



Kinross Newsletter

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Mrs Nan Walker, MBE

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DEADLINE
for the February Issue
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Contributions for inclusion in the Newsletter

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

Email: editor@kinrossnewsletter.org

(all emails will be acknowledged)

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Commercial Advertising in the Newsletter

These prices are with effect from the October 2017 issue

Display Adverts

	<i>Eighth Page</i>	<i>Quarter Page</i>	<i>Half Page</i>
Black & White	£14.70	£29.40	£58.80
Colour (internal)	£25.50	£51.00	£102.00

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

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

Send all this to the Advertising Manager by the normal monthly Newsletter deadline (see top of left-hand column for date).

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

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

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Editorial

Kinross-shire

Here at the Newsletter, we like to think that this publication contributes in some way to maintaining the identity of Kinross-shire, even though Scottish counties were officially swept away in the 1970s. Someone has come up with a great idea that would further strengthen our community and our community identity: Kinross-shire's very own radio station! If you would be interested in volunteering to help get this project off the ground, read the article on page 13 and get in touch with Sam.

Speaking of Kinross-shire's identity, you may wish to contact the Boundary Commission to contend that "Kinross-shire" should be included in the name of the new UK parliamentary constituency that will contain our county. See letter, right.

News

If there is some news you think should appear in the Newsletter, please don't always assume that we will "hear it on the grapevine" and publish something. The Newsletter team is kept very busy processing the 120 or so submissions sent directly to the Newsletter each month, which unfortunately means that we do not have the resources to go searching for other news. So, if you think something should be in the Newsletter, please send details in an email to the editor by the monthly deadline. Thank you.

Festive Season

Remember, we do not publish a Newsletter at the start of January. Our next deadline is Friday 12 January for the February issue.

Best wishes for a happy Christmas and a peaceful new year from the Newsletter team.



Cover: Aerial view of the site of the former Kinross High School. Photo courtesy of Ken Whitcombe, Aerial Photography Solutions. Cover design by Lee Scammacca, Cree8.

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

Westminster Boundaries Review

Late last year, we encouraged local residents to make their views known on the proposed changes to UK parliamentary constituencies. We were particularly concerned about the proposals to link communities in Kinross-shire and Southern Perthshire with Central and Southern Fife and the implications that this would have for effective representation by our Member of Parliament.

We made an alternative suggestion of pairing Kinross-shire and Southern Perthshire with the northern parts of the Stirling Council area, which is mostly historic Perthshire. We argued that this would create a constituency with stronger economic, social, historical and transport links between its different communities. Moreover, Perth & Kinross Council agreed to our alternative suggestion as its unanimous position.

The Boundary Commission for Scotland have now released their revised proposals for Westminster constituency boundaries and they have accepted our alternative suggestions. This is in no small part down to those of you who wrote to the Commission to make your views known and just goes to show the impact that local communities can have when they present a united front.

There is, however, one issue that we believe still needs to be addressed. While they have accepted our proposed new boundaries, they have decided to call this new constituency Stirlingshire and South Perthshire, which contains no reference to Kinross-shire. We think that it is essential that our county be referenced in the constituency name.

We would therefore encourage you to write to the Boundary Commission for Scotland in support of their revised proposals for a Stirlingshire and South Perthshire constituency but requesting that Kinross-shire be included in its name given our status as a former county in our own right.

The consultation is open until Monday 11 December and you can have your say by writing to Boundary Commission for Scotland, Thistle House, 91 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh, EH12 5HD; using their on-line portal at www.bcs2018.org.uk; or by sending an e-mail to comments@scottishboundaries.gov.uk

Councillor Callum Purves
Councillor Mike Barnacle
and Dave Cuthbert
8 Highfield Circle, Kinross

Rail Network Funding

In an otherwise excellent update by Councillor Richard Watters, he mentions his view that a train connection to Kinross is highly unlikely "in this austerity-driven climate".

As evidence of this point, he suggests that the Westminster government have made a £600 million cut to the funding method for Scotland's rail network over the next 5 years.

The true position is that the UK government have **increased** the funding by £600 million over the previous funding.

In view of this fact, and the success of the Borders train line, will he now support those on Perth & Kinross Council who are arguing for a train link for our community?

Alan Thomson
Easter Dunochil, High Street, Kinross

BeWITCHED at Tullibole

We really had a wonderful evening as a family on 29 October at Tullibole Castle; hopefully the event will be back next year and we will certainly be there.

The lighting, music and effects were spectacular and full of surprises; with the Rotary Club members and helpers cheerful and friendly. We felt really welcome and loved the toasted marshmallows.

It was a lovely family celebration as well; six years ago, Chloe and Richard had their wedding reception at Tullibole Castle, very special. The photo shows Chloe with husband Richard and six-week-old Leonie in front of the floodlit castle enjoying a very different sort of evening than at their wedding (and having a better time than the ghoulish couple in the other photograph!)

We always find the maze challenging but enjoyable – even more so in the dark. The castle grounds had been transformed with clever lighting, music and special effects.

An excellent event made possible by all the hard work put in to it by Rhoderick and Alison.

Helen and Bob Pass
Dalqueich Farmhouse, Kinross

See photographs on page 11.

M90 Junction 7 upgrade petition

Thanks to all the residents of Springfield Road, Wilson Court, the Muirs and Sunnypark who signed my petition regarding the upgrade of Junction 7. This has now been presented to the local MSP Roseanna Cunningham who advised me she will speak with Humza Yousaf, Transport Minister in the Scottish Parliament. Hopefully he will now take action.

When the M90 was opened in the 1970s this junction was never completed to a four-way junction. Traffic has dramatically increased since then and with more and more house building in the Kinross area it is long overdue.

Frank Koronka
Springfield Road, Kinross

See also Cllr Robertson's column, page 26.



Mr Koronka presents the petition to Roseanna Cunningham MSP

Discover Loch Leven Website

To discover the myriad things to see and do in Kinross-shire and its neighbouring counties, visit
www.visitlochleven.org

Area Action Planning Partnership

I read with considerable interest Dave Cuthbert's article [Letters, page 3, November issue] where he exposed his views on the local Area Action Planning Partnership.

I wonder how the many groups the Partnership supported in April 2017, groups who are genuinely working to close poverty/inequality gaps in the area, like being described as "fritter" (waste, trifling). How insulting to the groups and the members of the partnership who took considered and difficult decisions on who to support while he called us an "inaction partnership". This from a man who clearly wants to be re-elected as a councillor to relieve him from his "enforced holiday" as he describes his rejection at the ballot box in May. In his article, he claims there have been no elections to the Partnership yet has had his close friend Cllr Purves ask three times at meetings to have him moved onto the group. This desire to be on the group even included Mr Cuthbert phoning round members before their September meeting (I got my call at 6.08pm), including other local councillors, to support Cllr Purves on his third attempt. Is this not a case of liking democratic elections as long as he is already a member? Mr Cuthbert accuses Perth and Kinross Council of "hijacking" the Partnership, nothing could be further from the truth. If any hijacking is going to happen I do not think locals need to look further than Dave Cuthbert, his article, lacking any subtlety, makes it quite clear who wants to dominate this group.

David A MacKenzie
12 Torridon Place, Kinross

"Happy 90th Birthday" held in aid of Cancer Research UK

Ten years ago, to celebrate my 80th birthday, I held a 'birthday bash' in the Tabernacle Hall, Blairadam, calling it 'Tea in the Tab.' It was such a success that we were able to send £450 to Cancer Research. I always said I'd do the same if I reached 90! So I booked the Hall, sent out about 60 invitations and waited. About 50 family, neighbours, friends and colleagues accepted.

I asked Goodfellow & Steven, the bakers based in Broughty Ferry, to whom I am related, to make the cake.

It was much admired and photographed.

A local caterer was recommended to me and proved a godsend. My children, Stuart and Wendy, flew in a few days beforehand and we were all set. One thing I didn't know until near the day was that two Smith family couples from Essex and Suffolk were driving up for the weekend. I was stunned and delighted. I had not seen my niece since she was five and she is now a young grandmother! We decorated the hall with Royal Stuart tartan in honour of my maiden name.

Kerry Black wrote a new poem for me, which a neighbour kindly read out, and a Cancer Research representative came and said a few words about cancer. From what I hear, a good time was had by all and we collected £550 to send to the charity.

I would like to thank Kerry, everyone who came, the Kelty Community Council for the beautiful flowers, and everyone who sent me lovely cards and the donations. Thank you all. Watch this space in 2027!

Mary Stuart Smith
Maryburgh

Congratulations



Congratulations to Lorna and Peter on the birth of their daughter, **ELLA TERRY MARSHALL HOWARD**, on Monday 23 October 2017. A long-awaited sister for Joe and first granddaughter for Ella Shand.

Ken and Anne Robertson of Kinnesswood are pleased to announce the arrival of their first grandchild, **ROSA ANNELIESE**, at New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton, on Sunday 29 October 2017. A daughter to Kathryn and Steven. Both families are delighted. Welcome to the world, baby girl!

Several Kinross businesses won awards at the Perth Business Awards 2017, part of Scotland's Business Awards. **HUNTERS OF KINROSS** won Best Independent Retailer in Perth & Kinross. **HEART AND SOUL HOLISTIC CENTRE** won the Best Kinross Business award. **THE MUIRS INN** won Best Licensed Premises. **LE JARDIN CAFÉ** (Dobbies) also won an award.

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Thanks



WILLIAM SNEDDON would like to thank all who attended his retiral party at the Thistle Hotel recently. He said: "I have enjoyed working with everyone at George Colliar's over the last 42 years. Thank you also for all the gifts and donations from colleagues, customers and suppliers; they were very much appreciated."

To everyone who came to support our **Cuppa & Cake Fundraiser** for **MAGGIE'S** at Crook of Devon Hall last month, THANK YOU! And a special shout out to the businesses listed below who donated. **We raised £3,590!**

Thanks to: The Kirklands Hotel & Restaurant, Loch Leven Brewery, Complete Look, Hunters of Kinross, Giacomazzi's, The Kilt Shop, Dance Connect, Cashmere of Lochleven, The Muirs Inn, Loch Leven Cycles, Unorthodox Roasters, Sainsbury's, The Co-operative, Winski's of Kinross, M&S at Kinross Services, Mandy's Hair Salon, Stella & Dot (Nicki Bain), Recouterit (Mandy Harris), Lulo (Lucy Lomas), SST Sensing Ltd, Think a Head Hairdressing (Elaine Murphy), Kimeleon Beauty at Crook of Devon, Hepburn's Garage at Crook of Devon, Tom Hall (Joiner) of Crook of Devon, Teresa Geissler Photography, Dobbies at Kinross, County Fabrics, Powmill Milk Bar, Caledonia Washrooms and Dollar Beauty.

A huge thank-you to the members of my Flutterby Fitness Pilates classes and Kinross 50+ Keep Fit and to everyone in the community who so kindly contributed home baking, raffle prizes and monetary donations for the **Macmillan Afternoon Tea** on 31 October.

Many thanks also to the stallholders (Isobel, Traidcraft; Sally, Neal's Yard Remedies and Skincare; Lynda and Ann, CHAS; Deirdre, Scarlet Goose gifts; and Jennie, Phoenix Cards) who all contributed to this wonderful fundraising. Last, but not least, massive thanks to the "Kitchen Elves and Raffle Girls" who all did a brilliant job!

Once again, the kindness and compassion of the community to support this charity event was fantastic and we have raised a **magnificent total of £766.50!**

From the heart, I thank you all.



Val Oswald
Flutterby Therapies and
Fitness Pilates

SUE CAIN, local curler, would like to thank everyone who contributed to her Pudsey Curling challenge. Sue played ten curling matches over ten days dressed in a Pudsey 'onesie'! Thanks to everyone who sponsored her. The sum raised for **BBC's Children in Need** was **£803.76**.

POPPY SCOTLAND: Thank you to everyone who donated to the 2017 Poppy Appeal. The total raised is **£6469.57**. This is an amazing amount, which includes local schools, shops, supermarkets, church, public, pubs, restaurants and Moto Services. Within Kinross, Milnathort, Cleish & Crook of Devon, I can only thank you again for all the support, especially the volunteers, cadets and veterans who gave up their time. Also, over **£300** was sold in merchandise. Well done, everyone.

Lynne McKay, local organiser for Poppy Scotland



Mon 6.30pm - 7.15pm
Wed 6.30pm - 7.15pm

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TRX and Pilates classes must be pre-booked.
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telephone
m 07884 233144
email
evelyn.crichton@hotmail.co.uk



Kinross-shire Decides

Article submitted by the local

Action Partnership Committee

Earlier this year, the Kinross-shire and Almond and Earn Community Action Partnership held a participatory budgeting event to decide how to spend £10,000 on projects in Kinross-shire. The Partnership is once again putting decisions about how money is allocated to local projects in the hands of our communities.

We are seeking ideas from community groups and not-for-profit organisations that help contribute towards the Partnership's objective of tackling inequalities. Projects should address local priorities such as providing activities for young people, employment and training, community transport, access to local services and activities, or reducing the inequalities associated with health and social care, social isolation, poverty, age or disabilities.

There is £16,500 of money to be spent on local projects in Kinross-shire in the next round of participatory budgeting. This money comes from the Perth and Kinross Health and Social Care Partnership and the Scottish Government's Community Choices Fund. Groups and organisations may apply for grants of anything up to £2,000 towards a project. Those applications from Kinross-shire that the Partnership deems to meet its criterion of tackling inequalities will be invited to take part in a **participatory budgeting event** at the **Better Place to Live Fair**, which is to be held at Loch Leven Community Campus on **Saturday 3 March 2018** between 10am and 2pm. At this event, local residents will have the opportunity to find out more about these projects and to take part in a public vote.

Application forms to apply for a grant can be obtained online at www.kinross.cc, by sending an e-mail to tramsay@pkc.gov.uk or by phoning 01577 867124. All applications must be submitted by **Friday 26 January 2018**.

Kinross-shire, Almond and Earn Action Partnership

Article submitted by the local

Action Partnership Committee



There are five Local Action Partnerships across Perth and Kinross localities. The purpose of Local Action Partnerships is to bring together elected members, community representatives and public services to work with each other in sharing local knowledge and understanding of localities to identify and address inequalities. Meetings are around every six weeks or when necessary. Each Partnership has an action plan to support and improve the quality of life for communities to ensure the people who live in these localities are being supported with the services they require. Local Action Plans are working documents that can be changed or adapted according to new information and identified needs in the area.

Kinross-shire, Almond and Earn Partnership have identified specific actions to be taken forward and are currently working on identifying the resources required to do this. The plan has been informed by various sources and shows the changes that need to be made. The Partnership aims to engage further with people living in the locality to ensure the action plan is current and clear about proposed changes to be addressed in the area.

All five local Action Partnerships have achieved a great deal in a relatively short space of time, such as distributing £103,000 to 96 community projects across Perth and Kinross, through participatory budgeting, with 6,800 votes cast for local projects by members of the public. **Kinross, Almond and Earn had 16 successful projects that are working towards addressing inequalities in the area.**

Kinross-shire, Almond and Earn Partnership is currently chaired by a senior council officer. The aspiration is for it to be chaired by a community representative. We currently require three representatives for Kinross-shire and two representatives for Almond and Earn to sit on the partnership. It is important that representatives reflect different sections of the community and are able to demonstrate:

- A good knowledge and understanding of equality and diversity of the area.
- Contribute ideas, opinions and solutions which reflect the voices of the communities we serve.
- Contribute with relevant points and question reports.
- Be able to uphold confidentiality with regard to any sensitive information handled.

Community Representatives are fully supported by Stronger Communities Staff.

This is your chance as a local community member to nominate yourself or a person you feel could represent the community on the Partnership, which will ensure there is a true reflection of what it is like to live in Kinross-shire, Almond and Earn.

Nomination forms can be collected in various ways:

- Loch Leven Community Campus Reception or Library
- Library Mobile Bus
- Downloaded from the website www.kinross.cc
- Email or Post from Tracey Ramsay (see below)

The nomination form will ask the following:

Nominee contact details.

Please tell us what skills, attributes or experience you have or the nominee has that would complement the role of a Community Representative on the Action Partnership, e.g. communication skills; working with others; knowledge and understanding of equality and diversity within the community.

Please tell us what community involvement you have or the nominee has in the area that would support their role as a Community Representative on the Action Partnership, e.g. what voluntary work do they do any role within groups and organisations, who they work with for example: older people, younger people, people experiencing poverty, disabilities etc. What difference do they make to the community?

Nominated by.

Telephone number or Email address.

Has the nominee agreed to be nominated? Yes/No.

The closing date for the return of nomination forms is Friday 26 January 2018.

For more information, contact: Tracey Ramsay (Community Learning and Development Worker), Loch Leven Community Campus, Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8FQ. Tel: 01577 867124. Email: tramsay@pkc.gov.uk

Councillor Purves

Lathro Meadows

The state of the roads around the entrance to the Lathro Meadows development site has been appalling in recent months. My ward councillor colleagues and I have been working together to address these concerns and to ensure that the developers are taking responsibility for clearing up the mess that their vehicles have made on the road. I have also been liaising with council officers to address the issue of flooding at the entrance to the site. After a protracted back and forth between the Council and the developers, Persimmon resurfaced the entrance to the site and formed a sleeping policeman that will direct water into a nearby gully and should alleviate the flooding problem.



Former Kinross High School

There have been further issues with Persimmon in relation to breaches of conditions at the former high school development. Some of the new houses have already been occupied despite the fact that this breaches one of the conditions of the planning consent. There are also concerns around the lack of progress on the facade of former high school building itself. My Kinross-shire ward councillor colleagues and I have made it clear to council officers that these breaches have been unacceptable and we have asked them to take strong enforcement action. I think that it is crucial that the facade of the former high school building is preserved and it should not be allowed left to deteriorate further. We shall continue to press officers to address these issues and shall be monitoring the situation closely.

Westfield

Fife Council's Central Area Planning Committee recently resolved to grant planning permission for the redevelopment of the Westfield former opencast mine site subject to an agreement with Perth & Kinross Council. The decision to route all heavy-goods vehicles on the B9097 means that this development will have a significant impact on those who live, work and visit tourist attractions along the route. It is therefore disappointing to note that Fife Council have failed to include most of the very reasonable mitigation measures suggested by Portmoak Community Council as conditions of approval. All four Kinross-shire ward councillors, Luke Graham MP, Liz Smith MSP, the leader of Perth & Kinross Council and other local residents have written to the Minister for Local Government and Housing to request a call in of the

decision. I very much hope that the Scottish Government will listen to the local community and review the conditions of the planning consent.

Blairingone Primary School

As many of you will know, Blairingone Primary School is one of a number of schools in Perth & Kinross that is under review as part of the School Estates Review that was instigated by the previous Council administration. A number of constituents have raised concerns with me about the consultation process and the information that was given at the recent community drop-in event. I am keen to see that these issues are addressed through further consultation with the local community and have written to the Convener of the Council's Lifelong Learning Committee to ask her to look into this matter.

Demand Responsive Transport

We are very lucky that West Kinross-shire has one of only two demand responsive transport schemes in Perth & Kinross. This scheme offers on-demand transport to any member of the public in West Kinross-shire. While we have had some great feedback on this service, I have spoken to a number of constituents who have been unable to make use of it due to limited capacity. It is very difficult for the Council to collect data on such occurrences and I would therefore encourage any local residents who are unable to use the DRT scheme to let me know the details of when and where they wanted to use the service. This will help when considering ways in which we can improve the service in future.

Casework

If there is anything with which you think that I can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me. I would also like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a merry Christmas and a prosperous new year.

Councillor Callum Purves
Scottish Conservative & Unionist

Boost for Kinross businesses

Three Kinross businesses appeared in a recent issue of the upmarket glossy publication *Scottish Woman*.

Weddings that had taken place at **The Coach House** at Kinross House and at **The Boathouse** by Loch Leven were given extensive photo spreads in the magazine's 'Just Married' feature. The wedding at the Boathouse was very special, as it was the marriage of Julie McGrattan and Jason Barker, proprietors of the Boathouse.

Elsewhere in the magazine, an article showcasing high-end cashmere companies highlighted Kinross mill **Todd & Duncan** along with its outlet, **Cashmere at Lochleven**, as a favourite cashmere supplier,

Angel Cakes
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BEWITCHED AT TULLIBOLE



A Halloween experience for all the senses took place at Tullibole Castle over the weekend 27 to 29 October. Bob and Helen Pass much enjoyed their visit (see Letter, page 3) and sent the Newsletter these photographs.



A ghoulish couple in the woods at Tullibole



Chloe, Richard and six-week-old Leonie enjoy the spectacular lights at Tullibole Castle

Invitation

Open Meeting

18 January 2018

7pm till 9pm

Loch Leven Community Campus
Muir, Kinross, KY13 8FQ



Broke Not Broken would like to invite you to come along to a public meeting to discuss the possibility of creating a community hub for Kinross-shire. Please come along and get involved, we need a committee to work towards making this happen.

We aim to work in partnership with:

- All members of the community
- Local community organisations

We will be supported by the Community Learning and Development Perth & Kinross Council.

Community Hubs bring together a range of services, provided by a diverse range of organisations into one central community building. Our vision is that this building would be in the centre of Kinross and would become a focal point for community groups, outside agencies and services.

Broke Not Broken have been approached by a number of organisations that would like to offer their services in central Kinross so by working together in partnership with the various agencies and groups this could be a possibility.

If you would like further information please contact:
Clare Slight: clare.slight@brokenotbroken.org

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IN THE TOWN HALL.

FRIDAY
DECEMBER
7PM

22

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Council and Persimmon under fire for planning breaches

Perth and Kinross Council is under sustained pressure from local community groups following breaches of the planning consent for the former Kinross High School site.

Persimmon Homes have permission to renovate the stone Edwardian building fronting Kinross High Street to create four dwellings, and to build 87 new dwellings on the remainder of the former Kinross High School site.

However, one of the conditions of the planning consent is that the redevelopment of the retained building must be completed before any houses are occupied.

In his latest email to the Community Council following the report of the breach, Mr Brian said: "... the council is extremely disappointed with the approach that Persimmon Homes have taken with this development in respect of the breach of condition 8 and will ensure that they meet their obligations."

Mr Brian went on to describe the approach PKC is taking to deal with the situation. The Community Council's understanding of PKC's proposal is that Persimmon would be asked to put up a sum of money, or bond, to guarantee that it will complete the historic building within a certain timescale. If it does

In a letter to Mr Brian, the Community Council said: "If Persimmon is allowed to continue to complete and sell more new-build houses while the redevelopment of the retained section of the former High School remains incomplete, then not only will the restrictions specified in Condition 8 be further frustrated, the condition itself will become irrelevant, as Persimmon will have been allowed to circumvent it with apparent impunity."

Meanwhile, a report by a council planning officer on a related application for solar panels on the old High School building revealed that more of the building than originally intended had been demolished, due to "significant building defects".

A spokesman for Kinross-shire Civic Trust said:

"It is totally unacceptable that the agreed extent of preservation of the building has not been adhered to."

"Only a damaged facade remains and even this has been left in a neglected and perilous state."

"KCT considers this latest revelation that new-build properties on the site are now occupied is a very serious matter."

Persimmon Homes have also been criticised for various aspects of their "Lathro Meadows" development at Lathro Farm, which got off to a poor start when contractors commenced work before planning permission had even been granted, forcing the Council to serve a Temporary Stop Notice.

Local Councillors and Milnathort and Kinross Community Councils have received numerous complaints from residents about mud and water on the road at the entrance to "Lathro Meadows" caused by developer activity on the site.

HGV movements in and out of the Lathro site have also raised concerns regarding safety of the public.

Following Persimmon's felling of 13 mature oak trees at Lathro Farm, a report has been sent to the European Commission regarding a breach of a binding EC directive on protected species.

A large advertising hoarding promoting Persimmon's housing developments in Kinross was erected close to the M90 without the required local authority consent. Retrospective permission has now been applied for.



The retained High School building. Consent to convert it to four dwellings was granted in June 2016. Considerable demolition work took place in spring 2017 but no rebuilding work has taken place since then. (As at mid-November 2017.)

Kinross Community Council discovered a few weeks ago that several of the new-build houses have been occupied, while the old stone building fronting the High Street remains a shell. The back section and interior of the stone building were demolished in the spring, and the roof removed, but no rebuilding work appears to have been carried out. The Community Council reported the breach to Nick Brian, PKC's Interim Head of Planning, and urged the four local councillors to demand that a Temporary Stop notice be put in place.

The Community Council began raising its concerns over the lack of progress on the Edwardian building in early September, but in mid-September a PKC planning officer reassured that "... all works are progressing in accordance with the planning consent."

not, PKC would use the bond to have the work carried out. The Community Council's understanding is that PKC would, however, allow Persimmon to continue building and selling new units and allowing them to be occupied, before completion of the retained building. The Community Council has asked Mr Brian to clarify whether or not this is what PKC intends, and has demanded stronger enforcement action.

The Community Council has asked PKC to issue a Temporary Stop Notice immediately, to halt all construction and sales activities on the site. The Community Council says this should be followed by a Breach of Condition and/or Enforcement Notice with a clear written warning that a Section 146 Interdict will be applied for if required.

Council and Persimmon under fire for planning breaches

Some criticism is directed at PKC. Residents of Lathro Park claim that assurances made by planning officers in the 'Report of Handing' for the Lathro Farm site are false. The report told councillors on the planning committee that "none of the proposed residential units will result in overlooking of neighbouring properties" and referred to "buffer planting along the southern perimeter of the site". According to the approved site plan, however, buffer planting does not extend along the whole southern perimeter and some Lathro Park houses will be overlooked. Concerns about the performance of PKC's planning department are also echoed by groups in other parts of Perth and Kinross. They have recently formed an action group called Perth & Kinross Planning Investigation Group (PKPIG) and are presently examining these concerns in detail.



*This hoarding by the M90 was erected without the necessary advertising consent
Photo courtesy of Ken Whitcombe, Aerial Photography Solutions*

Kinross-shire FM

A community radio project

On Christmas Eve 1906, Reginald Fessenden stood by a microphone in Massachussets to play his violin and read from his bible. It was the first successful audio broadcast and the implications were staggering. Anyone with access to some fairly basic technology had the power to send information, opinion, entertainment and culture directly into people's homes. Unsurprisingly to some, governments quickly established a firm stranglehold over the airwaves and have kept it pretty tight ever since.

But the magical particles we call radio waves are a glorious gift to the world. Should they be the preserve of state and business? On the streets of the world, activists have claimed their right of access to the airwaves. Community radio has appeared on the front line of revolutionary struggles, with broadcasters literally risking their lives to take their message to their people.

2018 will see the start of a ground-breaking project in Kinross-shire: the pursuit of Kinross-shire's very own FM radio station.

It is a long and difficult road to becoming a fully licensed community station. However, the rewards for the community, far outweigh these difficulties.

The first step of the project is to successfully complete our first 'RSL' (Restricted Service Licence). This short broadcast licence allows us to get the ground work in place for the station and show Ofcom that we can be trusted with the power of a full community radio licence!

We are looking for people that can volunteer their skills to help this project.



"Community based broadcasting, where local people produce and present their own programmes, promises to be the most important new cultural development in the United Kingdom for many years." (Professor Anthony Everitt)

CONTACT SAM: Telephone: 07938 663269
Email: lochlevenmt@gmail.com

Mission Christmas: Alpha Vet appeal for children's presents

Instead of the usual Secret Santa and buying gifts for each other, the staff at Alpha Vet are doing something different this year: they're taking part in Cash for Kids – Mission Christmas. The Kinross veterinary practice is a drop off point for the children's charity Christmas appeal, but your help is needed! Local residents are asked to buy an extra present that can be given to a local disadvantaged local child to make their Christmas morning special. Cash for Kids are looking for new and unwrapped gifts suitable for children and young people aged 0-18 years.

Presents can be dropped off at the Alpha Vet practice at 39 High Street, Kinross. **Please hand presents in before 16 December.**

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.



RSPB Loch Leven celebrates 50 years



On 29 October, the RSPB celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the official opening of the reserve at Vane Farm with a party attended by over 400 people.

Some of those who have played an important part in the development of the reserve attended and made speeches, reminiscing over times gone by. A beautifully decorated 50th anniversary cake was much admired and enjoyed.

A special exhibition showing the development of the reserve has been on display at RSPB Loch Leven in recent months. Parts of this were reproduced in the October issue of the Kinross Newsletter.

See also RSPB report on page 92.



The beautifully decorated (and delicious!) anniversary cake



Some of the 400 people who attended the 50th anniversary event



Bridget Moore, the reserve's first field teacher, with Uwe Stoneman, RSPB Tayside Reserves Manager

ODD JOBS AND HOME MAINTENANCE

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Councillor Barnacle

Local Development Plan 2

The proposed second Local Development Plan (LDP2) is due to be debated at full council on 22 November. Local members are introducing the following amendments at the debate on LDP2 viz:

- **Balado:** An amendment to the settlement boundary, taking out the Beaufield site (issues on access and drainage) and reverting roughly to the 2004 Local Plan boundary here. The amendment will also indicate that all new development should be connected to a publicly maintained waste water treatment works.
- **Crook of Devon:** Introducing a mixed-use proposal for the site east of the village hall along the lines of the resident's letter circulated by me on 3/11/17 and discussed at Fossoway CC on 7/11/17 [see page 46]. I will be preparing an open letter to the CC on this matter.
- **Rumbling Bridge:** An amendment to the settlement boundary to restore the open space and landscape setting that featured in the 2004 Local Plan boundary for the area between the Care Home and Naemoor Road.

****SEE FOOTNOTE****

An outcome of a Member Officer Working Group is that capacity ranges for housing sites will be introduced into LDP2 instead of a single figure. Any variation to these ranges would be exceptional and need justification.

Draft infrastructure studies for the burgh towns are being worked on to inform town strategies, i.e. a Kinross and Milnathort Masterplan.

I have written to Ian Campbell, Leader of the Council, to say that, in relation to policies on landscape designations and drainage within Loch Leven catchment, I would like to see an early review of supplementary guidance to facilitate landscape designation for the Cleish Hills and Devon Gorge, dialogue with neighbouring local authorities on the concept of a Regional Park for the Ochils; also the 'protocol' between SEPA, SNH and PKC on development within the Loch Leven catchment should be reviewed as 'not fit for purpose' when considering retrospective applications.

I also commented that I regard our policies on settlement boundaries and gypsy traveller sites as far too open to breaches and creeping settlement development.



Brown-lidded Bins

At the Environment, Enterprise & Infrastructure Committee meeting on 8/11/17, it was confirmed that a charge for the uplift of garden waste would be reintroduced. This had been agreed as part of the budget setting process in February 2017, under the previous administration. The annual charge for uplift of garden waste in a brown-lidded bin will be £25. Food waste will continue to be collected from households free of charge in the brown-lidded bin.

