



Kinross Newsletter

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Founding editor,
Mrs Nan Walker, MBE

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DEADLINE for the February Issue

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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

(all emails will be acknowledged)

Post or hand in to:

Eileen Thomas, Editor
50 Muirs
Kinross KY13 8AU

Editor

Eileen Thomas
50 Muirs
Kinross, KY13 8AU..... 01577 863714
editor@kinrossnewsletter.org

Interim Advertising Manager

Eileen Thomas
50 Muirs
Kinross, KY13 8AU..... 01577 863714
advertising@kinrossnewsletter.org

Treasurer

Ross McConnell
3 High Street
Kinross KY13 8AW..... 01577 865885
treasurer@kinrossnewsletter.org

Subscriptions

Ross McConnell (address as above)
subscriptions@kinrossnewsletter.org

Distribution

Lee Scammacca (Cree8)
62 Muirs, Kinross KY13 8AU.. 01577 863186
distribution@kinrossnewsletter.org

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For full information on advertising in the Newsletter, please go to our website www.kinrossnewsletter.org and click on 'Advertising'.

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Editor Eileen Thomas Typesetting and Layout Tony Dyson Distribution Lee Scammacca

Treasurer and Subscriptions Ross McConnell Assistant Editor Joyce Horsman



Editorial

Welcome to another busy edition of the Kinross Newsletter. We hope you enjoy it and find our traditional list of holiday dates (page 107) useful.

It has been lovely to receive many complimentary remarks recently on the new colour sections in the Newsletter.

We do like to receive feedback from our readers, so why not take a few moments over the Christmas holidays to send us a letter on a topical issue? For example, we would like to hear from more of you as to what you think of the redesigned Kinross High Street. (See article on page 19.)

This month we say farewell to Ann Harley after ten years of managing the Newsletter adverts. We thank her for all her work and wish her all the best in her retirement.

As regular readers know, we have a midwinter break from the Newsletter – there is no issue at the start of January – but the next deadline of 15 January for the February issue will be here before we know it!

We wish all our readers, contributors and supporters a very merry Christmas and a peaceful and happy New Year.



Note to Contributors

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

Letters Policy

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

Note to Readers: Advertising

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

Abbreviations

PKC: Perth & Kinross Council	Cllr: Councillor
CC: Community Council	CCllr: Community Councillor

About the Kinross Newsletter

The Newsletter has been informing and supporting the community for 38 years.

It began as a way of letting residents know what Kinross Community Council was saying and doing, but soon expanded to be so much more.

Readers use the Newsletter to find local trades and services, and our loyal advertisers support the community by enabling us to publish local clubs' reports and essential community information free of charge. Readers, when answering an advertisement, please say you saw it in the Newsletter. Thank you.

Any profits made by the Newsletter are given away to local good causes.

Kinross in Bloom


Kinross in Bloom is a very small local committee, which, since its inception in 2003, has carried out sterling work in providing colour to our community, by way of hanging baskets, tubs and planters. Kinross in Bloom volunteers, despite not being expert gardeners, manage to carry out this work fairly successfully, so it was with some dismay that it came to our notice recently, that some critical comments have been made regarding the regeneration work, and our very small part in it. Where these suggestions originated from we don't know, but we would like to refute them now.

Firstly, the corner of Station Road and High Street, the north side where the railings have been removed: at no time during the discussions with PKC Community Greenspace Department in Perth, or on site with the regeneration architect, was there any indication that Kinross in Bloom would provide planters on that corner, as it is dangerous to attend and to water. The hanging basket tree was removed from that corner for that same reason.

Secondly, the question of the newly planted trees at various locations about the High Street: again, comments have been made, and it was raised at the October meeting of the Community Council. Kinross in Bloom have nothing to do with these trees. Whilst we were sad to see the trees lose their leaves fairly quickly after planting, newly planted they are the responsibility of the contractor until the retention period is over, normally one year. So if the trees have died, the contractor will be in communication with Perth and Kinross Council regarding replacement, and we are pleased to report that we are not involved in any way.

Iain Todd, Secretary, Kinross in Bloom
15 Morlich Place, Kinross, KY13 8BW

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Remembrance Sunday

Dear Editor, Allow me to say a big thanks very much to all those who planned, organised, ran and supported the Kinross Remembrance Sunday on 8 November past. It was a really good turnout from all – the public, the veterans, the youth organisations, the superb pipes and drums, the ministers, and civic dignitaries. Thanks to Police Scotland who made it work, safety and traffic wise.



*Remembering the fallen at this year's service in Kinross
Photo: Eileen Thomas*

It had a special feel to it this year, and congratulations to "Scotty" our parade commander from 7 SCOTS and the Army Cadet Force, who did a great job making us get to the right place at the right time. A special commendation to the best Last Post I've heard in a long time – thanks to our wonderful bugler, Mark Koziel, and Pipey for your lovely lament too. The focus of Remembrance is often on the fallen, but we in SSAFA think it is also important to remember the bereaved families and loved ones of those who went off to fight and didn't return, and those veterans who are living with life changing injuries as a result of their service.

It is a year since Britain withdrew combat troops from Afghanistan, but for the families who lost a family member in the conflict, the battle goes on as they continue to manage their grief and face life without their loved one. For them the legacy of conflict continues.

We know from many years' experience that there is a unique set of circumstances associated with a military death and its aftermath. This means that the grieving process for military families can often become more complex and drawn out than for others.

SSAFA's research has revealed that, on average, it takes four years for a family member who lost a loved one in war to come forward and seek bereavement support: four times longer than those coping with a non-military death. That is why **SSAFA's Bereaved Family Support Groups** can be a lifeline for these families. SSAFA's support groups were launched in 2007 to help parents, partners and siblings cope with a military death. Two small examples:

- A mother who lost her son in the Northern Ireland conflict recently attended one of SSAFA's support groups for the first time, more than 20 years after her son was killed. When she was asked why she had battled for so long on her own, she said she was confused between her pride for her son and her grief.
- One of the fathers in the SSAFA Bereaved Families Support Group told us just this week that after his son died in Afghanistan he didn't start to miss him until six months had passed, the normal amount of time he would have been away on duty.

Well done again, Kinross, for showing that you care, that you do remember and for laying on a very touching ceremony of Remembrance.

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM.

Lt Col Andy Middlemiss DL
Branch Chairman, SSAFA Perth and Kinross
andymid@btinternet.com
perth@ssafa.org.uk

See also photographs on page 21.



Scottish Water in Milnathort

Dear residents and businesses of Milnathort,
Our project to reduce the risk of sewer flooding in Milnathort is progressing well.
We would like to thank you for your patience and understanding so far with the project.
We will be in the village working off the public road until February 2016 and will keep you up-to-date on progress.
Please see the dedicated webpage for further information www.scottishwater.co.uk/milnathort
We wish all the residents and businesses of Milnathort a merry Christmas and all the best for 2016.

Scottish Water

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For further details see www.kinrossnewsletter.org or phone Ross McConnell on 01577 865885 or email subscriptions@kinrossnewsletter.org



Terrifying teas at Heavens Above

Heavens Above, the unique venue above Heaven Scent coffee shop in Milnathort, celebrated Hallowe'en by inviting children in Kinross-shire to design a "Terrifying Tea".

Entrants were asked to design and draw a Hallowe'en themed afternoon tea to include a sandwich, cake, drink and a savoury and sweet item of their choice.

The winners enjoyed the afternoon tea of their creation with their families on Hallowe'en itself, with their menus also available to other diners.

Reilly White (P4) impressed the judges with her spooktacular menu, which included petrifying pumpkin soup and cursed cheese spider with scary carrot legs.

Emma Davel (S4) was the runaway winner of the secondary category, submitting photos of her gruesome creations with her entry. These included a 'Handwich' (BLT in the shape of a hand), 'Infected brain slices' (puff pastry with crème fraiche, sun-dried tomatoes, oregano, chopped bacon and olives) and Brownie web (chocolate brownie with peanut butter and an iced spider's web).

With lots of kids entering and the lucky winners having a fantastic time, the competition was a huge success and testament to Heavens Above's reputation as an innovative small business at the heart of Milnathort's community.



Some of the Terrifying Tea creations

Citylink resists calls to help Kinross commuters

Citylink has so far resisted calls to reinstate Kinross as one of the stops on certain Citylink services on the Edinburgh to Perth, Dundee and Aberdeen route.

As reported in last month's Newsletter, Citylink buses leaving Edinburgh at the commuter-friendly times of 1715, 1725 and 1800 no longer stop at Kinross. The change took effect on 23 November.

Citylink's sister company, Stagecoach, has changed some of its routes to help fill the gap: as from 23 November there are Stagecoach buses leaving Edinburgh at 1715 and 1805, but they have more stops than the Citylink service, so take longer (1 hour 34 minutes in the case of the 1805 from Edinburgh). Various politicians have appealed to Citylink to reconsider.

On 13 November, Cllr Willie Robertson wrote to David Frenz, Operations Director with Scottish Citylink Coaches, to say:

"I wrote a letter on behalf of myself and my three Kinross-shire councillor colleagues to you some time ago. Unfortunately we do not seem to have received a reply.

"I have however been sent your reply to Dr Richard Simpson MSP.

"Unfortunately what is proposed by Citylink and Stagecoach will not help our constituents.

"G92 and M92 services currently stop at Kinross Park and Ride. This allows Kinross-shire residents who work in Dundee and Edinburgh to get to and from their work at convenient times.

"The 6.15am G92 service from Edinburgh stops at Kinross Park and Ride at 7.00am and gets commuters into Dundee for 9.00am. There is no alternative service offered or available.

"The M92 service which leaves Edinburgh at 5.15pm is an ideal bus for commuters and stops at Kinross at 6.00pm. The X56 service you refer to will be I know very busy and there is a real danger people wanting to return to Kinross will not be able to get on this bus.

"The delay in the journey for Citylink by stopping at Kinross is approximately 5 minutes, which I would suggest is insignificant, given the advantages it provides for the Kinross-shire travelling public.

"I would urge you to reconsider your decision to stop these services from calling at Kinross Park & Ride. It would show that Citylink do listen to their customers and are prepared to change their mind knowing the benefits such a change of mind would bring to the Kinross-shire travelling public."

David Frenz of Citylink had told Dr Simpson MSP that even if the 1715 Citylink service from Edinburgh to Kinross had remained, Citylink "... would have increased the running time to cater for the worsening traffic conditions whilst trying to leave Edinburgh in the evening."

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Councillor Cuthbert

Locality Planning



There is a quiet revolution going on in how public services will be delivered in the not too distant future. Some of you will be aware of this but I am pretty sure that most of you will have heard absolutely nothing about it, so I thought I would try to explain a bit about what I understand is happening and why. I will start with the why and then look at what the implications are for all users of public services (which is just about all of us).

First of all, I think everyone will be aware that there was a global recession which led to a fall in revenue for the UK government. This fall in revenue led to cutbacks in funding for most public services. The cutbacks were made at varying speeds and to some extent Public Sector Borrowing has provided a buffer to allow a more progressive cut in budgets. It looks as if this trend in cutbacks will be with us for some time, as the UK Government is spending more than it is taking in through taxes and is seeking to address this. The net result is that public sector funding is set to decrease over the short to medium term.

On top of this, the demographics across the country are changing: in essence, people are living longer.

In the next 25 years, the number of people aged between 16 and 74 years of age in Scotland is expected to remain roughly the same. However, the number of 65 to 74 year old people is forecast to rise by almost 40% and the number of people aged over 75 is expected to rise by over 80%.

What this means is that the working population will remain roughly the same, whilst the retired population will increase dramatically. It is also a fact that older people require more services and assistance from the Health Service and to some extent the welfare services.

So public services are effectively being faced with increased demand, with fewer resources to pay for them. This problem is driving forward some fascinating developments, which I will now attempt to explain.

The first development has been the integration of many NHS Tayside services with most of the Council's Welfare services. A new body was created on 3 October called the Integration Joint Board (IJB). This Board is made up of eight voting members split between four elected members of PKC and four members of NHS Tayside. In addition, there are a number of non-voting members who are a mixture of professional advisers, stakeholder representatives and other members appointed by the Board.

The concept behind the creation of the IJB is to encourage joint working between Health Services and Social Welfare services, the aim being to make them more efficient.

One of the side effects of this step has been to introduce Councillor scrutiny of the joint service, which of course I intend to do. You can read more about Integration at: www.pkc.gov.uk/integration.

The second development revolves around the need for communities to become more self-reliant.

With increased demand and reduced resources, it appears inevitable to me that services which we have taken for granted in the past will have to be reduced or consolidated. The Scottish Government appear to have recognised this and passed the Community Empowerment Act earlier this year. This Act introduced a number of concepts, many of which

relate to giving communities more power than they have had historically. However, the one that interests me most, currently, is the question of Locality Planning.

'What is that?' do I hear you ask?

There is already in Perth and Kinross a body called the Community Planning Partnership. This body is made up of the public sector service providers in the area and includes the Council, the NHS, the Police, Fire Brigade and so on. It sits above the member bodies and, in effect, determines high level strategies which the public bodies then have to deliver.

The Community Empowerment Act has introduced what are called Locality Community Planning Partnerships, which have the remit of driving forward service provision within each Locality.

As I write, the Council is preparing to debate how it will split Perth and Kinross up into localities, the current thinking being that there will be five of these. However, Councillor Vaughan and I have been pushing for flexibility on this number. My belief is that they should reflect true communities with common interests.

We shall see how this transpires over the next few months.

Kinross-shire Time Exchange

As I have mentioned above, it is my belief that communities are going to have to become more self-reliant over the next few years.

One of the recent developments in Kinross-shire which I have been supporting is the formation of the Kinross-shire Time Exchange. This is an excellent body set up by volunteers which allows people to bank voluntary hours and to claim them back from other members of the Exchange.

I recently spent three hours with 15 other members of the local Time Exchange discussing this concept. All sorts of examples of ways this can work were discussed. Here are a few examples:

A member had difficulty with filling in forms. Another member immediately offered to do this with them.

A member said they had difficulty putting up shelves and wanted help putting one up.

Another wanted someone to go to the cinema with them.

It is my view that we live in a world where families are more fragmented than they have been, neighbours can be isolated and we all lead very busy lives. The concept behind the Time Exchange is to bring back some of the old fashioned concepts of being good neighbours.

On top of this, I had a conversation with a senior member of the Council over future service provision and he was quite clear that people would need to start banking time for the future for when they become old as the services we all take for granted now would probably not be available in the longer term. His view was that banked hours could then be used to fill in the gaps in public service provision when they were older.

You can read more about the Time Exchange on the internet at: www.kinross.cc/time-exchange

Continues over page

Classified Advertisements

Check the Classified Ads section on www.kinross.cc
Buy or Sell Goods up to the value of £750
Items are advertised free of charge for up to six weeks

Broke Not Broken

Another group which has formed recently is Broke Not Broken. Cllr Giacomazzi and I are attempting to help this group find premises, so they can create a hub in Kinross-shire. Their first project is to create a food bank in the town which responds to local needs. They are ambitious and have a number of other ideas which they would like to bring to fruition.

Kinross Town Centre Regeneration

I have read some reports of discontent with the Kinross Town Centre regeneration works.

My own view is that traffic speeds have dropped and the area looks much better than it did.

The four local members will be keeping an eye on how the new town centre is working and officers have said that they will be carrying out surveys on parking and traffic speeds.

Should there need to be tweaks to the current layout then I will of course be pushing for these.

Citylink

Other Councillors will probably be commenting on the withdrawal of services by Citylink to Kinross, so I will restrict myself to a couple of comments.

The decision to withdraw the bus services appears to have been taken at a strategic level within the company. It would appear that they want their services to focus purely on city to city buses. This service is purely commercial and has no subsidy from the Council, so our bargaining power is limited. Your four local Councillors have written to the senior management asking for the service to be reintroduced. We will also be looking at replacement services as the route is well used and in this age of moving to sustainable transport makes no sense.

Local Government Boundary Commission

The die is cast with the Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland. My thanks go to those of you who submitted objections to their proposal to cut the size of the Kinross-shire ward and to reduce the area from four Councillors to three.

Their timetable indicates that they will consider the comments raised during the consultation period and will then come back with either their original proposal or a new one.

They have the power to enter a further period of consultation on any new proposal, however there is no requirement for them to do this. Should they persist with their original proposal, it would appear that the only way to challenge this is by way of a judicial review, which I am told is hugely expensive. We shall see what happens.

*Councillor Dave Cuthbert
Independent Councillor for Kinross-shire*

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Iain Hunter helps to promote Scotch meat worldwide

Hunters of Kinross has been chosen from over 520 butcher shops across Scotland to feature in a Quality Meat Scotland (QMS) promotional film.

The making of the video is part of a range of activities to tie in with the 25th anniversary of the founding of the quality assurance schemes underpinning the Scotch Beef, Scotch Lamb and Specially Selected Pork brands. The schemes are a guarantee of quality, origin and welfare standards.

The film begins by showing the priority given to animal welfare by farmers who are members of the quality assurance scheme and then goes on to interview one butcher – Iain Hunter – and one chef.

In the film Iain explains that as a butcher he has “only ever worked with the best, and Scotch Beef, Lamb and Pork is the best you can get.”

The exterior of the Kinross High Street shop is shown twice in the film, which makes it a great advert for the town, as the video will be used at trade fairs around the world.

The film can be viewed on You Tube at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=RIJ0LAzf2PE&feature=youtu.be

New heritage body consults public

Scotland's new lead heritage organisation, Historic Environment Scotland (HES), launched its first public consultation on a draft Corporate Plan on 16 November. The plan outlines the organisation's approach to safeguarding some of the country's most precious assets over the next three years.

The new organisation, which came into effect on 1 October, has brought together two of Scotland's leading heritage bodies, Historic Scotland and The Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments Scotland (RCAHMS).

A key aim of HES is to work in collaboration with others to engage individuals and groups, from volunteers to communities across Scotland, to enhance the cultural, social and economic benefits of Scotland's heritage.

The consultation runs until the week commencing 8 February 2016. To find out more, visit:

www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/hesconsult

Community Council elections

During the recent elections for Community Councils, a vote was required for Kinross Community Council as the number of candidates exceeded the number of seats on Kinross CC. The list of successful candidates appears on page 102.

The percentage poll was 10.49%. Those entitled to vote were residents living in the Kinross Community Council area who are on the electoral register. There were 468 valid papers and 0 rejected papers. Votes were cast via the internet.

A photograph of the new Portmoak Community Council is on page 36.

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Autumnal wildlife around Loch Leven

We are delighted to publish more photographs by Craig Nisbet, Reserve Officer at Loch Leven NNR. Last month's photographs captured the natural phenomena of Aurora Borealis and sunrise. This time we have two beautiful wildlife images.

Read Craig's main report from the National Nature Reserve on page 81.

Red Squirrels at Loch Leven NNR

This is one of two Red Squirrels that have been showing well near the picnic area at RSPB Loch Leven in recent weeks.

Red Squirrel
Photo by Craig Nisbet



Redwing in Kinnesswood

This Redwing is just one of many hundreds of migrating thrushes that have been passing through the local area from Scandinavia throughout the Autumn, feeding on the berries of Rowan trees as they go.

Redwing feeding at Kinnesswood
Photo by Craig Nisbet



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Muckhart and West Kinross-shire Demand Responsive Transport Service (DRT1)



On Monday 9 November 2015, DRT1 underwent some relatively minor operational changes. These changes are summarised below:

- The area of operation was increased to the south, incorporating residents of the West Cleish and Moreland Farm area (see map opposite).
- There has been a small increase in the passenger fares to ensure they remain in line with those of the local bus services operating in Kinross-shire.
- A new operator is being introduced into the scheme in early December.

DRT1 has been a great success since commencing in June 2014, with a fourfold increase in passenger usage, and the service continues to be used for a variety of journey purposes by local residents, including shopping, work, medical, leisure and social.

An updated passenger leaflet has been published and distributed throughout the area, including to the participating taxi operators, medical facilities and Community Councils.

The new leaflet is also available to download from the www.kinross.cc and Perth & Kinross Council websites.

If however, you wish to be sent a copy in the post or have a general enquiry about DRT1, please contact:

Telephone: 01738 477374

E-mail: Bmartin@pkc.gov.uk



Honour for David Munro, Kinnesswood

Professor David Munro, Chairman of Kinross (Marshall) Museum Trust and Honorary President of Kinross-shire Civic Trust, has been awarded a knighthood by H.S.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco.

At a ceremony held in the Palace of Monaco on the afternoon of 17 November, Prince Albert presented David with the insignia of the Knight Cross of the Order of St-Charles, with rank of Officer, in recognition of his service as a member of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation. This, the highest honour awarded by the Principality of Monaco, also recognised his work worldwide in the field of conservation which has included nearly two decades supporting conservation efforts in the tropical forests of Belize in Central America, his role as a Trustee of the Icarus Trust in the 1990s, his engagement with the South Georgia Heritage Trust as a founding Trustee and former Chairman and his recent role as a Patron of the Wild Camel Protection Foundation.

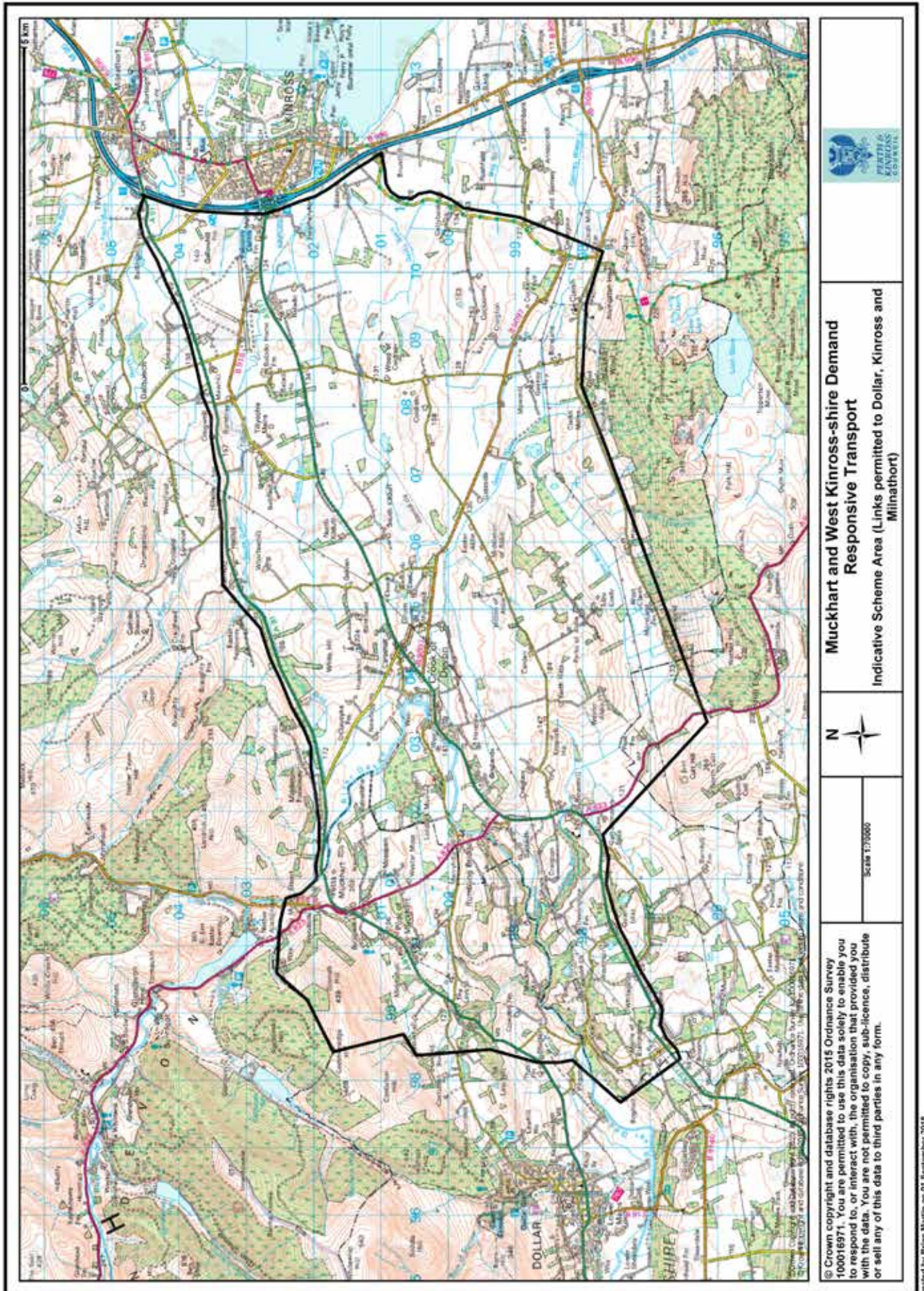
A particular feature of David Munro's support for the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation has been in forging links between the Foundation and key environmental organisations in the UK including WaterAid, Earthwatch, the Natural History Museum in London, Plymouth University Oceanographic Institute and the University of Edinburgh.

Formerly Director of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society (RSGS), David Munro received the RSGS Scotia Centenary Medal in 2005 for his role in co-ordinating the nationwide programme of celebrations marking the centenary of the

1902-04 Scottish National Antarctic Expedition. Awarded an Honorary Professorship by the University of Dundee for services to Academia in Scotland in 2007, he received an MBE from the Queen a year later in recognition of his services to the environment and the community in Perth and Kinross.



David Munro outside the Palais Princier in Monaco after the award ceremony



Dog walkers take positive action

Plans are afoot by some community minded volunteers to take action to help clear up Kinross and Milnathort. Initiated by local dog walker, Lindsay Robertson, she has a growing list of willing volunteers planning to get together early in January to clear up local streets and the Loch Leven Heritage Trail by removing any dog fouling that's not been picked up. Lindsay said, "There is real concern locally about the issue

of dog foul not being picked up. Whilst most dog owners are responsible about this, there are a few people who are causing the problem and giving all dog owners a bad name. There really is no excuse as dog poo bags are readily available and free in this area at the moment. Let's hope with this scheme we can clean up and keep our beautiful area clean."

Hopefully, once this clean up has been done and there's opportunity for a fresh start, the community as a whole will take the new year resolution to keep its streets clean.

Part of the resolution will be the opportunity to sign up to be a Green Dog Walker. This is a scheme where people take a pledge to always pick up after their dog and carry spare bags to offer to anyone who might have forgotten theirs. Started by a community group in Falkirk, it was so successful it was adopted by Falkirk Council and then won an award from the Kennel Club.

Pledgers can be found all over the country, so it will be great to have growing recognition in the Milnathort and Kinross area for those people committed to cleaning up after their pets. It is hoped local schools will get involved too, so that children understand why it's important to pick up after their dogs. You don't have to have a dog to take part either!

Scottish Natural Heritage are offering support to the volunteers with the scheme as they are keen to keep the Heritage Trail around Loch Leven clean and tidy. The NNR staff will also be looking for some dog owning volunteers to help out with some research being planned, also due to start in the new year.

Theresa Kewell from Scottish Natural Heritage said, "It's fantastic for Lindsay to have had such an amazing response to set up a Green Dog Walker scheme. I'm looking forward to meeting lots of her volunteers to talk about dog walking and to see how we can support each other to make sure that responsible dog walkers get themselves and their dogs a good name."



Photo ©Lorne Gill/SNH

The Green Dog Walker scheme is about clearing up after your dog but having your dog under proper control is also key to being a responsible dog owner, as promoted in the Scottish Outdoor Access Code (www.outdooraccess-scotland.com). In the context of the Loch Leven National Nature Reserve, this is key to ensure the success of the reserve for its wildlife value and specialness and to allow other visitors to enjoy their visits.



To launch the Green Dog Walkers scheme, a community event is being planned at Milnathort Town Hall, so please SAVE THE DATE of WEDNESDAY 13 JANUARY 11am - 1pm and come along to sign your pledge.

The Newsletter on Facebook

We use our Facebook page to announce:

- our deadline and publication dates
- what's in the next issue
- reminders of some local events
- occasional breaking news

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Councillor Giacomazzi Community Councils

These will surely be mentioned elsewhere in this publication; suffice it to say that, following the elections, a number of new Community Councillors have attended their first meeting. Of potentially 52 CCs in Perth & Kinross, 11 failed to be constituted, including Milnathort. Cllr Cuthbert and I have taken the 20 signatures needed to ask the Council to reconstitute the CC and to date five people have come forward to offer their candidacy. While this is a sufficient number, the CC can include nine Community Councillors so would anyone who appears on the Milnathort electoral register and is interested in offering to stand, please come forward. In particular I would welcome any female candidates to help balance genders on the CC as to date all the candidates are men. In the likely event of nine or less candidates standing, there will be no need for a formal vote and the candidates will become Community Councillors. Hopefully the process can be completed early in the new year.

Kinross' New Primary School

In the course of last month, Kinross-shire councillors met with the Council officials at Perth who are organising the design and build of the new primary school at Station Road. We had an opportunity to view the plans and made a few initial comments chiefly relating to the capacity of the new school, which will be 566. Our concerns that this might be insufficient to meet the needs of a growing town were allayed when we were shown a ten-year projection of the population growth in Kinross based on the expected number of new houses to be built. The school roll is likely to peak early, in 2016/17 and gradually decline to reach 336 in 2025/26. This may sound counter intuitive, but the team which did the maths is experienced in this kind of calculation and I am confident that the numbers will be within the ballpark.

The new school, scheduled for completion in 2019, will be constructed on the playing fields as the existing school will continue to be used, in a process known as a 'tandem build'. The children will then occupy the new school, with the old structure being demolished. Considerable savings are made by using existing Council owned land; also, by building in tandem there is no need to move the pupils into temporary accommodation.

