



Kinross Newsletter



Founded in 1977 by Mrs Nan Walker, MBE

Issue No 363 May 2009

www.kinrossnewsletter.org

ISSN 1757-4781

DEADLINE for the June Issue

2.00 pm, Monday
18 May 2009

for publication on
Saturday 30 May 2009

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

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

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CONTENTS

From the Editor	2
Letters	2
News and Articles	6
Police Box	13
Community Councils	14
Club & Community Group News	24
Sport	35
News from the Rurals	39
Out & About	40
Gardens Open	42
Congratulations and Thanks	43
Church Information, Obituaries	44
Playgroups & Nurseries	46
Notices	47
Day Centre & Chemists	51
Diary	52

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Letters

Editorial

What is on earth is going on with P&KC grounds maintenance? Some of Kinross's public landscaped areas have been brutalised recently, and similar complaints have been made about the South Inch in Perth, with complete removal of bushes and trees during the nesting season. Councillor Baird was due to take council officers on a tour of Kinross shortly after the last Kinross CC meeting when this topic was discussed; we look forward to hearing the explanation.

When we said last month that it was a landmark Newsletter, being the biggest one ever, we did not mean to set a challenge! This one is even bigger, at 52 pages. Partly this is because some of the CCs, having held annual general meetings, included Chairmen's reports, but we also received a huge number of submissions from groups and individuals. This meant that processing all the submissions in time for the printing deadline was quite a strain! Whilst it is wonderful to see how active Kinross is in terms of social, voluntary and sports groups and we do very much want to encourage people to write to the letters page with their points of view, could we just make a plea to everyone to be a bit briefer! Thanks!

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 Letters will not be published unless the sender's name and address are supplied and they are prepared to have them published along with their letter.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

Distribution & Subscriptions Manager required for Kinross Newsletter

Responsible person required to deliver supplies of Newsletters to our various outlets around the county, one day per month. Duties also include cash handling and banking, monitoring sales and returns and dealing with subscriptions.

The work is estimated to take around 8 hours per month (mostly on one day) and your own car will be required. The post is remunerated. Expenses are also reimbursed.

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Careless Talk Costs Live(l)hoods

14.04.09

It rarely ceases to amaze me how things can get distorted and blown out of proportion by the simple act of gossiping. Normally, such gossip can be shrugged off with a wry smile and a disbelieving shake of the head. But every so often, when rumours are destructive and can end up hurting those both directly, and indirectly involved, one has to stand up and say 'enough is enough'.

Amongst the spate of nonsense currently doing the rounds, is that the Green and Windlestrae Hotels are up for sale and even in Receivership. I can categorically say that there is not one iota of truth in these rumours. The two hotels are not up for sale. Over the last six months since the Credit Crunch hit, the Green Hotel is trading ahead of last year and The Windlestrae is even ahead of a quite demanding budget set last summer, before we had even heard of the Credit Crunch. The summer bookings to date in fact look quite encouraging.

I can only assume that the profusion of rumours and counter-rumours is a result of it becoming public knowledge that we are very sadly having to consider the option of selling Kinross House. As everyone I am sure can imagine, the day to day costs of maintaining the house and gardens have escalated dramatically in recent years, and it is only sensible that we, as a family, weigh up the pros and cons from time to time of living in such a wonderful place. Regardless of whether we do end up selling or not, it has no relevance to the hotels or golf courses. If we do sell, our intention would be to either buy or build another house locally, perhaps on a marginally less ambitious scale!

However, it is very important that we quash the current rumours circulating around about the hotels. It is vital that people realise the impact that such untruths have, not only on the morale of staff but also the damage that could be caused to a business which employs a large number of local people - we are already receiving calls from potential guests and clients seeking reassurance. Everyone involved with the hotels and golf courses has been doing a fantastic job in what, for everyone, are fairly demanding economic conditions, and they simply do not deserve to have their livelihoods potentially undermined by ill-informed gossip.

Jamie Montgomery

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Mobile Post Office Services, 5.04.09 Kinnesswood - A lesson in democracy

Following helpful comment on the above by Cllr Baird in the April issue of the Newsletter, may I, as seemingly one of only three regular users of this service, make the following observations.

This matter is but a further example of decisions taken behind closed doors, allegedly in the "public interest", yet demonstrably not in accordance with the wishes of much of the local community. (See Newsletter historical coverage of protest demonstrations, meetings, etc.) Given prevailing economic conditions such decisions and their ultimate costs would appear increasingly irresponsible.

With particular regard to the above, certain basic facts must be acknowledged. The prime objective of "the decision makers" in this instance was the closure of the Kinnesswood Post Office facility located within the local village store. This despite an identical facility, located at Dumfries & Galloway, being upheld at the time as a prime example of the way forward.

The Kinnesswood Post Office was an extremely accessible facility, available daily, and regularly used by local residents, passing traffic and tourists alike. Furthermore it attracted trade to the vulnerable and increasingly unique village store which provides a valuable amenity for, not only Kinnesswood residents, but for those of adjacent villages.

Is it, truthfully, therefore any great surprise that, having been deprived of their permanent facility, so few in the community now support the alternative mobile Post Office service which they did not seek? To do so one has to note the limited availability times before driving, or walking, around the village to access the PO vehicle. Add to this both vehicle and service unreliability and the lack of public interest becomes totally understandable. Certainly, had I not become quite severely disabled then I too would not be using the mobile service. The Sub Postmaster concerned deserves full recognition for the efficient, cordial, service he attempts to provide together with his efforts to promote the service further, despite being clearly embarrassed by its periodic unreliability.

Regarding vehicle battery problems, claimed to be responsible for the recent loss of the vehicle. The replacement of a defective vehicle battery takes literally minutes. I assume therefore more complex issues were involved, proof that the concept of such a vehicle was neither sufficiently researched nor tested. Similarly periodic failures in satellite communications, preventing customer account access, indicate further inherent development problems.

Whatever the personal circumstances of those such as myself these cannot be used as a justification for the operating costs of such services in the current financial climate. Given the unreliability and low usage of the mobile service, would it not now be in the "public interest" to acknowledge that, with the prime objective irreversibly achieved, the shop based facility having closed, this unfortunate matter should now be brought to a close and the mobile service withdrawn. Low usage together with ongoing operational, repair and development costs render the mobile facility neither justifiably necessary nor economically viable.

The overall exercise exposes the nature of the, allegedly democratic, processes by which decisions affecting local

communities are increasingly taken. Public comment is certainly invited yet the subsequent well voiced concerns of local residents, amply supported demonstrations and petitions, together with the now, seemingly obligatory, "consultative" talking shop, availed the community of precisely nothing. The charade was played to a conclusion yet the decisions of the faceless few, who claim a so much greater understanding of what is in the "public interest", prevailed to the local community's loss and cost.

On appraisal a shambolic exercise in marked contrast to the excellence of locally controlled public interest initiatives such as the Loch Leven Circular Trail project. May I take this opportunity to express my personal appreciation of this project encompassing, as it does, negotiating, planning and organizational skills together with the imagination, artistry and craftsmanship of those concerned in both design and construction.

John R Smallwood, Kinnesswood
(address supplied)

Responsibility of dog owners 5.04.09

I write in reference to the use of the wonderful recreation space that is provided in Kirkgate Park for all local residents and visitors. The park is well used by all members of the community and enjoyed by all, however of late my young children have become very nervous about attending the park due to the instances of unsupervised dogs running around particularly in or around the children's play area. As I'm sure most responsible dog owners can appreciate, not all children, particularly the very small, are welcoming of a playful dog bounding towards them at great pace and this can lead to some distress for the children. My eldest daughter is now particularly frightened of dogs due to past incidents with unsupervised dogs. I do appreciate that dog owners in Kinross have, of late, been getting some pressure regarding the issue of fouling and I believe that most owners take due care and responsibility however please can I urge all owners and users of the park to kindly keep their dogs on a leash when around the areas of the children's play-park as I am sure that the last thing anyone wants is for a toddler to be hurt due to irresponsible handling of a dog.

Scott MacGillp
Nan Walker Wynd, Kinross

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Scotlandwell & Kinnesswood**20.04.09**

Congratulations to P&KC and Portmoak CC for bringing the villages of Scotlandwell and Kinnesswood into the twenty-first century. Not since leaving England have I experienced this modern concept first hand, and never thought I would in such a sparsely populated area. Of what am I talking about? Free wireless broadband for every household? The latest innovation in renewable energy? Not so lucky, I'm afraid. The concept I speak of is Traffic Congestion. What used to be a simple drive through these lovely villages on my way to work each morning and home again in the evening, has become a headache. Once looking forward to seeing the chocolate box cottages, the slow pace of life, and the greenery as it changes through the seasons, all I wish for now as I enter these places is that I can get out of them as quickly as I can. And here lies the problem.

For most motorists, slowing down to 30 miles per hour or less when entering a built-up area is an almost automatic response even without the speed limit signs. It is unfortunate that too many drivers choose to ignore the signs and have somewhat forced the hand of the councils in installing these monstrous 'build-outs' at various points through the villages. So, when once travelling at a steady pace, safely entering and leaving within a minute or so of stress-free driving, I must now slow down to a snail's-pace when approaching these obstructions, having to stretch my neck into the passenger compartment to see round the blind bends, before I slam on the accelerator to avoid any oncoming traffic as I venture out of the relative safety of my side of the road, to the other side and back. Why does it seem to me that this contravenes all safety common sense? Other times (when there *is* actually traffic coming in the other direction), I must sit and wait, engine ticking over, returning zero miles per gallon, and emitting CO₂ and other nasties for fun. All too often a tractor is at the front of the convoy, leading a procession of slow-moving cars. This is a rightly accepted form of transport in such a rural setting, but with the traffic calming measures, has become the thing of nightmares. On one occasion, returning home to Kinross in one of these processions, as we entered Kinnesswood, driving around the first build-out, there was an oncoming procession meeting us in the opposite direction. The traffic stretched from the build-out at the east end of the village to a lorry parked outside the post office and beyond. As the traffic stopped to let us pass, the cars towards the rear of the procession had already pulled out to pass the lorry and had to stop on our side of the road. It was clear when our procession got to that point, we were going nowhere. Some nifty reversing and plenty of patience was required to get the traffic flowing again.

More often there is nothing coming when passing these obstacles, but the location of each build-out, no doubt designed to maximise uncertainty when rounding bends, only serves to punish drivers, increase noise and pollution, and cause distraction. Instead of once looking out for the odd careless child, slow-moving pensioner, or loose sheep, our focus is now fixed firmly on the road ahead and potential oncoming cars. These build-outs do not increase road safety; they merely shift the hazard from one of simple speed, to distraction and frustration. Neither do they stop unsafe driving, a consequence of which will actually be an increase in speed, as chancers drive round the bollards at speed, gambling with their life and others.

Without being present at any of the consultation meetings I

cannot comment on why this method of traffic-calming was chosen. Speed bumps have received much bad press over the years, damaging cars, increasing noise and pollution, and causing abnormal tyre wear, and councils are rightly installing fewer. Active signs, lighting up only when cars are speeding, seem very popular. There is one in Kinnesswood; why doesn't it work? And why were bollards chosen over these, which educate the offenders, rather than punish everyone, village residents included? Some English councils are following the example in France, where active traffic lights remain green until a car is speeding, at which point they turn red for 30 seconds. Statistics say these are very effective in reducing road traffic accidents.

In the October minutes of the Portmoak CC meeting, the question of increased noise and pollution was raised, which was to be forwarded to P&KC. I haven't read any response to this question in subsequent minutes. Clearly, P&KC has skipped over this issue, and the build-outs have been installed without fully realising the harm they have done to these beautiful villages. Undoubtedly cost was the deciding vote. If so, I believe this was very short-sighted. More widely, the cost to drivers has been to increase stress levels, decrease the view of the safe road ahead and increase fuel consumption. The costs to the villages of Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell are in increased noise and pollution, and I believe, an overall decrease in road safety. Perhaps PCC and P&KC should review these installations at their next meeting.

D Hall

7 Burnbank Meadows, Kinross

(See also photograph, p22)

Coventry Way, Milnathort**19.04.09**

As researching your family history has now become such a popular pastime, I expect you probably gets lots of letters and enquiries on this subject and here's another one, although mine is maybe just a little bit different!

Let me begin by saying that my Coventry ancestors come from Milnathort back in the nineteenth century. As you can imagine, they've become very important to me through my research of the family tree, but to all intents and purposes they were just ordinary folk, woollen weavers and farm workers for the most part. Salt of the earth, you could say. Anyway, just think how surprised I was when I visited Milnathort and discovered that there is actually a street in the village called Coventry Way! Do I have a famous ancestor after all?

My query, therefore, is this: Do you, or any of your good readers, know how the street came to be given this name and which Coventry the name relates to?

I hope you'll find space to publish this in your excellent Newsletter, which I always look forward to reading on the internet.

Leslie Coventry

85 Priory Oak, Bridgend,

Mid Glamorgan, CF31 2HZ

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Copy of a letter sent to Kinross Community Council

National Curling Academy, Kinross 18.04.09

The proposed National Curling Academy in Kinross has been generating some negative and perhaps ill-informed comment from a small but vocal minority. The Community Council's role is to reflect fairly the balance of public opinion, so it is time that the curling community of this area made its voice heard. At the Kinross Curling Club AGM on 14 April it was agreed that we should write, giving both background to curling in Kinross and also our support for this proposal.

Kinross has curling connections going back at least to the seventeenth century, with our Club being instituted in 1668. The area has always been at the forefront of the sport. The area's Clubs have contributed enormously to the formation and running of the sport's governing body, the Royal Caledonian Curling Club and players from this area have represented Scotland with distinction. Loch Leven itself has been the scene of many great curling occasions, notably the Grand Match in 1959. It even had its own "curlers' halt" on the rail line for many years. The history of curling and the importance of Kinross will be seen within the proposed museum within the facility. Given the importance and status of curling in the world, but particularly in Canada and the United States, this museum should become a focal point for many tourists to Scotland. Therefore it must be in a prominent and visible location within the town.

The Loch Leven area has 14 curling clubs with some 450 active members. Fife and Kinross as a whole has 56 curling clubs with well over 2000 active members. Those figures exclude juniors, school clubs and many who play the game casually or take a close interest in it. I can assure the doubters that the overwhelming majority of these curlers support both the National Curling Academy and also the proposal for a smaller new rink in Cupar.

David Murdoch and Eve Muirhead's world title wins in the last month have cemented curling's position as Scotland's most successful sport, its tally of world, European and Olympic medals at all levels far outstripping any other sport you care to mention. Our top players, including local girl and Olympic gold medallist Debbie Knox, are helping pass on their skills to future generations. The NCA will be a key facility for the maintenance and development of Scotland's success in the sport, quite apart from being a fantastic opportunity for local curlers to enjoy a state-of-the-art facility. We would have thought that the prestige for Kinross of being a national centre of excellence for anything was a matter for celebration, not carping.

The doubters seem obsessed with the idea that the Market Park is in some way "public land", or that the public have some rights to use the land. Kinross Estate has made it abundantly clear that this is not the case, so that the use of the land in the past for public events has been in the gift of the landowner. The Estate is therefore to be commended for once again bringing some of its land into productive public use to create a facility of both national and local importance, while retaining part of the site for occasional local events. That sounds very much like a "win-win" to us. As for alternative locations, we are satisfied that these have been examined carefully and that there are no other feasible options. Besides, a national facility deserves a visible and accessible site, which will be the case with the Market Park location. The proposed location is also very close to the Kinross Curling Club outdoor pond which was refurbished

recently with financial assistance from many local groups as well as Lottery Funding and enjoyed, as we recall, the full support of the CC. The juxtaposition of the locations is ideal and given the right conditions will generate interest in the outside game.

We look forward to future Community Council meetings reflecting the views of all sections of the Kinross community on this issue.

Alistair Wood
President, Kinross Curling Club

In praise of the Trail 20.04.09

The Loch Leven Heritage Trail is a delight on our doorsteps. Sunday April 19th dawned bright and still, encouraging two local residents to pack a quick picnic and set off on bikes from Milnathort to Vane Farm. We met people and dogs, more people and bikes. Father and child tandems, one his and hers tandem and most entertainingly, one senior citizen on a bike towing one of those bubbles usually used for towing small children. There was one old dog inside and another running alongside, presumably also able to take a ride if the running got too much for him.

Although our combined ages add up to 145 (and one knackered knee between us), the 20 km round trip was physio - and therapy. All day Loch Leven glittered in the sunshine and we enjoyed saying hullo to other people and also seeing the first swallow and wondering if we could have seen an osprey when a very large bird upset and disturbed hundreds of geese in the goose roost area.

Altogether a magical day and thank you to those who had the vision to plan the track and those who constructed it with beautifully made wooden seats in sunny places too.

It made for a joyous day - and it's free!

Claudia Pleass
Old Perth Road, Milnathort

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News & Articles

Feel Good Fair – fun for all the family

Local Market Stalls • Face Painting • Pilates & Yoga taster sessions • May pole Dancing • Highland Dancing • Beat the Goalie • Street Football • Inflatable Slide • Swansacre Kids Fun Run and other races



In conjunction with the Kinross Road Runners, the Kinross Local Events Organisation (KLEO) is arranging some entertainment and fun activities at the finish line of the **Loch Leven Half Marathon** on **Saturday 16 May**. The event starts at 1pm at the KGV Rugby Field and will finish when the last runner passes the finish line. While you wait for the runners coming in, come along and browse through the wares of local stall holders, kick a football at the street football, try to 'Beat the Goalie' with the Boys Brigade or you can play volleyball. Kids can enjoy the Fun Run which Swansacre Playgroup organises every year at 1.30pm, and this year they will also organise some other fun races as well. In addition, there is time for some relaxation with a Reiki treatment, a massage, or Pilates or Yoga Taster Sessions in the hall of St Paul's Church (using the entrance via KGV car park).

The Kinross Pipe Band will entertain us with some music while they accompany local highland dancers. A novel addition to the proceedings will be the children from Dance Connect who will be celebrating the month of May with some Maypole Dancing!

In the evening you can relax and enjoy yourselves at our KLEO party at the Rugby Club House from 7.30pm onwards. The band 'Handle With Care' will entertain us with live music. Why not enter our Pub Quiz? To book a group of 4 into our pub quiz, please submit your names along with the £15.00 group admission fee. Numbers are limited, so purchase your tickets soon from Sporting Chance (High Street)! You can also order tickets through Bouwien Bennet, 01577 863107 or bouwien@kleo.org.uk

Come along and enjoy!

Curling Academy progress

Progress has been made in recent weeks with the plans to establish the National Curling Academy for Scotland in Kinross.

The Kinross Curling Trust, the body which will steer the project, was incorporated as a Scottish Guarantee Company on 4 March 2009. The Memorandum and Articles of Association will be available on the Trust's web site soon, and the Trust is awaiting confirmation of its charitable status.

The subscribing Trustees are Jamie Montgomery, Bob Tait (Chairman of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club Board) and Colin Grahamslaw (Chief Executive of the RCCC). The Trustees are being assisted by Bob Anderson and Alistair McCabe on technical issues. Mary Morgan is providing secretarial assistance and Linda Young is setting up a fund-raising sub-committee.

The design team came together in mid April to see the proposed location. They were very enthusiastic about it and look forward to producing some initial drawings, layouts etc to show the local community within the next few weeks. The project managers are Turner and Townsend. The architects are Archial Architects, who designed the curling rink at Aberdeen. Other appointments are: Blyth and Blyth (civil and

ABBA and Queen tributes at Kinross House

Come along and pitch your gazebo in front of Kinross House at the **Kinross Gazebo Gathering** – a music festival for the whole family!!

On **Saturday 12 September** from 12 noon – 7.30pm we will have various bands to entertain you: a couple of local bands, a ceilidh band, and also two Tribute Bands – ABBAMANIA and The Champions – who will all perform in front of the wonderful setting of Kinross House. There will be various children's activities arranged so that you can let them play while you relax on the lawn with the music. Food and drink (including alcohol) stalls will be available on site.



Abba tribute band ABBAMANIA to play at Kinross House

Early Bird Tickets will be available at the Kinross Half Marathon Event: £12.50 for adults, £5 for a child or £30 for a family ticket (two adults and max 4 children). Thereafter prices will be adult £15.00, child £7.50 and family £37.50. If you would like to bring your own gazebo the price for a space is £5.00. For more information contact Bouwien Bennet, 01577 863107 or bouwien@kleo.org.uk

Kinross Local Events Organisation: www.kleo.org.uk

structural engineering) and Wallace Whittle (mechanical and electrical building services).

Membership of the Trust will open shortly to all curlers who intend to curl at the new facility. Members will be eligible to vote and the intention is to hold the first Kinross Curling Trust AGM this autumn, when elections will be held for the six local Trustee positions.

Funding for the construction costs needs to be secured before the building contract is awarded. The largest contributor will be sportscotland. The RCCC and the RCCC Trust will also provide funding; the RCCC offices will relocate to the new facility and a curling museum will be located there also. The Trust will shortly be opening discussions with other potential grant-making bodies and financial institutions. However, as explained previously to local clubs, local curlers and members of the Trust will be expected to make a contribution to the costs of the facility they will own. A variety of schemes will be set up by the fund-raising sub-committee, aimed at raising money from individuals, clubs, provinces etc over the coming months.

Website: Andy Heer of Forth Business Systems kindly volunteered to design the Trust's website, which can be found at www.kinrosscurlingtrust.org where updates will be posted over the coming months.

Discovery Day at Loch Leven

Saturday 24 May

Join us on 24 May as Loch Leven's Discovery Day returns for its fourth year! This year's event celebrates the Biodiversity of Loch Leven as part of a series of events around the UK and across the world to mark International Biodiversity Day (22 May).

Biodiversity means the variety of life and recognises the importance and value of all species of plants and animals to life on earth. We are all interdependent and reliant of plants and animals to help support our lives. We need the insects to pollinate our crops and provide us with food, and we need the plants to provide us with medicines and materials to make our clothes with such as cotton, and our impact on the environment often has a negative affect on the animals and plants that we need to survive.

Loch Leven is one of the jewels in the crown in Scotland's rich biodiversity. It plays host to a wide variety of wildlife, from species of insect living in and around the water, to the fish that live beneath the surface, to the tens of thousands of geese and wildfowl that visit each year, to the various mammals (such as bats and water voles) that call Loch Leven 'home'. Some of this wildlife



Come along and learn about the rich biodiversity of Loch Leven

is very important – each year nearly 20,000 Pink Footed geese making up a substantial percentage of the worlds population of these birds, visit the Loch to feed and roost. Holy Grass, the county flower Kinross-shire, is very rare and is found in several areas around the loch.

Discovery Day is our way of drawing attention to this wildlife treasure and inviting you to come along and find out a wee bit more!

This year's Discovery Day takes on a new two part format.

In the morning:

- Join Scottish Natural Heritage in finding out more about the 'Botany at Burleigh' (plant life) – 9am – 12noon, booking essential on 01577 864439 Cost: FREE.
- Join the Perth and Kinross Council Ranger Service on a walk from Kirkgate Park to The Bird Hide to find out all about some of the bird life on and around the Loch – 9.30am – 11.30am, booking essential on 01738 475349 Cost: FREE.
- Join in with lots of family friendly activities at the RSPB Vane Farm Reserve – just turn up and have fun!

In the afternoon:

- Join us in the Kirkgate Park between 1pm and 5pm, where the marquee will host a wide range of activities, displays, fun and games related to the Biodiversity of Loch Leven. Featuring Swifts, Bees, Amphibians, Bats, Trout, Moths, Squirrels, Otters, Water Voles, Dragonflies and more – this years Discovery Day will prove to be the most 'bio-diverse' yet! And better still – its all for FREE!

To find out more about the Discovery Day, visit the Events pages at www.pkc.gov.uk/countryside over the coming weeks to see what's happening and when, or contact Niall Lobley on 01738 475393 or nallobley@pkc.gov.uk

On your Bike!

From the local Countryside Ranger

The Loch Leven Heritage Trail is a fantastic resource for the area and we have been pleased to see so many people out and about using it. We have received lots of 'phone calls, emails and letters thanking the people involved in establishing the path for their commitment and fund raising efforts and praising the excellent path that has been built. My fellow Rangers and I were out and about over the Easter weekend and spoke to lots of people of all ages enjoying the warm sunny weather and their walk around the Loch.

Cyclists are welcome to the Heritage Trail - the nature of the path makes it an excellent destination for cyclists. A traffic free, 14km route that is level and well surfaced around somewhere like Loch Leven is a great place to visit on your bike, be you a more experienced cyclist, commuter between the villages of Scotlandwell or Kinnesswood and Kinross, or a family out for a day out.

However, bicycles tend to travel a bit quicker than most walkers, and are often quite quiet with little forewarning of their approach. We have had a few instances reported to us where walkers have been surprised as a cyclist has passed them by on the trail, giving cause for alarm on the part of the walker. There is the added issue that dogs and children may not be aware a cyclists approach and may not have time to get out of the way.