All qualifying households will receive a direct mailing in January 2018 advising them of the service change, which will take effect on 1 April 2018. Customers subscribing will be issued a permit to attach to their bin.

Westfield

My ward councillor colleagues and I are extremely concerned at the effect the additional HGV traffic associated with the Westfield development, recently granted permission by Fife Council, would have on the B9097. We have written to Scottish Ministers to "call in" the application. Ian Campbell, Leader of Perth & Kinross Council, has also written to Kevin Stewart MSP, Minister for Local Government and Housing, to request this. Cllr Campbell's letter supports similar requests by Portmoak CC, Liz Smith MSP and Luke Graham MP.

[See also Cllr Purves, page 8, and Luke Graham MP, page 21.]

Season's Greetings

Finally, may I wish local residents a very merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Councillor Mike Barnacle
Independent Member for Kinross-shire

****FOOTNOTE****

The Full Council meeting to discuss the proposed LDP2 took place while this Newsletter was in preparation. The amendments put forward by Kinross-shire ward councillors as described in Cllr Barnacle's column above were approved unanimously.

Public information events about LDP2 will be held in December and January throughout the Perth & Kinross local authority area. In Kinross-shire, these will be at the Loch Leven Community Campus on Saturday 2 December, 11am-3pm, and Wednesday 10 January 2018, 3pm-8pm.

[See also article on page 25.]

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Remains in the Landscape Exhibition



This exhibition explores the cycle of creation and destruction evident in the landscape. Local artists Pauline McGee and Clare Yarrington are fascinated by the striking visual remains of man-made structures and how they interact with natural formations that are continually shaped by the elements.



The exhibition includes drawings of the Nairn Viaduct, collages of prehistoric standing stones and new work based on Benarty Hill, Rumbling Gorge and Pittenweem Harbour.

This popular exhibition has previously been shown at Birnam Arts Centre, His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen, The Line Gallery, Linlithgow, and The Royal Scottish Geographical Society, Perth.

Now showing at The Fifespace Gallery, Rotheshalls, Kingdom Centre, Glenrothes, until 22 December.



Above: Kilnave Chapel, Islay
Left: Obelisk (Benarty Hill), collagraph by Clare Yarrington

Milnathort filmhouse

Join us for a Fun & Fabulous Christmas Night Out

BRIDGET JONES'S BABY
RELATIONSHIP STATUS: BEYOND COMPLICATED

Who's the Daddy?

Booking Now Open
Saturday 9th December
8:00pm (Doors Open at 7:30pm)
At Milnathort Town Hall
Over 18's Only - BYOB

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Social Bite's Sleep in the Park 2017
www.sleepinthepark.co.uk

Tuck Shop with Movie Snacks

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www.milnathortfilmhouse.com

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KINROSS HUB THE CARERS CAFE

Monday 4th December
Christmas Café
(Entertainment and Games)

Monday 8th January 2018
(No Carers Café)

Monday 5th February
(TBC)
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.

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Or Annette Bond
01738 567076

Luke Graham MP for Ochil and South Perthshire Rachel House

Luke Graham MP visited Rachel House hospice in Kinross in November, and was delighted to lend his support to the Keep Joy Alive campaign ahead of Christmas.

Rachel House is run by Children's Hospices Across Scotland (CHAS), which supports families with children who have life-shortening conditions. At the moment, the charity only has resources to help one in three such children.

Maria McGill, Chief Executive Officer of CHAS, said: "I was really pleased to welcome Luke to Rachel House and for him to meet with families and staff and learn more about how we support children and their families across Scotland."

"We're delighted that Luke is backing our Christmas appeal. This year we want to raise £153,000 to celebrate 12 magical days of festive fun at CHAS,"

More information about the campaign is available at www.chas.org.uk, where donations can be made.



Maria McGill of CHAS with Luke Graham MP

MP stands up for Kinross-shire against Fife development at Westfield

Luke Graham has written to the Minister for Local Government and Housing to ask the Scottish Government to call in the planning decision by Fife Council to build the Westfield Open Cast Coal Site.

Luke Graham said:

"Although I support the redevelopment of the site, I stand firmly behind Portmoak Community Council, the local Perth & Kinross councillors and Liz Smith MSP in calling for the administration in Edinburgh to review this planning decision."

The local objections to the scheme include the Westfield site running contrary to the previous planning decision by making insufficient use of the rail line which exists, leading to an increase in HGVs going along the B9097. It is also expected to have a significant environmental impact with Loch Leven and its surrounding environment a Site of Special Scientific Interest, as well as a National Nature Reserve, a Special Landscape Area with significant environmental protections upon it.

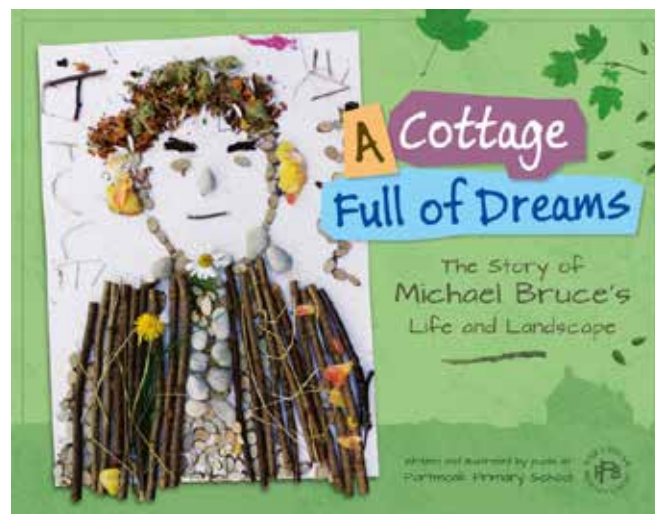
For next surgery, see page 81.

Community Website

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

Michael Bruce Project

To commemorate the 250th anniversary of the death of Kinnesswood's poet Michael Bruce, Portmoak Primary pupils were tasked with creating a book all about Michael Bruce's life and legacy. The book will be published in early December, and you can read a full report from Portmoak Primary school on page 76.



Cover of the Michael Bruce Book produced by the school

Milnathort
filmhouse

Christmas Eve Family Film
with a 'Special Guest Appearance'
and Raffle



Milnathort Town Hall
Sunday 24th December at
3.00pm
(Doors open at 2.30pm)
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Better Place to Live Fair



Kinross-shire Community Learning and Development Group
Loch Leven Community Campus



Saturday 3 March 2018

10am – 2pm

After the successes of the previous Better Place to Live Fair Events, the KCLDG invites you to take part in the event for 2018.

The purpose of the fair is to provide an opportunity for the community to celebrate what Kinross-shire has to offer.

This is a fabulous opportunity to showcase what your group/club/organisation and small businesses can offer/share.

Why not take this chance to interest people by offering hands-on taster sessions, demonstrations, or to try out an activity.



BOOK NOW

Can you afford not to be there?



Please return booking form as soon as possible but no later than 31 January 2018

Booking forms are available to download from www.kinross.cc

Alternatively please contact:

Tracey Ramsay - Senior Capacity Building Worker
Loch Leven Community Campus, Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8FQ
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Councillor Watters

As the festive season approaches and we wish each other a Merry Christmas, it is also a time of year to remember those who are less fortunate.



Here in Kinross-shire, over the past few years, many of us have worked with Broke Not Broken on their Annual Hamper Appeal to provide dozens of Christmas Hampers for people in need.

This will be even more vital this year as the Westminster government has chosen to begin rolling out “**Universal Credit**” in Kinross-shire on 6 December, the timing of which will make Christmas even more difficult for the most vulnerable people in our community. As you may know, the controversial “Universal Credit” replaces a number of existing benefits. One of the major flaws is the inbuilt six-week delay in receiving the new benefit. For new claimants, this increases to seven weeks before they receive any money. In other parts of the country where the new benefit has been rolled out already, the use of foodbanks has increased by up to 30% and rent arrears have also increased significantly.

In preparation for this ill-timed rollout, I have spoken with Broke Not Broken and with the Welfare Rights team at Perth and Kinross Council. They are both fully geared up to help individuals and families with the transition from the old benefits system, giving valuable practical support and advice to help minimise the suffering caused.

Because this rollout is occurring in December, the Broke Not Broken Annual Hamper Appeal will be essential this year to minimise the effects of these changes over the Christmas period. I am confident that, as in previous years, Kinross-shire residents will show their generosity and community spirit for this worthwhile cause.

If anyone is struggling with the rollout of Universal Credit, please get in touch with myself, Broke Not Broken or the Perth & Kinross Welfare Rights team.

In last month's Newsletter, Dave Cuthbert wrote an extended letter with his thoughts on the **Action Partnership**. Where he mentioned there was no need to identify the publicly owned buildings within Kinross, I have a different experience. I have been approached by three groups within Kinross asking if I could help them find suitable premises within the town. All of these groups provide a clear community benefit and require 'hub type' premises as a base for their work. One example is the project mentioned by Dave Cuthbert for a Community Hub, who require suitable premises in the centre of Kinross, where valuable community services can be provided.

To help facilitate this, I had a successful meeting with Community Planning officers at the beginning of September regarding finding suitable premises, where officers agreed to progress this. The work that is currently being undertaken should be looking at all the publicly owned buildings in Kinross, not just community halls. If suitable premises are identified, the groups would then have the ability to use the Asset Transfer section of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act, to either transfer the ownership of the building or to provide minimal financial lease terms for the property. This keeps any costs for the organisations to a minimum, allowing them to concentrate their valuable resources for the benefit of the community.

If this exercise isn't successful in finding any suitable building, there is the potential to investigate suitable publicly owned land and look at the feasibility of building premises.

Councillor Richard Watters

Proposed Local Development Plan 2

PKC's draft proposed second Local Development Plan (LDP2) was due to be submitted to Full Council for approval on Wednesday 22 November 2017. Once approved by Councillors, the draft LDP will undergo public consultation. Copies of the proposed plan will be available on the Council's website at: www.pkc.gov.uk/ldp2

Local people are encouraged to make their opinions known on the contents of the Plan, and at this stage, the Council is asking people whether they support a particular policy or site in the plan, or if they would like the plan changed before it is adopted. Issues raised during the public consultation will be heard by an independent Reporter appointed by Scottish Ministers.

Locally, it is expected that public information events will be held as follows:

Saturday 2 December 2017 11am – 3pm

Wednesday 10 January 2018 3pm – 8pm

The venue for both is the Loch Leven Community Campus. Check the PKC website for confirmation of these events and for more information.

Bus Service Changes

PKC's Public Transport Unit recently announced that new timetables for some Stagecoach services would take effect as from Monday 20 November 2017. Changes are summarised below.

Stagecoach Service 36:

Perth-Abernethy-Newburgh-Glenrothes

Revised Sunday timetable with all journeys extended to Glenrothes.

0935 ex Perth and 1820 ex Newburgh Sunday journeys withdrawn.

Stagecoach Service 56:

Perth-Bridge of Earn-Glenfarg-Kinross

Additional Saturday afternoon journey between Perth and Kinross and return provided.

Sunday journeys re-named to Service 56B with revised routing in Perth, with service operating via Craigie and Moncrieffe rather than directly up and down Edinburgh Road.

Revised Sunday journey 1805 ex Perth will also serve Abernethy providing a later journey than currently available.

Stagecoach Service X56:

Perth-Bridge of Earn-Kinross-Edinburgh

Revised timetable: whilst commuter related departures/arrivals will divert through Bridge of Earn, off-peak journeys will no longer serve Bridge of Earn.

Copies of the new timetables are available from the Stagecoach website.

News from Stagecoach East Scotland

The **Back on Board Scheme** offers holders of a Jobcentreplus Travel Discount Card half-price single and return tickets on Stagecoach's regional buses.

Cheaper Day Return Tickets: Stagecoach East Scotland launched cheaper day return tickets on 20 November, valid across Fife, Dundee, Angus and Perthshire.

Customers can purchase great value day return tickets, varying from £5 to £8, on journeys from Perth to Edinburgh, Rosyth/Dunfermline to Edinburgh, Kinross to Perth, Dundee to Arbroath and many more for up to 40% off the equivalent dayrider ticket price for the journey. [See advert on p. 19.]

Councillor Robertson

Persimmon Homes

Since the Persimmon housing developments began at the old Kinross High School site and Lathro Farm, both myself and my fellow ward councillors have been kept very busy dealing with issues raised by residents living around these sites. Dust, heavy lorry movements, mud on roads from the sites, damage to roads and pavements, issues with the height of buildings, removal of trees and now problems with conditions set not being adhered to by the developer. I find it astonishing that a publicly listed company have to be constantly visited by planning enforcement officers to try and make them adhere to planning conditions. A number of conditions have been flouted on the Kinross High School site and the Council have promised to take action on these.

Toilets at the Pier

I am pleased that TRACKS have now applied for planning consent for a toilet facility at The Pier, Kinross. If consent is granted, these should be installed in time for Easter next year. The provision of toilets here is thanks to the combined efforts of Scottish Natural Heritage, Historic Environment Scotland, Kinross Estate Company, The Boathouse, Kinross Community Council, Perth & Kinross Council and TRACKS. Toilets here will be of great benefit to all the visitors who come to The Pier to visit Loch Leven Castle, Loch Leven and the Heritage Trail.

Council Budget

The Council administration are now preparing the 2018/19 budget. We anticipate further big cut backs in Scottish Government funding, which will put most Council services under severe pressure, especially education and social services. I will strongly resist any moves to cut back on areas like music tuition and swimming. The Council are now looking closely at all areas of non-statutory spending in a bid to find savings in order to protect the core services people depend on.

Garden Waste Collection

The previous Council administration took the decision at the last budget to start charging householders for their brown lidded bin if they use it for garden waste. If you want to continue using your brown lidded bin after 1 April 2018 for garden waste, you will have to pay a charge of £25 per year for each bin you have. You will still be able to use your brown-lidded bin for food/kitchen waste without any charge. One of the up sides to this is that I hope the extra revenue



from this charge will allow the Council to extend the garden waste service to areas of Kinross-shire who currently don't receive it. I have written to the convenor of Environment Services asking that this be looked into as soon as possible.

Junction 7 of M90

Following a motion that I successfully proposed at the Full Council meeting held in Kinross in October, Council Leader Ian Campbell wrote to Transport Scotland to request that an upgrade of junction 7 of the M90 is considered as part of the ongoing review they are carrying out into the transport infrastructure in Scotland.

Transport Scotland have now replied to the Council Leader, saying:

"I have noted your comments regarding this junction, including your Council's willingness to be involved in any future scheme design.

"Transport Scotland are now taking forward a comprehensive review of the National Transport Strategy (NTS2) and the Strategic Transport Projects Review (STPR2). The new strategy will establish the strategic direction for transport in Scotland for the next 20 years and will be based on collaborative working, establishing the evidence base and ensuring we engage widely with stakeholders and communities across Scotland.

"To undertake STPR2, there needs to be a clearly defined set of transport objectives and these will be assessed and defined as part of the NTS2. Some preliminary work in the second STPR has now commenced to assist with NTS2. This work will include the development of future scenarios, setting out what transport in Scotland will look like to assist in the creation of a compelling vision of transport in Scotland going forward. I would like to re-assure you that the M90 will be considered within the review."

Season's Greetings

Can I finish by wishing all of you a very Happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Councillor Willie Robertson

Heart and Soul one-year celebration

Heart and Soul Holistic Centre celebrated one year in business in November with an open weekend of free therapies, workshops, readings and talks from a variety of therapists. Donations made over the weekend were in support of Children's Hospices Across Scotland (CHAS), who will now receive £878.52.

See also Congratulations, p. 4.

Learn about Mental Health First Aid

PKC is offering a two-day Scotland's Mental Health First Aid training course in December. The aim is to give an understanding of suicide, self-harm and mental health problems such as depression, anxiety and panic attacks and psychosis. The course is for anyone who would like to feel confident about helping people experiencing a mental health crisis.

The training events will be held on 4 and 11 December at the North Inch Community Campus in Perth. To book a place, contact smhfa.tayside@nhs.net or phone 01382 424086. Further information can be found at www.smhfa.com





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Space to stop, to slow down and just be

January at Kinross Learning Centre – new year, new skills

Once the Festive Season is over, your thoughts may turn to learning a new skill or taking up a new hobby, so take a look at the wide range of classes on offer at the Learning Centre. With a varied programme of languages, art, various crafts and more, there should be something to suit most interests.

For small businesses or anyone looking to add to their CV, there is a new Using Financial Accounting Software (Sage) course, leading to an SQA certificate.

To find out more or book a place, contact Maureen Ross at the Learning Centre, 15 Swansacre, Kinross, KY13 8TE, email pc.kinross.perth@uhi.ac.uk, or call 01577 863863.



Course	Start Date	Time	Weeks	Cost
LANGUAGES				
Spanish Beginners	Tue 16 Jan	7 – 9 pm	10 weeks	£80
Spanish Improvers	Tue 16 Jan	4.30 – 6.30 pm	10 weeks	£80
Basic Everyday French	Thu 18 Jan	7 – 9 pm	10 weeks	£80
French Improvers	Wed 17 Jan	10 am - 12 noon	10 weeks	£80
French Intermediate	Tue 16 Jan	1 – 3 pm	10 weeks	£80
French Advanced	Tue 16 Jan	10.30-12.30 pm	10 weeks	£80
German Beginners 2	Mon 15 Jan	7 – 9 pm	10 weeks	£80
German Improvers	Wed 17 Jan	7 – 9 pm	10 weeks	£80
Italian Beginners 2	Tue 6 Feb	7 – 9 pm	8 weeks	£65
Italian Improvers	Tue 6 Feb	4.30 - 6.30 pm	8 weeks	£65
Italian Advanced	Thu 18 Jan	10 am – 12 noon	10 weeks	£80
Gaelic Beginners	Wed 17 Jan	7 – 9 pm	10 weeks	£80
Get set to Learn – Maths, English and more for all	Thursdays	12.30 – 2.30 pm	ONGOING	FREE
IT				
Using Financial Accounting Software (SAGE)	Sat 13 Jan	10 am – 1pm	11 weeks	£86
Get to Grips with your Computer	Mon 15 Jan	2 – 4 pm	8 weeks	£65
ART				
Textile Screen Printing	Thu 18 Jan	10 am – 12 noon	10 weeks	£80
Watercolour Painting	Wed 10 Jan	10 am – 12 noon	10 weeks	£80
Painting with Acrylics	Wed 10 Jan	1 – 3 pm	10 weeks	£80
Watercolour Painting	Mon 15 Jan	10 am – 12 noon	10 weeks	£80
Creative Watercolours	Thu 18 Jan	7 – 9 pm	10 weeks	£80
CRAFTS				
Upholstery	Wed 17 Jan	4.30 – 6.30 pm	10 weeks	£90
Upholstery	Wed 17 Jan	7 – 9 pm	10 weeks	£90
Sew Smart – Sewing, Mending, Altering, Recycling, Tailoring	Tue 16 Jan	7 – 9 pm	10 weeks	£90
Learn to use your own sewing machine	Mon 15 Jan	1 – 3 pm	6 weeks	£50
Stained Glass Intermediate	Sat 20 Jan	09.30 -11.30 am	10 weeks	£80
Stained Glass Improvers	Thu 18 Jan	2.30 – 4.30 pm	10 weeks	£80
Floristry with Flair	Fri 19 Jan	10 am – 12 noon	10 weeks	£80
Cake Decorating: Introduction	Tue 16 Jan	10 am – 12 noon	4 weeks	£45
Cake Decorating: Icing Techniques	Tue 13 Feb	10 am – 12 noon	4 weeks	£45
GENERAL INTEREST				
Photography: Taking Better Pictures	Wed 17 Jan	7 – 9 pm	10 weeks	£80
History of the Auld Alliance	Thurs 18 Jan	2 – 4 pm	10 weeks	£80
Understanding Art	Tue 16 Jan	1 – 3 pm	10 weeks	£80

News from the Health Centre



Christmas and New Year Closing

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

Monday 25 December 2017

Tuesday 26 December 2017

Monday 1 January 2018

Tuesday 2 January 2018

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

We would ask all patients to make sure that they have sufficient medication to last over the Christmas and New Year period. If your medication will run out over Christmas and New Year, please ensure that you submit a request for your medication by **Monday 18 December**. We receive a greatly increased number of requests at this time of year and therefore need a bit of time to process them all. Repeat prescriptions may be ordered on line. If you have not yet signed up for this service, you can do so on our website: www.lochlevenhealthcentre.co.uk

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

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

Roseanna Cunningham MSP for Perthshire South & Kinross-shire Broadband



Roseanna Cunningham MSP has welcomed news that more fibre broadband has gone live in Perth and Kinross thanks to the £428M Digital Scotland Superfast Broadband roll-out.

More than 800,000 premises across Scotland can now receive fibre broadband through the programme, with homes and businesses in Wester Balgedie in Kinross-shire now included for the first time.

Brexit Effect

Roseanna Cunningham has highlighted a new economic report which suggests that Brexit has already cost workers in the UK the equivalent of a week's wages due to rising inflation – with Scotland amongst the hardest hit.

The report, conducted by researchers at the London School of Economics, found that the impact of Brexit-driven inflation is equivalent to a £448 pay cut for an average worker – while residents in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland have been worst affected.

One-card library pass pilot in Perth & Kinross

Roseanna Cunningham has welcomed the pilot of a 'one card' library pass that can be used in any of the five participating local authorities in Scotland. If the pilot project is judged to be a success, it will be rolled out to cover the whole of Scotland.

The scheme aims to encourage more people to use libraries by removing barriers between services and the other council areas involved in the pilot project are Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire, Angus and Highland.

The single library card pilot is an SNP Programme for Government commitment and has been supported by £15,000 from the Public Library Improvement Fund (PLIF), a Scottish Government fund administered by SLIC to support creative and innovative library projects.

Ms Cunningham said: *"It is great news that library users in Perth & Kinross will now have access to 120 libraries and 1.6 million books across the five local authorities in Scotland that are piloting the new One Card library pass."*

"Public libraries are an integral part of our local communities – offering a place to borrow books, access free wifi, computers and socialise – and we believe everyone should have access to these services, wherever they are in Scotland."

"I am delighted, therefore, that Perth & Kinross is to be involved in this project from the outset."

Connect Counselling Scotland
Accessible Counselling Service
Milnathort & Kinross Area

Carrie Arnott PGDip
Person-Centred Counsellor

talk@connectcounselling.scot
07425 167 569

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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

Elizabeth Smith MSP for mid Scotland and Fife

I would like to start this column by wishing all readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Christmas is an important time to catch up with friends and family but it can also be a time of tremendous loneliness for elderly residents. I would encourage readers to check in and make time for elderly neighbours as this can make a huge difference to their wellbeing during the festive period.

Over the winter months I have been encouraging constituents to take easy steps to keep their home warm. This means making sure your boiler is serviced, using a carbon monoxide alarm and checking that central heating is working before the worst of the weather hits. I have also been encouraging residents to apply for smart meters that can help monitor energy usage in addition to using comparison websites to get the best tariff.

However, if you are experiencing financial difficulties with your energy bills, help is out there. The Scottish Gas Energy Trust gives face to face advice, financial support, and grants to help clear energy and household debts. The average grant is around £600 and you don't have to be a Scottish Gas customer to qualify, and I would encourage readers to visit this website to learn more: www.britishgasenergytrust.org.uk

Another issue that has dominated my mailbag in recent weeks and months are issues at NHS Tayside. We all know that Tayside is having to make substantial savings amidst a backdrop of organisational change. However, I was concerned to note the three-week shut down in elective operations over the Christmas holidays. Patients who have been waiting beyond the 12-week treatment time guarantee will be particularly disappointed, as the now-cancelled surgery slots could have been used to treat them.

Audit Scotland has called for a realistic action plan to help deliver the required efficiency savings needed over the coming years. Whilst this might balance the books, I believe more support is required from the Scottish Government to deliver clinical solutions to improve patient care. Longstanding issues with workforce planning must be sorted out. NHS Tayside, like health boards across the country, is struggling to recruit enough GPs and nurses and we must increase training places to help combat this. In addition to more places, we need to drop red tape for consultants looking to become GPs later in life. Fundamentally, the NHS is in a period of transition and it's important that health boards are supported during this time.

Liz Smith MSP

As ever, Liz welcomes the feedback of constituents and can be contacted via email at Elizabeth.Smith.msp@parliament.scot or by telephone at 01738 553990 or at the Control Tower, Perth Airport, Scone, PH2 6PL.

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.

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.

First World War Timeline 1917

9 Dec Jerusalem falls to the British

Kinross-shire Roll of Honour, 1917 December

11 Dec John D Chalmers

24 Dec H N S Anderson

28 Dec J F Smart

30 Dec John William Wiseman

Profiles of some of the soldiers listed above featured in issues of the Newsletter published in 2014: John William Wiseman (March issue), John D Chalmers (April issue) and H N S Anderson (November issue).

Survey on unmet demand for taxis

PKC has commissioned a Taxi Unmet Demand survey.

The survey incorporates consultation with a range of stakeholders, including members of the trade, members of the public, Council departments, political representatives, rail and bus station operators, hospitals, licensed premises, police, chamber of commerce and tourism and elderly representatives, user group representatives and locality representatives.

The organisation carrying out the survey, LVSA, would be grateful for any comments and views you may have on taxi services within the Council area.

It is important, for this study, to distinguish between different types of licensed vehicles. For the avoidance of doubt, taxis (Hackney Carriages) may be flagged down (hailed) in the street, as well as hired at a taxi rank and obtained through advanced booking. Taxis have a 'TAXI' sign on the roof. Other licensed vehicles are Private Hire Cars. Private Hire Cars may only be hired through advanced booking, and are often saloon cars, people movers or mini-bus type vehicles.

It can sometimes be difficult to encapsulate thoughts on the trade, so LVSA have listed common subjects which have featured in consultation feedback in previous studies as follows: Location of existing taxi ranks, Suggestions for new taxi ranks, Operation of taxi ranks, Parking issues, Issues associated with waiting taxis, Demand for new taxi ranks, Complaints from local residents, Issues affecting minority groups, Availability of taxis at particular times, Availability of Private Hire Cars at particular times, The level of service and cleanliness of taxi vehicles and drivers, The impact of transport contracts on availability of taxis and Private Hire Cars, The level of service provided through contracts with taxis or Private Hire operators, Availability of taxis for wheelchair users.

Those taking part in the survey do not need to restrict themselves to the topics listed above. Send any comments by email to: Iain.macdonald@lvsa.co.uk Please include 'Perth & Kinross Member Consultation' in the subject heading.

Police Box



Quad bike security

The dark nights are well and truly with us. A high value quad bike was stolen from Path of Condie recently. The good news is a DNA hit has given us a positive line of enquiry, so hopefully it will be detected soon. Here is some advice re quad bike (and other plant) security.

- Do NOT leave keys with bikes. Keep them in a secure place, away from where bikes are stored.
- If you are using a chain, buy the best you can afford.
- Use chains to link several items together; this will make it more difficult for a would-be thief.
- If possible, secure the chain to a hook or eye set into a concrete floor or bolted to a wall.
- Buy a good quality, close-shackled padlock, as they are more difficult to cut.
- Consider a padlock alarm system which will activate if the chain or padlock are tampered with. Padlock alarms and chains can be purchased for under £20 and will sound an alarm in the region of 130 decibels when activated. Use in conjunction with a good quality chain and close-shackled padlock. This may be enough to alert you or deter them from continuing with the theft.
- Consider measures that you can take to disable the bike so that it cannot be started and driven off.
- Fit a padlock alarm to the door of any outbuilding used to store quads or other plant.

Scams and Cons

Scams on the elderly have been on the increase. Here's some advice to keep safe and aware of the scams involved.

Prize draws, sweepstakes and Lotteries: You're told that you've won a "guaranteed" prize; you just have to pay a "processing" or "administration" fee or order a product to get your prize. You're told to respond quickly. Forget it – you'd be paying to enter a prize draw with very little chance of winning and any prizes are of far less value than what you pay out.

Advance Fee Scam: You are offered a huge payment if you help the sender get money out of a foreign country but you have to make one or more payments in advance for "security" or "administrative" purposes. Ignore it – you would never see your money again, far less profit from a share of the huge payment on offer.

PPI: You are told that you are entitled to PPI compensation but first you have to pay a fee, payable in iTunes vouchers or agree to a percentage of the proceeds. Don't fall for it – any entitlement to PPI compensation can be checked directly with the bank from which the loan was obtained and any compensation due is paid by the bank without any fee.

Microsoft: You are contacted by someone pretending to be from Microsoft saying you have a virus on your computer. They will "fix" the problem if they can get remote access to your computer, supposedly installing anti-virus software and charging you for this non-existent service. Never let anyone you don't know and trust have access to your computer.

"Team Viewer" App: You are contacted and persuaded to download a "Team Viewer" App. If you do, this will give the fraudster access to your computer. A resident in Rattray was defrauded out of £5,000 in this way. Don't fall for it.

BT/Inland Revenue: You are advised that you are due a refund. All they need is your bank account details. Don't believe it – no reputable organisation would approach you in this way.

Bank: You are contacted by someone pretending to be from your bank, asking you to update or confirm your details or saying that you have been a victim of fraud. You are asked to disclose your personal information, password or PIN. Don't do it – such information would enable the scammer to raid your bank account. **Never disclose your PIN.**

Investment Opportunities, Miracle Health Cures, Clairvoyants & Psychics: All offering to change your life! Don't be fooled. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is!

Reporting Scams

To report a suspected scam, please phone Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 03454 040506 or PKC Trading Standards 01738 476476. If you have been a victim of fraud, report it at www.actionfraud.police.uk/reportfraud or phone Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or Police Scotland on 101.

Other news

School visits: On a lighter note, Dougie and Atholl had the pleasure of attending Kinross Primary, giving inputs to the P7 classes into the dangers of drugs, alcohol and tobacco. They also attended Arngask Primary 3 and visited the Kinross Primary nursery. This time next month the new Kinross Primary should be open; good luck to everyone with the new school.

New Kinross Community Sergeant: Sgt Robert Hogg has taken over from Sgt Forrester and is settling into his new role. He has recently transferred to this Division after serving his career with Forth Valley Police and being based at the Scottish Police College. He hopes to get out and about in the community in the next few weeks and is keen to attend forthcoming CC meetings to introduce himself. Anyone wishing to pop in to the Kinross office for a chat with Sergeant Hogg is more than welcome.

Season's Greetings: The Kinross Policing Community team would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a happy new year; enjoy and stay safe.

