



Kinross Newsletters



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DEADLINE

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Contributions for inclusion in the Newsletter

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

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Commercial Advertising in the Newsletter

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Letters



Editorial

This month's Newsletter is full of special news and achievements to celebrate.

We have special double-page spreads of photographs recording the historic procession from the old High School to the new community campus, and of Calum Macintyre's breath-taking climb in the Himalayas. Then there is the marvellous news that Wisden Cricketer magazine has awarded Kinross Cricket Club the accolade "Cricket Club of the Year". Do watch the video about the cricket club's success on YouTube if you get the chance; the story of how the club's fortunes have been turned around in a few short years is quite amazing (and the Newsletter gets a mention in the video!).

The achievements of two of our more senior members of the community have been recognised too: you can read about a special presentation to Jim Paterson for fifty years of consecutive curling with Kinross Curling Club. And last but not least, we have a report on Chris Renton's visit to Buckingham Palace as she and other women receive long overdue thanks for their essential work during the Second World War. Unfortunately Chris broke her leg just two days after the visit to London, and we wish her all the best for a speedy recovery.

With all this news the Newsletter has unsurprisingly beaten its record size set in April this year, and this issue is now the biggest one ever.

A Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Peaceful New Year to all our readers.

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 Letters will not be published unless the sender's name and address are supplied and they are prepared to have them published along with their letter.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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Ian Mackay 01577 864751

To the people of Kinross-shire

13.11.09

On Thursday 29 October as I made my way from our new campus to the old school on the High Street I could not help but think how lucky we were going to be with the weather for our parade. When first suggesting the idea, a number of people probably questioned my sanity – secondary pupils in a parade! Undaunted we stuck with the plan and made our preparations. The pipe band were 100% behind us, so with their lead we were sure of a steady passage through the town. So it was with a smile I made that journey, blue sky above me and a spring in my own step. On reaching the school I could see that David Sands had pitched in with a large van to transport the pupils bags. In quick time we had filled the van, formed up our parade and we were beginning to file out onto the street. At this point my heart was uplifted, pupils from Kinross Primary were joined by members of our communities as they lined the street. Happy smiling faces all around, with digital cameras of various size and shape, were on both sides of the road throughout the length of our journey. Many parents, grandparents, friends and neighbours had come along to cheer us on our way. It was a joy to behold the pleasure on your faces. Behind, our parade was an impressive sight. A lengthy, mainly purple vision, with many smiling happy faces too.

In reality it could not have turned out any better. As we arrived at the campus a further crowd gathered, bolstered by some of the pupils from Milnathort Primary. A short speech and the unveiling of our old school bell the new site by Amy and Daniel, and so our pupil opening of Kinross High School at Loch Leven Community Campus was complete.

This letter is to say a huge thank you to all who were there. Your presence made it all worthwhile.

It reminded me certainly of the pivotal role our school often plays in our communities. I am certain that with this level of support we will continue to do the best we can for the young people of Kinross-shire.

Yours Delightedly

Dick Keatings, Campus Leader

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Microlight Nuisance**16.11.09**

The British Microlight Aircraft Association claims that flying a microlight is "the best fun you can have out of bed".

Over recent months residents on the west side of Kinross and Milnathort and surroundings will be aware of the noise and inconvenience that accompanies such "fun".

The microlights operate from Balado Activity Centre, which now appears re-branded as Balado Park and which proclaims itself as "the centre of Scotland for aviation events".

As a result of contact with others in the community, I know that the regularity of the droning microlight engines has become an intolerable nuisance to many residents.

On fine days, just when you might wish to enjoy the tranquillity of your own garden, the pilots of these "flying chainsaws" as they have been described, buzz about for "fun".

These craft are piloted generally by people who come from out-with the Kinross area to enjoy their day out, presumably because their own neighbourhoods sensibly do not offer the scope to pester the locality they reside in.

A current planning application now seeks permission to build aircraft hangarage to accommodate 40 aircraft plus offices and associated facilities for this expanding business.

The increase in activities that this proposed development signals can surely only create a greater number of flights and therefore more noise and nuisance.

I noted that the minutes of the October meeting of Kinross Community Council reported that the microlight hangarage planning application, (although wrongly described and listed for discussion as a "garage") had not been scrutinised as "it was intimated that the location of the application was outwith the Kinross Community Council area."

I understand this "intimation" came from the applicant.

I was also interested to note that the minute stated that Community Council member Mr Jack had "raised a query re. noise levels in relation to this application."

The purpose of the CC is to ascertain the views of the community they represent.

I therefore attended the November Community Council meeting to voice my concerns to the CC regarding the noise nuisance and its impact on myself and others in the community with whom I had been in touch. I pointed out that it was the duty of the CC to record this nuisance and inform Perth and Kinross Council accordingly.

I was supported by another member of the public, being five present at the meeting, who confirmed the microlight nuisance. Kinross CC had no paperwork to illustrate the details of the development. Instead, they asked Mr Alexander, who was present, for his view, despite him being the applicant and residing outwith the Kinross CC area. Then, having barred their own council member, Councillor Mr Jack from a vote, due to his interest (?) Kinross CC unanimously voted to take no action and chose not to heed my request to inform P&KC.

I believe this decision by Kinross CC has exposed their lack of objectivity and competence and it is my intention to pursue these matters further.

Ken Miles

Turfhills House, Kinross

**Loch Leven Community Campus****16.11.09**

Having lived in Kinross-shire all my life, it was natural for me to follow with great interest the building of the new campus.

When I started school, which was many years ago, I went to the old Portmoak Primary at Scotlandwell. From there I went to what was then Kinross Secondary School, which later became Kinross High School. The completion of the campus is a huge step forward and a wonderful achievement for Kinross-shire. I think you have to be in my age bracket to fully appreciate just how far things have advanced.

On the day that the staff and pupils made that historic walk from the old school to the new, I was there to watch. I must say that the turn out by the members of the public to this event must have exceeded all expectations and in all honesty was rather overwhelming. It was just a joy to witness.

On the Monday evening I, along with my wife and friends, attended at the campus to have a guided tour of the premises. We were warmly greeted by Mr Cairnie who explained what would take place. We were then handed over to two sixth year pupils, who, along with many others, had apparently volunteered to escort the groups around the school. To say that the new school has the 'WOW FACTOR' would be the understatement of the year. The design and facilities that have been incorporated into the building of this school must be second to none and I am delighted to have had the opportunity to see it.

One other thing I would like to comment on is the pupils who were taking the parties round on the viewing nights. Obviously, I did not meet them all, but I did have the pleasure of meeting Calum Anderson, Emily Beattie and Morag Gillies, to name but a few. The enthusiasm and obvious pride in their new school was clear to see and their parents and staff must have been really proud of them. These young people are the future of Kinross-shire and Scotland and their obvious dedication and willingness to achieve the best from their new school is very reassuring.

Well done to all those involved in making the move to the new school go so smoothly.

George Reid

3 Bruce Road, Kinnesswood

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Seasonal message from Cllr Baird**16.11.09**

Once again we are drawing to the end of another year, time to reflect on what has happened in the past year; the highs and the lows. For some on a personal level circumstances may have changed, whether it be through loss of employment or bereavement and for others circumstances have changed for the better and they are celebrating their new found happiness.

Communities also have their highs and lows and this year there have been many high notes for Kinross-shire: the Loch Leven Heritage Trail reaching the final of the lottery awards, the opening of the New Health Centre and the opening of the Loch Leven Campus, to name a few.

Perth & Kinross Council organised a series of community engagement workshops and a small percentage of the community put forward their views and hopefully some of the ideas can be progressed.

Without a doubt the town centre is the low point in the community and progress is being made with the Swansacre building. I hope this will be the beginning of regeneration in the town.

I appreciate that the vacant High School site is a cause for concern and no doubt will be the subject of much discussion over the coming months.

I have tried over the year to attend as many Community Council meetings and community events as possible and I have enjoyed meeting the many dedicated people who work tirelessly as members of Bloom Committees, Day Centre volunteers, volunteer drivers and leaders of uniformed organisations.

Volunteers are the biggest asset communities have, and to each and everyone who "gives freely of their time and talents", thank you.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish each and everyone A Happy Christmas and a Healthy 2010.

Councillor Kathleen Baird

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Campus road safety failure**16.11.09**

We have a fantastic new Community Campus, incorporating Kinross High School, at Lathro, however we (a group of parents) are at our wits end trying to get safe access for our children entering the campus grounds at the north end (nearest Milnathort).

An access point was quite deliberately made within the wall at the north end of the campus. This was brilliant; taking pupils and community off the roadside pavements, mostly behind a brick wall on a pavement that can walk at least four abreast.

The issue comes with pupils (and community) trying to access this fantastic walkway. Pupils from some areas within Milnathort have no safe way of crossing the busy A922 (which is particularly busy at the time that pupils would be crossing in the morning and at night). The pavement on the east side of the A922 and just north of the entrance is only 0.7m wide. Some of the pavement just north of that is rough tarmac, under trees (so that at this time of the year the leaves are wet and slippery). If pupils walk on the (better) west side of the A922 and then cross at the north entrance to the campus grounds, they cross in a 40mph speed limit with absolutely no assistance.

Pupils accessing the campus from the Kinross end have three toucan crossings to choose from, two of which are in 20mph zones. The toucan crossing sited just north of Gallowhill Road actually has a crossing patroller pressing the button, waiting for the traffic to stop and then crossing the children over. From what I understand there is no legislative issue with moving the crossing patroller immediately from one site to the other.

We have written to various different departments and people. Some departments completely washed their hands of the issue with the infamous "it's not my job", with correspondence being forwarded on to the correct people who declined to even directly respond or provide any further information. Some others, such as Dick Keatings, Campus Manager and Head Teacher of the School, have verbally agreed with our issues. Mr Keatings even gave an assurance that things would be in place last week and keeps asking us to be patient. Our question is: how patient? How long and how many children have to be hurt or killed whilst we wait? From a drivers' point of view (and having driven down this stretch of road in the morning) it can be quite daunting with, for example, children overtaking slower children on an already narrow pavement in a 40mph limit etc.

Willie Robertson, our local Councillor, has been very supportive and has also been in touch with P&KC. He has also been given assurances that the pavement will be widened and his hopes are that there will be a barrier between the side of the pavement and the road directly outside the access point. As yet no dates have been intimated for this work.

Pupils (and community) from Milnathort have just as much right to safe access to the campus, through the purpose built access point, as those accessing from Kinross. The crossing patroller can be moved immediately to promote this. A "20s Plenty" sign could be put up (it doesn't have to be a "School 20 mph" sign) and at least a zebra crossing installed.

Sheila Herron

Mum of children in S1 and S3 at the High School
37 Westerloan, Milnathort, KY13 9YH



News & Articles

Bright start to new school

Brilliant sunshine and a bright blue sky added sparkle to events on 29 October, when more than 900 pupils and their teachers marched from the High School's old building to its new home at the community campus.

The procession was an impressive sight and sound, led by Kinross & District Pipe Band. Traffic was stopped for the event and the pavements were filled with local residents enjoying the spectacle.

The school bell had been removed from the High Street premises and re-hung in the foreground of the community campus. When the parade arrived at the campus, Mr Keatings made a speech to the assembled crowds, then the oldest and youngest pupils, Daniel Brown (17) and Amy Bryson (11), marked the school open by unveiling the school bell.



Mr Keatings said:

"This is an important day for all of us. Our new school is a place of learning fit for the 21st century and provides so many opportunities for enhanced teaching and learning. We are looking forward not only to what we can achieve together as a school, but also to the benefits to be gained from being more of a part of the wider community. The response to our parade has been fantastic. It was great to see the community lining the streets, cheering the parade on, and joining us at our new school. It's been a special day."

The Loch Leven Community Campus was designed and built by Laing O'Rourke and facilities management is provided by Mitie FM, both part of the Axiom Education consortium which won the contract to provide six new schools under P&KC's Investment in Learning project.

As well as being home to Kinross High School, the campus offers a wide range of sport and leisure facilities which can be used by all members of the local community. Unfortunately due to a delay in furniture delivery, the public library and museum did not open at the same time as the rest of the campus, but after rescheduling, were expected to open on Wednesday 25 November.

Amy Bryson (youngest pupil), Daniel Brown (oldest pupil), Abby Clark (Head Girl) and Mr Keatings (Head Teacher)

Pupils leave the old High School for the last time



See more photos of the procession at the www.kinross.cc photolibrary. If you took photos on the day, why not add them to the photolibrary?



Kinross & District Pipe Band leading the procession up the Muirs



Arriving at the new school

Chris Webb, Head of Education Services, P&KC and Dick Keatings, Head Teacher



At the new campus. Dick Keatings and Daniel Brown (on left), Chris Webb of P&KC and Amy Bryson (on right) with the senior prefects who carried the banner all the way from the old High School.

News from the Health Centre



It is a very busy time for us at the moment in the health centre as we are currently immunising people for seasonal flu vaccine and have started immunising people against swine flu vaccine too.

The clinical priority groups for those entitled to have swine flu vaccination as identified by the Scottish Government health department at the moment are, in order of priority:

- Individuals aged six months and up to 65 years in the current seasonal flu vaccine clinical at risk groups
- Pregnant women
- Household contacts of immunocompromised individuals
- People aged 65 and over in the current seasonal flu vaccine clinical at risk groups

We are working hard to immunise according to this guidance and aim to ensure that everyone who qualifies for the vaccine should have it.

Tree planting ceremony

Some of you will remember Lynne Ferguson, a senior physiotherapist who worked at the health centre since the early 1990's. Sadly, Lynne died in June this year and in remembrance of her the health centre staff planted a lovely crab apple tree in the grounds of the health centre in November.

Lynne was an example to us all in how life should be lived. Incredibly enthusiastic about life, warm hearted, funny, generous and kind, Lynne had the ability to make all of us feel special about ourselves and we all miss her very much.

Festive closing times

The Health Centre will be closed over the Festive season on the following dates:

Friday 25 December 2009
 Monday 28 December 2009
 Friday 1 January 2010
 Monday 4 January 2010

During the Christmas and New Year period when the Health Centre is closed, NHS 24 and the Primary Care Emergency Out of Hours Services will be providing emergency cover. They can be contacted on **01577 865252**. To assist them, please note that the service should only be used for genuine emergencies.

And finally - all the staff at the health centre wish you all a very happy, healthy and joyful festive season.

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Remembrance Sunday

A large number of local residents attended the service at the War Memorial in Kinross on Remembrance Sunday.

In bright sunshine Kinross & District Pipe Band led a procession of ex-servicemen, cadets and other youth groups from Kinross Parish Church to the County Buildings. After a short service and two minutes' silence, representatives of various organisations laid wreaths in memory of the fallen.



Kinross ex-servicemen leaving the war memorial after the wreath-laying ceremony

Loch Leven Community Library open for everyone

by Perth & Kinross Council

Loch Leven Community Library, which replaces the former Kinross Library, is now open at the Loch Leven Community Campus, The Muirs, Kinross.

Library staff are looking forward to welcoming the whole community to the stunning new facility, which provides a wide range of new resources, lots of comfortable social space, meeting rooms, refreshment facilities and greatly enhanced computer provision, including wi-fi.

For very young library users, fun activities are also being offered on a weekly basis, not including public holidays.

Every Thursday afternoon from 26 November sees storytelling between 2.15pm and 2.45pm. Bookstart Rhymetime sessions are also being held, every Saturday from 10.30am to 11am from 28 November and alternate Wednesdays from 2pm to 2.30pm from 2 December.

The new and extended opening hours for the community library are:

Monday	10am – 6pm
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday	10am – 8pm
Friday	10am – 6pm
Saturday	10am – 3pm

The Council regrets any inconvenience caused during the interim period, but hopes everyone will agree the fantastic provision at the community library has been worth the wait.

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Tea at the Palace for Kinross resident

Well-known Kinross resident Chris Renton had afternoon tea with members of the Royal Family at Buckingham Palace on 21 October. The visit was part of an event held to recognise the work of the Women's Land Army (WLA) and the Women's Timber Corps (WTC). The women in these services carried out essential work during World War II, keeping Britain supplied with food and timber.

There was no official recognition of the WTC during or just after the war, but in recent years some amends have been made: A statue was erected at Aberfoyle in 2007 and commemorative medals have been issued to former 'Land Girls' and 'Lumber Jills' as the women in the WLA and the WTC were known.

Over ninety veterans from various parts of Britain attended the event in October. Chris was one of seven former 'Lumber Jills' from Scotland who made the journey to London. Earlier in the day the ladies attended a special lunch at the Royal Opera House, hosted by Environment Secretary Hilary Benn, who said:

"I'm delighted to welcome the Land Girls and Lumber Jills to London as representatives of the thousands of women who provided food and timber for the nation during World War I and II. Over 34,000 members of the Women's Land Army and Timber Corps have now received a commemorative badge which recognises their service and acknowledges the debt that we owe them. This will be a fitting tribute to their great efforts when our country was at war."

The lunch at the Opera House was bangers and mash followed by apple crumble – typical wartime fare. In the afternoon the ladies joined the Queen in the grandeur of the Buckingham Palace ballroom to enjoy afternoon tea and reminisce about their war-time experiences. Also present were the Duke of Edinburgh, the Duke of Gloucester, the Duchess of Cornwall, Princess Alexandra and Princess Michael of Kent, with a member of the royal family at each table.

Chris was delighted to be seated next to Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh. He asked her exactly what members of the WTC did. Chris recounted their conversation:

"I told him 'we cut down trees' and he said 'with a chainsaw?' I said 'Don't be silly! It was an old cross-cut saw we used!'"

Chris went on to explain to the Duke that the larch trees the women cut down were used for telegraph poles, Scots pine for pit props and hardwoods for furniture and coffins.

Laughing at the memory of telling him he was silly, Chris said, "In fact I found Prince Philip charming and very interesting. And he knew where Kinross was!"

During the tea of dainty sandwiches, assorted cakes and scones with clotted cream and "little scarlet jam", an orchestra played war-time tunes.

"It was a superb day", Chris said, "and it was wonderful to meet up with some of the ladies from the reunion we had in Aberfoyle a couple of years ago."



Chris Renton arriving at the lunch at the Royal Opera House, hosted by Defra

Swansacre update

by Perth & Kinross Council

The prominent corner High Street property, 2 Swansacre, located in the Kinross Outstanding Conservation Area, was acquired by Perth & Kinross Council in August 2004 following years of neglect by the previous owner. The Council has agreed the building will be redeveloped by Hillcrest Housing Association to provide two affordable housing units in the centre of Kinross. To cover the costs in the repair and conversion of this property to residential use, the Housing Association expects to receive grant funding from the Scottish Government plus a grant of £80,000 from the Council's Developers' Contribution fund and a further £50,000 from the Council's Conservation and Regeneration fund.

Development will begin once all funding has been approved. It is expected that approval should be given early in 2010 although this is subject to full planning permission being secured. Restoration of the building will be to a high standard in order to enhance this Outstanding Conservation Area.

Advice on community funding

P&KC will be holding a special workshop for community and voluntary groups in Kinross-shire, to advise them on accessing funding sources for their organisation.

The training event has been organised after a request from members of the local community and will be held on **Monday 30 November** at Loch Leven Community Campus from 9.30am to 12.30pm.

At the workshop, Council officers will provide advice and guidance on who can support community organisations and how to complete funding applications. There will also be discussions led on the wider use of funders and grants and opportunities for fundraising.

To book a place, or for more information, please contact the Community Capacity Building Team on 01738 477869/475396 or on 01577 867124, or email placecheck@pkc.gov.uk. Refreshments and snacks will be available. Anyone wishing to discuss individual projects on a one to one basis during the workshop should mention this when booking their place so a time to speak with the Council's External Funding Officers can be arranged.

Milnathort Placecheck update

Residents of Milnathort will get an update on the Placecheck initiative running in the village at a special follow-up event on **Saturday 28 November**.

Placecheck is an opportunity for the community to tell the Council what makes the place they live in special, and to work together in partnership to maintain that, including public space improvements agreed as priorities.

The follow-up event will detail what has come from the initial event in August 2009. This saw the village split into five 'zones' and residents walking around the zones to identify things they would like to see improved in open spaces, before prioritising the issues that were raised from the walk.

Since then Council officers and community members have been looking at the priorities to determine what improvements can potentially be taken forward. There will be information about actions taken so far, and discussion on what happens next at the event later this month.

The follow-up event will be held in the Milnathort Thistle Hotel on Saturday 28 November from 9am to 12.30pm. Parking is available in the car park to the rear of the hotel and crèche facilities will again be provided at Milnathort Primary School.

Places for both the event and the crèche must be booked in advance. Local residents were able to do this either by returning the booking slip sent with a letter to all households in Milnathort or by emailing

placecheck@pkc.gov.uk

For more information on Placecheck, visit the Council website at www.pkc.gov.uk/placecheck

Curling Academy gets go-ahead

The outline planning application for a curling rink located at the Market Park in Kinross was unanimously approved by P&KC's development control committee on 18 November. The committee decided the economic benefits of bringing the proposed national curling academy to Kinross outweighed the loss of open space. The development control committee stated that there should be as much public consultation as possible.

On 16 November the Kinross Curling Trust – the body which will build, own and operate the facility – held its inaugural AGM. The following were elected as trustees: Bob Anderson, Sheila Harley, Jamie Montgomery, Mary Morgan, Robin Niven and Willie Young. In addition there are three trustees on the board appointed by the Royal Caledonian Curling Club: Bob Tait, Colin Grahamslaw and Bob Kelly.

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Role of Milnathort CC relating to 'Milnathort Futures Trust'

1. The role of the CC is to assess the potential level of support within the community for the proposal to establish a Community Development Trust, and to look into the viability of such a project.
2. It would be for others within the community to set up the trust and to create a trading subsidiary. The only involvement of the CC thereafter would be to have a Community Councillor on the board of the CDT to report back the CC.
3. Milnathort CC unanimously desires its area to have a CDT to take a share in a possible wind cluster at Tillyrie Hill, and is embarking on a public information and consultation exercise with the community.
4. As yet, no CDT has been established; no planning application has been lodged; no money has been spent by the CC in furthering the project.
5. There is a long road to travel for the scheme to reach fruition and the CC accepts that all views, for and against, will need to be weighed. Those opposed in principle to renewable energy from wind turbines will have a full opportunity to make their objections in detail to the Planning Authority when, and if, an application is lodged. If the scheme is found to be fundamentally flawed in planning terms, it should be rejected at this stage.
6. There are, throughout Scotland, numerous CDTs. On Gigha and at Fintry, CDTs exist to operate wind turbines for the benefit of their communities.

*Joe Giacopazzi,
Chairman, Milnathort CC*



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Community Council News



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

Kinross Community Council News from the November Meeting

Present at the meeting held on 4 November were CCllrs C Watson, D Mackay, M Scott, M Blyth, D Colliar, L McKay, J Richardson, B Davies and I Jack. Also in attendance were P&K Cllr Kathleen Baird, PC Ishbel Wallace and five members of the public. Apologies for absence were received from CCllrs D Cuthbert and S Bathgate and P&K Cllrs S Miller and W Robertson. In the absence of the CC Chairman, D Cuthbert, the meeting was chaired by Vice-Chair, CCllr Watson.

Minutes of previous meeting: The minutes, having been circulated prior to the Meeting and under correction of the reference at Planning to "garage" which should read "hangarage", were proposed by CCllr Colliar and seconded by CCllr Richardson.

Police Report: Sands Warehouse at Clashburn was targeted again and police enquiries are ongoing. A house on the south loch road was also broken into during the day. The Police again stress the importance of ensuring that all property is secure after dark.

Matters arising from previous minutes

Planning/Balado: The Chairman read out a letter received from Mr Ken Miles in relation to the planning application for Balado. This application was outwith the CC area and no discussion was held last month other than that it was noted that CCllr Jack had raised concerns regarding the noise levels. Mr Miles stated in his letter that the proposed development impacts on his own household, those of his neighbours, including the Balado settlement, and that all are KCC electors. He continued that the CC was wrong in dismissing this. Mr Miles was present this evening to address this issue. A member of the public also commented that the microlights create a distraction to passing vehicles. Mr Alexander stated that noise levels are scientifically measured and that no complaints had been received over the last twenty years; however, it had been decided to re-route the circuit. It was noted that Balado Park is also registered with the Civil Aviation Authority and is zoned for tourist related activities. Following this discussion the CC unanimously agreed that the decision reached last month should stand. CCllr Jack abstained due to his interest in this case.

Autograss: A public meeting was held on 21 October. CCllr Jack, although unable to attend personally, advised that around twenty people were present and that it would appear that the promoters are an offshoot of the main body. The noise survey is still awaited from the Council. Cllr Robertson was chasing this up. The Secretary has also written a reminder to the Council.

Community Campus: Cllr Baird advised that each group has been contacted by PKL. She could report that a football club using the new premises was very pleased with the charges. Each booking is treated individually.

St Andrews Day Parade: Cllr Miller is requesting that P&KC include the CC in this event.

