



Kinross Newsletter

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Founding editor,
Mrs Nan Walker, MBE

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DEADLINE for the April 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

Advertising Manager

Julia Fulton

10 Gowan Lea

Dollar, FK14 7FA..... 07936 151223
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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Advertising Julia Fulton **Treasurer and Subscriptions** Ross McConnell **Assistant Editor** Joyce Horsman



Editorial

The biennial **Better Place to Live Fair**, happening on Saturday 5 March, is a great event for anyone interested in the Kinross-shire community, particularly if you are new to the area. There will be dozens of community groups, sports clubs and other organisations on hand to give out information about what they do and how you can get involved. There will also be trade stalls, workshops, music and much more.

The Newsletter will have a stall at the Fair and we'd love you to stop by and have a chat about what you'd like to see in your community Newsletter.

You might meet **Julia**, our new **Advertising Manager**, whom we warmly welcome to the team this month. That should be 'welcome back', as Julia has worked for the Newsletter before, assisting with processing submissions.

Julia will be in touch with all our regular advertisers in the next week or so. If you have a local business and are thinking of advertising, Julia would love to hear from you. We can offer colour or black and white display advertising in a variety of sizes, or our quick and simple Typed Adverts.

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 or indeed other 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.

Milnathort Post Office Move

On 27 January, the postal service in Milnathort moved from number 13 New Road into the Giacomazzi (Nisa) store next door.

On behalf of Winnie, Janet and Beth, I would like to thank everyone who came into our post office for their custom over the years and for their kind words, cards and gifts leading up to our retirement. All four of us consider ourselves fortunate to have served and worked in such a friendly and supportive community. Although we are naturally sad at saying goodbye to everyone, we are doing so in the knowledge that the postal service will be in the very safe hands of Joanna and Frank and their staff next door.

With regard to the shop at no 13, it will remain closed for a short period and then reopen in the not too distant future under new management.

David G Hall
13 New Road, Milnathort

CIA 10th Birthday Thanks

The Cleaning Intelligence Agency is celebrating its 10th birthday this year.

We would like to take this opportunity, on the tenth anniversary of the start of our business, to acknowledge and thank all our customers and cleaners who have supported us over the years. It feels like no time at all since myself and Sarah started off the C.I.A., cleaning houses ourselves and working out of a small office at home. We are delighted that the business has grown to become what it is today: a family-run cleaning company that retains the personal touch, with a fully trained staff of 22 cleaners who know exactly how our customers like things done.

We now work from offices at Kingfisher House in Milnathort, with the support of a manager and an administrator to aid in the day-to-day running of the business. Each of our customers has a service that is tailored specifically to their needs, and this attention to detail has led us to a point where we are servicing over 200 properties per week.

As we continue to watch our business flourish and grow, we look forward to welcoming new clients to our books. Many thanks again to all for their continued support, and here's to the next 10 years!

Richard & Sarah Scott
Cleaning Intelligence Agency
Kingfisher House
Auld Mart Business Park
Milnathort

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Bats or What ???

In the last edition of the Newsletter, Cllrs Cuthbert and Giacomazzi gave their versions of the latest events with regard to the old Kinross High School site.

Persimmon Homes – one of, if not the, largest developer house builders in the UK – was chosen as the preferred bidder for the site in March 2012 and Perth and Kinross Council (PKC) are still, some four years later, in the process of selling them the site.

As I understand it, any deal would likely be conditional on Persimmon gaining planning approval for around 100 new houses on the site; i.e. the deal is not complete.

Persimmon submitted tandem planning applications for demolition and redevelopment of the site in April 2014. These were refused after a very controversial process that highlighted some strange goings-on within PKC, including the manner that internal PKC reports, critical of the development plans, were removed from public access and were not fully reflected in later advice to our elected Councillors.

PKC seem to me to be particularly accommodating in exercising great patience in concluding the deal with Persimmon and yet, by contrast, not so helpful or transparent when asked, in the public interest, to give any detail of their deal (on our behalf) with Persimmon.

On 18 December 2015, a PKC “special meeting” was held behind closed doors (i.e. public and press excluded) with the sole purpose of discussing the continuing “disposal” of the High School site.

Freedom of Information requests as to the detail of the meeting has resulted in a blank response from PKC, who claim they cannot share the most basic of information with the public due to “commercial confidentiality”.

This seems an odd stance given that PKC are selling an asset of the Council itself, i.e. a public asset.

It has been reported that the meeting agreed to extend further the longstop date (i.e. the date that the “deal” should be concluded, if at all) by up to another year.

In the last Newsletter, Cllr Giacomazzi indicated that a solution has to be found to safeguard bats in the old High School buildings “**first**”, i.e. *before* PKC “expects to receive a planning application from Persimmon Homes”.

Confusingly, in the same Newsletter, Cllr Cuthbert states that: “the developers have ... given a commitment to clear the back of the site (retaining the Edwardian block at the front) in the near future”.

Demolition would require planning permission to be applied for and granted, so how could this proceed when the sale is not complete and is conditional on gaining approval for the houses?

Disturbing bat roosts without due process and authority is a criminal offence.

The presence of bats on the old High School site was raised by a member of the public during consultation on Persimmon’s 2014 planning application. This information should have prompted PKC to require Persimmon to produce a Bat Survey and an Environmental Impact Assessment. As far as I know, these processes were not undertaken.

So what is really going on behind closed doors and why are the public being kept in the dark?

In any other circumstance, how many commercial property deals would remain so open-ended and drift for years with no conclusion?

How can such an arrangement be reasonably seen to be in the public interest?

Why have PKC not found another buyer by auction of the property, an option they have employed elsewhere?

Meanwhile Persimmon has lodged a separate planning application for a further 300 new houses on land at Lathro extending toward Milnathort.

At both the old High School site and Lathro, Persimmon is seeking approval for greater housing numbers than the statutory allocation in the Local Development Plan.

As with much of PKC dealings, this all seems a bit bats (i.e. mad) to me.

Ken Miles

Turfhills House, Kinross

Congratulations



Congratulations to Debbie and Allan **KENNEDY** on the birth of **Alexander Smith** and **Catherine Mae** on Friday 29 January 2016. A little brother and sister for Abigail; first grandson and fifth granddaughter for Iris and Sandy Smith, Milnathort, and first grandson and second granddaughter for Mary and Doug Kennedy, Inverness. All well! Welcome to the families!

Thanks



Sing for Syria

Leven Voices would like to say a big thank you to everyone who came along to our fundraising Sing for Syria concert on Sunday 24 January to raise money for the Save the Children Child Refugee Appeal. It was a fabulous afternoon of music and song and the turnout to Kinross Parish Church on a dreich January afternoon was fantastic.

We saw fabulous performances from classical Syrian guitarist Ayman Jarjour, soloist Teenah Brain and pianist Nick Lauener, all known well locally. We listened to Moya Fox talk passionately about Save the Children and the refugee crisis and listened to a moving and courageous performance from the youngsters of Horsecross Glee Choir.

To close the afternoon, our guest tutor Alice Marra sang a beautiful Burns number and all the performers joined together for a joyous gospel-style sing-along with the audience. All in all, it was a very heart-warming and positive fundraising event and we were bowled over by the generosity of the audience. We raised £2,500 for Save the Children! So a huge thank you to all the performers and volunteers who generously gave up their time, to Moya from Save the Children, to the folks at Kinross Parish Church for providing a fabulous venue and to everyone who dug deep in their pockets that day to reach out to those vulnerable families in desperate need of our help. A heartfelt thank you from all of us at Leven Voices.



High Street Regeneration Survey

In the last Newsletter, I committed myself to collating any information sent to me on the community's view of the new High Street. I said that I would report back in the March Newsletter. In order to meet the print deadline I am writing this on Friday 12 February.

I received 17 replies which may not, on the surface, seem many, but I felt was encouraging given that many individuals have already made their views clear and it has been a very short timescale for corresponding. Many people included several points in their emails or calls.

Elderly patients ask for help to cross

From what I have received, I believe there are clear messages that should be taken on board by the Council:

10 out of 17 (nearly 60%) thought the High Street looked better, although three were concerned about the state of some of the buildings.

7 out of 17 (41%) wanted some education/clarification on the concept of "shared space" e.g. who has the right of way etc.

6 out of 17 (35%) felt there should be some warning signs for drivers and pedestrians that they are about to enter a "shared space" area.

14 out of 17 (82%) wanted a "formal crossing", e.g. pelican or zebra, reinstated. Five of these wanted two crossings. The most popular location for a crossing was near the Co-op, although others mentioned where the old one was



Waiting for a gap in the traffic near the Co-op. 82% of people responding to CCllr MacKenzie would like to see a controlled crossing reinstated.

Photo: Vincent Johnston

and on Station Road. This was the topic that really concerned and upset people. There were some really strong pleas and personal explanations of difficulties people had experienced. One of the most poignant was from the High Street dentist, who stated that some of their elderly patients ask for help to cross when they are leaving the surgery.

12 out of 17 (70%) were looking for some delineation between kerb space and road space. Everyone gave examples of inappropriate parking and concern for the safety of younger children and older citizens.

9 out of 17 (53%) voiced concerns over excessive speed of cars, including "narrow escapes" at the Salutation Hotel calming measure. Some people mentioned putting in speed bumps at

both ends of the reconstructed area.

The other major topic of note was the fact that too much heavy traffic still uses the High Street with one respondent raising the issue of whether the new ring road was on "sat nav" systems.

It may not be the most scientific exercise carried out, but I think there are some strong messages e.g. LET US HAVE A CROSSING that should not be ignored. Many thanks to everyone who got in touch.

David A MacKenzie
Vice Chair, Kinross CC



A car parked in the no parking zone, on what would have been pavement before the 'shared space' was created. Photo: Vincent Johnston



A car parked in the no parking zone and on top of the tactile paving strip which alerts visually impaired pedestrians to the division between 'pavement' and 'road'
Photo: Vincent Johnston

Councillor Giacopazzi

Council Tax 'Freeze'



In last month's Newsletter, Cllr Cuthbert wrote '...the Scottish Government has imposed a freeze on Council Tax increases for the ninth consecutive year'. I offer the following **facts** to counter some of the **mythology** which has grown up around the subject.

1. The Council Tax 'freeze' is a voluntary arrangement into which local authorities may enter. Therefore, it is not 'imposed'. Moray Council, for example, have publicly debated whether to opt in or not.
2. Local authorities participating in the 'freeze' are awarded substantial funding from the Scottish Government to compensate for 'lost' increases in tax. Perth and Kinross Council will receive under £12,000,000 in the year 2016/17.
3. The reason for the 'freeze'? Under the last Labour dominated Scottish Government, Council Tax rose by 59%; an unsustainable situation.
4. The Council's income is 20% from Council Tax, 80% from Government grant. One penny on Council tax only raises about £750,000. To fund the spending gap by Council Tax rises would have required a massive Council tax increase.
5. Therefore, the Council opted into the 'freeze' while balancing the budget through its continuing 'transformation programme' agreed six years ago; this delivers services more efficiently and cheaply. Hundreds of jobs have been shed through natural wastage and voluntary redundancy. Council offices have closed.

With the **facts** established, I will offer an **opinion**. As Council Tax is levied on people's homes, not their income, it impacts most on the less well off; often the young and the old. It doesn't just benefit the better off. So, I'd rather balance the books through efficiencies rather than the easy route of constantly raising taxes. Also, every pound in extra tax which Government takes is one less pound which you have to spend in the economy. Private spending boosts economic growth.

Since the future of the Council Tax freeze is a Scottish Government decision, the people of Scotland will decide in the May Holyrood elections whether or not to support parties promising higher Council Tax bills. It is a democratic choice; your choice.

Council Revenue Budget 2016/17

On 11 February, the Council was given the choice of choosing one of four proposed budgets: SNP, Lib Dem, Labour or Conservative. Again, the independent group did not propose a budget. The Council chose the SNP's budget, which aims for a modest surplus of under 1% over the year while maintaining mandatory services.

The budget covers the next three years, providing for spending of:

£323,145,000 in 2016/17,
£307,188,000 in 2017/18,
£304,275,000 in 2018/19.

After years of no increases in government grant, all Councils are facing a real terms reduction in funding; hence the need for the ever greater efficiencies delivered through the 'transformation programme'. Why? Ultimately the country is facing financial challenges as it attempts to balance income with spending. So local, as well as national government, bears the brunt of the inevitable spending cuts. Faced with a legal obligation to maintain essential services, Councils have to

find economies in those services which are not ring fenced. One good news item from the Budget; an extra £2 million pounds has been allocated for local road repairs in the coming year. This is additional spending, over and above money normally allocated for the purpose. I have been acutely aware of the poor state of our roads following one of the wettest Winters I can remember and this new money will go some way to addressing the situation.

The new Kinross Primary School exemplifies the Council's careful approach to spending. To fund the Loch Leven Campus a previous administration increased council tax; the current administration has been able to fund the new school **without any tax increase**.

Council Reserves

At 31 March 2016, the Council is projected to hold 'uncommitted' (i.e. available for spending) funds of around £12 million. Following the budget, the sum will equal 3.3% of the Council's Revenue Budget, considered a prudent reserve by Audit Scotland, the Government watchdog. This sum has been prudently built up over years and is there to cover emergencies; rainy day money! As the Head of Finance says, 'you can only spend it once', which is why it is kept apart from general spending.

Milnathort Community Council

Following action by myself and Cllr Cuthbert, eleven candidates have come forward in the election to a newly constituted Community Council, to be held by postal ballot with results on 25 February. By the time you read this, the new Community Council will have been elected.

Milnathort Town Hall

On 11 March our beautifully restored town hall will be officially opened and a plaque unveiled in memory of the late Dr Derek Anderson. Derek was chairman of the Arthur and Margaret Thomson Trust at the time the hall refurbishment was mooted and which he strongly supported.

Councillor Joe Giacopazzi

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Councillor Robertson Council Budget



Perth & Kinross Council fixed its budget for 2016/17 on 11 February. The SNP administration's budget motion was passed with the support of the Labour group on the Council. There were major cut backs in funding contained within the administration's budget, mainly for support services within the education department. There were big reductions in devolved school management budgets, which are used by schools to provide learning materials, clerical support and training. Primary schools were cut by £193,000 and secondary schools were cut by £216,000. The school supply budget, which helps schools provide supply teachers to cover sickness amongst staff, was also cut by a total of £400,000. There were also many other cuts to various school support services.

Added to this there will be increases in charges for using schools/community campus facilities.

On the Environment Service, a 20% cut (£60,000) was made to ditch maintenance and cleaning and there was a 50% cut (£100,000) to the budget for dealing with landslips and repairing retaining walls. There was also a 30% cut (£70,000) in the budget to renew white lines on roads. The money used to cut roadside verges was reduced by 50%, which is a saving of £100,000.

It was agreed to close all Council owned attended public toilets by 2018 with a saving of £170,000.

On the good news front, the budgets for Bloom Committee was not cut. Neither was the budget for play areas. The Lib Dem group had asked for funding to provide vehicle activated speed signs for areas that suffer from speeding traffic but this was not accepted.

When is a pothole not a pothole? When it is only 40mm deep. It was also decided not to repair potholes if they are 40mm deep and only repair them when they get to 60mm deep. This is not a joke but a serious proposal which was passed. It is anticipated that this will save £120,000. But as a cyclist, I do not think it is a very good idea to leave potholes as deep as 40mm as they can easily puncture a bike tyre and aren't very good for car tyres either.

Lastly, it was further agreed that the budget to replace dead shrubs in herbaceous borders would be removed altogether, saving £26,000, but leaving empty spaces in beds where these plants once grew.

There are many more reductions in funding for various activities. If you have an area of particular interest, please get in touch and I will check out the position.

This Council budget will have serious knock on implications for many, especially those with children or employed in education. Only time will tell how damaging the cuts in funding will prove to be.

Keep Kinross-shire Tidy

Many people contacted me following last month's Newsletter with areas requiring to be litter picked, and these have all now been done. Please let me know if you notice an area that is untidy and requires a litter pick.

Road Drains

There appear to be blocked road drains everywhere. Again, please let me know if you spot one and I will get it cleared.

Councillor Willie Robertson

Something amazing is returning to Loch Leven!

The Loch Leven Walkathon returns on **Sunday 13 March** with a choice of three walking routes: 6 km, 11 km and 13 miles. This walk along the stunning Loch Leven Heritage Trail is in its sixth successful year and has raised £45,000 so far for the charity. All routes start and finish at the Boathouse Restaurant in Kinross, have fantastic views and follow well-maintained, signposted, traffic-free footpaths.

The 6 km and 11 km routes are suitable for all ages and fitness levels and the 13-mile walk is available for those aged 13 and above. Come along for some fun and healthy exercise on Sunday 13 March by signing up for the walk and paying the small entry fee (£10 for adults, £5 for young people 5 – 17, under 5s free) – and raise money for a great cause at the same time! Please note that spaces are limited for the 13-mile walk so please register in advance at www.scotlandwalkathon.com
Egg-citing new addition for 2016 – a family Easter Egg Hunt. Can you beat the bunny and solve the clues to find the eggs? A great day out for all the family and an Easter Egg is included for all young participants. You might be lucky and spot the Easter Bunny!

With your support we can improve lives for the almost half a million Scots affected by chest, heart and stroke illness. Enter online at www.scotlandwalkathon.com, call 0300 1212 444 for an entry form, email fundraising@chss.org.uk or call into the CHSS charity shops in Leven, Kirkcaldy, Anstruther, Cowdenbeath or Perth.

See also advert on opposite page.

Reminder: give your glass for CHAS

Householders across Perth and Kinross are being asked to keep recycling their glass bottles and jars and do their bit to help raise vital funds for CHAS (Children's Hospice Association Scotland).


For every extra glass bottle or glass jar recycled between 1 October 2015 and 30 September 2016, compared to the year 2014-15, PKC will donate a penny to CHAS's Rachel House Children's Hospice in Kinross.

CHAS provides care in two children's hospices, locally at Rachel House, and at Robin House in Balloch and also through their home service, CHAS at Home. Last year they supported more than 380 families from across Scotland.

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Big Debate raises Kinross profile

BBC radio and television presenter Gordon Brewer gave a boost to Kinross-shire's profile when BBC Radio Scotland's "Big Debate" was broadcast from the Loch Leven Community Campus on Friday 12 February.

In his introduction to the current affairs programme, Gordon said: "I think actually Kinross is rather undersold as an area to visit: it's right on the side of Loch Leven, there are some fantastic walks and the RSPB has a nature reserve, so do come and have a visit". He also explained the concept of community campuses, of which, "Loch Leven is said to be a prime example", and mentioned the sort of community facilities available at the campus, such as Kinross Museum.

The "Big Debate" is similar in format to BBC TV's "Question Time" or BBC Radio 4's "Any Questions", but with Scottish only venues and broadcast live in Scotland for an hour each Friday lunchtime.

The panellists on this occasion were: Roseanna Cunningham, SNP MSP

for Perthshire South & Kinross-shire and Scottish Government Cabinet Secretary for Fair Work, Skills & Training; Murdo Fraser, Conservative MSP for Mid Scotland and Fife; Willie Rennie, Lib Dem MSP for Mid Scotland and Fife and leader of the Scottish Liberal Democrats; Henry McLeish, former Labour First Minister; and Louise Batchelor, broadcaster and Green Party member.

Approximately 180 people were in the audience, around 30 of them senior pupils from Kinross High School. Head boy Struan kicked off by asking "Which result in the US election would be best for Britain?"

As the questions, which are submitted in advance, are to ideally relate to that week's news, the rest of the discussion was dominated by finance, with questions on general taxation, the

Scottish council tax freeze, the impasse in discussions between the Scottish and UK governments on the fiscal framework and, finally, wage levels.

Audience members who had not submitted a question or not had one selected could still join in the debate.

The programme should still be available to download via the BBC iPlayer at the time this Newsletter is published.



The Big Debate panel. Back: Murdo Fraser, Henry McLeish, Willie Rennie. Front: Louise Batchelor, presenter Gordon Brewer and Roseanna Cunningham

Road works

C420 Duncricvie at Netherton Culvert

In order to permit **Retaining Wall repair works** on the above section of road there will be a temporary traffic regulation order. It will be effective from 29 March for a period of nine weeks.

The order will prohibit all vehicular traffic on the C420 from its junction with the U228 at Bankhead (313293, 706339) to its junction with the U239 at Colliston (314070, 707469), a distance of 1.45 kilometres or thereby.

Pedestrian and emergency vehicular access to premises will be maintained.

The alternative route for vehicles is:

C420 – U238 – A91 – B996 – C420

The Kinross Newsletter

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Deadline for all Submissions
5.00 pm, FRIDAY 18 March
for publication on Saturday 2 April



Kinross-shire 2016

Better Place to Live Fair



An event with something for everyone!

Saturday 5 March

10am till 2pm

Loch Leven Community Campus

Muir

Kinross

Free entry!



Fun Activities
Information
Local Projects
Workshops
Music & Lots more!

Rare mother of pearl clouds

Many thanks to Newsletter reader Linda Christie of Crook of Devon for sending us some amazing photographs of the sky taken on Monday 1 February, including this one.

Linda wasn't sure what she was witnessing, but described the clouds as looking "like soft marshmallows, but very vivid" and said she felt "very thrilled to witness this sight".

Highly coloured clouds were seen in several parts of the UK around this time. Many people thought they were seeing the Northern Lights, but the phenomenon is something called "nacreous" or "mother of pearl" clouds. BBC Scotland weather presenter Christopher Blanchett said: "These eye-catching rainbow coloured clouds form in the Earth's stratosphere at around 70,000ft, way above where other clouds are normally found and in much colder air, around -78C.

"Usually it is far too dry at this height for clouds to form, but during the polar winter the temperature can drop low enough to promote the cloud's development.

"Here in Scotland, the recent storms have probably helped too, with strong winds driving moisture up into the stratosphere.

"Their colour comes from ice crystals refracting the sun's rays to give the

rainbow effect.

"They're most vivid before dawn and after sunset, as they're in sunlight longer due to their altitude."

Linda's photograph was taken around 5.15pm, looking west.



Nacreous clouds viewed from Crook of Devon. Photo: Linda Christie.

38th Glenfarg Folk Feast



Kinross is the location for the 38th Glenfarg Folk Feast, which begins on Friday 8 April and continues throughout the entire weekend, finishing on Sunday 10th with a farewell concert headlined by the amazing Dougie MacLean.

The "hub" for the entire weekend is Backstage at the Green Hotel, where all the main events are to take place. The main features are a welcoming ceilidh on the Friday with The Orwell Ceilidh Band, with two wonderful concerts on the other weekend evenings. The Saturday concert line-up consists of The Emily Smith Duo, Maurice Dickson, Shona Donaldson and Paul Anderson, and the Farg Folk, Emily won the Scots Singer of the year award in both 2008 and 2014 and is joined for the concert by her multi-instrumentalist husband, Jamie McClennan.

As well as the internationally renowned Dougie MacLean, the Sunday concert features Winter Wilson, and Roberto and the Ticket Two; a brilliant and varied night's entertainment.



Hear Emily Smith, Scots Singer of the Year in 2008 and 2014, at the Glenfarg Fok Feast in Kinross



Dougie McLean will headline the farewell concert at this year's Glenfarg Folk Feast

Also throughout the weekend, visitors will find many other attractions to keep them entertained, including a Children's Concert on the Sunday with Artie Trezise, singarounds, a fun song competition and the 31st World Puff-a-Box Championship!

The club committee are delighted to be holding the Feast in Kinross and are looking forward to welcoming everyone for what should be a great weekend of entertainment, fun and fantastic music.

Full details of the Feast are available at

www.glenfargfolkclub.com

Tickets are available through the ticket hotline 07473 931440 or by emailing tickets@glenfargfolkclub.com.



You've seen it on the telly, now come and do it yourselves, and if you are not sure, or want to brush up your steps, then there is a **FREE** dance lesson beforehand with Pam Spowart.



The Scottish Swing Orchestra will be here at Loch Leven Community Campus on Friday 18th March 2016 from 7pm



The Scottish Swing Orchestra will be led by Dave Batchelor who will be serving up a Feast of Hot Dance Music so you can Fox Trot, Cha Cha and Quick Step. As well as Dancing there will be Games, Competitions and Prizes



Don't worry if you don't have a dance partner – there will be plenty of people to dance with!

Refreshments & Bar will be available



Tickets are £14 and must be booked. Tickets are available from Gerry McGregor at GMcGregor@pkc.gov.uk or Campus Reception on 01577 867200 or from Pam Spowart at pamspowart@hotmail.co.uk

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

'Like' our page to be kept informed. Search for 'Kinross Newsletter' or go to:

www.facebook.com/kinrossnewsletter



PLANNING PERMISSION BUILDING WARRANTS

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

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

The rebirth of the Japanese Garden at Cowden

‘The most important garden in the Western World’: this was how Professor Suzuki, 18th Hereditary Head of the Soami School of Imperial Garden Design in Japan, described, in 1925, the Japanese Garden at Cowden, situated halfway between Muckhart and Dollar.

The Garden was the creation of Ella Christie, owner of Cowden Castle. Ella was an intrepid traveller to remote places such as Samarkand and Tibet. In 1907 she visited Kyoto and was inspired to make her own Japanese Garden. On her return to Scotland, she persuaded Taki Handa of the Royal School of Garden Design at Nagoya to come to Cowden. There, Taki Handa sculpted the landscape and laid the foundations of the Garden, with its lake, bridges, islands and teahouses. Lanterns and stepping stones were carefully placed and, with Ella’s help, plants and trees were chosen. Known as ‘Shah-Rak-Uen’, meaning ‘Place of Pleasure and Delight’, the garden matured and became famous for its beauty and for being authentically Japanese. It had many visitors, some well-known, including Andrew Lang and Queen Mary.

Although she had many other interests, the Garden was really Ella’s life work.



*The Japanese Garden at Cowden in 1955
Photo by I Campbell, courtesy of Dollar Museum*

She loved it and visited it nearly every day until her death in 1949. Her great nephew, now Sir Robert Stewart, inherited the estate and maintained the Garden until disaster struck in 1963. In one night, vandals destroyed teahouses, bridges and lanterns beyond repair.

Since 1963 the many lovers of the Garden have continued to visit and have hoped that it would one day be fully restored. Some years ago Sir Robert handed the Garden over to his daughter Sara and she has now bravely taken over the monumental task of restoration.