Police Scotland – local community

Telephone 101 for non-emergencies

Community officers for Kinross-shire:

PC Atholl Spalding and PC Douglas Stapleton.

Email: taysidekinross-shireCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk

Community Sergeant (Kinross-shire): **Sgt Robert Hogg.**

Community Inspector for Perth South (Strathearn, Strathallan & Carse of Gowrie, Almond & Earn, Kinross-shire): **PI Kevin Chase.**

Ways of following the Police:

Twitter: @KinrossPc or twitter.com/policescotland

Facebook: www.facebook.com/PoliceScotland

Website: www.scotland.police.uk



Community Watch

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

Crime Stoppers – Telephone 0800 555 111

This is a free phone number (unless you are using a mobile phone), which any member of the public can contact at any time if you have information relating to a criminal activity of any sort. It is, if you wish, confidential and you cannot be contacted if you choose to remain anonymous.

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 November Meeting

Present at the meeting held on 1 November 2017 were: CCllrs B Freeman (Chair), E Thomas (Secretary), M Blyth, D Cuthbert, D Colliar, B Davies, I Jack and T Stewart; P&K CCllrs M Barnacle, R Watters and W Robertson; and one member of the public.

Apologies were received from CCllrs J Bryson and D West and P&K Cllr C Purves.

Police Report: No police present and no report submitted. The query regarding the spate of vandalism in Milnathort four and a half weeks earlier had been answered by email; the males concerned were in their late teens.

NHS Surgical Services letter: Some Community Councillors had attended the public meeting on 9 October. The Secretary had circulated a draft letter and then submitted a final letter to the NHS by email. It had not, however, been acknowledged so she will follow this up.

Open Spaces for LDP2: It has been announced that LDP2 will be considered by the Council in November, so it is too late to submit a comment on this. Ward Councillors are due to meet on 13 November and receive a briefing on 14 November. Cllr Barnacle has been on a short-life working group on LDP2. He has brought issues raised locally (e.g. at the Forum) to the working group; only one has been addressed. He had warned Forward Planning that he had been attempting to avoid a list of amendments when LDP2 is presented to the Council.

Anti-skid surfacing at zebra crossings: Cllr Purves had sent an update by email. The list of locations provided by CCllr Cuthbert had been sent to relevant council officers for consideration and comments provided. Most of the surfaces are worn.

Verge at by-pass: Cllr Purves had sent an email to say that the verge has been cut up to a certain point by the Council but the verge beyond that point is in the ownership of a developer and is thus their responsibility to maintain. It was agreed to ask Cllr Purves to ask the Council to issue a letter to the developer. CCllr Colliar queried whether a grass verge separated from development plots by a footpath would be on the title deeds of each development plot.

Brown-lidded Waste Bin Charges: Cllr Purves had provided an update by email. The cost to PKC for this service will be the same as currently. Under the proposal, households that currently have a brown bin may continue to dispose of food waste in it. Those who pay the additional charge will receive a tag to indicate that they may also dispose of garden waste in their brown bin. It is estimated that this will raise £840,000 per year. Cllr Barnacle said this will be discussed on 8 November at PKC's Environment Committee when a waste management plan report will be considered. If the proposal does go ahead, it will be with effect from April 2018, with a mailing to households in January.

CC Representation on Campus Management Committee: The next meeting is on 16 November. The Secretary was asked to email Cllr Purves to ask him to put forward an amendment to the constitution to allow a CC representative.

Traffic Management Model Meeting: Cllr Robertson had been in touch with the relevant council officer and passed a letter to the CC. The letter proposes that a demonstration take place in several weeks' time, which would take us to the festive period. It was agreed to write to ask for a demonstration as soon as possible.

Vacancy on CC: Since the last meeting, David MacKenzie had resigned from the CC and all associated committees. The Secretary had advertised the vacancy in the Newsletter and CC Facebook page. The Secretary was asked to send Mr MacKenzie a letter of thanks.

Action Partnership: David MacKenzie had been the Kinross-shire Community Councils' representative on the Action Partnership but had resigned. It was suggested that, as CCllr MacKenzie was a member of Kinross CC, this CC should put forward one of its members to replace him on the Action Partnership. CCllr Cuthbert volunteered to carry out this role. It was suggested that this change of circumstance ought to require all the Kinross-shire CCs to vote again on which CC should provide the representative on the Action Partnership. However, Ward Councillors advised that, as the £87,000 budget needs to be spent by the end of March 2018, there is no time to lose and the straightforward substitution of CCllr Cuthbert for David MacKenzie is a reasonable course of action. It was agreed that CCllr Cuthbert would write to the other Kinross-shire CCs to explain the situation. CCllr Thomas, as Newsletter editor, had asked for an article for the November Newsletter about the participatory budgeting process but had not received a reply.

KCCNL Grants Meeting: A report from a meeting of Kinross Community Council Newsletter Ltd (KCCNL) charitable company was submitted. Messages of thanks for the grants given earlier in 2017 have been received from: KLEO, Otters, Cricket Club, Portmoak CC, Powmill in Bloom, Kinross Heart Start and Seamab. Confirmation received from KLEO, Otters and Cricket Club that the grants have been spent on the projects stated in their applications. Milnathort Town Hall Association has not acknowledged receipt of grant. [Post-meeting note: letter now received.] Grant applications: E Thomas declared an interest in the application by Kinross Curling Trust and was not present during discussion and

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Community Council News

decision. Bill Freeman and David Colliar declared an interest in Light Up Kinross. The following decisions were made:

Donate £500 to **Kinross Curling Trust** towards a project to install a lift for disabled access and carry out alterations at Kinross Curling. Donate £1,210 to **Cleish Village Hall Association** towards a project to provide vehicle access to playfield. Donate £1,000 to **Light Up Kinross**. (Promised as maximum match funding at autumn 2016 meeting. LUK has fulfilled conditions.) Donate £1,000 to **Milnathort Guide Hall** towards a project to install disabled access, plus alterations. Donate £1,500 to **Friends of Portmoak School** towards a project to purchase smart TV screens. An application by Kinross-shire Partnership for funding for website maintenance was deferred.

Planning Matters

New Planning Applications

17/01721/FLL Erection of 12no. dwellinghouses and associated works, land 300m NW of Lathro Farm, for Springfield Properties. The CC had been granted an extension to the period of comment, to 8 November. After some discussion, and a vote, it was agreed to object on the grounds that the application breaches policy PM1 of the LDP. More screening from the road is required to make the proposal acceptable. Cllr Barnacle had moved for deferral for a site visit on a previous Springfield application for Lathro Farm but his motion was ruled incompetent because consent had already been given for the wider site. Cllr Barnacle does not like the piecemeal approach to development at this housing development site.

17/01666/FLL Extension to dwelling house, Hawthorn Cottage, Gairney Bank. No CC comment.

17/01738/FLL Erection of a dwelling house and garage with ancillary accommodation at land 30m SE of Chance Inn Cottage, Kinross. No CC comment.

17/01820/FLL and 17/01747/LBC Alterations to dwelling house, 5 Swansacre. No CC comment.

17/01828/LAW Use of building as class 3 café/restaurant (existing use), 98 High St. No CC comment.

17/01799/FLL Extension to dwelling house, 13 Alexander Drive, Kinross. No CC comment.

17/01592/ADV Display of signs, Kinross Park and Ride, Junction Road. The CC agreed to object to the display of eleven commercial banners. Cllr Robertson and the CC had tried to obtain real-time travel information here without success. If revenue from the banners could be spent to improve the park & ride, the CC might find the banners acceptable. The CC noted that these banners were part of the same revenue-

raising initiative as the commercial boards at roundabouts. PKC had insisted the latter were "sponsorship" rather than advertising, and thus had not required advertising consent.

17/01796/ADV Display of a sign (in retrospect), land 300m NW of Lathro Farm for Persimmon. It was agreed to object. Advertising by motorways is not allowed because it is a distraction.

7/01757/FLL Alterations and extension to building, formation of an access ramp and installation of gate and railings, Gospel Hall, 8 Montgomery Street. No CC comment.

Planning applications determined by PKC: Cllr Colliar reported on these.

Lathro Farm: Update received by email from Cllr Purves about the site entrance. Persimmon had been instructed to take measures to reduce water-ponding and mess on the main road by the site entrance. Persimmon did not do so by the deadline given, so PKC will carry out the work and charge Persimmon. Cllr Robertson has received a lot of complaints about the movement of HGVs at the site entrance, particularly at school start and end times, and has contacted council officers. Those present at the CC meeting discussed whether health and safety requirements are being met. Regarding radon gas, Cllr Watters will ask PKC officers if they are inspecting the new dwellings at the foundation stage to ensure protective measures are being taken.

Former High School site: Following the site meeting and summary notes produced by Cllr Cuthbert on 4 October, a response was provided by case officer Steve Callan on 31 October. Meanwhile, members of the CC had discovered that some new-build dwellings are occupied, despite condition 8 of the planning consent requiring the Edwardian building to be developed first. Has the Council authorised completion certificates? It was agreed to write to Nick Brian, copying to relevant officers, ward councillors etc. Cllr Watters will supply the secretary with a contact for building standards. The CC will respond to various points in the reply provided by Steve Callan.

Balado Quarry: The CC had received an email from W Booth of Dalgleish Associates Ltd, wishing to allay the CC's concerns about the potential impact of the proposed continued operation of the quarry. The Secretary had thanked him for getting in touch but the CC had decided not to object to the proposed extension in any case.

LDP2: Email notification received. LDP2 will be submitted to Council for approval on 22 November. A briefing session for Community Councils is scheduled for 23 November in Perth. Two representatives may attend. The schedule appears

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to assume that Councillors will approve LDP2 without any amendments. There will also be public information events at the community campus on 2 December and 10 January.

Kinross Town Centre Regeneration

A drawing and description of a proposed Puffin crossing for the south end of the High Street near its junction with Montgomery Street was received via the Newsletter. Installation of such a crossing would require the loss of three parking spaces outside the Central café. There was some discussion. The CC is not against a crossing in principle, but not at the expense of any further parking spaces. Many parking spaces were lost outside the town hall area as part of the regeneration project; the CC does not want to see any more lost, as this will be detrimental to the town centre businesses. If a crossing requires an absence of parking spaces nearby in order to allow visibility, then the CC suggests a crossing should be in the area where there is no parking anyway, e.g. at the former Carnegie Library. The CC will write to the Council.

A resident from Talla Park was present and outlined problems in Avenue Road and Talla Park following the regeneration project. Due to its proximity to the bakers and take-away, Avenue Road is a popular place to park, but this is causing safety problems. Roads engineers admit that the 'loading bay' is not working. The residents' parking area is degraded. It was agreed that the CC should write to Barbara Renton to ask for improvements to Avenue Road. Cllr Robertson said that Coventry Place also needs some attention and work has been put out to tender.

Miscellaneous Correspondence

Approximately 50 items had been received and circulated by email and a summary provided. One item was about CC Insurance: a form needs to be completed. Cllr Colliar volunteered to do this.

Reports from P&K Councillors

Street Audit: Cllr Watters reported that, although attendance was poor, there had been a good level of feedback regarding the street audit. Some improvements should result from this exercise.

Westfield: Cllr Robertson reported that the Westfield energy park application has received outline consent from Fife Council. The four Kinross-shire Ward councillors are minded to ask the Scottish Government to call in the application. The proposal will create a huge increase in HGV usage of the B9097. Cllr Barnacle said Cllr Watters had drafted an excellent letter regarding this.

20mph policy: The council is looking to see if this policy could be made more flexible.

LDP2: The issue of "indicative" numbers needs to be addressed. LDP2 will have minimum and maximum figures.

Balado: Cllr Barnacle said there is not supposed to be any more housing in Balado until mains drainage is installed, but an application just passed is at odds with that.

Housing in the Countryside: Cllr Barnacle's calculation of numbers of dwellings built under this policy and the Council's differ.

Masterplan for Kinross-shire: This will not be delivered as part of LDP2 unless an amendment is moved. Cllr Barnacle recommends an Area Committee rather than an Area Partnership. He gave a potted overview of LDP2.

Other Business

Remembrance Sunday: Cllr Colliar reminded everyone of this.

Finance: Treasurer Ian Jack reported that the CC has temporarily run out of money due to paying for the planning application for toilets at the pier. He expects a refund for this and refunds for some memorial wreaths.

Winter Festival: Cllr Freeman reminded everyone about the series of events.

December Minutes and Actions: Cllr Thomas gave apologies for the December meeting; someone else will have to take minutes and write letters.

The Next Meeting of Kinross CC will take place on Wednesday 6 December 2017 at 7.30pm in the Masonic Hall, Muirs, Kinross. All welcome.

Draft Agenda for the Meeting on 6 December 2017

Apologies. Declarations of Interest. Minutes of the Meeting of 1 November. Police Report. Matters Arising from the Minutes of 1 November. Planning Matters (including: Update on former Kinross High School site; Update on Lathro Farm site; an address to CC by resident Ken Whitcombe; New Planning Applications; Report on Planning Applications Determined by PKC; LDP2; Planning Correspondence and Other Planning Matters.) Kinross Town Centre Regeneration. War Memorial. Website (kinross.cc). Correspondence. Reports from P&K Councillors. Any Other Competent Business. Date of Next Meeting (Wednesday 7 February 2018).

Please note: There will not be a meeting of Kinross CC in January 2018.

Note: Members of the public are welcome to suggest items for discussion by the CC. Members of the public are welcome to contribute to discussion at CC meetings, but if wishing to address the meeting on a specific issue, please advise the Secretary in advance and supply a copy of any relevant documentation.

Secretary: Eileen Thomas, 50 Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8AU

Telephone: 01577 8636714

Email: KinrossCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk

Kinross CC minutes and agendas are posted online at:

www.kinross.cc/cc.htm

You can also follow Kinross CC on Facebook at:

www.facebook.com/KinrossCC

Vacancy on Kinross Community Council

There is a vacancy on Kinross CC. Any one who is interested in joining the CC should complete a 'Co-option Nomination Form', which can be downloaded from the Perth and Kinross Council (PKC) website at:

www.pkc.gov.uk/communitycouncils

Candidates, proposers and seconders must live in the Kinross CC area. A map showing the area is available on the PKC website. More information about the work of a Community Council can also be found on the website. Please submit completed forms to Perth and Kinross Council, 2 High Street, Perth, PH1 5PH.

For an informal chat about what being on the CC is all about, contact one of the Community Councillors (see p. 107.)

Contributors

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Milnathort Community Council

News from the November Meeting

Present at the meeting held on Thursday 11 November 2017: CCllrs K Heneghan, C Williams, S McHardy, E Kirkham, C Lawson and C Flory; P&K Cllrs W Robertson, R Watters and M Barnacle; and seven members of the public.

Apologies received from CCllr M Leach and P&K Cllr C Purves.

Police: No police in attendance. Inspector Kevin Chase has been in contact to say he will try and facilitate a police presence at CC meetings. A red Raleigh bike was stolen on 31 October from the close at Church Buildings between 9am and 2pm.

Donaldson Park: The work at the play area at Donaldson Park has been completed. The CC would like the old bark removed before new bark is delivered. The damaged pavement near junction 7 has been reported to repairs at PKC by Cllr Robertson.

Persimmon at Lathro: Cllr Purves emailed MCC in advance of the meeting to say that measures have been taken to remedy the issue with mud on the road at the Persimmon site at Lathro Park. A hump is to be installed at the mouth of the site to direct as much water as possible from the site into an adjacent gulley, reducing the ponding of water.

Cllr Robertson had received a complaint from a neighbour about the state of the road and pavement at the Lathro site. The PKC Enforcement was called to the site. A discussion followed about the state of the roads and pavements around the Persimmon site, the run off in to drains and the North Queich. The question was raised about why Persimmon Homes were not being fined and safeguards were not being put in place. SEPA have a site visit planned for 13 November. Cllr Willie Robertson said that residents concerned about mud on the road should call the police on 111.

The **vehicle activated signs** on Burleigh Road are due to be installed on 11 December (weather permitting).

Planning Applications Submitted

17/01348/FLL Change of use of agricultural land to form additional garden ground and erection of a fence, Craigwell, Milnathort. Approve the application.

17/01675/FLL Change of use from dwelling house to dwelling house and child-minding business for a temporary period, 68 Stirling Road, Milnathort. Approve the application.

Pace Hill: Craig Williams briefly discussed what happened at the planning meeting for the Pace Hill Development. As Chair of the CC he applied in advance to speak but was not allowed. Craig mentioned that Councillors gave a good

fight resulting in the application being deferred until after a site visit on 11 November. A lengthy discussion followed raising many concerns about the Pace Hill Development including footpaths, crossing points, limited visibility, the blind summit, an alternative access and safety concerns. A member of the public attended the site visit and was treated badly by the planning team from PKC. Members of the planning department were overheard having inappropriate discussions and were not happy about having "outside influences" (a local resident) at what they believed to be a closed meeting. Cllr Robertson said that going forward residents must complain about proposed developments before they are added to the Local Development Plan.

Cllr Robertson was asked what we as a community could do about the over-development of the area and the fact the Council were not complying with the Local Development Plan. He said that the community could write to their MSP or ask for a judicial review if they feel there is a breach of planning law. This is a very expensive process and would require paying for a QC. It appears the Scottish Government has never enforced legislation that allows them to investigate councils. Additionally, the community could write to Kevin Stewart, the Housing Minister.

A letter received by the Civic Trust referred to advice from planning regards appeals saying that the numbers on the Local Development Plan are not purely indicative but a maximum to be adhered to. This was glossed over by the legal person from PKC at the site visit.

The general feeling was that the planning department at PKC are spending too much time pleasing developers and not the residents and public they are supposed to represent.

Planning Applications Determined

17/01861/IPL Renewal of permission 14/01461/IPL (erection of a dwelling house) (in principle) at land 50m East of Sallyvonteen, Milnathort for Mr Alastair Dawson.

17/01869/LBC Alterations and extension to dwelling house at Finnerlie, Milnathort.

New Matters and Correspondence

A local business has responded against the reinstatement of parking restrictions in the centre of the village around South Street.

Campbell Lawson has arranged a sponsor for this year's Christmas Tree (Websters). The Secretary of the CC to write to Milnathort in Bloom and the Town Hall Association regarding access, an external socket point and lighting.



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Stuart McHardy raised the issue of a resident's blocked toilet and the new out of hours process to report a problem. A worker came from Kinloch Rannoch and took 4 hours to respond. How can this be cost effective?

Stuart also raised the issue of triple glazed windows and doors and asked for clarity about whether it was just Whyte Place or all council-owned homes in Milnathort receiving new windows and doors. Action: Cllr Robertson.

Comments/Questions from the floor

A member of the public raised concerns about a branch in the burn by the bridge near the Town Hall. She was worried about the branch blocking the burn and causing flooding.

A member of the public raised concern about Trustees of Donaldson Park and requested that efforts be made to include representation from the CC amongst the Trustees. The Secretary of the CC is going to invite the solicitor involved with the Trust to the next CC meeting to determine how easy it would be to change Trustees.

All CC members agreed to respect one another and work towards better communication.

PKC Councillors' Comments

Cllr Watters arranged a street audit in Kinross and included Milnathort. Issues surrounding mobility were raised. Inclusive Living are involved.

Cllr Barnacle gave an update on the Local Development Plan 2. It goes to the full council on 22 November.

Cllr Barnacle mentioned that core paths and disused railway lines should be safe-guarded and planning around core paths and disused railway lines (e.g. near Burleigh) should be refused (Policy 15).

Cllr Mike Barnacle also mentioned that Westminster wanted to link Kinross with Cowdenbeath. If approved there would be constituencies covering Kinross-shire.

Cllr Barnacle would like an area committee with powers for Kinross-shire.

There will be a review on 20mph policy.

From April 2018, there will be a £25 a year charge for garden waste in the brown bin.

Following a question from the public, apologies for the CC website not having up to date meeting dates on it. There has been a problem with passwords. Action: Campbell Lawson.

Milnathort CC will not be meeting in December or January.

The Next Meeting of Milnathort CC will take place at 7.30pm on Thursday 8 February 2018 in Milnathort Town Hall.

Find Milnathort CC minutes, agenda and other information at:

- www.milnathortcommunitycouncil.org
- www.facebook.com/milnathortcommunitycouncil
- twitter.com/milnathort_cc
- Loch Leven Community Library
- Milnathort Church Office

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Portmoak Community Council News from the November Meeting

In attendance at the meeting held on 14 November 2017 were: CCllrs M Strang Steel (Chair); B Calderwood (Deputy Chair and Treasurer), T Smith, D Morris, A Robertson and A Muszynski; and Ward CCllrs M Barnacle, C Purves, W Robertson and R Watters; and 15 members of the public.

Apologies: CCllrs R Cairncross, S Forde and PC D Stapleton, Police Scotland.

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:

Arrangements for the maintenance of residual plots across **Whitecraigs**. Cllr Watters reported that he had consulted with the PKC lawyers who confirmed that the plot and path adjacent to the golf course is being included in the transfer.

Manhole cover in Kinnesswood. Cllr Purves reported that a member of PKC roads dept would go to inspect the problem when it is raining.

Westfield Opencast Site - Restoration and Regeneration Project (Fife 16/03661/EIA).

The chairman reported that he had written to Mr Stewart, the relevant minister, asking him to call in the application. Letters of support had been sent by the MP and Liz Smith MSP. Meanwhile Fife Council had approved the application; the draft decision notice included restrictions on working hours and a limitation on the amount of waste taken onto the site; It was conditional on the applicant, Fife Council and PKC signing an agreement obliging the applicant to provide £100,000 for road maintenance. Fife Council had written to the applicant warning it that the council would expect the applicant to consult with communities before lodging future applications for the site. Cllr Robertson said that the four ward councillors would be writing in support of the CC's request for the application to be called in and Cllr Purves said that the leader of the PKC administration would also be writing. Concern was expressed by CCllr Morris about the handling of the application by Fife Council, and by members of the public about the need for this type of waste management facility. The chairman invited those with concerns to write to the minister as individuals supporting the request for calling in. The ward councillors were concerned that PKC's response to the application had not been approved by the relevant committee of elected members despite being assured that it would be. They would take up with the administration the need for a review of PKC procedures and in particular the delegation of powers.

School access - policy on parking

Cllr Robertson had contacted the roads department. They would not proceed with parking restrictions in the teeth of opposition from local residents. It seemed strange to the CC that the PKC roads dept should defer to local residents on such a matter. CCllr Morris said that he had spoken to one of the objectors, who would not maintain her objection. CCllr Muszynski believed this to be a matter for the PKC roads dept and their transport planners.

Cllr Barnacle had a letter from the roads department suggesting that a paper putting both sides of the argument should be submitted to the relevant committee of elected councillors for them to make a decision. The paper should make alternative suggestions such as parking restrictions for a limited time only and reversing the one-way system as well as a blanket parking restriction. CCllrs Barnacle and Robertson would pursue this suggestion with the roads department.

Police Report: No local report was submitted. The Area Commander's Bulletins of 11, 18 and 25 October and of 1 November were noted. There had been a major burglary at Manorleys Farm. The police have the matter in hand. It appeared that there had been a reconnaissance as the thieves knew what they were looking for. There had been a further accident at the bend on the C50 at the Manorleys turn off. Only one car was involved.

Treasurer's Report: The balance at the month ending 30 Sept was £475.20 in the General Account; and £1,042.23 in the Michael Bruce Way Account, giving a total of £1,517.43.

Planning: New applications:

17/03377/FULL (FIFE). Installation of up to 10 gas engines generating 19.96MWe at Westfield OCCS Fife. Considerable concern was expressed at the way that this application had been lodged on the day after Fife Council had decided to approve the in principle application (IPA) for the whole site. Why had this development not been included in the IPA? Why had there been no consultation with communities as recommended in the Fife Council letter? Why fossil fuels in what purported to be a green development? CC and public concerns were raised over the impact of CO2 emissions on the environment. It was agreed that the CC would object on environmental and procedural grounds: (a) expressing concern at the applicant's procedure and in particular the failure to carry out any consultation with the CC, (b) objecting to the application on the grounds of insufficient information on the effect on air quality and the effect of noise in particular unless the acoustic screen to the north and west of the development is installed; and also on the ground that the environmental work promised should be carried out before the development is commenced including the provisions for access etc in the IPA draft decision and should include provision for access from Portmoak.

17/01749/FLL Land 90m West of Findatie Farm. Erection of a dwelling house and stables. The CC had already agreed not to object but to comment that consideration should be given to moving the proposed house further down the hill where it would be less conspicuous.

Loch Leven's Larder. 17/01738/ADV (Display of signs); Loch Leven's Larder. 17/01621/FLL (Alterations to car park, play area and landscaping); Loch Leven's Larder. 17/01885/FLL (Erection of mixed use barn - retail cook school and function venue). The CC had no comment on the first two applications. They were supportive of the proposals in the third but had some concerns about the impact of increased traffic on the dangerous junction at Balgedie Toll and about the noise generated by evening functions. The chairman reported that the Nivens would make a presentation to the next CC meeting and he would seek an extension of time for lodging comments until after that had taken place (Extension of time granted).

1 Friar Place, Scotlandwell. 17/01990/FLL. Erection of boundary fence (retrospective). This relates to the fence of which CCllr Forde had complained. The chairman had inspected it. The fence as erected obscures the sightlines when driving out of Friar Place. The application is not truly retrospective as it proposes a fence on a different line, which allows for a proper sightline but does not say anything about removal of the existing fence. It was agreed to write to the planners to say that the existing fence, at least so far as fronting The Causeway must be removed.

Planning: Progress with Developments

17/01596/IPL Land 50m South of 9 Bishop Terrace, Kinnesswood: Erection of a dwelling house in principle. (Stephen's Field). The chairman reported that he and Cllrs Cairncross and Morris had met with Peter Marshall and John Stephen. They were looking at an alternative to the proposal and would report at a further meeting fixed for 4 December. 16/00325/CON Lomond Inn, Report on request for Building Safety Evaluation. A surveyor from PKC had looked at the gable wall which had given rise to concern and pronounced it safe.

Roads Report:

Wester Balgedie/Carsehall Junction. Cllr Calderwood reported that there had been a meeting on site with local residents, Daryl McKeown and Cllr Robertson. There are three blind spots and much increased traffic partly due to Loch Leven's Larder. Daryl McKeown suggested 4-way traffic lights as a solution and he will investigate both the practicalities and finance. The planning application from Loch Leven's Larder is likely to lead to more traffic, so action is required. The long-term solution, it was agreed, is a realignment of the road to the northwest of the Toll. Robin Niven said that he could make ground available, but not on the shortest and most economical route.

Footpath from Scotlandwell to the Church, Hall and beyond.

Cllr Purves reported that Daryl McKeown had agreed to a site meeting at which Willie Greig from the bereavement department would also be present. The Chairman said that he had written to the owners of the field between Scotlandwell and the church seeking a meeting and awaited a reply.

Vehicle Activated signs. Cllr Calderwood reported that he had had a meeting at which it was proposed that three signs be placed in Scotlandwell and two in Kinnesswood. Finding a suitable spot to site them was not easy as a power source was required, they needed to be a certain distance off the carriageway, and also far enough away from the edge of the restricted zone to avoid activation by vehicles outside it. Also, to make way for the signs some items might have to be moved. Detailed proposals would be forthcoming shortly. It was confirmed that the signs could be set to function at different speeds e.g. 20mph instead of 30mph.

Paths Report: Cllr Tom Smith reported that PKC had held a useful workshop for paths groups. Planning for work next year, including a large project for improvement was taking place. Cattle were poaching the surface of the Michael Bruce Way.

Ward Councillor Reports

Cllr Purves has had a meeting with Chic Haggart who is now considering a review of policy on 20mph limits.

Cllr Barnacle has met Peter Marshall (PKC planning) with Cllrs Robertson and Watters to discuss the proposed Local Development Plan (LDP2) being presented to PKC on 22 November. The only change in this version is to specify a range for the numbers of units on a site instead of an indicative number. The maximum in the range will only be exceeded in exceptional circumstances. They also discussed development site zonings in Portmoak with Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell unchanged in the LDP. The possibility of zoning Stephen's Field, as public open space, leaving the house site unzoned, was discussed but Peter Marshall had advised the Cllrs to leave it as it is. The cemetery situation is recognised and there are changes to PM4. If approved, the plan will go out for consultation in the New Year, but it will be regarded as PKC's settled will.

Cllr Robertson reported that, with effect from April, there will be a charge of £25 per annum for the collection of garden waste. This is a pure money raising exercise and PKC estimate that 50% of those with brown bins will pay for this service. There may be an effort to supply brown bins to those who do not already have them.

Cllr Watters had nothing further to report.

Other Matters

A member of the public raised the issue of a supply of water from Scottish Water when the normal supply fails. Apparently, they do not bring water to a house unless the occupier asks for it and the supply has been interrupted for 12 hours. This is not satisfactory and particularly for the vulnerable. Cllr Robertson said that PKC had an emergency officer who could deal with this sort of situation and he would supply the name. (He is called John Handling. Scottish Water's contact is John Stewart.)

The Next Meeting of Portmoak CC will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 12 December 2017 in Portmoak Village Hall, Scotlandwell.

Portmoak CC minutes can be viewed:

- on the notice board in the village hall
- in a file in Kinnesswood Village Shop
- on the website www.portmoak.org

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Fossoway and District CC News from the November Meeting

In attendance at the meeting held on 7 November 2017 were: CCllrs C Brown, J Donachie, T Duffy, C Farquhar and G Pye; P&K Cllrs M Barnacle, C Purves and W Robertson; 35 Members of the Public (MoP).

Apologies: CCllr Angus Cheape; P&K Cllr Richard Watters.

Declarations of Interest: None.

Police report: Unfortunately, no Officer was able to be present at the meeting. There were no incidents to note in our area in the last month from the Commander's Reports.

Blairingone Lambhill Site: A new traffic report has been produced showing a 1.7% increase of traffic as a result of the site's activity, however if the number of HGVs is compared separately from the rest of the traffic, then there would be a 13% increase. There will be a site visit next week, to assess the current situation and enforcement issues. A MoP reminded the meeting that the community don't want this development in any form. Another MoP observed that the HGV traffic to and from the site must pass through the other villages in our area, so it will not just affect Blairingone.

Blairingone School: PKC are reviewing the future of the school. A drop-in session was held on 21 September, at which attendees were told that it costs £250k per year to run the school. A Blairingone resident, representing the Blairingone School Community, told the meeting that PKC's ECS team have now changed the cost estimate to £107k per year. Other questions raised by the community of ECS have not been answered, with some of them being passed to the FOI team. Although any changes will not happen for some time, the decision about which option to pursue (close, keep open, extend catchment, etc.) will be decided within the next three months, and the community were told that their views expressed at the drop-in session were the most important factor in making a decision. A MoP pointed out that community members present at the drop-in session will have made up their minds based on the incorrect figure and aren't likely to change them now.

