



# Kinross Newsletter



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## DEADLINE for the April Issue

**5.00 pm, Friday  
14 March 2014**

for publication on  
**Saturday 29 March 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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## CONTENTS

From the Editor .....	2
Letters .....	2
News and Articles .....	4
Police Box.....	15
Community Councils.....	16
Club & Community Group News .....	24
Sport .....	39
News from the Rurals.....	47
Out & About.....	48
Congratulations & Thanks.....	51
Church Information.....	52
Playgroups and Toddlers .....	55
Notices.....	56
Day Centre & Chemists.....	62
Classified Adverts, Situations Vacant.....	63
Diary.....	64

**Front Cover:** Dave Cuthbert, kinross.cc photo library

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### Display Adverts

For information on placing a Display Advert, please see our website [www.kinrossnewsletter.org](http://www.kinrossnewsletter.org) or contact our Advertising Manager.

### Typed Adverts

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

Up to NINE lines (including blank lines) £7.50 per insertion

TEN to FIFTEEN lines (including blank lines) £13.00 per insertion

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

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

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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

The Newsletter will have a stand at the Better Place to Live Fair on Saturday 8 March. Please come and visit us! We'd like to hear what you like or don't like about the Newsletter, and any suggestions you may have.

For people new to Kinross-shire, the Better Place to Live Fair is a "must attend" event. Dozens of local societies, clubs and groups will be there, along with commercial organisations and businesses. It is a great opportunity to find out what is going on in our lovely county.

Any mistakes in this Newsletter are probably entirely due to my trying to proof read while watching Olympic curling at the same time. Congratulations to our women's and men's teams for winning bronze and silver medals respectively! Here in Kinross we have a thriving curling community, which you can read a lot about in this issue. As regular readers will know, the future of the local curling rink is under threat because it requires some major investment to the plant which must happen this year in order to comply with EU regulations. A crucial funding decision by SportScotland, on which the success of the refurbishment project hangs, is expected any day now. Fingers crossed!

### 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

## British Summer Time

begins on

**Sunday 30 March 2014**

Clocks go forward one hour at 1am

**Deadline for all Submissions**  
**5.00 pm, FRIDAY 14 March**  
**for publication on Saturday 29 March**

## Is Perth and Kinross Council's Number Up?

I recently attended a demonstration at the Kinross Campus where children and parents expressed their concern, quite rightly, at the proposed closing of Library facilities at key times, including Saturdays.

According to Perth and Kinross Council (PKC), the rationale for these closures was that these cuts are necessary to save money.

On reflection I remembered attending an event at the campus some time ago and noticing a big black limousine with a very distinguished number-plate, ES 1.

On asking who owned the car, I was told it belonged to Perth and Kinross Council and was the official, chauffeur-driven limo of the Provost, currently an SNP Councillor, who is part of the current SNP-led administration which controls the Council.

Like many others, I own a personalised number-plate. These can be purchased readily from DVLA for a few hundred pounds.

Being curious, I investigated the value of the PKC number plate from a specialist agency and was astonished to learn it has a minimum guaranteed value of one hundred and fifty thousand pounds. Yes .... you read correctly .... £150,000.00.

In fact I was advised a considerably higher figure might be achieved at auction.

I cannot see how PKC feel the need to hold on to such a conspicuous and unnecessary token as this number-plate, plus the added expense of limo and chauffeur.

It is even more insulting to the community that, at the same time, PKC are claiming they have no money to pay for basic services such as library provision, including that for children.

I would like to hear what Councillor Giacomazzi thinks of this situation, being the only SNP Councillor representing the Kinross area and therefore presumably with some influence with his SNP colleagues on Perth and Kinross Council.

Does he agree that the number-plate should be sold, library services re-instated and that the expense and exaggerated pretentiousness of the chauffeur limo be scrapped?

Ken Miles

Turfhills House, Kinross

## The purpose of councillors

In his letter (February 2014 Newsletter), George Hayton makes the astounding statement that when councillors sit on the Development Management Committee "they are only there to decide whether a particular application is in line with planning policy and rules and not whether it is a good thing or unwelcome in the community"!

If this is indeed the case, then why are councillors elected by communities to represent the interests of that community – not to mention their being paid for this privilege? Planning officers or even a computer could be utilised to carry out the highly prescriptive function he describes!

GM Lindsay

Whinfield Gardens, Kinross

### Local Development Plan - Powmill

In his article in the February issue of the Newsletter, commenting on the Scottish Government Reporters' changes to the Local Development Plan resulting in a reduced availability of employment land, Councillor Cuthbert identifies a "democratic deficit" in the planning process. He expresses particular disappointment that the "master plan" for the "holistic" development of Powmill is now in question. (It is not clear whether this is a reference to the original proposal by Thomson Homes for some 300 houses, or their modified proposal for 90 homes).

Two options for housing development in the landward area of Kinross-shire were presented in the Main Issues Report prepared by Perth & Kinross Council: (1) to distribute housing between three or four settlements; (2) to concentrate on one larger site. The Main Issues Report stated that Option 1 was preferred as "it allows for gradual incremental growth across settlements giving a wider choice of sites and range of locations". The responses by the public to the Main Issues Report showed a large majority in support of Option 1. However, Option 2 was adopted in the first draft of the Local Development Plan, although no reason was stated for this radical change of preference. It has been suggested that the need to avoid development in the Loch Leven catchment area, and the possible presence of old mine workings around Blairingone, informed the decision. Surely those factors would have been apparent to the authors of the Main Issues Report.

The Scottish Government Reporters have, with reasoned argument for their recommendations, effectively reduced the housing allocation to 30 units for Powmill. It was said (in the minutes of Fossoway & District CC's December meeting) that the director of Thomson Homes was lobbying Perth & Kinross Council on the Reporters' decision. First there is the unexplained and apparently arbitrary decision by Perth & Kinross Council contrary to local opinion, then a suggestion of lobbying by a building developer. There may well be a democratic deficit in the planning process. In this instance the deficit has been redressed, ironically by the decision of the unelected Reporters.

John Brady  
19 Mill Gardens, Powmill

### Quotation in Cllr Barnade's piece on the Scottish Independence Referendum

Alistair Carmichael is in error in saying that Scotland "benefits as part of the UK in influence in Europe".

Scotland now has five MEPs – with the largest constituencies in Europe – and it is Westminster, whose priority is London, that speaks for Scotland. An independent Scotland would have 13 or 14 MEPs and would speak for herself on all matters, particularly those to do with fishing, farming, energy and coastal waters.

This would be of much greater benefit to Scotland.

Susan FG Forde  
Causewayend, Main Street,  
Scotlandwell

### Community Website

For contact details of community groups, hall bookings, job vacancies, leisure and visitor information and much more, visit [www.kinross.cc](http://www.kinross.cc)

### A democratic deficit in the planning system

Two wind farm applications are being considered by Fife Council which, as they are just over the Kinross border, will also have an impact on the Kinross landscape.

They are just west of the M90 in Blairadam Forest and Outh Muir. The bigger is the Blairadam proposal for eleven, 115m (380 feet) turbines. The smaller Outh Muir windfarm is for five 110m (360 feet) turbines. Turbines of such a size (about the height of the Forth Road Bridge towers) will be highly visible from almost all of Kinross-shire, as well as a lot of Perthshire. However, despite this obvious impact, residents of Perth & Kinross were not notified of the applications. Nevertheless it is important that comments are made to Fife Council as the applications will have a major landscape impact.

It has been reported in the press (Courier, 6 February) that: "The site at Blairadam straddles the boundary between Fife and Kinross yet the developer has only planned turbines on the Fife side. We believe this is because developers see Fife as a soft touch since turbines have been approved there in the past that would have been refused by other Councils" (Andrew Turner, SPOT).

The plans and Environmental Impact Assessments are available online and comments can easily be made online (<http://planning.fife.gov.uk/online/>). The application references are:

14/00008/EIA Blairadam

13/01898/EIA Outh Muir

Unfortunately, in the case of the Blairadam application, two chapters in the Environmental Statement, those on Ornithology and Ecology, are not on the online website as: "These are sensitive chapters as they relate to protected species etc., and are not on the public website deliberately". It is very difficult to make meaningful comments on these important chapters when they are not allowed in the public domain; indeed, their absence confirms their importance. Another democratic deficit?

Neither application complies with the Kinross Local Area Plan and it is important that views are made known to Fife Council.

Bob Pass  
Dalqueich Farmhouse, Kinross

### The Kinross Community Council Newsletter

is available from:

<b>The Co-operative</b>	High Street, Kinross
<b>Baillies</b>	High Street, Kinross
<b>Sainsbury's</b>	Station Road, Kinross
<b>Costcutter</b>	Green Road, Kinross
<b>Giacopazzi's</b>	New Road, Milnathort
<b>Milnathort Post Office</b>	New Road, Milnathort
<b>Stewart &amp; Smart</b>	Stirling Road, Milnathort
<b>Buchan's Garage</b>	Main Street, Kinnesswood
<b>Shop</b>	Main Street, Kinnesswood
<b>Fossoway Store</b>	Crook of Devon
<b>Glenfarg Shop</b>	Ladeside, Glenfarg
<b>Mona's Coffee Shop</b>	Muckhart
<b>Powmill Milk Bar</b>	Powmill
<b>Moto Shop</b>	Turfhills



# News & Articles

## Comments sought on road hump

Perth & Kinross Council is seeking public comment on proposals to introduce a road hump on **Swansacre** at the approach to the junction with Station Road in Kinross. The road hump, intended to slow vehicle speeds, would cover the full width of the road (700cm) and a length of 500cm, with a maximum height of 10cm.

Anyone wishing to express a view or comment on the proposals should submit these in writing to: Traffic & Network, The Environment Service, Perth & Kinross Council, The Atrium, 137 Glover Street, Perth PH2 0HY. The closing date for any comments is **Monday 10 March**.

## Blairingone residents invited to consider future community needs

*by Perth & Kinross Council*

The potential growth of Blairingone as a village and additional facilities or services required as a result will be the topic under consideration shortly at a community engagement event organised by Perth & Kinross Council. In the Proposed Local Development Plan for the area, expansion of the village is proposed in the medium to longer-term.

On **Tuesday 25 March** between 6.30pm and 9pm, in the Moubray Hall, residents will have the chance to consider what additional infrastructure or services may be needed should the proposal for development ultimately be taken forward in the future.

All members of the community in Blairingone are warmly welcomed to the session.

For further information, please call 01738 475396 or email [dcassidy@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:dcassidy@pkc.gov.uk)

## Kinross-shire goes bananas

Most supermarkets are caught up in competition over how cheaply they can sell their bananas, including Fairtrade bananas.

While the farmer or worker who grow Fairtrade bananas has a vital safety net, it is clear that Fairtrade alone is not enough to end the price wars. We need to go further to ensure the price that we pay for our bananas is sustainable for farmers and workers.

On **Saturday 8 March** the Kinross-shire Fairtrade Steering Group are holding a **coffee morning** in the Church Centre Kinross between 10am and 12 noon.

There will be a short presentation about Fairtrade just after 10.30am. We will be serving coffee, home-baking and banana-related treats for the children. There will be a raffle as well as children's activities.

Do come along and take part in **Kinross-shire going bananas**.

*Kinross-shire Fairtrade  
Steering Group*

### Kinross-shire Visitor Information Points

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

## Councillor Giacomazzi

### Kinross Community Campus Library

I write with a degree of trepidation knowing that there will be a sizeable number of Kinross-shire residents who are displeased with the Council's action in reducing the operating hours of the library to 41 hours per week.

Following a meeting between representatives of the library users group and the Ward Councillors, I took the concerns expressed to the Director of Education and Children's Services, John Fyffe, and the Council Leader. As it was clear that there was no appetite for altering the budget at that late stage to find money to maintain opening hours, I asked Mr Fyffe to look at a 'service based' solution. The Convener and Vice convener of the Lifelong Learning Committee met with the library users group and Ward 8 Councillors on 13 February, where we learned that Education and Children's Services would be prepared to assist the users group in opening the library on a voluntary basis if there was support for this idea. This is not what the users group was asking for.

In looking into the background to the proposal to alter the delivery of library services, I discovered a couple of interesting things. Surprisingly, the proposal to achieve a saving of £281,000 was agreed by the previous SNP/Lib Dem Administration at the full Council meeting of February 2011. Secondly, the changes to future library hours were agreed unanimously by Councillors of all political persuasions at the Lifelong Learning Committee on 6 November 2013. One opposition Councillor 'commended' the proposals. Clearly, the degree of political consensus over the years on this issue led to my recent pleas falling on deaf ears at Perth.

What next? The new hours will be introduced in April and I cannot anticipate whether volunteers will emerge to keep the facility open longer. Personally, I intend to revisit the question of opening hours when negotiations begin for the 2015/16 budget, with a view to having Monday opening reinstated. Perhaps by then there will be a body of support from other campus users.

*Note from the Editor: See p.43 for a report by the Keep Kinross Library Open Campaign.*

### Perth & Kinross Council Budget 2014/15

At the full Council meeting of 13 February, the administration's revenue budget of £324,611,000 was passed. In so doing, the administration was happy to incorporate some requests from the Conservative and Labour groups. The provisional budget for 2015/16 is for £312,371,000; achieving this much reduced figure will be 'challenging', as they say, and not without pain. The grant which Councils receive from the Scottish Government does not take inflation into account; effectively a reduction.

One particular source of satisfaction for me was that an increased sum has been permanently reinstated in the budget for grass cutting of verges in rural wards. Given the level of dissatisfaction which I encountered at Community Council meetings this summer, I had been lobbying hard for this reinstatement at the Budget Review Group on which I serve. This will mean that all rural verges will receive a second cut from summer 2014.

*Councillor J Giacomazzi*

## Councillor Barnacle

### Budget farce continues

Last year I raised the significant concerns I had for the way the minority separatist SNP Administration (surprisingly aided and abetted by the so-called opposition Tory Group) are running PKC. (See p.17, March 2013 Kinross Newsletter.)

The Budget debate [13 February] followed a familiar depressing pattern. The Group of Independent Councillors decided to continue their approach of not presenting a budget, given the political arithmetic in the chamber and the fact that our repeated request for earlier dialogue with the other groups had again met with such a disappointing and mixed reaction. Subsequent events were to again prove the wisdom of that decision.

Given that Scottish Local Authorities under the Nationalist Government have little choice but to accept the continuing council tax freeze (by 2015/16 it will have been static for nine years, during which time the rate of inflation has consistently been above government targets, leading to a real terms reduction in funding) and act as mere agents of government policy, it remained imperative that PKC's decision on use of its limited resources, in a continuing difficult climate, be given careful decision on use of its scrutiny. All four political groups put forward their budget proposals for the years 2014/16, meaning examination of eight papers in under one hour (it would have been ten papers if we had presented our proposals and up to last year I have never known such complexity in previous budget examinations). In our view this is not a good way to set up £325,000,000 budget.

Our Independent Group had spent considerable time on the budget process and we had a balanced budget amendment in place for possible use, having circulated our thoughts in advance to all the other Councillors on areas where we believed more money needed to be spent. These mainly concerned the Environment Service, featuring new footpaths, extra road gulley cleaning, more bus shelters, increases in grounds and roads maintenance, roadside verge cutting at junctions, additional brown bin collections and an increase in the community waste fund. As I had said in an earlier debate on the budget situation, we would support whichever group incorporated most of our suggestions in their proposals. It was interesting the number of areas where additional expenditure or rejected savings found common ground amongst all four political groups.

There followed a highly political debate on the various proposals which culminated yet again in the Tory Group's amendment, that was to be set against the SNP motion, being withdrawn; hence for the second year running no vote took place and the Administration's budget, with minor changes, was effectively passed. In reality, I again did not have the opportunity to vote on it and asked, amongst other opposition members, to be disassociated from this process. In fact, our Group had decided, in the short time allowed to digest the various papers, that 'on balance' we could support the Administration's proposals.

I maintain, along with Councillor Robertson, that the whole procedure is a 'farce' and there must surely be a way to allow more time to examine the relative merits of each budget proposal in order to reach a better consensus and proposal to take forward on behalf of the people of Perth and Kinross we seek to represent; especially since all groups

accept the terms of the Local Government settlement and council tax remains frozen. This year's debate again highlighted more than ever the iniquitous position of the largest so-called opposition Tory Group that do not engage with the rest of the opposition and openly attack them, whilst happy to take the paid convenorships of audit and scrutiny (I have resigned from this latter committee because it is so ineffective) traditionally reserved for the leading opposition. (The phrase taking money under false pretences again springs to mind.) In effect, the actions of the Tory Group mean that there is no effective way in which the SNP minority administration is held to account. It would be interesting to know if the Tory leader at Holyrood is aware that her party in giving such succour to the Nationalists in PKC in this referendum year? (I shall not bother writing to her since she remains the only party leader who did not respond to my request letter on the Referendum issue.)

Turning now finally to the Council's Capital Budget for 2020/21 presented on 13 February 2014, our Group's amendment last year to allocate an extra £2 million from uncommitted reserves was dismissed by the administration when they chose to accept a Tory amendment relating to the A9 improvements only (part of our amendment which had also included money for major mitigation measures needed on the A977 and core paths). I was dismayed when the preparation of an outline business case for the A977 measures was put on hold last November and our Group had proposed again an increase in the Capital Budget by £3 million by using recurring loan charges of £180,000 per annum from revenue; it is disappointing that this suggestion was not taken up by an Group's proposals.

Given that we are in an unprecedented era of low minimal interest rates, not expected to increase significantly before 2017, it is surely wise in the medium term to identify options (from the Capital Fund Reserves or Revenue) for creating an increase in the loan charges budget (I suggested an extra £200,000 per annum) from 2015/16 to restart the Capital Programme. I sincerely hope that the administration will look at this in the coming year and that my fellow local members in Kinross-shire will support the request I made during the debate.

*Councillor Mike Barnacle  
Independent Member for Kinross-shire*

## Council "laissez-faire" over gypsy sites, says Councillor

Cllr Barnacle has written to members of the Council's Strategic Policy and Resources (SP&R) Committee on the subject of Gypsy/Traveller sites.

The SP&R Committee was due to discuss a report recommending the approval of a Perth and Kinross Gypsy/Traveller Strategy at its meeting on 12 February.

Cllr Barnacle, who does not sit on the SP&R Committee, wanted to warn the committee members of the dangers of what he regards as PKC's "laissez-faire" approach to gypsy/traveller planning applications.

He wrote: "It is my view .... that we are faced with a proliferation of sites capable of expansion and inadequate planning control. Local communities view all this activity with anger, concern and dismay. They want a level playing field and not positive discrimination on behalf of gypsy/travellers in the planning system, as currently clearly apparently operated by PKC."

## Kinross Ladies take the West Highland Way to keep curling in Kinross



On Friday 2 May, two Kinross-shire ladies will undertake the latest of their annual walking challenges: 96 miles along the West Highland Way within one week – all for the benefit of Kinross Curling Trust, the charity that has taken over the running of Kinross curling rink.

Pat Pilgrim and Anne Moore, both keen members of Kinross Ladies Curling Club, aim to raise thousands of pounds towards the major renovation work planned for Kinross curling rink this summer.

If every curler who regularly visits Kinross sponsors them just £5 (that's roughly 5p per mile), the adventurous duo would raise over £4000 towards the essential rink renovations.



*Pat Pilgrim and Anne Moore will walk 96 miles of the West Highland Way in one week to raise money for Kinross Curling Trust*

Kinross Curling Trust took over the running of Kinross curling rink from the Green Hotel in September 2013 in order to safeguard the immediate future of local curling and jobs. But now the Trust faces a race against time to raise the funds required to refurbish the rink so that it meets new EU regulations that come into effect at the end of 2014.

Kinross curling rink has served a large number of people of all ages from Perth & Kinross, Fife and beyond, for over 35 years. Local curlers regularly feature on the national curling circuit, with some even winning international championships, and foreign curlers travel from all over to visit the home of the world's oldest curling club (Kinross Curling Club, founded in 1668). In December 2013, former World Champion, Ewan MacDonald, was competing here in the Goldline Scottish Curling Tour, and the Japanese Women's national team was in Kinross in January to practise for the 2014 Winter Olympics.

A spokesperson for the Kinross Curling Trust said: "Without the fundraising and major renovations planned for this summer, Kinross curling rink may no longer be capable of proudly serving the community, so please support our gallant ladies and give what you can to keep Kinross Curling." Donations can be made in person at the curling rink, or online using Kinross Curling Trust's BT MyDonate page:

[mydonate.bt.com/charities/kinrosscurlingtrust](http://mydonate.bt.com/charities/kinrosscurlingtrust)

*For more news of Kinross Curling Trust and events at Kinross Curling, see pages 79 and 80.*

## CC grant decision bypasses committee

Local councillors have written to PKC's Head of Democratic Services to complain that they were kept in the dark over changes to the paying of CC grants.

PKC provides Community Councils with annual grants to cover administration costs etc. Letters were sent to CCs recently informing them that, rather than receiving a full grant every year, they would receive a 'top-up' to bring their end-of-financial-year balance up to the level of their annual entitlement.

The letter was not copied to councillors, with some local elected members first hearing about it via a Fossoway CC meeting.

On querying the lack of information, Cllr Cuthbert was told by Gillian Taylor, PKC's Head of Democratic Services, that the report on CC funding had been "approved" at a Modernising Governance Member Officer Group ('MOG') in September 2013. As the Independent Group have no members on that MOG, they had no way of knowing about this.

Another consequence of the proposal being approved by a MOG rather than a committee is that the paper is not available for public view on the Council website.

Cllr Cuthbert expressed surprise that the MOG could authorise such a change as he understood they "consider proposals in detail prior to consideration at full committee". (This quote is from the fourth scrutiny review into Member Officer Groups.)

Cllr Barnacle wrote to Ms Taylor to share Cllr Cuthbert's concerns at the apparent lack of democratic process, adding: "Whilst I can understand a reduction in funding for CCs when they have considerable funds sitting in a bank account, it is equally true that they are severely constrained in what they are allowed to spend money on and initiatives they can take; which is hardly in the spirit of the Government's Community Empowerment bill?"

## Gordon Banks MP unhappy at Police Scotland cuts

Gordon Banks, MP for Ochil and South Perthshire, is saddened by the recent announcement from Police Scotland that Crieff, Auchterarder and Kinross are amongst the 61 police stations across the country that will no longer have public counter provision from 3 March 2014.

Police Scotland had originally proposed these changes in October last year with a final decision postponed until a public consultation was held.

Gordon Banks said: "The news that constituents in these areas will lose their police counter is sad and very worrying. I fear that many other communities in Scotland will be victims to a gradual reduction in the services offered by Police Scotland. It is unacceptable that police stations in South Perthshire will effectively have signs above the door saying no access to members of the public. As I said before when Police Scotland first revealed their intentions last year, with massive pressure on the police budget, it is inevitable that the end result will be a service that is centrally controlled, with very little in the way of direct engagement with the communities they serve."

## Councillor Cuthbert

### PKC – a scrutiny free zone

Have you ever had a problem when attempting to work with Perth and Kinross Council? I know I have, in fact I stood at the Local Government elections in May 2012 partly because I was so fed up with getting nowhere with the complaints I had against the Council. I have spent the last 21 months trying to work out who is who and what is what within the system.

For a long time I have had my suspicions about the root cause of many of the problems I had before I got elected when trying to get information, meaningful responses or action out of the Council.

My main suspicion was that the Council's scrutiny system was broken. So when I got elected to the Council, I joined the Scrutiny Committee. I had assumed that scrutiny meant scrutinising the Council's activities and I would then be given the opportunity to help chase down some of the problems I had before getting elected in order to improve the service for the rest of the electorate.

Having sat on this committee for 21 months, I have been surprised by the lack of real scrutiny and the fact that we are given reports which have already been approved by other committees to look at. Why we only get one vague report on complaints a year and only review one area of council service a year.

This year the scrutiny committee review looked at the functioning of Member Officer Groups.

Have you even heard of a Member Officer Group?

I hadn't until I got elected.

This was deemed to be the single most important issue for the Scrutiny Committee to look at - not the impact of social welfare reform, the bedroom tax, the impact of the cuts on services caused by the financial constraints faced by the Council, not the operation of the planning system nor hundreds of other potential areas of concern to constituents. I have been observing this and pondering why this might be. Yesterday I got my answer, when the Independent group I lead was verbally attacked by the Convener of Scrutiny and the Convener of Audit. I was somewhat at a loss as to why they felt this appropriate, given that both conveners are members of the Conservative Group who are the leaders of the opposition at the Council and the Independent group are members of that same opposition. They did not attack the administration but chose to also attack the Liberal Democrat Group who are also fellow members of the opposition.

All very strange, I thought, until the Conservative Group withdrew their budget proposal before it could be set against the SNP budget for the second year running.

It is now clear to me why the Scrutiny function at Perth is so broken. The gamekeeper is the poacher. By which I mean that the Conservatives are actually part of the Administration.

I guess you will be asking: why should this concern you?

Well, in principle it means that the administration can do anything it wants with the certain knowledge that the Scrutiny Committee which is there to monitor irregularities, will do nothing about it, which in turn threatens democracy, as the checks and balances one would expect to find have been effectively removed.

I believe this goes against everything people expect and want of their local government and is in my view a very dangerous situation.

### Disempowered as a Councillor

I read with interest the letter from Mr George Hayton in last month's Newsletter. I think it raises some interesting questions. The one I am writing about here is the question of the role of Local Councillors in contentious local planning applications.

When a Councillor joins a Council, the very first thing they are made to do is sign the Councillor Code of Conduct. Should a Councillor refuse, then my understanding is that they cannot become a Councillor. Much of the code is very sensible and goes some way to preventing some of the missuses of power that took place in the past.

However, it is my view that this Code of Conduct can end up muffling local councillors leaving them unable to properly represent their constituents.

The code has a section entitled: "Taking decisions on quasi-judicial or regulatory applications". In terms of planning applications, this says: "Where you have a responsibility for making a formal decision, you must not only act fairly but also be seen as acting fairly. Furthermore, you must not prejudice, or demonstrate bias in respect of, or be seen to be prejudging or demonstrating bias in respect of, any such decision before the appropriate Council meeting."

This sounds perfectly reasonable, however it is actually very hard to apply in the real world.

I sit on the Development Management Committee, which in layman's terms is the Council's planning committee. For me to take part in the debate on a planning application, I have to be clear that there is no potential for me to be **perceived** of having a bias.

Advice on this is available from the Council's legal team, however they take a prudent view, which basically says that if there is any doubt one should declare an interest and exclude oneself from the discussion and vote.

This is very difficult as I also attend CC meetings where the planning applications are discussed, can be drawn into meetings with constituents and developers and often have to respond to emails, telephone calls and letters relating to the planning application.

The general advice is to say nothing.

Constituents can see this as sitting on the fence, or worse, being biased in favour of development. However, if I get it wrong, I could either be referred to the Standards Commission who have the power to suspend me, or worse, I could be sued personally by the developer for having a bias against their development. There is no protection from this; the Council does not need to defend me, and the presumption is that the failure to comply with the code of conduct is my personal responsibility.

The system is designed around planning officers having autonomy and as a Councillor I am not permitted to instruct or even request that an application should be refused.

The theory is that officers will act in a professional unbiased way and will apply legislation correctly.

I am guessing this is to ensure that Councillors do not interfere, thereby leaving the Council exposed to an appeal case which might not be winnable and could result in large legal fees.

Should I express a view, as I did on the Gypsy Traveller application for Crook Moss near Crook of Devon, then I am barred from taking part in the discussion and the vote on the planning application.

In this case I asked for a right to speak at the planning committee meeting, but was told that the Committee would

## Councillor Cuthbert cont...

not be accepting presentations and so withdrew my request.

At the meeting, this decision was overruled and representations were permitted. However, as I had withdrawn my request, I was barred from speaking and was therefore not able to say my piece.

I have to say that I find this to be a somewhat perplexing situation.

As a consequence I would advise residents to actively pursue any objections they might have against planning applications as I may not be able to, though clearly I will ensure that the points put to me are raised in the debate at the planning meeting and that my vote takes these into account.

In my experience, should an application come before the planning committee then nothing works better for objectors

than requesting a right to appear before the committee and then putting their points to the Councillors sitting on the Committee.

They don't bite, they listen politely and supportively and they really do like to hear why people object to an application when officers have recommended approval.

Indeed it is quite often the case that the Committee will vote to reject an application, even although the officers have recommended it for approval.

I guess sometimes the interpretation of the local plan and other planning legislation is a matter of personal judgement and not always clear-cut.

The final arbiters were always and will always be the councillors, not the officers, though the system can on occasion disempower them.

*Cllr Dave Cuthbert*

## Better Place to Live Fair 2014

Loch Leven Community Campus, Kinross KY13 8FQ

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March, 10am – 3pm**

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**Organised by Kinross-shire Community Learning and Development Group**

#### For Further Information:

**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 Community Learning Base 01577 867177



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## New campaign to tackle persistent dog fouling

Local communities' help is being sought to tackle the problem of dog owners who fail to clean up after their pets in a new campaign being launched by PKC.

