



# Kinross Newsletter

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Founding editor,  
Mrs Nan Walker, MBE

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## DEADLINE for the March 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:

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## Editorial

Happy New Year from the Newsletter team!

February is a fairly quiet month in terms of events, but clubs are starting to get organised for the year ahead. Readers might like to complete a survey for KLEO about the farmers' markets planned for 2017. (See page 44.)

Although things are quiet on the events front, planning matters are to the fore, with much concern about the proposed Westfield regeneration project in Fife in our Letters and Community Council sections. The redesigned Kinross High Street continues to feature in the Newsletter, along with news of a proposal for the Town Hall. And residents in West Kinross-shire have the opportunity for further consultation on the Local Development Plan. (See page 14.)

Construction of the new Kinross Primary School is progressing well and Scottish Education Minister dropped by for a site visit on 20 January, just as this Newsletter was about to go to press. We'll bring a report of that and a splendid photo in the March issue.

Until then, enjoy the February Newsletter!

## Note to Contributors

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

### Letters Policy

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

### Note to Readers: Advertising

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

### Abbreviations

PKC: Perth & Kinross Council

Cllr: Councillor

CC: Community Council

CCllr: Community Councillor

## About the Kinross Newsletter

The Newsletter has been informing and supporting the community for 39 years.

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

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

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

## Planning permission for restoration and development of former opencast site at Westfield

The proposal (ref 16/03661/EIA) depends on the use of the B9097 (the south loch road) for additional Heavy Goods Vehicles. 500 **additional** HGVs will use this road daily. That is one passing every two minutes or worse. The cumulative effects of increased traffic together with air pollution, vibration and ever-changing noise will be severely detrimental to the Loch Leven Heritage Trail, the Nature Reserve and residents. It will also fundamentally alter the character of the whole area.

The Fife Council website shows that Officers in PKC have known about this major possible development since before June 2016. PKC could have attempted to influence changes to the transportation proposals and involve the Community Councils before the EIA was completed. There is no evidence of same. The majority of the Loch Leven shores is classed as an Area of Great Landscape Value, a SSSI embraces the whole Loch, it is also a Special Protection Area for the Conservation of Wild Birds as well as a special part of Kinross-shire.

The lack of representations made to date would seem to indicate that the people of Kinross-shire have been kept in the dark, despite a statutory duty to inform. Furthermore since this involves an Environmental Impact Assessment EU regulations specify that special care must be taken to inform those likely to be affected by a development who are unlikely to become aware of it by means of a general notice or local advertisement.

How PKC responds will now be largely dependent on the influence of elected representatives and Community Councils. Residents also need to submit objections to Fife Council in the hope that they will extend the consultation period (now closed) due to the failure to inform. I assume that Fife Council has the statutory powers to demand that additional environmental assessment is carried out by the Applicant.

There is an alternative approach which is to use an existing rail link or a new road(s) to the Fife side instead of the south loch road. A significant investment in a rail link was made to serve a previous operation on the Westfield site. The route requiring the least energy consumption and emissions has to be preferred.

We must express concern about all future proposals for major projects. Rules need to be put in place whereby all future potential major projects in adjoining local authorities when known to PKC Planners and Engineers are immediately notified to Community Councils and the public.

Apart from the major impacts on Loch Leven there are many other issues to be considered such as a diminishing interest in the area due to its industrialisation and the effect on businesses. There are safety issues concerning school children crossing the busy road and the effects of the high concentration of HGVs on cyclists.

JHR Hampson  
Fairview House  
Kinnesswood, KY13 9HY

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

## Westfield Regeneration Project

In the middle of December, Kinross-shire Civic Trust (KCT) became aware by chance, and it must be emphasised purely by chance, that a Planning Application had been submitted to Fife Council for an Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) for a Westfield Regeneration Project.