Cyclists please take care whilst enjoying the Heritage Trail
Photo: Pauline Watson, kinross.cc photo library

So, cyclists are more than welcome to use the trail, but it would be very much appreciated if the following guidance could be followed;

- Be aware that bikes may well be travelling more quickly than walkers
- Walkers may not be able to hear a bike approaching from behind so please slow down when passing
- Cyclists should give way to walkers, although the majority of the path round Loch Leven is wide enough for cyclists and walkers to pass by each other with ease
- The best way to alert users to your presence if folk have not seen you, or you are approaching a walker from behind is to use a bell, or to give a shout to alert them
- Not got a bell? Not a problem – Loch Leven Cycles on the High Street in Kinross stock bells and would be more than happy to kit your bike out with one!

If you need advice or need any information on the Loch Leven Heritage Trail, feel free to contact the Perth and Kinross Countryside Ranger Service on 01738 475393 / countryside@pkc.gov.uk or by visiting the Loch Leven pages on www.pkc.gov.uk/countryside.

Concert launches Christian Aid week



On **Saturday 9 May** at 7.30pm, Kinross Parish Church will once again host a concert by the pupils of Strathallan School. This time the concert will be a Celebration for the Year of Homecoming. Pupils will perform Scots songs and play music on traditional instruments such as pipes, fiddle, accordion and bodhran. There will be selection from the school's clarsach group and from Alice Inglis, four times a Gaelic Mod medallist.

Patsy Reid, a member of the internationally renowned folk group Braebach, is the school's fiddle teacher and has also helped to prepare the ceilidh band which will perform at the concert.

This is Strathallan's fourth concert in the church in recent years. On this occasion it will be to raise funds for Christian Aid and will mark the start of Christian Aid week. Tickets are £6 (concessions £4) and can be had by phoning Strathallan School (01738 812546), from Irene McFarlane (863624) or at the door.

The Ribbon Walk ... who will you walk it for?



The Scone Palace & Perthshire Ribbon Walk, organised by Breast Cancer Care, will take place on **13 June**. Breast Cancer Care would like everyone to come together to support people affected by breast cancer. Whether you've had breast cancer yourself, plan to walk for family or friends, or just want to enjoy a fun day's walk in stunning countryside, this is a day to celebrate, be moved and inspired.



A fun day out with a serious intention - the Ribbon Walk

Places are filling fast, so register soon to avoid disappointment. To enter and for further details please visit www.ribbonwalk.org.uk or call **0870 145 0101**. Quote **'L290S'** at registration to enter into a free prize draw.

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Councillor hits back at criticism

Local Councillor Mike Barnacle has responded to the personal criticism made of him by Cllr Willie Wilson, depute Provost of P&KC. Cllr Wilson accused Cllr Barnacle of "political immaturity" for resigning from a Council working group, and described Cllr Barnacle's address to the Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee meeting on 25 March as "an embarrassingly incoherent attempt to gather his arguments on the subject which was totally unconvincing."

Following Cllr Barnacle's resignation from the Member Officer Working Group (MOWG) on Planning, chaired by Cllr Wilson, the depute Provost said, "it is a fact of political life that on occasion decisions will be made that we do not agree with but it is a mark of political maturity that we accept the situation and move on. Sadly, Councillor Barnacle has not managed to achieve this."

Cllr Barnacle points out, "I have previously served on Committees of the Council; both as Convenor of Environment Services and Vice Convenor of Development Control during my council terms between 1999 and 2007; at no time during this period did I feel the necessity to resign from these positions because of a few differences with colleagues. However, I have found in my time since, serving under Cllr Wilson's convenorship of Development Control until I resigned as his Vice Convenor in May last year and briefly the MOWG, that there have been a significant number of decisions made under his convenorship against the wishes of both myself, the Kinross-shire community and local members." He continues, "I do not regard it as a sign of political immaturity to make a stand on these matters, quite the reverse."

One of Cllr Barnacle's reasons for resigning from the MOWG on Planning was that the group threw out his recommendation of a Local Plan for Kinross-shire being retained within the new Development Plan Scheme. Cllrs Kathleen Baird and Willie Robertson also wanted to see a Local Plan retained. Cllr Barnacle also took issue with Roland Bean, Head of Planning, accusing Mr Bean of ignoring the stated views from the Kinross-shire Forum of 10 November 2008 to retain a Kinross-shire Development Plan. Instead Mr Bean referred to a meeting of Kinross-shire Community Councils on 16 March 2009, when "nobody had an issue with a single LDP." However, this was not a meeting of Kinross-shire CCs per se, but a presentation on the new Planning Act for various Perth & Kinross groups. Kinross-shire CCllrs who were there say they were not asked their view on the notion of a plan for Kinross-shire.

Regarding the "incoherent" jibe, Cllr Barnacle says that the statement he made had been circulated to committee members beforehand. Other councillors who had been at the meeting say his speech accorded with the prepared statement and that it was perfectly clear he was arguing for option 2 of the Development Plan Scheme paper.

At their April meeting Fossoway CCllrs were unanimous in expressing their gratitude for the work Cllr Barnacle does for the community and intend to issue a letter of support.

Deadline for all Articles

2.00 pm, MONDAY 18 May
for publication on Saturday 30 May

News from the Health Centre



The new Health Centre is considerably larger than our existing building and the additional clinical and administrative rooms will all require computers and printers. Our existing file server, which stores the electronic clinical records for all patients, is not large enough to cope with this and a new one is being installed in May. This will provide extra electronic storage capacity and increase the speed of the computers on the desks. The replacement of the file server with a new one is a considerable job and it will take the computer engineers an afternoon and morning to complete the work. We have decided that it would be preferable for the engineers to do this work prior to the move rather than trying to do it in a rush when also moving all the equipment down the road. So the work has been scheduled for the afternoon of Wednesday 20 May and the morning of Thursday 21 May. We will close the Health Centre whilst the work is being done as we will not be able to access any patients' records or the appointments system and we will also not be able to look up results. We will deal with any emergency calls. Our usual Out of Hours Emergency number should be used, 01577 865252, and the calls will be referred to a Duty Doctor. Assuming that no major problems are encountered, we will be open again for the afternoon of Thursday 21 May. We would like to apologise for any inconvenience this may cause, and for the reduction in the number of clinics we will be able to provide that week.

Work on site continues to progress well and the building is now just about wind and water tight. Much work has already been done in the two rear wings, but the contractors can now also work in the front wings, the waiting room and reception areas. All the electric cabling and computer cabling has been laid, and the decorators have begun to apply the first coats of paint. The cupboard and sink units in the clinical areas are being installed and the furniture has been chosen. Outside, plans have been drawn up for the landscaping and work should begin on that soon.

When we move in, there will be some spare accommodation which will be available for others to use. We would be keen for other health care practitioners to use the building and if anyone is interested do please contact our Practice Manager, Jane Macnaughton, on 01577 862112.

Travel Overseas

Our Travel Clinic continues to be a very popular service and we have a high demand for appointments. However, we find

that many travellers leave it rather too late before contacting us. We would encourage all patients to attend the travel clinic at least 3 months prior to departure. This is because some vaccinations need to be administered well in advance in order to provide adequate protection. To use the service you need to complete and return a Travel Form and these are available from the reception staff. When completing the form, please ensure that the date of departure is completed and that you give full information about both the countries and the areas within the countries you are visiting. Whether you require malaria medication, for example, varies considerably from area to area within countries and the nurses need full information about your travel plans in order to give you the most appropriate advice. It is also important for them to know what sort of accommodation you will have when abroad, hotels or camping for example, any current medical conditions, whether you have any allergies and details of any medication you are taking. One form should be completed for each person traveling and once you have completed the form return it to Reception and make an appointment (one per person in family) at one of our dedicated travel clinics. The clinics are run by Lynne Pollock, our Nurse Practitioner, and Nanette Gordon, both of whom have undergone specific training in travel medicine. You may require more than one appointment. The first appointment will be with either Lynne or Nanette and they will discuss immunisations, malaria prevention and all other necessary health precautions but will **not** give you any immunisations at this appointment. They will also organise prescriptions, explain how to collect your prescriptions either from the chemist or at Reception, advise you what you need to pay for and how much, and advise you when you need to return to the treatment rooms for administration of the immunisations. Subsequent appointments for any vaccinations you may require will be with one of our Treatment Room Nurses and you should book these appointments with our Reception staff. Please note that whilst we do not, in general, charge for the travel service, there is a charge for some travel vaccinations and for anti-malarial medication as these are not available on NHS prescriptions. These charges are payable to the pharmacy dispensing the vaccination or medication. The only vaccination for which we make a charge is Yellow Fever. There is a £50 charge to cover the vaccinations which we buy in, the mandatory training for the nurses and the administration associated with being a registered Yellow Fever centre. We can provide the Yellow Fever service to anyone regardless of whether they are registered with St Serf's or Orwell Medical Practices, or not. Whether you are going abroad or staying at home this year, we would like to wish all our patients a very happy and safe holiday.

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Something for everyone at Perth Festival

This year's Perth Festival of the Arts again has a varied programme, from classical music to rock music and drama, comedy and the visual arts.

The comedy offerings include Russell Howard from BBC's *Mock the Week* and the Brute Force theatre company staging a hilarious version of *Moll Flanders*.

In the year of Scotland's Homecoming, Scots singer songwriter Edwyn Collins will appear, as will folk legends the Tannahill Weavers, and Tommy Smith with the Scottish National Jazz Orchestra will play a programme of Steely Dan.

A summary of the Festival programme is in Notices. More details and booking information can be found at www.perthfestival.co.uk



Scottish Violinist Nicola Benedetti will be performing at the Perth Festival

Citizen of the Year 2009 – Mr Neil Kilpatrick



The Rotary Club's annual award of the title of "Citizen of the Year" is being made to Mr Neil Kilpatrick of Boreland House, Cleish, in recognition of his dedicated commitment as volunteer Project Director for Loch Leven Heritage Trail, from the initial concept to the official opening in November 2008. He was involved at all levels – design, planning, construction, fundraising and liaising with a wide range of private and public bodies. He and his team of volunteers raised over £1.8 millions, kept to budget and finished on time.

His continuing involvement, with the website and plans for a bus route round the loch, show his dedication to improving amenities for the citizens of Kinross and District. As one of his proposers put it, "without his dedication and drive this would never have happened".

The Rotary Club wishes to thank all those who submitted recommendations. The qualities of nominees illustrates the fact that the local community is fortunate to have so many talented people prepared to give of their time and energy for the benefit of others.

Mr & Mrs Kilpatrick will be invited to a meeting in June where he will receive his well-deserved award.

Community service recognised

Residents of the parish of Portmoak, which stretches from Auchmuir Bridge to Wester Balgedie, via Scotlandwell and Kinnesswood, gathered recently at the Lomond Hotel, Kinnesswood to show their appreciation of the sterling service given by Wester Balgedie resident, Alistair Smith, over a period of twenty-one years as a Portmoak Community Councillor. Tributes were paid by Wendy MacPhedran, Chair of the CC, Councillor Mike Barnacle, Councillor Sandy Miller and Dr Robin Cairncross. Although no longer a Community Councillor, Alistair remains Chairman of Kinross-shire Civic Trust.

Scottish Question Time

Around 60 people attended a 'Scottish Question Time' organised by the local branch of the SNP at the Kirklands Hotel on 30 March. The panel, all SNP members, consisted of Tricia Marwick, MSP for Central Fife; Annabelle Ewing, prospective SNP Westminster candidate for Ochil & South Perthshire and Sandy Miller, local councillor.

There was a wide range of questions, covering topics such as MPs' expenses (The Home Secretary Jacqui Smith's claims being front page news at the time); the SNP's energy policy; the Donald Trump development; the scope of the Calman Commission and funding for dementia.

On local issues, one member of the audience raised two points as part of her question to the panel: criticism of P&KC's lack of transparency regarding its plans for the High School site once the new community campus is built, and concern over economic development, citing the current four-day week at Todd & Duncan. The panel praised the quality of the mill's product and spoke in general terms about economic development, but did not address the specific issue of the High School site. Annabelle Ewing said that "Kinross is frequently neglected in terms of the local authority approach," going on to say that the Council looks at Perth first, then Highland Perthshire, before considering other parts of the Perth & Kinross area. Sandy Miller mentioned the constraints on development locally, i.e. the need for the link road at Bridgend and the limits on sewerage and drainage. Tricia Marwick expressed the view that the planning system needs to be seriously overhauled and should include better public consultation, and also reminded the audience that the Scottish Government has recently made available £60 million for a Town Centre Regeneration Fund. She suggested that small applications to this are more likely to be successful than large ones.

Ms Ewing made the point that because CCs have no power to borrow, some communities are setting up development trusts, and gave the example of the Comrie Development Trust's successful community-right-to-buy purchase of the former Cultybraggan army camp.

Former Pupil Get-together

Were you a pupil at Milnathort Primary School at any time before and including 1985?

If so, you are invited to gatherings to be held on **Saturday 6 June** at various venues in the village as part of the Milnathort Festival and as a gesture towards the 'Homecoming' events to be held throughout Scotland.

If you would like to be there, please contact Esme Malcolm (née Duncan) on 01577 830419 or email emalcolm@lineone.net. Please let all your friends know!

There will also be a display of memorabilia e.g. photos, school prizes, newspaper articles. If you have anything suitable please contact Pat Eadie on 01577 861236.

Even if you are a big younger, still get in touch as we hope to organise something similar in the autumn.

Outline of Milnathort Festival 5 to 7 June

Fri 5 to Sun 7 **Old Church Records** – Orwell Church
Sat 6 **All the Fun of the Fair** – Milnathort

School and grounds

Ceilidh – Milnathort

Milnathort School Former Pupils Get-together

Sun 7 **Treasure Hunt** round the village

Closing Concert – Orwell Church

Kinross-shire Fund

Grants available for local community projects

Since being set up three years ago, the Kinross-shire Fund has paid out almost £45,000 to local groups to help fund their activities and projects for the benefit of the local community. These grants have been possible due to the generosity of a number of individuals, companies and organisations.

Due in no small part to a very generous recent donation from DF Concerts, organisers of T in the Park, the Kinross-shire Fund finds itself currently in the welcome position of being able to consider funding further grants totalling up to about £30,000 over the coming months for suitable projects. These grants could range from a few hundred pounds to a few thousand pounds.

Local groups wishing to apply for grants can download application forms from the Kinross-shire Fund website (www.kinross-shirefund.org) or contact Annabel Bath on 0131 524 0300 or Annabel@scottishcf.org. Grants are available to cover capital expenditure but the Kinross-shire Fund is not generally able to support applications to cover revenue items such as running expenses such as staff costs.

The Advisory Committee of the Kinross-shire Fund have decided on the following community funding priorities and grant applications will be welcomed for any purposes falling within these broad criteria:

- Community Events
- Community Information
- Community Transport
- Community Welfare (healthcare support)
- Physical Amenities
- Recreational Facilities
- Support for Care of the Elderly
- Support for Existing Voluntary Organisations

Finally, if anyone is interested in helping the Fund Development Committee look at fund-raising ideas for the Kinross-shire Fund, please contact Jamie Montgomery on 07799 064 731 or email jm@kinrosshouse.com.

Seamab rated 'very good'

Seamab School in Rumbling Bridge achieved a positive report following a recent inspection by HMIe and the Care Commission. A full inspection in 2006 resulted in six 'points for action'. The recent visit found that 'very good' progress had been made on all six points.

Seamab School is a small residential primary school which provides education, care and therapy for children who have severe social or emotional difficulties who are unable, for the present, to live in the community.

Anne Anderson, Principal, said, "We are delighted to receive such a positive report. It reflects well on the hard work of all of the staff over a number of years. We are particularly happy that the Inspectors noted that 'Children at Seamab were happy, safe, and enjoying their learning' and we feel confident that we can, as the report says, 'build on and sustain our current progress'."

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Former tennis courts in title wrangle

P&KC has applied to have a title condition 'discharged' or removed from the title deeds of part of the High School site. The area of the site concerned partly borders Green Road and has residential property either side of it, on Green Road and Alexander Drive. Some school buildings on the land include the art department and the two-storey block given planning permission in 2003. However, it turns out that the land should never have been built on.

The land was a gift from the British Linen Bank (a forerunner of the Bank of Scotland) to the Provost, Magistrates and Councillors of the Burgh of Kinross in August 1945 and at the time was used as tennis courts. A condition in the disposition states:

"... the said field shall be used only for outdoor recreational purposes which agreement and restriction is hereby declared to be a servitude over the subjects hereby disposed"



The art dept and other KHS buildings on the site gifted 'only for outdoor recreational purposes'

The application to have the condition discharged was made under the Title Conditions (Scotland) Act 2003. In March this year the Lands Tribunal wrote to the proprietors of adjacent properties, giving them the opportunity to comment on the application. It is thought that some objections have been lodged.

P&KC owns the property, being the legal successor to the Provost etc of the Burgh of Kinross. The Council wants to have the condition removed in order to make it easier to sell the High School site when the new community campus is ready (expected to be October this year). In the application, P&KC's solicitor argues that the neighbouring proprietors "gain no material benefit" from the title condition anyway as it "has already been breached without objection."

At its April meeting, Kinross CC felt it was unfair of P&KC to expect the neighbouring proprietors to agree to the condition being discharged when it is not yet known what the site might be used for when the school decants to the new campus. It was also pointed out that this section of land (a small part of the High School site) probably qualifies as common good, in which case any sale proceeds of this piece of the site should go to the Kinross Common Good Fund.

The Kinross Town Council minutes of 23 May 1945 also indicate the intention behind the property transfer:

"There was read to the meeting letter addressed to Provost McDonald by the Manager of the British Linen Bank offering the tennis courts as a gift to the town on condition that the courts are used only for out of door recreational purposes and that the Bank be left free of expense in connection with the transfer of the title."

In earlier times this piece of land was a burial ground.

Kinross-Shire P A R T N E R S H I P



The Kinross-shire Partnership was set up in 1998 with the aim of fostering:

- Economic Development
- Tourism
- Community recreational facilities
- Environmental improvements
- Community Groups

On 24 March the Partnership held its AGM at the Green Hotel. Fifteen people were present. In the Chairman's opening remarks, David Graham gave a brief history of the Partnership and noted with thanks the significant past contributions of Ewan Cathcart, Martin Pettinger and Jamie Montgomery, former directors who had resigned during the year. Three new directors had joined during the year - Ryan Smith, Chris Benningwood and Fiona Craigon.

Accounts for the year ended 31 December were presented by the Treasurer and adopted at the meeting. Reports were presented on the Kinross-shire Fund, the website, community recreational facilities, the Area Based Initiative and TRACKS.

A key focus of activity during 2008 had been on community recreational facilities such as the Street Sports Arena (a mobile football arena for young people in the county), and the creation of Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation (KLEO) a group led by Dave Cuthbert which the Partnership helped fund, had provided a representative to serve on the committee and to which financial support was being provided.

The success Jamie Montgomery has had in attracting the

planned new National Curling Academy to Kinross was noted. The award of this top flight sporting facility in our town had been won against stiff competition from large cities and will be a tremendous sporting and economic boost to Kinross. This is an exciting development which the Partnership wholeheartedly and enthusiastically supports.

The Partnership has also been supporting the launch of a six-month trial operation of electric mobility scooters on the heritage trail. The operation will be known as "Loch Leven Heritage Trail Scooters". This will enable those with impaired mobility to get out and about around the track. Four scooters are being acquired and will operate (free of charge) from Loch Leven's Larder from April to October, following which we will assess the feasibility of providing a service on a larger scale permanent basis, and possibly from additional termini around the loch. This pilot project is being financed by The Partnership and supported by Perth Shopmobility, which operates under the auspices of PKAVS.

In relation to forward planning, the incoming Chairman Alisdair Stewart explained that during the current year the Partnership is reviewing its vision with a view to establishing what we need to do to better support our partners, stakeholders and sponsoring government agencies. By the end of the year we plan to have refocused our activities around the five key objectives which were set out by the founders ten years ago, and which still hold good today.

We believe we need to improve the effectiveness of what we do in support of local businesses and community groups to help them achieve their strategic aims. This will involve re-connecting with people and organisations to refresh mutual understanding of how we can promote, encourage and facilitate their goals. By the end of the year, we will have a view of what actions we should prioritise for implementation over the five-year period 2010-2015 and how we should position ourselves to deliver on these.

Kinross-Shire P A R T N E R S H I P



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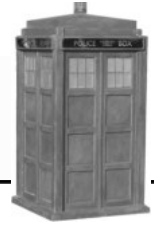
Mobility scooters may be hired free from Loch Leven's Larder



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See www.kinross.cc for more details, or telephone 01592 841000
to arrange a registration and demonstration appointment.



Police Box

Gardening Tools and other Garden items

Now that the clocks have changed and we have more daylight hours, hopefully with better weather in store, many people will be spending more time in their gardens. We would like to take this opportunity to remind you about the security of items such as gardening tools and other garden items. In recent years, gardening machinery such as lawnmowers and strimmers have been targeted and those stored in garden sheds have been the most vulnerable. A few simple modifications may be all that's required to prevent such thefts, for example a more secure lock or a simple to use shed alarm. With regard to other items such as garden furniture, children's toys and bicycles etc, try and ensure they are kept out of sight or preferably locked away at the end of each day and not left in full view of any opportunist thief who might be in the area. If anyone requires further information or advice in relation to any matters of security they should contact us at Kinross.

Bogus Workmen/Fly Tipping

Continuing on the gardening theme, we would like to remind you to be diligent in relation to bogus workmen who will call, often on our elderly more vulnerable neighbours, offering to do gardening and other work. These particularly unscrupulous characters will more than likely carry out sub-standard work for vastly inflated costs. We would ask you contact us immediately you suspect such individuals may be operating in your area. Another problem we have experienced in recent years, particularly in the more rural areas, is caused by people fly-tipping large quantities of garden refuse and other rubbish at the roadside. We would ask you to report any such behaviour and where possible obtain the makes and registration numbers of the vehicles

involved.

Action Plan – Young Drivers

Last month over a weekend period we organised an action plan designed to target young drivers in the Kinross area. The plan involved stopping as many people as possible in order to check that their vehicles were roadworthy and to offer advice regarding aspects of their driving. The plan proved very successful and in excess of 30 vehicles were stopped and checked and advice given. Only one fixed penalty ticket was issued for a minor offence. It is hoped that similar operations will be carried out regularly in the future.

New Non Emergency Number

In last month's Newsletter we told you about the introduction of a new non-emergency telephone number which is **0300 111 2222** for the benefit of those who may not have seen it. However, if the incident you are reporting is an emergency, then use 999.

Crime Stoppers – Telephone No 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 0300 111 2222. Kinross - Constable Ronnie Child. Milnathort, Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell - Constable Graham Stephen. Cleish and Blairadam, Crook of Devon, Powmill, Blairingone, Cambo and Glenfarg areas - Constable Lynne Petrie.

East to Mongolia!

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

This month, the team have been buried in maps of foreign lands and have been working their way through the dreaded visa process. Trying to understand what relevance some of the questions have in relation to border crossings has, at times, been entertaining to say the least. Nevertheless, all our visa documentation has been sent away and we quietly await to hear what mistakes we have made!

We've had articles in both the Perthshire Advertiser and the Courier recently and we hope this will bring us some more corporate sponsorship in the coming weeks.

We will be holding a **Car Wash** at Dobbies Garden Centre on **Sunday 10 May** from 10am – please bring your cars and vans along for a shine!

We are also holding a **Charity Golf Day** on **Friday 5 June** at Kinross Golf Club. Teams will consist of four golfers and the format will be Mongolian (Texas) Scramble with some cracking prizes and challenges around the course! Please contact us if you are interested.

We are now starting to collate items from our "wish list". The full list can be found on our website but things that you may have lying about the garage that we would love to get our hands on include: spanners, screwdrivers, pliers, vice grips, 20 litre jerry cans, two-way radios (pmr), cool box, engine oil, gaffer tape, fire extinguisher, bungee cord, cooking stove, torches. Every little helps and we will be extremely grateful

for whatever comes our way! Please contact us if you have something that would be useful to us.

You may have seen our bangers parked around Kinross and if so, you are probably doubting that we will make it all the way to Mongolia. So, go on, sponsor us and we will prove you wrong! A massive thank you to all our sponsors to date, but in particular Kinross-shire Round



The Mongolia Rally Bangers!

Table, GPM Sealrite, A-Plant Rail, Kinross & District Rotary Club and AIM Developments. Your support and encouragement is greatly appreciated.

Our website details the various sponsorship routes that can be made and it is fully associated with "JustGiving.com" for individual donations. We are still looking for some silly "challenges en-route" to attempt along the way and we are always open to corporate sponsorship. Alternatively, donations can be posted to Chris Carragher at The Orchard, St Ronan's Drive, Kinross, KY13 8AA.

Website: www.nutznboltz.webs.com

Contact: 07917716668

Taking part in the Mongol Charity Rally: L Carragher, C Crawford, I Harley, M Harvey, D Wood and C Carragher.

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

In attendance at the AGM and April meeting on 1 April were: D Cuthbert (Chair), C Watson, D Colliar, D Mackay, M Blyth, S Bathgate, B Davies, J Richardson and M Scott. Also in attendance were P&K Cllr Baird, two police representatives, Mr Dave Williamson from P&K Environmental Services and nine members of the public. Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs I Jack and L Mackay and P&K Cllrs Barnacle and Robertson.