Cllr Robertson explained that the number of pupils is the most significant factor affecting a decision, so measures to increase that, e.g. widening the catchment area will be of most help. The overall problem seems to be because Blairingone is a diminishing community. Cllr Barnacle said that perhaps we need to go back to the beginning of the process and hold another drop-in session now that we have that correct figures. Cllr Purves will contact the Convenor of the Life Long Learning Committee to see if that could happen. CCllr Duffy said that there should be a community consultation to address all issues affecting Blairingone, and will contact PKC about this.

Hydro Scheme: CCllr Duffy described the community consultation questionnaire which has been posted to all households in the area. Responses could also be submitted online [closed 24/11/17].

Crook of Devon LDP2 Rezoning Proposal: CCllr Duffy reminded those present that the development of the site east of the Crook of Devon Village Hall was presented for comment at a meeting on 18 February this year. Subsequently 60% of the community was against the inclusion of the site in LDP2, and after extensive discussion the CC reached a consensus decision that they were also against it. Amongst the CC's concerns was the lack of affordable and/or small

houses in the area. Cllr Barnacle has circulated a letter asking the community to look at this application again, as the developer has provided a significantly modified proposal. The CC will not change its position unless it is certain that the community support it.

Cllr Barnacle then described the changes to the developer's proposal to reduce the number of house by 50% and for 50% of those houses to be "affordable". Additionally, there will be market research into the need for an employment site and farm shop viability. Contributions will be made to A977 mitigation measures, along with improvements to footpaths and safe routes to school.

Cllr Barnacle explained that LDP2 will be discussed at a full meeting of the council on 22 November, which is the reason for the urgency to discuss this new proposal, which has only very recently been made available by the developer. Local councillors need to decide whether the community wishes them to move an amendment to the LDP2 debate to include the zoning of this site for development.

There have been changes to the LDP process such that sites now have minimum and maximum numbers of properties specified in the plan. There will still be a further six-week period to comment on LDP2, either for or against the inclusion of any site. Cllr Barnacle stressed that if this development is not included in LDP2, it leaves the way open for an appeal by the developer which, if successful, would mean that the community would lose control of the type and size of development.

CCllr Duffy then turned the meeting over to the community members present for questions and comments:

Q: How many houses? A: 30.

Q: What's affordable housing? A: Smaller (i.e. two bedroom) and/or cheaper houses. There was substantial uncertainty amongst those present about the exact meaning of "affordable housing".

Q: What percentage will be affordable? A: Policy is 25%, but the developer proposes 50%.

Q: Could LDP2 include specific requirements as to number of properties and percentage which are affordable which would continue to apply to any future developer of the site. A: Yes.

Q: What impact will development have on existing flood issue? A: Cllr Barnacle agrees that Drum has a high water table, but this problem should be addressed by a more wide-ranging review of the state of watercourses in the area.

MoP pointed out that 48 hours is too short a time to properly consult on this new proposal. This view was widely supported.

Q: Could the proposed farm shop upset the balance of retail availability in this area? A: As explained in Cllr Barnacle's letter market research would be done.

Q: What is an employment area? A: It would provide small offices, workshops, etc., which idea hasn't really taken off elsewhere, but zoning the site in this way would allow research to be done about the desire for such facilities.

MoP noted that the school, although not at risk like Blairingone, has poor road access, etc, for an increased population. Cllr Barnacle pointed out that the proposal includes A977 mitigation, and there are already plans to improve the school junction, which will be released next year. Cllr Robertson suggested that the community also has the option of zoning the site as an opportunity site which would allow the possibility of looking at something in the near future. The implications of this option were not clearly understood by those present.

MoP noted that Crook of Devon is a nice place to live and he was able to move here 35 years ago as a result of another development like this – shouldn't we allow another 30 or so people that chance?

CCLlr Duffy summarised the discussion by saying that those present think that the consultation period is too short. At the moment, the consensus of those present is unclear, although zoning seems to be mostly unpopular, leaving the options of either zoning it as an Opportunity site or not zoning it at all. CCLlr Duffy closed the debate by urging the community to contact Cllr Barnacle and give him your views.

Fossoway Area Public Transport: DRT is still not able to meet the demands of many people, although one MoP finds that DRT works very well for them. A view was expressed that some destinations may be unpopular with the taxi firms. Cllr Purves said that we need data about what requests are not being met, so please report any occasions where the service cannot meet your needs to the local councillors and the CC. Cllr Robertson pointed out that there is a shortage of taxis throughout Kinross-shire.

Powmill in Bloom: Cllr Farquhar reported that bulbs have been planted.

Crook of Devon and Drum Growing Together: The group have used the unpaid work team to plant bulbs.

A977 Mitigation: Local councillors have been presented with options, which they have commented on, and budgetary proposals are now being prepared, following which a community consultation will take place.

Matters arising with no update since last meeting: Crook Moss Travellers Site, Blairingone War Memorial, Naemoor Bridge and Ivy Cottage Powmill.

CC Business: Meetings Attended: CCLlr Farquhar was to have attended a meeting of the Disability and ASN Workshop of the Sports Hub on 9 November; unfortunately, the meeting had to be postponed due to some cancellations. CCLlr Farquhar hopes to attend the rearranged meeting. CCLlr Pye attended Road Expo Scotland and met with suppliers of Vehicle Activated Speed signs. One supplier suggested that it might be possible to get sponsorship for signs from local businesses that use the road.

P&K Councillors' Reports

Cllr Barnacle reiterated his earlier request for the community to let him know what they think about **Crook of Devon** proposal.

Cllr Robertson: A paper is being put forward tomorrow to implement the charge of £25 for **brown bins**. Cllr Purves pointed out that this change was agreed by the previous

administration. Cllr Barnacle added that this charge will support extension of the brown bin scheme to areas that don't currently get them.

Callum Purves: The **20mph zone** rules for urban roads are currently too rigid and more flexible ones are being developed.

Planning Matters

17/01762/FLL Extension to dwelling house, Broomhill House, Peat Gate, Crook of Devon. No CC comment.

Erection of dwelling house and garages (in principle) Land 50 metres east of Leariggs, Crook of Devon. No CC comment.

17/01895/FLL Formation of access ramp, 13, St Serfs Road, Crook of Devon. No CC comment.

17/01902/FLL Erection of 2no. wind turbines and associated works at Land south-east of Wharlawhill Farm, Carnbo. This application arrived too late to be considered so the CC will discuss after the meeting.

Correspondence: All the correspondence was available for viewing.

Draft Agenda for Next CC Meeting

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

Matters arising: Lambhill Site, Blairingone School, Crook of Devon LDP2 Zoning, A977 Mitigation, Fossoway Area Transport, Hydro Scheme, Crook & Drum Growing Together, Powmill in Bloom.

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

The Next Meeting of Fossoway & District CC will take place on Tuesday 5 December 2017 at 7.30pm at Blairingone Primary School. All Welcome.

The January meeting will take place on Tuesday 9 January 2018 at 7.30pm in Fossoway 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.

Cleish and Blairadam CC

Cleish and Blairadam CC meets every second month.

The Next Meeting takes place on Monday 4 December 2017 at 7.30pm in the Tabernacle Hall, Keltybridge.

Minutes of Cleish and Blairadam CC meetings can be viewed on the website cleishandblairadam.org.uk



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Club & Community Group News



Kinross High School

There have been many interesting things happening this term and here are just a few of them.

How to Inspire Your Book Group #ScotTeenBookPrize

Last year we decided to use the Scottish Teenage Book Prize to add an additional focus to our book group meetings. Both the library and the English department managed to obtain copies of all of the longlisted books. We encouraged everyone to try to read as many of the six books as possible.

Success in Design Engineer Construct (DEC)

Mr Smith's hard work developing the DEC course was rewarded with a regional event and a trip to the House of Lords.

Over 50 delegates from around the country gathered to hear how we have slotted the course into our curriculum to help promote the STEM subjects and the whole range of job opportunities within the construction industry.

Olivia, Cara, Bryony and Kirsten, four S3 DEC students, gave their views on what they have learnt and how their views on the career opportunities have changed. Alison Watson, from a Class of Your Own, tweeted that 'DEC was the most important development in Scottish education ever, and KHS were at the forefront of this development.'

Mr Smith travelled to the House of Lords to celebrate the success DEC is having south of the border. The first pupils involved in the course in England are now being placed in jobs in the construction industry as a direct result of their DEC experiences. This showcased the direct links between the schools and industry.

We are looking forward to a similar event being planned in the Scottish Parliament next year and hope that our pupils will be involved.

S6 Achievements

Sixth year is not just about passing more exams, but is more about giving

us the opportunity to work together as a year group and develop skills that will be useful when we break free from the Mother Ship.

At the end of June, we voted to support the Scottish Association for Mental Health as our charity for this year. We have already raised a lot of money by organising various events. Later on this month, a group of us will be asking teachers for money to clean their cars both inside and out!

been a busy year so far and we look forward to what we can do in the coming months.

N. Baughan, Lomond House Captain



The 2017 RYLAs

Struan Smith and Caitlin Welsh were hosted in an interview style talk to the Club Dinner on 23 October in the Kirklands Hotel. They both were fabulous, looked immaculate and spoke confidently. District Co-ordinator, Jim Houston, presented their awards.



Struan and Caitlin being presented with their awards

Everyone is also working hard to give something back to the school and local community. We have been supporting new S1s by hosting an Induction Evening, allowing them to meet new friends, and giving their parents a tour of the school. We each have an 'Achievement' period at least once a week. We have been involved with Interact, Amnesty, CHAS, working on the Yearbook, going to local Primary schools to play sports with the children, buddying younger students and helping out in classes for younger years. The feedback so far has been amazing, with younger pupils in particular really excited for the day in the week when the S6s come.

We are working with teachers to establish new pupil councils for each house, supporting school events as front of house, and acting as positive role models for the wider school. It's

Christmas Concert

This year's Christmas Concert will be at 7pm on **Wednesday 20 December** in the school Assembly Hall. There will be a mixture of carols for all, seasonal music and refreshments to get everyone into the Christmas mood. Tickets are £6/£4 and refreshments are £2. The school would love to share this festive celebration with as many as possible and wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

A word from Sarah Brown, Head Teacher

The school closes on **Friday 22 December at 12 noon** for the holiday season. I would like to take this opportunity to wish our community a happy and enjoyable break over the festive period.

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



Kinross & District Probus Club

Aspects of Heraldry by Robin Alexander



Many people visit our historic castles and houses throughout the land and, although they marvel at the heraldic shields and coats of arms on display, few will have a clear understanding of their origins and meanings.

On 18 October, Robin gave club members a fascinating insight into the history, purpose and content of heraldic shields or coat of arms.

Going back to the Middle Ages, heraldry was the special system of identification that developed in order to help distinguish fully armoured knights on the battle and tournament field. Given that few people could read or write in these early times, the knight's symbol was easily recognised by all.

The primary element of a heraldic achievement is the shield or escutcheon, upon which the coat of arms is depicted.

Details of the symbols used in the early shields were rarely written down and have been left for historians to decipher throughout the ages. For example, shields with chequered borders often suggest illegitimacy in the succession line, similar to the term 'fits' in its use in a family surname i.e. Fitzpatrick or Fitzgerald.

The Lion Rampant was initially used by the King of Scotland but over the centuries has been used and abused in many heraldic shields.

Robin has mastered the skill of interpretation over the years; this allows him to give the audience a great insight into these complex, and often colourful, artefacts.

So does your family have a 'Coat of Arms'? Do you know what it represents?

The vote of thanks was given by Ian Simpson.

My Life with Hercules (and his dad) by Maggie Robin

Our next talk took place on 1 November. Those of us of a certain age will no doubt remember Hercules the Bear, who became a household name in the 1980s. Maggie Robin, who owned Hercules along with her husband Andy, gave the club a fascinating insight into their life with a bear in the family; twenty five years of adventures and surprises which neither of them had ever thought would happen when they purchased Hercules in 1974 from the Highland Wildlife Park. Andy Robin was a wrestler when he met Maggie and she described him as 'a small explosion when he walked into a room'. He was a larger than life character and, when Andy came across bear wrestling in the States, he set his heart on owning a bear. That plan fell into place in 1974 when Maggie and Andy picked up a 9 month old cub, to be christened Hercules, and so their adventure began.

Even at 9 months old Herc was a handful, but Andy was up for the challenge and he persevered. In time he won over Hercules's confidence and trust, as did Maggie, and he became a part of the family for the next 25 years.

Hercules was an advertiser's dream and offers soon started to come in; film premieres, British Airways and Kleenex. It was while filming for a Kleenex television commercial on Benbecula in the Outer Hebrides in August 1980 that Hercules managed to escape, going missing for 24 days. Hundreds of volunteers joined in the search for him and he became a regular news item during and after his disappearance.

This exposure was to turn Hercules into a household name and he was elevated to superstar status, winning personality awards and being in demand for a whole host of events.

There was a short period when the Robins took Hercules to America, where he went down a storm, and then a return to Britain, where they continued with lots of promotional work. Maggie described how Hercules was truly one of the family and a big gentle giant. He would go everywhere with them and was instantly recognised by the public.

It was on a business trip to Bristol that Hercules first became ill with severe back pain. He was unable to walk and, when they got him home, Andy worked tirelessly to rehabilitate Hercules. Sadly, despite all his efforts, the big fellow passed away in February 2001. It was a huge loss to Maggie and Andy and also to many others who had been lucky enough to meet Hercules in the flesh. In 2013, Andy and Maggie were invited to unveil a life-size statue of Hercules on North Uist (Maggie's family home).

Maggie clearly demonstrated her love for Hercules, how he had changed their lives for the better and how he had given them 25 years of joy.

The vote of thanks was given by Harry McLennan.

Scottish Caribbean Connections by Geoff Palmer

I doubt if many of us have read the Jamaican telephone directory. If you did, you would be surprised to note that there are more 'Campbells' listed in it than in any Scottish directory, as Geoff explained during his talk on 15 November. Article 4 of the Act of Union of 1707 allowed Scotland to trade with the colonies and it needed access to this growing market of cotton, tea and sugar.

For the next 100 years Scotland played a major part in the development of these markets. You can see evidence of this in Glasgow's Merchant City; street names include Oswald Street, Glassford Street, Jamaica Street, Mitchell Street and many more. These are the names of those who made their fortunes by dealing in the slave trade. Even when it was abolished by an Act of Parliament in 1807, the slave owners were given compensation equating to millions of pounds in today's money.

If you have read any of Robert Burns' works you may be familiar with his disgust of slavery. Burns wrote strongly and fervently about man's right to be free.

So Scotland does have strong connections with the Caribbean but little is known about our involvement in the slave trade. This is not something to be proud of and maybe it's time that the true story of how many Scottish families profited from this horrible trade was told.

The vote of thanks was given by Roger Stark.

The next meeting will be on **Wednesday 6 December** when Ian Fairley will speak about 'John Franklin and the North West Passage'.

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Kinross in Bloom

December already; my, how time flies! We are all looking forward to a few weeks' respite from the "Bloom". The planters have been cleared and replanted with daffodils and polyanthus ready for spring, the polytunnel has been cleared and tidied, and the buggy has gone into hibernation for the winter. We've even managed to order all our plants for next year's summer display.

At our AGM in November, Graham Barnett was voted the new chairperson. Graham is an enthusiastic worker and we are sure we made an excellent choice. We thank outgoing chairman Derek for all his help and assistance over the years, and wish him well for the future.

We once again held a successful buffet evening at the Church Centre to thank all the volunteers who help us with the watering duties over the summer months. Many thanks to Marion and her team, Cathy, Aileen and Helen, for providing a super spread.

Our 200 Club winners for November were: (1) No 66, Anne Porter. (2) No 15, Helen Duncan. (3) No 81, Yvonne Wardrope. (4) No 78, Myrtle Urquhart.

Our December winners were: (1) No 37, Margaret Lyon. (2) No 66, Anne Porter. (3) No 64, David Payne. (4) No 76, Iain Todd.

Well done to all our winners.

At the beginning of this year, our committee consisted of just five members, and we looked ahead to a rather daunting prospect of trying to do all that we planned. Fortunately our number increased by two early in the year, and by a further two fairly recently, so we end the year with nine on our committee and, with a further two joining us soon, our future looks much brighter. All that remains for us to do is to wish all in Kinross a very happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous 2018.



Kinross-shire Historical Society



A large turnout of members came to hear a talk by Dr Fiona Watson on Macbeth. Unfortunately, this talk had to be cancelled at short notice due to the speaker's ill health. The committee were very grateful to Dr Martin Hepworth who filled in at very short notice with a talk on 'The History of Banknotes'.

This talk was very informative and entertaining. All sorts of interesting facts were given, such as that England did not produce any £1 banknotes from 1821 to 1927 while Scotland did, due much to the campaigning of Sir Walter Scott. The first bank notes were printed in book form like cheque books and the notes had to be cut out as there were no perforations. During WW2, rumours that Germany was going to forge British notes and flood the economy meant that a wartime issue was rushed out. However, no change was made to the white £5 note and this is the one the Germans did forge. In 1959 containers full of these forged notes were recovered from a lake in Austria. A film was made of this story. In order to get the required skill for the etching of the notes, Jewish prisoners were used to work on the forgeries and many survived the war due to prolonging the production time in various ways.

There are bank notes of many denominations including a million pounds. Only 11 of these were printed. They were for internal transactions as part of Marshall Aid at the end of WW2. One was sold at auction a few years ago for £60,000.

Dr Hepworth showed slides of many different notes pointing out the particular designs and why they were used. Buildings are on most notes, as are people of note. He gave detailed particulars of some notes including those showing New Lanark and the people involved with it, such as David Dale and Robert Owen.

Notes with a Dundee connection were shown of Mary Slessor and a recent one designed by a schoolgirl for a 'Children in Need' competition which raised £100,000 for the charity. One slide showed a note with the name of the engraver on the design which no-one had ever noticed until he came back to the bank many years later and pointed it out to the archivist. Once Dr Hepworth had answered some questions from the audience, Fubister Law thanked him for stepping in at such short notice and giving a talk that everyone had so obviously enjoyed.

For the remainder of the Society programme, see page 104.

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Crook & Drum Growing Together

Over recent weeks, we have been planting about 600 daffodil bulbs along the verges on the north side of the main road between Crook and Drum, funded by PKC. We are really looking forward to these flowering in March and April. We are grateful to Fraser and his group from the Unpaid Work team in Perth, and two young men who are volunteering for their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award, for their help with the planting.

All the tubs and barrels are now prepared for the winter and a selection of bulbs have been planted in the wildlife bed on the Green. I have also been helping parents and children to tidy the nursery garden at Fossoway Primary School.

We currently have a fundraising quiz running. The aim is to guess the names of Christmas carols and songs and it costs only £1. These are available from the Inn and shop in Crook of Devon, the Drum filling station, as well as from committee members. Prizes include a fresh Christmas wreath, wine and chocolates. The closing date is **Friday 8 December**.

We are also holding a **workshop** to make your own **fresh Christmas wreath**. This will take place on **Sunday 10 December** at 2.30pm in Crook of Devon Village Hall, cost £15. We supply an oasis ring, a wide selection of greenery, a demo and advice; please bring your own finishing decorations, gloves, and secateurs or strong scissors. To book, please contact Amanda on 07963 476803, or amanda@tyafon.plus.com.

Thank you to everyone who has helped and supported our work over the year, and Merry Christmas to all.



Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation

www.kleo.org.uk

Busy times during Kinross-shire's Winter Festival

We hope you enjoyed the Winter Festival with numerous events organised by local community groups and businesses. By the time you read this article, the various events and the festive street market will have been and gone. We hope it will have been successful, enjoyable and not disruptive to traders and residents of the High Street.

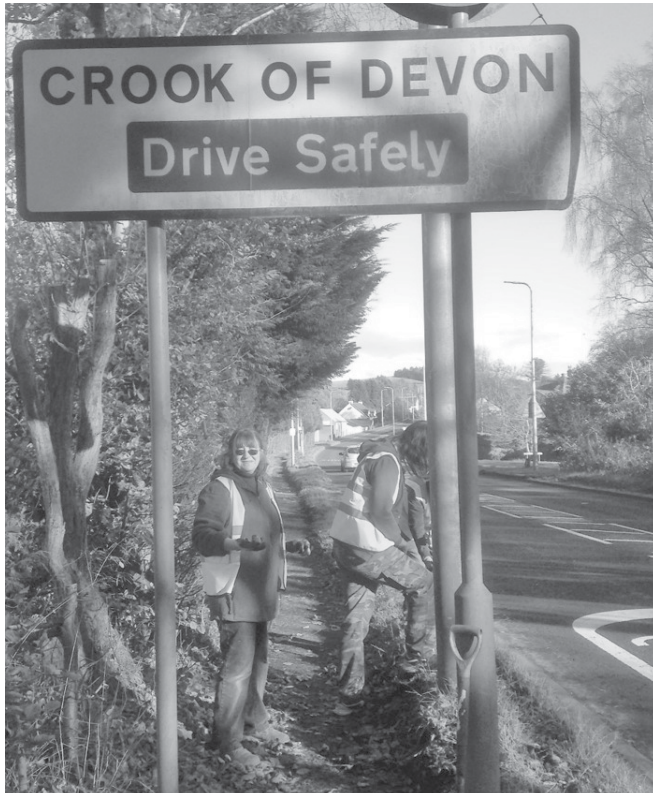
There are too many people to thank individually but we would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank-you to all the volunteers who helped us out during the events in November and December. An amazing number of people helped us out by distributing flyers and brochures door to door in Kinross, Milnathort and other surrounding villages. They also helped with erecting and dismantling marquees and market stalls and stewarding at the festive street market. A special thanks to local company Span Access Solutions who provided us with a stage at the festive street market! A huge thanks also goes to the staff of Macbeth Currie Estate Agents and Stewart and Smart in Milnathort who sold tickets for us. Thanks also to the Kinross Newsletter who carried our advertisements and put the Winter Festival on the front cover of the November edition!

For more information and photos, please visit our website.

Leven Voices

After the Christmas break, Leven Voices will start up again. Leven Voices is a fun, informal drop-in singing group for anyone. No music reading or singing experience necessary; it is for anyone who just wants to sing and have fun!

Leven Voices will run a set of ten weekly sessions on Tuesday evenings, with the first session on **Tuesday 9 January**. Sessions will be with Horsecross arts tutors and will run until 13 March. All sessions will be at 7.30pm at the Kinross Parish Church. Enrolment fee is £6 and £4 a session (concessions £3). Just come along, sing and enjoy!



Planting daffodils along the main road between Crook of Devon and Drum

Sending photographs to the Newsletter

Contributors, if sending a photograph to the Newsletter, please send as a JPEG file and not embedded in a word document. Thank you.

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Kinross-shire 50 Plus Club

The next meeting is on **Thursday 7 December** when the theme is "Christmas". Our January meeting is on **4 January 2018** when the speaker is Mrs Elsa Sinclair on "Dogs for the Deaf".



Notices

The **annual holiday** is on **11 March 2018** to Llandudno. Names are now being taken. It is now open to non-members. Contact Jean Beveridge, 01577 862655. Final payment is due in January.

Pantomime: We are going to the pantomime at Perth Theatre on **Friday 15 December**. There are still some seats available. Bus leaves Green Hotel at 5.45pm.

Away Days

There are no Away Days in December

11 Jan Braehead, Glasgow.

5 Jan National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh.

The bus leaves the Green Hotel at 9.15am. Contact Pat Crawford, 01577 862962.

Friday Walkers

1 Dec Inverkeithing and St David's Bay from Deep Sea World.

15 Dec Along Devon Valley Trail from Alloa to Dollar.

12 Jan Culross and Preston Island. Going to Red Lion for lunch afterwards.

26 Jan Round Falkland Estate.

Walks leave from the Green Hotel. Contact Ian Simpson, 01577 863691.

Friday Hill Walkers

8 Dec Christmas walk and lunch, Railway Bistro, 9am.

5 Jan Falkland Derek 9am

19 Jan Stronachie Flora 9am

Contact Pauline Watson, telephone 01577 862865.

Activities

Activities are open to all members of the club.

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 Monday at 2pm in the Masonic Hall. Contact Val Oswald, 01577 864020.

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.

Carpet Bowls: Meet Monday at 2pm in Millbridge Hall. Contact Helen Duncan, 01577 863248.

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Lomond Antiques and Collectors Club



On Wednesday 8 November, our meeting was held at St Paul's Church Hall and we welcomed Dr Martin Hepworth to tell us about Scottish Bank Notes.

Martin was a most interesting speaker and very knowledgeable about the origins of all the different notes issued by the many banks. He gave us a brilliant insight into the beautiful, intricate portraits and patterns on bank notes; usually a portrait on the front and an historic building on the reverse.

At one time the Bank of England tried to pressure the Scottish banks to abandon pound notes but Scotland refused at the time, although sadly we have lost them now. There were special war-time issues due to the influence of MI5. Instead of the usual green, they were produced in purple and blue. There was fear that Germany was flooding the market with fakes and many Jewish engravers were released from concentration camps to work on them. Some of the notes Martin spoke about were later sold for many times their original face value.

In 1945 there were eight Scottish banks which later merged into the three we know now. Martin told us the background to the portrait of David Dale and spoke of his connection to Robert Owen and how 50 orphans were taken to New Lanark to live and work.

The Scottish missionary Mary Slessor has, of course, also been depicted on Scottish notes since 2009, well before Jane Austen's appearance on Bank of England notes this year.

On 17 July 2015 the Bank of Scotland issued a limited edition of £5 notes designed by 12 year-old Dundee school girl Kayla Robson to raise funds for Children in Need. It featured Pudsey Bear holding a Saltire flag. One of these notes later sold for £18,600. Maybe we should all check our purses and wallets more carefully!

Later in 2015 the notes were made from polymer instead of the more familiar paper type we knew.

Thanks to Elsa and Fiona for tea, coffee and delicious goodies. Our next get together is our festive lunch at The Grouse and Claret on **Sunday 10 December**.

Circle Dancing

Our weekly classes (Tuesday mornings in the Millbridge Hall from 10.30am to 12.30pm and Wednesday mornings in the Dance Studio in Junction Road Kinross from 10am to 11am) are both in full swing as we celebrate the changing seasons. Our dance programmes will include a Scottish flavour as we celebrate St. Andrew. There will also be more wintery Christmas dances as we draw nearer to the festive season. We will be dancing weekly until 19 and 20 December when we will break for Christmas. Classes will resume on Tuesday 9 and Wednesday 10 January 2018. May I take this opportunity to wish all readers a very happy Christmas. Please come and join us to find out more about this lovely way to exercise. For more details please contact Lynne on 07931398098.

Portmoak Hall 100 Club

October Draw

1st	No 95	Sheila Drysdale, Kinnesswood.
2nd	No 26	Isobel Baird, Righthead House, Ballingry.
3rd	No 10	Sandra Dall, Easter Balgedie.

Gaelic Society of Perth

gaelicsocietyofperth.com

Our December Cèilidh will be held at St. Matthew's Church Hall, Tay St., Perth on **Friday 8 December at 7.30pm.**

This cèilidh promises to be an extremely entertaining one as it will feature Allan MacDonald, who is a leading light in the Gaelic music scene. Allan is in demand internationally as a composer, musical director, piper, singer and lecturer in Gaelic music and he will sing and play the small pipes at the cèilidh.

The event will also feature the highly talented members of the Stirling Gaelic Choir who performed very well at the Mòd this year. They will perform a variety of musical arrangements.

Performers from the October cèilidh. Left to right: the singers Janet and Mairead MacSween, Alistair MacNeil the speaker, Joyce Ramsay the accordionist, Jack Liddle the piper and Mrs MacNeil

Admission is £5 for members and £6 for non-members. The price is for an evening's entertainment plus refreshments!

Further information can be obtained from the Secretary on 01577 864589, on our website or like us on Facebook.



Kinross and District Town Twinning Association

The AGM was held in St Paul's Church Hall and the following office bearers were elected to serve the upcoming year: President, Dale Coldwell; Vice President, Lynda Mitchell; Secretary, David Munro; Treasurers, Alfred Fyfe and Helen Coldwell.



The incoming president thanked outgoing president Jeannie Paterson for her many years of loyal service to twinning. Thanks were also expressed to Linda Freeman for her work in preparing the annual accounts for the AGM.

Next year's official twinning visit to Gacé will take place from 30 July to 7 August. These dates have been accepted by the Gacé Twinning Association. The Gacéans have

asked where we would like to visit this coming summer and local members are invited to put forward proposals for the Gacé committee to arrange. Travel arrangements will be firmed up over the coming months once numbers have been confirmed for the summer 2018 visit. Former links, as well as new members, are welcome to join the party for next summer's visit. We especially welcome Kinross High School pupils and former pupils who wish to resume contact with their school exchange contacts.

For further details please contact secretary David Munro on 01577 862126. Social events will resume after the festive season.



Caen Memorial Museum

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Kinross & District Rotary Club

www.ribi.org

Recent fund raising and community events

Tullibole Castle

A technicolor trail event took place on three evenings in October in the grounds of Tullibole Castle. Over 200 car loads of people attended the event, organised by castle owner Roderick Moncrieff. The visitors enjoyed a bigger and better event this year. They were able to explore the extended trail through the woods, marvel at the tree of live vultures, quake at the dragon's lair and get lost in the maze. Rotarian Barry Davies masterminded the event from the Rotary perspective, organising a small army of 68 Rotarians, associates, members of Inner Wheel and families who were on hand to steward the trail and car park, toast marshmallows and provide other food and drink. Although the full figures have yet to be calculated, over £670 was raised for charity from food and marshmallows alone.

Rotary Young Chef Competition

This took place at Kinross High School when ten young people took part by producing two courses of their own choice in a two-hour period. The Judges were Anthony Clifford from The Kirklands Hotel, Ron Kitchin and Jo Middlemiss.

After a difficult judging session and a very close result, the winners were announced. **Rory Maddocks** took first prize, **Freya Conway** second and **Caroline Newton** was placed third. The judges praised the work, application and attitude of all contestants saying that the food was produced to a high standard and that some of the meals could be served in a restaurant. Special thanks goes to Catriona Cairney of KHS for her enthusiasm and help in organising the event.



Rory Maddocks receiving his prize

Shoebbox scheme

We have once again organised a collection of shoe boxes containing gifts to go to Eastern Europe. This year we have collected about 290 boxes. The boxes are sorted into various categories and are delivered all year round, not just at Christmas. Collections are organised nationally and Rotarian Alistair Smith is in charge of our local effort. For more information about this scheme visit www.rotaryshoebbox.org.