The Council's Animal Welfare Team receives calls every year from Perth and Kinross residents complaining about the presence of dog mess that has not been picked up.

However, the information received through calls from the public does not often lead to the culprits being identified, and without more specific 'intelligence', it is very difficult for officers to actually catch people 'in the act' of allowing their dogs to foul and take enforcement action.

As a result, the new campaign follows on from the current Bag It and Bin It message by encouraging anyone offended by this type of anti-social behaviour to report details of incidents of fouling. The emphasis is on asking people to confidentially give as much information as possible to help identify the offenders – 'If They Don't Bin It - Drop Them In It' – and play their part in preventing persistent fouling from affecting communities.

Any information received will be followed up and acted on, including warning letters, and, where there is sufficient evidence, Fixed Penalty Notices. A further week of targeted patrols will then be carried out, using any intelligence gathered.

**Deadline for all Submissions**  
**5.00 pm, FRIDAY 14 March**  
**for publication on Saturday 29 March**



## Business Breakfasts

### Open to all Kinross-shire Businesses

Kinross-shire Partnership will be hosting more Business Breakfasts at Loch Leven's Larder this spring. 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 next Breakfast will take place from **7.30 to 9am** on:

### 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 07774 181768.

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)

## First man to walk the length of the Amazon speaks in Perth

Ed Stafford will share the extraordinary story of his walk down the Amazon River, from source to sea, in a talk at Perth Concert Hall on Monday 24 March.

Ed's journey down the Amazon, which took 860 days to complete, was the first time in history that anyone has walked the entire length of the longest river on Earth. □

This talk is organised by the Royal Scottish Geographical Society. The talk will take place at 7.30pm in Perth Concert Hall on Monday 24 March. Tickets are £10 for adults, £7 for under 18s, students and RSGS members. Tickets are available from the Horsecross Box Office on 01738 621031 or at [www.horsecross.co.uk](http://www.horsecross.co.uk)

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## Safe tyres save lives

by Richard Jeffrey

### Tyre safety

How often do you think about the tyres on your car? With cold temperatures and standing water it is worth giving a few minutes' thought to your tyres.

At any given time there is just a small patch of rubber not much bigger than a hand print at each corner of your car which is the only thing that keeps you in contact with the road and this is on vehicles which can weigh well over a tonne and travel at high speed.

If you do nothing else on your car, check the condition, tread depth and pressure of your tyres regularly, ideally every week. If you feel this is something you can't do, then your local garage or tyre specialist will normally be happy to do this free of charge. It could be your life at stake; according to the Tyre Industry Federation (TIF) and the Department for Transport in 2010 there were 1210 road casualties caused by illegal, defective or under-inflated tyres, and 25% of MOT failures are tyre related.

### The importance of tyre pressure

Properly inflated tyres last longer and reduce fuel consumption. According to TIF a staggering 37% of tyres on Britain's roads are dangerously under-inflated. TIF has also calculated that under-inflated tyres cost British motorists £440m in additional fuel costs and add 1 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> to the atmosphere.

At 70mph an average tyre is rotating at 940 times per minute or over 15 times per second. Each time a new part of the tyre comes in to contact with the road, the tyre flexes, creating heat and using energy. If the tyre is under-inflated it uses more energy and can cause excessive heat to build up in the tyre wall, which in turn can cause the tyre to disintegrate. If the tyre pressure is too high, the tyre can lose grip and wear out prematurely, so always check your tyre pressure against the vehicle manufacturer's recommendations and remember to adjust your pressure if you are travelling at high speeds for long distances. Your local garage or tyre specialist should be happy to do this free.

### The importance of tread depth

The law states that all tyres must have a minimum tread depth of 1.6mm across the central  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the tyre and around its full circumference. This is the legal minimum, although the tyre industry recommends changing tyres when they have 3mm of tread left. So, is this just a money spinning idea by the tyre industry or is there any basis for this recommendation?

Continental Tyres conducted research at the Motor Industry Research Association (MIRA) which yielded surprising results. They tested two identical cars travelling at 70mph on a wet test track; one car had tyres with 3mm of tread, the

other 1.6mm. When the cars were tested in emergency braking conditions, at the time the car with 3mm of tread had stopped, the car with 1.6mm was still travelling at 50mph and took an extra 44m to stop, so the evidence is pretty conclusive. But what about the costs? For a typical car covering 100,000 miles over 8 years, it could mean one extra set of tyres over the 8 year period. This would typically cost about 15 pence per day or the equivalent of one extra tank of fuel every 2 years - not so much to pay for the extra safety. If you want to know more about your own specific circumstances, your local tyre dealer should be able to do the calculation for you.

### New tyres front or rear

Imagine we are talking about shoes, not tyres. You could mix two perfectly good shoes from different pairs and wear them at the same time; even though there is nothing wrong with either shoe, it would feel a bit odd and uncomfortable and you may not be able to walk or run as well as you could in a matching pair. So it is true for tyres. Tyres with different tread patterns or different levels of wear behave differently and affect the performance of your car, so it is always best to match all four tyres as closely as possible (on some 4x4 vehicles it is essential to avoid damage to the 4-wheel drive system). Where it is not possible or practical to match all four tyres, then the next best option is to ensure you at least have pairs of tyres that match across the same axle. If you are fitting just two new tyres then they should always be fitted to the rear of the vehicle, even on a front wheel or 4-wheel drive car. It is much safer to do this as, if the back of the car loses grip when cornering, the resulting skid is (for most drivers) impossible to control and the car will spin. On the other hand, if the front of the car loses grip, then the driver can regain control by reducing speed and using the steering. If fitting just one new tyre, again it is best to put this on the rear and match it with the best of the remaining three tyres.

### Part worn tyres

Clearly tyres are critical to the safety of your vehicle, its occupants and other road users. Some people choose to fit part worn or second hand tyres on their vehicles. It is legal to sell part worn tyres subject to certain conditions, most importantly that the tyres have been properly inspected and tested, and have been marked to show this. In a recent investigation by Tyresafe and trading standards organisations, 98% of part worn tyres purchased were illegal and 34% had dangerous damage or faults. If you choose to fit part worn tyres, make sure they have been properly inspected, tested and labelled.

### A critical safety component

Your tyres are a critical part of the design and performance of your vehicle, and they are the only part in contact with the road; be safe and check your tyres regularly.

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## Loch Leven Heritage Trail

by Neil Kilpatrick, Project Director

The weather over the past month has not been helpful for construction activities but we continue to make progress across a number of fronts. The emphasis has been on completing the design of the interpretation features for the Trail. TRACKS has commissioned the Perth artist David Wilson to design and create two stone benches with engraved text for the Viewpoint at East Brackley and a large stone sphere for the same site that will have carvings to depict bird migration movements around the Loch. David intends to do the carving of the Sphere on site and he wants people to be able to watch him doing this after the Trail has been opened. Work on the construction of the Viewpoint building has now started and should be completed by the end of March. New maps have been designed for all the monoliths around the Trail and these will be installed before the Trail is opened.



*The Heritage Trail: it is hoped that the final stretch will be open to the public by Easter*

Work is in progress in the creation of the new entrance to the Trail at Vane Farm and there will be a new spur leading from the entrance to the RSPB hides. The fabrication of the bridge for the Gairney crossing is now almost complete and delivery is expected before the end of February. Installation is planned for March after which the connecting trail links need to be constructed.

A major tree and hedge planting programme is scheduled for March and there has been a most encouraging response from volunteers to help with the planting. Catriona Mcleod has the details and she is contactable on 01577-863718. The development of the downloaded Apps for the trail is progressing well and it is hope to test the prototypes in March using help from pupils at Kinross High School.

At this stage it is still not possible to predict an exact opening date for the trail but it is hoped that it will be accessible to the public by Easter.

### SEWING ALTERATIONS

by  
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## New childminders needed

PKC's Childcare Strategy Team is running pre-registration training courses for people who are interested in becoming childminders. Between early March and the end of May 2014, three courses are on offer:

Two-day courses on Tuesday 4 and Wednesday 5 March, and again on Tuesday 20 and Wednesday 21 May. These run from 9.30am to 4.30pm each day, with a free crèche provided if there is sufficient demand.

An evening course on Thursdays from 6.30pm to 9pm, starting on 24 April and running to 29 May.

All three courses will be held in Perth. To find out more, contact the Childcare Strategy Team on 0845 601 4477 or email [childcare@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:childcare@pkc.gov.uk)

## Community grants available to help improve older people's lives

Community grants are available to develop and deliver local activities which help older people to live healthy and fulfilling lives in their communities.

The Community Project Start-Up Grant is an initiative managed by the Perth and Kinross Change Fund from an allocation of money granted by the Scottish Government.

More information is available by contacting Voluntary Action Perthshire on 01738 567076 or emailing:

[info@vaporthshire.org](mailto:info@vaporthshire.org)

## Fund for local improvements

Community and voluntary groups are invited to apply for support from PKC's revised Community Environment Challenge Fund.

The Fund enables groups to make sustainable improvements to land in their local community.

For further information, call Community Greenspace on 01738 476476, go online to [www.pkc.gov.uk/CECF](http://www.pkc.gov.uk/CECF) or email [communitygreenspace@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:communitygreenspace@pkc.gov.uk) or

## Sportive help wanted

Fancy helping out at Scotland's third largest cycle Sportive? Sportive Kinross, the cycle event organised by Kinross Cycling Club, is Scotland's third-largest event of this kind. This year will see the fourth staging of the sell-out event, which takes riders from the Loch Leven Community Campus out through Fife, into Perthshire and Clackmannanshire before returning to Kinross. So far the event has raised over £20,000 for the Children's Hospice Association Scotland.

If you would like to help with the staging of the Sportive Kinross, which this year takes place on 26 April, contact the organisers on [admin@sportivekinross.co.uk](mailto:admin@sportivekinross.co.uk).

For more information, visit [www.sportive-kinross.co.uk](http://www.sportive-kinross.co.uk)

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## Loch Leven Community Library

Loch Leven Community Campus, Muirs, Kinross  
Tel: 01577 867205 Email: lochlevenlibrary@pkc.gov.uk

### Opening Times

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

### Regular Library Sessions for Young Children

No need to book, just come along.

<b>Story Telling</b>	every Monday morning	10.15-10.45am
	every Thursday afternoon	2.15-2.45pm

### Bookbug Rhymetimes

every Saturday	10.30-11am
every Wednesday	2.00-2.30pm

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

### Celebrate World Book Day – Enter the Dragon's Den

Come along to the library to be inspired by Cressida Cowell's Vikings and dragons during this fun storytelling and activity session. Free event, suitable for 3-9yrs. **Thursday 6 March** 4pm-5.30pm. (Children aged 8yrs and under need to be accompanied by an adult.)

### Maverick mountaineer discusses latest climbing feats

**Friday 7 March** will see an entertaining and exhilarating talk by best-selling author, comedian and accomplished mountaineer Andy Kirkpatrick at the Library.

'Inappropriate Climbing' is Andy's fifth theatre tour and will feature a host of new stories about climbing all over the world. Since his last tour in 2011, the maverick mountaineer has been up Yosemite National Park's El Capitan rock formation with his daughter (a feat featured in CBBC's My Life series), returned to solo climb Norway's Troll Wall, made his latest winter expedition to attempt the North Face of the Eiger, and visited Antarctica.

The UK's only 'stand-up mountaineer', Andy is the son of an Royal Air Force PT instructor and grew up in Hull, from where his adventurous ambitions were sown through day trips to the Peak District. Specialising in climbing huge vertical rock walls, often in winter and often alone, he has

undertaken some of the most difficult climbs in Europe and around the world, including the Lafaille Route on the Petit Dru, a 1000m pillar in the Alps and the first winter ascent of the east face of Mermoz in the Argentinian part of Patagonia. Other accomplishments under his belt include two record-breaking expeditions with his partner, paraplegic adventurer Karen Darke, and raising over £1million for Help for Heroes. When not climbing, Andy works as a stunt safety advisor for film and television, most notably assisting with Tim Burton's *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and BBC TV's *Dalziel and Pascoe* series. His first and second books, *Psychovertical* and *Cold Wars*, have both won the Boardman Tasker Prize for mountain literature in 2008 and 2012.

Tickets, priced £12 per person, are available from the library and should be booked in advance. The show begins at 7.30pm. Please note: 'Inappropriate Climbing' contains some strong language.

### Activities for Everyone at the Library (Kinross-shire Better Place To Live Fair)

Free activities for everyone are on offer at the library on **Saturday 8 March** as part of the Kinross-shire Better Place To Live Fair.

Meet **Bookbug**, and join him for an exciting Rhymetime session between 10.30am and 11am. Come along to the **Pre-school Storytelling** from 2.00pm to 2.30pm. Both sessions are suitable for children from birth to four years old.

Also, at various times throughout the day, **Ancestry taster sessions** will be on offer for those interested in family history.

### Ancestry Taster Sessions at the Library

Ancestry sessions are held on the following dates:

<b>Monday 17 March</b>	2.00pm – 3.00pm
<b>Wednesday 19 March</b>	10.30am – 11.30am

To book a place, please contact the library.

### E-Book & E-Magazine Taster Sessions for Everyone

Are E-Books and E-Magazines a mystery? Why not come along to our taster sessions on **Monday 31 March**, 1pm-3pm, to have some of your questions answered, or to have an introductory session.

Library staff are organising one-to-one taster sessions lasting approximately 20 minutes. To find out more, book a place and let us know what you want to learn, please feel free to contact the library. Booking in advance is required.

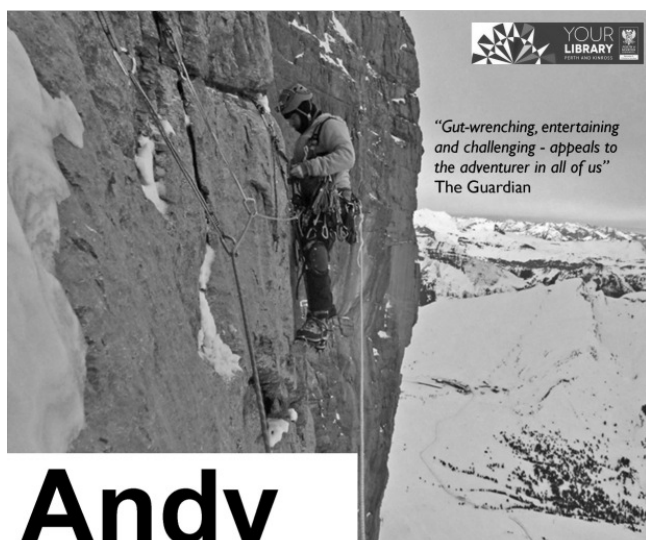
### IT Taster Sessions for Everyone

Are computers a mystery? Can you text on your mobile? How can you get an email address? How do I shop online? How do I download an E-Book? These are just a sample of the questions that will be answered during the IT taster sessions to be held on **Friday 4 April** at the library, 10am - 12 noon and 1pm - 3pm.

Library and Community Learning Development staff are jointly organising one-to-one taster sessions lasting 20 minutes. To find out more, book a place and let us know what you want to learn, please feel free to contact the library. Booking in advance is required.

### Explore the Exciting World of Gruffalo and Other Characters

Be inspired by Julia Donaldson's characters during this fun storytelling and activity session. Re-discover the Gruffalo, giants, ladybirds, trolls and many more favourite characters and soak up the holiday atmosphere with your children or grandchildren. **Tuesday 15 April**, 2.30pm-3.30pm. (Children aged 8yrs and under need to be accompanied by an adult.) Free event; suitable for 3-9yrs.



**Andy Kirkpatrick**  
Inappropriate Climbing

## Kinross Learning Centre – Spring Leisure Programme



Kinross Learning Centre's spring leisure programme gets underway in mid-April and with summer holidays just around the corner, this could be the ideal time to pick up some language skills. Brand new Beginner's French and Spanish classes are on offer, providing you with the vocabulary and confidence to get by in everyday situations.

If your skills lie in more creative areas, there are a range of art and craft classes – new for this term is a course focussing on creating shaped novelty cakes for birthdays or other special occasions. As well as finding out how to shape cakes, you'll learn a range of techniques using fondant and other icings.

Finally, our ever-popular beginners' computing classes are included in the programme, so there should be something to suit all interests.

To find out more or to book your place, please contact Maureen at Kinross Learning Centre, 15 Swansacre, on 01577 863863 or email [pc.kinross@perth.uhi.ac.uk](mailto:pc.kinross@perth.uhi.ac.uk).

Course	Start Date	Time	Weeks	Cost
<b>Languages</b>				
Spanish Beginners	Wed 16 Apr	1 - 3pm	10 weeks	£68
Spanish Beginners 3	Wed 16 Apr	7 - 9pm	10 Weeks	£68
Spanish Improvers	Tue 15 Apr	7 - 9pm	10 weeks	£68
French Beginners	Sat 19 Apr	10 am - noon	10 weeks	£68
French Improvers	Tue 15 Apr	1 - 3pm	10 weeks	£68
French Advanced	Tue 15 Apr	10.30 - 12.30pm	10 weeks	£68
Italian Advanced	Thu 17 Apr	10am - noon	10 weeks	£68
Italian Beginners 2	Thu 17 Apr	7 - 9 pm	10 weeks	£68
Russian Language and Culture 3	Tue 15 Apr	7 - 9pm	10 weeks	£68
Russian Intermediate	Thu 17 Apr	7 - 9pm	10 weeks	£68
<b>Computing</b>				
Getting Started on your Computer	Tue 15 Apr	noon - 2pm	8 weeks	£55
Effective PC Management	Tue 15 Apr	2pm - 4pm	5 weeks	£40
<b>Art and Crafts</b>				
Painting with Acrylics Intermediate	Mon 14 Apr	10am - noon	10 weeks	£68
Painting with Acrylics 2	Mon 14 Apr	1.30 - 3.30pm	10 weeks	£68
Watercolours 3	Wed 16 Apr	1.30 - 3.30pm	10 weeks	£68
Watercolours 5	Thu 17 Apr	1.30 - 3.30pm	10 weeks	£68
The Art of Drawing Intermediate	Wed 16 Apr	9.45 - 11.45am	10 weeks	£68
The Art of Drawing 5	Thu 17 Apr	9.45 - 11.45am	10 weeks	£68
Soft Furnishings	Wed 16 Apr	4.30 - 6.30pm	10 weeks	£80
Upholstery	Wed 16 Apr	7 - 9pm	10 weeks	£80
Sew SMART	Tue 15 Apr	7 - 9pm	10 weeks	£80
Sewing, Mending, Altering, Recycling, Tailoring				
Cake Decoration:				
Shaped Novelty Cakes	Tue 15 Apr	10am - noon	6 weeks	£60

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## Mindfulness

by Susan Bathgate

Mindfulness is a buzzword of the moment. It is described as follows: 'Mindfulness is a secular meditative practice, which involves paying attention to what is happening in the present moment doing so with an attitude of kindness, acceptance, and non-judgment'. I am already familiar with the process of unlocking deep-seated tension and the accumulating debris of daily living through the yoga I practise and teach. I was surprised and delighted to find another powerful tool pursuing the same end. Science has caught up with an ancient meditative tradition and there is increasing evidence in brain imaging which is **showing** the effect of the exercise of mindfulness meditation on physical structures of the brain.

I have been lucky enough to attend retreats and training in this practice and witness its powerful effects not only with myself but also nurses, doctors, teachers, business people and all sorts of healthcare and other professionals. Many are looking for it as a tool in their own fields. However many find or already know that they need the practice themselves to perform the functions they do, to the best of their ability.

Sir Harry Burns, Scotland's retired Chief Medical Officer, is a proponent, saying: "Interventions like Mindfulness are central to repairing Scotland's Health". Indeed, the training I received for the application of Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction is approved by the National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE). Your doctor may prescribe it for application to anxiety and depression problems.

It is a serious intervention but is applicable to anyone who wants to try and put the brakes on a little in increasingly busy lives. Jon Kabat Zinn, who initiated the use of the practice in the western medical world, says: "It's like wearing a parachute. You don't want to start wearing the parachute when you're about to jump out of the plane. You want to have been wearing the parachute morning, noon, and night, day in and day-out, so that when you need it, it will actually hold you". It is a skill for life which takes less time to learn and take effect than you might think.

If you would like to know more, please reserve a space at a **Taster Session** at St Paul's Meeting Room on **Wednesday 12 March**, 7.30pm until 9pm, or please get in touch. Donations to room hire.

Susan Bathgate

Email: sa.bathgate@virgin.net Tel: 07772186268

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*"One hundred years on, we are all connected to the First World War, either through our own family history, the heritage of our local communities or because of its long-term impact on society and the world we live in today."*

*(Imperial War Museum, First World War Centenary website.)*



*Throughout 2014, the Newsletter will feature brief histories of some of the local men who died in WWI and whose names appear on war memorials in Kinross-shire.*

## John William Wiseman

John William Wiseman was the fifth of twelve children born at Dunbar on 26 March 1898. His family moved to West End, Kinross, and then to South Street, Milnathort, where they lived at the outbreak of the First World War.

John Wiseman was fascinated by the War, seized by the adventure of it, and in order to volunteer he walked to Cowdenbeath then on to Kirkcaldy where he enlisted initially with the Highland Cyclist Battalion. They were an early equivalent of the Home Guard, deployed to defend the UK coastline. The bicycle was regarded as giving flexibility and speed of movement. Then he enlisted with the Royal Naval Division, the Howe Battalion, and was therefore one of the reserves of the Royal Navy who were surplus to requirements at sea and served in the trenches. His rank was Able Seaman and he was killed on 30 December 1917 at Cambrai. His family were notified simply that he was marked as missing, reported killed, and no further news came through to them until they received in June 1918 a copy of the Stretcher Bearer's Report which was actually dated 30 December 1917, the day that he died:

*"About 8 in the morning on December 30th when we could just see, the Germans, wearing white smocks, came over in a snowstorm and seized the British frontline trench on the right of Cambrai. In the afternoon the Howe men recaptured the line. Wiseman was missed when they fell back but I did not see him hit. In the afternoon I was acting as Stretcher Bearer and I brought Wiseman in, he was dead and had been hit at the top of the thigh by a large piece of shell. Three men were hit and killed by the same shell. I brought them in when the ground was recovered".*

He is remembered on the Milnathort War Memorial and also the War Memorial at Thiepval on the Somme.

*This profile was provided by Campbell Watson. Further information on local servicemen in WWI can be found in the Kinross (Marshall) Museum at the Loch Leven Community Campus.*

### PIANOFORTE TUITION

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

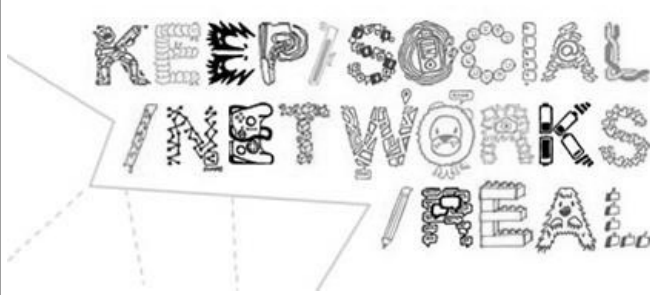
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Pupils entered for Associated Board  
Examinations and Festivals  
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**TELEPHONE: MUCKHART 01259 781446**



# Police Box



Most children today use the internet - at home, at school and when they're out and about. How can you be sure that they are surfing safely?

As we all know, computers can be great tools for kids, but there are dangers attached to using the internet.

## Be aware

Many parents have no idea what their children are viewing on the internet. They may be unaware that their child has encountered violent or sexual content or is engaged in inappropriate conversation with strangers.

By taking an active role in supervising how your child uses the internet, you can help to ensure that they continue to have fun on the net and find the information they are looking for, while keeping safe from some of the medium's dangers.

## Steps to safe surfing

- Make sure you have a secure internet connection.
- Write down a list of rules and position it in a place close to the computer where they can be easily read. Talk through the rules with your child so they understand why they're there.
- Don't site computers in places where it is difficult to monitor what your child is viewing.
- Show an interest in what they're accessing/doing online. If possible get to know your child's online friends in the same way that you would get to know their school or neighbourhood friends.
- Reinforce the message about safety considerations to your children when they are chatting with people online. Check out our advice for your child and social networking pages so you know how to advise them.

- Encourage your child to tell you about anything they think is inappropriate and reassure them it is not their fault. Make sure they know you will support them.
- **If they report anything to you, contact your local police office. You can also report abuse online to the Virtual Global Taskforce and report illegal images to the Internet Watch Foundation.**

## Help them to help themselves

Of course you may not always be able to supervise how your child uses the internet, especially if they access the net from outside the home or using mobile technology. You should not assume you child is safe online just because they use it safely at home.

If your child has a Facebook page, suggest they download the 'ClickCeop' button which will allow them to access advice and guidance and report concerns directly to The Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP). Many other social networking sites also have links to CEOP.

## Useful Links

In addition, the UK government has launched a website to give additional advice to children about chatting safely on the Internet. Your child can access this site by visiting [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

The Scottish Government has also launched an action plan on child internet safety. Find out more at [www.scotland.gov.uk/childinternetsafety](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/childinternetsafety)

## Local Community Officers

Bridge of Earn

& Abernethy: 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)

## 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.



## Roundabout works begin

Construction of a roundabout at the junction of Station Road and Springfield Road in Kinross should have started by the time this Newsletter is published. (Works were scheduled to begin on 24 February.)

Construction of the roundabout is due to last for approximately eight weeks. During this time, motorists should expect some delays.

Temporary traffic signals will be in place and will be manually operated when required in an effort to ensure any delays are kept to a minimum.

The works being undertaken are to help with the flow of traffic using the junction. Plans of the proposals will be on display in Sainsbury's and Co-op supermarkets.

Perth & Kinross Council would like to apologise for any inconvenience to residents and motorists that may result from these works.

## Family cycle challenge

Kinross Cycling Club are once again staging the **Family Cycle Challenge on 27 April**. It's fun event designed to get whole families out on their bikes in the safe environment of the cycle path around Loch Leven in Kinross. All the riders will be allocated souvenir numbers and on completion of the circuit will receive a commemorative medal from the cycle club. The club have teamed up with the Green Hotel, who are allowing use of the car park at the Bistro for registration, and local bike shop, Loch Leven Cycles, who are providing some raffle prizes for entrants.

Club Chairman Paul Zarb said: "This is the first of a series of child-related cycle events we are staging this year. We are also working on plans for a series of races for those aged 8 to 18 for later in the year."

More information and how to enter can be found on the cycle club website at [www.kinrosscyclingclub.co.uk](http://www.kinrosscyclingclub.co.uk)



# 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. In particular, where there are two months' worth of reports, there will be a considerable amount of editing.

## Kinross Community Council

### News from the February Meeting

Present at the meeting held on 5 February 2014 were: CCllrs D Colliar (Chair), W Freeman, D West, G Thomas, B Davies, M Blyth, C Watson, D Mackay, I Jack and M Scott (Secy); P&K Cllrs D Cuthbert, W Robertson and M Barnacle; representatives from McCarthy and Stone; Sally Rickett and Michael Morgan of PKC; and a large number of members of the public. Apologies were received from CCllr M Wood and P&K Cllr J Giacomazzi.

**Declarations of interest:** Application for Newsletter funds for Light Up Kinross: CCllrs Colliar, Blyth, Mackay, Jack, Scott and Freeman are members of LUK.

**Police report:** No police presence or information available. The Chairman mentioned that there have been complaints from other CCs with regard to the non-presence of the Police at meetings. This may be as a result of the introduction of Police Scotland who appear to be isolating the force from the community. The CC agreed to write to the Police.

**Retirement flats at Green Hotel:** Steve Wiseman, Regional Managing Director of McCarthy & Stone, and Michael Vipond, Design Manager, explained their proposal to develop a section of land to the north of the Green Hotel into apartments specifically designed for people over the age of 60. The proposal is to build a mix of 33 one and two bedroom high quality apartments with shared living spaces, including guest accommodation, homeowners' lounge and a roof garden. There will be a dedicated house manager and residents will also have access to a 24-hour emergency care-line. The site has an existing planning consent to build 41 retirement flats, which is no longer able to be taken forward. McCarthy & Stone considered the design of the original proposal and have reduced the height of the buildings and significantly reduced the number of apartments. A planning application will be submitted shortly. CCllr West questioned the "flat roof" on the buildings and it was confirmed that the roof is not totally flat but in an effort to keep the height of the buildings down was deemed more appropriate. This, and the landscaped gardens, will also minimise impact on neighbouring properties.

**High Street improvements:** Sally Rickett explained the proposed improvements. These cover the area from the junction with Station Road down to Montgomery Street. The area at the junction with Station Road would include a gateway feature, stone paving, low stone walls and seating. The road at the Salutation Hotel would become "give and take", i.e. northbound traffic giving way to southbound on a single lane, which will allow the pavement in this area to be widened. This would become an "informal crossing point for pedestrians" and the pelican crossing is to be removed. The Salutation Hotel would take deliveries from a new loading bay in Avenue Road. The bus shelters at the Town Hall will be removed and bus stops created at the entrance to Swansacre and opposite. An informal square will be created at the area housing the fountain, clock tower and Town Hall. There would still be two-way traffic but the appearance and

character is proposed to be of a square rather than a road. There would be no on-street parking within this area and it could be used for events and markets. Traffic calming measures would be created in various areas.