For the last two years, Professor Masao Fukuhara, an eminent Japanese landscape architect who designed the Japanese Garden at Kew, has been overseeing a team who have dredged the lake and are recreating the Garden. So that it will not be vandalised again, a house will be built beside the garden, designed by Matthew Pease, who has been involved in every stage of the restoration project.

You can hear all about the history of the Garden and its current ‘rebirth’ in an illustrated lecture organised by Dollar Museum, which has a large collection on the Japanese Garden.

‘The Rebirth of The Japanese Garden at Cowden’, by Matthew Pease, Architect, with a Question and Answer session after the talk with Sir Robert Stewart of Arndean and his daughter Sara Stewart will take place on **Friday 11 March** at 7.30pm in Dollar Academy music auditorium. Tickets (£5) are on sale in Brian Devlin’s shop, Dollar, and the Dollar Deli, or order by phone: 07712 841 963. If any tickets are unsold, they will be available at the door.

Janet Carolan



*The Japanese Garden at Cowden in 1909
Photo courtesy of Dollar Museum*

Recent Scams

Your Package has been seized

Fraudsters are sending out virus infected emails that claim a package has been seized by HM Revenue & Customs upon arrival into the UK. The official looking emails claiming to be from Royal Mail contain a link to a document which will install malicious software on your computer designed to steal credentials like account names, email addresses and passwords.

If you believe that you have been a victim of fraud you can report it online: www.actionfraud.police.uk/report_fraud or by telephone: 0300 123 2040.

TeslaCrypt Ransomware

TeslaCrypt is an aggressive new ransomware targeting Windows users. It locks you out of your computer or your files, and then demands money to let you back in. It also seeks out files related to tax returns, personal finance and iTunes. TeslaCrypt arrives via spam, either in malicious email attachments or via links to malicious websites that download the ransomware, so protecting your computers with anti-spam and web filtering software can help to prevent the ransomware messages from getting through.

Blue Badge Application Scam

It has come to the attention of the Trading Standards service that there is a scam website offering to help people apply for a Blue Badge for £49.

Applications for a Blue Badge should be made through the GOV.UK website or directly to the local authority where you can apply online or download a copy of the application form. The scam website requires you to pay the £49 upfront and you will still be required to pay the £20 to PKC if your application is successful. Applying directly will only cost you £20 if your application is successful.

If you have any doubts about a website or your application, contact the council to get more information or advice about the Blue Badge scheme on 01737 476476.

PKC Trading Standards' aim is to inform local residents about scams and bogus callers operating in the area.

If you have any information about scams and bogus callers please email Trading Standards at tsintel@pkc.gov.uk with any details: scams, emails, lottery, doorstep callers, suspicious traders, vehicles used etc. Information provided, no matter how insignificant you may think it is, may assist current investigations and can provide essential intelligence. Unfortunately, this service no longer deals directly with consumer complaints or gives consumer advice. If you wish to make a complaint about a trader or wish consumer advice, this service is now provided by Citizens Advice Consumer Services, telephone 08454 040506, website www.adviceguide.org.uk/scotland

To receive alerts about scams and other crime information, sign up to Community Watch. See Police Box, p. 25, for details.

SEPA objects to Lathro development

The Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) has objected to Persimmon Homes' application to build 300 houses on land north west of Lathro Farm, Kinross, on the grounds that "it may place buildings and persons at flood risk contrary to Scottish Planning Policy."

Fundraising for London Marathon

I'm Louise Robertson and I am originally from Kinnesswood, now living in South London. It's been a long-time ambition of mine to run the London Marathon and I am thrilled to be doing so this year on behalf of the Microloan Foundation.

The Microloan Foundation help the poorest women in rural Africa to help themselves out of poverty by providing loans and business training to female entrepreneurs.

By providing small loans, they help women set up their own self-sustainable businesses. 99% of loans are repaid, and this money is reused for further loans. Many women will take out a series

of loans as their businesses grow and once they are self-sufficient, the cycle continues as new women are helped to transform their lives.

Of donations given:

- **£10** can provide the smallest loan and intensive training to a woman living on less than 80p per day to set up her first small business
- **£40** can pay for the motorbike fuel for a Loan Officer for two weeks, allowing them to deliver training and loans to approximately 350 women
- **£100** could provide two female farmers with the capital and training to invest in seeds and fertilisers, enabling them to produce more food for consumption and sale

For more information on the Microloan Foundation and the incredible work they do, please visit their website: www.microloanfoundation.org.uk

My partner will also be running and we would really appreciate any support to help us reach our goal. To find out more about our training and fundraising activities please visit our Virgin Giving and Facebook pages:

www.virginmoneygiving.com/team/louiseandgary

www.facebook.com/louandgarymarathon

Thanks!

Louise



Louise Robertson, formerly Kinnesswood, is running the London Marathon for a charity which helps take African women out of poverty

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Councillor Barnacle Supplementary Guidance on Landscape for PKC's adopted Local Development Plan (LDP) and emerging LDP2

*Copy of a letter sent to Cleish & Blairadam
CC, Fossoway & District CC and Kinross-shire Civic Trust
(12/2/16)*



I thought it necessary to update you on the latest position regarding the above and enclose as background my letter to PKC of 19/1/15 and attached article I wrote for Rural Scotland's Spring 2014 Newsletter, that also appeared in the May 2014 edition of Kinross CC's Newsletter.

You may recall that the Enterprise and Infrastructure (E & I) Committee of 25/3/15 discussed the proposed Local Landscape Area (LLA) Designations recommended by the PKC consultants, which excluded from designation the former Areas of Great Landscape Value (AGLV's) of the Cleish Hills and the River Devon and its gorge. Unlike the SNP Convener and Vice-Convener (Councillor Giacopazzi) of E & I, I as a local member had attended all the Review Panel meetings held by the consultants and noted the strong representations for the inclusion of these areas based upon meeting the consultants' own criteria. I am highly critical of the consultants' exercise on this, especially ignoring the significance of cross boundary designations, particularly with Fife and PKC Officers' response (to the strong representations made) that to include the Cleish Hills and Devon Gorge "would diminish the merits of other Local Landscape Areas in Kinross-shire (namely Lochleven, Ochil Hills and Portmoak)."

The Reporter to our Local Plan 2004 Public Inquiry clearly didn't share our planners' view either and endorsed the strong community campaign to extend the AGLV's to cover Kinross-shire's hill and river borders.

At the March 2015 Committee an amendment by myself, supported by Councillor Robertson, calling for reconsideration of these former AGLV areas as LLA's was defeated, all 6 SNP members voting against the community's wishes.

Subsequently on 26/3/15 at a meeting with Forward Planning, local members requested reconsideration of their position in the Main Issues Report (MIR) for our emerging LDP2.

When we debated the MIR at Full Council on 18/11/15 I did not move an amendment on Landscape Guidance because we were assured that the opportunity to consider again landscape designation for the Cleish Hills and Devon Gorge would be afforded at the E & I Committee in January 2016. At that subsequent Committee on 20/1/16, in an update on progress with Supplementary Guidance on Landscape, the planners dismissed a further review of designations. I again moved an amendment against this view, on the same ground as the March 2015 amendment, being defeated again by the block vote of the SNP members.

The next opportunity for re-consultation on Landscape Guidance will now be in September 2016 when our Proposed LDP2 is published and not in the current consultation on the MIR which concludes on 16/3/16. I suggest strong objections against the continued exclusion of the Cleish Hills and Devon Gorge from landscape designation should be made then.

I noted that at both E & I Committees aforementioned, Cllr Giacopazzi had stated that there was no development pressure on these former AGLV areas but residents of Naemoor

Road in Crook of Devon will know differently; although I succeeded in persuading the planners to exclude this large development site from our LDP in October 2011 (after a long campaign by the community over many years) noting that it does not feature in the MIR for LDP2 (covering the period 2018 to 2028), I understand that the land to the west and north of the Crook in our former AGLV is owned by a development company for just such a long-term purpose.

In summary, it is, I believe, important to the people of your areas that the landscape designations we fought for in our Local Plan 2004 should not be lost as a result of a change in Scottish Planning Policy and a flawed PKC consultants' exercise; being particularly aggrieved that the SNP minority administration members have shown their usual slavish acceptance of the corporate senior officer view and dismissal of local community and members' concerns that has been a feature in Kinross-shire this Council term, especially in relation to planning issues.

Yours sincerely

Cllr Michael Barnacle
Independent Member for Kinross-shire

2016 Budget Speech to PKC

"Whilst I agree the prudent approach advised in Paragraph 7.8 should continue since it has enabled us to be in a better position at this time than some other Authorities; I note that (paragraph 7.15) the medium term plan assumes an increase in Council Tax of 2% per annum for the provisional budget for 17/19 whilst assuming (paragraph 7.23) a 1% increase in Pay Awards for the public sector in the same period. The disproportionate squeeze on the public sector by both Governments is to be regretted.

"I note that the actual reduction in Scottish Government funding of 16/17 is significantly worse than anticipated (para 2.2.4) and given that the magnitude of the reductions are unprecedented (para 7.3); I commend Officers for their work in managing this.

"We are being asked to deliver Council cuts and accept this austerity agenda at a time of growing service demands (para 5.2). When I sought election successfully way back in 1999 I did not expect to be effectively a mere agent of Government policy with so little room to make a difference to the people I represent.

"The source of our current predicament must be laid at the 'politically popular door' of the Council Tax freeze, frozen by the SNP for an unprecedented 10th consecutive year in 2016/17 (para 2.1.9), which leaves Council very little room for manoeuvre and no realistic option but to accept. I note from John Swinney's letter in Appendix A, reference to the Commission on Local Tax Reform; I seem to recollect the first year of the freeze was to facilitate examining this but it was kicked into the long grass, meanwhile costs and service demands continued to grow.

"When I first joined the Council, local members had a much earlier and greater say in the budget process than now. I note reference to a budget consultation exercise in para 6 but no reference to local member consultation. Councillors not on the Budget Review Group, that liaise with the Corporate Management Team to produce the figures around 1 month prior to budget setting, have very little or no influence on the process.

Continues over page

"The Independent Group view Budget Day as containing an element of farce with competing political groups vying to gain credence for unacceptable cuts added back. We have not presented a budget given the political arithmetic in this Chamber and the lack of dialogue from an ineffective Opposition but do have a clear idea on use of the available headroom and I would thank Officers in the Finance Service for their help on that assessment. It centres mainly on rejecting the many cuts to the Environment Service which, unlike Education and Housing/Community Care, has no element of ring-fencing resulting from accepting the Government offer and is the one service that experiences most of the cuts year on year, also being the most visible to constituents. I personally would like to use 0.6% of our uncommitted reserves (leaving 3% uncommitted) referred to in Paper 4 today, which effectively equates to £1,970,000 to relieve more of the effect of cuts than the headroom allows, especially in Community Care and Roads, introducing the unbudgeted £687,000 cost of the rural garden and food waste expansion presented to the Environment Committee last November and which no Group has mentioned.

"We have examined what is tabled today in the short recess time available and vote accordingly!"

The Independent Group decided to abstain and send a message re lack of dialogue.

Councillor Mike Barnacle
Independent Member for Kinross-shire

Quarrymill coffee shop open

The popular charity coffee shop in Quarrymill Woodland Park, Perth, will be open for its 2016 season on Monday 21 March - just in time for Easter and the holidays.

The Coffee shop is set in some lovely grounds with woodland walks - some of which are wheelchair friendly - and serves a delicious range of home-baking, hot and cold drinks, homemade soup, sandwiches, toasties and freshly baked scones.

There is also a Gift Shop on the same premises where customers can purchase greeting cards, jams and a selection of gifts including jewellery, scarves and handbags.

The Gannochy Trust has kindly given the committee the use of the delightful premises since 1991 and The Macmillan Coffee Shop has opened every year since for the summer months. All profits go to the Cornhill Macmillan Centre to help cancer patients in the Perth and Kinross area.

Both volunteers and customers are looking forward to the doors opening again for another successful year of fundraising. The Coffee Shop is open throughout the Summer: Mondays to Saturdays, 10am until 4.15pm, from 21 March until 22 October.

More information can be found on the website:
www.macmillancoffeeeshop.webs.com

Grant sources

PKC's latest summary of funding opportunities for voluntary groups etc is now available on the local community website. Click on the words 'Funding Page' on the home page of www.kinross.cc then on 'Funding Alert' to see details of dozens of grant programmes that can be applied to over the next two or three months.

Meal Makers volunteers wanted

Meal Makers, the project that connects people and local communities through food, has now rolled out its services to Perth and Kinross.

The service is a free, local neighbourhood food-sharing project that uses an online platform to connect volunteers of any age who have a passion for cooking and want to be active in their communities (Cooks), with older neighbours over the age of 55 (Diners) who would appreciate a delicious home cooked meal from a friendly neighbour. Once a Cook and Diner have been matched, the Cook will prepare an extra meal and deliver it to their Diner at a time agreed by both parties.

By matching volunteer cooks with diners, Meal Makers aims to reduce food poverty and malnutrition, improve diets and combat social isolation by breaking down the barriers that lead to loneliness. The project helps to strengthen connections within communities by providing a flexible way for people to volunteer their time and skills locally in a way which suits them.


Meal Makers has made a flying start in Perth and Kinross, having made several matches in different parts of the region with both Cooks and Diners advising that they are thoroughly enjoying meal shares and being part of the project. If you think you could do something great with an extra plate, or would like to meet a friendly neighbour over a plate of their delicious home cooked food, then Meal Makers would love to hear from you.



Cooks can join Meal Makers by visiting www.mealmakers.org.uk or contacting Meal Makers on 01738 452236 / heather@mealmakers.org.uk

If you would like to sign up as a Diner or know someone who would really appreciate some home cooked food, then please call Meal Makers on 01738 452236.





Launching Meal Makers



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Loch Leven Community Library

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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.

French Storytelling, First Saturday of each month

French themed story-time for 4-8 year olds, 11.30am-12pm on the first Saturday of each month. Run by volunteers, this project 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.



Fantastic Stories and Tales

Sat 27 February

Professional Storyteller **Gerard Durkin** has been telling amusing tales since his childhood. Join us to hear his comic art of weaving colourful stories and songs. 11am-12pm. Free event suitable for families. Booking required.

We're Going on a Bear Hunt ...

Thu 3 March

Some famous bears, big bears, small bears, white bears, teddy bears and hungry bears! So many bear stories to choose from. Join us on World Book Day for some bear antics. Listen to your favourite bear stories and hunt for the bear. 4-5pm. Free event suitable for 4-9 yrs. Children under 8 yrs must be accompanied by an adult. Booking essential.

Family Fun at the Library

Sat 5 March

Join us from 10am until 2pm for a morning full of family fun and activities. Meet Bookbug, and join him for an

exciting Rhymetime session between 10.30am and 11am. Discover our French Storytelling session from 11am, suitable for 5-7 yrs (booking essential). Learn how mummies are created, design Egyptian masks and print hieroglyphic bookmarks with Perth Museum between 10am and 12pm. Explore your past with our one-to-one Family History taster sessions (bookable sessions throughout the morning).

Stay and Play: Wednesdays 2.30pm, Fridays 11am

Pop into the library where you can meet other parents, have a coffee, chat, read a magazine or just relax while your child plays. Toys provided. Family friendly. These sessions are suitable for pre-school children and their parents or guardians.

We're going on a bear hunt...

Thursday 3rd March, 4.00-5.00pm
Join us for stories & bear activities.
Free event, suitable for 4-9yrs.

Please book in advance by contacting the library.
(Children under 8 years old must be accompanied by an adult.)

Loch Leven Community Library,
Muirs,
Kinross, KY13 8FQ.
T: 01577 867205
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Newsletter Deadlines

A list of future deadlines can be found on our website
www.kinrossnewsletter.org

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

Double yellow lines called for at Masonic Hall

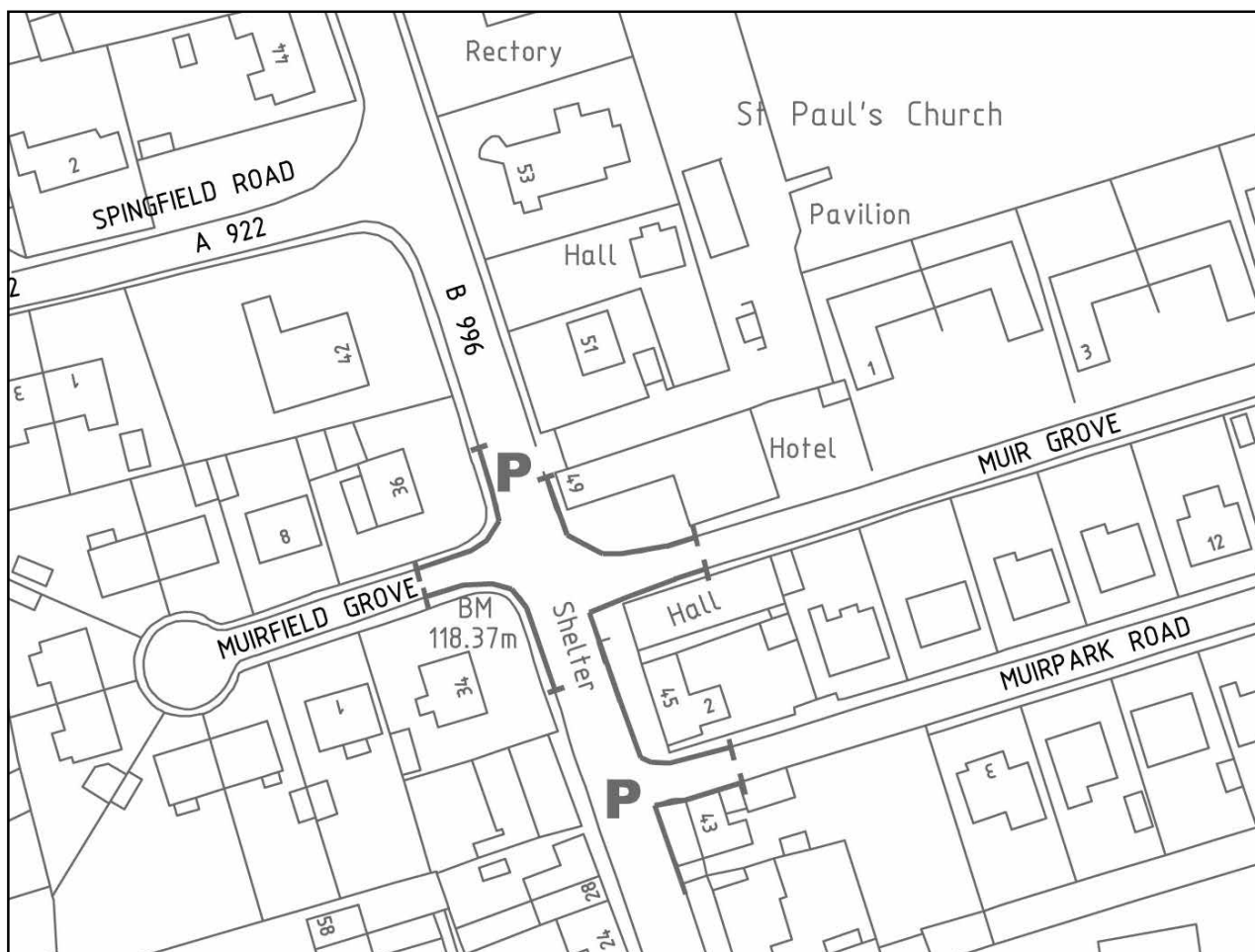
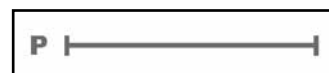
Some residents are concerned about access and safety problems caused by indiscriminate parking around the Masonic Hall on the Muirs. As a result, PKC is considering installing short sections of No Waiting at Any Time restrictions (i.e. double yellow lines).

Local Councillors have asked Kinross CC for its view on this proposal and the CC in turn would like residents to tell the CC what they think.

The proposed restrictions are shown on the drawing below. If you have an opinion on this, either against or in favour, please let the CC know, ideally before 2 March, in one of the following ways:

- Email: KinrossCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk
- Contact any Community Councillor (see p. 105)
- Post a message on the Kinross CC Facebook page
- Attend the next CC meeting on 2 March (see p. 30)

KEY to map below:
Proposed "no waiting at any time"
waiting restrictions



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Email: keithwatson.c@btinternet.com



Rabies risk warning for pet owners

PKC's Animal Welfare Team is warning anyone planning to buy a dog from overseas to take extra care, after a second pet has had to be quarantined as a potential rabies risk.

Following a similar incident in late 2015 involving a very young Bernese Mountain Dog, the latest situation relates to a Doberman puppy that was bought in the UK but had paperwork suggesting it was imported from Turkey. When the dog's new owner took it to a local veterinary surgery for a check-up, it appeared that the puppy had not been vaccinated for rabies. Further investigation then suggested that the dog had been brought across European borders and into the UK without being checked. The dog had also been offered for sale via the Gumtree website, which can make it especially difficult to trace the true identity of sellers.

Given the risk of transmitting rabies to humans and other animals that this presents, the Animal Welfare Team has had to arrange for the dog to be quarantined for four months, at a cost of around £2,500 to its owner.

A puppy must be at least 12 weeks old when vaccinated against rabies, otherwise there is a chance that the vaccine, which takes 21 days to have an effect, may not work properly. Environment Convener, Cllr Alan Grant, said: "Purchasing a dog from abroad can seem like a cheaper option, but as this and the case from late last year show, there can be very significant cost implications involved for the owner if their pet turns out not to have been protected against serious diseases like rabies. "The advice is simple - take time to check documentation, buy from a reputable supplier and check the animal's history; and if you have any doubts, speak to a vet or our Animal Welfare Team before you buy."

The PKC Animal Welfare Team can be contacted by calling 01738 476476 or emailing es@pkc.gov.uk

PKC Remembers

First World War Information Sharing Event

Friday 1 April, 10am – 12 noon,

Soutar Theatre, AK Bell Library, Perth

Come and hear about future projects and help PKC plan new events. Subjects include the Weeping Window of Poppies, the Jellicoe Express and Perth & Kinross Remembers the First World War.

Further information available from Nicola Cowmeadow.

E: firstworldwar14to18@gmail.com

Lest We Forget Reflections on the Great War

Until 2018 there is a rolling exhibition at the Kinross (Marshall) Museum on the Great War, telling of some of the events and people of 100 years ago. The museum display is adjacent to the library at the community campus.



Kinross-shire Roll of Honour

January – March 1916

23 March	John Finnan
31 March	Donald S Ellis

Private John Finnan

Of Kinross-shire soldiers at the front, Private John Finnan, aged 35, was the first fatality of 1916. He is buried at Cambrin Churchyard Extension. A local newspaper of the time carried the report below, dated 1 April 1916.

KINROSS SOLDIER KILLED TERRIBLE BOMB EXECUTION

Information was received in Kinross on Wednesday that Private J. Finnan, 2nd Bat. Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, had been instantaneously killed in France. It appears that on 23rd March, when in the act of repairing a dug-out that had been previously shelled, a trench mortar bomb landed on the spot and caused the appalling loss of one officer and eight men. Private Finnan had been on active service at the front since February, 1915, and up to the time when the sad news reached his widow, he had no casualty. A pathetic circumstance in connection with his death is that while he was fighting for his country and home news reached him that his son had been drowned. The accident, it will be remembered, occurred on Lochleven on 20th November, when two lads, John Finnan and James Garvey, lost their lives between Roy's Folly and the Castle island. Much sympathy is expressed for Mrs Finnan in her double bereavement.

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
Stewart & Smart	Stirling Road, Milnathort
Heaven Scent Coffee Shop	South Street, Milnathort
Buchan's Garage	Main Street, Kinnesswood
Shop	Main Street, Kinnesswood
Fossway Store	Crook of Devon
Fossway Garage	Crook of Devon
Mona's Coffee Shop	Muckhart
Powmill Milk Bar	Powmill
Powmill Stores	Powmill
Moto Shop	Turfhills
RSPB Shop	RSPB Loch Leven
Loch Leven's Larder	Near Wester Balgedie



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Recent crime locally

A thief attempted to **break into a van** parked in **Argyll Road, Kinross**, overnight on Thursday 21 January. The method used to try and gain entry is **unique** and anyone with information should contact the Police on 101.

Between 19 and 20 January at **Leven Fields, Kinross**, a building site was entered and a generator and water pump were stolen. The same evening **Henderson Grass Machinery in Clashburn Road, Kinross**, was the location of a theft of two wheels and tyres.

A quantity of **fuel** was stolen from a tank within a garden in **Easter Balgedie** between 2pm on Friday 29 January and 5pm on Sunday 31 January.

The Powmill Milk Bar was broken into between 3pm on Wednesday 3 February and 9am on 4 February.

Collision with wall: On Sunday 14 February at about 0300 hours, a small tipper style truck collided with a wall near to **Annacroich Cottages, Kinross**, damaging the wall. The truck then left the scene without the driver reporting the damage. If you have any information relating to this, phone 101 or Crimestoppers, quoting crime number 3963/16.

If you have information, on any of these crimes, please contact Police on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Quad bike thefts: charges made

Police in Tayside have arrested and charged three males in connection with the theft of quad bikes committed at rural dwellings and farms throughout the Perth & Kinross area. The males appeared at Perth Sherrif Court on 3 February charged with theft and other road traffic offences and were remanded in custody.

Suspicious incident

During the afternoon of Tuesday 19 January, five male persons were found within a barn on a farm near to Milnathort by a female groom. When she challenged the males, they stated that they were looking to see if there was a through road. The males then left but when the groom returned some time later she saw them walking up the farm track to where their vehicle was parked, got in and drove away. The vehicle was a Black VW Golf, registration number unknown. The males were described as young, all wearing hoodies with camouflage style trousers tucked into boots. One male had a moustache and a goatee style beard.

Nothing appears to have been stolen and the males were not aggressive or intimidating, however their behaviour was certainly suspicious.

If you have seen a similar vehicle on or near to your property, please contact the Police by telephoning 101.

Rural Crime Trends

NFU Mutual have identified the following rural crime trends that may be of interest:

Thieves are carrying out active reconnaissance of targets.

Land Rovers are a favourite target as they are sold to Eastern Europe where demand is high after being stripped down for parts.

Stolen vehicles such as tractors and quad bikes which may be

fitted with a tracker are often hidden up in remote locations for a couple of days to see if they are traced by police. If not, they are moved on.