KCT believes there is a protocol between adjoining Councils that if there is a planning application abutting an adjoining Council, that Council is notified. KCT believes PKC was notified, but that is as far as it went. PKC failed to notify the four Ward Councillors for Kinross-shire, any of the Community Councils in Kinross-shire or anyone who might be affected in any way by the proposals.

Initially the regenerating plant will be fed by waste material from Markinch and one of the ways of doing this is by road. The reports states that this will result in HGVs travelling up the M90 to junction 5 and then along the B9097 to Westfield. The outcome of this will be 500 HGV movements along the B9097 every day for 12 hours. This is a massive increase in traffic and one which causes great concern as the emissions of Nitrous Oxide and Particulates would be very large from these vehicles as well as the noise pollution from engine, wind and tyre noise.

This will have a considerable impact on two accounts: a) on the Loch Leven Heritage Trail as it passes close to the B9097 and b) on the wear and tear on the B9097 which will have to be paid for by someone.

### The Loch Leven Heritage Trail (LLHR)

The final phase of the Loch Leven Heritage Trail was completed in April 2014 and the Trail officially opened later that year. The completion of the Trail took 10 years and several million pounds and has provided Kinross-shire with a wonderful facility for locals, visitors and tourists alike. The Trail extends completely around Loch Leven and provides a facility for walkers, runners, cyclists and horses. The Trail meanders through open countryside and wooded areas, all part of the National Nature Reserve and several SSSIs, which can be enjoyed both as a visitor facility and as a health giving one, one encouraged by the government.

The number of visitors to the Trail exceeds 250,000 per year. The Trail passes close to the B9097 from Findatie car park right through to the viewpoint to the north of West Brackly. It is particularly close to the B9097 from Vane Farm to West Brackly and this is immediately against the traffic passing along the road.

It would be wholly unacceptable if visitors were deterred from proceeding along this section of the Trail if they were put-off by the intrusion of the pollution and noise of the continuous passage of these HGVs back and forward along the B9097.

There is of course an alternative of using the Rail Link into Westfield which has to offer a much better solution both in terms of economics and environmental impact.

### The capacity of the B9097

The B9097 was upgraded to provide a modern road that would be suitable for the removal of coal from the Westfield open cast mine. It has a two-lane 7.3m wide carriageway, with 3.0m grass verges along most of its length.

A Traffic Survey carried out in 2016 showed a daily traffic flow on the B9097 east of the M90 of about 4.3k vehicles per day. Of that, cars represented 3800 vehicles per day and HGVs 52 vehicles per day, the rest being light good vehicles, goods vehicles and buses etc.

The current wearing surface of this section of the B9097 is showing considerable signs of deterioration. Long stretches of the road need to be resurfaced and this enormous increase in traffic will do nothing to help that situation.

PKC Roads Department need to check the suitability of the existing pavement to cope with this additional increased loading as they are going to be liable for a large increase in their repair and maintenance liability if not reconstruction of the pavement. This will put a large financial burden on PKC, which should be borne by the developer. It may be that the establishment of a Bond is a prerequisite.

### Rail Link

The EIA assesses the existing rail link which can be used as a feeder in to the site from Markinch. It determines that the rail link is in reasonable condition and apart from the removal of vegetation and the updating of some small parts of the railway, it would be very suitable as a link. It assesses the cost as £1.5 million for these improvements. This could compare very favourably with the costs of maintaining and reconstructing the B9097.

The environment impact must be much less than all these HGVs going back and forward along the B9097 and it would have no impact on the Loch Leven Heritage Trail.

Alistair Smith, Chairman  
Kinross-shire Civic Trust

Ashtrees, Wester Balgedie, KY13 9HE

## Issues for Scottish Youth Parliament

My name is Dillon Kennedy and I'm the MSYP for Perthshire South and Kinross-shire. I write a monthly column for the Perthshire Advertiser and would like to know what issues you believe affect young people.

Please email me at [Dillon.kennedy.msyp@sypmail.org.uk](mailto:Dillon.kennedy.msyp@sypmail.org.uk) or tweet me @Dillonkennedy\_msyp

Thanks.