In answer to a query it was confirmed that consideration would be given to placing another bus stop to the south of the town. The condition of the building at 117-119 High Street was raised.

The application for THI funding had been refused. It was confirmed, however, that there is money allocated for these works. The timescale for undertaking these works would be in 2015.

Concerns were raised both at the situation regarding parking and the bus service and the question was raised as to whether an Environmental Statement had been instructed. The backing up of traffic at the Salutation Hotel was also a concern.

**Matters Arising:** CCllr Watson raised the matter of the proposed reduced opening hours to the **Museum and Library**. A number of complaints have been received regarding these. Cllr Cuthbert explained that the reason behind this was budget cuts and that the closures are to be carried out throughout Perth and Kinross area. Our Councillors are asking for this to be reversed or reviewed and alternative options considered and to include a consultation with staff and interested parties. The CC agreed to write to PKC in support of the action for the Library and Museum hours not to be cut.

**Newsletter funds disbursement:** 1st Kinross Scout Group asked for funding for a new parade flag to replace the one they currently use which is many years old and in need of replacement. Quotation received for £500.50. They are to be asked to submit an application form.

An application was received from Light Up Kinross for £1,000 funding. CCllr West asked, in view of the interest of CCllrs in Light Up Kinross, if four members were enough for a quorum. CCllr Watson advised that he was in favour of this proposal. Light Up Kinross were asked to provide a breakdown of how this funding would be spent, together with a similar written statement on how the donation was expended last year. CCllr Colliar would organise this.

CCllr Watson advised that he was aware that Kinross-shire Partnership was planning to lodge an application in relation to an aeronautical feasibility study. This is awaited.

A draft leaflet was circulated to CCllrs providing information on how to apply for a grant from the Newsletter fund. This was similar to the previous advert, but with some further questions. This will be discussed at the next meeting. It was also suggested that a list of previous applications should be recorded on the website.

**County Buildings:** The CC understands that missives have yet to be signed. Cllr Cuthbert will ask for an update.

### Planning Matters

#### Planning Applications Submitted to PKC

13/02328/FLM **Former Kinross High School:** erection of 102 dwelling houses, associated access road, open space and



associated works. 13/02314/CON Former Kinross High School: demolition of buildings.

It was explained that a meeting of the sub-committee was arranged to discuss this application, to which the rest of the CC were invited. The Planning Application records both parking spaces and open parking as "0". This would appear to be false information. There is no provision for public parking or a recreational area. The number of houses proposed for the development is excessive: 102 three or four bedroom properties and the number given for pupils is 32 which is ridiculously low, although this was agreed by the Education Department. Vehicle access onto Green Road is of concern, considering the current flow, in particular the run to the Primary School. Two objection letters were copied to the CC; the author of one was present and had requested to speak. She had concerns in relation to the number of two-storey houses (no bungalows or semi-detached), referred to affordable housing and the exit onto the High Street which will be nearer to the Fire and Police Station. This was opened for discussion and various comments were raised, such as the development being very visible to surrounding properties and the fact that this was in the middle of a conservation area. Another concern was the lack of infrastructure in the town to support the number of people from these houses. The consensus of some was that they were against the whole buildings being demolished and that the frontage should be preserved as this is an important part of the streetscape in Kinross. It was suggested that a condition should be written into the contract that Persimmon should incorporate this into their design. The question of the criteria for permitting demolition in a conservation area was raised; it was confirmed that the proposed development requires to either enhance or improve the area, or the condition of the existing buildings is such that there could be no improvement. Cllr

Barnacle advised that the housing density has been increased in the Local Plan, which he is against. The statistics are 20 houses per hectare (medium density) and 35 per hectare (high density). There were no objections from any of the Statutory Consultees. Other points raised were the possible disturbance to bats and the Parish Church adjacent to this property being a Listed Building. 26 affordable housing units were a condition of this application. It was agreed that the CC write to the Council objecting to both applications on the grounds (a) the site is in a Conservation area and proposed frontage does not comply with the streetscape, (b) 102 houses too dense for this area, (c) the added volume of traffic onto Green Road, (d) lack of parking and recreational area and (e) pupil education figures and the poor consultation offered.

A member of the public stated that the Particulars of Sale stated that the original stone building was to be retained and incorporated into the design. This put off a lot of potential buyers and should be taken up with the Estates Department. Cllr Robertson is to write to Head of Property.

13/02338/FL Site north of Bishop's View, Gairneybridge: modification of existing consent (05/01633/FLL) Change of House Type (Plot 13).

13/02189/FLL 3 Ladeside: alterations and extension to dwelling house.

13/02161/FLL Land 50m northwest of Bellfield House, Balado: erection of two dwelling houses and garages.

13/02238/FLL Land 30m west of Annafreuch Cottage, Hatchbank: change of use of land from agricultural to garden ground.

13/02240/FLL Loch Leven Heritage Trail: erection of a viewing structure.

13/02342/FLL Classloch Farm, Kinross: modification to planning consent (13/01145/FLL), alterations and change of use of farm steading to form four dwellings (steading unit 4).

14/00049/FLL 3 Lomond Mews: alterations to garage.

14/00028/FLL Bracklemoss, 20 Muirs: demolition of existing extension and erection of replacement extension.

14/00068/FLL 18 Wilson Court: alterations and extension to dwelling house.

14/00077/FLL 17 Muirpark Road: alterations to dwelling house.

14/00053/FLL 43 High Street: alterations to dwelling house.

14/00041/IPL Land 10 metres northwest of Lynwood, Gairneybank: erection of dwelling house (in principle).

14/00155/FLL Plots 1-8 Station Road: change of house type at Plot 33.

Blairadam Wind Farm: Planning application has been lodged with Fife Council. The reference is 14/00008/EIA and this may have an even greater impact on Kinross-shire than Outh Muir Wind Farm.

**Planning Applications Approved by PKC:** 13/0207/FLL Plot 56 Levenfields, Station Road: modification of previous consent (13/01378/FLL) for the change of house type.

13/01913/FLL Plots 52 and 54 Levenfields, Station Road: change of house types.

13/02094/FLL Kinross Curling Rink: alterations.

13/01929/FLL Gowanlea, Pier Road: alterations and extension.

13/01784/FLL 8 Thompson Place: erection of an orangery.

13/01749/FLL Ivy Garden, Muirs: alteration, extension and change of use of bin/cycle store to form a dwelling house.

13/01965/FLL Former Blockbuster Video Express: change of use from retail (Class 1) to office (Class 2).

13/02189/FLL 3 Ladeside: alterations and extension to house.

13/01645/ADV Bridgend Industrial Estate, display of sign.

13/01736/FLL 90 Muirs: renewal of extension (10/00283/FLL); partial demolition and erection of two-storey extension.

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Map courtesy of the Kinross Community Council

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**Planning Application Refused by PKC:** 13/02024/FLL Applegarth, Sunnypark: demolition of dwelling house and erection of 6 no flatted units, formation of access, parking and upgrading of adjacent public road.

**Outh Muir Wind Farm:** CCllr Freeman reported on a recent meeting of Outh Muir Wind Farm, explaining that only a part of Kinross will be affected. The proposal is that if the planning application is accepted then each year Kinross will receive a 5% community award, which will equate to about £5,000 a year. The application has been lodged and should be decided towards the end of March.

#### **Reports from Perth and Kinross Councillors**

Cllr Barnacle updated those present on the question of retrospective consents for travelling sites and that the Local Development Plan has now been adopted.

#### **Correspondence**

**Home Composting Scheme:** details given.

**Policing Plan for Perth & Kinross:** Chief Inspector Michael Whitford is looking for feedback in relation to the 2014-2017 policing plan for the Perth & Kinross area. It is requested that responses be submitted as soon as possible. A link to the documents was provided.

**Community Payback Orders:** The coordinator of this scheme would be glad to hear about any projects, big or small, where free labour would benefit the local community. Also happy to attend a CC meeting.

**CC Survey:** The Scottish Government in October 2012 asked all local authority CC Liaison Officers to complete a survey designed to gain a better overview and understanding of how CCs operate and the types of support that are being provided for them. The results are available at:

[www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2013/12/4654](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2013/12/4654)

**Licensing Board:** Invitation to comment on draft policy.

**Rural Parliament:** Scotland will have a Rural Parliament.

**CC Training:** Workshop on 14 May to include updates on changes to the Scottish planning system and planning in PKC etc. Confirmation required by 10 February.

**Scotland Rural Development Programme (SRDP) 2014-2020 Stage 2 (consultation):** Final proposals published on Scottish Government website. Closing date for consultation is 28 February 2014.

**Swansacre:** Copy of internal Council communication received in relation to proposed works and possible problem with access to upgraded entrance for the refuse collection vehicle. The CC agreed to write to PKC objecting strongly to the proposed work to the entrance. The CC agree that lorries will be unable to turn into Swansacre from Station Road due to the parking of cars at the entrance. Of some concern is also the boundary wall which is in need of repair and we should add a request in our letter that, as this bounds onto a public road, the Council should look into this matter.

**National Planning Framework (NPF3)/ Scottish Planning Policy (SPP):** Link received providing access to update on the work being undertaken to finalise the documents:

[www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Built-Environment/planning/NPF3-SPP-Review/NPF3](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Built-Environment/planning/NPF3-SPP-Review/NPF3).

**Draft Forest and Woodland Strategy:** Council currently consulting on both the Environmental Report and draft Strategy for a period of public consultation from 12 December 2013 to 10 March 2014.

**T in the Park:** Invitation to community forum on 13 February. They are hoping to discuss a small change to the opening time on the Friday of T in the Park. The benefits to the customer would be earlier access to the arena, allowing

them to see more bands on the Friday. Currently the event is licensed to play music from 3pm on Friday and they are proposing to change this to 2pm with doors opening at midday. The local community should benefit from the impact on the local road network being improved due to a predicted earlier and more gradual arrival onsite, making rush hour traffic later in the day easier to manage.

**Gritting and snow clearing:** Council requesting comments. Replies to be submitted by April 2014.

#### **Other Business**

**Grants to CCs:** The process has been reviewed. The new top up system will mean that CCs which have a balance of funds at the year end of less than £700 following submission of their examined annual accounts would receive a grant to top up their balance to £700. Although no annual grant will be payable to CCs which hold balances in excess of £700 at the year end, all CCs will still be able to apply for one-off funding for particular projects. The Treasurer confirmed that the bank balance is around £1,500.

**Masonic Hall:** CCllr Freeman attended a meeting regarding planned upgrading of the premises. There are two options being considered, dependent on the finance available: plan A, to lay a floor and construct a room above for use by the Masons or plan B, to move the kitchen and revamp the windows.

The **Dog Warden** has visited Kinross and walked around streets with Police.

**Council grants** are available for funding street parties etc to celebrate the Commonwealth Games and other major events this year.

**The Next Meeting of Kinross CC will take place on Wednesday 5 March 2014 at 7.30pm in the Masonic Hall, Muirs, Kinross.**

#### **Agenda for the Meeting on 5 March**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Declarations of interest
3. Police report
4. Minutes of the meeting held on 5 February
5. Matters arising from the minutes of 5 February
6. Applications for grants from Newsletter funds
7. Future of Kinross buildings
8. Planning matters
9. Reports from P&K Councillors
10. Miscellaneous correspondence
11. Other competent business
12. Date of next meeting (2 April 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](mailto: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 February Meeting

In the absence of the Chair, CCllr Hamilton, CCllr Milne-Home (Vice Chair) chaired the meeting held on Thursday 13 February 2014. He welcomed CCllrs Bennet, Cottingham, Halford, Pettinger, Smith and Thomson. Also in attendance were P&K Cllr Giacopazzi and six members of the public. Apologies were received from CCllr Hamilton, from P&K Cllrs Barnacle, Cuthbert and Robertson and from the Police.

**Police matters:** CCllr Milne-Home read extracts from the report provided by the Police. Recent issues included vandalism to, and theft from, vehicles in Bowling Green Avenue, and a case of shoplifting. In the above issues the property had been recovered and suspects apprehended. In the wider Perthshire area, there had been several instances of burglary or attempts to break-in, mainly to secluded or isolated properties. Additionally a bogus workman had been targeting the elderly, pretending that their roofs needed repair, and there have also been reports of males trying to sell tools, including chainsaws. The Police asked members of the public to report any suspicious callers.

### Matters Arising

**Road repairs** in the vicinity of Middleton had been completed.

CCllr Milne-Home advised that 'cross-drains' rather than parallel ditches should be cleared to alleviate flooding in the country roads. Cllr Giacopazzi reported that he had informed PKC Head of Roads of this advice, but work on 'cross-drains' had not yet been completed.

CCllr Milne-Home reported that he had held a productive meeting with representatives from the **logging operations** in the vicinity of Stronachie (Euroforest), and with the transport contractor. He noted that lorries should not transit through Milnathort until after pupils and travelled to school, and that lorry speeds in the country lanes would be restricted to 20 mph. He asked that members of the public should pass any further issues to him for action.

CCllr Bennet raised the issue of **reduced library hours**, coming into force in April 2014. Cllr Giacopazzi explained that PKC had first decided to achieve savings of £281,000 by restructuring library services in 2011; that policy had been reaffirmed again in 2012 and again more recently at a PKC meeting on 6 November 2013. He emphasised that PKC's agreed policy was to take books to the people through more mobile libraries (an increase from three to four), so that those in remote locations could also benefit. He also reported that he had attended a meeting with the Convener of Children's Services, PKC and other officials, at which representatives of

the local library volunteer group had expressed their concerns about reduced library services in future; Cllrs Robertson and Cuthbert had also attended. CCllr Bennet expressed her disappointment, on behalf of the 'Keep Kinross Library Open' group, that PKC had not agreed to review its decision. Although pupils at the Loch Leven Campus would have access to library facilities on a Monday, the school would have to provide supervisors, thus restricting use of the library to school hours. After further lengthy discussion, which focused on making better use of volunteers, Cllr Giacopazzi stated that he would continue to make representations to PKC, and that PKC may review the status of library services about six months after the new measures come into force.

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

14/00123/IPL Erection of a dwelling house (in principle), land 30m SE of 40 Viewfar Road. CCllr Smith reported that he had received several objections from members of the public, mainly concerning anxieties about potential traffic danger in that area. Following a short discussion, MCC agreed that it did not have any requisite grounds for objection, but noted that PKC Maintenance and Development Committee would examine the effects the application might have on local traffic when the committee discusses the application.

14/00055/FLL Formation of a permanent gypsy/traveller site and associated works (part retrospective) on land 50m SW of Laighland Stables, Mawcarse Crossroads. Several members of the public raised concerns about the above application. A protracted and wide-ranging discussion ensued, during which issues such as drainage, sewage disposal, increased traffic at a potentially dangerous crossing, and proposed screening of the site were raised. Following this discussion, MCC agreed to raise objections to PKC on the following four grounds: Suitability of the site for intended use; concerns about phosphate mitigation; issues of access/traffic volume and issues about traffic visibility at the junction.

The CC also briefly discussed the application by Persimmon Homes to develop the former High School site in Kinross. Although outside MCC's area of responsibility, the CC agreed to keep a watching brief on the development.

### Planning applications approved by PKC:

13/00792/IPL Erection of three dwelling houses (in principle), land at Redhouse Wood, Tillyrie Farm.

12/01339/FLL Renewal of planning consent for erection of 22 dwelling houses, land at Hattonburn Farm.

### New Matters and Correspondence

The Secretary advised that he had received a copy (on disc) of PKC's Local Development Plan, as agreed by PKC. The plan would be available on PKC's website.

Cllr Giacopazzi advised that PKC would be revising its grant procedures to CCs. In essence he understood that PKC would 'top up' each CC's uncommitted balance of funds held at the end of each financial year to a limit of their annual entitlement (in case of MCC to £700), rather than issuing a block grant of the annual entitlement to each CC; this would provide an incentive to each CC to use all its grant each year. After a short discussion CCllr Milne-Home asked that CCllrs and members of the public should forward ideas for using MCC's uncommitted funds, so that MCC could discuss any applications at its next meeting in March 2014. Cllr Giacopazzi agreed to contact the Head of Democratic Services, PKC to seek clarification of the new procedures.



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**Perth & Kinross Councillors' Comments**

Cllr Giacopazzi advised that PKC had held a full Council meeting during the day, at which a **budget** of £324,611,000 (including £4 million from FY2013/14) had been set for FY2014/15. He also advised that the budget for FY2015/16 would be lower, at about £312 million. PKC had also agreed to allocate a further £100,000 for grass-cutting in FY2014/15, so that a second cut could be achieved where required.

Cllr Giacopazzi also provided details of a proposed '**subsidised flood scheme**' to assist householders to manage their own flood risk. The scheme would allow residents to access the Council's bulk purchasing discount and thereby achieve savings on items such as air-brick covers and door frame barriers.

Cllr Giacopazzi advised that **Milnathort Town Hall** was currently closed due to electrical wiring issues, which would be repaired by PKC. CCllr Smith passed on the Town Hall Committee's appreciation of the help given by other halls to accommodate demand for facilities locally. The MCC noted that there was still a shortfall of funding needed to upgrade the Town Hall, but that the Committee was exploring further avenues for grants.

Finally Cllr Giacopazzi reported Cllr Robertson was still pursuing a local **vehicle speed monitoring initiative**. At present the area Police Divisional Commander, Chief Superintendent Hamish Macpherson would not lend his support to such an initiative, but agreed that the Police would provide training to local residents, if the community could raise the necessary funds to purchase speed monitoring equipment.

**Other Business**

CCllr Smith advised that he had attended a recent **T in the Park** meeting where he had learned that the Friday show would commence one hour earlier than previously at 2pm. He asked for feedback from members of the public, noting that the application would be considered by PKC's Licensing Committee on 20 February 2014.

**The Next Meeting of Milnathort CC will take place on Thursday 13 March 2014 at Orwell Church Hall, commencing at 7.30pm.**

Milnathort CC minutes are posted on

[www.kinross.cc/milnathort/milnathort\\_cc.htm](http://www.kinross.cc/milnathort/milnathort_cc.htm)

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**Ian Mackay 01577 864751**

**Fossoway & District CC****News from the February Meeting**

In attendance at the meeting held on 4 February 2014 were: CCllrs S Morrison, K Borthwick, A Lavery, T Duffy-Wigman, R Paterson and G Pye; P&K Cllrs M Barnacle, D Cuthbert and J Giacopazzi and ten Members of the Public (MoP). Apologies were received from PC Dougie Stapleton, CCllr A Cheape and P&K Cllr W Robertson.

**Community Policing:** PC Dougie Stapleton was unable to attend, however a report has been received: Possible intruder to rear of property in Crook of Devon, and housebreaking to properties in Powmill and Blairingone. There have been other break-ins in remote areas; any information gratefully received. Please also contact Police about any suspicious bogus tradesmen, or people selling tools. Drink/Drug and Drive testing continues, including tests to detect "morning after" offences.

The CC has received a response from Inspector Steve Sangster to our letter about the Local Policing Plan, saying that there are financial pressures, but a response will always be made to any contact. Cllr Cuthbert has been reassured that the Community Officer will make more strenuous efforts to attend these meetings.

**Rumbling Bridge Hydro Scheme:** Hugh Wallace reports on the progress of the scheme: planning approval was received in December, together with SEPA water extraction licence and power connection agreement. Discussions continue with other major power users in the area in order to establish a cost-effective power connection, which is currently putting the project at a slight risk. Construction is unlikely to commence before 2015.

**Criminal Justice Service:** Arek Nowrotek attended the meeting and described the scheme, which is designed to show the community that the offenders are putting something back. Free labour and some vehicles and equipment are available for projects, although the community would have to provide materials etc. Normally a team of five people and a supervisor would be made available. All suggestions for possible projects are welcome. Application forms and contact details were provided.

**Blairingone War Memorial:** The wall against which the memorial was proposed to be placed has completely collapsed. Cllr Barnacle reports that the wall is owned by PKC and will be rebuilt by them in a proper manner, which will probably involve reconstructing the wall from the foundations upwards, including the creation of field drains either side of the wall.

**Travellers' site at Crook Moss:** Cllr Giacopazzi has contacted the Chief Executive of PKC who has assured him that the enforcement issues will be treated with utmost priority. Cllr Cuthbert has contacted Nick Brian on the same issue. Pursuing these issues is difficult since there hasn't until now been a central register of planning conditions.

**Glendevon Pollution incident:** Scottish Water has been fined £10,000 for allowing acid to enter the reservoir and hence the river, causing the death of a large number of fish. SW has subsequently made a £500,000 investment to minimise the chance of such an event happening again. There was considerable discussion on this item, and members of the public and the CC wished to have assurances from Scottish Water and PKC that procedures were in place to inform the public promptly if something of this nature were to happen again.

**Community Workshops:** Blairingone: Moubray Hall, 25 March, 6.30-9pm. Proposed posters and fliers have been sent to the CC for review. Date for a Powmill workshop is still to be determined

**Community Speed Watch:** Cllr Giacomazzi reports that Hamish Macpherson, the Divisional Commander, who isn't a supporter of the scheme, would prefer other programmes, for example a warnings programme. However the Police would assist in training, but the community would need to fund the equipment. A reporter from the Perthshire Advertiser has contacted the CC (Kevin) to say the scheme was not going to be continued. The community felt it was beneficial and should be continued.

**Bus Investment Fund:** On-going, minor administrative complications are being sorted out, with the hope that the scheme may start this financial year.

**M90 Junction 7:** Transport Scotland replied to the CC's letter saying that there are currently no plans to upgrade the junction, although traffic flows in the area are continually monitored.

**SEPA flood risk maps:** Rod notes that the latest maps are available online at:

<http://map.sepa.org.uk/floodmap/map.htm>

**Outh Muir Wind Farm:** Fossoway are to receive 10% of the Community Benefit if the scheme goes ahead. Fife have not yet made a decision on the scheme, although the time for determination has passed. The CC thanked John Anderson for attending these meetings and for his efforts on the CC's behalf.

**Winter Road Maintenance 2013-14:** A request has been received from PKC for feedback.

#### CC Business

**Administrative Grant:** PKC is implementing a new system from April 2014 whereby CCs only get a grant each year which is sufficient to restore their account to a balance of £700. None of the elected members present recall being consulted about this change.

**Meetings Attended: Fossoway School Fete:** Kevin attended a meeting where resurrection of this event was being discussed. Volunteers and ideas are sought. The CC will help to promote the event via the notice boards, web site, and updates at meetings. **Fossoway Church Office:** Angus attended this meeting.

#### Perth & Kinross Councillors' Reports

**Cllr M Barnacle:** Has written to the responsible Minister to complain about the lack of opportunity to comment on the Reporter's changes to the LDP. The plan has now been adopted. Friends of the Ochils are proposing the Ochils to be a Designated Landscape Area. Aldie Road has had some patching done, but more major work needs to be done later this year. Core path signing in Crook of Devon area is imminent.

**Cllr D Cuthbert:** Has followed up on the enforcement issues at Easter Muirhead Equestrian centre regarding passing places and landscaping.

**Cllr J Giacomazzi:** LLCC Library hours: A protest group has been established; they will be meeting with local councillors and subsequently with the PKC official responsible. This change is part of a move towards more provision of mobile services.

#### Planning

The final LDP is now available on the PKC web site titled "Proposed Plan as Modified".

14/00084/FLL Renewal of existing consent (11/00081/FLL).

Demolition of bothy and erection of dwelling house and garage at land 20m south-west of Craighead Bungalow, Drum. No CC comment.

Local Review Body Appeals:

13/02117/IPL Erection of dwelling house (in principle), land at Blashieburn, Vicar's Bridge Road, Blairingone. No further CC comment.

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

No further CC comment.

Notes for information:

14/00055/FLL Formation of permanent gypsy/traveller site (maximum five caravans) and associated works (partly in retrospect), land 50m south-west of Laighland Stables, Mawcarse Crossroads, Mawcarse.

APP/2013/3099 Formation of permanent gypsy/traveller site at St Cyrus, Aberdeenshire. It was wrongly stated at the January CC meeting that this application had been rejected. It is in fact still pending.

Cllr Barnacle reports that he is still requesting a site meeting with Nick Brian at Lambhill wood chip plant.

**Correspondence:** Kevin went through the correspondence which was all available for reading.

#### Other Business

**Proposed High School** hours change to extend each day slightly, and finish school at Friday lunch-time: consultation with parents has taken place and the proposal is likely to go ahead.

**Thanks:** The CC wished to record their thanks to John and Graham for replacing the Blairingone noticeboard.

#### 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, Travellers' Site Crook Moss, Glenquey Quarry, Community Workshops, Speed Watch, Bus Investment Fund, Walkmill Play Park, Outh Muir Wind Farm, Winter Road Maintenance
- Community Councillors - Meetings Attended
- PKC Councillors' Reports
- Planning Applications
- Correspondence
- AOCB

**The Next Meeting of Fossoway & District CC will take place on Tuesday 4 March at 7.30pm in Blairingone Primary School. All welcome!**

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

#### 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.

## Portmoak Community Council

### News from the February Meeting

In attendance at the meeting held on 11 February 2014 were: CCllrs M Strang Steel (Chair), R Cairncross (Secy), R Williamson (Treasurer), B Calderwood and T Smith; P&K Cllrs M Barnacle, J Giacomazzi and W Robertson; one member of the Police and two members of the public. Apologies were received from CCllr S Forde and P&K Cllr D Cuthbert.

**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 on 0159 284 0672 or any member of the CC.

### Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

**Access at Grahamstone:** Resolution of the matter of signage remained.

**Path between Easter and Wester Balgedie:** A planning application for the path alongside the A911 had been submitted. The CC would write in support.

**Lomond Inn:** Potential new arrangements for recycling had been reviewed with PKC.

### Reports

**Police:** PC Douglas Stapleton was welcomed and presented the Police Report. Key points included: to be aware of Irish males selling power tools from a vehicle; and that incidents of hare coursing had been noted in Portmoak and were being pursued. As always with any suspicious incident the public are encouraged to note vehicle registration numbers. PC Stapleton's remit had extended to include Rural/Farm Watch.

**Treasurer:** As at the end of January 2014 a balance of £561.60 in the General Account and £770.97 in the Michael Bruce Way Account giving a total of £1,332.57. New arrangements from PKC for Administrative and Supplementary Grants CC were considered. A top-up system will mean that community councils, which have a balance of funds at the year-end of less than £700 following submission of their examined annual accounts, will receive a grant to top-up their balance to £700. The CC would consider, in light of this information, how best to manage its budget.

**Planning:** The CC considered the following planning applications and agreed not to object to:

14/00184/FLL Iona, Back Dykes Road, Kinnesswood, modification of windows and door; and

14/00135/PN Vane Farm Nature Centre, application for annual Kinross Show

These decisions were unanimous.

The CC noted:

14/00008/EIA Proposal for 11 windmills at Blairadam, Fife. This was a significant development. PKC had, on behalf of the CC sought an extension of the consultation period and was pursuing improved View Point information from Kinross-shire. The CC, in light of further information, would consider whether to object to the plans and in parallel would explore eligibility for community benefit.

13/02250/FLL PKC had granted planning consent to modify plots 8, 9, and 10 and had confirmed the path and its maintenance arrangements leading from the Development through these plots and into The Green.

13/01858/FLL Land east of Causeway Cottage, Scotlandwell, erection of a dwelling house and garage. No progress.

13/01976/FLL Plans to revise the junction at Kilmagadwood with A911. This would be determined shortly by PKC. Safety issues were again raised and noted.

**Local Development Plan:** The LDP had been adopted by PKC on 3 February 2014 and should shortly come in to effect. It can be downloaded. Preparations for the successor Plan have now begun.

**Developer contributions:** The Chairman and Secretary will meet shortly with Ward Councillors and officials to review current concerns. Cllr J Giacomazzi was thanked for his assistance in securing the developer contribution of £400 for trees in The Green.

**Roads:** CCllr Bruce Calderwood reported that council members would meet shortly with Daryl McKeown, PKC Road Safety Officer to review both his own traffic survey of Portmoak and the revised "Summary Road Report" for Portmoak. Informed by this the Council would also write to Keith Brown MSP, Minister for Transport, to support the request for south approaches at Junction 7 on the M90. Concern about the state of the pavement outside the Shop in Kinnesswood would be discussed with Daryl McKeown. The CC was assured that warning chevrons on the Gullet Bridge were imminent and it would seek advice from Scotlandwell in Bloom about the missing award signs for the village. It was noted that the banking of the narrow footpath alongside the A911 from the Church to Scotlandwell was being trimmed back.

**Paths:** CCllr Tom Smith reported that the "Paths Group" of the CC had now been formed. Its first task would be to complete an audit of all paths in Portmoak. The establishment of the Group had been widely welcomed.

### Ward Councillor Reports

Cllr W Robertson reported on the process to finalise the triennial budget. Consideration was being given on how to spend the underspend for the current financial year. He noted that the viability of the Perth and Kinross Countryside Trust was in question and that, as a consequence, TRACKS will have to raise funds from elsewhere to cover its running costs.