Agents all over the country are reporting thefts of heating oil and diesel shortly after delivery. Thieves may be following tankers and noting deliveries.

Stolen goods are being sold online and at car boot sales. Some agents have noted that Thursdays seem to be targeted in time for weekend car boot sales. Power tools and other easily disposable items are popular.

Thieves are targeting farms during lunch time hours when staff may have returned to house for lunch and outlying workshops and sheds are targeted for chainsaws, welders and other expensive power tools.

Vehicles are being targeted before dark, as thieves know they are likely to be locked up at night. Vehicles with keys in whilst owners are at dinner have been particularly targeted.

Weekend sprees have been more prevalent as thieves believe police will be tied up with revellers on Friday and Saturday nights and response times will be slower.

All of the above indicates the necessity of being security aware at all times. Always report suspicious behaviour.

Preventing Rural Crime

Further information regarding rural thefts and crime prevention is available via this webpage:

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/keep-safe/home-and-personal-property/rural-crime>

Scams

For news of recent scams, see page 17.

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 William Hughes.**



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**

More ways of following the Police:

twitter.com/policescotland

www.facebook.com/PoliceScotland

www.scotland.police.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.

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. Please note, the Community Council News is not a verbatim reproduction of CC minutes. Where there are two months' worth of reports, there will be a considerable amount of editing.

Kinross Community Council News from the February Meeting

Present at the meeting held on 3 February were: Cllrs W Freeman, D MacKenzie, T Stewart, D Colliar, I Jack, J Bryson, E Thomas and M Scott; P&K Cllrs Giacopazzi, Barnacle and Cuthbert and five members of the public.

Apologies: Cllrs M Blyth, D West and B Davies and P&K Cllr W Robertson.

Declarations of Interest: None.

Minutes of Meeting held on 6 January: Under amendment of the following the Minutes were approved by Cllr Colliar and seconded by Cllr Thomas. Amendments: Reference to Light Up Kinross and "new lights" should read "additional lights". Reference to "building regulations" should read "planning regulations" and Mr Miles commented on information he had received from the Scottish Government Reporters Unit, not the Council.

Police Report: The monthly written reports are under review due to the departure of the staff member who dealt with this matter.

The Secretary read out a report. A number of forged Bank of England £50 notes with the serial number FF05653211 were used to purchase goods in shops in Kinross. Two offenders have been charged with the vandalism to the elderly resident's window in Montgomery Street. *[Other crime mentioned is listed in Police Box, Feb issue and this issue; see p. 25.]*

Matters arising from previous Minutes (6 January): Cllr Thomas questioned our submission to the PKC re the Persimmon Lathro site, adding that this was not posted on the Council website. The Secretary answered that this was lodged and acknowledged by Nick Brian who has passed it over to the Case Officer, Steve Callan.

The Secretary has contacted Tasmina Ahmed-Sheikh MP (Ochil and South Perthshire) by email and has received an acknowledgement. She has still to approach the Transport Minister. A suggestion was made that we also contact the MP for Clackmannanshire.

Disbursement of Newsletter Fund grants

Light Up Kinross: agreed that this be left in abeyance until next month. LUK to provide further information and current figures and business plan.

Arrgask Old Graveyard: Request for funding of £350 towards an Assessment Report on the Medieval Effigy and Bell Cot. Agreed that as Glenfarg is outwith our area this application to be declined.

Donald McGregor: £100 to be contributed to assist in the costs involved in competing in an angling competition.

The format for the Newsletter Disbursements is to be reviewed. Applications will be suspended from March until October.

Kinross Buildings

Town Hall: No update available.

Former High School: Persimmon are planning to demolish the existing buildings to the rear of the site. However, a problem has been encountered in that there is a bat roost

within the old school buildings which will delay progress. It was with this possibility in mind that a later date in 2017 was agreed as a longstop date for completion of the contract between Persimmon and PKC. Accordingly, a fresh planning application is expected to be submitted sooner rather than later.

New Primary School: Plans and design details available at a drop in session on 4 February. Cllr Cuthbert stressed that the neighbouring Tennis Club should be included in any consultation.

Sub Group Committees

Kinross-shire Fund: Cllr Colliar (quarterly meetings).

Kinross-shire Partnership: Cllr Freeman (a meeting is scheduled for Monday). The CC has a seat on the Partnership, not a Directorship.

Light Up Kinross: Cllrs Freeman, Jack, Colliar and Scott. This was established by the CC and in terms of Light Up Kinross Constitution at least two members of the CC are required to sit on the LUK Committee and any assets on dissolution revert back to the CC.

Remembrance Parade: Cllrs Freeman, Scott, Blyth and Colliar.

Kinross.cc website: This is a new sub group and is to include Cllrs Freeman, McKenzie and Jack. Kinross-shire Partnership also have an involvement in the CC website.

Planning: To assist the Planning Officer (David Colliar), Cllrs Stewart, Thomas, Freeman and Bryson.

Facebook Page: Cllrs Freeman, Thomas and Bryson.

All above agreed.

Newsletter

Kinross Newsletter Ltd (Trading): Directors are Cllr Thomas and Cllr West.

KCCNL (Charitable Company): Directors are Cllrs West, Davies and Scott (Secretary). Remainder of CC are members of KCCNL.

Planning Applications

15/01367/FLL 10 Springfield Road: Change of use of landscaped open space to garden ground and erection of a fence. Perth & Kinross Local Review Body have decided to uphold the appointed officer's decision and the Notice of Review was refused in this instance and a Decision Notice will be issued in due course.

16/00011/FLL Land 30m east of 177 High Street, Old Causeway: erection of 9 flats. Cllr Giacopazzi said the previous application for conversion of the offices to flats was refused because it was three-storey and considered too high.

15/00884/FLL 23 Green Road: ext to dwelling house.

16/00084/FLL 18 Muirpark Road: ext to dwelling house and erection of a garage.

16/00030/FLL 17 Hatchbank Road, Gairneybank: change of use from public open space to garden ground.

Planning Applications Determined by PKC

14/01894/FLL Costcutter Supermarket: alt and ext to form hot food takeaway and formation of 4 flats. Refused on grounds that Education payment has not been received.

15/01800/FLL 18 Swansacre: installation of replacement windows and doors. Approved.

10/00372/FLL Wood of Coldrain Farm: modification of existing consent (04/01646/FLL): change of layout for plot 6 and change of house types for plots 3 and 4. Approved.

15/01623/FLL Land 80m north of Wood of Coldrain Farm Cottage: erection of a dwelling house. Approved.

15/02141/FLL 1 Fruix, Gairneybridge: alt and ext to dwelling house. Approved.

15/02071/FLL Land 70m east of Monega House, Hatchbank: erection of 3 dwelling houses. Withdrawn.

20 Metre Neighbour Notification: Cllr Giacopazzi advised that this distance is laid down by statute and it is not within the remit of a Local Authority to vary it.

Scottish Planning Review: Currently being carried out and representations online still being accepted by the panel. A report to Scottish Government is scheduled for May 2016 with the possibility of a Bill in early summer.

Reports from Perth and Kinross Councillors

Cllr Barnacle:

LDP2: This was approved in December for public consultation ending on 16 March. There is a public consultation at the campus on 23 February. The publication of the Main Issues Report and associated consultation provides the opportunity for everyone to voice their opinion and ensure that they are involved in shaping the final content of the next Local Development Plan.

Cllr Barnacle also mentioned issues raised in email correspondence in relation to the **bus service/bus stops**, in particular at Gairneybank and the lighting of this bus stop.

Boundary Commission: It was hoped that this could be presented to the Ministers around the end of April/beginning of May.

Correspondence: Cllr Barnacle apologised to the Secretary as he had omitted to forward papers to her; they were delivered to Cllr Thomas (Newsletter). He will arrange for these to be forwarded so that they can be circulated to CC members. He mentioned the outline business case for the **A977** and the appeal of the planning application for **Beaufield**.

Cllr Giacopazzi:

Housing numbers for development sites identified in the LDP: Cllr Giacopazzi advised that the numbers given are only indicative as it gives flexibility to an authority to increase the density or to reduce it, depending on the type of housing proposed. Another change proposed in the MIR is the withdrawal of Outline Planning Permission for Developers which will have ramifications on applications in relation to Hotels and Wind Farms.

Affordable/Social Housing: Jim Valentine is presently preparing a paper on this subject.

The Hockey Club has applied to other bodies for funding, including the Council and Thompson Trust.

Budget Process: Cllr Giacopazzi is a member of the Budget Review Group. He advised that the Government have set a 3.5% cutback. Suggestions for savings were made by officials and either accepted or rejected and the budget proposals will be put before the full Council next week. Cllr Barnacle added that the process followed in carrying out the budget is far from ideal. He put forward a perfectly rational argument which was rejected and was not offered an opportunity to address the proposal.

Persimmon Lathro development will have a 25% affordable housing mix with social, yet to be determined.

Community Councils: Introduction of meetings (half yearly) with representation from all CCs in Kinross-shire to discuss certain issues. (Similar to CC Forum.) Agreed that we would support this.

PKC venues: Cllr Colliar raised the matter of booking events out of school hours at Council operated venues. As such, he mentioned Kinross Volleyball Team who were unable to book for an event. The sports facility is not operational after 5 or at weekends. Further discussion was held and Cllr Giacopazzi offered to follow this up.

Correspondence

Muirpark Road/Muir: The Council received a request from a local resident to install No Waiting At Any Time waiting restrictions at the junction of Muirpark Road and the Muirs, due to inconsiderate parking by drivers attending the Masonic Hall. The Council consider marking out restrictions on that junction in isolation would only lead to issues at nearby junctions, so have provided a plan to cover all three junctions that would be affected (to include Muirfield Grove and Muir Grove). They ask that we consider the paper work and let them know if this is approved. This was discussed at length in relation to maintaining visible access and safety issues, in particular cars parking badly on the corner. Springfield Road also encounters this problem. This situation is exacerbated during events held at the Rugby Club and in King George VI, such as the Half Marathon, when buses are also involved. The suggestion of introducing double yellow lines in these areas, in circumstances where the Police are unable to enforce them, would be of little benefit. Drivers park inconsiderately and ignore yellow lines. Parking on pavements is also a regular occurrence. Cllr Giacopazzi suggested double yellow lines at Muirpark Road and Muir Grove. Mr Alexander added that the bell mouth at Gallowhill Road is too wide and that there is a requirement for double yellow lines from the Muirs down to allow improved visibility - as matters stand this is an accident waiting to happen. Cllr Thomas agreed with this and Cllr MacKenzie added that he was concerned about all five junctions (including Gallowhill Road and Lethangie). It was agreed that this problem be publicised more, i.e. on CC website, Facebook and the Newsletter. The Council require a decision on this now. It was suggested that we deal with Gallowhill Road separately. (See Article, page 23)

Proposed Refurbishment of Play Park at Lathro: Consultation period in relation to survey by Council ending 22 February. Location plan provided and survey can be completed online. Comment was made that we should gauge feedback from the community. We understand that this Park is not well



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Community Council News

used, however, believe that any refurbishments works would be of benefit.

Flooding: Householders and businesses with properties affected by the recent flooding can get financial help under a new scheme. Information available on PKC website: www.pkc.gov.uk/floodingsupportgrant.

Police Service: Request for views on what the people of Scotland would like from their police service. Responses on this stage of engagement can be submitted until 12 February and the results of this first stage will be used to draft Strategic Police Priorities which will also be the subject of a formal consultation.

Defibrillators: Request from PKC as to location of Defibrillators in Kinross. Held at the campus (1), Golf Club (1) and First Responders (3).

Junction Road: A 40 mph speed limit has been proposed on part of this road from a point north of the existing industrial estate to a point south of its junction with Levenbridge Place.

BT Kiosks: The Secretary advised that, as yet, we have been unable to identify the owners of the land. The kiosk next to the Salutation may be located on ground belonging to the Sorting Office.

M90/Junction 6: PKC advised that plans are in place to recommence works to the bridge parapets and safety fencing on 11 January. This will involve a closure of the inner ring of the roundabout with temporary fencing in place whilst the works are carried out. The works will take approximately four weeks to complete, i.e. completion date of 5 February.

Main Issues Report: Amendments were received in relation to errors in the Report.

Other Business

Waste bins: A number of bins are being placed next to the bus stop at the entrance to Montgomery Street. Cllr Cuthbert to look into this.

Chance Inn/Pot Hole: Cllr Stewart confirmed that this has been filled in.

School trip: Cllr MacKenzie asked for clarification on how many schools in Perth and Kinross offer the trip to China. He commented that this was very expensive and would exclude some pupils due to the costs involved. Cllr Cuthbert to look into this.

Points raised by Cllr Thomas:

Road repair: Complete Look business was pleased at the repair.

CC notice board: We believe this is located in the bus shelter outside Andrew Baillie's office. Cllr Freeman to check this out.

Town centre regeneration/safety issues: To be placed on the agenda for the next CC meeting. Comment was also made to parking on pavements and between the bollards at the Town Hall area. Cllr Davies commented by email as follows: "With respect to the High Street regeneration and the identified potential traffic/pedestrian management issues, it is my considered opinion that the issue requires series attention by PKC professionals before an accident happens".

Station Road: An email was received from a member of the public in relation to this road, in particular to speeding, the traffic at school times and the large trucks/lorries travelling this route. She pointed out that these vehicles could use the ring road. A suggestion was made to impose a 20 mph speed limit. Cllr Colliar answered he did not believe this to be relevant and suggested flashing lights to identify the school. It was also suggested that this could be raised in relation to the construction of the new Primary School. This point to be actioned by the Councillors.

The Next Meeting of Kinross CC will take place at 7.30pm on Wednesday 2 March 2016 in the Masonic Hall, Muirs, Kinross.

Agenda for the Meeting on Wednesday 2 March

1. Apologies for absence
2. Declarations of interest
3. Minutes of meeting of 3 February 2016
4. Police report
5. Matters arising from meeting of 3 February
6. Newsletter Fund disbursement
7. Kinross buildings
8. New primary school
9. Town centre regeneration
10. Planning matters
11. Reports from P&K Councillors
12. Miscellaneous correspondence
13. Other business
14. Date of next Meeting (6 April)

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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Portmoak Community Council News from the February Meeting

In attendance at the meeting held on 9 February 2016 were: CCllrs M Strang Steel (Chairman), B Calderwood, R Cairncross (Secretary), A Robertson, S Forde, D Morris, T Smith and C Vlasto; Ward Cllrs M Barnacle and W Robertson; PC D Stapleton and 10 members of the public.

Apologies: Ward Cllrs J Giacomazzi and D Cuthbert.

Approval of previous Minutes: The draft minute of the meeting held in January 2016 was approved subject to in 4.3 Glenlomond "George Lawrie suggested that, as a consequence of the development, funding might be available for a footpath from Glenlomond to Wester Balgedie be explored."

Matters arising from previous minutes

Portmoak Cemetery: The Chairman reported that there was possible interest in providing a site for a new cemetery.

Consultation: Integration Health and Social Care: the CC had made a submission.

Police Report

PC Stapleton was welcomed. The CC was alerted to the circulation of forged Bank of England £50 notes. Recent local crimes reported: there had been a break-in in Kinnesswood and a quantity of heating oil had been taken in Easter Balgedie. Locks on oil tanks were recommended. Progress with recent thefts of quad bikes across P&K: police had located a number of bikes and one had been returned to its owner in Easter Balgedie. A number of individuals were assisting the police. The advice is to note or photograph vehicle registration numbers if concerned about untoward events. The CC regretted that the Police were currently no longer able to provide monthly Police Reports for Portmoak. These had been helpful. The Commander's Bulletins of 14, 28 Jan and 5 Feb were noted.

Treasurer's report

The general account at the month end of January was £430.44 while the MBW account remained unaltered £874.21, giving a total of funds on hand of £1,304.65. Plans were in hand to manage any end of year surplus.

Planning Report

New applications

16/00121/FLL 9 Bruce Road Kinnesswood: extension to dwelling house. No comment.

16/00073/IPL Land 80m north east of Nether Birnie House, Wester Balgedie: erection of a dwelling house in principle.

The CC will object as it is incompatible with PKC policy: Housing in the Countryside.

15/02206/FLL, 15/02207/CON Kantara, Wester Balgedie: extension to dwelling house and erection of garage. No comment.

Progress with developments

Lomond Inn:

(i) *An alternative concept.* A group of residents presented an alternative vision for the development of the site of the Lomond Inn. There was continuing concern with the proposals in the current planning application including recent amendments to the application. Their proposal was a preliminary attempt to explore whether or not the site could be developed to preserve both its conservation heritage and enhance the centre of the village through improved amenities overlooking the loch: restoration of the original Inn as a dwelling house or apartments; low profile new build for restaurant/café/bar; accessible community gardens, and increased car parking.

The CC welcomed the initiative but recognised that it would be a challenge to advance at this stage as PKC was currently preparing to consider the current application including recent amendments. Time was short. It suggested to the promoters that, to take the idea forward, it would be helpful: to take the views of the wider Portmoak community; to develop a business plan; and to review their proposals with the developer.

(ii) *Progress with amendments to 15/00505/FLL and with 15/00506/CON.* (CCllr Dave Morris declared an interest in that he had facilitated the meeting of the group promoting the alternative proposal.) The CC had been granted additional time to respond to these amendments. Although it had reservations, it did not object in principle to the use of the overall site for domestic housing and it welcomed the new proposal to retain the original parts of the old Lomond Inn as a new dwelling house. However, the CC will **retain its original objection** of 26 May 2015 to this application for the following reasons:

- Both applications are for the demolition of all buildings on the site. The amended scheme proposes to retain the main building. PKC has no choice but to refuse both applications as they stand as the applications do not reflect what is now proposed.
- There is now no relevant Design Statement.
- As required for conservation areas, there are no elevations across the site which show the development in its setting.
- Changes to roof heights of the three houses facing Loch Leven are unclear.
- After now nearly two years there is still no report available from the conservation officer commenting on the impact of the development on the Kinnesswood Conservation Area.
- Handling of the recent amendments had been poor: information was not available on the planning site after neighbours had been advised of amendments; it took five days to correct a poor quality presentation of the elevation of the old Inn and even then it remained difficult to read; and some additional plans were added at a later date without neighbour notification and some were backdated.

The CC believes that, over the past two years, delays in handling both applications for this development has placed

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Fossoway & District CC News from the February Meeting

In attendance at the meeting held on 2 February 2016 were: CCllrs: Trudy Duffy (TD), Kevin Borthwick (KB), Graham Pye (GP) Angus Cheape (AC), Richard Nesbitt (RN) and Graham Kilby (GK); P&K Cllrs M Barnacle, D Cuthbert and J Giacopazzi; six members of the Public (MoP).

Apologies: P&K Cllr W Robertson.

Declarations of Interest: None.

Police report: No report received. We have received an email from Police, to say that the previous author of monthly reports is no longer with the force, but the officers will still try and attend where possible. No officers were present at this meeting.

KB has reviewed the Commander's Reports and P&K Community Watch alerts and there are still a number of offences being committed in this area, however there has been an arrest of three people. Cllr Barnacle points out that not all crimes that we know about are included in the Commander's Reports.

There is a discount of 20% using code SCOT20 available on SelectaDNA's Machinery marking product, see web site: <https://www.selectadna.co.uk/dna-asset-marking/selectadna-rural-kit>

Matters Arising

Crook Moss Travellers' site: Cllr Cuthbert reports that the review of the conformance to the previous planning conditions was discussed at the DMC; a further report will be brought back in three months after Scottish Water have studied whether the Drum processing plant has capacity to connect this site. Cllr Barnacle added that he has recorded his objection to the soundness of the current policy on Gypsy/Traveller sites.

Lambhill Chipping plant: There is as yet, no date for the proposed hearing agreed at the 8 December meeting of the LRB, although the three councillors to sit at the hearing have been chosen.

A977 Defects and mitigation measures: TD notes that the number of potholes on the road is increasing rapidly. Cllr Barnacle has suggested to PKC that they should approach Scottish Government to fund work required as a result of the FRB diversion. Cllr Cuthbert notes that the Scottish Government are paying for additional winter treatment during the diversion. Cllr Giacopazzi reminds us all that road problems (including potholes) can be reported to Clarence (the road report hotline): see page 105.

Station Road adoption: Cllr Barnacle reports that this is currently held up pending a surface water investigation.

Emergency Support Centre: GK, who is now on the Village Hall Committee, reported that the committee wanted further information about the requirements for this scheme. KB requested this information from PKC and has forwarded it to GK for the committee to study. Even though the FRB diversion is now almost over, it's still worthwhile putting the basic arrangements for such a scheme in place.

Setting up of Paths Group: Call for interested parties to help set up such a group. Money and training is available.

LDP2 MIR Consultation: The Main Issues Report (MIR) has recently been published. This document contains proposed variations to the Local Development Plan (LDP) which defines where, and how, development can take place in Perth and Kinross-shire for the next ten years. Comments on the MIR must be made by 16 March, preferably on the form obtainable at www.pkc.gov.uk/mainissuesldp2.

Cut in Inter-City Services: Cllr Barnacle has escalated this issue.

Boundary Commission: Awaiting decision after our comments, although the fact that no hearing has yet been scheduled is not encouraging.

Matters Arising With No Update Since Last Meeting

Rumbling Bridge Hydro Scheme, Blairingone War Memorial, Safer Route to School – Drum, Ivy Cottage Powmill: No update.

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.

New Business

CC Grant: GP reports that due to an administrative error by PKC, our annual grant was paid into the wrong bank account. The bank has been asked to retrieve the money and return it to us; this is in progress but has not yet been completed.

Community Council Business

Meetings Attended: GK attended a meeting of the Community Sport Hub on 14 January. A disappointingly small number of organisations attended. The catchment area of the hub was agreed to be the same as that for the High School. Terms of reference were also agreed. It was noted that the Management Group should ideally be made up of people actively involved in sports.

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Councillors' Reports

Mike Barnacle: Some budget has been made available by the Scottish Government to address damage due to flooding, especially for farmers rebuilding flood barriers. Cllr Barnacle received a reply from Open Reach explaining why roads are dug up without warning; this is because it's not possible to predict whether underground ducts are blocked until attempts are actually made to pass new fibre optics cables through them. Cllr Barnacle's attempts to re-add the AGLVs which were not included in the new landscape designation have failed. A further opportunity will be available in September when the LDP comes up for further comment.

Dave Cuthbert: PKC Budget discussions are in full swing. There is a great amount of confusion about the size and distribution of funding.

Joe Giacomazzi: Attended the Scottish Government's Planning Conference. There was general agreement amongst attendees that the current rules on neighbour notification need to be widened, and that the charges for planning applications need to be substantially raised to come closer to covering their cost.

Planning Matters

16/00034/IPL Renewal of permission (13/00071/IPL) Residential development (in principle), Crook of Devon House, Main Street, Crook of Devon. No CC comment.

15/02187/FLL Erection of replacement dwelling house, Thimblewell Cottage, Powmill. No CC comment.

16/00074/FLL Renewal of permission (12/00025/FLL) erection of a dwelling house, land to the rear of Vicar's Bridge Road, Blairingone. No CC comment.

16/00050/FLL Alterations and extension to dwelling house, Craighead Cottage, Drum. No CC comment.

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Correspondence: All the correspondence was available for viewing: MoP reported a problem with the sluice gates at Nine Acres Scout Camp, which could cause flooding around the school. KB contacted the Scouts who have addressed the problem. The CC has received a briefing note from David Blundell about the Scotland Bill.

Other Business: MoP commented that a litter bin has been placed by the westbound bus stop in Powmill. It would be more sensible for it to be by the eastbound stop which is much more extensively used. Cllr Cuthbert will look into this. The CC's secretary, Kevin Borthwick, needs to reduce his involvement for the next few months due to family commitments. Consequently his secretarial duties will be shared amongst the other Cllrs. This CC can still be contacted via the email address Fossoway.CC@gmail.com which is being monitored by other members.

Draft Agenda for Next CC Meeting

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

Matters arising: Crook Moss Travellers' Site, Lambhill Chipping Plant, A977 Mitigation, Emergency Support Centre, Paths Group, LDP2 MIR Consultation, Boundary Commission. Community Councillors: Meetings Attended, PKC Councillors' Reports, Planning, Correspondence, AOCB

The Next Meeting of Fossoway & District CC will take place on Tuesday 1 March 2016 at 7.30pm in Blairingone Primary School. All Welcome.

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.

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Cleish and Blairadam CC News from the February Meeting

Present at the meeting held on 1 February 2016 were: CCllrs R Kitchen, P Fraser, H Somerville, F Principe-Gillespie; Fiona McGregor (Planning Advisor); P&K Cllrs D Cuthbert, J Giacopazzi and M Barnacle; and one member of the community.

Apologies were received from CCllr M Traylor and N Robertson, who has resigned from his position on the CC. CCllr Kitchen asked for the CC's thanks to be passed on to Mr Robertson for his time on the CC.

Crime Prevention: There was no Police Officer in attendance. There have been some quad bike thefts in Kinross-shire. Fitting a tracker greatly improves the chances of recovering stolen goods. There have been trailers stolen from two properties in Cleish. Police have been notified.

Cllr Giacopazzi reported that a previous CCllr in Milnathort had their email address hacked and spam emails sent to other CC members.

Correspondence

- Scotland Bill: email and printout received which can be passed onto interested residents.
- Scottish Police consultation.
- Data Protection confirmation.
- LDP amendment: There was an error in the original document; the new consultation period for the MIR will now extend to 16 March. It can be downloaded, viewed and commented on using the PKC website. Cllr Cuthbert suggested that PM4 (settlement boundaries) should be looked at.

Finance: There is £528.89 in the account after recent payments for the newsletter and website.

Planning

- 8 Middleton, Keltybridge: application for a garage conversion and small extension. No objection.
- New application at Plot A, Blairfordel for a house and separate garage. This appears to be 2 storeys rather than 1.5 stories high, and also looks to be adding onto an existing building group - and as such contrary to HICP. Object.
- CCllr Traylor emailed Cllr Cuthbert regarding 27A (next to the Tabernacle Hall) regarding the consent letter in Nov 2015. This delay was thought to be due to a delay in finalising the developer contributions. There have been concerns raised locally regarding the state of the site; it was asked if the enforcement officer could attend the site.
- The Blairadam windfarm application is still active. More information submitted to Fife Council in September has not been passed on to other interested parties.