To ensure proper consultation with the community, a



User Reference Group has been set up to include parents, Councillors, Community Councillors, representatives of the design team and Council officials and other interested parties. The lead officer on the project is Louise Peoples, email: LPeoples@pkc.gov.uk

Kinross High Street Improvements

Finally, the nightmare is over and a longstanding commitment to the people of Kinross has been fulfilled. Such comments as I have heard about the finished item have been mostly positive with general (although not unanimous) agreement that drivers are being responsible and proceeding at lower speeds than before. The priority system at the Salutation Hotel appears to be working well while ensuring a much greater degree of safety for pedestrians. Parking attendants will be visiting Kinross to keep an eye on improperly parked vehicles. A traffic survey will be done later to assess traffic flows and suggest any necessary action by the Council.

The fountain near Parliament Square is looking shabby and the TRACKS committee on which I sit is looking to do a thorough refurbishment with a view to illuminating the structure and reinstating running water. Should be good.

Council Budget 2016/17

Perth and Kinross Council will not be alone if it has to take some tough and politically unpopular decisions soon over spending for the coming years. Fife is having to cut £77 million over three years, with North Lanarkshire having to cut £68 million over two years. Admittedly, these are far larger authorities than Perth and Kinross.

One of my jobs is to sit on the **Budget Review Group** consisting of the Chief Executive, the three Directors of Service, the Head of Finance and Administration councillors. We are tasked with crafting a budget for the coming year consistent with the Council's income: an increasing challenge against a background of reduced income from Government. On the positive side, the Council decided on a 'transformation strategy', so keeping one step ahead of less prudent councils. Perth and Kinross wisely built up a reserve of cash which will be available to take the edge off spending cuts, should any be required.

Milnathort Town Hall

The project is virtually complete. I have placed a booking for a Burns' Supper, which I plan to hold on 23 January. Tickets £20. Music and entertainment by Gordon Menzies.

Councillor Joe Giacomazzi

CLOCK & WATCH REPAIRS

All kinds of clock and watch repairs are continuing to be provided by Tudor House Antiques repairer, Fred Turvey. He was the main repairer and servicer for Tudor House Antiques, Milnathort for over 20 years.

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E-mail: ftticktock@aol.com
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Councillor Robertson Green Route, Dryside Road

I have been keen for the Dryside Road from Wester Balgedie to Glenlomond Village to be designated as a Green Route, that is a road which is pedestrian-, cyclist- and horse rider-friendly.



The report recommending that this be done came to committee on 11 November. However, residents of Glenlomond Village and Wester Balgedie asked if the proposed speed limit through their hamlets could be lowered to 20mph rather than the 30mph proposed.

I asked the Council's roads engineers for their opinion on this and they said they were happy to support such a proposal. I therefore tabled an amendment to the report asking that the speed limits through Wester Balgedie and Glenlomond be lowered to 20mph.

The report was taken by the vice convener of the committee, Cllr Joe Giacopazzi, who accepted my amendment and allowed officers to verify that what I was asking for was sensible and was acceptable to them. At this point Cllr John Kellas, the convener of the committee, told Cllr Giacopazzi that he would take over the committee from that point. He then proceeded to say that he was not prepared to accept my amendment and would not allow it to be debated. My amendment had been seconded by Cllr Mike Barnacle.

Cllr Kellas refused point blank to even allow any discussion on my proposal.

I have been a councillor since 1995. I have never known of a convener refusing to allow an amendment like this to be debated. As a councillor, I should be permitted to represent the wishes of the communities I represent and I object most strongly to people such as Cllr John Kellas taking away that right. This was a bad day for local democracy and good governance.

However, in a strange twist, after a rather heated argument, (I was not at all happy), Councillor Kellas reluctantly agreed to allow the Green Route plan to proceed and for 20mph

speed limits to be 'trialled' at Glenlomond Village and Wester Balgedie. So the communities may get what they are wanting after all. I'll be doing my best to make sure that they do.

Citylink Bus Services

From 23 November, Citylink are planning to stop some of their services calling at Kinross Park & Ride. Many of their services won't stop at Halbeath Park & Ride either. This will cause real difficulties for many Kinross-shire residents who use the Citylink services to get to work in Edinburgh, Perth and Dundee.

I have written a joint letter on behalf of my fellow Kinross-shire councillors to Citylink asking them to think again. I have also asked our MSPs and our MP to contact Citylink to get this decision reversed. So far, Citylink haven't shown any willingness to listen. (See also page 4.)

Kinross Common Good Fund

There is currently nearly £157,000 in the Kinross Common Good Fund. This earns approximately £613 in bank interest. This is less than ½% interest on the fund, which should be generating money that could be given out in grants for Kinross. I have told Council officers that this is a pitiful return and asked them to let me know if there are other places the fund could be deposited which would give a much better return.

Boundary Commission

We should hear about the results of the consultation by the Boundary Commissions into their proposals to split the Kinross-shire Ward, with the north landward area and Glenfarg being put into the Almond and Earn Ward.

I am aware of the huge number of people and organisations who have objected to this and thank them for supporting the campaign to retain the current Kinross-shire Ward.

Hopefully the Boundary Commission will listen to the people of Kinross-shire and Glenfarg.

Christmas

Lastly, may I take this opportunity to wish all of you a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Councillor Willie Robertson

Kinross urged to back Small Business Saturday

The Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) is asking the people of Kinross to back Small Business Saturday 2015, which takes place on **Saturday 5 December**.

16.5 million people shopped in small independent businesses in UK on Small Business Saturday in 2014. This year the FSB wants even more people to back small businesses and support their local high streets.

Chair of the FSB's Perth & Kinross branch and business owner, Gillian MacEwan and local politicians will be visiting small businesses in Kinross.

Gillian said: "It doesn't matter if you're buying food for dinner, choosing a gift for a loved one or meeting a friend for a coffee or beer, we'd love it if people in Kinross supported Small Business Saturday.

"Independent retailers and other small enterprises often offer goods and services that you can't find elsewhere. Small Business Saturday offers a real opportunity to connect phenomenal small businesses with locals who perhaps aren't aware of the great small businesses on their doorstep."

Special offer at Hunters

Award winning butcher and FSB member Hunters of Kinross is supporting the concept of Small Business Saturday by offering 10% discount to customers that day.



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Is the High Street working?

Now that the Kinross High Street improvements are complete, is the new streetscape working well for residents, pedestrians and drivers?

Key aims of the project were to “enrich the local streetscape and enhance local identity” and “improve pedestrian accessibility throughout the High Street”.

Cllr Giacomazzi reports receiving mostly positive comments and Cllr Cuthbert is of the view that traffic speeds have dropped (see Councillor reports in this Newsletter) but some shopkeepers in the High Street feel there are issues to be addressed.

“The main problem is that there is not a pedestrian crossing any more,” said Irene Baillie of Baillie’s Newsagent.

A stone paved section across the tarmac road surface outside the Co-operative store is used as an informal crossing, but “there have been two near misses”, Mrs Baillie says. She continued, “It is too close to the roundabout to be safe as a crossing, as cars turning into the High Street from Station Road don’t see pedestrians on it because of the stone walls.”

The Council’s exhibition plans described this stone paving strip as one of the “gateway” features to “indicate to drivers and pedestrians that they are entering a more ‘pedestrian friendly’ area” which “would act as informal traffic calming and help reduce traffic speeds.”



The stone strip close to the roundabout

Mrs Baillie also thinks the ‘Give-Take’ at the Salutation Hotel is too wide. This is the section where the road was reduced to a single carriageway in order to increase the width of the pavement for pedestrians. (The previous pavement alongside the Salutation Hotel was not wide enough for two people to pass, or for pushchairs and wheelchairs.) Cars heading uphill have priority at the Give-Take. However, the road and pavement are all on the same level, and Mrs Baillie reports seeing cars “just passing each other instead of giving way.” Speeding traffic is a concern of shopkeeper Barbara Willey. Her shop The Dog House is close to the point where the tarmac road surface changes to the stone ‘shared space’ surface around the Town Hall, where the road and pavements are all one level. “Drivers see this great wide space and practically take off,” she said, referring to the slight ramp where the tarmac changes to stone.

Pamela Hunter thinks the street is “looking great” but has misgivings about the shared space concept. She describes a daily scene next to her shop, Hunters of Kinross, where

Primary School children on their way home “... come through Parliament Square, sometimes on scooters, and come straight out, not thinking there could be traffic.” This is due to the stone paving ‘shared space’ running continuously from the mouth of Parliament Square over the full width of the High Street, with no separate pavement or road.



The ‘shared space’. Parliament Square, used by children as a route from school, is to the left of Hunters

Another problem Pamela has identified is that the granite bollards are difficult to see. “In the dark, when it’s pouring with rain, they blend in with the stone,” she explained.

This view has also been expressed by Kinross-shire resident, professional photographer Tracy Gow, who said of the street: “I think it’s better and it looks great ... however, I think the grey bollards ... are going to get clouted by a vehicle before too long. They should have had some concealed lighting in them to help them stand out ...”

Shortly after the environmental improvements were completed, cars were frequently seen parked on the shared space stone area, on both the ‘road’ and the ‘pavement’ but this appears to be happening less often now. Parking is not allowed on the stone surface. Although it does not carry double yellow lines, there are signs close to each end of the shared surface area (at Baillie’s Solicitors and at the Dog House) stating that it is a Restricted Parking Zone and indicating that no parking is allowed at any time except in signed bays.

Kinross High Street has a 20mph speed limit between its junctions with Station Road (the Co-operative store) and Montgomery Street (the Roxburghe Bed & Breakfast).



The beginning of the 20mph zone from the south

Councillor Barnacle

Boundary Commission Review

Below is a copy of my letter of 20 October 2015 to the Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland.

Dear Madam

Fifth Statutory Review of Local Government Electoral Arrangements in Scotland – Public Consultation on Proposals for Wards in Perth and Kinross Council (PKC) Area

I am writing to object to the Commission's (LGBC) proposals to reduce PKC elected members from 41 to 40 by reducing the size of the Kinross-shire Ward 8 and its councillors from four to three.

I have been an elected member for the Kinross-shire Ward 8 since 6 May 1999, having been re-elected on three more occasions since, an area I am proud to represent. PKC, at their meetings on 13 May 2015 and 7 October 2015, unanimously decided to oppose the reduction of elected members, oppose the reduction in size of the Kinross-shire Ward 8 and suggested the inclusion of the complete parish of Arngask in Ward 8, whilst retaining that Ward's councillors at four. This supports the position of the local elected members and all the community councils of the ward, along with, in my estimation, a significant proportion of Kinross-shire's people.

I ask the LGBC to reconsider their proposals for the following reasons viz:

PKC Area

I fail to see any justification to reduce the PKC elected members by one when our area continues to be one of the fastest growing in Scotland. Tayplan has adopted the GROS 2006 projections and, despite the recent economic downturn, a population growth of 22% to 2031 (as per our Single Outcome Agreement) continues to be the basis of our Local Development Plan (see attached map).

The precedent set in respect of the LGBC's response to Moray Council, whereby they agreed to retain the same number of councillors when their methodology suggested a decrease of one, despite that authority's voter to councillor ratio being lower than that for PKC. I suggest this is contrary to guidance given out by the LGBC and calls into question the methodology used to project voter numbers. I note that current proposals give PKC the highest voter/councillor ratio for any Category 4 Authority Area.

Kinross-shire Ward 8 Area

Kinross-shire is an ancient county dating back to an Act of Parliament in 1685; the current ward boundaries reflect this history with the addition of Glenfarg, whose services and school catchment lie in Kinross-shire. There is a strong sense of local identity that will be broken by the LGBC's proposals. In fact, Arngask parish shares Glenfarg's position in relation to Kinross-shire, hence PKC's suggestion of its inclusion in Ward 8. All the communities to the south of the present ward boundary, along the ridge of the Ochil Hills, take services from Kinross and Milnathort and the local authority administration of the existing ward is run from Lochleven Community Campus. The LGBC's proposals fail to take account of these local ties with the suggested boundary change, contrary to guidance in the 1973 Local Government (Scotland) Act.

The current ward boundary is easily identifiable, following the ridge line of the Ochil Hills down to Glenfarg. The new boundary proposed is extremely hard to follow and cuts through communities such as Meikle Seggie and Craigow; this is contrary to LGBC guidance in the 1973 Act of the desirability of fixing boundaries which are and remain easily identifiable.

Kinross-shire sits in a bowl of hills with Lochleven surrounded by the Cleish, Lomond and Ochil Hills and should be treated as a special geographic area, in accordance with the 1973 Act. It has the highest rate of new build within PKC and has strong pressure for development because of its proximity to the central belt of Scotland; hence planning is a major consideration, with approximately one third of the applications that come before PKC's committee. The 1973 Act allows for special geographic considerations but the LGBC have ignored this. Rural Kinross-shire currently has 50-55% of total



house completions that are windfall sites. Developments of less than five houses do not form part of PKC's land supply figures. As a result, the effect of only accounting for larger sites is to seriously underestimate the projected number of voters in 2019 for Kinross-shire. Many houses being built in Kinross-shire are large and attract interest from the Edinburgh property market; hence our voter per dwelling ratio is much higher than Perth City Centre. Using the PKC area averages rather than ward-based figures has the effect of distorting the number of projected voters in each ward by a significant margin and in Kinross-shire's case it underestimates the projected electorate in 2019 by approximately 12%. The LGBC's methodology in this regard is questioned.

The main reasoning behind the LGBC's proposals appears to centre on voter parity for all wards in the authority area.

Examination of the figures by ward shows that in Highland and Carse of Gowrie the number of voters per councillor is 2,490 and 2,609 respectively; in Kinross-shire it is 3,194 so the LGBC's proposals are reducing voter power. When one takes account of my earlier comments on windfall sites and projected voters in each ward, it is clear that in Kinross-shire our representation at PKC will be reduced. When one considers that Kinross-shire was a county in its own right up to the mid 1970's when it merged with Perthshire and the population then was smaller than it is now, it is clear that there is no justification for reducing our councillor representation up at Perth from four to three. In fact, I believe PKC's proposal for the retention of the existing ward and the addition of Arngask parish would produce better voter parity and ask the LGBC to seriously re-examine their proposals, in the context of the 1973 Act.

I would like to draw the LGBC's attention to my colleague, Councillor Dave Cuthbert's submission on this Review, commending his detailed analysis of what I believe is a flawed methodology that the LGBC employed in reaching this extraordinary and illogical boundary proposal.

I would urge the LGBC to reconsider their proposals for the PKC area and ask that the arguments I've outlined above, along with many others they have no doubt received, be taken into account in order that PKC retain 41 councillors, the Kinross-shire Ward retains 4 councillors and its existing historic boundaries are respected and retained.

Yours faithfully, Cllr Mike Barnacle

I have spoken to the Commission regarding any possible revision of their position but am told that this is unlikely to be known before the end of the year.

If there are no changes, perhaps the people of Kinross-shire might feel inclined to explore a judicial review of the Commission's approach and recommendations.

Local Development Plan 2 Main Issues Report

This will be debated at Full Council on 18 November. I am disappointed that a number of issues I had raised in relation to policies and settlements have not been addressed satisfactorily in the Report, which is a very brief document in relation to any significant changes to our current LDP.

Councillor Mike Barnacle

Independent Councillor for Kinross-shire

Post Meeting Note:

Following the meeting on 18 November referred to above, the publication of the Main Issues Report (MIR) has been delayed as a result of one particular amendment from Kinross-shire members that an additional development site be included in the Crook of Devon area. Two other amendments were agreed. PKC officers need to carry out an environmental assessment on the Crook of Devon site. Once this has been carried out, the MIR will go before elected members again and, if approved, the public consultation on the MIR will begin. It is anticipated that the consultation process will commence in early 2016.

Kinross remembers

There was a large attendance at the Remembrance Sunday service at Kinross War Memorial on 8 November. The weather was cold and damp but the rain held off until later.

Kinross & District Pipe Band led the traditional parade of veterans, youth organisations and others from Kinross Parish Church to the memorial in front of the former County Buildings, now the Liberty Business Centre and Court House Restaurant.

See also Letter, page 3.

All photos on this page are by Roy Munro. More photographs can be viewed at the Photo Library on the community website kinross.cc



Boys' Brigade Company Captain David Munro salutes the fallen

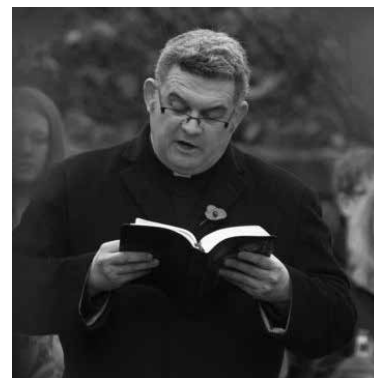


Above: Youth organisations lined up behind the War Memorial



The parade from Kinross Parish Church to the War Memorial

Below: Father Pletts of St James' R C Church taking part in the ecumenical service



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News from the Health Centre



Christmas and New Year Closing

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

Friday 25 December	Closed
Monday 28 December	Closed
Friday 1 January	Closed
Monday 4 January	Closed

On all other weekdays over the Christmas and New Year period we will be open as usual from 8am until 6pm. Out of Hours cover for evenings and weekends is provided by NHS24 and the Fife Primary Care Emergency Service. They will also be providing emergency cover on the Fridays and Mondays when we are closed. They can be contacted on our usual emergency number: 111. All calls will be recorded and we would ask patients to please only contact them with a medical emergency which cannot wait until we reopen. Thank you.

Repeat Prescriptions

We would ask all patients to please make sure that they have sufficient medication to last over the Christmas and New Year period. If your medication will run out over Christmas and New Year, please ensure that you submit a request for your medication **by Monday 21 December**. We receive a greatly increased number of requests at this time of year and therefore need a bit of time to process them all. Repeat prescriptions may now be ordered on line. If you have not yet signed up for this service, you can do so on our website: www.lochlevenhealthcentre.co.uk

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

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



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Wed 6.30pm - 7.15pm

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Loch Leven Community Library

Loch Leven Community Campus, Muirs, Kinross

Tel: 01577 867205 Email: lochlevenlibrary@pkc.gov.uk

Opening Times

Sun & Mon	closed	Fri	10am-6pm
Tue, Wed & Thu	10am-8pm	Sat	10am-1pm

Regular Sessions for Young Children

No need to book, just come along:

Bookbug Rhymetimes

Saturdays 10.30-11.00am Wednesdays 2.00-2.30pm

Pre-school Story Time

Tuesdays 10.15-10.45am Thursdays 10.45-11.15am

Parents, grandparents or guardians and toddlers will be made most welcome at these free, open sessions.

For further information on any of the events listed below, or to book a place where required, contact the library. See header for contact details.

Library Led Book Groups

Would you like to share your love of books with like-minded people? Why not come along to one of the library's book groups? We are always looking for new members.

'General' Book Group dates: 18 December, 15 January.

'Crime' Book Group dates: 8 December, 12 January.

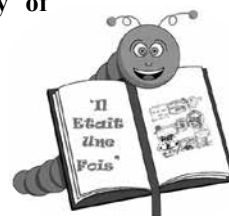
To book a place or find out more, contact the library.

Lily Leaf and Autumnal Fun, Saturday 28 November

11.30am - 12.30pm. A reading of this children's book by local author Barbara Park, followed by some autumnal fun activities. Story reading suitable for children aged 2-5 years. Autumnal fun activities suitable for children aged 3-9 years. (Children aged 8 years and under need to be accompanied by an adult.)

French Storytelling, First Saturday of each month

Join us at the library (11.30am-12pm) for this new project of French themed story-time for 4-8 year olds. This project is being run by volunteers, and aims to support the 1+2 approach to modern languages, where every child has the opportunity to learn a modern language from P1 onwards. Contact the library to book your **free** place.



Christmas Fun, Thursday 3 December, 6.45-7.30pm

The library is celebrating Christmas early! Come along for a magical multi-sensory storytelling and Christmas activity. Story suitable for children aged 2-5 years. Christmas fun activities suitable for children aged 3-9 years. (Children aged 8 years and under need to be accompanied by an adult.)

Festive Opening Times

For a list of the library's opening times over the Festive period, see page 107.

HIGH STREET SEWING

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Kinross Learning Centre - Make a Fresh Start in 2016!

Why not make a fresh start in the New Year by taking up a new hobby or learning a new skill? And with some exciting additions to the programme, Kinross Learning Centre can help. We've recruited some talented tutors to bring a different focus to our programme, particularly in art where evening classes are being offered in Sculpture and Watercolour Painting. In addition, our varied range craft and general interest classes bring a fresh look to the programme, which should offer something for everyone.



To find out more, please contact Maureen Ross, the Centre Manager on 01577 863863, call in to the Centre at 15 Swansacre, Kinross or email pc.kinross.perth@uhi.ac.uk.

Course	Start Date	Time	Weeks	Cost
LANGUAGES				
Spanish Beginners	Tue 12 Jan	4.30 - 6.30pm	10 weeks	£75
Spanish Beginners 2	Tue 12 Jan	7 - 9pm	10 weeks	£75
Spanish Improvers	Wed 13 Jan	7 - 9pm	10 Weeks	£75
Basic Everyday French	Wed 13 Jan	10am - 12 noon	10 weeks	£75
French Improvers	Tue 12 Jan	1 - 3pm	10 weeks	£75
French Advanced	Tue 12 Jan	10.30 - 12.30 pm	10 weeks	£75
Italian Beginners 2	Tue 12 Jan	4.30 - 6.30pm	10 weeks	£75
Italian Beginners 2	Tue 12 Jan	7 - 9pm	10 weeks	£75
Italian Intermediate	Thu 14 Jan	12.30 - 2pm	10 weeks	£60
Italian Improvers	Thu 14 Jan	6.30 - 8.30pm	10 weeks	£75
Italian Advanced	Thu 14 Jan	10am - 12 noon	10 weeks	£75
Gaelic Beginners 2	Wed 13 Jan	7 - 9pm	10 weeks	£75
COMPUTER				
Get to Grips With:				
Your Ipad	Mon 11 Jan	2 - 4pm	4 weeks	£40
Organising & Securing your PC	Tue 12 Jan	2 - 4pm	3 weeks	£30
Downloading & Storing Photos	Tue 26 Jan	2 - 4pm	2 weeks	£20
Getting started on your Computer	Tue 12 Jan	12 - 2pm	5 weeks	£45
ART				
Learn to Draw	Wed 13 Jan	10am - 12 noon	10 weeks	£75
Painting with Acrylics	Wed 13 Jan	1.15 - 3.15pm	10 weeks	£75
Watercolour Painting	Thu 14 Jan	7 - 9pm	10 weeks	£75
Sculpture	Tue 12 Jan	7 - 9pm	10 weeks	£85
CRAFTS				
Upholstery	Wed 13 Jan	4.30 - 6.30pm	8 weeks	£70
Upholstery	Wed 13 Jan	7 - 9pm	8 weeks	£70
Sew Smart - Sewing, Mending, Altering, Recycling, Tailoring	Tue 12 Jan	7 - 9pm	10 weeks	£85
Sew it's Thursday! :				
1. Learn to use your own sewing machine	Thu 14 Jan	1 - 3pm	4 weeks	£40
2. Overlocker Demystification	Thu 18 Feb	1 - 3pm	4 weeks	£40
Stained Glass Intermediate	Tue 12 Jan	10 - 12 noon	10 weeks	£75
Stained Glass Term 2	Tue 12 Jan	1 - 3pm	10 weeks	£75
Design & Make Cards for all Occasions	Mon 11 Jan	7 - 9pm	5 weeks	£45
Creative Gemstone Jewellery	Mon 22 Feb	7 - 9pm	5 weeks	£45
GENERAL INTEREST				
Old Testament Language & Literature	Fri 15 Jan	10 - 12 noon	10 weeks	£75
Writing for Pleasure & Profit	Fri 15 Jan	9.30 - 11.130am	10 weeks	£75
Literature Appreciation: Poetry and Prose	Wed 13 Jan	1.15 - 3.15pm	10 weeks	£75

Lest We Forget

Reflections on the Great War

Until 2018 there is a rolling exhibition at the Kinross (Marshall) Museum on the Great War. Thanks to the Kinross Museum for the extracts published here. The museum display is located at the library at the community campus.

Kinross-shire Roll of Honour

December 1915

8 December
12 December
17 December

John Mathewson
John L Keiller
William Dingwall



Private George Philp Westwater

Born in 1884, the son of Andrew Westwater, a merchant in Kinross, and his wife Elizabeth, George Westwater grew up in Mill Street and later in Avenue Road, Kinross. There is a photograph of George Westwater in the archive collection of Kinross (Marshall) Museum which shows him taking part in a Kinross Parish Church Choir outing.

After schooling at the Dollar Institution (Dollar Academy) and some time at Skerry's College in Edinburgh, the first college in the country to provide civil service training, he went to work with a legal firm in Edinburgh, Messrs Macandrew, Wright & Murray, in 1912. Describing his job as "drudgery" and encouraged by his senior partners, he decided to enlist in the 4th Battalion of the Royal Scots in September 1914 in the belief that "the training would do me the world of good, I would see a bit of the country and perhaps something good might come of it."



George Philp Westwater is commemorated on the family memorial in the Kirkgate cemetery, Kinross

George trained as a signaller in Larbert before boarding a train bound for Liverpool where he embarked on the *Aquitania* on 24 May 1915 bound for the Dardanelles. Sailing via Gibraltar, Malta, Alexandria and the naval base at Limnos in the Aegean, he and his comrades landed at Gallipoli on 14 June 1915, just two weeks prior to the launch of the assault on Gully Ravine where he was to be killed in action.

George Westwater's death at the age of 21 was reported in the local press on 25 July 1915 and recorded on the family memorial in the Kirkgate Churchyard, Kinross, as well as numerous war memorials including the Helles Memorial in Gallipoli.

'How dear is home' – The last letter

A series of letters sent by George Westwater en route to the Dardanelles are in the possession of his niece, Dorothy Brand (née Irons). The museum displays a copy of the last letter he wrote to his mother on Tuesday 22 June 1915. It opens by saying:

"My Dear Mother, Well we're here now. Our experiences have been many & varied but now we are really in it."

He later goes on to say:

"You think you know what war is but I'm thankful you don't know... I only half realized what it really meant when we got near the scene of action."

On page 2 he describes one aspect of "the action":

"There are now a good few casualties in our Battalion mostly through snipers who are excellent sharp-shooters & don't give you a second chance as they use explosive bullets which make horrible wounds."

George ends his letter in an upbeat manner but with thoughts of home:

"Good experience this & tons of excitement (not to mention an air fight above our trench this morning) but how dear is home & all the folks who mean life itself to us. All that we want is to do our bit however hard it may be & get back again, not so much in a hurry, as safe. My best love to all & remember me when writing to all friends."

Meantime Goodbye

Your loving

George."

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01577 861465 or denise.dupont@hotmail.co.uk

Police Box



Community Engagement Drop in Day

There will be a drop in day at **Kinross Police Station** on **Friday 4 December** between 2pm and 7pm. This is open to members of the public wishing to pop in to discuss any policing issues with their community police team.

Recent crime locally

A black and white Rincon gent's **mountain bike** was stolen from a garden in **Ochil View, Kinross**, between 15 and 16 October.

Flames takeaway in **Kinross** was broken into between 21 and 22 October and a quantity of cash stolen.

Jewellery was stolen from a property in **Kinnesswood** during a break in some time between 15 and 24 October.

A **sit on lawnmower** was stolen from **Powmill Milk Bar** between 4pm on Saturday 24 October and 8am on Sunday 25 October.

Two houses in **Kinross** were entered and property stolen some time during the night between Wednesday 4 and Thursday 5 November.

Between Sunday 8 and Monday 9 November a quantity of **fuel** was stolen during a break in to **Loch Leven Fisheries**. This is similar to an incident in October.

An attempt was made to break into a **barn** at farm premises in **Milnathort** overnight Saturday 7 to Sunday 8 November. The attempt was unsuccessful.

A **black 50CC scooter** was stolen from the car park at the **Balgedie Toll Tavern** on Tuesday 10 November between 3pm and 4pm. It was recovered a short distance away, in

Kinnesswood. Anyone who travelled on the A911 around this time and who observed anyone on or pushing a scooter is asked to get in touch with Police.

Jewellery was stolen during a break in to a house in **Powmill** on Thursday 5 November.

Police Scotland – local community

Telephone 101 for non-emergencies

Community officers for Kinross-shire:

PCs Rhiannon Lorimer, James Wilson, Douglas Stapleton and Atholl Spalding.

Email: taysidekinrossshireCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk

Community Sergeant, Kinross-shire: **Sgt Geoff Goodison.**



Community Watch

Receive email alerts about criminal incidents in your area, crime prevention advice, flood alerts and much more by signing up to Perth and Kinross Community Watch. The range of information received can be tailored individually; each person signing up can choose which partner agencies they would like to receive messages from. Visit this website for more details: www.pkcommunitywatch.co.uk

Crime Stoppers – Telephone 0800 555 111

This 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.

Hydro scheme investors urged to move quickly to secure EIS tax relief

The Rumbling Bridge Community Hydro Society is encouraging investors to move quickly as the UK government has just announced plans to remove community energy projects from its Enterprise Investment Scheme, which allows investors to claim income tax relief of 30% on their investment.

The innovative society was launched in September and has already raised more than £2m. The scheme aims to raise £2.85 million to install a new hydroelectric generation project in Rumbling Bridge.

If fully subscribed, the scheme is forecast to offer an eight per cent return to investors, plus RPI, and in common with many other community share offers the scheme qualifies for the UK Government's Enterprise Investment Scheme.

However this investment incentive is set to close. The Finance Bill currently being considered in the UK Parliament proposes to close the scheme to new applicants after 30 November 2015.

Rumbling Bridge Community Hydro Society Chair Paul Phare said: "Investing in the Rumbling Bridge Hydro is a tremendous way for people across the UK to make a difference to the way in which energy is generated and we are encouraging investors to commit now before the EIS window is closed.

"Anyone in the UK can buy shares and become a member of the co-operative. There are £2.85 million shares at £1 each, and the minimum anyone can buy is 250 shares (£250 pounds).

"If we look across the country, we can see that investing in

community co-operatives has proved very popular, with individuals or households typically buying around four thousand shares or more.

