

Kinross Newsletter



Founded in 1977 by Mrs Nan Walker, MBE

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DEADLINE for the June 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.

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

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

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

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

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Letters



Editorial

Calling all Secretaries and Chairs!

We plan to produce another "Yellow Pages" Register of Local Organisations, to be published in next month's Newsletter, space permitting. This is a pull-out and keep list of clubs and other organisations in Kinross-shire, together with the name of a contact person, phone number and perhaps e-mail address. Lots of people find this list useful, especially if they don't have easy access to a computer. We make up the Register from the database of organisations on the community website, so please check www.kinross.cc to see that the information held about your organisation is correct. Quite a number of organisations have recently held Annual General Meetings, so it is a good time to update contact details. If you need to change the information, please e-mail Pauline Watson at admin@kinross.cc or telephone her on 01577 862685.

Pick a colour!

It's consultation time again. The Investment in Learning team invites you to attend sessions on 8, 9 and 10 May to say what you think about the external colour scheme (and other things) for the new Loch Leven community campus. More details on page 4.

T in the Park worries?

Judging from comments in the Community Council reports, community representatives are favourably impressed with the new traffic management plans proposed for this year's T in the Park. Well done to Big Day Out for addressing the problems from last year so thoroughly. New this year is the idea of having a dedicated police community liaison officer for the event. There is an opportunity for Kinross residents to raise any queries with Sgt Rankine on 10 May, and there will be similar opportunities for the rest of the county. See page 4 for details.

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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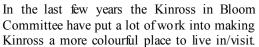
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Kinross in Bloom Watering Help

Dear Residents of Kinross





Many people have remarked positively on what we have achieved. However, last year we had around 60 baskets and 25 tubs to be watered. As you can imagine it takes a couple of hours to water everything and this needs to be done regularly due to inadequate rain penetration and the need for feeding.

Up until now we have relied on a handful of committee members/volunteers to help with the watering. This year we had to make the decision whether or not to cut back on the number of displays. We decided to try to maintain last years' standards and appeal for more help.

Kinross in Bloom has made significant progress with its work. Recently we acquired space at Hattonburn polytunnels to enable us to take earlier delivery of our young plants which means they can be put into the hanging baskets sooner and should give us an even better display. We are in the process of acquiring and adapting a new watering vehicle which should be in operation for the watering period. This will enable us to be able to have less top-up stops for water and as we have kept the old buggy we can also split the watering run so that it should only take approximately 1 hour to water.

Could you possibly think about sparing us the occasional hour to help? Without help it will be impossible for us to maintain the number of displays around Kinross in the future.

Thank you very much. If you have any questions or would like to assist us please telephone 01577 861477 or email aileen.sorbie@lineone.net.

Yours sincerely Aileen Sorbie, Secretary 9 Highfield Circle, Kinross

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

subscriptions@kinrossnewsletter.org

Housing in the Countryside

7 4 09

For some time FORK and the Kinross-shire Civic Trust have been increasingly concerned at the rate of housing development in rural Kinross-shire. There is no doubt that Kinross-shire has been singled out for increased housing development, and we understand that Kinross-shire has currently the highest rate of such increase, and consequently the highest population growth in Scotland. The area is continuing to expand as a dormitory suburb for those working in the central belt, encouraging long-distance commuting which is quite contrary to the government's policies on sustainable development. There has also been little thought given to the planning of the infrastructure, such as primary schools. And the new facilities such as the High School and Health Centre may not be able to keep pace with the growth.

Much of the housing growth of late has been farm steading style development on so-called 'brownfield' sites. The original intention of the Kinross Area Local Plan was to convert genuinely redundant old stone farm buildings into small groups of rural housing which blended in with the local environment. These formed a part of the existing rural character of the countryside and their retention was important to the continued attractiveness of Kinross-shire. What has taken place in practice is that the traditional farm buildings have been demolished along with existing useable farm buildings and anything from 6 to 18 large houses of a suburban design have been built, often in prominent rural positions. The houses are invariably 4-5 bedroom luxury or executive class designed for the central belt commuter market, at a price which is usually well out of the reach of local people. This inevitably significantly increases the volume of commuter traffic, and does nothing for the sustainability of the local rural economy.

This situation would never have been reached if the principles of the Kinross Local Plan and the Housing in the Countryside Policy had been adhered to, but, due to pressure from developers who considered that these were too restrictive, P&KC relaxed the policy. Even so, what is clear is that there remains, in our view, a major gulf between the stated policies of the planning authority on the one hand, and the practice of council officials on the other in recommending many unsuitable developments which go against the Local Plan and Housing in the Countryside

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Policy.

In November, FORK, the Civic Trust and the four Kinrossshire CCs met with our local Councillors and a planning official to voice our concerns. This was unproductive. Although it appeared to be accepted that the present approach is not satisfactory, no proposals were suggested for change, and in the meantime many more unsuitable planning applications are likely to be put forward before any action is taken by P&KC.

More recently, however, we were heartened by the Scottish Executive Planning Reporter's comments on the application for a steading development at Barnhill Farm, Powmill, where he stated that he found the proposal wholly inconsistent with the principles of P&KC's planning policies, particularly because the development promoted the use of the private motor car, because there was no proximity to services or ease of access, and also because it did not fit satisfactorily in the landscape. These considerations could be applied to many of the steading developments that have been approved in the last few years. One is left to wonder why planning officials did not take into account the reasoning of the Planning Reporter in considering past applications, and whether they will take these fundamental principles into account in future ones. Unfortunately this does not seem to be the case as, only two days after the Reporter published his findings on Barnhill, Perth & Kinross Development Control Committee approved an entirely similar proposal for a steading development at Pitfar, about a quarter of a mile from Barnhill.

Kinross-shire is a beautiful county, which is why people want to come and live here. It will not continue to be so unless a sustainable policy is enforced to ensure that all future developments have the high quality of design to sustain what is here already. Allowing close-knit suburban housing of mediocre architecture in the middle of rural areas will do absolutely nothing to maintain the attraction of Kinross-shire.

We are continuing to press P&KC for more open discussion on the question of this exceptional level of housing growth in Kinross-shire, because it is quite clear that this is not sustainable in terms of travel, services, amenities and the overall quality of life in this area.

Frank Wellman, Friends of Rural Kinross-shire (FORK)
Alistair Smith, Kinross-shire Civic Trust

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News & Articles



Make a splash at Loch Leven – join Donna and the ducklings

Are you bright-eyed and bushy-tailed with an enthusiasm for ducks and all things feathery? Would you like to share your love of the local environment with others? If so then Donna and the RSPB would like to hear from you.

Donna Mathieson of the RSPB has teamed up with the Boathouse Bistro at Kinross Pier to launch one of the charity's popular 'Aren't Birds Brilliant!' projects on the shores of Loch Leven. Donna will explain what's happening on the live pictures being beamed in by CCTV camera from St. Serf's Island. She will be at the Bistro from 10am to 5pm most days until the end of July.

"It's a great chance to see the action live on the screen as it happens - to follow the birds through the breeding cycle from egg to flight" said Donna.

"I need some help, though," she continued, "to talk to as many people as possible. It's a great way to meet people, to learn more about birds and to get involved with the RSPB so I'd fully recommend it."

If this seems like something you might want to get involved in – even for just a few hours a week - then pop into the Boathouse or contact Donna on 07525679602 or Vane Farm on 01577 862 355.



Donna Mathieson of the RSPB needs your help!

Springfest at Vane Farm

Springfest, a Family Fun Day, will take place at the RSPB reserve on **Sunday 8 June** from 10.30am to 4pm. Take part in nature walks, games, music, food and fun. Have a go at pond dipping, bug hunting and moth trapping, arts and crafts or maybe learn how to survive in the wild with bushcraft activities.

You can also see nature close up via the new CCTV system. From the observation room and cafe you can control the remote camera to find amazing wildlife on St Serf's island, home to one of Europe's biggest concentrations of breeding ducks. Usual prices apply: member FREE, non-members £3, children 50p and families £6.

New location for Tourist Info Centre

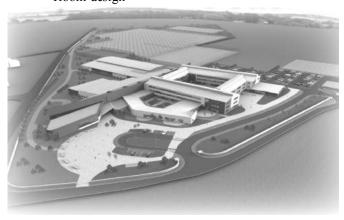
A VisitScotland tourist information service is now operating from the County Buildings, 21/25 High Street, Kinross. Current opening hours are 10am to 4pm, Mondays to Fridays and 10.30am to 3.30pm on Saturdays. Opening hours will lengthen in July. The service will not operate in the winter.

Come along to Loch Leven Leisure Centre and have your say about the new Loch Leven Campus

As part of the design process for the new Investment in Learning Campus, incorporating Kinross High School and Kinross Library & Museum, Perth & Kinross Council invite you to engage with us as part of the consultation process.

Members of the Council's Investment in Learning Team will be available to listen, discuss your ideas, views and receive your questions. We want to hear what you think about:

- Landscape Proposals
- External building colour scheme and finishes
- Room design



We really do hope you will come along to Loch Leven Leisure Centre and engage with us for what is a major and exciting development for the community. Light refreshments will be available throughout the day and evening.

Thursday 8 May – 9am to 8pm Friday 9 May – 9am to 6.30pm Saturday 10 May – 9am to 1pm

For further information, please contact Derek Morris, In-School Co-ordinator on (01577) 862430, or the Investment in Learning Team on (01738) 476292 E-mail Investmentinlearning@pkc.gov.uk

T in the Park Community Liaison

As part of Tayside Police's Community Relations Strategy for T in the Park 2008, a **public meeting** is being held at Kinross Police Office on **Saturday 10 May** between 0900 hours and 1200 hours.

The purpose of the meeting is for members of the local community to meet with Sergeant David Rankine, Tayside Police's T in the Park Community Liaison Officer to discuss any issues that local residents may have regarding this year's event.

Similar meetings are planned to be held in Milnathort, Fossoway, Cleish, Glenfarg and Portmoak over the next couple of months.

Any person who is unable to attend the meetings and wishes to discuss matters can contact Sergeant Rankine on the following number: (01577) 867770.



Independent Advocacy Perth & Kinross

Volunteers Needed!

Advocacy is about standing up for and sticking with a person or group, taking their side and helping them to get their point across.

We are looking for positive, self-motivated people with a healthy sense of injustice who have good listening and communication skills to partner individuals, (children, young people or adults) with mental illness or dementia and adults with learning or physical disabilities.

Independent advocates are a discreet group of people who come from a wide variety of backgrounds bringing many skills and a wealth of life experience to their role in enabling the most vulnerable in our society to be heard. You will receive training, expenses and regular support both from your fellow advocates and the office based team to assist you in this hugely satisfying work. Our next training course starts on Thursday 12 June 6pm -9pm. If you would like to know more: contact Adrienne Ruddock, Volunteer Co-ordinator, 90 Tay Street, ring 01738 587887 or email: adrienneruddock@iapk.org.uk

Local race reaches quarter century

The Loch Leven Half Marathon reaches a special milestone this year when it will be staged for the 25th time, making it one of the longest continuous running events in the country. It has been described as "one of the best half marathons in Scotland", and must surely be one of the most scenic. This year's race is on **Saturday 17 May**, starting at 1pm from the Bridgend Industrial Estate and finishing at the King



George V playing field. Entries close on 11 May or when the field limit of 600 is reached. Go to www.kinrossroadrunners.co.uk for details, or see the club notice board at Loch Leven Leisure.

There will also be a **Fun Run** for children, starting at 1.30pm at the King George V playing field. Entrants do one or two laps of the field and get a medal and goody bag. Entry is £2, with proceeds going to Swansacre Playgroup. The regular monthly report from Road Runners is on p 29.

Milnathort Festival 7 & 8 June

Over this week-end there will be an **exhibition of crafts and hobbies** in Orwell Church. Exhibits will be welcome from any person resident in the parish of Orwell. Further information from 01577 861236 or 01577 863397 or 01577 863418.

Community Website

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

visit www.kinross.cc

Perth Festival of the Arts

22 May - 1 June 2008

This year's line-up includes:



Calvin Harris • Dara O Briain • Richard Hawley
The Levellers • Courtney Pine
Camilla Dallerup & Ian Waite from BBC's Strictly Come
Dancing

4 Poofs and A Piano • Grumpy Old Man Arthur Smith Likely Lad Rodney Bewes

The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra Lesley Garrett, Tasmin Little, Peter Donohoe & Julian Lloyd-Webber

English Touring Opera "Don Giovanni" and "Anna Bolena"
The Russian State Symphony Orchestra with John Lill
The Nash Ensemble of London
Dame Emma Kirkby & Florilegium
The London Community Gospel Choir
Sir Richard Rodney Bennett & Claire Martin

The Great Big Gilbert & Sullivan Show

Perth Youth Orchestra

Kinross High School Concert, 12.30pm Thursday 29 May at St John's Kirk, St John's Place, Perth – Admission free. Book online at www.perthfestival.co.uk or call the Box Office 0845 612 6330

Kinross-shire Day Centre Sponsored Walk

Local man Graham Ramsay has generously offered to undertake a sponsored walk across the Pyrenees - a total of 502 miles - in aid of Kinross-shire Day Centre. Graham is making all the arrangements himself and will be joined for parts of the walk by various friends from Kinross and further afield. Graham will walk the famous GR 11 which is part of the extensive GR footpath - a network of paths, tracks and trails running through the Spanish Pyrenees. This is a very physically challenging walk and Graham is having to put in a great deal of training.

Commencing on 24 June, Graham is planning to take 62 days, with only 4 days without walking, returning on 25 August.

You can encourage Graham and help the work of the Day Centre by sponsoring the walk.

Sponsor forms are available at the Day Centre, 64 High Street, Kinross or by printing a form by clicking on to www.kinross.cc/daycentre/index.htm

Christian Aid Week... 11 – 17 May



Christian Aid Week is seven amazing days of fundraising, campaigning and worship. It unites 300 000 people in the LIK's biggest house-to-house

days of fundraising, campaigning and worship. It unites 300,000 people in the UK's biggest house-to-house collection.

It inspires hundreds of events, brings together thousands of churches and reaches millions of people suffering from the effects of poverty. And most importantly, it helps people in poor communities around the world change their lives.

Collectors will be in your area – please give generously!

Loch Leven Heritage Project



The lochside trail is now looking particularly attractive as young green leaves appear on the trees lining the route. Both the sections that were completed last year are being well used.

Work continues on phase 3 – the linking section from Pow Burn to Levenmouth Wood. The line of the route has been cut through the undergrowth, but the path itself is yet to be laid.

TRACKS and Scottish Natural Heritage have been discussing means to reduce disturbance to wildlife in one of the most sensitive areas. Mitigation measures for the protection of geese in the Carsehall Bog are now being concluded with SNH and a sensible solution has emerged that involves the planting of natural tree species and the creation of a section of reed bed through which the trail will run. Planting work is expected to start in April and the remaining work will be completed by the autumn.

Further aspects of interpretation of Loch Leven's heritage are now taking shape. In particular, plans for seating along the trail have been agreed. As well as the Caithness flagstone seats that will form part of the gateway features at the Pier, Burleigh Sands and Findatie (and that will also be used at the Watchtower), wooden seats will be placed around the route.

These seats have been commissioned especially for the Loch Leven Heritage Trail because suitable ones could not be found 'off the shelf'. They will be made of solid oak and are designed to be good looking and long lasting. The illustration shows a computer generated drawing of the proposed seats.



An illustration of the type of seating commissioned for the Trail

Seat locations are being carefully chosen so that there are places to rest near the main access points – where there are more likely to be people with limited mobility – and at attractive viewpoints along the trail where people may wish to stop awhile.

Most of the seats will have backrests and, where appropriate, these will be carved with texts that relate to a nearby story about the loch. Rather than telling the full story, the wording will give hints or clues about history, wildlife or some other aspect of the local heritage. If sufficiently intrigued, people will be able to find out more from the interpretation panels, the Loch Leven Heritage Trail website or even the library.

Michael Glen of Perth, who also wrote the words for the

Levenmouth Bridge railings, has done the creative writing of the texts. Some of his phrases are in English, some in Scots, and they use various devices, such as alliteration and rhyme, to make an impact. Here are some examples of the texts – a couple written for the Pier area and another for Grahamstone Farm:

The fisherman's friend is the flirty fly, fickle food for fleeting fish

Skeelie hurlin an cannie birlin focht unfurlin fortouns frae curling frost

This turf will soon host sporting riches on golf course greens and football pitches

At the Findatie car park, the oak seats will be complemented with picnic tables. The whole suite of outdoor furniture has been designed and is being produced by Patrick Green, who is based in the Scottish Borders. He will also carve the text on to the seats.

TRACKS would welcome expressions of interest from anyone who might like to dedicate one of these seats to someone special. A discreet plaque would be fitted to the seat, probably on the end post. If you wish to discuss a dedication and an appropriate donation, please contact Neil Kilpatrick, the Project Director, on 01577 850268.

The TRACKS team has just undergone a significant change of personnel. Janet Croff, who has been TRACKS Project Officer since September 1993, has just retired from the post. As she stood down, she said, "I've had a fabulous time – it's been an enormous privilege to be part of a group that's achieved so much for local communities. It's been exciting to see TRACKS bringing together landowners, Scottish Natural Heritage, the council and communities to make things happen on the ground. I'm sure our largest project, the Loch Leven Heritage Trail, will prove to be one of Scotland's treasures."

The new Project Officer is Jackie Yuill, who started at the end of April. Jackie will take over Janet's involvement in the project and her work with individual core path groups to help them realise their wishes.

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Willie Robertson * Martin Rowlands * Eddie
Henderson * Graham Hadley * Alisdair Stewart

With sincere thanks to Kinross Community Council Newsletter for providing the space for our biannual update.

In March, the Green Hotel was the venue for Kinrossshire Partnership's 10th AGM, giving KP directors a welcome opportunity to review 12 months of very diverse activities. The past 11 years have seen the Partnership involved in a wide variety of projects and initiatives, and as Kinross-shire continues to attract ever more inhabitants, the importance of sustaining and developing the economic well-being of the county increases commensurately. Prior to the AGM, Ewan Cathcart – one of the key figures behind the Partnership's work in recent years – announced his intention to retire from the Board. We are indebted to Ewan for his unstinting service, initially as a director of KP, and subsequently as Chairman of both the Partnership and the Tourism Sub-Committee. David Graham has stalwartly agreed to combine the role of Chairman with that of Treasurer, a position which he already discharges with characteristic aplomb. Another Board member, Martin Pettinger, also indicated his intention to retire. To Martin, also, the Board extend their sincere thanks for his valued contributions. His successor on the Board is Graham Hadley, a graduate of both St Andrews and Edinburgh Universities, and currently Project Director for Montgomery Hanson, the landlord of the Todd & Duncan mill. Charged with investigating and monitoring local priorities and preferences in the long-term development of the southern part of town, Graham looks forward to furthering the aims and ambitions of the Kinross-shire Partnership, and is already involved in several projects in this connection.