CC Grants: Cllr Robertson approached P&KC about an increase for CCs who wish to book the school to hold their

monthly meetings. A paper highlighting the funding issues of CCs is to be presented at a future Council meeting.

Draft Area Conservation Appraisal Document: Following discussion it was agreed that we should request that the Council extend the conservation area to include the large properties on Station Road (up to the Primary School and also to include those properties erected in the rear gardens) and along the Muirs to the junction with Gallowhill Road.

North Cemetery/Grass Cutting: Complaints were received that the grass had been cut and not lifted. The verges have disappeared and headstones are now sitting on the paths in certain areas. Cllr Baird will check this out.

Planning

09/01763/FLL 25/27 Montgomery St: alteration /extension to house.

09/01790/FLL Land to the east of Baltree Farm, Hatchbank Road: erection of a dwelling house (Plot 4 - change of house type).

09/01810/FLL Unit D Business Park, Clashburn: erection of office, showroom and works with associated parking.

There were no objections to any of the above.

09/01686/FLL Change of use of former MoD property to office accommodation at the NATO Complex: A discussion was held on this application. It was noted that there is no designated use for this site in the Local Plan and accordingly there is no restrictions on how this ground could be utilised. It was agreed that, although we held no objections to this application, there should be an agreed policy on the use of the land and the CC would recommend either commercial or industrial. Cllr Baird will enquire informally about this site and the CC will write to P&KC requesting a 'holding period' meantime.



The NATO complex at Balado

Applications Determined by P&KC

09/01292/FLL 29 Swansacre: Demolition of existing rear conservatory and erection of a new two storey extension: Approved.

09/01267/FLL Baltree Farm: Erection of three dwelling houses and garages: Refused.

09/01241/IPL 77 Muirs: Renewal of existing consent -

erection of replacement dwelling house (in principle): Approved.

09/01529/FLL 86 High Street: Change of use from ancillary residential accommodation to self contained flat: Approved.

CCllr Jack raised a query as to the advertising of applications and the timescale involved for commenting on same. It was noted that applications are listed in the Perthshire Advertiser on a Friday.

Gellybank: A member of the public questioned the outcome of this application. The CC understood that this had been approved, however it was now stated that this might be under appeal with the Scottish Office. CCllr Colliar will check this out.

Reports from P&K Councillors

Councillor Baird reported as follows:

World Café: P&KC are collating the information gleaned from this exercise and will meet shortly with interested groups to discuss the way forward. CCllrs Richardson and Bathgate are to attend this meeting in Perth.

Loch Leven Campus: Officially opened and procession of pupils has now taken place. A number of free events are to be held in the campus at the end of this month (Nov) and the Library should be opened around that time. CCllr Colliar stated that the car park should be nearer to the Library. It was mentioned that there are five disabled parking spaces and CCllr Colliar added that there should be signs in this area to alert people to a one-way system. There are still a number of "snagging" issues to be addressed. There was a recent problem in the computer room and the equipment was damaged through water ingress. Both the Police and Council are monitoring the traffic at the locus of the campus.

The New Health Centre has also been officially opened. CCllr D Mackay enquired as to the bus service and it was answered that the bus will stop at the campus.

The High School has now closed. It has already been targeted by vandals. The premises have not been boarded up as there are furniture, equipment etc to be removed.

CCllrs/Council Committees: CCllr Richardson questioned whether CC members are eligible to sit on Council Committees. It was answered that they are unable to take part in any Council policy decisions as a CC member but it may be that they are involved in some other capacity.

Correspondence

Gallowhill Road/A922: Response received from P&KC. They will monitor the operation of the new junction under the most demanding periods of use, i.e. school opening and closing times, however they have no plans to make any more changes at this time. Unless this review reveals significant operational or safety concerns, which they believe unlikely, changes to the layout would have to be funded by the public purse. At this time there are no budgets available to consider any such change and there are no plans to include yellow lines.

A977 proposed mitigation measures: Copy of letter from Fossoway & District CC to P&KC advising that both the CC and members of the public present at the presentation on 9 October were unanimous in opposing the majority of measures proposed, as these were not traffic mitigation measures on the A977. CCllr Baird stated that the proposals were agreed by Fossoway CC in 2006, however at that time no funding was in place. CCllr Richardson stated that the Convention supports the view of Fossoway CC. CCllr Baird is to obtain statistics in relation to traffic on this road. It was also mentioned that a further meeting was held last night (i.e.

3 November).

CC Autumn 2009: These publications were handed to the Chair and CCllr Colliar.

Milnathort Place Check: Newsletter, poster and details of follow-up event received.

STUC: Asking for input and support for the STUC's Rebuilding Collective Prosperity Campaign.

The Association for the Protection of Rural Scotland helps local rural communities to engage with the planning system and to protect their local landscapes. www.ruralscotland.org.

Other Business

Memorial seat: CCllr Colliar asked CCllrs to inspect the seat at the County Buildings prior to the next meeting. He suggested that it be replaced.

Remembrance Day: Details for local procession were given.

Boundary maps: CCllr Colliar handed out boundary maps to CCllrs.

Kinross Newsletter: CCllr Watson confirmed that the Company is now in place and has full charitable status. A meeting is to be convened to discuss and agree a policy for running the Company in the future.

Light Up Kinross: Details were given.

Kinross CC: The Treasurer advised that a replacement auditor is required. It was agreed that we should approach Ross McConnell.

The next meeting of Kinross CC will be held at the Masonic Hall on Wednesday 2 December at 7.30pm.

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

News from the November Meeting

In attendance: CCllr Giacopazzi, Chairman, welcomed CCllrs Cottingham, Thomson, Bennet and Smith to the meeting held on 12 November. Also in attendance were Minute Secretary E Rougvie, PC Petrie of Tayside Police, P&K Cllr Baird and 14 members of the public. Apologies were received from CCllrs Porter and Lamont and P&K Cllr Robertson. CCllr Giacopazzi opened the meeting by apologising for the room, which he said had not been properly laid out despite it having been booked for the CC meeting.

Minutes of the October meeting: CCllr Giacopazzi asked for an amendment to the October minutes, pointing out that he had not given a presentation from the solicitors' firm Burness, but that he had drawn attention to the information that was available on their website. This having been done, the minutes were proposed by CCllr Smith and seconded by CCllr Bennet.

Milnathort Futures Trust: CCllr Giacopazzi had received three letters in relation to Milnathort Futures Trust and invited one of the correspondents in attendance to outline the points he had made. CCllr Thomson joined the public for this item. The member of the public pointed out that the site on which it was proposed to create a three-turbine cluster had already been the subject of two applications, both of which had been unsuccessful. He asked on what basis had the CC decided to ignore previous findings and why they were supporting this particular commercial venture. CCllr Giacopazzi said that the community wind turbine proposal had been offered to the CC and they supported the idea although would have no influence on Milnathort Futures Trust or the Tillyrie Hill windfarm project. Consultations with the community were at an early stage and if residents were in favour the next steps would be taken to establish the trust, which would be an independent body of volunteers with charitable status responsible for disbursing the revenue from the community wind turbine. The money would be used for environmental projects such as making the village more energy-efficient or installing flood defences. Another member of the public took issue with the minutes of the October CC meeting, at which she had raised concerns about the proposed windfarm site. She gave the Chairman her own set of minutes which she had written from the notes she had taken and which included the comments she had made. CCllr Giacopazzi replied that the minutes of CC meetings were taken in shorthand and he was satisfied that they were a fair and accurate record of proceedings. He drew attention to the minutes of the full P&KC meeting, which did not include comments by individuals. The member of the public was also reminded that all CC minutes that appear in the Kinross Newsletter were subject to editing and were not necessarily a full account of meetings. The member of the public was also unhappy about the article that appeared in the Newsletter by CCllr Giacopazzi. She felt that the only beneficiaries of the project would be the landowners and that the figures given in terms of the benefits to the community were misleading.

CCllr Giacopazzi responded by saying that the purpose of the exercise was to reap environmental benefits, and that a grant of £150,000 – not £15,000 as the member of the public had reported in her own version of the minutes – was available, which he felt should be taken advantage of. He emphasised that a series of meetings with residents would be necessary

before any further progress could be made.

At this point CCllr Cottingham moved that the discussion should be brought to a close and that the CC should move on to other matters. He was seconded by CCllr Smith, and CCllr Thomson re-joined the meeting.

Police matters: PC Petrie advised that she was the community crime officer for the Kinross area while PC Brian Easton was now the community crime officer for Milnathort and would be attending CC meetings in future. There was a re-structuring programme of community engagement officers in place as a result of the opening of the new community campus.

There had been a daytime break-in at South Loch Road and at Websters' yard, in which tools had been stolen, and PC Petrie urged people to get in touch should they see anything suspicious or sense that something is wrong. If possible, they should note vehicle registrations and take descriptions of suspects. The police would rather deal with a false alarm with good intent than not be informed of suspicious activities. PC Petrie advised that an incident in which three hoax calls were made alleging bomb threats were being investigated at present.

She added that the security within the community campus was very good and parents could be reassured that the pupils were safe and secure even though it was a community facility as well as a school.

Matters Arising

Placecheck: CCllr Bennet said that a Placecheck grants workshop would be held at Loch Leven Community Campus on 30 November. The follow-up community event was in the Thistle Hotel on 28 November. Leaflets had now been distributed throughout the village.

Dropped kerbs and drains: CCllr Giacopazzi reported that the kerbs in New Road had now been dropped and drains repaired. On behalf of the CC, he expressed his appreciation to P&KC for the speed with which the work had been done.



New Road - kerbs have been dropped and drains repaired

Correspondence

- P&KC Environmental Services Guide to Recycling: officers are available to speak to community groups about the initiatives set up under the council's Towards Zero Waste scheme. CCllr Giacopazzi advised that from 2010 batteries can be taken to his shop for re-cycling and CCllr Bennet said that Milnathort Primary School was collecting batteries for fund-raising purposes.
- Letter from P&KC about the BT 'Adopt a Telephone Box' scheme. Noted.
- Letter from P&KC finance department advising that the CC had a certificate of employers' liability. Noted.

CCllr Smith also confirmed that the CC was entered in the Data Protection Register and that the £30 registration fee would be paid by P&KC.

Planning Matters

TAYplan consultation: CCllr Cottingham gave an outline of what was involved in TAYplan, the strategic development plan for Dundee, Perth, Angus and north Fife which is currently being drafted. It will be available for public consultation shortly and the consultation process is expected to take about a year. Information is available at www.tayplan-sdpa.gov.uk

There followed a discussion about the siting of the 400 houses that are required in the area especially in the light of restrictions resulting from the new building in the countryside policy, but CCllr Cottingham gave an assurance that everyone would have the opportunity to make comments in due course.

Planning correspondence: CCllr Bennet thanked CCllr Giacopazzi for his hard work in terms of corresponding with P&KC on planning matters but felt it would be helpful if the other CC members could have sight of letters and e-mails before they were sent. She acknowledged however that this would result in a delay in issues being addressed. After discussion, it was agreed to include this as an item on the next agenda.

Applications: The following applications were noted: erection of general purpose storage shed at Seggie Bank farm steading; erection of two houses at Tillyrie Farm (in principle).

CCllr Cottingham drew attention to what seemed to be an inconsistency in planning decisions. An application for the erection of 21 houses on land north of Auchtermuchty Road

had been refused because the land had been zoned for industrial use, despite there being a lack of demand for industrial land, yet an application for an agriculture-related development on Cupar Road had been approved because there was considered to be a lack of space elsewhere for industrial development. The CC had objected to the latter application and a member of the public was concerned that consent had been given without a Section 75 agreement having been signed, despite this being a condition. P&K Cllr Baird agreed to follow this up.

Other business

Community orchard: CCllr Bennet said she had written to two landowners with a view to establishing a community orchard but had had no reply from one and a definite 'no' from the other. After discussion, it was agreed that CCllr Bennet would write an article for the Newsletter asking about the availability of land.

Before the meeting drew to a close, the following points were made:

Room hire for CC: CCllr Baird said that she would investigate the issue of funding to pay for the hire of the school, since the room in the town hall was not suitable. She also undertook to ask that the P&KC minutes were distributed electronically.

Community windfarm: A member of the public commented that several people in the room during the meeting took a more positive view of the community windfarm proposal.

The next meeting of Milnathort CC will be held on Thursday 10 December 2009 at 7.30pm in Milnathort Town Hall.

Milnathort CC minutes are posted on www.kinross.cc

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Portmoak Community Council

News from the November Meeting

The meeting held on 10 November was attended by CCllrs I McGrattan, J Shepherd, J Bird, R Cairncross, S Garvie, C Weedon. Also in attendance were P&K Cllrs Baird, Barnacle & Miller; PC Brian Eastern, Sgt Grant Mitchell and 14 residents. Apologies were received from M Hally and P&K Cllr Robertson.

Police Report: PC Brian Eastern introduced himself to the meeting as the new Community Police Officer for Portmoak. Incidents within Portmoak area: Vandalism in Kinnesswood during October, including damage to two cars, fencing at the school as well as planters. Two juveniles who live outside the immediate area have been connected with the problems and a report submitted to Police in Perth.

Neighbourhood Watch Scheme: there is currently only one scheme active in Portmoak: Bishop Terrace, Kinnesswood. Anyone interested in taking an active role in setting up a scheme in their area should contact the Police or the CC.

The mobile Police Station will be in the Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell area, Wednesday 18/11/09. It is hoped this new facility will enable a more 'local' Police presence in the community.

Treasurer's report: £409.74 in the bank account. £0.00 in Tetley Trail (MBW) Account.

Michael Bruce Way: Fergus Cook and Angela Hughes have been working on the production of the content on the two Interpretation Boards which were proposed for the MBW, one at Kinnesswood and one in the vicinity of the Church. Fergus spoke to the CC explaining his thoughts behind the proposal explaining that there was so much history in the area it was a difficult job to keep the information on each board to a reasonable 300 words. The boards did not contain a map of the walk and it was noted that no money was available for the production of a walk pamphlet. It was agreed to have the content of both boards placed on www.portmoak.org for comment by residents and a then a final decision on the content made by 31.12.09.

Matter Arising from Previous Minutes

ASCC: Conference on 14 Nov, Edinburgh.

Mail box at Post Office: Letter received 22 October from Royal Mail, London Office. Request still being considered, engineers have attempted to fit a larger front to present box but unsuccessful. Royal Mail said it will now be treated as a matter of urgency.

Notice Board: Copies of minutes now kept in Kinnesswood shop.

Cleaning of roads: The B9097 between B996 and B920 and the A911 between Easter Balgedie and Burleigh Sands were reported to 'Clarence' on 23 July 2009. Each month since, prior to the CC meeting, a progress report has been requested. The same reason has been given for non-completion - road sweeper is broken down. Update requested on CC date, informed that the road had been swept. Road cleaning dept asked to confirm that position: not evident that cleaning had taken place and further contact agreed to be made w/c 16/11/09.

Signage at Scotlandwell: Request made to Clarence to remove picnic signs and replace with Well Green sign. Following an e-mail from a resident in Scotlandwell it appears the signs are on private ground (this wasn't previously stated). A further request has been made to remove the signs from the private property.

Lomond Country Inn: Planning application now followed the correct procedure. A number of local residents have raised the issue of noise from the outside bar area, especially if live or recorded music was played outside. It was unclear whether this was a planning or licensing arrangement; clarification was required.



The Lomond Country Inn, Kinnesswood

Land behind Wellside Motors: Building work has now started; residents will be able to see the depth of peat which has been removed before a sufficient sub structure of hard sand has been found as a sufficient basis for the construction of the road leading into the area.

The builders have cleaned out the ditch which runs alongside the access road to the Moss and they have also fenced off an area that was used as an 'unofficial' car park to the Moss. This piece of ground was auctioned off last year by the Water Board and is not part of the planning application process associated with the new houses. Any change in use of this piece of ground e.g. to be included in the 'house development' is likely to need planning approval but the latest contact with the builder confirms that the intention is to leave a number of parking spaces to be used by anyone accessing the Moss although the area will not be as large as the present 'unofficial' car park.

There is also some scope for consultation with the community regarding a small piece of ground alongside the track adjacent to the Causeway road. This will in fact be the entrance to the village and it may be an area that Scotlandwell in Bloom may wish to look at.

Wester Balgedie Appeal: Copy of a letter to Planning and Environmental Appeals received from local resident disputing a number of points in the Appeal Report and the hearing process. Letter is a request to have those points reviewed prior to the ratification of the Notice of Intention.

Insurance cover for CC members: The insurance cover has been renewed. There is still some detail required to be decided in the event that a CC was taken to Court.

Payment of school lets: Contacted the Chief Executive's office re extra expense not in this year's budget. The budget is to manage the CC which is made more difficult if a further expense is imposed.

Hedge alongside playing field, Bishop Terrace, Kinnesswood: Reported to Clarence. No contact has been made with CC as yet.

Subcommittee reports

Paths Group: The MBW sponsorship programme is now 'open' for residents to sponsor the walk. Notices will be put up explaining the system. Anyone wishing to take out

sponsorship should contact a Cllr or Stuart Garvie direct on 01592 840825.

Path between Gamekeepers and Cobbles, Kinnesswood: The Paths committee have made a site visit and investigating the possible direction they can take to improve the path.

Planning Group: The following applications were applicable to the area and were up to date at time of meeting:

09/01808/FLL, Erection of a terrace bar, Lomond Country Inn, Main Street, Kinnesswood, KY13 9HN.

09/01809/FLL, repainting of inn and annex, Lomond Country Inn, as above.

(See Matters Arising re above).

09/01831/FLL, Demolition and replacement of existing integral double garage and construction of 1st floor accommodation, 1 Silverbank, Scotlandwell, KY13 9JE.

(No comment).

09/01835/FUL Alterations and change of use from garage/workshop to dwellinghouse. Carraigin, Arnot Tower, Leslie, KY6 3JQ.

Management Group

Traffic calming: P&KC have decided to move the build out at Gamekeepers and also the one at the Leslie end of Scotlandwell to just inside the speed limit signs. This is to "include all the houses in both villages and give everyone the benefit of the system". They are also hoping to get the anti-skid surface extended on the Scotlandwell hill before the winter sets in. The new signs are also in the pipeline with all these items currently in the queue for the contractors. A resident raised the question of how far up the hill the anti-skid was due to be placed. He suggested it should be laid to the top of the hill and not the 30 metres planned.

Councillor Reports

Cllr Baird

The new Community Campus was up and running and well worth a visit.

There had been some good feedback regarding the World Café event in Kinross.

The Chairman had attended the event and did not share the same feelings as Cllr Baird. Whilst agreeing that the concept was excellent, more could have been achieved. He considered that there were a number of important points which could have been improved upon:

- Poor facilitation. One example was: following the group discussion, a summary was produced of key issues, although the facilitator had not visited each group to note their comments and it therefore appeared that this had already been written.
- Council asked to talk about key issues which were important to the community but only discussed issues pertinent to the Council, an attempt to steer discussion. An example of this was the time devoted to the topic, one hour, with 40 mins of that used by the Council to talk about the new campus. The residents were happy with the new campus so therefore did not wish to discuss the subject but wanted to talk about issues which they were not happy with.
- Council personnel not taking the exercise seriously enough.

Cllr Miller

Agreed that the turnout of residents had been quite disappointing and no doubt some things could have been done better but overall it was considered a worthwhile project.

Cllr Barnacle

Was unable to attend the World Café and understood that the Council leading the discussions was an issue. The important issue was to make something happen rather than have too many talking shops.

He had detailed previous concerns over the figures proposed in the Council Development plan, especially the numbers of new houses involved within the landward areas of Kinross-shire. His felt his concerns are justified following one housing development in Powmill area of around 300 houses compared with the P&KC estimate of 320 overall. It was suggested that further discussion with developers and the Council were required.

The recycling facilities at Kinross had now been improved.

Other Business

1. A resident raised the question whether the new Health Centre and School could cope with the apparent large number of new houses due for the area. The Cllrs confirmed that both sites could manage.

2. A resident queried the suitability of the homeless accommodation in Brough Terrace, Kinnesswood, detailing a number of different problems of living in this particular area quoting from his experience in working in this particular field. The Chairman had been in contact with the appropriate authorities very recently and the issues raised by the resident had already been discussed.

3. Kinnesswood in Bloom had written requesting the CC support and comment about a proposed booklet "A walk through Kinnesswood". Although no financial aid was possible the CC would assist where possible.

Communications

The full minutes (see www.portmoak.cc or Kinnesswood shop) contain a detailed list of all correspondence received since the last meeting. This is a sample:

Consultation paper on changes to Education (Scotland) Act 2004/09; Details of a neighbourhood management qualification; Copy of letter sent by a resident re Wester Balgedie appeal; Queries re planning presentation, DCM; Email re Loch Leven access route; Learning and networking in regeneration for community activists; P&KC re communication workshop; Email from KiB re sign; Email from P&KC enforcement re building work at Scotlandwell; P&KC re Good Practise Guidance for Local Councils and CCs; Letter from P&KC re adopting payphones; Convention of P&KCCs; Letter from KiB.

Minutes: Please note minutes are Draft until confirmed at next CC meeting.

The next meeting of Portmoak CC will be held in the Primary School at 7pm on Tuesday 8 December 2009.

www.portmoak.org

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Fossoway and District CC

News from the November Meeting

In attendance at the meeting held on 3 November were A Morrison, Alistair Lavery, Hugh Wallace, Sheila Anderson, Roderick Paterson and Marion Anness. Also in attendance were P&K Cllrs Robertson and Barnacle and 15 members of the public. Apologies were received from Trudy Duffy-Wigman. There were no declarations of interest.

Community Policing: The police had telephoned the chairman to inform him that because of operational matters they could not attend. No matters were raised by the public.

Minutes of the last meeting: Two amendments were made before signing off.

Mitigation measures for the A977: The CC and FORK had written to P&KC regarding the proposed measures. Mr Irons had responded and requested that the CC detail their preferred measures prior to a meeting with P&KC and the local ward councillors. Cllr Barnacle pointed out that the CC had agreed the proposals twice in the past when asked what they wanted the £250000 spent on. The community had agreed on smaller measures rather than one roundabout. It was felt that there were too many plans for things such as cycle paths that would contribute little towards making the road safer. There was only a limited sum available and it was important that the money should be spent wisely. After much discussion, it was felt that signs that lit up and indicated the speed of on-coming vehicles would be the most cost-effective way of slowing up the traffic and making the road safer. It was generally agreed that the whole project was underfunded. The volume of traffic, and the anticipated increase in volume, was a major concern which should be dealt with by implementing all the proposed measures. However, the priorities in the short term which were identified by the community were items 3, 4, and 5 from the list plus, a) signs which lit up and indicated the speed of the oncoming vehicles, and b) a Puffin style crossing in Crook of Devon on the road north of the Institute.

The meeting with the council and local councillors should also include representatives from Kinross CC and FORK.

The community also recorded their thanks to Cllr Barnacle for his efforts in securing the £250000 from the Scottish Government.

Lambhill forest: No more information at present but Jenny Crick will be contacted by Marion Anness for an up-date.

War Memorial, Blairingone: There seems to be some disagreement between the developer and the council over the site which has delayed the removal of the scaffolding on the site. Members of the public were concerned that this should be resolved before Remembrance Sunday. The CC will write to P&KC. There was a suggestion that contacting the press might yield results. Also contacting the British Legion was discussed.

CC Business: Sandy Morrison reported that Trudy Duffy-Wigman had attended a meeting of the Convention of Perth and Kinross CCs. It was thought to be good to keep in contact as it may help influence P&KC re finance and assistance. A Model Code regarding CCs and how they should operate has been produced by the Scottish Government. The code has not yet been sent out by P&KC and the chair will follow this up with P&KC.

P&K Councillors Reports: Cllr Barnacle had contact from residents in Blairingone expressing their concerns over stones on the verges. He is in discussion with the council to assist with their removal. Cllr Robertson was dealing with

complaints about over-grown hedges. He also announced that the Loch Leven Community Campus would be hosting an Open Day on 22 November. All welcome. He also confirmed that the facilities would be available for community groups. There is also a new Health Centre.

Development Proposal: There is a proposal from Thomson Homes for a development of 300 houses at Powmill. As it is a sizeable development, there will be a special meeting to discuss and consult with the developers. The meeting is on 16 November at 7.30pm in Mowbray Hall, Powmill. Residents from the Fossoway area are urged to attend this special meeting.

Planning Applications

09/01657/FLL Alterations and extension to house, Threapmuir Farm, Kinross, KY13 0LL. Extension to existing farmhouse buildings. No CC comment.

09/01650/FLL Erection of a dwelling house and garage, land 30 metres south-east of Mill Cottage, Crook of Devon. Four-bedroomed house, 1½ storeys of conventional design on a greenfield site. No CC comment.

