



Kinross Newsletter



Founded in 1977 by Mrs Nan Walker, MBE

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DEADLINE for the April Issue

2.00 pm, Monday
16 March 2009

for publication on
Saturday 28 March 2009

Contributions for inclusion in the Newsletter

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

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

Email: editor@kinrossnewsletter.org

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Hand in: 50 Muirs, Kinross

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Front cover: Milnathort photo by Robin Watson
Well Photo courtesy of Perth & Kinross Council

Commercial Advertising in the Newsletter

Typed Adverts – New rates effective from December 2008

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Printed (Display) Adverts

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

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

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



Letters

Editorial

Most of this month's entries were written while Kinross-shire was in the grip of an icy winter, but some of our contributors are optimistic it will be spring soon, with mentions of tennis and bowling, and we hope it will be more spring-like by the time this issue is published.

Spring is a time of renewal, and a familiar face around Loch Leven, Paul Brooks, the reserve manager for the past eleven years, has moved on to pastures new. So we say farewell and best wishes to him. And this month we say a proper hello and welcome to the Rev Alan Reid, new Minister at Kinross Parish Church (see p. 21).

Speaking of renewal, lots of organisations will be holding AGMs in March and April. If your organisation is listed on the kinross.cc website and you have a change of office-bearer at your AGM, please remember to tell the administrator, Pauline Watson, email: admin@kinross.cc To complete the springtime renewal theme, the 'births' of two new websites are announced in this Newsletter. Neil Kilpatrick, Heritage Trail project director, writes about a website for the Trail on p.7. This wasn't live at the time we went to press, but we're sure it will be a great asset to local people and visitors alike. The other new website is Kinnesswood in Bloom's (see p. 23) – it's beautifully designed, very informative, has some stunning photographs and there's an excellent list of handy tips that any gardener might find useful to download from the site. Well done, Kinnesswood in Bloom.

Letters Policy

We reserve the right not to publish any letter. Letters will not be published unless the sender's name and address are supplied and they are prepared to have them published along with their letter. Please note that the Newsletter does not necessarily agree with any of the views expressed on these pages.

Abbreviations Used

P&KC = Perth & Kinross Council

CC = Community Council

Cllr = Councillor

CCllr = Community Councillor

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Dog Fouling

11.02.09

Further to the letter from Councillor Baird on dog fouling, I had a tradesman visit me, who unfortunately stood in dog's dirt on the path outside my house and did not notice this until he entered my property. By then it was too late and the filth was all over my floor which was absolutely disgusting. As I am waiting to have a hall carpet fitted I am just thankful that this happened before the carpet was laid. So please dog owners, pick up after your dogs, I know most of you do, but a few irresponsible owners do not! May I add that I do not blame the tradesman, as it was late afternoon when he called and the light wasn't good, he was as angry as I was. Since then there has been more fouling on the path.

Mrs A M Greer
Avenue Road, Kinross

Fruit and Vegetable Donation to Cleish Primary School

10.02.09

I would like to give a great big thank you to the Somerfield store in Kinross for their fruit and vegetable donation to Cleish Primary School.

On Friday 6 February the Health Committee held a very successful dress up day to raise awareness of healthy eating and the need to have 5 portions of fruit and vegetable in their daily diet. The children dressed up as their favourite fruit/vegetable which led to a very colourful display throughout the day. They were delighted to be able to sample and enjoy numerous fruits and vegetables supplied by Somerfield at the end of the day.

It was a most enjoyable event for all involved.

Pictures of this event can be found on the Cleish Primary School website www.cleish.pkc.sch.uk

Shona Paterson, Acting Principal Teacher
Cleish Primary School

Marie Curie Daffodil Day

16.02.09

Once again it is time to support this very worthwhile cause – raising funds for Marie Curie Nursing Care in Scotland. The Collection will be on **14 March** at Somerfield's Store, but if there were more collectors around the town obviously more money would be raised. If you would be willing to help, please let me know as soon as you can. Telephone 862258. Thank you.

Frances Drysdale
Local Co-ordinator

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Proposed National Curling Academy 16.02.09

Having read in last month's newsletter and in the press about the proposed new National Curling Academy, I am writing in support of the idea.

Jamie Montgomery has explained about the ownership of the Market Park, so that is not really an issue. It has been used in the past for the Jooley Fair (but not for 32 years!) and as he said in his letter, other local events have recently been held there, with his kind permission. Should they be held there again, there would not only be space, but the ground surface would be on "hard standing", making it easier for such events. I understand the area to be used is not the whole space in any case. There would still be a bit of green in the centre of Kinross.

The points I wish to make are to do with the huge benefits to the local community as a whole, should this Curling Academy be built in Kinross. Obviously the local curling community would be very pleased, because the present building is in need of replacing fairly soon. I'm not sure if people are aware how many curlers from other areas come and use our rinks at present, from Cupar, Dunfermline, Kirkcaldy and even from Edinburgh and further afield. There are classes for primary school and high school children, introducing the next generation into the "roarin' game"; it's a healthy, energetic and extremely social sport. That is now. When the current building is no longer safe to use, there will be none of that. The local and not-so local curlers will have to go elsewhere. The kids will doubtless find something else to do....

However, if we are lucky enough to be able to build this Academy, we will have professional and amateur curlers from all over Scotland meeting here. We will have our national teams, those of today and those of tomorrow, training here. We will have curling communities coming here from all over the world. They will stay in Kinross, they will shop in Kinross, they will eat in Kinross. They will leave their money in Kinross. The Academy will have the Royal Caledonian Curling Club offices and a Curling Museum, something else for the tourists, which will need staff. It seems to me that this will bring so much to Kinross than just more space for the curlers. This project could mean a great deal to anyone with a business in Kinross who could benefit from visitors. We might have restaurants and shops opening in the town instead of closing. It's a terrifically exciting opportunity that we should all be delighted with.

Why, when so much in Kinross seems to be shutting down and there is this burgeoning plan to revitalise the place, to put us on the map, are there so many short-sighted people, who just don't want to change things and cannot see the benefits this plan holds for the future of their town? I think it's brilliant.

Bridie Graham
Nether Tillyrie, Milnathort

Kinross CC plans to discuss the proposed Curling Academy at its March meeting. See page 14

'ALTERED IMAGES'

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National Curling Academy 16.02.09

Having attended the recent information evening for local curlers at the Windlestrae Hotel about the proposed new National Curling Academy, I would like to express my thanks to all those who have put in a lot of time and hard work getting the project up and running.

Most of the questions put forward at the meeting were about people's concerns with: location, design, cost etc. and it may have seemed to the presenters that those listening were being a little negative.

Although I did not stand up and say so on the night, I would like to let the organisers know that I (and many friends I have spoken to since) am 100% behind them. I am both excited and enthusiastic about this prestigious sports facility being based in Kinross. As a resident and a curler, I can only think that it will be an asset to the town and we are lucky to have this opportunity. Let's hope we can overcome any obstacles and see this through to a successful completion.

Maggie Sanderson
4 Station Road, Kinross

Kinross Community Council possessed 20.01.09

Help mabob, the Kinross Community Council web site has been possessed by Spirits, Witches and Mediums. Kinross Community Council Bulletin Board is an excellent place to have your say about anything to do with Kinross-shire and I for one would welcome any Kinross-shire Ghosts, Spirits, Witches and Mediums who want to post on the board about Kinross issues. However, I draw the line when the Kinross Bulletin Board has been hijacked by a Dunfermline group, Dunfermline Ask, the Dunfermline Association Of Spiritualists, to promote their events in Dunfermline. They held one meeting in Kinross on 13 October 2007 and now think they have the right to use the Kinross web site to promote over nine non-Kinross events. Come on Kinross CC, give them the boot.

Keep the Kinross Community Council Bulletin Board active, have your say here:

www.kinross.cc/BulletinBoard/threads.asp

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News & Articles

Proposed Scotlandwell Conservation Area

Perth and Kinross Council would like your views on a new proposed conservation area in Scotlandwell.

All Councils are required to identify areas of special architectural or historic interest and designate these as conservation areas. The Kinross Area Local Plan 2004 contains the proposal to designate a conservation area in Scotlandwell.

The Council has produced a draft conservation area appraisal which identifies what makes the proposed area of Scotlandwell special and worthy of protection.

What is Conservation Area Appraisal?

A Conservation Area Appraisal is a management tool which helps to identify the special character and changing needs of an area. It serves as supplementary planning guidance to the local development plan and assists development management.

If a conservation area's special character has been clearly defined and published in an appraisal then this definition can be used to guide the form and design of alterations and new development and will assist those proposing to invest in the area.

How can I have my say?

We are consulting the public, local community groups and national bodies on the draft Scotlandwell Conservation Area Appraisal and the proposed boundary between 16 February and

23 March 2009.

We will be holding an exhibition on the proposals at:

The New Room, Portmoak Parish Church
(just off the A911 between Scotlandwell and Kinnesswood)

Tuesday 3 March, 10am-5pm

Wednesday 4 March, 10am-7pm

Thursday 5 March, 10am-5pm

The exhibition will be closed from 2pm-2.30pm each day.

Members of the Conservation and Regeneration team will be available to answer questions and collect comments.

The draft Scotlandwell Conservation Area Appraisal may be downloaded from the Council's website: www.pkc.gov.uk/scotlandwellconservationarea along with a questionnaire you may wish to use for your response.

Please send your response to:

The Conservation and Regeneration Team

Perth & Kinross Council
The Environment Service
FREEPOST SCO6140
Perth
PH1 5BR

All comments must be received by **Monday 23 March 2009** to be taken into account in the final version of the document.

For further information please contact the Conservation and Regeneration Team on 01738 475300.



MP calls for better weather monitoring in South Perthshire

Ochil & South Perthshire MP Gordon Banks has called on the Government to examine the possibility of siting a weather monitoring station in South Perthshire to ensure that his constituents are not missing out on cold weather payments.

In what has been a bitterly cold winter this year, the MP was surprised that the South Perthshire part of his constituency only met the necessary criteria to trigger cold weather payments once between November 2008 and 7 January 2009. Monitoring temperatures in large parts of the Ochil & South Perthshire



*Ochil & South Perthshire MP
Gordon Banks*

constituency, which includes Kinross-shire, is done from a weather monitoring station in Leuchars, Fife.

Mr Banks said, "There seems to be no logic to monitoring weather conditions in South Perthshire from Leuchars, a site which is over thirty miles away and situated on the coast. It is quite conceivable that weather conditions in Leuchars and parts of my constituency could be vastly different and it is unfair to base decisions, especially financial ones, in this way."

Those eligible to receive Cold Weather Payments are pensioners, severely disabled people and families with a child under five or a severely disabled child who are in receipt of certain benefits. Payments are made automatically to those who qualify when the average temperature at a weather station falls, or is forecast to fall, to 0°C or below for seven consecutive days. The Cold Weather Payment has been trebled by the Government this year from £8.50 to £25 per week.

The payment was triggered at Leuchars Station on 6 January 2009.

Milnathort Folk Festival Crackin' Ceilidh Weekend 13, 14 and 15 March

Special guests at this year's Folk Festival are: Shona Donaldson, Iain Anderson (Fiddle) Cairdeas and The Lomond Ceilidh Band. With festival artistes Gaberlunzie, Tich Frier, Neil Paterson, Colin Ramage, John Watt and Wildfire.

Tickets are £8 and are available from Milnathort Post Office and Common Grounds, Church St, Milnathort.

Contact the Festival

Telephone: **07876292884** Web: **www.milnathort.info**



Gaberlunzie will be at the Milnathort Festival

Programme of Events

Friday 13 March

Ceilidh

In the Town Hall with The Lomond Ceilidh Band, 8pm.

Saturday 14 March

Orwell Gird Championship

Milnathort Primary School playground at 12 noon.

Please come and join the fun – we'd like to have more competitors this year.

Gaberlunzie + support

Concert in the Town Hall at 7.30pm.

Concert

With full festival cast. Special guests **Shona Donaldson, Iain Anderson and Cairdeas**. 9pm in Orwell Bowling Club.

Sunday 15 March

Youth Concert

In Orwell Bowling Club at 2pm. Any young person who would like to take part will be most welcome. Phone the festival hotline for more information.

Final Concert

With all festival artistes left standing. Orwell Bowling Club at 7.30pm.

The Marie Curie Whole Hog – Adventure Guaranteed!

Marie Curie Cancer Care is set to take Scotland's adrenaline scene by storm in 2009! A special event designed to maximise the unique location chosen in central Scotland's beautiful Trossachs, The Marie Curie Whole Hog promises to be **the** event for fitness fans, thrill seekers and fun lovers from all over the country.

The Marie Curie Whole Hog is an all terrain adventure race comprising elements of cross country racing, army assault course and a host of unexpected and exciting challenges that will test your mental and physical agility as well as your stamina. Each challenge may be opted out of, known as taking "The Piglet Option", but this incurs a time penalty and experience has shown that the bigger the challenge you overcome, the greater the sense of achievement and exhilaration you feel!

The race day culminates in medal and prize giving followed by a Hog Roast celebration. Even though it has been designed for teams of three, individual participants are nonetheless welcome to compete. Team categories will be All Male, All Female and Mixed.

What better way to get fit, keep fit and challenge yourself whilst raising funds for Marie Curie Cancer Care?

Date: Saturday 9 May

Venue: Glenside House, Balfour, G63 0RP

Timings: 09.00am Registration, 11.00am start

Cost: £35 registration, £150 minimum sponsorship (£105 and £450 per team)

To register or enquire about the event, follow this link where you will be able to download a registration pack:

http://www.mariecurie.org.uk/events/adrenaline/ultimate_challenges/Whole+Hog+Challenge.htm

You can also telephone 0131 561 3963 or email

Scottishevents@mariecurie.org.uk

Local Doctor cycles to raise cancer charity funds

After last year's fundraising effort cycling the Etape Caledonia, Dr Roddy Pattison has set his sights on the Etape once more AND the big one, L'Etape Du Tour in France. This is an actual stage of the Tour De France completed (hopefully!) by amateurs a few days before the professionals - unlike the professionals, the road will be a bit more crowded as there are 8,000 entrants! This year's stage is a cracker - 106 miles of undulating Provencal countryside culminating in the ascent of Mont Ventoux, the Giant of Provence. The final climb is over 5,500ft - think Fort William to the top of Ben Nevis then add another 1,000ft!

All the training and effort this year is for Macmillan Cancer Support. They are trying to raise money for local facilities in Perth, so if you wish to sponsor Dr Pattison and want the money to stay local, hand it in to the surgery. Otherwise, donations can be made online at

www.justgiving.com/venividiventoux

Check out L'Etape Du tour at www.letapedutour.com and our own Etape Caledonia at www.etapecaledonia.co.uk

Calling volunteers

Gordon Duncan is the Volunteer Centre Development Officer for the Perth and Kinross area. He welcomes anyone who wishes to find out about volunteering to drop in on Wednesday mornings at The Learning Centre, Swansacre between 9.30am and 11.30am or to phone Perth (01738) 567076 and arrange an appointment. Alternatively email gordon.duncan@pkavs.org.uk or you may search for opportunities yourself at www.volunteerscotland.org.uk

Loch Leven Community Campus *photo & graphic courtesy of Laing O'Rourke*

Works Progress

This progress update provided by construction company Laing O'Rourke covers the period up to 31 January.

It is Month 11 of 20 of the construction period, over half way there. For ease of reference the construction area has been divided into zones, which can be seen on the diagram at right.

In Zone 1 the Large Format Block and cladding is complete. Brickwork, guttering, curtain walling and windows are progressing well.

In Zone 2 the single ply roof and rear cladding are complete.

In Zone 3 the roof liners are complete and brickwork and windows are progressing.

In Zone 4 the roof trusses are complete, progressing with the window installation.

In Zone 5, progress is being made with the Large Format Block and curtain walling.

In February, connecting the new campus to the existing sewer on the opposite side of the road required traffic restrictions controlled by lights. Laing O'Rourke apologises for any inconvenience this caused.

Kinross site wins another award

The Loch Leven Community Campus project site has won the VIBES Award for Construction Management. This award is open to organisations in Scotland which are taking significant steps to improve or reduce their impact on the environment. VIBES recognises and showcases the best practice. The main aim of this is to:

- encourage the efficient use of resources
- enhance the competitiveness of organisations
- improve environmental performance
- support the wider goals of sustainable development including social benefits through community and staff involvement

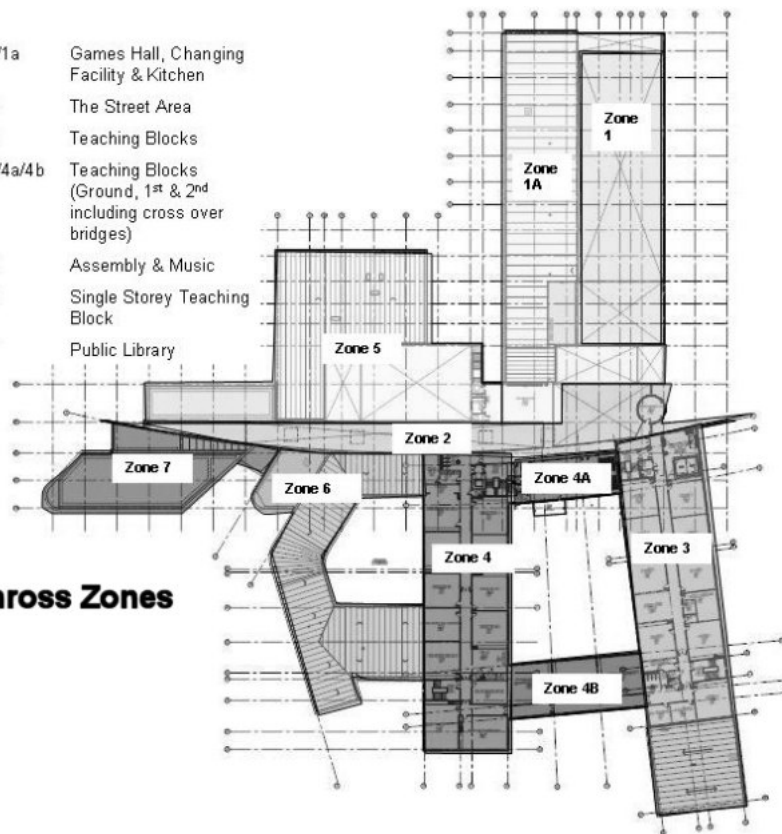
The award was made at a high profile ceremony in December 2008. Richie Wilson, Construction Manager, Dr Stephen Thomson and John Ritchie, Project Manager, were in attendance. The award was presented by Michael Russell, then Scottish Parliament Minister for the Environment, and David Sigsworth, the Chairman of SEPA. Laing O'Rourke would like to acknowledge Jim Gaffney, Stephen Thomson and Gordon Russell of ESS for their assistance.



The VIBES award won by Loch Leven Community Campus

- Zone 1/1a Games Hall, Changing Facility & Kitchen
- Zone 2 The Street Area
- Zone 3 Teaching Blocks
- Zone 4/4a/4b Teaching Blocks (Ground, 1st & 2nd including cross over bridges)
- Zone 5 Assembly & Music
- Zone 6 Single Storey Teaching Block
- Zone 7 Public Library

Kinross Zones



Facilities: The following facilities will be available for community use on the new campus:

General

Library and Museum
Cafeteria

Sports and Leisure

Gymnasium
2 football pitches
1 Junior football pitch
2 Rugby pitches
1 Hockey pitch
All weather pitch
2 Boules courts
Cricket wicket
Dance studio
Small games hall
Large games hall
Fitness suite
Multi-use games area
Climbing wall

Meetings and Conferences

Meeting rooms
Interview rooms
Contemplation room
Conference Suite
Lecture room (seats 60+)

Staff room (seats 80+)
Activity/meeting space
General classrooms
Assembly hall (with cinematic projector, seats 350+)
Tutorial rooms

Specialised Areas

Science labs
ICT Suites
Art and design rooms
Kiln
Craft rooms
Computer design rooms
Home economics
Drama studio
Language Lab
Recording studio
Music rooms
Music practice rooms
Hairdressing salon
Lifeskills area
Medical room
Therapy room

Community Contact

It is the role of Mr Derek Morris of Kinross High School to: Inform people about the facilities and services in the new campus; promote community use of these facilities; answer questions/pass on issues to the relevant bodies; provide feedback from the Council/Construction Company etc.