CC Website: There are 50 Facebook followers, which directs traffic back to the website. 341 people saw the post on the stolen trailer in Cleish. More photographs have been requested to keep the site up to date.

Village Updates - Blairadam

There is currently a speed tracker to monitor both the volume and speed of traffic using the road.

More rubbish has been dumped at Blairforge.

The CC strongly urges local residents from Keltybridge and Maryburgh to join the CC so that we can continue to have strong representation in the CC from both sides of our area.

Village Updates – Cleish

There was a very successful community evening for the switching on of the Christmas tree lights.

The potholes are starting to become an issue again. These can be reported to 'Clarence' on 0800232323, or on-line.

Other Business

Cllr Barnacle reported on the **Flockhouse Farm Road**. This is currently a Private Road that would need to be brought up to a higher standard if it were to be adopted.

The **replacement road signs** that were ordered on 18 November are still not in place.

Cllr Barnacle has written about his views on the **MIR** in the Kinross Newsletter. Despite strong representations, there are no changes in the current plan. The Cleish Hills and Devon still haven't had their status altered after the motion was defeated at the Enterprise and Infrastructure meeting.

Cllr Giacopazzi reported that the recent **accident** on Flockhouse Farm Road was due to **high hedges** creating poor visibility. There are strict time constraints on when these can be cut.

The fundamental issue with the road is that a couple of residents want it to be brought up to adoptable levels but the road isn't owned by these residents. (They have right of access.)

Cllr Giacopazzi attended a meeting in Glasgow with the Chief Planner, on a review of **planning law** in Scotland. It was suggested that the process should be cheaper and quicker. A Bill is likely to follow in the Spring. There was some concern voiced that this may allow developers to push through applications more quickly without proper discussion and community involvement.

Cllr Cuthbert is still looking into the fence opposite **Nivingstone** that was taken down by the landowner; the verge is being eroded.

Members from the floor commented on the **missing white lines** at the road junction onto the B909. No action is likely to be taken until Spring.

The Next Meeting of Cleish & Blairadam CC will take place on Monday 4 April 2016 at 7.30pm at the Tabernacle Hall.

Cleish & Blairadam CC minutes are posted on the website
www.cleishandblairadam.org.uk

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Club & Community Group News



Portmoak Community Woodlands

Our Burns Supper went extremely well and, as usual, contained lots of music and great entertainment. Tartan table runners and whisky miniatures, for every guest, set the scene in Portmoak Village Hall. Chloe Vlasto, 10, gave a beautiful Selkirk Grace while Kirsty Buchanan, 10, as Poozie Nancy, ably assisted the piper, Tom Brown.

Dr Bill Carr addressed and attacked the haggis with his usual gusto. His costume and weaponry are always a surprise. This time he chose the 'Siegfried' look from *Götterdämmerung*, complete with blonde plaits, and brandished a claymore. The haggis came out with its hands up.



This year Bill Carr sported a 'Siegfried' look to address and attack the haggis

We were extremely lucky to lure John Purser all the way from Skye to give his Immortal Memory. John is a composer, poet and crofter. He also wrote 'Scotland's Music' the definitive book on Scotland's musical heritage. He spoke of Burns' comfortable use of the vernacular and how Yeats envied him, as the Irish poet searched for 'a common speech.'

He also reminded us of Burns' deep knowledge of nature and, because this was the community woodland Burns Supper, gave us the appropriate song 'Now Westlin' Winds,' with its opening lines:

'Mourn, little harebells o'er the lea;
Ye stately foxgloves fair to see;'

We were also very lucky to have, from much closer to home, the fabulous Tich Frier, who not only led the community singing but gave us some brilliant renditions of Burns' songs and even managed to bring Shakespeare into the celebrations. Our Toast to the Lassies and the Reply also managed to range far and wide. Chris Allen, from Indiana and now living in Kinnesswood, drew upon some hilarious tales and sayings of his ancestors for inspiration on how to treat a woman. His wife, Antonia, brilliantly conjured up evidence that 'Mrs

Burns' actually wrote all the poems while Rabbie enjoyed the glory.

The Portmoak Players (Lynne Hope, Krys Hawryszczuk, Louise Batchelor and Dave Batchelor) performed Burns songs in Haydn settings and pianist Wendy MacPhedran accompanied Cupar singer Jessie Pryde.

Elaine Carruthers performed an unforgettable Tam O' Shanter, bringing the whole epic tale vividly to life.

This is the only Burns Supper which makes a special feature of just one line from Tam O' Shanter, 'Mosses, Waters, Slaps and Stiles.' It's our excuse to give a round up of the year in Portmoak Moss and Kilmagad Wood, which featured a wide range of activity from a public apple ID day to a fact-finding trip to Flanders Moss.

In keeping with the outdoor theme, Matt Hogg from Kinnesswood donated one of his beautifully crafted bird tables to the raffle. We were also very grateful to Ken Robertson Associates of Kinnesswood for the generous donations of whisky.

Now we're back to planning events for the year ahead and, as ever, welcome anyone who's interested to our informal meetings at 7.30pm every third Tuesday of the month in the Well Country Inn in Scotlandwell.



Kirsty Buchanan, Tom Brown and Chloe Vlasto

Kinross & District Town Twinning Association



This summer sees our French twin town of Gacé travel to Kinross for an official twinning exchange. The Kinross Twinning Committee is looking for volunteer host families to become involved in this year's exchange. Interested families should contact Chairperson Jeannie Paterson on 862159. The Kinross & District Town Twinning Association will be promoting twinning at the **Better Place to Live Fair** at the Community Campus on **Saturday 5 March**. Come along and find out about the fun of twinning.

The Committee is currently preparing a number of visits, activities and excursions for the visit over the first week of August. A Pot Luck Supper was held in mid-February with members enjoying food, wine and fellowship.

Kinross Museum

www.kinrossmuseum.co.uk

Find us on Facebook



Museum volunteers have begun updating the World War I display to reflect events of 1916.

Copies of 'Mary's Memories', the recollections of the late Mary Muirhead, are now available to buy from the museum study room, which is open on Thursdays (10am-8pm) and Saturdays (10am-1pm). Also available for sale are notelets with images of local scenes from the archive.

The study room and museum display cases are located to the rear of the Loch Leven Community Library at the campus.

The study room will be open 10am until 2pm as part of the **Better Place to Live Fair** on **Saturday 5 March** at the campus. Please drop in to see our various displays and learn about our historical archives. There will be children's activities and a raffle to help raise funds to maintain the museum.

Broke Not Broken

Email: clare.slight@brokennotbroken.org

So, why a new foodbank?

We have been asked a lot about why we are setting up another foodbank in Kinross. What was wrong with the old set-up?

The foodbank was based in the Day Centre, and it worked like this: The client went into the centre's foyer and spoke to someone through a hatch, filled out paperwork and received a food parcel.

There were a few issues with this.

The area where the hatch is located is very public, and not conducive to discussing being in need or explaining what can be very emotional or trying circumstances.

After visiting other foodbanks and speaking to many people who run them and volunteer there, we have learnt a lot. Privacy and sensitivity are key. As is dignity. We want to build a foodbank which goes a little further, and provides and signposts a user towards support and help that they might need. This could be financial aid, emotional support, or how to build skills.

Ideally, clients should be referred. Under the old system, only two people were ever referred; the rest were self-referrals. Having clients referred by social workers, housing officers, GPs and youth workers makes sure they are genuinely in need, and also ensures that they are receiving help and support in other areas of their life. We have worked hard to ensure that clients will be referred to us by these bodies, and have developed a referral system in order to enable support services to refer clients to us easily.

The existing foodbank relies on users coming to it. This area is a rural community, with some areas being quite remote. We believe that a service we should offer should be an outreach facility, to deliver food, and human contact in many cases.

We discovered upon receiving referrals over Christmas that there is a significant proportion of elderly in Kinross-shire who live rurally and who live in a state of poverty. Asking them to go to Perth to get a food parcel is out of the question.



Many of them are proud or don't see people often, and building that relationship will be an important part of the foodbank we develop.

The parcels were previously sent down from Perth, and there was never a guarantee there would be enough supply to meet demand. In fact this has been the case recently where some people in need have gone to the foodbank but there haven't been any parcels. It was also difficult then to accommodate specific needs, be they dietary, or relating to specific circumstances.

The storage area for parcels in the existing system is a small cupboard. It is important that the food store be enough to cope with the food donated, that it be clean, dry, and secure. That it is safe for volunteers to work in. Ideally we would like a space with a private room and to have volunteers trained to be able to direct users to places that might help them further. Our foodbank should be more than a stopgap. It should be a bridge to a brighter future.

These reasons are all why we are moving forward with a new foodbank. Ideally we hoped to develop a community hub for people to use. We have enormous support from other groups wishing to support our community: Women's Aid, Citizens Advice Bureau, Time Exchange.

Recently Kinross lost Mindspace, a charity who offered counselling based in the Health Centre. Due to funding issues, this service is now only available in Perth.

Kinross is often seen as an affluent area, one with no problems, no one struggling and no one in need. This is far from the case. What Kinross does not lack however, is a sense of community spirit, and this is what drives us.

As more cuts are made to public services, communities are increasingly turning to themselves to support one another. Is it ideal? No. But we as a community deserve to be able to help each other in times of need. We look forward to your continued and much valued support in the years to come.

Stop Press: Sainsbury's Kinross has agreed to a collection point for the Broke Not Broken foodbank to be located at the front of their store.

Kinross & District Inner Wheel

Our speaker this month was another member of Kinross Rotary, Barry Davies. In 2015, Barry travelled to Kenya with a group of people interested in helping the Nyumbani Project. Barry pointed out that we often contribute to schemes where we are told where the money goes but do not see the results. This project is concerned with children infected by, and affected by, the AIDS pandemic in Africa.

Barry and his colleagues worked on general maintenance in an orphanage before moving on to Kitui, a village providing care for 1000 children. Built on land given by the Kenyan Government and supported by charities, this community is trying to be self-sufficient. The children make all their own clothes and furniture and grow their own food and a Sand Dam, supported by Rotary, provides access to water. Members of Inner Wheel provided tea and company at the Kinross Day Centre when they took part in a Tea Dance at the end of January. An enjoyable time was had by all. Our next fund-raising occasion is a **Bridge Day on Friday 25 March** at Milnathort Bowling Club. Tickets, which include lunch and afternoon tea, are available from Liz. Please contact 863715.



Portmoak Film Society

25 people packed Portmoak Hall in February to watch Mike Leigh's wonderful movie 'Mr Turner' and gave it 84% on the audience satisfaction gauge. We were particularly pleased to see many new faces and hope they will come again! Thanks to Helen once more for the delicious goodies we enjoyed with hot drinks afterwards.

March and April are always 'surprise' films as they are not picked by the AGM prior to the start of each season. We are delighted to announce that the next film will be Thomas Vinterberg's 2015 acclaimed remake of the tragic novel by Thomas Hardy, '**Far from the Madding Crowd**', with Carey Mulligan in the role of the headstrong Bathsheba. It will be shown on **Saturday 12 March at 7.30pm**. Doors open at 7pm and if you don't have a season ticket, it costs £5 on the night.

The final film of the season on **Saturday 9 April** will be the 1986 medieval thriller '**The Name of the Rose**', starring Sean Connery in one of his iconic roles as William of Baskerville, a Franciscan monk sent to a monastery in Northern Italy to solve a murder mystery.

For further info go to: www.portmoakfilmsociety.org.uk

CIA cleans up at February Business Breakfast



Another business breakfast, another insightful and interesting presentation by a local entrepreneur – the speaker on 3 February being none other than Richard Scott of *The Cleaning Intelligence Agency* and *The Studio Hair Company*. Faces old and new from the Kinross-shire business community gathered at Loch Leven's Larder for the latest in the Kinross-shire Partnership's well-attended winter series of lively networking events, there to enjoy the usual banquet of bacon and myriad other breakfast delights.

Chairman Alisdair Stewart shared various items of relevant local news, including the fact that funding is available to public, private, public and third sector organisations through the EU LEADER programme – a European Union initiative to support rural development projects initiated at the local level in order to revitalise rural areas and create jobs. He also mentioned that a successful forum for the area's tourism businesses had been held recently at Tullibole Castle, and that a heritage lottery bid was being submitted to request funding for the Aero Space Kinross project, which aims to establish an aviation and space science centre in Kinross-shire.

Next, each of the breakfasters was invited by facilitator Sid Grant to introduce their business briefly to the other businesses. It was pleasing to see Kinross High School head teacher Sarah Brown and her colleague Jenny Breen in attendance, and both expressed their gratitude to the businesses already involved in mentoring senior pupils. They stressed that the school is keen to forge further links with local companies – and indeed members of the general public – who are willing to offer support in a variety of ways.

Richard Scott then took to the floor to tell the story of how he and his wife founded The Cleaning Intelligence Agency in 2006, having experienced for themselves how hard it was to find a good, reliable cleaner when they were expecting their first child.

He explained that the CIA places huge emphasis on customer service. Customer satisfaction and word-of-mouth marketing have led to the company expanding steadily, and the CIA now employs a team of 22 cleaners plus a manager and an administrator. The company currently cleans over 200 properties a week and has clients not only in Kinross-shire but also throughout Perthshire, Fife and Clackmannanshire.



Richard Scott of the Cleaning Intelligence Agency and the Studio Hair Company answering questions at the February breakfast

With the CIA up and running, Richard and his wife Sarah subsequently decided to launch a second business, The Studio Hair Company, whose facade has become a familiar feature on Kinross High Street. Again customer service lies at the heart of this business's success, and Richard and Sarah can feel justly proud of the way in which their two local enterprises have grown and prospered.

The next Kinross-shire Partnership Business Breakfast will take place on **Wednesday 2 March** at 7.30am at the newly refurbished and extended Loch Leven's Larder. The speaker will be local accountant **Ross McConnell**, whose presentation is promisingly entitled "**Topical Tax Tips**". If you would like to attend, please email administrator Karen Grunwell (mailto:mail@kinrosspartnership.org.uk) to indicate your interest then pay via the Eventbrite secure payment system.

Kinross Garden Group

Our next meeting is on **Thursday 10 March** in the **Millbridge Hall, Kinross** at 2pm. **Graeme Butler from Rumbling Bridge Nursery** will give a talk entitled '**The Good Doers**' and he will bring some plants for sale. Doors will be open from 1.30pm. If you are new to Kinross-shire and interested in meeting fellow garden enthusiasts you will be made very welcome. Membership fees are £10 for the year and £2 for visitors. For more details, contact Caroline Anderson on 01577 864589.



Kinross Junior Agricultural Club

Kinross held its dinner dance on 17 January with well over 110 people attending. Soon after that we had the district cabaret, in which Kinross came first. Kinross held a successful ready steady cook competition within the club. The Burns Supper with West Fife followed at the Elgin Hotel in Dunfermline. There are a few up and coming events, such as the big weekend away in Elgin and a games night at Carnbo Hall. Our **AGM** will be held on **Tuesday 1 March**. You can find out more on Facebook: Kinross and District YFC.

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Kinross & District Rotary Club

The club is proud to say we have doubled our female membership with the induction of Claudette Hudes!

Claudette was born in Hollywood, California, and has lived in many different states as well countries such as Mexico, Canada, the Netherlands, Germany and Scotland.

Claudette first heard of Rotary when she was just 13 years old and won a scholarship as an honour student. She later graduated with a degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of South Florida and has worked as a design engineer with a number of companies in the oil industry including M.W. Kellogg and Dow Chemical.

Claudette was, in fact, the first female production engineer for Dow Chemical in their European operations in the Netherlands.

Claudette's career has taken her to several countries around the world and even introduced her to her husband too.

Claudette and Robert have now settled in Milnathort and Claudette is enthusiastically learning and participating in many new interests, including a fledgling business developing natural skincare products. Speaking about joining the Kinross Rotary Club, Claudette said: "I am delighted to become a part of Rotary which played a very important role in my early life and hope to give back to the community."

We are delighted to have Claudette on board.

The club have had a visit recently from Alisdair Stewart from 'ASK'. ASK stands for Aero Space Kinross and is a social enterprise seeking to create a uniquely themed aviation, astronomy and space flight science centre in the heart of Scotland. That means the heart of Kinross!

Alisdair's vision is of a unique visitor attraction drawing people from all over Scotland, the UK and the world. They have a great website which explains the concept and includes a short video. Go and check out more at: www.aerospacekinross.com.

Ever wanted to come to a Rotary meeting to find out more but had other commitments on a Monday night? Well, watch this space, as we will soon be trialling a breakfast meeting. In an aim to make things more flexible for current and prospective members, we will soon be running early morning breakfast meetings once a month. Specifics on where, when and how are still to be finalised but we will advertise the details very soon, along with a new type of membership; Associate.

Associate membership is designed for those who feel they are not able to commit fully to Rotary Club membership but who would like to be involved in the club and the community events it participates in and runs.

Associate members will not have to pay membership fees and will not get voting rights on important decisions the club makes. However, it will allow people to experience Rotary, the things we do, and help out on our fundraising efforts.



Cliff Megginson and
Claudette Hudes

Associate members come to meetings as and when they can and, when they feel ready and able, they can become full Rotary members. More information to follow next month.

Kinross and District Rotary Club Meet & Greet

This month's meet and greet is our very own bird-watching-Liverpudlian-architect-extraordinaire Phil Dean.

Name: Phil Dean.

Age: 58.

Occupation: Architect.

How long have you been with the Rotary Club of Kinross?
2 years.

Why did you become involved in Rotary? I wanted to become more involved in my local community and meet new people.

What was your first impression?
Everyone was very welcoming.

What surprised you? The scale of the organisation: over 34,000 clubs and 1.2 million Rotarians worldwide.

What is the best thing you have done with Rotary since joining? Getting involved in the fundraising events.

If you could change one thing about Rotary, what would it be? Although things are changing slowly in Rotary, a better gender balance would benefit the organisation at every level. As chair of the club's membership committee, this is my main aim this year.

When friends or family find out you are a member of Rotary, what do they say? 'What's it all about?'

What would you say to someone who is thinking of joining?
Come along and give it a try. You would be welcomed and may be pleasantly surprised.

What do you wish other people knew about Rotary?
It's very much more open, forward thinking and diverse an organisation than many people think.

Sum up your Rotary Club in three words. Welcoming, committed, stimulating.



Phil Dean

Did you know... You do **not** have to be invited to a Rotary meeting. If you are interested in finding out more about Rotary just come along to one of our meetings, or email Phil Dean at phil@phildeanarchitect.co.uk. He'll be more than happy to help you.

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Kinross & Ochil Walking Group

(Affiliated to Ramblers Scotland)

Beat the winter blues; come out and walk with us. Explore new places, improve your mental and physical 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. We operate car-sharing but it is not essential to have a car.

Weekend Walks

Saturday 12 March: Exploration of east side of Loch Leven, 7½ miles. Portmoak Moss, Loch Leven and lower slopes of Bishop Hill. Good views. Some short, steep and possibly muddy sections.

Sunday 27 March: Devilla Forest, 7 miles. An easy winter walk mainly on forest tracks, taking in Moor Loch and Peppermill Dam.

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

For further details of where to meet us, or for general enquiries, please call our Group Secretary, Ann Eve, on (01577) 863887.

Tuesday Short Walks

For those who are new to walking, or want a shorter walk, come and join us on our Tuesday morning walks. These are usually a maximum of 4 miles (1½-2 hours) followed by a sociable visit to a coffee shop, farm shop or pub for refreshments. We would be delighted to welcome anyone who would like to try walking with us.

Tuesday 1 March: Powmill, the Bull Stane and Rumbling Bridge. A gentle incline up to Keith Mill, footpath walking past the Bull Stane, then along the River Devon into Rumbling Bridge Gorge.

Tuesday 15 March: Hillfoots to Cambus linear walk. A walk along the cycle path from Menstrie to Cambus, returning on the same path, with great views of the Ochils.

For further details of where to meet us, or for general enquiries, please contact our Walks Leader, Edna Burnett, on (01577) 862977.

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Kinross-shire 50 Plus Club

The next meeting is on **Thursday 3 March** when it will be our annual party in the Kirklands Hotel: 12pm for 12.30pm for **Annual General Meeting** and then 1pm for lunch.

Away Day Thu 24 March Kelso

The coach leaves from opposite the Green Hotel at 9.15am.

Contact: Pat Crawford, telephone 01577 862962.

Friday Walkers

11 Mar Aberdour to St Bride's Kirk and back

25 Mar Crieff and Lady Mary's Walk

All our walks will continue to leave from the Green Hotel.

Contact: Ian Simpson on 01577 863691.

Friday Hill Walkers

4 Mar Ben Shee Lindsay 9am

18 Mar Kinnoull Hill Anne & Katie 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.

Compassion Corner

Our Compassion Group has enjoyed a very interesting month of activities. It began by hosting a lunch meeting for a special guest, Mary Catherine Burgess from Edinburgh University, who is involved with many initiatives there to do with Empathy and Compassion. She is also committed to 'The Charter of Compassion International' and shares our aims for a more compassionate society in Scotland.

Mary Catherine believes that the key to this is for individuals and grass roots groups to keep Compassion at the heart of all their actions. She was very impressed by the variety of groups in our community which our members are supporting and which do just that. Examples include The Hub, Broke not Broken, Common Grounds, The Ethiopia Medical Project, and our Compassion Group initiative, The Time Exchange. Our members have also attended two recent conferences on Compassion. The first, held at Edinburgh University, was called 'Reconnecting with Compassion'. The aim of the event was to explore ways in which everyone can strive to see, feel and act with compassion in our daily lives, in society and in the wider world.

The second event, which complemented the first, was called 'Compassion in Non-Violent Communication'. It was led by Verene Nicolas and focused on the need for us as individuals to create space between what comes to us in life and how we respond to it. We can do this by slowing down and considering why we respond to situations the way we do. This allows us to make better, more compassionate, choices in our actions. These events have given us lots of food for thought and action.



Science and culture visits for Rosemount Nursery children

Children from Rosemount Nursery, Kinross, enjoy a variety of learning beyond the classroom. The budding scientists recently enjoyed a fun science lesson at Kinross High School. Leading the young class, Dr Armstrong gave the children the opportunity to experiment and problem solve through exploratory play.



Learning about Chinese New Year with Mr Chan

In addition, the children had a wonderful opportunity to celebrate Chinese New Year, cooking and dining in Mr Chan's Restaurant.



A science lesson with Dr Armstrong

Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation

The Kinross Farmers Market

Unfortunately we had to cancel the first Kinross Farmers Market on 30 January due to snow and strong winds. Hopefully it will be second time lucky as the next Kinross Farmers' Market is planned for **Saturday 30 April**. Fingers crossed that the weather will be kind to us then!

The following traders will have a stall at the market on that date: Allan's Chilli Products, Angel Cakes, Arbroath Fisheries, Arran's Cheese Shop, Chillilicious, Good-Life Farming (Rose Veal), Hunters of Kinross (Butchers), Loch Leven's Smokehouse (fish/meat), Little Gairdum Farm (fresh and unwashed vegetables), Meadowsweet Organics (herbs/flowers/vegetables), Perthshire Oatcakes, St Andrew's Brewing Company, The Shire (deli), Val's Tablet Treats, Webster Honey and Woodlea Stables (bread).

The market will be a great place to buy high quality, fresh food from local producers and artisan traders and to shop at the High Street's established businesses and meet friends in our vibrant community atmosphere. We look forward to seeing you all there.

If you are a local farmer you might consider a stall 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. For more information go to the website www.communityfoodfund.co.uk

Leven Voices

A new block of sessions has started in January with Horsecross Arts tutor **Mary McInroy**. Sessions will run **every Tuesday evening** at 7.30pm at Kinross Parish Church until Tuesday 22 March.



Leven Voices is a fun, informal drop-in singing group which you can join anytime. No music reading or singing experience is necessary, just come along sing and enjoy! You pay as you go (£4 or £3 concession). There is a £5 'registration fee' which is used to pay for the hall for a 10-week period.

For more information about KLEO events, go to the website www.kleo.org.uk or e-mail info@kleo.org.uk.

THE KINROSS FARMERS' MARKET

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL PRODUCERS...
9AM - 1PM, KINROSS HIGH STREET
SATURDAYS - 30 JANUARY; 30 APRIL;
30 JULY & 29 OCTOBER

High Street remains open for all traffic, market is situated on wider pavements at old town hall.

www.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. www.communityfoodfund.co.uk

Fairtrade Fortnight 2016

Sit Down for Breakfast – Stand up for Farmers

Great News! Thanks to the support of local churches and communities, the sales of Traidcraft goods in Orwell and Portmoak and Kinross Church Offices and Buchan's in Kinnesswood and Loch Leven Lodges, Kinross-shire's Fairtrade Status has been renewed! We would now



Stand up for farmers in developing countries by supporting Fairtrade

like to help Perth & Kinross become a Fairtrade Zone, as while P&K was one of the first councils to be awarded Fairtrade Status in 2005, there are now about half the local authorities in Scotland which have achieved Fairtrade Zone status and it would be good not to be left behind!

During Fairtrade Fortnight we are being asked to support the millions of farmers and workers in developing countries

who grow many of the foods we enjoy at breakfast like bananas, tea and coffee. Yet while we are enjoying the fruits of their labour, many of them don't earn enough to know where their next meal is coming from or pay for education for their children. Fairtrade means that many of these farmers are able to do what we take for granted – put enough food on the table for the people they care about, all year round.

Please come along to the Church Centre in Kinross on **Saturday 5 March** or St Paul's Church on **Saturday 12 March** between 10am and 12pm and show

your support for Fairtrade and help us move towards Perth and Kinross becoming a Fairtrade Zone. Also please 'like' our Facebook page 'P&K Fairtrade Zone Group' or email pandkfairtradezone@gmail.com if you would like to support the campaign. Please also take a look at the Traidcraft goods which are available at www.traidcraftshop.co.uk and order directly or through a church office, every item you buy is supporting some of the poorest producers so that they can support their families.

Karena Jarvie



Go bananas for Fairtrade!