"In Scotland the Spirit of Lanarkshire Co-op raised £2.7 million to invest in part of a larger wind farm in South Lanarkshire whilst the West Solent Solar Co-op raised £2.2 million to build a solar farm on a greenfield site near Lymington in Hampshire.

"In each offer, the primary purpose is to create a local community benefit. In Rumbling Bridge, any surplus profit the co-op generates from the scheme will go towards a Community Benefit Fund, which will support new low carbon projects.

"I would encourage anyone with an interest in investing in the hydro scheme to visit our web site and download the share offer document. Time is certainly of the essence."

Information provided by Energy4All Ltd

Further information is available from:

rumblingbridgehydro.coop

Note: Risk warning

Investments in shares of renewable energy co-operatives and community benefit societies are long-term investments to deliver an environmental and social impact as well as a financial return. As with any investment there are risks. Your capital is at risk and may not be readily realisable. Returns are projected, variable, depend on performance of the project and are not guaranteed. Consider all risks before investing. As unregulated share offers, investments do not receive the protection of the Government's Financial Services Compensation Scheme and investors do not have recourse to the Financial Ombudsman Service.

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 November Meeting

Present at the meeting held on 4 November 2015 were: CCllrs William Freeman (Chair), Ian Jack, Barry Davies, Thomas Stewart, David Colliar, David West, Gareth Thomas, Margaret Blyth and Margaret Scott; P&K Councillors D Cuthbert, J Giacomazzi and W Robertson and nine members of the public.

Apologies were received from CCllr David MacKenzie, P&K Cllr M Barnacle and Mr J Bryson.

Declarations of Interest: None.

Persimmon Homes Presentation

The representatives introduced themselves and advised that they were now in a position to move forward and would shortly be submitting a planning application. They wished to update the CC on the current position. Revised plans were available for perusal. Persimmon stated that they had assessed all comments received from the public and, where possible, had sought to address all valid issues raised. They explained that significant changes had been made which would enhance the conservation area at this part of the High Street. The unit numbers had been reduced from 102 to 91 (from 1 to 5 bedroom, mainly two storey properties) they also plan to include retention of the majority of the original building facade fronting the High Street and convert this to form a terrace of four houses. It was questioned whether the houses would blend in with the properties at the front of the school which was answered by Persimmon. To the right of the entrance off High Street will be an open area of landscape. A further access road will lead out onto Alexander Drive. The proposals include parking places for 17 vehicles behind the Parish Church, parking in the curtilage of the smaller properties for the owners' vehicles, with garages for the larger 4/5 bedroom houses. Some comments/concerns were raised in relation to parking spaces, the proximity of the properties overlooking homes in Alexander Drive, ground levels, ratio of children in the properties and the majority being two storey buildings and these were addressed by Persimmon. There are plans for some bungalows. It was explained by Persimmon that they have to follow marketing demands at the current time, that normal standards are observed with regard to the distance from existing buildings (suggestion made that they screen this with trees) and that more detailed information will be available from the planning application. CC members West and Colliar acknowledged that Persimmon had taken on board issues raised from the previous meetings and CC Colliar added that it was a vast improvement on their earlier proposals.

Police Report

The Police were not present but had provided a written report. The Secretary read out the following:

Youth Calls over the month were made for disturbances in School Wynd, Sandport, Green Road, Ochil View, High Street, Devonvale Place, Kinross High School, Kirkgate Park, Sandport Gait. These included youths throwing items (such as eggs) at properties. With regard to Kirkgate Park, Sandport and Sandport Gait areas, youths have been spoken to and

the situation is to be monitored. Residents are encouraged to report incidents as they are occurring. A number of thefts have also taken place which include number plates, fuel tanks, bolts from a tow bar and a bike. A commercial property was broken into on the High Street and a sum of money stolen and vandalism to vehicles in the Muirs, High Street and Nan Walker Wynd. An attempted theft also occurred at Sainsbury's.

In response to a question raised at our previous CC meeting the Police advise in relation to Youth Issues: "Between the beginning of March and the end of May this year the Police carried out a focussed Operation to engage with the young people in the area towards preventing anti-social behaviour and any risk taking behaviour some young people may have been partaking in. This Operation was done in partnership between the police, pkc, Youth Services and the Community Wardens. Some analysis was done at the conclusion of the Operation. It showed that there had been a decline in the number of youth related reports to the police since 2012 and between 2013 and 2014 the number of incidents fell by 29%. For 2015 the number of incidents reported up to the end of their Operation period were as follows: January - 2 reports; February - 4 reports; March - 4 reports; April - 7 reports; May - 1 report. The majority of incidents are reported to the police on Friday evenings between 1900 to 2200 hours, peaking between 2100 and 2200 hours.

There had been some discussion through a short life working group formed to oversee the Operation that there may have been some community perception that youth issues in the area had increased following the early closure of the High School on Friday afternoons. However, the police figures do not show a significant rise of youth incidents over this period to support this based on this data alone.

They intend to analyse the figures at the end of 2015 to compare against 2014 to confirm if the declining trend of youth incidents continues and will then have a whole year of data to compare to previous years prior to the change in the school closure time on a Friday. They would be happy to share this with the CC at their January 2016 meeting.



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Newsletter Fund Disbursement

Kinross Hockey Club [replacement pitch]: Further information was provided and, on a proposal by CCllr Thomas and seconded by CCllr West, it was agreed to make a contribution of £2,000.

Kinnesswood in Bloom are asking for a grant of £500 towards improvement, clearing and landscaping a neglected piece of land adjacent to the Golf Club. CCllr Davies has been trying to contact their representative. Agreed decision to be left in abeyance meantime until some questions have been answered.

Future of Kinross Buildings

Former Health Centre, Lathro: Work has commenced.

Primary School: CCllr MacKenzie reported by email on a meeting held with senior officers in PKC Education and Children's Services. The capacity of the school was discussed. The meeting was very positive and CCllr MacKenzie has a better understanding of the position although still believes that using a figure of 0.25 children per house is a bit low and assuming that 65% of planned housing will go ahead is again on the low side. It was confirmed that the capacity is 556; the school will hold 458 (including nursery). The planned properties in Lathro will feed into Kinross Primary. It has also been suggested to PKC that they assume responsibility of the Hayfield Garden as an area for the school children to learn how to grow plants. Another suggestion conveyed to PKC was that they include a drop off/pick up lane from Station Road for children being transported by cars. The car park is to remain in the same place. Information meetings should take place around December/January.

Fountain: TRACKS, Civic Trust and Kinross Museum have submitted a joint application for funding towards work on the top part of the fountain, to include floodlighting. The bottom area to remain for use by Kinross in Bloom. A member of the public commented on vandalism.

CC Election

Mistakes have been made by PKC in the procedures involved with the CC Election. Paperwork was delivered to properties in Milnathort. They also said that it was to be a postal vote, whereas voting can either be made via the internet or by attendance at the campus. A suggestion was also received that photographs should be included to recognise the various parties. CCllr Thomas added that although correct, the name they have registered is not the one he regularly uses. The results are to be available on Friday.

Planning applications submitted to PKC

15/01766/IPL Land 250 metres south of Gellybank Farm, Kinross: variation of condition 4a (foul drainage) of permission 15/00669/IPL for the erection of holiday lodges.
15/01806/FLL 6 Argyll Court: extension to dwelling house.
15.01723/FLL Craigwell: alt/extension to dwelling house.

Planning applications determined by PKC

15/00415/FLL Former Loch Leven Health Centre: Change of Use from health centre (Class 2) to retail units (Class 1), Nursery (Class 10) and six flats and erection of block of 10 flats – Approved.

15/01301/FLL 73 High Street, erection of outbuilding – Approved.

13/01379/FLL Land 110 metres southeast of Beaufield, Balado: erection of 8 dwellings with associated access road, parking bays, turning areas and drainage arrangements – Refused.

Provisional Licence - Shop at Lathro: No objections raised.

Report from Perth & Kinross Councillors

Cllr Robertson commented on the parking of buses at the Muirs and advised that he had written to see if something could be done to free up these parking spaces. A suggestion was made that the buses/commercial vehicles be accommodated at the Industrial Estate.

Bus Service: Citylink are withdrawing a number of their buses from various stops (including the Park and Ride), which makes it difficult for commuters travelling by this means from Edinburgh. Stagecoach are launching a bus service from Edinburgh into Perth but it will take longer to reach Kinross as it stops at a number of places. Cllr Robertson has written to Citylink regarding this withdrawal and it was agreed that the CC should forward a similar letter. Stagecoach launch is on 17 November at the campus.

Former Health Centre, Lathro: Cllr Robertson commented on the proposed housing. This will not include affordable housing but a contribution will be made to PKC. The situation is currently dire for affordable housing in Perth and Kinross. The waiting list for Council properties was also commented on.

Remembrance Procession: Cllr Cuthbert confirmed that the paperwork has now been processed for this Procession/Road Closure. A series of omnibus dates has now been provided. If an application is submitted within these dates, no payment will be levied for non-profit making organisations.

Boundary Commission: Consultation ended on 22 October and the Commission will now consider all representations.

Springfield Road hedges: Cllr Cuthbert has spoken to the Roads Department in relation to this matter. Cllr Giacomazzi also commented on hedges in Wilson Court.



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Community Council News

Speed of traffic: The proposed 20 mph at Turfhill is yet to take place. This is currently with lighting department. Also in Junction Road consideration is being given to a 30 mph suggestion at the roundabout. A further suggestion was made that a traffic island be constructed at Sainsbury's. The Station Road roundabout was also mentioned. The existing paintwork on the road is being reassessed, also looking at a further roundabout on Junction Road to slow down the traffic to the Primary School.

Mandy's Hairdresser: Comment was made to the problems with the two steps up to the shop and a question raised as to whether this has been attended to.

Community Planning Partnership: This is a group incorporating the Council, NHS, Police, Fire and other bodies. A Single Outcome Agreement has been produced for the whole of Perth and Kinross area. A further meeting is to be held on 18 November. The area is to be split up and the localities agreed.

Regeneration: It was commented that traffic is travelling slower on the High Street and that cars are still parking in the locale and that parking tickets had been issued. It was further added that once the works are complete some tweaking may require to be carried out. It was suggested that we ask the traffic wardens to pay a visit. It was questioned whether they would have any authority as there were no yellow lines. It was also queried whether it would be possible to cover the bollards with some reflective material. The Parking Survey is still to be carried out.

Correspondence

Local Development Plan Consultation: The next stage in the process is the Council Meeting on 18 November to decide the content of the Main Issues Report and consultation arrangements for the next Local Development Plan. The consultation period is likely to start on 27 November and end on 26 February 2016. Asking if the CC would like to be involved in the drop in sessions. Cllr Cuthbert added that there is a meeting the day after the CC meeting in relation to the Main Issues Report and Planning.

Tasmina Ahmed-Sheikh, MSP: Letter of introduction from the MP for Ochil and South Perthshire. It was suggested that we ask her to assist in the situation with Citylink.

Ready For Winter Campaign: We received a copy of the Scottish Government's briefing.

Any Other Business

Millbridge: Cllr Scott asked if work had been carried out to the trees to the rear of Millbridge. Cllr Cuthbert answered that the trees were checked and it was deemed not necessary. Cllr Scott added that the two trees to the front entrance require cutting back.

Comment was also made to parking at the junction at the Muirs and Davies Park pathway.

Light Up Kinross: A member of the public enquired as to the location for the Christmas Tree this year. It will again be placed at the County Buildings as electricity was sourced here for this purpose. However, we are looking into acquiring a further tree for the Town Hall area.

The Next Meeting of Kinross CC will take place on Wednesday 2 December 2015 at 7.30pm in the Masonic Hall, Muirs, Kinross.



Agenda for Extraordinary General Meeting

Chaired by Local Councillor

- (1) Welcome.
- (2) Appointment of Chairperson. Elected member will hand over the Chair to the new Chairperson.
- (3) Appointment of Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.
- (4) Appointment of Data Controller.
- (5) Adoption of Constitution, Standing Orders and Code of Conduct for Community Councillors.
- (6) Financial statement outlining current position of community council.
- (7) Meeting dates and venues for 2015-16.
- (8) Training issues.
- (9) AOCB.

Agenda for CC Meeting

- (1) Apologies for absence.
- (2) Declarations of Interest.
- (3) Minutes of Meeting of 4 November 2015.
- (4) Police Report.
- (5) Matters arising from the minutes of November meeting.
- (6) Disbursement of Newsletter funds.
- (7) Future of Kinross buildings.
- (8) New Primary School.
- (9) Planning matters.
- (10) Reports from Perth & Kinross Councillors.
- (11) Miscellaneous correspondence.
- (12) AOCB.
- (13) Date of Next Meeting (6 January 2016).

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

Kinross CC minutes are posted online at:

www.kinross.cc/cc.htm

and [www.Facebook.com/KinrossCC](https://www.facebook.com/KinrossCC)

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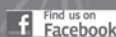
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Portmoak Community Council News from the November Meeting

In attendance at the meeting held on 10 November 2015 were: Community Councillors M Strang Steel (Chairman), B Calderwood (Treasurer and Deputy Chairman), R Cairncross (Secretary), S Forde, D Morris, A Robertson, T Smith and C Vlasto; Ward Councillors M Barnacle, D Cuthbert, J Giacopazzi and W Robertson (who joined the meeting at item 4.4); five members of the public and PCs D Stapleton and J McWilliam.

Apologies: none.

Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland –

Consultation: The CC had received an acknowledgment of its submission to the Commission. It had presented evidence supporting its view that the number of ward councillors for Perth and Kinross should remain at 41, the number for the Kinross-shire ward at 4 and that the area of the ward itself should not be reduced.

Police Report: The CC noted the monthly report, including advice for winter motoring. There had been a theft of jewellery following a break-in at Gamekeepers Road and a man had been detained following his throwing eggs at windows in Wester Balgedie, Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell. An accident at the junction of the B920 with the south Loch Road (B9097) had not been reported to Perth and Kinross police as Fife police had been in attendance. The CC seeks a more reliable accident reporting process essential to support the case for road safety provisions. The Commander's Bulletins of 16th, 23rd, 29th October and of 5th November were noted. PC Stapleton was thanked for his report.

Treasurer's report: The only transaction in either account was a payment in the general account for £54.06 for postage and stationery. The general account at the month end was therefore £473.34 while the MBW account remains unaltered from September at £874.12, giving a total funds on hand of £1,347.46.

Planning - new applications

15/01701/FLL Kinneston Farm, Scotlandwell: Formation of a forestry access. No CC comment.

15/01313/FLL Broadwell, Wester Balgedie: Installation of a broadband cabinet. The CC welcomed this and made no comment. Cllr Cuthbert would alert PKC to a potential safety risk at the site selected.

15/01798/FLL Kilmagadwood Cottage: Installation of an air source heat pump. No CC comment.

Planning - progress with developments

Lomond Inn 15/00505FLL & 15/00506/CON: A new application has been lodged with PKC.

Glenlomond: Submission of plans may be anticipated in the next few weeks.

Lochend Farmhouse 15/00115/IPL: Application for two houses. Refused.

28 Gamekeepers Road 15/01500/FLL: Extension to dwelling house. Approved.

Arrangements at Whitecraigs consequent on departure of the developer. With the conclusion of the final phase of nine houses, development on this site would shortly end. The CC will seek clarity from both PKC and the developer, A & J Stephen, on the ownership and maintenance of residual landscaped and non-landscaped plots across the Whitecraigs development. This would include the large false Cypress hedge running along the eastern boundary of the site and between it and the golf course.

Roads Report

CCllr Bruce Calderwood reported on a recent visit by officers from the PKC roads department to assess traffic along the A911. The following matters were addressed and would be considered further:

- Wester Balgedie: Extension of the 40mph limit from Wester Balgedie towards Milnathort to include both turn-off junctions leading to the Larder and the Cricket Club; and long term provisions for a by-pass of the Toll at Wester Balgedie.
- Easter Balgedie: Eligibility for a 20mph pilot speed restriction; warning signs showing agricultural vehicles crossing; and double white lines to discourage overtaking.
- Kinnesswood: Eligibility for a 20mph pilot speed restriction to include the entire village; and improved crossing provisions between the garage and shop.
- Woodmarch: Improvements at the Woodmarch "pinch point" on the footpath between Kinnesswood and the Hall.
- Scotlandwell: Eligibility for a 20mph pilot speed restriction to include at least the built-up areas of the village; improvement to the footpath leading from Scotlandwell up to the Church and Hall; and alteration in priorities at the A911 junction within Scotlandwell.
- West Bowhouse: Improved warning signs at the double bend in both directions.
- HGV transit of A911 through Portmoak: signs on M90 advising of a preferred HGV route along South Loch Road; signs on A911 advising against transiting HGVs; and in the long-term re-classification of A911 to "B" and B9097 (South Loch Road) to "A."

Cats eyes: The CC noted the installation of cats eyes along the A911 from Milnathort to Auchmuirbridge. They were effective and appreciated although some are missing. CCllr Calderwood would write to thank PKC for doing this work and ask when the missing cats eyes were to be replaced.

Green Route: Proposal to introduce a "Green Route" from Wester Balgedie along the Dryside Road to the boundary with Fife. The CC advised that there should be a 20mph limit for two short stretches of this route: a) within the village of Wester Balgedie; and b) on the narrow part of the road as it passes by Glenlomond. These speed restrictions should be clearly signed. Cllr Robertson would propose an amendment to the scheme to this effect at the meeting of PKC's Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee due to be held the next day.



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Paths Report

CCLlr Tom Smith reported on landscaping work in Whitecraigs including the upgrade of the path from upper Whitecraigs down to the A911. Cattle were now off the hill, so relieving pressure on that stretch of the Michel Bruce Way.

Portmoak Cemetery: The Chairman reported that there was one lair now left in Portmoak Cemetery. This was not an uncommon situation across Perth and Kinross and a report setting out options on how this might be handled would be presented to PKC in the spring. There was sympathy towards supporting a local solution for a new cemetery in Portmoak if a suitable site of say half an acre could be found. The required criteria were not demanding. If there are suggestions for sites please contact the Chairman directly.

Scottish Government: Independent Review of Planning: Consultation. The CC noted that views were sought on six key issues: development planning; housing delivery; planning for infrastructure; streamlining development management; leadership, resources and skills; and community engagement. These were important matters and, although time given to respond was very short (closing date 1st December) the CC would attempt to make a response. Planning Aid Scotland were offering an information meeting on the matter on 17 November in Perth.

Ward Councillor Reports

CCLlr Cuthbert reported that cats eyes had been installed along the A911, on the general move towards "localities" in

planning and other council functions; and that arrangements for CC funding remained under review.

CCLlr Barnacle reported that "The Main Issues Report" for the next Local Development Plan would be issued for Consultation before the end of the month.



*Since 5 Nov, Portmoak CC has a new, full complement of members:
Back: Susan Forde, Alison Robertson, Bruce Calderwood, Tom Smith
Front: Robin Cairncross, Dave Morris, Malcolm Strang Steel, Chris Vlasto*

CCLlr Robertson advised that bus operators were cutting services from the Park and Ride at Kinross and that this would cause inconvenience. The matter was being pursued by ward Councillors. He also advised of a meeting to be held at RSPB Loch Leven involving TRACKS and other parties about establishing a safe crossing place of the south Loch road from the Heritage Trail to RSPB. CCLlr Dave Morris would participate representing CC interests.

The Next Meeting of Portmoak CC will be held at 7pm on Tuesday 8 December 2015 at Portmoak School.

Portmoak CC minutes are posted on the website

www.portmoak.org


and in a file kept in the Kinnesswood Village Shop

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Fossoway & District CC News from the November Meeting

In attendance at the meeting held on 3 November 2015 were: CCllrs S Morrison, K Borthwick, T Duffy, A Lavery and A Cheape; P&K Cllrs M Barnacle, J Giacopazzi and W Robertson; 14 members of the public.

Apologies: CCllr Pye; P&K Cllr D Cuthbert.

Declarations of Interest: None.

Police report: No officer was able to attend. A report was received but it was very generic. We know of at least six incidents that were not mentioned. We are worried about this under reporting of crime. From the Commander's Bulletins we have learned of a theft of oil from a tank in Rumbling Bridge. Also in our area: a car was damaged in Dunning Glen, there was a house breaking in Powmill, a sit-on mower was stolen from the Milk Bar and a pick-up was stolen in the area and used for the attempted robbery at Sainsbury's.

Presentation by SEPA: Colin Anderson of SEPA addressed the meeting, and explained the current situation at Crook Moss. SEPA has been out to inspect several times and found no evidence of the tipping of grey water. The water supply to the site is fairly restricted, so there is not much opportunity to produce grey water. There are Portaloos on site. SEPA has been looking for options for foul water. The CAR licences had been refused as the ground was unsuitable. Now an interim solution – building one toilet block connected to the sewer – is being investigated, while there is also a feasibility study in the pipeline for a more permanent solution. Scottish Water is not clear whether and how much capacity there is in the current Drum sewage system.

The CC is unhappy with the time it takes to find a solution and is worried by the lack of clarification given. It seems that PKC gives the CC and the Travellers community different information and Scottish Water is also not very clear in its reply to our questions. The CC is unhappy that double standards are used; when any development takes place in the LL Catchment area the rules are very strict. Sometimes it is not clear whether an application falls in the Drum or the Crook of Devon sewage system.

Cllr Barnacle mentions the collective agreement between PKC, SEPA and SNH; a protocol for planning in the LL Catchment area. Allowing retrospective planning applications causes all kinds of problems. Cllr Giacopazzi adds that PKC has to deal with 100 retrospective applications.

Powmill in Bloom has now been in operation for 6 months and so far received £3000 in grants. PKC will plant daffodils. Powmill in Bloom has four large and two small planters. Cllr Barnacle suggests entry in the Best Kept Village Competition in 2016.

Rumbling Bridge Hydro Scheme: James Buchan from Local Energy Scotland (advising Rumbling Bridge Hydro Scheme) explained that this scheme has the obligation to offer community benefit of £10,000 per megawatt per year, because of having granted a loan with the Scottish Government. This would mean a minimum of £5,000 for the Fossoway and District community. FDCC could act as the recipient of this money (provided there are separate accounts) and with the help of a sub group with representatives from the whole community this money can be used for community projects. We are happy to enter into a contract with the Rumbling Bridge Hydro Scheme.

The CCllrs stayed behind after the meeting to agree on a few amendments to the contract with Hugh Wallace, the developer of the scheme.

Crook Moss Travellers' Site: In addition to the discussion earlier, Cllr Giacopazzi reported that he and Cllr Cuthbert will make a site visit to the Crook Moss camp to see how the generators are baffled. Cllr Robertson mentions that he now has the specs for baffling the generators and he will pass them on to our contact in the camp. The resident travellers are keen to improve the situation; at the moment it seems to be the transient residents who are causing noise problems.

Lambhill Chipping plant: The Local Review Body meets on 10 November; the appeal will be heard then. Chipping has stopped.

A977 Defects and Mitigation Measures: Cllr Barnacle referred to a letter he has published in the Kinross Newsletter. Cllr Robertson reported that Transport Scotland will soon commence a review of the Trunk road system; this may be the best moment to bring up re-trunking of the A977. A MoP mentions the poor state of the road in Blairingone, near the Vicar's Bridge Road. Cllr Robertson will take this up.

CC Membership: At the next meeting of this CC, Cllr Giacopazzi will initially chair the meeting until the new CC chair is selected. Then the new chair will take over the meeting and the remaining officers will take up their roles. Since the CC is allowed to have a further two members, there is an opportunity for any other interested persons to be co-opted onto the CC in six months' time.

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Station Road Adoption: Cllr Barnacle reported that after meeting the residents there is a shortfall of around £650 plus VAT. He is looking at ways of securing that money so the adoption can go ahead.

Boundary Commission: The CC's objection to the proposed changes has been acknowledged. Cllr Cuthbert was commended for his work. There have been many representations from the length and the breadth of Kinross-shire. However, the Boundary Commission intends to stick to the original timetable so we can only hope that they will take all the comments into account.

Lambhill Forestry Site: Kevin reports that there will be a ranger-led walkabout on 21 November to see how the site can be used and accessed.

Signage at Vicar's Bridge Road: Cllr Barnacle reported that this has been requested.

Potholes in Craigend Road: This work is now taking place.

Safer Route to School – Drum: A request to bring down the speed limit on the B9077 between the junction with the A977 and Drum has been received. Cllr Barnacle reported that Darren McKeown suggested a meeting in the framework of the School Travel Planning programme.

State of Road Through Drum and Missing Grit Bin: Cllr Robertson's had previously contacted Stuart D'All about the condition of the road, and that the grit bin there was missing. However, there is no budget for road repairs this financial year, there are no resources to refill the bins in bad weather. The CC found this strange. Also, big lorries cannot use this road but still try. Cllr Barnacle will take this up.

Noise Problem from Solsgirth House Hotel: Cllr Giacomazzi reported that there is pressure on the Solsgirth House Hotel to apply for a permanent licence. The CC has withdrawn the objection to the planning application if a condition to abate the noise issue is included in the report of handling. Alastair reported that the application has been approved with conditions.

Landscape Areas – Kinross-shire: Opportunity to ask for change in the upcoming MIR.

Bollards Opposite Crook Village Hall: Awaiting a report from PKC Roads Department on how the safety of this section of road could be improved.

Crook Moss Community Involvement: Ongoing.

Blairingone War Memorial: No news.

CC Business: Angus attended the Kinross-shire Fund meeting.

Councillors' Reports

Cllr Barnacle: received word from Stuart Dean, Friends of the Ochils, who are doing a review about landscape designations. This may be an opportunity to keep the issue about the landscape status of the Devon Gorge alive. Cllr Barnacle has also written to residents on the Main Street, Crook of Devon, about parking on the Main Street and the

access to the shop/post office. He will also write to BT who, yet again, dug up the road in Crook of Devon without any prior notification or consultation.

Willie Robertson: Has written to Citylink and all the MSPs. The buses between Edinburgh and the north stopping at Kinross are being cut back substantially, with no direct buses to Edinburgh between 4 and 7pm.

Planning Matters

15/01822/FLL Modification of permission 13/01926/FLL (erection of a meteorological mast) to extend the time period. Site at Littlerig Forest, Dunning. No CC comment.

15/01773/IPL Renewal of permission 12/01411/IPL (erection of a dwelling house, in principle). Land 30 metres South of Crosslands, Crook of Devon. No CC comment.

15/01783/FLL Erection of powerhouse and formation of access (associated with 13/01233/FLL.) Rumbling Bridge Hydro Scheme, Rumbling Bridge. No CC comment.

15/01706/FLL Erection of dwelling house, workshop and garage at land 70 metres North East of Tullibole Kirkyard, Fossoway. **CC will object.** This application is in not in a village envelope but no justification is given for building a house in the countryside.

15/01769/FLL Erection of seven dwelling houses, formation of access road and associated infrastructure at Land 100 metres South of Merryorchard, Rumbling Bridge. **CC will object.** We do agree that this land should be seen as within the settlement area, however at this moment it is not designated as such and we will object at this time until it is in the settlement area.

Correspondence

All the correspondence was available for viewing.

Other Business

Sandy thanked his fellow CC members for their support over the last years. Trudy thanked Sandy and Alastair, both now retiring, for their service and work. Both will be a difficult act to follow.

Draft Agenda for Next CC Meeting

Election of new Chair, followed by other office bearers, then CC meeting as normal.

Welcome and Apologies, Declarations of Interest, Community Policing, Minutes of last meeting.

Matters arising: Crook Moss Travellers' Site, Lambhill Chipping Plant, A977 Mitigation, CC Membership, Station Road Adoption, Boundary Commission, Lambhill Forestry Site, Safer Route to School - Drum.

Community Councillors: Meetings Attended, PKC Councillors' Reports, Planning, Correspondence, AOCB.

The Next Meeting of Fossoway and District CC will take place on Tuesday 1 December 2015 at 7.30pm in Fossoway Primary School. All Welcome. This meeting will be preceded by a brief EGM to inaugurate the new CC.

Fossoway & District CC minutes are posted on the website

www.fossoway.org

and on their Facebook page, along with other community related information. Search for Fossoway & District Community Council on Facebook.

Cleish and Blairadam CC

Cleish and Blairadam CC meets every second month.

The Next Meeting takes place on Monday 7 December 2015 at 7.30pm in the Tabernacle Hall.

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Club & Community Group News



Business Breakfast MSP Willie Rennie talks of the ties that bind businesses to Kinross-shire



The drive to Loch Leven's Larder on even the dreichest and dampest of November mornings is always made bearable by the prospect of the full Scottish breakfast that awaits – and, of course, the chance to network with the other local entrepreneurs who gather there from all corners of Kinross-shire.

The format for each breakfast is familiar to regulars. While breakfast is being consumed, each attendee abandons their bacon and eggs or porridge for 30 seconds to introduce their company to fellow breakfasters.

The after-breakfast speaker for November was Willie Rennie, MSP for Mid-Scotland and Fife. Mr Rennie opened his speech on a poignant note by mentioning that the tie he was wearing had belonged to the late Charles Kennedy, whose memorial service he had attended the day before. He then went on to talk about metaphorical ties – in this case the economic, environmental, logistical and cultural ones that bind individuals and businesses to the “splendid location” of Kinross-shire.

In his address, which was listened to attentively by the 30 or so local entrepreneurs in attendance, Mr Rennie also referred to the ways in which modern communications have revolutionised the business landscape, enabling companies to broaden their international horizons. He acknowledged that improving Broadband speeds for rural businesses – including some of the companies present – was of utmost importance. He spoke, too, of Kinross-shire's popularity with commuters working in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Stirling, Perthshire and Fife, citing several aspects which contribute to the area's exceptional quality of life – such as the RSPB Nature Reserve, Loch Leven's royal heritage, the gliding centre and nearby Knockhill. “In fact,” he added, “if I didn't live in this area already, I'd move here!”