As we move into KP's 12th year, the current directors – Jamie Montgomery (Kinross Estate Company), Willie Robertson (Robertsons of Milnathort, Local Councillor), Euan Ferguson (Hatrick-Bruce), Martin Rowlands (Tyrefair Ltd.) and Eddie Henderson (Hendersons Chartered Surveyors) – will also be joined by new director and weel kent Kinross-shire face, Alisdair Stewart, a former bank manager whose considerable

business acumen will be a valuable asset to the Board. Alisdair also looks forward to assisting the Kinross-shire Partnership as it continues, over the coming year, to cooperate with both Perth & Kinross Council and proactive local organisations. The range of topics covered at this year's AGM is a reflection of the many different ways in which KP directors give freely and generously of their own time to support initiatives that benefit the local economy. Matters covered included the new format of the tourism group (one dealing with local and one with outside events), plus reports on the Kinross-shire Fund, the new mobile street sports facility, the Area Based Initiative and www.kinross.cc. By keeping a watchful eye on progress in all these areas, as well as through participation in Leader Plus and other such initiatives, KP will help to ensure that our unique county of Kinrossshire continues to flourish on all fronts.

As regular readers of the Newsletter will already be aware from previous reports, Kinross-shire Partnership is one of four similar groups established throughout Perth and Kinross in 1998. The Partnership's remit back then, as it still is now, was to actively promote and support potential or existing projects which are of tangible benefit to the local economy. With this in mind, KP continues to pursue three principle goals:

OBJECTIVE 1

To identify, promote and encourage opportunities of economic and tourist development in Kinrossshire.

Better Place to Live Fair

The biennial 'Better Place to Live Fair' on March saw the High School all a'bustle, with approximately 500 visitors eager to view this popular showcase of the mind-boggling array of things to do in deepest Kinross-shire. Before declaring the Fair officially open, High School rector Richard Keatings commented that he looked forward to welcoming a similarly large turn-out to the next BPTLF scheduled to take place in the brand new Community School in two years' time. Hopefully the larger venue will provide ample space to accommodate the 7 organisations that had to remain patiently on the waiting list for this year's event. Details of the 2010 BPTLF will appear in the Kinross Community Council Newsletter and on our flagship local website www.kinross.cc nearer the time.

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Kinross-Shire



New Tourism Committees Established

In the interests of delivering the best possible service to the many tourism-related enterprises in Kinross-shire, KP's tourism sub-committee has reformed as two distinct committees, each charged with a different mission. The first, under the able leadership of Susan Bathgate, David Cuthbert and Laura Cuthbert, will focus on the organisation and/or promotion of specifically local events. The type of events which will be administered or supported by this Committee are 3 or 4 local markets, similar to the extremely successful Summer's End Market organised by Susan, David and their team last October and, hopefully, a New Year's Eve Party. The other committee, under the guidance of KP director Euan Ferguson, will look at larger events taking place around Kinross-shire which are likely to bring tourism benefits for the area as a whole. Leaflets compiled by the tourism group, featuring details of cycle routes and places to eat out in the area, have been very well received.

KP will channel funding from the Area Based Initiative to both committees for the coordination of tourism promotion, and will continue to facilitate and develop all tourismrelated projects great and small. For example, KP is actively supporting Traction Kiting's forthcoming "Just Add Wind" event at Balado.

Local companies and organisations can also do their bit to broadcast their home county, by using Kinross-shire's very own logo and strapline on any promotional materials (free of charge!). Details available from Pauline Watson on 01577 862685.

www.kinross.cc - "netting" shoals of visitors worldwide Kinross-shire's virtual 'home' on the Internet is more popular than ever, with an average daily "haul" this month of 580 visitors. Services offered by the website are continually expanding, and now include property pages, classified ads, a photo library, club pages, sports and leisure info, plus a host of things to see and do. Site administrator Pauline Watson (email: admin@kinross.cc) is always happy to receive information from local businesses and organisations about changes of contact details, telephone numbers, etc. She's also particularly keen to hear from employers currently seeking staff to fill vacancies within the county, as the situations vacant section is one of the most visited pages on the website.

OBJECTIVE 2

To identify, promote and encourage opportunities for community recreation facilities within the County.

Kinross Show 2008

Several of the KP directors (hopefully armed with parasols rather than brollies this year!) will be in attendance at the Kinross Show in August, so do please drop in at the KP stand on Kinross-shire's big day – we'd be delighted to see

Market Park

Plans to install services at this excellent – and immensely attractive - local venue are still proceeding apace, as discussions with the ABI continue. Once the necessary funding is in place, it is hoped that water and electrical supplies will be fully operational in time for any events held there later in the summer.

Street Football Equipment

Youth worker Clare McCance and Pamela Moore of the Web Project are working together to streamline the transport and booking of this superb mobile arena. So if you are able and willing to do your bit for the local community by towing the equipment (vehicle with tow bar is a prerequisite!) to events and setting it up, Claire would be delighted to hear from you on 01577 863439.

Meanwhile, several of the display advertising panels on the equipment have now been sold, but further advertising opportunities are still available. So if you'd like to get your business name out there at various local events, please contact Jamie Montgomery on 01577 863467 for further details.

OBJECTIVE 3

To identify, promote and encourage environmental improvements within the County and do all things which are appropriate to promoting and encouraging the well-being of the County.

Freedom! (from plastic bags)

In February, Sarah Eaton spoke to the Partnership about her efforts to rid Scotland of the scourge of plastic bags. Although there are already several 'plastic bag free towns'. apparently there are no 'plastic bag free counties' yet, and it would be a great achievement for Kinross to become the first such area. However, a project such as this involves everyone in the community playing their part, so why not start today? Next time you head down to the shops, take your trusty old canvas shopping bag along too and help to reduce the plastic plague!

The Kinross-shire Fund

In the past 18 months, the Fund has raised almost £70,000 from a combination of individuals, families, local groups and companies. A mention must be made of the invaluable financial support given by DF Concerts, promoters of T in the Park, who have decided now to channel their support to local projects through the Fund. Projects and facilities to benefit so far include www.kinross.cc, Kinross Cricket Club and the Street Football arena. Fifty percent of funds raised by The Kinross-shire Fund are invested into an Endowment Fund to ensure that financial assistance for worthwhile local causes can be sustained into the foreseeable future. All contributions are welcome!

If you would like to know more about The Kinross-shire Partnership, please telephone 01577 862685 or send an e-mail to admin@kinross.cc

Police Box

Bogus Workmen

Recently several houses in Perth and Kinross, including one in Milnathort, were visited by bogus workmen and money was taken. We are pleased to report that the persons responsible have been traced and arrested and a report has been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal. To assist in preventing such crimes being committed and to deter those responsible, the following initiative has been introduced.

Nominated Neighbour Scheme: Tayside Police and its Community Safety partners in Perth and Kinross recently launched the latest scheme to assist efforts in preventing bogus caller crime.

It is hoped that the Nominated Neighbour initiative will provide residents with added reassurance and help older people and vulnerable members of our community to feel safer in their own homes.

Through the scheme, residents are provided with an A4-size card that they can hold up to a window or show through the gap in the door when a cold caller arrives at their door.

The card states: "I do not recognise you! Please go to number XX who is my nominated neighbour. They will check your identity and return with you."

The caller can then go to the Nominated Neighbour, who checks their identity and if they are genuine returns to the resident's home. They will stay with the caller throughout the duration of their visit.

It is hoped that the scheme will promote and reinforce safe door-answering behaviour, so that residents do not open their doors to anyone they don't recognise.

The aim of the scheme is to give householders, in particular the elderly and more vulnerable, the opportunity to deal with unwanted callers without having to take decisions on their own, or even having to enter into direct conversation with them. The Nominated Neighbour is chosen freely by the householder and should always be readily available. We are confident that this will greatly reduce the chances of the householder entering into any contract, having unnecessary

or overpriced work carried out, or giving out cash unnecess arily.

Funded by the Community Safety Partnership, the scheme will be co-ordinated by Tayside Police in Perth. It is an initiative that has already proved successful in a number of other police areas throughout the UK.

In addition, Tayside Police will offer free impartial physical crime prevention advice, pointing out vulnerabilities in domestic properties. Perthshire Care and Repair offers an excellent programme – the "Small Repair Scheme", where some minor safety or security works can be provided for eligible householders when funding permits, and when referred by responsible community members, for example: Community Wardens, Neighbourhood Watch, NHS Falls Clinic OTs, Community PCs, Victim Support and the Tayside Fire & Rescue Home Safety officer, free of charge. For more information on the Nominated Neighbour Scheme, please contact Gail Cain, Community Engagement Administrator, Divisional HQ, Perth, on (01738) 892642 or Donald Campbell, Crime Prevention Officer, on (01738) 892937 or your local Community Crime Officers listed below.

CRIME STOPPERS - Telephone Number 0800555111

This telephone number is a free phone number unless you are using a mobile phone, which any member of the public can contact at any time, if they have information relating to criminal activity of any sort.

It is, if you wish, confidential and you will not be contacted if you choose to remain anonymous. Community Crime Officers can be contacted at Kinross Police Office on 01577 863571.

Kinross - Constable Ronnie Child. Milnathort, Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell - Constable Graham Stephen. Cleish and Blairadam, Crook of Devon, Powmill, Blairingone, Carnbo and Glen farg areas - Constable Lynne Petrie.

SUDOKU

(Answers on our Day Centre page, at the end of the Notices Section)

In Sudoku puzzles, the target is to insert numbers in the boxes so that each row, column and 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 exactly once.

Good luck



8		2	5				9	
				8	1	6		
	1			6	2			3
	3			4		9	5	
		5		9		3		2
		8		1				
4							6	
						4		5
						2	3	

Community Council News



All Community Council meetings are open to the general public.

The CC News is produced from edited draft CC minutes. Some CCs have full minutes on their websites. Full Kinross CC minutes are lodged in the local Library and County Buildings.

Kinross Community Council

Present at meetings held on 2 April were: CCllrs C Watson, D Mackay, D Cuthbert, D Colliar, S Bathgate, C Drummond, J Drummond, L Mackay and M Scott. Also in attendance were: P&K Cllrs K Baird, M Barnacle and W Robertson; two police officers and six members of the public. Apologies for absence were received from CCllrs M Blyth and I Jack and P&K Cllr S Miller.

News from the Annual General Meeting

Chairman's Annual Report: "The year started off with a rather depleted CC consisting of only seven members. The vacancies were re-advertised and we had enough applicants to take us to our full 11 members by the September meeting. July saw the arrival of T in the Park music festival for its eleventh year amid absolute traffic chaos on the Friday due to car parks not available because of wet weather and additional security measures required. Since July, all working groups involved in arranging the festival have been working with a local forum group to ensure this problem will not recur. The festival itself was as usual a very success ful event creating no major incidents.

The major issues during the year have been mostly planning related with a large number of applications for housing in the countryside since the relaxation of the policy, along with a major application for the south of the town.

Swansacre derelict building has rumbled on for yet another year with still little or no progress.

The Town Hall sub-committee have drawn their court case to an end, gaining concessions for the good of Kinross, and I would like to thank all those who assisted Dave and Eileen for the very hard work and time spent on this.

In view of all the development going on around Kinross the CC decided they would consult with the people of Kinross as to where they see the town going in the future and have circulated a questionnaire which is ongoing and I hope we get a good response so that we can take their ideas forward to P&KC.

On a good note our new High School is now underway and I look forward to its completion and hope that it will provide the people of Kinross-shire all the promise that has been made about it.

Finally I would like to thank all members of the CC for their help and support over the year and a special thanks to our Secretary for keeping me on the straight and narrow.

Thanks also to our four local Cllrs for their attendance and reports, to Inspector Patience of Tayside Police and his team for their support over the year and last but not least to the members of the public who come along to the meetings on a regular basis and to all those who buy the Kinross Newsletter.

It has been a privilege to be your Chairman over the last year and I hope I have served you well."

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer, CCllr Jack, was absent. However, copies of the audited account for the year

from 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2008 were circulated.

The account records a deficit for the year in the sum of £275.68 with cash in the bank of £234.58. The income received included the grant from P&KC amounting to £406.00, money received from the sale of the poppy wreaths of £80.00, bank interest of £8.07 and rental for accommodation for meetings (when the Masonic was not available) included in the sum of £68.00. The expenditure for the period included the Secretarial and Treasurer's expenses of £127.28, purchase of poppy wreaths of £139.97, other expenditure in the sum of £451.32 (£401.22 for the laptop and £50.00 rental for accommodation) and Town Hall legal expenses amounting to £119.18. The grant from P&KC has not increased since 2005. Payment of wreaths is still awaited from the Army Cadets and Boy Scouts

Appointment of Office Bearers: The following were proposed and agreed: Chairman - Dave Cuthbert; Vice Chairman - Campbell Watson; Secretary - Margaret Scott; Treasurer - Ian Jack; Planning Officer - Dot Mackay.

News from the April Meeting

The Chairman, D Cuthbert, thanked the outgoing Chairman, D Colliar, and stated that he would be a hard act to follow.

Police Report: PC Hinton introduced Sgt Paterson. PC Hinton commented on the spate of thefts from houses (while occupied) and break-in to garages and cars in the area. The police have detected a person responsible and he will appear at court.

An elderly lady in Milnathort had a large sum of money taken by a bogus caller. A person has been apprehended for this

PC Hinton informed the CC of the Nominated Neighbour Scheme and the availability of free crime prevention advice. Cllr Robertson remarked on vehicles carrying trade waste and their methods of disposing of the materials. It was noted that a Waste Transit Certificate is required to transport such products.

Davies Park/Motorway - Cllr Robertson said 35 bags of rubbish were gathered from around this area. Bottles and cans are still lying following a T in the Park weekend. The Chairman suggested that we obtain photographic evidence of this. We should write to the Environment Minister, and the Minister for Transport, with a further copy to be sent to BEAR Scotland, in relation to the volume of litter on the M90 and surrounding areas.

Planning Applications/Changes - CCllr J Drummond asked if we could clarify with P&KC if an extension to the 21-day period for comment on applications was still permissible. Cllr Barnacle will enquire. No response has been received to the CC's letter objecting to the planning changes. The Secy mentioned that other letters to P&KC were unanswered. Cllr Baird offered to investigate the lack of response. A copy of a letter to P&KC from Glenfarg CC was received objecting to the planning changes and the lack of consultation.

High School/Primary School - mention was made of the letter circulated to the parents by the Headmistress at the Primary School. Mrs King was aggrieved at the situation, stating that at no time had there been any discussion with

the staff, herself, Parent Council etc. She continued that there was a number of reasons why the High School site is inappropriate and has shared these with the Director of Education. She suggested in the letter that if the parents had any issues they should contact the Chairman of the KCC. CCllr Colliar had received very few responses to this, with only two being against the proposal. However, having spoken to both parties, one changed his mind and was now in favour. It was agreed that we would contact Mrs King, the Headmistress, and offer to meet with her. 122 questionnaires have been returned and more than half of these were in agreement that the Primary School should be relocated to the High School site. CCllr Watson stated that he was against the proposal to relocate the Primary School to the High School Site. He believed that more information was required and that, in any case, the Council will, no doubt, reach a decision on purely financial grounds without regard to any comments received. Cllr Robertson will pass on our request to the Council to be included in any consultation on the old High School site. Cllr Barnacle would ask that the previous Director of Education's vision be re-examined before we move on.



Kinross Pri mary School: relocation still under discussion

Planning Matters

No comments were made on the following: 08/00320/FUL Land to the rear of 174-176 High Street, Kinross, Erection of dwellinghouse; 08/00429/FUL 24 Wilson Court, Kinross, Erection of two storey extension; 08/00561/FUL 28 McBain Place, Kinross, Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse; 08/00568/FUL 6 Lathro Park, Kinross, Erection of extension.

Applications Determined: 08/00192/FUL Livlandean, Easter Balado, Balado, Kinross, Removal of timber garage and replace with larger domestic garage: application approved. 08/00321/FUL 13 Tummel Place, Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse: refused as the scale of the extension would have a significant adverse impact on the neighbouring dwelling. 07/02103/LBC Kirklands Hotel, High Street, Kinross, Refurbishment of Hotel: application approved. 07/02459/REM Gellybank Cottage, Kinross, Erection of single storey house and domestic garage (reserved matters): application approved. 08/00004/FUL Turfhills Depot, Kinross, Installation of a 15m telegraph pole for the mounting of 2 radio antennas: application approved.

Three separate applications in relation to Hatchbank (riding stable etc/12 affordable houses etc./4 dwelling houses) - As instructed at the last meeting the Secy wrote to P&KC outlining our objections to these applications. She also

asked that an extension be granted to allow the CC to comment fully on the proposed developments once an opportunity was given to examine the plans. Plans were requested for two of the applications, i.e. the riding centre and 12 affordable houses. A follow up email was sent to the Council but no response has been received. Further letters of objection have been received in relation to these applications. The Secy mentioned that these letters of objection do not appear on the Council website. Cllr Baird answered that this would be rectified shortly; there had been a problem regarding Data Protection.

Cllr Barnacle mentioned a recent application in relation to the Pig Farm at Powmill. An appeal decision was raised the day before the Committee Meeting. Cllr Barnacle moved for a deferral but was defeated on this.

Cllr Barnacle stated that he would prefer that the Kinross Area Local Plan be retained, rather than the overall Development Plan. It was suggested that we collate bullet point actions that we can take to the leaders of the Council; we have to get more focused if we are going to make any influence in the proposed changes.

FORK: A communication was received from Friends of Rural Kinross-shire in which they state that the statistics in relation to brownfield sites and the number of houses which was included in the information received from Peter Marshall did not provide a clear picture of the position. These did not include the significant developments in the pipeline. It was suggested that each CC accumulate figures in relation to the number of housing applications raised for brownfield sites over the last ten years to cover planning completed and planning applied for. If each CC gathers the figures for their own area and forwards the data to FORK, they will process the information for the county and send us a copy of the results. D Colliar agreed to do this for Kinross CC.

Civic Trust: A letter was received from Kinross-shire Civic Trust re. the amendment to the Housing in the Countryside Policy for the Kinross Area Local Plan and to the recent meeting. They state that Peter Marshall did not give any indication as to how he saw the policy could be amended to satisfy the concerns of everyone at the meeting and that they believe the Council should revert simply to the original Policy 64 as stated in the current Kinross Area Local Plan 2004.

It was pointed out that a Strategic Environmental Assessment of the current Housing in the Countryside policy had not been carried out, despite it being required by law. CCllr J Drummond questioned how a public official could implement a policy which is known to be in breach of the regulations. Cllr Barnacle explained that the problem lies in how the policy is being interpreted. He will raise the matter with the Chief Executive at his forth coming meeting with her.

Reports from Perth and Kinross Councillors

A977: Cllr Barnacle provided an update. A proposal has been made to submit a petition to the Scottish Parliament regarding mitigating costs in relation to increased traffic.

T in the Park: Cllr Baird referred to the T in the Park meeting the previous week and said the traffic plan had been improved.

Tenants Association: Cllr Baird attended their recent meeting. Representatives from the Roads Dept were present and their contribution was well received. It was agreed that we should invite the Roads Dept to one of our

meetings.

Path: The Chairman enquired as to when the path down the side of the motorway would be reopened. CCllr Colliar advised that when the planning application was approved it was agreed that the site would not be accessible to the public until the building works were complete. For safety reasons public access is not permissible until the site is clear of machinery. However, if possible, it would be reopened earlier.

County Buildings: CCllr Bathgate suggested using part of the building for community purposes. However, there is no lift in the building which excludes the use of the upstairs room for public meetings. Cllr Baird stated that there would also be an issue with evening lets in relation to security. The meeting room had been refurbished but was not used to its fullest. It could be opened up and used for exhibitions, public meetings etc. Private meetings are currently held through the day, however not in the evening. It was agreed that we should raise this matter with P&KC and endorse fuller use of the upstairs room. CCllrs J & C Drummond, Bathgate and L Mackay will form a subcommittee focused on using the County Buildings for community events. Cllr Robertson offered his assistance.