News from the Annual General Meeting

Chairman's Report

"I am pleased to report that we have a full complement of Cllrs and the CC is vibrant and working hard for the community.

"Over the last year we have been focussing on trying to improve the town and its environment. This has been done by representation on the ABI steering group, and by producing and distributing a Questionnaire to most residents in Kinross-shire. 324 people took the time to complete the Questionnaire and made the effort of returning it to us, by post or to collection boxes in David Sands, the Leisure Centre and at Robertson's in Milnathort – my thanks to them for their help in this. The results are not altogether surprising, the key points being:

Town Centre: Kinross-shire Residents would like to see improvements made to the Town Centre, with 94.87% voting in favour of this. Employment: More than 94% of respondents were in favour of more jobs being provided in Kinross, with appropriate employment for young people being cited as a way to keep them in the town. Town Hall and Old High School site: More than 96% of respondents selected options other than private housing as future uses for the old Town Hall site and 91% were in favour of using the Old High School Site for other purposes. Railway link re-established: 92.74% of respondents voted in favour of this idea. Kinross Primary School: Most residents are in favour of moving the Primary School into the Old High School site.

"The CC are trying to get these results acted upon and have written to the Chief Executive and the Heads of Departments of P&KC to ask for help in doing this.

"This is being done against a background of diminishing

consultation by P&KC who announced during the year that an objection to a planning application by a CC would not only no longer automatically refer an application to the planning committee but would not even count as an objection.

"T in the Park this year went smoothly with none of the traffic problems of the previous year.

"The major issues during the year have been mostly planning related with a large number of applications for housing in the countryside since the relaxation of the policy, and a number of applications for major developments within Kinross continuing pending a resolution to the sewerage constraints.

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

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

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

"Thanks also to our four local Cllrs for their attendance and reports, to Inspector Patience of Tayside Police and his team for their support over the year and last but not least to the members of the public who come along to the meetings on a regular basis and to all those who buy the Kinross Newsletter. "It has been a privilege to be your Chairman over the last year and I hope I have served you well."

Treasurer's Report: In the absence of the Treasurer, Cllr Ian Jack, the Chairman circulated copy accounts and in addition he read out a Statement, both of which were prepared by the Treasurer. It was explained that the double entry of £140 in the accounts (shown in both income and expenditure) relates to an error in the bank accounting. The interest rate is down, due to the economic climate and the Treasurer also referred to the late payment of poppy wreaths.

Appointment of Office Bearers

Chairman: David Cuthbert (proposed by D Colliar, seconded by J Richardson). Vice Chairman: Campbell Watson (proposed by D Mackay, seconded by M Blyth). Secretary: Margaret Scott (proposed by M Blyth, seconded by D

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Colliar). Treasurer: Ian Jack (proposed by D Colliar, seconded by M Blyth). Planning Officer: David Colliar (proposed by D Mackay and seconded by C Watson).

News from the April Meeting

Police Report: There had been a theft from Costcutter. Goods had been scattered around the shop. If anyone can provide any information, please contact the Police.

Further to the problems with parked vehicles near the Primary School, PC Child had met with various parties with a view to setting up a School Traffic Plan and reducing the number of cars using this route. Traffic wardens have visited the area and will endeavour to return more frequently.

CCllr Davies enquired about an incident at Sandport Gait, mentioning that a number of police cars were in the area a week ago. It was confirmed that this has been dealt with and a person has attended court in relation to this matter.

Minutes of previous Meeting: Under correction of an amendment to the statement regarding the road junction to read "Gallowhill Road junction" these were approved.

Planning meeting: CCllr Davies reported on the meeting held in the Green Hotel. A presentation was given on the introduction of the 2009 Act. The Secy also read out information from the Scottish Government on the Act.

Swansacre Building: Cllr Baird reported that she had again voiced this matter with P&KC. There has not been much progress.

Planning applications received

There were no objections to the following applications: Alterations and extension at 24/27 Montgomery Street; Alteration and extension at An Cala Care Home, 6 Lathro Court; Modification to existing consent, Tillyochie Farm; Erection of garage at 6 Alexander Drive.

Planning applications determined

Applications relating to Bellfield and 29 Broom Road have been approved by P&KC.

Autoglass, Tillyochie: Communications received from P&KC. The application was refused, however permitted development rights would allow the site to be used for the purpose in question provided it did not involve more than 28 days in any calendar year. P&KC's enforcement officer, Mr Short, is in discussions with the operators of the site to ensure that they are fully aware of the restrictions over the use of the site.

Report from Councillors

Grounds maintenance: Cllr Baird, as convener of the Scrutiny Committee, will be visiting Kinross (and other villages) with a number of officers. The CC had received a letter from a resident about the embankment at Coventry

Place, and a deputation of residents was present. Workmen had cut back the sycamore trees and shrubs on the embankment and the area was now in a terrible state with the earth looking torched. P&KC is proposing to place woodchip on the area. Previously the grass was cut, the shrubs cut back and the area well maintained. However, for some time the Council has totally neglected this, with work only being carried out at the instigation of residents. Cllr Robertson had visited the previous evening and was shocked at the condition of the banking. P&KC states that there is no budget to carry out any further works. Health and Safety requirements were queried (the workmen did not wear hard hats). Cllr Robertson has asked for a meeting with the Council and invited a representative from the CC to attend. CCllr Davies mentioned that Lathro Park was in the same condition with mature trees being destroyed as the workmen did not appear to know what was required. Coventry Place was on the list of places Cllr Baird intended to visit on 7 April. Photographs would be taken. Cllr Baird will speak to Cllr Robertson on this matter.



The ravaged embankment at Mill St/Coventry Place

Kinross-shire Forum: Cllr Baird attended a recent meeting at which both Cleish and Fossoway CCs were represented. The topic for discussion was the Housing in the Countryside Policy. It was agreed that further meetings would be convened on an ad hoc basis.

Correspondence

Market Park/Kinross Curling Club: Jamie Montgomery would be happy to meet with the CC to discuss this matter. It was agreed to invite Mr Montgomery to the May meeting.

Gritting and Snow Clearing: Letter from P&KC asking for comments on the level of service provided this winter.

Premises Licences (Conversions): The Green Hotel.

Regeneration of Town Centre: Roland Bean has acknowledged the CC's invitation.

ASCC: The CC agreed to rejoin. The fee is £15.00.

Local Plan: An email was received from Cllr Barnacle advising that there will not be another Local Plan for Kinross-shire.

Model scheme of Establishment of CCs: Constitution, standing orders and code of conduct are on the CC section of the Scottish Government website. A Good Practice Document is being produced and should be available shortly. Once this has been finalised it will be held centrally on the Scottish Government's website. When available this document will be viewed as a "living document" which will evolve with CCs and will be open to constant review.

Economic Strategy and Action Plan: An email was received with this document and has been circulated to the CC members. They are asked to read this material and

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submit comments to the Chairman. Deadline for comment is 10 April.

ABI Report: Again, this has been circulated to the CC members and any comments to be submitted to the Chairman by the deadline provided.

High School site: CCllr Watson reported on an application by P&KC to the Lands Tribunal to have a condition on part of the old High School site discharged. (*See also Articles p.11*). The CC is not empowered to respond to the Lands Tribunal, but will write to P&KC suggesting that, as it is not known what use is to be made of the ground, P&KC's action is premature, and request that the action be postponed until more information is available. CCllr Baird asked that a copy of the letter be sent to her. It was also stated that this ground could be regarded as common good.

Primary School Parents Assoc: A representative from the CC was invited to attend a meeting on 23 April with PC Child and others on the question of parking at the school. CCllrs Bathgate, Cuthbert or Richardson will attend, and Cllr Baird, if available.

Other Business

Biodiversity project: Dave Williamson from the Environmental Service at P&KC addressed the meeting, explaining that a three-year trial is planned for the area at the end of Kirkgate Cemetery overlooking the Loch. The strip would be two to three metres wide and would be cut back and lifted three times a year in May, July and September. The Council will monitor this with monthly visits and Mr Williamson would be happy to meet with the CC on site to discuss further. After discussion it was agreed that the CC had no objection to this trial.

Meadow management at the Kirkgate Park: CCllr Bathgate enquired about this, however Mr Williamson was unable to provide any information at the meeting.

Community Campus: Derek Morris, Liaison Officer, has offered to attend a CC meeting to provide an update. He will be invited to the June meeting.

Regeneration of town centre: CCllr Colliar referred to a recent article in the Courier. Cllr Baird advised that she had

nominated Kinross. The Scottish Government has yet to release the details of how to apply for a share of the 60 million funds. It is expected that applications will have to be made by certain formally recognised bodies. It was agreed that CCllr Watson should speak to the Kinross-shire Partnership and enquire if they would act on behalf of the town in submitting an application.

The Kinross Questionnaire results and a background report illustrating empty buildings, proposed developments etc have been sent to various Council staff.

Myre Football Pitches: CCllr Richardson mentioned the letter in the Newsletter. It would appear that the writer is trying to say that there are no issues there. He reiterated that two people claiming to be from a Committee stated to him that this was their pitch and that his group could not play on it. It was agreed that the CC should approach KGV for confirmation of procedures.

Current High School site: Mr Nicol, whose property is adjacent to the High School, was present and questioned the security arrangements at the school following the transfer. He was concerned that it might be some time before this site is purchased and, as a neighbour, is anxious about vandalism in the area. Cllr Baird agreed to take this matter up with the Council. CCllr Scott enquired as to the position regarding the furniture etc in the school which she understood was not to be moved to the new premises. It was agreed that the CC would write to Russell Thomson at P&KC enquiring what plans have been made for the maintenance/security of the old school and the position regarding the furniture etc. Cllr Baird advised that the water was to be drained off and the heating switched off.

The next meeting of Kinross CC is to be held at the Masonic Hall on Wednesday 6 May at 7.30pm.

Apologies received in advance from Councillor Baird.

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 AGM and April Meeting

CCllr Giacopazzi, Chairman, welcomed CCllrs Bennet, Porter, Lamont and Smith to the meeting held on 9 April. Also in attendance were P&K Cllrs Robertson and Baird; Minute Secretary, E Rougvie; Sgt Williams of Tayside Police; David Aird from SCARF and three members of the public. Apologies were received from CCllr Cottingham.

Annual General Meeting

Treasurer's report: CCllr Bennet reported an opening balance of £346. Income was £600 in the form of grants from P&KC. A total of £291 had been spent on a donation to Milnathort in Bloom; Minute Secretary's fee and subscription to the Association of Community Councils. Two bills were still outstanding, leaving a closing balance of £568.

Chairman's remarks

CCllr Giacopazzi made the following statement:

"The past year may be remembered as the one when the already limited powers of CCs within the planning process were further eroded. Previously, an objection by a CC to a planning application would automatically send that application to the monthly meeting of the development control committee. Since the system was 'streamlined' by P&KC, CC objections can no longer result in an application coming before the planning committee. In fact, a CC objection will not count towards the total number required to refer an application to the development committee.

"Sadly, I happen to share the opinion of senior planners that CCs in the Perth & Kinross area have been the authors of their own misfortune by being too ready to object to planning applications. This practice was having the effect of clogging up an already creaking system. Milnathort CC has long been reluctant to object to 'householder' applications, i.e. from individuals applying to build themselves a single house, house extension, conservatory, etc. It was noted by someone else that in the three months to December last, Kinross-shire CCs objected to such applications no fewer than 18 times. Apparently we remain as 'statutory consultees' (for what it's worth), according to the Council.

"2009 sees the implementation of Scotland's new Planning Act, designed to speed up the system. Indeed, some of the provisions of the new act are helpful. The main provisions are:

1. Persons, or CCs, wishing to comment on planning applications will have three weeks in which to do so, rather than two;
2. Neighbour notification will be done by the local authority rather than the applicant;
3. The definition of what is 'permitted development' has been expanded. Hopefully, up to 35 per cent of small development will drop out of the system. One example of what will be permitted would be the installation of solar panels on a house roof.
4. Builders will have to consult with the community in 'major' applications involving more than 50 houses before the application is submitted. In practice, this approach has been found to greatly reduce, or even avoid, objections from local residents.
5. Area Local Plans will be replaced with Local Development Plans which will be updated every five years.

"As a matter of opinion, it seems to me that while the new Act represents an honest endeavour to address the worst

aspects of the old planning regime, it is a missed opportunity to inject some urgency into the way planning authorities conduct their business. Consider this: an application that takes eight weeks to process is a 'deemed refusal', i.e. the applicant has a right of appeal on the grounds of non-determination. In fact, the planning authorities routinely ignore this deadline. The timescales taken to process mundane applications seem to ordinary individuals to be very long. Surely the new Act could have put an onus on planners to determine applications within a more realistic timescale?

"Still on planning issues, the past year has seen our CC depart from the Kinross-shire Forum. The idea behind the Forum was not a bad one: CCs would join together to discuss important matters with officials of P&KC. However, it soon became clear that other non-elected groups had gotten in on the act on the coat tails of CCs. Accordingly, Kinross and Milnathort CCs felt they could not support the Forum. Milnathort CC could still support a forum consisting solely of CCs.

"The issue of flooding in Milnathort has not gone away. It is merely in abeyance and this year we have been fortunate. The bund on the north side of Back Burn still needs to be rebuilt. Councillors, please note.

"In conclusion, I would like to thank my fellow CCllrs for their time spent on CC meetings. I would also like to thank Cllr Robertson and Cllr Baird for their regular attendance and very welcome input to our meetings. Thank you also to the Police."

Following CCllr Giacopazzi's remarks, P&K Cllr Robertson reported that work was to begin on the bund shortly.

Election of office-bearers

Chairman: CCllr Giacopazzi (proposed by CCllr Smith and seconded by CCllr Lamont); Treasurer: CCllr Bennet (proposed by CCllr Giacopazzi and seconded by CCllr Smith). CCllr Cottingham was designated as vice-chairman.

There is currently no secretary.

CCllr Thomson joined the meeting at this point.

April Meeting

Matters arising: CCllr Giacopazzi reported that he had written to P&KC about issues raised at the March meeting relating to: gritting; the blind spot on the approach to the mini-roundabout from Stirling Road; and the problems with visibility in Back Loan due to the erection of hoardings. His comments had been passed to the appropriate departments.

Police matters

Sgt Williams reported that the police had received a number of complaints about young people creating a disturbance. A number had been detected, spoken to and warned in the presence of their parents.

The police have now launched their summer road safety campaigns and there was a particular emphasis on motorcycle safety.

CCllr Thomson expressed concerns about two transit vans parked in Wester Loan which were creating difficulties for agricultural vehicles that needed to use the road frequently. There followed a discussion about congestion in the area, including Back Loan, where it was considered that the number of parked vehicles would prevent access for emergency vehicles. Sgt Williams will follow up the concerns but advised that P&KC should also be consulted in order to find a long-term solution.

CCllr Bennet raised the subject of Donaldson Park, where acts of vandalism had recently taken place. Sgt Williams said that extra police patrols were being carried out in the area.

Guest speaker

David Aird from SCARF (Save Cash And Reduce Fuel) outlined the aims of the organisation, which is a charity established 25 years ago to deliver energy efficiency advice. It is funded mainly by the Energy Saving Trust and runs a number of projects funded by local authorities. SCARF also works with local communities to try to help people reduce their carbon footprint, or can work with individual householders. In the last year around £16 million has been made available from the Scottish Government in the form of the Climate Challenge Fund, and so far around £8 million has been spent supporting community projects such as an initiative in Comrie, where a street-by-street survey was being carried out with the aim of helping householders make their homes more energy-efficient. It was thought that Milnathort could benefit from the fund and, after discussion, it was agreed that CCllrs will bring ideas back to the May meeting.

Correspondence

Donaldson Park: CCllr Bennet had received an e-mail from P&KC. A new piece of play equipment is to be installed shortly.

Tillywhally: CCllr Bennet then referred to a meeting she had had with Niall Loble of the Countryside Ranger Service regarding the woodland at Tillywhally. Forestry Commission grants are available for improvements to this and other areas of woodland and he will find out which is the most appropriate. Uses for the money could include improving pathways, installing benches and creating nature trails. CCllr Bennet will meet with local organisations to try to get their support as this is one of the criteria. If the grant application is successful, funding could be available by September.

Model scheme: CCllr Giacopazzi reported on an e-mail he had received from Scottish Government about the Model Scheme of Establishment of CCs, which provides a framework for the creation and operation of CCs. Information is available on the Scottish Government website and CCllrs agreed to study it.

Letter about **Placecheck:** This is a scheme whereby the community has a say on how their local area can be improved. It was agreed to find out more and CCllr Giacopazzi will respond.

Local Development Plan: Document from P&KC. CCllr Giacopazzi will follow up.

Invitation to P&KC **Outdoor Access Forum:** An open meeting is to be held on 16 May and nominations are sought for vacant seats on the forum. CCllr Bennet will follow up.

P&KC Licensing Board: Forth Wines is the only local business renewing its licence. Noted.

Scottish Association of CCs: It was agreed to join at a cost of £15.

Binn Farm: Letter from SEPA regarding permit for the operation of an energy from waste plant at Binn Farm. Noted, as it is outwith the MCC area.

P&KC minutes: CCllr Smith will study.

Old High School site: Letter from P&KC Community Planning Economic Partnership acknowledging MCC comments about the future use of the site. Noted.

Planning matters

Installation of two wind turbines at Athron Hill for Fossoway LLP: these would be 45 metres high and produce 225 kw of power. It was agreed they were well located but concerns were raised about their proximity to a burn, which could affect the water supply of people living in the vicinity. After

discussion, it was agreed that CCllr Giacopazzi will write in support of the application subject to a satisfactory hydrology report.

The following applications were noted: alterations and extension to house at 4 Coventry Way; erection of two houses at Craigowmill Farm Cottage, Kinross.

Other business

Kinross-shire Partnership: CCllr Thomson reported on the AGM of the Kinross-shire Partnership, which she had attended as a representative of MCC.

Right of Way: A member of the public again asked whether the path from Orwell Farm to the old church was a right of way. CCllr Bennet will endeavour to find out.

Planning conduct: The same member of the public referred to an article in the Courier about a P&K Cllr who had made a public stand against a planning application. Cllr Robertson explained that by doing so he had de-barred himself from speaking about it or voting on it at committee.

Recycling: P&KCllr Robertson advised that a fortnightly bin collection was to be implemented in due course and that householders would be able to use blue bins for items other than paper.

War Memorial: CCllr Porter thanked Cllr Robertson for arranging to have the padlock put back on the gate.

Right of Way (Church St): Cllr Robertson said that the question of the right of way between Church Street and Stirling Road, raised at the previous meeting, was still being looked at. He will report back.

The next meeting of Milnathort CC will be held on Thursday 14 May at 7.30pm in Milnathort Primary School.

Milnathort CC minutes are posted on www.kinross.cc

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Fossoway and District CC

News from the April Meeting

In attendance at the meeting held on 7 April in the Moubray Hall were: A Morrison, Alistair Lavery, Hugh Wallace, Sheila Anderson, Trudy Duffy-Wigman, Roderick Paterson; also P&K Cllr Barnacle and ten members of the public. Apologies for absence were received from Marion Anness and Hazel Johnson.

Declarations of interest: A Morrison declared that, although he has no direct interest in the planning application regarding the formation of a footbridge over the Devon, he had been involved in the preparation of the plans.

Policing: Sgt Williams (police officers attended the meeting later): There were no significant issues the police wanted to raise. Vandals were causing problems at the Gart Hotel, but the owners had been made aware of the duty to make their property safe and secure. Some council members, and members of the public, reported that they felt there was a definite increase in speeding traffic on the A977 due to the new bridge. It was suggested that a 40mph could be put in place from Powmill to Crook of Devon, and more use could be made of flashing "slow down" signs. Targeting speeding motorcyclists and HGV drivers not wearing seatbelts (using the A977 as a diversionary route) and increased presence by the police might be discouraging.

Minutes of the last meeting – amendment: Cllr Barnacle mentioned that the speeding cars were seen in Blairingone, not Crook of Devon. There were no further amendments and the minutes were adopted.

CC Funding: Sandy Morrison reported that he was still awaiting information on funding for the CC, and that contacting the Scottish Office may be the next call.

Fossoway Gathering: Trudy Duffy-Wigman reported that due to lack of support, the Fossoway Gathering may not be able to continue. The remaining funds from the Gathering will need to be distributed and notification of a meeting to make these decisions will follow. Fossoway Primary School have an annual school fete on the first Saturday in June and that event may be able to include the wider community.

Loch Leven Community Campus: There was an apology from Derek Morris as he was unable to make the meeting. It will be rescheduled, possibly for the next CC Meeting.

Petition A977: A Morrison and T Duffy, who attended the Petitions Committee when it sat in Fraserburgh, were very

unhappy about the proceedings. The response from P&KC was positive. The response from Transport Scotland was not satisfactory; the CC had written to comment on this but are not sure that this document was part of the deliberations of the Petitions Committee. The petition was closed without any further discussion. There was no further discussion at the Committee meeting, only a proposal that the petition be closed as Transport Scotland had stated that there was no further funding. Dr Simpson will be taking the matter up with the chair of the Petitions Committee.

P&KC Business

Housing in the Countryside: Cllr Barnacle gave an update on the new document. He has put in a submission to tighten the policy, and he has raised two points in particular:

(1) Where the issue of demolishing a steading occurs, independent consultation should be employed.

(2) A tightening up of wording could clarify where a "grouping" becomes a "settlement".

Housing for local people could also be open to misuse as it is loosely worded.

Structure Plan: There is to be one structure plan for P&K, together with the Dundee area. It will be 2014 before this new plan is put in place. Till then, existing local plans will remain in place. The new structure plan may be a problem for our area as our focus is more towards the Central Belt and Edinburgh, not Dundee.

Cllr Barnacle commented on the Structure Plan and the FORK Submission. The population of Kinross-shire is anticipated to increase by 20%. There is some debate about the size of the increase. There was also an argument that Kinross-shire should be a separate planning area.

Sandy Morrison has been in touch with Nick Brian regarding the community's concern for settlements built in areas where there is only a single-track road. He has asked Nick Brian to come with him to visit the area and see for himself the impact that greater traffic and horse boxes etc. have on these roads and verges.

There had been a meeting of the Kinross-shire Forum, chaired by Cllr Barnacle and attended by A Lavery and S Anderson for the FDCC. Some CCs (Kinross and Milnathort) do not wish to take part in this Forum, as they felt it would reduce the influence of the CC. It had been decided that the Forum should continue on a need basis, when issues which affected all the communities and other interest groups such as FORK and the Civic Trust arose.

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Planning Matters

Planning Applications

09/00224/FUL Right of Way North of Naemoor Road, Crook of Devon, formation of a footbridge over River Devon and associated new path. This is part of the local footpath network. Recommendation: Accept.

09/00334/OUT Erection of 2 dwelling houses (in outline) Hallhill Farm, Cambo for James Petherick. Hallhill Farm has several derelict or unused steading buildings. The application is in outline for two houses on a plot including some of these buildings and adjacent land. No details of the buildings or associated grounds are given. The site is likely eligible for development under Policy 64 of the Local Plan. Insufficient detail has been provided to see if the application complies with Policy 64 and its proposed revision. Drainage is a major problem in Cambo and all new proposals in or adjacent to the settlement should be considered as part of a joint sewerage plan. Recommendation: Reject.

09/00347/FUL Erection of aerial runway and high ropes course, Scripture Union, Lendrick Muir, Rumbling Bridge. This is a re-sited application, following a noise reduction report, of application 08/01892/FUL from last year. Recommendation: Accept.

No comment from Community Council

09/00315/FUL West Cottage, Wester Fossoway Fossoway: Deletion of condition 3 from previous consent (07/00585/FUL).

09/00501/FUL Crossing Cottage, Tullibole, Kinross: Erection of conservatory.

Refusals

09/00183/FUL Land South West Of Middleton, Fossoway: Erection of a guest house.

08/00687/OUT Erection of 2 dwelling houses (in outline), land adjacent to Churchmouse Cottage, Cambo for Mr and Mrs Drummond.

Appeals

08/01833/OUT Adjacent to the Meadows, Vicars Bridge Road, Blairingone.

General Correspondence

A report on the CC Incoming and Outgoing correspondence was distributed.

Other Business

Speed limit: A member of the public indicated that 18 months ago a speed limit west of Powmill was asked for, and still has not been forthcoming. The CC was asked to chase this up. There was also a request from members of the public for a 40mph between Powmill and Crook of Devon.

Core Path Network: So far there has been no correspondence regarding the issues raised by landowners during the consultation period.

Press coverage – Cllr Barnacle: Cllr Barnacle left the meeting and the chairman then raised the matter of the recent press coverage regarding Cllr Barnacle. Members of the public and the CC were unanimous in their support for Cllr Barnacle and the work which he does on behalf of the community. There was a proposal from the floor that an open letter will be sent to the Council with copies to relevant newspapers stating the CC's and the community's support for Cllr Barnacle. The CC has agreed to send a letter.

The next meeting of Fossoway & District CC will take place on Tuesday 5 May at 7.30pm in Fossoway Primary School.