Dillon Kennedy  
Member of Scottish Youth Parliament,  
Perthshire South and Kinross-shire  
12 Burnbank  
Bridge of Earn, PH2 9BW

## Family history research: Hardiston House

I am doing some family research relating to the Cleish area and wondered if your readers might be able to help in any way.

My family were owners of Hardiston House/Farm, Cleish, 1852 – 1885, when William Reid died.

I am trying to find out any information prior to 1852. The estate was passed on to William Reid from his aunts, but I can't find any other details. I have been in touch with Perth Archives, but they can only confirm the basic details I have mentioned above.

Any little snippets would be most helpful. Thank you.

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## Hall Bookings

A list of halls and contact details can be found at

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

### Local Government Candidacy

I am delighted to announce that I have been selected as the Scottish Conservative & Unionist Party candidate in May's local elections to Perth & Kinross Council. I would absolutely relish the opportunity to represent Kinross-shire where I have lived since birth and ensure that our county's unique needs and priorities are voiced up in Perth.

There are many issues that are facing the county. Kinross-shire is, of course, a primarily commuter area and, for that reason, good public transport links and road maintenance is essential. We need to be better served by buses and I support calls for a feasibility study into the possibility of reinstating the Perth to Edinburgh direct rail link with a park-and-ride station at Kinross as proposed by Transform Scotland.

While there is, of course, a need for more houses across Scotland, there is also a need to ensure that local infrastructure is able to cope with the resultant increases in the population. For these reasons, I am therefore concerned by a number of developments that propose building over and above what has been indicated in the Local Development Plan.

Moreover, while I think that no one would deny that the refurbished High Street is more visually appealing, I remain greatly concerned by the safety of the shared space concept and hope that a pedestrian crossing will be reinstated as a matter of urgency. The lengthy redevelopment and loss of parking spaces has had a negative impact on local businesses. While things like the Scottish Government's Small Business Bonus rate relief are very welcome, the council itself needs to do more to support our local economy. Kinross-shire has so much to offer visitors and a greater focus on tourism, for example, could be a great help to these enterprises.

When it comes to the role of a local councillor, just as important as facilitating the provision of council services is understanding when it is better to support, encourage and empower those in the community. We are so incredibly lucky in Kinross-shire to have so many examples of community

groups and projects: from sports and other recreational activities to providing help and support to those in need. If elected as a councillor, I would engage with as many of these groups as possible and look at how the council can help them flourish.

Local government itself is, however, becoming less and less local as the SNP take powers away from our communities and centralise them in Holyrood. Since 2007, for example, council tax has been set centrally and, in next year's draft Scottish budget, the Nationalists outlined plans to significantly force up council tax for houses in bands E to H while considerably reducing funding to Perth & Kinross Council from central government.

In addition, the Scottish Government has overturned over half of appealed council planning decisions and we now have almost no local oversight of our police force. If elected, I shall strongly oppose these attacks on our local democracy and aim to deliver the best possible results within these restrictions imposed from Holyrood.

While Nicola Sturgeon might have ruled out another referendum on Scottish independence in 2017, the threat of a second referendum still looms large. As well as electing a strong local representative for Kinross-shire, your vote in these elections can also be used to send a message to the SNP to get on with governing the country rather than posture over the constitution.

I am greatly looking forward speaking to as many Kinross-shire residents as I can over the coming weeks and months and, if elected, I shall endeavour to be as accessible to you as possible. With that in mind, if there are any local issues that you would like to raise with me, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Callum Purves

*Scottish Conservative & Unionist Candidate for Kinross-shire*

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## Shared Space parallels

A “shared space” scheme under construction in Kirkintilloch, similar to the Kinross High Street redesign, is likely to be reversed, according to a recent report in the Kirkintilloch Herald.