Cllr J Giacomazzi confirmed the prudence of the current and past administration in managing the current budget.

Cllr M Barnacle commended the Eco Project at Portmoak Primary School and reported that the supplementary guidance on Housing in the Countryside was under review and that the provisions for Gypsy Travellers merited review.

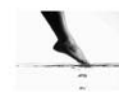
**The next meeting of Portmoak CC will be held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 11 March 2014 at Portmoak Primary School.**

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

### SOLE SOLUTIONS

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BSc MChS

07888836961



Shona Simpson

BSc (HONS) MChS

07734347751

## Cleish & Blairadam CC

### News from the February Meeting

Present at the meeting held on 3 February 2014 were: CCllrs R Kitchin (Chair), P Fraser, N Robertson, J Moore and R Jeffrey; P&K Cllrs M Barnacle and Giacomazzi; PC Douglas Stapleton and three members of the public. Apologies were received from H Somerville, M Traylor and P&K Cllr D Cuthbert.

**Crime Prevention:** PC Douglas Stapleton reported a theft of firewood from a farm in Cleish. He warned us to be aware of bogus workmen, men selling power tools and make sure all outhouses are secure against the opportunist thief. Should you see anything suspicious, take a car registration and call 101.

#### Correspondance

A letter was received confirming that Patty is the Data Protection officer for the CC.

A letter regarding longer opening hours for T in the Park was received. It requested the CC to confirm this was acceptable. The conclusion was that an earlier start on the Friday was a good idea.

A letter saying the Local Plan was to be adopted. Supplementary guidance notes still have to be adopted.

An e-mail was received from the Council on their Draft Forest and Woodland Strategy; this has been forwarded to Fiona for her input.

**CC website:** Fran reported that the website is having 40-50 sessions per day. The planning page has been updated. There has been request by some for the newsletter to be e-mailed direct. The PKC councillors will also receive the newsletter by e-mail. There is a request for more photos; please send to francis@cleish.org. There is to be a link to the Visitlochleven website.

**Village update – Blairadam:** The main concern is the state of the roads; the potholes are increasing in depth and number. Individuals are to be encouraged to report road faults to Clarence on 0800232323 and the secretary will send a report to PKC.

There has been some structural damage to the Kelty Bridge which is a B listed building. As this bridge is on the boundary between Fife and Kinross-shire it is not known who is actually responsible for the structure, Cllr Giacomazzi will look into this.

**Cleish:** Again, potholes are an issue; report will be sent to PKC.

It was asked if we could have a green route through the village and also through Maryburgh. Fred, Fiona and Richard to take this forward and for Blairadam James and Nigel will take this forward.

The Church of Scotland have decided against leasing the Glebe to the CC.

This year the Best Kept Village Competition will be judged on 17 June.

**Financial update:** The bank balance is healthy and we have received our grant from PKC. We have been asked for our annual contribution to APRS. This was approved.

#### Planning

Blairadam Windfarm 14/00008/EIA: After some discussion it was agreed to object to this application, despite it being in Fife. CCllr FMcG will write and copy the objection to PKC.

An application at Moreland Farm has been withdrawn and a new application has been submitted (14/00115/FLL). Again it was agreed the plans were not in keeping with the rural setting of the house and a letter of objection would be submitted to PKC. 14/00118/FLL Nivingston requesting change of use to guest house. There was no comment made on this application.

**Outh Muir Community Meeting:** The application is with Fife Council for the Outh Muir windfarm and should it go ahead Cleish and Blairadam could benefit from community payout of up to £6000 per annum.

#### Other Business

There was a question from the floor regarding the core path network. There have been some legal problems with the implementation of some of these paths.

TRACKS were congratulated for completing their round the loch track – a magnificent achievement.

Our local tracks officer will visit us shortly.

**The Next Meeting of Cleish & Blairadam CC will take place on Monday 7 April 2014 at 7.30pm at Tabernacle Hall.**

Cleish & Blairadam CC minutes are posted on the website  
[www.cleishandblairadam.org.uk](http://www.cleishandblairadam.org.uk)

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# Club & Community Group News

## Kinross Radio Model Flying Club



Kinross Radio Model Flying Club was formed in 1996 with the objective of promoting and furthering activities in the field of radio control model construction and flying. (And also having fun with this fantastic hobby!)

Our flying site is situated 2.5 miles west of Kinross on the A977. We are lucky to have one of the longest grass runways in Scotland with no obstructions at either end. The runway allows us to operate large models and the occasional jet with no problems.



*Custom paint jobs make scary helicopters!*

We have a club hut with facilities for tea, coffee and those all-important bacon rolls!

We are keen to help anyone new to the sport and, if required, can offer friendly advice in choosing, setting up and flying your first aircraft or helicopter. We offer flight training under close supervision of instructors using a Buddy Box system, which makes the learning time considerably shorter and hopefully saves first time buyers from damaging their new purchases.

We also have SAA examiners both for fixed wing and helicopters who are there to help members further their skills and work towards the SAA achievement scheme.

Club days are Wednesday and Sunday from around 10.00. However, during the summer months, if it's a nice evening, on just about any day, you'll also find people flying at our field.

At our site we operate an off the peg frequency control system for both 35MHz and 2.4GHz. Regular events are organised throughout the year. See our Events page for further details.

We cater for all aspects of flying, from gliders to electric to nitro and petrol. Our

members have a huge range of aircraft from war birds to large 100cc petrol aerobatic planes.

We have three dedicated hovering areas for helicopters, which are ideal to learn hovering with the help of our examiners. Once hovering is mastered, our helicopter pilots can move onto the main runway to learn those next all important moves.



*A scale F72 Raptor takes to the skies...*

Getting yourself set in this hobby can easily be done for around £250 or so, but speak to us first and we will let you know what's out there for the beginner.

Interested? Pop along to our site and have a look, and a taster of what it's all about.

**WARNING - you'll probably become addicted to flying models!**

Children under 16 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.

For more information visit our website:  
[www.kinrossmodellflyingclub.com](http://www.kinrossmodellflyingclub.com)



*The club has three dedicated hovering areas for helicopters*



## Keep Kinross Library Open Campaign

Thank you to everyone who has supported the campaign against Perth and Kinross Council's proposed cuts to opening hours at Loch Leven Community Campus Library. Over 400 people signed the petition. Facebook posts were read by up to 700 people, and over 60 people demonstrated outside the Library. Our campaign was covered by the Courier, the Advertiser, Radio Tay and the Kinross Community Newsletter. Most importantly, local Library users of different ages told us how vital their access to the Library was – for studying, doing homework, searching for jobs, reading to children, selecting new novels to take home, researching health issues... We met a great range of people who use the Library in different ways to support their everyday lives.

Sadly, despite our very strong case, and the fact that our library is the busiest in the region after AK Bell Library, the Council has decided to go ahead and reduce the Library's opening hours. From April 2014, the Library, like other PKC libraries, will be shut to the public all day on a Monday, and from 1pm on a Saturday. Library access will be cut from 51 to 41 library hours per week, of which only three hours will be during the weekend. Customer First access to Council services may also be affected on Mondays.

We believe any small saving resulting from closing the Library doors comes at great cost. The Campus Library is a crucial centre of social investment in our children and our wider communities.

Councillor Bob Band is Convenor of the Lifelong Learning Committee which agreed the cut to Library hours. He advised the Campaign Group at a recent meeting that Council procedures did not allow the Committee to revisit November's decision for six months. However, Council officers will report back to the Committee about the implementation of the reduced hours on 27 August. Local Councillors have agreed to liaise with Library users before then so that their feedback, and common sense, might influence the Committee when they meet again. Please continue to contact all four local councillors, and your Community Council, to protect our Campus Library from further cuts, and to promote ideas to develop our fantastic resource.

Telephone contacts and addresses for all councillors are in the Notices section of this Newsletter and on the PKC website.

*"A library outranks any other one thing a community can do to benefit its people. It is a never failing spring in the desert."*

*Andrew Carnegie,  
Scotland's Great Industrialist, Philanthropist  
and Library Benefactor (1835-1919)*

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## Common Grounds



March is promising to be a busy time for Common Grounds. On 8 March we will be supporting the Better Place to Live Fair at the Community Campus. Please visit our stand and find out more about our current projects. Later in the month, on **Tuesday 25 March**, we will be hosting our latest **Project Lunch** at the Guide and Scout Hall, Milnathort at 12 noon and will have a "two for one" special as Peter and Christine Matthews from Bees for Development (Troy Trust) will be our guest speakers. Do join us for some tasty homemade soup, bread, home baking and Fairtrade tea or coffee; a warm welcome will be awaiting not only our loyal supporters, but also new faces. Please note these dates in your diary.

**Project:** Our February project was Tools with a Mission (TWAM) who collect tools from all over the UK and refurbish as necessary and ship out to Africa to support various projects in a number of countries. In 2013 they sent 18 containers. Training is given to students and at the end of their course they are given a toolkit. Some organise themselves into a co-operative which means that they can be given larger equipment such as a lathe which they can share. Our March project is our annual "Out of Africa" and this year it is Find Your Feet, a small organisation with over 50 years experience working in some of the most remote areas of India and Nepal. Find Your Feet supports poor rural families to grow enough food so they can feed their children all year round, access clean water and earn enough money to send their children to school and afford basic medicines.

**Donate** to Common Grounds on MyDonate.Com and find out more on the website:

[www.spanglefish.com/commongroundscharitycafe](http://www.spanglefish.com/commongroundscharitycafe)

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: Elspeth Caldwell (Convenor) 01577 863350 and Linda Freeman (Secretary) 01577 865045.

## Kinross-shire Day Centre

On 21 January, about 35 service users from the Day Centre, Whyte Court and Causeway Court were entertained to a lovely Burns meal by senior pupils at Kinross High School. The pupils entertained us with singing, Scottish country dancing (which we joined in with enthusiastically), poetry reading, and music. A lovely time was had by all and we thank the pupils most warmly. They must have put a lot of hard work into arranging the afternoon.

We also had a Burns lunch in the Day Centre on 23 January. The service users were piped in by Richard Scott and he also gave the address to the haggis. Bob Pryde provided the entertainment after lunch. Thank you to everyone who worked together to give us a lovely day.

If you would like to be involved with the Day Centre, as a service user, a volunteer or as a supporter, speak to Nan Cook on 863869.

*For details of the Day Centre weekly programme, see p. 108.*

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

## Kinross and District Probus Club



The 32 members and three visitors attending the meeting on 22 January enjoyed a very interesting talk from Lieutenant Commander Nathan Gillett, Royal Navy, about the new aircraft carrier *Queen Elizabeth* currently under construction at Rosyth. The new aircraft carrier will be the second ship of the Royal Navy to be named *Queen Elizabeth*, the previous ship of that name having served with distinction in both World Wars. She will be by far the largest ship in the Royal Navy, displacing 65,000 tonnes. As a floating launch pad carrying both fixed wing aircraft and helicopters, she will be a potent force capable of striking deep into a potential enemy country at fairly short notice. She will be manned by 1500 personnel, a sizeable floating community, all of whom will enjoy comforts and state-of-the-art facilities previously unheard of in the Royal Navy. It was interesting to hear from Lt Commander Gillett that the well-being of the crew is his top priority; a happy crew is an effective crew.

On the subject of communication between crew and home, Lt Commander Gillett gave an example of how procedure has changed because of the mobile phone. At one time the news of a bereavement would reach a sailor via the ship's communication system, and then conveyed in person by an officer or a chaplain. Nowadays, however, the member of the crew can receive the message directly from home, and the officer or chaplain can only react to the news if and when the sailor makes it known.

Construction of the *Queen Elizabeth* is now well under way as the different modules, constructed in various parts of the UK, are brought to Rosyth for assembly. When fully assembled she will be floated out of dry dock and then be made ready for sea trials, eventually coming into service in 2017. By that date her sister ship *Prince of Wales* should

already be under construction in the same dry dock at Rosyth.

Because of financial constraints, compromises have been inevitable in construction: nuclear power, which would have been ideal for a ship such as the *Queen Elizabeth* because of her projected world-wide deployment, was out of the question; she is oil-fired and will require frequent re-fuelling at sea. Also being an enormous aircraft carrier with a considerable "overhang", there are only a few ports where she can berth.

Throughout his talk, which was interspersed with jokes largely at the expense of the Royal Air Force (our president told him he had served with the RAF), it was obvious that Lt Commander Gillett was immensely proud to be responsible for his stage in the process of getting the *Queen Elizabeth* ready for service.

The vote of thanks was given by Frank Wellman.

President Bill Michie welcomed 37 members, one visitor and guest speaker, Mr Alistair Todd, to the meeting on Wednesday 5 February. Mr Todd's subject was "The Galapagos Islands", where he had spent a week photographing the flora and fauna, and the rocky landscape, which is of volcanic origin. Members of the club were entertained by the marvellous photographs, especially the close-ups, of creatures such as giant tortoises, sea-lions, iguanas, rice rats, and a large variety of birds, including such species as owls, penguins, whimbrel, warblers, lava herons, frigate birds and many more.

Because of the inhospitable nature of the land and the geographical situation of The Galapagos, there are few centres of population, two of the main towns being San Christobal and Espanola. Each has a population of a few thousand. Much of their income comes from tourism, especially from scuba divers.

The vote of thanks was proposed by Ron Smith.

## Boys Brigade

The Company is continuing to be busy with a number of competitions in full swing. Junior Section members are preparing for the Battalion figure marching and singing competitions.

Company Section members have recently completed the annual Battalion Scripture Search, finding answers to questions about sections of the Bible. At the Battalion basketball and volleyball competitions in Bell's Sports Centre, the Kinross teams retained both trophies, winning all their games.

In the national badminton competition, Kinross defeated Inverness to qualify for the Scottish final but the table tennis team narrowly lost to a Glasgow company. Members are also preparing for the Battalion drill competition and senior five-a-side football competition.

The Company has now registered with the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme with a number of members signed up to start their preparations.

Seven senior members are working towards their President's Badges and six are working towards their Queen's Badges, undertaking training courses at local and national levels.

Members are also looking forward to holiday camps with Juniors heading off to a Scottish Centres' base in central Scotland over the May holiday weekend and Company Section members heading to Perth's twin town of Aschaffenburg at the end of June.



## Kinross & Ochil Walking Group

(Affiliated to Ramblers Scotland)

Need to get out and blow the cobwebs away? Want to meet new people? Winter walks can be beautiful, as well as the best way to improve your general health and fitness. Whether you're new to walking, returning to walking or a regular walker, try out a walk or two to see if you'd like to join us. You will be made very welcome.

**Saturday 1st March:** Dollar to Rumbling Bridge, 8 miles. Easy walking mainly on paths and tracks from Dollar to Rumbling Bridge and return. Open country, woodland and waterfalls.

**Sunday 16 March:** Forestmill Circular, 7½ miles. Flat walk along the old railway cutting North to Lint Mill skirting the Eastern edge of Gartmorn dam, then following Black Devon to Forest Mill and CP.

**Saturday 29 March:** Fiè Coastal Path - Inverkeithing to Burntisland, 10 miles. Interesting walk along the coast - particularly beautiful if daffodils are out! Return to start point by service bus.

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.

For further details and where to meet us, please call our Group Secretary, Jacqui Ritchie, on 01577 866813.

## Portmoak Festival 2014

**22 June - 29 June**

This year we are celebrating the 11th Portmoak Festival – put the dates in your diary and join our local community for a week of entertainment and fun. A full timetable of events will be available early June – firm favourites will all make their annual appearance. The P7 Prom this year is on Thursday 26 June.

We are hosting our Annual Art exhibition and entry forms will be available from the end of April. Please do get in touch if you are interested in exhibiting or if you require any further information: [prtmkfestival@googlemail.com](mailto:prtmkfestival@googlemail.com)

### BIG SHOUT OUT TO PORTMOAK LOCALS...

...Portmoak Festival desperately needs new helpers this year as we are a few key players down. We require helpers in the few weeks before the festival but especially during festival week. Help is needed in many areas including: marquee field preparation, hanging of bunting in the villages, hanging of bunting in the field, electrical work, art exhibition set up, recycling and disposal of trash, set up of marquee between events, portaloo cleaning, pudding making, selling of Art work and raffle tickets ..... the list is endless! If you can donate your time in any way please contact Harry (01592 840294), Elizabeth (01592 840655) or Kathrine (01592 840767) or email us at:

[prtmkfestival@googlemail.com](mailto:prtmkfestival@googlemail.com)

We look forward to seeing you at Portmoak Festival 2014.

## Home Start

Home-Start Perth is a voluntary organisation which supports families with young children throughout Perth and Kinross. Our trained volunteers, who all have parenting experience, will visit a family in their own home offering practical and emotional support in situations as diverse as isolation, bereavement, multiple births, illness, disability or just where parenting is a struggle. Our volunteers are non-judgemental and will help build the family's confidence and ability to cope with day to day family life.

Volunteering for Home-Start Perth can be very rewarding. If you have parenting experience and feel you could spare some time to support a family in your community, then please get in touch. After an initial training course (5 hours per week for 9 weeks) we can offer expenses, support, ongoing training and opportunities to meet other volunteers in return for 2 hours of your time each week. Our next course will be running on Tuesdays from the end of April to June.

We are also keen to encourage new Trustees to Home-Start Perth. If you feel you have skills which could benefit the organisation, please get in touch for an informal chat in the first instance.

If you are interested in the Home-Start's work, becoming a volunteer or a Trustee, please give Kirsty or Fiona a phone on 01738 638847. Alternatively, have a look at our website [www.homestartperth.org.uk](http://www.homestartperth.org.uk) or email us on: [info@homestartperth.org.uk](mailto:info@homestartperth.org.uk).



## Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation



**Fun for all the family!**

**Feel Good Fair at Loch Leven Half**

**Marathon / Loch Leven Pipe Band Contest**

In conjunction with the Kinross Road Runners and the Kinross Pipe Band, KLEO will be arranging some entertainment and fun activities at the finish line of the Loch Leven Half Marathon. While you wait for the runners coming in, come along and browse through the wares of local stallholders, take part in a tug of war or in other mini Highland Games. The whole event will take place on the playing fields behind the Community Campus on **Saturday 10 May**. Put this date in your diary!

If your local group, club or charity would like a free stall at the Feel Good Fair, please let us know. Businesses can hire a stall space for £10 (you have to bring your own stall); other stall opportunities to be confirmed at a later stage. If you would like to register your interest, reserve a stall space or would like more information, then please contact Gerry McGregor at the Campus on (01577) 867119 / 867200 or at [GMcGregor@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:GMcGregor@pkc.gov.uk). Previous stallholders will be contacted shortly once the range of stall opportunities are confirmed.

If interested in any of the other activities, please e-mail Bouwien Bennet at [bouwien@kleo.org.uk](mailto:bouwien@kleo.org.uk).

### Leven Voices

Leven Voices has been running now for a few weeks this year with a great variety of Horsecross Arts Tutors. In March the tutor will be Harry Campbell from Muldoon's Picnic, focusing on shapenote music.

Leven Voices is for anyone who just wants to sing and have fun! You can join in anytime.

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!

For more information about KLEO, go to [www.kleo.org.uk](http://www.kleo.org.uk) or e-mail [info@kleo.org.uk](mailto:info@kleo.org.uk).

## Kinross-shire Ladies Circle



Once again, Kinross-shire Ladies Circle held an enjoyable Annual Charity Comedy Night, on 15 February. This year we were supporting JDRF – a Type 1 diabetes charity.

We would like to thank Susan Britton from Friends of Milnathort Town Hall and the Milnathort Guide and Scout Hall Committee for providing us with a last minute alternative venue!

Stewart and Smart Garage and Car Sales, Milnathort and Gault and Oliphant Dental Surgery very kindly sold tickets for the event.

We received some great raffle prizes from the following local businesses: Knockhill Racing Circuit, The Muirs Inn, The Windlestrae Hotel, Todd and Duncan Cashmere, Hunter's of Kinross, The Complete Look Beauty Salon, Loch Leven's Larder and Sainsburys, Kinross – many thanks to you all!

Thanks, also, to the volunteers that helped make this event a great one! Don't forget to like our Facebook page for all upcoming events.

## Kinross and District Art Club



Painting an entire landscape in oils using the wet on wet, or *alla prima* method, was the subject of a demonstration given to club members at a recent Group Activity. Auchterarder artist, Allan Perera-Liyanage, featured in the photo here, surprised everyone by beginning with a piece of board covered in red paint, which he explained, was a foundation colour which would add depth to the overlay of subtle greys, purples and greens of his painting. Members were intrigued to see the resultant delightful Scottish landscape of hills, loch and grassland emerge in just under an hour.



Allan Perera-Liyanage demonstrates the *alla prima* method

After the customary tea break, we were treated to a slide show of Allan's latest collection of excellent paintings, done in oils, watercolour and acrylic and some featuring his specialist subject of aviation. To finish off the afternoon we were treated to a short film he made recently of a visit to his homeland of Sri Lanka. KADAC Chairman Doug Hague commented that rarely had we had such good value in an afternoon, with a demonstration, an exhibition and a film show all in one session! You can view Allan's work on his web site at: [www.perera-liyanage.co.uk](http://www.perera-liyanage.co.uk)

The next highlight for the club will be an outing in late March to the see the JD Fergusson Exhibition at the National Gallery of Modern Art in Edinburgh.

Find out more about the Art Club on our web site at [www.kadac.co.uk](http://www.kadac.co.uk) or ring Glenys on 07702 572664.

We will also have a stand at the Better Place to Live Fair on Saturday 8 March at the Loch Leven Community Campus.

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## Milnathort Town Hall Association

### Milnathort Town Hall Draw 50/50 Club February Draw

1st	No.11	Cathie Ferrier	£30
2nd	No.34	Tolson	£15
3rd	No.74	Britton	£5

There were 50 entries this month hence the prize fund £50. The more numbers you have the higher your chances of winning!

If you would like to join or increase your number of entries, please contact Graeme Marshall on 07987 699 691/01577 863042 in the first instance, or via Facebook.

You've got to be in it to win it!

Join 'Friends of Milnathort Town Hall' on Facebook and keep up-to-date with fundraising events and news of the renovation.

## Kinross Potager Garden

[www.potagergardenkinross.com](http://www.potagergardenkinross.com)



It is lovely at last to see signs of spring in our gardens, and we are looking forward to another productive season at the Potager Garden.

**Volunteer sessions** will start again on Monday mornings at about 10.30am, from the beginning of March, weather permitting. Any new volunteers will be most welcome to join our friendly team, you do not need gardening experience, and we have some activities which can be done seated and under cover, for people who are less energetic. You can also call to see **our range of plants for sale**, on Monday mornings, or by arrangement.

The garden will also be open during the day from the end of March, and **anyone is welcome to visit**. Children under 16 should be supervised by an adult, dogs on a lead, and please do not touch or taste the plants. If you would like to **arrange a group visit** to the garden, and our new sensory area, please contact Amanda, as below.

We will have a stand at the **Better Place to Live Fair on Saturday 8 March**. Why not come along and see our spring plants for sale, and have a chat with some of the volunteers? We will also be planting cress head pots with children, and others who are young at heart!

We are grateful to **Dobbies** in Kinross for adopting us last year as their Local Charity of the Year, and fundraising with them has raised around £300 over the last year. Thank you to everyone who has supported us in our activities there.

**We are pleased to welcome the Milnathort and Kinross Allotments Association to growing in the town**, and look forward to working with them in developing some training events, and a community area at the site behind Dobbies, over the summer. We have wildlife friendly plants ready to donate to them, as the garden area develops.

We will also soon be **working again with Kinross Primary School**, with one of the P5 classes making their first visit to the garden before the Easter holidays, and then weekly in the summer term.

For further information contact Amanda James, telephone (01577) 840809, or email [amanda@tyafon.plus.com](mailto:amanda@tyafon.plus.com)

### Discover Loch Leven Website

To discover the myriad things to see and do in Kinross-shire and its neighbouring counties, visit  
[www.visitlochleven.org](http://www.visitlochleven.org)

## Inner Wheel of Kinross & District

**Report November 2013 – February 2014**

Our meetings over the winter have had a variety of stimulating and interesting speakers.

In November Dr James Simpson gave us a very amusing and pertinent talk about diminishing youth, highlighted with extracts from his book "At Our Age". This book gives humorous reflections on the ageing process. The royalties of all of Dr Simpson's books go to support Cystic Fibrosis, a disease to which his granddaughter has unfortunately recently succumbed. The meeting closed with a very vibrant book sale.

In December our speaker was Veronica Hawkins, the back pack co-ordinator in Fife for Mary's Meals. Veronica gave us an overview of all aspects of the Mary's Meals charity, while highlighting the main work, which served over 125 million meals to children in impoverished countries in 2012. In January Dorothy Thomson spoke with candour and humour about her life as a racehorse trainer, highlighting the problems that can arise when managing humans as well as horses.

In February Jacqueline and Adam Winski told us about the history of their family business, the range of products that they sell and service; all backed by expertise acquired over many years.

In March we will be holding our **Charity Bridge event**. This takes place on **Friday 28 March** in Milnathort Bowling Club. A soup and sandwich lunch will be served at 12 noon, with play starting immediately afterwards; afternoon tea will be available at the close of play. The cost is £12.50 per person with tickets available from Liz Pottie, who can be contacted by e-mail to: [lizpottie@btinternet.com](mailto:lizpottie@btinternet.com)



## Kinross Camera Club

It has been another good month for the camera club. Willie and Jane Turnbull gave us a photographic tour from their travels.

There have been a few competitions including creative digital, a panel of three prints on the theme of colour, and most recently our new category of audiovisual slideshows. The annual AGM was held this month and a new committee appointed.

If you are interested in finding out more about the club, come and say hello at our stand at the **Better Place to Live Fair** on 8 March. Alternatively visit the website at [www.kinrosscameraclub.org.uk](http://www.kinrosscameraclub.org.uk) or email: [sallyroberts100@hotmail.com](mailto:sallyroberts100@hotmail.com)



## Lodge St Serf No 327

**March**

Tue 4th	Regular Meeting at 7.15pm. Fellow Craft Degree with candidate. Annual visitation of Provincial Grand Lodge of Fife & Kinross.
Tue 11th	General Committee Meeting at 7.30pm. Arrange work for next Regular Meeting.
Tue 18th	Regular Meeting at 7.15pm. Master Mason Degree with candidate.
Tue 25th	General Committee Meeting at 7.30pm. Arrange work for next Regular Meeting.



## Rotary Club of Kinross & District



Members are usually expected to fill the Speaker's slot at a Club meeting shortly after joining the Club by giving their Job Talk and telling us all that we need to know about them! Somehow, one member had managed to slip through the net, having been a regular attender for some time before we heard the background to the formation of the Cliff Megginson Electrical business.

Our knowledge of 21st Century education was brought up to date by Dick Keatings, Head Teacher of Kinross High School and Manager of Loch Leven Community Campus. For many members for whom schooldays are a distant memory, there was much to learn about modern education, and an illuminating talk gave rise to a lively question and answer session.

We were taken on a trip to Downtown Toronto by Rotarian Alistair Smith, whose illustrated talk highlighting the interesting and varied architecture of one of North America's most vibrant cities was enjoyed by all.

For a number of years, the Club has sponsored an Interact Club at Kinross High School, an organisation which encourages senior pupils to become involved in community related activities. Interact members appoint their own office bearers and are responsible for organising their own programme of events. In December, they joined with Rotarians for the Community Christmas Concert held in the Church Centre, and since then, have held a Burns Supper for senior citizens. They have also carried out a town 'litter pick', and competed (successfully) against Rotarians at an Indoor Games evening held in Kinross Rugby Club. Other plans for coming months include: a Beetle Drive for Primary Schools, a Lunchtime Concert, Charity Bag Packing, assisting Rotary at the annual Primary Schools Quiz, a Spring Ball for junior High School pupils, and a Concert. There are some very busy young people in our community!

The Club meets in the Windlestrae Hotel at 6pm for a meal at 6.30. For more information contact Secretary Neil Maclure at [neil.maclure19@gmail.com](mailto:neil.maclure19@gmail.com)

## Kinross Garden Group



Mr John Porter welcomed all to the February meeting and a interesting talk and slides was given by Dr Carole Bainbridge on 'A Garden from Scratch'. The next meeting is on **Thursday 13 March** at 2pm in Millbridge Hall when Mr Ian Christie from Kirmuir will talk on 'The Scottish Wildflower'.

Details for the Summer outings were given out and names are now being taken. For more details contact Mrs C Rodger on 01577 863785.

### PLANNING PERMISSION BUILDING WARRANTS

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For free advice



## Transport on menu at Kinross-shire Partnership's February Business Breakfast

Following a swift festive hibernation, Kinross-shire Partnership's popular Business Breakfast series resumed at Loch Leven's Larder on 5 February.

Thirty-six local entrepreneurs made quick work of their full Scottish breakfast while taking advantage of what Mid Scotland and Fife MSP Liz Smith, the invited speaker, later referred to as a "second to none" networking opportunity for Kinross-shire businesses.