Portmoak Community Council

News from the Annual General Meeting

The AGM of Portmoak CC was held on 14 April. In attendance were Jim Shepherd, Mike Hally, Stuart Garvie, Alistair Smith, Margaret Wilson, P&K Cllrs Kathleen Baird, Mike Barnacle and Willie Robertson and several members of the public. Margaret Wilson took the Chair in the absence of the Chairwoman.

Chairwoman's Report

The Vice Chairwoman read out the Chairwoman's Report.

At last year's AGM several "Intentions" were listed for the coming year, and progress was made in each of them. They were:

Continue to increase residents' engagement with us and to listen better: There were big issues to address this year, including the closing of the Post Office, the methods to be used for traffic calming in the villages, and our pathway connections to the Heritage Trail. In order to make each of these decisions as community-based as possible, the CC held special meetings, circulated written questionnaires and each of the Councillors attempted to speak with as many residents as possible on the important issues.

Seek to improve communication with P&KC officials: The CC had somewhat of a breakthrough this year with its ability to understand and communicate with various departments at P&KC, particularly the Planning Department.

Create a long-term plan: This was something the Chairwoman particularly wanted to do. Because the new national Planning Act has been in process during this past year, it was felt that the CC was **too late** because the opportunity to influence the Act in relation to our Parish had already passed, and it was **too early** to try to "personalize" the finalized Act. There is now a four to five year interval before the next Local Development Plan is due to be completed, during which a long-term plan process may be better received by P&KC.

The CC has worked many hours outside of public meetings learning about the new Scottish Planning Act. The P&KC planners have offered to attend one of the CC's monthly meetings in the coming year to explain the significance of the Act on local communities. The Cllrs have spent time and effort in influencing this new Act as well as learning what it will mean to the Community.

Several of the Councillors have worked on issues of road and pedestrian safety, particularly in: Auchmuir Bridge, Wester Balgedie, Howe Gate into Scotlandwell, T-junction in Scotlandwell at Leslie Road, Centre of Kinnesswood, Dryside Road through Glen Lomond.

Despite many long hours of work by the CC and dozens of residents, the CC regrets the closing of the Post Office. The CC had substantial help from our P&K Cllrs, MSPs Keith Brown and Elizabeth Smith, and MP Gordon Banks. The entire community rallied and sent boxes to Parliament, and held a well-publicized rally, and signed petitions, however the Post Office is gone. The community will have to decide this year whether or not the postal van will serve its needs, or if there are other postal options.

In an effort to stay abreast of regional and national level issues concerning communities, the CC was actively involved with the Kinross-shire Forum, the Convention of P&K Community Councils, the Kinross-shire Civic Trust, Friends of Rural Kinross-shire, and the Association of Scottish Community Councils.

All in all, this has been a productive year and the

Chairwoman expressed herself to be tremendously proud of her co-Councillors and all the residents who have worked to make and maintain Portmoak as a place we want to live. Many thanks to Head-Teacher Margaret Wilson for her dedication in hosting most of our meetings, the P&K Cllrs who work at and between our meetings on our behalf, the Tayside Police for helping the CC when needed, and to the residents of Portmoak.

Nominations/Elections

The Secretary read out the conditions for appointing new Cllrs. The Constitution allows for eight Cllrs. There are at present seven, three of whom are retiring. That will leave four vacancies. The CC has received three nominations from Mr Ian McGratten, Mr John Bird and Dr Robin Cairncross. The CC is permitted to co-opt two Cllrs between the tri-annual elections, the last of which was a year ago.

The CC intends to co-opt Mr Ian McGratten and Mr John Bird at this meeting.

The CC is having an election on 26 May for the four vacancies. The three nominees will stand for this election. **The closing date for nominations is 5 May.** If at this date there are four or less nominations, then there will be no election and the nominees will be declared elected members at the CC meeting on 12 May. This will allow the CC to co-opt two more members should they need to do so in the future.

Appointment of Office Bearers

The CC agreed to appoint Mr Ian McGratten as Chairman, Mr John Bird as Secretary and Mr Jim Shepherd as Treasurer for the coming year 2009-2010.

Any Other Matters

The Vice Chairwoman read out a letter from the Provost of P&KC thanking the retiring Secretary, **Alistair Smith** for his 21 years service on Portmoak CC on behalf of the Council and the officials and wishing him and his wife all the best for their retirement.

Wendy MacPhedran – Retirement letter from Portmoak CC

With a local family history that goes back 300 years but next to no current knowledge, I joined Portmoak CC some four years ago, hoping I could bring perspective from further afield. Rather mysteriously I found myself spending most of that time as Chairwoman and being especially grateful to my co-councillors who helped me to understand local issues and to see things from many different viewpoints.

During my tenure we have confronted many challenges, including significant and inappropriate housing development, losing our Post Office, instituting road safety measures, and

becoming landowners for the first time.

I've no doubt that the new council elected tonight will take on challenges with energy and insight, however I've taken the liberty of trying to highlight the three big issues that, after my four years, I believe will continue to deserve everyone's attention.

- **How will we ensure our influence on the risk of over-development?** Don't be lulled into thinking that the downturn in the economy means that we are free from the threat of over-development. Both the Government and P&KC have recently increased the number of houses projected to be built in Kinross-shire AND simultaneously changed the Planning Act to make it easier for housing applications to be approved without local influence. We need to somehow retain the rural character of our parish – which so many of us value so much – while permitting enough sympathetic development to keep the economy sustainable. A very tough act with all the pressures to build, build, build.
- **Given the nature of electronic communication these days, what's the best way to stay in touch with our residents?** The Convention of Perth & Kinross Community Councils (CPKCC) has been attempting to convince P&KC to increase our annual stipend to fund our need for more sophisticated electronic communication. With a more interactive website and email system, we'll be better able to both inform our residents of our activities (and thus gain their support) and allow them to interact with us. In addition, CPKCC believes that each CC should have its own laptop computer and required software funded by P&KC, in part to alleviate P&KC's concerns about data protection.
- **When confronted with a major issue which requires quick community action like the closing of the post office, what is the best way to inform then listen to residents?** Most recently we've held "community meetings" at the Village Hall and invited in guest speakers to provide accurate information, then listened to what residents had to say about the proposed issue. Is this something we want to continue doing? Are there other ways to "listen and inform?"

Quite simply I believe that by working together this community can punch above its weight. We've earned the reputation of being a CC which expresses the distilled views of the whole community, and our elected representatives at local or national level simply cannot afford to ignore us.

There are far too many people to thank individually, so I'll just say – thanks to my co-Councillors, our P&K Councillors, Margaret Wilson at the Primary School, and all the residents of Portmoak.

News from the April Meeting

In attendance at the meeting held on 14 April were: M Wilson (Acting Chair), J Shepherd, J Bird, M Hally, S Garvie; P&K Cllrs W Robertson, M Barnacle & K Baird; Sgt Rankine and 13 members of the public. Apologies for absence were received from I McGratten and C Weedon.

Police Report

The following incidents were reported: Attempted break in at Scotlandwell; Graffiti, Findatie Car Park; Burleigh Sands car park problems, likely follow up; Theft of a farm gate at Meikle Seggie. The Police would be grateful for anyone witnessing anything suspicious to report it rather than ignore it. They also advised the public that now the warmer weather was around the corner, not to leave their doors open whilst

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working in the garden. **Contact 0300 111 2222 to report anything suspicious.**

Speed checks would be undertaken over the next couple of months to see if the traffic calming system was working.

Secretary's Report

Proposed **wind farm** at Westfield, Ballingry: It was thought that the MOD would not be in agreement with the development since it was nearer than 10 kms to the Bishop Bubble. It was agreed to write to Fife Council asking to be kept informed of any further information.

Paths Group

Work is progressing on the signage and information boards, content etc. Thoughts are now being directed towards likely sources of financing. There is the possibility of a tie up with Woodland Trust group regarding the path between Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell. Access to Woodland Trust property could be a problem on this stretch of road.

A911 (Traffic Calming)

Work was progressing on the build outs and the total project was nearing completion with one or two minor hiccups. There had been a complaint made to the Roads dept over restricted disability access which still required attention. Ongoing problems would be monitored.



One of the new traffic calming "build outs" in Kinnesswood

Planning Matters

09/00340/FUL Removal of condition 4 on Nether Birnie House, Pittendreich: The applicant stated his case for the removal of this condition explaining the reasons why he considered this action necessary and also stated the Council had indicated their intention to support his application. The CC explained that their position was quite clear, they did not wish to openly support the application and undermine the principle upon which the original application had been agreed but since the applicant had already received the agreement of the planners there was little point in registering either an agreement or an objection. Action: No comment.

09/00355/FUL Extension to dwelling house, Lomondfoot, Lelie Road: P&KC is in agreement to this development. Action: No comment.

Cllr Barnacle informed the meeting:

- that there would be a proposal to demolish the farmhouse at Levenmouth.
- Wester Balgedie Farm: the appeal has now been sisted. A further application is with the planners.
- West Bowhouse: application was in for another four houses.
- He would be meeting with N Brian, Development Manager on 16 April.

Reports by P&KC Councillors

Cllr Robertson:

- there was funding for a 'Loch Bus', possibly one day a

week. Details of stops, times etc were being discussed. Vane Farm would be a major stopping off point.

- Two Mobility scooters were being made available at Loch Leven's Larder, organised by Kinross-shire Partnership. Cllr Baird:

- has spoken to the Royal Mail about the size of the mail box at Kinnesswood shop but comments from the public indicated it was the size of the opening which was also a problem.

Post Meeting Note: Cllr Robertson had e-mailed Royal Mail asking for a mail box to be sited alongside the bus shelter in Kinnesswood.

Cllr Barnacle

- gave his apologies for missing the last three meetings.
- gave the CC for information, document on Forward Planning, Structure Plan with Civic Trust Views and comments on Housing in the Countryside Consultation.
- Kinross-shire Forum, 19 March, details passed to Chairman.
- It is not intended to have a Kinross Local Area Plan, community aware of his thoughts, has received a hostile press reaction of a personal nature.

Other Matters

Bees: A member of the public raised a number of problems associated with the siting of three beehives placed on a piece of ground in the centre of Kinnesswood. Whilst the points raised were significant it was not possible to make any decisions at the meeting due to a lack of sufficient knowledge/expertise available to the Council. Action: site visit to be made.

Post meeting note: The Chairman has made a visit to the site. It has also been suggested that further information should be obtained on ownership of land as well as information on the little blighters.

Youngs Moss: A member of the public raised the issue of retrospective planning for a club house/cafeteria, polytunnels and other issues at the allotment site, Scotlandwell. The applicant answered the criticisms of complaints made against the application. During the discussion it was clear that there was some misunderstanding over what planning applications had been agreed or otherwise. Cllr Barnacle agreed to confirm with planning dept on 16 April. Action: awaiting information from Cllr.

The next meeting of Portmoak CC will take place on Tuesday 12 May in the Primary School.

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Cleish & Blairadam CC

News from the March Meeting

The CC met in the Tabernacle Hall, Blairadam, on 30 March and was attended by five CCllrs, P&K Cllr M Barnacle, PC Child, 13 members of the public and the Cleish & Blairadam Newsletter Editor.

Apologies for absence were received from Sandy Morton.

Annual General Meeting

Chairman's Report: This had been a busy year with matters discussed including planning, Tracks and Trails and roads. The Chairman expressed the concern of the CC over the obvious lack of consultation between P&KC and local committees over the new planning procedures, the draft core plan for Tracks and Trails and the poor response to CC representations. He thanked Tayside Police and Neighbourhood Watch schemes for all their help in matters of crime prevention and urged continuing vigilance.

Cleish and Blairadam CC were happy to support the Kinross-shire Forum, although this was not the case with all Community Councils.

He concluded by thanking the CCllrs and Cllr Mike Barnacle for their support over the past five years and the C&B Newsletter Editor and Freda Whalley for their work in producing the newsletter.

This was Stuart's last meeting as Chairman and Catriona Culley has agreed to succeed him, but he remained in the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer was happy to announce that the Council is in funds.

March Meeting

Crime Prevention: Regarding recent incidents at Middleton Park, PC Child said there had been progress and we were now awaiting the judicial process.

A member of the public commented on the incidence of flytipping, with special reference to the state of the hill road where refuse left is very often absolutely disgusting and very offensive. This is especially bad at the Till Hill access as felling is being undertaken. The combination of refuse and the increase of seasonal motorists means that we must ask for more patrols, both from Tayside and Fife Police. Agreed that letters should be sent to both these forces, to the Environmental Health Department and to Till Hill. They would be asked to restore the barriers at the entrance to the forest when the current work is completed. Fife Police would also be told about the increase in litter on the path to Loch Glow, much of it being tossed out of car windows.

Tracks and Trails: The Chairman introduced Jenny Crick, the Forestry Commission Community Ranger who covers a large area including Blairadam Forest. She spoke a little of her work, some of which includes taking school children out into the forests to introduce them to wildlife and to show the older children what forestry work entailed. She left some leaflets which can be obtained from Cleish Village Hall and from the Tabernacle.

CCs and Conduct of CCllrs: Cllr Barnacle said that a new code was up for adoption by Local Authorities. This would bring great changes which would shortly be announced.

Kinross-shire Forum: Unfortunately the meeting on 19 February had not been attended by anyone from Cleish & Blairadam, nor from Kinross, Milnathort and Glenfarg, although the last named had expressed their intention to be there. The Civic Trust was in support of an Area Planning Committee, although P&KC were not enthusiastic.

Planning Procedural Changes: These are pending with

certain implications. In future there would be one Area Plan for Forward Planning for Tayside, with no mention of Kinross-shire. Cllr Barnacle has now resigned from the Member Officer Working Group.

Planning

Dullomuir Farm: The CC to ask for a more sympathetic design to be in keeping with the surrounding buildings and landscape.

West Mains Farm: 2 houses – no objection.

Shepherd's Neuk: ménage for recreational riding 40 x 25m – no objection.

Beaufort House: alteration and erection of a greenhouse – no comment although apparently there had been no neighbourhood notification.

Pending

Greenacres 1 and 2: Cllr Barnacle said that Nick Briant would be happy to have a site meeting with the applicants and the CCllrs in April. A date to be fixed.

Land north of Hatchbank Farm for 21 dwelling houses: refused.

Chance Inn Farm: advised to re-apply.

Gairneybridge Caravan Site, Cleish Mains Steading, Cleish Mill Farm (both), Dunvegan and site of Birchwood Cottage, Blairadam: all still pending.

Roads: Attention was drawn to the state of the road from Cleish Mains westwards; the hedges are now encroaching further across the road, but the local authority will take no action until they become a hazard (watch this space).

Subscriptions: It was agreed to continue subscriptions to the Association of CCs and the Association for the Protection of Rural Scotland.

Cleish School: The new logo designed by the pupils was shown for the Council's comments; this met with wholehearted approval.

Boreland Farm and Steading: The developer has revised his application which will shortly be registered. He asked for an open meeting in Cleish Village Hall; it was suggested this should be held some time after the School returns.

Vacancy on the Community Council: Following the retirement of Stuart Malcolm, there is now a vacancy on the CC; there has been interest from two members of the community but for further information contact the Secretary, Margaret Traylor, tel. 01383 830059. Candidates must be proposed and seconded by members of the community, and if there is more than one applicant an election will be held.

The meeting then ended with thanks from the Vice-Chairman.

From the Cleish & Blairadam Newsletter:

Stuart Malcolm: The incoming Chairman, Catriona Culley, thanked Stuart for all he had done during his term of office, but it would be appropriate to include some further thoughts. Stuart has seen the CC through interesting times, some turbulent, some less so, but always with impartiality, wisdom, sound judgment and consideration. He has ever been ready to hear the opinions both from the Cllrs and from the floor, reminding everyone of the aims of what is a statutory body, namely to ascertain, coordinate and express the views of all members of the community. He has encouraged the hardworking CCllrs in all their endeavours, and has taken on a large burden of the work required of Community Councils himself, willingly and with good humour, and to say he will be missed is a gross understatement.

The next meeting of Cleish & Blairadam CC will take place on Monday 18 May in Cleish Village Hall.



Club & Community Group News

Milnathort Primary School Supergrounds

What our playground looks like now:

Our playground is quite big but it does not have a lot of stuff to do in it. It has a few things like our adventure playground and our football pitches. We would love to have more to do to make our playground more interesting.

What we would like to have:

We would like to have more things to do with wildlife e.g. paths, bird houses, hedgehog dens and all sorts of wildlife.

Royal Bank of Scotland Supergrounds is a £6 million, six year community programme funded by the RBS group. Helping 900 primary schools across the UK, RBS Supergrounds is transforming existing school grounds into attractive and stimulating places where children can learn and play in safety. Our school has been nominated by Susan Parks, a Royal Bank of Scotland group employee to take part in the programme.

If you feel that you have any skills, like building birdhouses or making signs, that you could offer to us, please contact Miss Williamson at Milnathort Primary School. Alternatively, if you have suggestions for improving our school grounds further, we would welcome any help!

*By Hannah Gibson and Aaron Tate
Primary 6 Milnathort pupils.*



Milnathort School Association

The Grand Opening of our Wildlife Garden (funded by Supergrounds RBS) will be held in the afternoon of **Friday 5 June**.

Also that weekend we are hosting our annual Summer Fair on **Saturday 6 June** from 2pm – 4pm in the school playing field. Last year we raised £1200, and this year is set to be even better! There will be lots of new business stalls as well as all the usual one you have come to expect, including the BBQ and Ice-cream. There will be many other local organisations in attendance including Orwell Church and the Guides, to name but a few. It will truly be a community day out and it is also part of the festivities for the Milnathort Festival Weekend. There will be lots of displays and some new bouncy castles, obstacle course and 16 foot slide!

Due to the success of last year's Summer Ceilidh, this year we have decided to tag it onto the end of the Summer Fair, so we can all relax and enjoy an early evening ceilidh in the floored marquee on the school grounds. You can bring a picnic (alcoholic if you wish!) and there will be soft drinks and crisps etc available. We have a four piece Ceilidh Band for the evening and it is set to make a super end to a great day!

Tickets will be available through the school office soon.

Remember www.easyfundraising.org.uk/milnathortsa when making your online purchases and we will receive a small percentage of your spend back, at no extra cost to you!

Looking forward to seeing you on 6 June!

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

Leap into Spring

On Saturday 21 March, **Milnathort Primary School** had a leap into spring day to celebrate the first day of spring. It was open to the community and we invited people such as: members of the Milnathort in Bloom committee, Cllr Willie Robertson, some members of Orwell Church (including Pat Eadie), Brown Owl Janice Grant from 2nd Orwell Brownies and Caroline the school cook. We had lots of entries for the flowerpot competition, fruit/vegetable models and the spring pictures.



Fruit model of a peacock by Tino Mackay Palacios

The winners of the competitions were:

Flowerpot Design

- Nursery 1st Struan Bennet
- P1-3 1st Ailish Hunter, 2nd Matthew Dunn and Ailsa Bennet, 3rd Lewis Taylor
- P4-7 1st Robert Getley, 2nd Ellie Colligan, 3rd Niamh McLaren

Fruit/Veg Models

- Nursery 1st Zosia Stanton, 2nd Holly Ferguson, 3rd Struan Bennet
- P1-3 1st Catriona Millar, 2nd Molly Richley, 3rd Lucy and Robbie Park
- P4-7 1st Tino Mackay Palacios, 2nd Abbie Winton, 3rd Rachel Walker

Spring Pictures

- Nursery 1st Holly Ferguson, 2nd Lucy Mabbott, 3rd Brooke Young
- P1-3 1st Tyler-Lee Wilson, 2nd Molly Horan, 3rd Ailsa Bennet
- P4-7 1st Lorna Doyle, 2nd Joady Berwick, 3rd Rachel Walker and Struan Ross.

Written by Lee Finlayson and Gavin Steven.

Lessons in Finance

Pupils at Milnathort Primary School are learning how to manage money following the introduction of a school bank. The bank is part of the "School Money" programme devised by the Royal Bank of Scotland.

Pupils working in the school bank have received training in reading financial documents, listening to instructions, completing pay-in slips and keeping accurate financial records. Students will be issued with their own bank card and account number and will be encouraged to save through their account. Aileen Barclay, of RBS, said: "The aim is to give pupils the practical financial skills they will need as they get older."

The Kinross-shire Civic Trust



The Annual General Meeting was held in the Windlestrae Hotel on Wednesday 15 April.

The Chairman reported on another very successful year in which all three committees had achieved very much.

The Awards Committee had supervised and produced the Best Kept Village and Hamlet Competition, which had been won by Milnathort and Wester Balgedie respectively. Later in the year had been the Trust Shield for Woodland development, which had been won by Craigow.

The Events Committee had arranged the mid-summer walk led by Professor David Munro, followed by a visit later in the year to Sir Robert Stewart's Japanese Garden, much enjoyed despite the rain, and then the Annual Chairman's Dinner, another very successful event.

The Planning Committee had another very busy year. The Committee meets once a month and considers all the planning applications in Kinross-shire and Glenfarg. The Trust aims to comment, object or praise where appropriate. The Trust does not oppose development but seeks to encourage good planning and architecture throughout the county.

The Trust had also responded to P&KC's draft statements on renewed figures for Growth for the new Structure Plan. These were for an increase from 3% growth to 18% growth from now until 2020, which would result in about 800 new houses in Kinross-shire. The Trust objected strongly to these as they were unsustainable under the Government's new Sustainability policies, did not reflect the available infrastructure and did not reflect the need for a more balanced housing programme and not just large executive suburban villas, creating a mono-class society.

The Trust also responded to the Draft new Housing in the Countryside Policy, which aimed to tighten up what had proved to be a far too relaxed policy which had resulted in large scale demolition of steadings as well as modern sheds to make way for mini-townships which had no relationship to the rural community and were totally unsustainable. The Trust agreed that the new policy was tighter but added further suggestions for strengthening the policy, particularly with regard to sustainable issues.

The Trust has already published its initial programme for

the year and will keep everyone informed through the Newsletter and direct mail to members.

The Chairman concluded by thanking all the chairmen and their committees for all their hard work throughout the year. The Treasurer then submitted the audited Accounts for the year, which were approved. The accounts showed an overall loss, which was why there had been introduced a small increase in the subscriptions. The Treasurer recommended that there be a specific event during the year to raise additional funds. The Trust does need reasonable sums of money every year to run the Awards schemes and some of the presentation events as well as supporting other events such as the Kinross Show and the displays it prepares.

The Chairman thanked the Treasurer and the Secretary for all their hard work during the year.

The following office bearers were proposed and accepted by the meeting for the coming year: Chairman – Alistair Smith, Secretary – Eileen Thomas and Treasurer – Ken Miles.

Following the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting, the Chairman introduced the speaker for the evening, Rachel Haworth, Conservation Area officer for the south area from P&KC. Ms Haworth gave a very clear presentation on what Conservation areas are all about, how they are decided upon, their legal structure and the pros and cons for being in a Conservation area, all of which was covered by illustrations of Conservation Area examples.

The evening concluded with tea and coffee and discussion among the attendees.

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.

Kinross and District Art Club



Just a few weeks ago blue skies and sunshine marked another fine Easter holiday, and although there was a cool breeze many of us were out for a walk or in the garden cutting the lawn or tidying up the flowerbeds.

When we walk to Somerfield's or the new Kinross Bus Station, we can now see and enjoy the brilliant displays of daffodils in full bloom, with their wide variety of yellow and white flowers, and, as we walk around, we can also enjoy the sight of many other coloured flowers, like the blue forget-me-knots or the yellow and pink tulips that make Spring such a colourful and uplifting time of the year – we can think and thank the good citizens of Kinross who have volunteered to plant these bulbs and attend to the many beds that are in the Kinross and Milnathort area for these many oases of brilliant colour that cheer us up after the cooler, dull and colourless winter.

This is the time to feel inspired, if you have never held a paint brush, to have a go at "painting" a daffodil. Start with a simple box of paints and a sheet of paper. By adding a stroke of green for a stem down the paper, and dabs of yellow in a circle, touching the stem at the top, then a dab of orange for good measure in the centre of your flower head. OK, it isn't a masterpiece but *you* painted it in your own particular style.

If you would like to do some more simple painting with very friendly Colourists, who all took that same first step last week, last year, or many years ago, who would be only too happy to show and help you to do a simple Landscape, visit our Club on any Tuesday afternoon from 2 – 4 pm in Millbridge hall.

Why not surprise yourself, family and friends by doing that Landscape next Tuesday! Further information or a chat, is available to anyone of any age by phoning 01577 863361.

Bill Bray, Secretary

Kinross-shire 50 Plus Club



At the meeting on 2 April, the speaker, Rhoda Fothergill, gave an interesting talk on "Tay Street, Perth". Rhoda gave us an insight into the making of Tay Street from the earlier years to present day, also, describing the buildings and sculptures situated along the street.

Friday Walks

The weather was kind to us on our two walks in April with a large crowd enjoying the walk up Lucklaw Hill, near Balmullo, only to find that we couldn't see all that much from the top. There will be three walks in May.

1 May: A new walk for May Day, starting at Elie, going by the coastal path to St Monans, and then along roads to visit Kilconquhar for the first time – before returning by Shell Bay and Earlsferry. Since the route is about 9 miles, we plan to leave at 9am, on this occasion.