Mr Rennie stressed that following the Referendum outcome, it was time for Scotland to move on and focus on getting

the economy back on track to create a more favourable environment for businesses nationwide. He mentioned the important role of membership of the EU trading block if the UK is to be taken seriously as a business partner by countries such as China. He also alluded to the importance of investing in communities such as Kinross-shire, of ensuring business rates do not restrict growth, and of dispelling the myth that private businesses are in some way inferior to public ones.

Finally, he praised the Kinross-shire Partnership, commending its leaders and supporters for their pro-active approach in working to stimulate economic growth through initiatives such as these networking events.



MSP Willie Rennie in discussion with local entrepreneurs at the Business Breakfast

Enjoying the Kinross-shire Partnership's popular breakfast experience for the first time this month was **Mrs Sarah Brown**, who took over as headteacher at Kinross High School after the summer break. Mrs Brown will be the speaker at the next breakfast, held at Loch Leven's Larder on **Wednesday 2 December** from 7.30am until 8.45am. (£10 for members, £15 for non-members.) Reserve your place now by emailing Kinross-shire Partnership administrator Karen Grunwell at mail@kinrosspartnership.org.uk

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Kinross-shire 50 Plus Club

The next club meeting is on **Thursday 3 December**, our Christmas meeting, when we will be entertained by Glenrothes Musical Society's "Concert Party".

The first meeting of the new year will be on **7 January 2016** when we will have "Seated Keep Fit" with Mrs Val Oswald.

Away Days

Thu 10 December	Stirling
Thu 14 January	Black Watch Museum, Perth
Thu 28 January	Braehead

The coach leaves from opposite the Green Hotel at 9.15am. Regrettably no advance bookings for trips can be accepted prior to the monthly meeting. Contact: Pat Crawford, telephone 01577 862962.

Friday Walkers

4 Dec	Kinnoull Hill and Deuchny Hill, Perth.
18 Dec	Inverkeithing to Dalgety Bay and return.
15 Jan	Culross and Preston Island and back for soup at the Red Lion.
29 Jan	A circular walk in the Falkland estate.

All our walks will continue to leave from the Green Hotel. Contact: Ian Simpson on 01577 863691.

Friday Hill Walkers

11 Dec	Christmas Walk, South Queensferry		
8 Jan	Water of Leith	Bill	9am
22 Jan	Auchteny	Jack	9am

Activities

The following are open to all members of the Club:

Carpet Bowls: Meet Monday at 2pm in Millbridge Hall. Contact Helen Duncan, 01577 863638.

Craft Group meets Wednesday at 2pm in Millbridge Hall. Contact Elizabeth Smith, 01577 861387.

Fly Tyers meet each Monday in Millbridge Hall. Contact Ian Campbell, 01577 830582.

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

Line Dancing every Tuesday and Friday at 10.30am in the Millbridge Hall. Contact Betty Fergus, 01577 866961.

Keep Fit class meets every Tuesday at 2pm in the Masonic Hall. Contact Val Oswald, 01577 864020.



Kinross-shire Volunteer Group & Rural Outreach Scheme (KVG & ROS)



On Monday 9 November we held the Annual Volunteers Meeting. This is an occasion for the drivers and management committee to get together, a chance to put names to faces and to discuss any problems that are arising.

Prior to tea and cakes, we were all entertained and very interested in the talk given by Carole Anderson, a Development Officer with Age Scotland. We were given some staggering statistics and also a great deal of information about the help which is available for older, less able people in the community. Ken Paterson, Chairman, introduced Carole and the Vote of Thanks was given by Sandy Smith.

In October we supported the Wellbeing Day held at the Community Campus by having a display stand and taking along some of our clients. Those who took up our offer of a driver thoroughly enjoyed the event, particularly the 60s Café and the short play.

The next event in the KVG&ROS calendar is the **Annual Burns Supper** which will be held in the Windlestrae Hotel on **Monday 18 January 2016**. This is always a popular event and we are looking forward to another night of excellent entertainment, toasts, songs and recitations. Tickets will be available shortly and can be purchased from any committee member or phone Pauline Watson (01577 862685).

Lodge St Serf No 327

December

Tues 1st Next regular Meeting at 7.15pm. Annual General Meeting. No visitors please.

Sun 6th Christmas Party from 3-5pm. Please add children's names on Notice Board in Masonic Hall as soon as possible.

Tues 8th General Committee Meeting at 7.30pm. Arrange work for next Regular Meeting Installation of Office Bearers.

Sat 19th Regular Meeting at 4pm. Installation of Office Bearers for the ensuing 12 months.

January

Tues 5th Regular Meeting at 7.15pm. Degree to be arranged.

Tues 12th General Committee Meeting at 7.30pm. Arrange work for next Regular Meeting

Tues 19th Regular Meeting at 7.15pm. Degree to be arranged.

Tues 26th General Committee Meeting at 7.30pm. Arrange work for next Regular Meeting.



Lomond Antiques and Collectors Club



The November meeting was held in the Chairman's home and was a 'members bring and talk' evening. Members brought along items which had been part of their collections or simply items which had touched their lives in some way and left happy memories of past times. The next meeting will be the Christmas party on **Sunday 6 December**.

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Kinross & Ochil Short Walks Group

(Affiliated to Ramblers Scotland)

Don't just sit in the house this winter, come and join us on our Tuesday short walks. These are usually a maximum of 4 miles, 1½-2 hours, followed by a sociable visit to a coffee shop/farm shop/pub for refreshments. The walks are aimed at people who are new to walking, would like to extend their walk from a health walk or who would simply like an opportunity to keep fit. We would be delighted to welcome anyone who would like to try walking with us. Come and sample a couple of walks and, if you enjoy them and would like to continue walking with us, we would ask you to join Kinross & Ochil Ramblers.

We meet in Kinross or you can go straight to the walk start points given below (if you intend doing the latter, please let me know beforehand). We operate car-sharing but it is not essential to have a car.

Give it a go! Enjoy good company and some great walks. Just turn up on the day or ring beforehand – you will be very welcome.

Tuesday 1 December – Clackmannan Tower and the River Black Devon.

Meet 10am at old Health Centre, Kinross or 10.30am at clock tower, main street, Clackmannan.

Tuesday 15 December – Townhill Country Park & Mining Heritage Park.

10.20am at Townhill Country Park car park beside café

Tuesday 5 January – Powmill, the Bull Stane & Rumbling Bridge.

Meet 10am at old Health Centre, Kinross or 10.20am at Powmill Milk Bar.

Tuesday 19 January – Kinross Circular.

Meet 10am at old Health Centre, Kinross.

For further details of any of the above walks or general enquiries regarding our walking group, please contact Edna Burnett on 01577 862977.

Kinross & Ochil Walking Group

(Affiliated to Ramblers Scotland)

Days are short now but here's your chance to make up for any extra eating, drinking and lounging in front of the television. Come out and explore new places, improve your fitness and meet people. Whether you're new or 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.

Sunday 3 January: Loch Leven Heritage Trail, 6 miles.

Our annual walk along the lochside to Loch Leven's Larder for a tasty snack/lunch then return. A chance to catch up after the festive season and to blow away any lingering cobwebs!

Saturday 16 January: Preston Island, Culross, 6 miles.

Easy walk, level walk along path adjacent to railway, then round Preston Island where evidence of salt pans is preserved. Fine views of the Forth.

Sunday 31 January: Falkland, Drumdreel Wood & Dumbell, 6 miles.

An interesting variety of forestry and estate tracks with good views, weather permitting.

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

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

Dobbies Community Champion

At the time of writing, we at Dobbies are looking forward to our charity events at the end of November, Santa's arrival and Ladies night. These are in aid of our National Charity this year, the Teenage Cancer Trust.

We are grateful to many people who have helped with the success of these events:- suppliers who have donated goods, teenagers from the High School, professional clown and DJ, face painters, beauty and health therapists, local crafters and musicians. We were particularly pleased to have **Iain Hunter** the Singing Butcher with us on Ladies night, and thank you to all customers who came along to enjoy and support our events. I will be able to report our total raised from the events in the next newsletter.

In November I have made donations of gardening items and plants to Milnathort Primary School, and a Sheltered Housing complex in Methil, under our 'Here we Grow' initiative.

Two groups of pupils from Gateside Primary have visited recently to learn about plants, wildlife and food miles. If your school or other group would like to arrange a visit to the store, please contact Amanda. I can also visit community groups and schools if this is more convenient.

In November, the Little Seedlings club had fun learning about hibernation and hedgehogs, and made lovely hedgehog pictures with autumn leaves stuck on for spines, and the meeting on **Sunday 6 December** will be the Christmas party. The next two meetings will be on **Sunday 10 January** and **Sunday 7 February 2016**. Please ask for more details of the club in store.

Wishing everyone a happy festive season from all at Dobbies. For more information contact Amanda James, Community Champion, on (01577) 863327 or by email at community.kinross@dobbies.com

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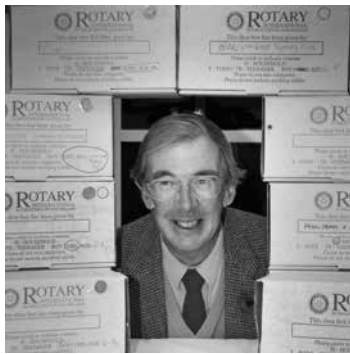
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Kinross & District Rotary Club

The club has been busy collecting shoeboxes for the annual appeal. The Rotary Shoebox Scheme (www.rotaryshoebox.org) actually runs all year round but District 1010 (Scotland North) usually 'gather' in November, in time for Christmas. The scheme encourages people to fill a 'shoebox' of gifts, toys or household items. The boxes are then sent to poorer parts of Eastern Europe. Places like Cluj-Napoca in Romania or Tirana in Albania. There is a distribution map on the website and plenty of photos showing where the boxes go to and how much they are appreciated.

This year District 1010 have filled and sent around 11,000 boxes with the Rotary Club of Kinross and District contributing 340! Alistair Smith is the Kinross Club's co-ordinator and is seen here with a few of the boxes donated by club members and others from the Kinross-shire community.



Alistair Smith and shoeboxes!

Other activities this month have included interviews for the Euroscola event 2016. Euroscola is a unique event for schools to learn about European integration by experiencing it first-hand. Students from the 28 EU Member States are selected to become a Member of the European Parliament for one day at the Parliament's premises in Strasbourg. Several students from Kinross High School submitted an application which involved a CV, an essay on a European theme, and an interview. Members of the Rotary Club were involved in the interview and selection of the successful candidate. Congratulations go to **Rowan Harvey**, a sixth year pupil, who was the successful candidate this year. Rowan is being put forward to the district selection process. Good luck, Rowan! All candidates got something out of the application process as the tasks of CV creation, writing and interview preparation are of great value to all those who contend for a place on the scheme.

Our speakers this month included Kate Brown, who spoke about her volunteering with the Amos Trust (www.amostrust.org), in particular their efforts in Palestine.

Amos Trust works closely with Palestinian and Israeli peace activist and other partners on local grass-roots projects that promote non-violent initiatives to challenge the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza. Kate was championing efforts for the creation of a culture and arts centre near the Aida refugee camp, Bethlehem. The Alrowwad Centre for Culture and Arts, among other things, works with children suffering from trauma and, using the medium of performing arts, seeks to educate and rehabilitate and provide hope and inspiration in children to become leaders of Palestine in the future. See the Amos Trust website for more information.

Another speaker was Bill Nicol. Bill is a retired cameraman from the BBC who spent a long, interesting and rewarding career covering international news and events around the world. Starting in Beirut, Lebanon in the late 1960s, Bill's career took him to all corners of the world and we were entertained by stories of his time in Mali, Pakistan, Canada and even Shetland! Bill has worked with Royals and Politicians

and a long line of well-known journalists such as Kate Adie, John Humphrys, John Simpson and Sue Lawley.

Next, our regular feature 'Meet & Greet'. This month, please say hello to long-standing Kinross Rotary club member, John Mathew.

Kinross and District Rotary Club Meet & Greet

Name: John Mathew.

Age: 73.

Occupation: Retired
Manufacturing Manager

**How long have you been with the
Rotary Club of Kinross?** Since
1999.

**Why did you become involved in
Rotary?** Introduced by a friend.

What was your first impression?
Well organised and welcoming.

What surprised you? How much
the Club is involved in community
and international projects.

**What is the best thing you have done with Rotary since
joining?** Being Club Secretary for five years and organising
the Club Golf Day at Kinross GC for six years.

**If you could change one thing about Rotary, what would it
be?** Rotary should be less formal in this day and age.

**When friends or family find out you are a member of
Rotary, what do they say?** Very supportive.

**What would you say to someone who is thinking of
joining?** Join our happy band and enjoy being involved, in
particular as part of the Kinross Community.

What do you wish other people knew about Rotary? Who
the Kinross Rotarians are and what we stand for. ('We are for
Communities.')

Sum up your Rotary Club in three words. Friendly, caring,
committed.



John Mathew

Did you know.... that eradicating polio from the world is Rotary's top priority and that, as a result, polio cases have dropped by 99% since 1985. (Polio only occurs now in remote parts of Pakistan and Afghanistan.)

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

Kinross-shire Historical Society

Gallipoli 1915 – Muddle and Myth



Mr George Sutherland gave a most interesting and detailed illustrated talk on Gallipoli at the November meeting of Kinross-shire Historical Society. He explained that at that time people didn't really know what was happening, unlike today's instant access to news.

During WWI the importance of having a direct channel for supplies through the Suez Canal was very important. As it was part of the world controlled by the Ottoman Empire ruled from Turkey, Churchill, as First Lord of the Admiralty, considered that getting a fleet up to the Sea of Marmara to attack Constantinople would achieve this. To reach there, the Dardanelles had to be taken. Turkey knew of its strategic importance and it was a heavily defended area. Churchill tried to run the campaign with a naval fleet but due to enemy mines and gun emplacements, it was considered that the losses sustained were too great. He was demoted and left politics for a while.


A new plan was developed in six weeks to put men ashore to destroy the Turkish defences. This included French, New Zealand and Australian troops in addition to the British, under General Sir Ian Hamilton. Mr Sutherland explained, illustrated with maps, the progress and problems met by the Allies. The number of casualties was huge on both sides. The conditions were very bad.

He outlined the problems, including the enemy being forewarned which allowed them to have the beaches defended, the Turks not being expected to put up much of a fight, lack of planning, insufficient artillery and weak leadership. Many myths still exist today, particularly in Australia, about what actually happened at Gallipoli.

Today, if you visit Gallipoli, there are many memorials and cemeteries to visit, but in some areas evidence can still be found of the fighting which took place 100 years ago.

After some questions and some of the audience sharing their family links to Gallipoli, Bill Blair gave the vote of thanks. He said that although most people knew a little about Gallipoli, this talk had 'put a lot of meat on the bones'. Mr Sutherland was thanked for a great presentation and an enthralling evening.

For the Historical Society programme, see page 94.



Podiatrist/Chiropodist
HPC Registered

Kate Miller Bsc MChS

Tel: 01577 863498



Kinross in Bloom



The summer season is officially over now that our hanging baskets have been taken down, and the tubs and planters have been emptied, and by now the spring polyanthus, miniature daffodils and tulips have been planted. We can now relax a little for a month or two.

Now that the regeneration work on the High Street is complete, we can now sit down and plan where to site our new planters, thanks to grants from The Kinross-shire Fund and the Kinross Community Council Newsletter Fund. Also, since Rainton, the contractors, kindly cleared the front of the Church Centre, we can plan the refurbishment there, thanks to a grant from The Arthur and Margaret Thomson Trust.

Some new planters were positioned at the War Memorial and planted out, thanks to a donation of plants from Dobbies, and another two are on order, to be delivered at the beginning of the new year.

Whilst sometime in the future PKC are proposing to give Gacé Gardens a makeover, we have planted some daffodil and crocus bulbs on each side of the pathway into the gardens. As a big thank you to our volunteer drivers and waterers, on Saturday 31 October we held a buffet evening in the Church Centre. Organised by Marion and her team, tables groaning with goodies were enjoyed by all. Unfortunately, not all of our volunteers were able to attend, but we thank them all for their help during the season.

Our 200 Club winters for November are:

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| 1. 25 Sid Grant | 2. 34 Alison Lockhart |
| 3. 32 David Izatt | 4. 37 Alison Macdonald |

December winners are:

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. 64 Elizabeth Stewart | 2. 30 Dorothy Hutton |
| 3. 51 Sir David Montgomery | 4. 50 Ellen Milne |

And finally, to all our volunteer helpers, may we wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and prosperous 2016.

Kinross-shire Day Centre

Another eventful month: we have all been very busy, starting off with "Celebrating Age" at the campus. Everyone enjoyed seeing what other groups in the community have been doing and what they have on offer, and the entertainment in the afternoon with the "Sabers" was just brilliant; we all had a wonderful time.

We have also enjoyed another visit to Sheila Ferguson-Smith's house. We paint, do crafts, listen to music, sing and have a cup of tea; a very enjoyable afternoon with a perfect host.

Our Halloween party was just fun, fun, fun! We laughed all afternoon with the spooky games, dookin' for apples and spooky antics from everyone. We held a beetle drive on 11 November which was fantastic fun, and a Body Shop Party on the Thursday.

May I take this opportunity to say THANK YOU to everyone for their continued support of the Day Centre, and to wish you all a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR.

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 863869.

For the regular Day Centre Programme, see page 105.

Kinross & District Probus Club

The Battle of Loos

This was the third time that William Coupar has addressed the Club and, as was fitting for an ex-soldier, the subject was the Battle of Loos. It was also the second time that this particular First World War battle was the subject of the talk. Although the subject had been covered before, this did not in any way lessen the interest and Mr Coupar had carried out a good deal more research into the subject. Also, the fact that his uncle and, indeed, his father had been involved made the story more interesting, as did the fact that there was a large number of Scottish troops involved. (The Scottish Battalions comprised some two thirds of the British troops.)

At the time, Loos was considered to be the greatest land battle since Waterloo (the Somme had yet to come) although the British army were roundly defeated. The situation was that the German Army had, in 1914, occupied a large section of France and Belgium opposed by French troops in the North and British troops in the south. France contributed some 80 Divisions of troops against 120 German Divisions. The British were far behind in their contribution and this was mainly caused by Lord Kitchener's scheme to form a 'citizens army', ignoring the Territorial Army which was already in place. However, recruitment was poor and training was slow. It was this situation which was a primary reason for the eventual defeat.

Under pressure from the French, it was decided to launch an offensive over a six mile front centring on the mining town of Loos, under the command of Field Marshall Haig and the overall command of Sir John French. The main thrust of the attack was carried out by the Scottish 9th and 15th Divisions with battalions from the Gordons, Seaforths, Black Watch, Camerons, KOSBs, Argylls and Cameronians.

However, there was a shortage of artillery together with the wrong type of ammunition, Troops were under-trained, inexperienced (indeed reinforcements were arriving by train and put straight into the front line) and slow to arrive, and the experienced German troops were quick to counter attack. In addition, experiments to use gas, considered to be the British



Army's ace card, went badly wrong when the wind blew the gas back into the British lines. The poor planning and lack of equipment and training resulted in some 60,000 casualties in each Division.

Bill Scott proposed the Vote of Thanks for a thought provoking talk.

The Life and Times of a Coach Operator

As the weather started to deteriorate, signalling the start of winter after a prolonged dry, warm and even sunny period, the club was fortunate to receive Mr Ronnie Fitzcharles as its speaker at our first November meeting.

His witty and entertaining talk helped, in no small measure, to dispel the lowering mist and fog.

His subject was 'The Life and Times of a Coach Operator' and he was well qualified to talk about the subject as he was the third generation to manage the family company 'Fitzcharles Coaches' operating out of Grangemouth. He has recently closed the company but not before ensuring that his employees found other jobs with other companies. There was little difficulty in achieving this, as the company had a good reputation in the trade and was well known for having competent and trustworthy staff.

The company was started by Ronnie's grandfather in the 1930s by hiring out bicycles and gradually expanding and introducing new sections to the business.

For instance, he acquired a hearse which was hired out to local undertakers. This was followed by an ambulance, during the War, followed by a filling station charging accumulator batteries with the first coach being acquired in 1937.

Ronnie himself refused to join his father in the company and qualified as a Quantity Surveyor and worked in that capacity with a building company before eventually joining the family business. It was this stage of his working life which provided a wealth of stories, mostly hilarious, as the company expanded into holiday trips in Europe and came up against bureaucracy and language difficulties, as well as breaking down at the top of an alpine mountain pass with a coach full of elderly passengers.

Dick Crichton gave the Vote of Thanks for a laugh provoking talk.

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Kinross & District Art Club

Club members are motivated to paint by all sorts of subjects such as the surrounding countryside, holiday destinations, or the season of the year. The painting below was done by KADAC Committee Secretary Heather Farquhar and now hangs in the home of a discerning buyer at our Exhibition.



The Autumn of 2015 has been particularly inspiring to artists because the benign weather allowed the leaves to remain on the trees as they changed colour, instead of being blown off, or forced off by heavy rain which only set in during the latter weeks of the year.

Heather decided to take up painting as a hobby after her retirement. Impressed by the friendliness and welcoming atmosphere at a KADAC Exhibition she attended, she decided to join the club. She travels weekly (sometimes twice a week) from her home in Glenfarg to the Millbridge Hall. She paints in watercolours, and particularly likes to paint trees. Like all of our members, she appreciates the encouragement of other club members, the input from our visiting demonstrators and the help and advice of our resident professional artist Tom Sutton-Smith.

As we look back on 2015, it has been another successful year at the club. We had a well-attended exhibition and some of our members exhibited and sold work at other prestigious exhibitions. We also had a number of excellent demonstrations and audio visual teaching sessions, a trip to the Dunkeld Art Exhibition and the Pitlochry Festival Theatre, a Summer Garden Party at Hatchbank and well supported and productive outdoor painting sessions in spite of the wettest summer for many years!

Our calendar for next year is now up on the KADAC website, albeit that we haven't yet arranged all our visiting artist sessions. We welcome new members of all abilities and ages. Why not pop along to the Millbridge Hall from **Tuesday 5 January**, any Tuesday or Friday afternoon 2.00pm-4.00pm and see for yourself how enjoyable and inspirational these club sessions are! For more information, visit our website at www.kadac.co.uk.



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Kinross Parish Church

Coming to Kinross Parish Church

9 January



Clive Parnell – Three Horizons Tour

Clive Parnell is coming to Kinross on Saturday 9 January as he continues his popular tour with the band's newest album, "Three Horizons".

Clive is a well-known and respected singer songwriter and is partnering with Mission Aviation Fellowship as he takes his unique style of music to churches across Scotland. His music, although unique, is easy listening in style and his songs create a great atmosphere for worship that will have you tapping your feet and swaying in time to the music.

The band consists of several well know Christian artists whom many will already know and appreciate:

- **Yvonne Lyon** on backing vocals and percussion (Yvonne has just released her latest album which received great reviews),
- **David Lyon** who co-wrote some of the album. David plays the keyboard,
- **Iain Wintour** on Bass Guitar who creates a real rhythm and sets the tone for the band, and
- **Graham Duffin** on lead guitar. Graham will be known to many as he plays lead guitar with the internationally recognised band Wet, Wet, Wet.

The concert will showcase Clive singing with the band, followed by a brief MAF presentation that includes a short video. It's the work of MAF that has inspired many songs on this new album. With his passion to see people's lives touched and changed, when Clive heard about MAF's work he felt it was a perfect match for his music.

The album will be available to purchase on the night for £10, with 30% going directly to the work of MAF. It promises to be a great night, with fabulous music and song celebrating the culmination of a year long partnership between Kinross Parish Church and MAF for their work in Madagascar.

Tickets (only £5) available from the church office...

T: 01577 862570 E: office@kinrossparishchurch.org

Anniversary Anthem for Kinross

A new anthem, written by Kinross Parish Church's minister, Rev Alan Reid, was sung by the church's choir at the morning service on 1 November (All Saints Day). The anthem "Praise the Lord" was based on Psalm 103 and was part of the celebration of ten years since the completion of major improvements to the interior of the church.

Also taking part in the service were Kinross Parish Church's two previous ministers, Rev Leslie Barr and Rev John Munro, and Ordained Local Minister Rev Margaret Michie. All three were involved in the planning and execution of this £750,000 project. The project's contractors and members of some of the many local organisations which regularly use the building for meetings and events were also represented at the service.

Rev Alan Reid said "The alterations were designed to make the church more flexible, accessible and welcoming, not only for worship but also as a community resource. In the last week alone, apart from our Sunday service, there have been nine other events in the church. A cause for celebration indeed."



Together for the tenth anniversary church refurbishment celebrations, l to r: Rev John Munro, Rev Alan Reid, Rev Margaret Michie and Rev Leslie Barr.

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For the first time we are offering a special Festive Afternoon Tea available from 12.00pm – 5.00pm at £13.50 per person.

And remember to come see us on our stall at the Kinross Festive Street Market on Saturday 28th November for Mulled Wine and Mince Pies. Whatever your plans for December, the Kirklands is here to help you celebrate in style.

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Ian Mackay 01577 864751

Fairtrade status for Kinross-shire to be renewed!



Kinross-shire was Scotland's first Fairtrade County in 2005 and with the support of the local community we have continued to support Fairtrade ever since. Every two years we have to reapply, and the sales of Traidcraft goods in Kinross Parish Church and Orwell and Portmoak Offices, other local churches, Buchan's in Kinnesswood and Loch Leven Lodges are an important part of the reapplication. Traidcraft support some of the poorest farmers and producers in the world who rely on us to have a market for their goods. Many of these people are supporting children, like the chilli-growing grandmothers from Swaziland



The chilli-growing grandmothers



Beautiful candles from Swaziland

who are supporting grandchildren by working in the fields and selling their chillies to the Black Mamba company which makes chilli sauces. This allows them to buy food, clothing and pay the school fees. The photo at left shows some of the beautiful candles, also made in Swaziland by local people who depend on sales through Traidcraft to earn a living.

You can look at the full range online at Traidcraftshop.co.uk and then place your order through one of the church offices. The above photo shows just a small number of the people you would

be helping whenever you buy from Traidcraft rather than a commercial company. We have been doing well as a county supporting Fairtrade for the last ten years but we can do even better, so please try to support the people throughout the world who are making beautiful crafts and working to produce delicious foodstuffs we can enjoy.

Our next steps are to move towards Perth and Kinross becoming a Fairtrade Zone, so please back this campaign by supporting our Traidcraft sales.

Karena Jarvie

Kinross Museum

Loch Leven Community Campus
www.kinrossmuseum.org.uk
Facebook: Kinross Museum



November was a busy month for the Museum. In addition to taking part in the Campus Christmas Craft Fair and the Tayside and Fife Archaeological Committee Conference, a talk organised by the Campus Library, entitled "Around the Shores of Loch Leven," was given by Kinross (Marshall) Museum Trust Chairman David Munro whose recently published guide to the Loch Leven Heritage Trail is on sale at the Museum.

Recent acquisitions include a collection of archives bequeathed to the Museum by the late Jack Moffat, former teacher of art at Kinross High School. Amongst the collection are designs for a new coat of arms for the school created in the 1990s.

Soon to be published is a collection of "Mary's Memories" compiled by the late Mary Muirhead, who was an enthusiastic Museum volunteer.

If you have not been to the Museum recently, do come and see our changing exhibitions which include 'Lest we forget: Reflections on the Great War' and new displays on the textile firms William Cunningham & Co. and Todd & Duncan.



A fibreglass mock up of a coat of arms for Kinross High School made in the 1990s by art teacher Jack Moffat

Kinnesswood in Bloom

A few hardy members gardened in the rain recently, tidying the school grounds and clearing plants. The warmer weather has provided an extended display this year. Final work parties of the year were meeting to empty tubs and store some of the chairs, ladders and other furniture used to display plants this year. David Buchan has kindly agreed to provide storage.

On 8 November members of the community and Portmoak Church gathered to remember the local people commemorated on the War Memorial. Two wreaths were laid, one by John Nicol on behalf of Kinnesswood in Bloom. Many thanks are due to Morag Hogg for preparing such a lovely wreath.



The wreath laid by Kinnesswood in Bloom

The new School Grounds Committee has met a couple of times, clearing leaves, cutting back the buddleia and gathering in the remains of the vegetables. The latter are to be used in the after school cookery class.

Meanwhile, there is news of an exciting project for next year. At the moment some rocket seeds are quite literally circling the earth. Next year, when they hopefully return safely to earth, the pupils will be engaged in an experiment to grow these seeds and compare them with control seeds. It will be interesting to see how this progresses.

Kinnesswood in Bloom will be **decorating the Christmas tree on Saturday 12 December**. Please come along to enjoy a mince pie and glass of mulled wine. Season's greetings to all and we will be out and about again in the New Year.

Recipe

supplied by Kinnesswood in Bloom



Spicy chorizo and cannellini bean soup

This soup will warm you up during the cold winter days.

Ingredients

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 2 chorizo sausages, sliced
- 1 red chilli, chopped
- 1 red pepper, diced
- 1 garlic clove, crushed (optional)
- 1 tin cannellini beans (300g), drained and rinsed
- 1 tin chopped tomatoes (400g)
- 1 stock cube, diluted in about 240ml water
- 1 small bunch fresh parsley and basil, finely chopped (optional)
- 1 tablespoon grated Parmesan cheese (optional)

Method

Heat the oil in a pan. Add the sausage, chilli, red pepper and garlic. Keep on a medium heat for five minutes, stirring occasionally.

Add the beans, tomatoes and stock and bring to the boil. Simmer for a further five to ten minutes until reduced a little. Serve in warmed bowls, topped with fresh herbs and Parmesan if you like.

Benefit from being part of our business community in Kinross Business Centre



Beautiful and sympathetic restoration of the old County Buildings where serviced offices and flexible working space are available side by side.

Our stunning new Hub Space is now open, offering part and full time memberships. Located in the former Court Room it offers a bright and light co-working space, where clients can benefit from meeting other co-workers in the Hub Space and from around the Centre. We hold regular networking events to welcome our clients and ensure they are introduced to the other members of our business community.