The two main backers of the Kirkintilloch scheme, East Dunbartonshire Council and environment group Sustrans, admitted it was not working. The Herald report said:

*‘A spokesperson for Sustrans, who set the design criteria, told the Herald this week: “We have no wish to impose a design on the street that will not work for local people.”*

All four Kinross-shire Ward Councillors, along with two Kinross Community Councillors, took part in a walk about Kinross High Street with PKC officers on 13 December to discuss residents’ concerns about the shared space scheme here, which was constructed in 2015. The Councillors subsequently met with Roads officers on 9 January. All four Councillors report on that in their respective columns (see pages 8, 9, 13, and 15).

In his column, Cllr Cuthbert states that he is querying with Council officers whether Kinross High Street was suitable for a “shared space” treatment in the first place, due to the volume of traffic. Shared space is a design concept promoted in a key Scottish Government policy on design and place making called “Designing Streets”. This policy was used as guidance by Perth & Kinross Council when redesigning Kinross High Street. While giving evidence to the Scottish Parliament’s petitions committee on 10 November 2016, Transport Minister Humza Yousaf said: “I should point out that “Designing Streets” is predominantly aimed at residential and what we call lightly trafficked streets....”

Humza Yousaf was giving evidence to the Petitions Committee as it considers a petition calling for a moratorium on all shared space schemes until safety and equality concerns have been addressed. The petition was lodged by Sandy

Taylor of the East Dunbartonshire Visually Impaired People’s Forum. Mr Taylor has campaigned against the shared space in Kirkintilloch.

Mr Taylor has composed a poem, *Ode Tae Kirkie*, inspired by the experiences of residents in Kirkintilloch. He thought there were parallels with the situation in Kinross, and wondered Newsletter readers might like to read the poem. (See below.)



*Is Kinross High Street a “lightly trafficked” street?*

## Ode Tae Kirkie

Whit have they done doon Kirkie main street?  
It's a sicht that wid mak mony auld toonsfolk greet.  
Wi nae lights or crossins an the railins awa',  
I jist canna mak ony sense o' it aw.  
Wi nae pelican crossins an nae green cross code,  
ye tak yer life in yer hands jist crossin the road.  
These crossins are nae good for blind folk like us,  
cos I micht step in front o' a car or a bus.  
The scene in Kirkie is one of utter confusion,  
Where the old and disabled face total exclusion.  
The toon is noo empty, the shops are the same,  
folk don't need the hassle so they jist stay at hame.

These schemes have caused havoc aw ower the place,  
They're called many things but they're known as Shared Space.

They say we hae priority when crossin the road,  
But these crossins don't exist in the new Highway Code.  
The disabled have equality, dae they no understand,  
Proper crossins an kerbs are what we must demand.  
Access for all has been our constant lament,  
But all local folk get is the Cooncil's contempt.  
For many the scheme is non-inclusive and awful,  
But the discrimination and inequality is downright unlawful.

If they think we'll accept this they must be deluded,  
Cos we hiv oor rights, an we'll no be excluded.  
There's nae hope for the cooncil if they don't change direction,  
Cos they'll aw be awa', come the May 4th election.

*Sandy Taylor*

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## Councillor Robertson

**Core Path Maintenance:** The establishment of core paths around our communities has proved a great benefit. Most are very well used. However there is no funding available to keep these core paths clear of vegetation in the summer and many of them become impassable. I have tried to use offenders doing community service orders to clear some of them but this isn't really a long-term solution. In other parts of Perth & Kinross, paths groups have been established through support from the Council so that local volunteers can keep their core paths open. The Council provide any training and tools required to paths groups. I am keen to try and establish a Kinross-shire Paths Group so that we can keep important core paths such as the ones at Burleigh, Balado and Crook of Devon open and useable. If you are interested in getting involved, please let me know.