15 May: "The Maam Road", which is an old favourite – a circular walk of about 6 miles near Comrie, with some climbing but with lovely scenery.

29 May: The Coastal Path again, starting at Aberdour, and going all the way to Kirkcaldy, passing through Burntisland and Kinghorn – when the weather allows it, we usually have an ice cream to finish off lunch at Kinghorn Bay.

Hillwalkers

The weather was in our favour on 27 March when we encountered only a brief shower as we walked the circuit from Tullybaccart, via Argath Hill and up the Lundie Craigs. This is a pleasant walk that we would hope to extend by another couple of miles in the future.

Our first early start of the year led to a very full day on 10 April when we walked the 11 mile circuit of Glen Artney. We enjoyed mainly ideal walking weather, only two short showers, and were rewarded with sightings of a number of red kites as well as deer, a red squirrel and two of our ladies had a (not too) close encounter with an adder.

8 May: We plan to walk the linear route from Bankfoot via Glen Garr to The Hermitage, a pleasant walk of seven miles with 700ft of ascent.

22 May: We will tramp an old favourite circular walk from Dunkeld, via Mill Dam and Raor Lodge to Loch Ordie. This is usually a good walk to hear the cuckoos and admire the Rhododendrons.

May Meeting

At the meeting on 7 May the speaker will be Helen Gardiner, Farmer's wife. Helen writes for the Courier.

Kinross & Ochil Walking Group

(affiliated to The Ramblers' Association, Scotland)

Spring is sprung! Why not get out and about more now that days are longer? Walking is one of the best and cheapest ways of keeping fit and healthy, and it can be sociable too.

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

Sunday 10 May: Linlithgow town, river and canal - 6 miles. Walk along towpath to Avon aqueduct, then along riverbank to Linlithgow Loch. Finish with possible visit to Palace. Children welcome, but no dogs.

Saturday, 23 May: Auchlinsky, Commonedge and Seamab Hills - 5.8 miles. A walk in the Ochils reaching a height of 1530 feet, but starting from 680 feet. Good tracks with a steady climb to give superb views over the Ochils, the Lomond Hills and the River Forth. A shorter option of 4.1 miles and 700 feet of ascent is available for those who wish. No dogs please.

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

For further information on walking with the group, including further details of the above walks, where to meet and joining the Ramblers' Association, call our group Secretary Edna Burnett on 01577 862977. Or see our group website www.koramblers.org or the Ramblers' Association website www.ramblers.org.uk



Lomond Antiques and Collectors Club



Members enjoyed a fascinating talk by Susan Mills on The Alloa Pottery. Until approximately 1910, if you wanted a teapot of any size, the chances are it came from the pottery in Alloa. It might have been made on the premises or imported and the proud boast was that they kept a stock of 100,000 teapots. There were samples of other items and slides of jugs, fruit bowls etc, which, as Susan admitted, needed time to grow on you. It was very interesting to see old maps of the centre of Alloa and sad to appreciate how many industries had vanished.

In May members will visit Earlshall, the home of the Earl and Countess of Elgin.

Kinross Bridge Club

The final session of the 2008/09 season was held in The Kinross Church Centre. Results were as follows:



North/South

1st	Peter Stirling & Margo Campbell	+520
2nd	Jim Lawrie & Jock Taylor	+280

East/West

1st	John Skillen & Sandy Greenhill	+1660
2nd	Madge Malcolm & Pat Forrest	+1170

Club Championship Quaiach for season 2008/09

Winner	John Skillen	(average 62.33%)
Runner Up	Sandy Greenhill	(average 61.48%)

The 2009/10 Season will re-commence in the Church Centre on **Wednesday 23 September** at 6.45pm.

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Kinnesswood in Bloom

War Memorial Garden project

Work on the new War Memorial Garden has started and the Celtic Cross has been cut out, the bed dug over and manured. This garden is a continuation of the present War Memorial and will be dedicated by the Minister later in the year. The garden will contain a selection of grasses, hostas, perennials and annuals. The plant selection is: Hostas - Royal Standard, Invincible, Patriot and Praying Hands. Grasses will be Blue Moor and Quaking. The centre piece will be a Bleeding Heart and annuals are to be red, white and blue.

Wildflower verge

Work on the wildflower verge in Gamekeepers Road has also started and the types of flowers for this area will be a mixture of Kidney Vetch, Cornflower, Common Knapweed, Greater Knapweed, Vipers Bugloss, Field Scabious, Birdsfoot Trefoil, Wild Marjoram, Corn Poppy, Hedge Woundwort, Red Clover and Tufted Vetch with perhaps a few annuals for the first year.



Pupils from Portmoak Primary School admire their daffodils

School corner

Last Autumn, with the help of Kinnesswood in Bloom, Portmoak pupils planted bulbs along the pathway leading from the War Memorial to Whitecraigs. Recently the Eco Committee visited the garden to admire the daffodils which look lovely in the spring sunshine. Pupils regularly pass this area when they take part in cross-country runs.

Some of the pupils will be taking part in the Spring Clean in April, clearing litter from around the school grounds and monitoring the source of the litter.

The children wrote to Kinnesswood in Bloom to request help with funding and were given £20 to buy seeds and compost. They have also been busy planting a variety of vegetable seeds and tatties.

Meetings and work parties

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

The Kinnesswood in Bloom Team
www.kinnesswoodinbloom.org

**Please mention The Newsletter when
 answering advertisements**

Kinross & District Pipe Band

Pipers wanted! If you can play the pipes and are not currently in a band, *please give your local band a thought!* The Kinross Band has survived 60+ years as a competing band but currently we are woefully thin on the ground for pipers. Unlike many bands we have quite a healthy young drum corps, but we seriously need to get another few pipers on board so we can field a strong sounding corps at the various events. So if you play, even if you haven't played for a while, why not come along on Thursday evenings to keep your hand in?

We are also **more than happy to teach** any youngsters wanting to learn. Chanter lessons are every Thursday in the Masonic Hall from around 6.15pm. Boys and girls are all welcome, the ideal age to start being around 9 or 10.

Once again, **T in the Park** have confirmed the Band's participation this year, and we will be playing at the opening in July on the Friday, Saturday and Sunday. This has become a regular event for our Band, and each playing member receives their coveted Performer's Pass for the whole weekend giving access behind the stages and to the Hospitality Area.

Finally, a last reminder that the **Pipe Band Ceilidh** will be on **Friday 5 June** at the Windlestrae Hotel. **Tickets are now on sale** and can be purchased from **Nigel Kellett**, priced £10 for adults, £7.00 for concessions and £5.00 for children. To buy tickets, or for any other details on the Band, contact Nigel on **01577 863738**, or email: secretary@kinross-pipe-band.co.uk

Kinross Garden Group

Our April meeting, attended by 50 members and visitors, was addressed by Tom Hardwick from Dalkeith who gave us a demonstration on "The Art of Preparing Hanging Baskets". He also brought along some slides to illustrate the beautiful displays that could be achieved during the summer months.

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

Kinross-shire Young Farmers

We recently held our annual concert and this year we are donating £484 to The Princes' Trust. We are also having a car **Treasure Hunt** on **Friday 15 May** at Findatie Car Park. It starts at 6.30pm and there will be prizes. For any more information, call Neil on 07515715315.

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Probus Club



The speaker for the Probus meeting on Wednesday 18 March was John Ferris, and his subject the annual fire festival in Lerwick called "Up Helly Aa". John is an accountant originally from Glasgow, but in the early 1970s John and his family moved up to Shetland, and seven years after he arrived John was invited to join one of the squads. John gave the Probus club a graphic description of how the "Up Helly Aa" festival is organized. The Lerwick "Up Helly Aa" festival takes place on the last Tuesday in January every year. Preparations for this event take place months before hand, including the building of a full scale replica of a Viking galley. After night fall on the day itself the galley is dragged to a final resting place and there is a grand procession of all the squads who come with their blazing torches. There are up to 40 squads containing up to a 900 men, so they make a dramatic spectacle. Each squad chooses a theme and dresses accordingly. For instance in 1984 the squad that John Ferris was in, chose as its theme "New Zealand" and all came dressed as Kiwi birds. The members of the squads are called guizers. When all the squads arrive where the galley is, they form a circle round it and sing the "Up Helly Aa" song, then they all throw their torches into the galley. The burning galley is the climax of the celebrations but is just the start of a night of partying. Any available large room in Lerwick is pressed into service as a "hall" presided over by a group of hostesses who issue invitations to attend, and every guizer squad visits every hall in turn to dance and drink with the gusts and put on their special act. As there are up to 40 guizer squads and dozens of halls, this takes most of the night and well into the following morning. John was telling the members that as the costumes alone are often elaborate and therefore costly some of the members of the squads save up for the whole year to pay for being part of the fun. Because one of the joys of "Up Helly Aa" is the comradeship of the squads. Everybody is equal during the festival, and John was simply "John" to the other members of the squad and not Mr. Accountant. Roger Stark gave the vote of thanks, expressing the gratitude of the club for a most enjoyable afternoon.

"Land of the White Cloud" is the name the Maoris give to New Zealand, and that was the title of Derek Bethune's talk to the Probus Club on Wednesday 1 April. He started by giving a brief résumé of the history and geography of New Zealand and then he showed a superb video of the country which he had made on a visit to that land. The video started in the North of the country, showing pictures of the Bay of Islands, which is on the northwest peninsula, and continued going South till the high mountains of the Southern Alps were reached.

The members saw scenes of Rotorua - the spiritual home of the Maori people, Lake Taupo - centre of a volcanic area, Wellington - the Capital of New Zealand, Martinborough - a wine making area. And then in the South Island wonderful pictures of Christchurch - sometimes called "little England", spectacular shots of various spots in the Southern Alps around Mount Cook, such as the glaciers. The video was accompanied by a commentary which captured the spirit and feel of New Zealand. As well as the specular scenery the video showed pictures of various animals in their native setting, and well known tourist

attractions such as Bungy jumping near Queenstown, and the little steam boat that plies the waters of Milford Sound. Ted Ball expressed the appreciation of the members in his vote of thanks.

At the end of the meeting, the President, Alex Johnston had the pleasant task of admitting two new members to the club, Brian Forbes who was introduced by Jack Backhouse, and Sandy Smith who was introduced by Allan Dearing.

The speaker for the meeting on 15 April was Mrs Joan Blue, the wife of the late Jimmy Blue, a very well known band leader in the Scottish country dance scene. When Jimmy and Joan got engaged a local newspaper carried the story under the title "They shall have music". This certainly turned out to be true, for as time went on Jimmy formed his own band, which became the backing group to Andy Stewart, the legendary Scottish singer. As Andy Stewart's reputation grew, he travelled further afield, and Jimmy Blue's band came too. Jimmy and his friends travelled all over the world. But Jimmy died in December 1999, and Joan wondered what she would do. Then she saw an advert in a newspaper: "Music in Hospitals is looking for volunteers" so she and a friend, Stella Wilie, applied. The audition was in St George's music school, and the judges used the girls from the school as an audience. As the children had a wonderful time, Joan and Stella were accepted. During the years they have played at many venues, from psychiatric hospitals to Roxburgh House Hospice, every time giving pleasure and improving the patients' morale.

Joan told some wonderful stories of well-known people in the Scottish music scene, and then asked for any requests. She played "Highland Cathedral", "Bluebell Polka", "The Dark Island" and "The Mingulay Boat Song". Duncan Stenhouse gave the vote of thanks, expressing the appreciation of the members for a wonderful afternoon.

The Annual General Meeting followed. The following are the office bearers for the year 2009/2010: President: Duncan Stenhouse, Vice-President: Ken Morrison, Treasurer: Jim Ritchie, Secretary: Harry McLellan, Outings Organiser: Bill Michie and Programme Convenor: Bill Connolly. Continuing in their present positions are Bowls Convener: Kelvin Rae, Golf Convener: Ron MacDonald, Reception Conveners: Brian Clark and Malcolm Mason.

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The Pram Service?

At 10am on a Tuesday morning there is a Service (with a difference) held in Kinross Parish Church. The Pram Service started some nine years ago and is led by the Rev. Evelyn Cairns and is for the carers of young children and of course for the children too. The atmosphere is happy and filled with the sound of children enjoying themselves. It is somewhere where anything could happen! The children are encouraged to join in with the Service, they have their own little seats, and the activities are designed especially for them. For example, the children put smiley faces on to bouncy balls to say 'thank you' to God for the things that make them happy. Thanks could be given for sweets, brothers, sisters or anything that comes to their little minds. The children sing action songs and say prayers and have craft activities that fit in with the theme of the service. They have stories based on 'Kate' who is always in mischief and they find out the meanings of their own names. The children are encouraged to ask questions and the responses are handled in a sensitive and caring way that befits their age. The Service is interactive so that the Church feels like their Church. It may be that as the three year olds leave the Pram Service the remaining children are much younger so the focus of the Service changes and it may be more relevant to the Carers.

Mums, Dads, Grandparents and Carers from any denomination can enjoy being in Church, together with the under 3's in their care, to join in worship and to share their experiences. The Church is not austere but welcoming and has an ambience that the children like and feel comfortable with. Comments made by a Mum who came to the Pram Service when children in her care were young were that Evelyn had a wonderful way with children and adults alike and the Mum had enjoyed coming to the Pram Service, as everyone was so friendly and helpful. This is still true today. There is coffee and a chat after the service that ensures a developing sense of the Community; the Carers go out for a meal together and on the last occasion there were ten Mums, one Dad and Evelyn; it is an opportunity for people to turn to their friends at the Pram Service if they want to talk.

Some Carers, having experienced the Pram Service, may want to come to the Sunday Service. If they decide to do this they will discover that the Church provides a crèche where children can be left for part or all of the Service. There are 14 volunteers on the crèche team and a rota is in operation. Each member of the team enjoys looking after the children and there are lots of toys and games together with music to keep the children happy. We also have two young people who help us every week. They are working towards the Duke of Edinburgh Awards and they have become valuable members of the team.

It is fascinating to watch the children become our little 'seniors' at 3 years of age. This is especially true if they have been to the Pram Service or to the crèche since they were babies. Once the children reach the age of 3 they can 'graduate' to Junior Church where they will join the 'Sparklers', a section of Junior Church specially designed for their age group. They may start out enjoying the activities of the Pram Service on a Tuesday and the crèche on a Sunday and move on when they are ready to become 'Sparklers'. It is also good that adults and children can enjoy worship together and that the experience can be fun.

Kinross Potager Garden

Our Daffodil tea for Marie Curie Cancer Care

was held in the garden on a bright but chilly morning on 28 March. It was a great success, with over 40 visitors, raising £176.51 for Marie Curie. We also sold over £80 worth of plants, for garden funds, some of which has been used for new gloves for the children who visit from the Primary school.

I would like to thank all the volunteers who helped with preparations, home baking, and on the day, and also Somerfield who donated tea, coffee and biscuits. Thank you also to Somerfield and Williamsons florists who donated bunches of daffodils to sell.



The children enjoyed making paper daffodils, and planting sunflower seeds at the Daffodil tea.

Mrs McDonald's Primary 5 class have made their first visit to the garden, and enjoyed a mini-beast hunt, and planting some vegetable seeds. They will continue gardening, and learning about the environment and growing their own vegetables, one afternoon a week during the summer term.

Our next plant sale will be on Saturday 30 May from 10.30 am until 12. This will again include shrubs, perennials and soft fruit, as well as herbs, and young vegetable and salad plants grown by the school children. Do come along to support them, and try growing some for yourselves; you don't need a big garden, and can grow attractive salads and vegetables in large pots in any sunny spot.

The garden is open in Bowton Road every day in the summer. For further information, please contact Amanda James, tel 840809.

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Kinross & District Rotary Club



The members were treated to a personal reading from local author Gillian Galbraith's new novel,

Dying of the Light, at their meeting on 16 March. Gillian also described how following a convent education and careers in dish washing, journalism and the legal profession she turned to writing. Her first two novels, *Blood in the Water* and *Where the Shadow Falls* introduced Edinburgh detective Alice Rice and the launching of novels three and four are eagerly awaited. The vote of thanks was given by Rotarian Stanley Bayne.

Thanks to the assistance of a variety of talented artistes from Kinross High School concerts have been held at Whyte Court and Causeway Court. The residents were entertained by talented singers, dancers and piano and fiddle recitals. The master of ceremonies, Rotarian John Stewart, was also prompted to sing some of his old favourites.

Thanks to a case of mistaken identity the meeting on 23 March enjoyed a most entertaining talk from Duncan McNiven entitled "you could not make it up". Duncan, a resident of Glenfarg, related a series of humorous tales from his experiences in farming, merchant banking and insurance, many of which were in verse. There followed some interesting questions and answers and Rotarian Alan Russell, giving the vote of thanks, found that his comments give rise to further amusing anecdotes.

Jill Moodie, from the Scottish Government's Directorate for Planning and Environmental Appeals, was the speaker at the meeting held on 30 March. Jill explained that around 1300 decisions and reports on planning and related case were undertaken each year. Also the powers contained within the Planning Act 2006 would start to be introduced this year which will bring major reforms and lead to speedier decisions and greater certainty for all involved.

The Council for the next Rotary year was elected at the Club Annual General Meeting held on 6 April, with the principal positions being: President David Reid, Vice President John Matthew, Secretary Kelvin Reay and Treasurer, Bill Blanche. At the same meeting new members Oliver Bell and Bob Watson were inducted to membership of the Club.

The mind of the Maker – creativity & human work was the subject of Brian Ogilvie's talk to the Club on Easter Monday. Brian, a Church of Scotland Reader at Cleish & Fossoway, talked of his interest in the life of Dorothy L Sayers and recommended the reading of her books. He also talked of her involvement in early advertising campaigns including the Guinness Toucan series. Afterward, a question session provoked an interesting discussion on a variety of subjects.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation have announced that they will commit an additional 250 million US dollars, over and above its initial 100 million dollars, to Rotary International's campaign to eliminate polio throughout the entire world. In return, Rotary International has agreed to raise 200 million dollars by June 2012.

The main objective of Rotary is service - in the community, in the workplace, and throughout the world. Rotarians develop community service projects that address many of today's most critical issues, such as children at risk, poverty and hunger, the environment, illiteracy, and violence. They also support programs for youth, educational opportunities and international exchanges for students, teachers, and other professionals, and vocational and career development. If you would like further information contact our secretary Kelvin Reay at reay849@btinternet.com or log on to www.ribi.org.

A huge thank-you from The WEB Project!

Thanks to your donations, The WEB Project will be undergoing an extra-special 'spring-clean' to make it a more attractive centre for young people to come for advice and help or simply to get involved in the activities on offer.

The WEB Project has been lucky enough to receive some very generous donations from Kinross-shire Churches Together, including Cleish Parish Church, Orwell and Portmoak Parish Church and Kinross Parish Church. In addition, The Rotary Club of Kinross and District have also made a considerable donation. On behalf of all the staff and young people who make use of the project, we would like to say a 'huge' thank you to all the local organisations that have kindly held fund-raising events and donated the proceeds to the project. In total, we have received an amazing sum of over £1000, which will be put towards the redecoration and refurbishment of the local base. We are also aiming to upgrade some of the educational resources we have which will help to deliver more effective health education in a fun and informal way.

As soon as the light nights and better weather is upon us, we can be found in the big park at Milnathort playing sport or having fitness sessions on Monday nights. On Thursday nights we have a parenting programme on offer. If you sign up for all the sessions, you can take home a 'reality baby' for one night! We are also holding a healthy eating programme, showing how you can make low cost, healthy snacks with minimum effort. All recipes welcome!

The WEB Project, part of Cair Scotland, offers support and information on all health matters to 10 to 25 as well informal education sessions twice weekly on Monday and Thursday nights in our Milnathort base. We also work in partnership with the School Nurse and Community Learning Worker to provide a lunchtime drop-in at Kinross High School at 12.40 on Mondays. Young people are able to get to know the workers so that if they have a problem they know where to go for help.

We also deliver sessions on sexual health, relationships, peer pressure, self-esteem and substance misuse. In addition, we offer one-to-one confidential support to young people in need of extra help at difficult times.

For more information about Cair Scotland visit www.cairscotland.org.uk

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

Milnathort Town Hall Association

Due to the Easter holidays we have not yet had our April meeting; this is scheduled for 27 April and will double up as our May meeting also. This does mean that we are unable to give any information about our progress on securing a lease for the premises.

However, we can report that our Open Day was a resounding success with many people attending during the day and browsing the vast selection of pictures brought along by Robin and his colleagues from the Kinross Historical Society. Over a very busy afternoon we managed to raise £150 towards our funds in donations alone, which was fantastic. This success was matched by our evening with Jimmy Smith where ticket sales for his presentation on his trip to the North Pole almost doubled the afternoon's collections to give our funds a much needed boost. Both events were well received by all who managed to attend and we thank everyone involved for their time and enthusiasm. Mr MacGregor from South Lissens Pottery in Milnathort sadly was unable to attend but sent along a donation of £30.00 for which we are extremely grateful – thank you.

Our latest venture is one that will see us collaborating with Andrew Scott of Scott Hospitality Services to provide a venue and catering for functions. The hall is a perfect space for parties, dances etc and Andrew is able to cater for any such function according to your needs and, perhaps more importantly, your budget. For children's parties you could hire the hall and organise a magician or puppet show – we have even had a bouncy castle in there – the options are endless. For the grown-ups, we hold a Public Entertainment Licence which allows you to have a band or disco on the premises however, we do not have a licence to sell alcohol. No licence is actually required if you "bring your own" and a one-off licence can be obtained from P&KC should you wish to sell alcohol at an event. MTHA is a charitable organisation and all monies raised from events and functions are re-invested in the property to keep it in the community and for the community so this is actually a fun way to support us.

With regard to our ongoing ambitions to renovate the hall, we are still keen to hear from designers and architects who might be interested in putting forward their suggestions. A briefing document has been prepared by Scott Strachan which provides a summary of the background and history of the building, and our main objectives for the future. Copies of this document are available from committee members on request.

As touched on briefly in the last article, we are trying to establish a film/cinema facility for the village and surroundings and over the Easter weekend our Film Club Sub-committee attended a workshop in Falkirk to gather some information about this. Overall it was a very successful day and we have come home with loads of ideas. We could still do with another couple of pairs of hands to get this going and in particular could really use someone who is good with Audio Visual equipment.

Finally, we are still on the hunt for a new Chairperson – sadly no takers so far. Even if you are not looking to become Chair but would be interested in joining the committee please get in touch – the more people we have, the more we can achieve. Contacts:

Murray Mitchell – Chairman 07872 318186

Kirsty Cassells – Treasurer 07976 056416

mthcommittee@btinternet.com

Kinross Boys' & Girls' Brigade



Junior section members of Perth Battalion BB held three separate competitions over one weekend in late March and the 1st Kinross Company finished top in all three.

The new Bankfoot Church hosted the figure marching and potted sports competitions, both of which were won by the boys and girls of the Kinross Company.

The Sunday evening saw six teams meet at Kinross Parish Church for the Battalion Bible Quiz competition. In a very close competition the 1st Kinross Company retained the quiz trophy, beating 1st Bankfoot by just a single point. The very first Bible Quiz competition was held in Perth's North Church



in 1966 and the winners then were, yes, Kinross. On that night 43 years ago the Company was presented with a special certificate presented by the founder captain of Kinross, Mr Roderick Beaton, who at that time served as a reserve officer within Perth Battalion.

Company Section members boosted their trophy haul for the season by winning the inaugural unihoc tournament at Bell's Sports Centre and retaining the Battalion Drill Medal. A junior drill squad finished third with Blairgowrie finishing second.

The annual midnight hike competition held at Bankfoot was won by the 3rd Perth (Kinnoull Church) Company. Still to come are the results of the annual scripture search competition, the Officers and Boys/Girls Volleyball Cup and the Battalion Sports at Perth Academy on 9 May.

The annual display and presentation of awards will take place at Kinross Church Centre on **Friday 15 May**, commencing at 7 pm, to which all parents are friends are invited.

Portmoak Hall 100 Club

March Draw

1st	No 14	Sheena Buchanan, Kinnesswood
2nd	No 42	Joe Smith, Scotlandwell
3rd	No 100	Mary Morgan, Kinnesswood

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Kinross High School Citizenship Quaich

Ethos of the Award

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

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

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

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

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

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

Which might enable them to improve their:

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

These awards are to be presented on the evening of the High School Prize Giving in June 2009 for each of the year groups.

What the School Council needs from you are:

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

Nominations and supporting evidence should be sent to the address shown no later than **1.00pm on Monday 1 June 2009**.

Please return your completed nomination to: Kinross High School Citizenship Quaich, The Kinross High School Council, The School Secretary, Kinross High School, 8 High Street, Kinross, KY13 8AW. Nominations should arrive no later than 1.00 pm on Monday 1 June 2009.