Mr Morris can be contacted at Kinross High School: Telephone 01577 862430, email: dmorris@kinrosshigh.pkc.sch.uk

Loch Leven Heritage Project

by Neil Kilpatrick, Project Director

There are still some finishing touches to be made to the Loch Leven Heritage Trail. Regular users will have noticed the appearance of a new "chironomid" carving on the end of one of the walls at the Burleigh Sands gateway. This splendid insect that wraps itself round the end-stone has been created by David Wilson, the artist responsible for each of the three entrance gateways to the Trail. David is now working on the design of the heritage images that will be etched on to a 15 metre curved stainless steel handrail to be installed in the Kirkgate viewpoint. He will then move on to add a further end-stone carving at the Findatie entrance gateway and a stone wall entrance feature to the Kinross Pier car park. His work has created great interest by trail users and has added skilfully to both the appearance and to the heritage interpretation of these features.

A new small viewpoint has been constructed in RSPB land between Vane Farm and Findatie on the southern part of the trail. It will contain two oak curved benches with heritage text inscriptions and affords a lovely peaceful view over St Serf's island. The benches are again being fabricated by Patrick Green and he will also produce one final work that will be a semi-circular seat around the prominent pine tree on the shore at Burleigh sands. This will complete the full set of interpretation features that have been designed to



*The beautiful chironomid
(or midge, to you and me!) carving
at Burleigh Sands gateway*

enhance the trail experience and to reflect the rich natural, built, cultural and sporting heritage that surrounds the loch. The interpretation programme has been guided by a multi-interest group from the community and ably managed by Aaron Lawton.

The Loch Leven Heritage Trail website has now been designed and should be up and running by the beginning of March. It contains maps, walk information, heritage background and kids' page with active material, all of which can be downloaded. Please do check it out on www.discoverlochleven.com

TRACKS is looking for a new part-time Project Officer since Jackie Yuill will be leaving the area after making an immense contribution over the last year. If anybody in the area is interested in applying for this post please contact Jackie at 01577-863359. Candidates should have well-developed communication skills, an in depth knowledge of at least one environmental subject, and be able to negotiate comfortably with landowners, local authorities and statutory bodies. An active interest in the countryside and in the management of the environment is essential, and it would be useful to have had experience in project work, field research or fundraising. Driving licence and own car essential.



Dementia Night Care Service

Caring for those with dementia is often rewarding - but however willing you are to do it, let's not deny that it can place partners and carers under huge strain emotionally and physically. If you have been up half the night and still have to go to work the next day - or even if you don't - you probably need a break before you break!

In Perth & Kinross, there is a little known but fantastic (and free!) night support service called the Dementia Night Care service or Dementia Night Sitters. DNC are four professional carers with many years' experience of looking after those with dementia - and they are there to give carers a break. The idea is that you can have a good night's sleep, or relax and read a book, go out for a while, watch television, have time to yourself without feeling guilty or worrying about the person you care for. They will try to look after them exactly as you would. They do all the things that you would. And if it means sitting up all night talking or looking at photos, that's what they do. For a short while, (typically from 9pm to 7.30am) they take care of everything, so that you don't need to. I have known the team for about five years and these girls are not just 'minders'. They are full of fun, they are sympathetic and sensitive - and they really care about you and the person you care for. It's one of the best support services for dementia care, and Kinross is incredibly lucky because it's not available anywhere else in Scotland.

If you feel you need this service or want to ask about it, call Home Care or your Case Officer and ask for a referral. Ask your GP. If you don't get anywhere, call me and I will do my best to put you in touch with the right people who can help you. Give yourself a break - you deserve it.

Contact: Katharyn Plevan 01577 863323 or email katharynbarnett@aol.com

DOG-GONE-WALKIN'

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FIFE KY4 0HZ

News from the Health Centre



The Health Centre has recently taken delivery of a digital camera from NHS Tayside Skin Tumour Services. This allows rapid electronic referral of suspicious skin growths, with a digital image attached, direct to a consultant Dermatologist/Plastic Surgeon at Ninewells Hospital.

The photos help the consultant to give an opinion on the likely diagnosis and best treatment. The hospital can then allocate patients' future outpatient appointments appropriate to their condition. This ensures that the most serious conditions are seen and treated rapidly. Often the consultant can reply to the referring e-mail advising us about the most appropriate treatment, and may save you a trip to the hospital.

Several members of staff have been trained in the use of the camera, including the majority of GPs, Nurse McCrory, and Jean Shand from the reception team.

It is quick and easy to get photos done: however each patient must sign a consent form to permit us to photograph your skin.

If you notice any changing moles or growths on your skin, please let us see them!

GARDEN STEPS & MORE

Bricks, blocks, mono block
& stone work etc. –
Steps, paths, walls, patios, paving
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William Morris
01592 840095

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for publication on Saturday 28 March

A Grimm night for Hans Christian Anderson

It was anything but a grim night in the High School hall, when the Orwell Dramatic Society presented local teacher, Sue Gordon's idiosyncratic look at well-loved fairy tales. Imagine, if you will, (and if you weren't there, you'll have to) Mr and Mrs Stiltskin registering their newborn son and expecting the Registrar to guess his name, the Doll having Botox, the Ugly Duckling wanting a beak job and liposuction, Bob the Builder discussing a snagging list for her gingerbread house with the witch, the Emperor's new clothes being presented by Trinny and Susannah look-alikes and the Brothers Grimm as mobsters.

The Society had assembled a large cast, too numerous to list, but special mention must be made of Stuart Salmon as Hans Christian Anderson, showing a real flair for understated comedy, Fraser Donnelly doing menace with relish while Craig Williams did Thug with a capital T. Annie Nelson made a charming young princess totally scathing of her story line, namely playing with a precious golden ball and meeting the Frog Prince. Bob Craig's balancing act as the one-legged Steadfast Tin Soldier drew admiration and sympathy when he realised his character had to exit via a flight of stairs. The musical highlight of the evening came from Little Mermaid, Natalie O'Reilly, who has a lovely singing voice but the star of the show had to be Maggie Marr as a totally believable, utterly sympathetic Ugly Duckling.

Dance we were promised, and dance we got, courtesy of Red Shoes, Kathryn Kelly and Emily Beattie, Katie Thomson and Stefanie Kidd. The costumes were amazing, particularly the Stiltskins' leprechaun outfits, and the little Mermaid's glitz and glamour. Sets were minimal or non-existent which meant the whole evening flowed effortlessly – or so it appeared. Congratulations go to Frances Houston who, in true show biz tradition, stepped into the breach and tackled two extra roles at short notice.

It is to be hoped that we hear more from the talented Sue Gordon who contrived to take a sideways look at tradition, while including topical references such as mobile phones, Jimmy Choos, JK Rowling, Hello Magazine and Social Services.

This was exactly what was needed to brighten up a dreary January evening and those fortunate enough to be there are already looking forward to whatever the Orwell Dramatic Society plans next.

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Which way to Mongolia?

6 guys, 2 bangers, 10,000 miles, 1 goal – Charity!

On 18 July 2009 six members from **Kinross Rugby Football Club**, going by the name “**Nutz n Boltz**”, will be attempting the Annual Mongol Charity Rally. This 10,000 mile trip will be made in two bangers departing from Kinross and arriving in Ulan Batar, Mongolia some five weeks later.

Since the last time we went to press in November things have been pretty busy. We held a successful Race Night in November raising **£1054**, we obtained a few more corporate sponsors and we also offered our services doing a spot of bag-packing at Somerfield on Hogmanay! A massive thank you to all the people that passed through Somerfield as we managed to collect **£1024!**

We are backing three charities: Children's Hospice Association Scotland, Christina Noble Children's Foundation and Mercy Corps TAN Project. We are sure that you will agree that they are all charities more than worth supporting, given the work they do.

We bought our first chariot, a little Suzuki Swift, in January and thanks to local company AIM Developments Ltd, who stepped forward and sponsored our second vehicle. In early February we took possession of our Subaru Justy and both cars are now receiving some mechanical attention in preparation for the rugged terrain that Kazakhstan and Mongolia will throw at us. You will no doubt see either of them in a street near you soon, sporting their “feshened-up” look!

By the time you have read this we will have held another event, this time in the form of a Quiz night, but with a Mongolian twist.

We are also planning to hold a **Sportsman's Dinner** in late June also, so please watch this space!

Our route was finally decided and the dreaded visa application process has begun. Countries we will pass through include: England, France, Germany, Czech Republic, Hungary, Ukraine, Russia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan (again!), Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan (again!), Russia (again!) and finally Mongolia. Let's hope we have a good compass!

We also have a small amount of advertising space left available on our vehicles, so it's not too late to come on board!

A massive thank you to all our sponsors to date but in particular A-Plant Rail, GPM Sealrite, AIM Developments and the Kinross-shire Round Table. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Our website details the various sponsorship routes that can be made and is fully associated with “JustGiving.com” for individual donations and we are still open to “Challenges en-route” so please challenge us.

Alternatively, donations can be posted to Chris Carragher at The Orchard, St Ronan's Drive, Kinross, KY13 8AA.

Website: www.nutznboltzwebs.com

Ralliers : C Carragher, L Carragher, C Crawford, I Harley, M Harvey, D Wood.

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

subscriptions@kinrossnewsletter.org

Spirit of Burns

Colourful, humorous artwork by local poet, songwriter, artist and silversmith, Jim Douglas features in a brand new exhibition at Perth Museum and Art Gallery.

‘The Spirit of Burns’ includes a selection of prints and other material inspired by the work of Robert Burns and celebrates the contribution his work has made to Scottish culture. It marks the 250th anniversary of the bard's birth in conjunction with Homecoming Scotland 2009.

The exhibition also contains work by Sir Henry Raeburn, DO Hill, Joseph Farquharson, Alexander Nasmyth, William Bell Scott and Robert Bryden.

The exhibition runs until 17 October. Admission to Perth Museum and Art Gallery is free. Opening hours are Monday to Saturday, 10am to 5pm.

Fairtrade Fortnight

The 2009 Fairtrade Fortnight will continue until 8 March. Events still to take place are:

Friday 6 March: Go Bananas. This is a global event to attempt to set a new world record in 24 hours. Locally the event will take place at Common Grounds in Milnathort, 12 noon until 3pm. Also it will take place at Lochend Farm in Portmoak, 12 noon until 6pm.

Saturday 7 March: Go Bananas. Common Grounds 10am to 12 noon and at Lochend Farm 9am to 12 noon.

‘Go Bananas’ is simply an invitation to people to go to either of the locations mentioned above to eat bananas, bananas being one of the main products in the Fairtrade list of produce. Donations are requested from all banana-eaters!

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Oh Kolkata!

Local author Derek Flory tells of his visit to the Kolkata Book Fair

On Monday 2 February, as the winds blew in from Siberia bringing snow and chaos to much of the country, Caroline and I headed off to Glasgow International Airport, our destination Kolkata (Calcutta) and warmer climes. Temperatures dropped and snow flurries caused some concern while we sat waiting for take off. The view from the window was obscured by snow, while the pilot informed us that the wings were going to be de-iced for a second time while a snowplough cleared the runway. In the end our flight via Dubai was uneventful and we touched down in Kolkata, basking in temperatures of 30°C.

As readers of my book 'Torn Apart' will know, our family first visited Kolkata in October 2007 for what was an incredibly emotional journey of discovery. We were there to reunite my mother Sybil and her sister Blanche after a separation of over 65 years, during which time neither knew if the other was alive. They had been separated during the Japanese bombing raid on Rangoon on 23 December 1941 while my mother was out Christmas shopping and the sisters fled in opposite directions. Sybil eventually escaped to India and married my father, a Scottish soldier. After the war she settled in Aberdeenshire, rarely speaking about the family she had left behind. Blanche lived for the duration of the war in Burma, under Japanese occupation, and survived many traumatic events. In 1958, with Burma in turmoil, she and her family travelled to India, the land of her husband's birth, and settled in Kolkata.

It was a chance set of circumstances in June 2007 that led to the discovery of Blanche and her family, alive and well. Then we began to find out about the events of December 1941 and 'Torn Apart' was written to tell the sisters' amazing story, the highlight of which was the emotional reunion in Kolkata Airport on the 26 October 2007.

This time our journey to Kolkata was not just to visit the family we had found almost two years earlier but we were going as guests of the British Council Scotland and the organisers of the Kolkata Book Fair, as I had been invited to read extracts from 'Torn Apart' in what was an ambitious programme of events, lectures and meetings.

Each year there is a theme nation at the Kolkata Book Fair and for 2009 Scotland was that nation and my talk was part of Scotland-Kolkata Connections, held between 27 January and 8 February. Alexander McCall Smith declared the event open and was a huge success with the audience.

The Kolkata Book Fair is the biggest in the world with 2.25 million people attending and it is fair to say that it had to be seen to be believed. On one day alone the Scottish Pavilion attracted well in excess of 50,000 visitors and long queues waited patiently to see what Scotland has to offer the world in terms of literature, films and education.

My own event took place on the day we arrived, not a good



Local author Derek Flory

idea as jet lag and exhaustion had to be contended with. The event, chaired by Roy Cross, the Director of the British Council Scotland, proved to be an interesting one. Looking out at a sea of faces I began to wonder what on earth I had let myself in for and found the video cameras a little disconcerting. Then the adrenaline kicked in and we were off on the story of Sybil and Blanche. Two things stick in my mind from the talk. The first was the huge level of interest that 'Torn Apart' had generated among the press and the second was the incredible questions asked by the audience. Indian people are very well read and it is said that every West Bengali is a poet, but that didn't prepare me for the very in-depth and highbrow questions that were to follow. The audience were warm and receptive and they made me feel very welcome, and far from being reluctant to participate, they positively bombarded me with questions, showing just how much they knew of the book. After the talk ended the fun really began as journalists from every major newspaper in India seemed to be present, all very well briefed and with a list of things they wanted to ask. I was almost hoarse by the end of that session and then the TV crew grabbed me and whisked me off to a calmer location. Caroline was then engulfed by reporters asking her the questions I had failed to answer. It was a bit like a rugby scrum at times but I wouldn't have missed it for the world. Interviews continued at a more leisurely pace over the next few days but there was family to see and that proved a welcome break as once again they looked after us superbly well.

On 6 February we and more than 4,000 others were entertained by the Red Hot Chilli Pipers which was a terrific experience. From interpretations of classic rock tunes to traditional pipe music and the stirring 'Celtic Bolero', the band had the audience on their feet. They performed the following night at the Burns Supper, piping in the Haggis. Stuart Cassells not only proved he is a terrific piper but also did a dramatic Address to the Haggis. Our Indian family joined us for the evening of song and poetry and it was most enjoyable with a superb menu – the MacSween's Haggis proved popular with everyone. It was the largest Burns Supper that the Chilli Pipers had performed at and by far the largest I have ever attended; it just seemed strange that it was all happening in Kolkata.

Scotland-Kolkata Connections 2009 had been a great success and it was with heavy hearts that we left our Indian family and the chaos and mayhem that is the great city of Kolkata and returned to the calmness of Milnathort. It was the end of another great adventure.

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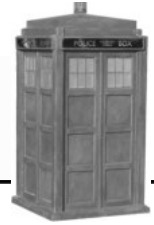
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Youths Causing Annoyance

In recent weeks we have received complaints about groups of youths in Kinross, particularly in the areas of Millbridge Hall and Old Causeway, engaging in acts of anti-social behaviour that include under age drinking and generally causing a disturbance. Given that a large percentage of the residents in the areas mentioned are elderly, this has proved to be particularly disturbing and upsetting and in some cases has resulted in those concerned being frightened to go out in the evening. This is a totally unacceptable situation which needs to be addressed and for our part we will be increasing patrols in the area and where crimes and offences are committed we will use the judicial process to report those responsible.

We have also spoken to a number of the youths who are known to frequent the area and, where appropriate, have also made contact with some of their parents to make them aware of the complaints. In doing so we realise there may be no evidence to suggest any these youths were directly involved in any of the types of behaviour described above but by being with others who were, or who might become involved in future incidents, may render them equally liable. In other words "fly with the crows, get shot with the crows".

During conversations with the youths in question they complained they were continually moved and asked where they should go. It was suggested to one group that they might like to take it in turn to meet at each others houses but

they were of the opinion that this would not suit their parents. It has also been pointed out, by both youths and parents, that there is nothing for the youths to do and this may be so. However this is not the fault of the residents of Causeway Court who are entitled to their peace and quiet. The problem is not when a group of youths meet to chat and hang out together, but arises when members of that group begin to engage in acts of anti-social behaviour that cause fear alarm and annoyance to others. When we get complaints of such behaviour we will continue to take whatever action is deemed appropriate.

CRIME STOPPERS Telephone Number 0800 555 111

This telephone number is a free phone number unless you are using a mobile phone, which any member of the public can contact at any time, if they have information relating to criminal activity of any sort. It is, if you wish, confidential and you will not be contacted if you choose to remain anonymous.

Community Crime Officers can be contacted at Kinross Police Office on 0845 600 5705.

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

Challenging times ahead for businesses

With the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD) predicting further job losses in the region of half a million by the end of 2009, Elaine Leitch, Director of EWL Associates Ltd, talks about some of the considerations for employers.

Elaine is a lawyer based near Kinross who has set up a Company dedicated to offering employment law advice and Human Resources support for small to medium sized businesses.

"With the current focus on the dire state of the economy, it's a good opportunity for businesses to ensure they are operating within the law and not exposed to any unnecessary financial risks. Businesses need to be sure that their contracts, policies and procedures are legally compliant. For example, employers must, by law, provide each employee with a written statement of particulars of employment not later than two months after commencing employment. There can be a financial penalty for not doing so.

"In addition, if businesses have a chance of defending some Tribunal claims, it's vital that they have good policies and procedures in place. Managers and staff should be trained in the content and application of those policies, and they should be monitored to see how they are working in practice. If a business has taken those reasonable steps, that may well provide it with a defence to a sexual harassment claim, for example.

"We have all read the depressing, almost daily, news reports of more and more redundancies happening across the UK.

But there are measures that can be taken to avoid making posts redundant. Obviously sometimes that isn't possible and employers have no choice, but staff costs can often be reduced without necessarily going down the redundancy route. It's worth remembering that redundancy can have a negative effect on the remaining workforce who are left wondering who's going to be next. Consulting with staff on measures such as reducing working hours, or offering unpaid leave, may be viable alternatives in the search for reducing costs without having to make posts redundant. If redundancies are inevitable, employers must ensure they follow robust procedures to avoid the risk of Tribunal claims. With many employees finding it difficult to find new jobs, they have time on their hands to try and recover compensation from their former employers."

Elaine can be contacted at elaine@ewlassociates.co.uk or via the website www.ewlassociates.co.uk

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Community Council News



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

Kinross Community Council

News from the February Meeting

D Cuthbert (Chair) welcomed CCllrs I Jack, D Mackay, D Colliar, M Blyth, M Scott, C Watson, B Davies and J Richardson to the meeting held on 4 February. Also in attendance were: P&K Cllrs S Miller and K Baird, PC Child, Michael Russell (Scottish Minister for Environment) and his Secretary, Ashley Voy and three members of the public. Apologies for absence were received from CCllrs S Bathgate and L MacKay and P&K Cllrs W Robertson and M Barnacle.

Meeting of 7 January: Under correction of the following item, the minutes were adopted: Cllr Barnacle had tendered his apology for his absence prior to the January meeting.

It was also agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 3 December 2008 be corrected as below:

Kinross-shire Boundary Signage - Cllr Barnacle advised that he had organised the signage on the southern boundary of the motorway after securing permission from the Scottish Executive. Kinross Partnership have agreed to consider funding the northern boundary signage on the motorway, if Cllr Barnacle can ascertain costs.

Police Report: PC Child reported on break-ins to cars in various areas, including Portmoak Church Car Park. Enquiries into this and other incidents are ongoing and some have been detected. The Police are addressing the problems created by the congregation of youths in the area of Millbridge Hall. An article is to be included in the Newsletter Police Box.