Welcoming attendees, Partnership Chairman Alisdair Stewart hailed the green shoots of economic recovery and expressed his hopes that the effects would be felt locally, with businesses being attracted to the new plots in Kinross West. One option he is personally keen to explore is the concept of an aerospace visitor centre to reflect the area's important gliding heritage, as well as its microlighting and hot air ballooning activities.

Next, fellow KP director and Local Action Group leader Richard Jeffrey, of Tyrefair, invited business owners to contact him about any local issues or ideas they would like raised with the Council at the meeting the following week.

MSP and former Scotland cricketer Liz Smith then took to the floor to share her vision for re-establishing a direct rail link between Perth and Edinburgh, passing through Kinross. She pointed out that currently the journey from Perth to Edinburgh takes upwards of 1 hour 22 minutes by train (owing to the circuitous route) and only 55 minutes by car,

adding that direct train journeys over similar distances from Swansea to Cardiff and Ghent to Brussels take 50 and 30 minutes respectively. An improved rail connection to towns and cities north of Edinburgh would benefit both commuters and tourists immensely, just as the recently restored rail link from the Borders to Edinburgh has done for those travelling south of the capital.

With the government keen to promote the use of public transport and with traffic volumes on the M90 growing steadily, Liz feels strongly that a new Strategic Transport Projects Review is urgently required, the previous 2009 report having – in her opinion – "not been done well".

Liz concluded by urging Kinross-shire businesses to make their support for exploring the feasibility of a rail connection to Kinross known to the Scottish Government, stressing that she is not alone in her belief that the current transport infrastructure is not fit for purpose: both Perth and Dundee & Angus Chambers of Commerce are backing her call for a new study.

Last to speak were John Learmonth of PKC and Keith Scobbie of Graeme and Sibbald (marketing agents for the Kinross West plots). John explained that the five or so sites available at Kinross West range from 0.5 to 2.5 acres in size, offering a valuable opportunity for local businesses to invest in new facilities. Keith added that site plans are available online and that brochures will be available soon. Interested parties are welcome to contact him direct.

Finally, Alisdair Stewart thanked administrator Sandra Ralston for three years of loyal service to the Kinross-shire Partnership. Sandra still hopes to be involved with the business breakfasts while continuing the mammoth task of organising Perth Festival of the Arts.

The next breakfast will take place at Loch Leven's Larder on **Wednesday 5 March**. To book your place please email [mail@kinrosspartnership.org.uk](mailto:mail@kinrosspartnership.org.uk), and bring £10 on the day!

## Portmoak Film Society

Thirty filmgoers turned out to see the little gem of a film 'Restless Natives' and gave it an 84% excellent/good rating. It wasn't perhaps the most sophisticated of films, but the stunning views of Scotland's capital and the Highlands, and the fab soundtrack from Dunfermline band Big Country more than made up for that.

The Scottish theme continues on **Sunday 9 March** with 'Sunshine on Leith', last year's hit musical featuring another great soundtrack from the nation's very own Proclaimers. So make sure you come along with your singing voices and your hankies, because there's bound to be plenty of audience participation and tears may flow!

Newcomers, visitors and 'regulars' are welcome as always. Entry is £5 on the door or with your season ticket; films start promptly at 7.30 pm so please arrive early to take your seat.

For more info go to: [www.portmoakfilmsociety.org.uk](http://www.portmoakfilmsociety.org.uk)

## Portmoak Hall 100 Club

### January Draw

1st	No. 8	Bob Hagg, Scotlandwell
2nd	No. 27	Janette Gardiner, Kinnesswood
3rd	No. 88	Stephen Bassy, Kinnesswood

## Kinross Museum



A generous donation from the Kinross-shire Historical Society has made it possible for the Museum to purchase the portrait of Robert Burns Begg senior described in last month's Newsletter.

Further kind donations from members of the community will also be used to help restore the painting. An important acquisition for the Museum, this portrait is on display in our Study Room in the Loch Leven Community Campus. Its arrival is timely in that it features in the Museum's latest exhibition entitled "**When we were at the schule**", which is scheduled to open in March. This exhibition tells the stories of schools and schoolmasters in Kinross-shire.

The Museum will be taking part in the Community Campus **Better Place to Live Fair** on **8 March** and **Craft Fair** on **29 March** and we will be collaborating with the Day Centre Reminiscence Group in displaying World War I memorabilia, the first in a series of Great War exhibitions to be held over the next four years.

If you have not yet visited the Kinross (Marshall) Museum, do drop by. Our display is open all week during Library opening hours and we have volunteers ready to welcome you and help you answer queries on Thursdays and Saturdays.

## Kinross-shire Volunteer Group & Rural Outreach Scheme



The Annual Burns Supper held in January was a great success, raising approximately £1,200.

Many thanks are due to all the excellent speakers and entertainers: Jim Paterson (Chairman), Rab Hamilton (Piper), Ella Ward (Poosie Nancy), Gordon Menzies (Address to A Haggis and entertainment), Bill Macpherson (Immortal Memory), Ian Hunter (Tam o' Shanter) and Jim Aitken (Holy Willie's Prayer).



*Some of the participants at the Burns Supper*

We were also delighted to have three High School pupils take part this year; Callum Purves gave the Toast to the Lassies and Gemma Matthews responded in kind! To convince us, even further, that there is a new generation of Burns performers coming along, Jamie Lee Wardrope finished off the entertainment for the evening with To A Louse.

Thank you from the management committee and users of KVG&ROS to everyone who took part and all those who came along to enjoy the evening with us.

On 31 January **Mrs Betty Whittington** retired from volunteer driving, having been involved with the group since 1987.

Her involvement began with visiting people at home and helping with the Spark Club, a playgroup for children with special needs. That quickly led to Betty serving on the committee in various capacities and to becoming a volunteer driver.



*Anne Munro (left) presents Betty Whittington with a bouquet of flowers to mark her retirement after many years as a volunteer driver*

From April 2006 when records began to be collected until January 2014, Betty drove 1,019 users. In one year alone 191 trips were made to hospitals, health centre, hairdressers etc.

On behalf of the committee and all the users, past and present, Betty was presented with a bouquet of flowers and card by Co-coordinator, Ann Munro. Betty will be sadly missed by all the users and we extend a big "thank you" to her and good wishes for the future.

## Dobbies Community Champion

I have recently made a donation of tools, seeds and wildlife friendly plants to **Muckhart Primary School**, under our "**Here we Grow**" programme, and have other similar projects planned locally, as spring progresses. If your school or community group would like to apply for help with a growing project under the programme, please contact me at Manager.Kinross@dobbies.com.

Also, let me know if you would like to arrange a **date for a charity can collection** at the store.

The next **Little Seedlings Club** meeting will be on **Sunday 2 March**, at 11am, looking at "Meat-eating monsters in the garden", and making a gift for Mother's Day. All children from 4 to 10 years are welcome, accompanied by an adult, and the sessions are free.

We are very pleased to see that the **new allotments** on the site behind the Dobbies' store will soon be up and running, and they have kindly offered a **new home for the Little Seedlings in their community hut**, with use of a plot of land, to grow our own flowers and vegetables! This will let us do some more interesting activities over the summer, and watch our plants grow, until they are ready for harvesting. We hope that the **April 6th meeting of Little Seedlings** can be the first at the allotment site, but I will meet everyone as

usual at the garden centre, until we are all gathered together. Please watch out in next month's newsletter for details of a children's **Easter holiday activity session**, announcement of our new **Local Charity of the Year**, and an **exciting community seed planting initiative**, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the First World War.

In the meantime, I can be contacted at the email address above, or leave a message for me on (01577) 863327.

Amanda James, Community Champion

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## Compassion Corner

At our January meeting the “County of Compassion” hopefuls continued to explore the various ways in which individuals, organisations and our local churches strive to meet the needs of vulnerable people locally and globally. The latest endeavour is a plan to set up a food bank in Kinross, which is a stark reminder to all of us that poverty is not confined to developing countries. Donations of dried goods like pastas, cereals, canned foods etc are now being collected at the local churches and the church office in Milnathort.

There are numerous resources to help address the problem of isolation and loneliness. “Churches Together” are currently exploring a plan initiated by the Bethany Trust to train befrienders who would pay weekly visits to people who live alone and help them become more integrated into their community. There are also pastoral workers in each of our churches who will visit the housebound and the sick regardless of whether or not they are church members. But for those who are willing and able to venture out on their own, Common Grounds in Milnathort is open four mornings a week for coffee and home baking served by very friendly volunteers and the “Talking Donkey”, also staffed by volunteers in Millbridge Hall in Kinross serves a complimentary lunch and befriending to anyone who cares to drop in on a Friday. Their trained volunteers are also willing to pray with you, only if you wish, as are the team in the Healing Rooms on Thursdays in the Milnathort Church Office. Seniors’ social needs are well served Monday to Friday in the Church Centre with a programme of activities, a midday meal and regular outings. Transport is provided where needed. “MindSpace Counselling Service” is another wonderful service offering free counselling to young people aged 11-25 who are facing a wide range of difficulties such as: bullying, depression, parents splitting up, self-harming, etc. Help is only a phone call away!

But our Compassion is also being constantly extended to people in other countries through major fundraising and visits to projects in Africa and Eastern Europe. Alan Reid and Jo Middlemiss have both been to projects in Ethiopia this month. The students in Kinross High School are continuing to raise funds and awareness for the work of Mary’s Meals. Common Grounds have surpassed £100,000 for African projects and we are about to be asked to dig deep for Sports Relief and Christian Aid. Fairtrade Fortnight (28 Feb – 15 Mar) will be another opportunity for our community to support the farmers who need a fair wage for growing all those bananas that we consume daily!

So I think it’s fair to say that when it comes to compassionate communities, Kinross is “The Better Place to Live”, which we look forward to being part of on 8 March at the Community Campus.

Marg Meade

## 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 Parish Church

### Church Thanked for Gifts

Appreciation has been expressed to Kinross Parish Church for its efforts in providing gifts for those who can feel on the margins at Christmas. The congregation gave small presents which were prepared at a ‘Christmas Wrap’ night organised by the church’s ‘House Groups’ – informal Bible Study groups that normally meet in folks’ houses.

The gifts were distributed through Perth-based CATH (Churches Action for the Homeless) and the Perth Prison Visitors’ Centre run by Crossreach, the social care arm of the Church of Scotland. Both organisations have now thanked the church, with CATH saying that ‘in many cases the gifts were the only ones some CATH users received and the feedback from the recipients has been very positive’. The Visitors’ Centre said; ‘most prisoners’ families sit on the periphery of communities so these gifts are very special’.

Ordained Local Minister, Revd Margaret Michie, said: “It’s great to hear that those who received the gifts enjoyed them. We were only too happy to help in this way. The Christmas Wrap evening was one of enjoyment and fellowship for ourselves as well.”

### Parish Church supports High School Fundraising

An approach from Kinross High School student Rachel Miller to Kinross Parish Church of Scotland will lead to a further boost to the school’s fundraising initiative on behalf of ‘Mary’s Meals’.

The High School decided to support this fantastic Scottish-based charity for a year, with a target of £11,000 by the end of the 2013-14 term. This target has already been exceeded and the school has now set its sights on a target of £18,000. Following the plea from Rachel, Kinross Parish Church has decided to support the High School’s magnificent efforts by making ‘Mary’s Meals’ the subject of its special collections at the Communion Services on Sunday 2 March.

Mary’s Meals has the sole intent of feeding as many children around the world, in as many places of education, as possible and is now feeding 822,000 children around the world every day.

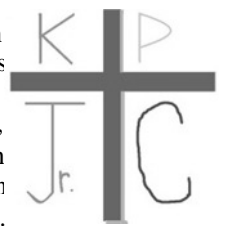
### Junior Church

The Junior Church of Kinross Parish Church of Scotland is settling in to its new timings for Sunday mornings. According to leader Lynn Caldwell, “Meeting from 10.15am at the Church Centre and returning to Church to join with our extended family is working well.

We always practise the songs before we come up to the church, especially if we can put actions to them. The children are enjoying being part of the service and sharing their learning”. The new arrangement also allows the whole family to enjoy the fellowship time of tea, coffee and juice after the service.

The teaching programme started the year looking at some of the Parables Jesus taught: The Good Samaritan, The Sower, and the Prodigal Son to name a few. The Parable of the Mustard Seed was illustrated by making a tree which grew very quickly from a Mustard Seed!

Lynn says: “We hope that the new timings will encourage more young people to join us. Junior Church welcomes any children from age 3 upwards to join us on a Sunday morning”. She can be contacted through the church office, telephone 01577 862570 or email [office@kinrossparishchurch.org](mailto:office@kinrossparishchurch.org)





## Kinnesswood in Bloom

The Quiz and Curry night has now been planned in conjunction with Scotlandwell in Bloom. Posters are going up and tickets are now available at the shop and from committee members from both groups. This was a great night last year so snap up those tickets now.

Work parties will resume in March when hopefully the ground will have dried out sufficiently and the weather is a little warmer. New helpers will be very welcome. Look on the notice board for details. The usual time is 10am on Saturdays but if anyone can work at any other time please let us know.

Along with other In Bloom Groups we try to keep our own area litter free. Keep Scotland Tidy are asking people to do litter picks throughout the year rather than just a Spring clean up. Clean up Scotland are looking for one million people to sign up to tackle the litter problem. Recently five bags of litter were removed from the roadside between Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell. The roadside was pretty clear but a week later another bag was removed from the same area. This litter is mostly thrown from cars. What a pity it is that we have to go out and do these clean ups. What will the countryside look like when we have all these visitors from all over the world to the Commonwealth Games and the Ryder Cup?

To mark the centenary of the beginning of the First World War, it was decided to plant a display of red poppies at the Celtic Cross beside the War memorial. The railings will be painted and some new edging put in. Benches around the village will be repaired.

The next meeting will be held at 7.30 on **Thursday 6 March** at the Well Inn.



## Recipe

supplied by Kinnesswood in Bloom

### Spring Vegetable Frittata

#### Ingredients

4 large new potatoes, cooked but still firm  
100g baby courgettes  
100g spring onions  
100g fresh peas  
3 tablespoons olive oil  
6 eggs  
100g cream or crème fraîche  
1 tablespoon parsley  
1 teaspoon chopped thyme  
Salt and pepper  
50g grated parmesan

#### Method

Slice the potatoes thinly. Heat 2 tablespoons of oil over a low heat in a fairly deep frying pan. Add the spring onions. Fry gently for 5 minutes. Add the courgettes and cook for a further 5 minutes. Add the peas and cook for 2 minutes.

Whisk the eggs, parsley, thyme and cream. Add in the vegetables with all the cooking juices, potatoes and parmesan and incorporate well. Wipe out the frying pan and coat with remaining olive oil. Return to the hob over a low heat and add the egg mixture. Cook for 5 minutes over the low heat. Heat under a moderate grill for a few minutes. Slice and serve with a salad or crusty bread.

## Kinross-shire Historical Society



Ninian Crichton Stuart, Hereditary Keeper of Falkland Palace, gave a most interesting illustrated talk to Kinross-shire Historical Society on Monday 17 February. The talk was titled 'New Life for an Old Place'. The focus of the evening was on how to make sense of an old estate and what can be done to move it on in our time. He showed slides of Falkland from earlier times and gave some of the history of the palace, estate and people. Other slides showed how the landscape changes as you walk through it and how the sounds and sensations around you also change as you walk along.

He explained how some problems that arise can be turned to opportunities, such as the storm damage to the woodland in 2012. This gave the opportunity to use the wood for projects on the estate such as the construction of huts, places to escape to from everyday life. This idea has now been taken up by 'Reforestation Scotland'. Artists create work to celebrate life events as a way to use and tidy some of the storm damage.

Various crafts people work on the estate. The farm is now organic and an orchard has been planted. There is talk of bringing back the old Forest of Falkland. Successful work has been done in bringing children with difficult backgrounds into the woods to discover the natural world and themselves.

The Estate is trying to cultivate a place where people give life to the land. The emphasis is on enterprising stewardship rather than on ownership, looking for new ways forward for Falkland.

Mary Muirhead thanked Ninian Crichton Stuart on behalf of the Society for a wonderful talk.

See p. 99 for details of the Society's last talk of the season.



*Silvana and Theo help with litter pick*

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**Contact Gerry Keegan 07549 553063**

gerrykeegan@btinternet.com

## 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

### 2014 Programme of Events

#### Indoor Table Top Sale – Saturday 1 March:

There will be an Indoor Table Top Sale with Free Public Admission from 9am – 1pm with sellers set up from 8am. All Pitches and Tables are £10 each (includes a refreshment voucher for a Hot Roll & Hot Drink) and must be booked in advance. If you would like further information or want to request a booking form, then please contact Gerry McGregor on 01577 867119 / 867200, or email GMcGregor@pkc.gov.uk

**CHAS Scarf Appeal:** Sandra Farrer of Gateside will be at the Table Top Sale to answer any questions about the appeal, demonstrate some knitting and crochet techniques and show some of the scarves already handed in.

#### Perth & Kinross Euroquiz 2014 Heat – Monday 3

**March:** Amgask Primary School are the hosts of the Perth & Kinross Euroquiz heat in which six Perth & Kinross Primary School P6 pupils battle it out for a place in the Euroquiz Finals to be held at the Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh. The quiz starts at 5pm with doors open from 4.45pm. All are welcome with free entry or a voluntary donation. All proceeds to CHAS. If you have any questions or require further information, then please contact Mags Gibson the Euroquiz Coordinator on 01577 867250 or mgibson@pkc.gov.uk

#### Better Place to Live Fair – Saturday 8 March:

Organised by the Kinross-shire Community Learning Group, this is a free event where you can come along and meet your local clubs, groups and local businesses to find out what they have to offer. There will be fun activities, information and things to do in the Library and Kinross Museum together with a range of stalls, workshops and music.

#### Antiques, Vintage, Retro and Collectors Fair – Saturday

**15 March:** There will be buying, selling and valuations given. Admission will be from 9.30am – 4.00pm with entry fee of £1 per person. For exhibitors booking please contact: Angus on 07944 416565.

#### Dance Class with International Presenter Claudio –

**Thursday 20 March:** For one night only there will be a master dance class with International Fitness Presenter Claudio. To purchase tickets contact Evelyn Crichton on 07884233144 or evelyncrichton@hotmail.co.uk. Anyone can join the Party! Spaces will be limited so early booking is advised.

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#### Spring Craft Fair – Saturday 29 March:

Our Spring Craft Fair is free admission and will run from 10am – 3pm. The event will include over 30 Stalls selling a wide and varied mix of High Quality Hand-Made Crafts by Local Artisans and some stall holders will be providing a demonstration of their craft. In addition throughout the day there will be Craft Activities including how to make cards together with entertainment for the children, Children's Film Showings and the museum will be putting on a Craft Display. So come along to our Spring Craft Fair for a great day of family entertainment where there will be something for everyone.

#### Other Events for 2014

Sat 12 April	Antiques & Collectors Fair
Sat 26 April	Kinross Sportive Cycling Event
Sun 27 April	Scottish Ensemble Concert
Sat 10 May	Kinross ½ Marathon/Feel Good Fair/Pipe Band Competition
Sat 24 May	Northern Counties Brass Band Competition
Sat 31 May	Antiques & Collectors Fair
Sat 7 June	Outdoor Car Boot / Indoor Table Top Sale
Sat 14 June	Antiques & Collectors Fair
Sat 9 Aug	Antiques & Collectors Fair
Sun 17 Aug	Kinross Cycling Club - 3 Man Time Trial
August	Vintage Day (Date TBC)
August	Vintage Day Afternoon Tea Dance
Sun 7 Sep	Kinross Cycling Club – Road Race
Sat 13 Sep	Antiques & Collectors Fair
Fri 19 Sep	Health, Wellbeing & Pamper Evening (Date TBC)
Sat 11 Oct	Antiques & Collectors Fair
Sat 1 Nov	Indoor Table Top Sale (Date TBC)
Sat 8 Nov	Antiques & Collectors Fair
Sat 6 Dec	Christmas Festival & Craft Fair (Date TBC)
Sat 13 Dec	Antiques & Collectors Fair

For more details on any of the above events, please see Loch Leven Community Campus website (in the process of being updated) and Loch Leven Community Campus Events Facebook page.

#### Kinross ½ Marathon, Feel Good Fair and Pipe Band

**Competition:** The campus will be supporting KLEO, Kinross Road Runners and RSPBA in the above event on Saturday 10 May. There will be a range of different stall types, details of which will be confirmed at a later stage. Therefore if you would like to register your interest, reserve a stall space or would like more information on the Feel Good Fair, then please contact Gerry McGregor. Previous stallholders will be contacted shortly. If interested in any of the other activities, please contact bouwien@kleo.org.uk.

#### 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 get in touch – we look forward to hearing from you. If you are a group, organisation or individual who is thinking of holding any type of event then please do contact Gerry McGregor (contact details above) who can offer advice and support if needed.

#### Future Events

Information regarding all other events will be published in due course.

## Kinross High School



This month, loyal readers, I have decided to give a slightly different focus to my article. I am very conscious that the Community Newsletter reaches well beyond the limits of the school's direct community of pupils and their families. If you are reading this, however, I am going to assume that you have at least a general interest in the school and what goes on in it.

As I hope is clear from our activities and events, we are always on the lookout for ways to contribute to the Kinross-shire community. This month, for a change, I would like to swing the door open the other way and let you all know of some of the opportunities that exist for the wider community to get involved with the school.

To paraphrase the recruiting drives of 1914 - Your High School Needs You!

Let's start in the garden. We have a garden plot at Keltlybridge in the grounds of Blair Adam House. Pupils learn by doing and benefit from interaction with a range of helpers. Are you a gifted gardener? Do you have a few hours to give to help our youngsters with the digging and the planting? Do you have spare plants or pots even?

Maybe History is more your thing. Do you have stories or items related to World War One which could bring the past to life for our pupils? Would you be willing to be interviewed by pupils as we research the impact of WW1 on Scotland? Are you a keen local historian who could enthuse our youngsters with information about Kinross and its surroundings back in the day?

Are you fluent in a foreign language? Maybe even a native speaker. Would you be willing to spend an hour in conversation with one of our pupils taking Higher or Advanced Higher?

Perhaps you have your own business or work in Kinross-shire. Could you offer a work experience placement or a shadowing opportunity to one of our young people? Would you be willing to talk about your job at a careers event?

Are you an experienced interviewer who has been involved in recruitment and has a very clear idea of how interviews should be tackled? We are always looking to give our young people the best support we can as they prepare for college, university and job interviews. Perhaps you could offer some 'mock interviews' and then provide the gold dust of real feedback from real employers.

Do you participate in a sport or hobby activity and would like to have more young people involved? Might you be able to introduce this to a group of young people here in the campus? If the answer to any of these questions is yes please get in touch with me at KHS. If I have not asked the right question and you have a skill or an opportunity you think we may be interested in, then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Perhaps you have never been in the campus and have been looking for that reason to visit. On **Friday 14 March** we will be holding a **Race Night** fundraiser to help with the cost of sending our rugby squad to Vancouver in October. The evening will be a light-hearted, fun event and is open to all. Why not come along and join us.

Finally, a very specific invitation. We are always looking to update our list of local supply teachers. If you have recently moved into the area, are appropriately qualified in a Secondary subject and would like to join our 'reserves' I would be particularly delighted to hear from you.

R H Keatings  
email: dkeatings@pkc.gov.uk

## Kinross High School Parent Council



Clerk: Jennifer Sneddon 0794 667 9815

Email: jms927@btinternet.com

A full copy of all Parent Council meeting minutes can be requested by contacting the Clerk.

This school year, Parent Council members are trying to attend as many Parents' Evenings at KHS as possible to explain to parents what its purpose is. The Parent Council is comprised of parents of children at the school together with teachers, (including our Headteacher Mr Keatings) and community members. The Parent Council represents 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, whether it be good, or not. If you are a parent or guardian of a Kinross High School pupil, perhaps you might consider joining the Parent Council. If so, you would be most welcome to visit one of the meetings. Please contact the Clerk if you are interested in finding out more. The next meeting is planned for **Monday 10 March**.

The Parent Council hopes to run a daytime Jobs Fair for pupils at the school in the near future to showcase some of the varied jobs people in our school community do, or have done. The aim is to open the eyes of the pupils to as wide a range of jobs as possible, some of which they might not have realised even existed, and allow them to chat to real people doing these jobs. If you think you might like to share your experience of the world of work with pupils, the Clerk would be delighted to hear from you.

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



### Primary Tuition

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## Portmoak Primary School

### Scottish Poems

This year we once again welcomed Margaret Wilson – retired HT of Portmoak – and Alastair Morgan of the Jolly Beggars Burns Club to judge the Portmoak Scottish Poetry Competition. Judging took place the morning of 24 January with the winners announced at the afternoon assembly. Class Winners:

- P1/2 Fergus Drummond and Emily Robertson-Justice (joint winners)
- P2/3 Angus Bain
- P4/5 Finlay Clark
- P5/6 Daisy Lockhart and Louisa Muszynski (joint winners)
- P7 Rebecca Mitchell

Mrs Wilson presented the winners with certificates and Rebecca Mitchell with the Burns Quaich, which was first donated to the school in 2010 by the Jolly Beggars Burns Club, Milnathort.

### Green Flag

Portmoak Primary School recently received the fantastic news that we had achieved our second Eco Green Flag. The whole school was delighted with the news. The Eco Committee (Earth Pilots) had worked hard for two years on three topics, Litter

(compulsory), Water and Waste Minimisation. In the assessment report, the school was particularly complimented on how the Earth Pilots had worked extremely hard to gain positive results within the school and the wider community. They organised many activities which involved the whole school and the wider community

such as organising a Litter Poster competition, monitoring litter levels in the playground and prepared an assembly to share how everyday items biodegrade and the importance of 'Reduce, Reuse and Recycle'. Each class also studied a Water topic, we had a Waste Free lunch day and continued to ensure our school grounds were litter free by doing litter picks and sharing the results with the rest of the school. They had also taken the extra step of taking action in the local community and carrying out a Community Litter Pick within the school's Health Week.

### Bags 2 School

We will be having another Bags 2 School rag-bag collection after the Easter holidays. Please help us to raise funds by donating any unwanted clothes or textiles by 9am on **Thursday 24 April**, either to the school or at Buchan's



*Class winners of the Scottish Poetry competition*

Garage (by 5pm on 23 April for Buchan's).

Thank you for reading our news. If you have time or expertise that you would like to share with our school, then please get in touch.

Kind regards,  
Louise Gordon, Headteacher



*Portmoak pupils celebrate the school's second Eco Green Flag*

## Kinross Primary School

It has been a busy term so far at Kinross Primary! Primary 1b have had lots of fun celebrating Chinese New Year, and can sing a short song in Chinese! They also sampled noodles in class too and most of them asked for second helpings! Meanwhile, P1a had great fun recycling at Sainsbury's. They go every Wednesday afternoon to recycle items including cans, cardboard, clothes and tins as part of their topic. Whilst learning about shops, Primary 1c visited Kinross High Street to see the range of shops. They were very excited about finding lots of fascinating shops to explore.

Primary 2 are thoroughly enjoying learning about 'Fairyland', discovering a letter from a dragon and designing a fairyland castle out of recycled materials – the end results were spectacular! Primary 3/4 have linked up with a museum through GLOW, whilst Primary 3 have enjoyed making fruit kebabs, vegetable couscous and jam sandwiches as part of their learning about food and where it comes from.

Primary 5/6 thoroughly enjoyed a visit to Stirling Castle whilst Primary 6 pupils welcomed visitors from 'Krispy Kremes' donuts to Kinross Primary. Their 'Dragon's Den' topic is focussing on business and their visitor not only taught them lots about products and advertising but he also brought lots of donuts to sample! The school has been very busy with P6 selling cupcakes, sweets, milkshakes and smoothies and a car washing service!

MSP Mr Clark visited Primary 7 to conduct a political workshop! The pupils are also looking forward to visits from Willie Rennie and Roseanna Cunningham, over the coming weeks.



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## Fossoway Pre-school Group

### Children growing fun in Powmill

The children's smiles say it all. The charming cottage setting of Fossoway Pre-school Group has had a complete garden revamp thanks to a grant from the National Lottery "Big Lottery Fund" for nearly £10,000.

The garden revamp has included rubber matting, allowing the children to play on the grassed area year-round, a canopy, a wooden wobbly-bridge and more seating and play equipment is to follow.



*Fossoway Pre-school Group children enjoy the new wobbly-bridge*

The children will be able to enjoy their outdoor space in all weathers, enjoying fresh air and exploring their natural environment with bug shelters, a willow structure, bird feeders and planting.

Fossoway Pre-School Group accepts children from 2½ to 5 years old, and is based at Powmill, just where Fife, Clackmannanshire and Perth & Kinross meet. Excellent reports and highly qualified staff can reassure you that your child is in good hands. For further information about pre-school places, contact Manager Pat Irvine on 07840 737228 or call in at Glenbank Cottage, Powmill, Monday – Friday from 9.30am to 12 noon.

## Milnathort Primary School Parent Council

The next meeting is on **Monday 17 March** at 7.30pm in ICT Room 1, Loch Leven Community Campus. All are welcome.

Milnathort Primary School is currently collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers.