*Overgrown path at Burleigh last summer  
Cllr Robertson hopes to establish a Kinross-shire Paths Group  
to help keep core paths accessible*

**Vehicle Activated Signs:** Unfortunately residents of Burleigh Road, Milnathort, have been waiting nearly four years to have a vehicle-activated speed sign installed in their road. It is a road with a long history of speeding problems. The sign was meant to be eventually installed this financial year. However although the sign has been bought, the Council appear to have no staff available to design its installation! So it is likely that it won't be erected until the next financial year (or maybe the one after). Perth & Kinross Council have a capital budget of £500 million yet there appears to be no money for the basic road safety issues that keep us safe.

**Kinross High Street:** The plans for a pedestrian crossing at the Cooperative are currently being drawn up. I have also requested a pedestrian crossing at the southern end of the High Street and this is being considered by Council officers. This would make a safe crossing point for local residents and for children from the south east of the town going to and from the primary school.

**Street Lights:** Some concerns have been expressed about the dimness of the new style street lights which have been installed in Milnathort and Kinross. As a result of this I contacted the Council's lighting department and the lighting strength has been increased in the Muirs and High Street. The lights in New Road, Milnathort, will also be made brighter. It was found that the street lights in Station Road and Springfield Road, Kinross, and South Street and Stirling Road, Milnathort, were working satisfactorily.

**RSPB Loch Leven/Loch Leven Heritage Trail:** The underpass which goes under the B9097 and links RSPB Vane Farm to the Loch Leven Heritage Trail is totally unsuitable for both people

with disabilities and people on bicycles. RSPB have drawn up plans to build a new underpass which would be suitable for both disability buggies and bikes and have managed to raise half the funding required to build it. Both they and I have had discussions with Perth & Kinross Council to see if the Council can help to bridge the funding gap. We'll know the outcome in June.

**Toilet Provision at The Pier, Kinross:** There are no public toilet facilities at The Pier and this causes real problems as this is one of the main access points for the Loch Leven Heritage Trail and also for the ferries to Loch Leven Castle. I have arranged a couple of meetings to discuss this problem which were attended by the Kinross Estate Company, Scottish Natural Heritage, Historic Environment Scotland and Perth & Kinross Council. All are keen to try and find a solution. As a result TRACKS have agreed to take the provision of a toilet facility at The Pier on as a future project. The Loch Leven Heritage Trail attracts nearly a quarter of a million visits every year. It is important that we provide the infrastructure for these visitors.

*Councillor Willie Robertson*

## Campus opening hours may be cut

Following questions asked by Murdo Fraser MSP in the Scottish Parliament, reports have appeared in the Herald and Courier newspapers suggesting that money-saving measures in PKC's forthcoming budget might include cutting 24 Maths and English teachers in secondary schools, scrapping primary school swimming lessons and reducing the opening hours of community campuses.

Kinross CC Chairman Bill Freeman said: "The current financial climate is challenging and we realise there are tough decisions to be made. But we feel that if these suggested budget cuts are actually true, they would be the wrong areas to cut.

"Instead of reducing campus opening hours even further, we think Perth and Kinross Council should make efforts to increase usage of facilities and hopefully increase revenue. We are aware that the Kinross-shire and Almond & Earn Action Partnership has a £20,000 fund for local initiatives. Kinross Community Council have proposed that fund be used to reduce charges at Loch Leven Community Campus on a pilot basis, to see if that would increase usage and revenue. We would hope that the Council are not actually looking at reducing hours, but instead will consider this innovative idea to increase revenue."

The PKC budget will be set on 9 February.

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## Councillor Giacopazzi

### A Blanket 20mph Limit?

Should 20 be the new 30? Well, that's the suggestion from at least one pressure group. But then, pressure groups, unlike elected representatives, can take a single, partial view without having to strike a balance between the interests of various groups of road users. Yet, some populist politicians will campaign for a blanket 20mph limit, knowing full well that local authorities may lack the resources to introduce these.

