



# Kinross Newsletter



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## DEADLINE for the February Issue

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Saturday 1 February 2014

## Contributions for inclusion in the Newsletter

The Newsletter welcomes items from community organisations and individuals for publication. This is free of charge (we only charge for business advertising – see below right). All items may be subject to editing and we reserve the right not to publish an item. Please also see our Letters Policy and Notes on page 2. Submit your item (except adverts) in one of the following ways:

**Email:** [editor@kinrossnewsletter.org](mailto:editor@kinrossnewsletter.org)  
(all emails will be acknowledged)

**Post:** Eileen Thomas, Editor  
(see address below)

**Hand in:** 50 Muirs, Kinross  
**or:** 24 Victoria Avenue, Milnathort

**Do NOT send adverts** to the Editor. Adverts should be sent to the Advertising Manager.

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

For full information on advertising in the Newsletter, please go to our website [www.kinrossnewsletter.org](http://www.kinrossnewsletter.org) and click on 'Advertising'.

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

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# Letters



## Editorial

A Newsletter reader who was tidying her attic recently found a pile of old Newsletters dating from the first year of publication (1977). She also found four old issues of the Kinross Advertiser newspaper and offered these to me, together with the Newsletters.

The four Kinross Advertisers were dated November 1968 and March, April and May 1969. Remarkably, the main stories in all these issues are all back in the news today.

The 1968 headline was about grant aid to prevent some passenger rail services from closing. This was to help passengers continue to travel between Edinburgh and Perth, but with redirection via Stirling rather than coming through Kinross. Two of the other old newspapers continued on this theme, one with a story about the rail closure inquiry findings and the other saying that the rail line decision was the last straw for the mushroom-growing business of J Beveridge & Company, which had announced it would close.

In recent months the Scottish Government has been asked to consider restoring the Kinross line.

The April 1969 Advertiser carries a large feature about the 'unique' new primary school building at Kinross, which was the 'first to be system-built in Britain' using pre-cast concrete panels.

PKC has recently identified schools built by this system (there were two others in Perth & Kinross) as a priority for replacement.

Another headline in the April 1969 newspaper concerned the imminent redevelopment of Kinross town centre.

Coincidentally there is the opportunity to view modern-day enhancement proposals for the town centre at an exhibition at the community campus this month.

The Newsletter team would like to wish all our readers, contributors and advertisers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

## Note to Contributors

A great deal of the Newsletter comprises reports supplied by local clubs and other organisations. These reports are accepted in good faith. Clubs etc should ensure that reports are factually accurate and do not contain material which could cause legal proceedings to be taken against the Newsletter.

## Letters Policy

Senders must supply their name and address, which will be published with the letter. Letters should be truthful and not contain matter which could cause legal proceedings to be taken against the Newsletter. The Newsletter does not necessarily agree with any of the views expressed on the Letters pages. In *special circumstances* addresses may be withheld from publication on request (but must still be supplied to the editor).

## Note to Readers: Advertising

Inclusion of advertisements in the Newsletter does not imply any particular endorsement or recommendation of services or companies by Kinross CC or Kinross Newsletter Ltd.

## Abbreviations:

PKC: Perth & Kinross Council

CC: Community Council

CLlr: Councillor

CCllr: Community Councillor

## Compassionate Kinross-shire

A group of interested Kinross-shire folks have gathered this year to discuss 'Compassion', what it means, how it happens and might happen more.

A task following a recent gathering, was a desire to make feelings known regarding retaliation for chemical attacks in Syria. A powerful use of democracy to make it plain to your representatives that further bloodshed was no solution. Reminds me of a man on a cross who would not retaliate. Also of the current Dalai Lama who fled his country rather than retaliate and hate the invading Chinese.

This resistance of the need to retaliate is quite stunning when we compare it to ire we might feel in a queue of traffic, or with a relative who has rubbed us up the wrong way again. The strength required for Compassion is significant.

In his book 'The Compassionate Mind', Paul Gilbert explains at length just why our brain has evolved (or not!) over a very long period and the very automatic animal type responses we have to situations where we feel trapped and threatened. These still prevail in our modern society even when there is no obvious threat to our survival. He suggests our response is often more difficult to deal with in modern society as we often need to behave in a very contained way in confined circumstance, completely unable to express the physical response our body is asking us to have. Result = Stress and often serious consequences for health.

***There were 747,158 people treated with anti-depressants in this country during 2012-2013!***

You will be getting the picture that there are pretty tricky things going on in our attempts to live in families, communities, countries and our global village.

For me, and for Paul Gilbert amongst others, this is where Compassion comes in. In his scientific analysis Gilbert shows what people like Jesus and the Dalai Lama already knew. Compassion is good for us; fear, anger and irritation move our bodies into pain and the reverberation can't fail to impact on those around us.

Science suggests we have more capacity for plasticity in our brains than might have been realised. We have capacity to learn something beyond our unconscious, conditioned, habitual responses. Through mindfulness and meditation it is possible to 'find the gap' before the old habits can take hold and to make more considered responses. It takes practice but it is possible and important. We can also 'fake it until we make it' and perform acts of kindness and compassion, our brains relearning as we go.

It is possible to become aware of how harsh we can be on ourselves and on those around us (in our thoughts if nothing else!) and how tricky it is to make a change. With that kind of awareness we might be more able to support more compassionate acts not only towards ourselves and those close by but with our world leaders and communities, where collaboration is more possible and necessary than ever.

Susan Bathgate

42 High Street, Kinross



### Dog Mess on KGV Playing Fields

Many letters and articles have been written previously regarding dog mess in and around Kinross, and as a dog owner I find it very disappointing that owners still refuse in certain cases to pick up mess left by their dogs. I am writing particularly in relation to the KGV playing fields and the continuing problem of dog mess being left.

The particular problem with dog mess at the KGV is that it is found on the rugby playing fields each week, where children from ages 5 to youths of 18 and adults play rugby each week. Not only does training occur for the adult teams but around 70 children regularly train on Saturday each week and play on the fields occasionally on Sunday. To have to walk a sports pitch checking and usually picking up other persons' dog mess is a disgrace. Can all dog owners who use the KGV, please note that you are causing a danger to the health of children from the Kinross-shire area. There are ample bins and two specific dog mess bins at either side of the park – it would be appreciated if they could be used.

Martin Scott, Kinross RFC Youth Convenor  
KGV Playing Fields, The Muirs, Kinross

### Mobility Shop in Kinross

We are delighted to be celebrating our second anniversary and would like to take this opportunity to thank all our customers who have, and continue to, support us.

Our range of products has grown significantly over the last two years and this is mainly due to the feedback and suggestions our customers have given us, so thank you.

Why not pop into our store where Stefan, Sue and Sandra will be pleased to listen to your needs and show you what is available to make daily routines easier.

With your continued support we are sure to go from strength to strength.

Enable Mobility  
Loch Leven Health Centre  
Muir, Kinross

## SPOTLESS OVEN SERVICES

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Email: cariewalden69@yahoo.co.uk

### 'Honest, Truthful and Decent?'

In the item on page 18 of the November Newsletter which appears as 'News & Articles', I noted the line 'Cllr Giacobazzi voted to approve the application' to allow the controversial gypsy site. Given the level of opposition within Crook of Devon, this 'news' is clearly calculated to damage me in the eyes of the community.

But is it true? Well, in fact there was no poll vote. A poll vote is where each member of the Development Management Committee is asked to vote for a motion or against it. As there was only one motion, to approve the proposal, I had nothing to vote against.

This may beg the question of why I did not propose an amendment to the existing motion, i.e. to refuse the motion. Simple: one Councillor alone cannot propose an amendment. There has to be a seconder and my Ward 8 colleagues on the DMC were ineligible. At this point it was blindingly obvious that the overwhelming mood of the DMC was to support the recommendation of the officers to approve the application. Indeed, no other member proposed any amendment to refuse (which I could have supported).

In the absence of an amendment, the motion was carried unanimously meaning that, technically, I had voted for approval. So the Newsletter's fearless, anonymous reporter is not lying; technically.

The rest of the article is also selective in what it chooses to report. In addition to Cllr Barnacle, Cllr Robertson also spoke for an equal length of time, as did a Fossoway Community Councillor. The agent for the applicant spoke too and was robustly questioned by me. None of this is mentioned. The resulting article is more 'spin' than 'news'. Anyone doubting my support for Cllr Barnacle on the day should ask him, or my other Ward 8 colleague on the DMC, Cllr Cuthbert.

DMC meetings are quasi judicial and, as such, non political. It is disappointing that an ostensible 'news' item was used to launch a thinly veiled political attack on an elected member doing his job.

Cllr Joe Giacobazzi

### Your Local Joiner Alan Herd Joinery

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### Community Website

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



# News & Articles

## Kinross High Street Improvements Consultation 10 – 12 December

by Perth & Kinross Council

A consultation event for the proposed environmental improvements on Kinross High Street will take place from 10 to 12 December 2013 at Loch Leven Community Campus. It will be held in the Community Library, where the exhibition will be on view during library opening hours from 1pm on Tuesday 10 December to 7.30pm on Thursday 12 December.

This follows the previous consultation exercise in September 2012, when general support for the scheme was expressed along with some specific issues for further consideration. The design team have been working to develop the proposals and address the specific issues and the exhibition will show the up-to-date proposals for environmental improvements to the High Street, which are to be funded by Perth & Kinross Council. Additional funding is currently being pursued which would enable grant funding to be available for improvements to key historic buildings in the town centre and will be part of a separate consultation exercise.

The High Street exhibition will be staffed by members of the Council's design team from 3.30pm to 7.30pm on Wednesday 11 and Thursday 12 December, to provide an opportunity to discuss the proposals, ask any questions and leave any comments.

If you are interested in the future of the town centre, please come along to view the proposals. Subject to comments received at this consultation, the proposals will then be finalised, and the detail design and construction information produced for tender and the work started in the High Street in the latter part of 2014.

The proposals will also be available to view online at [www.pkc.gov.uk/kinrosshighstreet](http://www.pkc.gov.uk/kinrosshighstreet)



Kinross High Street

### Summary of Exhibition Times

#### Loch Leven Community Campus

	Display of Proposals	Council staff present
Tuesday 10 Dec	1.00pm-8.00pm	
Wednesday 11 Dec	10.00am-8.00pm	3.30pm-7.30pm
Thursday 12 Dec	10.00am-7.30pm	3.30pm-7.30pm

## Halbeath Park & Ride improves travel options for Kinross-shire residents

Fife's new transport interchange, Halbeath Park and Ride, opened on 25 November 2013.

The £10 million facility, located just off the M90 to the east of Dunfermline, will support the new bridge over the Forth, the Queens ferry Crossing, and build on the success of the Ferrytoll Park & Ride, further enhancing transport links between Fife and Central Scotland.

Halbeath Park & Ride has over 1000 car parking spaces, six bus stances, heated waiting area with toilets, seats, vending machine and staffed supervisor's office.

It's an ideal location to park and catch a regular bus service to Edinburgh, Edinburgh Airport, Glasgow and Dunfermline, as well as to Victoria Hospital in Kirkcaldy and other towns further east in Fife. There are dedicated bus lanes on the M90, prioritising public transport between Halbeath and Edinburgh, making it a viable option for commuters into the city.

To coincide with the opening of the facility, a number of Stagecoach timetables will be changing on 25 November.

A number of existing express coach routes will call at the Park and Ride site, and Stagecoach are also introducing a new route into Edinburgh, via the West End, operating past Haymarket, Edinburgh Zoo and Murrayfield.

Other timetable changes to local route 56, which will extend past Cowdenbeath to serve the Halbeath Park & Ride site, will improve connections for Kinross-shire communities as customers will be able to change onto the wider express network at Halbeath Park & Ride to reach a variety of destinations. The 56 route will also begin serving Kinross Park and Ride from 25 November.

Andrew Jarvis, Managing Director, Stagecoach East Scotland, said: "The opening of the park and ride site at Halbeath has allowed us to develop a number of bus and coach routes in the area and as a result many local timetables will change on 25 November.

"All Fife to Glasgow coach routes will call at the Park and Ride offering an easy interchange and a 20-minute frequency to the west. Improvements to other local routes will also provide further connections for the Jet 747 to Edinburgh Airport, extra journeys into Edinburgh on the X59 route and improved connections to and from other local towns and villages."

Stagecoach are also launching eight larger, brand new luxury coaches to operate on the X27 route with more seating, air conditioning, reclining leather seats and free wi-fi access on board.

Stagecoach have reassured customers that there are no plans for Ferrytoll Park and Ride to close following the opening of the new facility at Halbeath and the new site is intended to complement the existing well used Park and Ride options in the area. Similar to Ferrytoll, parking at the facility is free with over 1000 car parking spaces and vehicles may be left overnight at the site.

Full information on the timetable changes which took effect as from 25 November are available online at [www.stagecoachbus.com/fife](http://www.stagecoachbus.com/fife), and more details on the new park & ride site can be found at [www.halbeath.org](http://www.halbeath.org)

## Councillor Robertson

### Junction 7 - M90

I have sent a letter (see below) to Keith Brown MSP, Minister of Transport, seeking an upgrade of junction 7 on the M90. There is more and more traffic trying to access the M90 at junction 6, Kinross. An upgraded junction 7 would ease these traffic pressures considerably. I am pleased to say that so far all my fellow Kinross-shire Councillors and Milnathort CC have agreed to write in support. Willie Rennie MSP has already done so.

I have been asked by a number of people how they can also express their backing for an upgrade of junction 7. I think the best way would be for those who are keen to see this project adopted by Transport Scotland to drop me an email ( [wbrobertson@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:wbrobertson@pkc.gov.uk) ) or letter of support. I will then incorporate all the responses into one document and send it to Keith Brown.

Hopefully, if we get enough people backing the idea it will be put into a future capital programme by Transport Scotland.

8 November 2013

Keith Brown MSP  
Minister for Transport and Veteran Affairs,  
St. Andrew's House, Regent Road,  
Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

Dear Keith,

### Junction 7 M90 Motorway

I am writing to you in your capacity as the Scottish Government Minister of Transport to seek your support for the upgrading of junction 7 on the M90 to a full grade separated junction.

There are a number of reasons why this is something worthy of your support.

Currently vehicles can only go north onto the M90 from the A91. Likewise it is only vehicles travelling south that can leave the motorway here.

Since the M90 was built there has been a great deal of house building both in North Kinross and Milnathort and its surrounding area.

All vehicles from these areas wishing to join the M90 to travel south have to travel through Kinross in order to do so.

All vehicles wanting to travel to North Kinross and Milnathort area coming from the south also have to travel through Kinross to reach their destination.

This causes major traffic build ups on Springfield Road, Kinross. This has an adverse effect on the quality of life of people living on or near these arterial roads in Kinross.

When major events are held at the Balado Activity Centre such as T in the Park there are serious build ups of traffic and a great deal of traffic wishing to travel south have to go through both Milnathort and Kinross in order to do so.

The new Perth & Kinross Local Development Plan identifies employment land (E19 in the plan) on the south side of Stirling Road, Milnathort and next to the M90. An upgrade of junction 7 would I am sure hasten the development of this site by making it much more attractive for investment.

I fully realise that capital monies are in short supply but I know from experience that unless you get projects into the pipeline they will never come about. Therefore I would be grateful if you could ask your officers to consider my request seriously and for you to do what you can to have this project adopted.

There would be real tangible benefits for Kinross-shire and its residents by so doing.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr Willie Robertson  
Kinross-shire Councillor

### Speedwatch

I have had further discussions with Perth & Kinross Council about obtaining funding to secure the long-term future of the Speedwatch scheme trialled so successfully by the community of Crook of Devon last spring. The amounts of money are not large – between fifteen and twenty thousand pounds – so am fairly optimistic that this will be achieved.

If established, any community in Kinross-shire concerned about speeding vehicles can apply to be trained and be able to monitor the speed of traffic where they live. This will allow the Police to identify and target areas where speeding is a particular problem.

### Seasonal wishes

Lastly, may I finish by wishing everyone a Happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

*Cllr Willie Robertson*

## Shopfront destroyed by car

The shopfront of Baillie's Newsagent in Kinross High Street was seriously damaged by a car in the early hours of Saturday 16 November.

A 27-year-old man, Shaun Hughes from Woverhampton, faced six charges at Perth Sheriff Court on 18 November. They included theft of car from the Green Hotel, dangerous driving, driving without a licence or insurance and possession of cannabis.

A five-month renovation of the shop had only just been completed the day before the crash.

Newspaper deliveries are taking place as normal and the proprietors intend to reopen the shop as soon as possible.

*Photo at right shows Baillie's Newsagent in Kinross, shortly after the damage took place*



## News from the Health Centre



### Christmas and New Year Closing

Over the Christmas and New Year period, The Health Centre will be closed on the following dates:

Wednesday 25 December  
Thursday 26 December  
Wednesday 1 January  
Thursday 2 January

On all other weekdays over the Christmas and New Year period we will be open as usual from 8am until 6pm. Out of Hours cover for evenings and weekends is provided by NHS24 and the Fife Primary Care Emergency Service. They will also be providing emergency cover on the Wednesdays and Thursdays when we are closed. They can be contacted on our usual emergency number, 01577 865252. All calls will be recorded and we would ask patients to please only contact them with a medical emergency which cannot wait until we re-open. Thank you. We would ask all patients to please make sure that they have sufficient medication to last over the Christmas and New Year period. If your **medication** will run out over Christmas and New Year, please ensure that you submit a request for your medication by **Thursday 19 December**. We receive a greatly increased number of requests at this time of year and therefore need a bit of time to process them all. Repeat prescriptions may now be ordered on line. If you have not yet signed up for this service, you can do so on our website: [www.lochlevenhealthcentre.co.uk](http://www.lochlevenhealthcentre.co.uk)

If you have sufficient medication to last over this period, please do not submit a request for more. Prescription requests are all checked prior to issue, and where it appears that sufficient medication has recently been issued, further requests may be declined.

The Nursing Team is in the midst of a change of personnel at present. Liz Walkingshaw, Carol Fullerton and Susan Allan are leaving us and we wish them every success in their new roles. We are delighted that two new nurses, Jerry Maggs and Heather Watters will be joining the Nursing Team in December and Sharon Porter will be taking on a Health Care Assistant role. It will take some weeks for them to settle into their new roles and clinics might be a bit restricted during their induction period but we hope that by early next year the team will be back to full strength.

The doctors and all the staff at the Health Centre would like to take this opportunity to wish all their patients a merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

### PRO GUITAR OR BASS GUITAR LESSONS

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**Email:** [samuel@myguitarlessons.co.uk](mailto:samuel@myguitarlessons.co.uk)

**Phone:** 07938 663269

## Loch Leven Community Library

Loch Leven Community Campus, Muirs, Kinross

Tel: 01577 867205 Email: [lochlevenlibrary@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:lochlevenlibrary@pkc.gov.uk)

For further details of any of the events listed below, and to book where required, please contact the library.

**Pre-school Storytime** takes place every Monday 10.15-10.45am and Thursday 2.15pm-2.45pm.

**Bookbug Rhymetime** takes place every Wednesday 2pm-2.30pm and Saturday 10.30-11.00am. Suitable for babies and toddlers.

### Christmas Story & Craft, Saturday 7 December

Loch Leven Community Library will be holding a short story time for 3-7 years, followed by festive-themed craft workshop for children and families.

Between 1.30pm and 2.30pm, there will be the chance to hear the Christmas story and then design and make your own Christmas cards. Library staff will be on hand to help, and all materials will be provided. Why not come along and enjoy some festive, creative fun?

Youngsters may also like to make a greetings card for one of the library's housebound users. These cards will be delivered before Christmas as part of the WRVS Books on Wheels programme.

Event suitable for children between 3 and 11 years (children 8 years or under need to be accompanied by an adult; Christmas story suitable for 3-7 years).

This event is free, but booking is required.

### Clydebuilt Puppet Theatre: Red Riding Hood's Magic Purse, Saturday 14 December

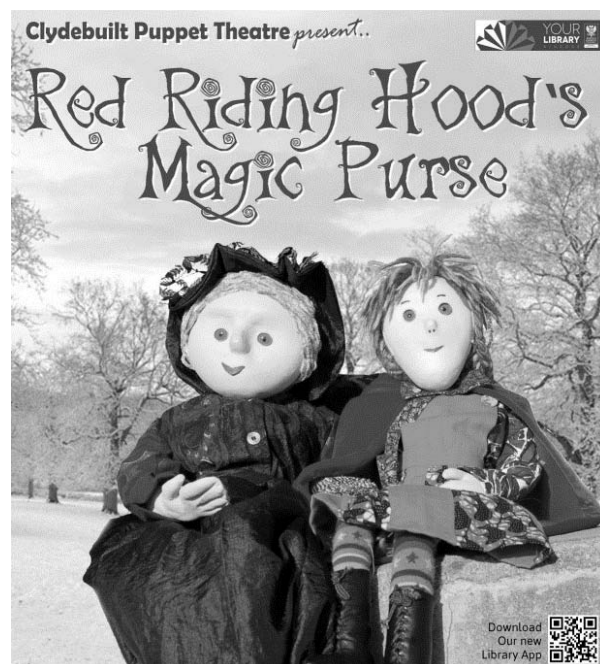
A classic story told with a difference. Favourite characters abound, an adventurous Red Riding Hood, an independent Granny (home at last from her trip round the world), and of course the wonderful, Wicked Wolf who plans to have "Grannie for lunch and Little Rosie for afternoon tea!"

Find out how Red Riding Hood's Magic Purse saves the day in this delightful show for ages 3+ years.

The show will be held between 11am and 12noon in the theatre at Loch Leven Community Campus. Tickets, priced at £3.50 or £12 for a family ticket of four, go on sale from Saturday 16 November and are available from the library.

### Library Opening Times for Christmas and New Year

See page 107.



## Councillor Barnacle

### Scottish Independence Referendum

I have written to Alistair Carmichael MP, Secretary of State for Scotland, and Alistair Darling MP, 'Better Together Campaign'. A copy of the letter is below.

15 November 2013

Dear Colleagues

#### Scottish Independence Referendum 18/9/14

I write as an Independent Councillor for Kinross-shire, having been first elected in May 1999 as a Liberal Democrat (a party I left in 2008 over lack of support on community planning issues) and served my constituents continuously since then. I support, along with the Independent Group on Perth & Kinross Council, the 'Better Together Campaign' to oppose the separatist policies of the SNP and keep Scotland part of Britain and the UK. I campaigned for a devolved Scottish Parliament and my continuing liberal political philosophy supports the Federal solution for the British state, with a sterling interchangeable currency zone from the Channel Islands to Scotland (I enclose a joint letter written in December 2006 by the Liberal councillors in Kinross-shire then, which I suggest is still very relevant to this Referendum).

The SNP are extremely well organised and formidable opponents in this Referendum. They are also very centrist, controlling and corporate at both national and local level; in particular I would say in relation to promoting a national fire and police service (very clearly primarily a cost-saving exercise), planning controls with a local democratic deficit and a seemingly indefinite (9 years by the end of the present Government's term) council tax freeze virtually imposed on local authorities, with resultant related cuts in services. I note also that although arguing for greater fiscal autonomy, they have never used the varying tax powers they currently have under devolution.

My experience to date of the 'Better Together Campaign' leaves something to be desired and I have had difficulty in liaison and acquiring campaign material for the team I have in place to help. I feel it is incumbent and urgent for the 'No' campaign to get better organised nationally and locally, if they are to win. The SNP play up their 'positive future' message and the apparently seamless transition from a 300 year old union to independence against the 'project fear' of the 'No' campaign, tending to label anyone who doesn't share their agenda for independence as somehow unpatriotic towards Scotland.

Surely it is time to be more positive about the benefits (both past and present) to Scotland of being part of the UK. I would also urge the unionist parties to have discussions on a 'home rule package' they could agree to put on the table and deliver if a 'No' vote is secured. I believe this would be the best and wisest outcome for Scotland's future.

Yours sincerely

Councillor Mike Barnacle

Independent Member for Kinross-shire

PS I also run an accountancy practice with clients on both sides of the border and do not wish to see separate financial services regulations applying.

cc Ruth Davidson MSP, Leader of Conservative & Unionist Party in Scotland. Johann Lamont MSP, Leader of Labour Party in Scotland. Willie Rennie MSP leader of Liberal Democrats in Scotland. Gordon Banks MP (Ochil & South Perthshire). Cllr Dave Cuthbert, Independent Member for Kinross-shire. Cllr Willie Robertson, Scottish Liberal Democrat Member for Kinross-shire.



## Business Breakfasts

### Open to all Kinross-shire Businesses

Kinross-shire Partnership will be hosting more Business Breakfasts at Loch Leven's Larder in the coming months. Please do come along, everyone is welcome whatever size your business. There is no membership fee. It is a great opportunity for local businesses to meet each other.

The Breakfasts will take place from **7.30am to 9am** on

**Wednesday 4 December**

**Wednesday 5 February**

and **Wednesday 5 March**

The cost of attending a Breakfast will be **£10** per person and will include a full Scottish Breakfast, porridge, cereal, fresh juice, fresh fruit, toast, coffee and tea. Please pay by cash on the day. Receipts will be issued.

The aim is to allow local businesses of all sizes to network and to share business goals. Everyone will have the opportunity to introduce their business. Please bring your business cards and any brochures you wish to display.

To register to attend one or more of the Breakfasts, please email Sandra Ralston, Kinross-shire Partnership Administrator at [mail@kinrosspartnership.org.uk](mailto:mail@kinrosspartnership.org.uk) or call 07774181768.

You can see more information about the work of Kinross-shire Partnership at:

[www.kinrosspartnership.org.uk](http://www.kinrosspartnership.org.uk)

[www.visitlochleven.org](http://www.visitlochleven.org)

[www.facebook.com/visitlochleven](https://www.facebook.com/visitlochleven)

[www.twitter.com/VisitLochLeven](https://www.twitter.com/VisitLochLeven)

*For a report of the most recent Business Breakfast, see p. 43*

## M90 Road Works

BEAR Scotland will be undertaking carriageway patching on the M90 in early December.

Between 30 November and 6 December, the southbound off slip at Junction 5 (Gairneybridge) will be closed. Lane restrictions will be controlled by diversion to Junction 4 (Kelty).

Between 7 December and 13 December the southbound on slip road at Junction 6 (Kinross) will be closed. Lane restrictions will be controlled by diversion through Kinross to Junction 5 (Gairneybridge).

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## Councillor Giacomuzzi

### Unconventional Gas Extraction

This can take two forms: Hydraulic Fracturing, or 'Fracking,' as it is now popularly referred to, and Coal Bed Gas Extraction.

Fracking, whereby water and chemicals are introduced into shale deposits deep underground under pressure, fractures the rock, releasing the methane gas for extraction. On the other hand, Coal Bed Gas Extraction is the system employed to allow the extraction of the methane contained in coal seams. Initially a six-inch (or whatever they call it nowadays) well is sunk to a depth of about 3,000 feet into the coal bed and the seam is 'dewatered' i.e. the water within the coal comes to the surface under its own pressure. With the water gone, the coal seam squeezes out the gas which comes to the surface where it is cleaned and introduced to the gas grid. Further pipes are inserted horizontally into the coal bed.

There are thought to be deep coal deposits under the southern part of Kinross-shire, on the boundary with Fife, where the central Scottish coalfield ends. Around twenty years ago the UK Government sold the exploration rights to this area, literally from under our feet! The exploration block, which has the name PEDL 163 (Petroleum Exploration Development Licence), is the area to the south of a line running from St Serf's island to the middle of Crook of Devon and now belongs to an Australian company, Dart Energy. They have a website which is worth a look. Having obtained planning permission for 22 wells from Falkirk Council, Dart Energy have begun exploratory drilling at Airth, somewhat to the consternation of the local community who felt that they had not been sufficiently notified.

The fears of the community at Airth focus on the disposal of contaminated water coming up from the coal seams. This activity is, however, regulated by the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA). The other issue

relates to 'fugitive emissions' occurring when wellheads leak small amounts of methane, if not properly sealed.

I do not know of any plans which Dart Energy may have to explore for gas in Kinross-shire at the present time, but having gone to the expense of acquiring PEDL 163, they are likely to extend their activities to our area in the future. My concern, which will surely be shared by the other Ward 8 Councillors, is that the planning rules are applied in a way which will safeguard those local communities nearest to any unconventional gas extraction activities.

Therefore we must ensure a robust regime of neighbour notification to allow for affected house holders to object if they wish; apparently this has not been the case in Airth. We must also establish what constitutes a safe distance from housing to prevent any possible adverse effects on human health from fugitive emissions and establish appropriate buffer zones around wells. As wellheads are only about a metre high, there is unlikely to be an issue over visual impact, but this would all be considered as part of the planning process.

There can be no doubt that the local authority has mishandled the issue of Coal Bed Gas Extraction at Airth, so causing needless angst to the local community and a backlash against Falkirk Council. I believe that in Kinross-shire there must be a dialogue between the relevant Community Councils, Ward 8 Councillors, PKC's Development Standards Department and Dart Energy. I shall be requesting a meeting with Nick Brian, head of Development Standards, in early course.

I would issue a note of caution in relation to the interference by outside pressure groups who will try to involve themselves. Such groups inevitably have an axe to grind and are primarily not concerned with individual communities such as ours, but with 'saving the planet'. Their assertions, which may contain some wisdom, should be treated with a degree of caution.

*Cllr J Giacomuzzi*

## Council News goes electronic

Perth & Kinross Council is changing the way it produces its Council magazine for residents, 'Perth & Kinross News' so that people can choose to receive it by email.

The Council is seeking residents' views on the content of the magazine and they can choose to be added to the distribution list by filling in a short survey on the Council website. The survey is at:

[www.pkc.gov.uk/article/7408/Share-you-views-on-Perth-and-Kinross-News](http://www.pkc.gov.uk/article/7408/Share-you-views-on-Perth-and-Kinross-News)

Hard copies of 'Perth & Kinross News' will be available at all primary schools and at Loch Leven Community Campus.

## Electoral form reminder

Perth & Kinross residents who have not yet returned their annual electoral registration form were due to receive a reminder letter in late November.

Alastair Kirkwood, Electoral Registration Officer for Angus and Perth & Kinross, said:

"Forms were issued to all households at the beginning of October 2013 and just over 62% have responded so far.

"This is the last annual canvass before the European Parliament election on 22 May 2014 and the Scottish Independence Referendum on 18 September 2014 therefore you should return your forms to ensure you are eligible to vote."