Back after Maternity Leave...

### DOG-GONE-WALKIN'

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**D-G-W is also on Facebook**

## Kinross-shire 50 Plus Club



The March 2014 AGM and Annual Party will be held on **Thursday 6 March** at 12.30pm in the Windlestrae Hotel. The AGM will be held at 1230, with the party commencing at 1300 and the entertainment from approximately 1400. The Napier Concert Party led by Jock Nairn will provide the entertainment. Remember it is the Windlestrae Hotel and **not** Millbridge Hall.

### Away Day Thurs 27 March 2014: Abernyste

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.

**Annual Holiday 2014:** This holiday, to the Royal Clifton Hotel, Southport departs on **Sunday 9 March** as follows; Milnathort (Bank) at 9am and from opposite the Green Hotel, Kinross at 09.10am. Luggage labels will be given out at the March meeting. Contact: Pat Crawford on 01577 862962.

### Friday Walkers

**14 March:** Our usual Spring walk from Aberdour to St Bridget's Kirk, and back, along the Fife Coastal path, past clouds of daffodils (hopefully).

**28 March:** From Cambus to Menstrie and back along a path which was new last year - hopefully the cafe in Cambus will be open this time.

Contact: Ian Simpson 01577 863691.

### Friday Hill Walkers

**7 March:** Gargunnoch Hill Richard 09.00

**21 March:** Kirkton, Glen Valerie 09.00  
Glen Balquidder

### Activities

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

**Carpet Bowling** group meets each Monday at 2pm in the Millbridge Hall. 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:** This group meets each Tuesday at 2pm in the Masonic Hall. Contact Val Oswald 01577 864020.

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

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

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Or go to [www.ianduguid.co.uk](http://www.ianduguid.co.uk) for more information

## The Kinross-shire Civic Trust



Helping protect, conserve and provide a better built and natural environment  
website: [www.kinross-shirecivictrust.org](http://www.kinross-shirecivictrust.org)

### Wind Farms on the Cleish Hills

A second planning application for a wind farm in the Cleish Hills, the Blairadam Wind Farm, has been lodged with Fife Council. The application is for 11 No Wind Turbines, 115m high to the tip of the blades and sitting on the Uplands of the Cleish Hills. This Wind Farm, like the Outh Muir one, will tower over Kinross-shire and will be visible from all around Loch Leven. If both get consent from Fife Council, they will create a gross visual intrusion on the Kinross-shire Landscape. The Fife Council Reference No is 14/00008/EIA and details of the application can be found on the Fife Council web site at [www.fifeirect.org/planning](http://www.fifeirect.org/planning)

Letters of objection should be addressed to:

Fife Council  
Enterprise Planning & Protective Services  
Kingdom House  
Kingdom Avenue  
Glenrothes  
KY7 5LY

### REF: 14/00008/EIA Erection of 11 x 115 m wind turbines – Blairadam, Fife.

There is still time to place an objection to this Application. Fife Council will accept objections right up until the time that the case officer is preparing his final report to Committee.

A draft letter of objection is on the Kinross-shire Civic Trust website and can be used or amended for those wishing to lodge an objection.

### Programme of Events for 2014

**Best Kept Village Competition 2014:** This year the Best Kept Village competition will be judged on 17 June. Letters will be sent to the village organisers shortly, along with an entry form. We look forward to receiving many entries for this year's competition.

**Better Place to Live Fair:** The Trust will have a stall at the BPTLF on Saturday 8 March.

**The Annual General Meeting** of the Civic Trust will be held in Cleish Village Hall on **Wednesday 9 April** at 7.30pm. The Trust is very pleased that the AGM will be followed by a talk by Neil Kilpatrick, Project Director for TRACKS on the completion of the Loch Leven Heritage Trail. Members and non-members are very welcome.

**Annual Dinner:** The Trust will be having its Annual Dinner at the Grouse and Claret on **Wednesday 7 May** at 7.30pm. The speaker will be the Trust's President, Professor David Munro MBE, who will be talking about the Lomond Landscape Project. Members, Guests and Non-members are very welcome. *(Please note: this is a change to the date given in the February issue of the Kinross Newsletter.)*

**The Mid-summer Walk** will be held this year on **Sunday 22 June**. The walk will be led by Professor David Munro and will be the last completed section of the Loch Leven Heritage Trail, from Vane Farm back to Kinross.

**Kinross Show:** The Civic Trust will be having its usual stand at the Kinross Show again this year.





# Sports News

## Kinross Otters

**Carnegie Graded Meet**  
**Carnegie Leisure Centre, Dunfermline**  
**18 - 19 January**



This good quality graded meet produced some excellent results and personal best for the Otters, with three individual medallists and seven medals.

Making a significant breakthrough was **Ryan Curtis** (14) who smashed several personal bests and is now pushing the fastest swimmers in the club really hard. He came away with a gold medal in the 100m Freestyle (1.02.46), two silver medals in the 400m Freestyle (4.44.87) and 100m Backstroke (1.12.55) and a bronze in the 200m Individual Medley (2.39.32).

**Amy Broadhurst** (13) continues to impress and won two silver medals in the 100m Backstroke (1.18.83) and Butterfly (1.21.15) in the Girls 12-13 age category.

**Jack Watson** (13) also won a silver medal in the equivalent Boys 100m Backstroke in a quick 1.15.57



*Left to right: Amy Broadhurst, Ryan Curtis and Jack Watson*

### Congratulations!

To Otters **Ola Stanton, Finlay Nesbitt, Rory Hutchison** and **Niamh Mullen** for qualifying for this year's National Scottish Schools Championships to be held on 7 March 2014 at Dollan Baths, East Kilbride. Qualification for the event this year was made tougher as the venue only has six lanes so instead of 20 qualifiers for each event, there were only 12.

### Calling All Potential Swimmers...

Especially if you are a boy and you are between 8 and 14! The Otters have two league teams in the Premier and First Divisions of the Midland District Leagues. In order to fill all the spaces across all the age groups and sexes to produce full teams capable of competing in the relays, we clearly need enough swimmers to do this. At present we have a gap in the boys section as above.

Swimming is one of the healthiest sports which can lead to superb fitness and toning and can assist in achieving life-long health. The "engine" you build in childhood stays with you for life. You can swim at 8 or 80. All the training and competitions occur indoors so you will never be postponed or rained off. Injuries are few and far between due to less impact and the supporting effect of the water. Spectators can sit in comfort and watch whilst having a coffee. Due to the structure of swimming and the need to concentrate resources around the limited number of pools, you will get the chance to train alongside some of the very best swimmers in the country, including potential Olympians. Swimming can complement many other sports due to its conditioning effects e.g. stamina for running or sprint repeats for football, rugby etc.

So if you can swim, come on, get off the couch, turn off your X-Box and contact Fiona Dodds on FionaEDodds@aol.com. You will be assured of a warm welcome.

## Kinross Swimmers

KINROSS SWIMMERS is now the new name for the Adult Otters Swimming Club following on from our EGM of last month. We hope that this may tie in better with other local sports clubs ie, the Runners and Cycling Club and yearly club membership has been reduced to £10 for this year to encourage you to come along and give us a try. We will continue to meet every Tuesday evening at the pool at Loch Leven Leisure Centre between 8 and 9pm and it is still our intention to try and improve the stroke, stamina and style of those attending so that any other swimming is more worthwhile, effective and enjoyable. As before we would like to welcome anyone looking to improve their swimming for whatever reason.

We have a mixed training programme scheduled for the next several months with several enthusiastic session leaders. We intend after the Easter weekend to run a continuous block of sessions, perhaps six or so to be taken by our TI (Total Immersion Swimming) specialist. This is to introduce the benefits of TI swimming to a wider club audience. This has been popular thus far and most of our swimmers have reported some benefit already. This may be of particular interest to triathletes and those looking to cross train as those swimmers appear to have derived most from TI according to the internet and You Tube.

Speaking of the internet we now have a dedicated Kinross Swimmers Facebook page - Kinross Swimmers - which you are welcome to join and on which we are able to post more up to date information. This is not the Kinross Swimmers group based in Sri Lanka unfortunately! We are slightly further down the list as you search.

For further information please either contact us on Facebook - Kinross Swimmers - or Ian Shepherd via email at shepherd\_ian@hotmail.com or on mobile 07944 503074.

### Need to check something in an old Newsletter?

Consult our electronic archive at

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

Issues from September 2006 to two months ago available

### Contributors

Please write or type clearly

Leave a margin

Use one side of the paper only

## Kinross-shire Cricket Club

### Over the Winter

March will see significant activity at the Loch Leven's Larder cricket ground as we prepare for the coming season. The on-going development plans are progressing well and the club has taken delivery of our new pavilion building, which will be in position for the start of the season. This is a slightly smaller building than we have in the development plan but the club recognised that the building works for the large pavilion would have run into the start of the season and it was not ideal to mix 120 children with a working building site. The decision was therefore taken over the winter to buy a temporary sports pavilion which can be used for the season and then sold when the season is over. Work will be carried out during March to decorate and fit out the building to our needs.

The club AGM was held in January with new committee members coming on board. David Milliken joins as a general member although his experience within the charitable sector will be invaluable as the club moves to charitable status this year. Local accountant, Keith Watson, has taken over the treasurer's role with the retirement of Paul Maddocks from the role due to changing work commitments. All other committee positions remained unchanged after re-election.

The senior indoor league team are currently top of the 10-team table in the P&K winter programme. There have been some great performances from juniors, Darwin and Toby Douglas as well as 1st XI captain James Ross. The older players have not been left out with John Ross taking an unprecedented 5 wickets in a 6 ball over. Unfortunately this was for Meigle against Kinross-shire when Meigle were a player short and John was asked to play rather than umpire. The annual 10-pin bowling event took place in January with David Goodenough taking the 2014 title and Anthony Drew in the runner's up spot.



The Scotland U19s are in Dubai for the ICC U19 World Cup with former Kinross-shire junior, Nick Farrar, playing a major role. At the time of writing the team were still waiting for their first match and the club wish Nick and the team well for the tournament.

### 2014 "Wee Stramash" Sponsors announced

The club will be running a 10-week "Wee Stramash" T20 competition during the summer for the U15 and U12 squads. We are delighted to announce a number of new sponsors for the teams. Local tyre specialist Tyrefair will be sponsoring one of the main teams as will Kinross-shire Business Partnership. The "Wee Stramash" is our own version of the Australian "Big Bash" with four teams playing each other in a 5-series tournament with a separate final on 17 August. More sponsors will be in place during March with the club planning a major press launch in April. Loch Leven's Larder has agreed to host the 2014 Community 6's Festival which will be re-named as the Big Banger Bash and held in June. Local community groups can field teams and play a number of simplified games. This will be a great event with music and a day long BBQ.

### Senior Players Wanted

The club would like to bring many more senior players back into the game. Over the summer there will be a number of evening matches specifically aimed at those "kids of the 70s & 80s" who haven't played since they were at school. The format is very much aimed at fun and participation with the serious possibility of end of game refreshments at the pub! If you have been watching the Ashes and fancy having a go or if your children are already playing and you want to get involved, make contact through the website or come along to junior training every Monday night, 6.30 - 8.00pm at the campus.

More information on all aspects of the club and our summer programme can be found on the club website, [www.kinrosscc.co.uk](http://www.kinrosscc.co.uk)

## Fossoway Curling Club

Website: [fossowaycurlingclub.weebly.com](http://fossowaycurlingclub.weebly.com)

As the season draws to a close, there is still plenty going on in Fossoway Curling Club.

The Stewart Cup was won by Alan Paterson and the Johnson Cup by Ian Nicholson.

We recently played our points competition with two invited clubs: Fossoway Ladies and Tulliallan. Overall winner was Robert Wilson of Tulliallan with 25 points. Top Fossoway player and winner of The Gibson Cup was Jimmy Johnson with 18 points. Barbara Nicholson was the top Fossoway Ladies player with 14 points.

Fossoway 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.



## Kinross Cycling Club

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

The club continues to growth in strength with an increasing membership and a growing range of events.

Club President Andy Bruce enters the coming season as a Cat 2 rider for the race season, so good luck to Andy. We now have a race development squad under his watchful eye where we are developing other young riders interested in amateur cycle racing. The success of our cyclo-cross race last year, which featured children under 8 years old in their own race, has encouraged us to stage this again later in the year and to organise a series of summer events for children which are currently in the planning stage. Full details of all our events for the coming season can be found on the Kinross Cycling Club website.

See also articles on p. 17 and p. 25.



### Looking for Contact Details?

For listings of local clubs, businesses, public services and more, visit [www.kinross.cc](http://www.kinross.cc)

### Subscriptions to the Newsletter

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

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



## Kinross Volleyball Club

A number of new members, mostly female, have been attending coaching sessions with the club on Monday evenings at the campus. The main focus recently has been on serve-receive in a bid to create more attacking opportunities in transition from defence to offence.

Premier league teams Scotrange and Kintronics have had mixed fortunes since Christmas, with Scotrange losing out to Team Fife to trail behind them in second place with Kintronics struggling to field a full team with key players being unavailable due to work commitments.



*The Kinross Men who played against Team Fife in the first Regional League fixture*

In the Recreational League, Kinross BB sit at the top of the table with Kinross BB GA in eighth place and Mongrels in tenth place.

In the East Scotland Regional League, Kinross lost out to Team Fife in their opening fixture and followed this by losing to Edinburgh University in the second fixture.

There are still games against Linlithgow and Perth to play.

In Scottish Volleyball Association's Plate Competition the Kinross men's side have been drawn away to Perth with the winning side drawn away to Edinburgh University in the next round.

Indoor training continues at the campus on Monday evenings from 8 till 9.30pm until the end of March. From April onwards the club will meet outdoors on the grass area at the rear of the Campus in preparation for this year's Scottish Open Volleyball Tournament in June and the De Haan Tournament in August.

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## Kinross Tennis Club

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



To officially start the season, our **Open Day** will take place on **Saturday 29 March** from 10am until 3pm. Current members can come along and pay their memberships for the year and exchange their court key for the new season. It is also the ideal opportunity for new members to make enquiries and learn what the club has to offer. Come along and join in one of the **three free on court sessions** that we are running – the sessions are suitable for both beginners and experienced players, young and old and will be lots of fun!

**12noon to 12.45pm** *Tennis Xpress*  
**1pm to 1.45pm** *CardioTennis*  
**2pm to 2.45pm** *TouchTennis*

**Junior Coaching:** We are running two **Easter Camps** this year, on weeks commencing **7 April** and **14 April** – these camps are open to members and non-members. The term time block of nine weeks will start thereafter on Tuesdays and Fridays commencing Friday 25 April. Details will be emailed to members shortly by our new junior coordinator, Siobhan MacLeod. Groups fill up fast, so if you have an interest in junior coaching, please contact Siobhan at [kinrossstenniscoaching@gmail.com](mailto:kinrossstenniscoaching@gmail.com) to secure your child's place.

**Adult Coaching** will commence on **Tuesday 29 April**: Beginners at 7pm and Improvers at 8pm. The sessions are taken by our head coach Alan Russell (Tennis Scotland's Coach of the Year 2013) and will be sure to help improve your tennis. Non-members are welcome too.

Club nights continue on Wednesdays at 6.30pm and Sundays at 10.30am for members. There is also a social session on Thursday afternoons at 1.30pm where non-members are also welcome. League matches commence end April.

New members are always welcome and enquiries can be made to our secretary, Vivien Clarke, on 01577 861323 or at [kinrossstennis@gmail.com](mailto:kinrossstennis@gmail.com). Visitors are also welcome; keys are available from Sands the Ironmongers for a small fee.

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## Kinross Ladies Hockey Club

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



Matches recommenced with a league cup match for the 2nds against Perthshire 1s and Kinross 1st XI facing Dundee Wanderers 2s.

The 1st XI had an 8-0 win, with Jenny Thoms scoring 2, Vicky Carver 2, AJ Combe 1, Jo Eccles 1, Lynn Patterson 1 and Michelle best 1.

The seconds made a very promising start to the second half of the season. A solid defence saw off fierce numerous attacks from Perthshire. The second half saw Kinross with the majority of the possession, winning three short corners and very unlucky not to score from them. The midfielders had to work extremely hard and none of them stopped running for the entire match. Our player of the match went to Rebecca Thomson as she never gave up in defence and won POM unanimously! A very relaxing après hockey watching the rugby in the clubhouse whilst eating Dunkin Donuts polished the day off well.

The following week was not as successful for the seconds, losing 3-0 to Blairgowrie in another tough match. The first XI, however, scored another win over St Andrews Uni 2s; scorers were AJ Combe 1, Gail Nelson 1 and Vicky Carver 2.

This weekend both teams have a double header, divided, perhaps not wisely, by a team night out! Spirit, or perhaps the lingering remains of pre-consumed spirits, will, I'm sure, see us through.

We train every Wednesday night, 6.30pm until 8pm, on the astro pitch at the King George V 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 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 Squash Club

The club leagues are picking up again after Christmas. The winners of the December leagues were:



League 1	Simon Hawdon
League 2	Tino Mackay Palacios
League 3	Dave Stewart
League 4	Callum Sorbie

Well done to everyone, especially the winners, and remember to get your games played.

The Club team recorded a fantastic win 5-0 against the might of Kirkcaldy Squash in January. Elspeth Young joined the team for this one and looked in imperious form, taking her game 3-0. This was followed by a battling loss to a very talented Dunfermline side. We have welcomed a couple of new players to the squad in Fraser Mulford and Norman McGlinchey, who, along with some of Mark Beaumont's wunderkind, have given our team a boost.

The club is thriving with new members joining each month; we're up to 42 full members. We run six leagues, which are played on a monthly basis. We also hold an annual tournament in the summer. There is also a club team who play in the Fife district league.

If you're interested in joining the club, simply add your name to the list on the notice board beside the squash courts at Loch Leven Leisure Centre, or contact Simon Hawdon on 07968 347596 for details.

## Milnathort Golf Club

One (if not the only) advantage of being retired is that you can play more golf! (Apologies however to all families involved.)

Some of us play at least three times a week and logic would say therefore that we should improve with age like a fine wine. This unfortunately is not the case, although the names of some of the finalists in the three winter leagues would surely reflect their involvement in this healthiest of past-times.

The Saturday Winter League currently stands as Jack Mackintosh 47 points, Donald Brown 33, Jim Hunter 30 and Jim Marshall and Murdo McHardy tying on 23.

The Sunday Winter League has Jack on 31 points followed by Jim Hunter 19, John Mills 16, Bob Tolson 14 and Charles MacKinnon and Donald tying on 10.

The Thursday Winter League has Jim Hunter leading on 17 points, closely followed by Scott Arnott 16, Phil Leiper 13, Sandy Fleming 12 and Bob Tolson 11.

The Finals will be played during the week commencing Monday 10 March and we wish the competitors have drives true and single putts plentiful to make the day memorable for all.

The Seniors' have two away matches at the start of the season but their first home event is Captain v. Vice Captain on 10 April, which welcomes in the new season when all men over 55 years will be made to feel at home even if they have no handicap. Full details are on the Notice board in the Locker Room.

So the next report will cover being back on the big greens and everyone's hopes and aspirations for the New Season will hopefully be on track.

### Junior Section

The plans for the coming golf season are nearly finalised and hopefully some fine weather will get all junior members on the course over the coming few weeks ready for the start of the "season" in April.

A new coaching programme is being launched with the help of ClubGolf, which will see Andrew McHardy, the Senior PGA Golf Instructor from Noah's Ark, coming down to run a ten-week stage 2 ClubGolf programme for those juniors who have already completed a stage 1 programme in previous years.

The club's volunteer coaches will be starting a new stage 1 programme of lessons towards the end of April aimed at junior beginners.

The Junior competitions start in early April and this year the club offers a more varied programme of competitions including three stableford competitions, three greensomes, one Texas scramble and a matchplay competition. "Flag" competitions for less experienced players will also be held. Where better to learn and enjoy the game of golf!

### Milnathort Golf Club

Fun and Friendly Junior Golf

**Junior Golf Memberships for £89 (or £63 if aged U14)  
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For further information please contact the club on:

01577 864069 or visit the club website

**[www.milnathortgolfclub.co.uk](http://www.milnathortgolfclub.co.uk)**

## Kinross Badminton Club



**THANK YOU** to everyone who helped make the Club's 50th anniversary celebrations a great success.

Members and ex-members came from far and wide to join us and we really appreciate the generosity of those who gave us donations and raffle prizes. Our guest speaker, Dan Travers (ex-Scottish internationalist, gold Commonwealth Games winner, European medallist and former SBU national coach and director of coaching), highly entertained us with his amusing and invigorating anecdotes (past history of our club as well as sharing his own 'life of badminton' experiences). Alison Walker gave an account of her 24 years as Convener of the Junior Club. There were a couple of presentations: one to Alison Walker for marking her 24 years as Junior Convener, and one to Honorary President, Bill Macdonald, for his many years of dedicated loyalty, commitment and support to the Club. We now look forward to celebrating the 55th anniversary! Here are two photos taken at the anniversary



*L to r: Kinross badminton club members Mo, Dennis, Joe, Sean, Kevin and Janey enjoying the 50th anniversary celebration*

celebration and further photos can be found on our Facebook page.

### Perth & District League

Kinross lost their last two matches. Taybank won 10-8 and Perth 20 won 12-6. The final match is against Gleneam and is on 12 March.

### Club Nights

The club welcomes players of all

standards and meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Games Hall, Loch Leven Community Campus, Kinross, between 8pm and 9.45pm.

For further information on the Club, please contact Honorary President, Bill McDonald, 01577 862592. Kinross Badminton Club can be found on Facebook – feel free to like us!



*Members and ex-members of Kinross Badminton Club joined in the celebrations*

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[www.kinross.cc](http://www.kinross.cc)

## Kinross Vaulting Group



The winter has been kind to us so far as I write this at the end of January; I hope I don't tempt fate! We haven't missed any sessions due to the weather, and managed to train over Christmas and New Year. We have a great group of vaulters who don't like to miss training even in the coldest weather and Christmas holidays!

**The Scottish Championship** was held in September 2013. Results are as follows:

Intermediate team: 1st place and Scottish champions Hannah Ballantyne, Heidi Ballantyne, Atholl Pettinger, Kirstin Henderson, Molly Turner and Yazmin Williamson, on ILPH Islay, lunged by Lynn Ballantyne.

Senior female individual: 4th Yazmin Williamson on ILPH Islay, lunged by Liz Mackay.

Junior female individual: 6th Molly Turner, 7th Beth Doran both on Robbie, 8th Hannah Ballantyne on ILPH Islay and 14th Hayley Roberts on Robbie, all lunged by Liz Mackay.

Junior male individual: 4th Duncan Lewis on Robbie, lunged by Liz Mackay.

Child male individual: 3rd Atholl Pettinger on ILPH Islay, lunged by Liz Mackay.

Child female individual: 2nd Kirstin Henderson on ILPH Islay and 6th Heidi Ballantyne on Robbie, both lunged by Liz Mackay.

Canter freestyle: 1st Laurie McFarlane, 5th Louise Scott, 9th Rachel Leslie, 14th Emily Hardie, 16th Mark Porteous, all on Robbie, lunged by Lynn Ballantyne.

Well done to all who also took part in the walk classes.

ILPH Islay also won best overall team horse.

**The British Championship** took place in September at Bury Farm, Hertfordshire. Results are as follows:

Intermediate team: 1st place and British champions Hannah Ballantyne, Heidi Ballantyne, Atholl Pettinger, Kirstin Henderson, Molly Turner and Yazmin Williamson on ILPH Islay, lunged by Lynn Ballantyne.

Senior female individual: 4th Yazmin Williamson on ILPH Islay, lunged by Liz Mackay.

Junior female individual: 7th Hannah Ballantyne on ILPH Islay, 11th Molly Turner, 13th Hayley Roberts, 16th Beth Doran all on Robbie, and all lunged by Liz Mackay.

Junior male individual: 5th Duncan Lewis on Robbie, lunged by Liz Mackay.

Child female individual: 2nd Kirstin Henderson on ILPH Islay, 10th Heidi Ballantyne on Robbie, both lunged by Liz Mackay.

Child male individual: 1st and British champion Atholl Pettinger on ILPH Islay, lunged by Liz Mackay.

In October **Easterton Equine** held a competition at Blackford. Results are as follows:

Pas de deux: 1st Hannah Ballantyne and Kirstin Henderson on ILPH Islay, lunged by Lynn Ballantyne.

Senior individual: 2nd Yazmin Williamson on Big Ben, lunged by Lynn Ballantyne.

Junior individual: 2nd Hayley Roberts on ILPH Islay, lunged by Liz Mackay.

Child individual 2\*: 4th Atholl Pettinger on Big Ben, lunged by Lynn Ballantyne.

Child individual 1\*: 1st Mark Porteous on ILPH Islay, lunged by Liz Mackay.

Walk individual class A: 1st Emily Hardie, 3rd Alicia Boyle, 6th Emma Leslie all on ILPH Islay, lunged by Janice Henderson.

Walk individual class B: Issie Jeffrey on ILPH Islay lunged by Janice Henderson.

Walk tec test: 1st Atholl Pettinger, 2nd Kirstin Henderson, 3rd Hannah Ballantyne all on ILPH Islay, lunged by Janice Henderson.

In December we also had a guest coach Lucy Philips come for the weekend again. Our vaulters all worked hard all weekend with some group and some individual sessions.

## Kinross Kobras Junior Hockey

The milder, wetter January, whilst causing problems for some, has meant that we have been able to run more Kobras sessions than is normal for this time of year. This has provided useful practice to those taking part in U14 District trials next month and those taking part in the two tournaments planned to be held at KGV at the end of February and start of March. The club is also working with Scottish Hockey to run a Hockey Leaders course at KGV on 23 March which will develop the coaching skills of those that help with the training sessions. The club will also be supporting Scottish Hockey's "Hockey Generation" initiative which looks to take the best advantage of the exposure hockey will get around the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow and is planning to take part in the "Commonwealth Dribble!"

Training takes place for those aged 6-14 on Tuesdays, 6.30pm-7.30pm, or Thursdays, 6.30pm-7.30pm. A new training session for those aged 14-18 will be trialled in a couple of months' time, so please watch out for details of this.

## Kinross Men's Hockey Club

Kinross 1sts play in East District Division 1 and the 2nds in Division 3.

The 1sts started the second half of the season in fine form, beating Reivers 5-2, with Cameron Banks scoring the fifth goal to seal the win. Kinross then beat Stirling Wanderers 7-2 with Ian Clark scoring a hat-trick and Dave Goodenough scored four as Kinross beat Stirling University 10-1. Kinross then lost to Edinburgh University 2-0 and then came back three times from behind to draw 4-4 with Grange.

Kinross 2nds lost narrowly to Falkirk, Carnegie 4ths and Edinburgh University before Alastair Elwis scored the winning goal as Kinross to beat Carnegie 5ths 1-0.

Training is on Tuesday nights 7.30pm 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)

## Kinross Curling Trust

Charity No. SC040599

### Annual General Meeting

The AGM of the Curling Trust took place on 2 February, the first since the Trust took over the running of the ice rink. Chairman Blair Melville and the other trustees reported on the first few months of operation and updated members present on refurbishment plans.

Trustee Doug Ritchie thanked the staff and volunteers who worked so hard to get the facility up and running for the start of the 2013-14 season and continue to contribute so much to its success.

Running costs are a little higher than expected but are within 2.5% of the estimate. Donald McGregor is doing well running the bar and catering, with takings rising each month. Some upgrading of the kitchen facility will take place over the summer, which will allow improved service next season.

Trustee Bob Tait reported on fundraising. Twenty clubs have now made donations, and the request for personal pledges to be honoured brought in a tremendous £97,515. The application to Sportscotland for a grant is in the advanced stages.

Tenders for the building alterations have been considered and reduced to two preferred options. A contract will be awarded on receipt of positive news from Sportscotland regarding the grant application.

A special resolution was passed to reduce the number of Trustees appointed by the Royal Caledonian Curling Club from three to one, and to increase the number of individuals elected as Trustees from six to eight. This better reflects the nature of the Trust as a body which is now delivering a local curling facility rather than the original purpose of a national academy.

Special resolutions 2 and 3 giving the Trustees powers to secure a grant from Sportscotland and a loan from the WCF were also approved.

Malcolm Strang Steel and Bob Tait were re-elected to the Board. Regretfully there were no other nominations and the Chairman emphasised that the current trustees need some help with the heavy workload.

Mike Caffyn, while happy to remain as Treasurer, wishes to step down as Secretary and asked for a volunteer for this post. The Secretary does not have to be a Trustee.

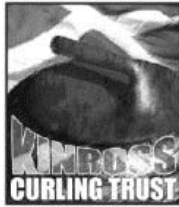
A restructuring of the sub-groups took place recently. The five sub-groups are: Finance, Media, Buildings, Business Support and Business Development.

The trustees are considering changing the timing of the AGM to November in future. This would allow them to report more promptly to members on the previous season's trading.

Phil Barton asked those present to join him in thanking the Board for the time and effort which they have given to the project.