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www.kinross.cc

Kinross Camera Club



The club kicked off the New Year with two separate presentations on Cuba by different club members who visited there recently. It was amazing to see how the same places and local photographic icons were interpreted and photographed using contrasting styles. The second league competition of the year was judged by Rikki O'Neill on the set subject of 'creative'. Rikki is a 'well kent face' in photographic circles with his own distinctive and unusual style. The club rose to the occasion with some highly innovative photographs using a range of digital tools. Photography has changed enormously in the last few years and digital post processing is now accepted and encouraged as a key element of the artistic process. We were also treated to a wonderful talk by Duncan McEwan called 'The Games'. Duncan has been an official photographer at several commonwealth games, including the recent games in Glasgow. He shared many wonderful

images and described the challenges of capturing key moments during high speed sporting events. We have a busy month ahead with Dave Hunt giving a talk on Fine Art Photography, Neil Scott discussing composition, an inter-club competition with St Andrews as well as another

internal competition. Our meetings are held in the Church Centre, Kinross **every Thursday at 7.30pm** and all are welcome. For more information, please contact Dallas Key at dallaskey30@yahoo.co.uk or visit the club website at kinrosscameraclub.org.uk.



This photograph of a Sea Eagle fishing was submitted by Stewart Niven in a league competition earlier this year

Kinross Hub Café for Carers

The Café for Carers changed venues this year. Formerly held at St Paul's Meeting Room, the monthly meetings for carers are now being held at the Loch Leven Community Campus. Sixteen carers attended the meeting on 1 February. The Kinross Hub provides an opportunity for carers to meet each other and share experiences, plus there is a speaker each month. For more details, see the notice at right.



The Kinross Hub Café for Carers is now at the campus

Need Equipment for a Community Event?

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

Items are listed on www.kinross.cc 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.

KINROSS HUB THE CARERS CAFE

Monday 7th March 2016
Power of Attorney
(Valerie Nelson)

Monday 4th April 2016
Dobbies/Easter Planting
(Amanda James)

Monday 2nd May 2016
Telecare &
Apetito Meal Service
(Jennifer Shaw/Bruce Sutherland)

COMMENCING 10.15am PROMPT

The hub cafe is an informal meeting place to chat over a cuppa with other carers, cared for and family members.

NEW VENUE

**LOCHLEVEN COMMUNITY CAMPUS
KINROSS**

1st MONDAY of EVERY MONTH

10am—12noon

Contact Gail Boath
Tel. 01577 867306
Or Annette Bond
01738 567076

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answering advertisements**

Loch Leven National Nature Reserve

Wildlife photos from around Loch Leven



*This wood carved owl is on display at RSPB Loch Leven
Photo by Craig Nisbet*



*A Great Tit on a feeder at RSPB Loch Leven
Photo by Craig Nisbet*

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Kinross-shire Volunteer Group and Rural Outreach Scheme

Burns Supper 2016



January 18th saw the 18th Annual Burns Supper take place in The Windlestrae Hotel. As always, it was an entertaining evening ably presided over by KVG&ROS vice-chair Mike Thomson.

Richard Scott set the scene by piping the guests in as they arrived at the hotel before piping in the haggis, which was carried aloft by Poosy Nancy (Ann Munro). Richard, accompanied by his son Findlay, also entertained us with an unusual, varied, foot tapping set during the evening.

Allan Dearing Addressed the Haggis with gusto and Joe Giacomazzi gave an informative Toast to the Immortal Memory. Tich Frier's interpretation of Holy Willie's Prayer and his Toast to the Lassies really do need to be seen and heard; both were excellent.

Brenda Frier responded to the toast, very amusingly, on behalf of the Lassies. Brenda and Tich also entertained us with songs and led the singing.

Apart from a song or two, the entertainment was rounded off with an excellent version of To A Louse by third form High School pupil, Freddie Bull. We suspect Freddie will be high on the list of invitees to perform at Burns Suppers in the future.

Very grateful thanks are extended to everyone who performed during the evening.

Thanks too, to George Lawrie for proposing the Vote of Thanks, to all those who entertained, to everyone who supported the evening by coming along and the people who donated raffle prizes.

Finally, thank you, to The Windlestrae Hotel and their staff

who ensured that the evening ran smoothly.

Drivers

As always KVG & ROS wish to thank all the volunteer drivers for their work. They not only drive our clients to appointments but they do so with care and consideration. At the moment we have 43 drivers but more are always needed and new people are always made very welcome. To give an idea of how well used the group is: during December and January we were able to fill 280 requests for a driver (that is actually 560 journeys). Many are to the Loch Leven Health Centre but we are also asked to go to hospitals, dentists, opticians in Perth, Kirkcaldy, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, etc. Recently we have also been carrying out an increased number of non-medical journeys. These trips, to hairdressers, shopping, visiting, etc., all enable elderly people to stay in their own homes.

On 18th February we were able to take 26 of our clients along to the DanceSing event in the Community Campus. Once again our drivers were amazing. Not only did they pick people up but escorted them into the hall, made sure they were comfortably at a table and then took them home afterwards.

Finance

Financial matters now occupy a considerable amount of our Management Committee's time, with fundraising always high on the agenda, and we are extremely grateful to those organisations, groups and individuals who have donated so generously. We work hard at keeping our costs to a minimum and all our drivers give up their time free of charge, receiving only a modest mileage contribution towards their vehicle running costs. Sadly, however, the last year has seen a gradual erosion of our funds, due mainly to the reduction in Local Government grants which have traditionally provided our core funding. This has prompted a review of our charges, the first for six years, and has resulted in a reluctant decision to make increases for some journeys as indicated on the table shown below. We regret the need for this, but feel that it is necessary to maintain the level of service we can offer to our clients.



Some of those who took part in the KVG&ROS Burns Supper

New charges, starting 1 April 2016:

LLHC & Kinross venues	£3
Pick up Kinross & Milnathort	(no increase)
LLHC & Kinross venues	£6
Pick up all other areas	
Kelty	£6
Dunfermline	£10
Perth, Kirkcaldy	£12
Stirling, Falkirk, Larbert	£15
Dundee, Edinburgh	£10
Glasgow	£25
Stracathro	£40

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 Historical Society

Scotland and the Abolition of Black Slavery

Rev Dr Iain Whyte started the illustrated talk by saying that many people think that Scotland had little involvement with black slavery, but that if you look at the money made by wealthy Scots through such things as tobacco and sugar, Scotland was very much involved.

Slavery is one of the greatest crimes against humanity and has been called the African Holocaust. Slaves were taken in terrible conditions then packed tightly into slave boats. They were treated brutally with no medical care. Although surgeons were on the boats, they only treated the sailors. Rev Whyte spoke of those involved in slavery. People such as Richard Oswald, a Caithness man who, with two others, bought a fortress on Berse Island on the West African coast and turned it into a slave station from where, in 1762, 2000 slaves were sent to South Carolina. He made a fortune which bought him a house large enough to be later turned into an agricultural college. Very many large houses were built with slave money. Even Robert Burns was on the brink of going to Jamaica, where he would have worked over slaves, until his fortunes changed by the money he made from his published poetry.

Some slaves brought back to big houses were considered decorative. Some were airbrushed out of family group paintings once slavery was seen to be a bad thing. There were some runaway slaves, which would be publicised in the newspapers giving rewards for finding them.

Three cases of slavery were taken to court in Scotland in the late 1760s. The first slave died before the case got to court. The second was Joseph Knight, where the court found that there were no slaves in Scotland. The third, David Spence, was brought to Fife from Grenada and was befriended by a local farmer who was a church elder. Spence had himself baptised then gave his testimony that as he was now in the Christian religion, he was set free from slavery by the laws of the Christian land which said that no slavery was allowed. His master was going to send him back to the West Indies so he declared that he was going to law. He was arrested and put in the Tolbooth in Dysart. Three lawyers gave him their time free, churches collected money for him as did miners and salters. But the master died and what actually happened next is unknown.

The Court of Session decided that Scottish Law did not permit slavery but it continued in other countries. Scots such as Rev Ramsay of St Kitts helped to lift the lid off slavery by giving Wilberforce first-hand evidence both as a naval surgeon and a minister in the West Indies. Rev Robert Walker, best known as the skating minister, persuaded the Presbytery in Edinburgh to petition Parliament in 1788. William Dickson of Moffat and Barbados, who wrote books on slavery, was responsible for many more petitions from Scotland to Parliament in 1792. Zachary Macaulay, a quiet son of the manse, was in the colonies in charge of a slave gang. When he returned to Britain after a spell as Governor in Sierra Leone he became Wilberforce's right-hand man. Other Scots involved in the move towards abolition were Dr Andrew Thomson and Radical John Ritchie of Potterrow.

In 1807, slavery was abolished in Britain.

Rev Dr Whyte also told of some self-liberated slaves who came to Scotland in the middle of the 19th century.

Unfortunately, after all the work to abolish slavery, today, over 200 years later, there are more slaves than ever in the world.

Bill Blair thanked Rev Whyte for his informative talk.



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SSAFA – Perth & Kinross Branch

We are the local branch of SSAFA – the national charity, which for 130 years has been helping serving and ex-service men and women, and their families, in need. Eligibility is based on only one day's paid service.

Where are we?

Your local branch covers all the Perth and Kinross area, with a small office in Perth and a network of around 20 trained volunteers in the area, to look into cases with understanding and sensitivity.

What we do

We take action whenever there is hardship, or need. Our help and advice is totally confidential, and we help all ages. We work closely with other agencies and service charities, and help can vary hugely.

Contact

SSAFA, Queen's Barracks, 131 Dunkeld Road,
Perth, PH1 5BT

Telephone: 01738 625346

Email: perth@ssafa.org.uk

Dobbies Community Champion

In February, the **Little Seedlings Club** learned to be 'Tree Detectives' and to identify trees from their bark, twigs and seeds, as well as their leaves. They also learned about the different creatures which live in and around trees. The March meeting will be on **Sunday 13 March** at 11am, as the first Sunday is Mother's Day. New members aged 4 to 10 are always welcome; please leave a message for Amanda if you would like to come along. Hopefully it may be warm enough by March for us to start meeting at the allotments behind the store, and thinking ahead about what we would like to grow in our bed there.

Looking ahead to spring, I will be making a donation of seeds and other items to **Auchtermuchty Primary School** so they can grow their own vegetables and flowers. I will also be arranging for their Eco Group to visit the store for a growing workshop.

I will also be working with my colleague, who is the Community Champion at Tesco in Cupar, supporting plans for the garden at **Ladybank Primary School**.

If you would like to arrange a group visit to the store, or some help with a community growing project, please let me know.

Our new **Local Charity Partner** will be decided in February, and will be announced in the next Newsletter. Our customers are always generous in donations to charitable events and can collections at the store, for which we, and they, are very grateful. **A total of £4500 has been raised at the store for various charities** over the last year.

If you would like to arrange a date for a charitable collection at the store over the coming months contact Amanda James, Community Champion at Dobbies, on (01577) 863327 or by email on community.kinross@dobbies.com.

Wishing everyone some sunshine, and a good start to the growing season.

Kinross-shire Time Exchange

We are still under a year old but our Kinross-shire Timebank now has a total of 45 active members. In the first five weeks of 2016, we have already seen 49 hours exchanged so far, ranging from help in the home, to filling out forms, to arts and crafts. The level of satisfaction reported from all parties has been a very positive 100%.

One of our talented members kindly offered to help members to learn how to use their iPad or Android Tablet more effectively to make the most of what it can offer. A couple of small group sessions were arranged and everyone involved was full of praise for the tutor and the capabilities of the device. A happy, useful, and informative exchange which will continue to be offered to members.

Although we have been in existence for almost a year now many people are either still unsure about exactly what we do or are not aware of us at all.

The Timebank idea was developed at the London School of Economics by Professor Edgar Cahn in 1986, who describes the idea as working like a blood bank or babysitting club:

“Help a neighbour and then, when you need it, a neighbour – most likely a different one – will help you. The system is based on equality: one hour of help means one time credit, whether the task is grocery shopping or making out a tax return”.

Many of our members are new to giving their time and time banking offers a completely new way of volunteering. Members like the fact that our system is very flexible and they can do as much or as little as they like. Time credits earned can be saved up for the future or donated to the community pot. Some people tell us that they have 'nothing to offer' in exchange but we believe that everyone has something they can give to another which will be invaluable to that person. Just a simple phone call can mean the world to someone. As Timebank organiser Mashi Blech said:

“Often you can't buy what you really need. You can't hire a new best friend. You can't buy somebody you can talk to over the phone when you're worried about something.”

Most importantly, members are never under any obligation to give or to receive and there is no such thing as a deficit! Kinross-shire Time Exchange is a helpful and fun community venture.

There are 32 Timebanks in Scotland. We are now part of the Scottish Timebank Network and looking forward to our first joint meeting in March.

We welcome new members and, if you are interested in joining or finding out more about us, please come and have a chat. We are in The Courthouse **every Monday** between 9.30 and 11.30 am, and in the library at the campus **every first and third Saturday of the month** between 10am and 12noon. We are also at Orwell and Portmoak Church Office on the **second and fourth Saturdays** of the month, 10am – 12 noon.

Linda McKeen, Kinross-shire Time Exchange Broker



Common Grounds

February has been a month of planning.

We have been preparing for our Quiz night on 19 February, looking ahead to a project lunch, possible coffee morning with a difference and a trip down memory lane with a visit to the 'Jackie' musical for our volunteers and friends (still time to get your tickets!). Despite the atrocious weather, Common Grounds kept its doors open and was well supported. A hearty vote of thanks goes to all concerned.

Project: Our project for March is an 'Out of Africa' project which we historically do once a year. This year the volunteers chose The Free to Live Trust – Seema's Project. This charity, which has local Trustees, has been working for over 20 years with vulnerable children, the offspring of sex workers who were trafficked from their homes in Nepal, Bengal and other parts of India. These young women and girls were tricked into believing they were going to good jobs. Seema's project will move the children away from the brothels to a new home which is being constructed in Bori, 80 miles from the city of Pune in India.

Project Lunch: Our next Project Lunch will be on **Wednesday 6 April** at 12 noon in the Guide Hall, Milnathort, with guest speaker Dr Pam Cairns, a retired GP from the Carnoustie area. Dr Cairns will talk to us about the work of our March project The Free to Live Trust – Seema's project. Homemade soup, bread, tray bakes and Fairtrade tea/coffee. Everyone is welcome.

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

Kinross Circle Dancing

Our theme on Tuesday 9 February was to celebrate the Chinese New Year, and we learnt two beautiful Chinese dances.

The first told the story of a shy young girl, going out to meet her lover. The second was a gentle meditative dance called Bamboo Flute, newly choreographed for this occasion.

The programme for next week will include some dances to celebrate Valentine's day, along with some favourite requests. If you haven't yet discovered Circle Dancing, please come along and join us on a **Tuesday morning (term time)** from 10.30am until 12.30pm, at the Millbridge Hall in Kinross. If you would like more information please call Lynne on 07931398098 or email lynne244@btinternet.com. You will be made very welcome.

See also notice on page 98.

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Promoting Kinross-shire as a tourist destination

The crisp afternoon of 20 January saw a group of 23 people from across Kinross-shire meeting at Tullibole Castle for a conference aimed at promoting Kinross-shire as a tourist destination, organised by the Loch Leven Tourism Forum.

Those attending were representatives of local businesses connected with tourism and national bodies concerned with the promotion of tourism throughout Scotland. The afternoon started with talks from five speakers.

First up was Marc Crothall, the Chief Executive of the Scottish Tourism Alliance, who spoke about the role of the Alliance, what it offered to members and its aim to assist in making the tourism experience unique and memorable across Scotland.

Next to speak was Mark Irwin from Visit Scotland who gave a presentation on the approach Visit Scotland are taking to promote tourism with the use of the notion of the 'Spirit of Scotland' as a unique quality that can be applied to many different aspects of what Scotland has to offer. He also spoke about the need for collaboration between businesses and national and local organisations to ensure that marketing of areas reaches the maximum number of people. Finally, he told the conference

about the redevelopment of the Visit Scotland website and the vital role of digital platforms in the promotion of destinations.

The next set of speakers brought the focus back locally.

Robin Niven of Loch Leven's Larder gave an insight into the vision, running and ongoing development of a business that spans both local and tourist trade. He said that it was important that early on they had established their core values and that ensuring these were kept in mind in the core business, in staff attitude and training and in any developments had enabled the business to grow in the way that it had. He said it was important to work with local providers and to have a number of aspects to the business – stating that the more spokes a wheel has, the stronger it is.

The prospect of a brand new visitor attraction was explained to the audience by Alisdair Stewart on behalf of Aero Space Kinross. The research for this demonstrated that half the population of Scotland live within one hour's travel from Kinross and therefore attempts to attract tourists should include 'day trippers' as well as those coming from further afield for longer stays. Alisdair outlined the plans for the attraction and

the steps to be taken to achieve this.

The final speaker was Karen Grunwell, who gave a brief talk on the aims of the Tourism Forum for 2016, including the siting of three new interactive Visitor Information Points around the Loch Leven Heritage trail.

After a short break for refreshments and the chance to network, the speakers were joined by Andrew Scott from Scott's Hospitality to form a panel for a lively question and answer session. Topics raised during the ensuing discussion included the need to focus on the loch as the prime destination in the area; considering ways to attract 'day trippers'; local signage; working together through the Tourism Forum to maximise publicity and consideration of further building the digital platforms (internet connections allowing!)

At the end of the afternoon all those present agreed it had been very worthwhile, had stimulated debate and raised a number of ideas to consider further.

The Loch Leven Tourism Forum wishes to thank all the speakers, all the attendees for their lively contributions and to extend special thanks to Lord Moncrieff for his hospitality in a stunning setting.

K Grunwell

for Loch Leven Tourism Forum

Kinross Boys Brigade

Junior and Company Section members competed in the Perth Battalion Chess Competition at Scone in early January. Company Section members took part in the Battalion Scripture Search Competition.

Junior Section members are busy preparing for the Battalion Festival of Activities involving singing, marching and potted sports.

Company section members are preparing for the Battalion Drill Competition and Midnight Hike Competition.

The Company's volleyball team competes in the Perth & District Recreational Volleyball League fortnightly on Sunday evenings at Bell's Sports Centre.

Anchors continue to have fun on Fridays from 6pm to 7.15pm with growing numbers now attending weekly.



Junior Section members are planning their May weekend camp which, this year, will be based in the Church Centre. Company Section members are looking forward to their summer camp based in Valkenburg, South Holland, also visiting Belgium and Germany.

Senior members are preparing for Duke of Edinburgh awards at Bronze and Gold levels. A number of seniors are also nearing completion of their Queen's Badge work.



Kinross Boys Brigade Junior Section members

Kinross & District Probud Club

Israel and Palestine Human Rights

Our President, Robin Webster, introduced Simon Marchant from the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel (EAPPI) who talked about Israel and Palestine Human Rights. Simon explained the history of the organisation. The purpose of EAPPI is to observe what is going on in the West Bank and to tell people at home about what they have seen and experienced. Simon then gave a brief history of Palestine since 1920.

Israel is about the same size as Wales and the West Bank area is marginally larger than the Perth & Kinross Council area. The West Bank is divided into three administrative areas. EAPPI has had six to eight Placements in the West Bank since 2002, with each placement having five observers. These are drawn from 25 countries and there have been 1500 Ecumenical Accompaniers (EA) since 2002, 200 of them from Britain and Ireland. Simon was based at Yatta in the South Hebron Hills right down at the southern tip of the West Bank.

EAPPI works on the basis of Principled Impartiality and does not take sides. It puts Human Rights first using International Human Rights Law. The role of an EA is:

- To provide protection by presence
- To monitor Human Rights abuses
- To support Palestinian and Israeli peace activists
- Advocacy by public campaigning, public education and direct lobbying (of MPs).

Simon showed us photographs of this work in action including escorting children to and from school, standing alongside shepherds and soldiers who are confronting one another, monitoring a crossing point into Israel and being present when an Israeli settler confronts a Palestinian farmer on his



land. He also showed pictures of Palestinian crops burnt by settlers, young olive trees pulled out the ground and mature olives cut down. He further told us that 95% of applications by Palestinians to build on their land are refused.

The vote of thanks for a very thought provoking talk was given by George Ponton.

Snow Poles in Summer

President Robin Webster introduced John Munro who gave a talk called 'Snow Poles in Summer'.

John had spent many years working in Africa and he often wondered what a stranger from Africa would think of these strange poles by the side of the road which seem pointless in the summer. However, in winter, they are there to keep people on the right track and make journeys safer.

So John went on to talk about the concept of life as a journey and how important it was to recognise the key signs through life. These 'signs' can include people in our lives such as teachers, grandparents or work colleagues; people who we remember and who have influenced our behaviour and given us guidance to help us make the right choices in life.

We talk of 'Right or Wrong' and 'Heaven or Hell' but life is not that simple. We have to make complicated decisions and that is when we need to call on our 'Snow Poles' to guide us through.

Even when we make a decision, it doesn't always bring contentment and there may be doubt. The thing we should remember is that we should not always rely on the 'sat nav' to get to a particular destination. On the journey of life we will make mistakes; the important thing is to learn from them.

So John's message was that life's journey is complicated but we learn along the way.

A vote of thanks was given to John for his very thought provoking talk.

Lodge St Serf No 327

March

Tues 1st	7.15pm. Fellow Craft Degree conferred by Lodge St Serf No 327.
Tues 8th	7.30pm. General Committee Meeting. Arrange work for next Regular Meeting.
Tues 15th	7.15pm. Master Mason Degree to be conferred by Lodge Elgin & Bruce No 1077.
Tues 22nd	7.30pm. General Committee Meeting. Arrange work for next Regular Meeting.



Kinross-shire Day Centre

January and February are months for being indoors and comfortable and, at the same time, indulging in some comfort food. So, apart from all our usual activities, we have enjoyed a tea-dance, our in-house Burns lunch and Pancake Day!

We have the ladies of the Inner Wheel to thank for organising the tea-dance. They provided a lovely tea and some very pretty table decorations while we enjoyed the music from John Ramage.

Our annual Burns lunch was as popular as ever, with Richard Scott piping our service users into the centre and giving the address to the haggis. After lunch we had some traditional Scottish music and dancing led by Kinross's own Bob Pryde. Thank-you to everyone who made it a very enjoyable afternoon.

Shrove Tuesday brought out hidden artistic talents as our service users were invited to decorate their own pancakes before consuming them. They were delicious! Shall we enter 'The Great British Bake-Off' next year?

Finally, sharing good news is a simple, but important thing to all of us. It could be a new great-grandchild, a new home or a visit from far-away family, for example. We appreciate having each other to share our excitement at all these milestones. If you would like to be involved with the Day Centre, as a service user, a volunteer, or as a supporter, speak to Nan Cook on (01577) 863869.

Portmoak Hall 100 Club

January Draw

1st	No 103	Mike Thomson, Kinnesswood.
2nd	No 71	Esther Williamson, Scotlandwell.
3rd	No 33	Donna Brown, Kinnesswood.

Do you have

Photographs of Kinross-shire

you'd be happy to share with others?

Visit www.kinross.cc to find out how to add your photos to the Photo Library. The aim of the library is to provide a resource for promoting Kinross-shire.

Kinross & District Art Club

It was full house at the club on our first group Activity session of the year.

Tom Sutton-Smith, Professional Adviser to the club, guided members through the process of creating a painting, in whatever medium they chose, from its early drawing stage, through to completion.

The image, a photo of silver birch trees, was chosen for its strong vertical and horizontal composition with contrasting reds and greens and an excellent sense of depth. Most interesting were the different mediums used by the members, from ink, to water colour, pastels, colour pencils and acrylic. One person chose to work on slate and another layered on thick paint with a palette knife. The result was a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon with some very impressive paintings to show for it!

Also visiting the club that day were Kinross residents **Molly and Hugh Dobson**, who were presented with the prize they won at our September exhibition. The prize was a painting of one of their favourite views, by local artist and Club Member, **David Cochrane**.



Molly and Hugh Dobson and club member David Cochrane with the prize painting

On a sad note, we said farewell to popular club member and talented artist **Walter Beveridge** who passed away in February after a year-long battle with cancer. Our condolences go to his family and he will be sorely missed at the club.

If you are interested in joining us, do come along to the Millbridge Hall any **Tuesday or Friday afternoon**, 2-4pm, and see the club in action! For more information visit our website at www.kadac.co.uk.

ANGEL CAKES

Traditional Homebaking including Traybakes,
Speciality Fudges, Scottish Tablet,
bespoke Celebration Cakes and Cupcakes

Also, new to Angel Cakes

CUPCAKE PARTIES

A lot of fun to be had,
learning to decorate cupcakes

Parties include Cupcake Decorating Class and 4 delicious cakes to take home

Contact Angela on 07896 639546

Facebook: Angelcakes06

Kinnesswood in Bloom

It was agreed that the tree donated by Peter this year had been a great success. We hope to source an equally splendid tree in the future.

Our night out in January was a great success and a chance to let our hair down before starting work for the 2016 season.

We sold some of our golfers and had eight left from our original 18 for the Ryder Cup project. It was decided to keep four as golfers and change the other four into gardeners. Tina Scott from the Auchtermuchty Blacksmiths has done a great job of transforming them. During the winter season the 'sewing ladies' will be dressing them in appropriate clothing using charity shop finds. Adele has done a great job of the first golfer. Does anyone have an old push along mower we can have for one of our 'gardeners' to push? It would have to be a small one.



One of the golfers from the Ryder Cup Project

Meanwhile some art work is planned with the school on the theme of 'Year of Architecture and Innovation'.

The school had the first work party of the year and had a look outside during the tail end of Gale Henry. Sadly, the school greenhouse suffered badly in the succession of gales. The children then watched a video of Tim Peake speaking about the 'rocket seeds' which are currently circling earth. Portmoak School will be taking part in a project to grow some of these seeds. Meanwhile, Jan has become involved with the local playgroup and hopes to do some outdoor growing with the children.

We hope to enter Beautiful Scotland this year, their 50th Anniversary. It will be a busy season for us, so watch this space.

Recipe



supplied by Kinnesswood in Bloom

Orange or Lemon Cake

Ingredients for the cake

175g self raising flour
Pinch of salt
110g margarine
110g caster sugar
Rind from an orange or lemon
2 eggs
2 tblsp milk

Ingredients for the syrup

75g caster sugar
Juice of an orange or lemon

Method

Heat the oven to 375 degrees F/190 degrees C.

Mix all cake ingredients thoroughly in a bowl. Put into a lightly greased 23cm cake tin. Bake for 25-30 minutes.

Meanwhile put sugar and juice into a small saucepan and heat gently till dissolved. Put to one side.

When cake comes out of the oven, pour over the warm syrup and leave to cool.