Door to door visits will be carried out from 2 December 2013 to 31 January 2014 when canvassers will call at addresses where no form has been returned.

Residents with queries should telephone 01738 630303.

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## Transport minister visits Cleish

*Written by pupils of P6-7, Cleish Primary School*

On Wednesday 30 October, Cleish Primary School received a visit from Keith Brown, Minister for Transport and Veterans.

This visit was a result of being involved in the “Name The Bridge” competition for the Forth Replacement Crossing. Cleish Primary and Madras College both successfully voted for the chosen name, “Queens ferry Crossing.”

A trophy was presented to the school and, as part of the prize, a number of pupils from Cleish and Madras will have the opportunity to visit the project for a VIP tour of the construction site early next year. Also, in 2016, an invitation will be given for a group to attend the opening ceremony.

The classes involved were pleased to meet Mr Brown and interested to hear about many aspects of his job. They are looking forward to the site visit for a behind-the-scenes look at the project and are excited to being part of the opening ceremony.



*Transport Minister Keith Brown with Cleish Primary School pupils*

## Petmate - Housemate

### **Pet Sitting/Drop-in Checks (feed, water, play)**

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### House Drop-in Checks

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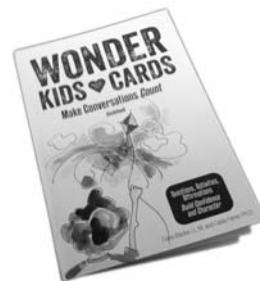
**Mob: 07966 291484**

## Making conversations count... from Kinnesswood to Brazil and back (via Florida)

Local lady Fiona Blackie has teamed up with a successful American businesswoman she met in a remote village in Brazil four years ago to produce a unique and innovative toolkit to help kids and families.

Fiona, whose background lies in law and who has worked as a senior management consultant, met Caela Faren, an ex-nun and educator, whilst in Brazil. They discovered a shared passion for nurturing kids' confidence and character to help them withstand the stresses of modern life and enable them to grow into healthy and happy adults. Together they came up with Wonder Kids Cards - a fun and practical toolkit for busy families and teachers.

The Wonder Kids Cards are a colourful, boxed set of 38 cards and guidebook based on 11 moral principles such as love, gratitude, self expression and listening. On one side a *question* will open exciting conversations and an *affirmation* on the other will keep these values front of mind. The guidebook contains *reflections* on the meaning behind each of the questions as well as engaging *activities* to support learning.



Fiona said: “It has been a labour of love over the last four years, especially as we decided to self-publish the Wonder Kids Cards. Caela and I started working together by phone for the first year,

and then we met again in dusty, hot Brazil to edit the cards and guidebook. By this time I had got to grips with Skype, which has been an enormous help!

“We recognise that parents want to connect with their kids in a meaningful way but the pressures of modern life don’t always make that easy...Wonder Kids Cards aims to put that right. The cards can be used at meal times, on the way to school, on car journeys or before bed. They would make a great Christmas present.

“We have had amazing feedback to date, especially from teachers, parents, grandparents and professionals in the education and pastoral field, not to mention the children themselves, who typically want to take them to school to show their friends and teachers. A favourite card with kids is about love and hugs, and adults like the card about ‘meanness’ as this fits with the anti-bullying message. Teachers like to use them on a daily or weekly basis to support their pupils’ emotional intelligence.”

Catherine Hope, mother and HR Director, Global Financial Services said: "The questions and conversations probably gave me more to think about than my daughter!"

Annabel Cameron, aged 8 said: "I like the cards because they help me learn and think about stuff. My favourite one is the hugs one!"

For more about Wonder Kids Cards, go to the website:  
[www.wonderkidscards.com](http://www.wonderkidscards.com)

## Treasure Trove Pop-Up Shop

A pop-up fair selling hand-made crafts will be held in Kinross Church Centre on 7 December.

The fair is an outlet for Treasure Trove, a shop in Edinburgh that is an Aladdin's cave of gorgeous handmade goods and delicious home produce. Items sold by Treasure Trove include jewellery and funky young fashion woolly hats, scarves and gloves, meaning that The Treasure Trove's customers range from teenage upwards.

Treasure Trove is the modern retail outlet of a charity called the Royal Edinburgh Repository and Self Aid Society for Gentlewomen. This was founded in 1893 to assist those of limited means to achieve an independent livelihood by promoting the sale of their own handiwork.

An unusual and much appreciated backroom service is that customers can bring in their own material to be

smocked, or a pattern and wool for items to be knitted, or even moth holes repaired!

Treasure Trove is located at 23A Castle Street, Edinburgh. For more information ring 0131 220 1187 or

email [shop@selfaidsociety.co.uk](mailto:shop@selfaidsociety.co.uk)

*The Pop-Up Fair will be held at Kinross Church Centre on Saturday 7 December, 10am to 2pm. Admission is free.*

# THE TREASURE TROVE

(THE ROYAL EDINBURGH REPOSITORY AND SELF AID SOCIETY)



## POP-UP FAIR OF MEMBERS' CRAFTS

Saturday 7 December 2013, 10am-2pm

at

**KINROSS CHURCH CENTRE,  
64 HIGH STREET, KINROSS**

*All Welcome Free Admission*

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## Rights, advice, and support: Three steps to knowing your rights as a Carer

Caring for a loved one suffering from physical or mental health issues, is disabled, has substance misuse problems or has a long term or life limiting condition can be tough enough without having to fight for financial or practical support. To acknowledge Carers Rights Day on Friday 29 November, here are three steps that every Carer should take to support them in their role:

### 1. Check if you can get practical support

Did you know you have a statutory right to access an assessment of your needs as a Carer? Commonly known as a Carers Support Plan (or Carers Assessment), it is carried out by the Council workers based both in community and hospital settings. A Carers Support Plan assesses whether you would benefit from support and can guide you in accessing support groups, respite, complementary therapies, training and counselling etc. You can still receive support even if the person you care for refuses help for themselves.

*To request an assessment of your needs as a Carer, please contact the Community Care Access Team on 0845 30 111 20 or [accessteam@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:accessteam@pkc.gov.uk)*

### 2. Get a Benefits Check

Providing support for a loved one can often incur extra costs such as for extra travel or services to support your loved one. Making sure you get a Benefits Check is crucial to determine whether you are entitled to financial support. Carer's Allowance is the main benefit available. If you have given up work to care, your National Insurance can also be covered. Even if you are not eligible, you should still make sure you get a full Benefits Check as you may get Council Tax discounts, Tax credits or help with fuel costs.

*For more information, contact the Perth & Kinross Council Welfare Rights Team on 01738 476900 or*

*[WelfareRights@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:WelfareRights@pkc.gov.uk) or Perth Citizens Advice Bureau on 01738 450580.*

### 3. Make the most of technology

PKC has a Tele-care service which provides and installs equipment for you, or the person you support, to help make living at home safer. Examples include movement and flood sensors, fall, door and personal alarms. These can help you get out of the house, get a good night's sleep or even juggle work and care.

*To find out if you, or the person you care for, are eligible for telecare assistance, please contact the Community Care Access Team on 0845 30 111 20 or [accessteam@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:accessteam@pkc.gov.uk)* There are lots of services and project in Perth and Kinross dedicated to support carers. Please contact Kerry Donaghy on 01738 567076 or [kerry.donaghy@pkavs.org.uk](mailto:kerry.donaghy@pkavs.org.uk) to obtain a copy of the Useful Contacts for Carers. To receive regular emails on what policies are being developed to support Carers, and to be given the chance to have your voice heard, please visit the Carers Scotland website [www.carersuk.org/scotland](http://www.carersuk.org/scotland) to register your details. PKC's Carers Webpage will also provide a lot of information for local support [www.pkc.gov.uk/carers](http://www.pkc.gov.uk/carers)

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## January Programme at Kinross Learning Centre



2014 sees the 100th anniversary of the break-out of the First World War. Local historian, Mike Taylor will be delivering a brand new class in Kinross Learning Centre which will help students understand this compelling and controversial conflict. In a series of lectures, Mike will help students to understand the background to Britain's involvement in the war: the key events; why there were so many casualties; the world-wide nature of the conflict; and how Britain's cultural view of the war has been generated over the years since the Armistice.

Following the success of the Roman Blind workshop run earlier in the year, there are a range of new one day workshops on offer to make box cushions, interlined curtains and footstools. Run on Saturdays from 10am-4pm, these workshops will teach a range of techniques for each of these projects.

Anyone taking Higher Spanish in 2014 is being offered the opportunity to gain some additional skills in a new revision class. Delivered by a native speaker, the course will support the curriculum and focus on grammar points such as verb tenses and widening vocabulary.

To find out more or to book you place, contact Maureen Ross on 01577 863863 or visit Kinross Learning Centre at Swansacre, Kinross.

### LANGUAGES

Revision for Spanish Higher	Wed 15 Jan	4.30 – 6.30 pm	10 weeks	£68
Spanish Complete Beginners	Thu 16 Jan	7 – 9 pm	10 weeks	£68
Spanish Complete Beginners	Wed 15 Jan	1 – 3 pm	10 weeks	£68
Spanish Beginners Term 2	Wed 15 Jan	7 – 9 pm	10 Weeks	£68
Spanish Improvers	Tue 14 Jan	7 – 9 pm	10 weeks	£68
French Beginners Term 2	Fri 17 Jan	7 – 9 pm	10 weeks	£68
French Improvers	Tue 14 Jan	1 – 3 pm	10 weeks	£68
French Advanced	Tue 14 Jan	10.30 – 12.30 pm	10 weeks	£68
Italian Advanced	Thu 16 Jan	10 – 12 pm	10 weeks	£68
Russian Language & Culture Term 2	Tue 14 Jan	7 – 9 pm	10 weeks	£68
Russian Intermediate	Thu 16 Jan	7 – 9 pm	10 weeks	£68
Polish Intermediate	Wed 15 Jan	7 – 9 pm	10 weeks	£68

### COMPUTING

Getting Started on your Computer	Tue 14 Jan	11 am – 1 pm	8 weeks	£55
Carry on Computing	Tue 14 Jan	1 pm – 3 pm	5 weeks	£55
Effective PC Management	Tue 14 Jan	3 – 5 pm	5 weeks	£40
Sage Accounting	Mon 13 Jan	7 – 9 pm	10 weeks	£68

### ART & CRAFTS

Painting with Acrylics Intermediate	Mon 13 Jan	10 – 12 noon	10 weeks	£68
Painting with Acrylics Beginners	Mon 13 Jan	1.30 – 3.30 pm	10 weeks	£68
Watercolours Beginners	Wed 15 Jan	1.30 – 3.30 pm	10 weeks	£68
Watercolours 4	Thu 16 Jan	1.30 – 3.30 pm	10 weeks	£68
The Art of Drawing Intermediate	Wed 15 Jan	9.45 – 11.45 am	10 weeks	£68
The Art of Drawing 4	Thu 16 Jan	9.45 – 11.45 am	10 weeks	£68
Soft Furnishings	Wed 15 Jan	4.30 – 6.30 pm	10 weeks	£80
Sew Smart – Sewing, Mending, Altering, Recycling, Tailoring	Tue 14 Jan	7 – 9 pm	10 weeks	£80
Make a footstool in a day	Sat 18 Jan	10 am – 4 pm	1 day workshop	£60 incl. kit
Make a box cushion	Sat 22 Feb	10 am – 4 pm	1 day workshop	£35 + materials
Interlined curtain workshop	Sat 22 Mar	10 am – 4 pm	1 day workshop	£35 + materials

### GENERAL INTEREST

Cake Decorating: Introduction	Tue 14 Jan	10 am – 12 noon	6 Weeks	£60
100 years on: Understanding the First World War	Tue 14 Jan	2 – 4 pm	10 weeks	£68
Spanish Cookery: Tasty Tapas	Sat 18 Jan	10 am – 12 noon	8 weeks	£70
Introduction to Antiques	Fri 17 Jan	10 am – 12 noon	10 weeks	£68
Learn to Play Guitar Stage 2	Tue 14 Jan	7 – 9 pm	10 weeks	£80
Genealogy	Thu 16 Jan	2 – 4 pm	10 weeks	£68

## Library hours to be cut

PKC is planning changes to its library services, including closing all libraries in the authority area on Mondays.

Changes proposed for the Loch Leven Community Library at the campus are:

- Closure on a Monday
- Reduced opening hours on a Saturday. Current hours on a Saturday are 10am-3pm. The plan is to shut at 1pm instead.

It is anticipated that these changes will be implemented in spring 2014.

Public drop in sessions have been arranged in local libraries to allow local communities to ask questions about the review of libraries. Details of the Kinross session are:

### Public Drop in Session

Loch Leven Community Campus, ICT meeting room

**Monday 9 December**

5.30pm - 6.30pm

Residents with queries on these proposals may also contact Perth & Kinross Libraries at AK Bell Library, York Place, Perth, PH2 8EP, telephone 01738 444949.

## Good turnout at independence Q & A

Around 180 people attended a question and answer session on independence at the community campus on Tuesday 12 November. The event was organised by a local branch of the 'Yes' campaign.

Perthshire North MSP John Swinney was joined on the panel by former BBC correspondent Louise Batchelor, International Affairs Consultant Stephen Gethins and Scottish Businessman Ian Blackford.

Commenting after the event, John Swinney said:

"These events improve every time as tonight's discussion demonstrated. Ordinary voters are now attending Yes public meetings in large numbers across our country to challenge, discuss and learn more about the many different elements of this most crucial national opportunity.

"It is clear now that there is consistent movement from No to undecided and again from undecided to Yes, there is little evidence or rational reason to show that anyone is going from Yes to undecided or No. That is because the Yes campaign is positive, forward looking and evidence based."

Stephen Gethins added:

"Scotland has a long history of active engagement with its partners across Europe and around the World. As a normal sized European country with the EU's best energy resources and vibrant food and drink and other industries we are well placed to make a positive contribution in tackling some of the challenges that our continent faces.

"It is high time that we put Scotland back where it belongs at the heart of the international community as a full and equal partner with our friends across these islands and the rest of Europe. That will be good for Scotland and good for our neighbours."

Former BBC correspondent Louise Batchelor concluded:

"Scotland's environment is under pressure in a number of ways but we must remember that we possess one of the most beautiful and diverse landscapes anywhere in the world.

"I believe now is the time, with Independence, to manage our environment so that it supports jobs and health in a way which has proved impossible under the present system of government."

## New charity to hold event at Milnathort Town Hall

Grace Ross is creating a charitable foundation, 'Sarah's Wish', in memory of her mum, Sarah Studders, who died from a rare form of skin cancer.

Sarah (88) was being treated for cancer at Ninewells Hospital, Dundee when she developed an infection and passed away in August.

Now, as a thank you to staff for all the support they gave her family, Grace wants to help improve the facilities in Ward 32 where her mum was a patient, by organising various events.

She said: "During my mum's last few days most of the family were at her side and the nursing staff were fantastic.

"We were never made to feel in the way and we were offered a chance to talk if we needed it, a bed to sleep in, a shower and a television for which we are forever grateful.

"But with a good cash boost the basic facilities provided in the relatives' room could be vastly improved with padded chairs, better sofa beds, blankets, toiletries etc. I just want to raise money to give the families some comfort."

Grace initially planned to raise enough money to buy some padded chairs, but now she hopes to build up the charity and continue the work she has started by helping to support other hospital wards across Tayside and Fife.

A major event to raise funds will take place in Milnathort Town Hall on 22 December, Grace's mum's birthday. As well as stalls selling various items, Grace plans to have all her hair shaved off. (*See notice, p. 92, for more details*).

She said: "If mum was still with us, having survived her treatment, I am sure she would have wished to repay the kindness we were shown by the hospital staff.

"That was the kind of person she was, so I will do it as her wish."

Anyone wanting to find out more about Grace's fundraising events or who would like to make a donation, should search for 'Sarah's Wish Xx' on Facebook.



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## Silent Art Auction in aid of Mary's Meals

Pupils, former pupils and members of the Kinross and District Art Club are among the contributors to a Silent Art Auction to be held in Kinross High School on **Wednesday 4 December**. Doors will open for viewing at 3pm with bids being accepted from then until the deadline of 7pm.

There is undoubted talent within the community and this gives contributors the opportunity to display their talents for a good cause. It offers the people of Kinross-shire the opportunity to purchase something unique and a little bit different from the normal at Christmas, while contributing to the fundraising efforts of Kinross High School for Mary's Meals. Donations of art work will be gratefully accepted right up until the start of the auction.

A group of senior pupils have been leading the fundraising drive for Mary's Meals with a target of £11,235 to be raised in one year. The total raised, since beginning in June, at the time of going to print, is £8,081. This total represents 755 children being fed for one year.

Alongside the Silent Art Auction, pupils are currently selling Mary's Meals T Shirts and Christmas Gift cards. The gift cards, which cost £10.70, represent the gift of feeding one child, one meal a day, in a place of education for a whole year, donated in the receiver's name. Head Girl Gemma Matthew explained that for such a small amount the benefit that it has for one child is astounding. As well as providing food, the programme provides education and therefore hope for children who would otherwise be begging and scrounging for food.

## Gordon Banks re-selected

Gordon Banks, MP for Ochil and South Perthshire and Shadow Scotland Office Minister, has been re-selected unanimously by local Labour Party members to defend his seat in the 2015 General Election.

### Lochend Farm Shop Scotlandwell

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carrots, turnips, cabbage  
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## Concert in memory of Esme Morris Macintyre

Esme battled a brain tumor for nearly seven years and her courage and determination to live life to the full, always with a beautiful smile, was an inspiration to thousands of people. She wrote a searingly honest account of the challenges she faced through her Facebook page – [www.facebook.com/EsmesAdventure](http://www.facebook.com/EsmesAdventure) and she worked tirelessly to raise funds for the Teenage Cancer Trust.

She set out to make the most of her short life with a wish list of people to meet and things to do. She met sporting heroes Sir Chris Hoy and Andy Murray and singers Amy Macdonald and Emeli Sandé. She took part in fashion shows and went snow biking and hot air ballooning.

Esme played the clarsach (small harp) from the age of nine and was really pleased when clarsach players from across Scotland wrote tunes for her. A concert to be held on Sunday 16 February will be a fitting tribute to the life of a remarkable teenager and will continue her legacy of raising funds for the Teenage Cancer Trust.



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# Police Box

## Ready for winter?

This year everyone across Scotland is being encouraged to 'think ahead' and be prepared for all kinds of severe weather. Whether it's at home, on the move, in the workplace, or in your community, we all need to consider the risk of severe weather.

Severe weather can occur at any time of year, but is most likely during the winter months. It can cause a range of problems – but you can be ready for them.

By 'thinking ahead' we can all help Scotland be better prepared.

### On the move

Being prepared for severe weather is something we all need to do – it takes only a few simple steps and is important if you're on the move. In severe weather conditions, your journey could take longer than expected so before travelling in bad weather, you should:

- Check the weather forecast and road conditions
- Consider whether you need to travel right now or if you can wait until the weather improves
- Consider alternative routes
- Consider alternative modes of transport
- Allow extra time for your journey
- Make sure your car is ready for a journey in poor weather
- Make sure your mobile phone is fully charged
- Tell someone your destination and when you expect to arrive
- Consider fitting winter tyres to your vehicle

Be prepared for severe weather by packing a few essential items to take with you. Your emergency kit should at least include:

### Car

- An ice scraper and de-icer
- A shovel for snow
- A torch and spare batteries
- Warm clothes, boots and a blanket
- Some food and a warm drink in a flask
- A first aid kit
- Battery jump leads
- A map for any unplanned diversions

### On public transport

- Dress for the season/forecast
- Have a means of contacting your family
- For a long journey, carry a small snack and some water if possible

### Cycling

- Ensure you and your bike are visible to other road users by investing in a good set of front and rear lights (white at the front, red at the back).

- Wear clothes that help you be seen on your bike such as bright and light reflective items.
- Get a good set of mud guards and consider heavy duty tyres with a deeper tread to cope with slippery surfaces.
- Remember, it can take longer to stop in poor weather.
- Investing in some warm, waterproof clothing including gloves that still allow you to switch gears and use the brakes easily.
- Consider wearing correctly-fitted helmets with an additional light.
- Get a routine bike maintenance check, especially the brakes.

### For pedestrians

- Ensure that you, or someone you know clears the pavement outside your home.
- Wear shoes or boots with non-slip soles and consider wearing reflective or bright-coloured clothing so other road users are better able to see you.
- Hats or scarves that cover your ears can also distort or eliminate the muffled sounds of approaching vehicles, so take extra care when checking for traffic.
- Keep warm, but make sure that you can hear what's going on around you.
- Remember, vehicles can take up to ten times longer to stop on slippery surfaces, so don't make any sudden movements and give motorists plenty of time.

For more information on being ready for winter at home, at work or in the community visit [www.readyscotland.org](http://www.readyscotland.org)  
Some other useful sites include: [www.trafficscotland.org](http://www.trafficscotland.org)

## Crime Stoppers – Telephone 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 you have information relating to a criminal activity of any sort. It is, if you wish, confidential and you cannot be contacted if you choose to remain anonymous.

## Community Officers

Local community officers are:

Bridge of Earn &

Abemethy:

Constable Graham Ogilvie

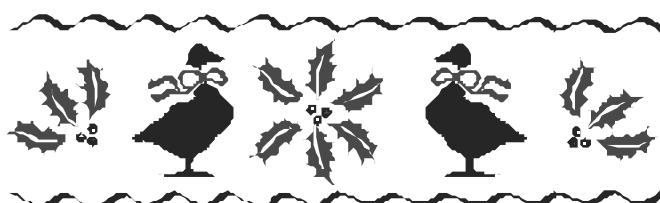
Kinross-shire:

Constable Sadie Allan



To contact the local community officers, telephone the police non-emergency number 101 or email as follows:  
[graham.ogilvie@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:graham.ogilvie@scotland.pnn.police.uk)  
[sadie.allan@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:sadie.allan@scotland.pnn.police.uk)

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# Community Council News



The Community Council News is based on draft minutes of local CC meetings. Full draft minutes are posted on local websites and notice boards. In addition, Kinross CC minutes are lodged in the community library. Please note, the Community Council News is not a verbatim reproduction of CC minutes.

## Kinross Community Council

### News from the November Meeting

Present at the meeting held on 6 November 2013 were: CCllrs D Colliar, G Thomas, D Mackay, I Jack, M Wood, M Scott, B Davies, D West and W Freeman; P&K Cllr D Cuthbert; Michael Morgan of PKC; Malcolm Smith and Simon Wilson (Wilson Homes) and eight members of the public. Apologies were received from CCllrs Blyth and Watson and P&K Cllr Barnacle. There were no declarations of interest.

**Minutes of October meeting:** There were corrections to items about Police station cover and the parking survey.

**Presentation from Forth Wines:** CCllr Colliar commented on a newspaper report in relation to the sale of Forth Wines. Due to the current circumstances the proposed presentation regarding the plans for the warehouse at Bridgend has been put on hold.

**Kinross town centre regeneration:** Michael Morgan, Regeneration Projects Officer for PKC made a short presentation. He resubmitted a Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) application in August to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). The application process had been changed and was now heavily weighted towards community outcomes, as well as heritage outcomes. He spent two months engaging with local partners in an attempt to identify outputs which not only target heritage, but also those which tie in with education, community, business and tourism. Parties involved included Kinross-shire Partnership, Kinross-shire Civic Trust and Kinross Museum. Opportunities through funding are also available for local property and business owners to address the lack of investment in buildings and shop fronts on the High Street. Engagement was also planned with various groups in the area, including school groups and nurseries and RSPB and Perth College. Further discussion ensued and included traffic issues. Mr Morgan was thanked for his presentation and CCllr Colliar confirmed that he would attend the planned meeting on Friday. (*See also Article, p. 4.*)

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**Wreath:** CCllr West commented that this matter should have been on the agenda for discussion at the last meeting, adding he wished to propose a motion that the CC continue to order and pay for the Ex-Servicemen's wreath. This was seconded by CCllr Thomas. Mr Aitken mentioned that they were now known as Veterans. CCllr Colliar replied that he would check this out. CCllr Jack proposed that the CC do not pay for this wreath and was seconded by CCllr Mackay. On a vote, four were for CCllr West's motion and three against. The CC will continue to pay for the Ex-Servicemen's Wreath (Veterans) and arrange a wreath layer.

**KCCNL:** CCllr Thomas had been in communication with the Council and had received a response confirming that P&K Councillors are ex officio members of the CC, the only restriction being that they do not hold voting rights. In the absence of CCllr Watson, however, it was decided to leave this matter until next month's meeting. A check of the constitution would also be carried out.

**Mackintosh Memorial Institute:** CCllr Wood reported on a meeting he attended with CCllr Watson. He advised that the Council were against the CC stating their preferred use of the ground.

**Local Development Plan:** There was some discussion of the Reporter's Examination. It was commented that the Primary School is one that has been identified as in need of replacement. The Council would like to see this next to the campus to allow them to share services. The Hayfield site was mentioned as a possible area that could be utilised for a new primary school. Mrs Brady thanked the CC and the community for raising the awareness of the campaign against H46.

**Newsletter Funds:** No applications have been received since the last meeting. One problem encountered was the accessibility of obtaining an application form. The format of the website has been altered. CCllr Davies to speak to the website administrator regarding this.

#### Planning Applications

13/01913/FLL Levenfields, modification of existing consent (13/01378/FLL): change of house types on Plots 52 to 54.

13/01929/FLL Gowanlea, Alterations and extension to dwelling house.

13/01772/FLL 43 High Street: Alterations and extension to dwelling house.

13/01748/FLL Ivy Garden, Muirs: Alterations, extension and change of use from bin/cycle store to form a dwelling house.

**Applications Approved by PKC:** 13/01965/FLL Change of use from retail (Class 1) to office (Class 2), former Blockbuster Video Express; 13/01697/FLL 49 Montgomery Street, extension to dwelling house; 13/01378/FLL Levenfields, modification of existing consent (05/01475/FUL) change of house type on Plots 47-56.

**Proposed application, Applegarth, Sunnypark: early retirement homes.** Mr M Smith as agent for Wilson Homes explained that this is in relation to the erection of a six-apartment building with basement car parking over three levels. The site slopes down towards the woodland with



public open space at front. There will also be some public car parking available. The only concern raised was in relation to access from the Muirs onto a narrow road with this added traffic. Cllr Colliar questioned whether it would be feasible to include a loop that you could drive round. Mr Wilson confirmed that alternatives could be considered. Mr Smith and Mr Wilson answered further questions raised from the floor and the CC. The CC had nothing further to add at this stage and the Chairman asked that the members email him with any comments. Mr Wilson asked if the CC would support this application, our only concern being in relation to the access.

**Wind Energy Policy:** PKC report still awaited.

#### Reports by Perth & Kinross Councillors

Cllr Cuthbert commented as follows:

**KLEO Winter Festival:** Booklets available. Mention was made to the Street Market on 23 November.

**Better Place to Live Fair 2014:** Tracey Ramsay has asked for support in organising/running the Better Place to Live Fair in 2014. To be added to the next agenda.

#### Questions from the Floor

A question was raised from the floor regarding heavy traffic speeding on Springfield Road leading up to the roundabout. Cllr Giacomazzi viewed this first hand and he spoke to a number of people who had complained. The Police were involved and were to carry out a speed survey on Springfield Road, Muirs and the new relief road. A road sign (arrow) was still lying in the hedge at Wilson Court. The vision at Wilson Court was also a problem when hedges were overgrown and if there were pedestrians waiting to cross. The possibility of a roundabout in this area could be discussed with PKC.

**Old railway road:** Mr Aitken asked if it would be possible to erect another set of lights in this area. It was commented that this might attract the wrong element of people to the site.

**Park up to Gallowhill Road:** Mention was made of the dog excrement in this area and the siting of dog bins.

#### Correspondence

Community Liaison Group for the PNE WIND UK and Forestry Commission Scotland Tay Forest District Wind Farm.

**War Memorial Trust:** Asking if our local war memorial is preserved to prevent deterioration and the names and inscriptions from fading and disappearing. It was commented that the war memorial is in good condition, however could benefit from being sanded. You can register with War Memorials Online and grant funding is also available.

**Polling:** The Council is inviting representations on a review of allocated polling districts or polling places within the PKC area. The CC had no comment to make.

Sustainable Design and Zero Carbon Development SG Workshop: details given.

**Annual insurance renewal:** papers received.

**Planning documents:** Scotland's Third National Planning Framework (NPF3) and Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) – Sustainability and Planning. The full analysis and report of main findings available on Scottish Government website. Responses requested by 16 Dec.

**Lights:** Cllr Scott advised that a number of lights were out in the area of Emslie Drive, Green Road and Ochil View.

**Development:** The plans for the old surgery were commented on. Confirmation was not available but both GS Brown and a business site were mentioned.

**County Buildings:** Cllr Colliar advised that missives will be concluded within the next two to three weeks. The identity of the owner will not be divulged.

**Police Report:** (Received after the meeting.) Recent crimes in the area: Vandalism to house windows, Wilson Court; Theft of ride-on lawnmower, trailer and tools from farm buildings; Theft of diesel from excavator at Levenfields and from heating tank at Neilson's; Thefts from motor vehicles. Road policing issues locally: Speed checks completed on Junction Road. One driver warned.

**The Next Meeting of Kinross CC will take place on Wednesday 4 December 2013. As the January meeting falls on 1st January it was agreed to cancel it. However, should anything controversial arise the Chairman, David Colliar, will arrange a meeting.**

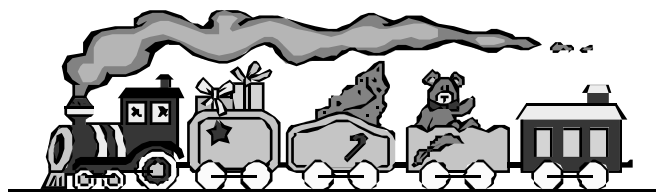
#### Agenda for the December Meeting

1. Apologies for absence
2. Declarations of interest
3. Minutes of the November meeting
4. Police report
5. Matters arising from the November minutes
6. Appointment of Director to KCCNL
7. Disbursement of Newsletter funds
8. Planning matters
9. Reports from P&K Councillors
10. Questions from the floor
11. Miscellaneous correspondence
12. Other competent business
13. Date of next meeting (5 February 2014)

**Note:** Members of the public are welcome to contribute to discussion at meeting but if you wish to address the meeting, please advise the Secretary (Margaret Scott, 21 Ross Street, Kinross, KY13 8EF or email to mbs21@btinternet.com) as early as possible. You are also requested to supply a copy of any relevant documentation in advance, and a paragraph on what it is you want to raise, so the topic can be publicised.