Presentation By Michael Russell, Scottish Minister of Environment

The CC had originally contacted the Minister following correspondence with both Bear Scotland and P&KC in relation to litter on the motorway. The Chairman explained that throughout Summer 2008 the motorway verges were flooded with litter. Our understanding was that Bear Scotland was responsible for the motorway and that clearance should be carried out within a designated timescale. The Chairman questioned how this could be implemented and the Motorway kept clear. The Minister replied that Bear cleared the litter in December and that a further sweep is currently underway. Bear advised him that they have been in contact with P&KC and that they and Transport Scotland offered to meet with the Councillors. Both Cllr Baird and Cllr Miller replied that this was not the case. The Minister is to take this up with Bear. Cllr Baird also stated that the subject of litter has not been raised at recent Council meetings. The Minister commented that he had been in contact with Transport Scotland and that he is constantly addressing the matter of litter throughout Scotland. He stated that Bear Scotland and the Council need to accept joint responsibility for litter, however stressed that liability must rest also on the individual, i.e. members of the public disposing of litter properly. There should be adequate bins at appropriate sites, such as takeaway shops etc. In summary, the town is the responsibility of the Council and individuals and the motorways jointly between Bear, the Council and the public. Cllr Baird commented that she has written on numerous occasions about litter on the Motorway. The relevant bodies

would appear to wait until the volume of litter is excessive before clearing it away.

The Chairman informed the Minister that one of the Councillors arranged locally for clearance of litter from the wood adjacent to the motorway as Bear had not accepted responsibility for this area.

Mr Russell offered to approach KSB, who held a Litter Summit last year, and ask that they contact us. This organisation can offer assistance and guidance on this matter.

In relation to the sewage works, the Minister was advised that Kinross has doubled in population and that the capacity of the sewage works was now overstretched and the system not able to cope with the increased volume. This is preventing development in Kinross and during heavy rainfall sewage is flowing into the Loch, a Site of Special Scientific Interest. Mr Russell explained that funding is an issue, however Scottish Water has an obligation to create a controlled structure and it was anticipated that this would be within the next couple of years. He will pursue this with Scottish Water on our behalf however stressed that this was outwith his jurisdiction and he would be unable to influence them.

The results of the Questionnaire were related to the Minister. It was noted that 95% of the public supported regeneration of the town centre. The Chairman also queried whether the Minister could offer any assistance in relation to the **Town Hall and Swansacre** building, explaining that they were both derelict and owned by P&KC. The Minister suggested that funding be applied for. A possible source was the Energy Challenge Fund or there are alternative smaller Energy and Power schemes. Money will also be available following the budget and can be applied for.

Cllr Baird advised that the **Town Hall** is to be marketed in April along with some other Council buildings surplus to requirements and Cllr Miller stated that this would be sold as a commercial/housing/retail development. **The Swansacre** building is being sold to a Housing Association. The Minister advised that this was not under his remit. He is unable to influence the Local Authorities in matters.

Finally, the Minister was asked if he could assist with the dilapidated condition of the fencing in the locus of the Motorway at the entrance to the town.

Mr Russell was thanked for his attendance.

Provost Lamp: CCllr Colliar had spoken to Neil Scott. Repairs are to be progressed shortly and the lamp should be back to its normal standard. Perspex panels are to be inserted instead of glass. The confusion over the Coat of Arms has been resolved.

Quarry: Cllr Miller stated that he has no news as yet.

Questionnaire Results: The information has been inserted in the Newsletter, however has not yet been circulated to other publications.

Swansacre Building: The Chairman advised that the response from Tessa Hart is that the only prospect of progress is the route the Council are currently following involving the Housing Association. Architects have been engaged to draw up plans for residential use. Costings are being carried out to ascertain the likely short fall in funds and investigation made into further resources. A risk assessment is to be carried out,

followed by a structural survey. Planning Permission, Scottish Government approval and Council approval will be required. This is ongoing but will not be in place before the end of 2009. CCllr Jack questioned whether the Housing Association would have the funds to carry this through and the Chairman queried whether consideration would be given to its demolition. Money is also available from the affordable housing fund, which it not being utilised currently. A977: No reply has been received to our recent letter to P&KC.

Light Up Kinross: The funds have been received from the Newsletter.

Junction at New High School: Our request for a layout/sketch plan has not yet been answered. CCllr Colliar stated that work has been carried out to widen the pavement, thus narrowing the road, with no opportunity for consultation. Cllr Baird advised that this has been raised at a Council Meeting and that she was to view the plans on Monday. She will revert to us after perusal of the plans and will also raise our concerns with the appropriate authority.

Autograss: The planning consent has been refused. Mr Alexander advised that this organisation would not be allowed to build a permanent structure, ie no fixed racetrack for 28 days in the year. To be addressed at meeting.

Stagecoach: No response as yet.

Questionnaire: Following on the results of the questionnaire, we had planned to invite Peter Marshall to a meeting. It was noted, however, that we recently invited Roland Bean. The Chairman reported that he had spoken to Paul Kyle from Economic Development who advised that the link road has been taken from Property and passed to Roads. Unforeseen costs have arisen, increasing the price due to flooding/drainage etc and the resultant engagement of consultants. The money for this is to be received from the Commercial Property Investment Fund.

High School Site: Cllr Baird had reminded P&KC of the necessity for security when the building is vacant. P&KC needs to sell this site to raise funds for the new school. CCllr Colliar asked for the capital sum P&KC is putting in to the new school. The Cllrs were unable to provide this. It was agreed that we record the results of the questionnaire in the newspapers. Cllr Miller asked to see a copy of this article before submission as he could add to it.

Planning

A list of planning applications was read out; there were no objections. A list of applications approved was read out.

Listed Building Consent and Planning Consent: CCllr Colliar questioned the changes to the policy regarding Listed Building Consent. He understood that P&KC no longer has to consult Historic Scotland in relation to properties with Listed Building Consent. Cllr Baird confirmed that P&KC is part of a pilot scheme; this relates only to minor properties, not major historic buildings. CCllr Colliar's concerns were summarised in the hypothetical demolition of the Town Hall. It was agreed that we ask P&KC for clarification of their powers under this new agreement. Cllr Baird stated that the report should be published on the Council website (Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee).

20A Muirs: An email was received from a resident in McBain Place advising of a problem that has arisen in the development of this house in the garden of 20 Muirs. The owner did not include the services in his plans and ten residents in McBain Place are being asked to grant a Wayleave in order that the services can be installed across

their properties. CC Watson declared an interest but added that a request only had been made, no pressure was being asserted. It was questioned whether this should have been part of the planning process. Cllr Miller will take this up with P&KC and check the position with Planning. It was also commented that the residents of McBain Place should engage the services of a lawyer and that they may be recompensed for the issuing of a Wayleave.

Reports from P&K Councillors

Councillor Baird

Tourist Information Office: This office is to be removed from the County Buildings which is proving inadequate. Other sites have been considered, with the Boat House at the Pier being a possibility. New signage would be put in place and, possibly, road repairs. The Office would be signposted from the Motorway. It was also noted that the name has been changed to Visitor Information Centre. The office would not be officially manned, but would be operated along with the venue's own business in a partnership arrangement.



*The Boat House at the pier - potential new site for Tourist Information
Photo: John McPake, kinross.cc photo library*

Councillor Robertson

Public toilet: An email was received from Cllr Robertson confirming that funding is in place for year 2009/10 to provide an APC at Kirkgate Park. The cost of this would be £150,000 with an annual maintenance cost thereafter.

G S Brown: Cllr Robertson advised by email that he had received a communication from Andrew Smith of G S Brown to the effect that he had discussed the opening of the path with his fellow directors and site staff. He explained that the proposed route is unfinished, not maintained and likely to be in conflict with construction traffic when construction restarts in the very near future. They have carried out a very detailed Health and Safety Risk Assessment of the proposed route through what is a construction site and due to the issues of safety and security, in particular their insurance cover, they

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are unable to comply.

Councillor Miller

Curling Academy: Cllr Miller advised that an Impact Survey on the Curling Academy is to be carried out. The article in the Newsletter was also commented on. The CC are delighted that such a complex is to be built in Kinross, however are concerned at the decision to build on the Market Park. The Market Park was used in the past to host the "Joolie Fair" and, although not officially the case, is held as belonging to the "people of Kinross". It was suggested by a member of the public that an application on behalf of the community for funding be made to the Kinross-shire Fund to purchase this land. It is of concern to the CC that we are not consulted in certain matters which affect the town and its community. It was agreed that the residents in the town have an interest in this and should be consulted. It was agreed that this matter be added to the agenda for the next meeting. No plans would be available at this early stage and we would have no idea as to the proposed layout of the construction. Cllr Jack questioned the size and prospective numbers using this facility. It was answered that there are to be 6 rinks and that a possible 150/200 people could be accommodated in the building. Cllr Miller stated that there would be visits from international players, media facilities and it was hoped that the facility would become the "Home" of Curling in Scotland.

Kinross Rugby Club: Cllr Davies queried the future of the pitches at the KGV once the new school is operational. His concerns were to the Astro turf and maintenance of the pitches. Cllr Miller replied that a review of the site is planned, covering the drains at the car park etc and that costings are being considered. There is funding in the budget for this. Cllr Miller will report back at the next meeting.

Myre Park pitches: Cllr Richardson reported that Kinross United FC assume priority in relation to the use of the pitches at the Myre. He explained that both the United FC and the Colts book the facilities through the same method and pay the same fee. He had approached the Parks Dept regarding this. United believe that the first pitch belongs to them. Parks Dept suggested that a management agreement be drawn up to regulate priority. Cllr Richardson was also concerned at the alterations carried out to the pitches and commented on the condition of the car park. Cllr Miller will take this up with P&KC.

Correspondence

Data Protection Act: Confirmation was received from the Council with guidelines.

Renewable energy: Scottish Community and Householder Renewable Initiative in Tayside communication received

regarding developing renewable energy and energy efficiency projects. Workshops and training available.

Perth & Kinross Countryside Trust 2007-2008 Annual Report received.

Housing in the Countryside Policy Review: Paper received from P&KC. An Environmental Report and Draft Policy document were also enclosed. Consultation period ends on 27 March. Members of the public are invited to comment. The Report and Policy can be viewed from the Council website, www.pkc.gov.uk

Perth & Kinross Voluntary & Community Sector: Invitation to the Annual Conference 2009 to take place on Friday 6 March.

War Memorial: Communication received from G Thomas in relation to the CC's request to the Council for a rail around the War Memorial. He has concerns as to the visual impact of a rail during the rest of the year and explained that members of his family secure the wreaths with garden twine following the Parade. He offered to continue this service, however suggested that the poppy wreaths be placed around all four faces of the Memorial. Mr Thomas also commented on the ceremony last year, which was somewhat disorganised, and assumes that this was from the confusion caused by the sudden change in the weather. He suggests that all components of the ceremony are in need of review. Finally, he enquired as to who is responsible for removing the wreaths. This is carried out by the CC. After discussion it was decided that we would continue to ask P&KC for a rail as it was felt that a rail of this sort would be useful and other sites which had a similar rail looked better for it. It was further agreed that we would be delighted if Mr Thomas continued with his practice until such time as a rail is constructed.

Light Up Kinross: A letter was received from a resident in Milnathort regarding the Christmas Lights and this was passed to the Light Up Kinross Committee.

Other Business

Change in use: Cllr Blyth raised the matter of a change in use from a garage to a retail shop at a property on the Kelty road. This shop is not within our jurisdiction but Cllr Colliar confirmed that approval was sought from the Council.

Parking: Cllr Richardson had been approached by a resident living near the former "Carlin Maggies" premises in relation to the parking of her car. She is disabled and has to park her car behind her property and often this is blocked by other vehicles. The traffic wardens appear, hand out tickets to all cars and then are missing for weeks. It was confirmed that there are parking restriction in place on this area of road and that these also apply to the local residents. P&KC regulates the use of stickers by the level of disability and there is little assistance we can offer in this case.

The next meeting of Kinross CC is to be held at the Masonic Hall on Wednesday 4 March at 7.30pm.

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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 January Meeting

CCllr Giacopazzi, Chairman, welcomed CCllrs Smith, Bennet, Porter and Thomson to the meeting held on 8 January. Also in attendance were Sgt Williams and PC Child of Tayside Police, P&K Cllr Baird and one member of the public. Apologies were received from CCllr Cottingham and Minute Secretary E Rougvie. Minutes taken by CCllr Smith.

Police matters: PC Child reported that there were still problems at Burleigh Sands in terms of thefts from cars. A housebreaking had also occurred in daylight in the area and police inquiries were ongoing.

Planning matters: The following applications were noted: re-location of gate and driveway at Thomanean House; advertising display in field adjacent to residential development at Mawcarse; erection of dwelling-house (in outline) at Newlands Wood, Newlands Farm.

Correspondence: Letter from **Bear (Scotland)** regarding measures proposed for junction 8 on the M90 at the Mawcarse slip road to improve safety. The southbound approach should clearly show Milnathort in the left hand lane. It was agreed to support the proposals.

Letter from the **Forestry Commission** (Scotland) regarding the Climate Change Bill coming before Parliament. The consultation period was due to close on January 27 and it was agreed that the Chairman would write in support of proposals to create joint ventures with the private sector to increase forestry and promote micro-generation using wood burners in local areas. The target is to increase forestry from 10 per cent to 25 per cent by 2050.

Dog fouling is still a major problem in children's play areas, parks and on pavements close to the primary school. Members of the public are encouraged to report any irresponsible owners to the authorities. P&K Cllr Baird undertook to contact the dog wardens to increase patrols at peak times.

Orwell burial ground: A member of the public enquired about a gate on the path to the old Orwell burial ground. CCllr Bennet will check with the core paths network.

Cigarette litter: CCllr Porter raised the issue of cigarette ends being disposed of in the tubs outside the Town Hall and in other public places. CCllr Bennet will check whether P&KC can provide any other disposal facilities. It was agreed that discarded cigarettes and dog fouling were a blight on the village.

Planning Seminar: CCllrs Smith, Lamont and Porter are to attend a planning seminar on 24 January. CCllr Giacopazzi will notify P&KC.

News from the February Meeting

CCllr Giacopazzi, Chairman, welcomed CCllrs Porter, Thomson, Bennet, Lamont, Smith and Cottingham to the meeting held on 11 February. Also in attendance were Minute Secretary E Rougvie, PC Stephen of Tayside Police and two members of the public. Apologies were received from P&K Cllrs Robertson and Baird.

Police matters: PC Stephen reported that there had been a break-in to a house between Kinross and Milnathort the previous month and someone had been reported to the Procurator Fiscal. The person was also suspected of being involved in other break-ins. PC Stephen urged the public to be vigilant as there had been an increase in break-ins because of the credit crunch.

Police were also carrying out various measures in

connection with thefts from cars parked at Burleigh Sands and again people are warned not to leave valuables in their cars. Any suspicious activity should be reported.

PC Stephen also warned the public to be cautious while there was a covering of ice on Loch Leven as it may look thick but became thin within just a few steps.

Other police activities in the area include ongoing speed control measures.

Planning Aid seminar: CCllr Smith reported on a meeting he had attended in Auchterarder, along with CCllrs Thomson and Porter, held by the charity Planning Aid for Scotland. It dealt largely with some of the new legislation introduced under the 2007 Planning Act, some of which was already being implemented. There is much emphasis on community engagement, with developers and communities working together in order to reduce conflict, and in some cases developers must now make contact with the local community before submitting planning applications. After discussion, it was agreed that the pre-planning consultation would indeed help defuse conflict because an objection to an application from a CC no longer automatically triggered a referral to committee.

Town Hall bin: CCllr Bennet reported that P&KC had acted swiftly to install a bin outside the Town Hall following concerns about the large number of cigarette ends dropped there.

Seats at Tillywhally Wood: There was a discussion about the best type of seats to install at Tillywhally Wood, which will be paid for with the help of Kinross Road Runners. CCllr Bennet will explore the most practical options.



Tillywhally Wood: best type of seats still under discussion

Dog fouling: There are still concerns about dog fouling in and around Donaldson Park and the public are urged to report irresponsible owners to P&KC dog wardens.

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Correspondence

Data Protection Act: The CC is now registered through P&KC, who pay for this on the CC's behalf. Noted after brief discussion.

P&KC Draft Housing in the Countryside Policy: Cllr Giacomazzi outlined key issues in the policy, which is still at the consultation stage and due to be implemented in July 2009. The policy still provides for building in the countryside in certain circumstances, namely building groups (clusters of houses) or infill or gap sites (limited to two houses). New houses may be permitted in open countryside where there is an existing garden, eg in the grounds of a country house or within a walled garden; where there is a flood risk and a house needs to be re-located; where it is associated with economic activity such as a farm or equestrian centre; where it is a pilot project to build an eco-friendly house that is associated with the management of land or the use of land for sustainable living or where a house is empty or derelict and needs to be renovated or replaced. Consent will also be granted for the conversion of redundant non-domestic buildings (eg farm steadings or mills) providing certain conditions are met. Cllr Cottingham will study the document in depth, but the feeling of the CC was that, though restrictive, it represented commonsense. The draft policy can be seen in full at www.pkc.gov.uk and the public have until 27 March to comment.

P&KC Community Waste Grant Scheme: An event was arranged for 16 February in Perth to launch a new initiative aimed at increasing community involvement in the drive to reduce the amount of waste that goes to landfill. Cllr Giacomazzi commented that he was a member of a committee set up to discourage the use of plastic bags, which so far was having positive results. Bag usage in his own business had reduced by 50 per cent. He said that around five per cent of all plastic bags used ended up in the sea, turning beautiful oceans into a 'soup' of plastic and having devastating effects on the environment.

Invitation to P&KC planning event: P&KC planners will meet with local CCs in the Green Hotel, Kinross, on 16 March to discuss the new Planning Act and associated issues. Cllrs Giacomazzi, Thomson, Porter and Lamont will attend.

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P&KC Structure Plan: This lays out the housing requirement for 2008-2020 based on projected population figures. The total number for Kinross and Milnathort is 400, with a further 60 in the landward areas of Portmoak, Cleish and Fossoway, although it was acknowledged that this could be affected by the credit crunch. The consultation period was due to end on 20 February and after discussion it was agreed that Cllr Cottingham would comment if necessary.

Kinross-shire Forum: Letter asking MCC to reconsider its decision not to participate in the Kinross-shire Forum: This was received from a member of the public who was in attendance at the meeting. She felt it was important for an elected CC member to be represented in order to give the Forum a more balanced voice. After discussion, it was agreed that the CC supported the idea of Kinross-shire CCs getting together to discuss important issues, but that it was not appropriate to include unelected bodies. Cllr Giacomazzi will write to Kinross CC to ask if they would subscribe to the idea of arranging *ad hoc* meetings of the Kinross-shire CCs.

Planning Application: The following application was noted: extension to rear of house at 25 Croft Wynd.

Curling Academy: Cllr Cottingham referred to the new Royal Caledonian Curling Club HQ, academy and museum that is to be established in Kinross. It was noted that there was some disquiet about the proposed location in Market Park.

**The next meeting of Milnathort CC will be held on
Thursday 12 March at 7.30 pm in Milnathort Primary
School.**

Milnathort CC minutes are posted on www.kinross.cc

NOTICE OF AGM OF MILNATHORT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given that the AGM of Milnathort Community Council will take place on **Thursday 9 April** at 7.30pm in the Town Hall, Milnathort.

Joe Giacomazzi, Chairman

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Portmoak Community Council

News from the February Meeting

A meeting was held on Tuesday 10 February. In attendance were Wendy MacPhedran (Chairwoman), Jim Shepherd, Mike Hally, Stuart Garvie, Charles Weedon, Alistair Smith, Margaret Wilson, PC Stephen and several members of the public.

Police Report

The Police are continuing to monitor the state of vehicles being broken into at Burleigh Sands car park. If anyone sees anything suspicious at all please report it to the Police immediately.

Chairwoman's Report

P&KC have created a **Community Waste Fund**. The community is invited to put forward any innovative ideas on environmental improvement issues.

There will be **three vacancies on the CC** due to the retiral of members and the Chairwoman encouraged members of the public to consider joining the CC.

Secretary's Report

The Council intends to proceed with the formal adoption of Scotlandwell as a Conservation Area. The Council will therefore be putting on an exhibition in the New Room at Portmoak Church between 3 and 5 March. (*See Articles, p.4, for details*).