Parts of the County Buildings could be used for for community purposes

Correspondence

Agricultural Buildings: Response received from P&KC answering our query on planning permission for Agricultural Buildings. In certain cases planning permission is not formally required and a process known as Prior Notification is a route which must be followed. This is for buildings up to a certain size and requires the prospective developer to notify the Council of the intention to erect such a structure and a planning authority normally has 28 days within which to respond by stating that it is acceptable or that they wish to request a formal planning application. Implicit in this process, however, is that the structure is used for the purposes stated, namely for all prior notifications for Agricultural Buildings that they are used as such, namely for agricultural purposes. If there is evidence that a structure has been erected on this basis and is now being used for another purpose then it may be possible that enforcement action would be the appropriate course to follow. The Council ask that we notify them of the specific circumstances to which we referred and it can then be investigated. They add, however, that in such a situation it would be open for the operator of the premises to apply for a change of use. This letter was written in relation to a question raised by a member of the public who advised that an agricultural building was being used to house a

helicopter.

Policy in Relation to Neighbour Notification: Detailed information from P&KC was received. If it is brought to the Counci's attention, during the processing of the application and prior to determination, that the correct notification has not been carried out, then the applicant will be required to undertake this prior to a decision being made. In the event that the incorrect notification is discovered after a decision has been issued, if the application has been approved then it would be a case of whether there was evidence to demonstrate that the applicant had deliberately misled the Council by submitting a false statement and if that evidence existed then whether the absence of the neighbour notification led to any particular neighbouring occupiers being adversely prejudiced as a result. Therefore the taking of action by a planning authority in respect of incorrect neighbour notification cannot be taken lightly; it is an extremely rare occurrence.

Planning Modernisation (Consultations and Electronic Publication Strategy): The Scottish Government has asked us to register for electronic updates. The Secy has done this. Some proposed changes to Development Planning are:

- For some larger developments, the developer will be required to consult with the community before an application is formally submitted to the local authority.
- In future neighbour notification will be carried out by the planning authority rather than the applicant and you will have more time to comment on the proposal.
- Certain applications will require a design and/or access statement setting out how design and access for disabled people have been considered in the proposal.
- The weekly list of applications that currently goes to a CC will have more information on each application. Planning authorities will also advertise where you can see the list.
- Some applications will be subject to enhanced scrutiny including opportunities for you to speak at a hearing before the planning authority makes a decision.
- Other applications will be considered by planning officers with any appeal to a local review body made up of Cllis rather than to Scottish Ministers.

Draft Local Plans: Communication received from P&KC advising that the draft Perth plan, Perth Central Area plan and Eastern Area plan are not to be progressed to finalised stage. The Scottish Government has advised local authorities not to start work on new local plans due to the impending commencement of the new Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 in October this year.

CCs and Data Protection: A letter from P&KC said that the Information Commissioner has determined that all Scotland's CCs are "data processors". CCs that keep data electronically (e.g. minutes of meetings) are liable to register with the Information Commissioner's office and those with a website will have more significant requirements in terms of the legislation. All CCs will have to register on an annual basis and pay an annual fee of £35.00, which will be met by P&KC. Each CC will also have to nominate one of their members to be its "data controller". The Association of Scottish CCs is meeting with the Information Commissioner and will be working with him to produce guidance for CCs.

Mortuary Rates: Communication received from P&KC advising of change from Small Business Rates Relief Scheme to Small Business Bonus Scheme. We will still receive 100% Non Domestic Rates Relief, however by applying for relief under this scheme it will reduce costs to

the Council Tax payer. The Secretary is to ask the Treasurer to complete the form.

Gritting and Snow Clearing: P&KC had asked for comments. The level of service was reasonable last year.

Provost's Lamp: Grant Tait of P&KC is to inspect the lamp.

M90

Litter: Response received. BEAR Scotland Ltd is responsible for the clearance of litter from the verges of the M90 motorway, in line with the Environmental Protection Act. They undertake regular programmes of litter clearance and removal of stray objects from the verge, as well as reactive responses when accumulations speci fic are noted.



The damaged Provost's Lamp

Canongate Community Forum: Invitation to a Common Good Day. Cllr Cuthbert agreed to attend.

Forestry Commission Scotland: Consultation on Forestry Commission Scotland's Draft Climate Change Action Plan 2008 - 2010. Views and comments to be received by 6 June. Other Business

Flooding: Gordon Banks has taken up the case of the High Street resident with flooding problems at his property. A drain has been constructed in Station Road to alleviate flooding.

High Street pavement: The pavement at Sands car park requires attention. Someone had tripped and fallen in this area.

Road Works: CCllr Scott asked if the tenders accepted and works awarded as referred to in the Enterprise and In frastructure minutes have been carried out. These were dated 2007 and covered areas such as the Park and Ride, High Street, Kinross (Drainage and Carriageway Repair Works), Bowton Road (Street and renew school warning signs), B996 Kinross to M90 (Construction of footway) etc. It was answered that these works have been agreed and would be undertaken.

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Council Budgets: CCllr Bathgate mentioned that funding had been approved for the upgrade/refurbishment of Perth Theatre and Perth Concert Hall and asked the logistics of there being funding for this but not for "anything else". Cllr Robertson answered that both these venues are important to the community and that the majority of attendees are from areas outwith Perth, including Kinross.

Swansacre Building: CCllr Watson read out from a P&KC report. During autumn 2007 an outbreak of dry rot was found. An inspection by Fairhurst Structural Engineers was carried out to ensure that a timber preservation inspection could be undertaken safely. Propping and tower scaffolding was installed inside and an assessment of the dry rot outbreak was made. The estimated cost of dealing with the eradication is £3,000. The dry rot also spread to an adjoining property and the Council, being liable, agreed to bear the cost of treatment and reinstatement. The cost for this work will be approximately £15,000 exclusive of VAT. As advised previously, the building is to be braced and the property will be remarketed. CCllr Watson questioned whether the Council were not accountable for the decline in the building as this matter has now been ongoing for over 12 years. In answer to a question raised regarding the maintenance costs, Cllr Robertson reported that P&KC has built up a substantial fund which can be utilised to subsidise the handover of the property to a Housing Association free. The four P&K Cllrs will pursue this matter.

Partnership AGM: CCllr Colliar reported on this meeting. Fireworks: A decision was still to be reached regarding the fireworks at the end of T in the Park. CCllr Colliar confirmed that there were virtually no objections raised to this proposal at the January Forum meeting. However, T in the Park would be asked to tone the last explosive down.

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

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

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Milnathort Community Council

CCllr Giacopazzi, Chairman, welcomed CCllrs Cottingham, Porter, Bennet and Lamont to the meeting held on 10 April in Milnathort Town Hall. Also in attendance were P&K Cllr Baird, Minute Secretary E Rougvie, two representatives from Tayside Police and three members of the public. Apologies were received from CCllrs Smith and Thomson.

Core paths: Mr Jimmy Simpson of Lathro Farm was in attendance to express his concerns about the proposed route of one of the paths in the core paths network, which went through a field where he kept livestock, including a bull. He didn't want to be held responsible if someone was injured. He said he had employed an agent who had suggested an alternative route. After discussion, the CC agreed to write in support of Mr Simpson.

Police matters: It was reported that the 'sneak in' thefts that had been happening throughout the area had come to an abrupt halt after a man was arrested. However, the public were urged to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activity to the police by calling 999. This was preferable to calling the police station because time could be wasted looking up phone numbers and waiting to be connected. The police would rather get to an incident when it was occurring instead of afterwards, when the offender could be long gone. This was particularly true in the case of travelling people, of whom the 'sneak in' thief was one, because they could be over the Forth Bridge in half an hour. The police also reported that two cars had been broken into at Milnathort Golf Club that morning one insecure and the other with golf clubs on display. The public were reminded to make sure their vehicles are locked and that any valuables are out of sight. It would be helpful if people carried paper and a pencil so that they could note down registration numbers of cars suspected of being involved in any wrongdoing; even if the incident subsequently came to nothing the police would still like to hear about it.

CCIIr Porter raised the issue of the number of workmen in Marshall Place currently carrying out work with Connaught on behalf of P&KC. They were going in and out of houses from 8am in the morning, but because many of them were Eastern European, it was difficult to communicate with them to ensure that they were genuine. She was concerned because there had been a recent incident in Crawford Place in which an elderly lady had been robbed of a considerable cash sum by two men purporting to be from the water board. The police representative said that this had been discussed with Connaught because it was felt older people could be vulnerable as it was very difficult to persuade them they that should not keep money in their house. Door-to-door inquiries were continuing into the Crawford Place incident

Planning matters: The following applications were noted: Erection of dwelling-house at Craigow; extension to house at 20 Auld Mart Road; erection of double garage and hardstanding at 114 South Street.

Alterations and change of use from cafe/shop to one dwelling and replacement of windows at 2-8 South Street: there were concerns that work was being carried out here without listed building consent and without planning permission. It was understood that there were to be retail premises downstairs and flats above. After discussion, it was agreed that P&K Cllr Baird will look into it and that the CC would send a strong letter to P&KC which would be

copied to Cllr Baird.

CCIlrs Giacopazzi and Cottingham will attend a meeting in Kinross High School on 30 April about the Building in the Countryside policy.

Correspondence

- 1. A letter from the Forestry Commission about their Draft Climate Change Action Plan: It was felt that this was a very important issue, and that even at their relatively modest level the CC should be considering it. CCllrs Giacopazzi and Bennet will pursue.
- 2. A letter from the Scottish Government regarding the Planning etc (Scotland) Act 2006 consultation: CCllrs Giacopazzi and Cottingham will register to receive information electronically.
- 3. A letter from SNH about the Loch Leven NNR plans for 2008-2012. Consultation is ongoing and comments are requested by mid-May. CCllr Bennet will deal with it and report back.
- 4. The Association of Scottish CCs: the Scottish Government is suggesting a new national scheme for CCs, and consultation is open for 12 weeks. Noted.

Administrative grant: CCllr Bennet, Treasurer, reported that she had received a grant of £600 for the period 2006-07 and 2007-08, but she felt it was unfair that the CC had not been given a grant for the previous two years, even though the CC had not claimed it P&KC had not considered that there were any extenuating circumstances as to why the audited accounts for these two years had not been submitted by the previous treasurer, who no longer resides in Milnathort. CCllr Bennet considered that it wasn't right that Milnathort residents should be penalised because of this oversight. After discussion, it was acknowledged that while the CC was not a grant-giving body, but agreed that CCllr Bennet should pursue the matter with P&KC.

Association of Scottish CCs: It was agreed that the CC should renew its membership at a cost of £15.

T in the Park: CCllr Cottingham had attended a meeting about traffic management at T in the Park, and outlined the arrangements that had been put in place. He said that a great deal of thought had been put into it and that lessons had been learned from last year. Anyone who wishes to have a residents' pass in order to access closed roads from the Wednesday prior to the event through to the Monday is advised to apply to the Police as soon as possible. CCllr Giacopazzi thanked CCllr Cottingham for attending the meeting and for his full report.

Woodland walk: CCllr Porter said that the woodland walk to the rear of the cemetery was a disgrace and needed to be attended to as a matter of urgency. After discussion, it was agreed that CCllrs Lamont and Giacopazzi would visit the area with a view to approaching any local groups who might be interested in taking on a community project.

Litter: CCllr Giacopazzi commented on the large amount of litter between the outskirts of the village and Arlary. P&K Cllr Baird will find out whether P&KC or BEAR Scotland bore responsibility, since it could be emanating from the motorway

Road safety: CCllr Bennet reported that she is still awaiting a reply from P&KC about coming to the village to carry out road safety surveys. She will pursue the matter and report back to the next meeting.

The next meeting of Milnathort CC will be held on Thursday 8 May in Milnathort Primary School.

Portmoak Community Council

In attendance at the meeting held on Tuesday 8 April at Portmoak Village Hall were: Wendy MacPhedran (Chairwoman), Sue Mitchell-Henry, Jim Shepherd, Alistair Smith, Margaret Wilson, P&K Cllr Mike Barnacle, Sgt Rankine and several members of the public.

News from the Annual General Meeting Chairwoman's Report

The CC doesn't raise taxes, hold high budgets, mend roads, run schools or employ people. That's what P&KC do. What we do is distil the views of everyone who lives here to come up with a community view of things. That influences what gets done in our names by more remote layers of government who often have different targets and priorities. The more effectively we do our job, the higher our chances are of getting what we want; it's that simple. Sometimes the job is easy; sometimes it's not. The past year was no exception. We'd started out with two main goals: (1) To better engage with a higher percentage of our residents, (2) Minimise the potential damage of over-development due to P&KC's new Housing in the Countryside Policy.

As part of our efforts to hear from a greater number of residents on key issues, we held two well attended 'community meetings':

- A & J Stephens developers offered us the field at the very top of Whitecraigs development in Kinnesswood.
 We researched several options for ownership and held a public meeting to inform residents and hear views. We also created written questionnaires for those who could not attend the meeting.
- Because there were several years between our submission of our parish's Core Path Plan and the current proposed Plan from P&KC, we invited Mr Ni all Lobley, Senior Ranger form P&KC to present the proposed paths to the area in our area in detail.

There has been a lot of talking and a lot of listening. As part of our endeavour to be better informed and make better decisions, we invited several guests to speak to us. This met with enthusiasm and enabled local people to ask questions directly to the professionals that could answer them. Our guest list included experts and representatives from P&KC's Anti-Social Noise Team, the Met Office, SNH, A & J Stephens, T in the Park, the Scottish Gliding Centre and P&KC's Senior Ranger.

A great deal of time and energy has also been spent on planning issues. There are continuing concerns about how P&KC is interpreting the new 'Housing in the Countryside' Policy in all rural areas of Perth and Kinross. If we thought

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it was a bad last year, it seems to have got worse. In addition to carefully scrutinising and monitoring planning applications we've attended Kinross-shire wide meetings to determine if our views might better be represented by approaching the Head of Planning jointly. With the help of our P&K Cllrs we are beginning to see opportunities to formally review this troublesome policy.

In the upcoming year, we intend to:

- Continue to increase residents' engagement with us. We hope to do this by asking for help at our monthly meetings for assistance of a minor nature, and when more concerted effort is needed we'll ask for volunteers to be on project groups. We hope that this will allow more people to help without the long-term commitment a sub-committee would require.
- Continue to listen better. We'll do this by holding more community meetings when needed, creating written questionnaires where appropriate and encouraging participation at our monthly meetings.
- Seek to improve communication with P&KC officials. Our focus will be on ensuring our parish's interests are taken seriously by the Council's officials and conversely interacting with them in a manner which makes it easier for them to accommodate us.
- Create a long-term plan. Rather than have our parish's future be determined by the fickle policies of the Scottish Executive and the P&KC, we'd like to come up with a plan of our own. We hope this plan will be a reflection of our resident's hopes and desires for our future in terms of housing development, local economics, quality of life and general viability.

Countless people contribute to the quality of our lives in Portmoak and most often their work is invisible. I'd like to thank these people – you know who you are – and ensure them that even if their tasks are invisible, the outcome is appreciated. I want to thank Tayside Police. Every month without fail, someone attends our meetings to give an update of police-related issues on our area. We're fortunate in that we don't have a high level of crime, but they always listen and help when they can. One of the most generous people I know is our Primary School Head teacher. She does more than just open the door, but ensures everything is ready and in general creates a welcoming atmosphere. I'd like to mention our webmaster Paul Haslam. Paul has offered his time and skill in improving our website, but we've not taken the time to work with him on this. I hope we can find a volunteer to take on this role in the coming year. I have enormous gratitude for our Cllrs from P&KC.

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Mike Barnacle, Willie Robertson, Sandy Miller and Kathleen Baird have all directly helped manage our way through some very troublesome issues. And finally, I'd like to thank my co-Councillors. This is a complicated and off en thankless job and I'm grateful for all the work they do – both visible and the non-visible. They say you see a person's true character not when things are going well, but when things are tough. We've had some very difficult decisions to make this year, and I'm proud to say that even when we disagreed we supported each other and stuck together to find a good solution.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer has prepared audited accounts for submission to Perth and Kinross Council.

Appointment of Officers: It was decide to wait until the next CC meeting for the appointment of Officers, once the appointment of new Community Councillors is made.

News from the April meeting

Chairwoman's Report

The Chairwoman had received a letter from SNH regarding a development plan for People. Comments are to be to SNH by mid-May.

There is to be another joint meeting with Cllrs Robertson and Barnacle along with the Civic Trust, FORK and the other Kinross-shire CCs to discuss the proposals for growth projection, the Housing in the Country Policy and Development Control issues.

There is to be a meeting on 21 May at 7pm at the Portmoak Hall about Dogs in the Countryside which is to be a positive discussion about dogs, wildlife and other access matters. The evening is being sponsored and there will be give-aways etc.

Police Report: The Police reported that there had been a spat of bogus callers calling on old people recently. These were not in Portmoak and the perpetrators had been arrested. However, the Police are asking people to be on alert. The Police are promoting a new Scheme called the Nominated Neighbour Scheme, where they are asking old people to nominate a neighbour to assist them. Leaflets are available from the Kinross Police Station explaining what the details of the scheme are.



Secretary's Report

The Secy had received a letter from Keith Brown MSP regarding the spate of accidents at Wester Balgedie on the A911. Mr Brown passed on a letter he had received from P&KC stating that their roads section would investigate and report if any remedial works were to be recommended.

The Secy had received a letter from P&KC regarding the

performance of the gritting services throughout the winter. There is a concern that gritting should be carried out as a matter of routine up to the Portmoak School entrance for the school buses.

The Secy had also received a letter from P&KC regarding the performance of the mobile library, but there were no comments on that.

Paths Matters

The path down the side of the Portmoak Hall is still gated and padlocked. There is a stalemate situation between the owner and Portmoak Hall regarding the users. Under Condition 12 of the original Planning Consent, the developer has to provide access right down the side of the development for a path. The Secy will write asking for enforcement of this condition.

The CC had held a very successful public meeting last month to present and discuss the Core Path Proposals. There had been a very good public attendance and response. The CC will be writing their own response.

With regard to the path between Woodmarch and the Church, discussions are proceeding between the landowner and the Estates Department of P&KC.

A911: The Secy has received no response from P&KC's consultant regarding a meeting to discuss studies on the A911. Cllr Barnacle offered to contact P&KC.

Planning Matters

The Secy read out a Supporting Statement from A & J Stephens for their proposed Planning application for nine houses at Kinnesswood. The CC was happy with this. The Secy will contact Mr Jim Lochhead of Stephens to discus the infill of excavated material on the hillside above the development.

The CC has been informed that the developer for Levenmouth Farm has appealed to the Scottish Executive Reporter Unit regarding the rejection of his planning application.

The CC has completed its letter to P&KC regarding the operation and control of planning issues and this will be sent to Mr Brian.

Perth & Kinross Councillors

Cllr Barnacle reported that he has still had no response on the weather station on Munduff Hill over a number of matters including its colour.

He has also submitted his own comments on the Core Path Proposals. In this he has stressed a need for a path between Lochend Farm Shop and the Loch Leven Heritage Path.

Other matters: There was a complaint about the puddles in the road gutter between Grahamston and Scotlandwell.