Kinross CC minutes are posted on the webpage:  
[www.kinross.cc/cc.htm](http://www.kinross.cc/cc.htm)

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## Milnathort Community Council

### News from the November Meeting

Cllr Hamilton, Chair, welcomed CCllrs Bennet, Cottingham, Pettinger, Smith and Thomson to the meeting held on 14 November 2013. Also in attendance were P&K Cllrs Barnacle, Giacomazzi and Robertson, and 12 members of the public. Apologies were received from CCllrs Milne-Home and Halford, from P&K Cllr Cuthbert and from the Police.

**The Police** had emailed a report to the Chair, but unfortunately the attachment could not be opened.

**Minutes of last meeting** (10 Oct): Amended to reflect that Cllr Giacomazzi had requested an additional £60,000 from PKC for grass cutting, but the sum had not yet been secured.

**Planning applications:** The following planning applications were discussed:

13/01839/FLL: Alterations to dwelling house, 3 Linden Park, Milnathort.

13/01903/FLL: Erection of a double garage, Bramlea, 32A Linden Park Road, Milnathort.

13/01856/LBC: Installation of replacement windows, Ballingall House, Milnathort.

13/1670/FLL: Alterations and access to, and formation of road, land 90 metres north west of Tay Machinery Ring, Glenfarg, for Forestry Commission.

13/01827/FLL: Erection of agricultural building on land at Ledanet Estate, Milnathort.

13/02007/FLL: Alterations and extension to dwelling house and formation of a wheelchair ramp, 26 Marshall Place, Milnathort. Dawn and John Ramage, neighbours of 26 Marshall Place, raised issues concerning the proposed extension. They were concerned that an impact assessment had not been carried out and also that the extension would block light from their property, contravene the 45 degree rule, have an imposing presence next to their property, potentially throw thawing snowfall onto their door, be within 11 inches of their kitchen window. CCllr Cottingham agreed to examine the application in detail, and if he considered appropriate, to raise an objection on behalf of MCC. P&C Cllrs also agreed to investigate the application with PKC.

**Planning applications determined:** The CC noted that the following planning applications had been approved:

13/01433/FLL: Alterations to access, and formation of a turning area, Springhall, Glenfarg, for Forestry Commission.

13/00873/IPL: Residential Development (in principle), Forth Wines Ltd, Crawford Place, Milnathort.

13/01572/FLL: Erection of dwelling house (renewal of 10/00662/AML) Netherhall Farm, Milnathort.

13/01591/LBC: Modification of existing consent (13/00757/LBC), alterations, partial demolition and extension to dwelling house, Burleigh House, Burleigh Road, Milnathort. The Chair advised that the Forestry Commission's application for access roads and turning area in the vicinity of Springhall related to the provision of roadway and turning areas to service the new forestry planting there. From discussion it emerged that a further year of timber extraction north of Milnathort could be expected.

**Cuthill Towers bus shelter:** The Chair explained the background to the application by residents for a bus shelter at Cuthill Towers. PKC have offered a second-hand shelter at no cost but would require £500 to erect it. The residents had collected funds but there was a shortfall of £300 at present. A resident further explained that they as a group were not eligible to seek funding from the Kinross-shire Fund and had asked the MCC to apply on behalf of the community. The

Chair acknowledged that request, but stipulated that if MCC were to apply then the community would not have any liability for the shelter and PKC would become responsible for maintaining it. From discussion it was understood the Andrew Warrington, Public Transport Manager, PKC had agreed that PKC would take full responsibility for the shelter once erected. The Treasurer agreed to apply to the Kinross-shire Fund for £300.

**Light aircraft noise:** The Chair had received a complaint that on 15 October a white and red light aircraft had been reported circling Milnathort at 'low-level'. From discussion it emerged that the aircraft was probably taking aerial photographs. Cllr Giacomazzi believed that the minimum legal height above ground level for light aircraft was 1500 feet, but if further nuisance occurs it is a matter for the Civil Aviation Authority.

**Wester Loan carwash:** The Chair reported that he had attempted to discuss the carwash with the owner without success, but that he had received an email from him stating that the opening of the carwash had been delayed due to 'unforeseen circumstances'.

**Road maintenance:** The Chair reported that Stuart D'All, PKC Roads Department had provided regular updates. Thus far 85% of roadworks in our area had been completed. PKC would now concentrate on drainage work until March 2014, but the stretch of road near Middleton - Bankhead, which had been reported previously as dangerous, would be attended to. Concerns were raised about overflowing drainage ditches and water issuing across the road near Blainathort. The Chair agreed to inform Stuart D'All of local concerns.

**War Memorial plaques:** Graeme Stewart, Secretary, Milnathort in Bloom Group, provided an email update. The group has raised £866.08 by public donation, which includes £306.08 donated by Orwell and Portmoak Churches from their November 10th church collections. The balance needed for repair of the plaques will be provided by PKC.

**Tay Forest District Wind Farm:** The Chair reported that he had been approached by the Tay Forest Group to join their committee, but had informed them that it would be totally inappropriate for MCC to be represented in such a venture. Cllr Barnacle added that he felt it was unlikely that the wind farm would gain approval, mostly on grounds of cumulative affect in the local area.

**M90 junction 7:** The Chair read a copy of a letter from Cllr Robertson to Keith Brown MSP, Minister for Transport and Veteran Affairs, seeking support for the upgrading of junction 7 of the M90 to a full grade separated junction. After discussion there was wholehearted support for the initiative and that CCllr Pettinger would also write to Keith Brown on behalf of MCC seeking support for this upgrade.

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## Portmoak Community Council

### News from the November Meeting

The meeting held on 12 November 2013 was attended by CCllrs Malcolm Strang Steel (Chair), Robin Cairncross (Secretary), Richard Williamson (Treasurer), Bruce Calderwood, Susan Forde and Tom Smith; P&K Cllrs M Barnacle, W Robertson and D Cuthbert; a member of the Police; and nine members of the public. Apologies were received from P&K Cllr J Giacomazzi.

**Invitation for new members:** The CC would welcome interest from any resident of Portmoak over the age of 18 years who might wish to join. Interest in the position of Minute Secretary would also be welcome. Please contact the Secretary or any member of the CC.

**Footpath between Easter and Wester Balgedie:** Cllr W Robertson confirmed that progress had been made towards agreeing arrangements with landowners but he was, as yet, unable to report a decision.

**Police:** PC Sadie Allan had succeeded PC Victoria Riches and presented the report. She stated that: there had been no significant crime in the past month in the Portmoak area; speed checks on arterial routes in Kinross-shire were continuing; and that diesel thefts had occurred elsewhere in Kinross-shire. Owners of stored diesel were asked to be vigilant.

Consultation on the reduction or removal of counter services at police station across Scotland had concluded and it was likely that the service at the station in Kinross would be closed from January 2014, although the station itself would remain fully operational.

The new Rural Watch service had been successfully commissioned.

The police agreed to consider a request from a resident to review the risk to safety at The Kilmagadwood junction with the A911.

**Treasurer:** A balance of £1,496.00 in the General Account as at the end of October 2013.

**Planning:** The CC considered the following planning applications made to PKC and agreed to object to:

13/01858/FLL Land east of Causeway Cottage, Scotlandwell: erection of a dwelling house and garage.

As presented this application for a new dwelling house did not comply with current PKC planning guidance "Housing in the Countryside". However, the CC had received in writing and orally at the meeting supplementary information from the applicant and her representatives which, in its view, constituted significant material change to the application. The

applicant was advised to communicate this direct to PKC so that it may be put in the public domain and the application modified, as necessary, to take this into account. The CC agreed to refer without comment to the receipt of representations in its letter of objection.

The CC considered the following planning application and agreed not to object to:

13/01976/FLL Land north of Kilmagadwood Cottage, Scotlandwell: Variation of condition 8 of planning permission 10/00134/FLL.

This plan for a revised road junction signalled that progress was at last being made towards securing a safe junction at Kilmagadwood. There was, however, some way to go before improvements could be assured. Cllr Barnacle would hold a site meeting shortly with PKC officials and local residents to pursue an expedient outcome.

These decisions were unanimous.

The CC noted the following decisions by PKC:

13/01482/FLL Removal of conditions 2 and 3 (use of building and external storage) planning consent, 3 Middleburn Cottages, Kirkness Cardenden: Refused.

13/01543/FLL Erection of dwelling house - modification of (08/01803/FLL) change of house type, Balneathill House, Easter Balgedie: Consent granted.

**Local Development Plan:** The CC is considering the decisions of the Government Reporters made in respect of the Draft Perth and Kinross Local Development Plan. It was focussing on implications for Portmoak.

**Developer contributions:** Progress has been slow in securing the £400 due for trees at The Green in Scotlandwell but a positive outcome now seemed likely. Cllr D Cuthbert agreed to explore: a potential hold up in the recent educational contribution for Portmoak Primary School; and the loss of developer contribution support for post-excavation archaeological work on 23 Bronze Age urns retrieved at the development site at Kilmagadwood.

**Roads:** CCllr Calderwood presented a "Summary Road Report" for Portmoak. The Report provided an excellent tool for monitoring progress with some 16 different areas of required work across the Portmoak road network. It would be taken forward by ward Councillors and discussed at a meeting with PKC road officials to be held shortly. Of note were: notification of specific areas for additional grass cutting; and progress in installing blind summit signs on the B9097 - the south loch road.

The CC was concerned that it had not been possible to recruit local farmers as third party contractors to support snow clearing within Portmoak in adverse conditions. Access to Glenlondond could prove a particular challenge. The CC would contact the PKC officers concerned to explore what further could be done to ensure support in difficult conditions.

Following recent accidents in the vicinity of the entrance to RSPB Vane Farm from the B9097, the CC noted a request from RSPB Vane Farm for a reduced speed limit around the entrance. The CC was pleased to support that request. The matter was being taken forward by Cllr Robertson as part of work to improve access to Vane Farm to and from the Heritage Trail.

**Paths:** CCllr Tom Smith proposed that a "Paths Sub-group" of the Council should be formed to consider and take forward matters concerning the maintenance and administration of paths across Portmoak - including core paths and the Michael Bruce Way. The CC warmly welcomed this initiative and, as

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membership is open to anyone, asks that those interested in supporting the sub-group contact Tom Smith on 01592 841160.

#### **Donation of Trees from the Scottish Woodland Trust**

Arrangements were in hand to distribute the trees across Portmoak. Anyone interested in securing trees should contact Tom Smith on 01592 841160.

**Renewal of Annual Insurance:** Employers and Public Liability. The provision of annual insurance was noted and would be drawn to the attention of local residents.

**Kinross-shire CC Network:** A meeting of the Forum would be held on 20 November with representation from Portmoak CC. Its agenda would include landscape designation, planning procedures in the Loch Leven catchment area, and fracking.

#### **Ward Councillor Reports**

Cllr Barnacle: Reported progress with the Local Development Plan and of plans to hold a meeting of the Kinross-shire CC Network. Consultation was now underway on the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Bill with the closing date for responses 24 January 2014.

Cllr D Cuthbert reminded the CC about events in the forthcoming Winter Festival.

#### **Other Business**

The CC welcomed John Ross, Chairman of **Kinross-shire Cricket Club**. Mr Ross reported on a very active year in the Club's history as it moved to establish its new base at Loch Leven's Larder. Both senior and junior parts of the club had had a very busy and successful year. More than 120 children from across Kinross-shire and beyond were involved each week during the season in club activities. The Club had been successful in achieving its funding goals and with planning consent now secured, a pavilion with car parking would be built in the spring. The Club would make the pavilion available for other societies when not in use for cricket and several groups had already confirmed their interest. The CC congratulated the Club on its success.

A Portmoak resident had sought advice from the CC in establishing a **memorial bench** on the Michael Bruce Way. Cllr Tom Smith would liaise with the resident and the local land owner to seek an acceptable outcome.

**The Next Meeting of Portmoak CC will be held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 10 December 2013, at Portmoak Primary School.**

Portmoak CC minutes are posted on the website  
**[www.portmoak.org](http://www.portmoak.org)**

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## **Fossoway & District CC**

### **News from the November Meeting**

In attendance at the meeting held on 6 November were: CCllrs Sandy Morrison, Kevin Borthwick, Alastair Lavery, Rod Paterson; P&K Cllr M Barnacle and ten members of the public (MoP). Apologies were received from CCllrs Sheila Anderson, Trudy Duffy-Wigman and Angus Cheape and P&K Cllrs D Cuthbert, J Giacomazzi and W Robertson.

**CC Membership:** Sheila Anderson has resigned from the CC. The CC thanks Sheila for all her work, and hopes she will continue to be involved in Blairingone issues. Graham Pye has been co-opted to the CC in Sheila's place.

**Declarations of interest:** None.

**Community Policing:** PC Victoria Riches has now left South Section and the CC wishes her well. PC Euan Mitchell was present. Recent crimes in the area: Several quad bikes stolen from farms, two thefts from vehicle, two thefts from houses. All are under investigation, and some suspects have been identified. Since several quad bikes have been stolen, the CC observed that it would be useful to have more evening patrols. PC Mitchell says that is now happening. There was also an incident raised by a MoP, where a 4x4 had been targeted, and the house broken into to obtain the car keys, despite two dogs being in the house. Advice was requested regarding the storing of car keys, the response was not to leave them in any obvious places e.g. key racks, kitchen dressers etc. Is there a Crime Prevention Officer? Yes, contact PC Sadie Allan who is the local Community Liaison Officer.

People are also encouraged to sign-up for Farm and/or Rural Watch – the latter is available to all householders. MoP points out that red diesel thefts are frequent in this area (she's had three incidents). Could the Police make more checks on vehicles to discover if they are using red diesel? MoP comments on tonight's TV news about sheep theft and asks if trailers could be stopped at night to potentially address this.

Consultation has concluded on proposed changes to Police provision at local stations – public counters at these stations are not used as much as before, and hence opening hours will be reviewed, with some closing, including the ones at Kinross and Auchterarder. Dunfermline will continue to be open 24 hours. Contact will instead be principally by using the 101 non-emergency number or 999 as appropriate. There will be no reduction in the number of officers covering the area. Full details are available on the Police Scotland website. Cllr Barnacle comments that local Councillors have discussed the proposed cuts with Senior Police Officers, and made it very clear that it's important that personal contact with Police Officers is maintained in some way.

Rod observed people cold calling on all the houses in his road that appeared not to be occupied. Is there an equivalent to the Cold Calling Ban areas that's available in England? No, and this isn't illegal, however MoP should report any suspicious activity, together with car registrations if possible, to the Police. Reputable companies often report their plans to the Police in advance.

**Ryder Cup:** Potential road closures affecting this area would include restricting the section of the A823 from Yetts of Muckhart to Gleneagles to local residents only. Passes will be available to those who have a genuine need to pass through this area. State schools will be closed on the Friday of the competition.

**Glendevon / Rumbling Bridge hydro scheme:** Kevin reports that the SEPA water extraction licence has been

granted and SSE have offered an initial grid connection, but at an exorbitant price, so the output cable will now be run upstream in the pipeline channel, to make a connection at a place that will be more reasonably priced, which has the added benefit of reducing impact on local residents. Glendevon Energy had been in touch with a local farmer regarding his concerns about the impact on his business. Hugh apologises for not being able to be present at this meeting.

**Blairingone War Memorial:** No progress yet, however with the approach of 2014 Cllr Barnacle will ask what the developer's plans are.

**Signposting Core Paths and Rights of Way:** George Harley has still not had the meeting with D Stubbs.

**Travellers' site at Crook Moss:** Planning permission has now been granted, with conditions. Cllr Barnacle had addressed the DMC and stressed all the issues raised by the community. In addition Loch Leven catchment area has a new memorandum of understanding which replaces the section 75 agreements, which was not correctly applied in this case. Peter Marshall said that it can't be used with retrospective applications, which Cllr Barnacle points out means that the new memorandum cannot be implemented.

Further discussion will take place about this issue with local CCs of the two policies being incompatible, and how this can be rectified. This application will be included in discussions with local councillors regarding badly handled applications. Alastair notes that the applicant's representative said that the statement of need for travellers contained in the report was not relevant to this application, which was supported by the convenor on the grounds that the existing policy appeared to enable travellers to choose to stay wherever they identified an area which was suitable for them.

The CC had written objecting to this application in the strongest terms to the Convenor of the DMC, members of the Committee and local MPs. The reply from Roseanna Cunningham said that there was nothing she could do, since the application had received consent. A supportive reply was received from Gordon Banks MP.

It's important that we continue to report to PKC Planning any contraventions of the planning conditions at this site, especially any signs of expanding outside the approved area, with the hope that they might be enforced. Extensive discussion followed this announcement.

Alastair will report at the next meeting on the conditions imposed.

**Glenquey Quarry:** The application will be considered at the DMC meeting on 13 November. Four presentations are already being made, so it won't be possible for this CC to present. Our most important issue is the number of HGVs using Rumbling Bridge and the road, which have been deemed to be adequate for the increased traffic by PKC. The CC will remind local Cllrs of our concerns.

**Glendevon Pollution Incident:** No progress to report.

**Dunning Glen:** Kevin had a report from PC Victoria Riches that patrols had been carried out during the summer, but no offences had been detected. A positive relationship with the campers was developed by the Officers, resulting in less litter being left than previously.

#### CC Business

**Community Workshops:** Following a meeting attended by Sandy, Alastair, and Kevin, the dates for these workshops have been set for Blairingone and Powmill. Once availability of rooms has been checked, more details will be published.

**Community Speed Watch:** No update from Trudy. Cllr Barnacle reports that Cllr Robertson has written to, and had meetings with, senior Police officers and it has been agreed that the trial scheme was successful so the idea will not be forgotten.

**Fracking:** This issue will be discussed at the Kinross-shire CC Network on 20 Nov and once the position has been clarified a meeting between the CC and Friends of the Earth will be organised.

**Bus Investment Fund:** Has progressed to the next stage.

**Waulkmill Play Park:** Kevin has distributed the Council survey to various interested parties, asking them to copy their comments to this CC as well as the Council. There is still time to comment on this issue and the public were invited to do so.

**Meetings Attended:** Angus attended a meeting of the Church Office.

#### Reports by Perth & Kinross Councillors

##### Cllr M Barnacle:

Cllr Barnacle has written to Nick Brian concerning the direct inclusion of text from the developer's application into the planner's report on Bankhead Turbines, which were granted under delegated powers. Nick Brian replied that cumulative impact is always considered.

The Reporter's finding on the Local Development Plan has been published: Land at Blairingone for additional 30 houses has been allocated; Housing plans at Powmill have been reduced to 30, excluding existing permissions, and all development was to be on the north side of the A977. The A977 will receive traffic mitigation measures; Protection of former railway lines and core paths; Naemoor road development is removed from the plan; Land north of Schiehallion in Crook of Devon had been included in the village envelope. Alastair pointed out that policy 48, which had been removed from the proposed LDP by PKC, had been reinstated by a similar condition by the Reporter. The plan and report will come before the Council on 18 December, when full details will become clear.

Rod asks about reduction of Ground Maintenance of areas not actually owned by the Council, for example St Serf's Road, Crook of Devon. Cllr Barnacle says that this is happening as a result of budget cuts, but he's objecting to it when it applies to footpaths.

#### JOE BURNS

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#### Contributors

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Leave a margin

Use one side of the paper only

### Planning

13/01803/FLL Erection of two wind turbines, associated plant and access track. Craiglaw Farm, Rumbling Bridge.

Note there is also another application, just outside this CC's area, but close to this one: 13/01900/FLL Erection of two wind turbines. Hilton of Aldie, Aldie, Kinross.

The Fossoway area has approved turbines at six sites (nine turbines, 20m to 47m), with two sites (three turbines, 45m to 47m) pending, plus the above application. At least one other site has been proposed but the application withdrawn at present. The land use and environmental impact of these proposed and pending developments is minor, the major impact being visual and cumulative. The only PKC guidance available is Policy ER1A of the proposed Local Development Plan, which is brief and very general, simply saying that cumulative effects should be considered. A small to medium scale turbine policy is being developed, but no timetable for it has yet been announced. It is impossible for the CC to form an opinion on the cumulative visual effect of the many proposals that are coming to us.

**It was therefore decided that the CC will object to ALL proposals for turbines until PKC have a policy in place.**

13/01816/FLL. Modification of existing consent (10/01644/FLL), change of house type. Land 30 metres north west of the Meadows, Vicar's Bridge Road, Blairingone. No CC comment.

13/01817/FLL. Modification of existing consent (10/01193/FLL) change of house type. Site 70 metres north west of the Meadows, Vicar's Bridge Road, Blairingone. No CC comment.

13/01818/FLL. Modification of existing consent (10/01142/FLL) change of house type. Site 70 metres north west of the Meadows, Vicar's Bridge Road, Blairingone. No CC comment.

Rod reports that Fife has granted permission for a **wood processing plant** at Bowhill, in Fife. This site is an example of a professionally planned and operated site, which may be a good reference for further discussions about the Lambhill site with PKC.

Back after Maternity Leave...

#### DOG-GONE-WALKIN'

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**The overhead power line** between Kincardine and Blairingone is due to be upgraded by replacing the insulators with ones that will allow the line to carry 400kV instead of 275kV; the towers will not be changed. There was some discussion on this item and members of the public felt pressure should be applied to have the lines put underground.

**Correspondence:** Kevin went through the correspondence, which was all available for viewing:

Kinross-shire Winter Festival has events throughout November and December; volunteers needed.

**A Better Place to Live Fair** is planned for March 2014.

### Other Business

Proposed change to school hours in Kinross High School to have longer days each day and finish at lunch time on Friday. More details to follow.

Acting head teacher at Fossoway Primary School has become permanent.

### Draft Agenda for Next CC Meeting

- Welcome and Apologies
- Declarations of Interest
- Community Policing
- Minutes of last meeting
- Matters arising: Rumbling Bridge Hydro Scheme, Blairingone War Memorial, Crook of Devon Church Car Park, Signposting core paths and rights of way, Travellers' Site Crook Moss, Glenquey Quarry, Glendevon Pollution Incident, Dunning Glen.
- Community Councillors - Meetings Attended
- PKC Councillors' Reports
- Planning Applications
- Correspondence
- AOCB

**The Next Meeting of Fossoway and District CC will take place on Tuesday 3 December 2013 at 7.30pm in Fossoway Primary School, Crook of Devon. All welcome!**

Fossoway & District CC minutes are posted on the website  
**[www.fossoway.org](http://www.fossoway.org)**

### Cleish and Blairadam CC

Cleish & Blairadam CC meets every second month.

**The Next Meeting of Cleish & Blairadam CC will take place on Monday 2 December 2013 at 7.30pm at the Tabernacle Hall.**

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# Club & Community Group News

## Portmoak Moss lantern event

The first lantern event in Portmoak Moss, on 25 October, was a huge success with more than 230 people turning up. The rain cleared up in time for around 400 tea-lights to be distributed along a mile of paths, inviting people to wander deep into the woods. Some brought their own home-made lanterns while pupils at Portmoak Primary constructed a giant paper lantern dragonfly which greeted visitors as they made their way round the Moss.

There were other surprises, in the shape of magical woodland characters like 'Thumblefin' (the elf-goblin) and two flying fairies (pictured). And mysterious music provided by a phantom woodwind player (Krys Hawryszczuk), who no-one could detect amongst the trees.



Visitors to the lantern event found two flying fairies  
Photo: Tom Smith

Real wildlife was also on display, thanks to George Guthrie of Butterfly Conservation, who set up a moth trap to help people identify and count the moths that make Portmoak Moss their home. Walkers also enjoyed hot chocolate and camp-fire music before they headed home.

This was the first evening of its kind organised by Woodland Trust Scotland with help from the Portmoak Community Woodland Group. Jill Donachie of WTS said: "Thanks to Lochend Farm Shop for hosting our shuttle bus transfers, to Tullibole Castle for use of their fairy lights and to the many volunteers from around the community who helped everything run smoothly. It wouldn't have been half as good without you."

The next big event for the woodland group will be the **Annual Burns Supper** to be held in Portmoak Village Hall at 7.30pm on **Saturday 25 January**. It's always a popular evening, with lots of music and entertaining speeches. The Address to the Haggis by Dr Bill Carr, involving all manner of weaponry, has to be seen to be believed. Catering will be by Lochend Farm Shop. Tickets £23, which includes a three-course meal and a dram, from Kinnesswood shop or from Dave and Louise Batchelor 01592 840233 or [dave@davebatchelor.co.uk](mailto:dave@davebatchelor.co.uk)

## Common Grounds



Greetings from all at Common Grounds for Christmas and the New Year. We thank you all for your patronage during 2013 and we look forward to seeing you in the coming year. Our Christmas raffle is now underway, with lots of lovely/ useful prizes to be won. The draw will take place on Saturday 21 December in the Guide and Scout Hall, Church Street, Milnathort at 12 noon prompt, so good luck for that. Now would be a good time to point out that all Common Grounds' events take place at the above address and our continuing thanks to Milnathort Guides & Scouts for the generous use of the hall.

**Project:** Our next project will be an African one and will be chosen at our Volunteers' meeting at the end of November, news on this next year.

**Project Lunch:** We found a speaker for our lunch in November, which had not taken place when this Newsletter item was due in. The speaker will have been Marcus Dunk from Medicine sans Frontiers - more on this in the February issue.

**Quiz night:** "He did it his way". Our compère for the evening was Mike Spain and for those of you who are unaware he is the very best you could find. The way he put the sets of questions together was extremely clever, managing to keep all participants interested all the way through. Now back to my opening words. Mike's final questions were based on well-known songs and he certainly did it his way, as the song by Mr Sinatra says. Words hardly convey our thanks to Mike; we are ever in his debt. Many thanks to all who made it a terrific evening, too numerous to mention individually, all who set up the event, those who generously provided the wonderful buffet, the prizes for the quiz and the raffle. Our thanks also to the Guide and Scout Hall Committee for all the extra help provided by them.

**AGM:** Our AGM would have taken place on 29 November; news on our new committee in the February issue.

**Donate** to Common Grounds on MyDonate.Com and find out more on the website [www.spanglefish.com/commongroundscharitycafe](http://www.spanglefish.com/commongroundscharitycafe)

All that remains is to mention that now our fire is on every day we would be very grateful for any firewood suitable for an open fire. Once again our best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to one and all from Common Grounds.

Our opening hours are still 10am – 1pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at the Guide and Scout Hall, Church Street, Milnathort.

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

## Milnathort Chess Club

This social chess club meets twice monthly on Wednesday afternoons, 2pm till 4.30pm, free with teabreak. The club meets on the last and second last Wednesdays of each month. Knowledge of basic chess moves desirable.

Contact Donald, telephone 01577 864441, for details.





# Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation



## Busy times during Kinross-shire's Winter Festival

We hope you enjoyed Kinross-shire's Winter Festival with numerous events organised by local community groups and businesses.

The Kinross-shire Music Festival was one of these events with workshops, dances and concerts. Our second "Kinross-shire's Got Talent Show" was again very successful with 15 excellent and varied acts proving once again what very talented children we have in our community. The overall winner was guitarist virtuoso Garry Simpson with the Kinross Vaulting Group in second place with their spectacular performance. Third prize went to the Fusion Dance Group with a very entertaining dance performance. The "one to watch" award went to Sean Keegan, solo guitar and singing! Very well done to them and, indeed, to all those taking part!



*Garry Simpson, overall winner of the "Kinross-shire's Got Talent" Show*

Our special guests this year were Ricky Ross and guitarist Gregor Philp who performed to an almost packed Assembly Hall at the Community Campus. It was a great concert! Local upcoming band Sienna was the support act. Many thanks to all the venues and artists who took part in the festival - without you it obviously would not have happened!

There are too many people to thank individually but we would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all the volunteers, who helped us out during the events in November/December. An amazing number of people helped us out by distributing flyers/brochures door to door in Kinross, Milnathort and other surrounding villages, selling raffle-tickets and helping with ticket sales at the various venues. A fantastic effort from all of you, so thank you very much for your help! Also a special thanks to the staff of MacBeth Currie's Estate Agent, the Post Office in Milnathort and to the Kinross Newsletter who carried our advertisements and put us on the November edition front cover!

By the time you read this article the festive street market will have been and gone. We hope it will have been successful, enjoyable and not disruptive to High Street traders and residents.



*Kinross Vaulting Group took second place in the talent show*

## Leven Voices

After the Christmas break Leven Voices will start up again with a set of 10 weekly sessions in January. Leven Voices is a fun, informal drop-in singing group for anyone. No music reading or singing experience necessary - it is for anyone who just wants to sing and have fun! Leven voices will run a set of 10 weekly sessions on Tuesday evenings with the first session on **14 January** and running until 18 March - all at 7.30pm at the Kinross Parish Church. Enrolment fee is £5 (which will be used to pay for the hire of the hall) and £4 a session (concessions £3). Just come along, sing and enjoy!



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## Record attendance at Kinross-shire Partnership's November Business Breakfast

by Karen Elwis

**Q:** What do cupcake gurus, architects, play equipment manufacturers, financial advisers, chimney sweeps, lawyers, tyre specialists, cleaners and IT experts all have in common?

**A:** They're just some of the multifarious professions represented at the winter series of monthly Business Breakfasts organised by Kinross-shire Partnership.

The latest of these lively local business events took place at Loch Leven's Larder at 7.30am on Wednesday 6 November. The 47 participants had been motivated to drag their semi-somnolent selves from bed at first light by the prospect of a generously stacked plate of bacon, sausage, black pudding, fried egg, tomato and mushroom and/or a steaming bowl of porridge. As if all that were not reward enough, there was also a valuable opportunity to network with a range of other local entrepreneurs and to hear a short presentation from an invited speaker.

On this occasion, Kinross-shire Partnership Chairman Alisdair Stewart introduced Pauline Braisby, who assists C R Smith owner Gerard Eadie with a youth employment initiative called Hand Picked. While work is an everyday reality for the entrepreneurs attending the business breakfast, Pauline pointed out that there are thousands of young people who are seeking work but have neither the guidance nor the personal contacts to obtain their first job. This can be extremely demoralising for them, as often they do not make it past – or indeed even as far as – the first interview. What they need, Pauline explained, is experience of real work so they have the chance to learn skills that will convince a company to hire them.