Paths Matters

P&K Countryside Trust has responded to the CC request for assistance in the maintenance of the Michael Bruce Way. There will be a meeting this week to discuss this further.

There is a hold up in finalising the land for the footpath alongside the A911 between Woodmarch and the Church. All the land has been acquired except for the land belonging to the Church. The CC will pursue the possibility continuing with the path up to the boundary with the church and providing a crossing at the A911 at this point.



*Kinnesswood Phone Kiosk is to be discontinued
Photo: Pauline Watson, kinross.cc photolibrary*

Kinnesswood Phone Kiosk

The Kinnesswood Phone Kiosk is going to be discontinued. Under the 'Adopt a Kiosk' scheme, there is an opportunity for the community to acquire the Kiosk for £1. There will be no apparatus in it, but the Community will be able to retain it and maintain it. It was agreed that the CC would pursue this.

A911

There has been no progress on the application of high

friction surfacing at Auchmuir Bridge and Wester Balgedie, despite the statement that it would be carried out in the autumn of 2008. Nor has any work been done in the 'build-outs' at Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell. The end of the Financial Year is approaching and there is concern that the money for these projects will be lost. The Secretary will write to the Council.

Planning Matters

09/00056/FUL Change in position of footpath and erection of **car park lighting (in retrospect), Channel Farm, Wester Balgedie**. The CC will object as the application is contrary to the original consent for the original building.

Structure Plan - growth figures. The Chairwoman and Secretary are attending a workshop by P&KC on the Draft Structure Plan - growth figures. There is concern about the proposed increase in the number of proposed houses for Kinross-shire from 2008 to 2020, which is still far higher than anywhere else in Perthshire. The CC has until the end of the month to respond.

Draft amended Housing in the Countryside Policy. A Draft Policy has now been issued and the CC has until the end of March to respond.

Youngs Moss. The CC was informed by a member of the public that there are changes afoot for Youngs Moss. There are plans available which show four buildings for a shop, a café, a bunk house and sheds for 200 allotment holders. The Council Enforcement Officer has visited the site and stopped work progressing further. The CC will write to the Council, local members and the MSPs regarding this project.

Larch Cottage. The CC has been informed that consent has been granted for the construction of a Granny Annexe Chalet adjacent to the existing very large new house which replaced a very small 3-room single storey cottage. The CC is very concerned that it was not informed of the amendment to the planning application and will write to the Council.

Wester Balgedie Farm. Neighbour Notification has been sent to residents regarding an amended planning application for this site for nine houses. The informal hearing on the original application by the Reporter's Unit has still not been heard and will not take place until May.

Kilmagadwood. The CC is awaiting further developments on this application.

New Planning Act Workshop. Two of the CCllrs attended a workshop on the new Planning Act, which was conducted by Planning Aid for Scotland. They found it very useful and were impressed by the services that Planning Aid is prepared to provide for free for individuals who have problems with planning matters.

The next meeting of Portmoak CC will be on Tuesday 10 March at 7.30pm in the Portmoak Primary School.

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Fossoway and District CC

News from the February Meeting

A Morrison, T Duffy-Wigman, A Lavery, I Farquhar, H Wallace and H Johnson were present at the meeting held on 3 February at Blairingone Primary School. Also in attendance were P&K Cllr M Barnacle and 11 members of the public. There were no declarations of interest.

Community Policing: Sgt Williams attended. There have been many incidents in scenic areas concerning cars. Windows of cars have been smashed and contents taken even when owners have been careful to keep possessions out of sight. It was emphasised that it is important to remain vigilant and to report anything which seems out of the ordinary.

Feedback from police control room is that the 0845 number appears to be working well. The number is in the phonebook and households should by now have received a postcard with the number to call. (*see also Police Box*)

CC Business: A Morrison wrote to the Chief Executive and Head of Democratic Services about the level of funding. The grant has been increased to £340 in line with inflation but is insufficient to meet even the very basic expenses incurred by the CC. The CC has been asked to provide details of expenses which it will do.

Election results: Sheila Anderson, Marion Anness and Roddy Paterson have been elected to the CC. The Chairman welcomed the new members and wished them a long and rewarding time on the CC.

T in the Park: There was a meeting the previous day which reported on the successes of last year. Concerns were raised regarding security at the campsite and the use of Stanley knives to gain access to tents. Another concern was the proximity of barriers to the roadside which hampered vehicles turning right. The next meeting for T in the Park will be in about April/May and members of the community are invited to come forward with points they wish raise.

Councillor's Reports

The A977 petition: This was presented to the Petitions Committee and accepted by them. They had written to the Scottish Government and P&KC for further comments by 13 February. Cllr Barnacle said the visit to the Parliament was a success, with no dissenting voice on the Committee. He had also had a meeting with senior Roads Officials and there will be a follow-up to this. There are proposals for two pedestrian crossings; one in Blairingone and the other in

Powmill. A letter has been received from Fossoway School Council in support of another crossing to the east of the Institute in Crook of Devon as well as a footpath protection on the corner opposite the Institute. In addition there are plans for Balado and Turfhill among the proposed traffic calming measures.

There will be a review of speed limits on all A and B roads including the A977.

Monarch Deer Farm: The appeal has been rejected. The CC had written in support of the local authority's position that no more land is required for development. The Reporter did seem to have some sympathy with the developer as the land had been zoned for development some time ago.

T in the Park: Cllr Barnacle stated that Cambo residents had had some concerns regarding marshalling but that the feeling generally was that the situation had been dealt with quite well.

Kinross-shire Forum: Cllr Barnacle's view is that this is essential for the surrounding communities and would very much like to see the Forum continue despite Milnathort and Kinross CCs stating that they no longer wish to be involved. Such forums exist in other areas such as Highland Perthshire and Highland Council. He would like clarification from Milnathort and Kinross CCs as to why they no longer wish to take part.

Development Plan: Cllr Barnacle was unable to attend a meeting of the Member officer Working Group (as an Independent member) when it met last Friday owing to work commitments but sent an email in relation to the Long Term Development Plan. It appears that the planners want one plan for the whole of Perth & Kinross linked to Dundee as part of an Area Plan.

Housing in the Countryside Policy: We are in a period of consultation until the end of March.

Bus Shelter: Cllr Barnacle reported that the matter of a bus shelter for Powmill will be looked into in the next financial year.

CCs and Planning: Sandy asked whether any progress had been made on the matter of input by CCs on planning matters. Cllr Barnacle stated that this would be looked into.

Planning Matters

Applications

08/02311/FUL **Erection of a Wind Turbine**, Hoodshill, Drum/Fossoway for Mr R Buick and Miss J Chapman. This wind turbine is for domestic purposes. The tower is to be 18m high and with a rotor diameter of 10.4m the overall

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height would 23.2m. The tower is freestanding, 130m north of the house Hoodshill and on the apex of Hoods Hill. The other houses in the area are Craighead and Knockintinny, both about 300m from the tower. The turbine is to be a Westwind 20KW small wind turbine with a tail vane and appears to be slim in design. The turbine will obviously be visible from Drum and any place which can see the top of Hoods Hill and this might be a concern for some people. The nearest dwelling is Hoodshill, in the ownership of the applicant and the other nearby dwellings appear to be at a distance which should mitigate any turbine noise. Conclusion: Recommend Approval.

08/02437/FUL **Erection of a Dwellinghouse** and integral garage, land west of Station Road, Crook of Devon for Mrs P Fraser and Mrs J Williamson. This application is to develop a gap site between the existing Station House and a recently developed site on the access road leading west from Station Road. The developments on this access road appear to be closely packed creating dense development on the southern margin of Crook of Devon. The appearance of the proposed dwelling is compatible with the adjoining buildings, being 1½ storeys in height. The nature of the site layout would indicate that further development westwards may be proposed, intensifying the density of development in this area. Conclusion: Recommend Approval subject to an assessment of the plot densities proving that there will be no over-development of the area.

09/00009/FUL **Alteration and Extension at the Beeches**, by Keith Hills House, Rumbling Bridge/Powmill for Messrs Brain. This development is for the alteration and extension of an established house and adjoining barn, including the removal of an open steel-framed agricultural shed and its relocation to a field some 50m distant. The proposals retain many of the walls of the original structures and the extension appears to be compatible with the existing buildings. The works are to provide additional lounge, sitting room, bedroom and bathroom space and a corridor porch. The extension faces the rear of Keith Hills House across a courtyard, but other parts of the existing Beeches building are still closer. Conclusion: Recommend Approval subject to an assessment of the impact of the extension on the adjoining property Keith Hills House.

Concern was again raised on what appears to be “creeping” development. Sandy confirmed that this had been raised with planners along with concerns re parking spaces, passing places and accesses to developments, for example, access to the proposed nursery at the Rumbling Bridge junction.

Roddy Paterson stated that in a training day discussion on planning matters it was suggested that photographs should be submitted with objections to make them more robust.

Correspondence

Correspondence was made available at the meeting for the public to view.

Other Business

By-Pass: A member of the public congratulated the work of those involved in the A977 petition, but was also keen to point out that there may be merit in raising the matter of a by-pass once more. Sandy agreed but said that, as with all

such measures, the debate would centre around the responsibility for funding. Cllr Barnacle pointed out that the long term strategy for Blairingone still has the by-pass on it.

Dog-fouling on the Millennium Walk is a continuing problem which may in part be addressed by more bins being provided. Cllr Barnacle agreed that he would raise this matter again.

Windfarm: There was a question as to whether there was any further news about the proposed windfarm outside Blairingone. Sandy confirmed that the CC had appointed a liaison person who had since resigned from the CC but in any event there had not been any contact.

Swings: Della pointed out that the swings at Powmill had been removed. It was not clear why this had happened or indeed whether these would be replaced. These had been provided with funding from T in the Park. Cllr Barnacle agreed to look into this.

The next meeting of Fossoway & District CC will take place at Carnbo Village Hall on Tuesday 3 March.

Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held after the main public meeting. The Chair, A Morrison gave his report which highlighted those matters which had been the focus for the CC over the year such as planning matters, the Post Office campaign, T in the Park, the Kinross-shire Forum, matters for consultation, the A977 petition, the After School Club at Fossoway School and Funding for the CC.

Sandy expressed his thanks to those who had given their time and support:

To Cllr Barnacle for his many efforts and support for the community in general.

To Community Police Sgt Rankine and Cllr Robertson.

Special thanks to MSP Keith Brown, particularly in relation to the Post office, and to Gordon Banks MP, in particular regarding the A977.

To Trudy, to Hazel and to Ian for all his efforts (and in particular in relation to planning matters which was extremely time consuming) and to the Community who had given their support and time in attending meetings.

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Cleish & Blairadam CC

News from the February Meeting

The CC met on 10 February in Cleish Village Hall and was attended by four CCllrs, P&K Cllr M Barnacle, PC Child, four members of the public and the Cleish & Blairadam Newsletter Editor.

Apologies for absence were received from Margaret Traylor and Richard Jeffrey.

Arising from the Minutes: There had been the report of criminal activity at Middleton Park as a result of which the residents might be forming a Residents' Association. It was pointed out that there was a very active Neighbourhood Scheme and Middleton Park could be involved in this if they were not so already.

Crime Prevention: PC Child said there was nothing to report in the immediate vicinity, but he drew attention to the break-ins of cars at Burleigh Sands and at the car park at Portmoak. These are becoming very frequent and cars should be securely locked at all times. This applies to cars parked at beauty spots or where the owners park when out walking. For your own peace of mind do not leave anything inside the car, even if you think it is not visible to a passer by.

It was asked if anything further had been reported about the break-in at Strathardle, but there was nothing more.

Once again everyone is urged to keep houses and sheds securely locked – nationwide burglaries are becoming more commonplace.

Tracks and Trails: The Secretary had received a reply, dated 17 January, in reply to her letter. Cllr Barnacle said he had sent in a comment form, pointing out that there was no link between Cleish and Fossoy.

Kinross-shire Forum: Cllr Barnacle said it was clear that Kinross and Milnathort CCs definitely did not want to be part of such a Forum, but he felt that it should continue nevertheless, together with representatives from FORK and the Civic Trust. Sandy Morton had attended a meeting and was quite hopeful. He thought that a less formal forum might be the answer. After consultation with the CC members present it was agreed that Cleish and Blairadam would be prepared to continue as members of such a forum and would like it to continue, but perhaps it would not be called the Kinross-shire Forum if Milnathort and Kinross did not want to join.

Planning Procedural Changes: Catriona Culley had attended a seminar organised by Planning Aid for Scotland, an independent body. The seminar dealt with the new Planning Act. How to expedite matters and to involve more people would not be easy – what is a major development? This is a very different matter in rural areas and in urban areas. In a major development the applicant should involve communities from the very beginning, pre-planning. The problem is how transparent this can be.

The CCs will have a much greater role in the pre-planning stages of an application. Local councils will have to determine the degree of consultation but how this is to be done is not clear.

It was pointed out that Cleish and Blairadam CC is already a statutory consultee.

Planning

Site adjacent to B996 on opposite side of road to the north area of Greenacres: Change of use to form storage/hard standing area. Pending.

Land to north of Greenacres – formation of three permanent gypsy traveller pitches for chalet/caravan and ancillary building with space to park vehicles and touring caravans (Full – retrospective): Cllr Barnacle would like a site meeting with CCllrs, the Planners, and residents; the Chairman is willing to attend such a meeting and Cllr Barnacle will set it up.

Millwood, Cleish: approved.

Woodland, Nivingston – access: this had been approved despite five objections; it was felt that this application had been dealt with summarily.

Gairneybridge Caravan Site: pending.

Cleish Mains Steading: pending.

Land north of Hatchbank Farm: up for discussion at Development Control.

Chance Inn Farm: no decision as yet.

Cleish Mill Farm: pending.

Dunvegan: pending.

Nivingston, Cleish: Refused on appeal.

Birchwood Cottage, Blairadam: pending.

Housing in Countryside/Policy Review: A document had been produced for comment; these must be returned by 27 March.

This Policy Review had been undertaken because it was thought that the previous Policy Review had been too relaxed. The CC will study this and send their comments and observations to the Secretary before the next meeting.

Roads: There was nothing new to report. However it was generally agreed that the Roads Department had delivered an exceptionally good service throughout Cleish and Blairadam over the winter, and that the Secretary should write to express their appreciation.

Alterations to the Structure Plan: Concern was expressed on the volume of growth proposed for Perth & Kinross, particularly for Kinross and Milnathort. This would be additional to the proposed growth as set out in the Structure Plan. The CC would reply as soon as possible with their concerns.

The next meeting of Cleish & Blairadam CC will take place on Monday 30 March at the Tabernacle Hall, Blairadam.

This is also the **Annual General Meeting** at which the Chairman will announce his resignation. There will therefore be a vacancy on the Community Council and anyone interested is invited to contact the Secretary, Margaret Traylor, tel. 01383 830059. Community Councils fill a vital role as they are statutory bodies.

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Club & Community Group News

Kinross Parish Church We have a new Minister!

From 30 March 2008, the date Dr John Munro retired, the quest to find a new Minister began. A Nomination Committee was selected and by 7 December 2008 the search was over and our Nominee, the Rev Alan Reid, preached to the Congregation of Kinross Parish Church. Finding a seat in the church that day was difficult! On the same day members of the congregation were asked to vote for or against the new 'Nominee' and the result was a resounding 'Yes' for the Rev Alan Reid. By the middle of December it was confirmed that Kinross Parish Church had a new Minister.



The Rev Alan Reid, new Minister at Kinross Parish Church

Our new Minister, his wife Christine and their two sons, Sandy 14 and Douglas 12, moved into the Manse on Tuesday 30 December. Alan began his Ministry as a probationer in the Howe of Fife Parishes in 1988, taking on his first charge in the Borders village of Newcastleton in 1989. Six years ago the neighbouring parish of Canonbie was added to his charge. Alan and Christine met and married in Newcastleton in 1991. Christine worked in Local Government for some years and on returning to work when the boys were older she was a Classroom Assistant in Newcastleton Primary School. The household is completed by Zip the dog, Lance the Budgie and Bodger the hamster.

The Induction of Alan was held on Wednesday 14 January 2009 and was attended by the Presbytery of Perth and by members of his last Congregation who had travelled that day from Canonbie and Newcastleton. Once again the Church was packed. After the service, in conversation with two members of the Canonbie and Newcastleton congregations, it was said how much the congregations were going to miss Alan and how lucky we were in Kinross to have him. An accolade indeed and one that would have to be proved! Alan has conducted four services since his induction and each time the Church has been very busy, proof we think that we in Kinross are very lucky.

The Rev Alan Reid will minister to all parishioners in Kinross and it is good to welcome him and his family into the Community. So that we can keep the wider community informed of interesting activities going on in Kinross Parish, it is planned to present a regular article in this Newsletter.

Kinross-shire Volunteer Group and Rural Outreach Scheme



Burns Supper

Chaired by the ebullient John (Trust me, I was a banker) Stewart, the evening got off to a lively start when Willie Shand of Crook of Devon ably piped in the haggis carried on high by Poosie Nancy, alias Fiona Mapp of Dalquiech. Fittingly, Allan Dearing of Milnathort, a retired excise man, no less, addressed the haggis with feeling before the Rev Duncan Stenhouse of Kinross delivered the Selkirk Grace.

After a supper of soup, haggis, neeps and tatties, the entire company joined in singing "Rantin' Rovin' Robin" then settled down to enjoy Anthony Glasgow of Strathallan School propose the Immortal Memory. Anthony produced the tiny copy of Burns' works which had accompanied him on every military deployment throughout the world. He praised Burns' satire, irreverence, egalitarianism, and love of nature.

The Rev Joanne Finlay of Cleish, accompanied by her husband, Donald, delighted with her rendition of "Ye Banks and Braes". Sending best wishes for a speedy recovery to Morag Reid of Cambo, the Chairman introduced Jean Gibb from Blairgowrie who stood in at short notice to deliver a poem written by a friend, "The Alternative Sex". Later she shared the humour of "The Moosie's Prayer", written in the style of Burns.

A welcome innovation was a most enjoyable piping recital by Willie Shand before Bill Michie of Wester Balgedie proved to be the smuggest, most sanctimonious uncharitable Holy Willie ever.

The company was treated to two songs by Johnny Burgoyne of Livingstone, "My Luv She's But A Lassie Yet" and "Ae Fond Kiss" before Jim Gibb of Blairgowrie stood up to propose the toast to the lasses, taking an affectionate look at the quirks of the female sex. Much was made of feminine logic, the efficacy of loving them but not understanding them, and finding the word "mute" in mutual. On behalf of the lasses, Linda Hegarty of Kinross gave as good as she got, doing the lasses proud with her quick fire succession of jokes at men's expense.

Again it was the turn of the company who gave a lusty rendition of "Scots Wha Hae". It then fell to this year's Rotary Chairman, Malcolm Mapp, (correct, Mr Poosie Nancy) to give the vote of thanks. You know, he did really well for an Englishman, thanking all the artists who poured their energy and skills into their roles and paying tribute to all the organisers.

The evening closed, as ever, with the entire company singing "Auld Lang Syne".

Helen Glover

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Probus Club



The speaker for the meeting on 21 January was Mr Brian Kitching, and the title of his talk, "Life and Death in Changi." Changi was the name of the internment camp on Singapore Island for the British civilians caught up in the Second World War. Brian's father, Tom Kitching, had kept a diary for the last two and a half years he spent in the camp. The diary survived the war and was given to the remaining family members. Finally Brian published an edited version of the diary in 1998 – this was a long time after the war, but just reading the diary was a painful experience for Brian, and editing it was too emotional a task until fifty years after the end of hostilities, and Brian had retired.

Tom Kitching was head of Land Survey for what is now Malaysia and Singapore. In 1940 he had gone back to Malaysia for a final tour of duty. The diary starts on 8 December when Japan attacked Pearl Harbour and declared war on Britain and the USA and describes the chaotic scenes as the Japanese overran Malaysia in under three months. Brian and his older sister Joan sailed for South Africa in December. Nora, Tom's wife, sailed from Singapore on 13 February, but the ship was sunk. Only at the end of the war was it definitely ascertained that she had been killed.

