

You are invited to share in worship with people from all round the world, in a service prepared by the women of the World Day of Prayer committee of Guyana (in South America).

Services in Kinross will be held on 7 March:
 Kinross Church Centre at 2.30pm
 Kinross Parish Church at 7pm

All are welcome

Small Ways to Save the Planet

Reduce unwanted mail by registering with the Mailing Preference Service. Register online at www.mpsonline.org.uk or call 0845 703 4599. For more tips see www.wasteawarescotland.org.uk

Re-use envelopes instead of throwing them away.

**Kinross Churches Together
LENT STUDY ON THE LORD'S PRAYER**

In St Paul's new meeting room, The Muirs, Kinross

Session IV Tue 4 Mar 7.30pm *As we forgive*

In Kinross Parish Church

Session V Wed 12 Mar 7.30pm *In Heaven*

Playgroups & Nurseries

PORTMOAK UNDER 5's

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

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

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

Contact 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 TWO'S CLUB

Masonic Hall, The Muirs, Kinross
Thursdays 9.30 to 11.15am

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

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

FOSSOWAY TODDLERS

The Institute, Crook of Devon

Wednesday 9.30 a.m. - 11.15 am

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

Contact - 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 Bouwein 863107 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: Alissa 830124

GLENFARG VILLAGE PLAYSCHOOL



Greenbank Road, Glenfarg

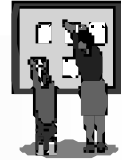
Come and make some new friends and enjoy a balanced morning of play, fun and learning!

We have a great outdoor play area too!

Monday / Wednesday / Friday Mornings
9:30 - 12:00

Places available for 2 - 4 year olds

For more information or to arrange a visit please contact Ann McLean
01577 830034



Notices

Orwell Bowling Club SOCIAL EVENING

on
Saturday 1 March
Bingo at 8.00pm then
Dance Along to Bill Smith's music
£2.00 per head for non-members.

Lodge St Serf No 327

Sat 8 Mar **Better Place to Live Fair** from
10am to 1pm in Kinross High
School, High Street, Kinross, when Provincial
Grand Master, Bro. Tom Bradley and Past
Provincial Substitute Grand Master, Bro.
Andrew Baillie will be in attendance. It is
hoped that members of the general public will
come along and see how Lodge St Serf No
327 works.



There will also be an **"Open Doors" Day** at
The Masonic Hall, Muirs, Kinross following
the Fair, from 2pm to 4pm. All are welcome
to attend and see the workings of Lodge St
Serf No 327 when Office Bearers will be in
full Regalia with the Lodge Room set out for
a proper meeting. Refreshments will be
served.

BETTER PLACE TO LIVE FAIR

Kinross High School
Saturday 8 March
10am – 1pm
(See Articles, page 4 for more details)

MILNATHORT FOLK FESTIVAL

7, 8 and 9 March

See Articles, page 4 for details

Full information from www.milnathort.info

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

for Dundee University Student Research Project

If you are in the age group 30 and upwards and have 10-20
minutes to answer some questions relating to services
provided for young people to access employment and
Further Education opportunities in Kinross-shire, your help
would be appreciated.

This questionnaire can be done by telephone, email or over
a cup of coffee – you can choose.

If you are interested, please contact:

Marc Forrester, Web Project New Road Milnathort.
T: 01577 861608 E: mforrester@dundee.ac.uk

Situations Vacant

Looking for a Job?

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

Kinross-shire Historical Society



Meetings will be held in a new venue this session, at
Kinross Parish Church, Station Road, Kinross at 7.30pm on
the third Monday of each month and the second Monday of
December. Subscriptions: Adult £6; Senior Citizen £5;
Visitor £2; under-18 - no charge.

17 Mar **The Battle of Killcrankie.** Minor skirmish
or major battle? Grant Carnegie
Annual General Meeting.

Powmill WRI

Open Meeting

Wednesday 19 March at 7.30pm

Mowbray Hall, Powmill

IMPRESSIONS OF ANTARTICA

An Illustrated talk by Paul and Caroline Boyce
All Welcome

Kinross Parish Church of Scotland Retirement of Rev Dr John Munro

The Rev Dr John Munro is retiring from Kinross Parish
Church in early April after nearly ten years as Minister. He
will conduct his last service of worship on Sunday
30 March. John and his wife Pat are returning to their
native Edinburgh and we wish them well in their retirement.
In recognition of his Ministry in Kinross and the wider
community, the Parish Church invites all members,
associates and friends to contribute to a retirement gift fund
as a mark of their appreciation. If you would like to make a
donation you can do so by giving your contribution to any
office-bearer of the Church or directly to the Royal Bank of
Scotland, High Street, Kinross where an account entitled
'Kinross Parish Church: John Munro Presentation Fund' has
been opened. (Details: Sort Code 83-23-47; Account
Number 002450489).