Fast internet, free coffee and parking are also available on site.

Please get in touch with us to find out more about how to become a member or register interest in our **OPEN DAY** on Thursday 3 December from 11am until 3pm. It's a great opportunity to view our available space and meet some of our existing businesses currently based in Kinross Business Centre.

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Portmoak Film Society

A small band of dedicated filmgoers braved the remnants of Storm Abigail to see November's film, 'The Homesman', a sobering tale of American settler families in the new territories in the 1850s. Not the easiest of films to watch, it received 68% on the audience satisfaction rating – but Helen's apple and cinnamon cake enjoyed afterwards scored much higher!

There's a big pre-Christmas treat in store on **12 December** with man-of-the-moment Benedict Cumberbatch in '**The Imitation Game**', the award-winning 2014 film about MI6 code-cracker Alan Turing and his team struggling to break Enigma. We hope you will join us and stay for some festive fare afterwards.

The first film of the new year on **Saturday 9 January** is a return to lighter fare with '**The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel**', starring Judi Dench, Bill Nighy, Maggie Smith and the whole crowd. If you enjoyed the first one, you're bound to like this too!

Films start promptly at 7.30pm in Portmoak Hall, Scotlandwell. The season ticket reduces in price per month if you wish to see all the remaining films or you can pay £5 on the door on the night. We hope to welcome old friends and new fans at both films.

For 2015-16 listings and further info go to:
www.portmoakfilmsociety.org.uk

Kinross & District Town Twinning Association

At the recent Annual General Meeting held on the 11th day of the 11th month where we focused on the effects of war in both Kinross and Gacé, the following office bearers were elected:

Chairperson	Jeannie Paterson
Vice Chair	Dale Coldwell
Secretary	David Munro
Treasurers	Alf Fyfe & Helen Coldwell

The popular 50 Club will resume in January, which is open to anyone. If interested, contact any committee member listed above.

Our Normandy twinnings are due to visit Kinross this coming summer and volunteer host families are required. The visit will most probably take place at the end of July into the first week of August, although the dates have not yet been confirmed.

A range of social/fundraising events will be planned in the new year - watch the Newsletter for further details.



Kinross-shire Time Exchange

'Think big, start small, act now'

If ever there was a rallying cry for those involved in bringing something new into being - like a Time Bank - this was it. Where did we hear it? At the annual Timebanking UK conference held this year at the Stirling Court Hotel, in the grounds of the University.

And, who were the 'we'? Marg and Jo (Chair and Vice Chair of Time Exchange) and Linda and Barbara (Brokers). Having attended workshops and listened to others much more experienced in Timebanking, we heard: it is commitment that matters, not numbers; it is better to concentrate on what is strong in a community, not what is wrong; it is good to trust more, control less; and, to be risk aware, not risk averse.

Many of the Time Bank UK members present had been working for years on developing the sharing core that defines a Time Bank. Others, like ourselves, were relatively new. In fact, Kinross-shire Time Exchange has just reached its nine-month landmark: the pregnancy is over, the baby is being born. Those 36 of you who have registered as members are midwives, parents and godparents to the newborn. And, like all new parents or godparents, you may be wondering what this child will grow up to be, or do!

At this nine-month birthing stage, we paused. We invited those on the Membership Register to gather to prepare for the next stage of development and growth. Delighted to welcome the 18 who could make the gathering - half of our members - we met on 14 November to get to know each other better and to set in motion new opportunities to exchange needs and offers of help.

Having gathered, we were able to acknowledge what we love about living in Kinross-shire and what we would like to see happen to make the county even better (lots of support for the reinstatement of the railway) and we recognised how hard it is sometimes to ask for help.

We looked at how we could get the Time Exchange idea across in one minute to those who'd never heard of it; how we might invite folk to join us through shared fun activities; and, last but not least, we identified our own personal needs or desires and invited those present to commit to exchanging their 'know-how' or talents for time credits. This was a fun activity! Going with someone to see a film, accompanying someone to a hospital appointment, ironing shirts, stacking logs, form filling, tax advice, conversational French, installing a wi-fi hub, pruning shrubs, putting up blinds, dog walking, helping steward the Winter Festival, sharing social time, organising a men's event... On the day, these were only some of the needs we identified and managed to match to people with corresponding interests.

But, to hear more, please join us at the library on the first and third Saturdays of each month (10.00 to 12.00) or at our weekly gathering at the Court House, 9.30 to 11.30 - the coffee is great! And, bring a friend.

Barbara Buda, Time Exchange Broker



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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.



Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation



Busy times during Kinross-shire's Winter Festival

We hope you enjoyed the Kinross-shire's Winter Festival with numerous events organised by local community groups and businesses. By the time you read this article the various events and the festive street market will have been and gone. *[Or possibly just happening, in the case of the Street Market, if you have bought this Newsletter promptly! – Ed.]* We hope it will have been successful, enjoyable and not disruptive to traders and residents of the High Street.

There are too many people to thank individually but we would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all the volunteers, who helped us out during the events in November/December. An amazing number of people helped us out by distributing flyers/brochures door to door in Kinross, Milnathort and other surrounding villages, helped with erecting and dismantling marquees and market stalls and stewarding at the Festive street market. Also a special thanks to the staff of Macbeth Currie Estate Agent, the Post Office in Milnathort and to the Kinross Newsletter who carried our advertisements and put a mention on the November edition front cover!

NEW... Kinross Farmers' Market!

The launch of the new Kinross Farmers' Market was at the Festive Street Market on 28 November 2015.

The new Kinross Farmers' Market will take place in the heart of Kinross' redesigned High Street on five Saturdays throughout the year. The market will take place on every fifth Saturday of the month in 2016. Dates are: 30 January, 30 April, 30 July, 29 October and 26 November (Festive Street Market).

These will be a great place to buy high quality, fresh food from local producers and artisan traders, shop at the High Street's established businesses and meet friends in our vibrant

community atmosphere. This is an exciting addition to Kinross, which will enhance our High Street and encourage local and neighbouring residents to buy, not only from the market, but our local shops. So dig out your re-usable bags and baskets, and join us with your shopping list on **Saturday 30 January** as we open the first of the NEW Kinross Farmers' Market. We look forward to seeing you all there!

If you are a local farmer or a local trader you might consider a stall at the Festive Street Market and at the Kinross Farmers' Market. For more information and for booking a stall, please e-mail info@kleo.org.uk.

Kinross Farmers Market is supported by the Community Food Fund, which is financed by The Scottish Government and has been created to promote local food and drink, in line with Scotland's National Food and Drink Policy. See: www.communityfoodfund.co.uk



Leven Voices

After the Christmas break, Leven Voices will start up again with weekly sessions in January. Leven Voices is a fun, informal drop-in singing group for anyone. No music reading or singing experience necessary – it is for anyone who just wants to sing and have fun! Leven Voices will run a set of ten weekly sessions on Tuesday evenings with the first session on **Tuesday 12 January** with Horsecross arts tutors and will be running until 15 March – all at 7.30pm at the Kinross Parish Church. Enrolment fee is £5 and £4 a session (concessions £3). Just come along, sing and enjoy!



Markets galore!

In addition to the festive street market which takes place during the Winter Festival, Kinross is to have its own farmers' market on five Saturdays throughout the year



Loch Leven Community Campus

Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8FQ

Website: lochlevencommunitycampus.org

www.facebook.com/lochlevencommunitycampusevents

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

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

What's Happening at the Campus in December

Thursday 3rd: Christmas Fun in the Library. See p. 22.

Saturday 5th: French Storytelling. See p. 22.

Sunday 13th: Inter-Church & Community Christmas Service: a celebration of Christmas with songs, carols, readings and drama from **3pm**. **Free Admission** and suitable for all ages.

Wed 16th: Kinross High School Concert. A school winter celebration with Christmas music from **7pm**. Tickets are **£5** Adult and **£3** Concession and will be available from the School Office soon.

Saturday 19th: Antiques, Vintage, Retro & Collectors Fair. There will be buying, selling and valuations given. Admission **9.30am - 4pm** with entry fee of **£1 per person**.

Campus opening hours over the festive season

For variation to normal hours, see page 107.

Classes at the Campus

Happy Hookers! Basic Crochet Classes.

There will be a new Basic Crochet Course starting on **Tuesday 23 February 2016** from **7pm** until **9pm** running for eight weeks until Tuesday 26 April (not including 5th & 12th April for holidays) with instruction from Sandra Farrer. The course is **£50** with wool and hooks supplied and places **must** be booked in advance. This course will cover basic stitches and techniques including Puff Stitch, Popcorns and Bobbles. You will learn to crochet a Granny Square, Basic Flowers and follow a basic pattern. Please contact Sandra Farrer on 01337 868754 or 07523 550014 or sandra_farrer@yahoo.com for more details and to book your place.

Happy Hookers! Irish Crochet Classes

Sandra will also be running a new course of Irish Crochet with a choice of **Tuesday nights, 7pm-9pm**, starting on **Tuesday 3 May** or **Wednesday afternoons, 1pm-3pm**, starting on **Wednesday 4 May** running for seven weeks until 14/15 June. This course is **£60** with hooks and cotton provided and places **must** be booked in advance. Please contact Sandra Farrer using the details in the above section.

Sewing Classes

Following on from the success of the popular Basic Sewing Course and the Christmas Sewing Classes, there will be new Sewing courses on **Monday Evenings** from **7pm** until **9pm** starting in the New Year with instruction from Mo Prior. Start dates and further details will be published shortly in the Newsletter, Campus Facebook Page and on Campus Noticeboards. To register your interest in the Sewing Courses, please contact Mo on maureenprior218@btinternet.com or 07745 667611 or 01383 829565.

2016 at the Campus

There will be a full Programme of Events for 2016 published in the next Newsletter. Events will include Craft Fairs, Indoor Table Top Sales, Antiques, Vintage, Retro & Collectors Fairs, Cycling, Brass Band & Pipe Band Competitions, Sports and Music Events and KLEO Events. If you would like to see anything in particular or have an idea for an event, then please contact Gerry McGregor to discuss options.

Scotlandwell in Bloom

Scotlandwell in Bloom had a shoebox filling evening on Thursday 5 November at the Well Country Inn, in support of the **Blythswood Shoebox Appeal**. What an excellent turnout we had. Not only did we have lots of people to help wrap and fill the shoeboxes, but also a fantastic amount of goods donated to fill the boxes; the tables were groaning under the weight of soap, toothpaste, woollies and toys. Thank you so much to everyone who came along to help and to everyone who donated goods; it was very much appreciated. On Monday 9 November we delivered **65 shoeboxes** to the Blythswood lorry at Sainsbury's car park. Grateful thanks as always to Ronnie & Tanya of the Well Country Inn for hosting the event and for the delicious mulled wine and mince pies to help sustain the workers!!



Kinross Junior Agricultural Club

Kinross started this month off with a root and grain show with lots of entries across the board. The judges were Mr and Mrs Andrew Dryburgh and Mr and Mrs Richard Nelson.

We were placed in an East region quiz held at Kirkliston Bowling Club.

We also attended the Fife and Kinross District 70th Anniversary Ceilidh at Pratis Farm.

Shortly after this we took part in the East Region go-karting and we managed to come fifth in the endurance race.

Kinross are going to Oban for the big East night away from Saturday 14 to Sunday 15 November and for a BBC tour on Tuesday 17 November.

Up and coming events to look out for are the Kinross boozy bingo night on the **Friday 4 December**, the beef stock judging on **Tuesday 8 December** and the Perth Panto night on **Saturday 12 December**.

Also, the West Fife Annual Dinner Dance will be held on **Friday 27 November** and the East Region beef cattle prime dressing, prime lamb dressing and junior speech making will be on **Sunday 29 November**.

For further information please visit our Facebook page by searching for Kinross and District JAC.

Portmoak Hall 100 Club

October Draw

1st	No 23	Alastair Morgan, Kinnesswood
2nd	No 64	May Tait, Scotlandwell
3rd	No 102	Maureen Aston, Easter Balgiedie

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DAY AND EVENING APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE

TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT CALL

Lyn Macpherson BSc MChS 07888836961	 hpcp registered www.hcpc-uk.org	Shona Simpson BSc (HONS) MChS 07734347751
--	---	--

Common Grounds

November saw several volunteers and friends beaver away on lovely craftwork of which, at the time of reading this, some of you will have taken ownership, after visiting our stall at the Winter Market!

Our AGM took place this month and went very smoothly, with the Management Committee elected as follows: Convener, Elspeth Caldwell; Vice-Convener, Frances Miller; Treasurer, John Colebourn; Secretary, Linda Freeman; Project Co-ordinator, Jacky Chalmers and Volunteer Representative, Flora Douglas.

It has been another swift, successful year and a huge thanks is due to all volunteers and friends whose loyalty and enthusiasm have made it so.

Our **Christmas raffle** is underway so donations and purchase of tickets will be greatly appreciated. Do join us for the draw on **Wednesday 23 December**.

Another date for the diary is our **Quiz Night** with Mike Spain on **Friday 19 February** in the Guide Hall, Milnathort. More details to follow but a good night of fun is guaranteed!

Project: Our next project, which will run until the end of February 2016, is Riders for Health which we last supported in 2010. The majority of the population in sub-Saharan Africa live in rural areas where the best roads are little more than dirt tracks. This is when Riders for Health come into their own with their expertise in transport management, enabling health workers to deliver vital health care to rural communities on a reliable, cost-effective basis. They manage motor cycles, ambulances and other four-wheel vehicles in countries such as Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Nigeria, The Gambia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Our website address is now again

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 (Convener) 01577 863350 and Linda Freeman (Secretary) 01577 865045.



Broke Not Broken

Christmas and New Year activities

A huge thanks to our friends and supporters: we are making great strides and have catalogued all our food in our storage facility. It's great to see it all coming together.

After a great, but very wet, collection in October, we are looking forward to November's, December's and January's collections. We will be in the usual spot – outside Kinross's Co-op, and are looking in particular for the following:

- Tinned meat (corned beef, tins of chicken/beef stew)
- Toiletries including toilet rolls, tooth brushes, shampoo and soap
- Dried packs of ready to eat pasta, rice and packet ready meals
- Instant mashed potatoes
- Small bags sugar
- UHT milk
- Diluting juice

We have plenty of tins of beans, and plenty of packets of pasta just now.

As it is Christmas, we are going to be working with Kinross High School to put together some Christmas Hampers. Any donations of chocolates, treats, biscuits or Christmas goodies would be gratefully received for these.

Collection will be 10am – 2pm on Saturdays:

28 November 19 December 30 January

Kinross Garden Group

Our next meeting is on **Thursday 10 December** in the **Millbridge Hall, Kinross** at 2pm. **David Knott**, who is the Curator of Living Collections at The Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, will give a talk entitled 'In search of flowers – collecting for the RBGE Living Collection'.

Please note that there is no meeting in January as the Kinross Garden Group will meet on Thursday 14 January at 12.30 for 1pm lunch at the Windlestrae Hotel. Contact Mrs C Rodger 01577 863785 for more details.

Membership fees are £10 for the year and £2 for visitors. If you are new to Kinross-shire and interested in meeting fellow garden enthusiasts, you will be made very welcome. Doors will be open from 1.30pm. For more details, contact Caroline Anderson on 01577 864589.



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Milnathort and Kinross Allotments Association



At our Annual General Meeting in October two of our board members stepped down, namely Miranda Shephard (our now former Chair) and Rory Stewart (our former Treasurer). The Board and Association would like to thank Miranda and Rory for their hard work and dedication to the association and the allotment site over the last few years. At the AGM a new board was elected and we are pleased to welcome Sid Grant as our Chair.

As always on the allotments, as in the garden, autumn is that time to tidy-up and plan for the next year. We have been fortunate to receive tree saplings from the Woodland Trust recently and, with help from volunteers and the Perth and Kinross Council's Unpaid Work Team over two weekends in November, we will have planted over 400 native trees around the allotment site: a great achievement in challenging weather conditions – thank you.

We will also be receiving assistance from local business the Binn Group after we were successful in winning their recent Charity Clean-Up Competition. This will allow us to clear further areas on the site and remove non-compostable materials from the site. We hope to be able to report progress with this early in the new year.

We are going to be busy fundraising over the winter months to raise money to allow us to do the following: to get our four new allotment plots ready for our eager new tenants and to allow us to develop an area in our Community Garden raised beds to allow interested individuals or groups a space to learn to grow fruit, veg or flowers. The 'learn-to-grow' spaces will be available year to year, and workshops will be held to support folks to make the most of their space. No previous experience is necessary nor do you need any equipment so, if you are interested in a small space to try your hand at growing your own, then please get in touch with our secretary.

We'll also be finishing off our Sensory Garden for which we received grants from the Bank of Scotland Foundation and

Action Earth this year. The grants and the help from the Bank of Scotland Day to Make a Difference volunteers allowed us to do the structural bit - now we get the fun of finding and planting the plants!

After the great day we had at our Autumn Fete, thank you to all those who supported us. We'll be attending and hosting a few more events next year; more to follow on those over the coming months.

However, the allotments site at the north end of Dobbies Car Park at Turfhill remains open daily to visitors over the winter months, so feel free to visit.

If you are interested in an allotment, a learn-to-grow space or helping in the Community Garden, then please get in touch with our secretary via email at mkaasecretary@gmail.com.

All that remains is to say a huge thank you to all the volunteers and organisations who have helped us over the last year. Without your kind donations and assistance, we would not have managed to achieve the Allotment Site and Community Garden we now have. Thank you.



MKAA committee members with Cllr Douglas Pover and workers from PKC's Unpaid Work Team, who planted trees around the allotment site

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Items are listed on www.kinross.cc at:

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.

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The Kinross-shire Civic Trust

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Meeting of Perth Civic Trust

Nine members of Kinross-shire Civic Trust attended a meeting of Perth Civic Trust on 27 October when John Pelan, Chief Executive of the Scottish Civic Trust, spoke about heritage. This was followed by an interesting presentation showing how some derelict, privately owned buildings in Perth have been restored and brought back to a useful purpose under a Perth & Kinross Council initiative.

Scottish Government Review of the Scottish Planning System – 2015.

The Scottish Government has announced a major Review of the Scottish Planning System. This has been hailed by First Minister Nicola Sturgeon as “a root and branch reform” with the clear intention to overhaul and “streamline” the current process. The move appears to have come about after pressure from the development industry.

The composition of the three-person Panel tasked with the Review would appear to Kinross-shire Civic Trust (KCT) to advantage the development industry. The choice of Panel has already been the subject of concern from The Royal Town Planning Institute who point out that none of the three members are planners.

A key theme to be examined is how to speed the delivery of new housing by “unlocking land and sites” and “remove unnecessary blockages in the decision-making process.”

The Review could lead to an easier process for developers to gain permission for development sites.

Another major topic of the Review, as far as the Trust and other like bodies is concerned, is Community Engagement and the apparent lack of it. The issuing of this Review request is typical of that lack. The panel issued a call for written evidence in late October, with a deadline for responses of 1 December – a little over a month.

KCT believes the process being undertaken is flawed. It is hardly meaningful community engagement when the Scottish Government is failing to give reasonable notification and adequate opportunity for input to many individuals and community groups throughout Scotland, including Community Councils and interested bodies like the Kinross-shire Civic Trust.

We understand even key figures within Perth and Kinross Council do not seem to be fully aware of the Review timetable and process.

KCT has objected strongly to the Scottish Government about the extremely short timescale being allowed for public input into what is clearly a very significant rethink of the planning process.

KCT believes the Scottish Government has an obligation to uphold public confidence in the Scottish Planning System.

In the view of KCT the process announced and being implemented instead undermines confidence in the Planning System and reflects badly on the judgement of the Scottish Government.

Portmoak Woodland

The Portmoak Moss **Christmas tree event** has become so popular that we're holding it again this year. It'll be on **Sunday 13 December from 11am to 1.30pm**. All you have to do is come along to the Scotlandwell entrance to the Moss, follow the signs to our 'base' and then look around until you find the best tree for you. A member of the Portmoak Community Woodlands Steering Group will cut it down and then you're welcome to enjoy a Christmas drink and some home baking. There's no fixed charge but donations to help with future projects will be welcomed.

This is obviously not the same as buying a commercial Christmas tree. It won't be wrapped up and you will have to take it away yourself but, judging by previous years, everyone enjoys getting some fresh air and choosing their tree. This also helps us to continue, with the Woodland Trust Scotland, our restoration of the raised peat bog, which shouldn't have conifers growing on it. We're trying to make way for proper bog loving plants like the colourful sphagnum moss.

As soon as Christmas is over we'll turn our attention to our longest-running event, the **annual Burns Supper**, which will be held in **Portmoak Village Hall at 7.00 for 7.30pm on Saturday 23 January**. This time the Immortal Memory is proposed by John Purser from Skye - composer, playwright, musicologist, historian and ornament to the Scottish Nation. His book and radio series, Scotland's Music, created a musical tradition for Scotland and his views on Burns are fascinating, controversial and entertaining.

We'll also have lots of music on the night with plenty of opportunity for everyone to join in singing some of Burns' best known songs.

Matt Hogg of Kinnesswood has made a fantastic bird table which will be the top raffle prize and catering will be by Lochend Farm Shop. Tickets will cost £25 and that includes a four course traditional supper and a dram. The flamboyant Dr Bill Carr will once again demolish a haggis in his famous Address. As ever, his weapons of choice will be a closely guarded secret until the night itself. If you want to be in on the secret, tickets can be obtained from dave@davebatchelor.co.uk, Kinnesswood Shop and Lochend Farm Shop.

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Community Website

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

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

Seamab School

Meet the Sea Changers: Brave

Brave keeps a watchful eye over Seamab. He always stands up for himself and everyone else and he loves to try new things. He really believes in himself and that's something that rubs off on the kids. Of course they're scared of him at first - they didn't know you were even allowed to be so confident.

Brave helps out kids to do anything they dream of.

As a national children's charity, we work with children who struggle with their past experiences of trauma and loss. These past experiences can prevent our children from achieving their potential in their lives. An important part of our work is therefore to nurture and support our children to believe in themselves, and to be brave in how they approach their challenges.

We do this in many different ways. The most important part of our approach is developing relationships with the children. Every child at Seamab has a key worker from the care team and a key teacher from the education team. Children form trusting relationships with their key worker and key teacher. These trusting relationships support the child to develop their self-belief and self-confidence. Constant and consistent praise and positive feedback support the child's development. Activities in Seamab are a key part of how we support children to try new things and develop their confidence. We offer all children a range of different activities which support their development. This includes programmes to help children grow physically fitter and stronger and work to help the children understand their feelings and experiences.

We work hard to make a difference to children at Seamab - but we know we can always do more. We need to keep investing in new resources and experiences for children.

Would you like to help Brave keep a watchful eye over Seamab? If you would like to find out more or make a donation, please go to our website www.seamab.org.uk or contact us on 01577 840307.



Cleish Primary School

Another busy term is underway at Cleish Primary and we have all been working really hard and enjoying exciting learning experiences.

Each class now has six iPad minis which we are using to enhance our learning in creative ways. We were able to buy these thanks to the fundraising efforts of parents and members of the local community, as well as a very generous donation from the Round Table Dragons following our pitch to them last year. Part of our Improvement Plan this year is to develop the use of the iPads, so we are looking forward to doing this. Our Pupil Committees are continuing their invaluable work in improving the school.

The Pupil Council have been working on making our playground a better place to play and designing a house points system.

Our Communications Team is reporting on events in the school, as well as recording our achievements in the Year Book.

This year, the Eco Committee will be focusing on promoting fair trade, raising money for Oxfam and reducing litter in the school grounds and surrounding area.

We have established a Rights Respecting Schools Committee and the Happy Helpers are helping around the school grounds and learning valuable skills which will prepare them for committee meetings.

There was election fever at Cleish when our Primary 7s went on the campaign trail in a bid to become House Captains. It was a very close race and staff and children had some difficult choices to make but our Captains and Vice Captains have risen to the challenge and are taking on additional responsibilities. These include working with members of the community in developing Cleish Field, helping with playground supervision and motivating their houses to win points.

Along with Friends of Cleish School, we are hosting a **Christmas Craft Fayre on Wednesday 16 December** from 6-8.30pm at Cleish Village Hall. There will be a variety of stalls including, Jewellery, Fabric Appliqué, Photography, Cards, Christmas Decorations, Home Baking and many more. The evening will be opened with Carol Singing performed by our children. Mulled wine, tea/coffee and mince pies will also be available. Please pop along, enjoy the magical festive atmosphere and support our school fundraising! Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all at Cleish Primary!

Anna Nesbitt, Headteacher
Cleish@pkc.gov.uk

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Portmoak Primary School

I am writing this at a busy time in the Portmoak calendar. Preparations for Christmas are well under way and our pupils are practising hard for this year's Nativity performance. We expect to have two sittings for this again as it remains a popular event in the calendar for parents, grandparents and friends.

Staffing News

Mrs Stephanie Kellie, our Principal Teacher, was successful at interview for the post of Acting Headteacher to cover my period of maternity leave from December until July 2016.

As I write this we are currently advertising a secondment for Principal Teacher across the Council to hopefully attract an experienced teacher looking for career development into Stephanie's role. I am very pleased that she will be taking over in my absence and the staff are too.

Twitter

If you haven't yet followed us, don't forget to check @PortmoakPS and the Parent Council @FriendsPortmoak for updates. If you aren't on twitter, you also can view an embedded twitter feed at the bottom of our school website www.portmoak.com

P1/2 Library Visit

P1/2 went to Loch Leven Library to hear the story of *The Hungry Caterpillar* in French – or *La Chenille qui fait des trous* I am reliably informed! Super feedback from library staff over their partner working and listening skills – here they are pictured as beautiful butterflies!



P1/2 as butterflies at the library visit

P5/6 Stanley Mills Trip

P5/6 very much enjoyed their visit to Stanley Mills as part of their project on the Victorians. They are learning songs from *Oliver Twist* to present to parents at their class sharing the learning assembly later this month.

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Year of Young People

Three members of the Pupil Council, along with Mrs Mossom, attended a consultation event in Perth as 2018 is the Year of Young People and children are being invited to discussion days to ensure that their views are taken into account when planning events for 2018. This is something which is being organised by the Scottish Government, Children in Scotland, the Scottish Youth Parliament and Young Scot. Lulu, Keiran and Louisa shared their ideas with other children from schools across the Council and were a credit to our school.



Lulu Forbes, Louisa Muszynski and Kieran Smith representing the school at the Year of Young People event

Fundraising

Thank you to the members of the public who dropped in bags for our ragbag collection, Bags2School, just after the October break. The next collection will be after the Easter holidays. Thanks, too, to Buchan's Garage for storing bags again this year.

Ladies' Night on 6 November made over £1100 – a big thank you to everyone who supported us with this event.

We will be having a collection for Perth Food Bank in the run up to Christmas. Details will be posted on Twitter; if there are any members of the community who would like to get involved in this, please check there for info.

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

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Kinross High School

At this time of year our thoughts start to turn to our winter holidays and the family celebrations that we enjoy. For me, an enjoyable part of these celebrations is music. For this Newsletter, I have decided to focus on the work of our Performing Arts Faculty, which includes our music department.



Performing Arts Faculty News

This has been a busy term in the Performing Art Faculty so far. S2 pupils enjoyed a trip to see Shrek the Musical at the Playhouse Theatre in Edinburgh. This was closely followed with a trip from S4-6 pupils to see Scottish Opera's production of Carmen at the Festival Theatre in Edinburgh. Trips have also been organised to see Hamlet on 17 November and Of Mice and Men on 19 November.

The Ukulele Orchestra performed at the Amber Festival in Dunkeld on Saturday 7 November by invitation from Dougie MacLean's wife. This gave pupils the experience of performing in a festival and the opportunity to engage with music professionals from around Scotland.

On Thursday 12 November we were delighted to host a workshop for the Chamber Ensemble with the world famous Brodsky String Quartet. This was an exceptional experience for the youngsters and they thoroughly enjoyed the coaching session with the quartet. This was followed by a performance in school of our Chamber Ensemble supported by the Brodsky Quartet and a short performance by the Brodsky Quartet which music students attended.

The film club has started again for pupils on Monday's after school.

The Drama team are preparing for a Production Skills Exhibition for S4-6 on 8 and 9 December and have started work in earnest for next year's Rock Challenge and there has been much enthusiasm generated so far.

Currently, the Music team are preparing for the Annual Christmas Concert on 16 December at 7pm in the School Assembly Hall. Tickets will be available in December from the school office. The programme will include the School Choir, Staff Choir, Ukulele Orchestra, Brass Band, Wind Band, String Orchestra, Chamber Ensemble, the newly formed Percussion Ensemble and much more. Refreshments will be supplied by the Home Economics Department.

Dates for your Diary:

Production Skills 8 and 9 December 2015

Christmas Concert 16 December 2015

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you, your family and friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Successful New Year. I look forward to welcoming pupils back to the school on **Tuesday 5 January 2016**.

Sarah Brown

Headteacher and Campus Leader

Kinross High School Fundraising

There's been a lot going on with the fundraising team since last time! Our current total now stands at £3350! We are well on our way to our goal of £15,000 for Alzheimer Scotland. In school, we have started selling Alzheimer Scotland t-shirts, which can be purchased by pupils, staff and members of the pupil who want to show their support for our fundraising campaign. These t-shirts cost £6 and we sell them in school at lunchtimes, or you can pick one up from the school office. If you're a pupil they can be worn in PE too and so far they've been a huge success, so please continue to support us!

For Halloween, we organised a whole school dress down (or up!) day. There was a range of impressive costumes from pupils and even the occasional teacher too! This event also allowed us to raise more money for Alzheimer Scotland.

We recently organised a community Ceilidh Night in Strathmiglo with the Interact Club, who are supported by the Rotary Club. It was a hugely successful night and was enjoyed by all who came along. It was great to see the event supported equally by high school pupils and members of the community young and old who enjoyed the event equally as much. We encourage you to attend our next events, which are sure to be equally as successful.