Tom Kitching and the other British nationals were impounded in Changi, the existing jail on Singapore. The building was only built to house 600 inmates but 3,400 civilians were crowded into the place. The conditions were dreadful and the food meagre. Tom Kitching tried his best to keep up the spirits of the internees. To begin with he organised games of cricket and contract bridge, but as time went on these events faded from the diary; people simply did not have the energy. Tom did not give up and the diary is full of interesting and humorous episodes, but he was diagnosed with cancer in the stomach in December 1943 and died in April 1944. The diary is a tribute to his spirit.

Tony Jones proposed the vote of thanks for a most interesting and illuminating talk.

On Thursday 5 February the Probus Club was very fortunate to have as their speaker Ronnie Child, a police constable with the Tayside Police Force, and his subject was Community Policing – for as Ronnie put it, "The Police need the community just as the community need the police". The police need the respect and cooperation of the public to enable them to provide security and safety for the public. A generation ago this connection between the police and the community in rural areas was supplied by the village bobby,

who was stationed in the village and lived in the police house, and therefore got to know the community very well. But for all sorts of reasons the single manned stations in the rural villages have been closed and the task of maintaining good relations with the community is done by the Community Liaison Officer.

Ronnie Child is the Community Liaison Officer for the Kinross district, having lived in the area since 1991. He gives talks to the junior classes in the primary schools, youth groups, and any organisation that wants a talk from the police (such as the Probus Club). Ronnie used to speak to secondary school pupils, but the Police have brought in specialist speakers to speak to them. Nevertheless Ronnie was involved with the Kinross High Schools Sixth Form Weekend. To the younger children Ronnie speaks about road safety, and "You can trust a Policeman". To teenagers, he speaks about the abuse of alcohol and the danger of drugs. At the end of his talk Ronnie answered a host of questions which showed the interest that his address had aroused.

Duncan Stenhouse proposed the vote of thanks, expressing the appreciation of the members for a most interesting talk.

Fossoway Gathering – Volunteers Required

There was no Gathering in June 2008 as there was not the required number of volunteers. What will happen in 2009? Please help the committee. We need more helpers to keep going. The commitment is only one evening a month till June. Please help by contacting:

Roger telephone 01577 840531
 email roger@rfc.me.uk or
 Rhoderick telephone 01577 840236
 email gathering@tulbol.demon.co.uk

Remember the Fossoway community helped save the Crook of Devon Post Office. Let's keep the Fossoway Gathering.

Kinross Healing Rooms

It is nearly eighteen months since Kinross Healing Rooms opened in the Millbridge Hall. Since that time we have prayed for over one hundred and thirty people. In some cases people have returned for more prayer and in total our teams have been used two hundred and fifty times. No-one has left Healing Rooms without being healed, spiritually and emotionally lifted, or in a worse state than when they arrived. Healing Rooms, simply a place where people come to receive Christian prayer. You have nothing to lose, and maybe so much to gain. Please visit. If you would like to see some of our testimonies, please contact: 07766515950, 07732485305; kinross@healingrooms-scotland.com

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Kinnesswood in Bloom

Fundraising pub quiz

Join us in the Lomond Country Inn on **11 March** at 8pm. Quizmaster - Raymond Sutherland.

Wildflower verge project

The first of this year's new projects will provide a wild flower garden in the verge at the North side of Gamekeepers Road opposite the new build houses. This verge will be similar to the meadow produced at Vane Farm in 2007. Work is due to begin at the end of March.



The garden at Michael Bruce's Cottage, Kinnesswood, maintained by Kinnesswood in Bloom

Composting project

The compost bins have been procured and sited at the Lomond Country Inn car park. Signage has also been attached. After a short training session on 21 February, the composting facility will be opened. This will be run as a pilot scheme initially and is **NOT open to the public** until June. Up until then it will be used by Kinnesswood in Bloom and the Lomond Country Inn only.

Website

We are pleased to announce that we have launched our website. You can find us at www.kinnesswoodinbloom.org

Planting

The daffodils planted by the Primary School Children near the War Memorial have started to appear and they will make a fine display during March/April. Please be kind to these tender shoots.

School corner

Kinnesswood in Bloom have a strong relationship with Portmoak Primary School and over the years there have been many working parties involving KIB members, parents and pupils. This is a special year for both groups as Kinnesswood enters "Britain in Bloom" and Portmoak Primary School aims for its first Green Flag.

Portmoak Primary School is in the fortunate position of having grounds that it is able to use for a variety of educational purposes. As well as a grassed pitch and a newly laid play area to the rear of the school, there is a wildlife area which encourages birds and other wildlife to come to feed. Maybe some will stay longer.

Last year the school used large pots to grow potatoes with the very impressive result of 68 potatoes from just 3 plants (although we would be the first to admit that not all of them could be baked!) During the Autumn Mr. Johns and some of the children began creating a vegetable garden on a patch of ground to the front of the school. To encourage the children to get started and experience success we planted out some 'winter' crops. Each class had an area marked out and planted their own seeds. To date P6/7 have had the most success with their garlic bulbs, whilst the radishes have survived all the snow!

Over the next few weeks we will be planting up seeds in the classrooms so that they are ready to transplant into the vegetable plot in the spring and Loch Leven's Larder have been kind enough to offer seeds and plugs as they become available. We have also been busily filling up our compost bin over the last 6 months in readiness for the spring. As you start to cut the grass again and you have the odd bag of grass cuttings please drop them by, they will be a welcome addition. The aim is now to produce a good crop of vegetables during the summer. We will keep you up to date with how we are doing as we go along.

Meetings & work parties

Meetings are open to all and are usually held on the first Thursday of the month. Check the local noticeboard for up to date information or have a word with Dave Goodwin at the garage (or on **840727**). We look forward to hearing from you.

The Kinnesswood in Bloom team
www.kinnesswoodinbloom.org

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Kinross-shire Historical Society



At the January meeting members enjoyed hearing reminiscences of a childhood spent on a farm in Kinross-shire in the 1940s. Mr Jim Paterson of Gallowhill Farm recalled the days when there was no piped water supply and all water had to be pumped from a well. There was no electricity until the 1950s which meant paraffin lamps and candles for light. He spoke of the lamb sales in Milnathort when hundreds of lambs would be walked to the market from as far away as Alva, often arriving the day before and resting in fields nearby overnight. Most would be bought by farmers from Fife who would take them off by train after the sale. The advent of animal floats in 1946-7 meant the lambs could be taken to sales further afield and brought about the end of the Milnathort sales. He talked about the threshing mill pulled by a steam engine which would come to the farm. It needed 16 people to man it and farmers would all help on each other's farms, the farmer's wife having to feed all the men.

To the south of the farm was Turfhill Army Camp used in both WW1 and WW2 for training soldiers. Bugle practice would upset the farm horses and rifle practice proved dangerous for those working on the farm and for sheep until the targets were moved. At nearby Balado Aerodrome, pilots were trained to fly Hurricanes. A near miss occurred when German bombers dropped their load of bombs to escape pursuing Spitfires. The bombs caused a fire in a wood but no-one was injured.

The Kinross branch of Young Farmers was formed in 1944 which gave some further education and training to those who had no opportunity to go to agricultural college because they had to work on the farms during the war.

On behalf of the members, Mr Ron Muirhead thanked Mr Paterson for a most interesting talk.

On 16 February, Dr Hamish Brown MBE gave a most interesting and entertaining talk to Kinross-shire Historical Society on the symbolism used on Scottish gravestones. The symbols are used to denote mortality, immortality, Bible stories and trade. He explained the significance of symbols including skull and crossbones, hourglasses, winged spirits, snakes and various tools used by different trades. The talk was illustrated by particularly fine slides taken in graveyards all over Scotland. Mrs Mary Muirhead proposed the vote of thanks.

See also Notices p. 40.

Kinross in Bloom



March is a quieter month for the committee but we continue to plan to make sure that the hanging baskets, tiered planters and tubs will be ready to bring colour throughout Kinross during the summer.

Over the next few weeks the watering buggy will be serviced and the rota for the volunteers who kindly water the plants will start to be drawn up. We start the countdown to the arrival of the plants for planting up the hanging baskets on 25/26 April.

200 Club Winners

January J MacDonald £20, K Baird £10, Sir David Montgomery £5, G Clarke £5.

February J Stewart £20, E Paterson £10, E Sinclair £5, N Butler £5.

Kinross Primary Parent Council



Kinross Primary Parent Council is planning to purchase two notice boards to be displayed on the perimeter fence of the primary school to keep parents informed of forthcoming events.

Preparations are underway for a family fun day to be held at Kirkgate Park at the beginning of June. The exact date is still to be confirmed – but please check one of the new notice boards for further information during the summer term.

The next Primary School Parent Council meeting will take place at the school on **Tuesday 10 March at 7.30pm**. All parents, staff and carers of children attending Kinross Primary School are welcome to attend this meeting.

Further information about the Parent Council can be found at www.kinross-pri.pkc.sch.uk/ or by e-mailing kinross_primary@scottishparents.com

MTKY – Musical Theatre for Kinross-shire Youth



MTKY are back! This year we are putting on two shows: "Godspell" and "Pirates of Penzance".

We are performing "Godspell" on **Tuesday 31 March** and **Wednesday 1 April**. This will be a highlights production in a concert format.

Our main production of the year will be a Scottish take on the Broadway version of "Pirates of Penzance" by Gilbert and Sullivan. This will take place on Tuesday 22 to Friday 25 September and will be our last performance in the old Kinross High School!

Rehearsals are well under way for both shows and we hope to bring you the brightest and best in Kinross-shire's musical youth.

Hope to see you at the shows!!

For further information please contact Lynn Caldwell on 01577 863271 or Isobel Miller on 01577 862970.

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Kinross and District Art Club



During February our thriving local Art Club enjoyed the latest additional art equipment to encourage and inspire us to get started on another painting or to try to use another medium in our paintings.

We were fortunate to get a grant from the Scottish Arts Council, a lottery "Awards for All" lottery distributor, for a DVD projector and a DVD computer player. We were also able to purchase sets of art DVDs covering a wide variety of art subjects and painting techniques. These have now been added to our extensive library that is available for all members for home viewing at their leisure.

We have also introduced monthly Group Activity Sessions when, as a group, our Tutor will give a demonstration on how to develop a painting from the initial sketch, to building up in stages to a final successful painting. Using both of these new approaches to our club activities we will add to our better appreciation of art and we will be encouraged to try something new.

New members, from absolute beginners to more accomplished artists, are always welcome and, with our friendly members, can enjoy the freedom "to do their own thing" with as much guidance as they need.

Come along to the Millbridge Hall on Tuesday afternoons at 2pm, or contact the Secretary, Bill Bray on 01577 863361. You can be sure of a welcome.

Children's Hospice Association Scotland



Hat Event in Bazaar

The Bazaar charity shop at 76 High Street Kinross is holding a special hat sale on **Wednesday 11 March** between 9.30am and 5pm. Donations of hats for this sale will be gratefully received at either Bazaar Shop.

Chas Gift Shop

Mother's Day and Easter cards and gifts are now on sale in the CHAS Gift Shop with at least 50 pence from every £1 of sales going directly to the Children's Hospice Association Scotland. The CHAS Gift Shop will be open from 12 until 4pm on Easter Sunday.

Volunteering with CHAS

Have you thought about volunteering in our CHAS Shops and mail order this spring? Just two hours volunteering a week could make a huge difference to you and CHAS.

Please call Frances Todd on 01577 865557 if you are interested in volunteering with CHAS.

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Save NHS Dentistry Campaign

We thought it was time we gave you an update on this group, which last met in April 2008. The campaign has always had a two-pronged approach: on the one hand we have tried to help local people access an NHS dentist and to this end held public meetings with representatives of Tayside health board and local politicians; and on a more fundamental level we have petitioned the Scottish Parliament to ensure that all people in Scotland have access to free, local NHS dental provision.

Our petition, originally signed by over 1,300 people, was reviewed by the Parliament's Petitions Committee between November 2006 and October 2008 along with two similar petitions from other parts of Scotland. It lasted much longer than most petitions and as the Scottish Government recently announced that it has invested £82 million to provide 13 new dental centres around Scotland to help alleviate the lack of NHS dentists which affects almost half the population, who knows whether that little bit of pressure from Kinross just helped to push the Government in the right direction?

Of that money, according to a report in The Courier on 20 January, £5.44 million will go to Tayside and £6.11m to Fife health boards and depending on where new dental centres are built, some Kinross citizens with transport may be able to use them in due course. We already know through our discussions with NHS Tayside that a new "treat and teach" dental centre is to be built at Broxden in Perth with an anticipated opening date of August 2010. The Courier article also mentioned that NHS Fife was planning a new dental centre in Glenrothes, which might be relevant for Kinross folk in the future.

Practical information for those seeking an NHS dentist has been provided by NHS Tayside in a press release sent to me before Christmas. If you are not registered with an NHS dentist and require emergency treatment, please call Linkline on 01382 596982 from Monday - Friday, 8.30am - 5.30pm. If you ring early, staff will try to arrange for you to be seen the same day or within 24 hours at an NHS dental facility in Perth, Dundee or Angus. If the emergency arises outwith these hours, you are advised to call NHS24 on 08454 242424.

Please note, the Linkline is only for emergencies! If, for example, you have just moved to the area and are wanting a routine check-up, you can phone Drumhar Health Centre in Perth on 01738 564261 and they will add you to a waiting list. Unfortunately, due to the fact that Perth & Kinross currently has a waiting list of over 1,000(!), you will have to wait about TWO YEARS to be seen. This is an interim solution for people who can't get registered with an NHS dentist, and it only entitles you to one check-up and ensuing course of treatment. After that you are out in the cold again, so to speak, so we would suggest putting yourself on that list anyway if you haven't seen an NHS dentist for ages, but in the meantime you should continue to look out for NHS practices which occasionally can take new patients onto their lists when they get a new partner, for example.

We hope this information is useful and have checked out the numbers above, which do work! In the meantime, if you have anything further to report, call Felicity Garvie on 01592 840825.

Common Grounds



We have good news in response to our advertisement for a person to clear away at the end of day on Wednesday and Saturday, however not good news with regard to our search for a Treasurer: we nearly got there last month so we know that someone out there is just who we need. Also our need for Volunteers is just as great, anyone out there who can spare an hour or more please do pop in and see for yourself what we are all about.

Project: Our current projects are Blythswood Care from Glasgow which is providing housing, food and education to homeless children in Mozambique. The second project is a charity that goes by the name of MOTAVATION, they provide wheelchairs for disabled people in Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi and Tanzania. Further they train people to repair and maintain the wheelchairs.

Our **project lunch** is on **7 March** which is a Saturday. The speaker is Michael Laird from Marocaroundtheclock, a small charity that deals with water and healthcare in Morocco. On the same day we will have a stall of vegetables and Fairtrade from our friends at Lochend Farm.

Forthcoming events: There will be a **live music** session in Common Grounds on **Saturday 14 March** from around 1pm onwards until late; everyone welcome. Simple supper will be available. Come and see Martin Wardrope and others.

Book Club: There may be a space available; please check with Marlene Whyte on 01592 840371.

FairTrade Fortnight: see page 9.

Do come and enjoy our wonderful open fire at the Guide and Scout Hall in Church Street, Milnathort and should you have some logs to spare we would most gratefully accept. **We are open on Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday 10am – 3pm.** Contacts outside of opening hours are – James Henry (Convener) 01577 864452 and Linda Freeman (Secretary) 01577 865045.

Kinross and District Inner Wheel



The speaker for the meeting in December was Mr George Lawrie who gave a very interesting talk on "What's on Your Plate". He made a very convincing case for buying Scottish Foods from local farms and businesses and why such fresh home grown produce is best for us.

At the beginning of January our President, Alison, gave an excellent Inner Wheel Luncheon which also raised money for children in Zimbabwe. The following week we held a well attended business meeting.

At the February meeting the speaker for the evening was Ada Walker who gave a fascinating and very informative talk on "Walking in Nepal." Ada and her two daughters spent twelve days in the "Forbidden Land". Her slide show gave us an insight into a land of arid landscapes where there are only narrow tracks by which to travel from village to village by foot or by mule.

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Kinross & District Pipe Band

The Band has been quietly practising away over the winter months, preparing for another busy summer season. But the younger band members in particular haven't been standing still, and have enjoyed notable success in solo competitions. Since last we went to press, band members have competed at the World Solo Drumming Championships in Glasgow, the local RSPBA Branch solos in Edzell, the Craigmount High School solos in Edinburgh and the Vale of Atholl Pipe Band solos in Pitlochry.

Particular highlights include Alexander Cox, 11, and Amy Bryson, 10, each taking first place at the Branch solos in the Under-14 Drumming and Drumming on Pad respectively, while Douglas Mair (9) came 3rd in the chanter against a strong field of 26. Particularly impressive was the fact that both Amy and Douglas have been playing for less than a year! Then in Pitlochry Alexander underlined his mastery of the side drum by winning the Under-18 March. Also placed at Pitlochry were, for drumming; Amy Bryson, Novice Drumming - fifth; Ashleigh Cox, 13, Under-18 Tenor, 4th; Cameron Elder, 14, Under-18 March, Strathspey & Reel, 4th; and for piping, Douglas Weir, 14, took 2nd in the Under-15 March and 3rd in the Under-15 Jig. So congratulations to them all for such a strong showing from Kinross!

The summer schedule is coming together nicely with the Band due to enter some ten competitions, starting with the Peebles Mini-bands competition on 25 April. Along with other engagements, including our now customary opening of T-in-the-Park, we will also fit in a couple of the "Out & About in Kinross" days that have proved so popular over the last few years. We are also delighted to announce we have a confirmed date and venue for our now legendary **Ceilidh**. Due to popular demand we have decided to increase the venue size this year, and will therefore be holding the Ceilidh at the Windlestrae on **Friday 5 June**. Tickets will be on sale from April, but feel free to contact Nigel (details below) to put your name down in advance!

We have had a change in the Drum corps with Davie Miller, our Leading Drummer for the past few years stepping aside through pressures of work, making way for Mark Reilly to take charge. Davie will continue to help out where possible and this is hugely appreciated; we have a very healthy drum corps for our grade as can be seen from their success at the solos, and this is due in great part to Davie's tireless dedication and enthusiasm in the tuition and coaching of all the youngsters. So a huge vote of thanks to Davie for all his work to date, and we wish Mark all the best as he moves into this key role.

As always, we are on the lookout for pipers, either experienced or newcomers, to come and swell the ranks. If you live locally and play, or know someone that does - please don't be shy!! All are more than welcome to come and join our friendly band.

That's all the news for the moment. For any further information on the band, contact Nigel Kellett on 01577 863738 or email secretary@kinross-pipe-band.co.uk

Need to check something in an old Newsletter?

Consult our electronic archive at

www.kinrossnewsletter.org

Issues from September 2006 to three months ago available

Kinross Boys & Girls Brigade



The success of the Kinross Company continues as the Company section won the Battalion five a side football cup in January and followed this up by winning the Battalion volleyball cup in February.

An away night for Company section members saw 29 youngsters compete for the 10 pin bowling trophy at Dunfermline's Bowlplex on the Friday of the school mid term break. The scores from the previous visit will be averaged out to find out this year's champion. Andrew Hutchison is the current holder of the trophy.

Junior section members are preparing for their weekend camp at Dounans Centre, Aberfoyle in May, including a visit to Blair Drummond Safari Park. Juniors will also compete in the Battalion five a side football competition as well as defending the Bible Quiz trophy won last session. The Battalion Bible Quiz will be held at Kinross Church Centre on Sunday 22 March. Company section members are looking forward to their summer "adventure camp" at Kinraig near Aviemore.

Holiday in France for under £100

How would you like to spend a week in France staying with a French family for less than £100 each?

This year our Town Twinning Association is visiting our twin town of Gacé in Normandy, a link which was first established in 1975. The visit differs from a normal trip to France as visitors actually stay with and are entertained by host families in and around Gacé, for a week becoming part of the "French family".

It is not essential to speak or understand French but if you do know a bit about the language it is an ideal opportunity for you to brush up your use of the French language.

By staying with a family you can get a much better appreciation of the French way of life over one week compared to several years of travelling as a tourist.

The arrangements for this year's visit are that we intend to fly from Edinburgh to Paris Charles de Gaulle airport leaving on Sunday 26 July and returning on Sunday 2 August. Travel will be provided from Paris to Gacé. If you are interested in joining the Association (only £3 per member) and taking part in this year's visit, we would be pleased to hear from you. The earlier we book flights, the cheaper it will be. For further information contact Twinning President Jean Paterson (01577 862159), secretary David Munro (01577 862126) or Allan Paterson (01577 865794).