Recent speakers

Dr. Kristen Knowles is an evolutionary psychologist and lecturer at Queen Margaret University. She has wide experience studying voices, faces, politics, personality and health. She recently spoke to us on her research subject of 'Voting for masculine leaders: economic outlook and leadership preferences during the 2014 Scottish independence referendum'. In this fascinating talk, Dr Knowles demonstrated that the maleness or femaleness of the facial features of political leaders influences how voters behave, depending on the economic or political outlook at the time. We will, she explained, be more inclined to vote for leaders with a male face in time of war and more for a more feminine leader during peacetime.

Rotarian Andy Middlemiss organised a 'question time' style event in October. This year's RYLA candidates **Caitlin Welsh** and **Struan Smith** answered questions about their experience at the RYLA camp at Nethy Bridge earlier this year. Both are Sixth Year pupils at KHS. Struan and Caitlin both admitted being nervous at their initial interviews but told us they had enjoyed a great number of physical activities and developed leadership skills. They both said it had been a truly unforgettable experience which had helped them develop both confidence and abilities and they expressed massive thanks to the club for sponsoring them.



RYLA candidates Struan Smith and Caitlin Welsh receiving certificates from club president George Lawrie

The club was fortunate to hear from one of the leading legal minds in Scotland. **Iain Mitchell QC** spoke to us about the challenges of information privacy in a world where we leave digital footprints everywhere we go, and where our information is subject to different laws according to the country that it is held in, or used in. This requires deep knowledge in multiple areas such as IT law, civil litigation, commercial litigation, common law and criminal law including an international dimension. Iain is a leading light on the subject and he made the talk engrossing and engaging for the whole audience!

In November **Eilidh Gibson** from Kinnesswood was presented with a cheque for £250 by Malcolm Wood, former president of the club. Eilidh is a women's C1 slalom canoeist and 2017 was her fourth year on the senior British team. Eilidh is also studying Neuroscience at the University of Edinburgh. In a short but inspiring presentation, Eilidh told the club about her aspirations to be the sole British representative in her event at the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo. She also spoke about

her mental and physical preparation for the event as well as how she enjoys being a role model encouraging other girls and young women and raising the profile of female sport in Scotland.



Eilidh Gibson receiving a cheque from former president Malcolm Wood

Jackie Sutherland spoke to us about 'Gallantry under enemy occupation'. She delivered an engrossing talk about the career of her mother which led her to be in the Far East during the Second World War. When the Japanese army occupied Singapore, she was interred there and, in this overcrowded prison for women and children, she started a girl-guide movement to occupy the minds and spirits of the children. With no facilities, and under suspicious eyes, she successfully

kept this going until the final day when freedom came. In the process, they started a method of communicating with others outside by creating patchwork quilts which can be seen in various museums to this day. It was a moving tale of courage and ingenuity in the most difficult of conditions, for which she was recognised with the gallantry award.

Upcoming Speakers

Forthcoming speakers include Andrew Scott and Bill MacFarlane. On **Monday 11 December** we will hear from Robert Walker on the subject of 'Our Men's Shed'.

Upcoming events

Santa's Sleigh 2017

From 25 November to 17 December, Santa will be flying through the streets of Kinross-shire with the help of Rotary Club and Round Table. He'll be at the Light Up Kinross event on Saturday 25 November and in Crossgates on Sunday 26 November. For visits in December throughout Kinross-shire, see notice below.

For more information, contact Barry Davies by email on barrydavies57@btinternet.com or by phone on 01577 865004.

Join us

The Rotary Club of Kinross and District meets most Mondays in the Kirklands Hotel, Kinross at 6.30pm. On the third week of the month, the Monday meeting is replaced by a Tuesday breakfast meeting at 7.30am, also at the Kirklands. Come along and find out what's happening in the club and meet some of our members.

Contact and information

Contact Brian Timms, club secretary, at secretary.kdrc@gmail.com to find out more. Alternatively, visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/kinrossrotaryclub/.

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- Christmas treats and sweets

- Shortbread
- Mince Pies
- Tinned Ham
- Tinned Salmon
- Savoury snacks
- Orange/apple juice
- Tinned puddings

You can either drop off at the usual places,
or come along to our annual food drive at
Kinross Community Campus
14th December
From 6pm

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Scottish registered charity: SC046033

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Santa's Sleigh in Kinross-shire

See Santa and his helpers in your area!

December		
Tue 5th	Kinnesswood, Portmoak	from 6.00pm
Wed 6th	Milnathort	from 6.00pm
Fri 8th	Kinross South	from 6.00pm
Tue 12th	Crook of Devon and Balado	from 6.00pm
Thu 14th	Glenfarg & Cuthill Towers	from 6.00pm
Sun 17th	Kinross North (Station Road etc)	from 4.00pm
Sun 17th	Kinross North (Springfield, Lathro)	from 6.30pm

In the event of adverse weather or other unforeseen issues, it may be necessary to change or cancel some visits.

Boys Brigade

With the new session well under way, the Kinross Company has had a busy time in public of late. There was the annual enrolment service held in Kinross Parish Church and the Remembrance Sunday parade. All sections enjoyed a Hallowe'en party with fancy dress, fun games and food.

Juniors enjoyed a fun science evening which was also supported by parents. Junior section members have also taken part in battalion competitions at Bell's Sports Centre. Company section members took part in the battalion dodgeball competition at Letham St Marks Church Hall. The next battalion competition for both juniors and company members will be the annual swimming gala at Perth Leisure Pool.

The Company is grateful to our local Co-operative members for supporting their local charity bid. Over £800 has been raised to purchase tablets which will be used in training and



development for the youngsters as part of their class/award programme.

The Company's annual **Christmas Coffee Morning** will take place at the Church Centre on **Saturday 2 December** from 10am to 12 noon. Tickets are priced at £2 and are available from members or pay at the door. There will be the usual stalls, lucky dip, home baking, gifts and so on.

All members are looking forward to attending Perth Theatre's Aladdin pantomime on Friday 15 December as their final meeting night of 2017.



The BB Colour party at the Annual Enrolment Service (above) and the Colour Party at the Remembrance Sunday parade (left)

Kinross Parish Church

Kin-nections, the magazine of Kinross Parish Church, is now available for December to February. As well as details of all that will be going on in the next three months, the magazine contains various reflections and prayers that folk might find particularly useful over the Christmas period. It is free and available at the church and church office, the Kinross Church Centre (Day Centre) and the Library. The cover design of the new edition is based on a photo of one of the church's Christmas banners.



Christmas Wrap: A fun evening with a serious purpose will be on offer at Kinross Parish Church when it holds its annual 'Christmas Wrap' on **Wednesday 13 December** at 7.30pm. The church's House Groups organise the night to wrap gifts given by the congregation for Perth's 'Churches Action for the Homeless' (CATH) and to CrossReach for Perth Prison Visitors' Centre.

One of the organisers said, "We are all only too conscious that there are many in the land who dread Christmas. For the last eight years we have sought to bring a little cheer to homeless people and to those who have a family member in prison. Our wrap evening is always great fun. We enjoy carols and fellowship, hear about the work of the groups, and always conclude with festive food."

The cover of Kin-nections magazine



Kinnesswood in Bloom

Work parties have been out on most Saturdays in November. We gave the school a good tidy up, admiring the lovely slug free lettuces still growing in a raised bed. We hope the children enjoyed the tasting session.



Work party in Portmoak School grounds in November

Many of our members attended the Remembrance Day service at the War Memorial. There was an excellent turnout this year on a cold but dry day. Many thanks are given to Morag for making the wreath.

We had our AGM on Tuesday 14 November at the Well Inn and the present office bearers were once again elected. Jan congratulated everyone on the achievements of 2017 which has been a very successful year. Janette informed us that our finances were in a healthy state.

There are plans for art work next year involving young people and to commemorate the Year of Children and Young People. Watch this space for some innovative ideas. Meanwhile look out for the book about Michael Bruce being sold by the pupils at Portmoak Primary School. [See page 76.]

A night out is planned for January. This has become an established part of our year and one that brings together many of the volunteers who contribute to keeping Kinnesswood looking good.

Recycling in the bus shelter continues to be a success and Janette regularly collects stamps, batteries, spectacles and ink cartridges. Various charities benefit from this.

John and Rory are to investigate the trees in the Moss and find a suitable tree for the centre of the village. From the sound of it they had quite an adventure last year! The tree will be decorated on **Saturday 16 December** so come along to the switch on and enjoy some mulled wine and a mince pie.

Our next meeting will be on **Thursday 1 February 2018** at the Well Country Inn.

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.

Recipe



supplied by Kinnesswood in Bloom

Tomato and Carrot Soup

This soup has an unusual ingredient but tastes delicious!

Ingredients

- 15g butter
- 45ml vegetable oil
- 2 onions, chopped finely
- 1 fat garlic clove, chopped finely
- 350g carrots, chopped
- 675g ripe juicy tomatoes, skinned and chopped
- 2 apples (Granny Smith or similar) peeled, cored and chopped small
- 1.7 litres vegetable or chicken stock
- 1 tsp dried thyme and marjoram (or fresh equivalent)
- 1 bay leaf
- Salt and pepper
- Chopped fresh parsley to garnish

Method

Using a large pan, melt the butter, add the oil, slowly fry the onion, garlic and butter until soft. Add the carrots and cook for a further five minutes. Now add the tomatoes, apples stock and herbs.

Bring to the boil, reduce the heat and leave to simmer for about 30 minutes. Stir often and leave the lid on but tilted to one side. Leave to cool slightly then reduce to a puree. Season then serve with a sprinkling of parsley.

Kinross Museum

Loch Leven Community Campus

www.kinrossmuseum.org.uk

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



On 15 November, Kinross (Marshall) Museum hosted the launch of a new book – *The Place-Names of Kinross-shire*. Compiled by place-name expert Dr Simon Taylor of the Department of Celtic Studies at Glasgow University, with assistance from colleagues Peter McNiven and Eila Williamson, this 733-page volume contains several well-written chapters on the history of Kinross-shire. Copies can be obtained at a cost of £35 either direct from the publisher, Shaun Tyas, or by contacting the Museum.



David Munro (right), Chairman of Kinross (Marshall) Museum Trust with Simon Taylor and Eila Williamson, showing off copies of *The Place-Names of Kinross-shire*

Kinross Camera Club

kinrosscameraclub.org.uk

We had the first of our club competitions last month with '4-on-a-Board' and the Digital Knockout. Congratulations to the winners Karen Davies and Stewart Niven who both submitted some great photos.

We also had an Adobe training evening where Scott Russell talked about the latest versions of Photoshop and Lightroom. These are complex tools but great fun once you get the hang of them. They are indispensable for many forms of modern photography.

Next month the competition season gets into full swing but we also have several good speakers to look forward to, including David Lintern, who is a well-known adventure photographer, and Martin Weir, who will be telling us about the challenges of being a professional photographer.

New members are welcome at any time of the year to 'test the water' and meet the club. The first three evenings are free and, if you decide you like what you see, then you simply join the club. We are a friendly bunch with a wide range of abilities who share a common interest in all genres of photography.

Our meetings are held in the Church Centre, Kinross, every Thursday at 7.30pm and all are welcome. Whether you are a complete beginner or seasoned pro, the club has something to offer all standards of photographer. For more information, please contact Alison Rutherford at alison.rutherford1@live.com or visit the club website.



'Meeting Impossible'; a great example of the creative possibilities provided by Photoshop

Kinross and District Art Club

www.kadac.co.uk

At the final demonstration of the year, members were fascinated as they watched the most magnificent Alaskan landscape painting being skilfully created by Fife artist Colin Joyce. Colin is widely travelled, giving lectures and demonstrations to groups of artists and is an accredited tutor for the Society of All Artists. He has an engaging, interactive style, raising teaching points as his painting emerges. His mastery of watercolour was particularly appreciated by our club audience but he is equally at home painting in oils.



As we look back on 2017, our 50th Anniversary year, we have much to celebrate. The club goes from strength to strength, with new members joining us throughout the year and a healthy attendance at our Tuesday and Friday sessions at the Millbridge Hall. Our professional adviser, local artist Tom Sutton Smith, is always on hand to give advice and has arranged some excellent demonstrations from visiting artists during the year. We also enjoyed a highly successful exhibition in September, with the highest attendance ever recorded.

None of this happens by chance, however, and we are grateful to the committee and all the helpers amongst our members for the work they do to make the club a success. We are particularly pleased to announce that we have a new President, Gillian Ross, who took on the role immediately following the exhibition and was confirmed in post by election of the members at the AGM in November. Gillian has stepped into the job with enthusiasm and a dynamic approach to involving everyone in the life of the club. We look forward with confidence to continuing to play our part in the community, promoting artistic talent and an appreciation of the visual arts.



Club President Gillian Ross thanks visiting Artist Colin Joyce for his demonstration

Our annual Christmas lunch is at The Kirklands on **Tuesday 5 December** after which the club will be in recess until the new session on **Friday 5 January** and **Tuesday 9 January 2018**.

Common Grounds

www.spanglefish.com/
commongroundscharitycafe

Sometimes the best events happen almost spontaneously. A chance, enthusiastic remark saw us celebrating the Halloween session in a fitting manner. There were suitably spooky decorations, beautifully crafted homebakes worthy of the bake-off and friendly witches to see all needs attended to. The £110.25 raised was a clear indication of its success.

A date for the diary is **Wednesday 24 January** when we hope to repeat the enjoyment with 'A Taste of Burns' morning. Come and join us for traditional Scottish treats and entertainment. Drop in any time between 10am and 12.30pm for a get-together the Bard himself would relish.

The AGM took place the following week and many, many thanks to all who have contributed to making the year so productive and enjoyable. This coming year we shall be donating £1000 to each of the ten charities chosen throughout this period; quite an achievement for a small but friendly pop-up coffee shop! Office Bearers are Elspeth Caldwell (Convener), Frances Miller (Vice-Convener), Linda Freeman (Secretary), John Colebourn (Treasurer), Ann Eve and Helen Pearson (Project Co-ordinators), Gillian Thomson and James Henry (Volunteer Representatives). Finally,

but importantly, from all at Common Grounds, a very merry Christmas and a happy 2018...with a wee suggestion that you make a firm resolution to come and see what we have to offer!

Project: Our next project is 'Tools for Self-Reliance' whose workshops are part of the Global Concerns trust. This is a Scottish-based charity focusing on providing tools and sewing machines to disabled people in Malawi. The Ecology Centre at Kinghorn Loch runs Tool Shed workshops which provide an outlet for people who are experiencing social isolation, mental health issues or just have the ability to work on a worthy project in a tool-based workshop. This last year they have sent eleven carpentry and cane furniture making

kits to Malawi along with seventeen Singer sewing machines. They are currently working on a further four cane kits and five Singer machines, complete with treadle attachments, to be shipped in January. More information is available on our website.

Our opening hours are 10am to 12.30pm on 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.



Halloween at Common Grounds

Fairtrade Balls

Kinross has many sports teams, and Kinross-shire Fairtrade Group would like to encourage the football teams, rugby club, and any futsal teams to consider buying some Fairtrade balls. Bala Sport is growing its reputation among schools and clubs for high quality, ethical footballs. This reputation is based on quality of product and the distinctive look, designed in the UK. All their balls carry the Fairtrade mark.



As well as footballs for all ages, Bala also have Fairtrade certified rugby balls and futsal balls, with netballs and volley balls in development. They also produce the balls used in the Homeless World Cup.

Bala Fairtrade footballs are made and tested to the same standards that FIFA use. The really good thing is that, when workers are paid to make a Fairtrade Bala ball, they benefit from the extra 10% Fairtrade premium and they decide democratically on what social development schemes to spend it on, so it's win win for all!

If any club would consider buying some balls to try them out, please look at the website www.balasport.co.uk and contact Bala Sport to ask about deals. If you buy any, please let us know as we would like to advertise it on Facebook and twitter. Contact kjarvie@btinternet.com.

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Kinross & District Men's Shed

As the nights draw in and there is the familiar sound of geese overhead, winter is almost here. The Men's Shed is now cosy and warm inside with the new interior tented social area set up.

Our membership keeps growing each day we open, with over 30 Shedders regularly joining in activities. The Shed is now open for four hours on Saturdays from 10am to 2pm. We also now have a very popular meeting on Wednesdays from 11am to 3pm, after lunch depending on attendance. The Shed will be open throughout the festive period and we look forward to welcoming members and visitors during this time.

This last month has been a hive of activity in the Shed; one project on the go is the restoration of an old threadbare and sad looking rocking horse in need of a little 'tlc'.

We are almost finished setting up the IT suite and soon Shedders will be taking up the opportunity to learn computing, CAD drawing, photo editing and 3D printing. This will be added to with the photography area being set up; we have studio equipment donated by a member to support this activity. We hope to help Shedders to get the best pictures from their cameras or phones.

The latest addition causing excitement is the model railway. Donations of various items came thick and fast, so now we can set up our own track layout, don the caps and blow the whistles, choo-choo!

On 23 November we have a guest speaker from Kinross home brew society. We will be discussing the techniques, equipment and choices of home brewing beer, wine and cider.

The Men's Shed is a very relaxed environment and we can already see a huge change in members' health and wellbeing due to the way Men's Sheds work and provide support. Why not come and find out a bit more about what we're up to at the big purple pop-up Shed at the Kinross Winter Festival festive street market?



The Men's Shed model railway!

Kinross & District Pipe Band


Congratulations to Kinross & District Pipe Band drummers, winning at the worlds the Champions of Champions drum chore for grade 4A 2017.



Kinross & District Pipe Band drummers



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OR
LEADING TIP MARK REILLY AT DRUMS@KINROSS-PIPE-BAND.CO.UK

WWW.KINROSS-PIPE-BAND.CO.UK

Kinross & Ochil Walking Group

(Affiliated to Ramblers Scotland)

Winter can be a wonderful season for walking. Beat the winter blues by exploring new places, improving your mental and physical fitness and meeting people. Whether you've never walked much, are returning to walking, or are a regular walker, come out with us to see if you'd like to join our relaxed and friendly group. You will be made very welcome. We operate car-sharing but it is not essential to have a car.

Weekend Walks

Sunday 10 December: Sauchie to Sterling Mills circular, 5 miles. A walk along the Devon Way, taking in March Glen and Sauchie Tower, followed by pre-booked Christmas lunch.

Saturday 6 January: Kinross countryside, 6 miles. From Kinross, past Burleigh Castle, through community woodlands to Burleigh Sands and onto the Heritage Trail, through the woods and back to start. The walk will be followed by pre-booked lunch.

Sunday 21 January: Dunkeld, Bishop's, Fiddler's and Inver paths, 6½ miles. A gentle walk past the cathedral and along Bishop's path with its spectacular trees. Fiddler's path takes us along the banks of the Tay, joining up with the Inver path. Back to Dunkeld via the Beatrix Potter Garden.

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 to 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.

5 December: Auchtermuchty, Dunshalt and Strathmiglo. A pleasant, level walk on good paths with open views.

16 January: Burleigh Castle and Milnathort. A walk from the High School along the Heritage Trail and past Burleigh Castle, then into Milnathort via the Linden Park area and through the woodland at Pace Hill.

30 January: Blairhill, Rumbling Bridge and Crook of Devon. We've had to cancel this walk twice because of very heavy rain, so here's hoping it's third time lucky! Leaving half the cars at the Crook, we walk around the Blairhill area near Rumbling Bridge, then through the gorge, past the new weir (part of the community hydro scheme) and along the River Devon back to the Crook.

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

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



Kinross-shire Civic Trust held a very successful and enjoyable Annual Dinner at the Grouse and Claret on 25 October. The dinner was attended by some 40 members and guests and was enjoyed immensely.

The Trust's guest and speaker was John Pelan, the Director of the Scottish Civic Trust. The Scottish Civic Trust (SCT) is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year and KCT was delighted to welcome him to our dinner. After dinner, John began his talk by giving a brief history of the SCT and its specific aims for itself and the 120 other affiliated organisations, of which KCT is one. This was very encouraging for us and all the work and commitments we have.

He followed this by giving a fascinating history of the old Tobacco's Merchants House, which is the SCT headquarters in Glasgow. The building dates back to the time when tobacco was one of the major imports to Glasgow and a very important part of Glasgow's wealth in the 19th and early 20th century. Now the building is the last one of its design left in the street as major demolition and reconstruction has taken place all around it. As such, it is an important relic of days gone by and its restoration has enabled this architecture to be maintained.

SCT is holding its Annual Conference in Glasgow this at the end of November. To celebrate their 50th anniversary, the theme for the one-day conference is 'Conservation Areas', which by all accounts should be very inspirational as well as informative for the future of Conservation Areas. We will report back on this in our next contribution to the Newsletter.

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Kinross & District Inner Wheel

www.innerwheel.co.uk

Members extended a warm welcome to Susan Oliphant, Chair of District one of Inner Wheel, as the guest speaker at our monthly meeting held at the Boathouse in November. Susan shared details of her life and experience in Inner Wheel and also about activities in District. It was a very interesting and informative talk for all members, providing much food for thought.



Members had a very busy time over the last weekend of October providing the catering support for Rotary at the BeWitched event at Tullibole.

Our next meeting will be held on **Monday 11 December** at the Boathouse with reception at 6.45pm. Our speaker will be Phil Dean, a local Rotarian, who will give a talk entitled 'Birds in Winter'. The Rotary Club are also providing the speaker for our meeting on **Monday 8 January**. Lt Col. Andy Middlemiss (Rtd) will enlighten us about the varied activities of SAAFA.



Members with District Chair Susan Oliphant

Milnathort in Bloom

Well the nights are drawing in and it's time to look back over the year and start planning for next year.

A highlight of this year has definitely been the revamping of the Cross area. With a generous donation from Scottish Water we were able to install the large plant boxes, buy some more troughs, a bench and, of course, all the plants. We're sure you'll agree that this is a great improvement and has really brightened up the centre of the village. We've received some lovely comments when we've been out and about during the summer, so we think it's gone down well.

Another highlight of the year was undoubtedly winning Silver-Gilt and Most Improved Community at the Take a Pride in Perth and Kinross Awards. We're aiming for Gold next year and, with the community's help, we're in with a good chance. We have lots of ideas about how you can get involved, even in small ways, so watch this space (and our Facebook page) early next year.

All the tubs and baskets from the village have now been emptied and the tubs have been replanted with spring bulbs and plants. We'll be replacing the last of the wooden tubs with new plastic ones next year and we're busy behind the scenes planning all the things we want to do and deciding our colour schemes.

You'll be pleased to know that there will be a 'Carols at the Cross' event again this year. Last year (the first year) was extremely well attended and a great time was had by all. This is being organised along with Milnathort Town Hall Committee and Orwell Church. So, grab your torch, your best singing voice and come along to the Cross in Milnathort at 7pm on **Friday 22 December**. There will be refreshments in the hall afterwards. There will be posters with more information around the village closer to the time.

If we don't see you beforehand, we'd like to wish all supporters and everyone in the local community a very merry Christmas and a fantastic New Year.



Kinross-shire Day Centre

What a busy month we've had! We have taken delivery of our brand new minibus and it's absolutely wonderful. We cannot thank the Arthur and Margaret Thompson Trust enough for their amazingly generous provision of the new bus, which is absolutely essential for the Day Centre. Without our minibuses, most of our service-users would not be able to access our service. They are literally a lifeline! They have a tough life but our old bus served us well for eight years.

We have had the final barge trip of this summer. The autumn colours were beautiful, especially where they were reflected in the still water of the canal ahead of the boat. The Seagull Trust crew happily shared their knowledge of the area as well as looking after our every need: a beautiful day out. For some, it involved our first trip over the impressive Queensferry Crossing, although another group had taken a trip over the week before.

We also took a group of 28 to Pitlochry Theatre to see 'Monarch of the Glen'. The show and our lunch at the theatre were both most enjoyable, as was the drive up through our lovely countryside.

Indoors, we have had the traditional light-hearted fun of our Hallowe'en party, led by the staff who don't mind making fools of themselves! On another occasion, Laura (the artistic one) held a workshop to make bird-feeders which the participants were able to take home and hang outside their homes.

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.

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Fruit and veg on menu at Kinross-shire Partnership's Big Business Breakfast

How do you brighten up a dreich November morning in Kinross-shire and kick-start your working day at the same time? Simple: by heading hotfoot (or even 'hotwheel') to Loch Leven's Larder for the Kinross-shire Partnership's big business breakfast!

On Wednesday 1 November Kinross-shire's answer to 'Ant and Dec' (aka Archie Hipwell and Richard Scott) welcomed attendees to the busy networking breakfast. As ever, a full range of local businesses were represented – from carpet cleaning to denture fitting, pest control to legal advice and self-storage units to luxury destinations. One newcomer had just launched the first sleeper-minibus service in the country. It's always fascinating to hear what other businesses are doing, so as is customary at these monthly networking events, each breakfaster had the opportunity to introduce their business and its products or services. Next it was the turn of the post-prandial speaker, Ballingry businessman Malcolm Wood – a director of his family's fruit and vegetable business, Ivan Wood and Sons, as well as an innovator and inventor.

Malcolm described how the business has grown dramatically since 1970, when his parents were farming 200 pigs and 60 cows, and were growing potatoes, leeks and turnips to make ends meet. It was in 1987 that they identified a niche market in the catering industry. Few companies were keen on supplying vegetables in 'splits' (small quantities of different fruit and veg) to hotels, so the Woods decided to focus on this. From these humble beginnings, the business has flourished: today they have 227 customers and seven vans on the road. They have recently received planning permission for a new 600m² warehouse unit, which will house a pioneering fruit and veg 'hypermarket', featuring a salad island, a wild centre, and an education centre where schoolchildren and aspiring chefs can learn about fruit and vegetables. The 'grind' from a planned adjacent coffee shop will be recycled, with sphagnum added to it so oyster mushrooms can be grown. The environment is extremely important to Ivan Wood and Sons, and they are proud to be Scotland's green fruit merchant. They have a borehole on the farm (providing spring water), plus 172 solar panels. All packaging is recycled and their vans all run on biodiesel. Malcolm also mentioned the company's recent investment in LED lighting, which resulted in significant savings.

But that's not all: four years ago, Malcolm and his family had 'cardboard' chips for supper one evening, so he decided to make his own hand-made chips. They tasted great, so he introduced a new line to the business and the rest is history. Today *Woody's Chips* enjoy significant commercial success; their outstanding taste comes from the fact that they're triple washed, organically sanitised, spin-dried and sealed. Only one thing still bothered Malcolm – and that was how to deal with the starchy waste from the peeling process, which he knew was also a problem for chip shops. Then one night he had a potato epiphany, realising that jet spraying the foam from the starch might disperse it. It did, and now his IP-protected "Peeltech" system is set to be rolled out all over the UK, Europe and even in Australia.

It was impossible not to be swept away by Malcolm's unbridled enthusiasm for his business and its continuing success story, and we look forward to other such presentations at future Kinross-shire Networking Breakfasts. The next one takes place on **Wednesday 6 December** at Loch Leven's Larder, 7.15am to 9am. You can find details of the next event on page 103 or email Karen Grunwell on mail@kinrosspartnership.org.uk to book your place at the **new reduced price of £10**.

Portmoak Film Society

www.portmoakfilmsociety.org.uk

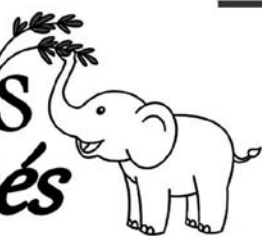
Our pre-Christmas film treat on **Saturday 9 December** is '*Winged Migration*', a documentary about migratory birds filmed over four years and released in 2001. Cameras track the birds as they make their amazing thousand-mile journeys from northern latitudes to equatorial countries for winter, returning to cooler climes again the following year. The photography is stunning and the accompanying soundtrack, which mainly replaces any commentary, combine to produce a wonderfully stress-free experience for this most stressful of festive seasons. Bird enthusiasts, especially RSPB members, very welcome!

We start the New Year on **Saturday 13 January** with something completely different. Be prepared for high-octane entertainment from Scottish director David Mackenzie in his 2016 film, '*Hell or High Water*'. The film has been described as a 'sharp Western for the post-Occupy generation'. Jeff Bridges stars as the gritty Texan cop trying to nail two brothers who carry out provincial bank heists to save their mother's ranch from foreclosure. We think you'll like it!

Films are shown at Portmoak Community Hall near Scotlandwell and start promptly at 7.30pm. Entry costs £5 on the night, or you can buy a season's membership. Tickets are available on the door or from Stuart Mackenzie at the Pottery in Kinnesswood (phone 01592 840638). Afterwards we hope you'll stay for hot drinks and film-themed refreshments, thanks to Lochend Farm Shop.

For further info on films and dates, visit our website.

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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.

Portmoak Primary School

www.portmoak.com

Michael Bruce Project

To commemorate the 250th anniversary of the death of Kinnesswood's poet Michael Bruce, the pupils have taken part in a range of activities along with members of the local community. Earlier in the year, pupils learned about the life of Michael Bruce, explored his poetry and wrote their own nature-inspired poems, created artwork for the annual Portmoak Festival Art Exhibition and walked part of the Michael Bruce Way.

In August, the P6/7 class formed a company called PPS Publishing and were tasked with creating a book all about Michael Bruce. Children from P4 to P7 worked together to research and write about Michael Bruce's life, his legacy, the local area and life in the 1700s. Every class in the school have contributed special pieces of art to illustrate the book, so it really is a whole school effort. Our P6/7 publishing team have pulled together the different elements, edited and structured the book. The children decided to employ graphic designer David McKenzie, a former Portmoak pupil himself, to design the book. Contributions from Culture Perth and Kinross's Gannochy Trust Living Communities Participation Fund and the National Lottery Celebration Fund have enabled pupils to produce a high quality book which will be available for purchase at the price of £5 in mid-December.

See page 21 for an image of the book cover.

Fundraising

We are currently fundraising for Promethean Panels to replace the smartboards in every class. Replacing this outdated technology will have a hugely positive impact on the learning experience for our children. Local grants from the McKelvie Trust, Portmoak Festival and Kinross Newsletter, as well as our in school efforts are helping us to get closer to our goal of replacing the boards in all five classes this session.

Many thanks also to everyone who collected bags of clothing and textiles for our latest Bags 2 School collection. We also thank Buchan's Garage for their continued support in this. Our next collection will be after the Easter break.

Thanks also to those who attended Ladies' Night at Portmoak Hall on 3 November. This is a key element of our annual fundraising efforts. This year we raised a super total of £1500.80.