Hand Picked encourages businesses within Mr Eadie's extensive network of contacts to provide a 12-week paid (at minimum wage) temporary job for young people, aged 16–24 years, who are currently unemployed but are deemed ready for work.

So far, the scheme has successfully organised 45 of these three-month placements, with 42 of the 45 temporary employees being kept on subsequently and the remaining three finding employment thanks to references obtained from their work experience. Pauline described the employers involved in the scheme as "corporate parents", whose role is to communicate clear guidelines to Hand Picked candidates about the behaviour expected of them by an employer with regard to basics such as punctuality, commitment, and courtesy to senior staff.

After this 15-minute presentation, a dozen or so of the attendees headed straight for an all-day conference at Perth Concert Hall, which marked the official launch of the Perth and Kinross Business and Enterprise month. A day of first-class speeches and presentations ensued, with participants returning to Kinross-shire that evening suitably inspired and informed.

**The next Business Breakfast** will be held at Loch Leven's Larder on **Wednesday 4 December** at the usual time of 7.30am. All local business people are welcome to attend – to book your place, simply email Kinross-shire Partnership's administrator, Sandra Ralston, at [mail@kinrosspartnership.org.uk](mailto:mail@kinrosspartnership.org.uk) and bring the £10 fee along with you on the day.

## Kinross in Bloom



Once again our season has given way to winter, and the town looks a bit drab without the colourful displays of begonias, petunias etc.

By the time this is printed some of you will have already have seen the new mini pickup truck around Kinross. It has been put to good use collecting all the baskets and emptying barrels around the town. Thank you again to all the sponsors. The spring bedding of pansies is now commencing and Dobbies donated daffodil bulbs for planting in the town and also violas for outside Kinross Day Centre. We know the people who use this facility like to see the colour during the winter days.

Kinross in Bloom along with Milnathort & Kinross Allotment Society took part in Kinross-shire Make A Difference Day at the campus. Besides promoting the two organisations, the younger inhabitants of Kinross planted spring bulbs, their names were attached, and these will be planted outside the Gallery shop in Kinross.

Our summer ordering of plants is now in progress and will be delivered around mid-March. If any persons feel they would like to help us or identify an area they would be willing to help improve, especially younger people, please contact Ian Todd 01577 208110 or Derek Lawrence 862833.

### 200 Club

#### September winners

1st No. 66 Elsa Sinclair	2nd No. 2 Norma Anderson
3rd No. 53 Ellen Milne	4th No. 83 Ruth MacCalman

#### October winners

1st No. 75 Mr & Mrs A Wallace	2nd No. 48 Cath Mearns
3rd No. 37 Alison McDonald	4th No. 44 Diane McDiarmid

#### November winners

1st No. 26 Mrs M Gibson	2nd No. 15 Mrs S Cuthbert
3rd No. 66 Mrs E Sinclair	4th No. 5 Mrs S Bathgate

## Kinross & Ochil Walking Group

(Affiliated to Ramblers Scotland)

We're taking a break over the festive season but our regular fortnightly walks will start again in January. Perfectly timed for getting out after the New Year, making new friends and kick-starting your general health and fitness. Whether you're new to walking, returning to walking or a regular walker, why not try out a walk or two to see if you'd like to join us?

### Sunday 19 January: Leavin' Leven! 7 miles

Circular walk on good tracks, quiet roads, and even a stretch of beach to finish. Chance of fine views of the Fife coast and Firth of Forth if weather is clear.

In case it turns cold and wet, you do need appropriate clothing, including boots and waterproofs. Bring water and a packed lunch and warm drink too.

To learn more, please call our Group Chairman Edna Burnett on 01577 862977.

### SEWING ALTERATIONS

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## Kinross and District Art Club

### Three Generations of Talent

Tom Webster and his daughter Amanda are both keen and talented members of our club. That talent has roots in the early 1900s with Tom's Dad, James. A stoker in the ships during WWI, he moved to Milnathort in 1933. During the Depression of the 1930s work was hard to come by, so in order to feed his family of nine, his 'business card' which the family still have, shows that he took commissions for portraits, and a photograph of that time shows him doing paintings for sale on the pavement of Perth High Street.

Even when he eventually found work, first for Stewart the Builder then Harley's Seed Merchant, he continued his artistic activities. So when his youngest son was born, he named him Thomas Hutchison Peddie (Webster) after a friend and famous Perthshire artist, whose works can still be found in the Perth Museum and Gallery,

Tom inherited his father's talent, winning the art prize at school, but he also developed musical talent and sang for 21 years with a group that he founded, 'The Lomond Cornkisters', performing in local halls and on Grampian TV. Tom worked as a postman in the Kinross area and was known as the 'singing, yodelling, whistling' postman. It was in his retirement, however, that he returned to his love of painting, especially of local landscapes and birds.



*Tom and Amanda with a photo of Tom's father, James*

In 2009 he joined the Art Club along with his daughter Amanda, who had just returned to Kinross after 20 years of living overseas. Amanda recalls as a four year old, sitting on her grandfather's knee, painting on Sunday afternoons under his guidance. She also recalls the encouragement of her art teacher, Jim Douglas, at Kinross High School. Throughout her career as a Theatre Nurse, she used her artistic talent, doing interior design, in which she gained two diplomas, and specialising in illustrating children's bedrooms.

You may have seen Tom and Amanda's paintings in our Exhibitions, but Amanda's work is more widely seen in the calendar of paintings of local scenes and the Christmas cards which she produces annually. These are on sale again this year in local shops or you can contact Amanda direct at: [watercoloursofscotland@gmail.com](mailto:watercoloursofscotland@gmail.com) or 07712 336636. To find out more about our club and its talented members, visit [www.kadac.co.uk](http://www.kadac.co.uk) or call Sybil on 01577 830347.



## Kinross-shire Round Table

**Dragon's Den** will return on **Tuesday 3 December** at the Green Hotel, Kinross.

### Santa's Christmas Diary 2013

<b>Monday 9 Dec</b>	<b>Portmोक/Scotlandwell</b>
<b>Wednesday 11 Dec</b>	<b>Milnathort</b>
<b>Thursday 12 Dec</b>	<b>Kinross South</b>
<b>Sunday 15 Dec</b>	<b>Kinross North</b>
<b>Tuesday 17 Dec</b>	<b>Glenfarg</b>

All Santa's Sleigh runs will commence at approximately 6pm and will run no later than 9pm, with the exception of Kinross North which runs between approximately 3pm and 7pm. All runs are weather dependent. All our collectors are local groups and will be registered. Any queries should be directed to [kinrosssanta@gmail.com](mailto:kinrosssanta@gmail.com)

Kinross-shire Round Table wishes you a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New year.

Our programme, with details of events, is available on:

[www.kinross-shire.roundtable.co.uk](http://www.kinross-shire.roundtable.co.uk)

If you are 18 – 45 and want to get involved in having fun whilst putting something back into our community, contact us via the website.



## Kinross Garden Group

Julia Cordon of Explorers Garden, Pitlochry, showed slides of alpine in Switzerland and other countries at our November meeting, which was enjoyed by all the members. Mr J Porter Chairman gave the vote of thanks.

The next meeting is on **Thursday 12 December** in Millbridge Hall, Kinross, at 2pm when the speaker will be Mr Andy Paterson who will talk on "Over Wintering Begonias".

Names are now being taken for the Annual Lunch at Windlestrae Hotel on **Thursday 9 January**, 12.30pm for 1pm. Could payment be made at the December meeting.

For more information, contact Mrs C Rodger, 01577 863785.



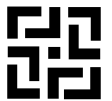
## Potager Garden

[www.thepotagergardenkinross.co.uk](http://www.thepotagergardenkinross.co.uk)

### Christmas Wreath Workshops

In December, we will be holding two workshops to make your own fresh Christmas wreath.

The first one, on 8 December, is fully booked, but at the time of writing there are still places available for the workshop on **Wednesday 11 December**. This will take place at Crook of Devon village hall from 10am to 12 noon. The cost is £14, which includes a demonstration, an oasis ring and a wide selection of greenery, and also refreshments. All you need to bring are secateurs or strong scissors, and gloves if you wish, and your choice of embellishments, whether natural, or bows and sparkly decorations. Booking is essential; please contact Amanda James on (01577) 840809, or Michelle White on (01577) 840852 to book your place.



**Deadline for all Submissions**

**5.00 pm, FRIDAY 17 January**  
**for publication on Saturday 1 February**

## Kinross-shire 50 Plus Club



The December Club meeting will be held on **Thursday 5 December** at 2pm in the Millbridge Hall. The talk entitled "Strange Encounters – the adventures of a Scottish Geographer" will be given by Professor David Munro M.B.E.

The speaker at the November meeting, Graham Paton, gave a very enjoyable talk about the Lethangie Estate and also his family history.

Please note that there will be no January 2014 meeting.

### Away Days December and January

**Thur 12 Dec** People's Palace, Glasgow

**Thur 9 Jan** Alloa

**Thur 23 Jan** Pitlochry and Moulin Moor

The coach leaves from opposite the Green Hotel at 0915 hours unless otherwise stated. Regrettably no advance bookings for trips can be accepted prior to the monthly meeting. Contact: Mary Muirhead on 01577 863564.

**Theatre Outing:** "It's a Wonderful Life" Pitlochry Festival Theatre **4 December**. All seats have been sold. The coach will leave from the Green Hotel at 1215 prompt on Wednesday 4 December. Contact: Edith Oswald 01577 865731.

**Annual Holiday 2014:** This holiday, to the Royal Clifton Hotel, Southport, will be a month later than previous years and will be for the period **9 to 14 March**. The balance is due to be paid at the December meeting. Cheques as always are to be made payable to "Kinross 50 Plus Club". Contact: Pat Crawford on 01577 862962.

### Friday Walkers

**6 Dec** Deep Sea World to St David's Bay, via Inverkeithing

**20 Dec** Lochore Meadows circular

**3 Jan** The "Sair Heid" walk to the Monument in Falkland

**17 Jan** Blairadam Woods, Kelty

**31 Jan** Kinnoull Hill and Deuchny Hill, Perth

Contact: Ian Simpson 01577 863691.

### Friday Hill Walkers

**13 Dec** Christmas walk & lunch Bill 9am  
South Queensferry

**27 Dec** No walk

**10 Jan** Glen Sherup Malcolm tba

**24 Jan** Stronachie, Blackhill Jock 9am

**7 Feb** Bonhard Circular Walk Anne 9am

### Activities

The following activities are open to all members of the Club.

**Carpet Bowling** meets on Mondays at 2pm in the Millbridge Hall. New members very welcome. Contact: Helen Duncan 01577 863638.

The **Craft Group** meets each Wednesday at 2pm until 3pm in the Millbridge Hall. Contact: Elizabeth Smith 01577 861387.

**Fly Tyers** contact: Ian Campbell for details 01577 830582.

**Keep-Fit** is held on Tuesdays in the Masonic Hall from 2pm until 3pm. Contact Val Oswald 01577 864020.

**The Line Dancers** swing and sway every Tuesday and Friday at 10.30am. Contact: Betty Fergus 01577 866961.

**L.U.S.T.** The slimmers meet every Thursday 9.30am to 10.30am in the Millbridge Hall. Contact: Norma Anderson 01577 863548.

## Loch Leven Community Campus

Loch Leven Community Campus, Muirs, Kinross

Tel: 01577 867200 Email: lochlevenreception@pkc.gov.uk

Tel: 01577 867119 Email: GMcGregor@pkc.gov.uk

### 2013 Programme of Events

**Antique, Vintage, Retro and Collectors Fair – Saturday 14 December.** There will be buying, selling and valuations given. Admission will be from 9.30am – 3.30pm with entry fee of £1 per person. For exhibitors booking please contact: Angus on 07944 416565.

**Kinross-shire's Churches Together Christmas Service – Sunday 15 December** Starting at **3pm** this is a Community Christmas Celebration in the Assembly Hall of the Campus to start your preparations for Christmas with songs, carols, readings and drama.

### Festive Opening Arrangements

Mon 16 Dec to Mon 23 Dec - Opening hours as normal

Tue 24 Dec - 7am – 6pm

Wed 25 & Thur 26 Dec - Closed

Fri 27 Dec - 10am – 6pm

Sat 28 Dec to Mon 30 Dec - 9.45am – 4pm

Tue 31 Dec to Thur 2 Jan - Closed

Fri 3 Jan - Opening hours as normal

### Events for 2014

There will a full Programme of Events published in the next Newsletter. Events will include Craft Fairs, Indoor Table Top Sales, Antique & Collectors Fairs, Cycling, Brass Band and KLEO Events.

### Ideas for Events

If you have any ideas or suggestions for any events you would like to see at the Campus, comment on previous events, or can think of ways to improve on the ones we are already doing then please contact Gerry McGregor at the email address above.

### Christmas Festival and Craft Fair

The Festival & Craft Fair held on 9 November had nearly fifty stalls selling a wide and varied mix of crafts by local artisans. There were a number of stall holders demonstrating crafts such as felt making and crochet. Throughout the day there were many children's craft activities including card making and lanterns together with the Museum showing how to make Christmas decorations of yesteryear and the Potager Garden providing some lovely stained glass craft making amongst other crafty things. There were film showings of Miracle on 34th Street and Santa Claus which were enjoyed by all. All of this together with the Raffle and a visit from a very special gentleman in a red coat (who must have popped in to get some Christmas Gift ideas!) made for a fantastic day that brought the crowds in who enjoyed themselves very much.

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## Kinnesswood in Bloom

Over the last few weeks the 5000 bulbs donated by George Frew have been planted around Kinnesswood. We hope to enjoy the results of our labours in the spring. Work parties have generally been tidying the different areas of the village, replacing broken tubs, raking up leaves and cutting back the borders. The work parties have now stopped for the winter.



*A work party planting bulbs below the golf course*

Trees have been delivered to the school and these have now been distributed in the Portmoak area. Some have been used at the school.

We really appreciate the work done by Chrissie Robertson who has been working with us over the last few weeks as part of her Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

Norma and Janette are working with Natalie and the school grounds group on a fortnightly basis. So far they have had good weather and activities have been outdoors, planting bulbs, raking leaves, harvesting vegetables and doing work on the raised beds. They have a few ideas for indoor activities when the weather is too wet or too cold and they will be making fat balls to feed the birds and keeping diaries of their work. Some of their artwork from the Portmoak Festival is shortly to be made into murals to be installed in the bus shelter. Thanks are due to John and Tom for helping with the digging and to Perth and Kinross Council for delivering more compost.

Once again Morag produced a lovely wreath to be laid at the War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday. It was a beautiful day and well attended as usual.

**The Christmas tree will be put up on 14 December.** All are welcome to join in with the mince pies and mulled wine. Hopefully some battery-operated lights will be installed elsewhere in the main street.

Looking ahead to next year we hope to repeat the success of the Quiz and Curry night.

We wish all residents and supporters a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

### WILLIAM HUGHES GARDEN SERVICES

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## Recipe

supplied by Kinnesswood in Bloom



### Fat Ball recipe for garden birds

This month's recipe is **not for human consumption** but to provide winter food for our feathered friends.

#### Ingredients

Good quality bird-seed	Raisins
Peanuts	Grated cheese
Suet or Lard	Uncooked oatmeal
Yogurts pots	String

#### Method

Carefully make a small hole in the bottom of a yogurt pot. Thread string through the hole and tie a knot on the inside. Leave enough string so you can tie the pot to a tree or your bird table.

Allow the lard to warm up to room temperature but don't melt it. Then cut up into small pieces and put it in the mixing bowl. Add the other ingredients to the bowl and mix them together with your fingertips. Use about one-third fat to two-thirds mixture. Keep adding the seed/raisin/cheese mixture and knead till the fat holds it all together.

Fill your yoghurt pots with bird cake mixture and put in the fridge to set for an hour or so. Hang your speedy bird cakes from trees or your bird table and enjoy your winter bird spotting. Alternatively turn it out on your bird table.

Some recipes do suggest melting fat or suet. Check with the RSPB website for advice as there are warnings about using fresh coconut only and not using fat from cooking.

## Kinross Junior Agricultural Club

So winter is well and truly here and everyone's work is slowly calming down.

To start off, a big well done to James and Dave Lawrie who won the national dairy cattle dressing at Ayr show in early November. This is the first time the trophy has been brought home in 32 years when their dad (Arthur) won in 1982.

On the last Friday in October we held our annual Root and Grain show where our members bring in items such as wheat, barley and homemade soup, a great variety for boys and girls. The results for the evening were overall boy Angus Nelson and overall girl Christina Erskine.

This month brings our **beef stock judging** held with West Fife on **Tuesday 3 December** with the venue still to be confirmed. Our **Christmas dance** will be held on **Saturday 14 December** at the rugby club in Kinross and everyone is welcome. Furthermore, Cabaret practice is well underway for the main event in February and if anyone is keen to participate then please call our producer, Linda Stevenson, on 07773068970.

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## Dobbies Community Champion

In mid November I made a donation of pots, plants and bulbs to the **Nursery at Milnathort Primary School**, under the Dobbies "Here we Grow" programme. I enjoyed planting spring bulbs and pansies in troughs with some of the children. The parents will help to plant up some other tubs for the winter soon, and in the summer they hope to grow herbs, strawberries and other easy edible plants, with donated plants and seeds.

If your school or other community group would like some help with a growing project next season, please contact Amanda at Dobbies, or on [herewegrowkinross@dobbies.com](mailto:herewegrowkinross@dobbies.com)

**The next Little Seedlings Club** meeting will be at 11am on **1st December**, looking at evergreen plants which we bring into our homes at Christmas, and will also be a special party day! The January meeting will be on **Sunday 5th**, about helping the birds in the garden, and preparing for the RSPB's Big Garden Bird watch at the end of the month. Little Seedlings is free, for children aged 4 to 10, who should be accompanied by an adult, who will be offered a free tea or coffee.

**Santa arrived at Dobbies** recently, and his grotto will be open there in December, at **weekends** from 12 to 4pm, and also on **23 and 24 December**. Visits for £6 can be booked online on the Dobbies website, or in store if you do not have internet use.

**We would like to congratulate Iona Sutherland**, aged 11 from Kinross, who entered a Christmas card competition run by the Horticultural Trades Association via the Dobbies store, and she is the Scottish winner! We will also be giving Iona a prize from Dobbies for her achievement.



*Iona Sutherland, Scottish winner of the Horticultural Trades Association Christmas card competition, with Oliver Jackson representing the Make a Wish Foundation, Michelle the elf and Santa.*

**If you represent a local charity**, we have times available in the New Year for can collections or other fundraising activities at the Garden Centre; please contact us for details, or to discuss any ideas you may have. We will also soon be seeking **nominations for our new Local Charity of the Year**, starting from the end of February; application forms are available in store.

We would like to wish everyone a happy and relaxing time over Christmas and the New Year.

For any fundraising or community growing questions, contact me at Dobbies, tel 01577 863327, or email [herewegrowkinross@dobbies.com](mailto:herewegrowkinross@dobbies.com).

Amanda James, Community Champion

## Kinross & District Probus Club



Probus Club began November with a visit to Torness Nuclear Power Station, situated near Dunbar. Some 20 members and wives attended and were given a very interesting guided tour of the plant. Apart from the very technical aspects of the process – from the nuclear reactors which produce the heat through the boilers to the turbines and eventually the generator which produces the electricity – the most impressive point, which was commented on by all the members, was the cleanliness of what is, after all, an industrial plant. This, of course, is driven by the need to be scrupulous in containing the nuclear radiations and the plant has a very impressive record of safety and freedom from accidents over the years.

Our regular meeting on 6 November was addressed by the Rev Dr Marjory Maclean who, while being an ordained Minister of the Church of Scotland with her own parish, is also a Chaplain with the Royal Naval Voluntary Reserve (RNVR). The Naval Reserve, which now provides reserve personnel for the Navy, was formed from the previous organisations of RNR which consisted of merchant seamen, either retired or still serving, and the RNVR which consisted of part-time, weekend sailors who had other civilian occupations. A full time Naval Chaplaincy was disbanded in 1993 and such services are now provided by the RNVR with volunteers normally asked to give 24 days service each year.

An interesting aspect of the Chaplaincy service is that the chaplains are not given a rank. They are deemed to have the same rank as whichever serviceman with whom they may be dealing. There is also a shortage of Chaplains within the Armed Forces which is why Dr Maclean found herself mobilised to serve in Afghanistan as a Chaplain despite the fact that Afghanistan is a landlocked country with no Navy. It also explains why she was posted for three months – October, November and December – in 2010.

To illustrate the life and the difficulties of the soldier on operations in Afghanistan, Dr Maclean handed round items of the clothing worn by the troops such as thick socks for hot weather, UBACS (under body armour) provided by armour plates and the Shama, a shawl to cover the head and face in the dusty conditions. The extra weight carried by the soldier amounted to two and a half stone. This load and the heat caused an extra burden which combined with the tension of the constant alert against attack, made life difficult. Dr Maclean herself, although stationed in Kabul, had to be driven around in an armoured vehicle to visit the various troops scattered around the city. She lost half a stone in weight during her mobilisation.

Ruary MacLeod gave the vote of thanks for a very thought-provoking talk.

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## Kinross Museum



During the past month Kinross Museum volunteers have taken part in a number of community events including the Making a Difference Fun Day and Christmas Fair in the Loch Leven Community Campus. Highlights of these days were activities for children including the mixing of witches' potions and the making of old style Christmas decorations using coloured paper. Many thanks to all those who contributed items from 'Christmases past' which added to cards and other memorabilia from the Museum archives on show in our Christmas Collection Exhibition.

Trust Chairman David Munro visited the Day Centre on 6 November to talk about the history of Kinross and on 9 November he was invited to give a short presentation on the history of Milnathort Town Hall as part of a special event promoting the restoration of the building. Later in November the Museum hosted a visit made by Kelty Scouts who explored material relating to the history of Loch Leven Castle.

A party of volunteers started to survey the memorial stones in the old Kirkgate churchyard. This social history project, which will continue in the spring, will provide us with a detailed record of the memorial stones and their condition.



*Museum volunteers surveying the Kirkgate churchyard*

If you would like to help the Museum in its efforts to promote and conserve the historic heritage of Kinross-shire, why not become a Friend of Kinross Museum? Drop by on a Thursday or Saturday and meet volunteers to find out more about what the Museum has to offer the community.

## Compassion Corner

The word compassion means "to put yourself in someone else's shoes and to suffer with them". We all understand that and yet, being compassionate over the Christmas season can throw out a very big challenge! Many of us in Kinross-shire are so privileged that we are able to take part in wonderful concerts, Christmas parties, dinners, church services and gift exchanges with friends and family. But there are so many other folk, both near and far, who have neither means nor companion with whom to celebrate. So if we are striving to be a county of compassion, this Christmas should not we all consider making an extra effort to do something special for someone in need or for a good cause? Some suggestions, to name but a few, would be for us to invite someone who lives alone to a concert, a church service or to our home for Christmas dinner. How about shopping or baking or writing cards with them too? With those in mind in our world who have little or nothing, there are so many ways for us to share. We could adopt an additional charity to support, order Fairtrade gifts from Traidcraft or Tearfund, buy a cow, a goat or some chickens in the name of the relative who has everything, write letters or cards to prisoners known to Amnesty International, send whatever we can afford to Red Cross, MSF or DEC who are providing emergency services in disaster areas – the Philippine Islands and Syria to name but a few. By doing so we will not only be walking with those in need or enduring suffering but we, in turn, will truly experience the real meaning, love and joy of the Christmas season.

The verse from the Christmas carol *In the Bleak Midwinter* seems to sum up this message:

"If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;  
Yet what I can I give Him: give my heart."

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#### Contact

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## Kinross-shire Historical Society



Susan Mills, Museum and Heritage Officer, Clackmannanshire Council, gave a very interesting talk on the Towers of Clackmannanshire. The Tower Trail was launched in 2007 and although it is not always possible to visit the interiors of the towers, there are information boards at each which give their stories. The stories of the towers are all linked to the history of the times, the people living in them, and their allegiances to the ruling Royal families.

Menstrie Castle's owner, Sir William Alexander, born there in the 1560s, was involved with the sale of Baronetries in Nova Scotia in the 1620s with encouragement from James VI and I. The scheme ended, as Nova Scotia had to be given to the French and Sir William's fortunes dwindled and he died bankrupt. The castle was sold. It came close to demolition in the 20th century but was saved and restored and now comprises four privately owned flats with two rooms downstairs which house a display of the history of the building.

Castle Campbell was owned by the Stuart family until it was acquired by the Campbell family through Stuart daughters marrying Campbells. It possibly started as a motte and bailey but no excavations have yet been done. A Great Hall was added to the tower by Archibald Campbell in 1493, which would have had impressive views out over the gardens. The castle is looked after by Historic Scotland. Clackmannan Tower was built on King's Seat Hill. David II used it as a hunting lodge but then gifted it to a Bruce cousin for loyalty in 1359. The Bruce family added a second taller tower joined on to the first. Despite being bankrupted by trying to drain their coal pits, the Bruce family still owned the tower into the 18th century. In 1787, Lady Catherine Bruce 'knighted' Robert Burns when he visited the tower. She is shown in portraits wearing a white rose of the Stewarts. In the 1950s a section dropped off the tower. It is now looked after by Historic Scotland, though owned by a neighbouring farmer.

Alloa Tower belonged to the Erskine family who had a strong bond with the Stewarts and were given the tower by James II in 1463. The 6th Earl began changes after his travels in 1713. He created long avenues and a formal landscape. He altered the tower, as he couldn't afford to demolish and rebuild. He was a signatory of the Act of Union, but by 1715 he had changed sides and supported James Stewart. He was exiled and lost his title in 1716 and had to spend the rest of his life in Rome and then France. The earldom was restored in 1824.

Sauchie Tower is the least altered. It belongs to Clackmannan Heritage Trust. It was built c1412 by James Shaw. It was well designed and well built, showing off his wealth. In the late 19th century the tower began to collapse and is now braced with steel bands. Excavations in 2005 found the remains of a manor house and a courtyard. It is hoped that in the future it will be restored and used for holiday letting to give an income with a permanent display on site.

Anne Milburn thanked Susan Mills for a spellbinding talk, weaving together the histories of the towers and the families.

*For details of the next Historical Society talk, see page 95.*

## Make a Difference Day

The Make a Difference Day (MADD) at Loch Leven Community Campus on 26 October, organised by the local Community Capacity Building worker and supported by partners of the Kinross-shire Community Learning and Development Group, provided a fun day of activities for all the family with an opportunity for residents of Kinross-shire to find out how to get involved in volunteering and benefit their communities. I take this opportunity to thank all visitors for supporting the event.

Over 20 local groups and organisations came together to highlight the important role that volunteers play locally, nationally and globally.

Among the groups and organisations who took part were: the Kinross Museum, Library, Kinross in Bloom, Kinross-shire Partnership, Voluntary Action Perthshire, Health Communities Collaborative, Children's Hospice Association Scotland (CHAS), Kinross First Responders, Independent Advocacy Perth, Loving Hands, Kinross Volunteer Group and Volunteer Outreach Scheme, Tayside Fire and Rescue, Community Activity Group, Royal Voluntary Service, Art Recovery through Creativity and Support (ARCS), Kinross and Milnathort Allotment Association, Kinross Curling School, Alzheimer's Scotland, Scottish Military Vehicle Group, Citizens Advice Bureau, Kinross and District Town Twinning Association, TRACKS, Safer Communities, Duke of Edinburgh and Voluntary Action Perthshire. They all provided fun activities and information and were able to showcase what they do. I would like to say a huge thanks to all the stallholders for providing a wide range of interesting and fun activities, which made it a fantastic day for all the family.

The launch of the **Volunteer Information Point (VIP)** took place and is situated in the campus library. The VIP aims to provide the residents of Kinross-shire with a point whereby you can either find out about volunteering opportunities in the area or community organisations, and services can promote their volunteering opportunities.

If you would like to find out what volunteering opportunities there are in the area or wish to recruit volunteers by providing the relevant information, please visit the VIP at the Loch Leven Library.

The event proved a success with over 200 people participating. Feedback has suggested this be an annual event and also highlighted there should be more support for volunteers in the area. Some organisations recruited new volunteers or members to join their groups.

**For further information, please contact:** Tracey Ramsay, Loch Leven Community Campus, tel (01577) 867124 or email [tramsay@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:tramsay@pkc.gov.uk)

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## Lomond Antiques and Collectors Club



On 13 November we were both educated and entertained by one of our members who had volunteered at short notice to stand in for a missing speaker.

Aided by specially selected slides, Isobel briefly pointed out features of Art Deco architecture and went on to demonstrate how those characteristic geometric shapes influenced dress designers such as Chanel and prestigious jewellers like Boucheron, for example. We saw beautiful dresses and shoes which seem in style to be so influential as to be repeated today. However the most fascinating was the jewellery, and examples of diamond clips, necklaces and tiaras lit up the screen. Throughout the series of pictures Isobel's commentary gave us the background to the people portrayed. Queens, debutantes and actresses flaunted magnificent jewels for our delight. It was a wonderful evening.

## Portmoak Film Society

November's film 'Argo' was seen by 26 people who gave it a 90% rating 'on the marble-count' – our very own audience satisfaction gauge. Everyone enjoyed it for its good mix of suspense and humour.

On **Sunday 8 December** you're in for a touch of pre-Christmas magic: Woody Allen's 2011 '**Midnight in Paris**' that was widely greeted by critics as a return to form for the famous director. It tells the story of a two-bit American novelist hoping to hit the big time who goes to Paris with his fiancée plus her stuffy parents and finds himself, on the stroke of midnight, spirited back to the Paris of the 1930s with its sparkling array of artists, musicians and novelists. You'll have to come to join in the fun!

And then, on **Sunday 12 January 2014**, for something completely different... fans of Tarantino (and I am one) will be able to see last year's '**Django Unchained**' in full technicolour and volume – because there will be blood (lots of it) and plenty of his trademark tongue-in-cheek dialogue too.

Remember that both films are showing on a Sunday, with doors open at 7pm for a prompt 7.30 start. If you don't have a season ticket, entry costs £5 on the night and refreshments are served afterwards.

To find out more, go to: [www.portmoakfilmsociety.org.uk](http://www.portmoakfilmsociety.org.uk)

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## Boys Brigade

The Kinross Company is now in full swing and has had a busy start to the new session. Anchors enjoyed an outdoor session at Kirkgate Park in early September and thoroughly enjoyed their Hallowe'en Party, as did the Juniors.