Kinross High School Citizenship Quaich - 2009 Nomination Form

Name of person, persons or organisation making the nomination:										
Contact postal address and telephone number of person, persons or organisation making the nomination:										
I/We wish to nominate the following Kinross High School pupil (or pupils) for the award of the 2009 Kinross High School Citizenship Cup:											
Pupil/ Groups of pupils full name:										
School year category (Circle as appropriate):						1st & 2nd		3rd & 4th		5th & 6th	
Reason for nomination:											

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Kinross High School Parent Council



School Uniform Purple Blazer

There is a consensus amongst pupils, parents and school staff that supports the wearing of school uniform and in particular the traditional purple blazer. KHSPC has identified appropriate suppliers of uniform blazer. The KHSPC will market and sell the new blazers through the school, commencing early in the summer term. On specified daytimes and evenings members of the KHSPC will be on hand at the High School with sample blazers sizes to allow individual fittings and to take orders. The KHSPC will also be on hand at the feeder primary school P7 parent's information evening and at the P7 induction days planned in June.

Kinross High School Citizenship Cup

The annual KHSPC Citizenship Cup awards are presented in June of each year and are open to any pupil at Kinross High School. The awards recognise outstanding commitment and achievement in the community by a young person or a group of young people. Please make the time to identify and nominate our deserving youngsters. A nomination slip for this year's awards together with details of the award categories and conditions is included in this edition of the Kinross Newsletter (*see p.32*).

KHSPC Annual General Meeting

This year's KHSPC AGM takes place on **Tuesday 9 June** at 7.15pm at the High School. Parents and guardians of pupils attending Kinross High School are most welcome to attend the meeting. Two new parent members are normally elected to the KHSPC by open majority vote at the AGM. Written and seconded nominations for guardians or parents wishing to stand for election to the KHSPC are to be forwarded to the Clerk a minimum of fourteen days before the date of the AGM, i.e. by **Tuesday 26 May**. The KHSPC office bearers are also selected at the AGM by the parent membership.

Role of the KHSPC

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

The next KHSPC meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday 2 June** starting at 7.15pm at the High School. Parents and guardians of pupils attending Kinross High School are most welcome to attend the meeting.

To raise any issue regarding the KHSPC and parental involvement in the High School, please contact:

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

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Telephone : **Fossoway 01577 840526**

Common Grounds



Another month has passed by and spring came for a few days but now we are back to cold winds, this is a way of letting you know that our log fire is still going strong. We are still taking in tree limbs and other hard woods.

Project: The current project is the Eden Mozambique Project. This is a not-for-profit organisation in what was a former Portuguese speaking colony. They give free lessons teaching English with no restrictions on age, sex or former education.

Our next project will be our annual "Out of Africa" project and we have yet to decide on which one, as you can imagine we are spoilt for choice but the team have narrowed it down to three and the Volunteers will make their decision at their next meeting, more news on this next month.

Milnathort Primary School: Just before the Easter holiday the Project Co-ordinator team were invited to speak to the Primary 5s at the school who are doing a project on Kenya. The team were asked to share information with the pupils on how Common Grounds helps projects in Africa. Many questions were asked and a good time was had by all and the team felt that they had learnt from the pupils as well as being able to share their knowledge with the class.

Project Lunch: We invite you to come along to our project lunch on **Wednesday 13 May**. Our speaker will be Alison Grahame from Sight Savers. She will be speaking about their work to combat 'river blindness' which affects communities living by or near riverbanks in many third-world countries, particularly in Africa. The talk will start at 12.30pm. Home-made soup and bread will be served afterwards. All are welcome.

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

We are still busy chopping wood for the fire and still require volunteers of either sex to help us with various duties and if the man named Steve who rang about the Treasurer's post is still interested please do get back in touch with Jim Henry (01577 864452). Do remember our opening hours are 10am – 3pm on Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday in the Guide and Scout Hall, Church Street, Milnathort. You are most welcome so do please pop in for a coffee, chat or warm up at the log fire, any one or all three or buy Fairtrade goods or second hand books (that are arranged by authors A-Z).

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

HOLIDAY APARTMENT TO LET IN CYPRUS

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Contact Lawrence on 07836 578563

Or e-mail lbec@rumenco.co.uk

Kinross in Bloom

The Committee members and volunteers have now planted up the summer hanging baskets. These will be looked after during May to allow them to mature before they are hung out.

Over the first weekend in June you will see activities to bring the town "into bloom":

Friday 5 June 7.30pm: 60 hanging baskets will be transported and hung up throughout the town. The baskets are heavy and help from fit, strong people would be very welcome.

Saturday 6 June 10am: the tubs and tiered planters will be planted up.

If you can come along to help, please let Sarah Cuthbert know on 01577 861001. The hanging baskets and tubs need watered throughout the summer. A team of volunteers use the watering buggy from early June to water the plants around the town. If you could spare just a few hours help on a regular or relief basis then please contact Aileen Sorbie 01577 861477.

If you can't help with the plants then could you give a small financial contribution by joining the 200 club? It costs £1 a month and 50% of the proceeds are returned in prizes each month. Contact Sarah Cuthbert 01577 861001.

200 Club winners -April

£20	Number 15	Ellen Milne
£10	Number 48	Mrs N Butler
£ 5	Number 9	Cath Watson
£ 5	Number 8	Mrs Ann Robbie

Kinross & District Town Twinning Association

A Pot Luck Supper was held on 24 April and the next event will be the **Annual Spring Fayre** and Garden Party on **Saturday 23 May** at Chris Renton's Smiddy House (adjacent to the Town Hall at the bottom half of the High Street). The Fayre will commence at 10 am and continue until 1 pm, with teas and coffees, cake & candy, bottle stall, book stall, plant stall and bath & beauty stall.

Twenty two members of the association will be making a twinning visit to Gacé at the end of July, the majority of the party flying from Edinburgh to Paris where they will be collected by the Gacé Association and taken to the homes of their host families.

Children's Hospice Association Scotland

CHAS Sales Table: Would you like to support CHAS by having a sales table of CHAS gifts and novelty items at any of your events this summer? CHAS would be delighted to sell a range of fun and exciting gifts for all the family, from our new funky key covers, boxed games, books and stationery to our trendy thistle tea towels, kimmi dolls, scarves and jewellery. For more information call Frances Todd on 01577 865557 for details.

Volunteering in the CHAS Shops: CHAS volunteers help to keep the two CHAS charity shops and gift shop in Kinross open six days a week. If you are interested in volunteering some of your spare time in the CHAS shops and would like to know more, please call Frances Todd on 01577 865557.



MTKY - Musical Theatre for Kinross-shire Youth



The cast of Godspell wish to thank everyone who came and supported them in their recent production. They enjoyed the experience, and were hearted by the positive comments given. Thank you very much.

MTKY are now rehearsing for Pirates of Penzance in September 2009 – a popular Gilbert and Sullivan show, which will be familiar to some and totally unknown to others. Our version will be updated, but will contain the original songs, including 'For I am a Pirate King' and the Major General's patter song.

Anyone wishing more information can contact Lynn 863271 or Isobel 862970.

Kinross Primary Parent Council

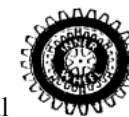


The Parent Council is working with the Primary School to raise money to build an Eco Greenhouse within the grounds of the school. This would be a facility for the children to learn about plants and to grow their own vegetables. The project would also involve creating an area within the school for teaching food preparation and kitchen skills.

As part of the fund-raising for this project, children and their families will be encouraged to participate in a 'Family Fun Day' at Kirkgate Park on **Saturday 6 June**. The main activity will be a sponsored orienteering course set out within the Park and along the first part of the Loch Leven Heritage Trail. Different graded courses will be designed for children within each school year group, with prizes for the winners in each section. More details through the school and in the June newsletter.

Finally, the current office bearers are now nearing the end of their two-year term, and so the Parent Council will be looking for new leadership at their AGM in June. Being a member of the Parent Council is a great opportunity to work with the school to improve the education given to our children. If you would like to contribute to the Parent Council in any way, then please speak to one of the current members. Contact details are available on the school website: www.kinross-pri.pkc.sch.uk/council.htm

Kinross & District Inner Wheel



The April Meeting proved to be very successful evening with various members relating tales of their earliest memories. All were extremely interesting with some very amusing stories, especially our president Alison who told us what it was like to grow up on a hill in SW Ayrshire in a grim, north facing, windy, cold manse!

Our next meeting will be an open meeting on **11 May**, when the speaker will be Mr Andrew Morton.

Community Website

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

Sports News



Kinross Road Runners



Our results for March and April show that KRR members continue to improve their performances with another set of personal best times to report. It just goes to show how running with the club can improve your performance! The summer training schedule is underway and as well as the usual Wednesday night session there is now a second session on a Tuesday night. For the Wednesday night sessions we now meet at 6.45pm at the Health Centre car park or 7pm at the venue for the night's session. On Tuesdays the meeting time is 7pm at the bottom end of the Kirkgate Park except for the first Tuesday in the month when the meeting point is the Health Centre car park. Wednesday nights generally involve a hill or off road run (weather permitting) whilst Tuesdays are primarily for speed work over 1km circuits or a two-mile timed course. The full programme is available on the club website (Google "Kinross Road Runners" to find it).

This year's **Loch Leven Half Marathon** is now only a couple of weeks away on **Saturday 16 May**. The High School is the registration point and there is likely to be a steady stream of runners visiting Kinross and the school to register and collect their numbers on the morning of the race. The race starts at Bridgend Industrial Estate at 1pm and heads out of Kinross south along the B996. So if you are planning a trip into Kinross on the morning of May 16th you may need to allow a bit of extra time as the traffic will be held back for the start of the race. The race finishes at the KGV where there will be refreshments and other entertainment courtesy of KLEO. There will also be a kids fun run at the KGV starting at 1.30pm. The fun run is organised by Swansacre Playgroup and all proceeds from the fun run go to the play group.

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Bishopshire Junior Badminton Club



End of Season Tournaments

Primary Girls Singles Winner: **JENNIFER WEIR**, R/Up: **SAMANTHA PHILP**.

Primary Boys Singles Winner: **DUNCAN PETER**, R/Up: **SAM FRASER**.

Primary Girls Doubles Winners: **SAMANTHA PHILP** and **REBECCA ELLIS**, R/Up: **CHARLOTTE YEAMAN** and **EMMA THORNTON**.

High School Boys Singles Winner: **JACK FRASER**, R/Up: **DOUGLAS PETER**

Well done to all who took part in the Tournament. The new Season 2009/2010 will begin on **Wednesday 9 September**.

Orwell Bowling Club

Temperatures on the morning of Saturday 18 April were reminiscent of those in February, and it seemed they were to remain so as the Opening of The Green time approached. Out came the thermals and on went several layers - oh to be able to wear ski gloves! However, a wonderful turnout of 32 players and many social members and families attended, many sitting outside, just glad to be in the fresh air after a long winter. With a neat, even number, eight rinks played five ends progressively, with two teams tying at 10 shots up at the end of the 15 ends, one skipped by Harry Kinloch, the other by Alistair Morgan.

The hot soup, sandwiches, tea and coffee quickly warmed blue fingers in time to turn out bags and pockets to find hastily stowed raffle tickets. Some £140 in donations and raffle proceeds were taken on the day - a most generous contribution indeed; this will be added to proceeds from the RNLI game to be played on Closing Day in September, then divided between the latter charity and the Blind Bowlers Association.

Our first friendly will be on Sunday 26 April at Strathmiglo, followed by the Kinross game on Thursday evening 7 May. We are all eager to be out on the green enjoying what we fervently hope will be a fine, warm season.

Kinross Men's Hockey Club

Kinross ended up in third place with 27 points in the East District Division Two league after a superb ten league-game run since the New Year, losing only one game to league winners Alloa, 2-4. For the record, Kinross played 18: won 8, drew 4 and lost 6. A great credit to all the hard work put in not only by the players, but also by the Captain, David Goodenough and Coach, Alan Dickie.

Mixed Summer Hockey starts in May and all are most welcome. There are weekly evening games on Wednesday nights 6.30pm until 8pm. There will also be lots of friendly games and tournaments throughout the summer. Two stipulations: Over 14 and compulsory FUN!

For further information and contact details visit our website: www.kinrosshockey.co.uk or phone David Goodenough on 07968 729 218 or e-mail: dgoodenough@pkc.gov.uk

Kinross Ladies Hockey Club

The culmination of the Midlands season is the Knock Out Cup. To be fair, this season's cup routine hadn't exactly gone to plan for Kinross. Our 1st team were given a bye in round one, whilst our 2nd team were due to play St Andrews Uni. Unfortunately St Andrews Uni had to concede that match which meant that our 2's remained in the cup, rather than the plate competition. Thoughts of 2 Kinross teams in a final were then dashed when we were drawn to play against each other in the next round. Sadly, due to injury, holidays and various other reasons, we were unable to field 2 teams on the due date and our 2's conceded the match.



Kinross Ladies Hockey Club – Midlands Knockout Cup Winners 2009

Without a match played thus far in the competition Kinross found themselves in the semi finals with a home fixture v Perthshire. We knew it was going to be a tough game, however after a very spirited performance full time concluded with a one all draw. Penalty strokes then ensued with Kinross scoring from all 5 strokes and Tracy Peterson managing a great save to bring us out 5-4 winners on strokes. A week later and we were at Dawson Park, Dundee for the final against Brechin. With 2 injuries sustained the weekend prior and 2 early Easter holiday-makers (our captain being one!) we headed off with a youthful team. Brechin took an early lead, but Kinross managed to equalise and score another to lead us 2-1 up into half time. The weather conditions improved slightly and so did our hockey, and the match ended with a 6-1 victory for Kinross.

Congratulations to the team members who put their all into these 2 games and managed to ensure that the club was not bereft of silverware this season!

Congratulations also go to Jenni Smith, who has been awarded the monthly Junior Sports Person award, sponsored by Highland Spring in Blackford. This award aims to recognise young people who do well in sport and to encourage these young performers, and use them not only as ambassadors of the sport but also as excellent role models for other young people. Jenni will receive £100 to assist with the costs of her training, equipment and travel costs, and a Highland Spring goodie bag.

We still look forward to the annual Tour at the end of May, when we will be heading forth to Aviemore. A friendly match against Inveross is in prospect, and it should prove a good time for building on the team spirit shown this year.

The new competitive season will start at the end of August, and training will restart in mid August. In the meantime mixed summer hockey will take place from 6.30 – 8pm each Wednesday evening throughout the summer.

Kinross United AFC



We are very happy so far with our season as newcomers in the Kingdom League. We have had our ups and downs but feel we have achieved all we set out to do. Our facilities are admired by the other teams and this helps to cement our relationship with them. The players have responded well to the challenge in a higher league and we look forward to raising the bar next season.

We are always looking for new players, committee members and sponsors, so if you are interested please phone Alan Fraser on 01577 862018.

Kinross Bowling Club

The green opened on Saturday 18 April, on a dry but cold day. We had a great turnout and played 11 ends of bowls, followed by sandwiches and cakes.

A big thank you to everyone included in getting the club shipshape again and the green ready for play once more.

We had our first friendly this year on Sunday 19 April amid glorious sunshine and were narrowly beaten by Dollar at Dollar. Let us hope this great weather will continue for the rest of the season and let us get some good bowling.

We look forward to welcoming new members, and anyone who would like to have a go. We have a qualified coach, who can give advice etc, so come along and join us –

Hat games – Wed evenings 6.30pm
Sat evenings 6.30pm
Sun afternoon 2.30pm

or call the Secretary on 01577 864727.

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Kinross Tennis Club

The daffodils are out, spring is in the air, but is there a spring in your tennis step?

Our new season got underway on 28 March with a successful open day. Memberships were renewed and some fair weather tennis was enjoyed by all, despite bracing temperatures. If you didn't manage to attend, don't worry, memberships can be taken out and renewed on Wednesday nights from 6.30pm at the clubhouse, or by contacting **Gail Nelson** on **07703 132105**.

Junior Club night (an adult supervised session) has started, running from 5.30pm until 7pm on Tuesdays. **Senior Club night** has never stopped thanks to the floodlights, and runs on Wednesdays from 6.30pm onwards and Sunday morning sessions have also commenced, starting 10.30am.

The Tennis Tayside league calendar has been published and our first games are as follows:

Ladies Division 2

Mon	27 April	v	Scone 1	away
Mon	4 May	v	Kinnoull 2	home
Mon	11 May	v	David Lloyds 1	away
Mon	18 May	v	Broughty Ferry 1	away
Mon	25 May	v	Falkland 1	home

Gents Division 6

Tues	28 April	v	West End 3	away
Thurs	7 May	v	Scone 2	home
Thurs	14 May	v	St Andrews 4	away
Thurs	21 May	v	Glenfarg 2	home
Thurs	28 May	v	Montrose 2	home

We would very much like to strengthen our junior section with more members aged 12 and over. If you are interested in playing, but none of your friends are, don't worry, we can put you in contact with other members and get you started.

We are striving to have enough members to enter the junior tennis leagues next season, so come on give it a try.

Coaching runs all year round for both adults and juniors and is taken by our coach Laura Grimmond. Our current block of adult lessons has just ended, but more dates will be published. Junior Easter Coaching was incredibly well attended with about 50 juniors taking part, and summer term coaching is now underway on Friday evenings, running until 26 June - for further details on junior coaching please contact Gillian on 01577 861525.

A diary of events is planned for this season; the first, our annual quiz, has already taken place on 20 April in The Kirklands Hotel - our thanks to quiz master Mike Spain once again. The next social event will be our **Summer BBQ on 25 July** - details to follow.

The club is always looking for new members and would encourage anyone interested in playing tennis, socially or competitively, to contact us. Enquiries can be made to **Aileen Jones** on **07881 594093** or to any other club member.



Kinross Curling Club



Another successful season has drawn to a close with strong Club representation in a number of National competitions. Special mention must be to the rink of David Clydesdale, Alistair Wood, Jim Taylor and Douglas Rodger on reaching the final of the Scottish Seniors, narrowly losing out in the last end and missing out on representing Scotland in the World finals in New Zealand. Also Lee and Ross McCleary and Craig Gudmundsson on reaching the finals of the Scottish Men's and David Clydesdale and Douglas Rodger on reaching the semi-final of the Scottish Pairs.

At Club level the Lomond League and Green Hotel League were both retained, these sitting along side the Province Bonspiel. In addition, rinks representing the Club reached the quarter final of the Scottish Province Championship and the semi-final of the RCCC Rink Championship.

Within the Club the following are the results as declared at the AGM:

Rankine Cup	Ross McCleary, Sean Clemie, Blair Melville, Steve Kinninmonth
MacKintosh	Lee McCleary, Stuart Skinner, Craig Gudmundsson, Sandy Davidson
Hogg Trophy	David Beveridge, Bruce Robbie, Keith McLachlan, Robert Mitchell

Points

Beveridge Bowl	Lee McCleary
Silver Medal	Sean Clemie
Bronze Medal	David Beveridge
Fife Quaich	Keith McLachlan
Jubilee Salver	Blair Melville, Stewart Wallace, Ian Muirhead, Gordon Douglas
Gallowhill	Ian Johnston, Shane Johnston,
Ploughshare	Sandy Nelson, Jim Taylor
Poole Trophy	Iain Cormack, Sean Clemie, Archie Bogie, Sandy Davidson
Montgomery Trophy	Lee McCleary, Gavin Baird, Jim Paterson, Jamie Montgomery
Fulton Quaich	Iain Cormack, Shane Johnston, Gregor Hutcheson, Sandy Davidson

Gartwhinzean Cup (pairs high road)	Douglas Rodger, Craig Gudmundsson
Skinner Trophy (pairs low road)	Bruce Robbie, Gregor Hutcheson
Gallowhill Cup (Kinross v Orwell)	Ross McCleary, Sean Clemie, Blair Melville, Simon Dunn
Burt Graham Cup (Kinross v Dunfermline)	David Beveridge, Ian Johnston, John Stewart, Stuart Campbell
Tams Tankard	Steve Kinninmonth
Opening Bonspiel	David Clydesdale, Shane Johnston, Archie Bogie, Steve Wilcox
Roxburgh Cup (town 27 - country 25)	Sandy Nelson, Alistair Wood, Keith McLachlan, Steve Wilcox

At a well attended AGM on Tuesday 14 April the new office bearers and Committee were elected, these being:

President: Alistair Wood, Vice-President: Douglas Rodger, Secretary: Blair Melville, Treasurer: Stuart Skinner, Match Secretary: Ross McCleary, Pond Master: Douglas Rodger.

Committee: Gavin Baird, Lee McCleary, Iain Cormack, Sean Clemie, Bruce Robbie, Jamie Montgomery, David Beveridge (Past President).

Curling

Easter Pairs Winners

SANDY HAY and his son **JAMES** (12) won the Green Hotel Easter Pairs competition, beating Lee McLeary and Craig Gudmundsson.

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Kinross Cycling Club



Kinross Cycling Club is now officially affiliated to Scottish/British Cycling. This gives us vital third party liability for club rides. Membership fee is £10 per annum but this gives you free personal (Bronze) membership of British Cycling (normally £13.50) and discount off Silver and Gold membership. See www.britishcycling.org.uk for details.

If you want to try cycling to get fit or stay fit, do it now! When the weather is good, there is no better way to see the beautiful Kinross-shire countryside (and Clackmannanshire, Fife and Perthshire!). We continue to meet at 9am on Sundays from Kinross High School and 6.45pm on Thursdays from the Health Centre - numbers are growing! See our new website for details:

www.kinrosscyclingclub.co.uk

Keep cycling!

DR RODDY PATTISON is gearing up for the first fundraiser of the season all in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support, the Etape Caledonia (several cycling club members are taking part - check next month's Newsletter for results). Donate to Macmillan at the health centre or online at www.justgiving.com/venividiventoux The Ventoux looms!

Kinross Volleyball Club

Training has resumed at Kinross High School games hall on Monday evenings following the school holidays. The club, having won all four trophies in the Perth District League, is now preparing for the Scottish Open Volleyball Tournament which will be held on Perth's North Inch over the weekend of 23 and 24 May, attracting over 100 teams from around the world.

The Annual General Meeting of Kinross Volleyball Club will be held at Kinross Chinese Restaurant at 8pm on **Monday 4 May**.

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Kinross Badminton Club



Annual Tournament Results 2008/2009

Mens Singles	Winner Patrick McHugh	Runner-up Steve Thomson
---------------------	---------------------------------	-----------------------------------

Unfortunately due to a knee injury Steve had to withdraw from the final and concede to Patrick. It would have made for an exciting match.

Ladies Singles	Nicola McGuigan	Alison Scott
Mixed Doubles	N McGuigan & M Naylor	C Blair & R Mitusch
Mens Doubles	S Thomson & H Donaldson	Rory Cooper & D Cameron
Ladies Doubles	Isa Croll & M Donaldson	Alison Scott & K Kinloch

Well done to all the winners and all who participated. The presentation of trophies will be held at the Club's **BBQ** on **30 May** at the Club President's house. The last night of the season will be held at 8pm-10pm on Tuesday 26 May.

A Hawaiian themed night will be held at 7.30pm on **Friday 8 May** at the Club President's house to raise money for our local charity, Rachel House; members from Drumbræ in Edinburgh have been invited as well. We hope as many members as possible can turn up to help support this worthy cause. If you are interested or want to find out more about joining the Club or coaching please get in touch. Contact: Bill Macdonald 01577862592, Mark Moran 01577 842239 / moran319@btinternet.com Stephen Ross 07858026654 or visit www.kinrossbadmintonclub.com

Kinross Junior Badminton Club

As we come to the end of our season again, our young players had a visit from the company Yonex International, who sponsor all the major badminton championships. The evening was organised through Dylan, Sales and Promotional executive for Yonex. He brought along three of our top Scottish Junior players: Pauk Van-Reitveble, Angus Gilmore and Martin Campbell, who is Yonex British player of the year and Bronze medallist in last year's Commonwealth Youth Games. Our players had the chance to try their skills against the players and were able to try out the latest range of Yonex rackets. We would also like to express our thanks to Brian Gannon (Rapid Repairs) Gullane sports for their support through Yonex and their continued support to the Club through the years. The last week saw the end of the season for the primary group who finished their season with a fun night. The results for the Junior section end of season competitions are as follows:

	Winner	Runner up
Boys Singles	Charles Nurick	Stewart Fairbairn
Boys Doubles	Charles Nurick & Lewis Hunter	David Black & Sandy Leonard

We as a Club would like to express our thanks for the amazing attendance all season, both in the Primary group and the Junior section; most nights we have had a full house, so thank you to all our young players for a great attendance. I would also like to thank Stephen Ross for his support as coach and also our visiting coach, Richard Mitusch. By next season we hope to be in the new High school. For more details about the Junior Club contact: Alison Walker 01592840392 or visit

www.kinrossbadmintonclub.com

Deadline for all Articles
2.00 pm, MONDAY 18 May
for publication on Saturday 30 May



News from the Rurals

POWMILL – President Mrs Janie Buchanan welcomed members and visitors to the meeting on 18 March in Mowbray Hall, Powmill. She then introduced Mrs Corrine Craig who gave a demonstration on Chinese Cookery and cooked some very tasty stir fry dishes which we all enjoyed sampling. Mrs M Thorn gave the vote of thanks and a very nice supper was provided by Mrs R Briscoe and Mrs J Mitchell.

Competitions: Quiche (any filling) - Mrs J Buchanan; Old Family Photograph - Mrs C Stewart; Garden Gem - Mrs M Wilson.