The next meeting of Portmoak CC will take place on Tuesday 13 May at 7.30pm in the Portmoak Primary School.

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Cleish & Blairadam CC

News from the AGM and March Meeting

The CC met in Cleish Hall on Monday 17 March and was attended by all six members of the CC, Cllr Mike Barnacle, PC Graham Stevens, around 50 members of the public and the Cleish & Blairadam Newsletter Editor.

Annual General Meeting

Chairman's Report: This has been a busy year with good attendances from the members of the public. Crime levels have been relatively low but constant vigilance is ever necessary. The hill road travellers are still around, but again vigilance is still the order of the day. Tracks and Trails are almost near completion and the draft plan will be ready for consultation. Planning continues to concern us, not just in Cleish and Blairadam but throughout Kinross-shire. The Chairman reported that a recent decision, taken by P&KC, would mean that any objection submitted by CCs to planning applications would be treated as a single objection, given the same weight as an individual's objection. This decision was taken without any consultation with CCs who were only informed some time after the relevant meeting. Roads were a constant item on the agenda, but the Middleton Park development was nearing completion and then the road from Maryburgh to Keltybridge should be greatly improved.

The Police continue to serve us well, for which were are all very grateful, and in return we can help them by reporting any suspicious incidents at once, making their job much easier. Thanks to them and to their colleagues in Fife the hill road activities receive close attention.

The Chairman ended his report by thanking all the CCllrs, the C&B Newsletter Editor and Cllr Mike Barnacle for their conscientious attendance and for all their hard work. The Newsletter Editor asked that the Council's thanks be extended to Freda Whalley for all she does in printing the Newsletter and ensuring its prompt delivery.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer reported a healthy balance of £773.82 as at February 2008, the end of the financial year.

March Meeting

Crime Prevention: PC Stevens reported several theffs in the neighbourhood. Somebody had been charged. Following the report of somebody being drunk and abusive at Loch Glow there had been an arrest and subsequent charge. He would like to thank the local officers who had effected this successful outcome. PC Stevens drew attention to the new single telephone number dedicated to all non emergencies - 01738 621141. A member of the public drew attention to the opening up of the Till Hill gateway - this might mean an increase in less desirable "walkers" or "parkers" making use of this area. PC Stevens said all matters of concern should be reported at once to the police who would take the necessary action.

Tracks and Trails: There have been proposals for a possible link-up between Sunnyside and Cowden Wood and for extending pathways between Cleish and Fossoway and Blairadam and Benarty. Neil Kilpatrick reported that the next stage of the track round the loch should be completed by late summer. He also said a pathway from Cleish eastwards along the Gairney Burn would be good, but that was at least two years away.

Planning

The new procedure as detailed above was then discussed.

The decision to limit CCs' objections had been taken in December, and Cleish & Blairadam CC first heard about it from another CC. Cllr Barnacle had not been present when the decision was taken and believed that he and other elected representatives were not happy with the outcome. The CC will write to the Head of Planning Services, with copies to the elected representatives, objecting to the way in which this decision had been taken. It was pointed out that the Council's decision was contrary to the Scottish Government's desire to include CCs as participants in decision making.

The Chairman and Sandy Morton had attended a joint meeting of CCs on 12 February when the bulk of the meeting was devoted to the Housing in the Countryside Policy A member of the public expressed concern at the way in which the CC dealt with planning applications; the Chairman explained that they responded to the concerns of the community in accordance with the Kinross-shire Area Plan. Another member of the public emphasised that CCllrs are all elected, and represent the whole community of Cleish and Blairadam. Cllr Barnacle said that it was imperative to look again at the Housing in the Countryside Policy and he would convene another meeting for all CCs, elected representatives, FORK and the Civic Trust.

New Applications

Land to north of Hatchbank Farm: an application for 12 houses and formation of 3 housing plots and community woodland: Outwith our area but agreed to register an objection on the same principles as they had applied to Chance Inn Farm at the previous meeting.

Eriska extension: No comment.

4 Templeton: Further application; as this has only just been received the CC will look further at the plans and available information and report back to the next CC meeting.

Pending

Chance Inn - in process; Boreland - still being examined; Cleish Mill Farm 1 & 2; Nivingston House; Flockhouse Farm; Birchwood; Sunnyside.

Others

Fruix Farm - Storage and distribution - approved; Meadows Farm - originally refused but Reporter has approved; Greenacres 1 & 2 - decision expected soon; Tillyrie - refused on appeal.

Roads

Maryburgh - Keltybridge - survey promised; Cleish Mill bends: site meeting awaited

Rubbish Bin Collection

A question was raised from the floor regarding the reported possibility of collections being done fortnightly instead of weekly. Cllr Barnacle reported that a three bin collection had been trialled in Perth and had proved very successful. However this would not take place in Kinross-shire in the immediate future. It was proposed that Mr Jim Renton, the rubbish collection supervisor, be invited to attend a future meeting of the CC.

The Recycling Depot at Bridgend, Kinross, is due to be completed in the near future.

The next meeting of Cleish & Blairadam CC will take place on Monday 19 May in the Tabernacle Hall, Blairadam.

Please mention The Newsletter when answering advertisements

Fossoway & District CC

News from the April meeting

In attendance at the meeting held on 1st April in Moubray Hall, Powmill were: A Morrison, I Farquhar, H Johnson, T Duffy-Wigman, L Stronach, L Boulter, P&K Cllr M Barnacle and 13 members of the public. Apologies for absence were received from I Booth, due to ill health, and H Wallace. There were no declarations of interest.

Police Report: There were no representatives from Tayside Police available.

Scottish Water are to be invited to a future CC meeting to discuss the Drum situation and give an update on issues. Cllr Barnacle and the Roads Engineer met and, as a result, repairs to the gullies in the Main Street, Crook of Devon will be dealt with on 5 April. Roads at the Falls Nursery area are to be dealt with also. The second lay-by on the B9097 near Aldie Road is also to be closed due to fly tipping.

T in the Park meeting: CCllrs H Johnson and A Morrison from FDCC attended this meeting. The organisers this year have altered things to avoid the problems of last year's event. There will be double the amount of car parking spaces. Traffic Management has been addressed, they are to pulse the traffic through Cambo. Toilets are to be placed outwith village envelopes. There are to be no double decker buses. There is to be an airborne link to monitor the flow of the traffic. Car parks are to be monitored from earlier in the morning. Signage for the event is to be put up around two weeks prior to event. All in all H Johnstone and A Morrison found this to be a very positive meeting. Passes are to be made available to the local earlier. If you require a local pass please make an application to Sgt D Rankine of Tayside Police.

Meetings: Sadly we had no representatives available to attend the Kinross-shire Partnership and Convention of P&KCCs.

Perth & Kinross Council Business

M Barnacle gave us a report on wider planning issues and how he has addressed the Enterpirse and Infrastructure Committee Members. This area is the fastest growing area in Scotland. Review of the Housing in the Countryside Policy is urgently required, as in Kinross-shire so-called "steading development proposals" continue to flood in usually involving complete demolition, extensive new builds, and the subsequent creeping settlement development in the countryside; contrary to Local Plan Policy 2 but usually recommended for approval by planning officers; an overview of the current situation is needed now as a matter of urgency.

Cllr Barnacle stated his desire to see a Local Development Plan for the Kinross-shire ward area under the new system. Cllr Barnacle, still reporting on the Development Plans

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call 01577 861903/ 07738514342 Team Work Programme and Priorities 2008/09, goes on to report "The report does not mention at all the work being currently undertaken on long term development strategies in Fossoway and Milnathort, as a direct result of an Inquiry Reporters Recommendation included in Para 5-20 of the Kinross Local Plan 2004. On the evening of 26 March 2008 I personally concluded the final one of our four public meetings held this month in the Fossoway Villages on this subject. I seek clarification that the work on these strategies will be incorporated into the new Development Plan and that a draft progress report on the strategy is taken to Committees in order that Development Control Officers can take this process into account when considering applications; otherwise the whole long term development strategy process will be undermined and fall into disrepute from planning approvals."

Planning Applications

08/00267/OUT - Formation of a Business Use Development, Plot 3 Land South of Craigton Farm Road - FDCC recommend approval subject to traffic management being addressed.

08/00406/OUT - Erection of six Dwelling Houses at Newhall Farm, Solsgirth, near Blairingone, for Mr & Mrs Broome. FDCC recommend Refusal on account of the unsustainable nature of the development proposed.

Cllr M Barnacle added that at the Barnhill Development Proposal the application went to appeal with the Scottish Executive and this was again refused.

08/00453/FUL - Extension to a Dwellinghouse, Norwell Poultry Farm, Broomhill, Fossoway, for Mr and Mrs G Brown. FDCC recommend Approval.

General Correspondence: A full list was read out and was made available to the public to view.

Mr K Borthwick of the Devon Angling Association highlighted problems at Dunning Bridge at the bottom of Castlehill Reservoir. Once a year the Association has to clean up after campers and picnickers leaving litter, including needles. This is the last spawning area for indigenous Brown Trout and this is getting contaminated. Camping is taking place here during the summer months and it is having a bad effect on the cleanliness of the water. He suggests that camping should be banned. The landowners themselves have attempted to stop the picnicking and camping; however, they have be unsuccessful. FDCC will take this matter up with P&KC and see what can be done.

A977 proposed Community Petition to Parliament: FORK and CCs are to come together to form words for this petition. Further updates will be given when in place.

The next meeting of Fossoway & District CC will take place on Tuesday 6 May at Blairingone Primary School at 7.30pm.

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Down Memory Lane



Kinross High Street



Barracuda aircraft (ex Fleet Air Arm) awaiting disposal at Balado, 1946/47 (courtesy of Iain Munro, Dollar)

Club & Community Group News



Portmoak Film Society

Portmoak Film Society breaks for summer

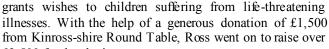
In April about 50 people saw the light-hearted film "Saving Grace" with Brenda Blethyn as the deeply-in-debt widow faced with the sale of her beloved house, and art ful gardener Craig Ferguson who decide to solve their problems by growing cannabis on an industrial scale. Many of the audience remembered that last year a similar scenario was played out not a million miles from here!!

Prior to the film, the business of the Annual General Meeting was got through happily at breathtaking speed and a committee of members with a new Secretary (to replace the soon to be sun-kissed Sandy Shanks) was voted into office. All officers were thanked for their contribution to the success of the PFS during the past year which has seen an influx of new members and grants/donations of almost £10,000 being invested in new equipment to make for an altogether more professional experience.

At the same time, in traditionally democratic manner, all members and visitors were asked to choose the five films they most wished to see next time round from a diverse and exciting shortlist. For those who can't wait until September to see which ones have made it for the 2008/09 season, keep checking the website at www.portmoakfilmsociety.org.uk At this time of the year I'm always tempted to say "That's all folks!" when we've seen the last film of the season and with the light summer evenings coming up, no longer seek solace, warmth and entertainment at the Portmoak Film Society of a Saturday night. And as I can't think of anything better to sign off with this time, I'll leave it at that, wish you a sunny Summer and see you again on 13 September.

Kinross Round Table

Round Table member Ross McConnell recently ran the London Marathon to raise funds for the Round Table Children's Wish, a charity which



£2,500 for the charity.

Ross completed the marathon in 4:05, slightly slower than he had hoped for. According to Ross "The last 10k were very slow and very hard work, but the crowd was excellent gave enough encouragement to keep me going to the end. There were several high points, running over Tower Bridge near the half way mark, and coming down Embankment towards Big Ben near the end were just two, and despite the



exhaustion and heavy rain it was a wonderful experience. I can't pretend to have enjoyed all of it, but it's certainly not a day I'll forget in a hurry"

Ross would like to thank all of the sponsors who helped him raise money for such a worthwhile cause.

Kinross Primary Parent Council

Kinross Primary Parent Council (KPPC) has replaced the previous 'PTA' and 'School Board' and aims to work constructively with the school to:

represent the views of parents, support the school in its work with pupils, encourage links between the school, parents, pupils, preschool groups and the wider community

The next open meeting of the KPPC for ALL parents/carers of children who attend Kinross Primary including the nursery, is on **Thursday 29 May** at 7.30pm in the school hall.

There will be an overview of the Parent Council and what it has achieved so far, feedback from those who have been involved in exploring education, communication and fundraising, and also feedback from Mrs King.

For further information please email Gillian Baughan (Secretary) at kinross_primary@scottishparents.com, or Teresa Thomson (Chair) at teresathomson@btinternet.com, or drop a note for the attention of the KPPC at the school office

More information about the KPPC including a list of Parent Council members can be found on the school website www.kinross-pri.pkc.sch.uk/index.htm

Kinross Garden Group

Ian Christie of Christie's Alpine Nursery, Kirriemuir gave us a delightful presentation



entitled "The Wonderful World of Meconopsis". Although not a British native, these stunning plants (commonly referred to as the "Blue Poppy") can be seen in various well known Perthshire gardens including Branklyn, Cluny and the recently opened Explorer's Garden, Pitlochry. Ian also has an excellent collection at his Kirriemuir Nursery but please phone before visiting as his nursery is not open on a daily basis.

This meeting was also our AGM and the Chairman, John Porter, Outing Convener/Deputy Chair Christina Rodger, Treasurer Anne Walker and Secretary Helen Leslie were elected and willing to serve.

This was also the last meeting of the 2007-2008 Winter programme in the Millbridge Hall, Kinross. Our Summer outings commence in May. Please contact Christina Rodger for details.

Kinross in Bloom

March's 200 club winners.

£20	92	Dave Cuthbert
£15	39	John Dryburgh
£10	21	Margaret Carling
£.5	74	Pauline Watson



Newsletter Deadlines

A list of future deadlines can be found on our website **www.kinrossnewsletter.orq**

Common Grounds Charity No. SC031582

Last month's report for the Newsletter went we know not where - into a black-hole, or some other cyberspace trap. Thankfully that has not impeded our progress and this is neatly illustrated by a recent comment in our visitor's book "Two touring cyclists delighted to discover an oasis of welcoming hospitality on a showery, dirty day – homebaking delicious, cheese scones exceptional."

Projects: Our chosen project in April was Matsitama, a school typical of those in the small isolated villages of Botswana, where teachers are expected to supplement the basic resources supplied by government by raising money themselves. At a well attended project 'soup and a roll' lunch on 16 April, speaker, ex-Glenrothes teacher and now voluntary assistant at Matsitame, June Smith, spoke about the school and the need for this financial support. June was presented with a cheque for £500.

Fairtrade: If you are looking for giff ideas, we can take orders from the Fairtrade and Shared Earth catalogues which are now available during opening hours. Starting on Friday 16 May, there will be a clearance sale of some Fairtrade goods and a few donated items.

Book Club: The club meets in the Church Street Hall on the first Tuesday of the month. Contact: Marlene Whyte, 01592 840371.

Events: On the Saturday afternoon and evening of the Milnathort Folk Festival we hosted a musical event which raised just under £300. Thanks to all the volunteers who supplied food, served and carried out the additional washing and cleaning required.

On the same night, Pat Beatson and Mel Clark, from the Scottish Co-op Soc. Members Community Fund, handed over a cheque from an award made by the fund to enable us to purchase some much needed items for the Coffee Shop, in particular a new fridge-freezer.

A sausage sizzle for Volunteers and friends, in the Hall grounds, is planned for mid June. Meantime, look out for the next project lunch.

Invitation: New volunteers are always welcome. If you can spare a few hours to help out and would appreciate the opportunity to make new friends, call one of our contacts 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.

Milnathort School Association

Our recent Auction Evening at the Thistle Hotel was very successful raising a total of £1100 for school funds. We would like to thank The Thistle Hotel for kindly hosting the event and all the local businesses who generously donated items for the auction and the raffle held on the night. We would also like to thank everyone who came along to support us and contributed so generously to the total raised – we hope you all enjoyed yourselves.

Our next big event will be our **Summer Fair** being held on **Saturday 7 June**, in conjunction with the other organisations involved with the Milnathort Family Festival. There will be the usual selection of stalls, games, displays and fun for all the family in the school grounds, so keep the date free in your diaries and there will be more details next month.

Kinross High School Council

During the March meeting, members and P&K Cllrs expressed their appreciation of the sterling work of the Modern Languages Department who



have carried an extra work load because of staff shortages. The Council very much hopes the Department will find the energy to continue the valuable Exchange Programme which has run so well for 12 years. There was also discussion about the new school, the possibility of Curricular Evenings for parents and the school website. Fundraising continues with events such as The K Factor and the 10K, run.

The **Annual General Meeting** will be held in the school dining hall on **Wednesday 21 May** at 7pm. All interested parties are very welcome.

Kinross & District Art Club



This friendly group meets weekly in the Millbridge Hall on Tuesday afternoons 2 - 4pm,

with a chatty tea break at 3pm. Anyone with an interest in "Painting" to add to their quality of life will be very welcome to join us, like the new members who have joined since our Annual Exhibition. We use any chosen medium: watercolour, acrylic, charcoal, oils etc, and have a tutor who helps us through the stages of our "masterpieces" from the initial sketch to the gradual build up to the finished painting. There are demonstrations by the tutor on different Art Techniques and we are moving to get a DVD Projector that will enable us as a group to view the many DVDs available on "How to Sketch", "Paint in Watercolours, Acrylics, Oils etc" - so anyone from "first timer" to the more experienced can try something new and enjoy the personal satisfaction from developing another interest in their life. For more information, or just a chat, contact Bill Bray, the Secretary, on 863361, or e-mail typhoon@billby.wanadoo.co.uk

In January this year

Who helped 91 residents of Kinross-shire access the services they needed – We did

Who made 68 journeys to Loch Leven Health Centre? – We did

Who made 43 journeys to Perth Royal Infirmary? – We did

Who made 12 journeys to Ninewells? – We did

Who made 3 journeys to Fife hospitals? – We did

Who made 35 journeys to take people to visit family in hospital, to shop, to attend dental and optical appointments? – We did

Who are we?

KINROSS-SHIRE VOLUNTEER GROUP AND RURAL OUTREACH SCHEME

What can YOU do?

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Kinross-shire 50 Plus Club

At the April meeting, the speaker was Joseph Giacopazzi. Accompanied with slides, Joseph gave us a splendid insight into the history of his

Italian family. A vote of thanks was given followed by a hearty applause.

Mary Poppins Show - Edinburgh: The Club are going to the "Mary Poppins" matinee show on Wednesday 15 October and have 4 seats available. Anyone wishing to go please feel welcome to phone Edith Oswald, 01577 865731. Cost £30 + £5.50 for coach.

Ayr Flower Show: Living High Travel have a coach going to Ayr Flower Show on **10 August**. Anyone wishing to go please contact Mary Muirhead, 01577 863564. Entry and coach cost £20.

Friday Walks: Now that Spring is almost upon us, we have been walking regularly once more. All those who gave their apologies because of some drizzle before the Bonhard Circular Walk must have felt like kicking themselves when the day turned out to be one of the best for a long time. There are 3 walks planned for May.

2 May: Ravenscraig Park, Kirkcaldy to West Weymss and back, along the Fife Coastal Path - this is about 8 miles.

16 May: Another "Cuckoo Walk" from Dowally, but this time we travel north along pleasant country roads, and come back to Dowally through the village of Guay. When the recce party were out at this time last year, as well as hearing many cuckoos, they even saw one on a post about 10 yards away, before it flew to a nearby tree. This one is a circular walk of about 6 miles.