Linda Williamson
Session Clerk

Smiddy Singers

MEMORIAL CONCERT for George and Margaret Palmer

Church Centre, Kinross
Wednesday 19 March 7.30 pm

Refreshments and Raffle
Proceeds to charity

**Tickets £4 from Chris Renton Tel: 864684
or any member of the choir**

Kinross Tennis Club QUIZ NIGHT

KGV Pavilion, Muirs, Kinross
Wednesday 19 March
7.30pm

All welcome – just turn up on the night.
Tickets, including supper: £6.00 Adult, £3.00 Children

SPRING TEA

Crook of Devon Institute

SATURDAY 15 MARCH

2pm – 4pm

Home Baking, Plants, Books, Raffle, Face Painting etc

All proceeds to

Fossoway School Millennium Walk Fund

Please Come and Have Fun

LIBRARY BOOK SALE

Sale of withdrawn stock: Fiction, non-Fiction, CDs etc

Saturday 15 March

9.30 am – 2 pm

Entry £1

A K Bell Library Meeting Room and Theatre Foyer



Annual General Meeting

To be held in the Green Hotel on

Tuesday 25 March at 6.30pm

Please note change of time

All welcome

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

Hedges/Bushes/Trees Causing Obstruction

Property owners are reminded that it is their responsibility to cut back hedges, branches, bushes etc to ensure that pavements and public footpaths are not obstructed. Property owners may be liable if injury is caused to others and may be charged costs if Perth & Kinross Council is forced to take action.

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Email: j.sledmore@btinternet.com

The Story of Cleish

A small booklet is available to anyone interested and may be had from the porch of Cleish Church or from Catharine Erskine, Cleish House. The printing of this booklet was made possible thanks to the generosity of many people, and the proceeds from the sale are given to the Church. The cost is £1.50 but of course larger donations are always very welcome.

Kinross Floral Art Club

AGM

Thursday 27 March at 7.15pm

at the Windlestrae Hotel, Kinross

New Members and visitors welcome

Kinross Floral Art Club

Thursday 24 April

Demonstration by Christine McKenna

‘There are fairies at the bottom of my garden’

at 7.15pm

in the Windlestrae Hotel, Kinross

Blythswood Care

Somerfield's Car Park

18 March between 10.30 am and 11 am

Further details from 862258

Dance Connect

Experienced Royal Academy of Dance teacher
RAD ballet and BATD jazz and modern dance

All ages taught and adult classes available.

Exam work optional.

Annual dance show at Lochgelly Theatre every March.

Classes at Kinross Day Centre resume January 9.

Wednesday Pre school 5.30-6.15pm.

Wednesday Under 8s 6.15-7pm

Wednesday Over 8s 7.00-7.45 pm

**Wednesday Adult classes start January 30,
stretch and jazz 8-9pm.**

Branches also in Portmoak and Crook of Devon.

Newcomers welcome. Call Rachel Webb on 01592 840834.

AQUARIUS HEALING

**Usui Reiki – Jikiden Reiki – Karuna Reiki
Traditional Indian Head Massage**

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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 (Chair)	10 Rannoch Place	862678
Dave Cuthbert (Vice Chair)	Highfield Circle	861001
Carole Drummond	Hatchbank House	850214
John Drummond	Hatchbank House	850214
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	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: wrobertson@pkc.gov.uk

Member of Parliament

for Ochil & South Perthshire Constituency Gordon Banks MP

www.gordonbanks.net

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.

Waste Paper Kerbside Collection

Next uplift in Kinross, Milnathort and Glenfarg:

Thursday 13 March

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 wheedie 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		

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: Christopher.Harvie.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

Fossoway and Cleish Community Office

A service for the Community, open:

Tuesdays 7 pm - 9 pm

Thursdays 2 pm - 4 pm

Saturdays 10am - 12 noon

Out of hours there is an answering machine

Tel: 01577 840185 Email: fcco@btinternet.com

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.

Mobile Library - Blairingone and Milnathort

Every Second Wednesday

Next visits: 12 & 26 March

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. 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.

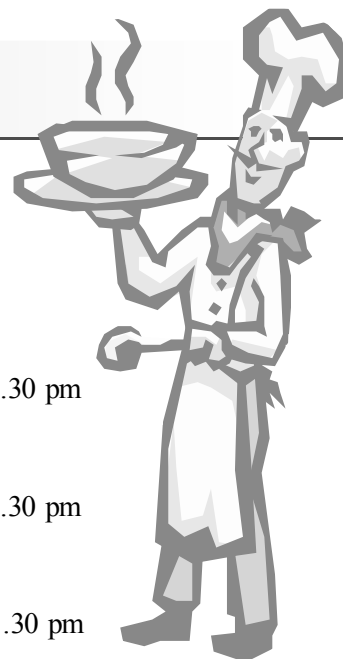
Bookstart Book Crawl for children aged 0 to 4: on each visit to the library, children are given a sticker. After collecting five stickers, they are awarded a certificate.