Kinross Garden Group



Our February meeting took place in the Millbridge Hall and was attended by 39 members and visitors. Jim Christie gave us a most interesting and informative talk on "The work of the Woodland Trust Scotland". His presentation included the ongoing development of the Glen Devon Woodland Conservation sites of Glen Sherup and Glen Quey which were acquired by the Trust in 2001 and Geordie's Wood in 2004.

Our next meeting is on **Thursday 12 March** in the Millbridge Hall, Kinross at 2pm. Sandy Leven, Dunblane will give a talk "Why go to Chelsea?"

Portmoak Film Society

A 'Cheery Little Number' For Valentine's Night!

Now we have a benchmark for the loyalty of PFS members: 30 hardcore film fans turned up on Valentine's night to watch a serious and thought-provoking film about Britain's last hangman - Albert Pierrepoint, who was responsible for sending more than 600 convicted criminals to a clean and professional death at the end of a rope before capital punishment was finally abolished. Brilliantly played by Timothy Spall, it was a psychological character study of a man whose attitude to his unusual job, at first kept secret from his family and neighbours, changed over time when he became a kind of national hero after carrying out the executions of leading Nazis indicted at the Nuremberg trials.

In retrospect, I think the Film Selection Committee missed a trick this time and probably should have used the romantic date to show a love story like "Gone with the Wind" or "The Graduate" perhaps - but hindsight's a great thing! Notwithstanding the macabre topic of the film, most of the audience gave it a good rating and proved once again that they're serious film buffs.

Next month we're in a totally different mood - and perhaps it's the sunny story we should have shown last month. It's the film all you Abba fans have been waiting for: MAMMA MIA! And please note, it will be on the earlier date of **7 MARCH** (not 14th as previously announced). We're not sure yet whether it will be the singalonga version, that may be decided on the night, but whichever it is, you're sure to go home feeling good this time! So get on your lurex bell-bottoms and big hairdos and turn up for a 7.30pm start. It costs £4 for visitors and remember, this film is not just for girls!!

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

Kinross High School Parent Council



The Kinross High School Parent Council combines the activities of the old Kinross High School Board and the Parents Teacher Association into a single body. Within the KHSPC the Events & Fundraising Committee looks after the activities of the old PTA.

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.

The elected officers of the KHSPC for the 2008/09 academic year are:

Chair	Andy WILLIAMS	Tel 01577 861682
Vice Chair	Jaffrey WEIR	Tel 01577 865780
Treasurer	Denis SWEENEY	Tel 01577 861651

The Clerk to the KHSPC is Helen GLOVER.

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

Kinross-shire 50 Plus Club



At the February meeting, Andy Paterson gave a talk on "The Worthies of Perth". Showing postcard slides of these characters, Andy gave us a splendid insight into their everyday lives. An interesting talk.

Friday Walks: The weather has been kind to us on our last two walks to Kinnoull Hill, and to Cramond Ferry, with large numbers on both walks. The walks in March are on quiet country roads and not far from home.

6 March: The Hopetoun Monument from the Deer Centre, Cupar – a there and back walk, with some climbing up Mount Hill to the Monument, and about 6 miles.

20 March: The Bonhard Circular walk from the car park at Scone Old Kirk – this is a circular walk, mainly on roads and paths, with some climbing to the Obelisk and to the Monument above Murrayshall, and also about 6 miles.

Hillwalkers: On 30 January the Group enjoyed a dry but overcast day for their circular walk from Glenvale and over Bishop Hill, although slippery condition underfoot had some members thinking they were skiing rather than walking.

After the Arctic weather of the last few weeks, we were delighted to be blessed with a warm, spring like day for our ramble from Tayport, round Kinshoddy Beach to Tentsmuir Forest on 13 February. The snow line was right down to the high tide mark creating a surreal sight of 'white' dunes. We were also delighted to get a good view of the large colony of seals basking in the sun.

13 March: We are planning a first venture for this Group, of a circular six mile walk from Blairlogie over Dumyat in the Western Ochils, with an ascent of about 450m.

27 March: Having proved to be a popular addition to our repertoire last year, we will repeat our walk over Lundie Craigs from Tullybaccart via Ardgath Hill. This walk is about eight miles with 300m of ascent.

March Meeting: The AGM will be held on **5 March**. After business the speaker will be Mrs Mercer on her working involvement with Holloway.



Lomond Antiques and Collectors Club



Members thoroughly enjoyed the February meeting when the speaker was Marion Wood whose topic was "Victorian Pressed Glass". With the aid of slides and many examples from her extensive collection, Marion introduced the members to the vast array of items available to the lower and middle classes in Victorian Britain who could not afford crystal.

Pressed glass was introduced in America in the 1820s and came to Britain via France and Belgium. It was much cheaper than cut glass, partly because a team of craftsmen could turn out approximately 600 tumblers in six hours. While the majority of items, from tumblers to salt dishes, from sugar bowls to baskets for flowers were made in clear glass, there were also examples of coloured glass. Several members had brought along items in pressed glass, virtually all of which were later than Victorian.

At the March meeting, the speaker will be Philip Graham from the Royal Commission for Ancient and Historic Monuments in Fife.

Kinross & District Rotary Club



In Rotary Worldwide, February is World Understanding Month. One of the objects of Rotary is to encourage and foster the advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional men and women united in the ideal of service.

Local students Chris and Liam Carragher came to the meeting on 26 January with details of their forthcoming charity rally to Ulan Bator in Mongolia. Along with four fellow members of Kinross Rugby Club they plan to drive approximately the distance of 10,000 miles in two one-litre old bangers named Nutz and Boltz. On their return they hope to have raised £12,000 for three principal charities, the Christina Noble Children's Foundation, Mercy Corps TAN Project and CHAS. With sponsorship, a Race Night, a quiz night and bag packing at Somerfields, £6000 has been raised so far. Chris and Liam explained that they were one of five teams taking part from Scotland and that they would be joining up in Prague with other teams from Spain and Italy before starting the final leg to Mongolia via Kazakhstan.

Further details can be found at www.nutznboltz.webs.com. The vote of thanks was given by Rotarian Bob Findlay.

Members were given some good advice from health expert, Harry Wilby, from Crieff when he spoke to the Club on 9 February. Using the acronym New Start for nutrition, exercise, water, sunlight, temperance, air, rest and trust, Harry went through each topic highlighting where changes could lead to a healthier life style and increased longevity.

At the same meeting it was agreed to distribute the remaining funds from the Charity Golf Day to the Kinross Day Centre, Kinross-shire Volunteer Group and Rural Outreach Scheme, Seamab School, Disabled Gliding, Kinross in Bloom, Milnathort in Bloom and Kinnesswood in Bloom.

Kinross & Ochil Walking Group

(affiliated to The Ramblers' Association, Scotland)

Whether you're new to walking, returning to walking or a regular walker, take advantage of our winter programme to try out a walk with us before joining the Ramblers' Association. Walks are led by volunteer leaders from the group members. For March we offer two weekend walks.

Saturday, 7 March: Crail to Anstruther – 8 miles. Easy walk along a stretch of low-lying coastline (ie no big hills!) Optional fish and chip lunch before returning to Crail. Children if fit, and dogs under control, welcome. Meet at Crail town centre car park at 10am. Call walk leader Angie Shearer on 01592 – 861273 for further details.

Sunday, 22 March: The Fruits and Dens of Alyth – 6.5 miles. A varied walk with mixed woodland, overgrown pasture, rough path and pretty burn. Children, and dogs under control, welcome. Meet at Market square, Alyth at 10am. Call walk leader Wilson Brown on 01259 740192 for further details.

For all walks you will require appropriate clothing and equipment, including boots and waterproofs. Weekend walks are of up to 4.5 hours duration and a packed lunch/warm drink should be brought.

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

Kinross-shire Round Table



Well another Tabling year will soon be over but we still have a lot to pack in before the AGM next month. March is a busy month for us in that it has 5 Tuesdays and therefore 3 meetings (Round Table meets on 1st, 3rd and, if there is one, 5th Tuesdays of the month). The highlight of the month is sure to be outgoing Chairman David Dumbreck's St Paddy's Day Evening. Not quite sure what he is planning for us, but it will doubtless involve a drop of the black stuff.

The last two months have been a whirl of party nights, quizzes and bowling.

The night of Karaoke was a fine demonstration of why this form of entertainment should be banned. Those of you who committed crimes against music, you know who you are - and unfortunately, so do we!

The inter-Table/Circle/41 Club quiz night was hotly contested, the winners, Glenrothes RT, snatching the lead by half of one point from Kinross 41 Club. This was despite, or was it because of, fierce protestations from 41 Club, who were determined to demonstrate that the old grey matter still worked. Ladies' Circle did a fine job once again of shepherding the other teams home ahead of them.

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. You only get out of life what you are prepared to put in. Make it part of your plan for the year to get out, have fun and put something back into your local community.

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

Portmoak Hall 100 Club

November Draw

- 1st No 60 May Tait, Scotlandwell
- 2nd No 57 Vicki Stevenson, Scotlandwell
- 3rd No 53 Ann Dondie, Kinnesswood

December Draw

- 1st No 17 Carol Vance, Kinnesswood
- 2nd No 37 Sue Smith, Scotlandwell
- 3rd No 32 Jim Hampson, Kilmagadwood

January Draw

- 1st No 6 Effie Riddell, Wester Balgedie
- 2nd No 30 Wilma Barclay, Kinnesswood
- 3rd No 87 Heather Dunnett, Kinnesswood

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The Kinross-shire Civic Trust



Trust Annual Dinner and Talk

The Trust is holding its Annual Dinner and Talk at the Kirklands Hotel on **Wednesday 11 March** at 7.30pm. This will be an excellent opportunity for members to gather together and enjoy dinner in the re-furnished rooms of the Kirklands Hotel and we hope as many members will be able to attend as possible. The dinner will be followed by a talk by Dr Deborah Mays, Head of Listing at Historic Scotland. She advises Ministers on the listing of buildings, shapes policy and manages the listing programmes. Her experience is built on a degree in Modern and Art History and a PhD, and includes grant advice and consent work. She has published widely on Scottish architecture. Onetime Secretary to the Society of Architectural Historians, she is a member of the IHBC, and a Fellow of the RSA.

The Title of her talk is "Protecting the Legacy: the Listing Process". There are many Listed Buildings around Kinross-shire and this will be a very interesting illustrated talk which will cover not only why buildings are listed and the process but about what is important about these buildings which are a very vital part of the heritage of Kinross-shire. The Dinner will be 3 course plus coffee or tea at £22 per head. Please apply to Bridget Lindsay 01592 840252, using the form at the bottom of this page.

The Annual General Meeting

The meeting will be held in the Windlestrae Hotel on **Wednesday 15 April** at 7.30pm. The meeting will be followed by a talk by Rachel Haworth, a Conservation officer with Perth and Kinross Council. Rachel's talk will be illustrations about Conservation Areas. Perth and Kinross Council re-established the Conservation group within the Development Control group 3 years ago and the Council is in the process of re-visiting the Conservation Areas within Perth and Kinross. The Trust will be taking an active involvement in this with the Council.

The Objects of the Trust

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

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

Contact: Alistair Smith, Chairman 01592 840215

Trust Annual Dinner

Please reserve places for me for the Dinner, £22 per person

Name.....

Address.....

Cheque enclosed for £.....

Applications to Mrs Bridget Lindsay, Easter Balgedie House, Easter Balgedie, KINROSS, KY13 9HG, 01592 840252.

Sports News



Kinross Volleyball Club

The Perth & Kinross volleyball season is almost over and Kinross teams are again well to the fore. John Booth's Kinross BB team sealed the Recreational League trophy for the second season in a row with 12 straight wins out of 12 to finish the season undefeated.



Perth Recreational League Champions Kinross BB with the league trophy

Kinross Scotrange, last season's Premier League champions, were given a second chance at retaining their trophy when league leaders, Hitting Bricks (the only team to beat Scotrange this season) slipped up against Mental Blocks. This means that with two games remaining, Scotrange lead the Premier League with Hitting Bricks close behind them in second place. Scotrange play Mental Blocks in the last set of fixtures in March so the championship trophy is not yet secure by a long way.

Again Kintronics have had a hit and miss season with inconsistency being their main downfall. They have competed well against all the other Premier teams but have failed to capitalise when they most needed to and unforced errors have cost them dearly.

Training has continued at Kinross High School games hall on Monday evenings from 8 - 10pm (Junior coaching from 8 - 9 pm). The club welcomed two new male members recently, Ian and Carlo, both of whom have settled well into the club's training pattern. New members are always welcome with a special welcome to female members - volleyball is a great social game as well as being a competitive sport to be enjoyed. Following the Perth & Kinross District Volleyball League's competitive games, the club is preparing for this season's Scottish Open Volleyball Tournament on Perth's North Inch over the 23 - 24 May weekend. This year sees the Scottish Open reach the 25 year milestone. It is hard to believe it all started with Kinross Volleyball Club taking part in their first European tournament in Belgium in 1983. Afterward the idea of a similar Scottish tournament evolved with Dave Munro, Jim Slater and Gordon Finnie being the driving force and in 1984 the first ever Scottish Open took place in Bell's Sports Centre and on the North Inch with 34 teams taking part. Now the Scottish Open is the biggest tournament in the U.K. with around 130 teams competing from around the world with teams coming again and again to experience the unique flavour of "park volleyball."

Kinross Cycling Club

It's Springtime! The weather has warmed up and it's only a few weeks until the clocks go forward. Hurrah! Over the winter, we have had many people "try out" on our Sunday morning meetings but I think the cold weather has kept them away. I am sure that there are many people out there who would like to give cycling a try and what better place to start than in a group? What would you want from a cycling club? We are thinking of midweek rides, time trials and even two separate groups, ie Intermediate and Advanced. If you are interested in road cycling and would like to find out more and give your opinion, come to the Kirklands Hotel on **Thursday 12 March** for 7.30pm. Please note our regular Sunday morning ride departs Kinross High School at 9am. Check next month's newsletter for a report from the Kirklands meeting.



Kinross Tennis Club

Now is the time to forget about the winter blues (and snow) and look forward to a season of 'strawberries and cream' and getting fit!



Our **Open Day** will be on **28 March** between 10am and 4pm, when new and existing members, beginners and experts, young and old are welcome to come along to see the facilities, have coaching and even enjoy a game! If you are thinking of joining Kinross Tennis Club, this is an ideal opportunity to discuss membership with club members and for existing members to renew their membership and access keys.

Each Wednesday evening (we now have floodlights!) is our adult tennis evening and coaching sessions are planned in the early part of the season to blow away the winter cobwebs. We are also introducing Sunday morning practice sessions and Juniors have special coaching afternoons on Fridays plus Easter and Summer coaching camps - further details available at the Open Day.

KTC also participates in several ladies, men and mixed leagues, for those of you looking for a serious game of tennis.

Throughout the season there will be many social events including quiz nights, ceilidh, barbecues etc and our Club Championships are held during August.

For further information, including membership enquiries, please contact Aileen on 07881594093 or Gail on 07703132105, or see you on 28 March!

Kinross Bowling Club

The bowling season is almost here again. Our green opens on **Saturday 18 April** at 2.30pm.

We look forward to meeting up again with all existing members and anyone interested in the sport - all ages welcome. New members can join for ½ price.

Let's hope this summer will bring some sunshine and heat for our outdoor playing. Look out for the fliers which will be distributed in late March/early April.

Anyone interested in the bowling or requiring more information, contact the Secretary - G M Rennie 01577 864727.

Kinross Road Runners

Welcome to a new year of running with Kinross Road Runners!



The winter training sessions are in full swing with 30 or more runners regularly turning up for the Wednesday night sessions. These sessions start from Kinross Health Centre car park at 7pm and last about an hour. The winter training schedule is available from the club website which can be found by Googling "Kinross Road Runners" and selecting "training" from the menu. Don't let the apparent formality of the training programme put you off giving the club a try if you are new to or have recently returned to regular running. The club caters for all ages and abilities and each training session is adapted accordingly. There are fewer races to report on this month but one that is worth a mention is the "Devil's Burdens Relay" race which took place on a cold and frosty morning during January. Over 600 runners from all over Scotland (and the rest of the UK) turned out for this rather unique race. The race is run as a relay by teams of 6 runners. The total distance covered is 31km and the route is split into 4 stages, 2 of which are run in pairs and 2 by single runners. The race starts and finishes in Falkland and takes the hilliest possible route in between. First stage involves a steep ascent up East Lomond and down to Holl Reservoir. From there leg 2 climbs over White Craigs and down to Scotlandwell. From Scotlandwell leg 3 runners re-ascend White Craigs and traverse over Bishop Hill before climbing up West Lomond via "the Devil's Burdens" and descending to Strathmiglo. The final leg is a trail run through the forest from Strathmiglo back to Falkland. 3 KRR teams completed this tough, challenging race with the men finishing a very respectable 37th, the ladies 74th and the mixed team 102nd, proving that KRR can hold their own both on and off the road!

Members enjoyed the kind hospitality of two of our club members over the festive season: Jane Gibson's "Beat the Boxing Day Blues" and Isabella Carmichael's "Run in the New Year" were both well attended and thanks are due to both ladies for hosting these annual events.

Three members got the club off to a flying start in the Bupa 5K Great Winter Run held in Holyrood Park on Saturday 10th January.

Kinross Badminton Club

Well it's that time of year now – time to start limbering up and blow away those cobwebs for the forthcoming annual tournament. If you didn't win last year, now's the time to grab some glory and get your name on the silverware. The tournament starts on **Thursday 5 March**. The committee is expecting a good turn out from members, similar to last year.

Members were treated to a grand spectacle with complimentary tickets, courtesy of Badminton Scotland (many thanks guys) at the recent Scottish National Badminton Championships held at the Bells sport centre in Perth. Members cheered on their favourite professional, but the biggest cheer went to our home grown talent Patrick MacHugh who certainly gave the professionals a fine run for their money. Well done, Patrick! Come on guys, get down to the Club and give the game a try, your first night's FREE. You might even like it. Contact Bill Macdonald 01577 862592 Mark Moran 01577 842239.

Email moran319@btinternet.com or visit the website www.kinrossbadmintonclub.com



Patricia Milne:

75th overall in a time of 20mins 45s was 3rd Female/1st Female Vet

Douglas Leitch:

275th overall in a time of 23mins 22s

Isabella Carmichael:

510th overall in a time of 25mins 27s was 3rd Female Super Vet

Trish and Isabella both achieved personal bests over 5km in this race which is a fantastic achievement for them so early in the year. Well done ladies!

In early January, 60 members and their guests attended the annual awards dinner at Loch Leven's Larder. Once again we were served an exceptionally good meal in wonderful surroundings and a good time was had by all. Club President Raymond Milne made a number of awards during the course of the evening including the following:

Alastair Black: First male club runner to finish the 2008 Loch Leven Half Marathon

Linda Palmer: First female club runner to finish the 2008 Loch Leven Half Marathon

Steve Crawford: First male club runner to finish the club's 2008 Milnathort Dash

Trish Milne: First female club runner to finish the club's 2008 Milnathort Dash

Steve Pratt: Male Club Champion (Best over six events)

Isabella Carmichael: Female Club Champion (Best over six events)

Pete "the postie" Edgerton: Club Athlete of the Year (voted for by the members)

Congratulations to all our awards recipients.

The club held its AGM in January. Raymond Milne was re-elected as Club President with Joanne Koziel as Secretary and Ann Malcolm as treasurer. The other committee members are Geoff Bilton, Isabella Carmichael, John Myerscough, Val Findlay, Roger Stark, Peter Edgerton and Martin Hill. Anne Wilson and Judith Dobson both stepped down from the committee after many years of loyal service. They were both thanked for their hard work and efforts on behalf of the club.

Crook of Devon Carpet Bowling Club

The Club held an Open Pairs competition in the Institute on Saturday 31 January.