Thanks for the donations of raffle prizes from stall holders, and to the local businesses and people who acted as stall sponsors and donated prizes. A big thanks goes to the committee for all their hard work. This event takes a huge amount of organising and is the result of hours of work. Thanks to all helpers on the night for their role in setting up, helping on the night and tidying up! Well done, everyone.

HMI Inspection

Many of you will be aware that our school had an HMI inspection in September. The last HMI inspection was in 2007 so we were very excited to have the opportunity to share the work of the school with inspectors who have a national overview of Scottish Education.

The two-page letter of the findings is due to be published on 28 November and the fuller Summary of Findings document is due to be released on 1 December. I will say for now that the staff and I are delighted that our school has been recognised as being as special as we all know it is. Partnerships with the community are a real strength of the school and we appreciate this very much. We also appreciate the consistent support from our parents which makes such a difference to our children's experiences. If you would like to read the report once it is made available to the public, you can access this on the HMI website. After the release date I will also make this information available on our school website.

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

Louise Gordon, Headteacher

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The Kinross Community Council Newsletter is available from:

The Co-operative	High Street, Kinross	Shop	Main Street, Kinnesswood
Baillies	High Street, Kinross	Fossoway Store	Crook of Devon
Sainsbury's	Station Road, Kinross	Fossoway Garage	Crook of Devon
Costcutter	Green Road, Kinross	Mona's Coffee Shop	Muckhart
Giacopazzi's	Lathro, Kinross	Powmill Stores	Powmill
Giacopazzi's	New Road, Milnathort	Moto Shop	Turfhills
Stewart & Smart	Stirling Road, Milnathort	RSPB Shop	RSPB Loch Leven
Heaven Scent	South Street, Milnathort	Loch Leven's Larder	Near Wester Balgedie
Buchan's Garage	Main Street, Kinnesswood	Glenfarg Village Shop	Glenfarg

Portmoak Community Woodland

Our members have turned their hands to many different jobs over the years but last month saw a first in the form of road mending.

The main entrance track to Portmoak Moss had become badly pot-holed so, even though it doesn't belong to the Woodland Trust, who own the Moss, members of the group were happy to help out with some running repairs.

Under the capable gaffering of John Whiteford, assisted by Bob, a volunteer from Scotlandwell, the road crew learned how to drill out and fill in the many potholes with help from a whacker plate and a digger. The raw materials were paid for with a £200 donation from the Portmoak Festival, for which many thanks.



Graham Smith (left) and Jeff Gunnell, members of the 'road crew'

On that note, thanks are also due to Turffit for a donation of bark to improve access at the muddy entrance to the community orchard in the field abin the Kirk.

We're now gearing up for two major events in our winter calendar. There's the festival gathering when people come to choose Christmas trees in Portmoak Moss and then the Burns Supper at Portmoak Village Hall in the New Year.

Anyone is welcome to come and select a **Christmas tree** on **Sunday 17 December** from 11am to 2pm in the Moss, beside Scotlandwell, and help us with the continuing mission to clear conifers off the rare peat bog. We'll cut down the tree of your choice and all you have to do is take it away and make a donation, please, to PCWG funds. There will also be festive drinks and baking.

Plans for our **Burns Supper** are well in hand. It's on **Saturday 27 January** at 7 for 7.30pm in Portmoak Village Hall. We have a prestigious speaker to propose the Immortal Memory. He is Professor Robert Crawford of St Andrews University, a poet and Burns scholar.

We have a new caterer; Karen Bayne of Extraordinary Eating, based in Milnathort. We've warned her that, however beautifully she presents the haggis for the 'Address', it will be eviscerated by Dr Bill Carr, with a range of weapons, while those sitting closest to him take cover.

Lynne Hope, pianist, will accompany the community singing of favourites like Coming Through the Rye and a Man's a Man of a' That. There will be lots of other music and poetry during the evening as well.

People are already reserving tickets but there are plenty left. They remain pegged at £25, which includes your three-course supper, coffee/tea and a dram. They are available from Kinnesswood Shop, Lochend Farm Shop and Stuart Garvie on 01592 840825 or by email at f.sgarvie@talk21.com.

As ever, our regular open meetings are on the third Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Well Inn, Scotlandwell.

Kinross Garden Group

After a very entertaining talk indeed from Brian Cunningham of Scone Palace and Beechgrove gardens in which he described the current Scone garden in the context of gardens of the past, our next meeting is on **Thursday 14 December** in the Millbridge Hall, Kinross at 2pm. **Richard Cormack**, from The St Andrews Photographic Society, will give a talk entitled 'In pursuit of plants across the world'.

Please note that there is no meeting in January as the Kinross Garden Group will meet on Thursday 11 January at 12.30 for 1pm Festive Lunch at the Orwell Bowling Club in Milnathort. (Your £20 for the lunch will be required at this meeting.) There is a further chance to sign up for this at the December meeting but you can also contact Mrs C Rodger 01577 863785 for more details.

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



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- 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



Loch Leven Community Library

Loch Leven Community Campus, Muirs, Kinross
Tel: 01577 867205

Email: lochlevenlibrary@culturepk.org.uk

Website: www.culturepk.org.uk



Opening Times

Monday*	10am-1pm
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday	10am-8pm
Friday	10am-6pm
Saturday*	10am-4pm

* Monday 10am-1pm and Saturday 1pm-4pm: Limited service, provided by volunteers.

Christmas and New Year Opening Times 2017-2018

Friday 15 Dec	10am-4pm (early closing)
Sat 23 Dec	10am-1pm*
24 Dec – 2 Jan	Library closed
Wed 3 Jan	Normal hours resume
Sat 6 Jan	10am-1pm
*No volunteer service 1pm-4pm	

Queich Consort music quartet are playing Christmas carols in the Library on **Thursday 7 December**, 11.15am - 12 noon.

Regular Sessions for Young Children

No need to book, just come along:

- **Bookbug Rhymetimes:** Saturdays 10.30am-11am and Wednesdays 2pm-2.30pm.
- **Pre-school Story Time:** Tuesdays 10.15am-10.45am. Parents, grandparents or guardians and toddlers will be made most welcome at these free, open sessions.
- **Stay and Play:** Wednesdays 2.30pm-3.30pm. Saturdays 11am-12 noon. 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.

Book Groups at the Library

We currently have three book groups for adults running at Loch Leven Community Library:

Crime Book Group: Once a month on a Tuesday evening, 6.45-7.45pm

General Book Group: Once a month on a Friday morning, 10.30-11.30am

Café Book Group: Once a month on a Saturday morning, 11.15am. The next meeting for this Group is **Saturday 2 December**.

Please contact the Library for the other book group dates.

Friends of Loch Leven Community Library

Jump Into Libraries Day

It was great to see so many of you having such a fun time at the recent Jump Into Libraries Day. There was excellent musical entertainment, fantastic face painting and enthusiastic pirate treasure hunting. Owl masks were decorated at the RSPB table and amazing Lego creations - from planes to dinosaurs - were constructed (by the adults as well as the children!). These were just some of the free activities on the day, which was one of our busiest to date. The library often has other events on which are either free or have just a small charge – well worth a visit!

Festive Opening Hours

There will be some changes to FOLLCL's usual Saturday afternoon and Monday morning opening hours over the festive season. See *Christmas and New Year Opening Times in the Loch Leven Community Library* item on this page.

Thank You!

Many thanks to all of you for your support and good wishes over the last year. From all of us at FOLLCL - all the best for the festive season and a happy 2018!

FOLLCL is a group of independent volunteers who staff Loch Leven Community Library on Saturday afternoons from 1pm - 4pm and on Mondays from 10am - 1pm. For further information, please contact Richard Scott on 07 999 510 500 or find us on Facebook.

ASSET creates aviation magic

Eurofox arrives!

Aero Space Scientific Educational Trust (ASSET) and Kinross High School took delivery of a *Eurofox* kit plane on 23 November, as the exciting "Build-A-Plane" project gets under way.

The project aims to give local Kinross High School pupils an opportunity to help assemble a real aeroplane from a full-size kit and to encourage their interest in pursuing STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) subjects.

Appointment of first ASK fundraising manager

Delivery of the plane comes alongside further exciting news, with the appointment of Donna Hegarty as fundraising manager. Donna has a wealth of third sector, charity, and corporate fundraising expertise and joins the ASK team in January.



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Dobbies Community Champion

At Dobbies, we are in full swing looking ahead to Christmas, and fundraising for our two **national charities**, Action for Children, and Well Child. Don't miss our wish tree, Santa's post box, and the singing reindeer! We also have a competition to guess the weight of a Christmas cake, finishing on Monday 11 December.



Kinross Primary School choir helped Dobbies get into the Christmas spirit at the Fun Day on 18 November

Father Christmas is in his magical grotto, and open for visitors on Saturdays and Sundays, and also the Wednesday, Thursday and Friday before Christmas (20th to 22nd). Bookings are made online at www.dobbies.com, with a choice of toys for children of different ages, at a cost of £9.95. On the website, choose events, and then Kinross store, to make your booking. We look forward to meeting our younger visitors over the next few weeks.

The Little Seedlings Club meeting on **Sunday 3 December** at 11am will be a special Christmas event; again, please book in advance on the website. The next meetings will be on **Sundays 7 January, and 4 February**.

We would like to thank all our customers for your generosity in donating to charitable causes in the store over the year, and wish everyone well for Christmas and the New Year. You can contact me at the store, tel 01577 863327, or on community.kinross@dobbies.com.

Amanda James, Community Champion

Broke Not Broken

We are all very excited about our upcoming Christmas Hamper Event taking place on **Thursday 14 December** at the Loch Leven Community Campus from 6pm. You are welcome to donate items and come along and help.



Over the past few years we have seen an increase in donations and helpers and we are really looking forward to another successful year. We have more referral agents pointing us in the right direction so are confident the hampers and donations will make their way to the right people.

It is a wonderful atmosphere, and really brings the Christmas spirit out in everyone.

Here is a list of the items we are hoping to include in the hampers:

Pies, Tinned Potatoes or Instant Mash, Oatcakes, Chocolates, Gravy or Stock Cubes, Cakes, Small Christmas Puddings, Shortbread, Mince Pies, Tinned Ham, Tinned Salmon, Savoury Snacks, Orange or Apple Juice, Tinned Puddings, Toiletries, Gloves, Socks, Books.

We will be distributing the hampers in the days after the event so that people have full cupboards for the week around Christmas.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our volunteers and those of you who donate. Thanks to everyone in our local community who support us throughout the year and also to all the following organisations and individuals who continue to donate to us on a regular basis: Fossoway Church, Orwell & Portmoak Church, St James' Church, St Paul's Church, Commonweal, The Boathouse, SNP, TSB, Val Oswald Pilates Class, Susan Forde, Kinross Primary School, Milnathort Primary School, Portmoak Primary School, Kinross Colts AFC, Kinross Otters ASC, Sainsbury's, Co-op, Giacomazzi's, Glenfarg Village Shop and anyone else we have forgotten!

We are indebted to our local community for your ongoing support. If you would like to volunteer a few hours a month in the food bank, please get in touch.

Finally: we also have a new phone number: 07518 913107.

Food Bank open to all Tuesday and Thursday from 10am to 2pm. Drop off food Friday from 10am to 2pm.

See also poster on page 61.

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www.facebook.com/KinrossCurlingRink



We are looking forward to one of the great curling competitions at Kinross, the **Hogmanay Pairs**. Some of the most competitive curlers take part in this event on **Thursday 28 and Friday 29 December**. Come along to watch curling and enjoy our bar lounge.

Plans are progressing for the **extension** to our rink at the end of this season. As well as providing disabled access and extra office and storage space, we will have refurbished changing rooms and more space in our lounge.

We introduced a **Practice Ticket** this season. Are you short of Christmas present ideas for a curler? Get in touch with the rink and buy a very useful gift.

In the next issue, we will publish our programme to welcome curlers and non-curlers to our rink to enjoy the **Winter Olympics** in South Korea.

We welcome a group of **20 Canadian tourists** to Kinross on Thursday 25 January. They will be resident in the Green Hotel until Tuesday 29 January when they move onto Edinburgh. They are the North section of the tour party, with another 20 touring the south of Scotland. The Canadians are here to try and wrestle the Strathcona Cup from the Scots, who were successful on their tour to Canada in 2013. They play local curlers on Friday morning 26 January and morning and afternoon on Saturday 27 January. Come along and watch!

The AGM of Kinross Curling Trust will take place on **Wednesday 24 January 2018**.

Seasons' greetings to all the readers, and to all our curlers and their families.

Kinross Ladies Open

Twelve teams took part in the annual Kinross Ladies Open curling competition, organised by Kinross & District Ladies Branch, on 17 October.

The winning rink was from Forfar. They had called the day before to say they were short of a player and local curler Gay Deas, a member of Orwell Ladies, stepped in. Gay joked during the prize-giving ceremony that there was life in the old dog yet, the last time her name having appeared on the trophy being 1989! Her Forfar teammates were Anne Shaw, Shirley Jeans and Janine Wilson.

Runners-up were Liz Glennie (skip), Maggie Scott, Fiona DeVries and Eileen Thomas.

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European title for local curler

Local curler John Kenny, who plays for Kinross Curling Club, recently led his Ireland team to victory in the European Seniors Invitation Championships held in Paisley. His teammates were David Whyte, Neil Fyfe and David Hume, who replaced the injured Bill Gray. They defeated the reigning Scottish Senior champions skipped by Ian Drysdale in an exciting final. This added to the World Championship Bronze John won earlier this year in Canada.

John and his team mates will be Ireland's representatives in the Senior Men's World Championships in Sweden next spring.



John Kenny (left), skip of the victorious Ireland team at the European Seniors Invitation Championships

Fossoway Curling Club

Our annual Pairs Competition was held on 28 October. Members enjoyed lunch, drinks and lots of friendly banter in the curling bar. The winners were:

The King Cup (high road): Shane Johnston and President Andy Macpherson.

The Henderson Cup (low road): Sid Grant and David West.

More recently, Fossoway came a very credible second place in the Loch Leven Province Bonspiel.

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 waiting. Coaching is available. Contact Alan on 01577 840695 or Willie on 01577 840405 for details.



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Orwell Bowling Club

Bowling Green Avenue, Milnathort
01577 863739
orwellbowlingclub.weebly.com



Quiz Nights: The club will be running quiz nights on 20 January, 24 February and 24 March at

7.30pm. Cost is £2.50 per person (four in a team) and there will be nibbles and a raffle. Contact Mike or Maz Thorn on 01577 8422271.

Prize winners: The photograph shows the 2017 season prize winners taken at the Presentation Dance of 4 November.



Orwell Bowling Club prize winners

Canoe Slalom

Eilidh Gibson is in the GB Senior and U23 Canoe Slalom team. With her two teammates, they won the Senior and U23 European and World Championships this year in the team event. In this exciting event, the three paddlers race together, one behind the other, down the whitewater slalom course. Eilidh then went on to come fourth in the individual event at the Senior World Championships in Pau, France, in September and is on the Tokyo 2020 British Canoeing programme.

Eilidh is in her final year at Edinburgh University studying Physiology. She is supported by 'Winning Students' and is also a member of the SportScotland Young People Sports Panel.



Eilidh Gibson competing

Younger brother Angus is also on the GB Canoe Slalom Podium Potential programme and has moved to London to train at the Olympic Whitewater Centre. He finished the 2017 season by winning the Scottish Senior and U23 Championships as well as winning his first GB National Senior event at Teesside. He is now ranked fourth overall in Britain in Men's Canadian Singles.

Both Eilidh and Angus receive funding from the Lottery through UK Sport.

For those who don't know Canoe Slalom, paddlers traverse down a whitewater course going between poles called gates. These are hung across the course, not touching the water, and have to be negotiated either downstream or upstream. Seconds are added to their times for touching the poles with any part of their bodies, canoes or paddles. If they miss a gate altogether, they lose 50 seconds.

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Kinross Cycling Club

www.kinrosscyclingclub.co.uk



Annual Awards Night Dinner: The club held its annual awards night dinner on 18 November. The Grouse and Claret restaurant hosted the event once again and the meal and venue were both excellent. This event is a chance to celebrate some of the successes of club members over the cycling year, and trophies were awarded for a diverse range of achievements. Our trophies are also wonderfully handcrafted in wood by John Myerscough, making them truly unique and special. We were privileged to have Mark Beaumont as our guest speaker this year. Mark has strong local ties and is an adventurer and ultra-endurance cyclist whose achievements seem super human.

Mark is recently returned from his record-breaking circumnavigation of the globe by bike, completing his ride of 18000 miles in 78 days and 17 hours, averaging 240 miles per day. We were honoured to have his company and took great pleasure in awarding him a beautifully crafted trophy from the club, and a donation of £500 to his charity Orkidstudio. Some 39 trophies were awarded on the night and some of the key presentations are listed below:

Rider of the Year:	Carolanne Cappie
President's Award:	Duncan Campbell
Dedication:	Graham Millar
Most Improved Rider:	Margaret Whyte
Volunteer of the year:	Duncan Campbell
Lifetime Contribution to KCC:	Trev Keer
Epic Ride:	Sarah Coutts (aged 14)
1st Male Grand Prix series:	Oliver Murray (aged 17)
1st Female Grand Prix series:	Miriam Rennet

Winter Club Rides: The Bun Run and Saturday social continue throughout the winter, departing the campus at 10am. Sunday Club runs have an 0930 departure through the winter.

Winter Fitness Training: Fitness training classes take place on Thursday night 1930 to 2130, at the Wazfit studio, under the watchful eye of fitness trainer Joanna Waz. Please notify intention to attend via Facebook as places are limited.

Details of all club activities can be found on our website.



Above: Special guest, ultra-endurance cyclist Mark Beaumont (centre) receives a special award from Kinross Cycling Club. Mark is pictured with compere Donnie McLeod and club co-chair Jane Timperley

Below: Kinross Cycling Club award holders



Kinross Road Runners

kinrossroadrunners.weebly.com



Our winter training programme runs through until March and it's a good way to keep running through the dark winter months. This is also the time of year for some social activities, including our annual Winter Handicap Race on Sunday 10 December followed by food and drink in Milnathort Town Hall. Then in January we hold our Annual Dinner and Awards Evening at Loch Leven's Larder. New members are always welcome – think of that New Year resolution – just come along to any of the sessions to see if it's for you.

Formal winter training is on a **Wednesday evening**. We always meet at the health centre car park at 7pm and run from there.

On **Tuesday evenings** there is an informal training run (usually around the streets of Kinross and Milnathort) of 8-10km in length. Again, we meet at 7pm at the health centre car park. The informal **Sunday morning** run also continues throughout the winter months – meet at 9am at the health centre car park for either a trail or hill run at a very leisurely pace.

The Kinross Junior Parkrun got off to a flying start with almost 90 juniors taking on the 2km circuit at Kirkgate. Watch this space for more information about the senior Parkrun proposed for Kinross.



The joys of cross country running

Programme for December and January

December	January
Sun 3 Informal run	Tue 2 New Year run at 10am (route TBC)
Tue 5 Informal run	Wed 3 2-mile time trial, hot choc and kit sale
Wed 6 Hill reps (Milnathort)	Sun 7 Informal run
Sun 10 Club 10k handicap race. Register at 10am at Milnathort Town Hall.	Tue 9 Informal run
Tue 12 Informal run	Wed 10 Hill reps (Milnathort)
Wed 13 Torch run on Heritage Trail	Sat 13 Annual Dinner & Awards
Sun 17 Informal run	Sun 14 Informal run
Tue 19 Informal run	Tue 16 Informal run
Wed 20 5 x 1k	Wed 17 Pyramid reps (KGV), followed by AGM, 7.30pm for 8pm
Tue 26 Boxing Day run, 10am (route TBC)	Sun 21 Informal run
	Tue 23 Informal run
	Wed 24 5 x 1k
	Sat 27 Devil's Burdens relay race, Lomond Hills
	Sun 28 Informal run
	Tue 30 Informal run
	Wed 31 February 2-mile time trial, hot choc and kit sale



Kinross Tennis Club

www.kinrosstennisclub.org.uk



After a wet summer and autumn, when many coaching sessions were a wash-out or extremely damp affairs, winter approached very quickly.

Multiple layers of clothing are now to the fore for the intrepid players still hitting the courts. There is nothing quite like a bracing session on the tennis court on a bright sunny morning, albeit the low sun does force you to dig out the sunglasses again (or not if you need an excuse for missing the odd ball!) Keep playing throughout the winter and you will notice the difference come the start of next season!

The sun did shine brightly on Sunday 29 October for our adult social tournament. The courts were full and so were the tummies after the delicious home baking and teas. A special mention goes to the brownie makers and an orange drizzle cake, no less! No prizes for the tennis, it was the taking part that counted.



Adults players enjoying their tea post-tournament in October

Adult tennis continues on Wednesday evenings from 6.30pm, Sundays mornings from 10.30am and also Thursday afternoons, although this session has relocated to Gleneagles for the winter months.

Meanwhile, keeping cosy indoors, our **junior coaching continues** at Loch Leven Community Campus. The first block is due to complete on 19 December and Daniel will then be taking bookings for the 9 January to 13 March block. The sessions are on Tuesdays with three sessions between 5pm and 7pm, catering for ages 11 and under. Numbers are limited so first come, first served. Non-members are welcome. Further information from Siobhan at kinrosstenniscoaching@gmail.com

Our **Christmas Dinner** takes place on **Thursday 14 December** at The Kirklands and there's still time to book your place.

Finally, a quick **thank-you to the staff at John and JH Sands Ltd** for looking after our visitors' keys once again. Your help is much appreciated.

As ever, new members are always welcome and enquiries can be made to our secretary, Margaret Hamblin, on 07832 937233 or at kinrosstennis@gmail.com. Visitors are also welcome and keys are available from Sands the Ironmongers for a small fee.



Kinross Golf Club

www.kinrossgolfclub.co.uk



Club Champion Andy Jackson with Ann Smith

A fantastic night was celebrated with the annual prize-giving awards. Match Secretary John Fraser hosted the event with Ladies Captain Ann Smith handing out prizes to the Gents and Juniors. Club Captain Ken D Scott presented prizes to the Ladies winners. After the presentation, a fabulous supper was served before the members danced the night away to the tunes of the awesome Scoonie Brae. A big thanks to everyone involved, notably the catering staff, the bar staff and Social Convener Stevie Hynd who all contributed to making the event such a memorable success for all members in attendance.

Loch Leven's Larder Trophy

The AGM and prize giving for the Perth and Kinross Ladies

Handicap League was recently held at Blairgowrie Golf Club and, for the second year in a row, Kinross Ladies were presented with the Loch Leven's Larder Trophy for being top of the league.

Christmas Menu

Our Christmas menu will be available from 1 December (two courses for £14.95 or three courses for £18.95). Why not come along with friends, family or work colleagues and start your festive celebrations at Kinross Golf Club? Call the bar on 01577 862237 to reserve your table.

Dates for the Diary

Saturday 9 December, Christmas Party Night with vocal talent 'NEcovers'.

Sunday 31 December, Hogmanay Ball.

Further Information

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter or check out our website for more information about golf and social events.



The Caledonian League Team prior to their Champion of Champions Final

Kinross Kobras

Junior Hockey

It has been a busy few weeks for the Kobras. Six teams travelled down to Dunfermline to play in a Midland District Tournament hosted by Carnegie HC. It was bracing to say the least, but the Kobras teams played some good hockey against quality opposition. Joe Bentall scored quite a few goals in the U10 section and U12 and U14 teams also came away with a few wins under their belts.



U12 (left) and U14 (right) players from the Dunfermline Tournament

Kinross Otters

It's been a fantastic year for Otters with some great swimming and competing but, more importantly, great team spirit.

We welcomed a number of new committee members in October of this year, which meant that we said goodbye to some stalwart Otter committee champions as well.

We say farewell to Fiona Mitchell who has been a fantastic secretary (a huge job requiring outstanding commitment and organisation), Pamela Watson who, as an enthusiastic fundraiser for several years, has generated huge amounts for the club. We thank them both for all their hard work and hope they'll keep in touch.

We welcome Angela Hayes as our new secretary, Nigel Martin as chair and Annie McCormack as fundraising manager and we're looking forward to working with them. We also give thanks to Amanda Reid who kindly stepped in while we were without a chairperson. We had two open assessments in 2017, which saw around 20 new swimmers join us. We are so pleased at how well they have settled in with their new teammates.

The strength of team spirit was never more evident than at the Glenrothes Gala in October where 34 swimmers attended and everyone attained at least a PB! They cheered one another on and supported those who didn't get the results they'd hoped for; a wonderful display of friendship and camaraderie. Our league teams finished well, with the First Division fighting hard but coming in fifth due to our lack of boys in the

upper age groups. We are hoping that the new intake and the great progress of some of the younger boys mean that next year we'll come back stronger.

The Premier Division squad finished fourth in a very competitive field and showed some great swimming over the season. Well done, everyone.

Earlier in the year, one of our poolside helpers, Bob Cumming, undertook a research project to help ascertain our future direction. He put in a huge amount of work; interviewing Otters, parents, coaches, parent helpers and former swimmers. The resulting report has been invaluable in helping us move forward with real vision and achieve our goals. We are indebted to Bob for all his hard work.

The report flagged up a desire for more land training to supplement fitness and strength and we held our very first SwimFit session at the campus in early November. We were delighted with over 60 Otters attending across all the age groups. Thanks also go to the parents who turned out to man the stations or to take part themselves. The competitive spirit is most definitely

hereditary in some families! It was a great event with a fabulous, fun atmosphere and we hope it will be the first of many.

Club Champs take place on **Sunday 3 December** this year and it is our flagship event. It's great fun and we encourage everyone to take part. We keep all the results a secret until our Award Ceremony in early January, which is also an event not to be missed!

Finally, Kinross Otters is solely run by volunteers. Not a single person who coaches, helps on poolside or with admin and paperwork is paid. So this year, it was great to have a few more regular poolside helpers join us and to see several of the 'old guard' undertake coaching qualifications. We also ran a timekeeping course and have welcomed another group of parents willing to support their club.

We wish all Otters, coaches, helpers, parents, carers and committee members a fantastic festive season and thank everyone for their commitment this year.

Bring on 2018!



Otters at the Swimfit Land Training Session at Loch Leven Community Campus

Kinross Swimmers

Winter is no longer coming, it's here! So what are you going to do on the long winter nights while waiting for GOT to come back? I know - how about the warm and airy Loch Leven Leisure Pool, where you can swim your cobwebs away? It's a great exercise and as easy, or as difficult, as you want to make it.

As always, we are still looking to welcome other keen swimmers. There are plenty of you locally, the pool assures me that the morning and some of the dedicated lane sessions can be quite busy. So why not pop a Tuesday night into your rota? It's a little more interesting and exciting than just plodding up and down on your own. We even have the odd social meet and are a pretty friendly lot. You may even learn new stuff but that's not compulsory. If you wish, we're working on tumblers at the moment and trying to incorporate them into our routines.



So if you fancy a varied and challenging swim, 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.

We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and a prosperous New Year and we'd love to see more of you in 2018.

For further information, please either contact us on Facebook (Kinross Swimmers) or Ian Shepherd by email at shepherd_ian@hotmail.com or on mobile number 07944503074.



Volleyball

The Volleyball season has now well and truly started and it has been a busy time for our local teams.

Scottish Volleyball hosted the Edinburgh Volleyball Festival for S2/3 boys and girls at Napier College recently. Youngsters from all around East Scotland came to play.

Ben Pipes and Lynne Beattie (GB Team Captains from the London Olympics) were there to encourage the youngsters along with Scottish Women's Internationalist Emma Waldie.

In a fiercely competitive day, the Kinross High School boys' team reached the final to play arch rivals South Queensferry High School.

The early stages saw Kinross take an early lead but the Queensferry boys pegged things back to level the score and then creep ahead. A change of tactics kept the Kinross boys in the match and they edged ahead, resulting in more nervousness in their opponents' ranks which saw them making unforced errors. Both teams were defending stoutly but it was Kinross who led by a solitary point at the final whistle to lift the festival trophy for the first time, 24-23.

The Kinross High School senior boys' and senior girls' teams travelled to James Gilliespie's High School to play their Scottish Cup fixtures. Both teams were under-strength due to injuries and illness and it was no surprise that the home side won both matches with the boys losing 0-2 and the girls 1-2.

New team strips will soon be ready for the High School teams, thanks to a successful bid to Arnold Clark motors.

In the Perth District League, premier teams Scotrange and Kintronics have had mixed fortunes in the opening games with Scotrange sitting joint top of the league and Kintronics sitting just below mid table.

Our Recreational League teams have played one round of fixtures, with the exception of the Kinross Mongrels who will open their season in the next round of fixtures. This is due to the fact that there are 13 teams competing in this league and there is only space for 12 teams to complete a round of fixtures. The closest match of the opening

fixtures was the local derby between Kinross BB and Kinross Juniors with the juniors winning the first set 25-11 with the BB leading the second set 21-17.

A Perth and Kinross junior volleyball initiative has been put in place to attract more youngsters into the sport with coaching sessions for talented youngsters being planned for Perth and Kinross. A Scottish Volleyball initiative aimed at cluster secondary schools and selected feeder primaries is on a rolling programme.

Monday evening coaching sessions continue at the Loch Leven Campus from 8pm to 9.45pm. Session cater for all ages and all abilities with newcomers made most welcome.



The winning team with women's internationalist Emma Waldie on the left and GB women's team captain Lynne Beattie

Kinross Ladies Hockey Club

www.kinrosshockey.org

Six weeks into the new season and both ladies teams are playing well, with some great results.

As we hit the half way point in the league, the firsts are still sitting in mid table position, now at 16 points. They've played nine games, with five wins, three losses and a draw against Kelburne Ladies seconds. They are currently in fifth place of ten, but with a game in hand over some of the teams higher in the table, there is every possibility of a climb before Christmas.

The seconds are doing equally well in the league, having won two games and lost two. They currently sit third in the table of eight and, like the firsts, with a game or two in hand, have the opportunity to climb before Christmas.

The League Cup is proving a little more challenging with a current fourth place of five. Again, they still have a game in hand, and with a good tail wind and a few goals, could yet finish in a qualifying place for the League Plate Finals.

As the party season draws near and thoughts of training disappear, overtaken by festive cheer and merriment,



remember that although training and games will stop mid-December, that first session in early January is never far away! Look forward to seeing all existing members back then, and also any new members who may have made picking back up a hockey stick their New Year's Resolution! Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year from Kinross Hockey Club!

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Kinross Group

The Kinross Group of Scottish Women's Institutes had their Autumn Meeting on Saturday 4 November in Cleish Village Hall. It was a well-attended meeting with the wonderfully entertaining Sheriff Margaret Gimblett as our guest speaker. The Spring Group meeting is on Saturday 10 March 2018 at 2pm in Milnathort Town Hall.