09/01489/FLL, Erection of a log cabin (holiday let) (plot 1) Cairnfold Bungalow, Blairingone, FK14 7ND. An application for a log cabin for a holiday let. The site is a complex one with several other permissions granted. A previous application, 08/01597/FUL, was withdrawn. The CC approved but with reservations on siting, relationship to other applications on the site and its purpose. The current application does not address these issues. CC's recommendation: Refusal, on the grounds of commercial viability and location on a complex site.

09/01686/FLL Change of use of former MoD property to office accommodation, NATO complex, Kinross, KY13 0NW. Though this site is not in the CC area, concern was expressed about the current security lighting and the impact on the roads in the area. Recommendation: Letter to P&KC, asking for lighting levels to be restricted in the new development.

Appeal

08/00687/OUT. Two houses on land adjacent to Churchmoss Cottage, Carnbo.

General Correspondence: All in-coming and out-going correspondence was available for reading and comment. The chairman made the following comments: a) ASCC. The CC has renewed its membership. b) Redrawing boundaries for voting in Powmill area. Noted, no action necessary. c) Milnathort Community Police Check event. Cllr Robertson explained about the event and the scheme. Fossoway CC to investigate further. d) STUC conference, no volunteers. e) Recycling in Perth and Kinross. CC to follow up and arrange a presentation.

Other Business: There was a concern that parking at St. Serf's Church in Crook of Devon was beginning to cause obstruction. The church itself would look into the matter. The telephone kiosk at Powmill was available for adoption by the village, parish or CC for £1. There was discussion as to the merits of this arrangement but nothing was decided. More information was required.

The next meeting of Fossoway & District CC will take place at Carnbo Village Hall on Tuesday 1st December at 7.30pm.



Cleish & Blairadam CC

News from the October Meeting

The CC met on 19 October in the Tabernacle Hall, Blairadam. As only three CCllrs were able to attend, the Chairman said that although all items on the agenda would be discussed, no decisions would be taken. Apologies for absence were received from Richard Jeffrey, Margaret Traylor and Sandy Morton. In attendance were P&K Cllr Mike Barnacle, PC Lynn Petrie and the C&B Newsletter Editor with 10 members of the public.

Crime Prevention: PC Petrie had very little to report, apart from the theft of a plant pot in early September, and a case of fly tipping at Maryburgh in October. It was possible to establish the identity of those who had dumped the rubbish and action had been taken. Fly tipping is an increasing problem, not just in our area but all over the countryside, with farmers and others suffering from this form of desecration. We are asked to take this matter seriously, and to note registrations of suspect vans and lorries which are driving around, and also to have if possible a description of the occupants of these vehicles, and to report at once. It is also helpful to see if there is any form of identification among the rubbish which is being dumped, all of which can aid the police in their work.

The Chairman asked if there was any further information as to how Loch Glow might be promoted for leisure activities next year. Agreed that a contact with the fishermen would be helpful.

Cllr Barnacle is still awaiting a response from Till Hill concerning the entrances to the Forestry which can encourage the activities of the "undesirable" users of the hill road.

Tracks and Trails: Cllr Barnacle said that he had had comments to make on the proposals – this matter to be kept on the agenda.

Procedural Changes: Patricia Kitchin and Hugh Somerville had attended a long and useful meeting on this very important matter – Community Engagement in the Planning process/New Development Plans – Perth and Kinross:

The changes would include the following:-

Tayplan 2014 – this would involve the whole of the region i.e. Dundee, Perth and Kinross, Angus and North Fife.

The six development plans would now fall into one Development Plan.

The Council would be responsible for Neighbour Notification and boundaries would be increased to 20m.

Objections must be lodged within 21 days although the CC may ask for a 7 day extension if there is no meeting before the deadline.

It is most important that we all monitor the weekly lists – this affects the whole community – please do not wait to submit your comments, otherwise it might be too late.

Six objections are valid, although each household, not each member of the household, counts as one.

The CC counts as one.

A major development consists of 50 or more houses, 49 and under is a local development.

Appeals – a delegated decision will involve 3 councillors, with no obligation to visit the site.

A non delegated decision involves the Scottish Minister.

The CC can ask for an application to go on hold if there is no meeting within 21 days.

The full report of this meeting is available for anyone to read – please contact any member of the CC.

It was reported that the MSPs had asked for the Fast Track

procedure.

The Chairman said that the Website is very slow to respond and that something should be done to resolve this unsatisfactory situation.

She ended with two pieces of advice – the whole community must be involved in the planning process and keep to the deadline. She reminded the meeting that we had missed the deadline to comment on the proposed Wind Turbine at Nivingston.

It was reported that the Civic Trust had expressed concern at the plethora of individual turbines. A small single turbine will be permitted as from March 2010, subject to conditions.

Planning Applications

The following had been approved:

Woodlands, Nivingston – alterations and extension to garage. West Mains, Cleish.

Greenacres (retrospectively) the Planning Department are very reluctant to come to a meeting suggested by the CC.

The following are still pending: Woodlands (erection of 3 houses), Lochran Moss, Sunnyside, Kirkdale, Boreland Farm, Cleish Mill Farm, Dunvegan. For some reason Boreland Farm has disappeared from the website.

Chance Inn – application for 10 houses, reduced from 17. It was asked if this should not be the subject of a new application.

Housing in the Countryside – Policy Review: The Revised Policy was passed on 30 September 2009.

Roads: The tree stump at the entrance to the cemetery had been removed. Work has been done on the road at Templeton Farm.

The next meeting of Cleish & Blairadam CC will take place on Monday 7 December at 7.30pm in Cleish Village Hall.

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Articles & Features

A Himalayan Climb

by Dave Morris

High on the mountain a cloud of spindrift tore across the upper slopes and out into space, the swirling snow briefly obscuring the rising sun. It was 7.30am and there was no sign of human activity. We feared that high winds over Ama Dablam would keep the climbers pinned into Camp 3 on what had been planned as summit day.

The tension was considerable, knowing that the five climbers and four sherpas above included my 16 year old son, Calum, who was extending his October school holiday in order to climb a 22,000 ft Himalayan peak. I wondered how he was dealing with the wind, the snow and the cold on a mountain which Sir Edmund Hillary had once described as "unclimbable".

We arrived in Kathmandu on 4 October, joining friend and mountain guide, Sandy Allan, along with other members of our Team Ascent expedition. Three days later, with food and equipment for a month in the mountains, we clambered into a small plane for our flight to the Everest region. This was scary. Mist and rain obscured most of the landscape until we suddenly plunged down through a gap in the clouds. Moments later, somewhat relieved, we landed at a tiny airstrip perched between terraced fields and a steep rocky hillside.



*Ama Dablam from base camp.
Ascent by right hand skyline and summit snow face*

Two days later the sun came out and marvellous weather followed – blue skies every day. Only Everest, with its ever-present plume of cloud and wind blown snow, reminded us that up near the summits conditions were going to be harsh. For over two weeks we prepared for Ama Dablam, walking several hours a day through fields, villages, forests and rugged hillsides. We slowly adjusted to the altitude, resting frequently. We practised our climbing techniques and ascended through steep snow and ice to 20,000 ft on a training peak. We walked to Everest base camp and then finally arrived at Ama Dablam base camp on 19 October.



Dave and Calum at Camp one, with Ama Dablam behind

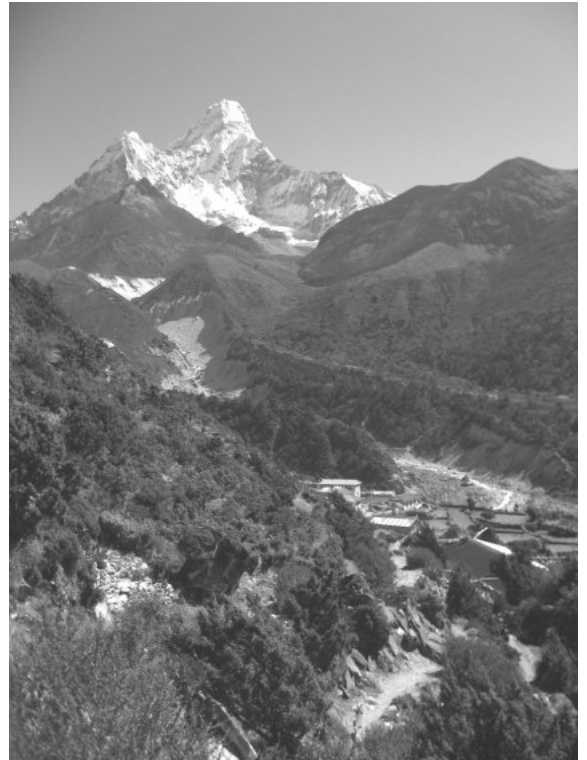
At this stage plans had to change – a chest infection was constraining my acclimatisation. Having had my voice box removed in a hospital operation in January, as a result of cancer, I was already restricted to breathing through a hole (stoma) in my throat. So a more passive role followed as I swallowed the antibiotics and prepared to follow the climbing action with my binoculars.

For three days I watched the climbers move up to Camp 1 and then along a narrow ridge. Rock slabs, pinnacles and towers barred the way. Rest was not easy, in small tents perched on ledges over massive precipices. The approach to the final camp required steady balance with steep snow slopes falling away to each side and large ice cliffs nearby.

Then, at 7.45am on 25 October, the wind began to ease. The climbers appeared, ant like figures, black dots on a white backdrop, slowly moving up the snowy ridge that led to the top. Just after 1pm they reached the summit and excited voices over the radio said everything was OK. Summit photos were soon followed by a steady descent to the camps below. Four hours later Calum reported he was back in camp 3, drinking tea and getting the warmth returning to his fingers and toes. Next day the climb ended with the long descent to base camp, covering the final slopes by moonlight. Then followed the satellite phone call home to Kinnesswood to report the good news of a successful climb – and to hear about the excitement of the first few days in the new Kinross High School!



Calum and Dave with Teenage Cancer Trust banner at Everest base camp



Approach to Ama Dablam base camp from Pangboche



Team Ascent members and sherpas at base camp

During this climb of what has long been recognised as one of the world's most beautiful mountains, Calum has been raising money for the **Teenage Cancer Trust**. This acknowledges the help the Trust have given to his sister, Esme, who had a brain tumour operation in 2006 when she was 11 years old. Anne, Esme, Calum and Dave are extremely grateful for the generous donations made to TCT in response to news of the expedition's progress in the November edition of the Newsletter. For further information about the expedition and to give your support to TCT in their efforts to develop new facilities in Edinburgh please go to

www.justgiving.com/CalumMacintyre

or send a cheque made out to *Teenage Cancer Trust* to Calum Morris Macintyre at 2, Bishop Terrace, Kinnesswood, Kinross, KY13 9JW.

Fundraising will continue through to the end of December – please help us to reach our second summit – £6,500!



A huge achievement - Calum on the summit of Ama Dablam

*See these and other photographs from the expedition in colour on the Newsletter website, www.kinrossnewsletter.org
Click on Features then Articles Online.*

What is an e-Bike?

Local residents will have noticed the former 'Hope Chest' premises being fitted out in recent weeks. Proprietor Bob Watson told the Newsletter more about the new business starting there:

From its position in Kinross High Street, close to the start of the Loch Leven Heritage Trail, **The Scottish eBike Centre** sells and rents electric bicycles along with standard bicycles. The first thing most people ask though is: "What is an electric bicycle?" Basically, an electric bicycle is just like a normal bicycle but it is fitted with an electric motor in either the front or the rear wheel and has, usually, a Lithium Ion battery to provide the power. To operate it, the rider can pedal as normal or use a "throttle" to get assistance when required – particularly for hills or headwinds.

Most people will view an electric bike like a "moped" except the big difference is that an electric bike has absolutely no emissions and is extremely cheap to run – around the equivalent of 1000mpg! The important thing though, is that an electric bicycle or electric powered tricycle gets you out and about on a bicycle without you breaking into a sweat. If hills, headwinds, longer distances, getting on a bit or illness were once a hindrance, an electric bicycle can remove these boundaries and leave nothing but wide-open freedom and fun.

Not only will The Centre be selling electric bicycles but they will be available for hire and we will be working with local hotels and other businesses to provide "Cycle Break Holidays" in and around Kinross. This should help to bring much needed tourism into the town.

Customers can rent an ebike by the half-day and we are catering for whole families by having standard bicycles available for rent as well as kids' bikes. The Loch Leven Heritage Trail provides an easy and safe day out for everyone.

We also do not expect everyone in Kinross to suddenly decide to buy an electric bicycle and we will be advertising The Centre all over Scotland. Kinross is easy to get to from virtually anywhere in Scotland due to its proximity to the motorway network and once again, we are hoping that this will increase the amount of people coming to Kinross.

Links: www.alienbikes.co.uk, www.synergiebikes.com

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The Kirklands are at it again!

Anthony and Shona are doing the final stages of their planned refurbishment work to the Kirklands Hotel.

The bedrooms and bathrooms are getting a complete refurbishment and the public toilets are getting a brand new look as well. Shona said, "we are quite excited about the work and both the toilets and bedrooms will be finished to a standard people have come to expect from the Kirklands."

The hotel will be open as normal throughout December with festive bookings now being taken. Menus are available at the hotel or on the Website: www.thekirklandshotel.com

The whole building will close from **1 January** for the rip out of the bedrooms and for the work on the public toilets. The restaurant and the bar will reopen at 5.00 pm on **17 January** complete with new look toilets. The bedrooms will reopen at the start of February.

Anthony said, "please feel welcome to pop in and have a look - we would be delighted to take you on a tour of the finally finished Kirklands Hotel !"



The Kirklands Hotel, now in the final stages of refurbishment

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Local children need you

A safe and welcoming home is something that most of us enjoy. It is something that all children need. Some children, however, cannot rely on their own families to care for them. For vulnerable children, foster carers and adoptive parents can provide a vital lifeline to a safe and happy start in life. The rewards of fostering or adoption can be as great for the carers as they are for the youngsters.

Ann adopted two children, sister and brother. She says: "Adoption can be an amazing outcome for families. The bond we have with our children is exceptional, they are incredible, loving children and every day they make us proud to be their parents."

Lesley, who has been fostering children for four years, says: "The good things about fostering are working with the kids and seeing the results as they grow and recover in our care." P&KC is appealing for more people to open their homes and lives to local children and young people needing a secure and caring family environment.

The Council is looking for a range of carers:

- Foster carers for children of varying ages, to provide a supportive family home on a long-term basis;
- Full-time carers for teenagers;
- Adoptive families for sibling groups, to give a permanent home to help brothers and sisters stay together; and
- Carers willing to provide supported accommodation for young people over 16 leaving care and moving on to independent living. In most cases the young person would be attending work or college.

Andy Turnbull, Service Manager, P&KC Children's Services, stresses the amount of support and training that carers receive:

"As all families will know, looking after children can at times be difficult. If youngsters need to turn to foster carers or to adoption for a secure family life, it may mean that they have had to live through difficult experiences they need help to move on from. We provide every foster carer and adoptive family with on-going support from the time they make their first enquiry for as long as they need it."

Janice, a foster carer for teenagers, says: "The initial training and preparatory process is thorough and well presented, with ample opportunity for open discussion. Good quality training is available on an ongoing basis, covering a wide range of subjects to help meet carers' needs, extend your knowledge or develop your skills. Every foster carer has their own support worker, and assistance is always readily available. There is also a good support network of carers and regular opportunities to meet with people who understand what you are striving to achieve and why you do it."

Ann backs this up in terms of support for adoptive parents: "We had to attend an intensive preparation group which helped us to understand the needs of children, to develop parenting strategies and prepare for lifestyle changes. This was very helpful and we have remained in touch with other people in the group. This has been an important source of support. We have also had excellent support and advice from the Council's Permanence Team. They have been very responsive to our needs. The needs of our adopted children will change as they grow up and there will probably be long periods when we don't require advice but we know it is there for us and the children at any time."

As well as support and training, allowances are provided for carers, and a salary for teenage foster carers.

Councillor Elizabeth Grant, Convener for Lifelong Learning, underlined the important role that carers play:

"It is vital that we as adults do all we can to give children and young people a happy start in life. Carers, through fostering or adoption, can make this possible for vulnerable children."

Andy Turnbull says: "If you feel you could give a child or young person the care and support they need, through fostering or adoption, or by providing supported accommodation, please get in touch. We will be happy to answer your questions and give you the information you need."

Contact the Council on 01738 783450 or email ecs.fosteringandadoption@pkc.gov.uk for more information. *(Names have been changed to protect identities.)*

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Castle boat named "Mary's Spirit"

One of the boats which ferries visitors across the waters to Lochleven Castle now proudly bears the name "Mary's Spirit" thanks to local schoolgirl Rosie Cormack.

Earlier this year the 10-year-old won a competition in which Kinross Primary School pupils were invited to come up with a name for the vessel.

There were lots of excellent entries, but Rosie's was the winner because it captured the romance of the castle and its links to Mary, Queen of Scots.

Now the name has been painted on the side of the boat and a little plaque has been fixed inside which commemorates the competition and its winner, who was nine at the time.



Rosie Cormack beside the plaque on "Mary's Spirit" with Willie McMaster of Historic Scotland

In October Rosie and her mum Elaine and brother David were invited along to take a look at Mary's Spirit.

She said: "I picked the name because we had been doing a project on Mary, Queen of Scots at school and because of the story that her ghost still wanders the castle."

The queen was imprisoned at the castle for nearly a year before making her escape in 1568, after which her forces were defeated at the battle of Langside and she fled across the border to exile in England.

Willie McMaster, the Lochleven Castle guide who organised the competition, said: "It seemed a shame that a boat which takes visitors to and from the castle did not have a name, and it seemed like a good idea to ask the schoolchildren to help."

"We were very impressed with the number of good ideas and it was hard to choose just one winner."

"But we went for Mary's Spirit because so many of the people who come here are fascinated by the tale of how she escaped from the castle by boat."

Rosie's prize was a £40 book token and a trip to the castle in the boat she named.

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Island Castle manager waves farewell

Duncan retires after 11 years at Lochleven

Duncan McMillan, monument manager of Lochleven Castle for the past eleven years, has retired.

Mr McMillan said: "I've really loved my time here. The island is such a peaceful place, and whichever way you look the view is beautiful."

"While I've been here we have had thousands of visitors from all over the world, like Hawaii, Alaska, Russia and the old Iron Curtain countries, and further east from China."

"Some people love the place and come back year after year and sometimes you build up a real rapport with visitors".

"I remember one American group leader and his woman assistant who brought a group here as part of a tour of the gardens of Scotland. The next year they returned with a bottle of champagne. They had got married that day and wanted to toast the event on the island. A couple of years after that they were back with their first child."

Mr McMillan spent 32 years with the Fife police before becoming involved with the heritage industry, spending a year at Glamis Castle, which is closely associated with the Queen Mother. But it was while working for Historic Scotland at Lochleven he first met a royal, in 2001 when he provided Princess Margaret with a guided tour of the castle. Other visitors have included the screen historians and personalities David Starkey and Neil Oliver.

The job at the castle appealed to Mr McMillan because he had always been interested in history, and also had fond childhood memories of fishing expeditions with his dad on boats out on the River Forth.

At 65, however, a whole new chapter is opening up.

"My wife has lots of plans for us, and I'm looking forward to spending lots of time walking the dogs and I'm also hoping to blow the cobwebs off my golf clubs."

J. MILLER

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Advanced Spanish Conversation	Mon 18 Jan	9.45 – 11.45 am	10 weeks	£65
French Beginners	Mon 18 Jan	7 – 9 pm	10 weeks	£65
French 2	Thur 21 Jan	7 – 9 pm	10 weeks	£65
Improving your French Conversation	Tue 19 Jan	1 – 3 pm	10 weeks	£65
Advanced French Conversation	Tue 19 Jan	10.30-12.30 pm	10 weeks	£65
Italian Beginners	Tue 19 Jan	6 – 8 pm	10 weeks	£65
Improving your Italian Conversation	Tue 19 Jan	3.30 – 5.30 pm	10 weeks	£65
German Beginners	Wed 20 Jan	5 – 7 pm	10 weeks	£65
German Improvers	Wed 20 Jan	7 – 9 pm	10 weeks	£65

COMPUTING ★

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Welcome to Computing	Tue 2 Feb	2 – 4 pm	8 weeks	£53
Effective PC Management	Tues 2 Feb	12 – 2 pm	8 weeks	£53

ART ★

Advanced Watercolours	Mon 18 Jan	2 – 4 pm	10 weeks	£65
Watercolours 4	Thur 21 Jan	1.30-3.30 pm	10 weeks	£65
Watercolours 5	Wed 20 Jan	1.30-3.30 pm	10 weeks	£65
Beginners Watercolours	Mon 18 Jan	7 – 9 pm	10 weeks	£65
The Art of Drawing	Wed 20 Jan	9.45-11.45 am	10 weeks	£65

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY ★

Intermediate Digital Photography	Wed 20 Jan	6.30 – 8.30 pm	8 weeks	£59
Introduction to Digital Photography	Wed 20 Jan	3 – 5 pm	10 weeks	£77

GENERAL INTEREST

The World of Antiques	Fri 22 Jan	9.30-11.30 am	10 weeks	£65
Introduction to Indian Head Massage	Thurs 21 Jan	10 - 12	5 weeks	£38
Aromatherapy for use in the home	Thur 25 Feb	10 - 12	5 weeks	£38

Act One Scene One

Pre school children in Kinross started drama classes in November with the Helen O'Grady Drama Academy.

After 30 successful years of teaching confidence, good communication skills and theatre techniques to children of school age, the Academy launched a brand new curriculum this term designed for children aged 3 to 5.

Every three weeks a different theme is explored: the children have been looking at transport, making the sounds of trains, lorries and buses, moving like bicycles, hot air balloons and space rockets, following directions, asking for tickets and learning some road safety. Future topics will cover teddies, the circus and the ocean.

For more information contact Barbara on 01382 330052 or visit www.helenogradys.co.uk



Drama classes for pre-school children at the Helen O'Grady Academy

Another new business opens in town

The Gallery is an exciting new retail venture in the heart of Kinross. It stocks a wide range of items including original artworks, art supplies, crafts, jewellery, fair trade products and handmade products. Offering high quality products at affordable prices is central to the ethos of The Gallery. So whether you are an art enthusiast, a lover of fine unique jewellery, a supporter of fair trade or looking for a special gift, there should be something for you. The owner told the Newsletter more about the range of goods on offer:

- A diverse range of artworks which will change periodically, so it will be worth popping in to see new works on display.
- A comprehensive selection of art supplies by Daler Rowney, available for all of those practising artists as well as anyone who feels inspired and would like to try their hand at being creative!
- A great selection of craft items which shows the talents of local, national and international makers.
- Our jewellery collection is an eclectic mix of pieces by local artists and imported items supporting fair trade schemes in countries such as India and Poland.
- We have an indulgent range of high quality, organic, chocolates handmade by The Chocolate Tree of Haddington – ideal to treat yourself or as a gift.
- A wide range of other curiosities including fossils, crystal and semi-precious stones which have to be seen to be appreciated.

Grants for private water supplies

If your home or business is served by a private water supply such as a burn, borehole or spring, you can receive up to £800 in grant from Perth & Kinross Council to improve the safety of your water.

Private water supplies are especially vulnerable to contamination which can cause illnesses such as E.coli 0157 or campylobacter.

Grants are available to fund work that will protect water supplies from contamination, such as tank improvements, disinfection treatment systems, fencing around water sources or establishing a new source.

Over 300 properties in Perthshire have already benefited from grants totalling more than £225,000. Grants are not means tested.

One group of residents near Blairgowrie used their grant to assist with the costs of renewing the protection of their spring source. They also installed new tanks and treatment systems at their properties.

Martin Barrow, a resident who led the project, said:

"The availability of the grant from the Council made the cost more acceptable as we were able to put every householder's grant towards the project which lowered the end cost to each property.

"The Council team were very helpful and did everything they could to assist us in upgrading our system in the most practical way, and so we were able to bring it in on time and only a little over budget."

Community Safety Convener, Councillor Willie Robertson, said:

"The Council's Water Team is available to carry out free checks of private water supplies. A member of the Team will examine the water source and its infrastructure, provide advice on possible improvements, and explain the simple process of applying for grant assistance. A clean water supply is obviously essential to good health. If you have a private water supply I would encourage you to contact the Team and find out if any action is required to keep your water safe."

The Water Team welcomes enquiries for further information. If you have a private water supply and would like to contact the Team, please call 01738 476476 or email ES@pkc.gov.uk

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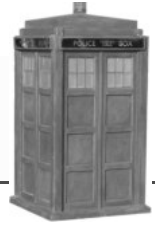
Radiance facials/make-up

Come in and relax and let us
take care of your Christmas shopping

**1 Parliament Square, Kinross
01577 863364**



**Deadline for all Submissions
2.00 pm, MONDAY 11 January
for publication on Saturday 23 January**



Police Box

Community Engagement

The new Community Campus is now open and we all look forward to interesting and exciting times ahead. It is an opportunity for the community to engage together in many varied activities and for the new High School to be part of this.