President Mrs Janie Buchanan welcomed members and visitors to the meeting on 15 April and introduced ladies from Glenfarg SWRI. They provided us with a very enjoyable evening's entertainment with "The Good Old Days" - a variety show of songs, jokes, recitations and line dancing which had a hint of Scottish Country Dancing and a very amusing sketch of a WRI committee meeting. Vice President Mrs M Thorn gave a well-deserved vote of thanks and a very nice supper was provided by the committee.

Mrs Buchanan congratulated Mrs Maz Thorn on winning the Margaret Mackay Salver with her "Photograph of a Bridge" in the competition at the Perth & Kinross Spring Show.

Many thanks to everyone who supported the Bingo Tea on 25 March.

Competitions: Iced chocolate sponge – G Carver; Easter bonnet – E Johnston; Garden gem – E Johnston.

MILNATHORT – Mrs Jessica Munro presided at the March meeting. During business, she congratulated Milnathort team on winning The Ramage Dawson Trophy for 15 mins. Scottish entertainment. Their entry was Tam O'Shanter. Fiona Hynds also won The Jessie Smith Salver for best actress in competition.

After business we had the most interesting talk on Crystal Therapy by Lyn Haworth. Members chose a crystal stone, then were told what the benefits relating to their choice were, how they can help you in many areas of your life. The vote of thanks was given by Grace Drysdale.

Competitions: Peppermint Creams - Nan Paterson; Favourite Piece of Crystal - Nan Paterson; Flower of the Month - Grace Drysdale.

Mrs Jessica Munro presided at the April meeting.

The Milnathort team who entered Matter of Opinion competition heats won at Group level and now go forward to Federation level at Blairgowrie on 22 April. After business Jessica welcomed members from Cambo WRI. They entertained us with country dancing, poems, cookery samples to taste, and a very amusing sketch.

Competitions: Good for you Loaf - Ena Thomson; Recycled Article - Nan Douglas; Flower of the Month - Nan Paterson.

BISHOPSHIRE – The members were very disappointed that, for the third time, a member of the local police force failed to turn up to speak on personal safety. However, resourceful as ever, everyone joined in to tell anecdotes, especially those people who had brought along an 'interesting old article'. As a result there was much hilarity and everyone enjoyed the evening.

Competitions: Interesting old article - Norma Smith; Pot of jam - Brenda Bird.

GLENFARG – Margaret Scott, President, welcomed the concert party from Cambo WRI whose witty sketches and lively music caused much laughter and enjoyment, greatly appreciated by Glenfarg members.

The "Pudding Night" on 3 April was a great success. Many thanks to everyone who attended and to all those who produced a marvellous selection of puddings.

Competitions: 2 Hot Cross Buns - A Messenger; Easter Card - A Messenger; Flower of the Month - J Connolly.

CROOK OF DEVON – Vice President Mrs Isobel Mechan welcomed everyone to our Annual Coffee Evening. The ladies from CHAS came along and gave us a very entertaining and professional fashion show, a most enjoyable evening. The vote of thanks was given by Mrs Isabelle White.

CLEISH – Vice President Mrs D Morris welcomed members to the April meeting. After business was completed she introduced our speaker for the evening, Mrs Margaret Brodie who, with her husband's help, brought along a large collection of dolls and costumes dating from the earliest French porcelain doll made in the 1800s through to a great variety of styles and sizes of different manufacturers in Germany, and later, England. Her interest lies in the history of early costumes as well as the dolls themselves up to present day. We were shown that there is a great opportunity for collecting the antiques of the future, but to beware that if we collected a wax doll (not too many still in existence now) we must keep it away from central heating. A most interesting and entertaining evening.

Competitions: Flower of the Month - Mrs M Bisset; Dolls outfit - Mrs D Morris; Decorated Gingerbread Person - Mrs S Webster.

CARNBO – President Mrs E Thomson welcomed members to the April meeting. After completion of business she welcomed our speaker for the night, Mr Douglas Watson, who gave a very informative talk on Chocolate Making, and the history of how chocolate was introduced to our country, the bonus being that he brought samples for us to try, including chocolate with chillies! – all of which went down a treat with all the members. The vote of thanks was given by Mrs A Munro.

Competitions: Flower of the Month - R Hudson; Chocolate Truffles - F Drysdale.

BLAIRINGONE – President Fiona Clark welcomed Mr Harry Brodie to our February meeting in Mowbray Hall, Powmill. Everyone enjoyed Mr Brodie's talk and demonstration on his collection of musical boxes.

Competitions: Decorated small cake - Mary Ramsay; Funny Photo - Jean Broom; Flower of the Month - Mary Ramsay.

President Fiona Clark welcomed Mary Wilson to our March meeting held in Mowbray Hall, Powmill. Mrs Wilson gave a lovely display of her work on soft furnishing and also demonstrated how to make a lined curtain and a cushion cover. Jean Broome gave a vote of thanks.

Competitions: Flask of soup - Mary Ramsay; Decorated egg - Jean Broome; Flower of the Month - Mary Croy.

Out & About



Vane Farm



So then, spring is here – been a fine Easter weekend, we were fair busy which wiz guid due tae the grand weather also guid, aint folk much cheerier when the sun shines?

The wildlife hiz been enjoyin the sunshine as weel and a lot o the summer migrants hiv been appearin since the last column. Sand Martin, Swallow, Willow Warbler, Chiff chaff, Osprey, Black tailed Godwit awe bein seen oan or ower the reserve. We still hiv some o the winter yins hingin about tho wi some bigish coonts o pinkfeet geese aroond, by the time ye read this tho the maist o them shid be gone.

Tufted ducks are also buildin up oan the ponds n scrapes in preparation fur breedin oan St Serfs later on in the summer.

Management work oan the reserve in terms o heavy earth movin n stuff hiz noo stopped due tae the breedin season. Wur warden Chris n hiz volunteers are noo daen survey work tae monitor breedin waders and fermland birds oan territories, so there is aye sumthin gawn oan wetland wise.

We are also gonnae be makin some rafts tae pit oot oan the flood fur birds tae nest oan, so if yer in n see some squarish things floatin aboot, that's whit they are. Update... helped the volunteers tae mak them this effeman – lookin good, jist need launched noo, chocks away!!

The shop hiz some new binoculars in stock if yer lookin fur a pair tae tak wi ye oan the summer walks or yer hols. They are cried RSPB HD which stands fur “high definition”, or huge difference, mibee. Michty me! A'thing seems tae be HD noo a days, it's takin ower the world! They are certainly awfa sherp in the image they gie, wi a real clear pictur. Dae ye get a pictur wi a binocular? Hmmm, no share, but whit yer seein is clear as a bell - moan in n gie them a try if yer passin, n see whit like.

It's mibees no mentioned awfa often at times but oor Education department (the first yin in the RSPB sum 40 odd year ago) will be inundatit wi aboot a hunner weans fae the second year English groups at Kinross High. They will be comin oot oan the reserve oan 24 April bi the busload tae learn loads o nature stuff aboot Vane. This is pairt o the “Growing up with Loch Leven Project” that shid keep wur teachers oan thur mettle dealin wi awe them enthusiastic kids!! They will then go back tae carry oan the projects in the school classroom. If ye wid like tae find oot some mair aboot the project gie Sandy wur Education Development Officer a phone at Vane n he will tell ye awe aboot it.

Next events comin up are a **Dawn Chorus Walk** on **7 May** fae 4.30pm – 6.30am. Tak yer matchsticks along tae keep yer eyeballs open. **Step into Spring** kids' event, arty crafty type activities on **18 May** fae 11am – 4pm. Then last, but no least, **Breeding Birds** oan **25 May**, again 11am – 4pm (pairt o the Birdwatching for Beginners series). Learn awe aboot the birds that come tae Loch Leven tae breed. Ye get a wee cuppie n a roll fur yer breakie, a tasty lunch as weel, then back tae watchin the birdies. If ye wid like tae book or fund oot a bit mair aboot ony o these events phone Andrea on the usual number 01577 862355. Think that's it fur this month, Enjoy the sunshine if it comes oot?

Ta ta, Colin

Loch Leven NNR



Craig's away on his holidays so I've taken over the writing this month.

There's been plenty going on in the last few weeks. Twenty-five bat boxes were constructed on the bat box day. These were installed at Burleigh. Thanks to Elspeth Christie and Darren Hemsley from the Fife and Kinross bat group for their input on the day. We will check these during the summer months to see if they have been used.

There have been plenty of spring migrants noted on the reserve. The first Sand Martins were seen on 13 March, Osprey on the 28th, Swallow on the 31st and Wheatear on 7 April. There are also plenty of Mallard on breeding territory.

Our insect surveyors have been out in force with plenty o f bees and butterflies noted around the reserve. Anyone interested in helping with the survey please contact us at the office. Another **survey training day** is planned for **Sunday 10 May**.

This year's **Loch Leven photography competition deadline is 18 May**. The recent glorious weather will have offered many opportunities to take some great photos. The theme for the competition is 'Biodiversity'. Please visit our website for rules and regulations, including information on how to enter.

There are a couple of the popular **Botany Walks** organised for May and June. These include walks at Levenmouth on **Tuesday 19 May**, Burleigh on **Sunday 24 May** (as part o f Discovery Day - see below) and Findatie on **Tuesday 2 June**. These walks will be kindly assisted by local enthusiast Liz Lavery, with guest botanists leading each walk. The walks follow on from our latest Volunteers' meeting, where Dr Heather McHaffie will be taking us through the floral diversity on site, as well as the work of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh.

We are looking forward to another busy **Discovery Day at Kirkgate Park on Sunday 24 May**. This year's theme will be 'Biodiversity', as part of Biodiversity Week from 18 to 24 May. The event will be running from 1-5pm, with a wide range of activities being planned for all ages by various groups including P&KC Countryside Ranger Service, RSPB, SNH, Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, Historic Scotland and many more. Come and visit us in our tent, where we will have activities for children and adults, as well as interesting information about the reserve and this year's winning photography competition entries on display. There will also be a variety of events going on spread around the loch in the morning, put on by many of the organisations listed above.

As part of Discovery Day we will be having a **moth survey training night** at The Pier on **Saturday 23 May** between 8pm and 11pm. This will give people the chance to have a close look at these interesting nocturnal species. Specimens collected will be displayed to the public on Sunday.

Please contact us on 01577 864439 for bookings on any o f the events planned, or for volunteering at the reserve. You can also visit our webpage www.lochleven-nnr.org.uk. Enjoy your forthcoming visits to the NNR. Jeremy

Farming



Hopefully, by the time you are reading this article, we won't have been brought down to earth with an almighty clatter, but I have to comment on the excellent weather we have had over the past few weeks. The drouthy conditions have seen farmers proceed almost uninterrupted with the spring fieldwork, with even those like me usually at the "coo's tail" getting through the jobs in hand.

A reasonable spell of dry weather is just what we needed to help repair the damage to the land caused by last year's unrelenting rain. The conditions have been favourable for the early lambing season too and there is hope that livestock over-wintered inside will soon be turned out to pastures as stocks of winter feed and bedding get to critical levels, again caused by last year's poor weather.

Our sucker cows have been calving away relatively trouble free, but very slowly. I would have hoped to be nearly finished by now, but there are still quite a few to calve – probably a knock on effect from last summer's weather – oops, there I go mentioning it again!

We have had three sets of twins born so far, which is no too bad. Last year we had a dozen sets which caused endless problems since cows are only really designed to have one calf. Trying to rear two calves puts a lot of strain on the cow and you usually end up with two smaller, poorer calves. Also, cows will often reject one of the calves, and the cow's fertility can be affected.

Hopefully we will have plenty twins from our new small sheep flock (should that be flock-ette?). Low ground type sheep are well designed for twins as the lambs are smaller at birth and the ewe will have plenty milk for two. These are due to start lambing imminently and we are look forward to the prospect with a mixture of fear and excitement. Ours are later lambing, in theory to coincide with good weather and plenty of grass – hopefully the spring-like weather will continue, although it wouldn't be the first time we have had snow in late April/early May.

So there will be plenty to keep us busy in the coming weeks, whatever the weather.

I will promise to try and not mention the weather in my next article, although in the case of the wee lambs being born outside, it really can be a matter of life and death.

John

PLANTING DESIGN ADVISORY SERVICE

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Visiting Kinross-shire?

For information on Eating Out, Parks and Gardens, Historic Buildings and more, visit

www.kinross.cc

Click on "Visitors" then "Things to See and Do"

Weather



March Weather Report From Carnbo

The cold weather of recent months persisted during the early part of March, with very low temperatures being recorded, 3°C being the maximum on the 4th, 5th, 6th, with a -5°C temperature on the 5th. The weather became much milder from the 10th to the end of the month. Despite this, there was a right sting in the tail; a Northerly gale developed on the 28th, with a maximum temperature of 4°C. A real teeth rattler!

Rainfall for month	79 mm (77% of average)
Heaviest fall	23.8 mm (7th)
Highest temperature	15°C (31st)
Lowest temperature	-5°C (5th)
Average temperature	4.8°C
10 days with maximum temperature 10°C or above	
4 snow days, 3 days lying, total depth 5cms	
Air Frost	9 nights
Ground Frost	15 nights
Cloud cover	62%
Thunder not recorded	

Local Attraction Opening Times

Lochleven Castle, Kinross

Lochleven Castle, famously where Mary Queen of Scots was imprisoned in 1567, is in the heart of the beautiful Loch Leven National Nature Reserve. Historic Scotland runs a regular boat service, which departs from the fishery pier. Opening times for 2009 are:

- 1 April to 30 September: Daily, 9.30am to last outward sailing at 4.30pm.
- 1 to 31 October: Daily, 9.30am to last outward sailing at 3.30pm.

Admission prices (includes boat trip): Adult £4.70, Child £2.35, Concessions £3.70, HS members free.

There are car parking facilities, toilets and a café close to the ferry departure point. The boat is not equipped to carry passengers in wheelchairs. There are benches, lawns, a gift shop and toilets on the island. Larger groups should contact the site manager on the island (mobile 07778 040483) beforehand.

Burleigh Castle, Milnathort

A fascinating tower house dating from around 1500. The grounds are open during daylight hours. The keep can be opened on request. Please follow signs on site for key. In the care of Historic Scotland.

Elcho Castle, near Bridge of Earn

A 16th century fortified mansion, five miles NE of Bridge of Earn off the A912 and close to Rhynd. Opening times: 1 April to 30 September, Monday to Sunday, 9.30am to 5.30pm. Admission prices: Adult £3.20, Child £1.60, Concessions £2.70. In the care of Historic Scotland.

St Serf's Church and Dupplin Cross, Dunning

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

Gardens Open

More information about these gardens
can be found on our website,
www.kinrossnewsletter.org
Leisure info also on www.kinross.cc



Gardens open regularly not too far from Kinross

	Opening Arrangements			Admission		Disabled	Contact Number
				Adult	Child	Access	
Kinross House gardens	1 Apr - 30 Sept	daily	1000-1900	£3.00	free	yes	01577 862900
Arnot Tower gardens, Leslie	May - Oct	Tues only	1000-1700	£4.00	free	partial	01592 840115
Falkland Palace & garden (NTS)	to 31 Oct	Mon-Sat	1000-1700	£10.50	£7.50	yes(gdn)	0844 4932186
		Sun	1300-1700				0844 4932186
Hill of Tarvit mansion & gdns, nr Cupar (NTS)	to 31 May	Thu-Mon	1300-1700	£8.50	£5.50	yes	0844 4932185
Grounds only at Hill of Tarvit	all year	daily	to dusk	£2.00		yes	0844 4932185
Kellie Castle & garden (NTS)	to 31 May	Fri-Tue	1300-1700	£8.50	£5.50	partial	0844 4932184
Garden only at Kellie Castle	3 Apr - 31 May	Fri-Tue	1000-1700	£3.00	£2.00	yes	0844 4932184
Culross Palace and gardens (NTS)	to 31 May	Thu-Mon	1200-1700	£8.50	£5.50	no	0844 4932189
Gardens only at Culross Palace	to 31 May	Thu-Mon	1000-1800			difficult	0844 4932189
Branklyn Gardens, Dundee Rd, Perth (NTS)	1 Apr - 31 Oct	daily	1000-1700	£5.50	£4.50	partial	0844 4932193
Glendoick Gardens, Perth, PH2 7NS (SGS)	16 Apr - 5 Jun	Mon-Fri	1000-1600	£4.00	free	partial	01738 860640
(Glendoick nursery areas open on 3 & 17 May)	May	Sat&Sun	1400-1700	£4.00	free	partial	
Scone Palace grounds only (SGS)	1 Apr - 31 Oct	daily	0930-1745	£4.80	£3.20	limited	01738 552300
Braco Castle gardens, Braco, FK15 9LA (SGS)	1 Feb-31 Oct	daily	1000-1700	£3.00	free	partial	
Drummond Castle Gardens, Crieff (SGS)	1 May - 31 Oct	daily	1300-1800	£3.00	£1.00	restr	
Barham, Bow of Fife, KY15 5RG (SGS)	23 Feb - 30 Sep	Mon only	1400-1700	£4.00		no	01337 810227
Botanic Garden, Canongate, St Andrews, KY16 8RT	May - Sept	daily	1000-1900	£2.00	£1.00		01334 477178
Pittentree Park, Dunfermline	all year	daily	dawn-dusk	free	free	yes	01383 726313

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

Scotland's Gardens Scheme

Some of the gardens in the chart above and all of the gardens in the Special Open Days section are members of Scotland's Gardens Scheme. 60% net of each admission charge goes to the SGS charities of the year and 40% to the other charity named. More details can be found in the book "Gardens of Scotland 2009" and on the website www.gardensofscotland.org

Local Garden Open by Arrangement

Mr and Mrs D S Roulston's gardens at **Wester Dalqueich**, KY13 0NU, ½ mile from Cambo, can be visited by arrangement (groups only, please) between 1 May and 31 August. Telephone 01577 840229. The gardens extend to 3½ acres by the Ochil Hills, and there is a wide range of herbaceous plants, rock plants, shrubs and trees to see. 40% of the £3.00 admission charge goes to St Paul's Episcopal Church, Kinross, and the remainder to the SGS charities. Limited disabled access.

Special Open Days in May

Cambo House, Kingsbarns, nr St Andrews has a Spring Plant and Craft Fair on **Sunday 3 May**. Admission £4 (40% to Diabetes UK). Children free. Dogs on lead welcome, disabled access, refreshments.

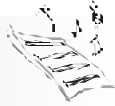
Rossie House, Forgandenny is open on **Sunday 10 May** from 2pm until 6pm. The garden has magnificent ancient trees, shrubs and beautiful rhododendron set off by a carpet of bluebells and other woodland plants. Also paths by a stream, a walled garden and sculptures. Admission £4, children free. 40% to the Royal Blind School. Plant sales, limited disabled access, dogs on lead welcome, refreshments available.

Cleish Castle and Boreland House, Cleish: The gardens at these properties are open on **Sunday 17 May**, 2pm until 5pm. The gardens at the castle have been restored in recent years. The woodland has lovely views and a natural setting, with more formal gardens surrounding the castle. The gardens at Boreland House have been developed over the last 15 years, with various beds, patios and water features created. The gardens are ½ mile apart, ½ mile west of Cleish. Admission: £4.00 to include both gardens, with 40% to Cleish Village Hall. Children free. Plants sales at Boreland House, where dogs on a lead are welcome. Limited disabled access at Cleish Castle. Refreshments available in Cleish Village Hall.

Arnot Tower and Greenhead of Arnot, nr Leslie are open on Tuesdays from May to October (see chart) but also have a special open day for SGS on **Sunday 17 May** from 2pm until 5pm. Attractions at Arnot Tower include: new formal garden (built 2000-2003), bluebell woods, rhododendrons, pool with fountains and Italianate terrace with views over Loch Leven. Greenhead of Arnot has a newly planted orchard, lavender terrace walk, mixed borders and rose trellis. On the A911 between Scotlandwell and Auchmuir Bridge. Admission: £4.00 for both gardens, with 40% to Marie Curie Cancer Care. Children free. Plant sales at Arnot Tower. Partial disabled access. Refreshments available.

Kirklands, Saline, KY12 9TS is open on **Sunday 24 May** from 2pm until 5pm. The extensive gardens have been developed and restored over the last 31 years. Admission is £3.50, with 40% to Saline Environmental Group. Take jct 4, M90, then B914, park in centre of village. Plant sales, partial disabled access, dogs on lead welcome, cream teas.

Perform in Perth



Local success at the 85th Perthshire Music Festival

From Blairingone Primary School:

ELLIS JOHNSTON – 1st in Horn in F Solo, Beginners.

BLYTHE JOHNSTON – 3rd eq in Trumpet Solo, Beginners.

From Kinross Primary School:

FRANCESCA FIORENTINI – 3rd eq in Trumpet Solo, Beginners.

ANDREW BEVERIDGE – 3rd eq in B flat Euphonium/Baritone Horn Solo, Beginners.

ANDREW SORBIE – 3rd eq in Trombone Solo, Beginners.

CHRISTIE SHACKLETON – 3rd eq in B flat Cornet/Flugel Horn Solo, Elementary.

KIRON ROY – 2nd in B flat Cornet/Flugel Horn Solo, Intermediate.

MABEL DUNCAN – 2nd eq in Violin Solo, Elementary.

From Strathallan:

MURDO ELWIS – 1st in Alto Saxophone, Intermediate.

From Kinross High School:

LILLIAN SWANSON – 2nd eq in E flat Cornet/Tenor Horn Solo, Intermediate; 3rd eq in Drum Kit Solo, Beginners

JILL SWEENEY – 1st in Flute Solo, Open.

NICOLA SIKORA – 1st eq in Tuba, E flat/B flat Bass Solo, Elementary.

DAVID WILCOX – 2nd eq in Tuba, E flat/B flat Bass Solo, Intermediate.

SARATROY – 1st in Horn in F Solo, Advanced.

ROBERT CAIRNS – 3rd in Trombone Solo, Intermediate.

JENNIFER PROBERT – 2nd eq in B flat Cornet/Flugel Horn Solo, Advanced.

HATTIE LLOYD – 2nd eq in Trumpet Solo, Advanced.

GILLIAN SHACKLETON – 2nd eq in Trumpet Solo, Advanced.

MAGNUS PICKERING – 2nd eq in Trumpet Solo, Advanced.

ANDREW WILCOX – 2nd in Trumpet Solo, Open.

SARAH MELVILLE – 2nd eq in E flat Cornet/Tenor Horn Solo, Intermediate.

SOPHIE BREWSTER – 3rd eq in E flat Cornet/Tenor Horn Solo, Intermediate.

HANNAH WOOD – 2nd eq in Trumpet Solo, Elementary.

CAROL ANDREW – 2nd eq in B flat Euphonium/Baritone Horn Solo, Elementary

NATHANIEL HAAS – 1st in B Flat Euphonium/Baritone Horn Solo, Open.

DANIEL PICKERING 2nd Eq in B Flat Euphonium/Baritone Horn Solo, Open.

YVONNE SHAN – 1st in B flat Cornet/Flugel Horn Solo, Intermediate.

RACHEL VAUGHAN – 3rd eq in B flat Cornet/Flugel Horn Solo, Intermediate.

ABIGAIL CORSIE – 1st in Viola Solo, Intermediate.

NICK LAUENER – 1st in Piano Solo Advanced.

Members of Kinross & District Pipe Band:

AMY BRYSON – 1st in Stick and Pad (under 13).

ALEXANDER COX of Kinross – 1st in Solo snare drum, Novice (under 13).

DOUGLAS WEIR of Kinross – 3rd eq in Bagpipes – March, Strathspey & Reel (aged 13-16).

CAMERON ELDER of Auchtermuchty – 1st in Solo snare drum, Novice (aged 13-16).

From Kinross-shire, in aged 18 & over categories:

ISHBEL McFARLANE – 1st in Burns Poems.

IRENE McFARLANE – 2nd in Burns Poems; 1st in Vocal Solo – Premier Class; 1st in Vocal Solo, Oratorio; 1st in Vocal Solo, Opera (Aria). Presented with the following awards: Thomas Howie Silver Cup, Dalgleish Award and the Alistair Hodge Memorial Trophy.

School Group Achievements:

Clash Primary School Choir – 3rd in Choir, Primary Schools with a roll of not more than 100.

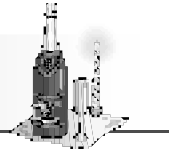
Kinross Primary School String Orchestra – 1st in String Orchestra (Schools), Elementary.

Kinross Primary School Brass Ensemble – 3rd in Brass Ensemble (Schools), Elementary.

Kinross High School Chamber Group – 3rd in Chamber Music (strings only), Advanced.

Kinross High School Brass Band – 1st in Brass Ensemble (Schools), Advanced – awarded The George Annan Trophy.

Congratulations



Patricia and David Shearer Payne are delighted to announce the marriage of their son **RUSSELL SHEARER PAYNE** to **SHARON MARY COSGROVE** at St Paul's Episcopal Church by the Rev Dr Marion Keston on 18 April 2009. The reception afterwards was held at the Windlestrae Hotel, Kinross. It was a wonderful day. The happy couple reside in South Gyle, Edinburgh.