MILNATHORT – Jean Paterson, President, welcome everyone to the October meeting. After the usual business and announcements, Jean introduced Clare Slight from Broke Not Broken. Clare gave us an excellent insight into the local charity's formation nearly four years ago and how they have grown into an organisation which is able to support local needy people, not only with food but moral support as well. Members enabled Clare to take back to HQ numerous carrier bags of food items, for which she thanked us.

Two Decorated Cup Cakes	Kathleen King
China Cup and Saucer	Nan Paterson
Flower of the Month	Ena Thomson

Jean Paterson, President, welcomed members and one visitor to the November meeting. The business was conducted fairly quickly and we then welcomed Karen Walsh and members of Milnathort Guide Group, along with 'assistants'. The girls began by telling us what they like to do, such as crafts, baking and singing. They then organised three tables of activities: paper folding a lily; a 'mint' team game with chopsticks to pick up mint imperials and polo mints threaded on cord and passed around the body; and 'smoar' making, which involved melting marshmallows and then sandwiching them between two chocolate digestive biscuits. All our members joined in with these activities and really enjoyed the interaction with these enthusiastic girl guides and their assistants.

We then had a short break for a delicious buffet supper organised by the committee. Competition results were announced:

Traybake	Agnes McTurk
Christmas Tree Decoration	Aileen Hunter
Flower of the Month	Francis Shepherd

The raffle was drawn, to much excitement from the guides. Jean thanked Karen for giving us such an entertaining evening with her group of girls. They then sang a few campfire songs, which we all tried to join in with. Jean wished us a safe journey home and looked forward to seeing everyone at the Christmas Party at Milnathort Golf Club on 21 December.

BLAIRINGONE – President Joyce Petrie introduced Dr Roger Stark, who gave an inspiring lecture on how to become a "Recycled Teenager". Roger was a Deputy Head of Department at Heriot Watt University, so he was well placed to give us advice on how to stay young. His recipe was quite simply: eat less, exercise more, watch the alcohol intake, seek good medical care and have a positive attitude to life. He gave examples of some parts of the world such as areas in Italy and Japan where people did many things together and shared day to day experiences. There was some doubt amongst the members as to whether they could follow his instructions to the letter but it was felt that if they did not reach 100 they would be calling him to account! Everyone including the lecturer enjoyed the talk.

Photo of a Scottish View	Mary Mitchell
--------------------------	---------------

POWMILL – President Sharon Buchanan welcomed members to our November meeting and started by wishing Hilary Clarke a very happy 90th birthday. After a rousing chorus of *Happy Birthday*, the business meeting was conducted. This was followed by an entertaining quiz and a wonderful birthday supper with delicious dishes provided by all the members. Hilary cut her cake which was beautifully made by Mary Wilson.

Competition results:

Three Florentines	Mary Wilson
Favourite Piece of Artwork	Tricia Greer
Garden Gem	Mary Wilson



Powmill SWI celebrated Hilary Clarke's 90th birthday with a beautiful cake

CROOK OF DEVON – The members held an open evening on 14 November when they welcomed members from neighbouring villages to a jewellery making demonstration. Our speaker, Gillian Skene, then invited members and guests to "try their hand" at making some pieces. This was an excellent opportunity to make a start on Christmas shopping.

BISHOPSHIRE – Vice President Sylvia Herrington welcomed members to the November meeting.

Our speaker was Jill from Flora Alba, who gave a very interesting demonstration on making Christmas wreaths from locally sourced foliage.

Three Jam Tarts	Janette Gardiner
Small Floral Arrangement	Jane Martin
Flower of the Month	Jane Martin

CARNBO – At our November meeting, 35 members and a few friends enjoyed a "handbag party", courtesy of Irene and daughter, Donna, all the way from Glasgow. We made the most of the opportunity to purchase ideal Christmas gifts from a beautiful selection of handbags and scarves and other accessories. President Jay Hutchison thanked the two ladies for braving the journey to "the wilds of Carnbo" and wished them a less adventurous journey home!

Flower of the Month	June Brunton
Hanging Christmas Tree Decoration	Jay Hutchison

Out & About



Loch Leven NNR



Finally, it's beginning to feel like winter here at Loch Leven. We've had several nights of frost. We only have to go back six years and I was trying to get the boat out of nine inches of ice in the harbour and many trees had come down under the sheer weight of snow.

The sheep are off St Serf's for another year. The boat performed well and all were got off safely. Many thanks to former warden Stephen for the help on the day. The sheep have done their job well and the short-cropped grass is already being enjoyed by the geese.

Due to staffing constraints, we will have fewer events in 2018 but will still be running the usual popular events like the Botany Walk, Goosewatch, Osprey Walk and Fungi Foray. The projected date for Discovery Day is 27 May, so pop that in your diaries. Fingers crossed for good weather again for Discovery Day.

We've had lots of different folk in volunteering on the reserve. Elmwood College students turned up for a couple of days' tree guard removal and Haggis Adventures volunteered helping with reducing some of the trees that were planted as mitigation for disturbance around the new trail. Ryan Shaw came to help us with an array of tasks as part of his Queen's Scout Award. Our usual volunteer Wednesday group have been working hard with the week to week running of the reserve. They also do an outstanding job keeping our shed tidy.

During the winter, we plan to fell a lot of willows into the water along the shoreline at Loch Leven. We are doing this to improve the cover for ducklings. Everything out there wants to predate ducklings, so a bit of over cover can help them. We will fell the willow but not completely sever the stems so it stays alive.

We have also been hedge-laying along at Mary's Knowe. The idea behind this is to make a thick, wildlife-friendly hedge. Once again, we called in the services of Torquil Varty to help train us. Torquil is a hedge-laying champion. This is the second year running we've been hedge-laying. Hopefully we'll do much more in the years to come.

A wee reminder that the Kinross Estate will shut the path on Saturday 9 December and Tuesday 26 December. This only affect the west side of Loch Leven from Kirkgate to Mary's Knowe. The rest of the trail is unaffected.

Our latest Goose count was on 17 November and a total of 12,151 were counted. This is slightly above the recent average in November. Most of these are roosting behind St Serf's on the exposed mud. Other birds we've seen this November include another Snow and Greenland White-fronted Goose, Long-tailed Duck, Scaup, Smew, Little Egret and a good number of Slavonian Grebes. These Grebes are similar to Great Crested but smaller and darker. Sometimes they can be seen quite close in at Burleigh.

If you are down at the Pier you might be lucky enough to see a Kingfisher. There appears to be more than one fishing around

the area. There is quite often a kingfisher scuffle going on. Also at the Pier you can see the huge flock of Goosanders that like to round up Sticklebacks in the harbour. Numbering over 200, it is quite a spectacular sight.

Over Christmas and into the New Year, you can keep up with our goings on by looking at the blog (Loch Leven Wordpress), Instagram (Steve the Cappercaillie), Facebook (Scotland's NNRs) and Twitter (SNH NE Scotland).

I hope everyone has a fantastic Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Jeremy Squire
Reserve Officer, Loch Leven NNR

RSPB Loch Leven



facebook.com/RSPBTaysideFife
www.rspb.org.uk/lochleven

Telephone:
01577 862355

As I am sure many of you are aware, this year marks the 50th anniversary of the RSPB being here at Loch Leven. We just wanted to take this opportunity to say thank you for the overwhelming generosity we have received, from all of the local community, in a year that has been so special to us. There is still time to learn about the history of those 50 years at our display in the visitor centre.

The final celebration we held was a big party at the reserve. It was a great success, with over 400 people attending. This was only made possible by the many volunteers who helped on both the run up to, and on the day, itself. If any of you attended, I hope that you managed to try a bit of the delicious birthday cake. What you might not have realised is that the cake was made on site using entirely organic and vegan ingredients.

(For photographs from the party, see page 14.)

The café will continue to serve food that is organic and sustainably sourced throughout the Christmas period and the shop will be open if you want to get any last-minute gifts or Christmas cards. Did you know that the RSPB was the first ever charity to sell charity Christmas cards?

Both the shop and the café will be open as normal in the run up to Christmas from 10am to 5pm daily (café until 4pm). We will then close on 25 and 26 December and then again on 1 and 2 January. In between Christmas and the New Year, the shop will be open from 10am until 4pm and the café from 10am until 3pm.

As well as the shop and café, there will be other family activities on every day, including nature bingo. Although the winter can be cold and dark, it doesn't mean there isn't anything to see. The geese continue to chatter across the loch, as do the many species of wintering duck. Have you ever seen the beautiful pintail? The bird feeders are popular at this time of year; maybe you will see something you have never seen before. Or, if we get some snow, why not try your hand at tracking animals across our wintery trails? Colder snaps can also bring in the white-tailed sea eagles to hunt across the loch. There is always something to see, so why not get the family out and enjoying nature this Christmas?

From all of us here at RSPB Loch Leven we wish you a very happy holiday; thank you for your support in 2017 and wish you peace and happiness in 2018.

Anna, Assistant Warden
RSPB Scotland Loch Leven



Farming



Vegetable growing in Kinross-shire

Perfect roast potatoes, crisp on the outside and fluffy on the inside, red cabbage made with festive spices, glazed parsnips and carrots in mustard and honey. Brussels sprouts are a must whether you love or hate them. We always have broccoli and sometimes cauliflower too on our Christmas table. Tasty fresh vegetables are what make the turkey roast into such a delicious feast and I'm pleased to say that they are all grown in Kinross-shire.

The fertile fields on the banks of Loch Leven are free draining sandy loams with a healthy proportion of organic matter making them suitable for growing vegetables. Organic matter is important as it provides many of the nutrients that the plants need to grow and thrive. Soils with good organic content can retain moisture, which helps with vigorous root and plant growth.

Kinross-shire grows many acres of root vegetables; it's known for producing good quality carrots, some swedes and more recently parsnips are also grown as they increase in popularity. Brassicas such as cauliflower, cabbage, kale and broccoli are also easily spotted along the Heritage Trail and in the east of Kinross-shire.

The whole process commences in spring, with the soil worked down by cultivators until it is very fine. It's then formed into a 72-inch wide bed ready for the planting machine. It is plants in plugs of soil rather than seeds that are planted; they are very small when transplanted so the fine soil helps the roots

get established quickly. It's then a race to get them covered with fleece, to protect them from frosts, and a plastic net that acts as a barrier from insects that could destroy the highly valuable crop at any stage. The main threats are fruit fly that can lay eggs that hatch and cause swedes and carrots to rot from ground level and the Diamondback moth (DBM), which eats through leaves causing devastation to whole fields. It was the DBM that hit the media in 2016, when unprecedented damage was caused to brassica crops, meaning a lot less Brussels sprouts in the shops last Christmas.

Our relatively cool summers provide good conditions for vegetables during the growing season and of course Loch Leven provides a plentiful supply of water for irrigation. Vegetables are faster growing and require much more water than cereals or grass, so most fields will receive extra water through irrigation from the end of May through to August. It's a highly specialist job growing vegetables, and requires a lot more labour too. Teams of thinners and pickers can often be seen tending to the growing vegetables, keeping them on track. And of course, demand continues throughout winter, so many carrot crops are covered in layers upon layers of straw to keep them in perfect condition until harvesting.

You can pick up your local vegetables from the farm shops or look for local growers on labels when shopping. Kinross-shire vegetables needn't just be for Christmas!

Many thanks to Martin Silvera from Lochend Farm for sharing his knowledge to help me write this article.

Fiona

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Weather

October Weather Report from Kinross



Total rainfall	81.5mm = 3.26ins
Heaviest rainfall	13.1mm (1st)
Total sunshine for the month	41.6 hours
Sunniest day	4.3 hours (2nd)
Minimum temperature average	2.87°C
Lowest temperature	-6.6°C (30th)

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Kinross-shire Churches Together



Kinross Parish Church of Scotland

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10 Station Road, Kinross KY13 8TG (Charity no SC012555)
Church website: www.kinrossparishchurch.org
Facebook: www.facebook/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

(Check weekly Intimations on website for alterations to regular events during the Christmas period)

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 (during term time).

Wednesdays: 10.45am Service, church centre.

1.30pm: Craft Group.

Fridays: The Brigade, church centre.

Anchor Section 6 - 7.15pm, Junior Section 7 - 9pm, Company section 8 - 10pm (Contact: David Munro 862126).

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

Other Events and Services

December

Sun 3 10.30am: Quarterly Communion Service.
6.30pm: Evening Communion.

Tue 5 6 for 6.30pm: Guild Christmas Meal, church centre.

Thu 7 7.30pm: Thursday Group: Christmas Meal, church centre.

Sat 9 8.30am: Prayer Breakfast (names in advance to church office).

Mon 11 8am: Silent Meditation.

Wed 13 7.30pm: Christmas Wrap – for CATH and Perth Prison Visitors.

Sat 16 11am: All Friends Together.
2pm Junior Church Christmas Party, church centre.

Thu 21 9pm: late evening service of Compline.

January

Thu 11 7.30pm: Thursday Group: 'Town Twinning', church centre.

Sat 13 8.30am: Prayer Breakfast (names in advance to church office).

Tue 16 7.15pm: Guild – Rev Angus Morrison.

Thu 18 9pm: late evening service of Compline.

Sat 20 11am: All Friends Together.

Sun 21 10.30am: Pulpit Exchange - Rev David Mackenzie Mills.

Cleish Parish Church Church of Scotland

(Charity No: SC003168)

Minister: Rev Lis Stenhouse BD (Hons)

Email: estenhouse@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk: Neil Maclure

Email: neil.maclure19@gmail.com Tel: 01577 864826

Please visit our website: www.cleishchurch.org



Sunday Services 11.15am

December

Sun 3 11.15am **Morning Worship and Junior Church** followed by refreshments in the Village Hall served by Guild members in aid of Guild funds. Traidcraft Stall.

Mon 4 3.15pm **Messy Church** in the Village Hall. Open to all children and their carers.

Sun 10 11.15am **Morning Worship**. *

Sun 17 11.15am **Morning Worship and Nativity Play** followed by refreshment in the Village Hall.

Sun 24 11.15am **Christmas Eve Morning Worship**. *
11.15pm **Christmas Eve 'Watchnight' Service of carols and praise.**

Mon 25 11.15am **Christmas Day 'Toy Service'** for the whole family.

Sun 31 11.15am **Morning Worship** *. A service of readings and carols.

January

Sun 7 11.15am **Morning Worship**. *

Sun 14 11.15am **Morning Worship**. *

Sun 21 11.15am **Morning Worship** followed by **Congregational Lunch** in the Village Hall.

Sun 28 11.15am **Morning Worship**. *

Mon 29 2pm **Cleish Guild afternoon meeting** in the Village Hall.

* Please note that refreshments will be served in the Young Room after Morning Worship.

All welcome

Kinross Parish Church Christmas Services

Fri 15	7.30pm	Coffee, Cake and Carols
Sun 17	10.30am	All-age Nativity Service
Mon 18	6.30pm	Remembering Loved Ones
Sun 24	10.30am	Service of Carols and Readings
	4.30pm	Crib Service for Families
	11.15pm	Watchnight Service
Mon 25	10.30am	Christmas Morning Worship

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Fossoway, St Serf's & Devonside Church

Church of Scotland (Charity number SC013157)

Church Road, Crook of Devon, Kinross-shire, KY13 0UY

www.fossowaychurch.org.uk

Minister: Rev Lis Stenhouse Telephone: (01577) 842128

Email: estenhouse@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk: Mrs Janet Harper Telephone: (01577) 840225

Email: aclassicsoul@aol.com

Our church is a very warm and welcoming place situated in the Crook of Devon, a small village about 6 miles from Kinross. Come and join us, we would love to meet you.

Sunday Services at 9.45am. All are welcome.

December

- Sun 3** 9.15-9.30am A Time for Prayer.
9.45am Morning Worship, followed by Refreshments and Traidcraft Stall.
- Sat 9** 1.30-3pm Christmas Bazaar.
3-4pm Community Carol Singing.
- Sun 10** 9.45am Morning Worship.
- Sun 17** 9.45am Morning Worship Christmas Nativity service.
6.30pm Sing-a-long-a Panto. Christmas jumpers a must! Refreshments afterwards in the Elizabeth Wilkie Hall.
- Sun 24** 5pm Family Christmas Eve service.
11pm The Fossoway Choir will sing followed by 11.15pm Christmas Eve service.
- Mon 25** 9.45 – 10.30am Christmas Day Family Service.
Bring a toy or gift to share.

January 2018

- Sun 7** 9.15-9.30am A Time for Prayer.
9.45am Morning Worship, followed by Refreshments and Traidcraft Stall.
- Sun 14** 9.45am Morning Worship.
- Sun 21** 9.45am Morning Worship.
- Sun 28** 9.45am Morning Worship.

Café Refresh

Every Thursday in the Church Hall, 2 - 4pm. Join us for a friendly blether with scrummy home baking, teas and coffees. *All are welcome.*

messychurch@fossoway

Friday 22 December immediately after the end of term service for Christmas lunch. Friday 26 January 3.15-4.30pm. Both at the Crook of Devon Village Hall

House Group

There will be no meetings in December. Please contact Debbie Hill for further details, 01577 842268.

Parents/Carers and Toddlers Group

There will be no Parents and Toddlers group in December or January.

Film Evening

There will be no Film night in December. However, we will start again on Friday 5 January 7.30pm – 9.30pm in the Church Hall. *Please join us for the film, a cuppa and a blether and even some popcorn.*



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

Mondays and Wednesdays

8am Morning Prayer, said quietly in the warmth of the meeting room!

(1st Mondays) 10am Pastoral Care group (Side chapel).

Tuesdays

11am Informal Holy Communion (Side Chapel).

Thursdays

10.30am Thursday morning Discussion Group: exploring material for Advent, Christmas and the World Day of Prayer (2 March 2018). *(usually in the Meeting Room unless otherwise advertised.)*

3.30pm – 4.30pm Rector's Hour – an opportunity to drop in and speak to the Rector in the Church Office.

December Services and Events - all welcome

Sun 3 ADVENT SUNDAY (Hope)

8.30am Holy Communion.

11am Sung Eucharist followed by the church's Annual General Meeting.

3pm Advent Carol Service.

Sun 10 Advent 2 (Bethlehem and the way of the Prophets)

8.30am Holy Communion.

11am Sung Eucharist.

Sun 17 Advent 3 (Gaudete Sunday and John the Baptist)

8.30am Holy Communion.

11am Service of the Word with carols and readings for Christmas and the Sunday School Nativity.

Followed by Christmas refreshments in the Meeting Room.

Fri 22 3pm Family Christingle Service.

Sun 24 Advent 4 (The Virgin Mary)

8.30am Holy Communion.

11am Sung Eucharist.

11.30pm CHRISTMAS EVE MIDNIGHT MASS.

Mon 25 CHRISTMAS DAY

8.45am Said Matins (1662).

10am Christmas morning Family Sung Eucharist.

Sun 31 Christmas 2

8.30am Holy Communion.

11am Sung Eucharist.

January 2018 Services

Sun 7 The Epiphany of the Lord (transferred from the 6th)

8.30am Holy Communion.

11am Sung Eucharist.

Sun 14 Epiphany 2

8.30am Holy Communion.

11am Sung Eucharist.

Sun 21 THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

8.30am Holy Communion.

11am 'Pulpit Swap' Sung Eucharist. *Preacher: TBC.*

Sun 28 Epiphany 4

8.30am Holy Communion.

11am Sung Eucharist.

5.30pm Said Evensong with hymns

Orwell and Portmoak Parish Church

Church of Scotland (Charity number SC015523)

Minister - Very Rev Dr Angus Morrison

Telephone: 01577 863461

Email: angusmorrison3@gmail.com

Website: www.orwellportmoakchurch.org.uk

Sunday Worship, Junior Church and crèche:

10am Portmoak Church,

11.30am Orwell Church.

All children welcome. Crèche available during the 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 30 mins before each service.

Messy Church: Saturday 2 December in Portmoak Hall, 4 - 6pm.
Saturday 27 January in Orwell Hall, 4 - 6pm.

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.

Dates and events for your diary

- 3 Dec** Joint service in Orwell Church at 10.30am Including Back to Church Sunday. No service at Portmoak Church.
- 10 Dec** Communion services in both churches.
- 15 Dec** Oasis Ladies' Group meets in Portmoak New Room at 10.15am – 'Christmas Story in Music and Words' by Rosemary.
- 24 Dec** Joint morning service at Portmoak Church at 10.30am. No service at Orwell Church.
Family Christmas Eve service in Portmoak Church at 6.30pm.
- 25 Dec** Christmas Day service in Portmoak Church at 10.30am.
- 31 Dec** Morning services in both churches at the normal time.
- 7 Jan** Joint service in Orwell Church at 10.30am.
No service at Portmoak Church.
- 9 Jan** Guild meeting at **2pm** in Orwell Hall – Marg Meade will talk about 'Marie Curie Nursing'.
- 23 Jan** Guild meeting at **2pm** in Orwell Hall – Rosemary Johnston will talk about 'My year as National Convener'.
- 26 Jan** Oasis Ladies' Group meets in Portmoak New Room at 10.15am.
- 4 Feb** Joint service in Portmoak Church at 10.30am.
No service at Orwell Church.

Everyone welcome

Church office & shop open Mon – Fri. 10am until 2pm.
29 South Street, Milnathort KY13 9XA.

Christian cards, gifts, bibles and books for sale. Printing and copying facilities available. Recycling for ink toners, stamps & batteries. Donations of food can be made for the local Foodbank.

Contact the Office 01577 861200
orwellandportmoakchurch@gmail.com



St James' Catholic Church

5 High Street, Kinross, KY13 8AW

Parish Priest: Father Martin Pletts. Tel: 01577 863329

www.catholickinross.com Email: Fr.MartinPletts@gmail.com

m.facebook.com/parishpriestkinross/

m.facebook.com/stjamesprayergroup/

Regular Services

Mon	7pm	Holy Mass preceded by Confessions and Prayer Group at 8pm in the church hall.
Tue	10am	Holy Mass preceded by Confessions and Morning Prayer (9.30 - 9.50am).
Wed	10am	Holy Mass preceded by Confessions and Morning Prayer (9.30 - 9.50am). Teas / Coffees after Mass, in the church hall.
Thu	10am	Holy Mass preceded by Confessions and Morning Prayer (9.30 - 9.50am).
Fri	10am	Holy Mass preceded by Morning Prayer and Confessions (9.30 - 9.50am).
	3pm	Divine Mercy Devotions.
Sat	10-10.30am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions (first Saturday of every month Holy Mass at 10am).
	7pm	Vigil Mass.
Sun	9.30am	Mass (teas/coffees after Mass in church hall).

Confessions also on request.

Prayer Group meets on a Monday, 8pm-10pm, in the church hall and is open to all.

Children's Catechism class meets every Monday during term time, 3.45pm-4.30pm in the church hall.

The weekly newsletter, Mass times, news and updates or changes can be found on our website.

Christmas timetable for December

- Sun 24** Carols at 8pm and Vigil Mass at 8.30pm (St. Matthew's, Auchtermuchty, KY14 8AW).
- Mon 25** The Nativity of the Lord, Holy Mass at 9.30am.
- Tue 26** Feast of St. Stephen, Holy Mass at 10am.
- Wed 27** Feast of St. John, Holy Mass at 10am.
- Thu 28** Feast of the Holy Innocents, Holy Mass at 10am.
- Fri 29** Christmas Octave, Holy Mass at 10am.
- Sat 30** 10am - 10.30am, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions.
Vigil Mass at 7pm.
- Sun 31** Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph, Holy Mass at 9.30am.

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**01577 862865 or
01383 626171**

MOBILE

**07719
211220**

Proprietor: Shane Crawford

Trinity Church

A new Church ... A new Beginning.

Trinity Church is a **MISSION OUTREACH** of the **UNITED FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**, led by **REVEREND JEROME O'BRIEN**.



Crook of Devon, Station Road, KY13 0PG

Website www.trinity-church.co.uk

Sauchie & Fishcross United Free Church of Scotland, Scottish Charity No. SC009740.

Sunday Service

We meet every Sunday at the Crook of Devon Village Hall. The service starts at 10.30am for teas and coffees, with the gathering to worship God commencing at 11am.

After the service, there will be occasion for refreshments and conversation.

For more information about who we are and what we do, visit our website.

Sunday 24 December

Our service will include a Puppet Show Nativity to the music of Queen - something a little different for Christmas!

Kinross Gospel Hall

Montgomery Street, Kinross

Website: www.kinrossgospelhall.info

Sunday	10.30am	Breaking of Bread
	12.30pm	Sunday School
	4.00pm	Gospel Meeting (1st & 3rd Sundays of the month, Friends and Neighbours Tea)
Monday	7.30pm	Prayer Meeting
	8.15pm	Bible Study
Thursday	9.30am	Toddlers Group (Montgomery Toddlers)

Mark Bremner

Joinery ~ Plumbing ~ Electrical

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Roof repairs & Guttering
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&
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Tel/Fax:- 01577 865412

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.

Obituary and Acknowledgement

JOSEPH MORRELL, 1930 – 2017.

Beloved husband of Patricia (Trixie) Morrell.

After a long battle with Vascular Dementia, Joe died peacefully at Lister House Care Home where the staff had treated him with understanding, kindness and care throughout the last phase of his illness.

He was cremated in Dunfermline Crematorium on 2 November.

Trixie thanks all relations, friends and neighbours who attended and who gave her support in the long months of his illness, and especially to her sister Eileen and husband Bob who gave up their spare time to ensure her comfort and care.

Thanks are also given to those who sent beautiful cards, which were a reminder that we are not alone in our grief and raised our spirits.

The tact, efficiency and attention to detail of Harry Webster, Benarty Funeral Services, and of Shelagh Kinnear, the Civil Celebrant, made a difficult day bearable.

The collection after the service amounted to £298 and is being sent to Alzheimer's Research.



Yoga Classes in Kinross

www.simpliyoga.com

Tuesday Evenings - Kinross Church Centre
@ 7pm - All Levels
@ 8pm - Active Yoga

Thursdays - The Millbridge Hall

Baby Yoga - Mums, Dads & Carers welcome
Pregnancy Yoga

enquiries@simpliyoga.com

07466 360152

Please contact before attending to ensure availability.

Visiting Kinross-shire?

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



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.

Garden Guddle: Mon 9am - 3pm.

Playgroup: Children from age 2 years welcome.

Tue, Wed, Fri 9.05am - 11.50am

Inbetweeners: Mon 9.05 - 11.50am, optional Lunch Club afterwards. Children from the age of 3 years welcome.

Rising Fives: Tues 12.55pm - 3.10pm, optional Lunch Club beforehand, 12.10-12.55pm. 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

Unfortunately this group is not on at present as there is no one to run it. Should anyone wish to volunteer to start the group up again, please contact Swansacre Playgroup.

The premises are available to hire for Private Functions. For more information, please contact Louise on 07926 600 0657 or the Playgroup on 07592 392235.

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.

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

PORTMOAK UNDER 5s

Portmoak Hall – between Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell (only 10 mins from Milnathort and Kinross)



We are a friendly and relaxed group welcoming children under 5 years and their parents/carers. 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 group!

Session times: Tues & Fri 9.45am – 11.30am.

Sessions are £2 per child (£1.50 for under 1s) and 50p for each additional child. A snack is provided.

For all queries please email

portmoakplaygroup@hotmail.com

or find us on Facebook

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

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 Primary School Christmas Fair

10am – 12 noon

Saturday 2 December

Kids free, £2 per adult

Price includes mulled wine (non-alcoholic) and mince pie
Fun for all • Special visitor • Local retail stalls • Tombola
Face painting • Fete games • Christmas crafts

Glenfarg Village Folk Club

*The club meets at "Backstage at the Green",
Green Hotel, Kinross, on Mondays*

Doors open 7.30pm Music starts 8pm

For more info, see: www.glenfargfolkclub.com

4 Dec: Eilidh Grant and Kenny Speirs. Great voices and sparkling personalities should guarantee a great start to our Festive Season. Entry: members £6, non-members £9.

11 Dec: Forgaitherin performed at the club four years ago. Since then, they have produced two CDs and will entertain with a completely new repertoire. Entry: members £6, non-members £9.

18 Dec: Singaround: The final club night of the year, so please come and share some festive cheer with the rest of the merry-makers. All £2.

The club will be closed between 18 December and 15 January. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to You All.

15 Jan: Archie Fisher. We welcome back one of the greats of Scottish folk music. Archie provides a wonderful evening of song, brilliant guitar playing and story-telling. We could not wish for a better and more appropriate start to our 40th anniversary year. Entry: members £6, non-members £9.

22 Jan: Burns Singaround. Celebrate the life and times of Scotland's bard. Any song or poem by, or in the style of, the great man will be welcome. Haggis, neeps and tatties will be on offer. Entry £6.

29 Jan: The Outside Track. A first-time appearance at the club for this 4/5-piece band who perform Scottish, Irish and Cape Breton songs and step-dance! They provide truly wonderful songs and musicianship. A night to remember. Entry: members £8, non-members £10.

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.

7 Dec Christmas Meal

11 Jan Town Twinning Alf/Fred Fyfe

Kinross Floral Art Club

Thursday 14 December

in Kinross Parish Church at 7.15pm:
Mrs Linda Soutar: "Seasons of Magic"

All welcome.

Thursday 25 January

in Heaven Scent Café at 7.15pm:
Members Only Night

Kinross Garden Group

2017/18 Season

Thursday 14 December

at 2pm in the Millbridge Hall, Kinross.

With Richard Cormack of the St Andrews Photographic Club
'In pursuit of plants across the world'
All welcome to join us.



Networking Breakfast

Two major news items from the Networking Breakfast: we've improved the value for money by reducing the cost to £10 per person and at the same time we've landed another inspirational speaker to get your Wednesday off to a flying start.

The next meeting is on **Wednesday 6 December**, at Loch Leven's Larder from 7.15 to 8.30 am. We welcome businesses, individuals and community groups from Kinross-shire to come and network, find out about each other's organisations and get to know each other. Whether you're new to the area and not sure what support services or businesses are in the Shire, or a long-term resident looking to make new contacts, we look forward to welcoming you to the next meeting.

The Networking Breakfast is delighted to announce that the **guest speaker** on 6 December will be

Chris Tiso, CEO of Tiso Group

Founded over 50 years ago, Chris took over the running of the business in 1992 and has led its growth to become the leading national retailer of outdoor clothing and equipment. Chris has been involved in a number of startups and is the recipient of several Scottish Business Awards. He is an ambassador for Dyslexia Scotland and Countryside Learning Scotland, and is Honorary President of Scouts Scotland. When not participating in, or leading, expeditions all over the world, Chris lives in rural Kinross-shire with his wife, their children and assortment of animals.