### News from Head of Business: Doug Ritchie

Potholes, no more! You will be glad to hear that Breedon Aggregates, who resurfaced our car park in September, are to deliver a load of fine skimmings, which Jim Barton (Inverkeithing CC) and Graham Lindsay (Forret CC) will use to repair the potholes on our access road. Many thanks to Breedon, Jim and Graham.



When the major renovation work starts in April, we will have to vacate the premises for the whole summer. We are not yet sure how much equipment will need to go into storage, but we would greatly appreciate offers of help for transport and/or storage.

If you are planning a Club AGM before the closure on 5 April, please consider holding it in the lounge at the rink. We can put up screens to allow you more privacy. If interested, speak with bar supervisor Donald.

### News from Head of Project: Bob Tait

Thank you to all in the curling family who have contributed to the upgrading project. Your generosity means we are tantalisingly close to delivering a high quality modern curling facility at Kinross.

Now is the time for those individuals and clubs who could do more or have not contributed at all to DIG DEEP. We need your donations NOW. There are three easy ways to pay:

1. Send your cheque (payable to Kinross Curling Trust), together with a completed Gift Aid form\*, to: Bob Tait, 34 Stephens Drive, Inverkeithing, KY11 1DF.
2. Transfer your donation directly to our bank account: Sort Code: 80-02-27. Account number: 10247962. Name: Kinross Curling Trust. Again, returning a completed Gift Aid form\* to me.
3. Donate directly to the Trust through our online BT MyDonate page:  
mydonate.bt.com/charities/kinrosscurlingtrust  
This method will reduce the administration falling on the Trustees as MyDonate will handle all Gift Aid claims for us.

\*Gift Aid forms can be downloaded from the Kinross Curling website: Go to [www.kinrosscurling.co.uk](http://www.kinrosscurling.co.uk) and click on 'Donate' to get to the appropriate page.

If you have any questions, please get in touch:

Bob Tait 01383 412020.

Doug Ritchie 01383 732371.

### West Highland Way Fundraising

Two members of Kinross Ladies Curling Club, Pat Pilgrim and Anne Moore, are undertaking a sponsored walk to raise funds for Kinross Curling Trust. *See Article on p. 8 for full story.*



## Quiz Night

Kinross Curling Lounge

**Saturday 29 March**

19.30 for 20.00

£5 per person (inc.stovies)

Teams of up to 4 people

Book your team's place by emailing:

**[quizzicalkinross@live.co.uk](mailto:quizzicalkinross@live.co.uk)**



## Kinross Curling

Green Road, Kinross, KY13 8TU

Tel: 01577 861821

Find us on Facebook

www.kinrosscurling.co.uk

Rink office email: lceman@KinrossCurling.co.uk



**Scottish Curling Tour:** Following a hugely successful season, local team Ross McCleary (skip), James Stark, Hugh Thomson, Craig Gudmundsson, and Gavin Baird are the 2013-14 Goldline Scottish Curling Tour champions.

**Scottish Senior Championships:** Several local players competed in this event at Hamilton, 5-9 February. Teams skipped by Grace Paterson (Orwell Ladies) and Hazel Swankie (Dunfermline Ladies) qualified from the group stages, but unfortunately Grace and Hazel were drawn against each other in the quarter-finals. After a close game that finished 6-5, Grace's team progressed to the semis, where they lost to eventual champions, Christine Cannon and her team.

**KDLB Pairs:** The local ladies branch 'Thistle' Pairs competition took place on 13 February. In order to reduce the competition to a one-day event, this year it was run on the Schenkel system rather than a knockout format. Competitors played with three stones each over four ends, and played three matches. The day was much enjoyed by those who took part, although some would have liked longer games, either five ends, or four ends and using four stones per player. The winners were defending champions Valerie Inglis and Fiona Rutherford. The runners-up were Liz Glennie and Jane Drysdale. The competition was generously sponsored by Cameron Gaudin High Valley field Pharmacy.

**The Kinross Curling Easter Pairs Competition** will take place over the weekend of **29-30 March**. To enter, simply submit your name and email address to the rink office.

There will be a **Quiz Night** to raise funds for the Kinross Curling Trust on **Saturday 29 March**. Teams of up to four people may enter, with a maximum of 20 teams. *See separate notice on p. 79 for more details.*

Our **Closing Bonspiel** will be held on **Saturday 5 April**. There will be three sessions with each team playing one two-hour game. The cost is £11 per person, which covers your game and a cold buffet. All clubs are invited to enter one or more teams **by 15 March**.

**Email Newsletter:** If you would like to receive a Kinross Curling Newsletter by email each month, with a variety of news, reports and colour photographs, go to the Kinross Curling website and sign up. (Go to the 'Newsletter' tab.)

### Beginner Classes in Curling

£50 per person for a block of three sessions:

**Sunday 16 March 2014** 1430 – 1715 hrs

**Sunday 23 March 2014** 1430 – 1715 hrs

**September 2014** date and time to be confirmed

For further information or to register, please contact Claire Milne, telephone 07789 646672 or email kinrossdev@royalcaledoniancurlingclub.org.uk

## Kinross Road Runners



**Awards Night:** January saw the Kinross Road Runners annual awards dinner which was organised by Sarah Eaton, hosted by club president Martin Hill and held at Loch Leven's Larder.

This year there were a whole host of different prize winners:

Male Club Champion: **Andy Laycock**

Female Club Champion: **Jillian Gordon**

WAVA Champion: **Judith Dobson**

Male Marathon Champion: **Andy Laycock**

Female Marathon Champion: **Jillian Gordon**

Loch Leven Half Marathon First Male local: **David Scott**

Loch Leven Half Marathon First Female local: **Jillian Gordon**

Milnathort Dash First Male local: **Andy Laycock**

Milnathort Dash First Female local: **Hazel Porter**

Summer Handicap (Hare and Tortoise) Champions: **Martin Jackson and Alison Houston**

Winter Handicap Champion: **Anne Wilson**

Hill Running Champion: **Allan Kemp**

The biggest prize of the night is the award for the clubs "Athlete of the Year" where the club members vote for the person they feel deserves to be awarded for their hard work commitment, improvement and overall attitude throughout the season. This year the clear winner of this particular award was **Anne MacIntyre**.

**Devil's Burdens:** KRR fielded five teams for this year's Devil's Burdens Relay race which takes place in the Lomond hills. Despite this year's challenging race day conditions, a good time was had by all. First home for Kinross this year were the team comprising Annabel Simpson, Jillian Gordon, Nick Rowan, Sarah Hutt, Graham Kemp and Martin Hill in a time of 3hrs 14 minutes.

**Forfar Multi Terrain Half Marathon:** Five members took part in this Off Road Half Marathon which I am assured was extremely tough. Jillian Gordon (1:31:53) finished first KRR and second female overall.

A huge well done also to Amanda Rennie and Wendy Grieve for joining Jillian to complete the ladies team who picked up second prize in the team event.

**Winter Frostbite Series:** Well done to Vicky Parsons who finished third female overall in this year's new event which is run by the newly formed Falkland Trail Runners. The event is a series of four races over the winter months and starts and finishes at Falkland Cricket Club.

### ISLA MAE INTERIORS

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# News from the Rurals

**CLEISH** – President Mrs Alison Morris opened our February meeting. After business, she welcomed Lyn Haworth, who gave us an interesting talk on Reiki with a relaxation exercise demonstration involving all our ladies. Mrs Marion Bissett gave the vote of thanks.

Competitions:

Flower of the Month	-	Jean Wallace
Open Sandwich	-	Lizzie Glennie
Decorated Candle	-	Lizzie Glennie

**POWMILL** – Members from Powmill and Blairingone SWRI enjoyed the Christmas Party held at Powmill Milk Bar. A delicious three course meal was served before the entertainment was provided by Powmill members including a Christmas themed quiz, a reading, poetry and Irish Bingo. The evening was rounded off with carol singing.

Competitions:

4 Chocolate truffles	-	Elsie Johnston
Christmas centre-piece (any craft)	-	Catherine Stewart

President Mary Wilson welcomed members to the Burns Supper held in Moubay Hall, Powmill. The address to the haggis was given by Mary Wilson and a lovely meal prepared by the Committee was then served – haggis, mince, neeps and tatties followed by sherry trifle.

Competitions:

Fruit Gingerbread	-	Mary Wilson
Cameron Quaich Competition	-	
Favourite Cup & Saucer	-	Janet Mitchell
Garden Gem	-	Ella Shand

**CROOK OF DEVON** – President Alice Johnston introduced Mary Wilson, who gave us a cookery demonstration, making a variety of mouth watering dishes which we were able to sample at the end.

Competitions:

3 Cup Cakes	-	Isabelle White
Flower of the Month	-	Jean Jackson

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**GLENFARG** – President Margaret Scott welcomed members and introduced Alice Mee and Janet Little who had kindly come to judge the competitions. Instead of a speaker it was a Show and Tell evening where members brought along items that had particular significance to them and told their story. Every one was quite different and they ranged from the emotional to the hilarious; so many memories in such a variety of objects. It was a lovely way to spend a cold February evening.

Competitions:

Tea cosy	-	Helen Quartermaine
Marmalade	-	Liz Yull
Flower of the Month	-	Helen Quartermaine

**BISHOPSHIRE** – We had a very interesting talk and presentation from Mike Thorn, with help from his wife Maz, about his hobby of woodworking. He has made very many rocking horses, and he explained how they are made, and the different effects with various woods. He had brought along his latest one, made from plywood, and several of the members enjoyed a ride – took everyone back to childhood.

Competitions:

3 pieces of traybake	-	Anne Hey
Embroidered article	-	Ann Hughes

**CARNBO** – President Elizabeth Campbell welcomed members and visitors to the meeting and introduced Mr Jim Paterson, who showed slides and spoke about Kinross as it was. Those brought up in Kinross and newcomers found it very interesting.

Competitions:

Favourite souvenir	-	Frances Drysdale
Flower of the Month	-	Frances Drysdale

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# Out & About

## RSPB Loch Leven

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



Hello again, folks! Man, that's anither month in awready – sane be Christmas again! Weel, no afore we get a guid spring and a beltin hot summer or no as the case may be? Least wur no floatin aboot like the sooth o' England.

Due tae the relatively mild winter so far, it's been a bit quieter on the bird feeders oot the front o' the centre, tho some caulder days it kin get pretty busy. Along wi the usual goldfinches, chaffinch 'n' greenfinch, we hiv been seein a fair few redpolls and long tailed tits. Great, blue and coal tits are a given. The last goose coont oan the loch and reserve ended up at 139 Greylag, 2756 Pinkfeet and jist the wan Canada goose. That wiz done oan 10 February; an increase fae the previous yin.

Some fairly big numbers o' goosander, intae the hunners, hiv also been around wi a pickle red head smew seen ower by Grahamstone. A single white tailed eagle which wiznae yin o' the twa regulars turned up ower a gie wet 'n' windy weekend. Then promptly flew awa on the Monday morning so that wiz the end o' that. It looked tae be an adult, or almost adult, bird in its drookit state and we think it may hiv been yin o' the eagles that bred in Fife last year, possibly turquoise tag Z fae 2009.

Centre wise, the shop hiz 20% aff big bags o' bird food except peanuts which ye micht jist catch afore the offer ends oan 4 March. A fair savin! Buggy nibbles ur still oan the half price offer if ye spend £35 or over while stocks last. In the café Dougie hiz hid a couple o' young loons, Sean and Finlay, volunteerin tae dae their Duke o' Edinburgh

award fur the last few weeks. We are aye lookin fur centre volunteers, so if ye fancy given it a go, come in and see us aboot it.

The Café hiz been awarded the "Food for Life" bronze accreditation! Given oot by the Soil Association, ye hiv tae meet a fair wheeng o' environmental, ethical standards, local, fairtrade, organic awe that kinda stuff. It's only the second awarded tae an RSPB reserve, the ither bein Minsmere in Suffolk. So weel done tae the café team.

We hiv a new staff quine wha gans by the name o' Lucy Norris-Green – big, fancy name but she is a doon tae earth kinda lass fae Cumbria. She is the Futurescapes Community Engagement Officer – big, fancy title! She will be liaising with community groups, farmers, local organisations etc tae build a bigger, better area in this vicinity for wildlife.

Next event comin up: oan **Saturday 22 March** we are running an **Intermediate Photography Course**. This full day course will cover more advanced techniques for SLR and Bridge cameras. Refreshments and lunch provided. Costs £50 members or £60 non-members.

Think that's it till next time.

Ta ta,

Colin

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## Loch Leven NNR

It's the season to be getting on with tree work at Loch Leven NNR. Outwith nesting season we are able to carry out various woodland management tasks, many of which are caused by the strong winds that we experience knocking the trees down. Many of the plantations on the west shore of the loch are vulnerable to wind damage and our priority is always public safety. With this in mind, we have spent many days over the last month or so working with our recently expanded group of weekly volunteers to tidy up the woodlands at Mary's Knowe. Logs have been stacked, brash has been burned, and trees at risk of falling near the path have been felled to ensure that the path is safe, and the woodland looks a little less chaotic than it had when Mother Nature was finished with it.

Plans are now in place to work on removing some encroaching willow regeneration from the ponds along the new section of Heritage Trail, then we plan to start working on a larger area of willow trees further north at Mary's Knowe. If you see us out and about over the next month or so with volunteers and chainsaws, please forgive the disturbance - we are working toward improving the habitat both visually and ecologically.

### Tree Planting

Our tree planting volunteers are primed and ready to go for a week's worth of tree planting along the new section of Heritage Trail between 5 and 9 March. These trees are being strategically planted to provide additional cover for the wildfowl that take shelter by the loch shore. We've got groups from Elmwood College and Dollar Academy coming in for a day each of planting, as well as a further 22 local volunteers that will be getting their hands dirty to contribute to the creation of new habitat along this soon-to-be-opened section of trail. The community awaits the imminent opening with baited breath, and this week will be a sneaky peak at what's just around the corner for all those that have volunteered. There are still limited places available on some days, so if you are keen to be involved then please get in touch quickly to express your interest.

### 'I-Spy' Nature Detectives

#### Saturday 5 April, 10am-12pm meet at Findatie car park

Our next scheduled event is one for the young explorers out there. We'll be looking for early signs of spring, mammal tracks and signs, looking and listening out for the woodland birds and wetland birds, and using the excellent I-Spy Scottish Nature books to score as many points as possible on a two hour walk through a small section of the Loch Leven Heritage Trail. The books are a fantastic tool that makes spotting nature fun for kids, and the points scoring system means that they have to look really hard to score the 50 points available for the Sea Eagle, or even the 35 points available for an Otter! We'll also be looking at different habitats and thinking about what makes a good home for an animal.

### 'ALTERED IMAGES'

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Call LINDA on 01577 863860

So bring your young detectives along this Easter holiday for a fun-filled walk through Levenmouth woods with reserve staff, but be sure to book early by calling the reserve office or emailing me directly as places are limited.

### Insect Surveying at Loch Leven NNR



*Four-spotted Chaser*  
Photo: George Guthrie

As spring approaches, our insect surveyors are dusting off their butterfly nets and preparing for another season of surveying around Loch Leven. Dick Alderson has once again spent a considerable amount of his own time this winter updating the fantastically informative Insect Survey Reports, which are now available online through the Publications section of our website:

[www.nnr-scotland.org.uk/loch-leven](http://www.nnr-scotland.org.uk/loch-leven).

To learn more about surveying for butterflies, bumblebees and dragonflies, or to find out how you can get involved this year, why not come along to our annual **Insect Survey Training Day**? We'll be meeting at the Reserve Office by the Pier, Kinross, on **Saturday 26 April** from 11am to 3pm for a short indoor discussion, followed by a walk through survey after lunch. Later that day we'll also be joining local moth recorder Tim Brain, for the first in a series of four moth trapping evenings this year. Whether you're a seasoned expert, or an enthusiastic novice, all are welcome to the training day, and it'll be a great opportunity to find out more about what goes on, and if you'd like to help out over the course of the year. For more information or to book your place, please call 01577 864439.

That's all for now folks. Do stop in for a chat at the forthcoming Better Place to Live Fair.

Craig

### Fact of the Month

Jeremy's recent sighting of a Lapland Bunting was only the second record of this species at Loch Leven!

### GARDENING & MAINTENANCE SERVICES

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## Farming



Thanks for all the wonderful comments on my December farming article; so many people told me they enjoyed my reminiscing. It's good to know the Newsletter and farming pages are popular.

A couple of folk have asked what happens to all the lambs that are born each year during April. Well in 2013 the first lambs were sold on 20 July, having reached the target weight of 42kg; these are efficient converters and fast growing lambs. The first finished lambs usually belong to the more experienced older ewes and they achieve this weight on a diet of milk and grass, so were sold straight off their mothers. All the lambs are sold through Caledonian Markets, Stirling and we sell two to three times per month from July to this time of year. Dad hitches on his trailer, which holds 40 comfortably, 20 on the top deck and 20 on the bottom and sets off to what we call "The Cali".

The sale regularly draws in up to 2000 lambs from across the central belt and the sale is a traditional auction system where buyers bid for their chosen lots. You don't see the butchers at the ringside or anyone from a supermarket: instead there are a number of buyers looking to fulfil contracts for the processors who supply the retailers. The butchers give their orders to the auctioneers or buy from the processor. Each buyer is looking for a slightly different specification. The top quality lambs that have excellent confirmation and will yield a succulent roast and well-shaped tender chop are sold to the local butchers and command the best prices. A more commercial lamb, which is what I produce, will sell to the buyers who are supplying supermarkets or selling to the export trade. Lightweight lambs, from the hills, are in demand for the French and Spanish markets; these European countries love lamb and tiny chops are a delicacy in their restaurants.

Up until the New Year the lambs reach their target weight by eating grass but as this stops growing we need to supplement their diet. At this point we start referring to them as hogs and I finished the final 250 hogs on good quality silage grown at home, turnips (also home grown) and pellets which are barley based but include protein, vitamins and minerals to balance the diet. It's a flavoursome feeding regime and I hope means that the later finished lambs taste almost as good as those sold earlier in the year. I do keep some hogs back from the market though. 168 ewe hogs have been retained to move into the breeding flock and in August we arranged for the cheery staff at Hunters to butcher eight for the freezer. Our friends and family regularly take a selection and have started coming back for more each year, which is a good vote of confidence for all the hard work throughout the season.

I'm not really an adventurous cook but last week I was inspired to make a change for tea and created a lamb biryani. Once my husband had got over the fact that there was potato in his curry and no chicken, he has been raving about this wonderful dinner made from roast shoulder. Give it a try – I think the current slogan is Slam in the Lamb!

Fiona

## Weather



### January Weather Report from Carnbo

January continued the stormy weather endured during December, but there were subtle changes. In the North of England and most of Scotland rainfall was much less - in fact rainfall in the North of Scotland hardly reached the long term average. The winds were also much less severe, but commiserate with the people of Shetland, living on the North side of these storms, as they have endured well over sixty days of South East gales, sometimes reaching hurricane force accompanied by rain and sleet most days.

PS Despite what comes up in the media regarding January rainfall, our district had more rain in January 2008. With a total of 374mm, more fell in three days (150mm) than all January this year, 147mm.

### Highs and Lows of January 2014

Total rainfall	147 mm (106% of average)
Heaviest 24 hr fall	15.4 mm (24th)
1 dry day, 5 trace days, 25 rain days	
Snow days	1
Lowest temperature	-2°C
Highest temperature	7°C
Mean temperature	2.3°C, no ice days
Ground frost on 16 nights, air frost on 9 nights	
12 sunless days 80% cloud cover app.	
Wind component West 19 days, East 3 days!	

### January Weather Report from Kinross

Total rainfall	119.7 mm (4.78 inches)
Heaviest fall	12.9 mm (26th)
Total sunshine for month	11.9 hours
Sunniest day	3.0 hours (11th)
Maximum temperature	average 6.42°C
Highest temperature	9.0°C (7th)
Minimum temperature	average -0.57°C
Lowest temperature	-6.1°C (12th)
2 days only in January with no rain recorded.	

### Scotland's Gardens Snowdrop Festival 2014

**1 February – 16 March**

Several properties within easy reach of Kinross-shire are participating in Scotland's Gardens Snowdrop Festival.

**Perth & Kinross:** Braco Castle, Cluny House, Kilgraston School, Rossie House

**Fife:** Cambo House and Lindores House

**Stirlingshire:** Gargunnock House, Kilbryde Castle, The Linns, West Plean House

Scotland's Gardens is a registered charity which raises funds for other deserving charities by co-ordinating the opening of gardens of horticultural interest to the public. See [www.scotlandsgardens.org](http://www.scotlandsgardens.org) for more information.

#### Discover Loch Leven Website

To discover the myriad things to see and do in Kinross-shire and its neighbouring counties, visit [www.visitlochleven.org](http://www.visitlochleven.org)

#### Community Website

For contact details of community groups, hall bookings, job vacancies, leisure and visitor information and much more, visit [www.kinross.cc](http://www.kinross.cc)

## Congratulations



Congratulations to Christopher and Gabby **SHARP** of Ashington on the birth of their son, **JOSHUA**, on Friday 7 February 2014, the same day as his daddy's 30th birthday. First grandchild for Barbara and David Sharp, Mawcarse Crossroads, Milnathort, and fifth great-grandchild for Agnes Sharp, Milnathort.

Congratulations to **IAN** and **JANETTE CRAIG** of Cleish, who celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary on Tuesday 18 March 2014. With love and best wishes from John, Margaret, Megan, Gavin, Robert, Kathleen, Andrew and Elinor.

**KINROSS HIGH SCHOOL** won the Secondary School prize in the recent William Soutar Writing Competition for Young People run by Perth and Kinross Libraries and Information Services.

**THE KIRKLANDS HOTEL** has been named one of the UK's best 'Bargain' hotels in the 2014 TripAdvisor Travellers' Choice awards. The Kinross Hotel came 15th in the list of 25 hotels in the Bargain category. Only two other Scottish establishments made the top 25 in that category.

The Travellers' Choice Awards are based on reviews and opinions made by millions of TripAdvisor travellers around the globe. Other categories were: Top Hotels, B&Bs and Inns, Family, Luxury, Romance and Small Hotels.

The Kirklands Hotel is a firm favourite on TripAdvisor and Kinross-shire diners voted the restaurant at the Kirklands number one local restaurant in its own right.

Already a recipient of a gold award from Visit Scotland for excellence in customer service, this award from TripAdvisor further highlights the achievements of this small hotel.

"We are delighted to receive this award from TripAdvisor! Imagine a nine-bedroom hotel in Kinross being in the top 25 hotels in this category! Thank you to all our review-writing guests for recognising the hard work and dedication of all our staff that goes into making the Kirklands what it is," said Shona and Anthony Clifford, proprietors of the hotel.

"We're excited to recognise the world's best properties, based on the opinions of those who know them best – the millions of travellers around the globe who come to TripAdvisor to share their experiences," said Barbara Messing, chief marketing officer for TripAdvisor.

Recent comments on TripAdvisor about the Kirklands Hotel and Restaurant include: "This place is superb"; "A great hotel with wonderfully friendly and helpful staff" and "The jewel of Kinross!"

### 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)**

## Thanks



Thank you to the person who found my purple purse on Saturday morning (1 February) and handed it in to the police. I was very distressed on discovering I had lost it and very grateful to get it back. Thank you very much.

- **DOREEN KENINGALE**

**MILNATHORT TOWN HALL COMMITTEE** would like to thank all our hall users, for their patience, understanding and continued support during the recent closure of the hall. It has been a very frustrating time for all involved. The closure was very sudden and completely outwith our control. Please be assured that at every step, we have tried to speed up the repair work to cause the least disruption to our valued users. Hopefully by the time you read this, normal service will be resumed!

A huge 'thank you' to all the local halls and venues in and around Milnathort for accommodating quite a few of our users at such short notice. It is during a crisis like this that we have appreciated how much our Town Hall is really needed within the village.

Please join 'Friends of Milnathort Town Hall' on Facebook where we will post any new information, as soon as we have it.

**MILNATHORT FILMHOUSE** would like to thank a number of people and groups for their amazing support with our February double bill weekend when our Town Hall venue was unexpectedly unavailable: the Milnathort Town Hall Committee for organising our replacement venue; the Scout Hall for taking us in and all of their help; also to Sainsbury's Kinross Branch for stocking our Tuck Shop and to the good people of this Newsletter for the fantastic February issue cover space. Hope to see everyone back in the Town Hall for our March 16th family screening.

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**[www.positive-health.co.uk](http://www.positive-health.co.uk)**

### SERIOUSLY DRY LOGS - SOURCED LOCALLY

BULK Bag deal - Cubic Metre Seasoned Logs  
Plenty in Stock

Buy 2 bags at only £65 each - Free Delivery Kinross-shire  
Suppliers of Eco-logs, Lignite Briquettes, Peat & Kindling  
Log Stores designed and built to order –  
Flues & Stoves Cleaned

**Telephone 01577 330 526 or Call in at 62 Muirs**

# Kinross-shire Churches Together



## Kinross Parish Church of Scotland

*Following Christ | Spreading the Word | Serving the Community*

10 Station Road, Kinross KY13 8TG (Charity number SC012555)

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 Church Office sells Fair Trade goods by Traidcraft.

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** (but note Pram Service on Tuesdays during termtime)..

**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) meet at church centre from 10.15am, finish at church.

7.30pm, 'Crossfire' (S1 upwards) in church centre.

**Tuesdays:** 10am: Pram Service, in termtime

**Wednesdays:** 10.45am Service, church centre. 1.30pm Craft Group.

**Fridays:** The Brigade, church centre. Anchor Section 6 – 7.15pm, Junior Section 7 – 9pm, Company Section 8 – 10pm (Contact: David Munro 862126).

### Other Events and Services

#### March

**Sun 2** 10.30am Quarterly Communion. Retiring collection in support of Kinross High School's fundraising for 'Mary's Meals' (SC022140).

2.30pm Short Communion Service, aimed particularly at those who find the longer morning service difficult or need transport. Contact your Elder or the church office if you need help.

**Mon 3** 8am: Silent Meditation (30 mins.)

**Tue 4** 2.30pm: Service at Whyte Court.

**Thu 6** 7.30pm: Thursday Group, church centre – Brenda Fraser on 'Dementia'.

**Sat 8** 8.30am: Prayer Breakfast (names in advance to church office)  
10am: Coffee Morning, Church Centre: for Fairtrade Fortnight.

**Sun 9** 3pm Second Sunday Concert and Tea: Guitar and Violin, £10.

**Tue 11** 7.15pm: Guild, church centre: A.G.M.

**Sun 16** 10.30am Morning Service: 'A Look Back at 2013', including Stated Annual Meeting.

**Thu 20** 9pm: late evening service of Compline (20min).

**Sun 23** 6.30pm: Informal Evening Service.

**Tues 25** 2.30pm: Service at Causeway Court.

7.15pm: Guild, church centre, Rev Angus Morrison: 'An Island Parish'.

8pm: Bible Study and Prayer Meeting.

**Fri 28** 7.30pm: Jamboree Cabaret Singers: concert organised by the Thursday Group for Breakthrough Breast Cancer (SC039058), £8.

### Advance Notice: Family Week, 4 – 8 August

A staple of the summer holidays, our morning programme will run from 9.45am - 12 noon and include the usual fun with games, crafts and outings. We welcome all children and young people from pre-school through to S4 at High School.

#### An Easter Journey: 18 April, 10am – 12noon

A fun event in Kinross Parish Church, organised by the Family Week team for all the family.

## Orwell and Portmoak Parish Church

### Church of Scotland

Locum Minister - Rev Duncan Stenhouse

Telephone: 01577 866992

Email: duncan.stenhouse@btinternet.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.

**Communion service and Annual Meeting in Orwell church on 9 March at 10.30am. No service at Portmoak that day.**

**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 Levenglen:** 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

**1 March** Messy Church in Orwell Hall, 4 - 6pm.

**4 March** Guild in Orwell Hall 7pm - Charity Meal.

**18 March** Guild in Orwell Hall 7pm - AGM.

**28 March** Oasis Ladies' Group in Portmoak New Room, 10.15 - 11.45am: 'Loving Hands', Lou Jaap.

**5 April** Messy Church in Portmoak Hall, 4 - 6pm.

Everyone welcome

**Church office & shop** open Mon – Sat. 10am until 2pm.

29 South Street, Milnathort KY13 9XA.

Christian cards, gifts, bibles and books for sale. Printing and copying facilities available. Recycling for ink toners, stamps & batteries. Donations of food can be made for the local Foodbank.

Contact the Office 01577 861200  
orwellportmoakchurch@gmail.com

## St James' 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

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

### PRO GUITAR OR BASS GUITAR LESSONS

Get lessons from a working musician and established local teacher.