Juniors and Company members competed in the Perth Battalion Badminton competition with the Company team finishing as runners-up. The Battalion swimming gala takes place on 30 November for Junior and Company section teams.

The Company paraded at the annual remembrance service in the Kirk and at the war memorial in front of the County Buildings on 10 November and held their annual enrolment service at the Kirk on 17 November.

In national competitions, the Company section competed in the Masterteam at Forfar but failed to qualify for the next round.



*The Company Section Masterteam*

At badminton, chess and table tennis the Company teams are through to round two. National five-a-side football junior and senior teams will play before the end of the year.

Congratulations are due to our four newly trained officers: Jennifer MacKessack, Alice Eade, Matthew McDonald and Jack Finnie.

Plans are already being made for Junior Section Camp over the May weekend to one of the Scottish Centres and for Company Section Camp in Perth's twin town of Aschaffenburg over the first week of July.

There are still a few vacancies in the ranks of Anchors, Juniors and Company sections for any parents interested in sending their youngsters along to the Church Centre on a Friday evening.

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## Kinross Parish Church

### Church Website Update

Kinross Parish Church of Scotland has recently updated its website, which is currently receiving 400 visits a month from 200 different people - some from outwith the UK. The church hopes that useage will further increase now that the site provides a calendar of forthcoming events, galleries of photos of recent events and downloadable versions of everything from the church's monthly prayer diary to its Fire Evacuation Plan. Organiser for [www.kinrossparishchurch.org](http://www.kinrossparishchurch.org), Margaret Clark, said: "We are developing the site not just as a source of practical information but to provide some spiritual nourishment as well".

### Messy Nativity

Kinross Parish Church will once again be circulating a "Messy Nativity" set during the month of December. Due to overwhelmingly positive feedback from last year, we will circulate two Nativity sets this year. This activity is open to all families in the community. In addition to receiving a Nativity set for a day, the family who brings the set and the family who receives the set share a prayer during the handover. Each participating family also receives a Christmas ornament to hang on their tree. To learn more or sign-up for a slot, contact Ann Marie Neave, 07800 730889 or [amkcnsuit@yahoo.com](mailto:amkcnsuit@yahoo.com).



### Kinross Guild Celebrates 125 years

The Guild of Kinross Parish Church of Scotland, one of the oldest in Scotland, celebrated its 125th anniversary on Sunday 27 October. The morning service was one of thanksgiving and celebration for all the Guild had done to support Christ's work over the past one hundred and twenty five years and a re-dedication for the future. Around fifty members of the Guild were present and sat together as a visual symbol of their fellowship. They led the congregation in a new competition-winning hymn written for the national anniversary last year.

The service included the presentation of a Long-Service Certificate to Christina Stewart who has been a member of the Guild for 62 years - almost half its history! Guild member Millicent Scott led the Prayer of Approach and the current convener, Helena Cant, the Prayer of Intercession. Members Hilda Macpherson, Val MacDonald and Frances Drysdale provided an entertaining and informative Children's Address in the form of a drama looking back at the history of the local Guild.

The Kinross Guild was founded in 1888 just a year after the national organisation commenced and before even the first Guild conference, and this significance was reflected in the attendance of special guests. Rosemary Johnston, representative from the Perth Presbyterial Council, read an appropriate Bible passage where Paul talks of the God 'whose I am and whom I serve' - the basis of the Guild's motto 'whose we are and whom we serve'. The National Convener of the Guild, Marjorie Paton, spoke of the good work the Guild did in providing not only opportunities for companionable meeting, worship and service locally but also in supporting major charitable projects. One of these, 'Out of Africa into Malta', is run through the local Church of Scotland in Malta and addresses issues faced by refugees escaping from a range of tragic circumstances to seek hope. Minister Alan Reid, in his sermon based on the bible reading, drew similarities between the plight of these refugees today and the reading, which concerned Paul's shipwreck in storms in this same area of the Mediterranean.

As well as current ministers Alan Reid and Margaret Michie, the event was attended by two past ministers and their wives, who were themselves members of the Guild: John and Pat Munro and Leslie and Marion Barr.

Following the service, the members of the Guild and the guests were entertained to an anniversary meal in the Kinross Church Centre provided by the wider congregation, organised by Isobel Watt and served by volunteers from the Kirk Session. For once, no members of the Guild were allowed to prepare food or serve - an unusual role reversal for many!



*Guild members and guests celebrating 125 years of the Guild in Kinross Parish*

## Kinross High School

Gosh! December already and as always the school is a buzzing hive of activity. With so much going on, a list is probably the best way to ensure you have the key dates:

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 9 Dec     | Parent Information evening: Proposed change to school week |
| 10 Dec    | S3/4 Christmas dance                                       |
| 11 Dec    | Christmas Concert  |
| 12 Dec    | S1/2 Christmas dance                                       |
| 16-18 Dec | KHS Pantomime Cinderella                                   |
| 19 Dec    | Senior Ball  |
| 20 Dec    | School closes at noon for holidays                         |

In this season of goodwill it is particularly important to get the balance right between having fun and remembering others. In KHS we try very hard to spread a bit of festive cheer and the upcoming Pensioners' Party is a perfect example. Each year a group of S6 pupils are delighted to entertain local senior citizens. We are always delighted to welcome our senior citizens and although we cannot provide transport we can guarantee first class entertainment and a cup of tea.

Another project which focuses on giving is Mary's Meals. We are committed to raising a large sum for the charity this year and already we are hurtling towards £10,000. Our target is now in sight and hopefully we shall be there early in the New Year.

I have mentioned our school Allotment before and feel sure readers will be interested to know that our gardeners have just had some great news. KHS has been awarded a grant, which will allow us to do further work on paths and raised beds. Along with our plans to build a bottle greenhouse and plant crops which can be used in Home Economics lessons, it is fair to say that the Garden Project is 'growing' from strength to strength.

In the midst of all of the excitement of the Christmas term we are still thinking about helping our pupils to maximise their academic achievement. In line with schools across Scotland, we have opted to hold our prelims for 4th year later than previous years. This will mean they have until late January to ensure they have prepared well. Let's hope they use the extra time wisely!

Given that snow may be on the ground as you read this it is timely to say a word about the school's arrangements for severe weather. Parents should have received letters detailing what will happen if the weather disrupts things this winter. (If you do not have your copy, please request another from the school office, or consult the KHS website – the information is there.) An extra source of information this year will be the school's Twitter account (@kinrosshigh), which will be updated regularly.

Frustrating though closure can be for us all, the prime consideration will always be pupil safety.

Finally may I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

*R H Keatings*



## Kinross High School Parent Council

Clerk: Jennifer Sneddon 0794 667 9815

Email: jms927@btinternet.com

Parent Council meeting minutes can be requested by contacting the Clerk.

A meeting of the Parent Council was held on 11 November and as always a wide range of topics was covered. Parents and carers of pupils at the High School may have heard from their children that Mr Keatings consulted them regarding a possible change to the number of periods in the school week and the effect this might have on school hours.

This is for educational reasons to allow even amounts of time to be given to subjects. The possibility of having four slightly longer days and one early finish has been raised. Obviously any change to school hours is of great interest to everyone involved, including parents, and this is why consultation and discussion with interested parties is taking place. Mr Keatings plans to run an evening consultation event for parents and carers towards the end of this term, so if this is of interest to you, please look out for communication on this subject if you would like to attend. (*See column on left*).

A new publication entitled "Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood" has been produced by Perth and Kinross, Tayside and Angus educational authorities and will form a basis for consistent P1-S6 education in this area. Mr Keatings demonstrated a copy.

Glowing praise was lavished on the wonderful Pumpkin Ball held recently at the Windlestrae Hotel, which was a Halloween function organised and run by the hospitality students of the school in a very professional manner with the support of the staff of the Windlestrae and Green Hotels. Well done to the pupils, the Home Economics Department and everyone involved.

Later this school year, probably around February, the Parent Council hopes to run a daytime Jobs Fair for pupils at the school. Our objective is to provide KHS pupils with an understanding of the breadth of opportunities and experiences in the world of work by meeting real people who do a variety of jobs. If you think you might like to share your work experience with pupils, please get in touch with the Clerk.

The Parent Council exists to represent the views of parents and guardians of pupils at the school to help ensure that our young people can learn and develop to their maximum potential. We work in partnership with the school to create a positive and proactive environment which supports pupils, staff and parents. The Parent Council is on hand to help support the process of communications with the school and we are always keen to hear from you. If you would like to join the Parent Council, please contact the Clerk. The next meeting will take place on the evening of **Tuesday 14 January 2014**.

The current office bearers of the Parent Council are: Douglas Ogilvie (Chair), William Nicholls (Vice-chair) and Alan Miller (Treasurer).



### Club Correspondents

If sending your submission by **Email**, please put the name of your community group in the **Subject Line** of the Email message. Thank you.

## Portmoak Primary School

**Staffing:** The P2/3 class teacher vacancy was filled on a fixed term contract on 13 November. I am delighted to inform you that Mrs Louise Mossom will be leading the learning in P2/3 until Mrs Simpson returns to work.

**Expressive Arts Day:** On 11 November P4-6 took part in an Expressive Arts day with a Commonwealth Games theme. The children benefited from specialists in PE, Music and Drama as they enjoyed songs and dances from around the Commonwealth.



*Portmoak Primary pupils enjoying expressive arts!*

**Getting Out and About:** Several classes have been out and about this term. P7 visited RSPB Loch Leven as part of their Birds and Migration topic. P4/5 visited the Portmoak Moss to learn more about our local environment for their topic on Woodlands and our youngest learners enjoyed a visit to Edinburgh Zoo.

**After School:** Football and Cricket will be taking a break over the winter months. Thank you to all of our parents and helpers for their efforts. Dancing and Cooking Club will continue as normal. The choir will also continue on Tuesday afternoons.

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### Scotlandwell Allotments

Secure allotments for rent with on-site amenities including members' clubhouse, toilets and private on-site parking.

Please call or email Alison for further information

**07789 003604 or [ali@greenshields.org.uk](mailto:ali@greenshields.org.uk)**

**Football Match at Oakbank:** Portmoak's footballers have been playing in a tournament recently. They travelled to Oakbank in Perth and were delighted with their 4-3 win. On we go to the next round!

**Christmas Cards:** All children have designed a Christmas card in class and these are being sent to be developed into cards. There is a profit of 50p per pack, which the school will be donating to the Teenage Cancer Trust in support of several current and ex-Portmoak families who have been affected by teenage cancer.

**Christmas Medley:** As we are not having a Portmoak pantomime this year, all classes will be contributing to a Christmas Medley. This will include the annual Nativity and musical offerings from all other classes. **We welcome all parents and friends** to join us on **Tuesday 17 December** for two shows, morning and afternoon. Provisional times are 9.30am and 1.30pm, but these will be confirmed in due course.

**Fundraising News:** We have received another fantastic donation from Moto in the Community. Moto services, Kinross, are supporting our library project and have already donated £1000 towards new furniture. We are delighted to announce that they have just given us £1000 to spend on books from one of their community partners, Oxford University Press. Thanks, Moto!

The ladies shopping night was a great success and raised over £1000. Many thanks to all who supported this event, as the response from the local community was super.

Once again we received great community support for the Bags 2 School rag bag collection. We haven't got a total yet, but know from experience that having community involvement in this really does make a difference so thank you to all involved!

Thank you for reading our news. The staff and I would like to wish everyone in the community a Merry Christmas and a happy 2014!

*Louise Gordon, Headteacher*

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## Milnathort Primary School

### Sports in Milnathort Primary

It's been a busy time in Milnathort Primary, particularly in sport and physical activities! Our Sports Committee, led by a parent, has ensured that there is a Milnathort presence at a national level and recently a group of children participated in the Scottish National Road Relay Races. Ola Stanton, Libby Broadhurst, Audrey Doyle, Sam Freeman, Gregor Senior, Calum Kitson, Ailsa Bennet, Iona Higgins and Sarah Coutts all did brilliantly in the event!

There has been a focus on football in the Kinross Cluster with a Festival of Football at which three Milnathort players were selected to join the Perth & Kinross Primary Team: Dylan Ritchie, Josh Doyle and Cameron Wallace, with Cameron being selected to play at the 1st National Primary School Football event in Motherwell on 25 November!

### Swimming Success

Many of you will be aware of the Kinross Otters Amateur Swimming Cub which trains at Live Active Loch Leven Campus, Kinross. Children from Milnathort Primary school who swim with the Otters took part in the Tayside Schools Swimming Championship, and whilst headed up a schools event it is really down to the efforts of the club's staff and parents who take their children to the event that schools in the area (and indeed across Perth & Kinross) are represented. The event took place on 11 at the Olympia Swimming Pool, Dundee. Mentions go to the relay team of Ailsa Bennett, Ruth Ritchie, Libby Broadhurst and Ola Stanton who won the 200m freestyle race beating not only Kinross Primary, but also High School of Dundee, with the time 2.27.24 and two individual races by Ola, who qualified for the finals in 50m breaststroke and 50m butterfly, and subsequently WON both finals with the times of 40.90 (breaststroke) and 35.10 (butterfly). We are all very proud of the girls!

## Milnathort Primary School Parent Council

The next **Parent Council meeting** will be held on **Monday 2 December** at 1930hrs. The first meeting of 2014 will be held on **Monday 27 January** at 1930hrs. Both meetings will be in ICT Room 1, Loch Leven Community Campus. All are welcome.

**The Milnathort Primary School Christmas Fair** will be held at the school on **Saturday 7 December**, 10.00 to 12.00. Everyone welcome.

Fun for all the family with a variety of school and retail stalls, Tombola, Lucky dip, raffle, refreshments and lots more. Not to mention a visit from Mr Claus himself!

The Parent Council would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

*Donna Hunter, Clerk*  
07794742280

### Images of Kinross-shire

Photographs can be downloaded free of charge from the [www.kinross.cc](http://www.kinross.cc)

### Photo Library

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

## Kinross Primary School

*By P7b*

**Nursery:** This term the nursery topic is Book Tales. The nursery children can bring in their favourite book. The nursery children will also be baking with the parents.

**P2A:** P2a's topic is Katie Morag and they have been packing their suitcases and are ready to go to the Isle of Struay. They have also started writing letters to Katie and their letters will be posted soon!

**P2/3:** The children in P2/3 have been making a sarcophagus to do with their Egyptian topic. They had a school trip to the Museum of Scotland and had compared their sarcophagus with the one in the Museum. They thought their one was better!

**P6A:** Sonja from P6a has been very kind and has decided to become a vegetarian for 91 days to raise money for Chest Heart Scotland. Good luck, Sonja!

**P7B:** Well done to Logan Bexfield who got to the third round of the SFA 20-20 and is now representing the whole of Perth and Kinross. Another well done to Iona Sutherland who won the Christmas card competition. Iona won £50 worth of garden vouchers.

**Book fair:** The whole school has taken part in the book fair, we have had 300 orders. We would like to say a big thank you to Mrs Bisset and all the helpers who helped with the Book Fair!

**Pupil News:** Well done to Duncan Crawford, Liam Slater, Rory Nesbitt and Jack Muncey for coming first in the relay for swimming. A huge well done to all the boys who competed against Milnathort at football. It was very close but Kinross won so we are still in league.

## Kinross-shire Volunteer Group and Rural Outreach Scheme



### Volunteer Drivers Needed

We are needing more drivers to enable us to offer a wider befriending service to residents of Kinross-shire who require help to visit the shops, bank, post office etc.

Most of the trips our drivers undertake at the moment are to medical appointments but there are many less able people who require help and transport to do the everyday things most of us take for granted.

If you think you can help someone visit the supermarket, take them to the bank or hairdressers or simply deliver them to visit a friend for an hour then please get in touch.

We are not a taxi service, we offer much, much more than that. We hope we help to improve the quality of life for people and give them a greater feeling of independence.

Applications Forms from Ann Munro, 01577 840196 or [ann.munro8046@btinternet.com](mailto:ann.munro8046@btinternet.com). References will be asked for and a clean driving licence is essential.

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## The hills are alive with the sound of .....Recorders!

by Lynne Hope

Recorder players and enthusiasts from across Scotland were treated to a weekend of workshops and a recital by two charming Belgians in late October. Tom Beets and Joris Van Goethem, who comprise half the Flanders Recorder Quartet, visited Dollar and enthralled players with their calm and humorous expertise.

The recorder, so often just associated with classroom music lessons, is a growing force in both amateur and professional music making. Many adult players in Scotland meet regularly to play together and have fun (and tea and cakes etc!). Most people associate the recorder with the descant size they were introduced to at school and then encouraged to play a "proper" instrument but the recorder comes in many different shapes and sizes. This writer owns instruments ranging from 15cm to 2m (6 inches to 6 feet). All types of music can be played: the weekend included music from the 14th to 21st centuries via Bach and Quincy Jones!

The "Dollar Duo" is back again in March and October 2014 and the whole Quartet in June 2014 where they will coach workshop days and give concerts for the SRP Scottish Festival and Early Music Forum of Scotland.

Flanders Recorder Quartet:

[www.flanders-recorder-quartet.be/en/home/](http://www.flanders-recorder-quartet.be/en/home/)

Also on Facebook

Interested in finding out more?

Contact: [Lrahope@btinternet.com](mailto:Lrahope@btinternet.com)



Tom Beets and Joris Van Goethem – and recorders – in Dollar

### Need Equipment for a Community Event?

Marquees, Gazebos, Chairs, Tables and more available to hire (or sometimes borrow).

Items are listed on [www.kinross.cc](http://www.kinross.cc) at:

[www.kinross.cc/equipment\\_hire/equipment.htm](http://www.kinross.cc/equipment_hire/equipment.htm)

If your community group has items it would be prepared to lend or hire out, please add them to the list.

## Matthew Dance Academy

It's been a very busy term for all pupils working on new syllabuses, with extra rehearsals as well as base classes. I'd like to wish the very best of luck to all pupils in their forthcoming BATD examinations. With over 500 examinations taking place it's always a nervous time for teachers and pupils alike but following our recent success of being accredited to the CDET (Council for Dance and Education Training) I'm sure of some fantastic results!

Well done to all MDA pupils who successfully auditioned for places in this season's Rock Challenge through Kinross High School.

The professional associate/member program is now up and running with this year's Student Teachers working hard towards their Professional Teaching Diplomas. The class of 2013 (Emily Beattie, Rachel Carscadden, Alex Jack, Lucy Jones, Stefanie Kidd, Charlotte Longstaffe, Hannah Lopez, Lucy Ramsay and Chloe Sneddon), have all been dancing for over 10 years, attaining top marks in previous BATD examinations, and are sure to be successful in achieving their Diplomas. Two of our girls are also auditioning for Stage School this term and we wish them the best of luck - break a leg!

January sees the launch of our new Ballet club and UDO Street classes so watch out for the flyers as well as a new website for 2014!

With classes available from age 3 to professional level there's something for everyone. To find out more about our friendly fun-filled sessions or for more information call Nikki on 07869120989.

Nikki Matthew

## Kinross Camera Club

[www.kinrosscameraclub.org.uk](http://www.kinrosscameraclub.org.uk)



Hunter Kennedy of Carluke Camera Club gave us a talk entitled "Workshop – something for everyone" and the title well justified the content.

We have also had talks from some of our own members. Doug Carrie and Ian Borland provided a most interesting and contrasted evening: Ian demonstrating among other things the creation of a virtual photographic gallery, something which members have not seen previously, while Doug displayed beautiful images employing a wide variety of techniques.

On another evening John St Clair gave an entertaining talk entitled "Travels with my Camera", which also fully justified our expectations.

The most recent evening was split into two sections: the first, following on from our in-house "Practical night", displayed a wide range of Christmas gifts, all with a photographic element, and the second a discussion of the varying approaches to photography in the digital age.

We welcome new members and if you would like further information please visit our website or email the secretary at [sallyroberts100@hotmail.com](mailto:sallyroberts100@hotmail.com)



# Sports News



## Kinross Cavaliers Basketball Club



Regional camps are being held in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee, Stirling, Aberdeen, Inverness and Kinross. The first national camp was held on 26/27 October at Armadale where 336 players attended from all over Scotland. At the end of the programme, players will be selected for the national U11-14 squads. Full details are available at [basketballscotland.co.uk](http://basketballscotland.co.uk).

We would like to thank Coach Ian 'Spike' Kenny again for his help and support this season. Spike is off to Canada for the winter season and will be back with us in spring.

The coaches focus on fitness and having fun, and learning new basketball skills. If you are under 14 and are interested in basketball or would like to give basketball a try, just come along to the campus any Tuesday from 6 – 8pm.

Our weekly training sessions cost £3 each and, if you want to join the club, there is a one-off annual payment of £10, which includes your registration with Basketball Scotland.

If you would like to get involved in any capacity, or would like any further information, please call Karen Nicholson on 07795 101719 or email [k.e.nicholson@btinternet.com](mailto:k.e.nicholson@btinternet.com), or call Fraser Notman on 07506 241653 or email [chippysauce@btinternet.com](mailto:chippysauce@btinternet.com).



*Some of the under 12 players taking part in Basketball Scotland's Future Starz programme, which is being held at venues across Scotland including Loch Leven Community Campus, Kinross*

### Images of Kinross-shire

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### Photo Library

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## Kinross Badminton Club

Celebrates its 50th Anniversary



**Date:** Friday 31st January

**Venue:** Kinross Rugby Club

**Time:** 7.30 to 11.30pm

**Guest Speaker:** Dan Travers (ex Scotland Internationalist, former Commonwealth Games gold and European bronze medallist, former SBU national coach and director of coaching)

There will be a raffle to win some super prizes, and buffet food will be available.

**Tickets cost £5** and can be purchased from either Sands the Ironmongers or Club President, Bill Macdonald. Give Bill a call on 862592.

We'd love to see players past and present coming together to celebrate the Club's 50th anniversary. It will be a fun-filled evening and part of the entertainment will be provided by our lively guest speaker, ex Scottish Internationalist Dan Travers.

Alternatively if you merely want a game of badminton, Club nights are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Games Hall, Loch Leven Community Campus, Kinross, between 8.00 and 9.45pm.



The Club can be found on Facebook – feel free to find us and like us!

## Milnathort Golf Club

### Junior Section

Golf in the middle of winter! The juniors from Milnathort Golf Club held their first 'winter league' competition at the end of October and with a blustery wind and the odd shower, it did feel a bit wintry. Scoring was tight at the top: over the nine holes played, Katie Bell came in with a 49 (net 33), Jamie Fulton a 45 (net 35), Gareth Hutchison a 42 (net 36) and David McIntyre a 45 (net 37).

A number of the juniors will be doing winter coaching at Gleneagles and elsewhere over the coming months so it is great to have opportunities to put the coaching to good use. With more rounds planned over the coming months, we are all hoping for some kinder weather or some warm golfing clothes from Santa.

### Senior Section

On 7 November, the Senior Section held their Annual General Meeting. Office Bearers for the 2014 were elected and are as follows: Senior Captain – Phil Leiper; Senior Vice-Captain – Dave Mitchell; Secretary/Treasurer – John Mills; Immediate Past Captain – Charlie Payne; Committee Members: Scott Arnott and Ron Macdonald. We wish them well in their tenure.

It only now remains for me to wish all Senior Members the very Best for the Festive Season, the best of health and enjoyment of your winter golf.

We look forward to another grand summer in 2014.

**Watch the Notice Board for further information.**

## Kinross Otters

Midland District November Championships  
Olympia Pool, Dundee

Friday 1 – Sunday 3 November

The Otters sent a large team to this all weekend Tayside event and were rewarded with 12 different individual medallists. Most of the team were fresh from warm weather training in Majorca and it certainly showed.

**Finlay Nesbitt** (13) once again performed admirably to claim gold in the 400m Individual medley (5.38.35), 400m Freestyle (4.54.93), 800m Freestyle (9.54.39) and 1500m Freestyle (19.07.64). He also won silver medals in the 100m Butterfly and 100m Freestyle.

**Robbie Carstairs** (14) also won four gold medals in his age group in the 200m Backstroke (2.44.24), 200m Individual Medley (2.56.32), 100m Backstroke (1.18.08) and 200m Freestyle (2.29.73). He won silver in the 100m Butterfly and bronze in the 100m Freestyle.

A much improved **Conor McCormick** (14) claimed three first places in the 100m Butterfly (1.12.83), 200m Butterfly (2.39.68) and 200m Backstroke (2.35.88). He also won a bronze medal in the 400m Individual Medley.

**Rachel Brisbane** (16) won two gold medals in the 100m Backstroke (1.22.27) and 200m Freestyle (2.32.95) and two silver medals in the 100m Freestyle and 200m Individual Medley.

**Tommy Adams** (14) won gold in the 100m Breaststroke (1.27.81) and was first in the 100m Freestyle (1.11.04). He also won silver in the 100m Individual Medley and a bronze in the 100m Backstroke.

**Amy Broadhurst** (12) produced one of the best Otter performances of the weekend in the 200m Backstroke to win in a rapid 2.48.37, which was the fastest time by any girl irrespective of age group. She also won the 200m Freestyle in 2.33.33 and got a second place in the 200m Butterfly.

**Iona Crawford** (13) won gold in the 200m Freestyle (2.31.33) and was first in the 200m Individual Medley (2.50.62).

**Cameron McCloskey** (15) was quickest in the 100m Butterfly (1.09.42) and won a gold medal in the 100m Breaststroke (1.24.22).



**Jack Watson** (13) won gold in the 200m Freestyle in 2.38.10. He was also second in the 1500m Freestyle and came third in the 100m, 400m and 800m Freestyle events.

**Duncan Crawford** (11) got two second places in the 100m Individual Medley and 100m Butterfly and a third place in the 200m Freestyle, whilst **Jordan Curtis** (17) and **Rebecca Mitchell** (11) each won a bronze medal in the 1500m Freestyle and 200m Backstroke respectively.

### Warm Weather Training Camp, Majorca

11 – 18 October

Kinross Otters took part in their second ever warm weather training camp in the October holidays when they jetted off to the sunny shores of Majorca.

Sixteen swimmers aged between 12 and 16 took part in a week's training at the superb BEST Centre which boasts a state-of-the-art, outdoor ten-lane 50m pool as its centrepiece of the training centre with permanent video cameras installed at the underwater viewing windows. The Centre has hosted just about every major National team at some point since it opened in 2009.

The swimmers worked really hard throughout the week, with two swim sessions daily and a land training session sandwiched in between. Some of the swimmers completed in excess of 70kms (about 44 miles)!

Since their return, the Otters have competed extensively and achieved some impressive personal best times.

Thanks must go to all the individuals and local businesses that assisted with fund raising at the many events organised by the Otters.

Such was the fun, that the Otters can be forgiven for thinking about planning their next warm weather camp in 2015.

### Congratulations!

To **Conor McCormick** and **Cameron McCloskey** as the only Otters to qualify for the Scottish National Short Course Championships to be held at the Royal Commonwealth Pool in Edinburgh (13/12 – 15/12). **Conor** has qualified for the 100m and 400m Individual Medleys and **Cameron** for the 100m Individual Medley and 400m Freestyle. No medals expected, but just to qualify for this level of competition is an achievement in itself. Well done.

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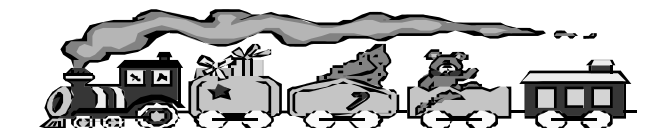
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### Newsletter Deadlines

A list of future deadlines can be found on our website

**[www.kinrossnewsletter.org](http://www.kinrossnewsletter.org)**



## Kinross Kobras - Junior Hockey

Kinross Kobras hosted a junior tournament on 3 November with over twenty teams from hockey clubs in Dunfermline, Dundee, Perth and Blairgowrie taking part. There were six Kobras teams competing: two U10 teams which played well against strong opposition to pick up several wins, one U12 team which narrowly lost out on winning this age group by goal difference and three U14 teams. Two of the U14 teams came top in their pool matches and came together for a final play-off to determine the winners of this section. In a very tight game a single goal from Josie Hamilton was the difference and the slightly younger 'Kestrels' team organised by player/coach David McIntyre took first place. With good weather and great support from Dan Marsh, Dougie Ogilvie, Ollie Volland and Ian Clark in umpiring and from Morvern Clark in organising the teas and coffees, it was very successful tournament.

There are upcoming tournaments in Perth and Dundee so hopefully experience and confidence will continue to grow. After success at District level, Georgia Smith has been selected to take part in the Scotland U16 development squad and we wish her all the best with that.

Training for the club continues (till the weather gives up on us) on a Tuesday and Thursday evening 6.30pm - 7.30pm.



The Kinross Kobras U12 team

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## Kinross Ladies' Hockey Club



Results for this month have been very positive for the club. The 1st VI have notched up wins against Dundee University 2s 4-1, Brechin 3-0, St Andrews University 3s 8-0 and Perthshire 1s 7-0. In the district cup, Madras were defeated in a district cup game 3-0, and in a league cup group game Dundee University 2s lost 4-3 to Kinross. Goal tally works out as Vicky Carver 14, Catharine Thoms 2, Lynn Patterson 3, Gail Nelson 4, Michelle Best 5 and AJ 1. Hopefully my maths is correct.

The 2nd VI notched up a 3-1 win against Dundee University 4s, a 5-2 loss against Dundee 3s, a 2-0 win in a friendly against Dunfermline and a 0-0 draw against Perthshire 2s. I'm afraid the maths needs a note of the goal scorers to mention them and I have forgotten who did what!

We train every Wednesday night, 6.30pm until 8pm, on the astro pitch at the King George IV playing fields in Kinross and have two teams playing in Midlands League divisions 1 and 2. If you would like to come along and join in, please do!

For further details, see our website [www.kinrossladieshockey.co.uk](http://www.kinrossladieshockey.co.uk) or contact the club secretary, Libby Simpson, on 07941 465811 or e-mail [libbysimpson1@gmail.com](mailto:libbysimpson1@gmail.com). Or just turn up!

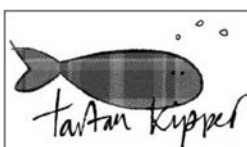
## Kinross Men's Hockey Club

Kinross 1sts play in East District Division 1. October was a good month for the 1sts with a 5-2 win against Stirling University 2nds, a 3-2 win over Edinburgh University 4ths and a fantastic 7-5 win against Grange 5ths, but November saw Grange 6ths, Edinburgh University 5ths and Erskine S/M 3rds all win against Kinross, leaving them mid-table.