Tayside Police are also very keen to be part of the Community and we now have a new team of Community Crime Officers working within the Kinross and surrounding areas. As well as being regular visitors within the campus we would like to reach out to the more rural communities and engage with the residents to make officers more accessible and to provide public reassurance.



The new Western Division Mobile Office

Western Division, the area that covers Perth and Kinross, has purchased a specially adapted police vehicle to become a mobile office. The Mobile Office will be available at the Campus Community Event on Friday 20 November and in the future will visit the more rural areas of Kinross-shire on a monthly basis. The provisional dates for visiting the rural areas are:

Crook of Devon – Powmill – Glenfarg:

Tuesdays 17 November, 15 December and 19 January 2010.

Milnathort – Portmoak:

Wednesdays 18 November, 16 December and 20 January 2010.

Festive Period

The festive period is almost upon us again, a season of goodwill and cheer. We would like to keep it that way, so once again please remain vigilant. If you see or hear anything suspicious, contact us **at the time**, help us to help you.

We will all be Christmas shopping for our loved ones, giving and receiving presents. Our houses will be full of gifts and we will be visiting, leaving our own houses unoccupied.

Remember to be sensible. Secure your homes, leave lights on giving the appearance that you are still at home, don't leave valuables in view of windows. If going away over the festive period, let someone know; ask a relative, friend or neighbour to keep an eye on your house. Don't forget to cancel newspapers, milk etc.

BE SAFE, BE SECURE.

HAVE A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS.

CRIME STOPPERS - Telephone Number 0800 555 111

This telephone number is a free phone number, unless you are using a mobile phone, which any member of the public can contact at any time, if they have information relating to criminal activity of any sort. It is, if you wish, confidential and you cannot be contacted if you choose to remain anonymous. Community Crime Officers (details shown below) can be contacted at Kinross Police Office on 0300 111 2222.

Constable Ishbel Wallace – Kinross.

Constable Brian Easton - Milnathort, Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell.

Constable Euan Mitchell - Cleish & Blairadam, Crook of Devon, Powmill, Blairingone, Cambo and Glenfarg areas.

Loch Leven Community Library Author events

Highly acclaimed Glaswegian author, **Maggie Craig**, will be visiting the new Loch Leven Community Library in Kinross to promote her two latest novels *One Sweet Moment* and *Bare-Arsed Banditti: The Men of the '45* on **Tuesday 8 December** from 2.30pm until 3.45pm.

One Sweet Moment is a historical novel set in 1820s Edinburgh, whilst *Bare-Arsed Banditti: The Men of the '45* tells the fascinating stories of many of the men involved in the Highland Uprising of 1745-46. The volume recounts tales about the supporters of Bonnie Prince Charlie as well as those who opposed him.

Maggie will talk about her new books and read excerpts from them. There will be a question and answer session as well as the opportunity to purchase signed copies of the volumes.

Free tickets are available from Kinross Library and the AK Bell Library, Perth on a first come, first served basis.

Well-known wilderness hiker, backpacker, author and broadcaster **Cameron McNeish** will visit Loch Leven Community Library, Kinross on Thursday evening, **17 December**, to give an illustrated talk on his recent television programme which follows him walking the Sutherland Trail from Lochinver to Tongue and climbing the Suilven, Foinaven and Ben Loyal hills en-route.

He will examine the land which he passed through whilst following the Trail which is magnificently untamed and unpopulated, as well as discuss the Trail itself which follows ancient pathways, stalker's routes and hill tracks through one of the most geologically fascinating regions of the UK. Sutherland is revealed as a land rich in glorious scenery, wildlife and natural resources.

After his talk Cameron will hold a question and answer session. There will also be the opportunity to purchase signed books and DVDs.

'Sutherland - The Empty Lands' will start at 7.30pm. Tickets, costing £7.00 are available from Loch Leven Community Library, Kinross and the AK Bell Library in Perth on a first come, first served basis.



Club & Community Group News

Kinnesswood In Bloom



CSV Make a difference day: On Saturday 31 October lots of helpers turned up for a morning of "Wild Weeding" at the Wildflower area in Gamekeepers Road. The brave weeders were served tea, coffee and home-baking for their efforts!

Portmoak School Pond: On Monday 2 November the school pond was officially opened by Sandy Howe from RSPB Vane Farm. The Britain in Bloom judges were most impressed with the pond as they toured the school on Judging Day. The pond is already attracting wildlife and will provide a valuable teaching resource for the school.

KIB members have been maintaining the school grounds over the holidays. A recent work party tidied up the borders and cut back bushes.

Mulching: The KIB team were recently offered recycled compost from the playgroup. This proved to be excellent mulching material to put on areas such as the Lavender Walk.



Kinnesswood In Bloom members mulching the Lavender Walk

Meetings and Work Parties: Meetings are open to all and are usually held on the first Thursday of the month at the Lomond Country Inn. Work parties are on Saturday mornings from 10am until 12 noon (weather permitting!). Check the Notice Board for up to date information.

Kinross Garden Group



Our November meeting, attended by 52 members and visitors, was addressed by Alison McKinnie of Waste Aware Scotland who gave us a talk on Home Composting. She explained what could go in and what to leave out and also a bin suitable for composting materials not far from the back door a good idea for winter use.

Our next meeting is on **Thursday 10 December** in the Mill Bridge Halls, Kinross at 2pm. We will be delighted to welcome Ian Young from Aberdeen who will give a talk, "A Fisherman's Tale". What has this to do with gardening? Come along to find out more.

Our **Festive Lunch** takes place on **Thursday 14 January** at the Windlestrae Hotel, Kinross, meeting there at 12.30pm for 1pm. Money to be paid for this at the December meeting.

Kinross & District Rotary Club



Members have enjoyed another period of excellent speakers, starting with Graeme Tarbet who told us about his involvement as Producer of the Dundee Tape Newspaper for the Blind, a voluntary organisation, providing 60 minute monthly magazine cassette tapes. Items include gardening hints, short stories, serials, pre-recorded celebrity interviews and other magazine material.

Our next speaker was club member Allan Russell, who gave us a potted history of his interesting career, from early years as an apprentice machine tool designer with Hoover producing designs for machines to make vacuum cleaners and washing machines to later transfer into pure electronics with Phillips, Burrows and Digital. Allan completed his talk with slides showing the process for electronic chip assembly and wafer fabrication.

On 9 November we were treated to a highly professional presentation by Johanna Weir and Ruaraidh Lauder, senior pupils at the High School, on the subject of their participation in the 2009 Rotary Youth Leadership Award scheme. Each had enjoyed one week at the Abernethy Trust Outdoor Centre, Nethybridge in July, sponsored by the Kinross Club, where between physical challenges of gorge walking, kayaking, hill walking, orienteering, etc., they were presented with talks on various topics and took part in sports, quizzes and survival challenges. The scheme is supported by Rotary clubs throughout Scotland and involves team building, with each participant being encouraged to take their turn at leadership.

Club activities in the month have included assisting with marshalling at the KLEO Summer's End Market which unfortunately coincided with one of the wetter days in the period and salvaging some very useful redundant equipment from the old High School which is now en-route to the Wumenu Community Farm project in Ghana.

Please have a look at our web site at www.kinrossrotary.org for more information about Rotary, both in this area and internationally and to learn of the sterling work carried out by Rotarians throughout the world.

Our Wishing Well provides an opportunity for the public to contribute to support for the victims of natural disasters such as recent earthquakes and tsunami in the South Pacific and to Rotary's massive project to rid the world of Polio, amongst other projects. We are very grateful to Loch Leven's Larder and Sainsbury for accommodating the Wishing Well; it is currently at the Larder while Sainsbury's entrance is being altered, but will return to the supermarket for a further period once the works are completed. Many thanks to the folks who have contributed so far – be assured that your donations are helping to make life more bearable for people suffering elsewhere in the world, through Rotary Foundation, our non profit making charity. (Read all about this and other topics on our web site).

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

Common Grounds

Our log fire is burning bright these cold late autumn days as we head towards Christmas festival time, please do come along and enjoy the fire, Fairtrade coffee and tea, and of course, the company.

AGM: Our AGM is now done and dusted, with the coming year's Committee now installed as follows: Convener – James Henry, Vice Convener - Claudia Pleass, Treasurer (still vacant), Secretary - Linda Freeman, Project Co-ordinator - Sheila Wardell, Assistant Project Co-ordinator (being considered), Volunteer's Representatives - Frances Miller and Patricia Payne. We have just finished our second best year ever and were able to make 15 donations to different charities amounting to £11,400 over our past financial year. The Convener thanked all the Volunteers and Committee members, without whom none of this would have been possible. Also a big thank you to the Guide and Scout Hall Committee, and last but not least the public, whose support is equally important.

Project: Our present project is Wateraid Zambia. Those of you with a good memory will be correct in thinking we have already given to Wateraid, but that was in Ethiopia. The current one is in the southern province with an annual rainfall that is very poor. As is usual in many parts of Africa, the available water is far away and tends to be dirty and very bad for drinking, and the carrying of water is undertaken by women and children. Boreholes are the preferred method of obtaining clean reliable water and pump technology has come a long way to help extraction.

Project lunch: Our project lunch on Saturday 14 November at 12.30pm was attended by 30 people who heard Lizzie and Sandra Cameron give a most enlightening talk on the work of the Lake Victoria Disability Centre. It was interesting to hear them speak about the financing and making of tri-cycles out of old cycles and of course filling in holes in pathways. This is only a taste of what they spoke



about. Afterwards a lunch of homemade soup, bread, sandwiches and cakes was enjoyed by all, along with Fairtrade tea and coffee. A vote of thanks was given to Lizzie and Sandra. Thank you to the Volunteers and public who also made this event a great success; some £200 was collected for future projects. Our next project lunch will be mid January.

Book Club: The book club continues to meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Guide and Scout Hall. If you are interested in joining the club and wish to know if a space is available please contact Marlene Whyte on 01592 840371.

Volunteers: You will have noticed that on several occasions we have had to close some afternoons. This was regrettable but necessary as we have a shortage of Volunteers available to work in the cafe area. We would be pleased to speak with any person, male or female, young or old, who may be interested in volunteering.

As usual our opening hours are 10am – 3pm on Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at the Guide and Scout Hall, Church Street, Milnathort.

Contacts outside of opening hours are – James Henry (Convener) 01577 864452 and Linda Freeman (Secretary) 01577 865045.



Jim Henry of Common Grounds with Sandra and Lizzie Cameron



Lomond Antiques and Collectors Club



The speaker at the November meeting was textile and costume expert, Naomi Tarrant, whose topic was "Simply Samplers". The emphasis was on Scottish samplers and although we saw an English example dating back to 1598, the earliest known Scottish example dates from 1710. Early samplers were stitched in green and red, but gradually, other colours appear. While it is often assumed they were stitched by young girls, some were the work of more mature women. Early examples lack the letters J and U. Popular patterns include Adam and Eve, rosebush trees, milkmaids, and dogs chasing rabbits. Lilies were a popular flower and often seen animals were leopards, lions, deer and the unicorn. Young girls were rewarded for mastering the art of plain sewing by being permitted to work on a sampler, many of which featured a religious admonition or an example such as "I have done this to let you see what care my parents took of me." By the seventeenth century, girls were given an education to enable them to look after a household or get a job as a seamstress. Similarities in some samplers show the influence of local school mistresses. Their pupils certainly went out into the world well prepared for their stitching duties.

Lodge St Serf No 327

December

- | | |
|----------|--|
| Tue 1st | Regular Meeting at 7.15pm.
AGM no visitors please. |
| Tue 8th | General Committee Meeting at 7.30pm to arrange work for next Degree, any other competent business. Put up Christmas Decorations. |
| Sat 12th | Children's Christmas Party in the Hall at 6pm. Usual games etc. Santa expected around 8pm. |
| Sat 19th | Regular Meeting, Installation of Office Bearers at 4.00pm. |



Portmoak Hall 100 Club

September Draw

- | | | |
|-----|-------|------------------------------|
| 1st | No 49 | Janet Lowe, Kinnesswood |
| 2nd | No 45 | Margaret Wilson, Kinnesswood |
| 3rd | No 38 | Mrs E Boyd, Wester Balgedie |

October Draw

- | | | |
|-----|-------|------------------------------|
| 1st | No 36 | Jenny Green, Easter Balgedie |
| 2nd | No 13 | Marlene Whyte, Kinnesswood |
| 3rd | No 66 | Joan Smith, Scotlandwell. |

Kinross High School Parent Council

% Kinross High School, Loch Leven Community
Campus, Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8FQ



New High School

The school is now well and truly established in its marvellous new home. Happily the fears about traffic congestion during the morning start do not seem to have been realised. There are however ongoing concerns as to the road safety measures in place for children walking to and from school. There also continue to be a number of teething problems with the school catering arrangements, especially excessive queuing times at lunchtime. No doubt all these concerns will be addressed as the school settles properly into its new surroundings.

The Big Campus Ceilidh

The Big Campus Ceilidh organised by the EFT as part of the "Big Campus Weekend" celebrations on Saturday 21 November was a great success and a fitting and traditional way to mark the opening of the new campus. Well done to everyone who helped make it such an enjoyable evening.

The K Factor

The famous Kinross High School "K Factor" annual talent contest organised by the EFT will take place in the assembly hall at the new campus on **Friday 19 February 2010**. The contest is open to any pupil (or groups of pupils) at KHS and auditions for the final show will take place in January. Entry forms are available from the school office and the closing date for submitting entries is **Friday 11 December**. Tickets for the show will go on sale in January. Come on children, why not banish your stage fright and show us your hidden talent.

KHSPC Website

After a number of hiccups the new KHSPC website www.khspc.org.uk will at last go active at the start of the new year. The aim of the website is to help provide better communication within the high school Parent Forum. The site is split into three main areas. The first deals with KHSPC correspondence etc, the second looks after EFT activities, and the third deals with the KHSPC new blazer "shop". Whilst it is still a work in progress and will be developed as we learn from experience, it is hoped the new website will grow to become the focus for KHS Parent Forum activities.

KHS Former Pupils

After many months of searching we've finally managed to track down a Former Pupil who is willing to help set up and run a KHS FP Association. The new FPA will hopefully be up and running early next year. It is open to any former pupils and teachers of KHS, and the old Kinross Secondary School. The KHSPC is happy to provide whatever help is needed to get the FPA off the ground and to support it when it is up and running. Any FPs willing to help with the FPA please contact the KHSPC Vice Chair Jaffrey Weir.

School Blazers

The number of new school purple blazers sold by the KHSPC has shot past the 400 mark and together with the large number of old style blazers back in circulation, well over half the pupils at the school are now wearing blazers. A quite remarkable achievement and a credit to the school. Demand is such that despite the arrival of new stock at the end of October we have again sold out of many sizes

especially girls' sizes. The good news is that although they normally don't make school blazers at this time of year, our suppliers have agreed to manufacture a new batch and these should arrive early next term. In the meanwhile we still have blazers for sale in the larger girls' sizes and nearly all the boys' sizes. Anyone wishing to purchase one of the blazers we have in stock, or order one of the blazers arriving in January, please contact the school office or alternatively the KHSPC Chair.

New stock for the next academic year will be manufactured in the spring and delivered before the end of the current academic year. The KHSPC will start taking orders for next school year's stock of blazers from February onwards. If you have any questions regarding the new blazers or the Kinross High School uniform policy in general please contact the KHSPC Chair Andy Williams.

Role of the KHSPC

The objectives of the KHSPC are broadly to represent the views of the parents of pupils at the school in the areas of education and welfare. We wish to work in partnership with the school to create a positive and proactive environment which supports pupils, staff and parents. Within the KHSPC the Events and Fundraising Team looks after the activities of the old Parent Teacher Association.

The next KHSPC meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday 12 January 2010** starting at 7.15 pm at the new campus. Parents and guardians of pupils attending Kinross High School are most welcome to attend the meeting. The next meeting of the EFT will take place at the campus on **Tuesday 19 January 2010** starting at 7.00 pm.

The elected officers of the KHSPC for the 2009/10 academic year are:

Chair: Andy Williams 01577 861682,
a.b.williams@btopenworld.com
Vice Chair: Jaffrey Weir 01577 865780,
jaffreyweir@lebc-group.com
Treasurer: Denis Sweeney 01577 861651,
sweeney5@tiscali.co.uk

If you wish to raise any issue regarding the KHSPC and parental involvement in the High School please don't hesitate to contact one of the above officers. Alternatively you may write to the Chair care of the school address noted above.

We are always looking for volunteers to help with the work of the KHSPC and its EFT. Any parent (or guardian) of a pupil studying at KHS may volunteer as a parent member of the KHSPC. For further information please contact Andy Williams the KHSPC Chair.

GARDEN MACHINERY SHARPENED AND SERVICED

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- STRIMMERS
- STONECUTTERS
- ALL SMALL PLANT

**Don't delay
Contact George Shorthouse now on**

01577 863245 or 07842 195037

News from Portmoak Primary

Ribbon Cut at Portmoak Pond

Portmoak PS has celebrated the completion of a pond in the school grounds with a grand opening ceremony. Mr Sandy Howe of the RSPB cut the red ribbon and led a morning of activities for the children in P5/6. The pond, which is already attracting wildlife, will be a valuable teaching resource. This is the largest school pond in the area of Perth and Kinross and has taken two years to develop. The design includes a bog garden and different water depths with carefully chosen plants making it an excellent wildlife habitat. The school is very fortunate to have the support of parents and members of the community who have donated their time, skills, equipment and knowledge which, together with safety advice from the council and funding from Scottish Natural Heritage, has made the project so successful.

Here are some quotations from reports of the occasion written by P5/6.

Last week at eco-friendly Portmoak School there was a grand opening for their newly created pond and P5/6 were excited as parents and other members of the community gathered round to celebrate.

On that day P5/6 did a report about the pond and pretended that the pond was a house for sale.

This amazing three level accommodation for wildlife!

They also impersonated bugs on holiday at the pond writing postcards to their families.

Mr Sandy Howe of the RSPB cut the ribbon to rapid applause by the parents and students watching this successful eco-friendly pond which two years ago had been nothing more than a lonely banking. "This is not the end, it's the beginning of something big!" said Mr Sandy Howe as he cut the ribbon.



l to r: Sandy Howe (RSPB) back: Lesley Law and Paul a Wilson (parents), front: Sean Cowe, Sam Law and Jenna Wilson (all P5/6 pupils)

"The pond will be great for the whole school to use," said the head teacher Mrs Wilson before the bright red ribbon was cut and P5/6 and everyone cheered.

"We couldn't have done this without all the helpers," said Mrs Wilson, adding "This area will now be full of wildlife." Mrs Wilson also said "We are delighted that we have got a pond and we wouldn't have it without the Law family."

"We couldn't have made the pond without all the support of everyone from parents to students!" said Mrs Law, parent of the student that designed the pond.

Kinross-shire 50 Plus Club



At the November meeting, Professor Munro gave a talk on Loch Leven. It was extremely interesting to hear the remarkable history of the loch and its surroundings. With map and illustrations, he explained that in the 19th Century the level of the water was lowered, changing the course of the River Leven and the surrounding landscape.

The new Heritage Trail allows you to experience the loch's history, nature and beauty.

Friday Walks:

11 Dec: From Deep Sea World, along the coastal path to Inverkeithing, and then onto St David's Bay – and all the way back. This is about 6 miles, and our last walk of 2009.

8 Jan: "The Sair Heid Walk", to the Monument on Falkland Hill – returning to have soup and sandwiches at a hotel in Falkland at about 1pm.

22 Jan: A circular walk round Kinnoull Hill and Deuchny Hill at Perth, which the club has done several times already.

Hillwalkers:

4 Dec: We will tackle the Grade B+ circular walk from Piperdam and over Blacklaw Hill, approximately eight miles with 800 feet of ascent.

18 Dec: We will undertake our traditional Christmas Lunch walk from South Queensferry to Cramond and back for lunch in South Queensferry. A level and well sheltered eight mile walk.

15 Jan: To start the New Year with the 'there-and-back' walk from Castle Campbell to Glen Devon. Nine miles and 500 feet of ascent.

29 Jan: We are planning to cover a new circular walk of approximately eight miles on the 'Moor Road' in the Cupar/Ceres area.

Please note our membership list is currently full, any enquiries to Bill Blair, 01577 864450.

Theatre Visit: "The Sound of Music" 17 February 2010:

The ticket money, £17.50 will be collected at the February meeting – cheques if possible please. The coach cost is £8.35 and will be collected on the coach. (Correct money please).

December Meeting: At the meeting on 3 December there will be a cooking demonstration by Neil Robertson of Tannoch Brae Tearooms.

Kinross & District Town Twinning Association



The **Annual General Meeting** of the association will take place in Kinross Church

Centre on **Thursday 3 December** at 7.30 pm. Old and new members welcome as we host Normandy visitors this coming summer on an official twinning exchange. For further details contact chairperson Jean Paterson (tel 862159).

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Milnathort School Association

Last year the MSA raised over £4000 for Milnathort Primary School, and we would like to thank everyone who helped throughout the year.

Our main events last year were our annual Halloween Disco for the children, Christmas Bazaar and Summer Fair. We also held a Quiz Night and Summer Ceilidh, both of which were enjoyed by everyone who attended.

Our annual **Christmas Bazaar** will be held on **Saturday 5 December** in the school hall.

This year's event will be good for children and adults alike. The School Choir will once again sing some Christmas songs to open the Bazaar. There will be plenty of shopping opportunities, as well as all the fun stalls and games that the kids love, including Cake and Candy, Tattoos, Face Painting, Bottle stall, Pocket Money stall, Card stalls, Jewellery stalls and many more favourites.

Entry £1 per adult, which includes tea/coffee/juice and a mince pie.

PLEASE COME ALONG AND JOIN THE FUN!

The MSA continues to promote a way of raising money for the school at no extra cost to you!

Easyfundraising.org.uk

Approx 90% of all retailers are on the site, and if you do a lot of internet shopping, this is the site for you – and us!

You simply go through easyfundraising.co.uk, register your Charity/Organisation as Milnathort School Association, and shop as usual, and the school gets a percentage of what you spend. Please remember us when doing your Christmas shopping this year – there really is no catch.

If you wish to contact the MSA, please contact Penny Quinn on 01577 866819 or pjq@hotmail.co.uk

Thanks for your support.

Kinross in Bloom

The tubs have now been planted up with pansies and hyacinths for the winter/spring displays.

Thank you to everyone who helped with the preparation and planting.

We would also like to thank all the volunteers who have maintained the tubs and baskets during the summer. This help allows us to enhance the town with floral displays.

The committee are already looking ahead to next spring and the plants for the summer displays have been chosen and ordered.

200 Club Winners

Apologies for the late publication of these.

September

£20 Marie Mullen	£10 Sheila Fisher
£5 Edna Nelson	£5 Anne Miller

October

£20 Margaret Lyon	£10 Dave Cuthbert
£5 Tom Duncan	£5 Sarah Cuthbert



News from Seamab School

The Eco Warriors of Seamab School are pleased to announce they have recently achieved their bronze award for Eco Schools. The school have been busy recycling, growing vegetables and are learning the joy of cycling.

Naomi (pupil)

Probus Club



The speaker for the meeting on 21 October was Bill Connolly, a member of the club and his subject a holiday that he and his wife, Jean, had in the United States of America in

May of last Year. They were met at the airport by members of Montgomery County Police Force who provided a motorcycle escort for their car into Washington city.

The United States of America has a special day, 15 May, when it remembers all the policemen and officers of other agencies such as the FBI and the customs killed while on duty. The practice dates back to 1962 when President John F. Kennedy signed a decree designating 15 May as "Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Day", and the week on which it falls as a special remembrance for the police and other agencies. Bill showed a series of pictures of his holiday with particular emphasis on events to mark this special week. The memorial to the officers is in Washington DC and consists of two walls on either side of a memorial pond, where the names of every single officer killed while on duty are recorded. Each year there is a special picnic to commemorate these officers to which parents of those who lost their lives are invited and during the proceedings the names of all those killed during the past year are read out. Last year 190 names were read out. Robin Webster gave the vote of thanks.

The speaker for the meeting on 4 November was Dr John Blair, and his title was "The Conscript Doctors". John, as well as being a doctor, is a military historian and with others wrote "The History of the RAMC." The RAMC has an illustrious history but John wanted to concentrate on the period 1945 to 1960. This period is unique in the history of Britain, because it is the only time when there has been conscription during peacetime. The National Service Act decreed that every British male should serve two years with the armed forces and five years with the Reserves on reaching the age of 18. Many had their national service deferred until they had finished their training. This applied to all the doctors in the RAMC who completed their five years medical course before being called up. During these 15 years British forces were spread all over the world, including such places as Korea, Malaysia and Kenya. In all these conflicts the RAMC was there to give its medical support to the troops. They also looked after the health of the large number of troops in Germany guarding against the threat of an attack from Russia. John Blair finished his talk with many amusing stories of his time as a conscript doctor in the British army during the 1950s. All in all the RAMC with its conscript doctors did a stalwart job in looking after the health of our troops during the years of conscription 1945 to 1960. Alex Johnston proposed the vote of thanks for a very interesting afternoon.