We want to begin to reach out more to the community and in the near future we will plan another Ceilidh Night for Burns' night in late January, and also a Quiz Night in February. We hope you'll find the time to support these events. Information for both these events will be posted on our Facebook page (KHS - Alzheimer Scotland), our Twitter page (@KHSAlzheimer) and also our website at www.khscharity.com where you can find photos, information and more.

Cameron McCloskey

Sixth Year Prefect

Home Bru Concert

The annual Home Bru concert held on 7 November raised £152.10 for Kinross High School's fundraising for Alzheimer Scotland. The afternoon of music featured young and old performers alike and organiser Alex Cant was full of praise for the excellent show put on by the performers. Such was the success and enjoyment that an additional concert if being planned for May 2016.

H Cairnie

Milnathort Primary School and Nursery Parent Council

The Primary School is holding its annual **Christmas Fair** on **Saturday 5 December**, 10am – 12 noon. Entry £2 adults (includes tea or coffee), children free.

The next **Parent Council meeting** is to be held on:

Monday 7 December at 7.30pm at Loch Leven Community Campus. A reference copy of all PC minutes is available to view at the school office.

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

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Sports News



Kinross Colts

The younger Kinross Colts team recently finished their seasons with an end of season festival at the Fife Soccer 7s at Pitreavie.

Our 2004 team have just completed their final season at Pitreavie and are now looking forward to the Winter League and the transition to eleven-a-side football next year. The 2007s will be moving from five-a-side up to seven-a-side next year.

The new 2009 squad has kicked off with over 20 enthusiastic kids signed up. Training takes place indoors at KHS every Saturday morning. The focus is on developing core skills



like dribbling, passing and control in a fun and challenging environment.

The Fife Soccer 7s development association also gave a £1000 donation to CHAS at the end of season festival.

The club is currently looking for any kids born in 2003 to form a new squad and also any S1-S3 girls who fancy playing next season in one of the girls' squads.

Please contact kinrosscolts@gmail.com if you wish any further information on the club or are interested in getting involved.

Here are some of the squad photos from the festival after the medals were awarded.



2004 squad



2006 squad



2005 squad



2007squad



2005 Orwell squad



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Kinross Badminton Club

The Club would like to congratulate Honorary President Bill Macdonald on recently turning 80. Bill has been the main driving force behind the club for the last 30 odd years. A passionate player, he still darts about the net catching unsuspecting players out. Keep up the good work, Bill!

Club members, please pencil into your diaries the following dates: Macdonald Quaich **Tuesday 15 December**. The last night before the Christmas break will be **Thursday 17 December**. The club will restart after Christmas on **Thursday 7 January**. Committee Members, please put in your diaries the next meeting, which will be held on **Wednesday 27 January 2016**.

Needing some exercise before Christmas? Come along to the Club and join in. Then come back after Christmas and burn off that Christmas turkey! Your first night is free and coaching is available.

Junior Club: The last night before the Christmas break is **Thursday 10 December**. Get those rackets ready!



*Club President Bill Macdonald,
80 years old and still going
strong!*

Kinross Volleyball Club

Congratulations to the Kinross High School senior boys' team which won Scottish Volleyball's Aberdeen Festival. The boys won all their morning games, eventually defeating Stromness Academy from Orkney in a thrilling final. Well done to the senior girls' team who, although not winning the festival, recorded two fine victories in their afternoon games, having lost their morning games against more experienced sides.

The under 16 Junior National League boys' team opens their competitive fixtures in early December.

In the Perth District League, premier league sides Scotrange and Kintronics open their fixtures in mid November with cup winning side Scotrange looking to make it a league and cup double.

In the recreational league, the Kinross Mongrels have had their best ever start to the season with Kinross BB Wildcats bleeding more youngsters in their ranks but still looking for their first victory of the season.

Indoor training continues at the campus on Monday evenings from 8 till 9.45pm with new members welcome, both male and female.

SAXOPHONE TUITION

Local professional musician,
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georgesax57@hotmail.co.uk
PVG membership

Kinross Cycling Club



By the time this is published the club will be having its annual awards night dinner to celebrate the successes of another year. We are holding the event at the Boathouse Bistro this year and are looking forward to a great evening. I will report on the awards night next month.

Reflecting back over the 2015 cycling season, the club has enjoyed another successful year, despite some challenging climatic conditions.

The year really kicked off in April with the annual Kinross Sportive. This highly popular event sold out overnight once again, and attracted around 800 entrants to Kinross to participate in a great day of cycling around our spectacular countryside.

One of the major successes this year has been the Saturday bun run. This weekly cycle ride of around 35 to 45 miles in length, at a steady pace of around 14 mph, with cake stop, has been hugely popular and has attracted some new faces to the club. Many thanks are owed to **Anne and James White** for establishing and organising these rides for most of the year. It has been particularly good to see more and more ladies having the confidence to join the rides.

Sunday club runs have continued to cater for those wishing to ride at a faster training pace.

Club members have continued to represent KCC in both competitive and non-competitive events and **Callum Sharp** was the overall winner of the Tour of the Borders. He also earned his Cat 2 race licence. **Stuart Allan** rode 1000 miles in one week on his fixie to raise money for charity, and a few club members rode a century with him on his last day: a tremendous achievement.

The Club Grand Prix Time Trial series once again proved to be popular and highly competitive, and the club was also well represented in the Fife Cycling Association TT series.

The club has hosted a couple of open Time Trials, and for the first time we held a "fixie" TT over a challenging 17 mile course which finished at Stronachie. Our three man, ten mile team time trial (TTTTT) in August was also well attended and it was good to see a number of female teams in the field. The event was marred on the day by a road accident in which one rider sustained a significant injury.

September saw another successful Ochils Road Race and included the junior championships for the first time. Both **Andy Bruce** and **Callum Sharp** rode for KCC in the senior races on what was a bright, sunny day. **Andy Bruce** was the winner of the masters race.

All of the above could not have taken place without a huge amount of background work from a small number of individuals who help out time and again with marshalling, time keeping, setting up etc. Thank you to those people - you know who you are.

Details of forthcoming events and rides are to be found on the website www.kinrosscyclingclub.co.uk.

Kinross-shire Visitor Information Points

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

Slalom Canoeing

Eilidh Gibson of Kinnesswood and **her younger brother, Angus**, have finished on a high at the end of the Canoe Slalom season. They compete in Women's and Men's Canadian Singles (C1) competitions.

In the World Championships, Eilidh finished in fifth place at the 2012 Olympic Course in London. In October she was second in the British Championships and won the selection races for the 2016 GB Senior and U23 teams. At the Scottish Championships in Pinkston in Glasgow she was first in the Senior and U23s.

Not to be outdone, Angus won the J18 GB National Ranking series and is currently fifth in the Senior British rankings. At the Scottish Championships he had a blisteringly fast run to win C1 Seniors, U23 and Juniors.

Their mother, **Jane**, won her age group at the British and Scottish Championships, and also won the Women in Sport Coach of the year award.



*Riding the white water! Angus Gibson of Kinnesswood in action
Photo © Kim Jones*

Kinross Tennis Club

www.kinrosstennisclub.org.uk

Winter indoor junior coaching is taking place at Loch Leven Community Campus. The first block is due to complete on **Tuesday 8 December** and bookings will then be taken for the 10-week block starting on **Tuesday 5 January 2016**. The sessions are on Tuesdays with 5-8 year olds at 5pm; 8-10 year olds at 5.40pm; and for 10-12 year olds fun play with red foam balls from 6.20pm until 7pm. Numbers are limited, so first come, first served, and non-members are welcome. Further information from Siobhan at kinrosstenniscoaching@gmail.com.

Adult club sessions continue on Wednesdays at 6.30pm and Sundays at 10.30am and the Thursday afternoon social session at 1.30pm. Floodlights permit evening play until 10pm and, weather permitting, there is still great tennis to be had over the winter months, so why not join us?

And finally, our **Christmas Dinner** takes place on **Thursday 19 December** at The Kirklands and there's still time to book your place.

As ever, new members are always welcome and enquiries can be made to our secretary Margaret Hamblin on 01577 850252 or at kinrosstennis@gmail.com. Visitors are also welcome; keys are available from Sands the Ironmongers for a small fee.



Kinross Swimmers

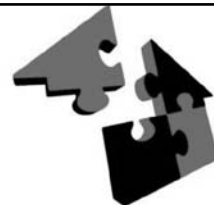
Kinross Swimmers wish you all the very best for the festive season and hope you and yours have an excellent New Year. Perhaps a swimming session may fit in with your fitness resolution this year?

We should by now be well in to our TI sessions which Fraser is running from the beginning again in one, perhaps two lanes, dependent on demand. I hope some of you are taking advantage of these sessions. If not, why not? However, don't worry, there is still time to come along and use Fraser's teaching to improve your technique. It will help.

Over the last couple of weeks, the rest of us have been easing into Tara's winter training regime with various coaches each giving us their particular program. We have a new volunteer coach poolside who has agreed to try us out. He is younger than most and his sessions are designed to push our limits, so all in all quite a demanding week, especially for the more advanced swimmers.

New swimmers continue to be most welcome to come along; we continue to meet every Tuesday evening at the pool at Loch Leven Leisure Centre for a pool start at 8pm, swimming until 9pm. Our intention is to improve the stroke, stamina and style of those attending so that any other swimming is more worthwhile, effective and enjoyable. We welcome anyone looking to improve their swimming for whatever reason; all we ask is that you can complete four lengths. Experienced swimmers looking for a friendly but directed extra session are especially welcome.

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.



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Kinross Otters

Torremolinos 2015

The warm weather camp to Torremolinos from 14 to 21 October was a great success. Sixteen of the best Otters, three coaches and a team manager took part and all were impressed with the facilities, which included a dive pool, plentiful supply of water included in the hire cost, room to stretch poolside, a warm-up gym with great staff and a 50m 8-lane pool that was actually heated for a change. Adjacent to the pool was a running track and a 50m ten lane indoor pool next to it!

Some of the swimmers managed to cover well over 60kms, despite a day off to visit Gibraltar and be attacked by the hungry monkeys!



The Otters in Spain

The Otters would like to thank everyone involved in the pre-camp fund-raising efforts, especially **Pam Watson**. Thanks to all the swimmers for their behaviour, enthusiasm and team spirit shown whilst in Spain, to the coaches (**Fiona Dodds**, **Simon Metcalfe** and **Pam**) and the Team Manager, **Amanda Reid** for making this such a successful swim camp.

Dundee City Aquatics Autumn Meet

Olympia Pool, Dundee, 24 and 25 October

This was a really tough meet, with all of south Aberdeenshire taking part and a few very tired Otters just back from Spain. Hindsight is a wonderful thing! Just two silver medals to **Iona Crawford** (15) in the 200m Breaststroke in 2.55.92 and the 200m Individual Medley in the 15 and over category in 2.46.08.

Midland District Graded and Distance Championships

Olympia Leisure Centre, Dundee, 6 to 8 November

These championships are a complicated mix of graded events (where second string swimmers or swimmers in their weaker strokes get a chance in the limelight for a change) and championship events (400, 800 and 1500m Freestyle), where the fastest swimmers in Tayside compete. In the graded events, if a swimmer swims a certain amount faster than the entry time, then they do not get a medal even if they come in the top three! Still with me? Anyway, the Otters sent eight swimmers with six of those coming back with either a top three position or a medal: quite an achievement.

Foremost Otter again was the now consistently good **Jack Muncey** (12) in the 11-12 age group. He won gold medals in the 800m Freestyle in 10.11.45 (second quickest 12-year-old in Scotland and fifth quickest in Britain this year!) and 400m Freestyle (4.57.50). He followed this up by being fastest in the very difficult 200m Butterfly in 2.58.03.

Duncan Crawford (13) had his best ever meet winning three gold medals in the 13-year-old category (100m Butterfly –

1.26.55, 100 Freestyle – 1.12.33 and 200m Individual Medley – 3.04.22) and he was second quickest in the 200m Freestyle (2.39.41). The Spanish warm weather training seems to have assisted him!

Not totally eclipsed by **Duncan**, older sister **Iona** (15), won a bronze medal in the 800m Freestyle in the 15 and over category and took four seconds off the 7 year old club record in the process in 10.24.95. She was also first in the 100m Butterfly in 1.17.47.

Tommy Adams (16) also proved the value of the Spanish training camp with a gold medal in the 200m Individual Medley (2.43.07) and a second place in the 100m Freestyle (1.02.81) in the 15 and overs.

Ben Griffin (13) continued his excellent form with a gold medal in the 100m Breaststroke (1.39.18) in probably the most exciting race of the day, where 0.65 of a second separated the top three. He also won a silver medal in the 100m Freestyle (1.13.67), being edged out by team mate **Duncan Crawford** (see above).

Rebecca Mitchell (13), another warm weather camper, reaped the benefits, winning gold in the 200m Individual Medley (2.59.14) and was third in the 200m Freestyle (2.35.88). This was particularly pleasing after a disappointing year due to injury and significant lay off.



Midland District Champions: from left, Rebecca Mitchell, Duncan Crawford, Jack Muncey, Sarah Coutts, Ben Griffin, Emma Mitchell and Iona Crawford

Tayside Schools

Well done to all the Otters who, we hear, performed extremely well at the Tayside Schools event at Olympia Pool in Dundee on 9 and 11 November, swimming for their respective schools. The results at the time of writing and deadline are not available but we hope to see many Otters qualifying for the National Schools Finals to be held at the end of January 2016.

Scottish National Short Course Championships

A big congratulations to the only three Otters to make it to these top class international standard Championships at the Royal Commonwealth Pool in Edinburgh in mid-December, where they will be brushing shoulders with the likes of Olympic silver medallist Michael Jamieson. They are: breaststroke specialist **Iona Crawford** (15) in the 50, 100 and 200m; **Cameron McCloskey** (17) in the fastest of all events, the 50m Freestyle and, somewhat ridiculously at the age of 12, the extremely talented **Ola Stanton** in the 50m Breaststroke, where she is still ranked number three in Britain for her age. Good luck to all!



Kinross Curling

Green Road, Kinross, KY13 8TU

Tel: 01577 861821

www.kinrosscurling.co.uk

Email: lceman@KinrossCurling.co.uk

[www.Facebook.com/KinrossCurlingRink](https://www.facebook.com/KinrossCurlingRink)



Indoor Grand Match

On 26 October, curlers from across Scotland took part in the Indoor Grand Match. This was the fourth time this event had taken place, where 388 clubs (over 600 teams) participated in a North v South bonspiel. Clubs from south of the Forth were once again victorious. Most curlers now accept that it is very unlikely that there will ever be another outdoor grand match on one of the larger lochs in Scotland. This event is becoming established as a positive replacement with 2376 curlers taking part, and many others involved in organising the day.

Kinross Curling was pleased to play a part in this wonderful event. A local lad, Scott Barr set the scene before each session by piping the curlers onto the ice. Since the event we have been thrilled to receive such positive feedback with many observing that "Kinross has the best curling ice we have played on in Scotland".

Maxwell Trophy

Kinross has entered the Maxwell Trophy for the first time in many years. The first two matches have taken place at Kinross. On 28 October we hosted the Borders team. They are experienced campaigners and brought three strong rinks with top class skips, including Keith Prentice, past World senior champion skip. Kinross won one match, skipped by Graham Lindsay. Ross McLeary, with Robbie Stevenson as third, had a close match v Prentice, losing out 7 to 4. Bob Tait lost to a rink on best form. Kinross took 2 points from 6.

The second match against Lanarkshire took place on 11 November. The national Masters event at Greenacres reduced the pool of players. Graham Lindsay, Sandy Morris and Bill Linton were not available. Nevertheless Kinross won two matches to have 6 points and an above average of ends at the half way point. Bob Tait and Robbie Stevenson had very good victories. Phil Barton kept another former world seniors champion, Lockhart Steele, within reach, 2 all after 6 ends. However, a three in end seven took the game out of reach. The next two matches are at Forfar and Murrayfield after the New Year. The top two rinks from each section progress to the semi finals in Hamilton in March.

Club Championship

The last weekend of January sees the launch of the Club Championship. We are looking for 16 teams to represent the first 16 clubs to enter. There will be a prize fund for the event.

Try Curling

Kinross Curling is looking for ways to develop curling, including for our local curlers and clubs. We welcome new and inexperienced curlers and people of all ages. Come along to one of our try curling sessions or simply call in at the rink and speak to the staff to find out more.

Elaine Paterson and Fiona Rutherford, two of our local curlers, are currently on tour in Canada with the Royal Caledonian Curling Club ladies team. We look forward to interviewing them when they return to share some of the thrills and experiences of the three-week tour.

National Stick Bonspiel

Kinross hosts another national event on 28 November. Some curlers who can no longer deliver the stone by hand use a curling stick. Wheelchair curlers mostly use the delivery stick as well. It requires a change of technique, but no less skill or enthusiasm. We hope that this will become an annual event.

TRYCURLING BEGINNER CLASSES

Kinross Curling, Green Road, Kinross
www.kinrosscurling.co.uk

Learn all the skills and techniques to curl with confidence. Classes are delivered by RCCC qualified coaches.

2016 Course:
Sat 23 January 3.30pm – 6.15pm
Sat 6 February 11.45am – 2.45pm
Sun 14 February 9.30am – 12.15pm

The course costs £50 for the block of three classes. For further information, or to register, please contact Claire Milne:

Email: kinrossdev@royalcaledoniancurlingclub.org
Tel: 07789 646672



TRYCURLING TRY CURLING SESSION

Kinross Curling, Green Road, Kinross
www.kinrosscurling.co.uk

Enjoy a taster of the sport with an introduction to the basics and how the game is played. Sessions are delivered by RCCC qualified coaches.

Saturday 5 December

Session times:

2.45 - 3.55pm **3.25 - 4.35pm** **4.05 - 5.15pm**

All sessions cost £2. For further information, or to register, please contact Claire Milne:

Email: kinrossdev@royalcaledoniancurlingclub.org
Tel: 07789 646672



Kinross Hockey Club

Ladies report

Rain, rain and more rain! Arguably it's not only a new pitch we need, but also an ark on which to build a pitch! If ever there was an additional impetus for fundraising, this is it.

The cost of replacing the pitch is £180,000 and the Hockey Club's contribution to that is £36,000, with the remainder hopefully coming from various grant-awarding bodies. To date we have raised £8,575 of that £36,000. A huge thank you to all businesses, organisations and individuals who have donated, contributed and helped in achieving this.

We have scarcely played a game at KGV this month. The incessant rain has once again flooded the pitch and rendered it unfit for play. Our home fixtures have moved to The North Inch Community Campus at Perth at least until Christmas, but please don't let that stop you from coming to support – think of it as an ideal opportunity to do some Christmas shopping in town beforehand!

With only a few more games before the Christmas break, the teams are having some mixed results. Our firsts are doing really well, sitting third in the league. Unfortunately our seconds have had a more challenging league season so far, but the competition is very close, with only seven points separating the majority of the league. Furthermore, we have a game in hand over many. Here's to closing the gap on the top teams in the remaining games before Christmas!

The indoor season has started. It's hot, fast and furious and a 40-minute game feels as long as two full games of outdoor hockey. With two of our seven games played, we are currently fourth in the Indoor League. It's early days, but if we can maintain these performances, we are on target for having our most successful indoor season ever. No pressure, ladies!

Finally, to all the ladies who have joined the Korinthians – welcome! And for those of you reading this and swithering – come along and give it a try! It's fun, friendly and a great way to get outdoors, take a bit of exercise and share a laugh with like-minded people. I'd be lying if I said you won't be sore the next day, but I promise you'll find muscles you never knew you had! And anyway, as those who've joined already know, there's truth in the old adage: pain is only temporary!



Kinross Rugby Club

Seniors

The 1st XV continue their league season and have had a mixed bag of results during recent fixtures, and with a semi-final of the Caledonia Regional Bowl Midlands to look forward to v Grangemouth, the season continues well.

The club are constantly on the lookout for new players of all ages and abilities. If you fancy a run around or some competitive rugby, we train on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 7pm at the KGV playing fields in Kinross.

Forthcoming fixtures, all kicking off at 2pm, are:

Saturday 12 December v Blairgowrie (home)

Saturday 19 December v Madras (home)

If you are looking for a venue for your Christmas party, why not book the rugby club? We offer competitive rates and a smart venue. For more details, call into the club on a Saturday from 1pm.

Youth and Junior Section

The minis section (school age P1-P7), continue to play friendly matches from age P3 onwards, and we are always keen to attract new members to the minis section and train on Saturday mornings from 10.30am till 11.30am (P1-3) and 10.30am till 12pm (P4-7).

The club has an S1/S2 school year team with excellent numbers this season, and the midis train on a Tuesday night from 7pm to 8pm. All welcome.

Recently the boys and girls of Kinross had the opportunity to play at Murrayfield and act as the guard of honour at the Edinburgh v Dragons, Pro 12 league fixture. The P4/5 boys and girls acted as flag bearers at the start of the match, with the P6 squad playing on the pitch at half time. This was a great experience for all involved.



Kinross RFC Youth Convenor Martin Scott (right) with Richard Allison from Brooks MacDonald

The club has recently been lucky to receive sponsorship from a number of local and national businesses, namely S Koronka Manufacturing, Kinross, whose sponsorship was used for midis strips and a new gazebo, and The Kirklands Hotel, Kinross, who also provided sponsorship towards the gazebo. In addition, we also received sponsorship from Brooks MacDonald, who are main sponsors on the new midi playing strips. Our sincere thanks go to all of the sponsors named above.

Please mention The Newsletter when answering advertisements

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News from the Rurals



BLAIRINGONE – President Mary Ramsay welcomed Bob McQueen from Diabetes Scotland, who gave a very informative presentation on the types of Diabetes and symptoms to look out for. After questions Fiona Clark gave the vote of thanks. Business was discussed after tea.

Competitions:

Three Peppermint Creams	Mary Ramsay
Flower of the Month	Agnes Murray

CROOK OF DEVON – President Alice Johnson welcomed members and visitors to the meeting. After business she introduced Ann Munro and Sandra Turnbull, guides from Falkland Palace, who were both dressed in beautiful costumes. They gave an informative talk about the history of the palace from the time of Mary, Queen of Scots through to the present day.

Competitions:

Flower Arrangement in a Sauce Boat	J Jackson
Flower of the Month	M Paterson



A wonderful display of Christmas crafts from the SWRI tent at this year's Kinross Show

CLEISH – President Helen Buchanan welcomed 28 members and guests to our November meeting. After business she welcomed our speaker for the evening, Mr John Binnie from Forth Wines. We all enjoyed hearing about wine and smelling and tasting the wines he brought along. Faye Gibb gave the vote of thanks.

Competitions:

Flower of the Month	Margaret Nelson
Fruit Cocktail	Beth Pringle
Three Canapés	Margaret Nelson

BISHOPSHIRE – Our President, Norma Smith welcomed everyone; a good turnout despite the stormy evening. Our meeting took the form of Crafty Corners, with Norma showing us how to make Christmas Wreaths, Margaret demonstrating Glass Snowmen and Anna showing us how to make Christmas Elves and Santas. It was an entertaining way to spend the evening.

Competitions:

Gift Tag	Sylvia Herrington
Fridge Magnet	Ann Hughes

CARNBO – President Molly White welcomed us all to the November meeting. After business we had craft corners. Four members demonstrated Christmas crafts.

Molly White had Christmas stockings and crocheted tree decorations, Susan Malcolm made lovely cone decorations, Josephine Paterson demonstrated napkin art on candles, and Jay Hutchison had paper craft. Everyone had a great evening participating in something different. The vote of thanks was given by Sandra Turnbull.

Competitions:

Bookmark, any craft	Josephine Paterson
Flower of the Month	Frances Drysdale

Many thanks to all who supported our coffee morning on 24 October. The fantastic sum of £392.15 was raised.

GLENFARG – Baigle Bonnets were brought to our November meeting by their creator, Mrs Sally Orr-Ewing. This led to much oohing and aahing and a frenzy of trying on and admiring; an excellent antidote for a dreich November day, Mrs Orr-Ewing was warmly thanked by Lynda Stuart.

Competitions:

Handcrafted Flower	Margo Moran
Flask of Soup	Alison Harrison
Flower of the Month	Liz Yull

MILNATHORT – After the meeting was opened and business read, we were introduced to Nan and Cath from the Kinross-shire Day Centre who gave us a very informative and interesting talk on the history and the services that the day centre offers to any elderly residents of Kinross-shire.

Any elderly person can use the service as much or as little as they wish: transport is provided; for a small fee a three-course lunch can be provided; there are day trips and holidays organised; various daily activities; and most of all it is the company that is provided.

Competitions:

Flower of the Month	Margaret Dewar
Three Cheese Scones	Sheila Wardell
Christmas Tree Decorations	Ann Reid

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Out & About



Loch Leven NNR



This autumn we've seen the usual abundance of wintering wildfowl, with unprecedented numbers of some species during the most recent wetland bird survey. Record counts of Coot (6705!), Wigeon (3299) and Goosander (358) indicate that water quality has indeed improved, which is reflected in data from ongoing water quality monitoring that the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology have been collecting since the 1960s. With cleaner water more photosynthesis can take place, which creates more phytoplankton for more zooplankton to feed on, which forms the basis of our rich and healthy food chain. Other species of note from the most recent WeBS were two lingering Greenshank at Carsehall, an impressive count of 17 wintering Slavonian Grebes, 218 Great-crested Grebes, 300 Shoveler, 320 Pintail, 398 Golden Plover, 1098 Lapwing, 4989 Tufted Ducks and one Ruddy Duck.



Golden Plover and Lapwing filling the sky to the north of St Serf's during a busy wetland bird survey

The first in our list of scheduled events in 2016, the annual **Walk for Wetlands**, takes place on **Sunday 31 January, from 10am to 12pm, meeting at Loch Leven's Larder car park**. The event is just one of many events taking place globally to mark World Wetlands Day, which celebrates the anniversary of the Ramsar Convention on Wetland of International Importance. To join SNH staff for a walk through one of Scotland's premier Ramsar sites, please call the reserve office on 01577 864439.

With 2016 just around the corner, we'd like to call out to all local dog walkers to join us in a renewed effort to encourage responsible dog ownership in the new year. SNH are supporting Lindsay Robertson to initiate the **Green Dog Walkers scheme** locally, with a view to encouraging locals to take a pledge to always clean up after their dogs. It's an ongoing issue, but with community-based support we feel that this is the best opportunity yet to address the problem, and encourage more people to take responsibility for their pets. Theresa Kewell, Lindsay and I will be hosting a meeting in Milnathort Town Hall on **Wednesday 13 January between 11am and 1pm** to get the scheme launched, and we'd like to invite all locals, especially dog owners, to come along and join us. Read more about the Green Dog Walkers' Scheme in Theresa's special feature on page 14 of the Newsletter.

As this is the last Newsletter of 2015, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all our volunteers for their hard work and dedication over the course of the year. The enthusiasm of our weekly volunteers has allowed us to achieve a great deal in terms of practical management around the reserve, and your willingness to get stuck in through rain, wind and shine each Wednesday has been thoroughly appreciated. I'd also like to once again thank our dedicated team of insect volunteers, currently enjoying their 'off' season, after once again maintaining one of Scotland's most thorough insect survey data sets. We're very much looking forward to our forthcoming Christmas do in the Boathouse Bistro with you all, and the comedy night in Dunfermline should also be an interesting experience!

It's also with sadness that I must report to you that our illustrious reserve manager over the last six years, Neil Mitchell has landed himself a temporary promotion, and as a result will be leaving us for the more central office up at Battleby. Neil has had a huge impact on Loch Leven over his time here, and has overseen significant changes in the reserve, not least the completion of the Heritage Trail last year. We hope you'll join us all in wishing him the very best in his new role, and I'm sure he won't be a stranger to the office over the course of the year.

That's all for now folks – enjoy the festive season!

Craig

There are two beautiful colour wildlife photographs by Craig in our articles section, page 11.

Weather



October Weather Report from Kinross

Total rainfall	42mm = 1.68 inches
Heaviest rainfall	10.4mm (28th)
Total sunshine for the month	50.6 hours
Sunniest day	4.9 hours (1st)
Maximum temperature average	13.98 °C
Highest temperature	21°C (1st)
Minimum temperature average	0.72°C
Lowest temperature	-4.3°C (15th)

The total rainfall for November up to and including the 15th is 157.5mm = 6.3 inches!

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www.rspb.org.uk/scotland
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Greetings again, folks, for the last time this year. Jeesh! What a quick year this has been!

OK, doon tae business. Whooper swans have increased over the last month, with more in evidence on the reserve wetland. Good numbers of Fieldfare and Redwing are being seen daily and the Lapwing numbers (our priority breeding species on the reserve) have also built up to several hundred. Short eared Owls have also been seen over the wetland. They were once an almost daily sight a few years back, so it's good to see them reappearing again. The wee red squirrel is seen almost daily, munchin its way through the peanuts. Garden birds are slowly starting to reappear on the feeders, although not in any great numbers as yet. One bird we are not seeing a lot of, though, is Greenfinch. It has recently been added to the Red Data List, meaning it has become a bird of high conservation concern. Difficult to know what the exact reasons may be as yet, but probably disease is playing a big part as they are very prone to salmonella and trichomonosis. You can help by giving your bird feeders and tables a regular disinfect and clean. Although if you do, and neighbours don't, it is just going to come back again!

The shop still has good supplies of cards, calendars and diaries, but they have been getting a bit of a hammering lately with folk suddenly realising that Christmas isnae ower far awa!

The reserve volunteers have continued with the spruce up campaign for signs etc and new energy saving lighting has been installed round the visitor centre.

The next events coming up are as mentioned last month: a **talk** by Rhian Evans, our Sea Eagle Officer, on **Thursday 3 December** in the evening in the visitor centre about the history and spiritual connections of **Sea Eagles** in Scotland and her work with them to the present day. At the time of writing we still have spaces if you are interested, although it is getting pretty well booked.