30 May: A circular walk starting in Crieff and making its way up to Glenturret and the Famous Grouse Experience by lunchtime. It will be possible to have a plate of soup there for those who want a change from the usual sandwiches. This walk is along well known paths, and is about our usual distance.

Hillwalkers: On 28 March, for an unprecedented fourth time this year, we had to cancel a walk due to poor weather conditions. This was the planned trek into Glen Artney to see the Red Kites. This walk has now been re-scheduled for 6 June. On 11 April the group did enjoy good conditions for the River Devon 8-mile circular walk from Crook of Devon via Rumbling Bridge, Blairhill, Pool and Yetts of Muckhart.

The walk planned for **9 May** will be another circular walk, this time from Hol Reservoir to West Lomond via Ballo Reservoir. This should be a challenging nine miles with 1450 feet of as cent.

On **23 May** we will again attempt the Bankfoot - Hermitage walk that we have had to postpone twice this year so far due to adverse weather conditions. This group is nothing if not determined.

The Elderberries are having an outing to Kirkcaldy on **Monday 2 June**, with lunch at the Chapel Home Farm. There are a few spare seats available; if any 50+ members would like to go, please contact Zena McRaw tel: 864342 for details.

Portmoak Hall 100 Club

March Draw

IST	NO 103	Portmoak Cubs
2nd	No 102	Hon Anne Garnett, Easter Balgedie
3rd	No 16	Sylvia Herrington Scotlandwell

Kinross Bridge Club

The final session for 2007/08 was played on 16 April. Competition winners:

North/South

1st Jim Lawrie & Jock Taylor + 2650 2nd Jim Reid & Jean Toshack +1610

East/West

1st Jessie Lawrie & Sandy Greenhill +970 2nd Madge Malcolm & Pat Forrest -450

Bridge Club Quaich

Winner Jim Lawrie (average 60.02) Runner-up John Skillen (average 59.73)

The Bridge Club recommences on **Wednesday 1st October** at 6.45pm in the Church Centre. New members are very welcome.

Kinross-shire Historical Society



The AGM of the Kinross-shire Historical Society was held at the Parish Church in Station Road,

Kinross on 17 March and was followed by a talk by Grant Carnegie entitled "The battle of Killiecrankie – was it a minor skirmish or major battle?" The lecturer gave a vivid description and excellent power point presentation, describing how the battle in July 1689 had involved religion, politics and the Crown.

Of the 6,000 participants, 900 Highlanders and 2,000 government troops died either during or after the battle. This included John Graham, Bonny Dundee, the charismatic leader of the Highlanders. At the end of this lively talk the audience heard that the battle had lasted just six minutes.

A vote of thanks was given by Mary Muirhead who also thanked president Robin Eadie for leading us so well during the past year. The next season of the KHS will open with a talk given by Joseph Giacopazzi on Monday 20 October.

Kinross-shire Residents Association

The recent amalgamation of Milnathort and Portmoak Tenants and Residents Association and Kinross Tenants and Residents Association which took place in order to strengthen falling attendances has so far proved a success. We have had a few well-attended meetings and an Open Meeting on 27 March which was attended by guest speakers. We usually meet at the Windlestrae Hotel, Kinross and all residents are welcome. As always, future meetings will be posted.

Mike Twaddle, Chairman

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MUCKHART VILLAGE HALL

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

Further information: BARBARA - 01259 781446

Probus Club

The speaker for the meeting on 19 March was Rev John Scott, now retired, but for 21 years he had been the minister of Aberdour, St Fillan's. His subject was simply entitled "Scotland's Saint".



Not long ago a minister from the Church of Scotland, Dane Sherrard, had suggested that because St Andrew's connection with Scotland was rather tenuous, people could think of choosing another Saint as the Patron Saint of our land. Dane Sherrard suggested St Kessog. John Scott totally disagreed with this suggestion and put forward St Fillan as an alternative. St Fillan is a very interesting character and totally connected with Scotland. St Fillan lived in the seventh century AD and tradition has it that he brought the gospel message to the area surrounding Loch Ness, and also that he worked with the communities around Killin and Loch Tay. St Fillan is famous for his healing stones, which surprisingly are still in existence today!! There are eight of them and they are housed in the Breadalbane Visitor Centre situated near the Dochart Falls not far away from Killin. These stones resemble the organs they are said to heal; one stone looks like a kidney, another is in the shape of a heart etc. Also still in existence are three relics connected with the saint. In the Scottish National Museum of Antiquities are St Fillan's pastoral staff, his crozier and his bell. Also in the Museum is the "Mayne", which is St Fillan's left arm bone and hand housed in a casket, another priceless treasure. Jimmy Knox gave the vote of thanks, summing up the thanks of the members for an interesting and illuminating talk.

At the beginning of the meeting on 2 April, the President, Gilmour Nicol, announced the death of one of the oldest members, Derry Donovan, who had been Programme convener for 13 years (1984 to 1997) and had been made an honorary member for his contribution to the club. He was 96 when he died. The members remembered him in a minute of silence.

The speaker for the afternoon meeting was Mrs Lynn Bowser and her subject, "Red Kites". Red kites are beautiful birds of prey, with a wingspan of up to 1.7 metres, a striking chestnut red on the body and white patches under the wing. They were driven to extinction in Scotland 130 years ago. RSPB, in conjunction with Scotlish Natural Heritage and in cooperation with the local landlords, decided to re-introduce them to Scotland, and a few years ago the programme of re-introduction came to Central Scotland. The Argaty estate has been heavily involved since

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the beginning. Argaty estate is the only red kite feeding station in Central Scotland and on the farm there is a purpose built hide, just beside the feeding area, where visitors can watch the red kites in comfort and also know that they are not disturbing the birds. Red kites, despite their size, have a body weight of only two to three pounds; this makes them natural fliers and their aerial acrobatics are a delight to see.

Red kites nest in tall trees, but the location of the nests is never made public. That would lead to some undesirable folk trying to steal the eggs. Experts from the RSPB fit wing-tags onto the wings of the fledging birds. These wing-tags do not impede the birds in any way; the birds are still expert fliers, and it lets wildlife rangers know the origin of the birds if they are caught. One young bird wing-tagged at Argaty has turned up in Portugal. Arthur Wallace gave the vote of thanks, putting into words the appreciation of the club for a most informative talk.

The meeting on 16 April was aptly called "The Last Picture Show" and it was about the history of the ABC cinema in Kirkcaldy, which closed its doors on 3 December 2000, bringing to an end the era of the local cinema in Kirkcaldy. The building had opened in November 1904 as a theatre, originally called the Kings, which catered for the music hall shows and other entertainment popular at the time. The speaker was John Murray, and after introducing his subject he showed a short film about the ABC cinema. When it was a theatre the dressing rooms were in the basement and were actually below sea level. Quite a few celebrities had appeared at the cinema. Kelvin Rae gave the vote of thanks, expressing the gratitude of the club for a nostalgic trip down memory lane.

The Annual General Meeting followed on directly after the talk. Alex Johnston is the President of the Club for the year 2008 to 2009.



Lomond Antiques and Collectors Club



At their April meeting, members welcomed talented Scone artist, Sarah Honeyman, who has turned her skills to the art of stained glass. She was inundated with questions from her audience and defily explained the three different methods she uses in her craft. Sarah had brought along examples of her work in addition to stunning photos in her portfolio of some of her commissions, which range from windows in Scotland to pieces in Russia. On 1st June, members will visit Broomhall, the home of the Earl of Elgin.

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Kinross Boys & Girls Brigade

Success continues within the Company over the past month. George Dick's Junior Section team won the Battalion Bible Quiz competition whilst a joint Junior & Company section team

won the Multi-Activity Competition Trophy. The Company Section also won the Battalion Drill Medal for the 25th time over the past 68 years. The General Ralston medal is a wonderful silver example of 19th Century craftsmanship and was first presented in 1891. Although failing to win the Battalion PE competition by one point, the Company finished runners up to win the 2nd place silver cup. Three teams from Kinross took part in the popular Midnight Hike Competition which saw them experience the delights of the Kinnoull Hill area of Perth, facing a number of planned challenges along the way. This competition was won by the Bankfoot Company, led by ex-Kinross Company Captain Ally Melville.

Congratulations to the Kinross BB side who won the Perth & District Recreational Volleyball League this season – well done lads.

Junior Section members are preparing for their annual week end camp which will take place over the May holiday week end at Belmont, Meigle.

Preparations are well underway for the Company Section's special two-week summer camp at Toronto, Canada, flying out from Glasgow on 29 June. As well as sightseeing in and around Toronto, the Company will also take in the Niagara Falls experience on American Independence Day.

Marquee Hire: The marquee hire season starts in May and the Company has a number of bookings already in the diary between May and September. The Company hires out its two forty foot by twenty foot marquees at a cost of £170 per occasion, with Company members erecting and dismantling the large tents. This is the Company's main fundraiser over the summer and helps support the wide range of activities over the winter months.

125th Anniversary: The Brigade celebrates 125 years of service within Scotland and both the Kinross Company and the BB nationally have organised a number of opportunities for former members to get together and celebrate this milestone of achievement.

Perth Battalion is holding a special weekend at Scone Palace at the end of August. The event will take place over 30 and 31 August with Company Section members being permitted to camp in the Palace grounds with day activities for boys and girls in both Anchor and Junior Sections.

Perth Battalion is holding a special Church Parade on the afternoon of Sunday 2 November at the North Church, Perth. As Battalion drill medal winners, members of the Kinross Company will make up the Colour Party for this special occasion. Due to the Battalion holding this event on 2 November, the Kinross Company's celebratory supper dance at the Windlestrae Hotel has changed from Saturday 1st November to 15 November.

Annual Display and Presentation of Awards: The Kinross Company's Annual Display and Presentation of Awards will take place in Kinross Church Centre commencing at 7pm on Friday 16 May. The inspecting officer will be ex-Kinross boy Mr Robert Boyter, who is currently employed full time by the Brigade working with Edinburgh Battalion as a development officer. All parents and friends are welcome to attend this special occasion.

Milnathort Primary School Parent Council

Summary of minutes of meeting held on 17 March at Milnathort Primary School.

Present: Chair, Bridget Barker; Vice Chair, Walter Cambers; Council Members: Janette Walker, Ann Malcolm, Lynne Dunn, Dave Cochrane, Michael Longstaffe and Gill Freeman; Headt eacher, Alyson Howe; Clerk, Sheila Herron. **Apologies:** Robin Millar, Mark Koziel.

Introduction to Community Organisations/Responses: Letters were sent out to local appropriate individuals/ organisations to advise who we are and what we do. Several responses had been received. It was agreed that confirmed minutes of meeting would be circulated to other Parent Councils within the cluster area. DC volunteered to attend (if invited) other Parent Council meetings starting after the Summer holidays.

MSA/MPSPC Joint Leaflet/Questionnaire: Parent Information and Questionnaire leaflet is now ready for distribution to parents/carers. The questionnaire is designed to help the parental involvement/working in partnership relationship develop. The working party will collate information and report back to the May meeting.

Parental Involvement Grant: An application for £1000 had been submitted to P&KC; we are still awaiting a response. AM had liaised with pupils, the school, Let's Play and the Gardening Club before submitting the application. Currently awaiting a response from P&KC.

Budget Allocation 2007-2008: It was noted by the meeting that we had been allocated £188 for administration costs and £156 for Clerk fees.

Milnathort CC Meeting (13.3.08) Feedback on Road Safety: A general walk around the village had been attended by P&KC representatives and MCC members. RM attended this meeting on behalf of the Parent Council. Quite a few items were being reviewed and some would be subject to survey. Generally quite a frustrating time for all.

Parent Council Chair Meeting: BB attended the meeting in Perth on 6.2.08. Notes and minutes of the meeting were held in on file. These would be held twice yearly.

Parent Council Focus Group: It was decided not to submit nominations for this group.

Scottish Parent Councils Association: We are now subscribed to this organisation. Correspondence to be downloaded direct to individual pcs.

Meetings for 2008: 12 May and 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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Kinross & Ochil Walking Group

(affiliated to The Ramblers' Association, Scotland)

Do you think of Ramblers as ancient, earnest and bobble-hatted? Well, think again! We have a wide age range amongst our members, we're friendly and fun and not a bobble-hat in sight. We provide a varied programme of walks on a fortnightly basis throughout the year, usually alternating between Saturdays and Sundays. This season we are also offering a series of gentle midweek walks.

Come along and try out a few of our walks before deciding for yourselfifyou'd like to join us.

Here's what's coming up:

Saturday 3 May: Ceres to Scotstarvit – 6 miles. Excellent views from an 18th century ridge road. Pass Hill of Tarvit House and an old tower house. An easy, relatively undemanding walk.

Wednesday 7 May: Loch Leven Heritage trail – 5 miles. From Ramblers' Association Scotland headquarters in Milnathort to Kirkgate Park and back. Children and dogs are welcome.

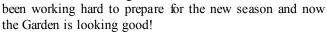
Sunday 18 May: Birnam Wood -5 miles. A short hill walk with good paths and views, involves a fairly strenuous ascent and descent.

Saturday 31 May: Gleneagles – 7 miles. Outward along old drove road beside a burn. Returning by a rough and tussocky hill route. Super views in fine weather.

For further information, including where to meet, contact Jacqui Ritchie on 01592 840451.

Kinross Potager Garden

With this fine weather, we would like to invite you to come and relax in the Garden and listen to the beautiful bird song. Our volunteers have



The Primary 5 children from Kinross Primary School have been sowing seeds, potting on, splitting plants and taking cuttings. They are getting ready for a **PLANT SALE on Saturday 31 May, 10am -12noon**. Please put this date in your diary and come along and support them to help raise much needed funds for the Garden. There will be a range of vegetables, flowers, herbs and fruit bushes for sale.

The Scottish Community Foundation – Kinross-shire Fund have very generously provided £465.00 to do much needed repairs. Fishtail Garden & Timber Services will be renewing the roof, balcony and runners on the cold frames – I do hope they provide another 12 years of faith ful use!

Our grateful thanks go to Pauline Watson for developing our website, please check it out — www.kinross.cc/potager.

Otherwise, contact Michelle Hardaker. Tel: 01577 862622

email: dhardaker@tiscali.co.uk



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The Kinross-shire Civic Trust Annual General Meeting



The Kinross-shire and Glenfarg Civic Trust will be holding its Annual General Meeting on **Wednesday** 7 **May** in the Windlestrae Hotel at 7.30 pm. The meeting will be followed by a talk by Terry Levinthal, the Director of the Scottish Civic Trust, to which the Kinross-shire Civic Trust is affiliated, and will be concluded by tea/coffee and

The title of Mr Levinthal's talk is "Modernising Heritage – Challenges and Opportunities for the Future". This will be an excellent evening and members and non-members are invited to attend and hear what the Trust is about

The Trust's provisional programme for the coming year is as follows:

Annual General Meeting: Wednesday 7 May, Windlestrae Hotel at 7.30 pm, followed by a talk by Terry Levinthal, Director Scottish Civic Trust

Mid-summer Walk: Sunday 29 June, a walk by Dr David Munro around Kinross – come and learn about the old County Town. *Please note that this a changed date from the previous Newsletter*.

Best Kept Village and Best Kept Hamlet Competition: August.

Kinross Show: Saturday 9 August: the Trust will be at the Show again this year.

The Kinross-shire Civic Trust Shield 2008: the competition to be held in July.

A visit to Arndean, courtesy of Sir Robert Stewart in September: date to be confirmed later.

Annual Trust Dinner and talk: October, date, venue and speaker to be announced.

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

If you are interested and care about Kinross-shire, please come along to any of our events. We would be very pleased to see you. The Trust is always looking for people to help in running the Trust. We particularly need someone with computer literacy skills. If you feel you can help in any way, we would be very pleased to hear from you.

Contact: Alistair Smith, Chairman 01592 840215

Kinross & District Town Twinning Association

A Pot Luck Supper was held at the home of Helen Coldwell and was enjoyed by all who attended this popular annual fund raising event.

The next Twinning event will be a **Spring Fayre** and Coffee Morning at Chris Renton's Smiddy House on lower High Street on **Saturday 31 May** from 10 am till 1pm with Bottle Stall, Books, Plants, Baking, and Bric a Brac.

The annual school exchange (Kinross to Gacé) will take place from 20 to 28 May, with 35 S3 pupils and four staff travelling to Gacé by coach and ferry. French pupils will visit Kinross during the last week of September.

Sports News



Green Hotel Ice Rink End of Season Events

Rookie Girls give Kinross Men a run for their money at Closing Bonspiel

There was very nearly a surprise upset to the dominance of Kinross Curling Club at the Green Hotel's Closing Bonspiel on Saturday 5 April. The event was played over four sessions throughout the day. Each team played one other team, with the bonspiel winner being the team with the most points scored. In all, 28 teams took part and, after three sessions, relative newcomers Time Out were out in front after gaining 15 points against Fossoway Ladies. There was unusually strong support for Aberdour in the ice rink bar during the evening session, but Aberdour's opponents, Kinross Curling Club, dashed the Time Out girls' hopes by scoring 16 points.

Prize Giving

At a brief end-of-season prize-giving ceremony, there was warm applause when Bruce Robbie, general manager of the Montgomery Hotel group, thanked Steven Kerr, ice rink manager, for again creating excellent ice this season. Steven then announced results while Bruce awarded the trophies and prizes.

The Beginners' League was won by Kinross Curling Club, with John Stewart accepting the trophy on their behalf Next season the Beginners' League will be replaced by an Under 40s League.

The Green Hotel League Division 2 was topped by Orwell Curling Club, who will therefore move up to Division 1 next season. David Cottingham accepted the trophy for Orwell



The Time Out rink, runners-up in the Closing Bonspiel, relaxing in the ice rink bar. I to r: E Thomas, S C ameron, S Scougal, A Wilcox

The Green Hotel League Division 1 was won by Kinross Curling Club, with Davie Clydesdale accepting the trophy. Closing Bonspiel: Bruce Robbie presented the Time Out rink of Angela Wilcox (skip), Sue Scougal, Sue Cameron and Eileen Thomas with the runners-up prize of bottles of wine. He then presented bottles of whisky to the winning rink of Davie Clydesdale (skip), Alastair Wood, Jim Taylor and Dougie Rodger of Kinross Curling Club.

The final event before the closure of the ice rink for the summer was the fourth annual **Turkey Shoot**, a very jolly and sociable event which raised £950 for curling school activities.

Kinross Curling Club

Annual General Meeting: A well-attended AGM was held in the Green Hotel on 7 April. The following office-bearers and committee were elected for the coming year:



President: David Beveridge; Vice President: Alistair Wood; Secretary: Blair Melville; Treasurer: Stuart Skinner; Match Secretary: Ross McCleary; Committee: Gavin Baird, Iain Cormack, Gordon Douglas, Simon Dunn, Douglas Rodger, Lee McCleary, David Clydesdale; Pond Master: Gordon Douglas; Assistant Pond Master: Jim Paterson.

The Club has had an exceptional year, winning the Province Bonspiel, Blairhill, Lomond League, (11 years in the last 13), Green Hotel League Division 1, Williamson Trophy (Beginners League), Ice Rink Closing Bonspiel, Wilson Trophy, Gallowhill Cup vs Orwell and the Burt Graham Cup vs Dunfermline.