CHRISTMAS WREATHS & TABLE ARRANGEMENTS

Handmade with fresh holly and other garden foliage

Wreaths from £15

Phone Jo on 07798 850686

Kinross-shire Round Table



As this edition of the Newsletter goes to press Kinross-shire Round Table will be donating a minimum of £5,000 to local charities, clubs and good causes at our fun Dragon's Den event. Our hope is that we will have made a significant difference to the fund-raising efforts of at least 10 groups in our area.

Hopefully you will have seen Santa's Sleigh at Light Up Kinross, as the reindeers get some towing practice in early for the annual Santa Collections. Santa and his helpers will soon be out with the sleigh around Kinross-shire, raising funds for more local good causes.

Our plan (subject to weather and other imponderables!) is:

Monday 7 December	Portmoak, Scotlandwell, Kinnesswood
Tuesday 8	Kelty
Wednesday 9	Milnathort
Thursday 10	Kinross-South
Friday 11	Fossoway
Sunday 13	Kinross-North

Santa regrets that he cannot get the sleigh along every street, as there is not always room to turn and the reindeer do not like reversing! But he will do his best to visit as much of Kinross-shire as possible. It would help greatly if residents, particularly in cul-de-sacs, could leave room for the sleigh to pass and turn.

Our final meeting of the year will focus on unwinding - and getting Santa off the special diet that helps him fill the suit so well. In the New Year we will carry on having more fun, honing our sporting prowess (not sure on that one - do boules and bowling count as sport?) and planning for another year of getting stuck in and helping out.

We are actively seeking new members, so if any of the above sounds like the sort of thing you would like to become involved in then give us a call. If there is something interesting you would like to try let us know. If we agree that it looks fun, we'll put it in the programme and give it a try. Get out, have fun and put something back into your local community. You only get out of life what you are prepared to put in.

Round Table is an organisation for young men of 18-45 and has a sister organisation in Ladies' Circle for young women. Our full programme, with details of events, is available on www.kinross-shire.org.uk and you can e-mail us on Table@macpherson.plus.com or call on 864713.

Many thanks to all our sponsors, supporters and helpers who have helped so much to make 2009 another great year for us, we look forward to working with you in 2010. In the meantime, have a very Merry Christmas and our best wishes for a prosperous New Year.

PRIVATE SWIMMING TUITION

Private Swimming Tuition for Pre-school Aged Children

Lessons available in Kinross and Perth

Call Cameron on 07743 788288 for more details

ASA Approved

Kinross Boys & Girls Brigade



The new session has started well for the Kinross Company with a number of successes in a variety of competitions.

The Battalion table tennis trophy was the first success of the season and this was followed by swimming success at Perth Leisure Pool, where Kinross lifted four of the six trophies on offer. Junior Section member Scott Barclay received the silver shield for the most points scored overall in the Junior Competition. The Company Section won all three of their trophies. Best swimmer award was shared between Kathryn Spain and Cameron Nelson, both of whom won all their races. This is the first time that a girl has won a Battalion event, so well done Kathryn.



Junior Section Swimming Team with the Battalion Shield for the winning swim team

The Centenary Cup for the most points scored also went to Kinross and this is the 21st time the Kinross Company has won this trophy in 25 years of competition. The coveted Pullar Inkstand (4 x 2 length relay team) first competed for in 1895 was won for the 16th time by the Kinross team of Andrew Beveridge, Matthew McDonald, Cameron Nelson and Kathryn Spain.

In the first round of the National Competitions Kinross lost out in badminton to the 1st Dalgety Bay Company but won through in the chess against 3rd Kilsyth and in table tennis against the 42nd Dundee. The masterteam quiz team play their first round match in Edinburgh at the end of November. At the annual armistice parade, Jackson Brown laid the BB wreath on behalf of the Company at the war memorial. The newly appointed director of the Boys' Brigade (Scotland), Mr Bill Stevenson, visited the Kinross company in mid-November on a fact finding mission to see how the company operated with girls in their ranks. Bill was most complementary in his assessment of the willingness of girls to embrace the ethos of the Brigade throughout all three sections.

At the annual enrolment service held in the Parish Church on 15 November, the colour party consisted of young staff members Peter Eade and Sam Dick with the Bible reading being read by George Dick.

At the annual general meeting of the Parents' & Friends' Association, Mr David Eade was elected as President and Mrs Irene Emerson was elected as treasurer.

The Company will also be taking part in the St Andrew's Day Parade and Service in Kinross, led by Perth & Kinross Council Provost John Hulbert on Sunday 29 November.

A **BB Coffee Morning** will be held in the Church Centre on **Saturday 5 December** from 10 till 12 noon with all the usual Christmas stalls. Please come along and support your local Company.

Kinross Museum



While circumstances beyond our control prevented the Kinross (Marshall) Museum Trust and the Friends of the Kinross Museum from celebrating the opening of the new museum in the Loch Leven Community Campus on 20 November, the Curatorial Working Group has been busy moving in and sorting out maps, books, papers and artefacts that are all now housed in the store room and study area allocated to the museum. We have received a great deal of help from the staff at Perth Museum and Art Gallery and on Friday 13 November brought down from Perth items from the original Marshall Bequest that will eventually be on show when display cases have arrived and the Library space is accessible to the public.

The Friends of the Kinross Museum, chaired by Jim Paterson, is looking for new members and the Kinross Museum Trust is looking for volunteers to act as stewards for the museum during opening hours. Initially, after the opening of the museum, the Trust hopes to have volunteers available to assist researchers and tell people about the exhibits on display on Thursday evening 6-8pm, Friday 10am-noon, 2-4pm and Saturday 10am-1pm.

For further information see the Museum website:

www.kinrossmuseum.co.uk or contact

info@kinrossmuseum.co.uk

Kinross Primary Parent Council



KPPC have had a very busy and successful start to the new academic year. We are pleased to report that the orienteering event held in September raised over £700! Our Halloween parties were again very popular.

These events are only possible with the tremendous support we receive from parents and teachers – thank you! Monies raised by these events are used to provide “extras” for the children such as the Christmas pantomime and subsidising school trips.

We'll be rattling the buckets as we follow Santa's sleigh (Round Table) on **Wednesday 9 December** and then on **Saturday 19 December** we have another great opportunity to boost funds further with bag-packing for donations at Sainsbury's.

Support for these events would be very much appreciated – even if you have just an hour to spare. Please contact Margaret Forrest harelawcottage@tiscali.co.uk or Jackie Wood jwood630@o2.co.uk for more information.

As well as fundraising we continue to represent parents and carers of children at Kinross Primary school, to work together with Mrs King and her staff to enhance the educational experiences for all. At present we are exploring how the Curriculum for Excellence is being adopted by the school. More information about KPPC and how to get involved can be found by visiting <http://www.kinross-pri.pkc.sch.uk/index.htm> or by contacting Stephen Crawford (Chair) or Gillian Baughan (Secretary) using the e-mail address gillian.foster@talk21.com.

Gillian Baughan, Secretary



Portmoak Film Society

Surprise, surprise!

November's film, “Frost Nixon” was the big surprise of the current PFS season. A political set piece with not much action – the story being playboy broadcaster David Frost's attempt in 1972 to elicit a “confession” from Richard Nixon after the Watergate affair – it had me on the edge of my seat wondering what the aptly named “Tricky Dicky” was going to come out with next to save face. Clearly 90% of the audience agreed, with 10 giving it ‘excellent’ on the marbled rating, 12 ‘good’ and only 2 didn't like it. By the end of the movie, Frank Langella's stunning portrayal of Nixon had me believing the disgraced ex-President was looking straight at me.

That wasn't the only surprise of the evening though. We started off with some old silent movies whilst the audience settled down and latecomers trickled through the door, and at some point during the film, a ghostly white lady (?) wandered amongst the audience with her tray, handing out ice-creams. At least some of the post-movie chat involved trying to find out his identity (sorry, her...).

Politics seems to have been one thread of PFS filmgoers' choices this season, but don't let that put you off December's film, the brilliant “**The Life of Others**”. It's a German thriller about life under the Stasi secret police before the fall of the Berlin Wall – very topical, given the 20th anniversary we have just been celebrating. The film won the Best Foreign Language Film at Cannes in 2007 and has much more of a story to it than “Frost Nixon” to keep you guessing as to the outcome – and believe me, you won't foresee the twist in the tale at the end of this film! It's showing on **Saturday 12 December** at 7.30pm in Portmoak Hall.

Once again, we thank all our old and new fans at the Film Society for their loyalty. Please also start thinking about films for our “Surprise slots” in March and April 2010 – bring your suggestions to the next film night!

For further information about your local film club, visit our website at www.portmoakfilmsociety.org.uk

HOLIDAY APARTMENT TO LET IN CYPRUS

Luxury 2 bedroom apartment, about 2 km from Paphos Harbour, and only 900m from the sea.

One bedroom with fabulous 4-poster bed.

Second bedroom with 2 single beds.

Fully air-conditioned, and furnished to a high standard.

2 communal pools, plus a children's pool,

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Qualified Primary Teacher
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Denise on 01577 861465

or denise.dupont@hotmail.co.uk



The Kinross-shire Civic Trust



The Trust is looking forward to the New Year and we publish our Programme and the events we have planned for it. We are always pleased to welcome new members to the Trust. For further information phone Alistair Smith 01592 840215.

New Kinross Area Local Plan – Have your say

P&KC are in the process of implementing a new Local Plan, which will encompass all the areas for Perth and Kinross. The programme is to have the Plan adopted by 2015. In the meantime landowners and developers have intimated to the Council the areas of land that they would wish to see placed in the new Plan for development.

These areas can be seen on the Council web site. The Trust would encourage everyone to visit the web site and see if there are any areas that would affect them and then respond to the Council, either in objection or support of the proposals. The Trust understands that responses have to be with the Council by February 2010. Contact Perth and Kinross Council, Development Control.

This new Plan will set the policies for future planning for Kinross for the next 5 years from 2015 and it is very important that people express their opinions on these future policies. Under the new Planning Act, the Council is required to re-new the Local Plan every 5 years, so this is a beginning of a new cycle in planning.

Programme

Annual Architectural Award: The Trust has postponed its Architectural Award for new-build until the Spring of next year. The Trust is looking for new architectural projects in Kinross-shire and Glenfarg. The Trust is looking for interesting new and innovative architecture. Anyone wishing to enter the competition should contact Bridget Lindsay on 01592 840252.

Programme for 2010

The Executive Committee has agreed a provisional Programme of events for the coming months.

Wed 10 Feb Annual Chairman's Dinner and Talk. This will take place at the Grouse and Claret and the speaker will be Mrs Sue Hendry, Chairman of the Perth Heritage Trust, which will be the subject of her talk. Places can be reserved with Bridget Lindsay, 01592 840252.

Wed 14 Apr Trust Annual General Meeting.

Sun 20 Jun Annual mid-Summer Walk: Loch Leven Heritage Trail (Fishery Pier to Loch Leven's Larder).

Further details will be confirmed in future issues of the Newsletter.

PIANO AND MUSIC THEORY TUITION

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ALL AGES AND ABILITIES
DIGITAL PIANO AVAILABLE

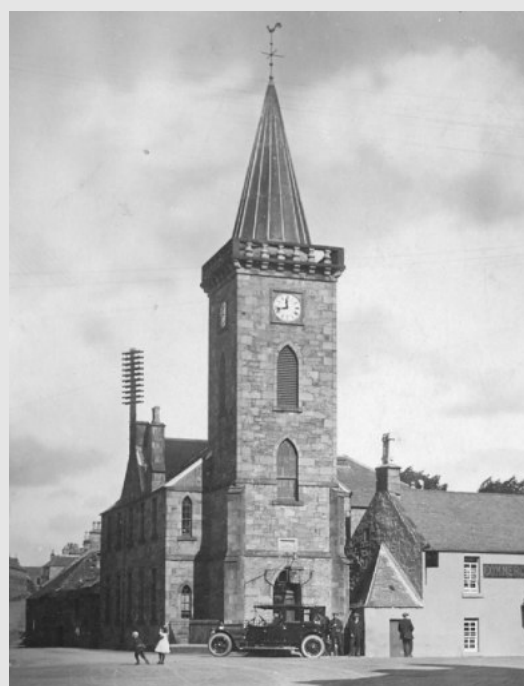
PLEASE CONTACT
CATRIONA NICOL BMUS (HONS) EDINBURGH
01577 864528 OR 07876 591 553

Buildings of Interest in Kinross-shire Milnathort Town Hall

On 2 May 1855 a special dinner was held to mark the opening of Milnathort Town Hall, a significant occasion for this rapidly expanding Kinross-shire market town and weaving village. It was the idea of James Simpson of Mawcarse, a local gentleman farmer of some influence in the county, whose notion was to give the settlement a building of status that could act as a meeting place as well as a centre of administration. Built at The Cross, which had become the focal point of the town following the construction of the new turnpike roads, its steeple rises to 95 feet to form a prominent landmark in the heart of Milnathort.

The Town Hall, which was built at a cost of £800, was designed to hold 400 people at public meetings and social occasions but also had its own jail and constabulary office. The main body of the building straddles the Back Burn which provided water via a lade to the meal mill that once stood on the opposite side of The Cross on the south side of the Stirling Road. The arched doorway and louvered windows above lead the eye upwards past a clock with illuminated dials to the lead spire and weather vane, the whole frontage forming an elegant Gothic Revival style tower. Outside the main door is one of the many water pumps that once provided the people of Milnathort with water.

The village of Milnathort continued to grow with the subsequent arrival of the railway in 1858 and the building of a power loom factory and spinning mill and dyeworks in 1858 and 1866. Too small to meet the needs of the people, an enlarged and renovated town hall was eventually inaugurated in December 1887 when a concert was held to mark the occasion. Remnants of the interior decor reflect attempts to create a salon-style atmosphere for cultural events such as this.



Milnathort Town Hall

Kinross & District Art Club



Now that the evenings are drawing in and there is a keenness in the air, we realise that Christmas is just around the corner. This is the time we tend to look back over the year and remember the colourful pink blossoms in springtime, and warm summer holidays abroad or walking around our beautiful, majestic mountains and lochs meandering beneath lots of deep green Scottish firs, and trees laden with a dense coat of leaves that not long ago turned into the most colourful time of the year, yellows and reds and browns, before they were blown off by the stronger winds – and kept us busy sweeping them up again and again in our gardens.

We look back to a very good year when we introduced DVD presentations covering a wide variety of subjects, and group activities, when we had demonstrations by our Professional Adviser, Tom Sutton-Smith, on how to develop a painting from say a photo, still life, or from an outdoor scene etc.

We have just enjoyed an excellent group activity covering portraiture when we were fortunate to have a demonstration and instruction on how to paint a portrait by the well-known professional artist, Ian Cuthbert Imrie. We are also looking forward in the new year to having another group activity on Landscape Painting by another well-known professional artist, David Murton.

The exhibition we held this year was also the best we have held, with over 150 paintings on display, together with many special craft items and excellent produce.

As a thriving club we are very pleased to have no less than twelve new members joining us after the exhibition – of course we would also welcome you if you would like to start a new and absorbing hobby, or maybe now find that you have more time to go back to painting again and enjoy the satisfaction of painting again.

If so, why not make the effort to join us on Tuesday afternoons at 2pm in Millbridge Hall when you will be among a very friendly and helpful group.

If you would like to talk about what we do then telephone me on 01577 863361 or speak to any member.

Kinross Camera Club

The Club meets at 7.30pm in the Church Centre, Kinross on Thursday evenings. All welcome. Any enquiries to Wallace Shackleton, 01577 864050.



December

3rd Practical night: a hands-on evening to master various techniques.

10th Thackery Trophy and Digital Competition, judging by Libby Smith

17th Christmas Fun and Games

January

7th Reflections: an illustrated talk by Robert Walker

14th League 2: judging by Sue Hill and David Hamilton

21st Dingwall Exhibition – The best of the entries to the prestigious Dingwall CC Competition.



Rag Bag Day at Milnathort

Milnathort Primary School took part in a Rag Bag Day on 26 October. Each pupil was handed a sack to take home and fill with clothing, towels, bed linen and other various items. The children handed them in and the school was delighted to receive a cheque worth a whopping £85.80!

Milnathort Primary School is very pleased with this result and the money will be used to buy more litter bins and other items related to the Eco Schools project.



Bags of rags collected by Milnathort Primary School pupils

Kinross-shire Historical Society



Mr Bill Lessels, the recently retired property manager of Culross Palace gave a most interesting presentation to the members of Kinross-shire Historical Society on the history, the people, the industry and the importance of Culross. His talk included St Serf, the early coal mining by the Abbey monks, George Bruce's underwater mine, salt panning, a busy port in the 16th century, Culross girdles produced by Royal Warrant from 14th – 18th century and Admiral Crichton.

From the time of the Industrial Revolution, Culross was in decline until its rescue by the National Trust, which took over the Palace as its first property in 1931. Fifty houses were also purchased for renovation.

David Walker thanked Mr Lessels for his fascinating talk on behalf of the Historical Society.

Hogmanay Celebrations

Celebrate the end of another year
at The Green Hotel
Champagne and canapés
Sumptuous 4-course Gala Dinner in
Basil's Restaurant followed
by entertainment with
The FEEVA Vegas Show
and Fireworks at midnight

only £69 per person

To book call now on **01577 863467**
The Green Hotel, 2 Muirs, Kinross KY13 8AS

Community Website

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

Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation

We need you!

Did you enjoy the Gazebo Gathering or the Summer's End Market? KLEO is planning to organise more events like these next year but the success of these events relies heavily on volunteers. Without your help we would be struggling to organise anything. Especially for events the size of the Gazebo Gathering we need a lot of help! We are just looking for people who can help out for a few hours at events. We always have a variety of jobs to do (stewarding, box office, manning stalls, setting up or dismantling marquees etc) or if you would like to be involved in any other way, please let us know. You are also welcome to join our committee. At the moment we are looking for a treasurer, but any other enthusiastic member is welcome as well.

So, if you have a spare hour and are interested, please let us know! You can e-mail bouwein@kleo.org.uk or call 01577 863107.

Summer's End Market 2009

What a wet day it was, but despite all this, the Summer's End Market went ahead on Saturday 24 October! The sun peeked out for a little while at the start, which meant that quite a few people came to the market and enjoyed the stalls and the Halloween craft activities for the children. The bonfire was lit and the pipe band played for a little while. People enjoyed some mulled wine while listening to some musical entertainment from Gillian Shackleton followed by the Drumatik Band. Many children came dressed up and brought their pumpkins, which added to the Halloween atmosphere!

You can see photos of the Summer's End Market on www.kinross.cc

Numerous people helped us out again. A big thank you to The Round Table, The Rotary and all the volunteers who helped us out before, during and after the event! Without this help we couldn't have done it all. Thank you very much!

www.kleo.org.uk



Louise and Cara Muir look the part at the Summer's End Market!
Photo: Rachel Forbes

P7 in a Fizz!

During the November short week, Mrs Kirk, who has been delivering Science activities to all classes at Kinross Primary School, rented out a Science lab at the newly opened Loch Leven Community Campus.

On Tuesday 17 November P7A and P7B carried out several chemical reaction experiments mixing combinations of sodium chloride, baking soda, citric acid and water, discovering that some merely dissolved whilst others foamed and frothed therefore producing a gas. We thoroughly enjoyed this experience and wearing goggles "like real scientists"!

We enjoyed having the opportunity to use the new rooms and to have a short tour and look forward to other visits soon.



P7 pupils concoct potions at Loch Leven Community Campus

Portmoak Community Woodland

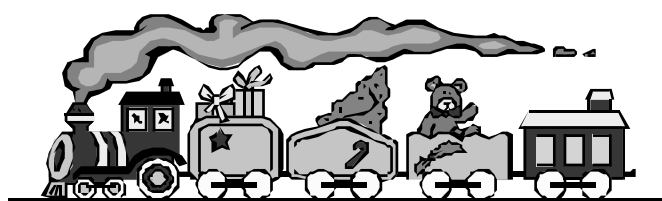
We now have full details of how you can be involved in our world-record-breaking attempt, on **Saturday 5 December**, to plant the largest number of trees by volunteers in one hour at different sites. Our new community woodland has been chosen by the Woodland Trust as one of only three of their sites in Scotland for this mighty effort. As their partners in managing the woodland, the Portmoak Community Woodland Steering Group are hoping for a very good turn out from the Kinross area.

It's part of a UK wide event called Tree O Clock, a BBC Breathing Spaces project. On a newly acquired site at Kilmagad Wood, next to the A911, just outside Scotlandwell, we're aiming to plant 2500 mixed woodland trees. No experience is needed, young and old are welcome but **please bring your own spade**.

The planting will be from 1100 to 1200 precisely. We need you to arrive by 1030 am, latest, as we have to count everyone who'll be taking part and make sure you know what to do. The entire event has to meet the Guinness World Record criteria.

Afterwards there will be hot drinks, soup and rolls and home baking. There'll also be craft demonstrations and participation (including woven willow tree decorations) and traditional wooden games to try, from giant ninepin skittles to 'bat the rat' and 'tic tac toe'.

The event forms the last day of our planting week, in which ten classes of children from local schools will participate in tree planting on the site. We're starting with an empty field (the Field Abin the Kirk) but by the time we've finished there'll be a whole new native woodland, to add to our existing two. We hope you'll want to help create this lasting legacy.



Sports News



Kinross Cycling Club



Winter is a time for putting one's feet up, eating lots of rich food and staying warm. Not in the cycling world! Winter is the time for laying the foundation of fitness-long rides (2-3 hours) at a comfortable, steady pace. It is *essential*, however, that adequate preparation is made for winter riding. Your bicycle must be in good condition and displaying front and rear lights in low light conditions. Make sure your tyres are adequate for winter roads. Carry spare tubes and the equipment to inflate them! Practise changing a tube in the comfort of your own home – if you ride enough, you will get a puncture out and about. Arguably, you should even carry a spare tyre. You, the rider, should have adequate clothing and decent gloves for cold conditions. Forget fashion – high visibility jackets, ideally with light reflection strips, are essential. Spoke reflectors and lights give visibility from the side. Take these steps and you can avoid the dreaded SMIDSY (“Sorry mate, I didn’t see you”). Drivers of motor vehicles should take special care in poor winter conditions when encountering cyclists. If all this sounds like too much, get a turbo trainer and set your bike up in the garage or shed. Just make sure you take your iPod or similar to entertain yourself!



Kinross Cycling Club members show off their new kit

You may have noticed on Sunday mornings a group of cyclists dressed all in purple and gold (hard to miss!). This is the Kinross Cycling Club's new club kit which saw its first outing on 25 October. This day kinda sticks in my memory for another reason – I came off the bike after skidding at a very low speed and fractured my hip! I am recovering well and many thanks to everyone for your thoughts, cards and gifts. Luckily, my new uniform wasn't torn and I managed to convince ambulance and medical staff not to cut it off!

Please note that in the winter months of December and January, the Sunday morning run departs the **old** Kinross High School at 9.30am. RP

Kinross Curling School



Kinross High School pupils: We are still looking for new members to come and enjoy all the fun at the after school club at the ice rink on Mondays at 4.30pm cost £3.00.

Come and Try curling: We are holding a free come and try curling session on **Saturday 19 December** at 12.15pm. Why not ask your friends to come along and have a go!

If interested in any of the above or anything else to do with curling please contact

Ena Stevenson email enastevenson@aol.com or Telephone 01383 850257.

Kinross Junior Curling Club



We are pleased to see some new members this year who are getting involved with the coaching sessions and taking part in our club competitions. In October Iain Wilson, Hamish Geyer, Fraser Thomson, Grant Barr and David Kettles took part in the Kinross Junior Classic. Hamish, Iain and Fraser then went to Holland to take part in the Dutch Junior Open where there were also young curlers from Italy, Denmark and Switzerland competing. They all enjoyed the experience.

Our club had two rinks playing in the Loch Leven Province Bonspiel. They gave both Kinross and Orwell a good game. On 15 November two teams took part in the SALSC Under 13 and Under 15 Regional Payoffs in Perth. The U13 team consisting of James Hay, Gregor Bousie, Finlay Campbell and Alison Wood played very well. They were equal 1st on points but lost out by one end to the team from Edinburgh. In the Hotshots competition James scored an incredible maximum 30 points on the “strike out and lie” and the team won the medal.

The U15 team consisting of Lucy Gaudin, Chris Salmean, Christy McGregor and Kathryn Spain also played very well. They were the only team on maximum points and have qualified to represent the East of Scotland at the Scottish final later in the season.

At the beginning of January two rinks will be heading to Ayr to compete in the Scottish Junior Challenge. We wish the teams well and look forward to keeping a place in the 1st Division.