We are also holding a **Bookcycle Sale** and **nestbox building event** over the weekend of **5 and 6 December**. Buy a book as a stocking filler or take your own hand-built nestbox home for the garden in time to put it up for next year's breeding season. It is a drop in event with a charge for the nestbox materials. The shop will also be running an **Optics Weekend** over the weekend this magazine is published – the last one in November.

Our opening hours over the festive period will be:

Thu 24 Dec:	Centre is open 10am – 4pm.
Fri 25 & Sat 26 Dec:	Centre is closed.
Sun 27 Dec – Thu 31 Dec:	Centre is open 10am – 4pm.
Fri 1 & Sat 2 Jan:	Centre is closed.

The reserve will remain open if you fancy a walk.

Last, but not least, I wish you all a very merry and prosperous Festive Season from all staff and volunteers at RSPB Loch Leven. Thank you for your custom over the last year – we really do appreciate it. You are helping us to save nature by your purchases and, boy, does it need it! It is disappearing at an alarming rate in some places, so thank you for helping us save it.

Till next year, "lang mae yer lum reek".

Orra best,

Colin

Farming



The Lambing Year

One of my work colleagues once asked me if I ever get bored by the repetition of the farming year. He remarked that the cycle never seems to stop and as soon as I'm finished talking about this year's lambs, I'm telling him that it's time to put the tups out to start the whole process off again. I see his point; it is a relentless routine and I can't afford to neglect any part of it, as each stage has a direct impact on the next.

2015 has been a quick year but as I told my colleague, I never get bored of the farming cycle: I like knowing what to expect next and planning how to improve performance. Unfortunately some parts are outwith our control such as the weather and the political environment. The installation of a new computer system to manage basic farm payments is set to cause major disruption to farm cash flows over the next few months. Payments historically paid in December will be delayed into the New Year. We are not sure when they will be paid, with some forecasters saying it could be May or June until the support funds reach farm bank accounts.

With the unexpected good spell of weather post harvest we had an abundance of grass, so turned the tups in with the ewes one week earlier than last year. The flock is divided into breeds and by age, so I actually have nine groups of ewes in separate fields. I put the best tups that have good growth rates with my best Texel cross ewes to breed fast growing lambs. I breed my own replacement ewe lambs to retain in the flock so I have four tups with good maternal traits that go with nearly 200 of my oldest Mule ewes. I reckon these ewes have proved themselves – they have sound feet, good udders and experienced no problems at lambing, so they should pass on these traits to their ewe lambs. I try to record my efforts on a spreadsheet; it would make no sense to anyone else but it did show me that this year the tups have been working really fast, with 96% of the ewes tupped in the first seventeen days compared to about 60% the last two years. This is probably more to do with the good nutrition from the grass rather than anything that I can claim to be responsible for, but nevertheless it's a good figure and could mean we are pretty busy on Easter weekend.

Thankfully, after nearly a whole year without a working sheepdog, we have a replacement for our faithful red collie Kim, who passed away on 6 January. Finding a new sheepdog isn't as simple as ordering a new tractor or farm implement; the dog needs to form a bond with you and understand your voice commands. We found Tib with the help of a friend. She came from a hill farm in the Yarrow Valley in the Borders. At five years old she is getting too slow for gathering the high hills there but in our fields she is proving very helpful and it's a relief to have her help.

Happy Christmas and best wishes for 2016,

Fiona

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Congratulations



LAURA MUIR of Milnathort has been named Scottish Athlete of the Year 2015. Laura, the 1500m British champion, won the award ahead of fellow nominees Eilidh Child, Lynsey Sharp and Robbie Simpson. Laura had an excellent 2015. Highlights include coming fifth in the 1500m in the World Championships in China and becoming the first Scottish woman to run under four minutes in the 1500m; she ran a time of 3 minutes 58.66 seconds in the final of the Diamond League event in Monaco in July. Laura's coach won the performance coach of the year award.

Thanks



A big thank you to all relatives, friends, neighbours, and work colleagues for all the cards flowers and gifts and kind thoughts received during my recent illness.

Evelyn Robinson, Milnathort

KVG&ROS wish to thank the Kinross Ladies Circle for the very generous donation of £500, which was presented on Tuesday 17 November at The Green Hotel. Chairman, Ken Paterson, is shown receiving the cheque from Marie Skinner, Karen Davies, Mandy Bye and Sara Morrison.

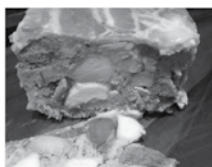


Ken Paterson of KVG&ROS (centre) receives a cheque for £500 from Ladies Circle members Marie Skinner, Karen Davies, Mandy Bye and Sara Morrison



LOCH LEVEN'S
Smokehouse

Situated at the entrance of Loch Levens Larder, we invite you to visit our recently opened artisan smokehouse. We offer an extensive range of locally sourced produce, including trout, salmon, poultry, game, fish and cheese, delicately flavoured using traditional smoking and curing techniques.



We always have produce available to taste fresh from the smokers - so why not drop in to the shop and try something different.

Personal or telephone orders welcome.

Opening Hours:
Tuesday –
Sunday
10.00am – 4.00pm



Channel Farm, Wester Balgedie,
Kinross, KY13 9HD

Tel: 01592840271

E:info@lochlevensmokehouse.co.uk
www.lochlevensmokehouse.co.uk



Yoga Classes

All levels welcome!
enquiries@simpliyoga.com
07466 360152

www.simpliyoga.com



Tuesday Mornings – Loch Leven Leisure Centre
@ 9.45 am, 11am & 12.15pm

Tuesday Evenings – Kinross Church Centre
@ 6.45 & 8pm

Wednesday Evenings – Pregnancy Yoga – Kinross
@ 7pm

Thursday Evenings – Community Campus
@ 5.30pm & 6.45pm



Val at Flutterby Therapies and Fitness Pilates would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who supported the **Macmillan Afternoon Tea** on 3 November. We raised the fantastic total of £615 for this wonderful cause. Special thanks to my 50 plus Keep Fit ladies for their generous donations and delicious home baking, my Pilates class members - Joan, Helen, Eve, Margaret, Linda, Anne and Evelyn for manning the stalls and serving the teas, and all class members and therapy clients who donated money. Also Isobel and Sally for Traidcraft and Phoenix card donations. Together we have made a difference -THANK YOU.

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For further details see www.kinrossnewsletter.org or phone Ross McConnell on 01577 865885 or email

subscriptions@kinrossnewsletter.org

Kinross-shire Churches Together



Kinross Parish Church of Scotland

*Following Christ | Spreading the Word
Serving the Community*



10 Station Road, Kinross KY13 8TG (Charity no SC012555)
Church website: www.kinrossparishchurch.org
Church E-mail: office@kinrossparishchurch.org
Church office and church open: Mon-Fri 10am-12 noon.
Church Office: Tel. (01577) 862570
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

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 'Jam Pact' (Secondary Age) meet at church centre from 10.15am. 7.30pm, 'Crossfire' (S1 upwards) in church centre.

Tuesdays: 10am: Pram Service.

Wednesdays: 10.45am Service, church centre. 1.30pm Craft Group.

Fridays: The Brigade, church centre. Anchor Section 6pm, Junior Section 7pm, Company Section 8pm (contact David Munro 01577 862126).

Saturdays: 10am -12noon 'Coffee Stop': coffees, cakes and book sale at church centre most Saturdays.

Other Events and Services

December

Tues 1 2.30pm: Service at Whyte Court.

Thu 3 7.30pm: Thursday Group – Christmas meal at Heaven Scent.

Sat 5 10am: BB Coffee Morning, church centre.
4-6pm Messy Church, Portmoak Hall.

Sun 6 10.30am Morning Service with Quarterly Communion.
6.30pm Evening Communion. Retiring Collections for Kinross-shire Day Centre (SC 004968).

Mon 7 8am: Silent Meditation.

Tue 8 6 for 6.30pm Guild, church centre – Christmas Meal.

Wed 9 7.30pm Christmas Wrap for CATH (for the Homeless).

Sat 12 8.30am: Prayer Breakfast.

Sun 13 3pm: Community Christmas Celebration, Loch Leven Campus.

Thu 17 9pm: late evening service of Compline.

Sat 19 2 – 4pm: Junior Church Christmas Party, church centre.

Sun 20 10.30am: Christmas Nativity Service with Junior Church.

Thu 24 Christmas Eve 4.30pm: Crib Service for those with young children.
11.15pm: Watchnight Service.

Fri 25 Christmas Day 10.30am: Family Service.

Sun 27 10.30am: All-ages Service of Readings and Carols.

Tue 29 2.30pm: Service at Causeway Court.

January

Sun 3 10.30am: Morning Service, followed by informal Communion.
2.30pm Annual Bereavement Service.

Mon 4 8am: Silent Meditation.

Tue 5 2.30pm: Service at Whyte Court.

Thu 7 7.30pm: Thursday Group, church centre – Todd & Duncan.

Sat 9 8.30am: Prayer Breakfast.
7.30pm: 'Three Horizons Tour' - Concert.

Sun 17 6.30pm: 'Digging Deeper – Daniel', joint service.

Tue 19 7.15pm: Guild, church centre - 'The Happiness Business'.

Thu 21 9pm: late evening service of Compline.

Sun 24 3pm: 'Sing for Syria' – Concert.

Tue 26 2.30pm: Service at Causeway Court.

Orwell and Portmoak Parish Church Church of Scotland (Charity number SC015523)

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.

Please note that joint services will be held on the first Sunday of each month in alternate churches at 10.30am.

Prayer Meeting held 30mins before each service.

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

Morning Prayers at 9am

Each Thursday at Portmoak Church New Room.

Each Friday at Orwell Church.

Messy Church meets on **Saturday 5 December** in Portmoak Hall from 4 – 6pm.

Dates and events for your diary

1 Dec The Guild meets in Orwell Hall at 7pm. Brian Ogilvie will talk about '100 Years of the Panama Canal'.

6 Dec Joint service in Orwell Church 10.30am. No service at Portmoak Church.

11 Dec Oasis Ladies Group meets in Portmoak New Room at 10.15am. Rosemary Tolson leads worship with readings and thoughts for Christmas.

15 Dec The Guild Christmas Meal in Orwell Hall.

20 Dec Service of carols and readings at Orwell Church, 6.30pm.

24 Dec Christmas Eve Family Service, Portmoak Church 6.30pm.
Watch-Night Service at Orwell Church, 11.30pm

25 Dec Christmas Day Family Service at Portmoak Church, 10.30am.

27 Dec Family Service in Orwell Church 10.30am. No service at Portmoak Church.

Everyone welcome

Church office & shop open Mon – Fri. 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

orwellandportmoakchurch@gmail.com

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.

Fossoway, St Serf's & Devonside Church**Church of Scotland** (Charity number SC013157)

Minister: Rev Lis Stenhouse Telephone: (01577) 842128
 Email: lissten@btinternet.com
 Reader: Mr Brian Ogilvie Telephone: (01592) 840823
 Email: brianj.ogilvie1@btopenworld.com
 Session Clerk: Mrs Janet Harper Telephone: (01577) 840225
 Email: aclassicsoul@aol.com

Sunday Services at 9.45am. All are welcome.

December

- Sat 5** 2pm - 3pm Community Carol Singing.
 3pm - 4pm Bazaar.
- Sun 6** 9.15 - 9.30am A Time for Prayer.
 9.45am Morning Worship followed by refreshments and Traidcraft stall.
- Sun 13** 9.45am Nativity service led by the Junior Church.
 7pm Fossoway Festive Music and Mayhem.
- Sun 20** 9.45am Morning Worship and the Junior Church Christmas Party.
- Thu 24** 5pm Family Christingle Service.
 11pm The Fossoway Choir will sing followed by 11.15pm **Christmas Eve** service.
- Fri 25** 9.45 - 10.30am **Christmas Day** Family Service.
- Sun 27** 9.45am Morning Worship.

January

- Sun 3** 9.15 - 9.30am A Time for Prayer.
 9.45am Morning Worship followed by refreshments. No Traidcraft stall this month.
- Sun 10** 9.45am Morning Worship.
- Sun 17** 9.45am Morning Worship.
- Sun 24** 9.45am Morning Worship.
- Sun 31** 9.45am Morning Worship.

Café Refresh: Every Thursday, church hall, 2-4pm. *A social time enhanced with tea, coffee and cakes.* **Note that Refresh will be closed on December 17th, 24th & 31st.**

House group: Thurs 7.30pm.

Please contact Fred Aitken for details, 01577 840833.

Parents/Carers and Toddlers Group:

Friday 4 December and Friday 8 January at 9am in the Church Hall.

Film Evening

Friday 4 December 7.30pm – 9.30pm in the Church Hall.
 'A Christmas Visitor' PG.

There will be no film evening in January

Please join us for the film, a cuppa and a blether and even some popcorn



Fossoway Church

Photo: Pauline Watson, www.kinross.cc photolibrary

St Paul's Scottish Episcopal Church*(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Communion)*

Muir, Kinross, KY13 8AY Telephone: 01577 864299
 Email: office@stpaulskinross51.plus.com
 Website: www.stpauls-kinross.co.uk
 Fr David Mackenzie Mills, Rector Telephone: 01577 863795
 Email: frdavidkinross@gmail.com
 You can also find us on Facebook
 www.facebook.com/stpaulsepiscopalchurchkinross

The Church is open and available for anyone to sit quietly on days and times when you see our wooden cross displayed at the front of church with other information attached.

Mondays and Wednesdays

8am Morning Prayer, said quietly in the side chapel.

Tuesdays

(Except 3rd week) 2.30pm Midweek Holy Communion.

3rd Wednesday 12.30pm Lunch, Meditative Reflection and Holy Communion.

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion.

Thursdays

3.30pm – 4.30pm The Rector is in the Church Office (in the old black tin hall), if you would like to see a member of the clergy for any reason.

Other special services and events will be advertised on our website.

December Services and Events

- Sun 6** **Advent 2 (Bethlehem and the way of the Prophets)**
 8.30am 1662 BCP Holy Communion.
 11am Sung Eucharist followed by the St Paul's AGM in the Meeting Room.
- Wed 9, 16** 7.30pm - 9pm Choir rehearsal for the Christmas Carols service in the Meeting Room.
- Sun 13** **Advent 3 (Gaudete Sunday and John the Baptist)**
 8.30am 1662 BCP Holy Communion.
 11am Whole Church Sung Eucharist with narrated Nativity Tableau.
 3pm Kinross Churches Together Christmas Carol Service at the Campus.
- Sat 19** 2 - 3.30pm Choir rehearsal for Christmas Carol Service in the Meeting Room at St Paul's.
 4pm Christingle Service.
- Sun 20** **Advent 4 (The Virgin Mary)**
 8.30am 1662 BCP Holy Communion.
 11am Sung Eucharist.
 6.30pm St Paul's Christmas Carol Service.
- Thu 24** **Christmas Eve** 11.30pm Midnight Mass.
- Fri 25** **Christmas Day** 8.45am 1662 BCP Said Matins.
 10am Family Sung Eucharist.
- Sun 27** **The Holy Innocents**
 8.30am Holy Communion (1982).
 11am Sung Eucharist.

January Services and Events

- Sun 3** **2nd Sunday of Christmas**
 8.30am Service of the Word.
 11am Sung Eucharist.
- Sun 10** **The Epiphany of the Lord (transferred from the 6th)**
 8.30am Holy Communion.
 11am Whole Church Sung Eucharist followed by Festivities and Food afterwards in the Meeting Room.
- Sun 17** **2nd Sunday after the Epiphany**
 8.30am Holy Communion.
 11am Sung Eucharist.
- Sun 24** **The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**
 8.30am Holy Communion.
 11am 'Pulpit Swap' Service of the Word. *Preacher:* The Reverend Lis Stenhouse, Cleish & Fossoway.

Everyone welcome at all services

Churches Together

Cleish Parish Church

Church of Scotland

(Charity No: SC003168)

Minister: Rev Lis Stenhouse BD (Hons)

Email: lissten@btinternet.com

Reader: Brian Ogilvie

Email: brianjogilvie1@btopenworld.com

Session Clerk: Neil Maclure

Email: neil.maclure19@gmail.com Tel: 01577 864826

Please visit our website: www.cleishchurch.org



Sunday Services 11.15am

December

- Sun 6** 11.15am Morning Worship. Junior Church rehearsals for the Nativity Play. Tea and coffee served in the Village Hall by the Guild. Traidcraft Stall.
2.30pm 'Service of Remembering' in Cleish. Church followed by refreshments in the Young Room.
- Mon 7** 3.15pm 'Messy Church' in the Village Hall. All children and their carers welcome.
- Sun 13** 11.15am Morning Worship with **Nativity Play** performed by the children of Junior Church.
- Sun 20** 11.15am Morning Worship. **Christingle Service** followed by mince pies in the Young Room.
- Thu 24** 11.15pm **Christmas Eve** 'Watchnight' Candlelit Service of Carols.
- Fri 25** 11.15am **Christmas Day** 'Toy Service'.
- Sun 27** 11.15am Service of readings and carols.

January

- Sun 3** 11.15am Morning Worship. Tea and Coffee served in the Village Hall.
- Sun 10** 11.15am Morning Worship.
- Mon 11** 3.15pm 'Messy Church' in the Village Hall. All children and their carers welcome.
- Sun 17** 11.15am Morning Worship. Junior Church.
6.30pm 'Digging Deeper' evening worship and Bible study, the book of Daniel, in Kinross Parish Church.
- Sun 24** 11.15am Morning Worship.
- Mon 25** 2pm Cleish Guild Afternoon Meeting. Speaker Michael Cook: Topic: Scripture Union at Lendrick Muir.
- Fri 29** 7pm Cleish Church Burns Supper in the Village Hall.

All welcome

Kinross Gospel Hall

Montgomery Street, Kinross

Website: www.kinrossgospelhall.info

- | | | |
|--------|---------|-------------------|
| Sunday | 10.30am | Breaking of Bread |
| | 12.15pm | Sunday School |
| | 6.00pm | Prayer Meeting |
| | 6.30pm | Gospel Meeting |
| Monday | 7.30pm | Prayer Meeting |
| | 8.15pm | Bible Study |

St James' R C Church

5 High Street, Kinross, KY13 8AW

Fr Martin Pletts

Tel: (01577) 863329

Usual Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 7.00pm
Sunday 9.30am

Advent and Christmas

All Sundays

of Advent:

Advent Service at 4.30pm

Fri 18 Dec

Blues Mass at 7.00pm

Tue 22 Dec

Penitential Service at 7.00pm

Thu 24 Dec

No morning mass. Confessions 8.30am to 9am only.

Thu 24 Dec

Carols at 8pm followed by **Christmas Vigil Mass** at 8.30pm

Fri 25 Dec

Christmas Day Mass at 11am

Sat 26 Dec

Vigil Mass at 7pm

Sun 27 Dec

Sunday Mass at 9.30am

Obituary

ELIZA MABEL MACKAY of Brunthill Farm, Kinross, died at Ninewells Hospital on Sunday 25 October 2015 aged 59 years. Beloved wife of Alasdair, mother to Linda, Fiona and the late Laura, mother-in-law to Stewart, granny to Charlie and Erin and daughter-in-law of Maisie. Funeral service was held at Kinross Parish Church on Wednesday 4 November followed by interment at North Cemetery, Kinross.

Acknowledgements

MACKAY – The family of Eliza Mackay would like to thank everyone for the many kind expressions of sympathy. Special thanks to Ward 32 at Ninewells Hospital, also Rev. Margaret Michie for her comforting service, Stewart Funeral Directors Ltd, Kinross, for all their help and all those who paid their last respects at the church and cemetery and gave, so generously, for Cancer Research UK, which amounted to £656.80.

PORTER – Laura, James, Maureen and family would like to thank everybody for their letters, cards, flowers, hugs, love and support following the sad loss of Alan. Thanks to all those who attended the church and graveside to celebrate Alan's life. It was a great comfort to all the family. Many thanks to Rev. Alan Reid and Stewart Funeral Directors for their comfort and compassion; also the doctors at the Health Centre and all at Ward 32 at Ninewells Hospital. A huge thanks for the generous donations at the church of £1521, which will be split between Cancer Research UK and Ward 32, Ninewells Hospital.

We are sorry to learn of the death of **INA GILBEY** on Wednesday 11 November 2015 at the age of 91. Ina was a volunteer worker on the Newsletter for some years. She was an assistant editor from 1991 to 1995 until ill health led her to relinquish that role.

Need to check something in an old Newsletter?

Consult our electronic archive at

www.kinrossnewsletter.org

Issues from September 2006 to two months ago available

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Playgroups and Toddlers



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
Or find us on Facebook



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
Role play, jigsaws, physical toys and arts and crafts
Friendly support for all carers
First session free, £2 thereafter (£1 for additional children)

Contact Donna Smith on 07535 595430 or just come along!

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

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.

PORTMOAK PLAYGROUP

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 - 11.30am.
Sessions are £1.50 for first child and 50p for each additional child.

Playgroup (2yrs onwards), Mon & Fri 10am – 12noon.
£5 per session.

Contact Ann Anderson (Play leader/Manager)
07872 955003

Email: 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: Children from age 2 years welcome.

Tue to Fri 9.05am - 11.50am. Fri 12.30pm - 3.15pm

Inbetweeners: Mon 9.05 - 11.50am, optional Lunch Club afterwards. Children from the age of 3 years welcome.

Rising Fives: Tues & Wed 12.55am - 3.10pm, optional Lunch Club beforehand. Complementary to preschool Nursery.

For availability or more information, please contact:

Lisa 07736 642070, enrolments.swansacre@gmail.com
or Playgroup on telephone numbers above.

Baby and Toddler Group – Thurs 1.15 - 3.15pm

Ante-natal to pre-school. Fun for children; coffee and chat for the parent/carers. For more information, please contact Laura 07932 877213 or Playgroup on 07592 392235.

The premises are available to hire for Private Functions. For more information, please contact Tracey 07557 051894 or the Playgroup on 07592 392235.

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/carers. 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 Lynne Penny on babygaj@yahoo.com
or 07736 930923 for further details,
or find us on Facebook: Two's Club Kinross

MONTGOMERY TODDLERS

Every Thursday 9.30am to 11am (term-time only)

The Gospel Hall, Montgomery Street, Kinross.

Contact Christina Smith 01577 840733 or 07792 260509

FOSSOWAY PRE-SCHOOL GROUP

Glenbank Cottage, Powmill

Partner-provider for P&K Education



Places available for 3-5-year-olds and Rising Fives
Sessions 9.30am - 12.45pm Monday - Thursday,
9.30am - 12.30pm Fridays

Contact Pat Irvine 07703 177766 or
www.childcarelink.gov.uk/perthandkinross

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

Notices



Festive Street Market followed by Light Up Kinross

Saturday 28 November

Street Market: 4pm – 7pm

Kinross High Street

Market stalls, carol singing, music and festive atmosphere.

Come along for some good Christmas shopping, mulled wine and festive entertainment!

Christmas Fayre in aid of Cancer Research

Guide Hall, Church Street, Milnathort

Sunday 29 November

12 – 4 pm

Maggies First Glass Designs, Crafty Wee Pies Workshop,
Shazanne Crafts, The Madhouse Bakery,
The Whole Shebang, Usborne Books, JJ Crafts,
Wonderful Wooden Wishes, Partylite, Wood Rogue,
Simply Glitter, Homefayre Wedding Flowers and Gifts,
Wendy's Rings, Tracy's Scarves, Fairytale Dreams, Tombola,
Raffle, Teas and Coffees

Primary Knitting Class Dates

at **Skeins & Bobbins**

120 High St, Kinross 01577 208107

Autumn/Winter 2015

3.30pm – 4.15pm £4 a class

£26 for a 7-week block if paid at the start

Run by Lizzie Meg, these classes are aimed at the 8+ age group. Suitable for complete beginners and improvers. All children work within their capabilities and we aim to provide a fun learning environment. All children will knit and complete a project. Knitting improves concentration, dexterity and motor skills - and gives a sense of achievement.

Tuesdays: 1 and 8 December.

Thursdays: 3 and 10 December.

Email: skeinsandbobbins@outlook.com PVG Scheme Membership



Business Breakfast

Wednesday 2 December

7.30am, Loch Leven's Larder

The speaker at the December Business Breakfast will be

Mrs Sarah Brown,

new Headteacher at Kinross High School.

Cost of attendance is £10 for members, £15 for non-members, which includes full Scottish breakfast or porridge, juice, toast, coffee and tea. Receipts will be issued.

Bring your business cards or flyers.

Email Kinross-shire Partnership administrator

Karen Grunwell to reserve your place at mail@kinrosspartnership.org.uk

kinrosspartnership.org.uk

(See also page 41)

Business breakfasts will also take place on:

3 February, 3 March and 7 April

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 01577 863421.

3 Dec Christmas Dinner.

7 Jan Todd & Duncan: Ian Cormack, Managing Director.

Boys Brigade Annual Coffee Morning

Church Centre, Kinross

Saturday 5 December

Stalls will include:

Raffle

Bottle Stall

Lucky Dip

Entry: £1.50

Funds raised last year were used to support the activities and camps for all age groups within Kinross Girls and Boys Brigade. Your support is very much appreciated.

Fossoway Church

Christmas Bazaar and Community Carols

2pm – 4pm

Saturday 5 December

at the Elizabeth Wilkie Hall

Concert featuring

the Fossoway Primary School Choir, Dunkeld Handbell Ringers and Community Carols followed by Tea, Coffee & Festive Baking, Cake & Candy, Bottle Stall, Christmas Wreaths, Home Produce, Christmas Crafts, Gingerbread decorating and lots more for all the family to enjoy.

Charity No SC013157

Dollar Museum

Dollar Museum will close on Sunday 20 December and reopen on Easter Saturday 2016 when a new exhibition will be on view. If you would like any Christmas cards or gifts unique to the Museum, please come in before we close: opening hours are:

Saturdays: 11am - 1pm and 2pm - 4.30pm

Sundays: 2pm - 4.30 pm

Along with many other stalls and events, the Museum will be at the **Christmas Festival** being held in the Burnside Hall, Dollar on **Saturday 5 December** from 1pm to 4pm. The switching on of the Christmas lights will be at 4.30pm and at 5.30pm a rendition of carols by Hillfoots Harmony.

KGV Playing Fields Management Committee Annual General Meeting

Monday 7 December

The Annual General Meeting of the KGV Playing Fields Management Committee will be held in the KGV rugby clubhouse on Monday 7 December at 7pm. All are welcome to attend. The KGV committee is a voluntary group that looks after the facilities used by many of the sporting groups in Kinross-shire and welcomes anyone who may wish to contribute something to the local community.

Orwell Old Folks Association

Over 70s Christmas party postponed until **6 February**

We hope this gives everyone something to look forward to in the New Year. No invitations have been sent out so we hope no one is disappointed. Look out for your invitations to the party lunch!



Kinross Floral Art Club

Thursday 10 December

in Kinross Parish Church at 7.15pm

The Demonstrator at the December meeting is Mrs Hetty Redwood from Linlithgow and the title of her demonstration is 'Christmas Delights'. Hetty has been to the Club before and we have always enjoyed her arrangements, so come along and get some ideas for Christmas – you may even win one of them to take home! Visitors are always welcome.

Kinross Garden Group

2015/16 Season

Thursday 10 December at 2pm

in the Millbridge Hall, Kinross,
with David Knott of the RBGE

'In search of flowers – collecting for Living Collections at RBGE'

All welcome to join us.

The Gaelic Society of Perth

The Gaelic Society of Perth will hold their December Ceilidh at St Matthew's Church Hall, Tay Street, Perth, on **Friday 11 December** at 7.30pm. The Mod Gold Medallists Joy Dunlop and Steven McIver will be joined by Ainslie Hamill. Come and hear these great Gaelic singers as well as some super instrumentalists.

The next Ceilidh will be on **Friday 15 January** at 7.30pm where the Mod Medallists Kirsteen Grant and Iain MacLean will be joined by Ellen MacDonald and Sandie Kennedy. The well-known accordionist Robert Nairn will play.

Admission is £5 for Members and £6 for Non-Members – for an evening's entertainment plus refreshments!

Further information can be obtained from the Secretary on 01577 864589.

Fossoway Festive Fun

An evening of Music, Madness & Mayhem!

Fossoway Church

Sunday 13 December

at 7pm

Featuring comic poems, songs, and our mini scratch panto:
"Snow White and the 7 Vertically Challenged Guys"

Charity No SC013157

Cleish Christmas Craft Fayre

Wednesday 16 December

6pm – 8.30pm

At Cleish Village Hall

Stalls featuring:

Cards ♦ Jewellery ♦ Photography

Christmas Decorations ♦ Baking ♦ Fabric Creations

Raffle and many more

Carol Singing ♦ Mulled Wine ♦ Mince Pies

Please come along and support our Fundraising for Cleish Primary School.

Grants and Funding Websites

www.pkgrantsdirect.com

www.foundationscotland.org.uk

Milnathort filmhouse & Heavens Above Special Christmas Screening



LOVE ACTUALLY

Sat December 12th

Join us for a festive cocktail reception & 3 course meal at 6.30pm at Heavens Above. Then onto the film at the newly renovated Milnathort Town Hall for 8.30pm. Pre-booking only. £25. **Menu & booking at**

www.milnathortfilmhouse.com

(Heavens Above is fully licensed for this event. BYOB at Town Hall only. Over 18's)

Film only tickets also available. £6 Adult, £4 Conc.
BYOB at Town Hall. Over 18's only.
Screening at 8.30pm. Booking advised.

Milnathort Town Hall

CINEMA
FOR ALL



Kinross High School Christmas Concert

Wednesday 16 December

We are a group of pupils in third year in the Youth Achievement Group, working with our music teacher to achieve a challenge and help with the Christmas concert. We are looking forward to it and we would like to see members of our community coming along to see our talented pupils. We would be grateful if you could come along and enjoy the fun with us and have a blast.

The concert is on Wednesday 16 December at 7 o'clock in the assembly hall at Kinross High School.

We hope you come along and enjoy the fun.