Twenty-eight pairs took part from a wide area and the winners were as follows:

Pairs

1st Stewart Johnson and John Sirrell, Carlisle

2nd Tom McMorran and Alex Allan, Carnwath

3rd equal Ewan Mitchell and Alistair Turnbull, Crook of Devon; George Bennie Jnr and George Bennie Snr, St Fillans

Singles

1st Robert Frame, Fenwick

2nd Sarah Blackwood, Aucham

Images of Kinross-shire

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

Photo Library

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

Kinross Curling Club

The cold start to February was welcome news to local curlers. The recently refurbished outdoor curling pond froze, allowing curling to take place for the first time this winter.

At short notice, a game was organised between Dunfermline Curling Club and Kinross Curling Club on Sunday 8 February. Dunfermline started the game well, thanks to accurate striking from Robbie Stevenson; however Kinross rotated their players tactically and took a 3 in the 8th end to draw the match and force a final deciding end. Perfect draw weight from Douglas Rodger helped Kinross Curling Club to an 8-7 victory! Curling continued well into the afternoon with a second team from Kinross Curling Club challenging 'neighbouring clubs'. Further details and photos are available on the club website:

<http://www.royalcaledoniancurlingclub.org/areas/07/prv/loch/club/Kinross48781/index.cfm>



The recently refurbished outdoor curling pond

Kinross Curling School

KCS is running a **Curling Clinic** on **Friday 13 March** at 7.45pm. If interested in attending, please get in touch with me. I am running an **Assistant Coaches Course** on **17 March** at 5.30pm at the Green; if anyone is interested, they need to apply through the RCCC webpage under the link coaching.

Ena Stevenson

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Email: enastevenson@aol.com



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Kinross Ladies Hockey Club



Unfortunately 2009 has started the same way that 2008 did, with the all weather pitch remaining frozen solid for weeks on end.

This has impacted on both training sessions and matches, with two rescheduled matches already postponed again.

There is a more positive note with the coaching situation, as Ryan Green has taken on the mantle of coach. He currently continues to play with the Kinross Men's team, (which means he will not always be available to give pitch side support on match days), but he is committed to providing coaching on Wednesday night training sessions.

The re-organised match schedule for the outstanding league matches is as follows:

21 Feb Kinross 2 v Kinross 1 (H)

22 Feb Kinross 1 v Brechin (A), Kinross 2 v Perthshire (A)

28 Feb Kinross 1 v Grove 3 (H), Kinross 2 v Wanderers (H)

7 Mar Kinross 1 v Wanderers (A), Kinross 2 v Grove 3 (A)

The Midlands Knock Out Cup starts on 14 March. The 2nd XI face St Andrews Uni, with the first XI getting a bye into the next round.

With all of the problems with cancellations caused by the weather, we are looking forward to a few social events to get all the club members together. The Firsts v Seconds game on 21 February will be followed by a social event within the clubhouse. Following the success of the bowling night last year we plan to have another bowling night in March, allowing all of the younger club members to join in too. The provisional date would be either Friday 20 or Friday 27 March.

Thinking further ahead, the provisional date for the club AGM is Monday 20 April 2009.

As current holders of the Newcastle Charity Shield we are to host the tournament in Kinross this year, with invited team from Newcastle and Whitley Bay competing. Although yet to be finalised, the plan is for the tournament to be held over the weekend of 16 - 17 May. Given the fun had on tour in Newcastle last year it should prove to be an interesting weekend! Finally, plans for the club's annual tour usually held towards the end of May are still in the early stages.

With the weather finally warming up we hope that training and matches will soon resume as normal. Weather permitting, training continues at KGV all weather pitch from 6.30 - 8pm each Wednesday night. New players are always welcome. If you are unsure whether training will be happening on any given day you can check the "News" section on the club website at www.kinrossladieshockey.co.uk

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News from the Rurals

BISHOPSHIRE – Due to the non-appearance of the speaker, the members entertained themselves. The competition was for ‘Most prized possession, with the story that goes with it’, and eight members had brought a variety of items, which they spoke about. This was a most entertaining evening.

Competitions:

Most prized possession, with a story to tell - Avril Rogers
Traybake - Jane Turnbull

POWMILL – President Mrs Janie Buchanan welcomed members to our Burns Supper, the first meeting of the New Year, on 21 January in Mowbray Hall, Powmill. The Haggis was carried in by Mrs Buchanan and addressed by Mrs Catherine Stewart. A lovely meal of haggis, neeps, tatties and mince followed by oatcakes and cheese and shortbread was served by the committee. After various items of business had been dealt with, Mrs Buchanan thanked the committee for providing the very nice meal and declared the meeting closed. Congratulations to our team, Janie Buchanan, Gillian Taylor and Maz Thorn, on winning the first round of the “Rural Olympics” at Kinross on 17 January. They will now represent Perth & Kinross at Bridge of Earn on 21 February and we wish them every success.

Competitions:

Individual Trifle - Mrs S Buchanan
Burns Tea Towel (Cameron Quaich) - Mrs E Shand
Garden Gem - Miss G Carver

CROOK OF DEVON – In December we again had a lovely Christmas Meal at the Inn, Crook of Devon.

In January our speaker was Mr Gilbert Nicol, now retired, who gave us an amusing talk on his life as a Bank Manager. The vote of thanks was given by Mrs Betty Paterson.

Competitions:

Obsolete banknote/coin - A Johnson
Flower of the Month - I Mill

In February our members, fellow members from neighbouring Rurals and visitors enjoyed a very interesting and entertaining evening with Gavin Anderson, who came along to give us a slide show of some of his wonderful underwater photographs taken all round the world. The vote of thanks was given by Mrs Marjory Walsh.

Competitions:

Winter snapshot - C Bennett
Flower of the Month - I White

GLENFARG – After Margaret Scott, President, dealt with the business, the Brig Belly Dancers entertained and allowed members to attempt the difficult body movements involved in the dancing - very amusing for participants and audience alike. I Bettaney gave the vote of thanks.

The next meeting is on **Thursday 12 March**. The topic is “Hints on sewing and soft furnishings”

There is to be a “Pudding Night” on **Friday 3 April** to raise funds. Do come along. The cost is £2.

Competitions:

Decorated Jelly - L Yull
Pretty Scarf - A Messenger
Flower of the Month - L Johnson

CLEISH – Mrs Margaret Kilpatrick welcomed all members to the first meeting of 2009, expressing best wishes for the year ahead. She then welcomed our speaker Mr Jim Christie who gave us a most informative and interesting talk on the work of the Woodland Trust. With particular interest in the developments at Portmoak Moss and Moncrieff Hill, with the aid of wonderful photographs he was able to show us some of the complexities involved in reviving and maintaining these ancient and very valuable places so important for our future. Mr Christie was thanked by Mrs Dorothy Morris.

Competitions:

Flower of the Month - M Kilpatrick
Wooden Ornament - M Bisset
Rock Buns - C Erskine

Mrs Kilpatrick welcomed members to the February meeting. After business was completed we enjoyed an evening of items compiled by members of the committee entitled ‘Valentine Surprise’. Firstly a brief outline of the origins of St Valentine and onto the development of the festivals of Valentine’s Day popular throughout many countries. This was followed by an adapted version of a Beetle Drive, ie a flower drive. It was surprising how competitive we all became – good fun all round. We were then introduced to the making of lovely valentine cards and also shown some exquisite Victorian cards, very fragile and precious, the messages more sentimental than we could expect today. Also demonstrated were flower arrangements depicting the language of love through flowers, popular in Victorian times. By this time we were ready to enjoy an excellent supper.

Competitions:

Flower of the Month - Mrs C Erskine
Valentine Limerick - Mrs A Morris
Pretty Thimble - Mrs D Morris

CARNBO – Vice Chairman Molly White welcomed all members to our first meeting of the year. Our speaker for the evening was Gillian Galbraith, our local writer who has successfully had two books published and is writing her third. She gave us a very interesting insight about the world of writing, and her talk was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The vote of thanks was given by Mrs Jo Fullen.

Competitions:

Scottish Verse - Mrs F Drysdale
Flower of the Month - Mrs F Drysdale

Mrs Eileen Thomson presided at the February meeting, welcoming everyone. Business was discussed, then followed by the Proof ‘O’ the Puddens in the tasting O’It. All the Committee contributed by baking their favourite sweets and then invited the members to sample, as one member described it, pudding heaven. A copy of each pudding was accompanied by the recipe and a step by step guide was given by the Committee Member who had baked the pudding.

Competitions:

Floral Art in a Cream Jug - Mrs F Drysdale
Flower of the Month - Mrs J Paterson

The President thanked the Committee for their efforts; a sum of £47.00 was raised, which will be donated to Mary’s Meals.

Out & About



Farming



Farmers like nothing better than a good moan about the weather. To a non farmer it must be very confusing to hear about it being too hot, too cold, wet, dry, windy, not windy or a number of other conditions sometimes all on the same day. But since farms are all different, and jobs are not all done on every farm at the same time, weather which suits one farmer may not suit his neighbour. For example, one farmer who has sown a crop into sandy, free-draining soil will need rain to encourage the seeds to germinate at the same time as another farmer needs a few dry days to allow a slower draining clay soil to be dry enough to sow the crop. Similarly, a farmer who has harvested a hay or silage crop will be glad to see some rain to encourage the grass to grow again, while his neighbour with a slightly different farming policy might have a later cutting date to get the crop at its optimum stage and will want it to stay dry.

One weather phenomenon (or 'event' as forecasters now call extreme weather) which is almost universally welcomed by farmers is frost. It allows farmers to travel on the land with machinery without making a mess, and similarly, outwintered livestock such as sheep have clean, hard ground to walk on. The cold temperatures help to kill bugs and parasites and also helps improve soil structure, in particular where fields have been ploughed early in winter in preparation for a spring-sown crop. Heavy clay soils are much easier to cultivate into a tilth after some weathering by frost. This winter has seen more frost than in some recent years which should be a benefit. To the general public, frost just means icy roads that bring problems when travelling, and inconveniences like burst pipes and defrosting the car. However, frost in the winter is as big a benefit to farmers as sunshine in summer.

The wrong weather at the wrong time is more than just an inconvenience to farmers. It can prevent a crop from being planted or harvested. It can result in crop failure or reduce the quality of all types of farm produce, ranging from barley or wheat for making whisky or bread to silage or hay for feeding livestock.

So, the next time you hear a farmer complaining about the weather, he's not just being crabby for the sake of it – there's almost certainly a good reason for it!

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Vane Farm



Hello again from a very snawey n icy Vane Farm. Although spring is gettin iver nearer since the nicts are stretchin oot a bit, it wid appear thit winter hiz decidit no tae release its grip jist yit. Winter or no, this is the time o year when luv rears its heid again, well at least in the bird world, and they begin to reaffirm pair bonds or look fur a new wummin or indeed bloke. Coortin behaviour starts to be seen amongst the watter birds oan the loch, n the wee widland species stert tae investigate potential nest sichtsn nestboxes in gairdens. Sum o wur bluetits here at Vane are a'ready takin nestin material intae the boxes roond the centre which we hiv been observin oan the cctv cameras. Jings! It's only the middle o February! The camera oot the back o St Serfs is gettin amazin views o, weel, ice really! Sum richt bonnie patterns mind, wi bits o it lookin like a moonscape wi big craters. Ither bits ur like sumbudy hiz drappit aboot hawf a million white gloves fingers up the wey, especially the bit oot the back o the island due tae the froast.

Wur boathy hiz been geen a lick o paint and hid a guid scrub up in preparation fur the residential volunteers comin in ower the spring n summer. They help us wi loads o various reserve stuff like vegetation control n things.

We hiv also hid a bit o an upsurge in local fowk deciding tae come alang n help us oot as weel, so that's gie hawndy cos we aye hiv sumthin needin done. If ye fancy it, gie us a call n we will see if we kin utilize yer skills.

Noo then, sum new quadrupeds oan the reserve (that's like sheep tae u n me) in the form o them nice we broon n creamy Jacob variety. We wull yaze them tae graze the mire n control the birch seedlins that appear - better than chemical control.

Bird wise, it's been a bitty quieter cos a'thin hiz been frozen up, but come the thaw things will start tae reappear.

New staff, no heard that yin fur a wee while! We hiv a new administrator in the form o a young lass cried Debbie wha hails fae Balingry jist ower the hill, but let's no hod that against her! The quine seems tae be settlin in fine, you will like enough see her if yer in durin the week so say hello.

Next events comin up are, "**Mad March Hatters Tea Party**" on **Saturday 21 March** fae 12 noon – 2pm. Bring a wee picnic wi yeh, or a big yin if ye like, n join in the fun n games. Ye dinny even hiv tae book this time and it's free, even better. If ye wid like mair details phone Vane oan the usual number n ask fur Andrea cos she's the wummin that kens awe aboot it.

Ta ta till next time,

Colin

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Loch Leven NNR



With the cold weather setting in this year it has been a winter to remember, and recent views of a pair of Lesser Scaup, Smew and a Barnacle Goose have been the highlights of ornithological interest so far. Thanks to all the volunteers that attended the first Volunteers' Meeting of the year in January. We were introduced to Flanders Moss National Nature Reserve, and given an update on squirrel survey progress in the local area. There are chunks of woodland in the area that are in need of regular monitoring to establish presence or absence of Red and Grey Squirrels, and locals are often the best placed people to keep an eye on their bit of woodland. For more information on surveying Red Squirrels, or to find out where you could be looking for them, please contact the reserve office on 01577 864439.

We'd also like to thank the group of volunteers that helped us build and install a further 26 Tree Sparrow nest boxes at Loch Leven. The nest boxes are now in place in Levenmouth woods, and we hope that the Tree Sparrows seen here in the last few weeks will take kindly to their new accommodation options. Now in its third year, the nest box project has successfully installed over 100 boxes on the reserve, with almost a quarter being used or occupied at some stage. Providing nest boxes in managed woodland areas is important for birds, as they often lack suitable nesting sites present in natural woodlands in the form of old trees with cracks and hollows in them.

The Loch Leven Photography Competition 2009 is now in full swing, and I hope you are all on the look out for that winning shot! Prizes this year are kindly donated by the Camera Shop in Perth, RSPB, and Historic Scotland. Selected entries from last year's competition are now on display at Vane Farm, with the three winning entries displayed in the stairway. The theme for this year's competition is 'Biodiversity', and the best pictures will be used to promote Loch Leven NNR in the future, so your pictures could contribute to the development of the reserve as one of Scotland's most popular sites for nature. Details on how to enter the competition are available on our website at www.lochleven-nnr.org.uk.

To provide you with the opportunity to meet reserve staff and discuss any issues relating to Loch Leven, we will be holding the first in an annual series of 'Meet the Wardens' drop-in sessions on **Friday 13 March** from 2-5pm at the Kingfisher Hide at Burleigh Sands. This will also be a great chance to learn more about wildlife at the loch, as we look out for winter migrants before they begin the long journey north to their breeding grounds.

We are also looking forward to our two scheduled 'Nature Detectives' family sessions, on **Sunday 29 March** and **Friday 10 April**, both from 10am, meeting at Findatie car park. Reserve staff will lead you on an exploration of Levenmouth in search of tracks, signs and evidence of mammals, birds and other beasties at the loch, including Otter, Water Vole, deer, and squirrel. Please call the reserve office on 01577 864439 to book your place on these walks.

Pastures new for the Reserve Manager

Scottish Natural Heritage sadly say goodbye this week to the Reserve Manager, Paul Brooks (pictured). After over 11 years of service at Loch Leven, Paul has been instrumental in many of the changes that have occurred at the reserve in recent times. He has over-seen the re-signing

of the National Nature Reserve Agreement of 2003, the Land Reform Act which implemented the Scottish Outdoor Access Code and perhaps most notably the development of the ever popular Heritage Trail leading around the loch to Vane Farm from Kinross. He has been a key player in much of the management of the reserve's natural heritage, and to this end SNH would like to thank him for his time here, and wish him all the best for the future. That's all for now folks.



Paul Brooks: Moving on...

Craig

Weather



January Weather Report From Carnbo

The main features of January this year were the prolonged cold spells we endured early and late in the month, only the mid month period between the 10th and 16th inclusive was a little milder. The only consolation was that for such a cold month, snowfalls in this area were once again very light.

Rainfall for month	111 mm (80% of normal)
Heaviest fall	23 mm (11th)
Highest temperature	9°C (11th)
Lowest temperature	-7°C (6th)
Average temperature	1.5°C (2008 2.8°C)
Maximum temperature above 10°C	not recorded
2 ice days recorded	maximum temperature below 0°C
Lowest maximum temp	-1°C (5th)
Ground frost	23 nights
Air frost	19 nights
Snow days	7, lying days 4, total depth 6.5cms
Sunless days	8
Cloud cover	62%

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Congratulations



Both families are delighted to announce the engagement of **CLAIRE ROBERTSON**, 21 Douglas Crescent, and **NIALL RAMPONI**, 27 Bowton Road, Kinross.

Congratulations to Aileen and Jonas **CEDERVALL** (Smith) on the birth of their son **JOSHUA**, on 10 January 2009 in Glasgow.

Congratulations to **KAI McLEAN**, of Primary One, Milnathort Primary School for Robert Burns Recital Overall Winner and Outstanding Performance in Poetry Recital January 2009 in Milnathort Primary School. Well done, Kai, we are all proud of you.

Amid a large entry at the Robert Wiseman Diaries Vale of Atholl Pipe Band's annual junior piping and drumming competition, two Kinross youngsters achieved success: **ALEXANDER COX** – 1st for Side Drumming (18 yrs and under) March. **DOUGLAS WEIR** – 2nd for Piobaireach (under 15yrs) March and 3rd for Jig (under 15yrs).

A youngster's dream finally came true when he got to run out of the tunnel and on to the pitch at Murrayfield. **ALEXANDER COX** (11) who plays for Kinross Cougars, was selected from other budding young rugby players to be the team mascot for the Scotland vs. Wales match. Alexander watched the match with his family, met players and had his photograph taken. Although Scotland didn't win, he had a fantastic day which he will never forget.



Alexander with the Scotland captain Mike Blair

SUMMER WORK IN USA FOR UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

Interviews in Kinross in March/April by Kinross resident Ali Marshall

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Thanks



MARGARET and **ALEX CRAWFORD** of Churchill Road would like to thank all those who sent cards, gifts, flowers and best wishes during Margaret's recent stay in hospital. The support of family, neighbours and friends is very much appreciated.

JOHN and **PAT NICOL** would like to thank all very much who sent cards, flowers and telephoned get well wishes to Pat during her stay in Hospital. Special thanks to Jenny Sword for all her help.

The Kinross Community Council Newsletter

is available from:

David Sands	High Street, Kinross
Newsplus	High Street, Kinross
Shoppextra	High Street, Kinross
Costcutter	Green Road, Kinross
Somerfield	Station Road, Kinross
Giacopazzi's	New Road, Milnathort
Milnathort Post Office	New Road, Milnathort
Stewart & Smart	Stirling Road, Milnathort
Buchan's Garage	Main Street, Kinnesswood
Shop	Main Street, Kinnesswood
Fossway Store	Crook of Devon
Powmill Store	Powmill
Glenfarg Shop	Ladeside, Glenfarg
Mona's Coffee Shop	Muckhart

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Kinross-shire Churches Together



Kinross Parish Church of Scotland (Charity number SC012555)

Station Road, Kinross
website: www.kinrossparishchurch.org

E-mail: kinpc@tiscali.co.uk Tel: (01577) 862570
Rev Alan D. Reid MA, BD Tel: (01577) 862952
Reader: Margaret Michie Tel: (01592) 840602
Session Clerk: Mrs Linda Williamson Tel: (01577) 862789
15 St Mary's Place, Kinross

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

Sunday morning service 10.30am

Sun 1 March 10.30am Quarterly Communion
6.30pm Communion Service

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

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

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

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

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

All are welcome to these services.

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

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

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

St Paul's Scottish Episcopal Church

Muir, Kinross, KY13 8AY

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

March Services

Sun 1 Lent 1, 8.30am, Holy Communion.
11.00am Sung Eucharist.
Sun 8 Lent 2, 8.30am, Holy Communion.
11.00am Sung Eucharist.
Sun 15 Lent 3, 8.30am, Holy Communion.
11.00am Sung Eucharist.
Sun 22 Mothering Sunday, 8.30am, Holy Communion.
11.00am, Family Communion with Baptism.
Thu 26 9.30am, Service of prayers for healing.
Sun 29 Lent 5, 8.30am, Holy Communion.
11.00am Sung Eucharist.