Kinross 2nds play in East District Division 3. Mixed fortunes with wins against Carnegie 5ths 4-0, Grange 8ths 2-1 and Edinburgh 4ths 2-0 but losses against Edinburgh University 7ths 3-1, Peebles 4-0 and Falkirk 5ths 3-1. But great experience for young 14-year-old Kinross players now playing league hockey and gaining great experience.

Training is on Tuesday nights 7.30 to 9pm at KGV with our new coach Gurdial Duhre and is free. We are always looking for new players young or old so why not come down to training and give it a go!

For further information either contact Chris Robson on e-mail: [captain@kinrosshockey.co.uk](mailto:captain@kinrosshockey.co.uk) or David Niven: [secretary@kinrosshockey.co.uk](mailto:secretary@kinrosshockey.co.uk) or visit our website at [www.kinrosshockey.co.uk](http://www.kinrosshockey.co.uk).



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07740 600 424

## Kinross Tennis Club

www.kinrossstennisclub.org.uk

The club would like to extend its congratulations to two of our club members:

**Oliver Hill**, who won a gold medal after winning the Men's Singles Group 2 event at the National Learning Disability Tournament held at Nottingham Tennis Centre on 19/20 October, and **Alan Russell**, Head Coach, who was delighted to receive the award of **Tennis Scotland Coach of the Year 2013**, presented at the annual coaching conference at the National Tennis Centre in Stirling on 9 November by Christine Windmill (Tennis Scotland President) and with Judy Murray in attendance. Fantastic achievements by both men and thoroughly deserved.

Winter is a quieter season at the club, however there is still plenty of tennis activity:

**Indoor Junior Coaching** for those aged nine and under has moved indoors to Loch Leven Community Campus on Tuesday evenings from 5pm until 6pm. The current block will stop on 17 December, but we will run another block in January, subject to demand. Details can be obtained by emailing kinrossstenniscoaching@gmail.com.

**Senior Club Sessions** will run throughout the winter on Wednesdays from 6.30pm and Sundays from 10.30am – all members are welcome. Floodlights costs are £2 per person at winter club night sessions. The Thursday 1.30pm drop-in sessions continue weather permitting – members and non-members are welcome at this session.

Our **Christmas Dinner** will take place on **Wednesday 18 December** at The Kirklands Hotel and is always a popular night, however the more the merrier, so if you are interested in joining us, please let us know.

May we also take this opportunity to thank the owners and staff at John & JH Sands Ltd for holding our visitor key again this season – their assistance has been very much appreciated.

Enquiries as ever can be made to our secretary by email at kinrossstennis@gmail.com



## Kinross Road Runners

www.kinrossroadrunners.co.uk

**New Kinross Road Runner, Sarah Hutt, writes about her experience with the Club, and of taking part in Jedburgh Half Marathon in October:**



"I joined Kinross Road Runners last month and can honestly say I am really enjoying it. Every single person has been so welcoming and helpful. I've felt part of the team and included from my very first email enquiry about attending a training session. The club has runners of all abilities and the training evenings are tailored so everyone can be at their own pace.

"My first race as part of the club was Jedburgh half marathon. It was a lovely setting, which started in the picturesque village, where there were lots of spectators and a good atmosphere. On the whole it was a pretty good course, with nice scenery. However, with an extremely strong headwind from around mile six it was very hard going. There was a big hill between miles 11 and 12, which was really tough, especially into the wind. There was a slight downhill to the finish, which was greatly appreciated!"

Sarah completed the 13.1 miles in 1 hour 42 minutes. Also taking part was Jillian Gordon who did it in 1hr 27.

### Templeton Woods 10 mile race, 3 November

A bright but blustery day, the wind made conditions challenging, particularly the last few miles. Nick Rowan, back from a summer of cycling was first KRR, followed by Peter Edgerton.

Well done to Norman Smith, who was second in his age category and to the first three KRR ladies (Sarah Hutt, Judith Dobson and Maureen Hill) whose aggregate times won the team prize.

### Glen Clova Half Marathon, 9 November

Picturesque and undulating, places for this race are like hens' teeth. But it's one of our Championship races and nineteen KRRs managed to secure entries. Notable successes were:

- Andy Laycock who came first in his age category in a time of 79.13.
- Jillian Gordon was second female in a time of 86.31.
- Congratulations to Anne Wilson who came first in her age category. Her time was 114.59.
- The ladies team (consisting of Jillian Gordon, Gill Lopez and Amanda Rennie) came third.

### Website

Visit our refreshed website for information about the Club.

### Annual General Meeting

Our AGM takes place on **Monday 20 January** at 7.30pm in KGV Rugby Club. All welcome.

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## AR JOINERS

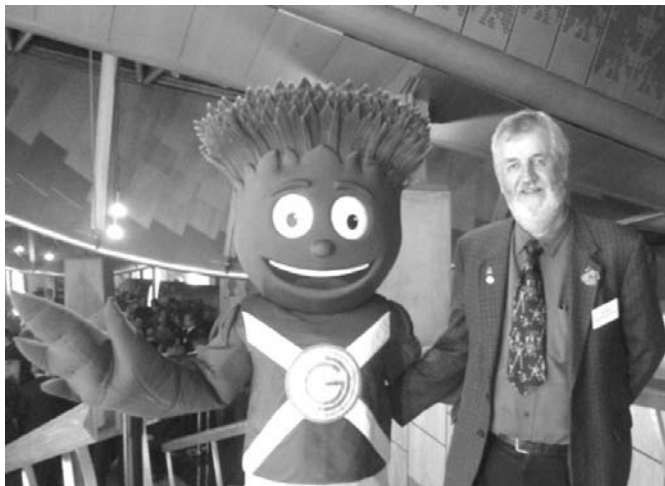
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## Kinross Volleyball Club

The Kinross Club is now back in full swing after the school October break saw a reduction in numbers due to holidays. Hall hire fees are still very much a contentious issue with club members having to pay for four badminton courts instead of one volleyball court (which only takes up two badminton courts).

Club secretary Dave Munro attended a VisitScotland function at the Scottish Parliament attempting to raise the profile of the sport. He even hijacked the Commonwealth Games mascot 'Clyde', complaining that volleyball is not even played at this level, although there are 800 million registered volleyball players all round the world.



*Club secretary Dave Munro with 'Clyde', the Commonwealth Games mascot*

Coaching and small sided games continue each Monday evening in the campus games hall from 8 till 9.30pm. Women and beginners particularly welcome.

The Kinross Club will host the newly formed Alva Club at the campus for a friendly game on 13 January with newcomers and spectators welcome.

Perth League Roundup:

Carlo Fiorentini's Kintronics who were also distinctly rusty in their game with Spikers who cruised to a 25-16; 25-10 victory.

Kintronics changed their line-up from the game against Spikers when they met Eagles and it immediately paid dividends, taking a 9-2 lead through main hitters Roy Munro and Ruari Soutar. Eagles rallied for a spell but it was Kintronics who won the first set 25-16. The second set was more evenly matched and mid way through the score stood at sixteen points each. It was Eagles' chance to move ahead and they levelled the game with a 25-19 second set scoreline. The third set decider saw the Kinross side take the early advantage and they held on to lead 10-8 at full time.

Team Fife, last season's league runners-up, then played Kintronics and it was a very close game with the Kinross side being unlucky not to take something from the game losing 20-25; 21-23.

Current league championship side Scotrange brought Willie Donaldson out of retirement to play against Hitting Bricks and the first set was close, with the score reaching fourteen points each. The Kinross side then moved up a gear with brothers John and Jamie Booth scoring vital points in a 25-20 first set win. The second set followed a similar pattern

with Scotrange pulling away with Jackson Brown playing a leading role in the 25-21 victory, starting their title defence in a positive fashion.

The final game of the evening saw Scotrange beating Dunfermline 25-13; 25-13.



*The mid rally in the match between Scotrange and Hitting Bricks*

Recreational League games featured three Kinross teams with last season's champions, Jamie Booth's Kinross BB, starting off in fine form, winning both of their games against newcomers Perth High School and fellow BB side Kinross BB Girls' Association. This sees the Kinross BB side sit top of the table at the moment. Fiona Wilkie's Mongrels side defeated Kinross BB Girls' Association but lost to the PE Teachers side featuring local teacher Dave Mackay. Mongrels sit mid-table with Kinross BB Girls' Association sitting at the bottom of the table, but to be fair they were not at full strength for the opening fixtures of the season.

Schools' Volleyball continues at the High School on Wednesday lunchtimes and after school from 4 till 5pm. The senior boys' team was unlucky to lose in the first round Scottish Cup tie against Stonelaw High School in Glasgow. S2/3 boys and girls Scottish Cup ties will be played between now and mid January.

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## Fossway Curling Club

fossowaycurlingclub.weebly.com

The new season is now well under way and our first league competition, the Fraser Cup, has been won by Ian Nicholson.

Our annual pairs competition was played on 9 November and the High Road was won by "Iceman Andy" Macpherson and Martin Grant with the appropriately named Low Road won by Colin Low and Willie Thomson.

Two Fossway skips, Ian Nicholson and Alan Paterson, are celebrating success after guiding their respective teams to the final of The Famous Grouse Weekend at Northwest Castle Hotel, Stranraer.

Ian Nicholson, playing with Frank White (Stratheden), Barbara Nicholson (Fossway Ladies), and Joyce White (Kinross Ladies), won 5-2 against Alan Paterson's team of Elaine Paterson (Kinross Ladies), Alasdair Macdonald (Stratheden), and Catriona Macdonald (Tulliallan).

Both teams came away with a total of 10 litres of whisky between them, and wish to pass their thanks onto the Northwest Castle Hotel and The Famous Grouse for a great weekend.



*Fossway members Ian Nicholson and Alan Paterson were successful at the Famous Grouse Weekend (shown here with their weekend team-mates from various clubs)*

Fossway are a small and friendly local curling club based in Crook of Devon, although our members come from far and wide. We play throughout the season, mostly at Kinross, with a few games in Perth. We are always looking for new members (beginners and experienced), who will find a warm welcome awaiting. Coaching is available free of charge. Contact Alan on 840695 or Willie on 840405 for details. And don't forget to check our website. (See heading.)

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## Kinross Curling Trust

### Fundraising

Now that all the bills have been paid and all calculations made, we can announce that the total combined profit from the recent raffle, auction and inaugural dinner was £6,725.80.

Many thanks to all who contributed to this success.



## Kinross Curling

Green Road, Kinross, KY13 8TU

Tel: 01577 861821

[www.kinrosscurling.co.uk](http://www.kinrosscurling.co.uk)

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Forthcoming events at Kinross Curling:

**Kinross Open** (a Scottish Curling Tour competition):  
Friday 13 - Sunday 15 December.

**Hogmanay Pairs:** Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 December.  
The winning team qualifies to the RCCC National Pairs.

**If you are new to curling**, you may be interested in the following:

### Try Curling

£1 per person

**Saturday 4 January** 12.15pm - 2.15pm

### Olympic Try Curling

£1 per person

**Monday 17 February** 5.30pm - 8pm

**Wednesday 19 February** 5.30pm - 8pm

**Sunday 23 February** 2.45pm - 5pm

### Beginners' Course in Curling

(Three-Day Course)

**Saturday 18 January** 11.45am - 2.45pm

**Sunday 26 January** 2.30pm - 5.30pm

**Saturday 8 February** 11.45am - 2.45pm

For more information on the Try Curling sessions or Beginners Course, contact Claire Milne, Area Curling Development Officer, telephone 07789 646672 or email: [kinrossdev@royalcaledoniancurlingclub.org](mailto:kinrossdev@royalcaledoniancurlingclub.org)

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# News from the Rurals

**CROOK OF DEVON** – Vice President Alice Johnston opened the meeting. After business she introduced Alison Messenger, who gave a demonstration on quick and easy things to make and cook with anything you might have in the store cupboard.

Competitions:

Three pieces of shortbread	-	Alice Johnston
Flower of the Month	-	Alice Johnston

**CLEISH** - President Mrs Alison Morris welcomed everyone to our meeting. After business she introduced Bishopshire SWRI who then entertained us with songs, poetry and a short humorous play. It was a very entertaining evening. Mrs Dorothy Morris gave the vote of thanks.

Competitions:

Flower of the Month	-	Mrs Betty Robb
Recycled Item	-	Mrs Dorothy Morris
Flask of Soup	-	Mrs Betty Robb

**GLENFARG** – Mr Ian Nimmo-Smith of the Tay Rail Bridge Disaster Memorial Fund gave a most illuminating talk on the Tay Rail Bridge Disaster. His explanation of the cause was particularly interesting as he explained how the bridge actually collapsed and its tragic consequences. Mrs Helen Quartermaine proposed the vote of thanks. A small Bring and Buy sale was held and the £81 was donated towards the memorials to the victims of this sad event.

Competitions:

Flower of the Month	-	Sheila Harley
Recycled Item	-	Catherine Fairweather
Lentil Soup	-	Linda Stuart

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**CARNBO** – Mrs Elizabeth Campbell welcomed everyone to the meeting, and after the business, introduced the Rev Alan Reid who told us about his wonderful experience of staying at Balmoral and preaching at Crathie Church.

Competitions:

3 pieces of tablet	-	Josephine Paterson
Flower of the Month	-	Christine Dawson

**BISHOPSHIRE** – Our speaker was Janet Reay, a Trading Standards Officer with P & K Council. One part of her remit involves the Weights and Measures Act, checking that garages and pubs are giving accurate measures. She then outlined a few of the many scams where people are completely taken in by such things as letters telling them they have won money on eg the lottery (even if they have never bought a lottery ticket). Many of the people affected are lonely, or elderly, and are defrauded of many thousands of pounds. It was also sobering to realise how gullible people can be, and how they find it difficult to stop their involvement. There was quite a discussion on cold calling, especially telephone calls, and how to deal with them.

Competitions:

Favourite cup and saucer	-	Wilma Barclay
Small dish of pâté	-	Norma Smith

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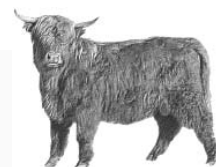
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# Out & About

## RSPB Loch Leven

[www.rspb.org.uk/scotland](http://www.rspb.org.uk/scotland)  
Telephone: (01577) 862355



Hello again, folks! Weel anither year hiz jist aboot slippit past and the festive season looms large. Whit a quick year it's been. Bird-wise it's been a guid year, with Lapwing nesting attempts the highest ever and the double nesting of the Little Ringed Plovers with successful broods on both attempts. Let's hope they come back next year. Geese numbers were also higher this year at the October peak, tho they hiv drappit doon tae around the five tae six thousand mark noo as the faimily groups move further sooth.

Almost 60,000 birds were on the loch area in yin o' the coonts, so it jist shows how important Loch Leven is as a sanctuary area tae avians fae ither pairs o' the world. October's goose month proved popular wi the kids tho, as hunners o' them creatit a "Goose Mural" which wiz pinned up oan the café wall. They coloured in goose shapes which they had cut oot and some o' them looked pretty funky n colourful effer they were finished. We endit up wi a veritable flock, near as much as were oot oan the reserve! It's been relocatit tae the tap o' the stairs gawn up tae the café if ye wid like a looky. Weel done tae awe you little people wha helped tae create it – a few buddin artists methinks! The goose trail quiz oan the wetland will continue tae run until next year sometime.

In the shop we hiv like zillions o' stuff oan special offer at the minute. Weel, mibee no zillions – av taken that too far, but certainly a wheeng. Fae kids toys like microscopes, bug huntin kits, safari kits awe wi 20% aff, bird fat cakes at three fur under a fiver (usual price £3.49 each). Twa twelve packs o' suet balls fur a fiver n a pickle ither birdy feedy stuff enaw. Since it's that time o' year we still hiv cairds, calendars (slimline yins at twa fur a tenner), diaries, and the much socht effer "Penguin crackers game" tho they are startin tae move a bit rapidish as it dawns oan folk that Christmas is no far awa. We selt oot o' them the last couple o' years and even hid people phonin up fae the sooth o' England tryin tae buy them. Needless tae say the baw wiz oan the tiles n the game wiz a bogey cos we hid nane left. Get them noo if ye want them!

Up comin events this month is **Christmas Crafts** oan **Saturday 7 December** fae 11am till 1pm. Mak some crafty type stuff fur Crimbo. This event is fur big bairns only since yer workin wi tins n things. Health n safety n awe that. Advance bookin required, costs £7 members or £10 non-members.

We will be open everyday except 25 and 26 December and 1 and 2 January, although we will close early at 4pm the days in between and at 3pm on Christmas and New Year's Eves.

So fur the last time this year kin ah thank ye awe fur yer custom ower the last year, we really do appreciate it. Hope ye hiv a fabulous festive season. Orra best fur the new year, hope it's a guid yin fur you n yours. Keep healthy n cosy if it gets really cauld. Best wishes fae everyone at RSPB Loch Leven, we hope tae see ye again in 2014.

Till next time, ta ta,

Colin

## Loch Leven NNR



Wildfowl numbers are still high this month around the reserve, particularly on the eastern shore of the loch, where large congregations of ducks and swans can be seen throughout the day. During the latest Wetland Bird Survey we recorded a Loch Leven record of 804 Whooper Swans, many of which can be heard whooping and hollering away to themselves and each other, like a constant natural, if somewhat tuneless, chorus!

In addition to the wildfowl, we've also been treated to excellent views of a Loch Leven rarity in the form of a Great Northern Diver. Normally breeding in North America, many of them will spend the winter around the Scottish coast, but records of inland birds are much less common. The individual has been on the loch for over a week now, so it may be worth having a look out for a large diver from Burleigh Sands if you get the chance.

Our annual Pink Sunset goose walk took place toward the end of October, with an excellent turn out witnessing a large assemblage of ducks, geese and swans on the loch shore, and large skein returning to roost as darkness arrived. The only disappointment was the poor weather - more a grey sunset on this occasion unfortunately! Many thanks to all who attended and braved the wind and wet weather.

**Winter Bird Walk, Saturday 28 December,  
10am-12pm Findatie car park**

Our final event of 2013 will be the annual Winter Bird Walk. After the celebration and indulgence of Christmas, why not come along and join reserve staff for a walk around the south shore of the loch in search of some of the seasonal residents on the loch and surrounding lands? As well as a wide range of wildfowl being out on the loch, we'll also be keeping a keen eye out for winter thrushes, redpolls and maybe even a White-tailed Eagle! Walking boots, waterproofs and binoculars are recommended, and suitable clothing should be worn for the potentially chilly weather. Please call the reserve office on 01577 864439 to book your place.

Through the winter months we usually take the opportunity to carry out some tree work around the reserve, both to ensure that the path remains open and safe, and to manage habitats for wildlife. Where trees are obstructing the path, please report them to the reserve office on the number above, so that we can arrange for staff to deal with the issue as soon as possible. There is to be some small scale tree work taking place at Levenmouth this month in order to connect the loch with the pool, enabling wildfowl easier access to the smaller water body adjacent to the loch.

As mentioned last month, the Heritage Trail extension is now well under way, with path being laid, and wetland habitats being restored along the way too. Volunteers are still required at some point in the new year, and if you would like to participate in some tree planting along the new section of path, please call the reserve office to express an interest, and we will keep you posted as and when plans develop.

That's all for now - visit the blog for up-to-date news and features from the reserve: [www.lochlevennnr.wordpress.com](http://www.lochlevennnr.wordpress.com)

Craig, Reserve Officer

### Fact of the Month

A flock of Whooper Swans was once identified by an airline pilot migrating over Northern Ireland at a staggering height of 29,000 feet!

## Farming



### How to Save Your Brain

I picked up a book in my Mum's kitchen last week called "How to save your Brain". I spied the self help guide on the shelf just under the toaster a wee while ago but never found time to pick it up till now. Reading the blurb, I could understand that my recently retired Mum is keen to keep her grey matter active now that she has hung up her working togs. I only skimmed a few pages but I think that's all I needed to as the advice in the first chapter reminded me the biggest asset you have to keep your brain healthy and memory in good shape is to recall and reflect on your own life story as often as you can. My Grandpa (Mum's Dad) certainly practised this and had a wonderful memory and alert brain until he passed away in his nineties. So I thought I would share a few reflections with you to improve my recall and fill the final farming column of 2013!

Our family moved to Kinross-shire in 1987 when I was 12. We moved from a small hill farm near a village called Rhu. In addition to farming, Dad was the local milkman, Mum ran a freezer meat business and our aunts had an egg round, so between them they knew pretty much everyone. If my sister or I didn't eat our school lunch we knew that the dinner lady would have a quiet word when Dad dropped off the school milk the next morning. We learnt quickly to finish all the lumpy tatties and scoff all the semolina and prunes rather than get into trouble for leaving it!

Farming on his own on a much larger scale was a dream come true for Dad (I think) and when I came home from high school each night I helped to bed the cattle or fill bags of barley from what I thought must be the noisiest bruiser in Kinross-shire. I enjoyed helping and eventually had to "come out" and admit that I'd like to study Agriculture and be a farmer. I actually can't recall the reaction to this, so assume they can't have been too shocked or surprised but I think they worried about how I would get on in such a harsh environment. Indeed, when I attended my first interview at the age of 17 with a dairy farmer in the west of the county, I was told I could get the job if I could carry a 70lb bag of barley and spread it along the trough evenly. Needless to say, I rose to the challenge and so far don't have any spinal issues from the heavy weight or hearing difficulties due to that noisy bruiser.

By the age of 21, I had achieved lots more experience, an HND in Agriculture and also gained a husband and a baby daughter. At this point, hopes of a farming career looked a bit bleak; shepherds work long hours at all times and jobs were miles away. But I married a good man (albeit an arable farmer who dislikes sheep) – he lent me a field of grass and I bought 50 ewes with my savings. The next year I persuaded a retired farmer at Hatchbank to rent me 25 acres and my little farming enterprise started to grow; it turns out Mum and Dad were right to be worried, though, and sometimes it was tough. The flock suffered an abortion storm in 2002 when many of the ewes lost their lambs prematurely, finding land to rent was very difficult so my flock was often spread over up to six holdings and it cost me a fortune in diesel just to check on everything. During foot and mouth we were very fortunate not to be affected by the disease but lamb prices sank to rock bottom (£25 per head) and the rent was still to pay and I remember the time that my old Isuzu jeep failed its MOT and the garage had to sit me down and tell me it would take a four figure sum to get it back on the road again. So most of the difficulties

have been financial and I am now slightly more accustomed to managing these.

Thankfully, the challenges have never made me think of giving up and they don't stop me recalling the highlights of building up an enterprise from scratch. My flock is now almost closed. I breed all my own female replacements, limiting the risk of disease. Twice I managed to purchase land which means I don't rent much anymore. The icing on the cake was when Dad and Mum decided I could help run their farm in Fossoway, which means even though I'm still part-time, I eventually became a proper farmer.

The best bits, though, belong to the lambing shed: seeing our son and his friend deliver their first lamb in 2011 – awesome! Taking students on placements to learn lambing – a privilege. Welcoming friends and colleagues to see for themselves what it's all about – wonderful. Bringing 1000 lambs into the world in 2013 – result! That's a magic number for me and if I remember nothing else about the last year I'll recall that this was the first time we achieved that.

Good luck with your own reflections and keeping your brain active.

Fiona

## Weather



### October Weather Report from Carnbo

October this year started with great promise, continuing the warm settled conditions of late September. Unfortunately this was short lived, as more unsettled, even stormy, weather set in with strong winds and high rainfall totals.

A short but severe gale occurred during the night of the 9th to 10th. This gale was very localized, causing much tree damage in the local forests.

Total rainfall	189 mm (141% of average)
Heaviest fall	27 mm (2nd)
Rain days 23, trace days 1, dry days 7	
Highest temperature	16°C (7th)
Lowest temperature	1°C (30th)
Average temperature	12.5°C
Lowest ground temperature	-3°C

Ground frost recorded on 3 nights, air frost on 1 night

12 days complete cloud cover

Thunder not recorded

### October Weather Report from Kinross

Total rainfall	157.0 mm (6.28 inches)
Heaviest fall	32.8 mm (21st)
Total sunshine for month	45.2 hours
Sunniest day	5.3 hours (9th)
Maximum temperature	average 13.35°C
Highest temperature	19.4°C (7th)
Minimum temperature	average 4.68°C
Lowest temperature	-2.5°C (10th and 29th)

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For further details see [www.kinrossnewsletter.org](http://www.kinrossnewsletter.org) or phone Ross McConnell on 01577 865885 or email

[subscriptions@kinrossnewsletter.org](mailto:subscriptions@kinrossnewsletter.org)

## Congratulations



Andrew and Jenni for **JACKSON** are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter, **LUCY ROBYN**, born on 3 October 2013. A little sister for Anna, second grandchild for Tom and Mary Graham and fourth grandchild for Andy and Evelyn Jackson.

**ATHOLL PETTINGER** has become a double British champion in equestrian vaulting at the recent championships. He is champion in individual male child and as part of the intermediate team. Atholl vaults with Kinross Vaulting Group.

**LOCH LEVEN'S LARDER** won the national 'Best Café, Bar or Restaurant' award at the Scottish Thistle Award finals held at Stirling Castle on 15 November. The Scottish Thistle Awards are organised by VisitScotland and aim to celebrate excellence in the Scottish tourism industry.

Local butcher **HUNTERS OF KINROSS** has made the shortlist of the 15th World Scotch Pie Championships. Judging took place in November. A record 543 products, including scotch pies, sausage rolls and apple pies, were entered by 99 of the nation's best butchers and bakers. Fifty experts judged the entries, assisted by guest judge Les McKeown, former lead singer of the Bay City Rollers. The winners will be announced in January.

**T in the PARK** has won 'A Greener Festival' award for the sixth year running. The award is in the 'Improving' category.



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 pop-up banners,  
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 brochures, leaflets  
 and stationery.  
*\*Printing quotes given*

**tel. 01383 831241**  
**mobile: 07706 382602**

### PLANNING PERMISSION BUILDING WARRANTS

McNeil Partnership is a locally based practice with LOCAL knowledge providing drawings and processing applications for Planning permission and Building Warrants.

We specialise in Extensions, Attic Conversions, Conservatories, Porches and Internal and External Alterations.

Contact **Eric or Fiona McNeil**  
**01577 863000**  
 For free advice

## Thanks



**ALEX** and **HELENA CANT** and family wish to thank all the friends who sent flowers or cards following the death of Helena's stepfather, John. This was a great comfort to us all, including Helena's mum.

The **KINROSS HUB Café for Carers** would like to thank everyone who bought hand-knitted Poppies and gave donations at their November café. The sum of £74.98 was raised for **Poppy Scotland**.

**POPPY COLLECTION:** The amount raised from the Poppy collection in the **Portmoak** area was £476.94. Grateful thanks to all who contributed and to the local outlets who displayed the poppies and collecting tins.

**POPPY APPEAL:** The collection at the Remembrance Service on 10 November, held in **Kinross Parish Church** for the town's uniformed youth organisations, raised £492 for the Poppy Appeal.

**MILNATHORT TOWN HALL Renovation Open Evening, 9 November:** WOW! What a fantastic night we had! 98 people came along to hear about our hall PAST, PRESENT and FUTURE!

Prof David Munro's talk was fantastic. A special thank you to him for donating his time and putting such a fascinating talk together for us.

Thanks to Scott Strachan, town hall committee member and architect for the renovation, for his dedication and informative presentation on the night. Sainsbury's donated some sweet treats for us all, Kinross and District Pipe Band allowed us to borrow their wine glasses, Milnathort Post Office gave us Sellotape and Blutac.

The Giacopazzis outdid themselves. Joe and Ann Giacopazzi made and donated over 100 mini pizzas, delivered fresh from the oven whilst David Munro did his talk! Joanna Giacopazzi (Managing Director of Giacopazzi's, Milnathort) kindly donated all the wine and juice for the evening as well as putting all our flyers in her Nisa promotional leaflets at the end of October. To top it all off, she presented the Town Hall Committee with a cheque for £1000 towards our renovation fund – that's £2500 from Giacopazzi's over the last two years through their Making a Difference Locally scheme! We took £360 between donations and our raffle on the night too.

The estimated cost of the renovation is £400,000. So far we have managed to secure a bit short of £200,000, with a huge chunk of that being promised from the Arthur Margaret Thomson Trust. If you have any ideas for funding opportunities and/or would like to get involved with the renovation fundraising, your help would be greatly appreciated. No need to join the committee, every little helps. Please 'LIKE' 'Friends of Milnathort Town Hall' on Facebook, and keep up to date with our fundraising and plans for the future. Contact us on 07737461293 or susanjbritton@yahoo.co.uk

Thank you so much to everyone that came along. The committee, led by Rosemary Tolson, have been given a new lease of life to take the renovation forward knowing that the community are behind us. A superb night all round!

Watch this space for more news of the Milnathort Town Hall Renovation!



# Kinross-shire Churches Together

## Kinross Parish Church of Scotland

10 Station Road, Kinross KY13 8TG (Charity number SC 012555)

Minister: Rev Alan D. Reid MA, BD Tel: (01577) 862952

Ordained Local Minister:

Rev Margaret Michie Tel: (01592) 840602

Session Clerk: Jaffrey Weir Tel: (01577) 865780

Church Office, Mon-Fri 10am-12 noon: Tel. (01577) 862570

**The office will be closed on 25, 26 December and 1, 2 January**

Church E-mail: office@kinrossparishchurch.org

Church/Church Centre Lets: lets@kinrossparishchurch.org

Church website: www.kinrossparishchurch.org

**Church open for visiting or quiet contemplation at same times as office.**

**Events listed below are in the church unless indicated otherwise.**

### Regular Services and events

**Sundays:** 10.30am: Morning Service with Crèche. Junior Church (age 3 to P7) and 'JamPact' (Secondary Age) *in December meet at church centre from 10.15am (apart from 22 Dec: meet at church).*

7.30pm, 'Crossfire' (SI upwards) in church centre.

**Tuesdays:** 10am: Pram Service, in term time

**Wednesdays:** 10.45am Service, church centre (not 25 Dec and 1 Jan)

### Other Events and Services

#### November

**Sat 30** 10am – 12 noon Brigade Coffee morning, church centre  
3.45pm – 6pm ADVENTure Fun Day, *in Parish Church.*

#### December

**Sun 1** 10.30am and 6.30pm: Communion Services.  
Retiring collection for 'A Place at the Table' to support Syrian refugees.