Ticket prices are: Adults £6 Children £4

Please contact Mr MacKenzie at the school (01577) 876100.

Kinross-shire Volunteer Group & Rural Outreach Scheme

invite you to

The Annual Burns Supper

Monday 18 January 2016

Tickets £18.50 available from

Pauline 01577 862685 or Ann 01577 840196

Join us for a great night of entertainment



Funding Alert!

PKC regularly produces a huge list summarising funding opportunities for the voluntary sector. The list will be posted on www.kinross.cc or telephone the PKC grants helpline on 0345 60 52000.

If your organisation is seeking funds, look out for notices in the Newsletter for Kinross Community Council Newsletter Ltd Charitable Grants and the Kinross-shire Fund.

Notices

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. Membership: Adults £6, Seniors £5, U18 free. Visitors: £2 per talk.



Remaining Programme for Season 2015-2016

- 14 Dec** **The Naturalist on Loch Leven.** Prof David Munro MBE. From 17th century to the present day.
- 18 Jan** **Safe Places for Dooking.** Eric Simpson. The Lido craze, with special reference to Scotland.
- 15 Feb** **Scotland and the Abolition of Black Slavery.** Rev Iain Whyte BA, BD, STM. The slave trade in 18th and 19th centuries, and the Abolition Movement, including the work done by Scottish churches.
- 21 Mar** **Queen's Body Guard for Scotland (Royal Company of Archers).** Lt Col Richard Callander OBE, TD, FRICS. The history of the Royal Company from formation in 1676 to the present day.

Sing for Syria

3 - 5pm

Sunday 24 January
Kinross Parish Church
10 Station Road, Kinross

Join **Leven Voices** and celebrated artists for an afternoon of music and song to raise funds for the **Save the Children Child Refugee Crisis Appeal**



Ayman Jarjour
Nick Lauener
Teenah Beebee
Horsecross Youth Choir
Leven Voices
Alice Marra

Tickets by donation on the day



Music in Dollar

Season 2015 – 2016

All concerts are at the Gibson Hall, Dollar Academy, except the Atea Wind Quintet concert, which is at St James the Great Church, Dollar. Ticket prices are £10 for non-members, with discounts for members and season ticket holders with free entry to anyone in full-time education.

- Sun 17 Jan** 3.00pm **Royal Conservatoire of Scotland** – Vocal ensemble. Popular arias and songs from opera and music hall.
- Thu 25 Feb** 7.30pm **Atea** – Wind quintet. Classical music performed by flute, oboe, horn, bassoon and clarinet.
- Sat 12 Mar** 7.30pm **Alexander Ullman** – Piano. Varied programme of pieces by Haydn, Ravel, Liszt, Chopin and others.

Music in Dollar is a not-for-profit organisation run by volunteers. For more information about Music in Dollar, or any of the artists performing in the season, visit www.musicindollar.org.uk

THE KINROSS HUB A CAFE FOR CARERS

**St. PAULS CHURCH HALL
KINROSS**
1st MONDAY of EVERY MONTH
10am – 12noon

*Contact Gail Boath
or Annette Bond*
Tel. 01577 867306 / 01738 567076

The hub cafe is an informal meeting place to chat over a cuppa with other carers, cared for and family members.

Multiple Sclerosis Society Scotland



Multiple Sclerosis Society Scotland

Perth & Kinross Branch of the MS Society are calling anyone affected by MS to come along to The Green Hotel, Kinross on the third Tuesday of every month from 10.30am to 12.30pm. Come along for a blether, a cuppa or just to get out of the house! Family, friends and carers are welcome too. For further information, please contact the Branch on 07552 368216, perthkinross@mssociety.org.uk or check out our website www.perth-kinross.org.uk or find us on Facebook: MS Society Perth&Kinross Branch.

Children's Hospice Association Scotland



Craft Event

CHAS Shops Kinross are having a Craft Event from **Saturday 28 November to Saturday 5 December**.

We will be having live craft demonstrations of **Book Sculptures** on **Thursday 3 December** and **Slate Mosaics** on **Friday 4 December**. Both demonstrations will be from 10.30am to 12pm at 76 High Street on the respective dates. Christmas opening hours will be advertised in stores.

Thank you for supporting CHAS - Scotland's only hospice care for children

Blythwood Care

Sainsbury's Car Park

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

Monday 14 December

between 10.30 am and 10.55 am

Further details from 862258

Grants for Good Causes in Kinross-shire

The Kinross Community
Council Newsletter Limited
(KCCNL)

Charity Number SC040913



All profits from the Kinross Newsletter are transferred to a charitable company and given away to local good causes.

Local groups and individuals may apply to KCCNL for grant funding. Decisions regarding grants are made by Kinross CC at its monthly meetings. Applications must comply with the objectives of KCCNL, which are:

The advancement of citizenship and community development within the County of Kinross including without prejudice to the generality, the support of community events, provision of and financial support for community information, community transport and community welfare (including healthcare support), financial support for physical amenities, recreational facilities, voluntary organisations and financial support for the care of the elderly. The prevention and relief of poverty within the County of Kinross. The advancement of education within the County of Kinross.

Further information and application forms are available from the website www.kinross.cc

Applications can be made online or by downloading a form to fill in. If you do not have internet access and would like a form, or if you have any queries, please telephone CClr Barry Davies on (01577) 865004.

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

Website: www.thebikestation.org.uk

Homes for Cats Wanted

Fife Cat Shelter, a Scottish Registered Charity, is always looking for homes for rescued cats.



Cats can be visited, by appointment, at Causeway Cattery, Scotlandwell.

Contact Rhona on 01383 830286.

www.greyhoundrescuefife.com



Greyhound Rescue Fife
wish all their Friends a
very Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year



Homes required urgently for our homeless hounds

Phone: 01577 850393 (evenings)
Mob: 07826244765 (daytime)
email: fernjejimmyf@aol.com





Loch Leven Community Campus
The Muirs, Kinross
KY13 8FQ
www.pkc.gov.uk

Community Learning & Development Adult Learning Free local and friendly support with:

English as a Second Language

Would you like to improve your ability to:

- Talk to friends and neighbours
- Understand what people say to you
- Give information
- Talk on the phone
- Fill in a form
- Apply for a job

Adult Literacy & Numeracy

Reading Writing Spelling Numbers

"I can enjoy books now"

"I feel more confident"

"Filling in forms is less scary"

"I passed my driving test"

BOOKING ESSENTIAL

**If you would like further information
regarding any of the tuition please contact:**

Roseanne Gray

Loch Leven Community Campus

Email: rgray@pkc.gov.uk

Tel: 01577 867177



Welcome to the Kinross-shire Volunteer Information Point

**Located in the Loch Leven Community Campus Library
Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8FQ**

Here you can find information about **Volunteering Opportunities** available in Kinross-shire.

Take your time and see what is available. You will also find leaflets in the folders explaining where you can go for further help such as Voluntary Action Perthshire www.vaperthshire.org

If you would like to promote your **Organisations Volunteering Opportunities** please hand your information into reception for attention of: Tracey Ramsay (Community Capacity Building Worker)

Blank profiles are also available for your use if required. These are in the organisation folder at the VIP alternatively follow this link:
www.pkc.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=22228&p=0

The Volunteer Information Point has been organised and supported by Partners of the Kinross-shire Community Learning and Development Group.



For further information please contact Tracey Ramsay 01577 867177 or email Tramsay@pkc.gov.uk

Springwell – Wellbeing Support Team

Inclusion * Wellbeing * Recovery

*Supporting positive mental health in Kinross-shire
and Strathearn for adults from 16 onwards*

We support people to improve the quality of their life and wellbeing, be more involved in their community, help them achieve their ambitions and manage their mental health. We support people how to improve their social contacts, be more active, access education or voluntary opportunities or work. The support and activities we offer are flexible and can change and develop over time, depending on what people need and benefit from.

For more information or an informal chat please phone
Charlie Wilson 01577 867320, or
Email charleswilson@pkc.gov.uk



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.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/
kinross-shire-fund](http://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/kinross-shire-fund) or telephone 0131 5240300

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!

PLUS Perth

www.plusperth.co.uk
Tel: 01738 626242
77 Canal Street, Perth



PLUS is a member-led local charity and social movement which gives hope and opportunity to those affected by disadvantage; in the main to those with experience of mental ill health and substance misuse.

The PLUS office is open Mon-Fri 9.30am – 4pm
for mental health signposting and enquiries.

Mindspace Recovery College

Mindspace Recovery College runs free courses covering all aspects of mental health, co-delivered by people with lived experience, and are open to all.



100th Birthday and Diamond Wedding Anniversaries

Do you know a Perth & Kinross resident who is celebrating their 100th or 105th+ birthday?

Do you know a Perth & Kinross couple celebrating their 60th, 65th or 70th wedding anniversary?

PKC would like to help celebrate the special occasion. PKC can arrange delivery of a basket of flowers or for a local Councillor to present a basket of flowers to the person or couple on their special day.

Tel: 01738 475051 Email: CivicServices@pkc.gov.uk

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.hopepregnancy.co.uk

Hope Pregnancy Crisis Centre
40 St John Street, Perth, PH1 5SP
www.hopepregnancy.co.uk

email: hope-pregnancy@btconnect.com
Helpline 01738 621174

We are a Scottish Charity SC037103

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.

Healing Rooms Kinross and Loch Leven

Every Thursday from 10.30am -12 noon
at the Orwell and Portmoak Church Office,
29 South Street, Milnathort, KY13 9XA.

Trained volunteers from different churches will pray for your healing, physical, spiritual or emotional. Totally confidential.

No charge.

No appointment needed, but if preferred appointments can be arranged through the contact details on the website
www.healingrooms-scotland.org

Local Correspondent

for Perthshire Advertiser and Fife Herald newspapers

Linda Freeman

Tel 01577 865045. Email: linda.freeman_64@btinternet.com

Newsletter Deadlines 2016

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

Issue	Deadline	Publication Date
February	Fri 15 January	Saturday 30 January
March	Fri 12 February	Saturday 27 February



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

Mindspace Counselling Services are now able to offer counselling to adults and young people aged 11+ at The Loch Leven Health Centre on Mondays and Tuesdays. We offer counselling to people who are facing a wide range of difficulties or challenges such as: bereavement or loss; isolation, anxiety or depression; stress of work or in the home; difficulties in friend, family or intimate relationships; confused feelings.

If you are interested in this service you can self-refer via email to info@mindspacepk.com, by telephone on 01738 631639 or by visiting our website at www.mindspacepk.com. You can also be referred by your GP.

Mindspace also offer counselling to adults (18+) at their offices in Perth. For more information visit our website at www.mindspacepk.com



Perth & Kinross School Term Dates 2015-16

Term	Start	End
Winter	Mon 26 Oct 2015	Fri 18 Dec 2015
Spring	Tue 5 Jan 2016	Fri 1 Apr 2016
Summer	Tue 19 Apr 2016	Fri 1 July 2016

In Service Days and Occasional Holidays:

2016: 17, 18 & 19 February (one in-service and two occasional holidays); Fri 25 March (Good Friday); Mon 28 March (Easter Monday); 18 April (in-service).

Perth Citizens Advice Bureau

Outreach Advice Surgery

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:

8 & 22 December, 12 & 26 January

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.



Perth Citizens Advice Bureau

Benefits Advice in Libraries (BAIL)

Benefits specialist Sarah MacLean will be available at Loch Leven Community Campus Library on the **second and fourth Wednesday of each month** between 2pm and 4pm. Alongside the provision of general benefits advice Sarah can help with the following:

- Completing both paper and online benefit application forms;
- Conducting checks to see if clients are receiving everything they are entitled to, i.e. discounts for fuel, etc;
- Providing advice and support in instances where an application is refused or awarded at a lower level than expected.

Please note: Sarah is available **by appointment only**. To make an appointment, please call 01738 450599.



Perth Citizens Advice Bureau

Debt and Money Advice Service

Perth CAB has a team of specialist debt advisers who can help you deal with your debts.

- Do you feel trapped in Debt?
- Don't want to open letters or answer your own phone?
- Are you losing sleep at night?
- Is debt affecting your life?

We can help you to:

- Find realistic and practical solutions for your own situation
- We can help deal with your creditors and negotiate on your behalf
- Help you manage your money better

"After seeing the CAB debt adviser, I could sleep at night again" - a quote from a relieved client.

Our advice is free, confidential, impartial and independent.

Talk to a specialist debt adviser today on 01738 450 590, TEXT us on 07535 836 817 with your name and number and we will call you back, or alternatively email zworkman@PerthCAB.casonline.org.uk



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.

Community Councils

Kinross:

KinrossCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk

Cleish & Blairadam:

CleishCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk

Fossoway & District:

fossoway.cc@gmail.com

Portmoak: Chair: Malcolm Strang Steel (01592) 840459,

PortmoakCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk

Portmoak Community Councillors

Robin Cairncross	(Secretary)	01592 840672
Bruce Calderwood	(Treasurer)	01592 840423
Susan Forde		01592 840128
Tom Smith		01592 841160
Malcolm Strang Steel	(Chairman)	01592 840459
Dave Morris		01592 840500
Alison Robertson		01592 840131
Chris Vlasto		01592 840017

Have a look at our website: www.portmoak.org

Perth and Kinross Councillors

Kinross-shire Ward

Councillor Mike Barnacle (Independent)

Tel/Fax (home): 01577 840516.

Email: michaelabarnacle@gmail.com

Website: mikebarnacle.co.uk

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 Giacopazzi (Scottish National Party)

Tel (home): 01577 864025.

Email: jgiacopazzi@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, KY13XA

Mobile Library Service

Visiting on Wednesdays 2 & 16 December

(NO service on 30 December):

Mawcarse		0930 – 0940
Kinnesswood	Shop	0950 – 1055
Portmoak	Community Hall	1100 – 1115
Scotlandwell	Leslie Road	1120 – 1140
Levenmouth Farm		1150 – 1210
Hatchbank Road		1225 – 1255
Cleish	Phone box	1405 – 1425
Powmill		1440 – 1500
Crook of Devon	Main Street, Inn	1505 – 1550
Carnbo	on main road	1600 – 1655

Visiting on Thursdays 10 & 24 December (early finish) and 7 January 2016:

Milnathort South Street 0930 – 1130

For more information about mobile library services, visit: www.pkc.gov.uk/mobilelibrary or phone 01577 867205.

Community Website

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

Kinross Community Councillors

Margaret Blyth	6 Muir Grove	
Jonathan Bryson	8 Nan Walker Wynd	(01577) 861727
David Colliar	10 Rannoch Place	(01577) 864037
Barry Davies	60 Lathro Park	(01577) 865004
Bill Freeman	64 Muirs	(01577) 865045
Ian Jack	Burnbrae Grange	(01577) 863980
David MacKenzie	12 Torridon Place	07703 820051
Margaret Scott	21 Ross Street	(01577) 862945
Thomas Stewart	Gellybank Farm	
Eileen Thomas	50 Muirs	(01577) 863714
David West	9 Leven Place	07824 313974

Member of Parliament

for Ochil & South Perthshire Constituency

Tasmina Ahmed-Sheikh MP

Email: tas.mp@parliament.uk

Telephone: 020 7219 5588

House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

Member of the Scottish Parliament

for Perthshire South & Kinross-shire

Roseanna Cunningham MSP

Constituency office:

63 Glasgow Road, Perth, PH2 0PE

Telephone: 01738 620540

Email: Roseanna.Cunningham.msp@scottish.parliament.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

Jayne Baxter MSP (Labour) Tel: 0131 348 6753

Email: jayne.baxter.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

Annabelle Ewing MSP (SNP) Tel: 0131 348 5066

Email: Annabelle.Ewing.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

Murdo Fraser MSP (Cons) Tel: 0131 348 5293

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

Willie Rennie MSP (Lib Dem) Tel: 0131 348 5803

Email: Willie.Rennie.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

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

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

Elizabeth Smith MSP (Cons) Tel: 0131 348 6762

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

Perth & Kinross Council

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

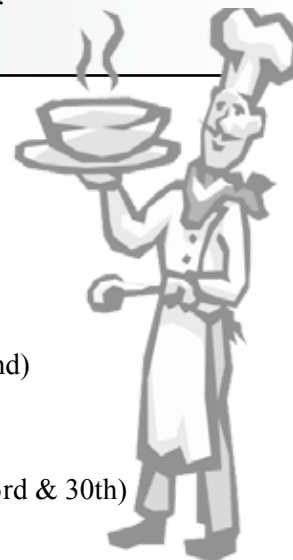
Tel: 01577 867133

The Registrar is normally in Kinross only on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Loch Leven Community Campus

Kinross-shire *Day Centre*

64 High Street
Kinross
KY13 8AJ

**Film shows • Cards • Dominoes • Art Class
Daily Papers • Chiropody • Trips • Exercises**



Weekly Programme for December

Monday	Exercise Class	11am	Bingo	1.30pm
	Dominoes, cards & other Games			1.15pm
	“Stride for Life” Walking Group			2pm
Tuesday	Relaxation Class	1.15pm	Games	1.15pm (except 22nd)
	Singing group with Alex Cant		1.45pm (except 22nd & 29th)	
Wednesday	Morning Worship	10.45am (except 23rd & 30th)		
	Dominoes, Scrabble & other Games			1.30pm (except 23rd & 30th)
	Fantastic Fun Quiz	1.30pm (2nd & 9th only)		
Thursday	Art Class	1.30pm	Film Afternoon	1.30pm (both except 24th & 31st)
	Dominoes, Scrabble, cards etc			1.30pm (except 24th & 31st)
	Balance & Strength Class			1.30pm (3rd & 10th only)
Friday	Dominoes, Games and Filmshow			1.30pm (4th & 11th only)
	Bingo			1.30pm (4th & 11th only)

Additional Events for December

Tai Chi	Wednesday	2nd	1.30 - 2pm
Library Trip	Thursday	3rd	1.30pm
Chiropody	Thursday	3rd, 17th	9.45am - 1pm (phone 01577 863869 for an appointment)
Christmas Lunch & Concert	Wednesday	16th	12pm
Pantomime Aladdin Alhambra	Friday	18th	2pm
Kinross Community Care Advice & Information	Tuesday	22nd	11.30am - 12pm
Christmas Carol Singing	Tuesday	22nd	1.30pm

There are some activities, day trips and food from around the world that are yet to be organised.



Coffee Bar open to the public 8.30am - 4pm, Older Adults Lunches Daily

Our activities are open to everyone - please feel free to come in and have a great afternoon.

May the Committee & Staff take this opportunity to say a big Thank You to the Volunteers who give their valuable time to the Day Centre, all The Community Groups and individuals who give us incredible support. Thank you also to all the Service Users, their families and of course all our customers who support us throughout the year.

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

Please Note, The Day Centre will be closed on: Wed 23, Thu 24, Fri 25, Wed 30 & Thu 31 Dec 2015, & Fri 1 Jan 2016.

Phone: 01577 863869 Fax: 01577 863869 Email: kindaycent@tiscali.co.uk

LOCAL CHEMIST INFORMATION



Rowlands Pharmacy, Kinross

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**

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.

Mobile Post Office, Kinnesswood

Mondays and Wednesdays	1215 - 1315
Tuesdays and Fridays	1030 - 1200

Items for Sale

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.

Pemberley Double Bed £70

This Cream Metal framed double bed is in excellent condition with Slumberland mattress.

Ercol Lamp Table £50

This table is in excellent condition made of wood, the lower in built shelf is glass.

Windsor & Newton Sketching Easel Kit £50

2 Easels that also include 1 new box of oil paint tubes (wooden case), 1 new box of Watercolour paint tubes (wooden case) and a fantastic new Watercolour Studio box set that comes with techniques book, brushes, paper, palette, pencil eraser and sponge.

Seller Details for above 3 items: Vincent Johnston 07949 377475
vincent.johnston@icloud.com

Vas Powermax Carpet Washer VRS5W £55

Quick and easy to set up and use. Still in the box, unopened and brand new.

Travel cot £20

As new. Easy to put up and pack away. Separate mattress included. Only used a couple of times. Smoke free home.

Cintique Recliner Chair (manual) Offers

High back manual recliner, good condition, extremely well made and comfortable piece of furniture, just don't have room for it any more. Smoke free home. Can deliver locally.

Seller Details for above 3 items:

Chrystall Rutherford 07768 343000
Chrystall.rutherford@aol.com

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 see fuller details and to **check whether a position is still available**. (Go to www.kinross.cc then click on 'Local Adverts' and choose 'Situations Vacant').

Taxi Driver, A2B Taxis

Part Time Taxi Driver required for Kinross Taxi company. Must be smart, polite and reliable with clean driving licence. Hours to be arranged on application but may involve some evening or weekend work.

Full UK driving licence essential and Perth & Kinross taxi licence preferred.

Anyone interested in this position should call Bruce on 07743332237.

Gas Service Engineer (Domestic) -full time

Douglas Miller Plumbing Services in Kinross are looking for a qualified and experienced gas engineer to join their team. High standard of work essential. Duties will include servicing of gas boilers, breakdowns, repairs and general plumbing duties. Kinross and surrounding area, van provided, Monday to Friday.

Please apply by sending your CV to jobs@douglasmillerplumbing.co.uk.

Vacancy – Advertising Manager

Confident, friendly person sought to manage advertising in the Kinross Newsletter. Applicants should have good organisational skills and be computer literate, with the ability to use spreadsheet, database and word processing software. An excellent telephone manner is essential.

This is part-time work (approximately 25 hours per month), which is carried out on a contract basis from the successful candidate's own home or office. Own computer essential. For further details of the post, remuneration and how to apply, please email the Editor, Kinross Newsletter at:

editor@kinrossnewsletter.org

Closing date for applications: Thursday 31 December 2015.

Lynne and Rose would like to wish all our Kinross Circle Dancers a very happy Christmas. We shall look forward to dancing with you in the New Year.



Kinross Circle Dancing

Millbridge Hall

Old Causeway, Kinross KY13 8DW

Tuesdays 10.30am – 12.30pm

Spring Term 2016

Jan 12, 19, 26

Feb 2, 9, 16, 23

Mar 1, 8, 15, 22

First taster class is **FREE**. No need to book (Pay as you Go)
Cost £4 Refreshments included

What is Circle Dancing?

Circle Dancing is community dancing in a circle.

No partner or experience needed. The dances are easy and fun, some are lively, and some are gentle and reflective, dancing to music from around the world. There is no audience and everyone of any age or ability can join in. Circle Dancing is fun and very sociable.

If you'd like more information, please contact:

Lynne 01259 742173 lynne244@btinternet.com

Rose 01334 657896 rose.cross@tesco.net

Web: www.cscd.org.uk

Facebook: Central Scotland Circle Dance

La Leche League meetings in Kinross ...

**First Thursday of the month,
10am – 12 noon**

**LA LECHE LEAGUE
INTERNATIONAL**



St Paul's Church Meeting Room, The Muirs, Kinross

- Friendly, relaxed mum-to-mum breastfeeding support and chat.
- Informal chat and an interesting group discussion.
- Plenty of time for answering your questions.

We welcome any mums (and mums to be) who are interested in breastfeeding. Children all very welcome.

For more details, contact:

Hannah Dalgety (LLL Leader, Kinross) 07886 859461

www.lll-fife-tayside.co.uk

Find us on Facebook: La Leche League Fife and Tayside

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.

Discover Loch Leven Website

To discover the myriad things to see and do in Kinross-shire and its neighbouring counties, visit

www.visitlochleven.org

Christmas & New Year Holiday Arrangements



Recommended last posting dates

For full information, go to www.royalmail.com/greetings

International Standard (formerly Airmail)

Africa, Middle East	Fri 4 Dec
Asia, Far East, Cyprus, Japan, Eastern Europe	Mon 7 Dec
Caribbean, Central and S America	Tue 8 Dec
Australia, Greece, New Zealand	Thu 10 Dec
International Standard to static HM Forces Mail	Fri 11 Dec
Czech Republic, German, Italy, Poland	Mon 14 Dec
Canada, Finland, Sweden, USA	Tue 15 Dec
Austria, Iceland, Ireland, Portugal, Spain	Wed 16 Dec
France	Thu 17 Dec
Belgium, Denmark, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Slovakia, Switzerland	Fri 18 Dec

United Kingdom

Second Class	Sat 19 Dec
First Class	Mon 21 Dec

Kinross Post Office (Co-operative)

Thu 24 Dec	close at 4pm
Fri 25 Dec – Mon 28 Dec	CLOSED
Tue 29 Dec & Wed 30 Dec	normal hours
Thu 31 Dec	close at 4pm
Fri 1 Jan – Mon 4 Jan	CLOSED
Tue 5 Jan	normal hours resume

Loch Leven Community Campus

Thu 24 Dec	10.00am – 6.00pm
Fri 25 Dec & Sat 26 Dec	CLOSED
Sun 27 Dec & Mon 28 Dec	8.00am – 4.00pm
Tue 29 Dec & Wed 30 Dec	10.00am – 8.00pm
Thu 31 Dec – Sat 2 Jan	CLOSED
Sun 3 Jan	8.00am – 5.00pm
Mon 4 Jan	normal hours resume

Loch Leven Community Library

Thu 24 Dec	10.00am – 3.30pm
Fri 25 Dec – Mon 28 Dec	CLOSED
Tue 29 Dec & Wed 30 Dec	10.00am – 8.00pm
Thu 31 Dec – Mon 4 Jan	CLOSED

Live Active Leisure

Thu 24 Dec	10.00am – 4.00pm
Fri 25 Dec & Sat 26 Dec	CLOSED
Sun 27 Dec & Mon 28 Dec	8.00am – 4.00pm
Tue 29 Dec & Wed 30 Dec	10.00am – 8.00pm
Thu 31 Dec – Sat 2 Jan	CLOSED
Sun 3 Jan	8.00am – 5.00pm
Mon 4 Jan	normal hours resume

Rowlands Pharmacy, Kinross

Thu 24 Dec	9.00am – 6.00pm
Fri 25 Dec	CLOSED
Sat 26 Dec	9.00am – 5.00pm
Sun 27 Dec & Mon 28 Dec	CLOSED
Thu 31 Dec	9.00am – 6.00pm
Fri 1 Jan	2.00pm – 3.00pm
Sat 2 Jan	9.00am – 5.00pm
Sun 3 Jan	2.00pm – 4.00pm
Mon 4 Jan	CLOSED

Davidson's Chemist, Milnathort

Thu 24 Dec	9.00am – 6.00pm
Fri 25 Dec	2.00pm – 3.00pm
Sat 26 Dec	CLOSED
Sun 27 Dec	2.00pm – 4.00pm
Mon 28 Dec – Thu 31 Dec	9.00am – 6.00pm
Fri 1 Jan	CLOSED
Sat 2 Jan	2.00pm – 4.00pm
Sun 3 Jan	CLOSED
Mon 4 Jan	9.00am – 6.00pm

For more information about pharmacy opening times and services over Christmas, please visit www.nhs24.com

Loch Leven Health Centre

See page 22

Kinross-shire Day Centre

See page 105

RSPB Loch Leven

See page 82

Perth & Kinross Council

Domestic Waste and Recycling Services

There will be no domestic or commercial collections on 25 and 26 December 2015 or 1 and 2 January 2016.

Unless householders or commercial customers are notified directly by letter, the following will apply:

Collections due on	will take place on
Fri 25 December	Sun 27 December
Sat 26 December	Sun 27 December
Fri 1 January	Sun 3 January
Sat 2 January	Sun 3 January

Garden and Food Waste Collections

There are **no scheduled garden and food waste collections from 21 December to 3 January**. Collection dates will return to normal from 4 January.

Real Christmas trees can be chopped up and added to your home compost bin, chopped up and placed in your brown-lidded bin or taken to your local Recycling Centre. Real or artificial trees presented as excess waste will not be uplifted.

Extreme Weather

In the event of extreme weather conditions it may not be safe for refuse vehicles to visit all areas of Perth & Kinross. If snow and ice prevent heavy vehicle movements in your area, regular collections will resume within five working days of the return of less hazardous weather conditions.

Recycling Centres

All Recycling Centres will be **CLOSED** on **25 and 26 December 2015 and 1 and 2 January 2016**. Opening hours otherwise remain the same over the festive period.

Special Uplifts

The last special uplift collection will be 24 December 2015. Normal collections resume on 5 January 2016.





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Sat	28	Lily Leaf and Autumnal Fun	22
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Sat	28	FESTIVE STREET MARKET AND LIGHT UP KINROSS	92
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Sat	5	French storytelling monthly	22
Sat	5	Small Business Saturday	18
Sat	5	Milnathort Primary School Christmas Fair	69
Sat	5	Boys Brigade Coffee Morning	92
Sat	5	Fossoway Church Christmas Bazaar and Community Carols	92
Sat	5	Try Curling sessions	76
Sun	6	Little Seedlings Club meets	43
Mon	7	Milnathort Primary School Parent Council meets	69
Mon	7	Cleish and Blairadam CC meets	40
Mon	7	KGV Playing Fields Management Committee AGM	92
Tue	8	Library book groups meet regularly	22
Tue	8	Citizens Advice Bureau in Kinross (twice monthly)	101
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Sat	19	Antiques, Vintage, Retro & Collectors Fair	59
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Tue	12	Leven Voices resumes	58
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Sat	23	Try Curling Beginners Course	76
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Sat	30	Broke Not Broken collection	60
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The Kinross Community Council Newsletter

is available from:

The Co-operative	High Street, Kinross
Baillies	High Street, Kinross
Sainsbury's	Station Road, Kinross
Costcutter	Green Road, Kinross
Giacopazzi's	New Road, Milnathort
Milnathort Post Office	New Road, Milnathort
Stewart & Smart	Stirling Road, Milnathort
Buchan's Garage	Main Street, Kinnesswood
Shop	Main Street, Kinnesswood
Fossoway Store	Crook of Devon
Mona's Coffee Shop	Muckhart
Powmill Milk Bar	Powmill
Moto Shop	Turfhills
RSPB Shop	RSPB Loch Leven
Loch Leven's Larder	Near Wester Balgedie