Junior Church and Crèche during the 11.00am Services.

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

Deadline for all Articles
2.00 pm, MONDAY 16 March
for publication on Saturday 28 March

Cleish Parish Church Church of Scotland

Rev Joanne Finlay Telephone: (01577) 850231
E-mail: joannefinlay196@btinternet.com
Reader: Mr Brian Ogilvie Telephone: (01592) 840823

Sunday Services 11.15am
Crèche 11.15am
Junior Church 11.15am

March

Sun 1 11.15am Preacher: Rev. Brian Ogilvie
Sun 8 11.15am Ordination to Eldership service
Stated Annual Meeting at close of worship
Sun 15 11.15am Preacher: Rev. Joanne Finlay
Sun 22 11.15am Preacher: Reader, Brian Ogilvie
Sun 29 11.15am Preacher: Rev. Joanne Finlay
Fri 6 March: World Day of Prayer service 7pm,
Fossway Church
Mon 30 March: 7.15pm Guild

Fossway Parish Church Church of Scotland

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

Sunday Services at 9.45am
"Wrigglers Group" (0-3 year olds), Junior Church and Teenage Group 9.45am
Tots Music: Friday mornings in hall, 9.30am–10.30am
Children's Yoga: Mondays 3–4pm, church hall
Housegroup/Bible Study group:
contact Margaret Hamblin (01577 850252)
Fossway Church Choir rehearsals:
Tuesday evenings, 7.30pm–9pm
Wednesday evenings: Joint choir rehearsals

March

Sun 1 9.45am All Age Worship, baptism &
Welcome Brunch.
7.30pm Elders Training
Sun 8 9.45am Preacher: Rev. Joanne Finlay
7pm Worship Group meeting
Sun 15 9.45am Preacher: Rev. Joanne Finlay
Sun 22 9.45am Preacher - Reader, Brian Ogilvie
Sun 29 9.45am Preacher: Rev. Joanne Finlay
Tue 3 March Young Women's Night
Fri 6 March 7pm World Day of Prayer Worship.
Tue 31 March 2pm Women's Group

Kinross Christian Fellowship

Further information: (01577) 863509

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

Church and Children's Sunday Club

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

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

Rev Robert Pickles Telephone: (01577) 863461

E-mail: robert.pickles1@btopenworld.com

Sunday Worship, Junior Church and crèche:

10am Portmoak Church, 11.30am Orwell Church

Prayer Meeting held 30mins before each service**Service at Ashley House:** first Thursday of the month at 2.30pm**Services at Levenglen:** first Tuesday of the month at 4pm**Oasis** Ladies' meeting in Portmoak New Room.

10.15 - 11.45am last Friday of the month.

Fusion Orwell Hall, Mondays 6pm**@spire** Orwell Church Hall, 2nd & last Fridays 7.30pm**March****Sun 1** Formal communion, Orwell**Sat 14** Men's Breakfast – Speaker Vik Jacobsen**St James's R C Church**

5 High Street, Kinross, KY13 8AW

Father Colin Golden Telephone: (01577) 863329

Website: www.stjameskinross.co.uk

Mass Times Saturday Vigil 7.00pm

Sunday 9.30am

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

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

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 Churches Together

Lent Study Group

"The Six Senses"

Tuesdays 3, 10, 17 and 24 March

7.30pm, St Paul's meeting Room

Thursday 2 April

a joint Lent Study

7.30pm, Fossoway Church Hall

DRIVING TUITION**LOCHLEVEN DRIVING SCHOOL**

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

Saturday Night Worship**Last Saturday of each month, 7.30 – 10pm**

Millbridge Hall, Kinross (parking available)

Heart felt praise and worship

Prayer for healing

Opportunity for testimony

Refreshments

Books and resources

Open to all

For further details contact Sarah Corsar 07795313864

Obituary

GEORGE DALRYMPLE, Westerloan, Milnathort died on 3 February 2009 suddenly but peacefully at the High Dependency Unit, Ninewells Hospital. Beloved husband of Wilma, loved Dad of Rosemary and Graham. Dear Father in law of Dawn, dearest Grandad of Ashleigh and Cameron and devoted Great Grandad of Lara and Caitlin.

Acknowledgement

DALRYMPLE – Wilma, Rosemary, Graham and families would like to thank everyone for their kind thoughts, flowers, cards, calls and attendance at Kirkcaldy Crematorium on George's death. Thanks also to Harry Mitchell and Mr J Galbraith for their services.

Thanks are also due to PRI ward 6, ward 11 and the High Dependency Unit at Ninewells Hospital for their exceptional care.

The sum of £445 was donated to the HDU.

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Kinnesswood Village Store;
Fossoway Stores, Crook of Devon

Playgroups & Nurseries

PORTMOAK UNDER 5s

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

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

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

Contact Carolyn Robertson 01383 831129
Venue - Portmoak village hall

LOCHLEVEN BABIES & TODDLERS

Masonic Hall, The Muirs, Kinross

Session times

Tuesdays 9.30 - 11.15, Fridays 9.30 - 11.15
Contact - Lesley 01577 865191

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

LOCHLEVEN TWOS CLUB

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

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

Contact Pam Jones 01577 864839 or Sophie Butcher 01577 863288 for further details

FOSSOWAY TODDLERS

The Institute, Crook of Devon

Wednesday 9.30 a.m. - 11.15 am

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

Contact - Lucy Lomas 01577 864868

FOSSOWAY PRE-SCHOOL GROUP

Moubray Hall, Powmill

Partner-provider for P&K Education

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

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



SWANSACRE PLAYGROUP

21-23 Swansacre, Kinross

TEL: 01577 862071

www.swansacre.co.uk



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

Playgroup sessions – Mon to Fri 9.00-11.30am

Children from the age of 2 yrs welcome.

Storycraft Mon 1.15-2.45pm

Storytelling, craft & puppetry for 3-5yrs

Rising Fives Wed 1.00-3.15pm

This is complementary to Nursery

Wee Swans Fri 1.15-2.45pm

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

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

Baby and Toddler Group – Thurs 1pm-3pm

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

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



MILNATHORT BABIES & TODDLERS

Orwell Church Hall

Thursday & Friday, 10.00 - 11.30 am

Contacts: Liam Saunders 0788 2147524

GLENFARG BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

Village Hall, Greenbank Road, Glenfarg

9.30am to 11.30am during term time

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

First session free and £1.50 thereafter. All welcome.

Contact Claire on 07796 320182 or just come along.



Notices

Kinross Parish Church Thursday Group

(charity no. SCO12555)

Concert & Coffee Evening

by the Kingdom Singers
in
the Church Centre

Thursday 5 March at 7.30pm

Tickets £5 (available at the door)

World Day of Prayer

Friday 6 March

Services will be at

2pm in the Church Centre, Kinross and at

7pm in Fossoway Parish Church, Crook of Devon.

All will be welcome to come and participate in the Services
and Refreshments will be served
at the end of each Service.

Milnathort Folk Festival

Crackin' Ceilidh Weekend

13, 14 and 15 March

See Articles, p.5, for more details

www.milnathort.info

Dollar Music Society

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

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

Kinross Floral Art Club

Thursday 26 March

At the Windlestrae Hotel, Kinross
at 7.15pm prompt

AGM (and meal)

Competition for a floral arrangement in a basket

New members and visitors welcome.

British Summer Time

In 2009 British Summer Time begins on

Sunday 29 March

at 1am GMT (2am BST)

Remember to put your clocks forward one hour

Kinross-shire Historical Society



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

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

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



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

24 March, 2009

7pm in The Green Hotel

Lodge St. Serf No.327

March



Tue 3rd Regular meeting at 7.15pm. Fellow
Craft Degree. Also Annual Visitation of
Provincial Grand Lodge of Fife & Kinross
headed by Substitute Provincial Grand Master
Brother I Waugh.

Sat 14th Visitation to Lodge Kinneddar No.1239 in
Saline to work Fellow Craft Degree. All
Brethren welcome.

Tue 17th Regular meeting at 7.15pm. Master Mason
Degree.

Sat 26th Visitation to Lodge St. John Corstorphine
No.788 in Edinburgh to work Master Mason
Degree. All Brethren welcome.

Tue 31st Special meeting at 7.15pm. Fellow Craft
Degree worked by Tuesday Lodge Office
Bearers.

Departure times for Saline and Edinburgh to be confirmed;
check website for further information:

www.stserf327.co.uk



**Kinross Potager Garden
Bowton Road**



**Daffodil Tea in aid of
Marie Curie Cancer Care**

Saturday 28 March 10.30 am to 12.00.

Come and enjoy the spring garden, and tea/coffee and cakes
to support the work of Marie Curie Cancer Care.

Also plants for sale - shrubs, herbs, soft fruit and perennials.
I have recently taken over from Michelle Hardaker as
voluntary Convenor of the garden; many thanks to Michelle
for all her enthusiasm and hard work last year.

Visitors to the garden, and volunteers are always welcome.

Contact Amanda James tel 01577 840809 or email
amanda@james-james.freeserve.co.uk.

Orwell Bowling Club

SOCIAL EVENING

featuring JACKIE

Saturday 21 March

Bingo at 8.00pm

£2.00 entry for non-members

Date for your Diaries:

GREEN OPENING DAY

Saturday 18 April

New Members will be made most welcome

SOCIAL EVENING

with BOB PRYDE

Saturday 28 April

Bingo at 8.00pm

£2.00 entry for non-members

PORTMOAK PLAYGROUP

Portmoak Playgroup and Babies / Toddlers are holding an



OPEN MORNING

on

Friday 20 March

10am to 12am at Portmoak Village Hall



and would like to extend an invitation to parents /carers and little ones to join us and experience this fun and friendly playgroup in action!

All the usual fun activities along with some additional ones (Face Painting, Usborne Books, Tea/Coffee and Home Baking) on offer!

Portmoak Playgroup is suitable for children 2.5 years onwards. Babies and Toddlers suitable for children up to 2.5 years.

If further information required, please contact Cheryl Harvey, telephone 01592 841013.

Notice of AGM of MILNATHORT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given that the AGM of Milnathort Community Council will take place on

Thursday 9 April at 7.30 pm

in the Town Hall, Milnathort.

Joe Giacomazzi, Chairman.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION AND EXHIBITION Scotlandwell Conservation Area

New Room, Portmoak Parish Church

Tuesday 3 March 10am - 5pm

Wednesday 4 March 10am - 7pm

Thursday 5 March 10am - 5pm



(Closed for lunch between 2 and 2.30pm each day)

Perth & Kinross Council would like your views on a proposed conservation area and accompanying area appraisal. Members of the Conservation and Regeneration Team will be on hand each day to answer any questions and collect comments.

The draft Scotlandwell Conservation Area Appraisal can be viewed online at www.pkc.gov.uk/scotlandwellconservationarea

Any comments can be submitted to the Conservation and Regeneration Section, Perth & Kinross Council, The Environment Service, FREEPOST SCO6140, Perth, PH1 5BR by 23 March.

The Kinross Floral Art Club & The Smiddy Singers

invite you to an 'Evening of Song'
at Kinross Parish Church Centre

Wednesday 1 April

at 7.30pm

Tickets (including refreshments) cost £4.

Also Floral Art Demonstration & Raffle.

Yet again by popular demand Charity Disco In aid of Sarah Scott's Charity (Tayside Children with Cancer & Leukaemia)

25 April 2009

At the Windlestrae Hotel 7pm to 12.30 am

Entry by ticket only

Tickets on sale from 1 April 2009

Newsplus, High St, Kinross
or

Jennifer Scott 01577 862426

Tickets £15 per person Buffet and Raffle

Bill Russell will be providing the disco

Prizes and contributions from individuals

and local businesses very welcome.



Strathcarron Singers

As the recently refurbished **Kinross Parish Church** is becoming increasingly popular as a local venue for concerts, we are delighted to inform you that **The Strathcarron Singers** have been invited to sing here on **Friday 29 May**. More details will be available in the next Newsletter, but we would like you to keep this evening free to come along and join us.

Dementia Café for Perth & Kinross



A "Drop in" Café is held on the first **Wednesday** of every month, 10am-12.30pm, at The North Church Hall, High Street, Perth.

This service aims to offer information, support and a chance to have a chat for people with dementia, their carers and families. Volunteers along with professionals from health and social work are available each month.

For further information contact:

Jackie Daly 01796 474818, Andy Bennet 01738 636358,
Debbie Howie 01738 562201.

Blythswood Care

Somerfield's Car Park

Tuesday 17 March between 10.30 am and 11 am

Further details from 862258

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.

Community Councils

Kinross: Secy: Mrs M Scott (01577) 862945

mbs21@btinternet.com

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

prvtraylor@ukonline.co.uk

Milnathort: Chair: Mr J Giacomazzi (01577) 864025

joseph.giacomazzi@btopenworld.com

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

duffy.wigman@btinternet.com

Portmoak: Secy: Mr A Smith (01592) 840215

Kinross Community Councillors

Susan Bathgate	42 High Street	864742
Margaret Blyth	6 Muir Grove	
David Collier	10 Rannoch Place	862678
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)	70 Muirs	862685

Perth and Kinross Councillors

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

Tel (home): 01337 840218.

Email: kbaird@pkc.gov.uk

Michael Barnacle, Moored, Waulkmill Road, Crook of Devon,

Kinross, KY13 0UZ. Tel/Fax (home): 01577 840516.

Email: Michael@mabarnacle.freemove.co.uk

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

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

Email: SMiller@pkc.gov.uk

William Robertson, 85 South Street, Milnathort, Kinross,

KY13 9XA. Tel (home): 01577 865178.

Email: wbrobertson@pkc.gov.uk

Fossoway and Cleish Community Office

A service for the Community, open:

Thursdays 2 pm - 4 pm

Saturdays 10am -12 noon

Out of hours there is an answering machine

Tel: 01577 840185 Email: fcoffice@btinternet.com

Waste Paper Kerbside Collection

Next uplift in Kinross, Milnathort and Glenfarg:

Thursday 26 March

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

Kinross Temporary Library County Buildings, High Street

Tel & Fax: 01577 864202

Email: kinrosslibrary@pkc.gov.uk

Opening Times

Mon	10am - 1pm	2pm - 5pm	
Tue	10am - 1pm	2pm - 5pm	6pm - 8pm
Wed	10am - 1pm	2pm - 5pm	6pm - 8pm
Thu	10am - 1pm	2pm - 5pm	6pm - 8pm
Fri	10am - 1pm	2pm - 5pm	
Sat	10am - 1pm		

Member of Parliament

for Ochil & South Perthshire Constituency Gordon Banks MP

www.gordonbanksmp.co.uk

Email: constituency@gordonbanksmp.co.uk

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

MSP for Ochil Constituency

Keith Brown MSP

will be holding regular

surgeries throughout his constituency area.

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

Keith can also be contacted by email at

keith.brown.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

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

Members of the Scottish Parliament

All MSPs can be contacted at the following address:

The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

MSPs for Mid Scotland and Fife Region

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

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

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

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

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

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

Christopher Harvie MSP (SNP) Tel: 0131 348 6765

Email: ChristopherHarvie.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

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

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

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

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

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

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

Mobile Library – Blairingone and Milnathort

Every Second Wednesday

Next visits: 11 & 25 March

Blairingone 9.30am - 9.45am

Westerloan, Milnathort 1.45pm - 3pm

Bridgefauld Road, Milnathort 3.05pm - 4pm

Any queries telephone AK Bell Library 01738 444949

Regular Library Sessions for Children

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

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

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

Perth Association for Mental Health

PAMH is a community based non-profit organisation providing services for people recovering from mental health problems. PAMH offers Counselling, Day Services and hosts a Depression Support Group and Bipolar Support Group. For more information telephone (01738) 639657. Website: www.pamh.co.uk

Kinross-shire *Day Centre*

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

Weekly Programme

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

Additional Events for March

World Day of Prayer	Friday 6	at 2.00 pm
Evergreen Clothing	Thursday 19	at 10.30 am



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



Kinross Recycling Centre

Bridgend Industrial Estate

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

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

School Holidays 2009

	<i>start date</i>	<i>end date</i>
Spring Holiday	Mon 6 Apr	Fri 17 Apr
Academic year ends		Wed 1 Jul

In Service Days

Tuesday 17 February, Monday 20 April.

Other Holidays

May Day: Monday 4 May (to be confirmed).

Friday 13 and Monday 16 February.



Mobile Street Sports Unit



Kinross - shire has a fantastic facility which is available for community use. It can be used as part of an organised group i.e. for games and sports or individually for a birthday party

To ensure that the mobile street sports unit is used safely, Perth & Kinross Council Youth Services have organised a training session. This will include how to assemble the unit and ideas of how it can be used.

The training will be held on **Wednesday 18 March**
17.30-19.00

At The Blase (Kinross High School)

This training is a pre-requisite for anyone who wishes to use this facility and is free of charge.

To book your place or for further information please contact
Rhona Thom (Youth Services) 01577 863439

Citizens Advice Bureau

Surgery held on

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

1.30pm to 3.30pm

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

Any enquiries about the service, ring 01738 564304.

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.**

March			Page
Tue-Thu	3-5	Scotlandwell Conservation Area exhibition	4, 41
Tue	3	Lodge St Serf meets regularly	40
Tue	3	Fossoway & District CC meets	19
Wed	4	Kinross CC meets	14
Thu	5	Kinross-shire Fifty Plus Club AGM	28
Thu	5	Kinross Badminton Club tournament begins	31
Thu	5	Kingdom Singers Concert and coffee evening	40
Fri	6	World Day of Prayer	40
Fri, Sat	6, 7	Go Bananas Fairtrade Event	9
Sat	7	Common Grounds project lunch	26
Sat	7	Portmoak Film Society presents: Mamma Mia!	27
Sat	7	Ladies Indulgence Day at the Windlestrae	18
Tue	10	Portmoak CC meets	17
Tue	10	Kinross Primary School Parent Council meets	24
Wed	11	Hat Sale at CHAS Bazaar Shop	25
Wed	11	Civic Trust Annual Dinner and Talk	29
Wed	11	Kinnesswood in Bloom Fundraising Pub Quiz	23
Thu	12	Milnathort CC meets	16
Thu	12	Kinross Garden Group meets	27
Thu	12	Kinross Cycling Club meeting	30
Thu	12	Wedding Fayre at the Windlestrae	18
Fri-Sun	13-15	MILNATHORT FOLK FESTIVAL	5
Fri	13	Curling Clinic	32
Fri	13	Meet the SNH Wardens	35
Sat	14	Live music at Common Grounds	26
Sat	14	Marie Curie Daffodil Day	2
Mon	16	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	1
Mon	16	Kinross-shire Historical Society talk and AGM	40
Tue	17	Assistant Curling Coaches Course	32
Tue	17	Blythwood Care collection	41
Wed	18	Mobile Street Sports Unit Training Day	43
Fri	20	Portmoak Playgroup Open Morning	41
Sat, Sun	21, 22	Mother's Day Craft Show at Green Hotel	20
Sat	21	Mad March Hatters Tea Party	34
Sat	21	Orwell Bowling Club Social Evening	41
Sun	22	Mothering Sunday	
Mon	23	Deadline for comments on Scotlandwell Conservation Area	4
Tue	24	Kinross-shire Partnership AGM	40
Thu	26	Floral Art Club AGM	40
Sat	28	Kinross Tennis Club Open Day	30
Sat	28	Daffodil Tea for Marie Curie Cancer Care	40
Sat	28	Robbie & Shania Tribute Night	18
Sun	29	British Summer Time begins	40
Sun	29	Nature Detectives SNH event	35
Mon	30	Cleish & Blairadam CC meeting and AGM	20
Tue	31	MTKY perform "Godspell"	24
April			Page
Wed	1	MTKY perform "Godspell"	24
Wed	1	Floral Art Club & Smiddy Singers Evening of Song	41
Thu	9	Milnathort CC AGM	16, 41
Sun	12	Easter Sunday	
Wed	15	Kinross-shire Civic Trust AGM and Talk - Conservation Areas	29
Sat	18	Kinross & Orwell bowling greens open for season	30, 41
Thu	23	Floral Art Club 'Caribbean Connections' 7.15pm Windlestrae	
Sat, Sun	25, 26	Kinross in Bloom plant up baskets	24