Kinross-shire *Day Centre*

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

Programme For March 2008

Elderberries	Monday	3	10	17	24	1.30 pm
Carpet Bowls	Tuesday	4	11	18	25	10.30 am
Bingo	Tuesday	4	11	18	25	1.30 pm
Morning Service	Wednesday	5	12	19	26	10.45 am
Quiz Afternoon	Wednesday	5	12	19	26	1.30 pm
Art Class	Thursday	6	13	20	27	1.30 pm
Film Afternoon	Thursday	6	13	20	27	1.30 pm
Scrabble	Friday	7	14	21	28	1.30 pm



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



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Local School Holidays and In-Service Days

Main Holidays

Spring Sat 29 Mar 2008 to Sun 13 Apr 2008

Other Holidays

Easter weekend Fri 21 Mar 2008 & Mon 24 Mar 2008
(Easter Sunday is on 23 Mar 2008)

May Day Hol Mon 5 May 2008

In-Service Days Tue 6 May 2008

Kinross Recycling Centre Bridgend Industrial Estate

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

Opening Times

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

Diary

March			Page
Sat	1	Milnathort School Association Auction, Thistle Hotel (evening)	
Sat	1	Orwell Bowling Club Social Evening	40
Sat	1	Seatangle entertain at Common Grounds	25
Sun	2	Mothering Sunday	
Tue	4	Portmoak Paths public meeting: Portmoak Primary School, 7pm to 9pm	22
Tue	4	Fossoway & District CC meets	24
Tue	4	Story Telling for pre-school children weekly	42
Wed	5	Kinross CC meets	19
Thu	6	Kinross-shire 50 Plus Club AGM	26
Fri	7	World Day of Prayer	38
Fri-Sun	7-9	MILNATHORT FOLK FESTIVAL	4
Sat	8	BETTER PLACE TO LIVE FAIR	4
Sat	8	Open Doors at Masonic Hall, 2pm-4pm	40
Sat	8	Portmoak Film Society presents "American Cousins"	29
Tue	11	Portmoak CC meets	23
Wed	12	Seed Exchange at Potager Garden	25
Wed	12	Mobile library visits Blairingone and Milnathort fortnightly	42
Thu	13	Milnathort CC meets	21
Thu	13	Kinross Garden Group: The skill of growing Peonies in Scotland	30
Thu	13	Kerbside paper recycling collection	42
Sat	15	Daffodil Coffee Morning, Cambo Hall	34
Sat	19	Spring Tea in aid of Fossoway School Millennium Walk Fund	41
Sat	15	Library Book Sale in Perth	41
Mon	17	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	
Mon	17	Cleish & Blairadam CC meets	20
Mon	17	Milnathort Primary School Parent Council meets	30
Mon	17	Kinross-shire Historical Society talk and AGM	40
Tue	18	Blythswood Care Collection	41
Wed	19	Impressions of Antarctica (Powmill WRI Open Meeting)	40
Wed	19	Quiz Night (Kinross Tennis Club) at KGV pavilion	31, 40
Wed	19	Smiddy Singers Memorial Concert for George & Margaret Palmer	40
Thu	20	Enterprise Event at KHS	25
Sat	23	Coffee Morning in Kinross Church Centre (KHS Shoebox Appeal)	25
Sun	23	Easter Sunday	37
Tue	25	Kinross-shire Partnership Annual General Meeting	41
Wed	26	Rhythm and Rhyme session for babies, toddlers and carers	42
Thu	27	Kinross Floral Art Club AGM	41
Fri	28	Curling School Clinic	32
Sat	29	PUT CLOCKS FORWARD ONE HOUR (BST begins Sunday at 0100 hrs GMT)	
Sat	29	Kinross Tennis Club Open Day	31
Mon	31	Deadline for comments on draft Core Paths Plan	4
April			Page
Mon	7	Deadline for nominations to Portmoak CC	23
Sat	12	Portmoak Film Society presents "Saving Grace" and holds AGM	29
Sat	12	Kinross Bowling green opens	32
Thu	24	Kinross Floral Art Club meets	41
May			Page
Wed	7	Kinross-shire Civic Trust AGM	29
Sat	10	Devoted to Life Marie Curie fundraising walk	36
Sat	17	Loch Leven Half Marathon	33