The Club prize-winners are as follows:

Rankine Cup: A Nelson, G Baird, A Bogie, J Stewart. Mackintosh Trophy: L McCleary, I Johnston,

S McLachlan, S Kinninmonth. **Hogg Trophy**: D Beveridge, P Baughan, G Hutcheson, I Muirhead.

Beveridge Bowl: L McCleary. **Silver Medal**: R McCleary. **Bronze Medal**: S McLachlan. **Fife Quaich**: S McLachlan.

Jubilee Salver: S McLachlan, A Bogie, G Douglas, A Davidson, A Smith. **Gallowhill Ploughshare**:

I Johnston, G Baird, A Nelson, D Clydesdale.

Gartwhinzean Cup: I Cormack, A Bogie.

Skinner Rosebowl: L McCleary, R Mitchell. Poole

Trophy: D Clydesdale, I Cormack, S Wallace, R Mitchell.

Montgomery Trophy: L McCleary, S Skinner, S McLachlan, R Mitchell. Fulton Quaich: S Dunn, D Rodger, H Cowbrough, J Stewart, S Wilcox.

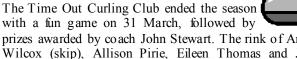
Tams Tankard: John Garden. **Roxburgh Cup**: Town (33:29) L McCleary, D Rodger, B Melville, J Stewart. A number of events are planned over the summer including golf matches against Orwell and Dunfermline, Club golf outing and Karting at Raceland Tranent. Reports will follow over the summer months.

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

Carnbo Bowling Club

The Club welcomed in the new season with the bowling green opening on 26 April. The Club meets every Monday and Thursday evening at 7pm and everyone is welcome. We are a friendly club where the fun of the game is what matters most. And what better a location than at Carnbo, set beneath the green, rolling backdrop of the Ochils. New members are actively sought at all levels. Even if you've never played before and would just like to give it a try, come along and join in. Who knows – you might have a hidden talent there! All you need to bring is a pair of flat-soled shoes or trainers. Just come along to the green at Carnbo any Club Night for 7pm or, if you would like further inform ation, phone Willie Shand on 01577 840 238.

Time Out Curling



prizes awarded by coach John Stewart. The rink of Angela Wilcox (skip), Allison Pirie, Eileen Thomas and Jayne Ramsay won the Autumn trophy. The rink of Eileen Thomas (skip), Angela Wilcox, Sue Cameron and Jayne Ramsay won the Spring trophy. The Most Improved Player trophy was awarded to Maggie Saunderson and the Shot of the Season trophy was won by Angela Wilcox.

Newcomers wanted

Time Out is an informal club, playing for fun and to improve knowledge of the game. Several players have gone on to join "proper" clubs as well. The group has spaces for new members next season. Time Out would suit people who have had some instruction on technique, perhaps through attendance at the Curling School's Beginners' Course, but would like to gain confidence and a thorough grasp of the sport's rules and tactics. However, complete beginners are also welcome. The group plays on a Monday morning from 10am to noon. If you are interested or would like more information, please call Angela on 01577 862976.

Milnathort Golf Club

Milnathort Golf Club held the opening match of the season on Saturday 29 March.

After the Club Captain (Sandy Braid), Lady Captain (Evelyn Jackson) and Junior Vice Captain (Callum Graham) drove off, 54 members played a Texas Scramble with a Shotgun Start. The Captain's team narrowly beat the Vice Captain.

All in all a very successful day despite the weather in the latter part of the afternoon.

There are still some vacancies left for the Club's Open championships:

Ladies 2 Ball Sunday 4 May

Gents Open Sat & Sunday 31 May & 1 June

Mixed Foursomes Sun 29 June Ladies Senior Open Wed 30 July Junior Open Fri 8 August Ladies Open Sat 30 August Gents Senior open Tues 2 September.

Entries can be made via the club 001577 864069.

There are also vacancies for Membership contact the club in person or on the above number.

The Club is preparing for its centenary in 2010 and if any one has any old photographs, newspaper cuttings or artefacts that they are prepared to loan could they also contact the club.

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Kinross Mini Curlers Thursday After School Club

We completed a very successful season on 13 March with a special celebration to mark 15 years of our club curling at the Green Hotel ice rink.

Ice rink manager Steven Kerr cut the anniversary cake, which was enjoyed by all. Anne Porter introduced May Paterson, Anne Jack and Dorothy Dalton who have now retired, but were a great help to her through the years.

Steven then presented the medals to the winning rink: skips Christy McGregor, Will Broome, 3rd Amy Niven, 2nd Finlay Campbell, lead Alison Wood.

All the other children received commemorative medals.

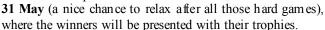
During the season we had home and away games with Stirling Young Curlers. This is always a high point as the children do enjoy the fun and competitive side of these games. Results were honours even. I am always very proud of the manner in which these youngsters conduct themselves.

On 15 March we were invited to send a rink of under 12 year olds to Stirling to play in a national competition teams from all over Scotland take part. Kinross rink of Kathryn Spain, Will Broome, Amy Niven and James Hay came home with medals for winning the points competition part of the programme. Well done to them.

Anne Porter (organiser)

Kinross Badminton Club

With the Club's tournament now over, all the members are now looking forward to a rest and a knees up at the Club's barbecue on



Winners Runners-up **Gents Singles** Patrick McHugh Ian Coulter Ladies Singles Nicola McGuigan Christine Sorbie Patrick McHugh & **Gents Doubles** Bill Macdonald & Sam Hutchison Steve Thomson Ladies Doubles Alison Walker & Grace MaCrae & June Burkinshaw Nicola McGuigan Mixed Doubles Grace MaCrae & June Burkinshaw &

Patrick McHugh Sam Hutchison

Congratulations to all the winners and runners up, also well done to all the members who participated – you certainly made the winners work hard for their prizes (your chance to win some trophies later this season). Anybody thinking about giving badminton a try don't be shy, come on down and give it a go. Contact Bill Macdonald 01577 862592 or Mark Moran 01577 842239 for details.

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Call Elaine on 01577 840043

Kinross Volleyball Club

Congratulations to the Kinross Scot Range team (Ger Kirk, Craig Donaldson, Willie Donaldson, Dougie Young, Roy Munro & David Munro) who have finished the season as Premier League Champions in the Perth & District Volleyball League. The team has had a remarkable season, losing only one game all season to lift the League Championship for only the second time in the last 25 years. The Scot Range team will be aiming for the double when they compete for the League Cup on Sunday 27 April at Bell's Sports Centre.



The Kinross Scot Range team - Premier League Champions

The four Kinross Recrational League teams have also had a successful season blooding a number of youngsters. The Recreational League Championship was only decided on the last set of fixtures on Sunday 20 April with Kinross BB and Dun fermline Phoenix battling it out in a head to head clash. The BB side narrowly pipped their Fi fe rivals by 2 sets to 1 to secure the Recreational League Championship.

The Club Annual General Meeting is to be held on the evening of Monday 5 May to reflect on the season past and plan for next season.

The club is also preparing its teams for the Scottish Open Volleyball Tournament which will be held on the North Inch of Perth over the weekend of 24 and 25 May with teams already entered from USA, Russia, Belgium and Austria as well as from England.

Outdoor games at King George V Park, Kinross will commence on **Monday 2 June** from 7pm until 9pm (weather permitting) with new members welcome to attend these free weekly sessions. This season it is planned to have two outdoor courts in operation to cater for all eventualities. Sixteen club members are also booked to travel again to the popular De Haan Volleyball Tournament in Belgium over the weekend of 9 and 10 August with the majority travelling by the Rosyth-Zeebrugge ferry.

J. MILLER

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Kinross Squash Club

As you read this the last squash leagues are being played out for the season. However, summer squash does continue, albeit with a



slightly reduce number of players. Put your name down on the squash notice board at the leisure centre if you want to keep your eye on the ball and stay trim this summer.

The full "winter" leagues will resume end Sept – early October.

The winners of the March league were:

Prem league	Archie Melville
League 1	Calum Johnston
League 2	John Carr
League 3	Barry Davis
League 4	John Colebourn
League 5	Gary Marshall

Orwell Bowling Club

A sunny day dawned for Orwell's Opening of The Green game: President vs Vice-President. Despite a cold easterly wind, four rinks of triples took to the immaculate green, the President's team winning by five shots. The post-game steaming home-made soup, sandwiches and tea were most welcome, and a social evening rounded off an enjoyable day with dancing to the Two Robins.

On **Sunday 18 May** a charity game will be played in aid of the Blind Bowlers Association. Guest bowlers wishing to play may be signed in for £1; come along and help this very worthy cause.

Remember that we have two coaches who offer their services free of charge; shoes and bowls may be borrowed by anyone who would like to try their hand - no age limits - "Bowling is a young person's game which older folk can play" - you will be made most welcome.

Results of games played in May will be published in the June Newsletter.

SHOTOKAN KARATE – MILNATHORT TOWN HALL

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Red belts & above all ages - 8:00 - 9:00pm

Sunday - Class times subject to change

- please contact instructor

Beginners welcome

Instructor: MURRAY MIT CHELL
Tel: 07872 318186 - or

murray.mitchell@btinternet.com.

WWW.JKSSCOTLAND.COM

Images of Kinross-shire

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

Photo Library

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

Kinross Road Runners

Saturday 17 May 2008 is looming! Entries are flooding in! The 25th Loch Leven Half marathon is set to be a cracking event! Don't

miss out on the big day! Get yourself an entry form from the Kinross Road Runners notice board in the leisure centre or go on line at www.kinrossroadrunners.co.uk.

Judith Dobson's first race back in 1985 was in fact our own Loch Leven Half Marathon. She decided to run it because she lived locally. The race then was held in September and she thought it looked scenic and that it would provide a challenge so decided to give it a go. An experienced runner started to talk to her early in the race and accompanied her to the finish in 2hrs 2mins. (Judith's PB now stands at 1hr 34mins in 2006.) She was pleasantly surprised to find how friendly the runners were and how much encouragement and support they gave. Judith continued to run and eventually joined Kinross Road Runners and now enjoys helping organise the race. The route still is scenic and this factor is one of the reasons that draws runners year after year to the event. The half marathon distance still provides a challenge, especially the hill between Scotlandwell and Kinnesswood.

Now is your chance to participate in your local running race....who knows where it will lead but initially I hope it just gives you great satisfaction in the achievement of running round our own Loch Leven.

Well done to the magnificent seven who completed the London Marathon. Special mention must go to Bill Nouillan who has not enjoyed the best health over the winter. Bill managed a very respectable time despite requiring first aid treatment following a fall part way around the course. Mention must also be given to Trish Milne who ran a stunning race to finish 22nd in her age category. In the Alloa Half marathon Judith Dobson is back in full training enabling her to achieve 2nd place in her new age category. Steve Little put in a superb performance at the same event to achieve a very impressive personal best for the distance. Andy Johns could not come any closer to getting under the elite time of 1hr 30min but is determined to break this barrier this year so watch this space.

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Kinross-shire Visitor Information Points

Loch Leven Fishing Pier; Robertson's of Milnathort; Kinnesswood Village Store; Fossoway Stores, Crook of Devon

Edinburgh Half <i>Position</i>	Marathon 1 Name	6	March 2008 Time
58th	Chris Pratt		1.21.55pb
260th	Patricia Milne		1.33.52pb
554th	Douglas Leitch		1.40.24
1142th	Isabella Carmichae	el	1.51.09
	Geoff Bilton		1.56.00
1789th	Gillian Black		2.02.26
Alloa Half Mara Position	nthon 2 Name	23	March 2008 Time
	A. J. T.L.		1 20 00
	Andy Johns Kate Ives		1.30.00 1.33.53
	Judith Dobson		1.35.38
	Steve Little		1.35.38 1.35.32pb
	Brian Cook		2.23.53
	Difail Cook		2.23.33
Heaven & Hell (Perth) ½ Maratho	n	6 April 2008
Position	Name		Time
19th	Alistair Black		1:34:39
40th	Judith Dobson		1:42:04
London Marath	on 1	3	April 2008
	Name		Time
	Patricia Milne		3.21.18
	Chris Pratt		3.25.26
	Ewen Davis		3.33.17
	Ross McConnell		4.05.29
	Isabella Carmichae	el	4.09.30
	Bill Nouillan		4.54.19
	Ralph Sutherland		5.14.28

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Kinross Cricket Club

Girls and Ladies News

The outdoor season for the Kinross Cricket
Club Ladies section started this week on a
VERY cold and windy evening. Twenty two



girls and women turned up to coaching and were delighted to find out that the Lord's Taverners had awarded the squad a grant of a new Ladies Taverners kit bag filled with lots of lovely new coaching and match equipment all edged with pink!

The Lord's Taverners are a Charity, founded in and based upon cricket that awards equipment and funds to cricket projects for people playing the game at grass roots level in schools and clubs.

ever partnership for Kinross and "steadied the ship". As the weather improved, the wicket became more predictable and both batsmen started to build a solid platform. After the 20 overs drinks break, both players accelerated and started to realise a big score was on the cards. By the 34th over, James Ross reached the 100 run mark with Peter joining him with a century in the 38th over. They batted through to the end finishing with James on 114 not out and Peter on 103 not out. Their partnership of 226 is a new Kinross Cricket Club record. The 1st XI's innings closed on 252 for 3. After and excellent tea, the 2nd XI came out to bat but found the wicket would not offer up the runs the Ross brothers had found and they ultimately were all out for 58. Newcomer, Stuart Brand, top scored with 21 and bowling honours went to the 1st XI player, Scott Weir taking 5 for 11.



Kinross Cricket Club Ladies Section

Kinross Ladies Section was started last April and already has 31 players aged 12 to 50 who have all just started playing the sport. There is a full season of matches against various other clubs, universities and colleges for the girls to look forward to. Training is every Thursday at Kinross House starting at 6.30pm.

Several of the under-16 girls have already found success with 4 of the youngsters being selected for the Central Girls Cricket Development Squad. The club under-16 team took part in an indoor 6s tournament at Peebles on Sunday competing against teams from all over Scotland. The girls performed well improving their game with every match and gained 5th place overall. West Area suffered from half of their players calling off at the last minute and Kinross stepped in to supply the other half of the team to enable them to take part and the combined Kinross/West Area team went on to win the tournament. Kinross player, Nicole Jackson was named bowler and fielder of the tournament taking three excellent wickets and getting the most amazing run-out. In addition to Nicole, pick of the Kinross bowlers were Amanda Scott and Lotta Robertson, both taking 2 wickets apiece.

1st and 2nd XI

The first League match of the season saw the Kinross 1st XI play the 2nd XI at Kinross House. 1st XI won the toss and chose to bat on a slow low-bounce wicket. Initially, this plan looked to be going wrong as three wickets fell in the first seven overs for only 26 runs. At this point, brothers James and Peter Ross came together in only their second

Coaches Gain New Qualifications

Ladies and kwik cricket coach, Kirsteen Ross, Under-15 coaches, Ant Drew and Ken Reilly have all passed the UKCC2 cricket coaching course. The following coaches have all attained UKCC 1 Cricket Coaching qualifications; Anita Collins, Debbie Weir, Grahame Clarke, James Ross and Drew Weir.

Club News

Sir David Montgomery Bt, CVO has very generously donated a clock for the club pavilion. This was unveiled to the membership at the start of the season on 14 April and has been much admired. The club scorers have found it to be a real benefit and some have commented that they are pleased that the face of the clock is so large and clear to see!

Forthcoming Home Fixtures (weather dependent) Spectators Welcome

May

Thu	1	Broomhall (H) 6pm	U13
Sat	3	St Andrew's Uni Women 1pm	Ladies
Sun	4	Cupar (H) 1 pm	1st XI
Sun	11	Falkland (H)1pm	2nd XI
Wed	14	Largo (H) 6pm	U11
Thu	15	Strathearn (H)6pm	U13
Sat	17	Edinburgh Uni Women's Team (H)1 pm	Ladies
Tue	20	Dun fermline Carnegie (H) 6pm	1st/2nd
Wed	21	Stirling (H)6pm	U15
Sun	25	Glendelvine (H)1 pm	2nd XI
Wed	28	Freuchie (H) 6pm	U11
Thu	29	Cupar (H)6pm	U13
Sat	31	Arbroath United CC (H) 1pm	Ladies

News from the Rurals



BLAIRINGONE - President Mary Ramsay welcomed Mrs Betty Ivy, speaker for our April meeting. Betty gave a wonderful slide show of rock plants growing wild in their natural surroundings, which she had photographed while travelling in five different countries.

Mrs Maureen Scullion gave a vote of thanks, saying how much we had all enjoyed the evening.

Competitions:

Fruit Loaf - Agnes Murray
Pot Plant - Agnes Murray
Flower of the Month - Fiona Clark

CROOK OF DEVON - Mrs Margaret Arbuckle welcomed friends and members to our annual coffee evening. The Devonaires entertained a packed hall singing songs from musicals interspersed with poems and stories. A really enjoyable evening Mrs Isobel Mechan gave the vote of thanks. Coffee, tea and cakes were then served by the members.

POWMILL - President Mrs Ruth Briscoe welcomed members and visitors to the meeting on 19 March in Mowbray Hall, Powmill and introduced Paul and Caroline Boyce who gave an illustrated talk entitled "Impressions of Antarctica". Paul and Caroline told us of their adventure holiday from Land of Fire to Land of Ice which took us on a wonderful journey from Tierra del Fuego to Antarctica which included visits to the Falkland Islands and South Georgia Island to name but a few, with superb slides of scenery, birds, seals and of course penguins.

Vice President Mrs M Thorn gave a very well deserved vote of thanks and supper was served.

Competitions:

4 pieces of tablet - Mrs C Fleming Favourite salt & pepper set - Mrs E Johnston Garden gem - Mrs E Johnston

President Mrs Ruth Briscoe welcomed members to the meeting on 16 April in Mowbray Hall, Powmill. After business was dealt with Mrs Briscoe introduced Muckhart WRI who gave us an excellent evening of entertainment which included readings, a decoupage demonstration and a quiz which had us all racking our brains. The evening was rounded off with Muckhart's prizewinning sketch of "The Broon Family's Fashion Show" which featured Maw, Paw, Daphne, Maggie and of course the Bairn modelling their favourite out fits with very amusing descriptions being given. It was very finny and we all enjoyed a good laugh. Vice President Mrs M Thorn gave the vote of thanks for a very enjoyable evening and a tasty supper was served by Mrs C Fleming and Mrs B Bruce.

Fruit loaf - Mrs E Johnston Candle and holder - Mrs R Briscoe Garden gem - Mrs J Buchanan **BISHOPSHIRE** - Bishopshire WRI held a very success ful Quiz Night, with guests from other Institutes and the local community. Raymond Sutherland was Quizmaster, and made the evening a fun one. The winners, by a very small margin, were The Wellside Wonders, and the wooden spoons went to the Jammy Dodgers. Participants then enjoyed a grand supper, courtesy of Bishopshire members. Competitions:

Conish pasty - A Rodger Pot plant - W Barclay

CARNBO - An excellent evening of music and laughter was presided over by President Rosemary Hudson when Mr Harry Brodie demonstrated his collection of musical boxes, jugs and mugs.

Competitions:

Flower of the Month - Miss Elma Forrester Photo of Single Flower - Miss Grace Paterson

MILNATHORT - Our guest speaker at the March meeting came from headquarters. Marion Davidson holds office as Junior Vice Chairman, International Convener and is also Federation Chairman of Lanarkshire. Marion expanded on the workings of HQ and on the international visits abroad and visitors SWRI have entertained here. The vote of thanks was given by Jessica Munro.