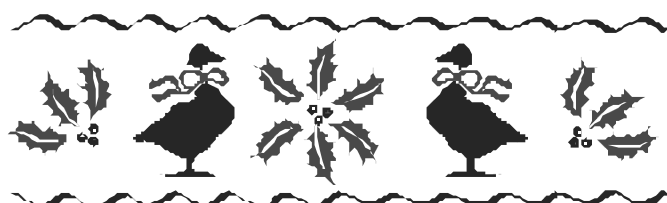
The club meets at Kinross ice rink most Sundays from 5pm – 7.15pm.

For further details contact Elaine on 01577 864713.

Kinross Volleyball Club

The season has started well for the Kinross Club and they are enjoying the new games hall at Loch Leven Community Campus on Monday evenings with its sprung wooden floor and bright lighting system. With two Perth League Cup trophies already in the trophy cabinet, the leagues have now started and Kinross Scotrange will be looking to retain the Premier League Championship and Kinross BB hoping to retain the Recreational League Championship.

New members are always welcome so if you fancy a wee bit of exercise and a lot of fun, come along on a Monday evening from 8 till 10 (juniors P7 to 18 from 8 till 9). For further details telephone Dave Munro (862126).



Kinross Men's Hockey Club

Firsts: Having started their league campaign with two excellent home wins, but two narrow away losses, Kinross next travelled away to Grange 6ths and the away defeats continued with Kinross losing 3-0. The result did not reflect the closeness of the game but eventually Kinross struggled after injuries to Neil Wilson and man of the match Gavin Lauder. Next was an away fixture to Carnegie 4ths and Kinross, inspired by the return of David Goodenough, came back from being behind twice to win 4-2 with 2 goals from Mike Wilson and one each from Bradley Harrison and joint man of the match David Goodenough, the other being Angus MacLaughlan for his tremendous work in the midfield. Kinross then travelled to face Watsonians 3rds. Kinross were continuously on the attack, but Watsonians came from behind twice to level the score against the run of play after goals from Calum Anderson and fullback Gordon Balfour. The Watsonians defence managed to keep the unrelenting Kinross attacks at bay until eventually Calum Anderson superbly managed to flick in Kinross' 3rd goal. Watsonians continued to press forward seeking the equaliser but the Kinross defence and keeper Shaun Masson held out for their fourth league win 3-2. So far played 7, won 4, lost 3. Looking forward to some home games after the Christmas break.

Seconds. Kinross travelled to WITrinity and despite taking the lead with two goals from man of the match Andy Stevenson, Kinross lost concentration and conceded four goals in two five-minute spells with a final scoreline of 6-2. Next was Carnegie 7ths where Kinross won 3-0 with goals from man of the match Hamish Donaldson, Michael Donoghue and Andy Stevenson to notch up their second league win. The 6th league game was against Fidra Lions, new to the leagues, who eventually held out a determined Kinross onslaught in the second half to win 3-2. Kinross rallied in the second half when 3-0 down, played the ball wide and Andy Stevenson bagged a brace of goals. Kinross did not deserve to lose despite applying so much pressure. In the last two league games Kinross have played some excellent hockey, moving the ball wide and creating lots of chances and are now scoring goals on a regular basis as the team settle down. So far played 6, lost 4, won 2, but a great team spirit, lots of potential as players improve each week and most importantly enjoying playing hockey.

The final league games before the Christmas break are:

28 Nov	1sts away to Erskine SM 3rds
	2nds at home to Carnegie 7ths
5 Dec	1sts away to Falkirk GHG 3rds
	2nds away to Falkirk GHG 5ths

Training continues with Alan Dickie on the KGV astro pitch on Tuesday evenings 7.30 to 9pm. It's free and all are welcome no matter what age or ability so come on down improve your skills and have some fun. So far we have welcomed 15 new players this season. Kobra (U14) for boys and girls training is on Thursday evenings 6.30 to 7.30pm and all are most welcome no matter what your ability – Shaun Masson will help you improve your skills and training finishes with a game.

For further information why not contact Douglas Ogilvie on e-mail: captain@kinrosshockey.co.uk or 07768 708250 or Ollie Volland at secretary@kinrosshockey.co.uk or 07725 884672.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas.

Kinross Badminton Club



It's been a busy time for the Club and others, settling into the new Community Campus now and what a great facility it is! The Club is losing out on time for the seniors (8pm - 9.30pm instead of 8pm - 10pm), however that has not stopped members from turning out and supporting the Club. The Kate Francis competition is now under way, with many games already played; results will be issued in the next report. The Macdonald Quaich will be played on 10 December; winners will receive the beautiful Quaich and a bottle of whisky, kindly donated by Bill Macdonald. The Club's team playing in the Perth & District league is currently doing well with a convincing win against Perth Nomads 17 - 1 and unfortunately Forgandenny did not turn up for their game, giving full points to Kinross. Their next game is against Auchterarder; good luck to our team.

The Club's last night before the Christmas break will be 10 December for the Junior Club and 17 December for the Senior Club. The Club will start back on Tuesday 5 January for the Seniors and Thursday 7 January for the Junior Club. For more information regarding the Club log onto www.kinrossbadmintonclub.com or contact Bill Macdonald 01577 862592.

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Kinross Otters Swimming Club

Hearts Premier Age Group Meet Prestonpans, 10 October

Kinross Otters Swimming Club was invited to take part in what was mainly an Edinburgh and surrounding area meet at Prestonpans on 10/10/2009. A team of seven swimmers was entered and they swam in a remarkable number of events, proving that they are not only fast, but fit too! Medals were awarded for the first three swimmers in each event with pens (!) being awarded to swimmers coming fourth to sixth inclusive.

There was a very welcome return to the pool for Laura Manson after a month off with a broken thumb. She proved that she had lost little in the way of power or fitness and perhaps, her dislike of pens! She competed in the 8-11 yr old girls category in no less than seven events and managed a grand total of seven medals (3 gold medals – 200m Freestyle 2.35.46secs, 200m Breaststroke 3.23.45secs and 200m Backcrawl 2.54.89secs – 3 silver medals – 50m Freestyle 32.99secs, 50m Fly 38.14secs and 50m Backcrawl 37.12secs – 1 bronze medal – 50m Breaststroke 44.86secs). Despite the fact she was ineligible for the 200m Fly event as she had no previous time for the event, Laura won the cup for the best 11 year old girl at the whole meet. No mean feat and well done Laura.



The Kinross Otters team, Dundee, 7 November

Ruairidh Haig once again achieved high finish places managing second in the 14yr old Boys 200m Breaststroke (2.59.68secs), third in the 50m Breaststroke (38.67secs) and fourth in the 50m Freestyle (30.45secs). The next day at the Hamilton Baths Graded Meet Ruairidh managed a bronze medal in the 14-15yr old Boys 50m Butterfly event in 1.17.54secs. As he has just turned 14, these results are all the more impressive.

Conor McCormick was the Otter's youngest swimmer aged 10 and he competed in the 8-11yr old category. For some reason, in this age group, the pens were highly sought after and if his pencil case was empty beforehand, it certainly isn't now as he managed two fifth places in the 200m Backcrawl and Breaststroke (3.20.19secs and 3.51.69secs respectively) and two sixth places in the 50m Backcrawl and 200m Freestyle (43.83secs and 3.14.75secs respectively). He ended the day on a high when he won a bronze medal coming third in the 50m Breaststroke in 50.99secs.

Rounding off the medals/pens tally for the Otters was Callum Baker who managed a bronze medal in the 13 yr old Boys 50m Breaststroke (41.10secs) and a sixth place finish in the 200m Freestyle (2.30.07secs).

Dundee City Aquatics 100/200 Meet

Olympia Pool, Dundee, 31 October & 1 November

The Dundee City Aquatics Swimming Club hosted this annual high quality meet at the Olympia Pool in Dundee over Halloween weekend. This event draws clubs from far and wide.

For the Kinross Otters Ewan Simpson continued some top class form in the 13-14 yr old Boys 100m Freestyle and had a tremendous battle with constant main rival, Paul Adamson from Menzieshill/Whitehall. In the heats Ewan qualified fastest (58.70 secs) by only 0.08 secs despite being half a second down at the halfway point. In the final he led from start to finish winning the gold medal in 59.04 secs with Adamson getting the silver in 59.18 secs.

Due to the severity of the competition, this was the Otters only individual medal and they had to wait until the very end in the Mixed 13-14 yr old 200m Freestyle Relay for further success. The team consisted of Ewan Simpson, Elidh Gibson, Rachel Miller and Ruairidh Haig. They were up against some very big clubs but managed to actually lead until just after the halfway point and ended up with a very respectable and well deserved bronze medal.

Midland District Premier League

Olympia Pool, Dundee, 7 November

Kinross Otters took part in the final League meeting of the year at Olympia Pool in Dundee on 07/11/2009. They were determined not to lose their overall second place and this determination paid off with a truly superb overall performance, of which this relatively small team can be very proud. The team spirit and encouragement throughout the team was obvious for all to see and of the 48 separate races the Otters managed first place in 13 of them! They ended up second on the day with 158 points behind DCA 1 with 192 and ahead of St. Thomas from Arbroath (143), DCA 2 (108) and Menzieshill/Whitehall (71).

The final points totals for the year were as follows – DCA 1 – 25, Kinross Otters – 19, St. Thomas – 16, Menzieshill/Whitehall – 9 and in last place and relegated were DCA 2 with 6 points. This was another fantastic year and well done to the Otters Premier Team.

Midland District First Division Gala

Olympia Pool, Dundee, 14 November

****STOP PRESS**** Kinross Otters second team came third on the day and managed third overall in the league this year with the points totals as follows – Menzieshill/Whitehall 1 – 21 pts (promoted to the Premier League due to more success over the year) Forfar 1 – 21 pts, Kinross Otters 2 – 18 pts, DCA 3 – 8 pts, Monifieth 2 – 7 pts (relegated).

Of particular note were the performances of the youngest Otters. Niamh Mullen, Faye Mathieson, Rebecca Douglas, Blythe Johnston and Kirstin Haig got 25 out of 30 points available in the last gala and Finlay Reith, Finlay Nesbitt, Ryan Curtis, and Robbie Deas got 29 out of 30 points. Looks like a very healthy future!!

For more information about this successful and vibrant club visit kinrossotters.co.uk

Athletics

At the recent Scottish Athletics Award Dinner held at the Marriott Hotel, Glasgow, Kinross athlete Eilidh Child picked up three prestigious prizes. She won the Puma Scottish Athlete of the Year Award, the Under 23 Athlete of the Year Award and the George Dallas Memorial Trophy. Speaking afterwards she said "I thought I had a good chance of winning the under 23 award but to win the overall prize was great." She went on to say "it was also a complete surprise and an honour to win the George Dallas Memorial Trophy which is given to someone who has had a successful breakthrough year and considering the first winner of the Trophy was Allan Wells and other winners have included Tom McKean, Lee McConnell and Yvonne Murray I am in very good company."

Eilidh is now well into her winter training programme and is looking forward to season 2010 and the prospect of competing at the European Championships in Barcelona and the Commonwealth Games in Delhi. "I have a good chance of getting to the European Final which is my main target for 2010, but I am very much looking forward to competing at the Commonwealth Games as it is one of the few opportunities I have to compete internationally for Scotland".

Eilidh would also like to break Sinead Dudgeon's 10 year old Scottish 400 metre hurdles record which currently stands at 55.24 seconds, and if she can achieve the same amount of improvement in 2010 as she had in 2009 there is no reason why she should not do so.

Fossoway Tennis Club

Tournament Results

	Winner	Runner-Up
Mini Girls	Ella Mayne	Ingrid Hill
Mini Boys	Callum Campbell	Jamie Roberts
Mini Doubles	Ella Mayne & Callum Campbell	Shaw Grant & Charlie Keegan
Junior Girls	Jodie Milligan	Pamela Shah
Junior Boys	Ryan Shah	Sam Roberts
Junior Doubles	Pamela Shah & Sean Keegan	Jodie Milligan & Sam Roberts
Most Improved		
Young Player	Ingrid Hill	
Intermediate		
Boys	Ian Hill	Ben Cooper
Ladies	Elizabeth Palmieri	Mary Paterson
Gents	Brian Black	Gerry Keegan
MacDonald Cup	Elizabeth Palmieri & Brian Black	Susan Grant & Gerry Keegan
Mixed	Mary Paterson & Brian Black	Christine Austin & Neil Hill

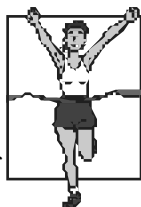
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Kinross Ladies Hockey Club



The last month has been very strange! Neither Kinross Ladies team has seen a fantastic amount of action, as various teams have withdrawn from competitions or conceded. Whilst the points are always welcome, it has meant that game play opportunities have been few and far between. To date both the 1st and 2nd XI teams remain unbeaten.

First Eleven

The 1st XI have had two District Cup matches against Boroughmuir and Glasgow Accies respectively. The home match against Boroughmuir was a resounding victory of 12 – 1, whilst the away match in Glasgow the following week was a more hard fought affair. Despite an early goal against, the team rallied to come back to lead 2 – 1 at half time. Further pressure extended their lead in the second half to 3 – 1, before a last minute goal from Accies brought the score back to 3 – 2.

The following week the 1st XI showed their strength again against Madras 2nds, with a resounding victory of 7 – 2 in their league cup match.

Second Eleven

The very poor state of the "all-weather" pitch meant the late cancellation of a home league cup match for the 2nd XI against Brechin, as the pitch flooded before our eyes in the 15 minutes before the pass back. At least the after match teas were consumed with gusto, but we are still awaiting a rearranged fixture!

Halloween brought a soul lifting league cup match against St Andrews Uni 4th team, with the winning scoreline of 9 – 1 being a very fair reflection of the pressure exerted throughout the match.

The following week an under-strength 2nd *Ten* faced a full strength Blairgowrie side in another League Cup match. With spirited support from the sidelines giving encouragement all the way, the team came back from losing an early goal to be even at half time. Full commitment from all 10 players gave the pressure needed to take a 3 – 2 lead, before in the last five minutes the Blairgowrie team came back to equalise the scoreline at 3 – 3.

Indoor Team

The committed few have continue to travel to Dundee each week to play in the Midlands Indoor League. The results have been varied, with victories against Madras and Perthshire 2nds (7 – 6 and 12 – 2 respectively) and losses against Perthshire 2nds and 1sts (4 – 7 and 0 – 21 respectively!).

All of the results can be found on the new Midlands Hockey League website, at <http://mhu.leaguerepublic.com>

If you are interested in coming along to training, join us at the all weather pitch at KGV playing fields at the Muirs on Wednesday evenings. Training starts at 6.30pm sharp, so please be there in good time. You will need to bring trainers (no metal studs allowed), and a bottle of water or juice is a very good idea. There is a £2 training fee for each session. If you would like any further details please check the website at www.kinrossladieshockey.co.uk



Kinross Cricket Club

Best Cricket Club In The World?

Friday 13th didn't hold any fears for the cricket club. On that day we were named The Wisden Cricketer magazine's Cricket Club of the Year. Wisden Cricketer is the world's leading cricket publication and is distributed globally. Within 24 hours the club was being featured as major news in most of the Scottish daily newspapers as well as news channels as far away as India and Argentina. The Scotsman ran a great feature on page 3 proclaiming the headline "Scots cricket club is best in world!".



Cricket club of the year - Kinross cricketers jump for joy!

The Wisden award is in recognition of the success the club has achieved in getting children and adults of all ages playing cricket as well as the clubs performances in junior and seniors leagues and Scottish Cup competitions. In addition to the international acclaim the club gets £500 worth of cricket equipment from leading manufacturer Gray-Nicolls. Nick Wilton, Sales Director of Gray-Nicolls said: "Over the past 5 years Kinross has come from nowhere to being leaders in Scottish cricket. They have done fantastic work giving kids the opportunity to play and Gray-Nicolls are delighted to help such a dynamic club."

The International coverage brought another benefit as we were contacted by Joondalup-Kinross cricket club from Kinross, Perth, Western Australia. We are now in the process of setting up a twinning agreement with them which will see some of our teenage players getting the opportunity to go to Australia and play for the southern hemisphere Kinross CC. We will keep the newsletter updated with our discussions.

Cricket Scotland visited the club to make a video of the road to success and this can be seen on YouTube at www.youtube.com/watch?v=F&rvVt_Loc

The film clip is entitled Team Kinross.

The Award came in perfect time to link in with our annual awards dinner which took place on Saturday 14th November at the Green Hotel. We were joined by Sandy Scotland, one of Scotland's leading umpires and Bob Ellis, Chairman of Perth & Kinross Sports Council.

The award winners for the 2009 season were as follows

1st XI Fielder of the Year	Michael Smith
1st XI Bowler of the Year	Calum Watson
1st XI Batsman of the Year	Peter Ross
2nd XI Fielder of the Year	Chris James
2nd XI Bowler of the Year	Paul Maddocks
2nd XI Batsman of the Year	Stuart Brand
Midweek League Bowler of the Year	Stephen Mitchell
Midweek League Batsman of the Year	James Ross
Ladies Fielder of the Year	Lauren Megginson
Ladies Bowler of the Year	Christina Farrar
Ladies Batsman of the Year	Fiona Willis
The Richard Oldham Memorial Quaich for the season's highest individual innings	Peter Ross
Ladies highest individual batting innings	Heather Hale
Men's best bowling performance in a match	Peter Ross
Ladies best bowling performance in a match	Claire Jackson
Most Improved Player 2009	Paul McDonald
John Stewart Trophy for services to the club	Wendy Conway
2009 Player of the Year	James Ross

Winter Training for juniors is now underway at the fabulous new Loch Leven Community Campus. The club is enjoying the benefits of the wonderful new cricket nets and large games hall.

Ladies winter indoor coaching starts on **7 January** at Craigclowan School, Perth. New members age 12+ will be warmly welcomed – no fitness, previous experience or equipment is required. Contact secretary@kinrosscc.co.uk for further information.

Details of men's indoor training to be announced in the new year.

Forthcoming Events

The club is holding its annual family fundraising **Christmas party** – details of where to buy tickets can be found on the club website, www.kinrosscc.co.uk

The club **AGM** will be held on **Thursday 10 December** at the Green Hotel at 7.00pm. All members are cordially invited to attend.

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Kinross Road Runners



By the time you read this the Hartley Relays will have taken place and we will be preparing for our next big club event which is the 10k handicap race. For this race everyone is given a handicap by staggering the start time. Those expected to run the slowest times set off first and those expected to run the fastest time set off last. If the handicaps are correct, we should all finish together! In practise this never happens and the first person home is declared the winner. The race is followed by lunch and distribution of prizes in Milnathort Town Hall.

We continue to train right through the festive season with our regular Wednesday night sessions plus some more social runs on Boxing Day and at New Year. It's always good to find an excuse to get out of the house over the festive period and the runs are generally followed by coffee and a bite to eat.

The sessions for December and January are as follows:

Wed 9 Dec Hill Reps (Milnathort)

Sun 13 Dec Club Handicap: 10K – Meet Milnathort Town Hall
Register at 10.30am for 11am start
Bring aprize + Food to share after the race.

Wed 16 Dec TREASURE HUNT

Wed 23 Dec 8 x 400m (Bridgend)

Sat 26 Dec 10am: Boxing Day Run Meet Kinnesswood

Wed 30 Dec 8 x 600m (Lathro)

Sat 2 Jan 10am New Year Run – Meet Lochore Meadows main car park

Wed 6 Jan 2-Mile Time Trial (Wimpey)+ Hot choc + kit sale, Roger's garage

Fri 8 Jan Annual Dinner & Awards at Loch Leven's Larder

Wed 13 Jan Hill Reps (Milnathort)

Mon 18 Jan AGM at KGV - 7.30pm All members welcome

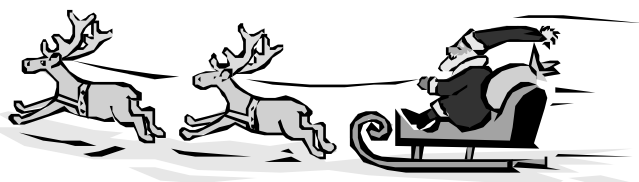
Wed 20 Jan Diagonals (KGV)

Wed 27 Jan Pyramid Reps (Bridgend)

Unless otherwise stated we meet at the old health centre car park beside the swimming pool at 7pm prompt.



Festive greetings from the Kinross Road Runners



50 Years and aye soupin'

Kinross curler celebrates a golden anniversary

Saturday 24 October saw Kinross curler Jim Paterson celebrate a notable anniversary – 50 consecutive years of curling with Kinross Curling Club. Jim's immense enthusiasm for, and love of, the game has seen him play every season since being made at the Kinross Court in 1959. The Club honoured this magnificent service to the game with a celebration Bonspiel of four 2 end games. Thirty-two curlers from Kinross and old friends from neighbouring clubs took to the ice for this fun Bonspiel, with a good audience lining the viewing gallery to encourage the players with the promise of a wee refreshment to come – provided the audience didn't drink the bar dry in the meantime! Who could have predicted that Jim was in the winning rink overall, albeit a tie on points, shots up, shots scored and ends!



President Alistair Wood (right) presents a Quaiach to Jim Paterson

Following the curling and a well-earned plate of stovies, Club President Alistair Wood presented Jim with a quaiach as a memento of the day. Jim then held the company enthralled with a memorable speech covering his early days of curling for Kinross in such far-flung outposts as Falkirk, Stirling, Perth, Kirkcaldy and Dunfermline in the days before a rink existed in Kinross. Clearly, the drink-driving laws were very different then! Jim's knowledge of curling is immense, and he revealed that he was one of the first curlers in Scotland to see the Canadian curlers introduce the slide delivery, and he was in the forefront of bringing this innovation into the game here. Jim was also a driving force in Rotary curling, serving eventually as World President as well as being Rotary World Champion. Jim has also served the game at all levels in Scotland, and remains RCCC Grand Match Convenor.

The day also allowed Kinross to begin fundraising towards the new National Curling Academy, and participants donated £360 to the cause. A fair amount was also donated to the bar profits as the curling stories flowed well into the evening. A memorable day to celebrate the achievements of a memorable figure in Scotland's game. But who said Jim is finished curling, far from it.

Subscriptions to the Newsletter

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

For further details see www.kinrossnewsletter.org or phone Glenn Neve on 01592 860808 or email

subscriptions@kinrossnewsletter.org

Enjoy-a-ball

Enjoy-a-ball is a sports coaching programme for girls and boys aged between three and nine. All lessons are taught in a caring, positive, fun-filled environment and there are never more than ten children in a class. Our objective is to make children's first experiences in a sports coaching environment happy and memorable.

My name is Gary Slater and I currently run classes for children within the communities of Kinross, Scotlandwell and Kinnesswood. Classes last between 30 minutes and one hour, depending upon the child's schooling year. There are currently limited spaces within certain classes and now is a great time to consider having your child join in the fun.

January 2010 will see the intake for the new Anti-Pre classes for children within their first year of nursery who are aged between 3 and 3½. If you want to book your child's place for any of the classes, please contact Gary Slater on 07544 504364 or via e-mail on gary.slater@enjoy-a-ball.com

Further information can be found on the website:

www.enjoy-a-ball.com

Class times and venues are as follows:

Wednesday (Portmoak Village Hall)

Anti-pre	TBC
1.00pm	Pre-school (2nd year of nursery)
3.30pm	Primary 1
4.30pm	Primary 2/3

Thursday (Millbridge Hall)

Anti-pre	TBC
1.00pm	Pre-school
3.30pm	Primary 1
4.30pm	Primary 2
5.30pm	Primary 3

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Health and Fitness

(New regular feature)



My name is Tony Brotherton and I am a personal fitness trainer based in the Kinross area, where I run my business Fit and Happy. I am delighted to have the opportunity to write a regular monthly article on health and exercise related topics for the Newsletter. This month something for everyone:

Nordic Walking – Great exercise in the outdoors!

The gym environment not for you? Want to enjoy the company of friends and feel the health benefits? Do you enjoy fresh air and scenery? Then why not Nordic walk your way to greater fitness or to lose that little bit of extra weight and at the same time meet new friends?

I recently attended a Nordic walking instructor-training course in Cardiff run by Nordic Walking UK and was pleasantly surprised to find that it was significantly more than just walking with poles! It is in fact a structured progressive exercise concept that can be tailored to each individual taking part but which has the collective spirit of a good walk out with friends. It is one of the fastest growing outdoor activities and is suitable for all ages.

Nordic walking is a lower intensity option to running or jogging and attracts people who wish to lose weight and/or gain health. With the involvement of over 90% of the skeletal muscles in Nordic walking propulsion, numerous studies have shown the increased health gains of this type of exercise over normal walking when engaging the use of poles. An 18% increase in energy expenditure by women and 21% by men burns more calories per stride! This energy expenditure comes without a significant increase in perceived exertion. With the correct technique, the poles do the work!

Nordic walking is an outdoor activity and a third of UK adults, when asked, said they prefer to exercise outdoors. We have some beautiful local scenery in which to enjoy this activity throughout the year. Participants can choose to get into their own personal rhythm or chat as they walk along with their friends. Groups are no bigger than 12 walkers and walks are about an hour.