**Mon 2** 8am: Silent Meditation (30 mins).

**Tue 3** 2.30pm: Service at Whyte Court.

**Thu 5** 7.30pm: Thursday Group, church centre – Christmas meal

**Sun 8** 2.30pm: Christmas Concert by 'Cantamus', organised by the Guild.

**Tue 10** 6pm for 6.30pm: Guild Party, church centre.

**Wed 11** 7.30pm: Christmas Wrap of presents for the homeless.

**Sat 14** 8.30am: Prayer Breakfast (names in advance to church office).

### Christmas Quiet Times

*Space to be Still at this Busy Time*

**Mon 16** 9.30am, **Tue 17** 3.15pm: (suitable for children),

**Wed 18** 7.30pm, **Thu 19** 9pm: Compline by candlelight, **Fri 20**

**Sat 21** 2pm: Junior Church Christmas Party, church centre.

**Sun 22** 10.30am: All-age Nativity Service.

**Tue 24 Christmas Eve:** 4.30pm: Crib Service for families.

11.15pm: Watchnight Service.

**Wed 25 Christmas Day:** 10.30am: short service for Christmas morning.

**Sun 29 Christmas Sunday:** 10.30am: Service of Lessons and Carols.  
2.30pm Annual Bereavement Service.

**Tue 31** 2.30pm: Service at Causeway Court.

#### January

**Sun 5** 10.30am Morning Service, followed by informal Communion.

**Mon 6** 8am: Silent Meditation (30 mins).

**Tue 7** 2.30pm: Service at Whyte Court.

**Thu 9** 7.30pm: Thursday Group, church centre, Beetle Drive.

**Sat 11** 8.30am: Prayer Breakfast (names in advance to church office).

**Tue 14** 7.15pm: Guild, church centre, 'A Fellowship to Build'.

**Thu 16** 9pm: late evening service of Compline (20min).

**Sun 19** 6.30pm United Service for Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

**Sun 26** 6.30pm: Informal Evening Service.

**Tues 28** 2.30pm: Service at Causeway Court.

7.15pm: Guild, church centre, 'The Julius Project'.

8pm: Bible Study and Prayer Meeting.

## Orwell and Portmoak Parish Church

### Church of Scotland

Minister - Rev Dr Angus Morrison

Telephone: 01577 863461

Email: angusmorrison3@gmail.com

Website: www.orwellportmoakchurch.org.uk

### Sunday Worship, Junior Church and crèche:

10am Portmoak Church,

11.30am Orwell Church.

All children welcome. Crèche available during Sunday Services.

**Prayer Meeting** held 30mins before each service

**Evening Service** at 6.30pm in Orwell Hall (1st and 3rd Sundays of month).

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

**Services at Levenshulme:** first Tuesday of the month at 4pm

### Morning Prayers at 9am

Each Thursday at Portmoak Church New Room.

Each Friday at Orwell Church.

### Dates and events for your diary

**3 December** Guild in Orwell Hall 7pm: Theme night, 'A Fellowship to Build'.

**13 December** Oasis Ladies Group in Portmoak New Room,  
10:15am – 11:45am. Thoughts and Music for Christmas – Rosemary Tolson.

**22 December** Carols and Readings – 6:30pm in Orwell Church.

**24 December** Family Service – 6:30pm in Portmoak Church.  
Watchnight Service – 11:30pm in Orwell Church.

**25 December** Family Service – 10:30am in Portmoak Church.

**29 December** Family Service – 10:30am in Orwell Church.

**7 January** Guild in Orwell Hall 7pm: 'A Journey to Bhutan' – Margaret Kilpatrick.

**21 January** Guild in Orwell Hall 7pm: Open Night – 'Fresh Sounds' – Janice Taylor & Co.

**26 January** Souper Sunday.

**31 January** Oasis Ladies Group in Portmoak New Room  
10:15am – 11:45am.

Everyone welcome

**Church office & shop** open Mon – Sat. 10am until 2pm.

29 South Street, Milnathort KY13 9XA.

Christian cards, gifts, bibles & books for sale. Also internet access; printing & copying facilities; recycle ink toners, spectacles, stamps & batteries. Meeting room available to let.

Contact the Office 01577 861200  
orwellportmoakchurch@gmail.com

## St James's R C Church

5 High Street, Kinross, KY13 8AW

Father Colin Golden Telephone: (01577) 863329

<b>Mass Times</b>	Saturday Vigil	7.00pm
	Sunday	9.30am

### Christmas

**Tue 24 Dec** Carol Service at 8.30pm, followed by Mass at 9pm

**Wed 25 Dec** Mass at 11.15am

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



**St Paul's Scottish Episcopal Church**

(part of the Worldwide Anglican Communion)

Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8AY

Fr David Mackenzie Mills, Rector Telephone: 01577 863795

Email: frdavidkinross@gmail.com

Mrs Sarah Oxnard, Vestry Chair Telephone: 01577 864213

Website: www.stpauls-kinross.co.uk

You can also find us on Facebook

St Paul's is open, friendly and welcoming to all age groups (whether regular churchgoers or if you're simply inquisitive about who we are and what we do.)

We particularly look forward to meeting some of you this Advent and Christmas season, perhaps at our Come and Sing event, our Christmas Carol service or Crib service. We are assembling a scratch choir for our Carol service, and planning a couple of rehearsals in December. If you enjoy singing and would like to join our little choir for this event then we'd love to hear from you – all voices welcome but especially men! (Contact details above).

8am Morning Prayer (Mondays and Wednesdays)

12 Noon Said Holy Communion (Wed until 18 December)

12.30pm – 1.30pm Rector's Hour (Thu until 19 December)

**December Services**

**Sun 1** Advent Sunday (Hope). 8.30am Holy Communion (1982), 11.00am Sung Eucharist (1982) and **AGM**. *The lighting of the Advent Candles and decorating the Jesse Tree by the Sunday School throughout Advent.*

6.30pm Candlelit Carol Service for Advent.

**Wed 4** 4pm - 8pm 'Kinross Churches Together' Quiet Afternoon for Advent, concluding with Said Compline.

**Sun 8** Advent 2 (Bethlehem and the way of the Prophets) 8.30am The Scottish Liturgy (1928). 11am Sung Eucharist (1982).

6.30pm Said Evening Prayer with Advent carols.

**Sat 14** 2pm - 4pm 'Come and Sing' Christmas Carols and learn one or two new ones. A fun afternoon of music making for all ages and abilities, whether or not you've ever sung before. Babies also welcome – we're out to make lots of noise! Refreshments of mince pies and mulled wine in the Meeting Room.

**Sun 15** Advent 3 (Gaudete Sunday and John the Baptist). 8.30am Holy Communion (1982), 11.00am Sung Eucharist (1982).

6.30pm Said Evening Prayer with Advent carols.

**Sat 21** 9.30am - 11am Choir rehearsal for Christmas Carols and Christmas Day services, Meeting Room at St Paul's.

**Sun 22** Advent 4. 8.30am Holy Communion (1982), 11.00am Sung Eucharist (1982). 6.30pm St Paul's Christmas Carol Service by candlelight.

**Tue 24** Christmas Eve. 11am Family Crib Service. See the baby Jesus arriving in church: an interactive service with child-friendly carols. 11.30pm Midnight Mass.

**Wed 25** Christmas Day. 8.45 Said Matins (1928). 10am Family Sung Eucharist.

**Sun 29** Christmas 1. 8.30am Holy Communion (1982). 11am Sung Eucharist (1982).

**Everyone welcome at all services**

The Church is open as a quiet space and to perhaps light a candle on the following days:

1st Monday of the month: 10am – 3pm

2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month: 2.30pm – 4.30pm

Thursdays: 12.30pm – 1.30pm

**Fossoway, St Serf's & Devonside Church****Church of Scotland** (Charity number SC013157)

Locum/Reader: Mr Brian Ogilvie Telephone: (01592) 840823

Session Clerk: Mrs Janet Harper Telephone: (01755) 840225

**Sunday Services** at 9.45am**December**

**Sun 1** 1st Sunday in Advent. 9.45am Morning Worship, Brian Ogilvie, followed by tea and coffee.

**Sun 8** 2nd Sunday in Advent. 9.45am Morning Worship, Brian Ogilvie.

6.30pm Bereavement Service, Brian Ogilvie, followed by tea and coffee in the Church Hall.

**Sun 15** 3rd Sunday in Advent. 9.45am Nativity led by Junior Church.

**Sun 22** 4th Sunday in Advent. 9.45am Carols and Readings, Brian Ogilvie.

**Tue 24** Christmas Eve. 11pm Carols by Candlelight. 11.15pm Watchnight Service, Gordon Brown.

**Wed 25** Christmas Day. 9.45am Family Service - bring a toy. Brian Ogilvie.

**Wrigglers Group (0-3 years), Junior Church and teens group** all meet during term time within the church family at the beginning of the service, and then in their own groups after 'Time to Talk'.

**Café Refresh:** Every Thursday, church hall, 2-4pm.**House group:** Please contact Fred for details, 01577 840833.

**Film Afternoon: Friday 6 December** 2.30-4.30pm and 7.30-9.30pm in the Elizabeth Wilkie Hall. Join us for a film, a cuppa and a blether.

**Cleish Parish Church****Church of Scotland**

(Charity number SC 003168)

Locum Minister: Mr Brian Ogilvie

Telephone: (01592) 840823

E-mail: brianj.ogilvie1@btopenworld.com

Session Clerk: Gordon McMillan

Telephone: (01506) 825641

E-mail: gordon.b.mcmillan@tak21.com

Website: www.cleishchurch.org

**Sunday Services** 11.15am**Crèche and Junior Church** 11.15am**December**

**Sun 1** 11.15am All Age Worship for First Sunday in Advent.

**Sun 8** 11.15am Morning Worship followed by Congregational Lunch. 6.30pm Service for the Bereaved at Fossoway Church.

**Sun 15** 11.15am Morning Worship and Junior Church.

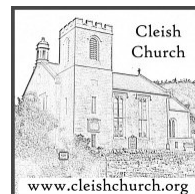
**Sun 22** 11.15am Morning Worship: Christingle Service.

**Wed 24** 11.15pm Watch Night Service.

**Thu 25** 11.15am Christmas Day 'Toy Service'.

**Sun 29** 11.15am Morning Worship: Service of Lessons and Carols.

All welcome



## Kinross Christian Fellowship

Jesus said, 'I am among you as one who serves.'

Sunday morning service at 10.30am (refreshments and blether at 10am), Millbridge Hall, Old Causeway, Kinross.

Lively praise (children participate), reverent worship open to the leading of the Holy Spirit, prayer, ministry and solid Bible-based preaching and teaching. An all-round family service for families, which includes Sunday School. Communion every second Sunday, as is our evening service at 6.30pm; a time for praise, worship, sharing and joy in The Lord Jesus. (Followed by light refreshments and more blether.)

Everyone is welcome to either service or to both, so please come and, *taste and see that the LORD is good.*

Contact Peter on 01577 863509, for further information.

*KCF also runs the Talking Donkey café - see separate notice in the Newsletter. Additionally, the Friday evening Youth Group at the Millbridge Hall (Space) is also the responsibility of our Fellowship, and we are pleased to accept this privilege.*

### Christmas Services

**Sun 22 Dec** 10.30am Service of Carols and Readings

**Wed 25 Dec** 11.00am Christmas Day Service

## Kinross Gospel Hall

Montgomery Street, Kinross  
Website: [www.kinrossgospelhall.info](http://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

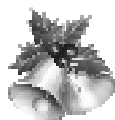
## Kinross-shire Churches Together Community Christmas Celebration

Assembly Hall, Loch Leven Community Campus  
3pm



**Sunday 15 December**

Prepare for Christmas with  
Songs, Carols, Readings and Drama



All Welcome



## Christmas Services and Events within Kinross-shire



Kinross-shire Churches Together has produced a summary  
of all the local Christmas services and events.

Everyone Welcome.



Find the list on the community website:  
[www.kinross.cc](http://www.kinross.cc)



## Obituary

**NANCY FITZSIMMONS** died at the Victoria Hospital on Tuesday 5 November 2013 aged 78 years after a short but very bravely borne illness and never lost her spirit throughout.

Nancy came to Kinross on her marriage to Frank Fitzsimmons in 1956 and had one daughter, Nancy, and two granddaughters, Emma and Alison. Along with Nancy's Partner John and cousins Agnes and Les Tolson and their family, she will be greatly missed.

## Acknowledgements

**JAMES CARR** – Maureen, Lorna and families wish to thank most sincerely all relatives, friends and neighbours for their kind expressions of sympathy, cards and flowers following the sad loss of their dad.

Special thanks to the carers, district nurses and doctors of St Serf's medical practice for their dedicated care. The Marie Curie and Macmillan nurses at home and at the Cornhill Macmillan Centre were truly wonderful so thanks must go to them too.

Finally, our gratitude to Rev Alan Reid and Stewart's Funeral Directors for their care, support and attention to detail.

### Thank You

As December approaches and with it the sad events which led up to my Mother's death, I would like to mark the occasion and, also, to thank neighbours and friends for their care and help during and after this very difficult time.

Although 'comparatively' new to the village, I was very touched by the care and support extended to us across the period of my Mother's illness and death.

Remembering, also, not only the medical care but also the very personal attention of Dr Osborne, to my Mother. Dr Osborne travelled with us on the difficult and painful road from diagnosis to my Mother's eventual death on 2 December 2012. – **Essie Tough, Milnathort**

## Healing Rooms Kinross and Loch Leven

Every Thursday from 10.30am to 12 noon  
at 29 South Street, Milnathort, KY13 9XA.

No appointment needed. No charge. Totally confidential.

Trained volunteers from different churches will pray for your healing. Call 07531 435715 for further information.

[www.healingrooms-scotland.com](http://www.healingrooms-scotland.com)

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*food for good*

**Do you want to boost energy levels, deal with a chronic ailment  
or simply learn how to manage your diet and weight?**

Naturopathic Nutritional Therapy uses whole foods as medicine. It aims to support the whole body and the underlying causes of illness rather than just treating a symptom.

**We will motivate, support and teach you how to achieve your goals**

- Optimising health and well-being
- Increasing energy levels
- Boosting immunity
- Improving digestion
- Managing weight
- Improving sports performance
- Migraine & headaches
- Children's nutrition

Working at Salon 62 and Cuthill Towers, Milnathort

[alisa@nutritionalise.com](mailto:alisa@nutritionalise.com) or 07796 213 312





# Playgroups and Toddlers

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## Milnathort Babies & Toddlers

**Orwell Church Hall, Milnathort**  
**Friday 9.30am-11.15am**

A relaxed and friendly group  
Healthy snacks, tea & coffee  
Children from birth to 3 years  
(5 years if attending with younger sibling)  
Great fun for the kids, mums, dads and carers!

### PLACES NOW AVAILABLE!

To join in the fun  
call 07745 804539  
Email [milnathortbt@gmail.com](mailto:milnathortbt@gmail.com)  
Or find us on Facebook



## FOSSOWAY PRE-SCHOOL GROUP

**Glenbank Cottage, Powmill**

Partner-provider for P&K Education  
Places available for 3-5-year-olds and Rising Fives  
Sessions daily 9.30– 12 noon

Contact Pat Irvine 07703 177766 or  
[www.childcarelink.gov.uk/perthandkinross](http://www.childcarelink.gov.uk/perthandkinross)



## LOCHLEVEN BABIES & TODDLERS

**Masonic Hall, The Muirs, Kinross**

**Session times (term time only)**

Tuesdays 9.30- 11.15, Fridays 9.30- 11.15

Contact Sylvia Flynn 07793 005732,  
[sylviaastewart@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sylviaastewart@hotmail.co.uk)

All Mothers, Fathers, and Carers are welcome to attend, with children aged birth to 5 years if accompanied by a younger sibling who shall be 3 years old or younger.

## FOSSOWAY TODDLERS

**Crook of Devon Village Hall**

**Friday 9.30am - 11.00am**

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

Contact - Christina Smith 01577 840733

## PORTMOAK UNDER 5s

Portmoak Hall – between Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell  
(only 10 mins from Milnathort and Kinross)

We are a friendly and relaxed playgroup welcoming children aged 2-5. We offer a wide range of activities including arts and crafts, dressing up, outdoor play and stories. We also on occasion arrange outings, parties and have special visitors who come to the playgroup!

Babies and Toddlers (birth- 3yrs), Tues 9.30am - 11am  
Playgroup (2yrs onwards), Mon & Fri 10am– 12noon

Contact Lynda Hardie (Play leader/Manager)  
01592 840785 or 07594 328475

Email: [portmoakunderfives@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:portmoakunderfives@hotmail.co.uk)  
or find us on Facebook

## SWANSACRE PLAYGROUP

21-23 Swansacre, Kinross  
Kinross-shire Playgroup Association  
Aka Swansacre Playgroup  
Reg Scottish Charity No SC017748



**Tel: 01577 862071 Mobile: 07592 392235**

*We provide a warm, friendly and stimulating environment in which children can learn and develop through play.*

**Playgroup:** Mon 9.05am-11.35am with Lunch Club after (for children from age 3 yrs). Tue to Fri 9.15am-11.45am. Children from the age of 2 years welcome.

**Inbetweeners:** Fri 12.45pm-3.15pm with Lunch Club before. Children from the age of 3 years welcome.

**Rising Fives:** Tues & Wed 12.45pm-3.15pm with Lunch Club beforehand. Complementary to preschool Nursery.

**For availability or more information, please contact:**  
Kim 07504 445949, [enrolments.swansacre@gmail.com](mailto:enrolments.swansacre@gmail.com)  
or Playgroup on telephone numbers above.

### Baby and Toddler Group – Thurs 12.45-2.45pm

Ante-natal to pre-school. Fun for children; coffee and chat for the parent/carer. For more information, please contact Playgroup on 07592 392235.

The premises are available to hire for **Private Functions**. For more information, please contact **Siobhan 07443 223408** or the Playgroup.

## LOCHLEVEN TWOS CLUB

**Masonic Hall, The Muirs, Kinross**

**Thursdays 9.45 to 11.15am (term time only)**

A relaxed, friendly group for children from about 18 months to pre-school with their parent/carer. Play and pre-school activities, with a variety of toys. A snack is provided, plus coffee and tea for parents/carers. Younger siblings also welcome.

Contact Esther Blackburn on [estherjkent@hotmail.com](mailto:estherjkent@hotmail.com) or  
07812 757077 for further details,  
or find us on Facebook: Two's Club Kinross

## GLENFARG BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

We meet in the newly refurbished village hall, Greenbank Road, Glenfarg on Wednesdays, 9.30-11.30am.

Healthy snack for children

Coffee/tea & biscuits for carer

Lots of toys

Friendly support for all carers

First session free, £2 thereafter (£1 for additional children)

Contact Sadie Allan on 01577 830807 or just come along!

## Private Nurseries and Childcare

For private nurseries and childcare services, please see advertisements throughout the Newsletter.

# Notices



## Media Club

Loch Leven Community Campus  
4pm – 5.30pm

**Wednesdays, 30 October – 11 December**

The club is for young people between 12 and 18. Come along to explore your passion of filming and/or acting in a fun and imaginative way. We have looked at filming techniques, developing acting skills and exploring how stunts are done properly in films.

We are looking to expand our group. All young people are welcome, whether you are a complete novice or a budding Steven Spielberg!

For more information, contact Rhona Thom:  
@rthom@pkc.gov.uk or 01577 867177

## Kinross Boys and Girls Brigade St Andrews Day Coffee Morning

in the Church Centre  
**Saturday 30 November** 10am – 12pm

Stalls including: Raffle, Bottle Stall, Cake and Candy

Entry £1.00

All proceeds used to fund activities for  
Kinross Boys and Girls Brigade

## Music in Dollar

Concerts are held in the Gibson Hall, Dollar Academy, starting at 7.30pm. Season tickets for all of the concerts are £28 (single) and £52 (family). Tickets for individual concerts are £8.

- 30 Nov **The Katona Twins** – the classical world's best known guitar duo.
- 11 Jan **Rowan McGirr** (violin) – Dollar Academy's very own violinist performs on home territory.
- 22 Feb **Edward Cohen** (piano) – a first class graduate of the Royal Academy of Music.
- 15 Mar **The Busch Ensemble** (piano, violin, cello) – an international prize and award-winning trio.

www.musicindollar.org.uk info@musicindollar.org.uk

## ADVENTure FUN DAY

**ADVENTure Fun Day** will be held on **Saturday 30 November** from 4pm to 6pm in Kinross Parish Church. (Registration begins at 3.45pm.) The invitation is to all families in the church and the community and is a follow on from the summer Family Week. A similar event was greatly enjoyed by those who attended last year. There will be craft, drama, games, the Advent bible story, and a light meal for everyone.

Advent is a time for preparation for the Christmas season when we want to express the true meaning of Christmas.

Contact person: Margaret Michie,  
margaretmichie@btinternet.com or 01592 840602.

**KINROSS CURLING CLUB PRESENTS**  
**JUST BEATLES**  
*'An evening of pure Beatles nostalgia!'*

**JUST BEATLES**



**BACKSTAGE GREEN HOTEL**  
**SUNDAY 1st DECEMBER**  
SHOW STARTS AT 6.00PM

**TICKETS £15**  
**AVAILABLE FROM THE CURLING RINK BAR**

KINROSS CURLING CLUB **A CHARITY NIGHT IN AID OF THE KINROSS CURLING TRUST** 

## Light Up Kinross Christmas Lights Switch On

by celebrity chef  
**TOM KITCHIN**  
on

**Monday 2 December**



Procession leaves Curate Wynd car park at 6.45pm

Switch On at **Kinross Church Centre** at 7pm

Come and see Santa and his sleigh

*(please note different arrangements to recent years)*

## Kinross Floral Art Club

'It's Christmas' presented by Mrs Christine McKenna

**Thursday 12 December** at 7.15pm  
in the Windlestrae Hotel

Come along and enjoy a relaxing evening as Christine demonstrates her Christmas arrangements.

Visitors welcome

## January Meeting

**23 January** – Members' Own Night  
at 7.15pm in the Windlestrae Hotel

### The Thursday Group

This is a women's group meeting on the first Thursday of the month in the Lower Hall of the Church Centre at 7.30pm. New members welcome. Contact 863421.

**5 December** Christmas Dinner.  
**9 January** Beetle Drive and Quiz. All welcome.

### Second Series I

In December, there is a return visit of **CANTAMUS** to present an Edwardian Christmas Party with lashings of Music Hall songs and Christmas Carols. This will be on **Sunday 8 December** at 2.30pm and is presented by the Church Guild in aid of their fund raising. Tickets are £6.00 from Guild members or at the door. Last year there was a large audience, so buy a ticket to be sure!

### Roseanna Cunningham MSP Surgeries in Kinross

Millbridge Hall  
**Monday 9 December** 11.15am to 12pm

### Job Club Drop-In for young people 16-25 years

Loch Leven Community Library  
2.30pm – 4pm  
**Mondays, 11 November – 9 December**

Support with:  
• CVs • Job Search • Forms • Theory Driving Test  
Job vacancies displayed in the library all the time  
For more information, contact Rhona Thom:  
@rthom@pkc.gov.uk or 01577 867177

### Crook of Devon Village Hall

#### Regular Events

Monday	Fun-Fit	9.30am-10.30am
	Yoga	7.30pm-8.30pm
Tuesday	Ballet	5.15pm-7.15pm
	Country Dancing	7.30pm-9.00pm
Wednesday	Bowling	8.00pm-10.00pm
Thursday	Early Risers' Yoga	7.30am-8.30am
Friday	Toddlers	9.30am-11.00am
	Youth Club (P4-P7)	6.30pm-7.45pm

#### Upcoming Events

<b>30 November</b>	<b>St Andrews Day Coffee Morning</b> 10.30am-12.30pm
<b>21 December</b>	<b>Christmas Family Disco</b> , 6-8.30pm
<b>31 December</b>	<b>New Year Family Ceilidh</b>

Please check local notice boards, shop or garage for more details nearer the time. If you've any queries regarding any of the above or hiring the hall, please contact Jean in the shop or Michelle Wight, tel: 840852.

### Loch Leven NNR Events Programme 2013



Scottish Natural Heritage  
All of nature for all of Scotland



Year of  
Natural  
Scotland  
2013

**Sat 28 Dec** Winter Bird Walk 10am-1pm

All our events are free and booking is essential. Please call 01577 864439 for more information, or to book your place.

**MILNATHORT PRIMARY SCHOOL  
CHRISTMAS FAIR 2013  
Saturday 7th December**

**MPS**  
Join the Fun with  
**Gift Stalls**  
**Lucky Dip**  
**Decorate-a-Muffin**  
**Face Painting - Tattoos**  
**Tombola - Bottle Stall - Raffle**  
**and Much More!!!**

**Tea & Coffee - Juice - Mince Pies - Biscuits**  
**From 10.00am - 12.00noon at Milnathort Primary School**  
**Entry (Including Refreshments): Adults - £2 & Children - Free**

**THE KINROSS HUB  
A CAFE FOR CARERS**

**GUEST SPEAKERS**

**4th November 2013**  
10:30am Complete Look (Demonstration)  
1:30pm Community Fire Safety

The speakers will give a brief talk at 10:30am then 1:30pm allowing time for one to one advice

**2nd December 2013**  
12:00 - 3:00 pm Christmas Party  
Buffet lunch, entertainment & visit from Santa

The hub cafe is an informal meeting place to chat over a cuppa with other carers, cared for and family members.

**St. PAULS CHURCH HALL  
KINROSS**  
**1st MONDAY of EVERY MONTH**  
**10am-12noon & 1pm-3pm**  
Contact Gail Boath  
or Elaine Kincaid  
Tel. 01577 867306 or 867310

**NHS** Tayside

**PERTH & KINROSS COUNCIL**  
Housing & Community Care

### Grants and Funding Websites

www.pkgrantsdirect.com  
www.scottishcf.org



SARAH'S WISH  
(FOUNDATION)  
SUNDAY 22ND  
DECEMBER  
MILNATHORT TOWN  
HALL  
NEAR KINROSS

CHRISTMAS  
SHOPPING & COFFEE  
MORNING EVENT  
10AM-2PM. £1 PER  
ADULT CHILDREN FREE.

FAMILY FUN DAY 3PM-7PM MEET  
SANTA (INC PRESENT)  
LOTS OF FUN STALLS FOR  
CHILDREN & ADULTS  
BEAUTY THERAPIES  
(HALF PRICE)  
JUST IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS &  
A GREAT RAFFLE, BE THERE TO  
SEE GRACE HAVE HER HEAD  
SHAVED AND DEREK HAVE HIS  
CHEST WAXED, MUSIC TO BOP TO  
FOR THE LAST HOUR.  
ADULTS £1 CHILDREN 50P






### Christmas Quiet Times

Do you feel you are losing the meaning of Christmas in the rush? Or are there reasons why the Christmas season is difficult for you? Well, during the week before Christmas various opportunities for quiet reflection are being offered in Kinross Parish Church in Station Road. They are for **anyone** who wants the chance to pause and focus on Jesus at the heart of Christmas. These reflections will each be led by different people and will be at different times of the day so there should be one that suits your needs.

Monday 16 Dec	9.30am
Tuesday 17 Dec	3.15pm (suitable for children)
Wednesday 18 Dec	7.30pm
Thursday 19 Dec	9.00pm (Compline by candlelight)
Friday 20 Dec	12.30pm

### Marie Curie Cancer Care

#### Gifts in Wills fund one in two Marie Curie nurses

Marie Curie Cancer Care is the UK's leading end of life care charity. The charity provides free nursing care to people with a terminal illness, either in their own home or one of the charity's nine hospices. The charity is also a leader in research into the best ways of caring for people with a terminal illness.

For more information about how you can remember Marie Curie Cancer Care in your Will, contact your local Legacy Advisor, Emily Hogg on 01315 613 952 or [emily.hogg@mariecurie.org.uk](mailto:emily.hogg@mariecurie.org.uk) or visit [www.mariecurie.org.uk/legacies](http://www.mariecurie.org.uk/legacies)

Milnathort  
**filmhouse**  
bringing the big screen to you

CHRISTMAS EVE SCREENING SOLD OUT!

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year &  
thank you for your support in 2013  
Don't forget to **Like** us on  
**facebook** to keep up to date with  
all of our 2014 events!

Oh and we Tweet too!  
@MthortFilmhouse



### Children's Hospice Association Scotland



Look out for Buy One Get One Free offers in the CHAS Gift Shop and Bazaars during December

- Gift Shop** 23 Avenue Road, Kinross. 01577 865557.  
Open Monday to Saturday, 10am to 5pm.
- Bazaar 1** 88 High Street, Kinross. 01577 861380.  
Open Monday to Saturday, 9.30am to 5pm.
- Bazaar 2** 76 High Street, Kinross. 01577 865190.  
Open Monday to Saturday, 9.30am to 5pm.

**Visit our shops in Dunfermline, Glasgow and Stirling**  
Opening 19 December: 58 Murray Place, Stirling.  
5A Turnstone Rd, Dunfermline. 01383 723515. Mon-Sat, 9am-5pm.  
32-34 East Port, Dunfermline. 01383 741111. Mon-Sat 9am-5pm.  
135 Byres Road, Glasgow. 0141 3576884. Mon-Sat, 9am-5pm. Sun 12-5pm.

We are always happy to receive your quality donations.  
Thank you for your support.

Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

[www.chas.org.uk](http://www.chas.org.uk)

### The Kinross-shire Volunteer Group & Rural Outreach Scheme ANNUAL BURNS SUPPER

Windlestrae Hotel

Monday 13 January 2014

Come along and join us

There will be some new speakers and some well known faces, including entertainment by Gordon Menzies  
Tickets from Ann Munro, 01577 862685



## Kinross-shire Historical Society

Meetings are held at Kinross Parish Church, Station Road, Kinross at 7.30pm. Membership entitles free entry to all six talks of the season, with tea or coffee included in the cost. Membership: Adults £6, Senior £5, Under-18 free. Visitors: £2 per talk.



### Remaining Programme for 2013 - 2014

- 9 Dec "In All Her Tender Hues":** The Artist in Kinross-shire. **Prof David Munro MBE**
- 20 Jan The Life of Robert Burns in Song, Verse, Word and Picture:** An illustrated musical story of Burns' life. **Kevin Thompson BSc, MEd, FHEA, CMALT, FSAScot**
- 17 Feb New Life for an Old Place:** Restoring a landscape, revitalising a forest and reconnecting people to a hidden place. **Ninian Crichton Stuart, Hereditary Keeper of Falkland Palace, Steward of Falkland Estate, Director Falkland Centre for Stewardship**
- 17 Mar The History of the Perthshire and Kinross-shire Constabularies:** The formation of local Police Forces in mid 19th century. **Willie MacFarlane, Hon Curator Tayside Police Museum**

## Kinross Road Runners ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday 20 January 2014

KGV Rugby Club

7.30pm

All welcome

## Fossway 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

## 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](http://www.pamh.co.uk)

## The Wash House, Scotlandwell

Visitors can look inside the restored, historic wash house by borrowing the key from the Well Country Inn at anytime during daylight hours.