It's worth remembering that, as is often said, "People engage with people, not organisations", and there will be opportunities to network with other attendees throughout the meeting - bring plenty of business cards if you have them! Why not come along, put some names to faces, listen to an inspirational speaker and enjoy an excellent breakfast? To book your place, please email Karen Grunwell at mail@kinrosspartnership.org.uk. You can choose whether to pay online in advance or in cash on the day and full details are available when you book. The meeting cost, including a full cooked breakfast, is £10 per person.

Whether you are new to the Partnership Business Breakfast, you've been before, or you're an "old hand", we look forward to welcoming you on 6 December.

You can find out more about the work of the Partnership at:
www.kinrosspartnership.org.uk www.facebook.com/visitlochleven
www.visitlochleven.org www.twitter.com/VisitLochLeven

KGV Playing Fields Management Committee AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the KGV Playing Fields Management Committee will be held in the KGV rugby clubhouse on **Monday 8 January 2018** at 7pm. All are welcome to attend.

The KGV committee is a voluntary group that looks after the facilities used by many of the sporting groups in Kinross-shire and welcomes anyone who may wish to contribute something to the local community.

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; Senior £5; U18 free. Visitors: £2 per talk.

Remaining Programme for 2017-18

- 11 Dec** *Martin and Birrell.* Prof David Munro MBE. The story of two local 19th century land surveyors.
- 15 Jan** *Town Twinning: its Birth, Early Years and Maturity.* David Munro. Rekindling of 'The Auld Alliance' including culture, heritage and school exchanges.
- 19 Feb** *My Faither built the Sydney Brig.* Bill Glennie. The story of the Scots who helped to build the Sydney Harbour Bridge.
- 19 Mar** *Lethangie House.* Claire Paton. The family home of the Paton family since 1848.



Ceilidh Dancing

From 2pm till 3pm **every Monday** in the Guide Hall, Milnathort. You don't need a partner and it is all very informal and great fun. Just come along – the more the merrier. No age limit. All proceeds go to the Scouts and Guides.

And a **Ceilidh** now takes place in the Town Hall, Milnathort, **once a month on a Sunday**. These ceilidhs run from 2pm until 5pm with a break at 3pm for tea and biscuits. Cost: £5. There will be a different band every month and all money left over after paying the band and the hall will go to charity.

Heaven Scent have agreed to stay open later on these dates and to serve stovies afterwards (not included in price of entry.)

Month	Date	Band	Charity
December	17th	Lorna Mair	

Call Vi Todd for more details: 01577 863244.

Quiz Nights

Orwell Bowling Club, Bowling Green Avenue, Milnathort

Saturdays 20 January, 24 February and 24 March

At 7.30pm. Cost: £2.50 per person. Four in a team.

Nibbles and Raffle

Contact Mike or Maz Thorn on 01577 8422271

Music in Dollar

Season 2017-18

All concerts are at the Gibbon Hall, Dollar Academy, Dollar.

Concerts cost £10 for non-members.

Children under 18 free of charge.

More information from: www.MusicInDollar.org.uk

Sat 10 Feb 7.30pm. **Daniel Lebardt, pianist.** At the age of 22 Daniel Lebardt won 1st Prize at the 2014 Young Concert Artists auditions in Paris and New York. Born in Hungary, Daniel studied at the Franz Liszt Academy in Budapest and at the Royal Academy of Music. BEETHOVEN: Sonata in D minor Op 32 No 2 'Tempest Sonata.' LISZT: Après une lecture du Dante - Fantasia quasi sonata, S161/7. RAVEL: Gaspard de la nuit LISZT: Mephisto-Walzer no. 2, S515.

Sat 10 Mar 7.30pm. **Kosmos Ensemble.** Prepare to be intoxicated by entrancing dance rhythms, soulful improvisation and gypsy passion delivered with inimitable panache and virtuoso technique. Kosmos Ensemble are Harriet MacKenzie (violin), Meg Hamilton (viola), Milos Milivojevic (accordion).

Dollar Museum

Dollar Museum's exhibition for 2017 is a tribute to Adam Robson, Man of Many Parts. Adam was a much-loved local man who died 10 years ago. Visitors will see a large collection of his work in oils, watercolour and other media, including designs for stained glass. Adam was a rugby internationalist who was capped 22 times for Scotland and was President of the Scottish Rugby Union when Scotland won the Grand Slam in 1984. Also featured are his many other achievements as teacher, writer and poet and his links with Shetland and the Borders.

There are also displays on the History of Dollar, Castle Campbell, Dollar Academy, the Devon Valley Railway from Alloa to Kinross, the Japanese Garden at Cowden and Prehistoric items excavated in the local area. Children will enjoy Granny's Kitchen and the Children's Corner where they can colour in or do the quiz. New this year is a handling collection of Victorian children's clothes and toys. 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.

The Museum is open at weekends from Easter to Christmas: Opening times are 11am-1pm and 2pm-4.30pm on Saturdays and 2pm-4.30pm on Sundays. The Museum will also open on request at other times for visiting groups and researchers – contact dollarmuseum@btconnect.com

Are you living with a long-term health condition?



We are a charity supporting those living with a long-term health condition in Perth & Kinross.

We help people improve the quality of their lives and well being by providing information and running regular self-management courses, workshops and peer support groups.

One of our peer support groups is based in Kinross in the meeting room of St Paul's Church, Muirs. This runs on the first Thursday of every month, 1pm-3pm.

If you would like to come along and connect with others who understand the challenges of living with a condition, learn how to make positive changes to your life and have access to useful information, then please contact us for an informal chat or anyone who wishes can just pop in.

All of our services are confidential, free and designed to be flexible depending on individual and community need. Find us at:

Perth Business Centre/NCOC, 28 Glasgow Road, Perth, PH2 0NX

Tel: 01738440099. Email: enquiries.positivechoices@gmail.com

We are a registered Scottish Charity SC031076

Empowering Lives, Improving Health

La Leche League meetings in Kinross ...



First Thursday of the month, 10am – 12 noon

LA LECHE LEAGUE INTERNATIONAL

St Paul's Church Meeting Room, The Muirs, Kinross

- Friendly, relaxed mum-to-mum breastfeeding support and chat.
- Informal chat and an interesting group discussion.
- Plenty of time for answering your questions.

We welcome any mums (and mums to be) who are interested in breastfeeding. Children all very welcome.

For more details, contact:

Hannah Dalgety (LLL Leader, Kinross) 07886 859461

www.lll-fife-tayside.co.uk

Find us on Facebook: La Leche League Fife and Tayside



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

The Kinross surgery is held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month from 1.30pm to 3.30pm at St Paul's Church Hall, Muirs, Kinross.

The next visits are: **12 December and 9 & 23 January**

No appointment is necessary as the surgery is a drop-in service. For complex issues a further appointment may be necessary. Perth CAB can help you. Our advice is free, confidential, impartial and independent.

Contact us: Advice line 01738 450580.

Appointment line 01738 450581.

Benefits Advice in Libraries (BAIL)

Benefits specialist Sarah MacLean is available at Loch Leven Community Campus to provide advice on all benefit related issues. Alongside general benefits advice, Sarah can help with: completing forms (including online), conducting checks to see if clients are receiving everything they are entitled to, and providing advice and support where an application is refused or awarded at a lower level than expected.

Sarah is available **by appointment only**. Appointments are usually offered on Wednesdays and Thursdays. To make an appointment, call 01738 450599 or email Andrew Scobie (benefits and debt administration) using the following: Andrew.Scobie@Perthcab.casonline.org.uk

Debt and Money Advice Service

Perth CAB has a team of specialist debt advisers. Advice is free, confidential, impartial and independent. To talk to a specialist debt adviser call 01738 450590 or email David Ogston (senior debt adviser) using the following email address: David.Ogston@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.



Blythswood Care collection in Perth

Blythswood Care collects second hand items to help with "Christian care for body and soul". The uplift is in Perth, at Asda on Dunkeld Road, on the following Tuesdays, from 11.30am until 1.30pm:

5 December

Blythswood Care welcomes donations of: clothes, shoes, books, toys, blankets, bric à brac and small items of furniture. All soft furnishing must have a fire label with BS code BS7177 attached. Regretfully Blythswood **cannot** accept: prams, pushchairs, highchairs, car seats, bikes, carpets, duvets, coat hangers, gas appliances, TVs, computer monitors, exercise equipment, wall units, electrical items and video cassettes.

Local Correspondent

for Perthshire Advertiser and Fife Herald newspapers

Linda Freeman

Tel 01577 865045. Email: linda.freeman_64@btinternet.com

Perth & Kinross School Term Dates 2017-18

Term	Start (for pupils)	End
Winter	Mon 23 Oct 2017	Fri 22 Dec 2017
Spring	Mon 8 Jan 2018	Thu 29 Mar 2018
Summer	Tue 17 Apr 2018	Thu 28 Jun 2018

Holidays and In-Service Days:

Christmas holiday:	Mon 25 Dec 2017 – Fri 5 Jan 2018
In-Service & occasional holidays:	Wed 14 Feb – Fri 16 Feb 2018
Spring holiday:	Fri 30 Mar – Fri 13 Apr 2018 (Easter Sunday is 1 April 2018)
In-Service day:	Mon 16 Apr 2018
May Day holiday:	Mon 7 May 2018

Exhibition Loch Leven and Mary Queen of Scots



Arrest! Abdication! Escape!

- 16th century people and their lives
- How Mary is remembered to this day

Exhibition in the Library, Loch Leven Community Campus, Muirs, Kinross. Exhibition open during library hours.

Volunteers also on hand:
Thursdays 10am-8pm,
Saturdays 10am-3pm



Community Councils

Kinross: Secy: Eileen Thomas, 01577 863714
Email: KinrossCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk

Milnathort: Chair: Craig Williams
Email: MilnathortCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk

Portmoak: Chair: Malcolm Strang Steel, 01592 840459
Email: PortmoakCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk

Fossoway & District: Chair: Trudy Duffy-Wigman, 01577 840669
Email: fossoway.cc@gmail.com

Cleish & Blairadam: Secy: Patty Fraser, 01577 850253
Email: CleishCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk

Kinross Community Councillors

Margaret Blyth	6 Muir Grove	
Jonathan Bryson	4 Burnbank Meadows	
David Colliar	10 Rannoch Place	(01577) 864037
Dave Cuthbert	8 Highfield Circle	07799 750289
Barry Davies	60 Lathro Park	(01577) 865004
Bill Freeman (Chair)	64 Muirs	(01577) 865045
Ian Jack	Burnbrae Grange	(01577) 863980
Thomas Stewart	Gellybank Farm	(01577) 864603
Eileen Thomas (Secy)	50 Muirs	(01577) 863714
David West	30 Muirs	07824 313974

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
Andrew Muszynski		01592 840467

Have a look at our website: www.portmoak.org

Perth and Kinross Councillors Kinross-shire Ward

Cllr 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

Cllr CALLUM PURVES (*Scottish Conservative & Unionist*)
Tel (office): 01738 475092. Mobile: 07557 812570.
Email: CPurves@pkc.gov.uk
54 Lathro Park, Kinross, KY13 8RU

Cllr WILLIE ROBERTSON (*Scottish Liberal Democrats*)
Tel (home): 01577 865178. Email: wbrobertson@pkc.gov.uk
85 South Street, Milnathort, Kinross, KY13 9XA

Cllr RICHARD WATTERS (*SNP*)
Mobile: 07557 812513.
Email: RWatters@pkc.gov.uk
Applegarth, Sunnypark, Kinross, KY13 8BX

Luke Graham MP

Member of Parliament for Ochil and South Perthshire

38 Primrose Street, Alloa, FK10 1JG

Telephone: 01259 764407

Email: luke.graham.mp@parliament.uk

Twitter: @LukeGrahamMP

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Luke-Graham-for-Ochil-and-South-Perthshire-392788644215614

For details of surgeries, see page 81.

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@parliament.scot

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 6769

Email: Claire.Baker.msp@parliament.scot

Murdo Fraser MSP (Conservative) Tel: 0131 348 5293

Email: Murdo.Fraser.msp@parliament.scot

Dean Lockhart MSP (Conservative) Tel: 0131 348 5993

Email: Dean.Lockhart.msp@parliament.scot

Alex Rowley MSP (Labour) Tel: 0131 348 6826

Email: Alex.Rowley.msp@parliament.scot

Mark Ruskell MSP (Green) Tel: 0131 348 6468

Email: Mark.Ruskell.msp@parliament.scot

Liz Smith MSP (Conservative) Tel: 0131 348 6762

Email: Elizabeth.Smith.msp@parliament.scot

Alexander Stewart MSP (Conservative) Tel: 0131 348 6134

Email: Alexander.Stewart.msp@parliament.scot

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 Fridays at the Loch Leven Community Campus

Mobile Library Service

Visiting on Tuesdays 5 & 19 December:

Milnathort	South Street	1215-1300
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Visiting every Tuesday:

Glenfarg	Main Street	1130-1300
Forgandenny School		1430-1530

Visiting on Wednesday 13 December:

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-shire Fund



The Kinross-shire Fund was established in 2006 to make the area a better place to live, by making grants to a wide range of local charities, organisations and projects which make a positive difference to the community.

To date, over 50 organisations within the 73 square miles of Kinross-shire have benefited from an award, with beneficiaries ranging in age from pre-school to the elderly. The Fund is managed by Foundation Scotland and is currently open for applications, with deadlines quarterly on the first Monday of February, May, August and November each year.

The next deadline will be Monday 5 February 2018.

Full details, including how to apply via our online application link, can be found at:

www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/kinross-shire-fund

The Bike Station

Donate unwanted bikes, parts and cycling accessories for reuse. Poorer bikes are salvaged for parts. Bikes are refurbished by qualified expert mechanics and sold on to the public at affordable prices with a three-month warranty.

Donated bikes and parts are collected from all Perth & Kinross Recycling Centres, including the Kinross centre at the Bridgend Industrial Estate.

Bike sales are held at The Bike Station, 284 High Street, Perth, PH1 5QS, Tuesday to Saturday 10am – 5pm.

The Bike Station also offers a Repair Service, a Fix Your Own Bike facility and a Dr Bike mobile service.

Tel: 01738 444430. Website: www.thebikestation.org.uk

The Perth Bike Station is an accredited Revolve organisation.



Looking for a venue that can tick all the boxes?

Crook of Devon Village Hall

- ✓ **Space** We can seat up to 100 for a formal meal; 120 for meetings, theatrical performance, talent shows; 80-90 for discos, family gatherings, community events. We can even accommodate bouncy castles for that "all weather" children's party.



- ✓ **Car Parking** - ample parking for the hall.
- ✓ **Catering** - Kitchen with oven, dishwasher and microwave, plus a great serving area.
- ✓ **Stage** and back stage area for performances, costume changes, etc.
- ✓ Plus the usual facilities - toilets, disabled toilets, changing areas.
- ✓ We also offer chair and table rental for functions at home.
- ✓ **Weekly bookings** taken for activities, e.g. yoga, ballet, fitness classes, badminton, youth clubs.

For all hall bookings and enquiries, including our **special block booking rates**, please contact Jean on 01577 840543 or jeanshearer630@btinternet.com

Hedges/Bushes/Trees Causing Obstruction

Property owners are reminded that it is their responsibility to cut back hedges, branches, bushes etc to ensure that pavements and public footpaths are not obstructed.

Property owners may be liable if injury is caused to others and may be charged costs if Perth & Kinross Council is forced to take action.

Local Volunteer Opportunities

Broke not Broken is a voluntary organisation working for the prevention and relief of poverty by providing support and practical assistance to individuals and families experiencing hardship. Please contact Claire Slight to find out how you can help: clare.slight@brokennotbroken.org

Children's Hospices Across Scotland: We are looking for kitchen volunteers. Please contact: volunteering@chas.org.uk

Greyhound Rescue Fife at Balfour Country Centre, Gairneybank, Kinross, need volunteers to clean the kennels and walk and feed the greyhounds. Can you help? Phone 01592 890583. Visit our website at www.greyhoundrescuefife.com

Kinross Heart Start: Campaign to secure funds for public access defibrillators in Kinross. Contact Pamela Hunter to find out how you can volunteer on 01577 862419.

Kinross in Bloom: Volunteer group that provides and maintains floral displays to enhance the environment of Kinross. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Iain Todd at: iandmtodd@talktalk.net

Kinross-shire Day Centre: We are looking for volunteers to serve meals and help with day trips and activities, such as bingo and singing, for a lively bunch of over-aged teenagers (over 65s). If you would like to find out more, we would love to hear from you. Pop in and speak to Nan or telephone 01577 863869.

KLEO (Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation): If you enjoy local events on your doorstep, like the monthly Kinross Farmers' market and the winter festival events (concerts, comedy and the festive street market), please join the KLEO team! For more info about KLEO events, go to www.kleo.org.uk. If interested, please contact Bouwien Bennet at info@kleo.org.uk or call 01577 863107.

The Potager Garden is a small community garden in Bowton Road in Kinross, KY13 8EQ. It is a registered charity run by volunteers, and a main aim is to give education to schoolchildren about plants, gardening and the environment. If you would like more information about our volunteering opportunities, please contact the Convenor, Amanda James, on 01577 840809, or amanda@tyafon.plus.com

RSPB Scotland Loch Leven: We need volunteer fundraisers to help support the wonderful world of nature on our doorstep. Pin badges, bucket collections, events and sponsored walks – if you'd like to join our team, please contact Lyndsay Stobie at: Lyndsay.Stobie@rspb.org.uk or call 01577 862355.

Swansacre Playgroup: A long established charity playgroup for children aged 2-5 years, we need volunteers to help support us with play sessions. For more information, please email swansacre@gmail.com

Light Up Kinross is a small local charity with responsibility for Kinross Christmas lights and decorations. We require additional volunteers to assist with fundraising and administration of the lights. If you are interested, please contact David Colliar, email davidcolliar@tiscali.co.uk or Bill Freeman, email billywhizkid78@gmail.com or through our Facebook page.

Common Grounds: Charity café staffed by volunteers on Tuesdays, Wednesday, Fridays and Saturdays in Guide Hall, Church Street, Milnathort. Open to public 10am – 12.30pm. Opportunity to serve in café or bake for the café. Also opportunity to gain recognised hours towards Duke of Edinburgh Awards and Saltire Awards for young people 16 years and over. Funds raised are used to support charities mainly in Africa. Contact: Convener Elspeth Caldwell on 01577 863350 or Secretary Linda Freeman on 01577 865045 for more information.

For more volunteering opportunities, go to the community website www.kinross.cc and look for 'Volunteering', or look at www.vaperthshire.org

Organisations: If you would like a volunteer appeal to be added to the list above, please email the Newsletter Editor. Please let us know if you no longer need your appeal to be listed.

Film shows • Cards • Dominoes • Art Class
Daily Papers • Chiropody • Trips • Exercises

Weekly Programme

Monday	Exercise Class	11am	Bingo	1.30pm
	Scrabble, cards & other Games			1.15pm
	"Stride for Life" Walking Group			2pm
Tuesday	Carpet Curling	11am		
	Relaxation Class	1.15pm	(not 19th)	
	Games	1.15pm	(not 19th)	
	Singing group with Alex Cant	1.45pm	(not 19th)	
Wednesday	Morning Worship	10.45am		
	Dominoes, Scrabble & other Games			1.30pm
	Fantastic Fun Quiz	2pm		
Thursday (not 14th)	Carpet Curling or Boccia	11am		
	Crafts	1.30pm	Film or music Afternoon	1.30pm
	Dominoes, Scrabble, cards etc	1.30pm		
	Balance & Strength Class	1.30pm		
Friday	Balance & Strength Exercise Class	11am - 12pm		
	Dominoes, Games or music	1.30pm		
	Bingo	1.30pm	(not 15th)	



Additional Events for December

Hearing Loss Support and Advice	Monday	4th	11am - 12pm
Community Health & Wellbeing Support	Tuesday	5th	11am - 12pm
Christmas Fayre	Thursday	7th	1.30pm - 3.30pm
Chiropody	Thursday	7th, 21st	9.45am - 1pm (phone 01577 863869 for an appointment)
Tai Chi	Wednesday	13th, 20th	1.30pm - 2pm
Christmas Lunch & Concert	Thursday	14th	12noon - 3pm
Christmas Bingo	Friday	15th	1.30pm
Carol Concert with Alec Cant	Tuesday	19th	1.45pm
Jack and the Beanstalk Panto	Friday	22nd	2pm
Library Visit	Thursday	28th	1.30pm

May we take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

A great big thank you everyone for their continued support of the Centre.

The Day Centre will be closed **Monday 25 December** till **Wednesday 27 December**. Re-open **Thursday 28 December** & **Friday 29 December**. Closed again on **Monday 1 January** till **Wednesday 3 January**. Re-open **Thursday 4 January** for normal business. Date for diary – Burns Supper Lunch at Day Centre **Thursday 25 January** at 11.45am.



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: 9am - 6pm
Saturday: 9am - 5pm
Tel: 862422

Davidson's Chemist, Milnathort

Mon to Fri: 9 am - 1pm & 2pm - 6pm
Saturday: 9am - 12.30pm
Tel: 862219

Sundays: The nearest open pharmacy is Asda, Dunfermline

Kinross Bridge Club

We meet every Wednesday during Winter and Spring.
The evening starts at 6.45pm prompt and finishes by 10pm.
New members are always welcome.
For further information, please contact Catriona Marshall 864482.

Community Website

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

Situations Vacant

In conjunction with www.kinross.cc, the Newsletter is pleased to publish local situations vacant. Please go to the [kinross.cc](http://www.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').

Part time Admin/Sales Assistant, Kinross Stove & Cooker Centre

4 days per week (32 hours). Flexibility required Monday to Sunday. Initially to cover maternity leave but with future possibilities. You must have experience of excel spreadsheets, good written and oral communication skills, be good with people and have good organisational skills. Send CV by email to corinne@kinrossstovecentre.co.uk.

Lead Practitioner, Swansacre Playgroup, Kinross

Required to work 3 sessions (3-4 hours each) per week plus management responsibilities. You must be a passionate, caring and motivated qualified Lead Practitioner/Playgroup Manager. You will have overall responsibility for the efficient and effective running of the playgroup. Ideally you will have a BA in Childhood Practice or equivalent and show experience and commitment in a similar setting. Please email Cat MacDonald, Chair at Swansacre. chair@gmail.com for further information. The closing date is 15 January 2018.

Part Time Beauty Therapists, Green Hotel, Kinross

You will promote a friendly, relaxing and professional environment to ensure all our members and guests receive an exceptional experience.

You will be required to carry out all treatments to a very high standard, keep treatment areas clean and all equipment safe and in good working order. You must maintain exceptional standards of customer service and be prepared to work hard as part of the team to continue to grow the business. £7.50 - £8.25 per hour. Weekend only position and also 16 hour per week (including weekends) position available. Contact Lindsay on 01577 866509 or email LindsayRobertson@green-hotel.com.

Part Time Leisure Assistant, Green Hotel, Kinross

Join our busy leisure club and become part of a successful team. You will ensure that all hotel guests and members of the leisure club are welcomed in a friendly manner and give them assistance during their stay. You'll be on reception, carrying out pool tests, keeping the leisure club clean and tidy. 16 hours per week, weekends only. £6.70 - £7.20 per hour. CV to LindsayRobertson@green-hotel.com

Distribution Person, Kinross Newsletter

Required for one to two half days per month to deliver supplies of the Kinross Newsletter to outlets around Kinross-shire. Would suit self-employed person with van.

Delivery day is generally the last Friday of a month, January to November (though occasionally the first Friday of a month). Full schedule for a year in advance will be given.

Pay negotiable. If interested, contact Ross McConnell on 01577 865885 or Dave Cuthbert on 07799 750289.

Art Exhibition

December

Fossway Church

An exhibition of paintings by David Reid, much loved local artist and minister of Cleish and Fossway churches during the late 80s and early 90s, is to be held in Fossway Church during December.

Suggested donations of between £25 and £45 are requested, dependent upon size and detail, with all proceeds to be split 50/50 between Cleish and Fossway Churches.

We look forward to seeing you at this one-off opportunity.

Items for Sale

The Newsletter publishes items for sale listed on the [kinross.cc](http://www.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.

Household Coal

£20

About 130KG

Seller Details:

Margaret Greig

01577 840200

margaret@margaretgreig.plus.co

Winter Tyres

£100

4 Firestone Winter Hawk 185/55 R15. Two season's light use approx 3000miles. Fitted on steel wheels suitable for Skoda Fabia/Roomster or similar VW group.

Seller Details:

Bruce Calderwood

01592 840423

the.calderwoods@btinternet.com

Sparring Gloves for Tae Kwon-Do

£10

UKTC branded gloves, black, size medium, excellent condition. Undamaged, worn once.

Seller Details:

Brian Milligan

07449 634606

b_milligan@sky.com

Electronic Keyboard

£45

Rock Jam RJ-661 model plus stand and stool. Only 9 months old and hardly used.

Seller Details:

Ian Jack

01577 863980

ian_jack@btpenworld.com

Scottish Country Dancing

This has started again in

Milnathort Town Hall

on **Wednesday evenings** at 7.30pm

Old and new members welcome

For more information, please ring Cathie on 01577 861103

Kinross Recycling Centre

Bridgend Industrial Estate

Opening Times:

Mondays to Fridays

9am to 7pm

Saturdays and Sundays

9am to 5pm

Bras, 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.

Bikes and bike parts will be recycled. (See separate Bike Station notice.)

Collection point for Perth College WEEE project: IT equipment will be refurbished and sold on at an affordable price or recycled for parts. Items accepted include: desktop computers, laptops, mobile phones (without the sim card), tablets, keyboards, mouse controls, cables, DVD players, video players, portable music players, games consoles, new or empty printer cartridges, projectors and flat screen working monitors. The project cannot accept Cathode Ray Tube or broken monitors.

Compost can be collected from the Recycling Centre, subject to availability. Maximum of 2 x 25kg bags per visitor.

Christmas & New Year Holiday Arrangements



Recommended last posting dates

For full information, go to www.royalmail.com/greetings

International Standard

Africa, Middle East	Sat 2 Dec
Asia, Cyprus, Far East, Eastern Europe (except Czech Republic, Poland and Slovakia)	Wed 6 Dec
Caribbean, Central and South America	Thu 7 Dec
Australia, Greece, New Zealand, Turkey	Sat 9 Dec
International Standard to Static BFPOs	Mon 11 Dec
Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Poland	Wed 13 Dec
Canada, Finland, Sweden, USA	Thu 14 Dec
Austria, Denmark, Iceland, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland	Fri 15 Dec
Belgium, France, Ireland, Luxembourg	Sat 16 Dec

United Kingdom

Second Class	Wed 20 Dec
First Class	Thu 21 Dec
Royal Mail Special Delivery Guaranteed ®	Thu 21 Dec
RM Special Delivery Saturday Guaranteed ®	Fri 22 Dec

Kinross Delivery Office at 87 High Street

27 Nov to 23 Dec: Phone No: 03456 021 021

Mon – Sat	OPEN 6.30am – 1pm
Sun 24 Dec	OPEN 11am – 3pm

Kinross Post Office (Co-operative)

Mon 25 Dec & Tue 26 Dec	CLOSED
Mon 1 Jan & Tue 2 Jan	CLOSED
Otherwise normal hours. NB: closed on Sundays.	

Milnathort Post Office (Giacopazzi's)

Post Office and Shop hours:

Sun 24 Dec	normal hours: 5.30am – 10pm
Mon 25 Dec	CLOSED
Tue 26 Dec	7.30am – 7pm
Wed 27 Dec – Sat 30 Dec	normal hours: 5.30am – 10pm
Sun 31 Dec	5.30am – 9.30pm
Mon 1 Jan	9am – 5pm
Tue 2 Jan	7am – 8pm
Wed 3 Jan	normal hours resume: 5.30am – 10pm

Davidson's Chemist, Milnathort

Sat 23 Dec	9am – 12.30pm
Sun 24 Dec	CLOSED
Mon 25 Dec	2pm – 3pm
Tue 26 Dec	CLOSED
Wed 27 Dec – Fri 29 Dec	Open as normal
Sat 30 Dec	9am – 12.30pm
Sun 31 Dec & Mon 1 Jan	CLOSED
Tue 2 Jan	2pm – 4pm

Rowlands Pharmacy, Kinross

Open as normal except as follows:

Mon 25 Dec	CLOSED
Tue 26 Dec	2pm – 4pm
Mon 1 Jan	2pm – 3pm
Tue 2 Jan	CLOSED



Loch Leven Community Campus

Sat 23 Dec	normal opening hours
Sun 24 Dec – Tue 26 Dec	CLOSED
Wed 27 Dec – Sat 30 Dec	9.45am – 3.45pm
Sun 31 Dec – Tue 2 Jan	CLOSED
Wed 3 Jan	normal opening hours

Perth & Kinross Council Changes to Domestic Waste and Recycling Collection Dates and Closures

DOMESTIC WASTE AND RECYCLING COLLECTIONS

There will be NO domestic or commercial collections on 25 and 26 December 2017 or 1 and 2 January 2018.

Unless householders or commercial customers are notified directly by letter the following will apply:

Collections due on	will take place on
Monday 25 December	Saturday 23 December
Tuesday 26 December	Wednesday 27 December
Monday 1 January	Saturday 30 December
Tuesday 2 January	Wednesday 3 January

There are **no scheduled garden and food waste collections from 23 DECEMBER to 5 JANUARY**. Collection dates will return to normal from **6 JANUARY**.

Please note that Perth & Kinross Council does not collect excess waste which is not in wheeled bins. Waste should only be presented for collection inside your wheeled bin with the lid closed by 7.30am on the day of collection.

Scheduled collection dates can be found online at www.pkc.gov.uk/bindates

Real Christmas trees can be chopped up and added to your home compost bin, chopped up and placed in your brown-lidded bin or taken to your local Recycling Centre.

Real or artificial Christmas trees presented as excess waste will not be uplifted.

EXTREME WEATHER

In the event of extreme weather conditions, it may not be safe for refuse vehicles to visit all areas of Perth and Kinross. If snow and ice prevent heavy vehicle movements in your area, regular collections will resume within five working days of the return of less hazardous weather conditions.

RECYCLING CENTRES

All Recycling Centres will be **CLOSED on 25 and 26 DECEMBER 2017 and 1 and 2 JANUARY 2018**. Opening hours otherwise remain the same over the festive period.

SPECIAL UPLIFTS

The last special uplift collection will be **21 DECEMBER 2017**. Normal collections resume on **3 JANUARY 2018**.

Loch Leven Community Library

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Loch Leven Health Centre

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Kinross-shire Day Centre

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RSPB Loch Leven

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