Colin and Carol (née Reilly) **McRITCHEY** of 4 Curlers Crescent, Milnathort, are delighted to announce the birth of their twin daughters **REBECCA ROSE** and **HALEY KATHLEEN** on 20 March 2009 at Ninewells Hospital, Dundee. Two beautiful sisters for John and Patrick.

Congratulations to Drs William and Susie **WILSON** on the birth of their son **ANGUS WILLIAM** on 23 March 2009 in Maine, USA – a wee brother for Lorna and eighth grandchild for William and Rita Wilson, The Kennels, Kinross.

BLAIRINGONE PRIMARY SCHOOL has received its third green Eco-Schools' flag. The inspector said: "Pupils demonstrated excellent knowledge and understanding of their eco work". The school will be assessed in two years' time and might then be awarded permanent Green Flag status.

Thanks



TRACY DUNCAN would like to thank her family and friends for celebrating her 40th birthday with her at the Windlestrae Hotel. It was a lovely evening and made even more so by the good wishes and beautiful gifts she received. Thank you all very much.

MARGARET BROOMFIELD would like to thank all friends and neighbours for their lovely cards, flowers etc. during her stay in Edinburgh Royal Infirmary and Stirling Royal Infirmary. They were all very much appreciated.

MRS FAY MORGAN would like to thank all her friends, family and Kinross Parish Church for the lovely cards, flowers & gifts she received after her stay in hospital. They were much appreciated.

ERIC CALDWELL - A big 'thank you' to friends, family and colleagues who joined in the celebrations for my retirement from The Prison Service. The surprise party at the Green and of course the 'Limo' was indeed very special and something I will never forget. Many thanks, also, for the very kind gifts, cards and best wishes; all were greatly appreciated. Cheers, Everyone!

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

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).

Concerts in May (in Parish Church at 7.30 pm)

Sat 9 'Celebration for Year of Homecoming' - Scots concert by Strathallan School to launch Christian Aid week.

Sun 10 Paul Livingston violin recital, accompanied by George Duthie on piano, in aid of Christian Aid.

Fri 15 Ian Whyte in Concert - The popular singer-songwriter returns to end Christian Aid week with a concert to raise funds for 'Water Action Ethiopia' and for 'Faith and Light' Mission.

Fri 29 The Strathcarron Singers to raise funds for Strathcarron Hospice and a Motor Neurone Disease charity.

Spring Fayre

Sat 16 10-2 Kinross Church Centre. Stalls include plants, baking, crafts and face-painting. Tearoom and light lunches.

Kinross-shire Churches Together

A Service of

PENTECOST PRAISE

in St Paul's Church on

Sunday 31 May at 7pm

All welcome

Classified Advertisements

Check the Classified Ads section on www.kinross.cc
 Buy or Sell Goods up to the value of £500
 Items are advertised free of charge for up to 21 days

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

May

Sun 3 11.15am Preacher: Rev. Joanne Finlay

Sun 10 11.15am Sacrament of Baptism

Sun 17 10am Early Birds All Age Worship

11.15am Preacher: Rev. Joanne Finlay

Sun 24 11.15am Preacher: Reader, Brian Ogilvie

Sun 31 11.15am Sacrament of Lord's Supper
 3pm Afternoon communion service,
 Fossoway Church

Saturday 9 May - Church Fête

Fossoway 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 at 9.45am

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

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

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

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

Fossoway Church Choir rehearsals:

Tuesday evenings, 7.30pm-9pm

Wednesday evenings: Joint choir rehearsals

May

Sun 3 9.45am Preacher: Rev. Joanne Finlay

Sun 10 9.45am Preacher: Rev. Joanne Finlay

Sun 17 9.45am Preacher: Rev. Joanne Finlay

Sun 24 9.45am Preacher - Reader, Brian Ogilvie

Sun 31 9.45am Sacrament of Lord's Supper
 3pm Afternoon Communion service for
 housebound

Saturday 16 May - Jumble Sale, Church hall 10am - 1pm

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.

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

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**May**

3rd Formal Communion at Portmoak church

10th - 16th Christian Aid week

June

7th Formal Communion at Orwell church

5th - 7th Milnathort Festival Weekend

St Paul's Scottish Episcopal Church

Muirs, Kinross, KY 13 8AY

Rev Dr Marion Keston Telephone: (01577) 866834

Website: www.stpauls-kinross.co.uk

May Services**Sun 3** 4th Sunday of Easter, 8.30am, Holy Communion.
11.00am Sung Eucharist.**Sun 10** 5th Sunday of Easter, 8.30am, Holy Communion.
11.00am Sung Eucharist.**Sun 17** 6th Sunday of Easter, 8.30am, Holy Communion.
11.00am Sung Eucharist.**Thu 21** Ascension Day, 10.30am, Holy Communion.**Sun 24** 7th Sunday of Easter, 8.30am, Holy Communion.
11.00am, Sung Eucharist.**Sun 31** The Day of Pentecost, 8.30am, Holy Communion.
11.00am, Sung Eucharist. 7pm Pentecost Praise.

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.**St James's R C Church**

5 High Street, Kinross, KY 13 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.

Kinross Gospel Hall

Montgomery Street, Kinross

Website: www.kinrossgospelhall.info

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

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

Millbridge Hall, Kinross (parking available)

Heartfelt praise and worship

Prayer for healing

Opportunity for testimony

Refreshments

Books and resources

Open to all

For further details contact Sarah Corsar 07795313864

Obituaries*The following two obituaries are reprinted from the Cleish & Blairadam CC Newsletter, with kind permission of the Cleish & Blairadam Newsletter Editor:*

MRS MARY LEISHMAN – The whole community was saddened by the death of Mary Leishman, a well known and much liked resident of Keltbridge, and wife of Mr Jim Leishman. The Leishman family was well known in Cleish and Mary supported school fundraising occasions, often treating us to the sound of her beautiful voice. Kate and Jamie Leishman were at Cleish Primary School and Jim was at one time chairman of the school PTA. We who knew her, even a little, will always remember her bright and sparkling personality. The funeral in Cleish Church was attended by a huge congregation of friends and family which must have brought a sense of comfort to the family. To all of them go our sincere condolences.

JIM BLACKWOOD – Jim's sudden death shocked all of us. He was farm manager at Ardgairney and on retirement he and Jean built their house at Pirliemuir where they have lived since, making a beautiful garden. However Jim touched everyone from all walks of life and was a leading light in the world of Rotary, curling, golf, and farming to name but a few of his countless interests. He and Jean were regular attenders at Cleish Church and their family, Barbara and Alex, began their education at Cleish School – it is always good to welcome them back when they return to visit. Again this was a huge funeral of countless friends, all of whom will miss Jim. We give Jean, Barbara and Alex our heartfelt sympathies.

Acknowledgements

BLACKWOOD – Jean and family would like to thank all friends for the lovely flowers and kind messages they received after the sad loss of Jim.

Also thanks to the medical team involved and to Stewarts Funeral Directors for their help and guidance. Also to Rev. Joanne Findlay for her comforting service at Cleish Church. The wonderful total of £950 was donated to the British Heart Foundation.

CHAPMAN-WOOD – Derek, Katy, Amy and Helen would like to thank all relatives and friends for their support before and after Sheena's untimely death.

We would like to thank in particular Dr Dougal Adamson, Dr Eileen Lyons, District and Macmillan Nurses, Evelyn Cairns and Rev Alan Reid for their care and attention.

We were moved by the number of people who attended the celebration of Sheena's life at Kinross Parish Church on Wednesday 25 March.

We thank Alan Reid for leading the celebration and also thank people for their generosity which allowed us to donate £500 to Pancreatic Cancer UK, £500 to Pancreatic Cancer Research Fund and £680.87 to Macmillan Cancer Support.

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 - Jacqui 07766 882986

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

Kinross-shire Playgroup Association
aka Swansacre Playgroup
Registered Scottish Charity Number SCO17748



TEL: 01577 862071

www.swansacreplaygroup.org.uk

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

Playgroup sessions – Mon to Fri 9.15-11.45am

Children from the age of 2 yrs welcome.

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

This is complementary to Nursery.

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

Baby and Toddler Group – Thurs 1pm-3pm

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

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



MILNATHORT BABIES & TODDLERS

Orwell Church Hall

Thursday & Friday, 10.00 - 11.30 am

Contacts: Liam Saunders 0788 2147524

GLENFARG BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

Village Hall, Greenbank Road, Glenfarg

9.30am to 11.30am during term time

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

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

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



Notices

Orwell Bowling Club SOCIAL EVENING

Saturday 2 May

Bingo at 8pm then dance along to BILL SMITH
£2.00 entry for non-members

Bishopshire Horticultural Society

Coffee Morning & Plant Sale



Portmoak Hall, Saturday 2 May
10am - 12 noon
Admission £2



CEILIDH DANCE

Saturday 9 May

8pm-12pm

Portmoak Village Hall

in aid of Hall funds

with the Glenfarg Ceilidh Band

Tickets £8.00 Supper included

Licensed Bar

Tickets available from Kinnesswood Village Shop

Elizabeth Porter – tel. 01592 840655

and Joan Smith – tel. 01592 840561

Crook of Devon Institute

Auction of Articles and Promises

Saturday 9 May

Viewing from 6.30pm. Starts 7.30pm.

Tickets £5, including wine and nibbles.

Available from Fossoway Garage 01577 840997.

All proceeds towards restoration of the hall.

41 Club

Were you ever a member of Round Table? There is a 41 Club in Kinross and you would be made very welcome.

The next meeting is **Wednesday 13 May** at 7.30pm in Kirklands Hotel. On **Wednesday 10 June** there is a visit to Fife Folk Museum.

Please phone Bob Mitchell on 865570 for details.

Christian Aid Week... 10 – 16 May



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

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

Collectors will be in your area – please give generously!

Cleish Church Fête

Saturday 9 May at 2pm

Something for the family, for everyone to enjoy,
the young and the not so young

All the popular stalls will be up and running

Books & Videos Bric à Brac Children's Clothes

Games Toys Jams & Chutneys

Marmalade & Jellies Cakes, Biscuits & Sponges

This year the **Junior (Fun) Dog Show** has some more classes, as it was such a wow last year. So if you are under 12, get ready. No Dog? Well borrow one.

Over 12 and want your Dog to win?

We'll find someone to lend your best friend to!

This isn't Crufts. Just a FUN DOG SHOW!

Prizes for:

- The Dog with the Waggiest Tail
- Pensionable Paws (dogs over 10)
- The Dog the judge would most like to Borrow
- Agility – get your dog through a hoop and round a bend
- The Most Obedient Dog – Sit, Stay & Down
- Smartest Dog in fancy dress, Dog & Handler

**The 9th of May, the 9th of May
Cleish Church Fête is on the way!**

CHILDREN 1ST

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 12 May

10am at Seggiebank House,
Minathort, KY13 0RP

1st KINROSS-SHIRE SCOUT GROUP

(St Serfs)

CUBS AND SCOUTS



Notice of Annual General Meeting

The AGM will take place on **Wednesday 27 May**, at Millbridge Hall, Kinross

A barbecue will begin the evening at 6.15pm, to which all Cubs, Scouts and families are invited

JOE BURNS

Computer Repairs & Servicing

Computer slow, virused,
needing upgraded or internet problems?

If you suffer from any of the above or just need advice,
give me a call.

Local collection and delivery, competitive rates, call-outs
and evening visits available.

01577 862399 (24hr Ans Mc)

07850897924 Mobile

JBcomputing@btinternet.com

PARTY IN THE PARK

A major community event organised by the
Perth & Kinross Association of Voluntary Service

Saturday 16 May

10am – 5pm, South Inch, Perth

businesses voluntary groups entertainers

Food Festival & Beer Tent

Music & Dance, including the Red Hot Chilli Pipers

Arts & Crafts Radio Tay Polo Match

Pipe Band Kids Fancy Dress Animal Corner

Further info from Helen MacKinnon 01738 567076

Adult Volunteers needed for Perth Young Archaeologist Club

Perth Young Archaeologists Club is a branch of the national YAC, the only branch in Tayside. YAC is for kids aged between 8 and 16 who have an interest in archaeology and history. For more information on the Club see: www.britarch.ac.uk/yac/

Perth YAC is run by volunteers and we're looking for any one who might be able to give up a couple of Saturday mornings a year to help out!

We usually meet on the second Saturday of every month between April and December, for a wide range of activities – last year these included a field trip to Edinburgh Castle, mosaic making and a Roman picnic with the Antonine Guard on the Gask Ridge! No experience necessary, other than an interest in the past!

For more information, contact Sarah Winlow on 01738 477080 (day) 638871 (eve/weekends) or at perthyac@gmail.com

Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation



QUIZ NIGHT and LIVE MUSIC

Saturday 16 May

7.30pm at Rugby Club House, KGV playing fields

Admission fee is £15 for a group of 4.

Numbers are limited, so purchase your tickets soon from Sporting Chance (High Street)!

For more information contact Bouwien Bennet,

01577 863107 or bouwien@kleo.org.uk

www.kleo.org.uk



Concerts at Parish Church

There are concerts in the Kinross Parish Church on
9, 10, 15 and 29 May

See Article on page 8 and the Kinross Parish Church notice on page 44 for more details.

Further information also available on www.kinross.cc

Kinross District Counselling Services

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

It is open to all-comers.

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

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

Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service

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

Monday 22 June 3.30pm to 8.00pm

Tuesday 23 June 5.00pm to 8.00pm

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

CALEDONIAN CEILIDH

Saturday 30 May

The year 2009 is the 40th Anniversary of the Parkinson's Disease Society, and to mark this occasion Fife, Perth and Dundee Branches are organising a fundraising Caledonian Ceilidh. This will be the first time that branches have worked jointly on such a project and all proceeds will go towards the work done by our Society in Scotland.

The Ceilidh will be held in the Windlestrae, Kinross on Saturday 30 May. Music will be provided by the ever-popular Lomond Ceilidh Band. Tickets for the event are £12.00 and include supper. To purchase tickets, or for further information about the Parkinson's Disease Society, contact Jean Ballantyne 01334 828609.

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.

Kinross Floral Art Club

Coffee Evening

"Inspirations" by Isolec Greenaway
in Upper Hall, Kinross Church Centre

on **Thursday 28 May** at 7.15pm

Tickets £5

Plant stall and raffle



Portmoak Festival 2009

ART EXHIBITION

Here is an advance notice for artists that the Portmoak Festival Art Exhibition will be held again this year in the last week of June.

Invitations will be sent out soon to people who showed last year. If you would like to include work this year please contact the organiser, Lesley Botten, at mike.lesley@tiscali.co.uk or telephone 01592 840120.

Perth Festival of the Arts

21 – 31 May 2009

- 21st *The Magic Flute* by English Touring Opera
- 21st Tango Siempre
- 22nd *Katya Kabanova* by English Touring Opera
- 22nd Piccadilly Dance Orchestra
- 23rd Mock the Week's Russell Howard
- 23rd *The Magic Flute* by English Touring Opera
- 24th Perth Youth Orchestra
- 24th The Prague Symphony Orchestra with Freddie Kempf (piano)
- 24th Edwyn Collins in Concert
- 25th Event for Primary School Children - *The Book of Beasts*
- 25th *Morse and Me* An Audience with Colin Dexter
- 26th Pascal Roge (piano) and Emma Johnson (clarinet)
- 26th The Tannahill Weavers
- 27th The King's Singers
- 27th West End Show *Stones in His Pockets*
- 28th The Nash Ensemble of London
- 28th *Moll Flanders* by Brute Farce
- 29th The Nash Ensemble of London
- 29th The Scottish National Jazz Orchestra *Three Decades of Steely Dan*
- 30th Art on the River and Perth Art Trail
- 30th Lawrence O'Donnell (bassoon) and Friends
- 30th Seth Lakeman in Concert
- 30th Fascinating Aida
- 31st Art on the River and Perth Art Trail
- 31st The Brewin Dolphin Festival Concert:
The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra with Nicola Benedetti (violin), conducted by Andrew Litton

Book online at www.perthfestival.co.uk or call the Box Office at 01738 621031

Kinross-shire Volunteer Group And Rural Outreach Scheme ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



Tuesday 2 June at 7.30pm in Church Centre.

We have, as always, been very busy over the past few months helping the residents of Kinross-shire and Glenfarg access the services they need whether it is medical appointments, shopping, hospital visiting or other social requirements.

Our co-ordinator, Ann Munro, is pleased to welcome the new volunteers who have joined us recently but would be very happy to have more to help spread the load. From time to time even the regular drivers need medical attention and this can cause problems if they have to cancel runs meaning Ann has to do a rapid phone round to organise another driver.

If you are interested and would like to learn more about us, come along to our AGM on 2 June, you will be very welcome but, should you be too busy that evening, then just contact Ann Munro at 01577 840196.

Grants and Funding Websites

www.pkgrantsdirect.com
www.scottishcf.org
www.fundingthefuture.org.uk

PORTMOAK GALA

Saturday 20 June

2.00pm

Well Green, Scotlandwell

Come along and enjoy an afternoon of fun for all the family. Join the Fancy Dress Parade (1.45pm Church Car Park), and follow the Gala Queen down to the Well Green.

Bouncy Castle, Bric a Brac, Books, Plants, Cake & Candy, Face Painting, Highland Dancers, Cheerleaders, Belly Dancers

All this and lots, lots more besides.

Superb raffle prizes

A great afternoon's entertainment for the whole family. Donations of bric a brac, plants, books, bottles, cake & candy will be most welcome.

Please contact Sandra Davidson 07900 196742 if you would like to have a stall, help on the day or make any donations.

GALA DINNER DANCE

in aid of Water Action Ethiopia

Sunday 5 September 2009

Windlestrae Hotel, Kinross

Tickets on sale now – contact:

Alisdair Stewart or Margaret Graham
 01577 862262 01577 865844



ABBA and Queen tribute bands at GAZEBO GATHERING

at Kinross House

Saturday 12 September

from 12 noon – 7.30pm.



Pitch your gazebo in front of Kinross House at the Kinross Gazebo Gathering – a music festival for the whole family!!

Early Bird Tickets are available at the Kinross Half Marathon Event (16 May). For more information, see main article on page 6 or contact Bouwien Bennet, 01577 863107 or bouwien@kleo.org.uk

Blythswood Care

Somerfield's Car Park

Tuesday 19 May between 10.30 am and 11 am

Further details from 862258

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

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

Situations Vacant

Looking for a Job?

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

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 J Bird (01592) 840368, jbird@fmail.net

Kinross Community Councillors

Susan Bathgate	42 High Street	864742
Margaret Blyth	6 Muir Grove	
David Collier	10 Rannoch Place	864037
Dave Cuthbert (Chair)	Highfield Circle	861001
Barry M Davies	60 Lathro Park	865004
Ian Jack (Treasurer)	Burnbrae Grange	863980
Laura Mackay	Brunthill Farm	07809232740
Dot Mackay	29 Green Park	864635
Joe Richardson	47/49 High Street	863152
Margaret Scott (Secy)	21 Ross Street	862945
Campbell Watson (Vice Chair)	70 Muirs	862685

Perth and Kinross Councillors

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

Tel (home): 01337 840218.

Email: kbaird@pkc.gov.uk

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

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

Email: Michael@mabarnacle.freeserve.co.uk

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

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

Email: SMiller@pkc.gov.uk

William Robertson, 85 South Street, Milnathort, Kinross,

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

Email: wbrobertson@pkc.gov.uk

Fossoway and Cleish Community Office

A service for the Community, open:

Thursdays 2 pm - 4 pm

Saturdays 10am -12 noon

Out of hours there is an answering machine

Tel: 01577 840185 Email: fcco@btinternet.com

Waste Paper Kerbside Collection

Next uplift in Kinross, Milnathort and Glenfarg:

Thursday 21 May

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: 6 & 20 May

Blairingone 9.30am - 9.45am

Westerloan, Milnathort 2.10pm - 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 May

Barge Trip (full day) Thursday 21 at 10.30 pm

Public Holiday

Please note the Day Centre will be CLOSED on **Monday 4 May**.



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.

Perth Citizens Advice Bureau

The Kinross Outreach Advice Surgery is held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month from 1.30pm to 3.30pm at St Paul's Church Hall, The Muirs, Kinross. The surgery dates up to the end of June are as follows:

12 & 26 May **9 & 23 June**

No appointment is necessary as the surgery is a drop-in service. For complex issues a further appointment may be necessary. Perth CAB can help you – our advice is free, confidential, impartial and independent. Contact us: Advice line 01738 624301; Appointment line 01738 564304.

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.

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**.



LimeTarts Textile Art

Quilts and Beyond

Exhibition and Sale of Textile Art
Demonstrations and Mini Workshops

Saturday 4 & Sunday 5 July 10am - 4pm
Kilgraston School, Bridge of Earn, Perth PH2 9BQ

FREE ENTRY and FREE PARKING
Tea, coffee, biscuits, and home bakes

Please visit our website for further details
www.limetarts.co.uk

Diary

*A more extensive and regularly updated
Diary of Events can be found on www.kinross.cc*

May		Page
Sat	2	Bishopshire Hort Soc coffee morning & plant sale 47
Sat	2	Orwell Bowling Club Social Evening 47
Mon	4	Kinross Volleyball Club AGM 38
Tue	5	Fossway & District CC meets 20
Wed	6	Mobile library visits fortnightly 50
Wed	6	Kinross CC meets 16
Thu	7	Dawn Chorus Walk with RSPB 40
Thu	7	Kinross-shire Fifty Plus Club meets 26
Fri	8	Badminton Club Hawaiian Night 38
Sat	9	Ceilidh Dance, Portmoak Village Hall 47
Sat	9	Crook of Devon Inst Auction of Articles & Promises 47
Sat	9	Scots concert by Strathallan School 8
Sat	9	Cleish Church Fete 47
Sun	10	Survey training day with SNH 40
Sun	10	Violin recital by Paul Livingston 44
Sun	10	nutznoltz charity car wash 13
Mon	11	Inner Wheel meets 34
Tue	12	Children 1st AGM 47
Tue	12	Citizens Advice Bureau in Kinross 51
Tue	12	Portmoak CC meets 22
Wed	13	Common Grounds project lunch 33
Wed	13	41 Club meets 47
Thu	14	Milnathort CC meets 18
Fri	15	Ian Whyte: an evening of song 44
Fri	15	Kinross Young Farmers treasure hunt 27
Fri	15	Boys & Girls Brigade annual display 31
Sat	16	Party in the Park for PKAVS 48

June		Page
Mon	1	Deadline for KHS citizenship quaich 32
Tue	2	Botany walk at Findatie with SNH 40
Tue	2	KVG-ROS AGM 49
Tue	2	KHS Parent Council meeting 33
Fri-Sun	5-7	MILNATHORT FESTIVAL 10
Fri	5	nutznbotz charity golf event 13
Fri	5	Opening of Milnathort PS wildlife qdn 24
Fri	5	Pipe Band Ceilidh 27
Fri, Sat	5, 6	Kinross in Bloom activities 34
Sat	6	Milnathort PS Summer Fair 24
Sat	6	Kinross PS Family Fun Day 34
Tue	9	KHS Parent Council AGM 33
Wed	10	41 Club outing 47
Sat	20	Portmoak Gala 49
Sun	21	Civic Trust midsummer walk 25
Mon,	22,	
Tue	23	Blood Donor sessions 48

May		Page
Sat	16	Spring Fayre in Church Centre 44
Sat	16	Loch Leven Half Marathon 6, 35
Sat	16	Spring Fayre in Church Centre 44
Sat	16	Feel Good Fair 6
Sat	16	Quiz night & live music 6, 48
Sat	16	Fossway Parish Church jumble sale 44
Sun	17	Local gardens open for charity 42
Mon	18	Deadline for Loch Leven photography comp 40
Mon	18	Step into Spring kids' event, RSPB 40
Mon	18	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 1
Mon	18	Cleish & Blairadam CC meets 23
Tue	19	Botany walk at Levenmouth with SNH 40
Tue	19	Blythswood Care collection 49
	21-31	Perth Festival of the Arts 49
Sat	23	Moth survey training night with SNH 40
Sat	23	Town Twinning Spring Fayre 34
Sun	24	DISCOVERY DAY at LOCH LEVEN 7, 40
Sun	24	Botany walk at Burleigh with SNH 40
Mon	25	Breeding Birds birdwatching event 40
Tue	26	Citizens Advice Bureau in Kinross 51
Wed	27	Kinross-shire Scout AGM & barbeque 47
Thu	28	Kinross Floral Art Club coffee evening 48
Fri	29	Strathcarron Singers 44
Sat	30	Caledonian Ceilidh 48
Sat	30	Potager plant sale 29
Sat	30	Badminton Club barbeque 38
Sun	31	Antiques and Interiors Fair 5

Forward Planner

Notice of Special Events Later in the Year

Jul	9-12	T in the Park
	25	Tennis Club Barbecue
Aug	8	Kinross Show
Sep	5	Christian Aid Gala Dinner Dance
	6	Guides centenary event, Kinross House
	12	Gazebo Gathering, Kinross House
	22-25	MTKY: Pirates of Penzance
	23-26	KADAC Art Exhibition & Sale