£15 per 1hr lesson or £10 per 30min lesson

**New website with online video support**  
(Included in lesson price)

Beginner to advanced, all ages

Tutoring also offered for RGT and Rocks School Exams

**Travels to you saving you time and Money**

**CRB approved to teach Children.**

**Website:** lochlevenmusic.weebly.com

**Phone:** 07938 663269

**Fossoway, St Serf's & Devonside Church****Church of Scotland** (Charity number SC013157)

Minister: Rev Lis Stenhouse Telephone: (01577) 862937

Email: listen@sky.com

Reader: Mr Brian Ogilvie Telephone: (01592) 840823

Session Clerk: Mrs Janet Harper Telephone: (01755) 840225

**Sunday Services** at 9.45am**March****Sun 2** 9.45am Morning Worship, Rev L Stenhouse, followed by Refreshments and Fellowship.**Sun 9** 9.45am Morning Worship, Rev L Stenhouse.**Sun 16** 9.45am Morning Worship, Rev L Stenhouse.**Sun 23** Sacrament of Holy Communion, 9.45am Rev L Stenhouse.**Sun 30** 9.45am Morning Worship, Rev L Stenhouse.**Lent Studies**, Fossoway Church Hall, Thursdays at 7.30pm March 13, 20 and 27.**A date for your diary**Dundee Strathspey and Reel Society Scottish Concert, Fossoway Church **Saturday 29 March** 7.30pm**Wrigglers Group (0-3 years), Junior Church and teens** 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 7 March** 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)

Minister: Rev Lis Stenhouse

Telephone: (01577) 862937

Email: listen@sky.com

Reader: Mr Brian Ogilvie

Telephone: (01592) 840823

Email: brianj.ogilvie1@btopenworld.com

Session Clerk: Gordon McMillan

Telephone: (01506) 825641

Email: gordon.b.mcmillan@tak21.com

Website: www.cleishchurch.org

**Sunday Services** 11.15am**Crèche and Junior Church** 11.15am**March****Sun 2** 11.15am All Age Morning Worship.**Sun 9** 11.15am Morning Worship.**Sun 16** 11.15pm Morning Worship.**Sun 23** 11.15am Morning Worship.**Mon 24** 7.15pm Cleish Guild meeting 'Comfort Rwanda'.**Sun 30** 11.15am Morning Worship.

All welcome

**Contributors – please send your item well before the deadline if you can****St Paul's Scottish Episcopal Church**

(part of the Worldwide Anglican Communion)

Muir, 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

www.facebook.com/stpaulsepiscopalchurchkinross

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 are excited about the ways in which God is calling us to grow as a community, for the community. Our aim is to express our deep appreciation of both the spoken and sacramental Word with a lightness of touch and a smile. If you would like to give us a try, we look forward to meeting and greeting you and hope that you might enjoy becoming part of this faithful family of Christ.

8am Morning Prayer (Mondays and Wednesdays)

Thursdays 12.30pm - 1.30pm Rector's Hour

**March Services and Events**

Refreshments are normally available in the Meeting Room after the Sunday 11am service.

**Sun 2** Fairtrade Sunday (Sunday before Lent).

8.30am Holy Communion. (1982).

11.00am Family Sung Eucharist (1982). Free banana-themed tasting and Fair Trade stall.

**Tue 4** Shrove Tuesday Pancake Party.

7pm Meeting Room. Members of St Paul's are most welcome to bring their friends along for some flipping family fun!

**Wed 5** Ash Wednesday.

12 Noon Meditation for Lent (Meeting Room).

12.30pm Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes.

**Sun 9** 1st Sunday of Lent.

8.30am The Scottish Liturgy (1928).

11am Sung Eucharist (1982).

**Wed 12** 12 Noon Meditation for Lent (Meeting Room).

12.30pm Holy Communion.

**Sun 16** 2nd Sunday of Lent.

8.30am Holy Communion. (1982)

11.00am Sung Eucharist (1982).

**Wed 19** 7.30pm Holy Communion and Candlelit Compline.**Sun 23** 3rd Sunday of Lent.

8.30am Holy Communion (1982).

*Historical Exploration over breakfast of Mark 4.35 - 5.43.*

11.00am Sung Eucharist (1982).

**Wed 27** 12 Noon Meditation for Lent (Meeting Room).

12.30pm Holy Communion.

**Sun 30** Mothering Sunday (*British Summer Time begins*).

8.30am Holy Communion. (1982).

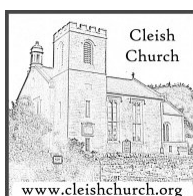
*Social Exploration over breakfast of Mark 4.35 - 5.43.*11.00am Family Sung Eucharist (*No Sunday School this morning*).**Everyone welcome at all services**

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.



### 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.*

### 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

### 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)

### The Kinross Community Council Newsletter

is available from:

<b>The Co-operative</b>	High Street, Kinross
<b>Baillies</b>	High Street, Kinross
<b>Sainsbury's</b>	Station Road, Kinross
<b>Costcutter</b>	Green Road, Kinross
<b>Giacopazzi's</b>	New Road, Milnathort
<b>Milnathort Post Office</b>	New Road, Milnathort
<b>Stewart &amp; Smart</b>	Stirling Road, Milnathort
<b>Buchan's Garage</b>	Main Street, Kinnesswood
<b>Shop</b>	Main Street, Kinnesswood
<b>Fossoway Store</b>	Crook of Devon
<b>Glenfarg Shop</b>	Ladeside, Glenfarg
<b>Mona's Coffee Shop</b>	Muckhart
<b>Powmill Milk Bar</b>	Powmill
<b>Moto Shop</b>	Turfhills

### 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.

## Obituary

A former parish priest of St James' RC Church, Kinross, has died. **MONSIGNOR BENJAMIN CANON DONACHIE** died on Wednesday 5 February 2014 at Arbroath Royal Infirmary, aged 85.

Mgr Donachie was appointed parish priest at St James' in 1981 and was here for six years. He was then a parish priest in Dundee and latterly Arbroath, where he spent his retirement.

A gifted musician, Mgr Donachie was director of the Diocesan Choir for 23 years and played an important role in the mass at Bellahouston Park, Glasgow, during the visit of Pope John Paul II to Scotland in 1982.

Mgr Donachie's funeral took place on 12 February in Dundee, with a Requiem Mass at St Andrew's Cathedral followed by burial at the Eastern Cemetery.

## Acknowledgement

The family of the late **HELEN GAVITO** (née Campbell) would like to thank relatives, friends and neighbours for the many calls cards and lovely flowers received during our bereavement. We also express thanks to Rev Alan Reid for his comfort and lovely service at the church and at the graveside. Thanks also to Stewart Funeral Service and to all at Orwell Bowling Club for their hospitality.

It is with regret that we learn of the death of **Dr DEREK ANDERSON**, retired GP, on Friday 14 February 2014.

## JULIE ROSE CHILDEARE



**REGISTERED CHILDMINDER**  
**CALL JULIE ON 078180 35989**  
[julesmrose@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:julesmrose@yahoo.co.uk)

### Lochend Farm Shop Scotlandwell

Fresh seasonal vegetables  
carrots, turnips, cabbage  
and lots more harvested daily  
Maris Piper potatoes available now  
Apple Pies, scones, hot from the oven  
Menu changes daily

**Open seven days 9am-6pm**  
**Tel: 01592 840 745**

**Outside catering buffets lunches**  
**or book the shop for private functions**  
**Phone for further information**



# Playgroups and Toddlers <sup>55</sup>

## 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

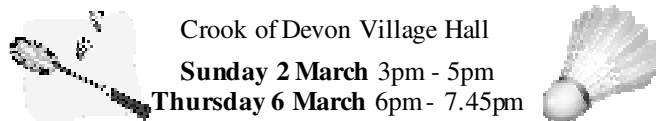
For private nurseries and childcare services, please see advertisements throughout the Newsletter.

To inform the Newsletter of any changes to Playgroup information, please send an email to: [editor@kinrossnewsletter.org](mailto:editor@kinrossnewsletter.org)



# Notices

## FREE 'Come & Try' Badminton Sessions



Crook of Devon Village Hall

**Sunday 2 March** 3pm - 5pm

**Thursday 6 March** 6pm - 7.45pm

All ages welcome but children must be accompanied by an adult.

Please wear appropriate footwear. Equipment can be supplied if necessary. Any questions, contact Jean Shearer at the village shop.

SC026692

## 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.

**6 March** Talk on Dementia by Brenda Fraser  
**3 April** Police: Constable Sadie Allan  
**1 May** Annual General Meeting

## Charity Disco

Raising Awareness and Funds for  
**WomenVcancer**

After the post-Christmas lull, isn't it time to organise a night of dancing and socialising?

Looking for a great night out with the hubby/wife, friends, school mums or work colleagues?

**LOOK NO FURTHER!**

Come along to

**The Windlestrae Hotel, Kinross**  
**Friday 7 March at 7.30pm**

Tickets £10, Raffle tickets £1 each, available by phoning  
**Sarah on 0781 007 7182**

Raffle Prizes gratefully received, anything from a bottle of wine, cupcakes, beauty treatments & grass cutting, to weekend holiday lets accepted!

**Look forward to seeing you all there**

**If you can't make it, but would like to support these charities please log on to**

**[www.justgiving.com/sarahfulke2](http://www.justgiving.com/sarahfulke2)**

**and sponsor me cycling 450km across the Beijing Province in China, in September, for the womenVcancer charities.**

For more information on the womenVcancer charities:

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

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

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



## Support Websites

Samaritans [www.samaritans.org.uk](http://www.samaritans.org.uk)  
 Breathing Space [www.breathingspacescotland.co.uk](http://www.breathingspacescotland.co.uk)  
 Childline [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)  
 Perth Assoc for Mental Health [www.pamh.co.uk](http://www.pamh.co.uk)

## THE KINROSS HUB A CAFE FOR CARERS

### GUEST SPEAKER

**3rd March 2014**

**Positive Choices**  
 (Sarah Renwick)

**10.30 and 13.30**  
**Relaxation and Hand Therapy**

The Guest speaker will be at the Carers Café all day.

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



## Second Sunday

### Music at Kinross Parish Church

On **Sunday 9 March** at 3pm,

Second Sunday starts up again with a concert by  
**Allan Neave** (guitar) and **Angus Ramsay** (violin)  
 with tea afterwards.

Tickets are £10 from Milnathort PO or Kinross Church  
 Office or by email from alexcant44@aol.com

## Carnbo Bowling Club

### CEILIDH DANCE

with

**Glenfarg Scottish Dance Band**

in

**CROOK OF DEVON HALL**

8.00pm

**SATURDAY 15 MARCH**

£10.00

Contact: 01577 840238 or 01577 865445 for tickets

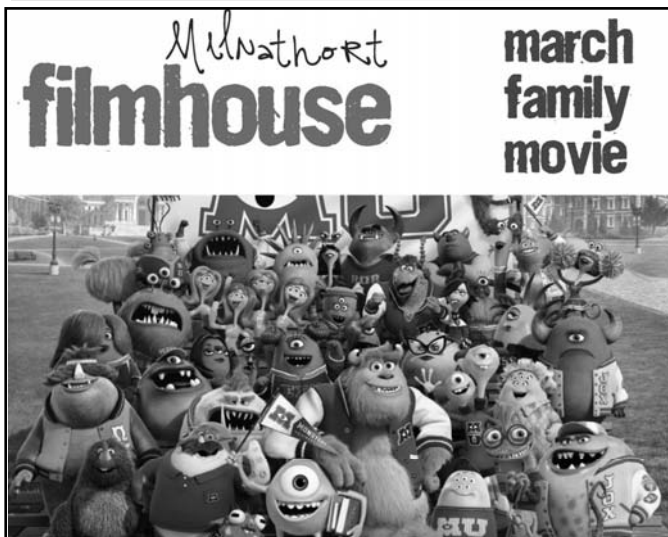
Tea Coffee Raffle BYOB

## 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.

**15 Mar The Busch Ensemble** (piano, violin, cello) – an international prize and award-winning trio.

[www.musicindollar.org.uk](http://www.musicindollar.org.uk) [info@musicindollar.org.uk](mailto:info@musicindollar.org.uk)



## Monsters University

Sun March 16th 3pm  
Milnathort Town Hall

Monsters University (U) tickets available on the door and in advance through our Facebook page.  
Family £15 (2 ad + 2 chd), Child £3, Adult £5 (concession £3),  
Screening 3pm doors open 2.30pm. Tuck shop available.

big screen movies



### 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.

**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**

**19th March**

live music interpretation dream personality styles healing body, soul & spirit spiritual art

spiritual readings head, shoulder, hand massage

**Light & Life**

Wednesday 19th March. Come and enjoy Light and Life's free therapies from 7:30pm -9:30pm, Heaven Scent Coffee Shop, 19 South St, Milnathort, KY13 9XA

fife@lightlife.org.uk  
www.lightlife.org.uk

### 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 Floral Art Club**  
**AGM and supper**  
Thursday 27 March  
at 7.00pm  
in the Kirklands Hotel

### Kinross Parish Church Thursday Group

invite you to a

### CONCERT

by

**Jambouree Cabaret Singers**

of Perth on

**Friday 28 March**

in Kinross Parish Church at 7.30pm  
in aid of Breakthrough Breast Cancer

Tickets: £8.00

### SCOTTISH CONCERT

at

**Fossoway Church**

(Scottish Charity No. SC013157)

on

**Saturday 29 March**

at 7.30pm

Members of Dundee Strathspey & Reel Society

with singer

**Layla Brown**

(Gold and Silver Medal Winner, Performin Perth 2012)

present an evening of music and song

Tickets £10 including tea and coffee.

Tickets available from

Alan Harper	01577 840225
Stewart Roberts	01577 840822
Ian Robertson	01577 840526

Tickets also available at the door

### Blairingone Future Workshop

**Tuesday 25th March 2014**  
**6.30pm to 9pm**  
**at Moubray Hall**

**This workshop is for anyone interested in giving their ideas on what facilities and services are needed in Blairingone in the future**

**Everyone is welcome to come along and share their ideas for improving Blairingone**

For more information contact:

**Diane Cassidy: DCassidy@pkc.gov.uk**

**01738 475396**



## Welcome Spring at Tillywhally Community Woodland

Spring is coming so it is time for a "spring clean"  
and habitat boost.

You are cordially invited to a

### Grand Planting Event

on **SATURDAY 29 MARCH** at 10am

We will plant young Holly and Hazel trees,  
Raspberry shoots and wildflowers.

All volunteers will be offered a fantastic opportunity –

**Free Willow Workshop** to follow the planting

Under the expert supervision of Craig Nisbet we will weave  
plant climbers to take home.

This is a free community event, but please  
book your place. Contact: Gosia,

**mmm.so.zanska@btinternet.com** tel: 01577 861237

Please bring your own spade/garden fork and packed lunch.

We will provide tea, coffee and biscuits.

Great thanks to Woodland Trust for supplying the trees,  
Craig Nisbet for kindly agreeing to supervise the willow  
workshop and Tayside Biodiversity and Milnathort in  
Bloom for sponsoring the project.

## JAM 2014

### Just About Movies – the Filmgoers Festival

Tullibole Castle, near Crook of Devon

**29 – 31 August**

A film festival is similar to a music festival except instead  
of music stages there are pop-up cinemas throughout the site  
showing back-to-back films.

- Exclusive Premieres
- Horror Cinema (set in the woods and only open after dark!)
- Old Favourites and Bloggers Choice
- New Talent and Old Classics

#### Other attractions at the event include:

- Q&A Sessions with Industry Professionals
- Memorabilia
- Film Buff Quiz
- Set in the grounds of a privately owned 16thC castle
- Full weekend camping
- Witches Maze
- Street Food Café and the JAM Bar

#### Tickets (all prices include free parking):

Full Weekend (with camping)	£55
Full Weekend (no camping)	£45
Saturday Day Ticket	£30

Tickets go on sale soon. If you wish to put an early reserve  
on tickets, email: [jojo@justaboutmovies.co.uk](mailto:jojo@justaboutmovies.co.uk)

More information from:

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

[www.facebook.com/JustAboutMovies](http://www.facebook.com/JustAboutMovies)

## Children's Hospice Association Scotland



Children's  
Hospice  
Association  
Scotland

21  
years

### Mother's Day

**Sunday 30 March 2014**

Pop in and see the wide range of cards and gifts available at  
the CHAS Gift Shop, 23 Avenue Road, Kinross.

**10% off if you mention or bring this advert,**

can also be used in our charity shops:

Bazaar 1, 88 High Street, and Bazaar 2, 76 High Street.

Valid until 30 March 2014.

## 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

**Tuesday 18 March**

**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)



## Kinross-shire Fund

Grants available for local  
community projects



e.g. Events, Information, Transport, Welfare,  
Physical Amenities, Recreational Facilities, Support for  
Care of the Elderly, Voluntary Organisations

For more information and to download an application form,  
see **[www.kinross-shirefund.org](http://www.kinross-shirefund.org)** or contact Annabel Bath

on 0131 524 0300

or email [Annabel@scottishhcf.org](mailto:Annabel@scottishhcf.org)



## 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.pkf.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=22228&p=0](http://www.pkf.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@pkf.gov.uk](mailto:Tramsay@pkf.gov.uk)

### Temporary Closure of Local Studies and Reference Library at AK Bell Library, Perth

As part of ongoing work to improve the quality of experience for library visitors, the Local Studies and References departments on the first floor of the AK Bell Library in Perth will be closed to the public from **20 January to 3 March 2014**.

### 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)

### 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**.



**Loch Leven Community Campus**  
**The Muirs, Kinross**  
**KY13 8FQ**  
**[www.pkc.gov.uk](http://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](mailto:JSRamsay@pkc.gov.uk)

**Tel: 01577 867177**

### 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



**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 for 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:

**11 and 25 March**

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.

## Perth & Kinross School Term Dates 2013-14

Term	Start	End
Spring	Mon 6 Jan 2014	Fri 4 Apr 2014
Summer	Wed 23 Apr 2014	Thu 26 Jun 2014

*In Service Days and Occasional Holidays:*

Tue 22 April.

May Day Holiday: Mon 5 May.

## Give a Greyhound A Home

Look on our Website

[www.greyhoundrescuefife.com](http://www.greyhoundrescuefife.com)



Why not come along and welcome **your** hound or hounds into your home

Please call or email for details  
Phone: 01592 890583 (evenings)  
Mob: 07826244765 (daytime)  
email us on [femiejimmyf@aol.com](mailto:femiejimmyf@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

## Mobile Library

*Mobile 2, Week 1, every second Wednesday:*

Visiting Powmill, Rumbling Bridge, Crook of Devon, Fossoway, Cleish and Milnathort. Next visit: **5 March**.

*Mobile 2, Week 2, every second Tuesday:*

Visiting Mawcarse, Glenlond, Kinnesswood, Scotlandwell, Levenmouth Farm, Hatchbank and Cambo. Next visit: **11 March**.

*Mobile 1, Week 2, every second Wednesday:*

Visiting Glenfarg and Duncricvie. Next visit: **12 March**.

For times of stops, see PKC website: [www.pkc.gov.uk](http://www.pkc.gov.uk)

Any queries, telephone AK Bell Library 01738 444949.

## 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 Cunningham's constituency staff are available by telephone on 0131 348 5727, five days a week. Address details:

Roseanna Cunningham MSP  
M3.15

The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1SP

Email:

[Roseanna.Cunningham.msp@scottishparliament.uk](mailto:Roseanna.Cunningham.msp@scottishparliament.uk)

## 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](mailto:Claire.Baker.msp@scottish.parliament.uk)

**Jayne Baxter MSP** (Labour) Tel: 0131 348 6753

Email: [jaynebaxter.msp@scottish.parliament.uk](mailto:jaynebaxter.msp@scottish.parliament.uk)

**Annabelle Ewing MSP** (SNP) Tel: 0131 348 5066

Email: [Annabelle.Ewing.msp@scottish.parliament.uk](mailto:Annabelle.Ewing.msp@scottish.parliament.uk)

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

Email: [Murdo.Fraser.msp@scottish.parliament.uk](mailto:Murdo.Fraser.msp@scottish.parliament.uk)

**Willie Rennie MSP** (Lib Dem) Tel: 0131 348 5803

Email: [Willie.Rennie.msp@scottish.parliament.uk](mailto:Willie.Rennie.msp@scottish.parliament.uk)

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

Email: [Richard.Simpson.msp@scottish.parliament.uk](mailto:Richard.Simpson.msp@scottish.parliament.uk)

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

Email: [Elizabeth.Smith.msp@scottish.parliament.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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.

## Fossoway and Cleish Community Office

A service for the Community, open:

Thursdays 2 pm - 4 pm

Saturdays 10am -12 noon

Out of hours there is an answering machine

Tel: 01577 840185 Email: [fcoffice@btinternet.com](mailto:fcoffice@btinternet.com)



# Kinross-shire *Day Centre*



**Film shows • Cards • Dominoes • Art Class  
Daily Papers • Chiropody • Trips • Exercises**

## Weekly Programme

<b>Monday</b>	Exercise Class	11am	Bingo	1.30pm
			Knitting Chat	1pm
			"Stride for Life" Walking Group	2pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	Relaxation Class	1.15pm	Singing group with Alex Cant	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 March

**World Day of Prayer  
Chiropody**

**Food from around the world, and  
Entertainment (Mexican)**

**Friday 7th 2pm**  
**Thursday 6th, 27th 9.30am - 12.30pm**  
(phone 01577 863869 for an appointment)  
**Wednesday 26th 12noon**



**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.

**Phone: 01577 863869 Fax: 01577 863869 Email: kindaycent@tiscali.co.uk**

## 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**



## Disability Sport

There are many activities for people with disabilities at local, regional and national level which welcome people with physical, learning and sensory disabilities. Sports available include swimming, athletics, boccia and bowling. If you would like further information or would like to be included on an email distribution list to keep up-to-date with what is available, please contact Caroline Ness, Sports Development Officer by telephone on 01738 472242 or email CMNess@pkc.gov.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.

## 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.**

## 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
April	Fri 14 March	Saturday 29 March
May	Fri 18 April	Saturday 3 May

## 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

- Car trailer** £7500 ono  
Used very little. Has cover.  
Seller details: William Anderson 01577 862578
- Fancy dress costumes - various** £5.00 each  
Pirate outfit (5-7yrs); Cyberman outfit (7-9yrs); Ben 10 outfit (9-10yrs); Sewer boy (9-10yrs) for Halloween. All outfits in very good condition and all with masks except the pirate who comes with belt, bandana and eye patch.  
Seller details: Debbie Gachagan 01577 865553  
stackyard4@aol.com
- Computer chair** £5000 ono  
Black computer wheeled chair, hardly used.  
Seller details: Alexandra Low 01577 862186  
salsasan@yahoo.com
- Ping Lill'b Putter** £50.00  
Ping Lill'b putter, belly putter but can be used without body contact.
- Odyssey White Hot Putter** £50.00  
Odyssey White Hot Putter XG #1, as new only over used on practice putting area, complete with cover, ball marker in cover.
- Cobra Speedpro Driver** £3500  
Cobra Speedpro driver, 9.5 degrees, Dynamic gold X100 shaft, new Gold Pride grip, shaft is slightly shorter than normal.  
For items above contact: Jim Atkinson 01577 865380
- Reclining Swivel Chair** £100.00  
Burgundy red leather with matching footstool. Little used. Perfect condition.  
Seller details: Alan Briscoe 01577 840680  
alanenby@fsmail.net



Education & Children's Services

### Community Learning & Development Adult & Family Learning Team

#### Technology Drop-in

**CONFUSED BY YOUR COMPUTER?  
INTRIGUED BY THE INTERNET?  
ERRORS IN YOUR EMAIL?  
FLUMMOXED BY YOUR PHONE?**

The IT Tutor with Community Learning and Development at

#### Loch Leven Community Campus

is holding drop-in sessions to help with any basic technology questions you may have:

**Friday mornings 10am – 12 noon**

in the ICT room within the library

No need to book, just drop-in!

If you need further information,  
please contact **01577 867177**

### Grants and Funding Websites

www.pkgrantsdirect.com  
www.scottishcf.org

## Situations Vacant

In conjunction with www.kinross.cc, the Newsletter is pleased to publish local situations vacant. Please go to the kinross.cc website before applying to **check whether a position is still available**. (Go to www.kinross.cc then click on 'Local Adverts' and choose 'Situations Vacant').

### Kitchen and waiting staff (full and part time), Scott Hospitality Services

Required to work at our restaurant Kinnairds at Knockhill Racing Circuit.

Apply to recruitment@scotthospitality.co.uk

### Sales Support Assistant, John Moncrieffe Ltd

The successful candidate will be a strong team player, flexible in regard to tasks allocated and adapt to needs of the business. Tasks include: telephone reception duties, processing sales orders through Sage accounts, updating website, greeting customers, contacting customers, and any other admin tasks.

Apply by submitting CV with covering letter to Scott Gilmore, Managing Director, by post or by email to enquiries@jmoncrieff.co.uk

### Taxi Driver (part time), A2B

Required for school contract one day a week, holiday cover and occasional other shifts. Full UK driving licence and Perth & Kinross taxi licence required.

To apply contact: Bruce on 07743 332237.

Interested persons who do not hold a taxi licence please call and I would be happy to assist them in applying.



### Administrator

Applications are sought for the role of administrator supporting the directors of the Kinross-shire Partnership ("KP").

KP is a not for profit company run by volunteer directors supported by Perth & Kinross Council which strives to make a contribution to the identification, promotion and encouragement of economic development, tourism, environmental improvement, community recreation and general support of local people/clubs and organisations.

The Administrator works from home on a fully flexible basis in return for an hourly fee calculated on time spent. Responsibilities include:

- Principal point of contact for KP
- Dealing with enquiries & correspondence
- Organising meetings, venues & KP participation at events
- Minute taking

We are looking for someone with a strong blend of administrative and inter-personal skills who wants to help us make Kinross-shire a better place to live.

If you think you would like to help us achieve our aims please contact:

Alisdair Stewart (Chairman)

Tel: 01577 862262

Mob: 07825 698613

e-mail: alisdairstewart@yahoo.com

### Local Correspondent

for Perthshire Advertiser and Fife Herald newspapers

**Linda Freeman**

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## March

			Page
Sat	1	Indoor Table Top Sale at campus	58
Sun	2	Little Seedlings Club at Dobbies	53
Sun	2	Come and Try badminton at Crook of Devon village hall (also on 6th)	96
Mon	3	Kinross Hub Café for Carers	96
Tue	4	Lodge St Serf meets regularly	51
Tue	4	Fossoway & District CC meets	37
Wed	5	Business Breakfast	13, 52
Wed	5	Kinross CC meets	30
Thu	6	Fifty Plus Club AGM and Annual Party at Windlestrae Hotel	66
Thu	6	World Book Day children's event at library	18
Thu	6	The Thursday Group: talk on dementia	96
Fri	7	Charity disco	96
Fri	7	Library talk: Inappropriate Climbing with Andy Kirkpatrick	18
Sat	8	Fairtrade 'Bananas' Coffee Morning at Church Centre	6
Sat	8	<b>Better Place to Live Fair</b>	12
Sun	9	Concert in Kinross Parish Church: guitar and violin	96
Sun	9	Portmoak Film Society: Sunshine on Leith	52
Mon	10	Kinross High School Parent Council meets	61
Tue	11	Citizens Advice Bureau visits Kinross twice per month (also on 25th)	104
Tue	11	Portmoak CC meets	38
Wed	12	Mindfulness taster session	22
Thu	13	Kinross Garden Group meets	51
Thu	13	Milnathort CC meets	34
Fri	14	<b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	1
Fri	14	Race Night at campus	61
Sat	15	Antiques, Vintage, Retro and Collectors Fair	58
Sat	15	Carnbo Bowling Club Ceilidh Dance with Glenfarg Scottish Dance Band	96
Sun	16	Beginners Class in Curling commences	80
Sun	16	Milnathort Filmhouse: Monsters University	99
Mon	17	Ancestry Taster Session at library (also on 19 March)	18
Mon	17	Historical Society: The History of Perthshire and Kinross-shire constabularies	99
Mon	17	Milnathort Primary School Parent Council meets	65
Tue	18	Blythswood Care collection	100
Wed	19	Light & Life event at Heaven Scent	99
Thu	20	Dance class with international presenter	58
Sat	22	Intermediate Photography Course at RSPB Loch Leven	84
Sat	22	Kinross-shire Round Table Charter Dinner	
Sat	22	Kinrosswood and Scotlandwell in Bloom Quiz & Curry	57
Sun	23	Loch Leven Walkathon for Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland	13
Tue	25	Common Grounds project lunch	43
Tue	25	Blairingone Future Workshop	6, 99
Thu	27	Kinross Floral Art Club AGM and supper	99
Fri	28	Concert by Jambouree Cabaret Singers in Kinross Parish Church	99
Fri	28	Inner Wheel Charity Bridge Event	51
Sat	29	Scottish Concert at Fossoway Church	99
Sat	29	Kinross Tennis Club Open Day	73
Sat	29	Spring Craft Fair at campus	58
Sat	29	Quiz Night, Kinross Curling Lounge, for Kinross Curling Trust	79
Sat	29	Grand Planting Event at Tillywhally Community Woodland	100
Sun	30	British Summer Time begins	2
Mon	31	E-Book and E-Magazine Taster session at library	18

## April

			Page
Wed	2	Kinross CC meets	30
Thu	3	The Thursday Group: talk by police	96
Fri	4	IT Taster session at library	18
Sat	5	Local schools spring holiday begins	104