Competitions:

Something new from old - Ena Thomson
Plain Victoria Sponge - Ena Thomson
Flower of the month - Ena Thomson

Our ladies were entertained by visiting rural Methven who put on an excellent programme. This included singing, poetry, quizzes and a debut of their play. Everyone enjoyed the evening.

Competitions:

Highlander Shortbread - E Thomson Flower of the month - G Drysdale

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Out & About



Vane Farm

Hiya peops, spring has sprung, then kinda unsprung, but hopefully by the time you read this it will be fully sprung? The mixed



weather has been a wee bit confusin fur the burdies with them startin tae build nests then stoppin then startin again. So it looks like the late start has pushed things breeding wise back a bitty. Sure it will be in full swing by the time this goes to print tho.

Spring migrants have been passin through wi greenshank, black tailed godwit, sand martins and reports of some early swallows. Ospreys are also back so look oot fur them ower the loch. We also heard Chiffch aff singin oot the back o the centre in early April.

A rare Little Ringed Plover appeared on the flood for a few days which brought the twitchy types in as well as the normal birdwatchers. Been a lot o geese around on the reserve lately as well, congregatin before flyin back tae Iceland.

Most of the landwork on the wetland has been finished for now, as the breedin season looms we stop doin stuff so we dinny cause disturbance. As always wi these things we aye hae something tae scrape or shift about or chap doon so it will continue later in the year.

Donna has startit roond at the Boathouse Bistro showin people the lochs wildlife although visitor numbers have not reached big numbers as yet probably due tae the weather..... but summer is on the way.

Remember if you are walkin at Kirkgate or in the pier area please gan in hiv a chat and watch the avian antics on the big screen. Better still if you are lookin fur a guid way tae spend a few oors why no volunteer sum time tae help young Donna at the bistro speakin tae folk and generally helping oot. We can gie ye a bit o trainin if yer no very shair whits required. So if ye fancy a bit o volunteerin gie us a call or speak tae Donna when ye visit.

Raymond oor new shop and cafe supremo, or "Raymeister" as I cry him, has been clartin around wi the place as ye wid expect - new brooms n stufflike that. He is very green (and sometimes a bit cabbage lookin efter a few pints); anyway he has got a lot o eco products in a nice new display for you to peruse oan yer next visit so ye can dae yer bit tae help save the planet.

The next event comin up is " **Dip and Discover**" on **Saturday 17 May** which is ever popular wi folks who like tae howk aboot in oor ponds wi nets n see whit they can fish oot. It will be held in twa sessions durin the day, adults only fae 11am – 1pm and families fae 2 - 4pm. **Advance bookin required**, if ye want tae reserve yersel a place or three phone Vane on the usual number 01577 862355 or ask in the centre.

Ta ta till the next time,

Colin

See over the page for a timetable of buses to Vane Farm. Please note that these buses only operate on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Loch Leven NNR

With the clocks going forward, the National Nature Reserve has started to see considerably more people visiting after work. Last month a volunteers group with Scottish Natural Heritage took a massive step toward cleaning the reserve up for the summer, with 27 bags of rubbish being collected by ten people. Parts of the loch are now looking considerably cleaner, but if you notice areas that still need attention, please help us to keep the reserve clean by picking some up.

Our volunteers are building up to a busy summer of work, with projects including the Water Vole monitoring, the Dragon fly Atlas Project, Raff building for grebes and pond clearance among the activities planned. We would welcome new volunteers, so if you are interested in helping out around the reserve, contact the office on 01577 864439.

You may have noticed damage to the path near Mary's Gate and Findatie after the high water level recently. Meetings between SNH, Perth and Kinross Council and TRACKS are underway to repair these areas, so we hope to see them fixed as soon as possible.

As you may have heard, there has unfortunately been a very significant oil leak locally which has obviously posed a real danger to the fragile ecology of Loch Leven. Over 25 tonnes of thick oil was discharged into the local sewage system. Scottish Water has managed to contain the leak and will be working hard to clear the sticky oil from within the system. One of the areas where there is a potential for oil to find its way into the loch is along the west shore, north of the Boathouse Hide so floating booms have been installed there as a precaution.

Even a small amount of oil can have a serious impact on wildlife should it find its way into the loch. If birds such as Great-crested Grebe or Tuffed Duck become contaminated with thick sticky oil they will attempt to preen themselves clean and may swallow the toxic oils. You can help us to monitor the situation by keeping a close eye on birds in particular. If you do spot oiled birds that are in need of treatment they should be reported to SSPCA on 03000 999

Lastly some bird news; a Ross's Goose has been spotted recently amongst a group of Pink-footed Geese. Similar to a Snow Goose but smaller, its white plumage is easily picked out in the flock. Any unusual sightings are, as usual, warmly appreciated here at the Pier.

That's all for now folks,

Craig

Small Ways to Save the Planet

Minimise the amount of waste you produce and recycle as much as you can, including paper, glass, cans and plastic. Waste Aware Scotland is on 01786 468 248 or log on to www.wasteawarescotland.org.uk for a wide range of tips on how to reduce, reuse and recycle.

Farming



The Magic Numbers!

I'm afraid I am not talking about the four piece rock band that is so popular with some of my friends! To my knowledge they are not playing at T in the Park this year and have no agricultural roots!

No, I am referring to the number of livestock on a farm. Certainly the days of a small family farm that milked a dozen cows in the byre, cared for a flock of sheep, planted potatoes and turnips, made hay and grew a field of barley are long gone.

Choosing to specialise in one or two enterprises can help to meet the current market demands but in order to stay profitable many farmers are looking after large numbers of livestock, often single-handedly.

Here are some numbers and expectations associated with sheep farming.

The average flock size in Scotland is about 300 – 400 ewes with many flocks of over 1000 a reality. Flock size is dependent upon many factors, the main one being if the farmer actually enjoys looking after sheep! The type of land is significant; sheep can graze steep hills and wet lowlands that neither a cow nor a tractor could move on. The breed of sheep and type of management will influence the size of the flock. An extensive production system will be running Black faces or Cheviots on a heather hill, grazed at one per three or four acres and producing one lamb each per year. These ewes will lamb down outside during May with little intervention from the shepherd. The flock will be gathered in to shear, dip, wean and scan. This type of system might allow one shepherd with a few well trained sheep dogs to be responsible for 1000+ ewes.

A larger more prolific breed of ewe such as a Mule or Suffolk will be used in an intensive production system. Grazed at four or five ewes per acre, these ewes will be capable of producing two lambs each. Carrying and producing enough milk for two lambs is a nutritional nightmare for the ewe and a time consuming job for the shepherd. The job of supplying silage and top up feeding to the flock can be mechanised to allow one person to look after a larger number of ewes. With assistance at lambing time a shepherd may be responsible for 400-600 breeding ewes.

Balancing the labour with the livestock numbers is a management decision that will always be reviewed with the wel fare of the animals in mind. The magic number must produce well cared for animals and a farmer that still has time off, to fit in the odd music festival if it takes his fan cy!

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Weather



March Weather Report From Carnbo

March this year was a rather cold dry month, once again with very little snow, but plenty of frost.

Unfortunately the month had a real sting in the tail; during the Easter week end, the weather became very cold with a very strong North wind, gale force at times, this leading to very low daytime temperatures.

Rainfall for month 87 mm (84% of normal)

Heaviest fall 13.5 mm (7th)
Highest temperature 12°C (20th)
Lowest temperature -3°C (4th)
Average temperature 3.5°C

3 days with maximum above 10°C (low)

Ice days not recorded (max. temperature below 0°C) 8 snow days, 5 days with snow lying, total depth 0.5cm!
Ground Frost 23 nights (lowest temp -6°C)

Air Frost 13 nights Cloud cover 62%

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www.kinrossnewsletter.org

Issues from September 2006 to three months ago available

Out & About 34

Events at Nearby Historic Properties

Alloa Tower Tel: 0844 4932129

Spring Craft Fair on Saturday 3 May, noon-4pm. Adults £3, children £2. Handmade jewellery, glass ware and much more. Lace Making and spinning demonstrations and children's activities.

Kellie Castle and Garden (near Pittenweem, Fife)

Tel: 0844 4932184

Sculpture Workshop: Kenny Munro, a professional artist and sculptor, will work with you to make your own sculpture using clay. Tuesday 13 to Friday 16 May, 10am-4pm, £20 inc light lunch.

Murder Mystery Evening: Wine and finger food will be served. Friday 16 May, 7pm to 9pm, £10.

Hill of Tarvit (near Cupar). Tel: 0844 4932185 **Free Croquet Tuition** every Thursday, 1pm-4pm.

Butterfly and Bumblebee spotting: Thursday 8 May at 2pm. £4 for non-NTS members, £3 NTS members. Book by phone.

Dawn Chorus: Join the head gardener for the sounds and sights of the dawn chorus on Thursday 29 May. £7 per person, inc hot drink and break fast snack. Book by phone.

Events at Dobbies Garden Centre, Kinross

Hanging Basket Week, Monday 5 to Sunday 11 May

Join Dobbies experts for demonstrations on creating eyecatching hanging baskets that will brighten up patios and windows this coming season.

Trail Blazers: Creating Bright, Colourful Hanging Baskets – Saturday 10 May at 11.30am.

Kitchen Garden: Growing Herbs & Vegetables in Hanging Baskets — Saturday 10 and Sunday 11 May at 2pm.

Get Fruity: Growing Fresh Fruits in Hanging Baskets – Sunday 11 May at 3pm.

Lawn Care Week, Monday 19 to Sunday 25 May

Drop into expert demonstrations throughout the week and solve all your lawn care problems including: moss, worm casts, thatch, pale grass, scalped patches and weeds. Plus, get advice on mowing, watering and feeding your lawn throughout the seasons.

Lawn Care Demonstrations – Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 May at 11.30am and 3pm.

For more information please ask in-store or telephone 01577 863327.

Perth Museum & Art Gallery

House to Mouse: This new exhibition charts the development of shops from medieval stalls to glass-fronted supermark ets. The displays are designed to appeal to people of all ages. The exhibition runs until 25 October.

The exhibition on Japanese art of the 19th century, **A Glimpse of the Floating World**, continues until 14 June. The Museum and Art Gallery is in George Street, Perth and is open Monday to Saturday, 10am-5pm. Admission is free.

Small Ways to Save the Planet

Take steps to reduce food waste going to landfill by better planning, preparing and storing food and portioning correctly. For a range of tips see www.wasteawarelovefood.org.uk

Local Attraction Opening Times

Lochleven Castle, Kinross

The castle is on an island in Loch Leven, reached by boat from the fishing pier.



Opening times: 21 March to 30 September, daily. 9.30am to last outward sailing at 4.30pm.

Admission prices (including ferry fare): Adult £4.70, Child £2.35 and Concessions £3.70.

Car parking 90 metres from the ferry departure point. Café and toilets adjacent to the pier. There are benches, lawns and toilets on the island, but access to the castle is not suitable for wheelchairs. Larger groups should contact Historic Scotland's Visitor Services Manager on 01786 431324 or the site manager on the island (mobile 07778 040483) beforehand. In the care of Historic Scotland.

Burleigh Castle, Milnathort

The roofless but otherwise complete ruin of a tower house of about 1500. The grounds are open during daylight hours. The keep can be opened on request. Please follow signs on site for key. In the care of Historic Scotland.

Elcho Castle, near Bridge of Earn

A remarkably complete 16th century fortified mansion with three projecting towers, five miles NE of Bridge of Earn off the A912 and close to Rhynd.

Opening times: 21 March to 30 September, Monday to Sunday, 9.30am to 5.30pm.

Admission prices: Adult £3.20, Child £1.60, Concessions £2.70. The ground floor of the castle is not suitable for wheelchair access. Dogs (with the exception of guide dogs) are not permitted to this property. In the care of Historic Scotland.

St Serf's Church and Dupplin Cross, Dunning

This picturesque parish church houses the 9th century Dupplin Cross, a masterpiece of Pictish stonework. Donations welcome. Open summer only, seven days a week. In the care of Historic Scotland.

Balvaird Castle, near Glenfarg

A late 15th century tower on an L plan. Refined architectural details. View exterior only. Open days for internal viewing are advertised on the Historic Scotland website: www.historic-scotland.gov.uk



Abernethy Round Tower

One of the two free-standing round towers of Irish style surviving in Scotland, dating from the end of the 11th century. Good views of the firth of Tay. Keys available from nearby tea room during the summer between 10am and 5pm, except Mondays. Signs at site for key. In the care of Historic Scotland.

Gardens Open



Gardens open regularly not too	Admis	ssion	Disabled	Contact			
	Opening Arran	gements		Adult	Child	Access	Number
Kinross House gardens	1 Apr - 30 Sept	daily	1000-1900	£3.00	free	yes	01577 862900
Arnot Tower gardens, Leslie	6 May - 28 Oct	Tues only	1000-1700	£3.50			01592 840115
Falkland Palace & garden (NTS)	1 Mar-31 Oct	Mon-Sat	1000-1700	£10.00	£7.00	yes(gdn)	0844 4932186
		Sun	1300-1700				0844 4932186
Hill of Tarvit mansion & gdns, nr Cupar (NTS)	to 31 May	Thu-Mon	1300-1700	£8.00		yes	0844 4932185
Grounds only at Hill of Tarvit	all year	daily	to dusk	£2.00		yes	0844 4932185
Kellie Castle & garden (NTS)	21 Mar - 31 Oct	daily	1300-1700	£8.00	£5.00	partial	0844 4932184
Garden only at Kellie Castle	all year	daily	0930-1730	£3.00		yes	0844 4932184
Culross Palace and gardens (NTS)	until 31 May	Thu-Mon	1200-1700	£8.00	£5.00	no	0844 4932189
Gardens only at Culross Palace	until 31 May	daily	1200-1700	£2.50		diffi cult	0844 4932189
Branklyn Gardens, Dundee Rd, Perth (NTS)	21 Mar - 31 Oct	daily	1000-1700	£5.00		partial	0844 4932193
Glendoick Gardens, Perth, PH2 7NS	7 Apr-6 Jun	Mon-Fri	1000-1600	£4.00	free	partial	01738 860260
	May	Sat&Sun	1400-1700				
Scone Palace grounds only	21 Mar - 31 Oct	daily	0930-1745	£4.50	£3.00	yes	01738 552300
Braco Castle gardens, Braco, FK15 9LA	1 Feb-31 Oct	daily	1000-1700	£3.00	free	partial	01786 880437
Kirklands Garden, Saline, Fife	Apr-Sept	Fri-Sun	1400-1700	£2.50	free	yes	01383 852737
Pittencreiff Park, Dunfermline	all year	daily	dawn-dusk	free	free	yes	01383 726313
Cambo House, Kingsbarns, by St Andrews	all year	daily	1000-1700	£4.00	free	partial	01333 450054

Gardens open by Arrangemen	Admissi	ion Disabled	Contact		
	Opening Arrange	ements	Adult	Child Access	Number
Rossie House, Forgandenny (SGS)	1 Mar-31 Oct	by appt	£4.00	free yes	01738 812265
Barham, Bow of Fife (SGS)	29 Feb-30 Sep	by appt	£3.50	yes	01337 810227
Earlshall Castle, Leuchars (SGS)	on request	by appt	£5.00	free difficult	01334 839205

Notes: Other prices may be available, eg Concessions, Family. NTS = National Trust for Scotland (entry free to members). At some gardens there are plants for sale and refreshments available. Some gardens do not allow dogs.

Scotland's Gardens Scheme

Some of the gardens in the chart above and all of the gardens in the Special Days Open section are members of Scotland's Gardens Scheme. 60% net of each admission charge goes to the SGS charities of the year and 40% to the other charity named.

Special Open Days

The gardens at **Dowhill, near Cleish** are open **every Tuesday and Thursday in May** from 10 am to 4pm. Ponds, mature trees, rhododendrons and woodland walks to the ruins of Dowhill Castle. Small plant stall. Dogs on leads please. Route: ³/₄ mile off M90, jct 5. Admission £4 (40% to WSPA). **Barham, Bow of Fife**, is open on **Sunday 4 May**, noon to 5pm. It is on the A91, 4 miles west of Cupar. Admisson £3.50 (40% to Pain Assoc Scotland). Plant stall; disabled access; co ffee, soup and rolls available. Tel 01337 810227. On **Sundays 4 & 18 May**, 2pm to 5pm, the nursery only at **Glendoick** will be open to visitors, and members of the Cox family will be available to answer questions. Admission tickets £4.00 (school age children free) available from garden. Donation to SGS. Website: www.glendoick.com **The Steading at Yetts O' Muckhart**, a 2½ acre garden

The Steading at Yetts O' Muckhart, a 2½ acre garden which featured on the "Beechgrove Garden" last year, is open on Sunday 11 May, 2pm to 5pm. It has a wide range of seasonal plants and species trees. The Steading is at the Yetts junction A91/A823 on left at 40mph sign. Admission £3, children free. 20% to Crossroads and 20% to Muckhart

Parish Amenity. Plant stall and refreshments.

Gardens at several National Trust properties have a special open day on **Sunday 11 May**, when fees from admissions are shared between the NTS garden fund (40%) and the SGS charities. Check prices with NTS for the open day. There will be guided walks with the head gardener at **Falkland Palace** at 1.30pm and 3.30pm. There will be a composting tour at **Kellie Castle garden**. **Hill of Tarvit** has a plant sale, noon to 5pm (free entry with optional donation to SGS). The head gardener will be on hand at **Branklyn Garden** and there is a medieval health care theme at **Culross**.

Cloan by Auchterarder is open on Sunday 25 May, 1.30pm to 5.30pm. The gardens and policies extend to 7 acres. Route: south out of Auchterarder (Abbey Road) then follow yellow signs. Admission: Adults £4, OAPs £2.50, children under 16 £0.50. Auchterarder Leisure & Recreation Assoc benefits from admission fees. Minimal disabled access. Refreshments available.

The garden at **Gleneagles**, by **Auchterarder** is open on **Sunday 1 June**, 2pm to 5pm. There will be a plant stall, jazz band and refreshments. Route: on A823 Crieff/Dunfermline road just south of A9. Admission £4 (40% to Hope and Homes for Children). No dogs. Partial disabled access. There is an **Exhibition** of welded wildlife animals and birds created from agriculture and machine scrap by sculptor Helen Denerley at this property from **1 June** to **16 June**, 10.30am to 4.30pm. All works are for sale. Telephone 01764 682388.

Congratulations



AILEEN SMITH, formerly Kinross, and JONAS CEDERVALL were married on the Tall Ship in Glasgow on 15 March 2008.

Tom and Joyce Paterson are delighted to announce the birth of their first grandchild, **ZAC THOMAS COOPER**, on 20 March 2008 at the St Heliers Hospital, Carshalton, Surrey. First child of Mark and Kirsty Cooper (née Paterson) of Belmont, Surrey.

Congratulations to **NETTIE** and **SYDNEY BARRETT** of North Harrow, Middlesex on the celebration of their Diamond Wedding Anniversary. Nettie, née Downie, formerly of The Library, Kinross and Sydney, from London, were married in the West Parish Church, Kinross on 8 April 1948. With love from all your family and friends.