## 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.

## Kinross Badminton Club celebrates its 50th Anniversary

Friday 31 January 2014

7.30pm to 11.30pm, Kinross Rugby Club

**Guest speaker: Dan Travers**

*(ex-Scotland Internationalist, former Commonwealth Games gold and European bronze medallist, former SBU national coach and director of coaching)*



There will be a raffle to win some super prizes, and buffet food will be available.

Tickets cost £5 and can be purchased from either Sands the Ironmongers or Club President, Bill Macdonald. Give Bill a call on 862592.

## Art for Recovery Kinross

*Confidence building Skills Sharing Socialising*

ARK provides support through arts and crafts for people with health issues in Kinross and surrounding areas.

ARK offers peer support to those in need of a little company to socialise and learn new skills. Try drawing with pencils and pastels, painting with acrylics and watercolours, working with clay, felt-making and patchwork. Or just have a cup of tea or coffee!

The group meets **weekly on a Wednesday** from 1pm to 3pm in Orwell Church Hall, Ba' Hill, Milnathort. £1 per session. For more information, email [arkforart@gmail.com](mailto:arkforart@gmail.com) or call the Chair on 07590 387189.



## Kinross Recycling Centre

Bridgend Industrial Estate

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

Bicycles, cans (inc aerosols, biscuit tins, aluminium foil), car and household batteries, cardboard, cooking oil, electricals (WEEE), engine oil, fluorescent tubes, long life light bulbs, food and drinks cartons (Tetra packs), fridges, freezers, garden waste, glass, large domestic appliances, paper, plastic (rigid plastic packaging), rubble stone and soil, scrap metal, telephone directories, textiles (clothes and shoes), timber, tyres (maximum two per visit, strictly householders only) and non recyclable (general) waste.

Compost can be collected from the Recycling Centre, subject to availability. Maximum of 2 x 25kg bags per visitor.

## The Bike Station

Donate unwanted bikes, parts and cycling accessories for reuse. Bikes are refurbished and sold on to the public at affordable prices. Poorer bikes are salvaged for parts.

Bikes can be donated at the Kinross Recycling Centre (Bridgend Industrial Estate) or at The Bike Station at Mid Friarton, just off the Edinburgh Road in Perth.

Bike Station opening hours: Monday to Saturday, 10.30am to 4.30pm and late opening to 8pm on Wednesdays.

Weekly bike sales: Fridays, 10.30am-4.30pm (children's bikes) and Saturdays, 10.30am to 12.30pm (adults' bikes).

Tel: 01738 444430. Email: [perth@thebikestation.org.uk](mailto:perth@thebikestation.org.uk)

Website: [www.thebikestation.org.uk](http://www.thebikestation.org.uk)



**Loch Leven Community Campus**  
**The Muirs, Kinross**  
**KY13 8FQ**  
**www.pkc.gov.uk**

**Community Learning & Development**  
**Adult Learning**  
**Free local and friendly support with -**

**English as a Second Language**

Would you like to improve your ability to -

- Talk to friends and neighbours
- Understand what people say to you
- Give information
- Talk on the phone
- Fill in a form
- Apply for a job

**Adult Literacy & Numeracy**

**Reading Writing Spelling Numbers**

"I can enjoy books now"  
 "I feel more confident"  
 "Filling in forms is less scary"  
 "I passed my driving test"

**BOOKING ESSENTIAL**

**If you would like further information regarding  
 any of the tuition please contact:**

**Jayne Ramsay**  
**Clerical Assistant**  
 Loch Leven Community Campus  
 Email: JSRamsay@pkc.gov.uk  
 Tel: 01577 867177

**Perth Samaritans**

Need to talk? We'll listen.

Contact us by

**phone** on 01738 626666 or 08457 909090

**Email** us jo@samaritans.org

or **visit** us at 3 King's Place, Perth, PH2 8AA

Mondays 1630 – 2130      Thursdays 1630 – 1900  
 Wednesdays 0830 – 1100      Fridays 1000 – 1630  
 and 1930 – 2130      Sundays 0800 – 2130

**No pressure, no names, no judgment.**  
**We're here for you, anytime.**



**Blythswood Care**

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

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

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

The next collections will take place on  
**Tuesdays 17 December & 21 January**  
**between 10.30am and 11am**

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

**Hope Pregnancy Crisis Centre**

based in the centre of Perth

Offers free, confidential, non-judgemental advice and support to anyone facing a pregnancy related crisis.

In a safe, secure environment we aim to assist women (or couples) in making their own informed decisions about their future and support them through the process if they require it. We offer confidential advice, free pregnancy testing, pregnancy crisis and miscarriage support, adoption advice and counselling for post abortion stress.

The office is open 10am to 2pm Monday to Friday and outwith those hours can be contacted on the office number 01738 621174.

On-line support and information can be obtained from our website [www.careconfidential.com](http://www.careconfidential.com)

Hope Pregnancy Crisis Centre, 40 St John Street, Perth, PH1 5SP  
[www.careconfidential.com](http://www.careconfidential.com)

email: [hope-pregnancy@btconnect.com](mailto:hope-pregnancy@btconnect.com)

Helpline 01738 621174

We are a Scottish Charity SC037103

**Local Correspondent**

for Perthshire Advertiser and Fife Herald newspapers

**Linda Freeman**

Tel 01577 865045. Email: [linda.freeman\\_64@btinternet.com](mailto:linda.freeman_64@btinternet.com)

**Newsletter Deadlines 2014**

Please note, deadlines are on a **FRIDAY**. More deadlines for the months ahead can be found on our website.

In very rare circumstances it may be necessary to change a deadline at short notice. Check Newsletter website for latest information: [www.kinrossnewsletter.org](http://www.kinrossnewsletter.org)

Issue	Deadline	Publication Date
February	Fri 17 January	Saturday 1 February
March	Fri 14 February	Saturday 1 March



THE  
TALKING  
DONKEY

Every Friday 11am - 2pm  
@ The Millbridge Hall

For further information, or if you want to be involved please ring  
07766 515 950 or 07771 696 830

The Cafe where everything is

# FREE!

 Soups 

 Snacks 

 Hot Drinks 

 Cold Drinks 

 Home-cooked lunches 

All brought to your table by our friendly staff

The Talking Donkey is a Christian venture so there will always be people on hand to offer

## Prayer For Any Need



## Mindspace Counselling Service

### YOUNG PEOPLES COUNSELLING SERVICE 11-25 YEAR OLDS



Mindspace Counselling Services offer counselling to adults and young people aged 11-25 at The Loch Leven Health Centre on Mondays and Tuesdays. Sometimes we all have problems that worry us and it's not always easy to talk to someone close to us. A counsellor is someone you can talk to in a different way, someone who will listen to you very carefully, who will not judge you or tell you what to do.

We offer counselling to people who are facing a wide range of difficulties or challenges such as: Feeling depressed/anxious; Making friends/keeping friends; Chaos at home; Feeling angry and don't know why; Bullying; Having a tough time; Parents splitting up; Death of someone special; Confused feelings about who I am; Wanting to hurt myself or others.

If you are interested in this service you can self-refer via email to [info@mindspacepk.com](mailto:info@mindspacepk.com), by telephone on 01738 631639 or by visiting our website at [www.mindspacepk.com](http://www.mindspacepk.com). You can also be referred by your GP.



### Need to consult an old Newsletter?

The Kinross (Marshall) Museum at the Loch Leven Community Campus houses a collection of every Kinross Community Council Newsletter ever published (July 1977 to the present day). Newsletters can be consulted when the Museum Study Room is open: Thursdays, 10am – 8pm and Saturdays, 10am – 3pm.

Electronic versions of Newsletters from September 2006 to the present day can be downloaded from the Newsletter website: [www.kinrossnewsletter.org](http://www.kinrossnewsletter.org)

## 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 next visits are:

**10 December and 14 & 28 January**

**(There will be NO outreach visit on 24 December)**

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 450580; Appointment line 01738 450581.

## Ceilidh Dancing

Come and join us from 2 till 3 every Monday in the Guide Hall, Milnathort, and learn to ceilidh dance. You don't need a partner and it is all very informal and great fun.

All proceeds go to the Scouts and Guides.

Just come along – the more the merrier. No age limit.

## Newbies

**Every Monday, 2- 3pm**

Loch Leven Community Campus

A new group for new parents and new babies!

Come along and meet other parents for a blether, whilst the babies play.

Parents with babies 0 - 18 months FREE!

## MOUBRAY HALL, POWMILL

Do you need to hire a venue for your club or society meetings, family get-togethers, birthday parties or functions?

Then look no further than Moubray Hall, Powmill.

Available to hire all year round with new kitchen and disabled toilet.

For further details, please call 01577 840330.

## 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.



**GREYHOUND RESCUE FIFE**

Happy New Year!

**Christmas Dinner Appeal**

Please Donate a £1 to help provide our resident kennel Greyhounds a special Christmas Dinner

Details at [www.greyhoundrescuefife.com](http://www.greyhoundrescuefife.com)



**GREYHOUND RESCUE FIFE**

Happy New Year!

**Greyhound Rescue Fife wish all their Friends a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year**



**Merry Christmas**

Phone: 01592 890583 (evenings) Mob: 07826244765 (daytime)  
email us on [ferniejimmyf@aol.com](mailto:ferniejimmyf@aol.com)



## Community Councils

**Kinross:** Secy: Mrs M Scott (01577) 862945  
KinrossCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk  
**Cleish & Blairadam:** Secy: Patty Fraser (01577) 850253,  
CleishCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk  
**Milnathort:** Chair: Bruce Hamilton (01577) 830616  
MilnathortCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk  
**Fossoway & District:** Secy: Kevin Bothwick (01577) 840845,  
fossoway.cc@gmail.com  
**Portmoak:** Chair: Malcolm Strang Steel (01592) 840459,  
PortmoakCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk

## Portmoak Community Councillors

Robin G Cairncross	01592 840672
Bruce Calderwood	01592 840423
Susan Forde	01592 840128
Thomas Smith	01592 841160
Malcolm Strang Steel	01592 840459
Richard Williamson	01592 840538

[www.portmoak.org](http://www.portmoak.org)

## Perth and Kinross Councillors Kinross-shire Ward

**Councillor Mike Barnacle** (Independent)  
Tel/Fax (home): 01577 840516.  
Email: michaelabarnacle@gmail.com

Moorend, Waulkmill Road, Crook of Devon, Kinross, KY13 0UZ

**Councillor Dave Cuthbert** (Independent)  
Tel (home): 01577 861681. Email: dcuthbert@pkc.gov.uk  
8 Highfield Circle, Kinross, KY13 8RZ

**Councillor Joe Giacomazzi** (Scottish National Party)  
Tel (home): 01577 864025.  
Email: jgiacomazzi@pkc.gov.uk

38A New Road, Milnathort, Kinross, KY13 9XT

**Councillor Willie Robertson** (Scottish Liberal Democrats)  
Tel (home): 01577 865178. Email: wbrobertson@pkc.gov.uk  
85 South Street, Milnathort, Kinross, KY13 9XA

**Perth & Kinross Council** [www.pkc.gov.uk](http://www.pkc.gov.uk)  
**Customer Service Centre** Tel: 01738 475000  
(Mon to Fri, 8am-6pm)  
**Out of Hours Emergencies** Tel: 01738 625411  
(Roads, flooding, environmental health and dangerous buildings)  
**Clarence** (for non-emergency road and lighting defects) Tel: 0800 232323  
**Registrar** Tel: 01577 867133  
The Registrar is normally in Kinross only on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Loch Leven Community Campus

## Regular Library Sessions for Young Children

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

### Story Telling

every Monday morning 10.15 – 10.45 am  
and every Thursday afternoon 2.15 – 2.45 pm

### Bookbug Rhymetimes

every Saturday 10.30 – 11 am  
and every Wednesday 2.00 – 2.30 pm

**Bookbug Library Challenge:** For children aged 0 to 4: On each visit to the library, children are given a sticker. After collecting four stickers, they are awarded a certificate.

## Kinross Community Councillors

Margaret Blyth	6 Muir Grove	
David Colliar (Chair)	10 Rannoch Place	864037
Barry M Davies	60 Lathro Park	865004
Bill Freeman	64 Muirs	865045
Ian Jack (Treasurer)	Burnbrae Grange	863980
Dot Mackay	17 Ochil View	864635
Margaret Scott (Secy)	21 Ross Street	862945
Gareth Thomas	50 Muirs	863714
Campbell Watson	7 Gallowhill Gardens	861544
David West	9 Leven Place	07824 313974
Malcolm Wood	The Woodlands, Hatchbank	850394

## Member of the Scottish Parliament for Perthshire South & Kinross-shire Roseanna Cunningham MSP

Roseanna's constituency office at York Place in Perth is closed. We have moved to a new constituency office in order to provide a better service to constituents.

Until the new offices are up and running, constituency staff will be working from Holyrood. We will be available on 0131 348 5727, five days a week. You can write to us at:

Roseanna Cunningham MSP

M3.15, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

You can email Roseanna at:

Roseanna.Cunningham.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

We apologise in advance for any inconvenience this may cause. Roseanna's surgeries will not be affected by this move. (See p. 91 for details of upcoming surgeries.)

## Members of the Scottish Parliament for Mid Scotland and Fife Region

All MSPs can be contacted at the following address:

The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

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

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

**Jayne Baxter MSP** (Labour) Tel: 0131 348 6753

Email: jaynebaxter.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

**Annabelle Ewing MSP** (SNP) Tel: 0131 348 5066

Email: Annabelle.Ewing.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

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

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

**Willie Rennie MSP** (Lib Dem) Tel: 0131 348 5803

Email: Willie.Rennie.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

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

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

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

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

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

[www.gordonbanksmp.co.uk](http://www.gordonbanksmp.co.uk)

Email: banksgr@parliament.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.

## Loch Leven Community Library

Loch Leven Community Campus, Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8FQ

Telephone: 01577 867205

Email: lochlevenlibrary@pkc.gov.uk

### Opening Times

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

# Kinross-shire *Day Centre*

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

## Weekly Programme

<b>Monday</b>	Exercise Class	11am	Bingo	1.30pm
	"Stride for Life" Walking Group			2pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	Relaxation Class	1.15pm	Games	1.45pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	Morning Service	10.45am	Quiz Afternoon	1.30pm
	Dominoes & Games	1.30pm	Scrabble	1.30pm
<b>Thursday</b>	Film Afternoon	1.30pm	Dominoes	1.30pm
	Art Class	1.30pm	Scrabble	1.30pm
<b>Friday</b>	Bingo	1.30pm	Dominoes	1.30pm



## Additional Events for December

Christmas lunch and concert	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>11th</b>	12 noon
Christmas pantomime - Cinderella	<b>Friday</b>	<b>27th</b>	1.30pm

**Please note the Day Centre will be closed on Tuesday 24, Wednesday 25 and Thursday 26 December. Also Tuesday 31 December, and Wednesday 1st and Thursday 2nd January 2014.**

May we take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers, groups and individuals who have given their support to the Day Centre. We can't thank everyone individually as there are too many to mention but a great **BIG THANK YOU** to you all, and a Very Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year.



**Coffee Bar open to the public 8.30 am - 4 pm, Older Adults Lunches Daily.**

Our activities are open to everyone - please feel free to come in and have a great afternoon.

**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

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



**Sundays: The nearest open pharmacy is Asda, Dunfermline**

## Mobile Library

*Mobile 2, Week 1, every second Wednesday:*

Visiting Powmill, Rumbling Bridge, Crook of Devon, Fossoway, Cleish and Milnathort. Next visit: **11 December (no service on 25 December).**

*Mobile 2, Week 2, every second Tuesday:*

Visiting Mawcarse, Glenlomond, Kinnesswood, Scotlandwell, Levenmouth Farm, Hatchbank and Carnbo. Next visit: **3 December (no service on 31 December).**

*Mobile 1, Week 2, every second Wednesday:*

Visiting Glenfarg and Duncricvie. Next visit: **4 December (no service on 1 January).**

For times of stops, see PKC website: [www.pkc.gov.uk](http://www.pkc.gov.uk)

Any queries, telephone AK Bell Library 01738 444949.

## Support Websites

Samaritans	<a href="http://www.samaritans.org.uk">www.samaritans.org.uk</a>
Breathing Space	<a href="http://www.breathingspacescotland.co.uk">www.breathingspacescotland.co.uk</a>
Childline	<a href="http://www.childline.org.uk">www.childline.org.uk</a>
Perth Assoc for Mental Health	<a href="http://www.pamh.co.uk">www.pamh.co.uk</a>

## Perth & Kinross School Term Dates 2013-14

Term	Start	End
Winter	Mon 28 Oct 2013	Fri 20 Dec 2013
Spring	Mon 6 Jan 2014	Fri 4 Apr 2014
Summer	Wed 23 Apr 2014	Thu 26 Jun 2014

*In Service Days and Occasional Holidays:*  
2014: Wed 19 Feb, Thu 20 Feb, Fri 21 Feb, Tue 22 Apr.  
May Day Holiday: Mon 5 May 2014 (tbc).

## Classified Adverts

The Newsletter publishes items for sale listed on the kinross.cc website. If interested in purchasing an item, we suggest **checking the website for current availability** (www.kinross.cc then 'Local Adverts' then 'Classified Adverts'). If interested in selling an item, please list it on www.kinross.cc and it will automatically be published in the next available Newsletter, subject to space.

### Items for Sale

#### Dining table, 4 upholstered chairs and small sideboard £150.00

Oval teak dining table 90cm x 120cm. Has butterfly leaf mechanism to extend to 120cm to comfortably seat 6. Small teak sideboard has three drawers and cupboards W 95cm H 75cm D25cm. All items in excellent condition.

*Seller details: Val Oswald 01577 864020  
valerie\_oswald@hotmail.com*

#### Pushchair £45.00

Black and silver pushchair pram from Next with matching car seat. Hardly used as it was bought as a present.

#### Mothercare cot £30.00

Full size white wooden cot, immaculate condition, hardly used.

*For both items above: Nicola Matthew 07869 120989  
matthewdanceacademy@btinternet.com*

#### Corner Computer Workstation £50.00

Micke Comer Workstation (Ikea) in perfect condition – one year old.

#### Next Dining room table & 2 chairs £75.00

Perfect condition. Next oak effect square to rectangle dining table (see Stanton table on Next website, £199 new). Matching chairs x2.

*For both items above: Sheena MacPhee 01592 840040  
sheenamacphee3@gmail.com*

#### Duvet £25.00

Superking size. 13.5 tog (very warm). As new.

*Seller details: Edna Burnett 01577 862977*

#### Cast Iron Fire Surround £175.00

Black cast iron with vintage blue and green tiles.

#### Decorative metal headboard £20.00

Standard double bed size, dark copper in colour. Good condition. Vintage style.

#### Coffee table £40.00

Beech wood with two black marble inserts. Very good condition.

*For above three items: Allan Dickson 01383 831241  
allankelty@tiscali.co.uk*

#### Vono Foldaway Bridge Table £25.00

Green baize Vono bridge table.

#### Electric Grill £25.00

Raclette Electric Grill.

*For both items above: Margaret Borland 01577 865260*

#### Play Rug £5.00

Play mat/rug in great condition and great for imaginative play. Only ever used in a non-smoking home with no pets.

*Seller details: Debbie Gachagan 07973 533468  
stackyard4@aol.com*

#### 7 Piece Peavey International Drum Kit £120.00

Red 7 piece drumkit, seldom used after initial xmas delight. Bass drum, floor tom, 2 high toms, snare drum, cymbals, crash cymbal, stool plus all stands, foot pedals etc. Happy to store till xmas if necessary.

*Seller details: Fiona Watt 01577 840431  
fiona.watt5@btinternet.com*

## Situations Vacant

No new vacancies are being advertised at the time of going to press



## Better Place to Live Fair

Kinross-shire Community Learning and Development Group

Loch Leven Community Campus

**Saturday 8 March 2014**

After the successes of the previous Better Place to Live Fair Events the KCLDG invites you to take part in the event for 2014.

The purpose of the fair is to provide an opportunity for the community to see what Kinross-shire has to offer.

This is a fabulous opportunity to showcase what your group/club/organisation can offer/share.

Why not take this chance to interest people by offering hands-on taster sessions, demonstrations, or to try out an activity.

**BOOK NOW**

Can you afford not to be there?

Booking forms are available from the following links:

[www.pkc.gov.uk/article/3739/Community-Capacity-Building-in-Kinross-shire](http://www.pkc.gov.uk/article/3739/Community-Capacity-Building-in-Kinross-shire)  
or [www.kinross.cc/cld\\_group/events.htm](http://www.kinross.cc/cld_group/events.htm)

Alternatively please contact:

**Tracey Ramsay** - Senior Capacity Building Worker  
Loch Leven Community Campus, Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8FQ  
Email: [TRamsay@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:TRamsay@pkc.gov.uk), Tel: 01577 867124 or  
Email: [KinrossComLearn@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:KinrossComLearn@pkc.gov.uk), Community Learning Base, Tel: 01577 867177



## Welcome to the Kinross-shire Volunteer Information Point

Located in the Loch Leven Community Campus Library  
Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8FQ

Here you can find information about **Volunteering Opportunities** available in Kinross-shire.

Take your time and see what is available. You will also find leaflets in the folders explaining where you can go for further help such as Voluntary Action Perthshire [www.vaperthshire.org](http://www.vaperthshire.org)

If you would like to promote your **Organisations Volunteering Opportunities** please hand your information into reception for attention of: Tracey Ramsay (Community Capacity Building Worker)

Blank profiles are also available for your use if required. These are in the organisation folder at the VIP alternatively follow this link:  
[www.pkc.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=22228&p=0](http://www.pkc.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=22228&p=0)

The Volunteer Information Point has been organised and supported by Partners of the Kinross-shire Community Learning and Development Group.



For further information please contact Tracey Ramsay 01577 867177 or email [TRamsay@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:TRamsay@pkc.gov.uk)



# Christmas & New Year Holiday Arrangements



## Recommended Last Posting Dates

### Airmail

Asia, Far East, New Zealand	Wed 4 Dec
Australia	Thu 5 Dec
Africa, Caribbean, Central and South America, Middle East	Fri 6 Dec
Cyprus, Eastern Europe	Mon 9 Dec
Canada, France, Greece, Poland	Tue 10 Dec
USA	Fri 13 Dec
Western Europe (excl France, Greece, Poland)	Sat 14 Dec

### Within UK

Second class	Wed 18 Dec
First class	Fri 20 Dec
Special delivery	Mon 23 Dec

## Kinross Post Office (Co-operative)

Tue 24 Dec	close at 12.30pm
Wed 25 & Thu 26 Dec	CLOSED
Tue 31 Dec	close at 4pm
Wed 1 & Thu 2 Jan	CLOSED

## Milnathort Post Office

Tue 24 Dec	close at 4pm
Wed 25 & Thu 26 Dec	CLOSED
Wed 1 & Thu 2 Jan	CLOSED

## Live Active Loch Leven

Mon 16 & Tue 17 Dec	CLOSED
Wed 18 & Thu 19 Dec	pool closed, other facilities open as normal
Fri 20 – Mon 23 Dec	open as normal
Tue 24 – Thu 26 Dec	CLOSED
Fri 27 Dec	12pm – 6pm
Sat 28 & Sun 29 Dec	10am – 4pm
Mon 30 Dec	12pm – 6pm
Tue 31 Dec	10am – 4pm
Wed 1 & Thu 2 Jan	CLOSED
Fri 3 Jan	normal hours resume

## Live Active facilities at Community Campus

Tue 24 Dec	7am – 6pm
Wed 25 & Thu 26 Dec	CLOSED
Fri 27 Dec	10am – 6pm
Sat 28 – Mon 30 Dec	9.45am – 4pm
Tue 31 Dec – Thu 2 Jan	CLOSED
Fri 3 Jan	normal hours resume

## Loch Leven Community Library

Tue 24 Dec	10am – 3.30pm
Wed 25 Dec & Thu 26 Dec	CLOSED
Fri 27 Dec	10am – 6pm
Sat 28 Dec	10am – 3pm
Sun 29 Dec	CLOSED
Mon 30 Dec	10am – 4pm
Tue 31 Dec – Thu 2 Jan	CLOSED

## Loch Leven Health Centre

See page 8

## Rowlands Pharmacy, Kinross

Mon 23 & Tue 24 Dec	open 9am – 6pm
Wed 25 Dec	CLOSED
Thu 26 Dec	open 2pm – 4pm
Fri 27 Dec	open 9am – 6pm
Sat 28 Dec	open 9am – 5pm
Mon 30 Dec & Tue 31 Dec	open 9am – 6pm
Wed 1 Jan	open 2pm – 3pm
Thu 2 Jan	CLOSED
Fri 3 Jan	normal hours resume

Rowlands would like to thank all its customers for their patience during the recent refurbishment. The new improved pharmacy is up and running and open for business.

## Davidson's Chemist, Milnathort

Mon 23 & Tue 24 Dec	open 9am – 6pm
Wed 25 Dec	open 2pm – 3pm
Thu 26 Dec	CLOSED
Fri 27 Dec	open 9am – 6pm
Sat 28 Dec	open 9am – 12.30pm
Mon 30 & Tue 31 Dec	open 9am – 6pm
Wed 1 Jan	CLOSED
Thu 2 Jan	open 2pm – 4pm
Fri 3 Jan	normal hours resume

## Perth & Kinross Council

[www.pkc.gov.uk](http://www.pkc.gov.uk)

PKC holiday arrangements could not be confirmed at time of going to press, but in previous years PKC has closed at 3.30pm on Christmas Eve and reopened on 3 January.

## Registrar, Kinross

Always by appointment. Telephone (01577) 867133.  
The Registrar will be closed in line with PKC, except for:  
Mon 30 Dec open 10am – 2pm

## Waste and Recycling Services

### Domestic collections

There will be no domestic collections on 25 and 26 December 2013 or 1 and 2 January 2014.

Unless householders are notified directly by letter the following will apply:

Collections due on	Will take place on
Wed 25 Dec	Sat 28 Dec
Thu 26 Dec	Sun 29 Dec
Wed 1 Jan	Sat 4 Jan
Thu 2 Jan	Sun 5 Jan

There are no scheduled garden and food waste collections from 23 December to 5 January. Collection dates will return to normal from 6 January.

### Recycling Centres

All Recycling Centres will be closed on 25 and 26 December and 1 and 2 January. Opening hours otherwise remain the same over festive period.

### Special Uplifts

The last special uplift collection will be Friday 20 December. Normal collections resume on Monday 6 January.



## November

Sat	30	St Andrews Day Coffee Morning, Crook of Devon Village Hall	91
Sat	30	Boys & Girls Brigade St Andrews Day Coffee Morning, Church Centre, Kinross	88
Sat	30	ADVENTure Fun Day	88

## December

Sun	1	Little Seedlings Club at Dobbies	49
Sun	1	Just Beatles at Backstage at the Green (KCT fundraiser)	88
Mon	2	Kinross Hub Café for Carers	91
Mon	2	<b>Light Up Kinross: CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON</b>	88
Mon	2	Cleish & Blairadam CC meets	36
Mon	2	Milnathort Primary School Parent Council meets	60
Tue	3	Dragons' Den Round Table event	44
Tue	3	Fossoway and District CC meets	36
Wed	4	Business Breakfast	11
Wed	4	Silent Art Auction for Mary's Meals	21
Wed	4	Kinross CC meets	24
Thu	5	Fifty Plus Club meets	47
Sat	7	Treasurer Trove Pop-Up Fair of Crafts	14
Sat	7	Milnathort Primary School Christmas Fair	60, 91
Sat	7	Christmas Story and Craft at the library	8
Sat	7	Christmas Crafts at RSPB Loch Leven	77
Sun	8	Cantamus in concert	91
Sun	8	Portmoak Film Society: Midnight in Paris	54
Mon	9	Public Drop in Session on changes to Library Service	18
Mon	9	Santa's sleigh in Portmoak	44
Mon	9	Historical Society meeting: <i>"In all her tender hues"</i>	95
Tue	10	Citizens Advice Bureau visits Kinross (also on 14 & 28 January)	99
Tue-Thu	10-12	<b>High Street Improvements Consultation</b>	4
Tue	10	Portmoak CC meets	32
Wed	11	Christmas wreath workshop (also on 8th)	44
Wed	11	Santa's sleigh in Milnathort	44
Thu	12	Kinross Garden Group meets	44
Thu	12	Kinross Floral Art Club: It's Christmas	88
Thu	12	Milnathort CC meets	28
Thu	12	Santa's sleigh in Kinross south	44
Sat	14	Clydebuilt Puppet Theatre: Red Riding Hood's Magic Purse	8
Sat	14	Antique, Vintage, Retro and Collectors Fair	47
Sun	15	Kinross-shire Churches Together Community Christmas celebration	86
Sun	15	Santa's sleigh in Kinross north	44
Mon-Fri	16-20	Christmas Quiet Times at Kinross Parish Church	92
Tue	17	Blythswood Care collection	96
Tue	17	Santa's sleigh in Glenfarg	44
Sun	22	Sarah's Wish Foundation Shopping and Family Fun Day	92
Sat	28	Winter Bird Walk with SNH	77

## January

Sat	4	Try Curling session	73
Sun	5	Little Seedlings Club at Dobbies	49
Thu	9	The Thursday Group: beetle drive and quiz	91
Sun	12	Portmoak Film Society: Django Unchained	54
Mon	13	KVG-ROS Annual Burns Supper	92
Tue	14	Kinross High School Parent Council meets	58
Fri	17	<b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	1
Sat	18	Beginners' Curling Course commences	73
Mon	20	Historical Society meeting: <i>The Life of Robert Burns</i>	95
Mon	20	Kinross Road Runners AGM	71, 95
Tue	21	Blythswood Care collection	96
Thu	23	Kinross Floral Art Club Members' Own Night	88
Sat	25	Portmoak Annual Burns Supper	39
Mon	27	Milnathort Primary School Parent Council meets	60
Fri	31	Kinross Badminton Club 50th Anniversary	64, 95