Loch Leven Community Campus

Muir, 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

We're going on a Bear Hunt, Thursday 3 March. For further information, please see library news on page 20.

French Storytelling, Saturday 5 March. Free, regular event for 4 to 8 year olds. See library news, page 20. **Family Fun at the Library, Saturday 5 March.** See library news, page 20.

Better Place to Live Fair, Saturday 5 March. Fun activities, information, local projects, workshops, music and more. An event with something for everyone! Free entry 10am to 2pm. See also page 12.

Kinross Hub, The Carers Café, Monday 7 March. The Hub is an informal meeting place to chat over a cuppa with other carers, cared for, and family members. It takes place on the first Monday of every month, 10am until 12 noon, here in the campus in the Activity Meeting Space. The guest for March is Valerie Nelson who will be talking about Power of Attorney starting at **10.15am prompt**. See also page 53.

Kinross High School Charity Fundraiser Ceilidh, Friday 11 March at 7pm. See page 67 for more information.

Big Band Dance Evening with The Scottish Swing Orchestra, Friday 18 March. Put on your dancing shoes as this will be a fun-filled evening with The Scottish Swing Orchestra led by Dave Batchelor serving up a feast of hot dance music so you can fox trot, cha cha and quick step. **Doors open at 7pm** with Pam Spowart showing some different styles of dancing in a free dance lesson to get everyone up on their feet and additional tuition for beginners ready for when The Scottish Swing Orchestra start performing at **8pm**. Don't worry if you don't have a dance partner – there will be plenty of people to dance with. Refreshments, including a bar, will be available. Tickets are **£14** and are available from the campus reception (contact details above) or from Pam Spowart on pamspowart@hotmail.co.uk.

Antiques, Vintage, Retro and Collectors Fair, Saturday 26 March. There will be buying, selling and valuations given. Admission will be from 9.30am to 3.30pm, with an entry fee of **£1** per person.

Funny Bones and Wisdom Teeth - An Appointment with Dr Ray Lowry, Thursday 31 March. If you've ever had a dentist's finger in your mouth or a doctor's finger somewhere else, you may have wondered about the person behind the knuckle. Now's your opportunity to find out in this unashamedly old-school comedy one-man show. Ray Lowry is an after-dinner speaker, a retired doctor and dentist and an ex-comedy TV, Radio and performer and writer (The Two Ronnies, Dave Allen, Kenneth Williams). **Warning; the show contains adult themes.** The show starts at 7pm and places **must** be booked. Tickets are **£7** and are on sale now from www.ticketsource.co.uk/date/215158 or by phoning the booking line on 0333 666 3366. Tickets and information are also available from the campus reception on (01577) 867200.

Antiques, Vintage, Retro & Collectors Fair, Saturday 23 April. There will be buying, selling and valuations given. Admission will be from 9.30am to 3.30pm with an entry fee of **£1** per person.

Energy Efficiency Day, Saturday 23 April. Want to know more about Renewable Energy? Not sure what system might be suitable for your home? Will it save you money? Does it help the environment? If you have questions like these and don't know where to get the answers, then come along to the Energy Efficiency Day here at the Campus from 10am to 3pm. This is a **free** event with manufacturers, suppliers and installers all present to give you all the information you need.

Kinross Sportive, Saturday 30 April. This event is Scotland's third largest cycle sportive which is organised by Kinross Cycling Club. It takes riders from the campus out through Fife into Perthshire and Clackmannanshire before returning to Kinross. For more information, please visit www.sportive-kinross.co.uk.

Classes at the Campus

Daisy Foundation Birthing Classes from Mon 4 April. Daisy Birthing is a practical, educational and supportive journey through pregnancy and birth. Each week traditional antenatal education is combined with active birth principles, taught seamlessly alongside repetitive flowing movements designed to anchor the education to your body, breath and movement, exactly where you will need it on your baby's birthing day. These women-only weekly classes, available from 14 weeks pregnant, are delivered over six-week terms. The first course runs 4 April to 9 May and will cover a combination of antenatal and active birth education, breathing techniques, relaxation and birth hypnosis, yoga based movement, meeting local pregnant women. Daisy Birthing is accessible for all mums no matter of shape, size, and ability and is suitable for both first and subsequent pregnancies, supporting all birth plans and choices.

Happy Hookers! Beginners Irish Lace Crochet Courses starting on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Sandra Farrer will be starting two new weekly courses of Beginners Irish Lace Crochet Classes in May. Choose from Tuesday evenings (**3 May until 14 June**, 7pm to 9pm) or Wednesday afternoons (4 May until 15 June, 1pm to 3pm). The cost for each 7-week course is **£60**, which includes hooks and cotton. Irish Lace is making a comeback and is easier than it looks. Sandra will show you the basic techniques required to make some amazing items. Motifs can be used as brooches or appliques and, when carefully joined together, can make the most beautiful garments. Places are limited and **must** be booked. For more information, and to request a booking form, please contact Sandra on (01337) 868754, 07523550014 or email sandra_farrer@yahoo.com.

Sewing Classes. There will be new Sewing courses starting soon 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, please contact Mo by telephoning 07745 667611 or (01383) 829565 or emailing maureenprior218@btinternet.com

If you would like to see anything in particular or have an idea for an event then please contact Gerry McGregor to discuss options.

Visiting Kinross-shire?

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

www.visitlochleven.org

Kinross High School

Pupils at Kinross High School continue to organise events which support charities. These activities develop the leadership skills of our pupils and help them to become responsible and informed citizens who make a difference to the lives of others. In this edition of the Kinross Newsletter, we are sharing examples of our work which has local, national and international impact.

Local: Broke not Broken

Senior Prefects and S1 pupils organised a collection of food items to donate to our local foodbank "Broke not Broken" at Christmas. Food items such as tinned goods, cereals and pasta were donated along with Christmas "treats" to add to the festive "feel good" factor.

National: Alzheimer Scotland

It's time to step up our fundraising efforts so we have two events coming up soon for Alzheimer Scotland this month! Due to the success of our previous ceilidh event, we have



decided to organise another! On **11 March**, we invite all members of the community to come along to our **Ceilidh Night!** This event is guaranteed to be great fun and a brilliant opportunity to raise funds for such an amazing charity. To find out more details for this event please visit our website at www.khscharity.com. Tickets are available at the school office.

We also have a **Community Quiz Night** organised for **Saturday 26 March** at Orwell Bowling Club. We hope any local quiz teams, or members of the community, will join us on this evening to enjoy a Quiz Night hosted by Mike Spain! There will be prizes available to the winning teams! For more information on this event, please can you visit our website at www.khscharity.com!

To keep up to date with our running total (which is around £4000!), charity information or information about our events please like our Facebook page (KHS-Alzheimer Scotland) and visit our website at www.khscharity.com!

By Cameron McCloskey (S6)



The ceilidh organisers

International: World Challenge

Thirty-two of our pupils are planning an expedition to Madagascar as part of a World Challenge. Our pupils will lead the expedition by researching and developing their itinerary. They will be responsible for budgeting and developing teamwork, participation and physical skills that will make their visit a success. As part of the challenge, pupils will undertake a project which will have a benefit to the local Madagascan community. This may involve teaching in a school, conservation work or enhancing local infrastructure. Pupils have started to fundraise for this expedition and have organised a bake sale, car wash and bag packing.

Sarah Brown

Headteacher and Campus Leader

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D-G-W is also on Facebook

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

Images of Kinross-shire

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

Photo Library

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

Kinross in Bloom

The first meeting of the new year took place in the Church Centre on 3 February, when the committee discussed, among other things: the gale damage to the polytunnel (all now repaired); the winter planting of daffodils tulips and polyanthus in our barrels and planters; the daffodil and crocus planting at Gacé Gardens, and the daffodil planting at the roundabout at Station Road/Springfield Road (courtesy the Community Payback Team).

The Community Payback Team also carried out some slabbing work to the rear of our polytunnel and some groundworks to the left of it as a base for a future pathway, and we thank them for that.

The plants for Summer have been ordered and should arrive towards the end of April, and by that time we should have taken delivery of our new planters, replacing our old barrels. These should complement the newly refurbished High Street, so we look forward to that.

Our 200 Club is still going strong, and our January and February winners are as follows:

January:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. No 69 Mrs M Urquhart | 2. No 71 Mrs Y Wardrope |
| 3. No 54 Mrs S Montgomery | 4. No 65 Mrs E Thomas |

February:

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. No 19 Linda Fowler | 2. No 46 Mrs C Mearns |
| 3. No 43 Mrs E McGregor | 4. No 06 Mrs J Beveridge |



The Kinross-shire Civic Trust

Helping protect, conserve and provide a better built and natural environment
website: www.kinross-shirecivictrust.org
Find us on Facebook



The Trust is pleased to announce its programme for the coming year:

Saturday 5 March **Better Place to Live Fair**, Loch Leven Community Campus, 10am – 2pm.

Tuesday 12 April **Annual General Meeting**, Cleish Hall, 7.30pm. The meeting will be followed by a **talk** by Uwe Stoneman, Manager, RSPB Loch Leven at Vane Farm, about Loch Leven.

Thursday 2 June **Trust 25th Anniversary Dinner and 50th Anniversary of the Best Kept Village Competition**. Dinner at the Grouse and Claret.

Mid-summer visit To be arranged.

June/July Architectural Awards judging.

End July Best Kept Village judging.

Sat 13 August **Kinross Show**.

Family fun at the Library

Saturday 5th March 10.00-14.00






10.00-12.00	Mummification, Egyptian masks & hieroglyphic fun with Perth Museum
10.00-12.00	Family History tasters (booking essential)
10.30-11.00	Meet Bookbug & join in at the Bookbug Rhymetime.
11.00-11.30	French storytelling (booking essential)

Loch Leven Community Library,
Muir,
Kinross, KY13 8FQ.
T: 01577 867205
E: lochlevenlibrary@pkc.gov.uk

 @LibraryPKC
  Perth & Kinross Libraries and Information Services
 

www.pkc.gov.uk/library



Kinross-shire Civic Trust



ARCHITECTURE DESIGN AWARDS COMPETITION

Open for all construction works within Kinross-shire completed between January 2010 and January 2016

Applications are invited from owners, architects, public bodies or other interested parties

Entries to be submitted by 31 March

Further details and entry forms can be obtained from the KCT website: www.kinross-shirecivictrust.org or from

Robert Galbraith, Garden Cottage, Ledlanet, KY13 0RR
email: rhwgalbraith@outlook.com
to whom all entries should be submitted.

LOCAL MEATS	LOGS	HOG ROASTS
Reared on the farm & cut to your requirements inc. sausages. Whole/half lambs or pigs	Cut from our own woodland at the farm, £3.50/bag. Bulk loads from £30/cubic metre inc. free delivery within 10 miles	Great for any occasion, our family business has over 15 years catering experience
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>DAWES FARMING</p> </div> <div> <p>01577 840111 07899 993575</p> <p>www.farmerdawes.co.uk</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  farmerdawes  dawesfarmer </div> </div> <p style="text-align: center;">Hilton of Aldie, Aldie Road, Kinross, KY13 0QJ</p>		

Sports News



Kinross Gymnastics

At the Perth and Kinross Primary Schools Gymnastics Competition last month, gymnasts from both our Live Active sessions and Tay Valley Gymnastics Club took part in teams representing Kinross Primary School.

We had three teams competing, with a mix of pupils from primary 2-7. All the gymnasts practised a lot in our classes beforehand and performed really well on the day.

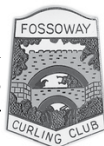
Huge congratulations to the Pre Level team, **Molly Cornwall, Orla Mewse, Mackenzie Connor and Hannah Dunlop**, who came second. As they placed in the top two, they qualified for Scottish Schools finals at the end of the month which is a huge achievement and the coaches are really proud of them.



Molly, Orla, Mackenzie and Hannah

Fossoway Curling Club

This year Kinross Curling held a new competition called The Club Championship, in which all clubs who play at Kinross were invited to enter their strongest team. Congratulations to **Colin Low, Tom McColgan, Gerry Grant and Sid Grant** who won the new trophy for Fossoway Curling Club.



Fossoway are a small and friendly local curling club based in Crook of Devon, although our members come from far and wide. We play throughout the season, mostly at Kinross, with a few games in Perth. We are always looking for new members (beginners and experienced) who will find a warm welcome awaiting. Coaching is available free of charge. Contact Alan on 840695 or Willie on 840405 for details.



Kinross Tennis Club

www.kinrosstenniscub.org.uk

Dust off your rackets; the 2016 tennis programme is underway!

Indoor mini coaching is just about to finish at the campus and we are all looking forward to getting back on court on a more regular basis.

We kick start our season on **Saturday 2 April** with our **Open Day**. Why not come down and give tennis a try for free? We'll be there from 10.30am till 3pm for membership renewals and enquiries, coaching enquiries and bookings, and general information. Existing members will need to exchange their court key for the new season.

Junior Easter Camp will run w/c 11 April. Siobhan is now taking bookings for this and the summer term block of coaching which will run on Tuesdays and Fridays and starts on **22 April**. Enquiries to Siobhan at kinrosstenniscoaching@gmail.com.

Adult club sessions continue on Wednesdays at 6.30pm and Sundays at 10.30am with the Thursday afternoon social session at 1.30pm. We do anticipate running Adult Beginner coaching this year on Tuesday evenings so, if you are interested, please let us know.

Our **Annual Quiz** takes place on **Tuesday 8 March** starting 7.30pm at the KGV rugby clubhouse. It is always a great evening and we invite club members, their families and friends to come along and support the club in this fundraising event. Remember, it's the taking part that counts; keep that competitive spirit for the tennis courts!

More details next month of other events. Meanwhile, as ever, new members are welcome and enquiries can be made to our secretary Margaret Hamblin on 01577 850252 or by email at kinrosstennis@gmail.com. Visitors are also welcome; keys are available from Sands the Ironmongers for a small fee.



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Please call or email Alison for further information

07789 003604 or ali@greenshields.org.uk

Kinross Road Runners

The year started with the Club Annual Awards Dinner at Loch Leven's Larder. As in previous years it was a very successful evening, attended by over 60 members. A number of prizes were awarded (listed below), including that of Athlete of the Year, which is voted for by the members, and for 2015 went deservedly to Hannah Lopez.



Hannah Lopez, Athlete of the Year, with President Martin Hill

Athlete of the Year	Hannah Lopez
Female Club Champion	Jillian Gordon
Male Club Champion	Allan Kemp
Female Off Road Champion	Lynn Hunter
Male Off Road Champion	Matt Newton
Female Marathon Champion	Jillian Gordon
Male Marathon Champion	Allan Kemp
Loch Leven Half Marathon	
First Local Female	Jillian Gordon
First Local Male	Andy Laycock
Milnathort Dash First Local Female	Annabel Simpson
Milnathort Dash First Local Male	Allan Kemp
WAVA Champion	Judith Dobson
Winter Handicap Champion	Lynn Hunter

The Club subsequently held its AGM on 18 January at which President Martin Hill stood down, with Graham Kemp voted as his successor. I am sure I speak for everyone in the Club in once again thanking Martin for his great efforts over the past few years.

The AGM was also an opportunity to celebrate Bill Nouillan's 80th birthday. Bill was a founder member of KRR in 1985 and still runs and competes regularly; an inspiration to all us 'youngsters'!

KRR continues to be a thriving and growing local club with now over 100 members of all ages and abilities.

During the winter months we meet in the Health Centre car park at 7pm on Wednesday for an organised training run. All new members are welcome, so please come along. More information can be found on our new website at <http://kinross.roadrunners.weebly.com> or contact krrsecretary1@gmail.com.

Finally, the **Loch Leven Half Marathon** is being run on **Saturday 14 May** and is filling up fast. If you want to enter, you can do so at www.entrycentral.com/LLHM2016.

Kinross Swimmers



Well that's us right back into our usual swimming routine. We are still developing the coaching rota to ensure varied swimming and something for everyone. We have roped in some other club members to get a slightly different take on the training programme to keep things varied and interesting. It is enjoyable to have a different focus each week. There will continue to be a coaching rota as prepared by Tara, so stand by for the odd surprise.

Unfortunately Shelia is no longer able to commit to coaching further sessions, which is a real pity (I think) as she usually took you to your limit and certainly let your body know you'd just had a swim. She will be missed on a Tuesday night for sure.

We hope this will continue to encourage swimmers to come along. We have healthy numbers in the pool at the moment, averaging around 15, which is a good number for the catchment area. We still have space for others though and as Robin Hood said 'the more the merrier'. Thank goodness for all those Glenfarg swimmers.

Swimming in a club setting is proven to be much more beneficial than solo swimming as it encourages you to push your own boundaries as you swim in a social setting. Without realising how hard you are working, you tend to try harder and swim longer, moving beyond your comfort zone with no conscious effort. The end result is that you feel much better with all those feel good endorphins and it's got to be better fun than an hour lounging on the sofa. You'll have no problem sleeping after a good session, I promise!

So if you fancy coming 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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Local men represent Scotland in fishing competition

Two Kinross-shire men are part of a team representing Scotland at the Home Countries Fly Fishing Spring International, which takes place in Ireland in May.

Donald McGregor of Kinross and **Allan Smith** of Milnathort, both members of Kinross Angling Club, will join with 12 other Scots anglers at Lough Lein in Ireland to compete against teams from England, Wales and Ireland. Allan, who is the Scottish team captain, has six previous caps, but this is Donald's first time representing his country.

The home countries international loch fly fishing competitions take place in the spring and autumn of every year. The Scots would particularly like to win the Lough Lein event as this would give them three victories in a row, which is thought to be a record breaking achievement for the modern era.

Ahead of the trip to Ireland, some of the Scottish representatives gathered at Kinross Curling recently for a team-bonding session, trying out curling for the first time. Donald is an ice technician at the curling rink.



Some of the Scottish anglers try out curling. l to r: Donald McGregor (Kinross), Wullie Leach (Falkirk), Andy Dunn (Ayrshire), Ray Anderson (Glenrothes), Ally Middlemass (Mid Calder), Alan Steven (Bo'ness) and Allan Smith (Milnathort).

Athronhall Clay Club

Athronhall held their AGM in January and had a good turnout of members present. Office bearers are Mr Liam Foster (Chairman) contact (01577) 865538, Mrs Susan Fowles (Vice-Chairman) and Mr Sandy Cook (Treasurer) contact (01577) 863483.

We are a friendly mixed club with a variety of abilities and ages who shoot locally on pre-determined dates throughout the year, weather dependent.

Both experienced and non-experienced shooters are welcome to contact either of the above numbers for more information.

Orwell Bowling Club

Westerloan, Milnathort

Tel: (01577) 863739

Website: orwellbowlingclub.weebly.com

Dates for the diary:

Quiz Night on Saturday 19 March at 7.30pm. £2.50 per person (maximum of four in a team). Contact 862948 or 842271 for tickets.

Opening of the Green will take place on **Saturday 16 April at 1.30pm for 2pm.** All members and potential members welcome.

Please note the new website address which has up to date information on it.

We are also hoping to produce a photo gallery of the club through the ages. If anyone has appropriate photos that we can include the committee would appreciate it.

Hope to see as many members and potential members as possible on the opening day. Let's just hope the weather warms up!

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Kinross sports receive Council grants

Two Kinross sportsmen were recipients of grants from Perth & Kinross Sports Council recently.

Fly fisherman Donald McGregor received a grant to enable him to compete at this year's Home Countries Fly Fishing Spring International at Ireland's Lough Lein. *(See also article on p. 73.)*

The newly formed **Perth & Kinross Junior Volleyball Club** received a starter grant, with treasurer **David Munro** accepting the cheque from P&K Sports Council member David Taylor.

The newly formed boys' team competed in Scottish Volleyball's under 18 and under 16 leagues this season, with the hope that girls' teams can be encouraged to compete next season.

The under 16 boys' team played their final match of the league season on 7 February at Loch Leven Community Campus, defeating City of Edinburgh NUVOC 25-17; 25-19; 25-19 to qualify for the finals weekend at the beginning of March.

The presentation of cheques took place at Bell's Sports Centre, Perth.



Fly fisherman Donald McGregor (right) receives a grant from David Taylor of Perth & Kinross Sports Council



David Munro (right) receives a grant on behalf of Perth & Kinross Junior Volleyball Club

Milnathort Golf Club

From Milnathort to the Med!

Club members Ian Brown and Keith Carver found the perfect answer to the Scottish monsoon season (formerly known as winter) - they headed off to Turkey from 4 to 8 February to represent Milnathort Golf Club in the Belhaven Best Scottish Club Handicap Grand Final at the Regnum Carya Golf & Spa Resort, Belek.

Ian (handicap 1) and Keith (13) qualified from our club competition in August to play in the regional qualifier at Downfield, with the top five pairs going through to the Grand Final. Unfortunately they came sixth, but subsequently one of the winning teams had to withdraw so our pair went through to the final after all, along with 19 other teams from across Scotland. On day 1, unaccustomed to the sunshine, a shaky opening round left them with too much to do but they recovered valiantly on day 2 to finish a creditable 13th, with the winners coming from Torrance Park GC in Lanarkshire.



Keith Carver and Ian Brown at The Belhaven Best Scottish Handicap Grand Final in Belek, Turkey

Kinross Bowling Club

The AGM was held in the clubhouse on 17 January. The following officials were appointed for the 2016 season:

President: Robert Moffat. **Vice President:** Paul Grant. **Secretary:** George Rennie. **Treasurer:** Christine Matthews.

The club will open on **Saturday 16 April at 2pm**. We hope all the stormy weather will be behind us by then and hope to have a good turnout of members to kick the season off.

Fees are payable by **Saturday 7 May**.

Competition fees are payable by **Saturday 7 May**.

We would welcome anyone who would like to come along and join us and have a go at the bowling game; it's friendly and lots of fresh air.

If you would like more information about the club and bowling, phone (01577) 864727 (George Rennie).

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Kinross-shire Cricket Club

Gertrude, All change at the top and Hub Club

The winter months are normally a fairly relaxed period for the club with only junior training and the indoor league to concern the management committee.



However, storm Gertrude had other ideas. The aftermath of the 85mph winds was the sight of the clubs mobile batting cage (which takes eight people to move it) reduced to little more than a mangled wreck of steel poles and ripped netting. The real surprise was the fact that the cage was blown over 100 metres uphill and eventually finished beside the pavilion. An inspection of the ground showed where the cage had been turned end-over-end ripping up the grass and leaving a trail of massive indents to the pitch.

After the shock, the damage was assessed and several of the senior team appeared. The process of dismantling the wreckage was undertaken just as the second phase of the storm turned up with strong winds and snow battering the valiant workforce. Within a couple of hours the cage was fully dismantled and made safe. Many of the structural aspects of the cage have been badly damaged but the committee are confident that repairs can be effected and a modified net will be in place for the 2016 season.



The damaged nets

Meanwhile, the indoor league season continues with two Kinross-shire teams in action.

The U25 'Voges' team have been the stand out team so far winning all but one of their games. The team has a broad mix of players ranging from U13 through to U25. This is the first

time such a team has been fielded and it appears to be a great success with the older, more established players providing excellent support to the new level of players.

The second Kinross-shire team is the aptly named 'Relics' and is a team of mainly over 40s. While some players are a little less swift around the pitch as others, the team has shown great spirit and holds their sole win, against the "Voges" as the highlight of the indoor season so far.

On Thursday 11 February, the club AGM was held at the community campus. With the club firmly established at Loch Leven's Larder and much of the major development works due to be completed by the start of the new season, long-standing Chairman, John Ross, praised the club's efforts in rebuilding after losing the ground at Kinross House and thanked everyone within the club and the wider community for their help.

There were several changes in the management committee. **John Ross** stepped down as chair with long term club secretary, **Kirsteen Ross**, being voted into the role. **Keith Watson** remains as treasurer and **David Milliken** took on the post of club secretary and junior convenor. **John Ross** was appointed club captain with **Anthony Drew** taking the vice-captain role. **Elizabeth Porter** joins the committee as the parents' representative. The two remaining positions of young persons' representative and general committee member were unfilled on the night. However, both roles have nominees who were unable to confirm their acceptance due to being unavailable for the meeting. It is expected that these roles will be confirmed before the start of the season.

The club are delighted to be one of the founding member clubs in the new Kinross-shire Community Sports Hub. Community Sports Hubs are a Sport Scotland initiative aimed at bringing clubs together to help increase participation in sport and build a better local community. Further information on the club involvement will follow in the coming months.

Several of our U15s and U13s have been attending the regional academy training sessions over the winter and we are delighted to announce that U15 player, **Durness Mackay-Champion** has been selected for a Scotland U15 trial at the end of February. Everyone at the club wishes Durness all the best for his opportunity.

Indoor junior training continues every Monday evening with the outdoor season due to start in mid-April. Full details of the outdoor sessions will be in the next edition.



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Kinross Hockey Club

Ladies Report

As we move into the second half of the outdoor season, the firsts prepare for their return to competitive play on Saturday 20 February against Grove. They haven't played since 28 November, so no excuses for not being well enough rested between games!

Midland league restarted on 6 February, so our seconds have been back playing for a few weeks, winning their first league game on 6 February 4 – 0.

Although not a lot of hockey has been played since November, we are continuing with the social activities. Not only did we all enjoy a fun Christmas night, but also held our inaugural



Burns Supper at the Grouse and Claret, which was a great success.

There are a few thanks this month: to Kinross-shire Round Table for their donation; to Kinross Cycling Club for their donation from their Sportive and, as I mentioned in last month's report, to Clark Thomson Insurance Brokers for their sponsorship. It was a very cold night, but we were delighted to receive our tops from Morna Strachan, Clark Thomson's Group Marketing and Communications Manager.

Finally, on **Sunday 20 March**, we are holding a **Sponsored Walk** around Loch Leven in aid of funds for our new pitch. There are six different distances ranging from 1.7 miles to the full circle of the loch at 14.2 miles to suit everybody's ability. Please feel free to join in, to watch and cheer us on, or even to sponsor someone you know is taking on the challenge.



Gail Nelson, Hockey Club President (centre right), thanks Morna Strachan of sponsors Clark Thomson for the new team tops

Men's Report

Sponsored by Loch Leven's Larder, the firsts play in East Men's District Division 1 and currently lie in third place, having played ten, won seven and lost three, with 21 points. There are four teams on 21 points, although Kinross have played four games less than the league leaders who are on 30 points, so Kinross can catch them.