DAVID SANDS, managing director of David Sands Ltd, was presented with the Industry Achievement Award at the 2008 Scottish Grocer Awards ceremony in March, in recognition of his achievement in building up the chain to 24 stores and for his dedication to the wider grocery industry. The Kinross-based firm also won the Collaborating for Success Award, Neighbourhood Store of the Year (Cardenden) and Milk Retailer of the Year (Tulloch Sq, Perth).

KINROSS HIGH SCHOOL is one of three Scottish secondary schools to be short listed for a Marketing Excellence Award. Each team had to analyse the marketing skills of a Scottish brand. The overall winner will be announced on 9 May.

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

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Tel: (Muckhart) 01259 781446

Thanks



Local author **COLIN FOREMAN** has published another book in the Seekers and Keepers series. Mr Foreman donates all profits from the series to **CHAS**. The latest instalment is called Rise of the Red Empire.

SAM and KIM WIGHTMAN of Le Jardin cafe have raised over £20,000 for a cancer charity from two fundraising evenings hosted at The Windlestrae Hotel.

KINROSS ROUND TABLE has donated £1,000 to PORTMOAK PRIMARY SCHOOL which has enabled the purchase of adventure playground equipment.

REV DR JOHN MUNRO, Kinross Parish Church

On 30 March 2008 John Munro conducted his final service as Minister of Kinross Parish Church and in appreciation of the congregation and community he was presented with a cheque for £2,250. We record our thanks of all who contributed. In addition, his wife Pat received a bouquet of flowers and they also each received personalised "Teddy Bears" as a reminder from the children for the numerous occasions that "Teddy" featured in the children's address at morning service over the last ten years.

DOG-GONE-WALKIN' Dog Walking and Pet Care by Claire

10 years veterinary nursing experience

References available on request

Care provided for Dogs, Cats & Rabbits

Fully Insured

Claire Murison BSc (Hons) Tel: 01577 830588/ 07983118757 e-mail d-g-w@tiscali.co.uk

The Kinross Community Council Newsletter

is available from:

David Sands High Street, Kinross Newsplus High Street, Kinross **Shoppex tra** High Street, Kinross Costcutter Green Road, Kinross Somerfield Station Road, Kinross Giacopazzi's New Road, Milnathort **Milnathort Post Office** New Road, Milnathort **Stewart & Smart** Stirling Road, Milnathort Main Street, Kinnesswood Buchan's Garage Main Street, Kinnesswood Post Office/Shop

Fossoway Store Crook of Devon

Powmill Store Powmill

Glenfarg Post Office Ladeside, Glenfarg

Kinross-shire Churches Together



Kinross Parish Church Church of Scotland

Station Road, Kinross Interim Moderator: Telephone: (01577) 862570

Rev Joanne Finlay Tele Locum: Rev Ray Gaston

Telephone: (01577) 850231

Reader: Margaret Michie

Telephone: (01592) 840602

Session Clerk: Mrs Linda Williamson,

15 St Mary's Place, Kinross

(01577) 862789

Website: www.kinrossparishchurch.org E-mail: kinpc@tiscali.co.uk

During the current vacancy:

Please direct pastoral enquiries on matters such as illness to Margaret Michie.

May

Sun 4 10.30am Morning Service, followed by informal communion.

Sun 11 10.30am Morning Service

Sun 18 10.30am Morning Service Sun 25 10.30am Morning Service

June

Sun 1 10.30am Communion Service: Junior Church and Jampact direct to church centre.

18.30 Communion Service.

Pram Service: Each Tuesday at 10.00am in the Church.

All under 3s and carers welcome.

Time to Pray: Tuesday 13 and Tuesday 27 May, 7.30 pm in the Church.

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

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

All are welcome to these services.

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

Premises to lease

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

Christian Aid Week 11 -17 May

There will be a door to door collection during the week. Collectors needed: Contact Alisdair Stewart tel.862262

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.

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 Levenglen: first Tuesday 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.

Fusion 6pm Portmoak New Room 4 May Communion at Portmoak

11 May Pentecost Praise United Service,

Orwell Church - 7pm

1 June Communion at Orwell7, 8 June Milnathort Festival

St Paul's Scottish Episcopal Church

Muirs, Kinross, KY 13 8AY

Rev Dr Marion Keston Telephone: (01577) 866834

Website: www.stpauls-kinross.co.uk

May Services

Thu 1 Ascension Day, 10.30am Holy Communion.

Sun 4 Easter 7, 8.30am, Holy Communion.

Sung Eucharist followed by prayers for healing.

Sun 11 Whitsun, 8.30am, Holy Communion.

Sung Eucharist.

Sun 18 Trinity Sunday, 8.30am, Holy Communion.
All Ages Morning worship
(focus Christian Aid).

Sun 25 Pentecost 3, 8.30am, Holy Communion. Sung 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.

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)

Small Ways to Save the Planet

Fix dripping taps and always turn the tap off as you are brushing your teeth or shaving.

Cleish Parish Church Church of Scotland

Telephone: (01577) 850231 Rev Joanne Finlay

E-mail: joanne.finlay196@btinternet.com

Telephone: (01592) 840823 Reader: Mr Brian Ogilvie

> **Sunday Services** 11.15am Crèche 11.15am **Junior Church** 11.15am

May

Sun	4	11.15am	Preacher: Rev. Joanne Finlay
Sun	11	11.15am	Pentecost Celebration
Sun	18	11.15am	Preacher: Rev. Joanne Finlay
Sun	25	11.15am	Sacrament of Lord's Supper.
			Preacher: Rev. Joanne Finlay

Fossoway Parish Church Church of Scotland

Telephone: (01577) 850231 Rev Joanne Finlav

E-mail joanne.finlay 196@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

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

Housegroup/Bible Study group: contact Margaret Hamblin

(01577 850252)

Joint Choir rehearsals: Wednesday evenings, 7pm-9pm

May Sun

Sun	4	9.45am Preacher: Rev. Joanne Finlay Sacrament of Baptism and Profession of Faith
Sun	11	9.45am Pentecost Celebration
C	10	0.45 D1 D A 1 C111

9.45am Preacher: Rev. Andy Campbell **Sun 18** 10.45-12.30pm After worship speaker:

Rev. Andy Campbell.

7pm: Brightons Praise Choir Concert 9.45am Preacher: Rev. Joanne Finlay

Sun 25 Sacrament of Lord's Supper 7 30nm - Education Group, manse Tuo 6

I ue o	7.50pm - Education Gloup, manse
*Tue 6	7pm - Fossoway Church Choir Rehearsal
Tue 13	7pm - Fossoway Church Choir Rehearsal
Tue 20	7pm - Fossoway Church Choir Rehearsal
Tue 27	7pm - Fossoway Church Choir Rehearsal

^{*}please note that the church choir rehearsals are different to the joint choir rehearsals

Brightons Praise Choir Concert Sunday 18 May at 7pm Fossoway Church, Crook of Devon

Brightons Praise Choir have kindly agreed to host a concert in Fossoway Church. They provide a programme of both secular and religious pieces and are well respected for their musicianship, energy and vitality as a choir. Their solo artist is Don Finlay, who is also their accompanist. Tickets are priced at £5 and this includes refreshments. Payment at the door is also acceptable.



St James's R C Church

5 High Street, Kinross, KY13 8AW Father Colin Golden Telephone: (01577) 863329 Website: www.stjameskinross.co.uk

Saturday Vigil 7.00pm Mass Times Sunday 9.30am

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

Obituaries

MARY (MAIRI) SMITH died on 4 March, aged 87. Mairi was born on the Isle of Lewis, which she loved dearly. Gaelic was her first language. As Head of Home Economics at Kinross High School, she came to live in Kinross a few years before she retired. Former pupils continued to pop in to visit her over the years. She loved Kinross-shire and in her driving years, enjoyed exploring the countryside. She had a special rapport with children with special needs and volunteered at Tulloch School Special Needs Nursery and SPARK which was part of Kinross-shire Volunteer Group. Mairi's faith was very important to her. As a member of several local prayer groups, she was a great encourager. It was through her initiative that the mid-week worship started in the Day Centre. In latter years Mairi was a regular user of the Day Centre, and enjoyed the time she spent there. She is survived by her sister Lena, sons Robert, Ian, and Martin and her daughter, Janet, and her many grand-children and great grand children. She was very much loved by her many friends and is greatly missed.

DOUGLAS (DOUGIE) ALEXANDER GILLON of Milnathort died on 1 April 2008, aged 83 years, dear husband of Isabel and brother of the late Nora and William. Sadly missed.

MR ALLAN ROBERTSON of 11 Green Road, Kinross. dedicated husband of May (Beveridge), died on Sunday 30 March 2008 in Queen Margaret Hospital, Dunfermline, aged 85 years. Dear father of Sheila, Ian and Isobel, dear grandad and great grandad.

Acknowledgements

GILLON - Isabel would like to thank all friends and neighbours for the many kind expressions of sympathy, cards, letters and flowers received following Dougie's death. Special thanks to Elaine and Fraser Crawford for always being there when needed and for their many kindnesses; also to Pat and Pearl for their constant support. Thanks also to Dr Campbell for his care and attentiveness to Dougie, to the Rev. Robert Pickles for his kind words and comforting service and to all who paid their last respects to Dougie at the church. Grateful thanks to Stewart Funeral Directors for their compassion and professional help.

ROBERTSON - May and her family are so grateful to all the dear people who came from near and far to Allan's funeral on 3 April 2008, and to those who sent such beautiful cards and flowers. We especially commend Jack Boyter for conducting the service and to Stewart Funeral Directors Ltd, Kinross, for all their professional care and attention. Our heartfelt appreciation goes to Dr. A. J. McCracken for his unfailing support given to Allan and myself over a long period of troubled years The sum of £297.70 was raised for 1st Kinross Boys & Girls Brigade Thanks to you all.

Playgroups & Nurseries

PORTMOAK UNDER 5's

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

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

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

Contact 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**



Partner-provider for P&K Education

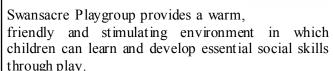
Places available for 3-5-year-olds and Rising Fives Sessions daily 9.15 - 11.45

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

SWANSACRE PLAYGROUP

21-23 Swansacre, Kinross TEL: 01577 862071

www.swansacre.co.uk



Playgroup sessions – Mon to Fri 9.00-11.30am

Children from the age of 2 yrs welcome.

Storvcraft Mon 1.15-2.45pm

Stortytelling, 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 11/2 yrs with parent/carer

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/carer. 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





The Kinross-shire Civic Trust



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Kinross-shire Civic Trust will be held on **Wednesday 7 May** at 7.30pm in the Windlestrae Hotel.

It will be followed by a Talk by Terry Levinthal, Director of the Scottish Civic Trust.

CLEISH CHURCH SALE AND FÊTE

Saturday 10 May at 2pm Opened by Simon Miller, Cleish Castle Usual Stalls and Children's Dog Show Concert in Church at 3.30pm

CEILIDH DANCE

Portmoak Village Hall Saturday 10 May

8pm – midnight with The Glenfarg Ceilidh Band Tickets £7.50

Supper included Licenced bar in aid of Hall funds

Tickets available from Kinnesswood Village Shop or Joan Smith – tel. 01592 840561

Kinross Parish Church Spring Fayre

Saturday 17 May 10am – 2pm, Church Centre
Exceptional produce and plant stalls are among the goods for sale. Lunches and teas served.

Orwell Bowling Club SOCIAL EVENING

Saturday 17 May

BINGO at 8.00pm, then dance along to BOB PRYDE £2.00 entry for non-members.

POSTCARD, STAMP & COLLECTORS FAIR

Church Centre, 10am – 4pm Saturday 24 May

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Annie King and Bob Stewart regret that this year they will not be holding their annual coffee morning and sale at the Church Centre. They would like to thank everyone who has supported them over the years. Bob is still making bird tables, flower planters, bird boxes, bird feeders etc. Contact him or Annie at: Bob 840292; Annie 862436

Situations Vacant

Looking for a Job?

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

Shop News from the Children's Hospice Association Scotland

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING DIFFERENT THIS SUMMER?

Maybe a wedding outfit, a suit for work, sports gear or a fancy dress costume - trendy or traditional.

Look for the terrific bargains from the new summer range now on sale in the CHAS Charity shops.

Books Galore in the CHAS shops

There is an amazing selection of new and second hand books for all the family In Bazaar 2.

The latest brand new children's books can be found in the CHAS Gift Shop, including the titles Makka Pakka from the BBC 'In the Night Garden' series, Charlie and Lola and Colin Foreman's latest book 'the Rise of the Red Empire'

New Greetings Card Display

Also now available in the CHAS Giff Shop is a wider choice of quality greetings cards and a new pack of 6 CHAS branded forget me not cards for just £2.25

CHAS Bazaars 76 and 88 High Street, Kinross tel: 01577 861380

Opening Hours 9.30am to 5pm Monday to Saturday CHAS Gift Shop, 23 Avenue Road, Kinross tel: 01577 865557

Opening Hours 10am to 5pm Monday to Saturday

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



Children's Hospice Association Scotland Sharing the Caring

Orwell Bowling Club A QUIZ NIGHT

will be held on

Saturday 21 June

at 7.30 for 8.00pm

Teams of four invited at £5 per team, including soup and sandwiches.

Proceeds for Great Ormond Street Hospital. Contact number for entries: 01577 863112

Kinross Floral Art Club COFFEE EVENING

Thursday 22 May

at the Church Centre, Kinross at 7.15pm

Demonstration by Linda Soutar entitled 'Reflections'

Tickets £5. Raffles, plant stall etc

New members and visitors welcome

Notices 41

The Scottish Traction Engine Society presents STEAM IN THE PARK

Balado Activity Centre
Saturday 10 and Sunday 11 May

10am to 4pm
Full Size and Miniatures, Stationary Engines
Vintage Tractors, Military, Commercials, Cars
Stalls and Children's Attractions
Food Stalls and Beer Tent
www.scottishtractionenginesociety.co.uk

Kinross-shire Volunteer Group and Rural Outreach Scheme



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 29 May 7.30pm in the Church Centre

Those of you who attended the recent Better Place to Live Fair will have seen from the flyer we handed out the amount of work we carry out in just one month (see also page 21). This ended with an appeal for more people to join us and help combat our "Volunteer Fatigue". One or two were interested enough to apply and, we hope, will agree to help but more would be very welcome.

If you are interested and would like to learn more about us, come along to our AGM on the 29th – you will be very welcome but, should you be too busy that evening, then just contact Ann Munro at 01577 840196.

Fossoway Primary School Fête Saturday 14 June

1pm-4pm (to be held in the school grounds)

A fun family afternoon with attractions including displays from local groups, bouncy castle, tombola, wellie chucking competition, teas and homebaking, WALC plant sale, second hand toy stall, shopping tent with local crafts, lucky dip, face painting and tug of war contest.

Please come along and enjoy the fun!!

SPRINGFEST Family Fun Day

at

Vane Farm Nature Reserve by Loch Leven **Sunday 8 June**

10.30am - 4pm Tickets: £3.00 (adult), 50p (child), £6 (families)

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.

Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service

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

 Monday 23 June
 3.30pm to 8.00pm

 Tuesday 24 June
 5.00pm to 8.00pm

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

Blythswood Care

(The Newsletter does not always have space to publish the full details regarding items which can and cannot be accepted, so readers may wish to cut out this Notice for future reference)

The Round South Truck accepts small items of furniture, clothing and bric à brac. The uplift of any larger items of furniture (e.g. sofas, beds, wardrobes etc) can be arranged by phoning Hillington on 0141 882 0585. All soft furnishings (e.g. beds, sofas, three-piece suites etc) donated to Blythswood Care must have a fire label with the British Standards code (BS7177) attached to it.

We regret that the Round South Truck cannot accept books. We are also unable to accept bikes, carpets, coat hangers, gas appliances, prams, televisions, small electrical appliances, exercise equipment or wall units.

The next collection will take place on Tuesday 20 May between 10.30am and 11am at Somerfield's car park.

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.

Around the Loch in May

Sat 3rd/ Sun 4th Sat 3rd

Optics Weekend at Vane Farm, 10am-4.30pm. No need to book. **Beltane Torchlit Walk** (8pm-

midnight). Join the PKC Ranger Service on a night walk and light a torch on Bishop Hill! Booking essential on 01738

475349.

Sat 17th Dip and Discover at Vane Farm. Book in advance on

01577 862355.

Tue 20th Burleigh Botany SNH Guided Walk (6pm-8pm). Book in advance on 01577 864439.

Sat 24th Meet the Water Voles with SNH (noon-2pm). No need to book. Meet at the Pier, Kinross.

Stout boots and lunch required.



Notices 42

Community Councils

Kinross: Secy: Mrs M Scott (01577) 862945

mbs21@btintemet.com

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

prvtraylor@ukonline.co.uk

Milnathort: Chair: Mr J Giacopazzi (01577) 864025

joseph.giacopazzi@btopenworld.com

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

duffy.wigman@btintemet.com

Portmoak: Secy: Mr A Smith (01592)840215

Kinross Community Councillors

Susan Bathgate	42 High Street	864742
Margaret Blyth	6 Muir Grove	
David Colliar	10 Rannoch Place	862678
Dave Cuthbert (Chair)	Highfield Circle	861001
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 (Vice Chair	862685	

Perth and Kinross Councillors

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

Tel (home): 01337 840218. Email: kbaird@pkcgov.uk

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

Email: Michael@mabarnacle.freeserve.co.uk

Sandy Miller, c/o Perth & Kinross Council, 2 High Street, Perth,

PH1 5PH. Tel (business): 01577 840462.

Email: SMiller@pkc.gov.uk

William Robertson, 85 South Street, Milnathort, Kinross,

KY13 9XA. Tel (home): 01577 865178. Email: wbrobertson@pkcgov.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, FK 10 1 JF.

Waste Paper Kerbside Collection

Next uplift in Kinross, Milnathort and Glenfarg:

Thursday 8 May

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 wheelie bin. Place bin on kerbside by 730am 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 beholding 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: 0131348 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: fccoffice@btinternet.com

Tourist Information Centre

County Buildings, 21/25 High Street, Kinross Tel: 01577 863680 Email: kinross@visitscotland.com

Opening hours until end of June:

Monday to Friday 10am – 4pm Saturdays 10.30am – 3.30pm

Mobile Library – Blairingone and Milnathort

Every Second Wednesday

Next visits: 7 & 21 May

Blairingone 9.30am - 9.45am Westerloan, Milnathort 1.45pm - 3pm Bridge fauld 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

Weekly Programme

MondayElderberries1.30 pmTuesdayBingo1.30 pm

We dnesdayMorning Service10.45 am,Quiz Afternoon1.30 pmThursdayArt Class1.30 pm,Film Afternoon1.30 pmFridayCarpet Bowls11.00am,Scrabble1.30 pm



Barge Trip Friday 23 at 11.00 am

Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 29 May at 1.30pm.
All interested parties are welcome.

Agenda includes approval of accounts and appointment of committee.



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

CLOSED ON MONDAY 5 MAY

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



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

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

Sudoku Solution

Sudoku Solution								
8	6	2	5	3	4	1	9	7
5	7	3	9	8	1	6	2	4
9	1	4	7	6	2	5	8	3
1	3	6	2	4	7	9	5	8
7	4	5	8	9	6	3	1	2
2	9	8	3	1	5	7	4	6
4	2	7	1	5	3	8	6	9
3	8	1	6	2	9	4	7	5
6	5	9	4	7	8	2	3	1

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