The health and social benefits are significant given regular participation. You need only some suitable outdoor clothing, footwear and a small rucksack for refreshments and something to eat along the way. Numerous studies have shown that exercising outdoors generally leads to increased overall activity levels, has a positive effect on mood and reduces stress levels.

My training was really enjoyable and very thorough. Supported by the Nordic Walking UK national body, I propose to introduce and lead group walks based from the Kinross area. Established walks will be about one hour long and, on the whole, relatively flat. We will have some fun on the way! The walk will be timetabled and composed of a warm up, cardiovascular and resistance components and finishing with a cool down and some stretching. You need have no previous experience and it's suitable for all ages. Walkers will have to complete a PARQ (physical activity readiness questionnaire) before starting the taster session.

If you would like to partake in a free 45 minute public taster session then call me on 07525 399752 or e mail me at Fitandhappy2010@aol.com and I will let you know the upcoming dates and answer any questions you may have. All equipment is provided. Please note that Nordic walking poles are not basic hiking poles.



News from the Rurals

KINROSS GROUP MEETING – A very well attended meeting was held in the Institute, Crook of Devon, with Powmill Institute the hostesses.

Mrs Isobel Robertson, P and K Federation gave a very comprehensive insight into the wider work of SWRI with particular emphasis on Group and Federation, encouraging members to come forward into office.

Three current stalwarts were demitting office, Catherine Fairweather, Dorothy Morris and Frances Drysdale, marking her 'retiral' by gifting a new trophy, for the Chairman's Choice of the entries at Kinross Show. The first winner is Mrs Fiona Clark, Blairingone WRI.

The Group were delighted to receive another trophy, for most points in the Baking Section at Kinross Show, donated in memory of the late Margaret Ironside, Cleish, by her family. It was fitting that this was presented by her younger daughter, Helen Buchanan, whose husband John is about to finish his year in office as Kinross Show President, to Mrs Margaret Nelson, Cleish WRI.

An excellent tea was served by the ladies of Powmill and the new Office bearers were introduced as: Mrs J Paterson, President, Mrs C Fleming, Vice President, Mrs J Gardiner, Treasurer and Mrs E Scobie, Kinross Show Secretary.

POWMILL – President Mrs Janie Buchanan welcomed members to the October meeting and introduced Mrs Kate Croy who gave a cookery demonstration on "Easy Entertaining". She made a delicious well presented three course meal which we all enjoyed sampling. Vote of thanks was given by Mrs M Thorn and a tasty supper was provided by Mrs R Briscoe and Mrs J Mitchell.

Competitions:

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| 3 Raspberry Muffins | - Mrs F Black |
| Sewn Pot Holder | - Mrs E Johnston |
| Garden Gem | - Mrs J Buchanan |

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CROOK OF DEVON – President Mrs Margaret Arbuckle welcomed members to our November meeting and after business introduced Mr Brian Ogilvie who gave us a very interesting talk on author Dorothy L Sayers.

A vote of thanks was given by Mrs Grace Legge.

Competitions:

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Flower of the Month | - Mrs J Allan |
|---------------------|---------------|

GLENFARG – Judy Paterson, from the Scottish Story Telling Centre, described how she became an author and greatly entertained the ladies with folk and fairy tales.

Mrs Ursula Stewart presided and Mrs Jeanette Kirkland proposed the vote of thanks.

Competitions:

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Flower of the Month | - Helen Quartermaine |
| 2 Lamingtons | - Liz Yuill |
| Bookmark | - Alison Messenger |

BISHOPSHIRE – The members enjoyed a fascinating talk by Hazel Cuthbert on making corn dollies, that ancient craft practised in the countryside. Long straws are required, and the triticum wheat is best used for this. But the members were able to try the craft using Artstraws, with varied degrees of success.

Competitions:

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Pair of chopsticks | - Elaine Matthews |
| Scarf | - Norma Smith |

CLEISH – President Mrs Margaret Kilpatrick welcomed all members to the November meeting. After the business was completed she introduced Mrs Sheila Wotherspoon who demonstrated several desserts which proved to be delicious though simple to make, proving that one can produce very good results without having to spend hours to do it. Sheila is one of our own members and she was happy to share her recipes with us.

Mrs Dorothy Morris gave the vote of thanks.

Competitions:

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 3 Truffles | - Margaret Nelson and Betty Robb |
| Christmas Table Decoration | - Margaret Nelson |
| Flower of the Month | - Margaret Nelson |

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Out & About



Vane Farm



Richt then, last bit o drivel fur this year and indeed the stert o next year. Burds first, we hiv hid some guid coonts o geese lately wi the peak bein 18,753, aboot a thousand mair thin last year. Nae doot yiv seen them fleein ower the hoose in the mornin or comin in at nicht time – a grand sicht.

Ither than that we have hid a fine selection o winterin ducks and waders. We hid a Spottit redshank oan the 8th hingin around the flood which is a bit rarer tae the normal redshank we aye hiv. Also hid some nice flocks o Golden Plover wi the highest coont bein 85 oan the Kirkhills oan the 9th o November.

Smew, Slavonian grebe, Red breasted merganser, Goosander, Scaup etc, so there's aye sumthin tae look at. In the shop the latest offer is onything ye buy ye kin get a 1.2kg bag o peanuts fur the very reasonable sum o 99p per bag, normal price aboot £3 odds, so that's a savin o siller, subject tae availability cos we ran oot the first weekend; folks wiz gawn mental buyin stuff tae get the nuts. Christmas cairds, calendars, diaries are still howkin along as weel. Mind we hiv a guid selection o books n birdie related DVDs as pressies fur the birdie person in yur life, or nice ethcal smelly stuff fur the laydee in yer life, or granny, whatever.

Education, education, education, hid a wee thocht tae masel it's a thing a sumtimes dinny mention a lot so as a wey o recompense aff we go.

Although the winter is a quieter time fur visitin school groups we are really grateful tae three local primaries workin wi us tae trial sum new cuttin edge programmes. Kinross hiv been daen the "Wild Teddies" which proved fair popular so shid be an excellent new thing tae teach kids when it's opened up tae the wider world.

Milnathort and Portmoak are helpin wi "Caring for our Future" designed fur upper level classes tae understand sustainability n biodiversity which is causin a load o interest and will be rolled oot tae ither skails fundin permittin?

In conjunction wi the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch we are also runnin the "Bird Friendly Schools" programme workin wi 65 schools across the central belt. Field teachers n volunteers visit each class three times ower the winter n spring months, helpin develop their knowledge o birds, help them tae dae the Big Schools Birdwatch and also introduce them tae the fabby White Tailed Eagle.

Ok then it's gettin tae that time o year again when wur awe skint, hiv ower eaten, no mither! nae mair turkey n sprouts or am gonnæ burst, nae room fur figgy puddin, kin a jist hiv an effer eight mint!

So from all o us at Vane tae all o you n yours a Merry Christmas n a Happy New Year, thanks fur your custom durin the year you hiv helped conservation along the way; thanks a million.

Ta ta till 2010, hiv a guid yin!

Colin

Loch Leven NNR



The last of this year's meetings was a real highlight this month, with Roy Dennis entertaining a full house of over 70 people in the Millbridge Hall with his talk about migration patterns of Scottish raptors. We had the opportunity to take Roy out onto the reserve before hand, and were lucky enough to find a snow goose and a brent goose amongst a large flock of pink-footed geese. I'd like to thank Roy and all who were in attendance, and I hope that next year's talks prove equally popular. The first of the Loch Leven NNR talks for 2010 will be taking place on **Wednesday 27 January**, with Johanna Willi joining us to talk about the Fife Red Squirrel Project. Three more meetings are scheduled for later in the year, with confirmed talks from Alan Stewart (wildlife crime police officer), David Munro (author of 'The History of Loch Leven and the River Leven') and Laurie Campbell (natural history photographer).

Details of the Loch Leven Photography Competition 2010 will shortly be available online, with this year's theme being 'Through the seasons'. Keep an eye on www.lochleven-nnr.org.uk for entry details and rules and regulations. The winners will be selected by Laurie Campbell prior to his talk in October, where prizes will be presented. Selected entries will be shortlisted to create next year's Loch Leven calendar. This year's calendar will soon be sent out to volunteers and partners of Scottish Natural Heritage, so look out for them in the local area over the next month or so.



Triodiversity by David Taylor, winner of the Photography Competition

The **Winter Bird Walk** will be taking place with Jeremy on **Saturday 12 December**, 10am at Findatie Car Park. With a wide selection of wildfowl currently congregating south of St Serf's Island, this walk will be a good chance of spotting wigeon, pintail, teal and whooper swan as well as fieldfare and redwing as they migrate south from Scandinavia.

Your humble author of this column must now bid you farewell, as he departs from Scotland next month for the colder climes of western Canada. You are left in the capable hands of my esteemed colleagues Neil and Jeremy, and I hope to return next year with tales of bears, beavers and belted kingfishers!

All the best, folks.

Craig



Need to check something in an old Newsletter?

Consult our electronic archive at

www.kinrossnewsletter.org

Issues from September 2006 to two months ago available

Farming



Fantasy Farming?

Are you part of the social networking revolution? Have you joined 'Linked In', become a member of 'Bebo' or found 'Facebook'? Then you will know that this is an online never ending party, a place to look up old friends and meet new ones through sharing contacts. If this all sounds like a different language then it's about time you started up the internet and logged on as a new member of one of the above just to discover what it's all about. Because it is likely that you will quickly find that your best friend, neighbour, long lost cousin, or maybe (like me) your 13 year old daughter, is a member! The sites are an easy way to keep in touch with friends; instant messaging is more sociable than an email or text, or if you wish to share some photos you've taken of the kids with the rest of the family it's easy to upload them here. The possibilities are endless.

What I really didn't expect when I looked over daughter's shoulder was to find her on screen ploughing! Yes as a member of 'Facebook' you can join a game and become a virtual farmer. Before a field of wheat is planted you must plough the field and go to the market to buy the seed. Once planted, visitors can visit your site and fertilise the crop, the whole process before harvesting takes four days and if you are not there at the optimum harvesting time then you will suffer a crop disaster. No money will be deposited in the bank account. It's also possible to buy cows, sheep or pigs and you can give these as presents to your friends too. If you collect the eggs on time, and milk the cows regularly then you also build up funds and move up to the next level.

Well I am pretty pleased that this game is so popular, it's giving thousands of people across the world just a little taster of what it takes to produce the food that feeds their nation. Research shows that less people than a generation ago have any connection with the land or a farming community. No longer does everyone know a farmer, so this is a great way to find out what it's all about. Real life farming is all about regular checking of the crops, harvesting in the optimum time span, keeping an eye on the whole package just to ensure that the bank balance remains healthy enough to feed the family with enough left over to get a new tractor now and then. So keep networking and farming or log on tonight and join this popular craze of farming without wellies.

Pauline now grooming at
LOCHRAN MOSS GROOMING
 (1/2 mile Junction 5 M90)

All dog breeds catered for sympathetically
 and to owner requirements
 Clipped, trimmed and bathed
 in a friendly environment

For appointment:
Call Pauline 07825 367804 or
01383 830752

LOCHRAN MOSS, BLAIRADAM, KELTY
 FIFE KY4 0HZ

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

Weather



October Weather Report from Carnbo

October did its very best to make up for the bad behaviour of the recent summer months. After the first week or so, pressure rose at long last, leading to less rain fall and plenty of sunny days. Temperatures were also on the warm side.

Rainfall for month	89 mm (71% of normal)
Heaviest fall	21.9 mm (27th)
Highest temperature	16°C (15th)
Lowest temperature	1°C (17th)
Average temperature	8.7°C
Ground frost	6 nights

Air frost not recorded

Snow not recorded

Cloud cover 75%


12 overcast days

Thunder not recorded

The Scottish eBike Centre

eco friendly



21st Century Personal Transport



Electric Bicycles
eBike Conversion Kits

Bicycle Sales &
Rental

103 High Street, Kinross
01577 864903
www.ebikescotland.com

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WESTFIELD CHILDMINDING

Registered child minder & qualified child practitioner

Children cared for from 6 months to 12 years

Before and After school pickup service (Milnathort PS)

Holiday Care

Countryside Location, 3 miles from Milnathort

Telephone Julian on 01577 864860

Congratulations



Annette and Jim **BENNIE** are delighted to announce the marriage of their second son **CHRISTOPHER** to **SARAH HARDCASTLE** on 31 October 2009. We wish them a healthy and happy future together in Dubai. Thanks go to all family and friends for their generosity and travel to Hawkshaw, Bury and Bolton Art Centre to celebrate this momentous occasion.

ISHBEL McFARLANE from Burnbrae has achieved an MSc with Distinction at Edinburgh University for her research into the work of Scottish writer and artist, Ian Hamilton Finlay, who is best known for creating the poetry and sculpture garden, Little Sparta, set in the Pentland Hills. During her five years in Edinburgh, Ishbel was heavily involved in University theatre and was part of the cast of Ella Hickson's "Eight" which won "The Best of Edinburgh Award" in last year's "Fringe". This took them to New York in January and then to London's West End for three weeks in July. Ishbel is now following this interest by commencing study at The Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama and taking a post-graduate degree in acting.

Milnathort Primary School Cycling Success

Congratulations to Milnathort Primary School P7 pupils: all those who undertook their Cycling Proficiency Training passed both their multiple-choice and their road-based tests. A fantastic achievement – well done all of you!

Thanks



Poppy Appeal, Milnathort: Well done Milnathort! This year's Poppy Appeal raised in excess of One Thousand Pounds. Many thanks to all who contributed and to the businesses which sold poppies: The Post Office, Giacomazzi's, Robertson's, Zen Zone, MB Salon, Stewart and Smart and Heaven Scent.

- Helen Glover

Poppy Appeal, Portmoak: Thank you to all who contributed to this year's collection, which raised over £480.

- Jeanette McLennan

Lancastria Association of Scotland SC039936: On behalf of the association I wish to thank everybody who contributed to the success of our recent coffee morning in the Institute, Crook of Devon. The splendid sum of £1,342 was raised for the Lancastria Memorial Fund. Thank you for your support. It is greatly appreciated.

- Fiona Symon, Chair

Blythswood Shoe Box Appeal: Many thanks to all who came to assist in the checking and packing of the shoe boxes. Approximately 800 boxes were checked and packed. These boxes will soon be on their way to many centres in India where they will be distributed to the needy. I am certain that the recipients will be overwhelmed by the kindness of the donors. Also many thanks to the Scouts who stepped in to help load the pick-up lorry.

- Patricia Payne

Health and Well Being Day: We raised a total of £6250 at the Windlestrae Hotel. The amount is getting split between Queen Margaret Hospital and Ninewells Hospital Breast Care Units. We had 350 people through the door and therapists worked non-stop to do taster sessions and classes which included pilates, yoga, tai chi and salsa dancing. Thanks to everyone who came along and made the day a great success. And watch this space as we are definitely going to do it again next year – even bigger!

Anyone interested in classes or therapies should contact Zoe Tod, tel 07974075086.

Sainsbury's at Summer's End Market: The Sainsbury's staff had a great time decorating Halloween Gingerbread Men with all the children at the fair. The staff would like to thank everyone who donated while decorating the biscuits. They raised £75 for the **Sarah Scott Charity**, the Kinross Sainsbury's Charity of the year. Mr George Paton the store manager said: "It is great to be involved in a community projects like the Summer's End Fair. It is wonderful to see a community pulling together and all enjoying an event for all ages. Thank you to everyone involved."

Sainsbury's Ladies Pampering Evening: On Friday 30 October Sainsbury's had their first Ladies Pampering Evening at the Thistle Hotel Milnathort. The evening was a fantastic success, raising £660 for the **Sarah Scott Charity**. This would not have been possible without the whole "Complete Look" therapy team, who gave up their free time to pamper all the ladies; also Susan King, whose massages were well received. Thank you all very much. We would also like to thank all the stall-holders and all the people who donated to the bottle stall.

The staff at the hotel were great and we must say huge thank you to Mr Paton at Sainsbury's and David at the Thistle Hotel for providing the snacks.

We must also thank Jennifer Scott for her assistance in selling the tickets. We have raised £1200 so far and are looking forward to our next event.

We hope everyone enjoyed the evening and we are grateful to everyone for their support.

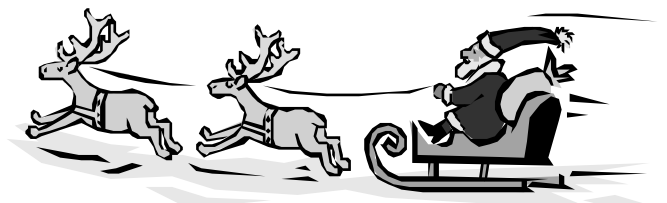
KINROSS GARDEN SERVICES

For domestic and commercial garden maintenance and soft landscaping

- * *Lawns turfed and seeded*
- * *Lawn sand supplied*
- * *Wood chip mulching for sale*

Agent for Sinclair McGill and John Watson's seeds for Agriculture and Horticulture

For contracts and orders phone
Jim Oswald on 01577 864020





Kinross-shire Churches Together

Kinross Parish Church of Scotland

(Charity number SC012555)

Station Road, Kinross

Rev Alan D. Reid MA, BD Tel: (01577) 862952
 Reader: Margaret Michie Tel: (01592) 840602
 Session Clerk: Jaffrey Weir Tel: (01577) 865780
 Church E-mail: kinpc@tiscali.co.uk
 Church website: www.kinrossparishchurch.org

All Sunday morning services include a crèche (age up to 3). During school term there is also Junior Church (3 to Primary 7) and Jam Pact (Secondary Age). After the service there is a chance to stay and chat over tea and coffee and visit our Fair Trade stall.

December (in church unless indicated otherwise)

Wed 2 12 noon Mid-week and Mid-day: Time to Pray: 30 min. (every Wednesday).

Sun 6 10.30 Communion Service.
 18.30 Evening Communion Service.
 19.30 Church Centre : Crossfire, for S1 age upwards (and every Sunday evening thereafter).

Mon 7 08.00 am Silent Meditation.

Sun 13 10.30 Morning Service.
 14.30 Christmas Afternoon service – a half-hour service, for those who cannot normally manage to attend a full morning service, and then afternoon tea.

Thu 17 21.00 Time to Pray – ‘Compline’: a short service with readings and responsive prayer.

Sun 20 10.30 Family Christmas Service.

Thu 24 16.00 Crib Service.

23.15 Christmas Eve Service.

Fri 25 10.30 Christmas Day Service.

Sun 27 10.30 Morning Service.
 14.30 Service for the Bereaved – for those who have experienced bereavement over the past two years.

January

Sun 3 10.30 Morning Service, with informal communion after.

Remainder of January: Sunday Services at 10.30. Other events as announced.

Other Services

Wed 2 10.45 Midweek Worship: Reading Room, Church Centre, 30mins. (and every Wed.)

Tues 3 14.30 Whyte Court – Service (First Tues of month)

Tues 29 14.30 Causeway Court – Service (last Tues of month)

All are welcome to any of these services or prayer times

Saturday break: Most Saturdays mornings at the Church Centre, there is a second hand book stall and café serving tea, coffee and fresh baking 10a.m. -12 noon.

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 church (contact Anne Miller tel: 865610).

St Paul's Scottish Episcopal Church

Muir, Kinross, KY13 8AY

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

December Services

Sun 6 Advent 2, 8.30am, Holy Communion.
 11.00am, Sung Eucharist, Followed by the AGM.

Sun 13 Advent 3, 8.30am, Holy Communion.
 11.00am, Sung Eucharist.
 6.00pm, 9 lessons and Carols (followed by mince pies).

Sun 20 Advent 4, 8.30am, Holy Communion.
 11.00am, Family Communion.

Thu 24 Christmas Eve, 4.00pm, Crib Service.
 11.30pm, Midnight Mass.

Fri 25 Christmas Day, 10.00am, Christmas Eucharist (children bring their presents).

Sun 27 1st Sunday after Christmas, 8.30am Holy Communion.
 11.00am, Family Communion.

Sunday School and Crèche during the 11.00am Services.

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

St James's R C Church

5 High Street, Kinross, KY13 8AW

Father Colin Golden Telephone: (01577) 863329

Mass Times Saturday Vigil 7.00pm
 Sunday 9.30am

24 Dec Carol Service followed by Midnight Mass 11.30pm

25 Dec Christmas Day Mass 11.15am

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

Kinross Gospel Hall

Montgomery Street, Kinross

Website: www.kinrossgospelhall.info

Sunday	10.30am	Breaking of Bread
	12.00pm	Sunday School
	6.00pm	Prayer Meeting
	6.30pm	Gospel Meeting
Monday	7.30pm	Prayer Meeting
	8.15pm	Bible Study
Wednesday	6.30pm	Children's Club (term time)

Kinross Christian Fellowship

Further information: (01577) 863509

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

Church and Children's Sunday Club

Every Sunday at 10.30am

in the Millbridge Hall, Old Causeway, Kinross.

During each service there will be a time for ministry and prayer for healing.

Saturday Night Worship

Last Saturday of each month, 7.30 – 10pm

Millbridge Hall, Kinross (parking available)

Heartfelt praise and worship Prayer for healing

Opportunity for testimony Refreshments

Books and resources Open to all

For further details contact Sarah Cosar 07795313864

Cleish Parish Church**Church of Scotland**

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

Sunday Services 11.15am
Crèche 11.15am
Junior Church 11.15am

December

Sun 6 11.15am Preacher: Rev. Joanne Finlay
 6.30pm Joint Christmas Remembrance Service
 for loved ones - Fossoway Church
Sun 13 11.15am Preacher: Reader, Brian Ogilvie
 6pm Christingle Family Worship
Sun 20 11.15am Preacher: Rev. Joanne Finlay
Thu 24 11.15pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Fri 25 11.15am "Bring the Toys" Family service
Sun 27 11.15am Service of Readings and Carols

18-19th December - Cleish Christmas Tree Festival

Fossoway Parish Church**Church of Scotland**

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

Sunday Services at 9.45am

"Wrigglers Group" (0-3 year olds), Junior Church and Tots Music: Friday mornings in hall, 9.30am-10.30am

Refresh coffee Club: Every Thursday, church hall, 2-4pm

Housegroup/Bible Study group:

contact Margaret Hamblin (01577 850252)

Fossoway Church Choir rehearsals:

Tuesday evenings, 7.30pm-9pm

Wednesday evenings: Joint choir rehearsals

Cafe Refresh: Thursdays 2-4.30pm come and enjoy real coffee and home made baking. All welcome.

December

Sun 6 9.45am Preacher: Rev. Joanne Finlay.
 Theme: The Promise of Light.
 6.30pm Christmas Remembrance Service for
 the Bereaved.
Sun 13 9.45am Preacher: Reader, Brian Ogilvie.
 Theme: The Incarnate One.
 6pm Christingle Family Worship
 Cleish Church.
Sun 20 9.45am Nativity Service, Junior Church
Thu 24 11pm Carols led by Choir.
 11.15pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.
Fri 25 9.45am "Bring the Toys" Family Service.
Sun 27 9.45am Service of Readings and Carols.

12th December 7.30pm Church Pantomime (in church)

18th December 10.30am Fossoway Primary Christmas
 Assembly

21st December 7pm, Community Christmas Sing-a-long
 (outside church)

Christmas Remembrance Service for the Bereaved,
 Fossoway Church, 6.30pm, **6th December**

A short service of worship where we remember our loved
 ones who have died. All are welcome.

Orwell and Portmoak Parish Church**Church of Scotland**

Rev Dr Robert Pickles Telephone: (01577) 863461
 E-mail: robert.pickles1@btopenworld.com

Sunday Worship, Junior Church and crèche:

10am Portmoak Church, 11.30am Orwell Church

Prayer Meeting held 30mins before each service

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

Services at Levensen: first Tuesday of the month at 4pm

Oasis Ladies' meeting in Portmoak New Room.

10.15 - 11.45am last Friday of the month.

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

December

Sun 6th Formal Communion, Orwell.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Carols by Candlelight

Saturday 19th, 6.30pm – Orwell Church.

Sunday 20th, 6.30pm – Portmoak Church.

Thursday 24th, 6.30pm – Family Service, Portmoak Church
 Thursday 24th, 11.30pm – Candlelight Watchnight services
 in both churches.

Christmas Day, 10.30am – Family service, Orwell Church.

3rd January – Covenant service in both churches.

Obituary

URQUHART - Suddenly at home on 6 October 2009,
MARGARET URQUHART of Myre Cottage, Smith
 Street, Kinross. Margaret was a 'weel kent' figure in the
 town, having lived all her life in Kinross, and all but a
 couple of years at Myre Cottage where she was born and
 subsequently died.

Margaret had many friends in the town and will be sadly
 missed, especially at the Church Centre where she served
 lunchtime meals for many years to the 'old folk'.

She enjoyed 'keeping on the go', best summed up in these
 lines:

"You don't stop doing things as you grow old,
 You grow old if you stop doing things."