The seconds lie in seventh place in division 3, having played ten, won three, drawn one and lost six.

Kinross Kobras (junior hockey)

The winter has seen competitive hockey go indoor with the first competitions of the year being held indoors in Dundee. Kobras has fielded teams at U10, U12 and U14 and played against all the Midland district clubs with a good mix of results.

As tournaments have progressed, Kinross players have got more used to the demands of competitive hockey and teamwork and focus has improved. We hope, after a few months away from our home



pitch at KGV, that we will be back there for the rest of the season at our usual times of 6.30pm - 7.30pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays and 7.30pm - 8.30pm on Thursday for Over 14s.



U12 players at Midland District Tournament

Kinross Curling

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www.kinrosscurling.co.uk

Email: IceMan@KinrossCurling.co.uk

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Annual General Meeting

Bob Tait, who has had two periods as Chairman of the Trust, retired from the Board in January at the AGM. Nearly 100 members of the Trust gave him an enthusiastic and well-deserved vote of thanks. He has had a critical role in ensuring that funding was gained to refurbish the curling rink and the building project was delivered on time. Bob is a member of both Inverkeithing and Boreland Curling Clubs. **Malcolm Strang Steel**, Vice Chairman, also ended a six-year period on the Board. He brought important experience as a lawyer during the vital stages of establishing the Trust. Malcolm is a member of Queich Curling Club.

At the AGM, **JohnJo Kenny** was elected to the Board. He is a member of Kinross Curling Club and will bring the benefit of his great curling experience. **Mike Caffyn** is the new Chairman of the Trust.

Curling rink news

Kinross is looking forward to hosting a **national Ladies Bonsel** on **10 April**. The most exciting news is that **British Curling** is taking three weeks of ice at the end of this season, and five more from 1 August, to ensure that the elite curlers have the best preparation for the international events the squads will participate in. This is a major 'feather in the cap' for the curling rink and staff.

We welcome all local residents to our curling lounge during the season. You can enjoy home baking and take time to watch curlers in action. Of course we would be very pleased if you would like to take the opportunity to try our great sport.

Attracting new curlers

With support from Kinross Curling School coaches, Claire Milne, our Curling Development Officer, has been busy running two schemes to attract new curlers to our sport:

Beginners and the Virtual Club: The Try Curling sessions in early January helped encourage 11 newcomers to attend the current Beginners' Course. (There were 17 on the equivalent course last October and November.) Over three sessions these new curlers have both on ice and off ice tuition on delivery, scoring, etiquette, tactics and Steven also gives a talk on ice making.

Those who then want to continue curling are eligible to join the Virtual Club (Kinross Curling Development Club). This club is set up as a kind of training pool for new curlers and they can only be members for their first two full seasons. As members they get reduced membership of the RCCC, but also can access regular coaching, can play in internal, ice rink and national competitions as well as hold friendly matches with local mainstream clubs and Virtual Clubs from other rinks. There is even an annual national Virtual Club Championship. It gives the new curlers a chance to hone their skills and see which clubs are the best fit for them to join when they are confident to do so. Many join other clubs while still in the Virtual Club so that they can curl more often.

Business Challenge: Our first ever Business Challenge has got off to a great start with eight different companies taking

part. Teams are only allowed one regular curler but it has been great to see how quickly the others in the teams have taken to the game and been able to play some great shots after some initial coaching. Our qualifiers through to the Final Session on 12 February were:

**BG Vent, Caledonia Play,
Babcock and The Sign Company.**

After two very competitive semi-finals, Babcock won a close final 3-2 against the Sign Company. We hope that several more local companies will take part in the event next season. Contact Steven Kerr, Ice Manager at the rink, if you are interested.



The team from Babcock, winners of the first Kinross Curling Business Challenge

Local curlers win national title

The National Masters Championships took place at Greenacres Curling Rink, 4 – 7 February. Team Scott came out winners in the women's final after a narrow 8-7 win over Team M A Robertson. The team was skipped by local curler **Maggie Scott**. She has been a Scottish Champion twice, a Senior Champion and now a Masters Champion. The rest of the team included another local curler, **Fiona Rutherford**, playing at lead, with Margaret White and Yvonne Aitken.



Team Scott, National Masters Champions: Fiona Rutherford, RCCC President Billy Howat, Maggie Scott, Margaret White, Yvonne Aitken

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subscriptions@kinrossnewsletter.org

Kinross Otters

Annual Awards Night, Windlestrae Hotel

Saturday 23 January 2016

The annual awards night to celebrate our club championships and all our swimmers over the whole year took place at a packed Windlestrae Hotel on Saturday 23 January. This proved to be a great night, which also incorporated a race night as a club fund raiser. Many thanks to James Thomson for organising this.

Here is a list of our champions: **15+ Girls** 1. Iona Crawford 2. Amy Broadhurst 3. Sally McPherson; **15+ Boys** 1. Euan Simpson 2. Jack Watson; **13/14 Girls** 1. Amy Hardie 2. Libby Broadhurst 3. Rebecca Mitchell; **13/14 Boys** 1. Alex Bell 2. Rory Hutchison 3. Duncan Crawford; **11/12 Girls** 1. Ola Stanton 2. Ruth Ritchie 3. Ailsa Bennet; **11/12 Boys** 1. Jack Muncey 2. Murray Pritchard 3. Struan Bennet and Jack Brisbane; **10 + Under Girls** 1. Emily Cumming 2. Maeve Pakravan 3. Zoe Findlay; **10 + Under Boys** 1. Ben Smallwood 2. Indiana Philp 3. Ruraidh Sturgess; **200m Individual Medley Girls**, Iona Crawford; **200m Individual Medley Boys**, Euan Simpson; **100m Individual Medley Girls**, Ola Stanton; **100m Individual Medley Boys**, Jack Muncey; **Bronze Champion (50m) Girls**, Grace Ritchie; **Bronze Champion (50m) Boys**, Ben Smallwood; **Silver Champion (50m) Girls**, Emily Cumming; **Silver Champion (50m) Boys**, Indiana Philp; **Silver Champion (100m) Girls**, Mia McKenzie; **Silver Champion (100m) Boys**, Murray Pritchard; **Swimmer of the Year Girls**, Ola Stanton; **Swimmer of the Year Boys**, Jack Muncey; **Coaches Award Bronze**, Abbie Slater; **Coaches Award Silver**, Lucy Devine; **Coaches Award Gold**, Duncan Crawford; **Coaches Award Platinum**, Cameron McCloskey; **Volunteer Coach of the Year**, Rebecca Thompson; **Volunteer of the Year**, Pam Watson; **Premier Team Captain Girls**, Iona Crawford; **Premier Team Captain Boys**, Cameron McCloskey; **First Team Captain Girls**, Sophie Telfer; **First Team Captain Boys**, Jack Watson; **Open Individual Medley Girls**, 1. Laura Muncey 2. Fiona Thompson 3. Rachel Brisbane; **Open Individual Medley Boys**, 1. Callum Simpson 2. Lachlan McLean 3. Steve Wilcox.

Carnegie Graded Meet

Michael Woods Sports Centre, Glenrothes

16 - 17 January

This wonderfully refurbished venue with its eight lanes played host to a graded meet where weaker swimmers, or swimmers in their weaker strokes, get to shine for a change. Not for the first time this season it was **Jack Muncey** (12) who grabbed the Otters' limelight with gold in the 100m Butterfly in the Boys 12-13 category in a quick 1.14.05 and silver in the 400m Freestyle in 4.48.12.

Not to be outdone for the girls, **Amy Hardie** (14) produced a superb display in the 50m Butterfly in the 14 and over category to win gold in another rapid time of 35.39.

Jack Watson (15) showcased some of his best ever swimming winning three silver medals in the 100m Freestyle (1.02.60 – 0.23 off gold), 100m Backstroke (1.10.89 – 0.15 off gold) and the 400m Freestyle (4.59.50).

Libby Broadhurst (13) showed she can swim really fast with a 32.94 in the 50m Freestyle for 12-13 Girls and won her first medal at a large meet (bronze).



Scottish Schools National Championships 2016

Tollcross, Glasgow

Saturday 30 January

Only four Otters (representing their respective schools) made it to the blocks in this prestigious national schools competition, having qualified through the Tayside Schools heats in November.

Most successful on the day was **Jack Muncey** representing Kinross High School, in the 13-14 Boys category, where he came 8th in his favourite 200m Backstroke event in 2.37.29 and 13th in the 100m Backstroke.

Ola Stanton, also representing Kinross High School, managed 11th place in the 100m Breaststroke in the 13-14 Girls category in 1.23.56.

Little sister, **Zosia Stanton**, representing Milnathort Primary School grabbed a 12th place in the 50m Freestyle in 32.30 in the Girls 12 and under category.

Also keeping up the strong Milnathort Primary School traditions in this competition was **Struan Bennet** who came 16th in the 12 and under 50m Butterfly.

Well done to all these swimmers. Making these finals is an achievement in itself.

Midland District Long Course Championships 2016

Olympia, Dundee

6 - 7 February

These annual long course (50m pool) championships seek to find Tayside's finest. They certainly did that this year in **Jack Muncey** who simply dominated the 13 year old Boys category from start to finish. It was gold in the 50m (34.20), 100m (1.13.09) and 200m (2.36.10) Backstroke, the 100m (1.04.32) and 200m (2.19.42) Freestyle, the 100m Butterfly (1.13.64) and the 200m Individual Medley (2.41.55). A mere silver (only joking!) ended this superb weekend in the 50m Freestyle (30.42). No one at the Otters can remember so many Otter gold medals being won at a single meet.

The golden theme continued with **Zosia Stanton** (12) in the Girls 11-12 category in the 50m Freestyle (32.05). Also making the podium was **Iona Crawford** (16) in the 15-16 year old category with a bronze in the 50m Breaststroke in 38.88.



Some of the Midland District Long Course Championships team
l to r: Jack Muncey, Amy Hardie, Ola Stanton and Zosia Stanton

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Glenrothes Spring Meet Michael Woods Centre, Glenrothes Saturday 6 February

Whilst the 'big' Otters competed in Dundee in the Long Course Championships, the 'little' Otters had an outing in Glenrothes. The hosts were very generous as the top eight were given medals (there are eight lanes!).

The only Otter to make the top three all day was **Emily Cumming** (10) in the Girls 8-10 category where she came 2nd in the 50m Backstroke. She was also 7th in the 50m Butterfly and the 100m Individual Medley and 8th in the 50m Breaststroke.

Ruaraidh Sturgess (10) managed a 4th in the 50m Backstroke followed by a 6th in the 50m Butterfly and a 7th in the 50m Breaststroke.

Murray Pritchard (11) came 5th in the 100m Individual Medley despite being in the 11-12 Boys age group.

Cailean Thomson (9) came 6th in the 50m Freestyle, 7th in the 50m Butterfly and 8th in the 50m Breaststroke and 100m Individual Medley.

Finally, **Stuart Pritchard** (9) was our last top eight finisher in the 50m Backstroke with a fine 7th place.



Younger Otters at the Glenrothes Spring meet



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Kinross Volleyball Club

It has been a busy time since the turn of the year with lots of volleyball being played by Kinross Volleyball Club and Kinross High School.

In the Perth & District Premier League Scotrange being undefeated in 2016 beating Eagles, Team Fife, Hitting Bricks and Mental Blocks to stay league leaders. Kintronics beat Eagles and Dunfermline but lost to Team Fife and Hitting Bricks. In the Perth & District Recreational League, the Kinross Mongrels beat Tay Pearls, Aberfeldy and Kinross BB Wildcats but lost to Motley Crew and PLUS Perth Mental Health. The Kinross High School team beat Tay Pearls, Kinross BB Wildcats and Perth High School whilst losing out by the narrowest of margins (one point) to Motley Crew who top the table.

Kinross High School teams have also been busy with Scottish Schools Cup matches, the S2/3 boys defeating Edinburgh's Craigmount High School.

The S2/3 girls' team narrowly lost out to the Craigmount girls by two sets to one.

The S2/3 boys now have a tough tie away to South Queensferry High School. The senior boys team travelled to Grangemouth High School where they recorded a victory by three sets to love. They meet James Gillespie's School of Edinburgh in the next round.

The senior girls' team travel to Grangemouth at the end of February to play their outstanding tie.

The Kinross High School boys team has been nominated for School Team of the Year, with the results being announced at Perth & Kinross Sports Council Sports Personality of the Year Awards at Dewars Rinks on Friday 11 March.

Six boys and four girls from Kinross High School took part in Scottish Volleyball's first Regional Development Day held at South Queensferry High School on Saturday 6 February. In the Junior National League, the Kinross boys lost out in two away matches to City of Edinburgh and South Ayrshire but won their home tie against City of Edinburgh NUVOC at Loch Leven Community Campus.

Kinross Volleyball Club is pleased to announce that they will be receiving £600 for Junior Development thanks to the local Cooperative Supermarket's 5p plastic bag fund.

Monday night now has a junior focus at training nights from 8pm to 9.45pm at the Community Campus with all junior players (both boys and girls) welcome to attend.

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News from the Rurals



MILNATHORT – President, Ann Reid, welcomed us all to the first meeting of the year then the minutes from November and December were read and approved. The December meeting was our Christmas evening held at The Muirs where we had a very enjoyable meal followed by members' anecdotes and a quiz.

Our January meeting was a Scots night when we had a choice of four stovies and three trifles made by members of the committee. Our tummies were full! We were then introduced to Gordon Menzies, who sang a variety of songs including Scottish, Country and rock and roll, and told a few stories. He then very kindly judged our competitions:

Flower of the Month	Cathy Cochrane
Four Lines to a Scots Tune	Vi Todd
Apple Pie	Sheila Wardell

CROOK OF DEVON – President Alice Johnson welcomed everyone to the meeting. After business, she introduced Neil Kilpatrick from TRACKS (The Rural Access Committee of Kinross-shire). Neil gave an interesting talk on the Loch Leven Heritage project focusing on the work involved in completing the last phase of the Loch Leven Heritage Trail between Lochleven Mills and Vane Farm.

The vote of thanks was given by Mary Paterson.

Competitions:


Flower of the Month	Jean Jackson
Photo of Loch Leven	Jean Jackson

CLEISH – President Mrs Helen Buchanan welcomed twenty-nine members and guests to our February meeting. After business she welcomed our speaker for the evening, Ryan Nelson, and we enjoyed an interesting and informative talk on his ice cream making business, Nelsons of Culross, including sampling his 'delicious' ice cream.

A vote of thanks was given by Mrs Margaret Kilpatrick.

Competitions:

Bowl of Bulbs	Margaret Kilpatrick
Three Decorated Cup Cakes	Kirsty Harper
Ice Cream Limerick	Dorothy Morris



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GLENFARG – President Margot Moran presided over a very pleasant "in-house" February meeting. Allison Messenger, Helen Quartermaine, Jeannie Black and Margot Moran demonstrated their skills and amazing work with fabric boxes, hairpin crochet, Hardanger embroidery and beadwork in an inspiring display.

Andzia Scott proposed the vote of thanks.

Painted Stone	Lillias Johnson
Chocolate Eclairs	Alison Harrison
Flower of the Month	Allison Messenger

BISHOPSHIRE – President Norma Smith welcomed members and our speaker Brian Ogilvie who came along to tell us about cruising through the Panama Canal last year on the 100th anniversary of the opening of this great waterway. Members enjoyed the factual video and amusing anecdotes of the holiday. Interesting to learn that work has now begun on a newer, larger canal.

Three Pieces of Tablet	Joanne Cowan
Holiday Limerick	Jane Martin

CARNBO – President Molly White welcomed twenty-eight members to the February meeting. After business Mrs Linda Retson, Chairman of Perth & Kinross SWI Federation, gave an interesting talk on "My Rural Life". Linda also brought along an impressive variety of the beautiful crafts she has learned as a member of the rural. Dorothy Fyfe gave a vote of thanks.

Competitions:

Flower of the Month	Josephine Paterson
Article in Papercraft	Sheila Reid

Our next meeting is 21 March at 7.15pm. All welcome.

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Out & About



Loch Leven NNR



The winter hasn't really delivered the usual seasonal weather this year so far. Just more of the wet stuff, leaving some of the Heritage Trail inaccessible since early December. The water level did drop slightly, revealing sections of the path surface that have been damaged by the water. Please be aware of the changes that have occurred when you next use the trail.

Short-eared Owls have remained ever-present this winter, with Kirkgate Point still proving a favourite hunting ground for them. Jeremy captured some cracking shots recently of one patrolling back and forth in search of voles.



A short-eared owl hunting

Other birds of note this month have included a Hen Harrier seen at RSPB, a Smew, Slavonian Grebe and Greenshank on the most recent Wetland Bird Survey, a Great Northern Diver that appeared for a couple of days and a Green-winged Teal. An interesting report of a Glossy Ibis was also noteworthy, although we were unable to catch up with it again.

As mentioned in last month's Newsletter, this month we're asking you to share your thoughts on issues worth considering for our forthcoming reserve management plan. Having held a consultation with our volunteers in February, we're inviting you to come along to meet with us at either the **Better Place to Live Fair** on **Saturday 5 March**, or to attend the **SNH Chairman's public reception** at the Green Hotel between 7pm and 9pm on **Wednesday 9 March**. The reception will include tea, coffee and biscuits, and will be an excellent opportunity to learn more about SNH's vision for the future management of Loch Leven NNR. All are welcome to attend, and we hope that interesting discussions arise from your thoughts and comments.

The next of our scheduled events is called **Tracks and Signs**, which takes place on **Saturday 2 April**, from 10am to 12pm. It's a guided walk aimed at all ages, from young nature detectives to seasoned naturalists. Join reserve staff on a wander through Levenmouth woods to see what signs of spring are out and about, and join in the search for migrant birds and active mammals as they prepare nests and gather food for their young. It's a free event with easy access, although some bits of the walk may go off track for a short while. Please call the reserve office on 01577 864439 to come along and join in the fun.

As our insect surveyors prepare for the coming season, I'd like to draw your attention to the Publications section of the Loch Leven NNR website, where last year's reports are now available, along with a series of excellent photo ID guides prepared by Dick Alderson for use by any insect surveyors that wish to access them.

Our thanks go to Dick for his continued efforts in preparing these reports and for the excellently made ID guides. I'm sure you'll all find them extremely useful while out and about on a search for local insects.



An Emerald Damselfly

The second **Scottish Dragonfly Conference** takes place on **Saturday 2 April** from 9.30am to 4.30pm. Those attending our guided walk would easily make it to Perth for the afternoon! It will be a great event for those interested in current dragonfly conservation, and keen to know more about dragonfly hotspots in the country. If you'd like to book a place or for more information, please visit:

www.british-dragonflies.or.uk/upcoming-events.

That's all for now folks,

Craig, Reserve Officer

You can see more of Craig's stunning wildlife photos, in colour, on page 54 in our Clubs section.

Gardens Open

The following gardens near Kinross are opening in March under the Scotland's Garden scheme, which raises money for charity.

Lindores House, by Newburgh, KY14 6JD

Open Day **Sunday 6 March**, 11am-3pm. A stunning lochside position with snowdrops, leuconiums and aconites. Woodland walks, Plant stall and refreshments. Admission: £3.50, children free.

Hollytree Lodge, Muckhart, Dollar, FK14 7JW

By arrangement, 25 March – 10 April. Contact: Liz & Peter Wyatt. Tel: 0797 337 4687 E: Elizwyatt@aol.com
Fascinating organic garden brimming over with unusual shrubs, trees and plants. Ongoing projects ensure plenty of interest throughout the season.

Further details are on the Scotland's Gardens website www.scotlandsgardens.org. or in the yellow SG guidebook.

Weather



January Weather Report from Kinross

Total rainfall	213.9mm = 8.55 inches
Heaviest rainfall	17.2mm (15th)
Total sunshine for the month	6.3 hours
Sunniest day	2.3 hours (15th)
Maximum temperature average	5.9 °C
Highest temperature	13.4°C (25th)
Minimum temperature average	-1.11°C
Lowest temperature	-8.8°C (16th)

RSPB Loch Leven

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



Aye, aye, folks, whit like the day? The weather has been a bit crazy again with snow blizzards, sun, rain; nothing new there then, but signs of Spring are slowly emerging. Trees coming into bud, snowdrops out, as they usually are in February, and birds starting to pair up. We have had a lot of the usual suspects but also a few different species, with raptors from Hen Harriers, Marsh Harrier, Kestrel – a bird which has not been in a great deal of evidence the last few years – and Short Eared Owl. We've also seen Slavonian Grebe and Brambling coming in to feeders when the weather has been a bit snell and a high count on the weekend of the Big Garden Birdwatch for a change, cos they all seem to clear out at counting time normally!

The volunteer team have also been tidying up flower borders etc in preparation for the coming warmer (?) weather. Let's be positive: it will be a dry, warm summer this year!

The shop will be holding an **Optics Weekend on 5 and 6 March**, so ye ken whaur tae come in yer lookin fur new yins. Keep feeding your garden birds right through because now is the time they are building up reserves for the coming breeding season and looking for nest sites. Even a wee drap o' food can make a big difference.

The next lot of events will soon be available for the summer season. The next staff-led **Nature Tots** event for March will be on **Wednesday 9 March** from 10am until 12pm. This month it's all about Wiggly Worms. Please pre book this event if you want to get a place for you kids. The last one was absolutely heaving, so this time we are limiting numbers. A good few places have been taken already so as the sayin gans, "If yer no first, yer last". Over to you!

On **Wednesday 2 March** we are holding a **talk** on the **Curlew** at 7pm in the visitor centre. These iconic waders are in trouble all over Britain with massive declines over the last few years. Book a place to find out about the ongoing international effort to save them. Priced at £3 for members and £6 for non-members, it should be an interesting talk.

Over the Easter weekend we are doing a self-led "Lapwing Trail". Solve the puzzle and win a tasty treat. Soonds like an Easter egg tae me at a rough guess. Nae need tae book; drop in when you feel like it (during opening hours obviously). Costs £2 per entry.

Loch Leven Wildlife Explorers Group are holding another monthly adventure for 5-12 year olds from 1pm until 3pm on **Sunday 27 March**. This time you choose what you want to do. You don't have to be a WEX member to take part, but if you come along and have great fun and would like to become a member, ask a staff member for details; me, if you like, cos I am usually hingin aboot in the lobby next tae the classroom, but any one will do.

On a final note, Vix Imrie from the shop has left for another job after working here for around 10 years. Her coothy personality will no doubt be missed by some of our regulars and we will miss all the cups of tea. Good luck to her in her new career.

Ta ta till next time,

Colin

Farming



Farming talk takes over in our house. We can't really help it; Andrew and I are both farmers, so are our Dads who we see everyday. In addition, our son is currently completing a Modern Apprenticeship in Agriculture and working at home, so most of the chat over lunch and dinner is concerned with which sheep need silage where, what job is top of the priority list once the weather dries up and has the Basic Payment reached the bank account yet. The latest update is the ewes are munching through the bales like mad so the rings actually need topped up about every two days. First place for dry weather is building the new 24-metre storage shed from scratch (once we have located the instruction book.) This is followed closely by putting up a new sheep fence between two turnout fields before lambing. On the other matter of basic payment, one business received the subsidy on time but the other is still waiting.

So when our daughter, who lives in Aberdeen, phoned for a chat last week I wasn't surprised to hear Andrew update her on all the latest farming news – he also announced to her proudly "Mum and I have just bought a dung spreader together." I could her laughing in disbelief! Our daughter didn't pick up the farming bug, but being a good girl she congratulated him on the news and listened as he explained the benefits of machinery sharing. "Half the initial investment, half the repair and maintenance bills – it's a bit of a no brainer really if you can work out a fair way to allocate the machine. Of course that can be the tricky bit so you do have to know and trust the other person well and it helps if the farms use the machine in different seasons or are willing to share equally," he concluded.

Sharing machinery isn't a new concept but it is something that we'd like to do more of. Many farmers also hire specialist equipment to each other to save money or join a machinery ring. This is a very successful way of matching the machinery and experienced operators to the jobs needing done. Share farming is, however, quite new in Scotland. I don't think there is an example in Kinross-shire yet. Share farming is popular in New Zealand and Canada and it works well on dairy farms where the farmer will retain ownership of the land and steading and let a younger person build up the milking herd as a separate business. Again it requires trust, but the concept of sharing enables the older farmer to retire and provides the vital first step onto the farming ladder for the next generation. I'll stick with one machine for now and as I'm off to have a cup of tea, I'll probably be looking for a share of a chocolate biscuit too!

Fiona

MICHAEL'S TAXI

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LOCAL TAXI COMPANY

All enquiries welcome

e-mail: poltaxiservice@gmail.com

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, finish at church. 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 6 - 7.15pm, Junior Section 7 - 9pm, Company Section 8 - 10pm (contact David Munro 01577 862126).

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

Other Events and Services

March

- Tue 1** 2.30pm: Service at Whyte Court.
7.15pm: Guild, church centre: 'Laughter in the Manse'.
- Thu 3** 7.30pm: Thursday group, church centre: 'Houses for Heroes'.
- Fri 4** 2pm: Service for the World Day of Prayer.
- Sat 5** 8.30am: Prayer Breakfast (names in advance to church office).
- Sun 6** 10.30am: Quarterly Communion Service for all ages.
6.30pm: Evening Communion (common cup and individual glasses).
- Mon 7** 8am: Silent Meditation.
- Wed 9** 7.30pm: Introductory Prospects meeting, church centre, with Ivy Blair the national co-ordinator for Prospects Ministries.
- Sat 12** 10am: Presbytery of Perth, Scone Old Parish Church.
- Sun 13** 10.30am: Morning Service will include the Stated Annual Meeting.
6.30pm: Joint Evening Service, Cleish Church.
- Tue 15** 7.15pm: Guild, church centre: AGM.
- Thu 17** 9pm: late evening service of Compline.

Holy Week

See other notices for services in other churches.

In Kinross Parish Church:

- Mon 21 – Fri 25** 9am and 9pm Short Reflections for Holy Week.
- Fri 25** **Good Friday.** 10.30am: 'C-U-@-the-X': a Good Friday event for families.
- Sun 27** **Easter Sunday: 'Christ is Risen!'**
7.30am: Community Service at The Pier organised by Kinross-shire Churches Together.
10.30 am: Morning Service for Easter.
6.30pm: Easter Songs of Praise.
- Tue 29** 2.30pm: Service at Causeway Court.
7.15pm: Guild, church centre: Guild Project 'All Friends Together'.