Margaret is survived by her husband Phil, daughters Phyllis
 and Lillian, son James and her three grandchildren.

Acknowledgements

URQUHART - The family would like to express their
 sincere thanks for all cards received and donations of £870
 to CHAS (Rachel House), and for the kind words and
 sympathy that have been expressed.

Ian and Margaret Broomfield would like to thank all
 friends and neighbours for the lovely cards and flowers etc.
 following the death of Ian's mother, **MARGARET**
BAXTER.

Thanks also to Kinross Carers, doctors and nurses, Dollar
 Health Centre, the Rev Joanne Finlay and G & A Stewart,
 Funeral Directors.

Also thanks to the Care Staff of Rumbling Bridge Nursing
 Home and all who contributed to the donation of £350 for
 Rumbling Bridge Care Staff





Playgroups & Nurseries



PORTMOAK UNDER 5s

Portmoak Hall – between Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell

(only 10 mins from Milnathort and Kinross)

Babies and Toddlers (birth – 3yrs)

Tues 10:00am - 11:30am

Playgroup (2yrs onwards)

Mon & Fri 10:00am – 12noon

Contact Carolyn Robertson 01383 831129

LOCHLEVEN BABIES & TODDLERS

Masonic Hall, The Muirs, Kinross

Session times

Tuesdays 9.30 - 11.15, Fridays 9.30 - 11.15

Contact - Tracey 01577 863468

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

LOCHLEVEN TWOS CLUB

Masonic Hall, The Muirs, Kinross

Thursdays 9.30 to 11.15 (term time only)

Suitable for children from about 18 months to pre-school. We have lots to offer including playdo, painting, craft, dressing up and a variety of toys. A snack is also provided. This is also a great place for parents and carers to have a coffee and chat whilst their children play. Younger siblings welcome.

Contact Sophie Irvine on 01577 863288 for further details.

FOSSOWAY TODDLERS

The Institute, Crook of Devon

Wednesday 9.30 a.m. - 11.15 am

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

Contact - Fiona Eastop 01577 864194

FOSSOWAY PRE-SCHOOL GROUP

Moubray Hall, Powmill

Partner-provider for P&K Education

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

Sessions daily 9.15 – 11.45

Contact Pat Irvine 01577 840584 or

www.childcarelink.gov.uk/perthandkinross



SWANSACRE PLAYGROUP

21-23 Swansacre, Kinross

Kinross-shire Playgroup Association

aka Swansacre Playgroup

Registered Scottish Charity Number SCO17748



TEL: 01577 862071

www.swansacreplaygroup.org.uk

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

Playgroup sessions – Mon to Fri 9.15-11.45am

Children from the age of 2 yrs welcome.

Rising Fives Mon & Wed 1.00-3.15pm, with lunch club beforehand.

This is complementary to Nursery.

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

Baby and Toddler Group – Thurs 1pm-3pm

Ante-natal to pre-school. Fun for children, coffee and chat for the parent/carer. For more information contact Amanda 861434.

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

Contact: Susan Britton 01577 863385 or 07737 461 293

GLENFARG BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

Village Hall, Greenbank Road, Glenfarg

9.30am to 11.30am during term time

A healthy snack is provided for children and tea/coffee and biscuits for carers. We also provide a craft activity each week.

First session free and £2 thereafter (£1 for second child). All welcome.

Contact Jenny Holt-Brook on 01577 830577, email jennyholtbrook@yahoo.co.uk or just come along.



Notices

Orwell Old Folks Association

present

JINTY KIDD

at Orwell Bowling Club demonstrating

Christmas Floral Decorations

on **WEDNESDAY 2 DECEMBER** at 7.30pm

Tickets £5 including glass of wine and mince pie

Please come along

and get some ideas for decorations for Christmas,
support the association and have a really nice night out.

December Art Exhibition of Small Paintings by The Friday Art Group

Conference Building, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Muirs

Friday 4 December and Saturday 5 December

10am-7pm

Everyone welcome!

Kinross Boys and Girls Brigade St Andrews Day Coffee Morning

Church Centre, Kinross

SATURDAY 5 DECEMBER

10am – 12 noon

Stalls will include: Home Baking, Bottle Stall,
Raffle, Fair Trade, CHAS and Christmas Stall

Milnathort Town Hall Association

presents inaugural film screening by

FAMILY CINEMA

the *fantastic* new Milnathort filmhouse

'HOME ALONE'

Director: **Chris Columbus** Cast: **Macaulay Culkin, Joe Pesci, Daniel Stern**

In this film, Kevin McAllister is an eight year old boy left at home
by his parents, when they leave with the rest of the family for
Christmas holidays to Paris. At first he seems to enjoy living alone,
but after a while he understands that things aren't so easy.

Especially when two robbers decide to break in a particular house.
HIS house! Is he able to defend his home?

**Nominated for 2 Oscars, a timeless classic. It was the #1
film at the box office for 12 straight weeks.**

A Must See Fun Family Christmas Movie!

SUNDAY 6 DECEMBER

4pm, Milnathort Town Hall

Come along for a good old-fashioned
family cinema afternoon.

Feel free to bring a rug - bean bag - your dinner!

A Free Warm Mince Pie, Mulled Wine, Tea & Coffee.

Tuck Shop selling popcorn, crisps, juice etc.

Tickets:

£4 Adult, £2 Child (under 16), Family Ticket £10

Available from Milnathort Post Office, Heaven Scent

or call Kathleen Mitchell on

01577 862805 or 07849 766 243

Watch this space for future screenings of family film classics

Kinross-shire Historical Society



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

Membership: £6 [£5], visitors £2; eighteen and under free.

Programme for 2009 – 2010

14 Dec The Burns Connection: Robert Burns and his
family links with Kinross-shire. Professor David
Munro MBE.

18 Jan The Links Market: The history and development
of the market, the entertainments, the show
families and their relationship with local people.
Dallas Mechan BSc AMA.

**15 Feb Exploring along the Fife Coastal Path from the
Forth Bridges to Largo Bay:** Dr Hamish Brown
MBE

15 Mar The Black Watch 1725 -2006: A thumbnail
sketch of the history of the regiment. Thomas B
Smyth MA.

Annual General Meeting

Portmoak Village Hall

by Scotlandwell

Please note that the Hall has a new booking secretary.
For all booking reservations and enquiries please contact
Donna Brown – telephone 01592 840431

Social Section

Orwell Bowling Club

BINGO TEA

Wednesday 9 December 7.00 for 7.30pm

Entry £1 including refreshments

Bring your own cup please

Kinross Floral Art Club

will meet in

Windlestrae Hotel, Kinross

Thursday 10 December

at 7.15pm prompt

Demonstrator: Peggy Reid

Title: Christmas Highlights

All welcome to come and join us for a fun evening.

Maestro Cabaret: Owing to a double booking of venue,
Maestro Cabaret have regretfully had to **CANCEL** their
appearance on 17 December. The next date will be some
time in February.

Carols at Sainsbury's

Friday 11 December, 6pm-7pm

A choir of singers from Kinross-shire Churches.
Rotary hope to have a collection for charities.

Dollar Music Society 2010

- 6 Feb Daniel Grimwood: a talented young pianist will play works by Chopin, Greig and Liszt
- 6 Mar Katharine Durran (piano) with Rafał Zambrzycki-Payne (violin): an exceptional concert comprising sonatas by Beethoven, Janacek, Mozart and Brahms.

All concerts are held in The Gibson Hall, Dollar Academy and start at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £7 per adult single (children free) or membership of the Society costs £19 (single), £36 (family). Dollar Music Society is a member of Making Music and is subsidised by Enterprise Music Scotland. We would be very pleased to see you at any or all of our concerts. For further information please contact Andrea Ross, tel: 01259 742014 or Jan Bradley: 01259 742652.



Visit our Winter Wonderland...



Let the Christmas fairy lights lead you to a winter wonderland in amongst our feathered friends. On the first three Wednesdays throughout the month of December, RSPB Vane Farm Shop shall be extending their opening hours from 10am - 7.30pm. Whether it's for those last few Christmas presents or to get stocked up for winter, join us for mulled wine and mince pies and settle in for an evening of stress-free shopping.

Recycle your waste and help the Friends of Wumenu Community Farm

(Charity No SC037724)
www.friendsofwumenufarm.org.uk

The charity will take: old agricultural tools, bikes, clothes, fabrics, old sewing machines, art materials, duvets, curtains, blankets and bedding, kitchenware, toys, clothes, play equipment, power tools, garden tools and unwanted electrical goods in any condition. All goods can be collected.

Telephone Amu-Logotse on 07985 623870 or Barbara Willey on 01577 863063.



GARDEN STEPS & MORE

Bricks, blocks, mono block & stone work etc. –
Steps, paths, walls, patios, paving
Repairs/pointing etc.

Specialists in stone work

for advice and a free estimate call

William Morris
01592 840095
07866 961685 (mobile)

Kinross-shire Volunteer Group And Rural Outreach Scheme

Registered Charity No. SC015642



BURNS SUPPER MONDAY 18 JANUARY



In case any of you missed the notice in the Newsletter last month about our Burns Supper, here is a repeat.

It will be held in the Windlestrae Hotel on **Monday 18 January 2010** starting at 6.30pm for 7.00pm.

Tickets will be available as usual from mid December – contact Ann Munro, 01577 840196 or Bill Michie, 01592 840602. This is always a very good evening with great entertainment and grand company so don't miss it.

If anyone would prefer vegetarian haggis, please say so when you buy your ticket.

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 22 December & Tuesday 19 January
between 10.30am and 11am
in Sainsbury's car park

(if car park is full, van will park nearby,
e.g. Park & Ride or Ochil View)

Are you suffering from Macular Degeneration?

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

PIANOFORTE TUITION

ANTHONY J. FOOTE, L.R.A.M.

Member of European Piano Teachers' Association
Pupils entered for Associated Board Examinations and Festivals

Refresher Courses for Adults

Also Tuition in Theory, Clarinet, Recorder and Electronic Keyboard, and for school pupils taking Piano or Electronic Keyboard for all SCE exams

If no transport, visiting homes would be considered

Tel: (Muckhart) **01259 781446**

Community Councils

Kinross: Secy: Mrs M Scott (01577) 862945
KinrossCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk
Cleish & Blairadam: Secy: Mrs M Traylor (01383) 830059,
CleishCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk
Milnathort: Chair: Mr J Giacomazzi (01577) 864025
MilnathortCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk
Fossoway & District: Secy: Trudy Duffy-Wigman (01577) 840669,
FossowayCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk
Portmoak: Secy: Mr J Bird (01592) 840368,
PortmoakCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk

Kinross Community Councillors

Susan Bathgate	42 High Street	864742
Margaret Blyth	6 Muir Grove	
David Colliar	10 Rannoch Place	864037
Dave Cuthbert (Chair)	Highfield Circle	861001
Barry M Davies	60 Lathro Park	865004
Ian Jack (Treasurer)	Burnbrae Grange	863980
Laura Mackay	Brunthill Farm	07809232740
Dot Mackay	29 Green Park	864635
Joe Richardson	47/49 High Street	863152
Margaret Scott (Secy)	21 Ross Street	862945
Campbell Watson (Vice Chair)	7 Gallowhill Gardens	861544

Perth and Kinross Councillors

Kathleen Baird, Easter Clunie, Newburgh, Fife, KY14 6EJ
Tel (home): 01337 840218.
Email: kbaird@pkc.gov.uk
Michael Barnacle, Moored, Waulkmill Road, Crook of Devon,
Kinross, KY13 0UZ. Tel/Fax (home): 01577 840516.
Email: Michael@mabarnacle.freeserve.co.uk
Sandy Miller, c/o Perth & Kinross Council, 2 High Street, Perth,
PH1 5PH. Tel (business): 01577 840462.
Email: SMiller@pkc.gov.uk
William Robertson, 85 South Street, Milnathort, Kinross,
KY13 9XA. Tel (home): 01577 865178.
Email: wrobertson@pkc.gov.uk

Kinross Recycling Centre, Bridgend

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

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

Loch Leven Community Library

Loch Leven Community Campus, Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8FQ
Telephone: 01577 867205 Fax: to be advised
Email: kinrosslibrary@pkc.gov.uk

Opening Times

Monday	10am – 6pm
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday	10am – 8pm
Friday	10am – 6pm
Saturday	10am – 3pm

Regular Library Sessions for Young Children

At Loch Leven Community Library. No need to book, just
come along.

Story Telling: Every **Thursday afternoon**, 2.15pm to
2.45pm.

Bookstart Rhymetime: Every **Saturday**, 10.30am to 11am
and alternate **Wednesdays** (starting 2 December), 2pm to
2.30pm.

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

Member of Parliament for Ochil & South Perthshire Constituency Gordon Banks MP

www.gordonbanksmp.co.uk

Email: constituency@gordonbanksmp.co.uk

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

MSP for Ochil Constituency

Keith Brown MSP

will be holding regular

surgeries throughout his constituency area.

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

Keith can also be contacted by email at

keith.brown.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

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

Members of the Scottish Parliament

All MSPs can be contacted at the following address:
The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

MSPs for Mid Scotland and Fife Region

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

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

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

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

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

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

Christopher Harvie MSP (SNP) Tel: 0131 348 6765

Email: ChristopherHarvie.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

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

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

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

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

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

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

Mobile Library – Blairingone and Milnathort

Every Second Wednesday

Next visits: **2 & 16 December, but not 30th**

Blairingone 9.30am - 9.45am

Westerloan, Milnathort 2.10pm - 3pm

Bridgefauld Road, Milnathort 3.05pm - 4pm

Any queries telephone AK Bell Library 01738 444949

Fossoway and Cleish Community Office

A service for the Community, open:

Thursdays	2 pm - 4 pm
Saturdays	10am -12 noon

Out of hours there is an answering machine

Tel: 01577 840185 Email: fcco@btinternet.com

Kinross District Counselling Services

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

It is open to all-comers.

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

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

Kinross-shire *Day Centre*

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

Weekly Programme

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

Additional Events for December

Christmas Lunch & Concert

Wednesday 9th at 12 noon

Pantomime

Friday 18th at 1.15 pm

Christmas Carol Concert

Monday 21st at 1.30 pm

Christmas and New year Holidays

Please note that the Day Centre will be closed

Wed 23, Thu 24 & Fri 25 Dec, and Wed 30, Thu 31 Dec; also Fri 1 Jan 2010.

May we take this opportunity to thank all our volunteers and customers for their extremely kind support through out the year and to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Coffee Bar open 9 am - 4 pm, Senior Citizens Lunches Daily
Telephone: 01577 863869



LOCAL CHEMIST INFORMATION



Rowlands Pharmacy, Kinross

(opposite David Sands)

Mon - Fri: 9.00 am - 6.00 pm

Saturday: 9.00 am - 5.00 pm

Sunday: 12.00 - 1.00 pm

Tel: 862422

Davidson's Chemist, Milnathort

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

Saturday: 9.00 am - 12.30 pm

Tel: 862219



School Holidays 2009-2010

	<i>start date</i>	<i>end date</i>
Christmas Holiday	Mon 21 Dec 2009	Mon 4 Jan 2010
Spring Holiday	Fri 2 April 2010	Fri 16 April 2010
Academic year ends		Fri 2 July 2010

In Service Days

2009: Thursday 19 November, Friday 20 November.

2010: Tuesday 16 February, Monday 19 April.

Other Holidays

May Day: Monday 3 May 2010 (to be confirmed).

Friday 12 and Monday 15 February 2010.

Recently bereaved? Needing some support? AMONGST FRIENDS

(Bereavement Group)

meets at the Health Centre, Lathro, Kinross
on the last Friday of the month, 2.30pm to 4pm

A warm welcome awaits all

For details phone

Hazel 01577 863461 or Marg 01577 863557

Kinross-shire Volunteer Group and Rural Outreach Scheme

Registered Charity No. SC015642

Charges to service users (as at 1/10/08)

Perth, Dunfermline

£8

Stirling, Kirkcaldy

£8

Stracathro

£25

Dundee

£15

Edinburgh

£15

Loch Leven Health Centre, local area

£3

Loch Leven Health Centre, outreach area

£4

Co-ordinator: Ann Munro 01577 840196.



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



Christmas Tree Festival

Cleish Church & Village Hall

Friday 18th Dec 1.00 pm - 5.00 pm
Saturday 19th Dec 11.00 am - 5.00 pm

See over 30 Christmas Trees decorated in different themes from companies and individuals from around the Kinross area!!

Afterwards enjoy a tea or coffee and cake in the Village Hall - all included in your entrance fee of £3 - children FREE!

All proceeds to CHAS and the Kinross Day Centre



Perth Association for Mental Health

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

Enquire

Are you looking for information about your child's rights to support in School?

If so, contact **Enquire**, the national advice and information service for additional support for learning.

Enquire offer: a confidential telephone helpline and online enquiry service, practical guides, fact sheets and newsletters, helpful materials for children and young people with additional support needs.

For more information contact: tel 0845 123 2303

Website: www.enquire.org.uk

Enquire is funded by the Scottish Government and managed by Children in Scotland

Perth Citizens Advice Bureau

The Kinross Outreach Advice Surgery is held on the **second and fourth Tuesday of the month** from 1.30pm to 3.30pm at St Paul's Church Hall, The Muirs, Kinross.

No appointment is necessary as the surgery is a drop-in service. For complex issues a further appointment may be necessary. Perth CAB can help you – our advice is free, confidential, impartial and independent. Contact us: Advice line 01738 624301; Appointment line 01738 564304.

Classified Adverts

The Newsletter publishes items for sale listed on the [kinross.cc](http://www.kinross.cc) website. If interested in purchasing an item, we suggest **checking the website for current availability** (www.kinross.cc then 'Local Adverts' then 'Classified Adverts'). If interested in selling an item, please list it on www.kinross.cc and it will automatically be published in the next available Newsletter.

Items for Sale

Breakfast Bar Chairs £40.00

4 x fold flat breakfast bar chairs with wooden seat.

Seller Details: Kevin Gibson 01577 861988

Hoover 6kg washing machine £150.00 ono

Approx 5 months old, good condition as new 'A' rated appliance.

Seller Details: Jane Brown 01577 863556

gamesdeuch1@btinternet.com

Hotpoint Fridge Freezer £120.00

4 months old, excellent condition, 4 drawer freezer compartment.

Seller Details: Jane Brown 01577 863556

gamesdeuch1@btinternet.com



Kinross-shire Fund

Grants available for local community projects

e.g. Events, Information, Transport, Welfare, Physical Amenities, Recreational Facilities, Support for Care of the Elderly, Voluntary Organisations

For more information and to download an application form, see www.kinross-shirefund.org or contact Annabel Bath

on 0131 524 0300

or email Annabel@scottishcf.org



Free Energy Saving Advice Freephone 0800 512 012

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

Hedges/Bushes/Trees Causing Obstruction

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



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logo design - wedding invitations - new baby announcement cards - business stationery - newsletter adverts for £20

Christmas & New Year Holiday Arrangements



Recommended Last Posting Dates

Airmail

South & Central America, Caribbean,
Africa, Middle East, Asia,
Far East (except Japan), Australia
and New Zealand

Japan, USA, Canada and Eastern Europe
Western Europe

Fri 4 Dec
Thur 10 Dec
Fri 11 Dec

Within UK

Standard parcels
Second Class
First Class
Special Delivery

Tue 15 Dec
Fri 18 Dec
Mon 21 Dec
Wed 23 Dec

Kinross Post Office (David Sands)

Thu 24 Dec close at 4pm
Fri 25 & Sat 26 Dec CLOSED
Thu 31 Dec close at 4pm
Fri 1 & Sat 2 Jan CLOSED

Rowlands Pharmacy, Kinross

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

Davidson's Chemist, Milnathort

Fri 25 & Sat 26 Dec CLOSED
Mon 28 Dec 9am - 6pm
Fri 1 Jan 12 noon - 1pm
Sat 2 Jan CLOSED
Mon 4 Jan 9am - 6pm

Loch Leven Health Centre

See News from Health Centre, p 10 for arrangements

Community Campus

Thu 24 Dec 7am - 4pm
Fri 25, Sat 26, Sun 27 Dec CLOSED
Mon 28, Tue 29, Wed 30 Dec 10am - 8pm
Thu 31 Dec 10am - 4pm
Fri 1 & Sat 2 Jan CLOSED
Sun 3 Jan open as normal

Loch Leven Community Library

Thu 24 Dec 10am - 4pm
Fri 25 - Mon 28 Dec CLOSED
Tue 29 Dec 10am - 8pm
Wed 30 Dec 10am - 4pm
Thu 31 Dec - Mon 4 Jan CLOSED
Tue 5 Jan normal hrs resume

Day Centre

23, 24, 25 Dec CLOSED
30 Dec, 31 Dec & 1 Jan CLOSED

Waste and Recycling Collections

As the Christmas and New Year holidays fall on a weekday this year there will be changes to the collection of domestic **general (green-lidded)** and **recycling (blue-lidded)** bins. Unless notified by letter the changes will be as follows:

<i>Collections due on</i>	<i>Will be uplifted on</i>
Fri 25 Dec	Sun 27 Dec
Fri 1 Jan	Sun 3 Jan

Collection of **garden/food waste (brown-lidded)** bins will be suspended between Friday 25 December and Thursday 7 January. Please refer to your calendar for the exact date that your collections will recommence.

P&KC Recycling Centres

Fri 25 & Sat 26 Dec CLOSED
Fri 1 and Sat 2 Jan CLOSED
Opening hours remain unchanged for all other dates over the festive period. For Kinross Recycling Centre, these times are:
Monday-Thursday 9am-7pm
Sunday 9am-5pm

Opening days and times will resume as normal week commencing 4 January 2010.

Perth & Kinross Council

Thu 24 Dec close at 3.30pm
Fri 25 Dec - Mon 4 Jan CLOSED
Out of hours emergency number for housing repairs and emergency repairs 0845 3011110

Registrar's, County Buildings, Kinross

Telephone 01577 867620
Hours as for P&KC (see above), except:
Tue 29 Dec OPEN 9am - 1pm
Thu 31 Dec OPEN 9am - 1pm

Registrar's Milnathort

Telephone: 01577 862536
By appointment only at all times.

Registration Emergencies: telephone 07771 666868

Loch Leven Leisure Centre

14- 24 Dec	closed for refurbishment
Fri 25 & Sat 26 Dec	CLOSED
Sun 27 Dec	open 10am - 4pm
Mon 28 - Wed 30 Dec	open 12 - 8pm
Thu 31 Dec	open 10am - 4pm
Fri 1 & Sat 2 Jan	CLOSED
Sun 3 Jan onwards	open as normal

RSPB Vane Farm

Thu 24 Dec	close at 3pm
Fri 25 & Sat 26 Dec	CLOSED
Sun 27 - Wed 30 Dec	close at 4pm (café at 3pm)
Thu 31 Dec	close at 3pm
Fri 1 & Sat 2 Jan	CLOSED
Sun 3 Jan	close at 4pm (café at 3pm)
Mon 4 Jan	normal hours resume

**November****Page**

Sat, Sun	28, 29	Christmas Extravaganza Craft Fair, Green Hotel, 10.30am-4pm	
Sat	28	Winter Wander - RSPB guided walk, Vane Farm, 11am-1pm	
Sat	28	Fossoway Church Bazaar, Crook of Devon Church Hall, 10am-2pm	
Sat	28	Orwell Bowling Club Homecoming Social and Dance	
Sat	28	Pudding Heaven!! Crook of Devon Institute, 7pm-9pm	
Sat	28	Milnathort Placedeck update	13
Mon	30	Community funding training event for voluntary groups	11

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Wed	2	Jinty Kidd demonstrates Christmas floral decorations	80
Wed	2	Mobile library visits Kinross-shire fortnightly	84
Thu	3	Fifty Plus Club meets	47
Thu	3	Town Twinning Association AGM	47
Thu	3	Kinross Camera Club meets weekly	54
Fri, Sat	4, 5	Art Exhibition	80
Sat	5	Milnathort School Assoc Christmas Bazaar	48
Sat	5	Tree O'Clock project planting at Portmoak	57
Sat	5	B&GB St Andrews Day Coffee Morning, Church Centre	80
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Mon	7	Cleish & Blairadam CC meets	27
week	7-14	Round Table Santa Sleigh collections	49
Tue	8	Portmoak CC meets	23
Tue	8	Author event: Maggie Craig at Community Library	41
Tue	8	Citizens Advice Bureau visits Kinross regularly	88
Wed	9	Orwell Bowling Club bingo tea	80
Thu	10	Kinross Cricket Club AGM	64
Thu	10	Garden Group meets	42
Thu	10	Milnathort CC meets	21
Thu	10	Kinross Floral Art Club, 7.15pm, "Christmas Highlights"	80
Fri	11	Christmas Carols at Sainsbury's	80
Sat	12	Lodge St Serf Children's Christmas Party	43
Sat	12	Portmoak Film Society presents: The Lie of Others	50
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