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 26 March** in Orwell Hall from 4 - 6pm. Theme: "Messy Easter".

Dates and events for your diary

- 6 Mar** Joint service in Portmoak Church 10.30am.
No service at Orwell Church.
- 8 Mar** The Guild meets in Orwell Hall at 7pm. Dr Oliver Wilson will talk about 'Events in a Life'.
- 15 Mar** The Guild meets in Orwell Hall at 7pm for their Charity Meal. Open to all – proceeds to Mary's Meals.
- 22 Mar** The Guild meets in Orwell Hall at 7pm for the AGM and to hear about 'Hand Therapy'.
- 25 Mar** Oasis Ladies Group meets in Portmoak New Room at 10.15am for an Easter Vigil.
Good Friday service in Portmoak Church at 7pm.
- 27 Mar** Easter Sunday services in both churches at the normal times.

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.

Churches Together

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.

March

- Fri 4 World Day of Prayer Services**
2pm Kinross Day Centre.
7pm Elisabeth Wilkie Hall, Fossoway Church.
- Sun 6** 9.15 - 9.30am A Time for Prayer *in the Church Office*.
9.45am Morning Worship followed by refreshments and Traidcraft.
- Sun 13** 9.45am Morning Worship.
- Sun 20** 9.45am Morning Worship. Followed by Stated Annual Meeting.
- Thu 24** 7pm Maundy Thursday Service of Holy Communion, Elisabeth Wilkie Hall.
- Sun 27** 9.45am **Easter Sunday** Worship with Holy Communion. Easter egg hunt for Junior Church children.

Café Refresh: Every Thursday, church hall, 2-4pm. *A social time enhanced with tea, coffee and scrummy cakes.*

House group: Most Thursdays at 7.30pm.

Please contact Debbie Hill for details, 01577 842268.

Toddlers Music Group:

Live music, puppets, songs and games for 0 - 5yrs and their families. Term time Tuesdays 9.30 - 11am.

Parents/Carers and Toddlers Group:

Friday 4 March 9 - 11am in the Church Hall. A time for toddler play, chat, coffee/tea/juice with fruit and/or biscuits.

Film Evening

Friday 11 March 7.30 - 9.30pm in the Church Hall.
'Monument Men' (cert 12), George Clooney and Cate Blanchett plan to rescue artistic masterpieces from the Nazis.
Please join us for the film, a cuppa and a blether and even some popcorn.

Men's Breakfast:

Saturday 19 March 8.30 - 10.30am. A hearty breakfast followed by a talk from the Very Reverend Dr James Simpson, followed by discussion.

St James' R C Church

5 High Street, Kinross, KY13 8AW

Father Martin Pletts Telephone: (01577) 863329

Mass Times Saturday Vigil 7.00pm
Sunday 9.30am

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

Kinross Gospel Hall

Montgomery Street, Kinross
Website: www.kinrossgospelhall.info

Sunday	10.30am	Breaking of Bread
	12.15pm	Sunday School
	6.00pm	Prayer Meeting
	6.30pm	Gospel Meeting
Monday	7.30pm	Prayer Meeting
	8.15pm	Bible Study

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

St Paul's is open, friendly and welcoming **to all age groups** (whether regular churchgoers or if you're simply inquisitive about who we are and what we do.)

We are excited about the ways in which God is calling us to grow as a community, for the community. Our aim is to express our deep appreciation of both the spoken and sacramental Word with a lightness of touch and a smile.

Children are equally welcome to stay in church during the service or go to the Meeting Room for Sunday School and everyone is particularly invited to stay together during our monthly 'Whole Church' services.

We predominantly use the 1982 Liturgy on Sunday mornings but create experimental devotion for special events throughout the year. If you would like to give us a try, we look forward to meeting and greeting you and hope that you might enjoy becoming part of this faithful family of Christ.

Mondays and Wednesdays: 8am Morning Prayer, said quietly in the side chapel.

Tuesdays (during Lent): 12.30pm Simple Lent lunch followed by a led reflection and silent meditation and Holy Communion from the Reserved Sacrament.

Wednesdays: 7.30pm 'Talk & Seek' - an informal discussion group, focusing on issues of spirituality. All welcome (those firmly undecided about faith especially so!)

Thursdays: 10 for 10.15am Lent Study Discussion Group (**until 24 March**). 3.30pm - 4.30pm Rector's Hour in the Church Office.

Other special services and events will be advertised on our website.

March Services and Events

- Sun 6 Mothering Sunday (Laetare ('Be Joyful') Sunday).**
8.30am Holy Communion.
11am Sung Eucharist and Holy Baptism.
- Sun 13 5th Sunday in Lent (Passion Sunday)**
8.30am Holy Communion followed by breakfast and Bible Study in the Meeting Room..
11am Sung Eucharist.

Holy Week 2015 - Please check our website's events calendar for more details about services that week.

- Sun 20 Palm Sunday**
8.30am Holy Communion followed by breakfast and Bible Study in the Meeting Room.
11am Sung Eucharist and dramatic retelling of the Passion story according to Luke.
- Thu 24** 11am Chrism Mass and Renewal of Vows for Diocesan Clergy (St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth).
7.30pm Sung Eucharist with the Washing of the Feet, Stripping the Altar and the 'Watch' (venue to be announced).
- Sat 26** 11pm Easter Vigil Holy Communion.
- Sun 27 Easter Day (British Summer Time begins!)**
7.30am Easter Morning Service, Breakfast at the Pier.
8.30am Holy Communion.
11am Whole Church Sung Eucharist.

Everyone welcome at all services

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

March

- Sun 6** 11.15am Morning Worship. Junior Church. Tea and Coffee served in Village Hall. Traidcraft Stall.
- Sun 13** 11.15am Morning Worship.
6.30pm 'Digging Deeper' - a study of the book of Ruth. Joint Service with churches in Kinross-shire.
- Mon 14** 3.15pm 'Messy Church' in the Village Hall. All children and their carers welcome.
- Sun 20** 11.15am Palm Sunday Morning Worship.
- Sun 27** 11.15am Easter Sunday Morning Worship.
- Tue 29** 7.15pm Cleish Guild meets in the Village Hall. 'The Haiti Project' - speaker Hugh Henderson, Mission International.

All welcome

Date for your Diary: Cleish Fete will take place on Saturday 21 May this year

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

Obituary

IAN CORMACK of 1 Churchill Road, Kinross, died at Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy, on Monday 4 January 2016, aged 68 years.

Beloved husband of Susan, loving dad of Paul and Gail and much loved grandad of Ami, Kaylee, Ellie, Katie and Lucy. Dear father in law of Louise. Much loved brother of Andrew and his wife Janet.

The funeral was on 11 January 2016 at Dunfermline Crematorium.

Acknowledgement

CORMACK – Susan, Paul and Gail would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for all the cards, flowers and support at the sad loss of Ian. Thanks to Stewart Funeral Directors for all their help and to Neil Dorward for his tribute service at the funeral. A big thank you to the nursing staff on ward 43 Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy.

World Day of Prayer

Friday 4 March



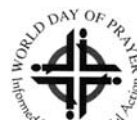
'Receive children, receive me'

Written by Christian Women of Cuba

2 pm at Kinross Church Centre

7 pm at Fossoway Church

Everyone very welcome



Listen to the testimonies
of four different age groups

ZUMBA
fitness

Mon 6.30pm - 7.15pm
Wed 6.30pm - 7.15pm

Ultrabody
conditioning

with Evelyn Crichton
KINROSS CHURCH CENTRE

Pilates

Mon 7.15pm - 8.00pm

TRX
Suspension Training

Wed 7.15pm - 8.00pm

Booking information:

TRX and Pilates classes must be pre-booked.
Pay as you go or 4 week packages also available.

telephone
m 07884 233144
email
evelyncrichton@hotmail.co.uk



w telford plastering
a family business you can trust

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92 high street, kinross ky13 8aj
01577 861903 or 07738 514342
audreytelford123@aol.com

Contributors

Please write or type clearly
Leave a margin
Use one side of the paper only

Discover Loch Leven Website

To discover the myriad things to see and do in
Kinross-shire and its neighbouring counties, visit
www.visitlochleven.org

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 Debbie Kennedy 07545 339494,
debileighs@hotmail.com

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 12.55pm - 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 12.45 - 2.45pm

Ante-natal to pre-school. Fun for children; coffee and chat for the parent/carer. For more information, please contact Zoe 07964 751012, Lisa 07736 642070 or the Playgroup.

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/carer. Play and pre-school activities, with a variety of toys. A snack is provided, plus coffee and tea for parents/carers. Younger siblings also welcome.

Contact 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



Milnathort filmhouse **SUPER SATURDAY CINEMA**

March 5th

Milnathort Town Hall

Inside Out 3pm

U, Family Film, Tuck Shop, Tickets from £3.50, online or at door.

Suffragette 8.30pm

(Over 18's only BYOB) Tickets £6 (Conc £4), online or at door.

Dinner & Movie with Heavens Above

Join us for a 3 course menu (BYOB) at 7pm then onto the film. Ticket & meal just £21.

Online ticket purchase only. Menu & booking at

www.milnathortfilmhouse.com

CINEMA
FOR ALL



Business Breakfast

Wednesday 2 March

7.30am, Loch Leven's Larder

The speaker at the March Business Breakfast will be **Ross McConnell**, who will be giving a short talk on "Topical Tax Tips".

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. Every attendee has the opportunity to make a short presentation about his or her business. Bring business cards or flyers.

Email Partnership administrator Karen Grunwell at mail@kinrosspartnership.org.uk to reserve your place.

The last Business Breakfast of the season will take place on **7 April**. For a report about the most recent Business Breakfast, see page 44.

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 March Houses for Heroes

7 April Flower Arranging on a Budget Claire Paton

5 May AGM



Cabaret



**A night of comedy and entertainment.
All in aid of Kinross-shire Organisations.**

When?

Saturday 5 March, 6.30 for 7pm.

where?

Windlestrae Hotel.



what?

A four course meal, comedy, auction, raffle and entertainment.



why?

To raise funds for Kinross-shire local organisations.

Kinross-shire's **Iain Hunter** - The Singing Butcher!
Alex Fleming - Premier Comper and after dinner speaker!

A night of fun and first class entertainment. Lots of quality Raffle prizes and a BIG fundraising auction with great items up for grabs. **For advance tickets call Barry Davies on 07809 644 760**

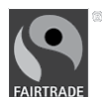
Kinross Meditation Group

7pm – 8pm Fridays (starts **4 March** 2016)

Meditation starts at 7.15pm, tea and coffee after The Hall, St Paul's Church, The Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8AY Providing a space for quiet reflection, mindfulness and relaxation. This non-religious meditation group is open to all and aims to provide a safe environment to share and explore the many benefits of meditation. If you would like to learn meditative techniques and practise in a small friendly group, then please come and join us or get in touch. Starting at beginners level, no previous experience or skills required, just the willingness to learn together in calm and supportive reflectiveness.

Casual enquiries welcomed. For further information please contact us via our Facebook page (search Kinross Meditation Group) or call Naomi on 07515 271272.

No fees, though small contributions to cover cost of hall hire are welcomed.



Fairtrade Fortnight
29 February – 13 March



Saturday 5 March Coffee Morning

10am-12pm, Kinross Church Centre

"Sit Down for Breakfast, Stand Up for Farmers!"

Saturday 12 March Fairtrade Fortnight Event!

10am – 12pm, St Paul's Church

Tea and Coffee and lots of Fairtrade goodies to sample!

Please support these events and look out for more information in March. *See also page 52.*

Milnathort Town Hall

Opening Ceremony

Join us for a glass of
fizz to celebrate the
refurbishment & re-opening
of Milnathort Town Hall.

- Refreshments
- Plaque unveiling
- Pipes
- Raffle
- Hall Information

Friday 11th March
7.30pm - 9pm



MILNATHORT
TOWN HALL
At the heart of our community



Glenfarg Village Folk Club

*The club meets at "Backstage at the Green",
Green Hotel, Kinross, 2 Muirs, Kinross on Mondays
Doors open 7.30pm Music starts 8pm*

Singaround, 7 March. All £3. As the first buds of Spring are appearing, let's celebrate with songs or poems about our countryside and gardens.

Robin Laing, 14 March. Members £5, non-members £8. A wonderful songwriter from Edinburgh, Robin can induce both tears of laughter or sadness or even those induced by whisky, one of his great interests! A fun night.

Celine Donoghue and Neil Sturgeon, 21 March. Members £5, non-members £8. Celine, a renowned fiddle and banjo player and singer, is joined by Neil on guitar and vocals. Two wonderful artistes for the price of one!

Pauline Alexander, 28 March. Members £5, non-members £8. Pauline was a guest artiste in the club two years ago, and we are delighted to welcome her back and to experience her stunning vocals and tremendous eclectic mix of song. She will be accompanied by Edwin Gallacher, whose skilful finger-style guitar marries beautifully with her songs.

*For a preview of the Glenfarg Folk Feast (8 - 10 April),
see page 13*

Kinross Garden Group

2015/16 Season

Thursday 10 March at 2pm

in the Millbridge Hall, Kinross

with Graeme Butler of Rumbling Bridge Nursery

'The Good Doers'

All welcome to join us

Music in Dollar

Season 2015 - 2016

All concerts are at the Gibson Hall, Dollar Academy. Ticket prices are £10 for non-members, with discounts for members and season ticket holders with free entry to anyone in full-time education.

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 Gaelic Society of Perth

The March Cèilidh will be on **Friday 18 March** at 7.30pm at St Matthew's Church Hall, Tay Street, Perth, where the entertainment for the evening will be provided by the members of The Stirling Gaelic Choir who will perform in a variety of musical groupings. A piper from Perth and District Pipe Band will also perform.

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.

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

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.

Macmillan Coffee Shop, Quarrymill

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

The popular Macmillan charity coffee shop in Quarrymill Woodland Park, Perth, is getting ready to open for its 2016 season on **Monday 21 March** and we are looking for new volunteers who are prepared to give a morning or afternoon of their time once or twice a month to help in the coffee shop, or donate baking.

If anyone is interested in becoming a volunteer for this very worthwhile charity, please contact:

Margaret Rains, Administrator, tel: 07983 729324

Email: macmillancoffeeshop@yahoo.co.uk

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.

Kinross Floral Art Club Coffee Evening and Demonstration Thursday 31 March

Kinross Parish Church at 7.15pm

Mrs Alyson Christie from St Andrews presents a demonstration entitled 'Inspirations' at the coffee evening to be held in the Parish Church on Thursday 31 March. Alyson is a well respected and well known area demonstrator and we have always enjoyed her visits to Kinross. We would like to invite you to come along and watch Alyson create some beautiful fresh flower arrangements - maybe even win one to take home with you!

Tea, coffee and home baking are included.

Tickets are payable on the evening and all are welcome.

Visitors £8.00 and members £6.00

This is our final demonstration of the season prior to the AGM and Sapphire Anniversary Dinner in April. (Please see additional notice.)

Details from Alison Morrison 01577 863835.

Kinross Floral Art Club Sapphire Anniversary Dinner

This year is the Sapphire Anniversary of the Floral Art Club. We are holding a commemorative dinner on **Thursday 21 April** in the Boathouse Kinross.

I would like to take this opportunity to ask any former members of the Club to contact me if they wish to join us for this special event.

Alison Morrison 02577 863835

Light Up Kinross Annual General Meeting Thursday 28 April

at 7.30pm, Millbridge Hall, Kinross

LUK are struggling both for Committee Members and financial aid to arrange the Christmas Light Display in 2016. **Can you help with either?**

Please phone Margaret on 01577 862945. Any monetary contributions can be handed in to Margaret at Macbeth Currie, Kinross.

Free Energy Saving Advice Freephone 0800 512 012

Free, impartial advice on energy efficiency in the home, sustainable transport choices, small-scale use of micro-renewables etc. Advice to individuals, communities and small businesses.

Enquire

Are you looking for information about your child's rights to support in School?

If so, contact **Enquire**, the national advice and information service for additional support for learning.

Enquire offer: a confidential telephone helpline and online enquiry service, practical guides, fact sheets and newsletters, helpful materials for children and young people with additional support needs.

For more information contact: tel 0845 123 2303

Website: www.enquire.org.uk

Enquire is funded by the Scottish Government and managed by Children in Scotland

CALLING ALL INTERESTED IN THE YOUTH OF KINROSS-SHIRE!

WHO ARE WE?

An enterprise with the aim of employing a Christian Youth Worker, based in Kinross High School, offering all Kinross-shire young people:

SUPPORT - from where they are

GUIDANCE - to make positive, informed life choices

FAITH - support, trust and kindness to young people of all faiths and none



**You are warmly invited to join us for
an informative evening of presentation and
discussion on this exciting new youth
initiative!**

WHERE?

KINROSS PARISH CHURCH, STATION ROAD, KINROSS

WHEN?

9TH MARCH 2016 AT 7.30PM

FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS

Kythe SCIO 45043, Supported by Kinross-shire Churches of Scotland

Dollar Museum

Dollar Museum will reopen for the 2016 season on Saturday 26 March (Easter Saturday). Opening times are:

Saturdays: 11am – 1pm and 2pm – 4.30pm

Sundays: 2pm – 4.30pm

The Museum will also open on request at other times for visiting groups and researchers; contact dollarmuseum@btconnect.com

There are displays on the History of Dollar, Castle Campbell, Dollar Academy, the Devon Valley Railway, which ran from Alloa to Kinross (with over 750 photos, both scanned and printed), the Japanese Garden at Cowden and Prehistoric items excavated in the local area. An exhibition of Football in Dollar is new for 2016.

Children will enjoy Granny's Kitchen and the Children's Corner where they can colour in or do the quiz.

Upstairs there is a Reading Room with a wide range of local books, photos and maps where you are welcome to browse and our volunteers can help you with research.

Entry is free and all are welcome.

Host families needed for European Students in the Kinross-shire area

Into Education are looking for host families for European students aged 15 – 17 to enable them to experience Scottish Culture and attend a local school where they would take their standard grades or higher exams.

Time period: August to June or January to June.

A weekly reimbursement would be made to their host family. For further details, or to express an interest, please contact Jeanette Hindley on 07944 465244.



Kinross Circle Dancing

Millbridge Hall

Old Causeway, Kinross KY13 8DW

Tuesdays 10.30am – 12.30pm

Remaining Spring Term 2016 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



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

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.



Give a Greyhound A Home

Look on our Website

www.greyhoundrescuefife.com



★ Forever homes needed ★
★ for rescued Greyhounds ★

Greyhounds are very gentle creatures that require very little walking!

Please call or email for details
Phone: 01577 850393 (evenings)
Mob: 07826244765 (daytime)
email us on femiejimmyf@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.

Children's Hospice Association Scotland



Feeling Sporty? Love cycling?

We still have free places left for the Sportive Kinross cycling event on Saturday 30 April. See www.sportive-kinross.co.uk
Please contact Rachel Cheer for more information on 01577 865222 or rachelcheer@chas.org.uk

Thank you for supporting CHAS - Scotland's only hospice care for children.

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
April	Fri 18 March	Saturday 2 April
May	Fri 15 April	Saturday 30 April



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



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 March

No appointment is necessary as the surgery is a drop-in service. For complex issues a further appointment may be necessary. Perth CAB can help you – our advice is free, confidential, impartial and independent. Contact us: Advice line 01738 450580; Appointment line 01738 450581.



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



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.



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.

Perth & Kinross School Term Dates 2015-16

Term	Start	End
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: Fri 25 March (Good Friday); Mon 28 March (Easter Monday); 18 April (in-service).

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: Secy: Mrs M Scott (01577) 862945
KinrossCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk

Cleish & Blairadam: Secy: Patty Fraser (01577) 850253,
CleishCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk

Fossoway & District: Secy: Kevin Borthwick (01577) 840845,
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 Giacomazzi (Scottish National Party)

Tel (home): 01577 864025.

Email: jgiacomazzi@pkc.gov.uk

38A New Road, Milnathort, Kinross, KY13 9XT

Councillor Willie Robertson (Scottish Liberal Democrats)

Tel (home): 01577 865178. Email: wbrobertson@pkc.gov.uk
85 South Street, Milnathort, Kinross, KY13XA

Mobile Library Service

Visiting on Tuesdays 1, 15 & 29 March:

Milnathort	South Street	1230-1315
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Visiting every Tuesday

Glenfarg	Main Street	1130-1300
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Visiting on Wednesdays 9 & 23 March:

Powmill	Mill Gardens	0930-0950
Fossoway Pre-school	Powmill	0955-1020
Kinnesswood	Shop	1050-1120
Portmoak	Community Hall	1125-1140
Scotlandwell	Leslie Road	1145-1205
Hatchbank	Road	1220-1240
Cleish	Phone Box	1400-1415
Crook of Devon	Inn, Main Street	1430-1530
Carnbo	Main Road	1540-1610
Milnathort	South Road	1620-1650
Mawcarse		1700-1710

For more information, see www.pkc.gov.uk/mobilelibrary or phone 01577 867205.

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

Film shows • Cards • Dominoes • Art Class
Daily Papers • Chiropody • Trips • Exercises

Weekly Programme for March

Monday	Exercise Class	11am	Bingo	1.30pm
(all except 28th)	Dominoes, cards & other Games			1.15pm
	"Stride for Life" Walking Group			2pm
Tuesday	Relaxation Class	1.15pm	Games	1.15pm
	Singing group with Alex Cant		1.45pm	
Wednesday	Morning Worship	10.45am		
	Dominoes, Scrabble & other Games			1.30pm
	Fantastic Fun Quiz	1.30pm		
Thursday	Art Class	1.30pm		
	Dominoes, Scrabble, cards etc		1.30pm (except 10th)	
	Balance & Strength Class		1.30pm	
Friday	Exercise Class		11am - 2pm	
	Dominoes, Games and Filmshow		1.30pm	
	Bingo		1.30pm (except 4th)	



Public Holiday

The Day Centre will be closed on **Easter Monday 28 March**. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Additional Events for March

Health & Wellbeing Information Point	Tuesday	1st	11am - 12pm
Chiropody	Thursday	3rd, 24th	9.45am - 1pm
			(phone 01577 863869 for an appointment)
Film afternoon	Thursday	3rd	1.30pm
World Day of Prayer	Friday	4th	2pm
Tai Chi	Wednesday	9th, 23rd	1.30 - 2pm
Sing along with the fantastic "Disclaimers"	Thursday	10th	1.30 - 3pm
Kinross Community Care Advice & Information	Tuesday	22nd	11am - 12pm
Library Trip	Thursday	24th	1.30pm



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.

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.

Lyle & Scott Vintage Polo Shirt £15

As new, never worn. Men's size XL.

Lyle and Scott Polo Shirt £10

With green eagle. Used but still in good condition. Men's size XL.

Lyle and Scott Men's Shirt £15

As new, unworn men's shirt. Button-down collar, long sleeves, vintage brand, size XXL.

Lyle and Scott Vintage T-shirt £6

Men's round neck vintage style t-shirt. Used condition but still looks good. Size XXL.

Lyle and Scott Casual Jacket £40

As new, unworn. Vintage brand, size XL.

120 Great CDs Only 50p each! £60

Great selection of 120 CDs including Adele, Del Amitri, George Michael, Crowded House, Leona Lewis, Michael Buble, Robbie Williams, Take That, Proclaimers and many more.

Seller Details for above 6 items: Alan Thomson 07974 219957
alan@sel.uk.net

Thule Cycle Rack £20

Takes 3 bikes. Used with VW Golf and Audi A3 but may suit other cars.

Seller Details: Stephen Bolland stephen@sevenseventeen.co.uk

Left Hand Golf Club £40 ono

As new condition. 2 woods nos. 1 and 3, 1 putter irons nos. 3, 5, 7 and 9. Pinseeker brand.

Seller Details: David Colliar 01577 864037
davidcolliar@tiscali.co.uk

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

Blythswood Care collection in Perth

The charity Blythswood Care is no longer uplifting donations of second hand items in Kinross.

The nearest uplift is in Perth, at Asda. There will be collections there on the following Tuesdays, from 11.30am until 1.30pm:

8 March, 5 April, 3 May and 7 June.

British Summer Time

begins on

Sunday 27 March 2016

(Easter Sunday)

Clocks go **forward** one hour at 1am

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 busy Kinross-based 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.

If interested in this position, call Bruce on 07743 332237.

17th Edition Electrician, Contract and Occasional Weekend Work, GA Property Care Ltd

This role involves work throughout the central belt of Scotland including occasional work away. Working in hospitals preparing X-ray rooms and suites for equipment. Will be required to strip out rooms, install and rewire as required. Working from drawings and alongside other trades. Ideal candidate will be self-employed with own tools. Contract for 6 plus months.

Also looking for self-employed electricians who require occasional weekend work.

Please email CV to cv@gapropertycare.co.uk with covering letter, trade certificates and additional training certificates.

Part time Grants Administrator

This post will support the board of Kinross-shire Partnership (KP). KP is a not-for-profit company which strives to make a multi-faceted contribution and give general support to local clubs and organisations. More information can be found online at www.kinrosspartnership.org.uk.

The Grants Administrator works from home on a fully flexible basis. There is one main 'running cost' application to PKC each year and occasional ad hoc applications. Responsibilities include identification of funding sources, preparation of grant applications, dealing with enquiries and correspondence and submission of reports to the KP board and funders.

Applicants should have relevant experience and a strong blend of communication and administrative skills. Ideally this is a volunteer role but payment of an hourly fee can be considered.

If you would like to help us achieve our aim to make Kinross-shire a better place to live please contact Alisdair Stewart, Chairman by phone on either (01577) 862262 or 07825 698613, or by email on alisdairstewart@yahoo.com.

Full time bar/waiting staff, Kirklands Hotel, Kinross

After extensive refurbishment, The Kirklands Hotel is recruiting for full time bar/waiting staff to join us. The job involves serving customers in our bar and restaurant, as well as customer service for hotel guests. 35-40 hours per week, 5 days out of 7. Rate of pay is £7 per hour plus good share of tips. There is no live-in accommodation with this job.

The ideal candidate will have previous experience in the hospitality sector. Applicants must be over 18 and flexible to work day and evening shifts. Barista or cocktail experience would be an advantage.

Please email your CV to info@thekirklandshotel.com.

Subscriptions to the Newsletter

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

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

subscriptions@kinrossnewsletter.org

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