In November I proposed a new policy for Perth and Kinross on the subject of 20mph limits, which was passed unanimously by the Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee on which Cllr Robertson and I both sit, following publication last Summer of the Scottish Government's 'Good Practice Guide on 20mph Speed Restrictions'. The Guide explains that the ability of local authorities in Scotland to fund 20mph schemes at the request of local communities was outstripping the ability of the services to resource these. So, while lending support for the introduction of more such limits where appropriate, it set out certain criteria for Councils to follow when considering lowering limits.

While Government guidance seeks to encourage the use of 20mph limits, it also wishes to see these limits applied in a measured way which will bring real benefits to vulnerable groups of road users. Clearly, it does not make sense to introduce a 20mph limit on a stretch of road if the nature of the road makes it difficult ever to reach that speed. Equally, the proliferation of 20mph limits could result in motorists continuing to drive at accustomed speeds, rather than slowing down in areas where a lower limit is justifiable. For example, the Council has long supported 20mph limits outside primary schools at times when children are likely to be around, with signs and flashing lights to draw attention to the limit. In my experience, limits outside schools are generally respected by drivers, recognising the increased risk to children at these locations.

In order to ensure that 20mph limits should only be introduced where there are likely to be real benefits as a result, the Council's policy requires consideration of a number of factors, i.e. accident data; existing vehicle speeds; composition of road users; function of route; road environment, and local community views.

The application of these criteria will ensure that 20mph limits are only introduced where it can be demonstrated that there is a real requirement for such a restriction and that it will assist motorists in recognising the need to modify their driving behaviour accordingly. As the 20mph will not be routinely enforced by the Police, it is important that drivers understand the need to proceed at lower speeds where it is clearly appropriate to do so.

I believe the Council's targeted approach to introducing 20mph limits to be the correct one; in sticking closely to Government guidance, it seeks to introduce such limits where there is a real expectation of an improvement to the safety of pedestrians, particularly children, and of cyclists. After all, lower limits should not exist to punish drivers, but to save lives and prevent injury.



And finally, speeds were monitored on 28 Edinburgh streets with newly reduced speed limits. At these locations the average speed reduced by just 1.9mph, from 22.8mph to 20.9mph.

### Environmental Improvements in Kinross Town Centre

Following complaints from residents, pedestrians and Kinross CC concerning the functioning of the new road lay out, your four ward Councillors, together with Council Roads officials and Community Councillors, went for a 'walk about' in the town centre on a very cold day last month to observe the issues at first hand. There is agreement in Kinross that the High Street has become a less friendly place for pedestrians crossing the road following the removal of the controlled crossing outside the Church Centre. Despite the efforts of Ward 8 Councillors, requests for a 'proper' crossing had been falling on deaf ears for some time. Fortunately, once the officials saw the issue at first hand, they quickly agreed that some measures were needed.

On 9 January, we met at Pullar House to hear the good news that the Council had agreed to install a pedestrian controlled crossing opposite the Co-op where there is currently an unofficial crossing point. We also received the welcome news that Roads officials would be assessing whether it would be possible to create a 'zebra' crossing just South of the Central Café, which would be beneficial to folk from Causeway Court and for children walking to school from the Sandport area. Money has been identified for the controlled crossing, with the work scheduled in the next financial year, 2017/18.

We also obtained agreement for reflective strips to be attached to the grey bollards, which are not conspicuous in conditions of bad light. Finally, it was agreed to erect signage on the High Street at the mini roundabout, directing HGVs to use Junction Road when travelling to Bridgend.

One of the purposes of the scheme was to reduce the speed of traffic on the High Street. A traffic survey has indicated that the average speed now is 18.8mph, compared to before. Of course, some drivers continue to flout this (and presumably) other speed limits, which is most disappointing. It is equally disappointing that drivers continue to park illegally in the town centre, particularly since the Mill Street car park was increased by 19 spaces a couple of years ago.

While it is realised that certain aspects of the scheme will still attract adverse comments from some, your elected representatives will continue to monitor the way it operates.

**Cllr Joe Giacopazzi**

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**Kinross-shire is a Fairtrade County**



## Flats proposed for Kinross Town Hall

A planning application has been lodged to convert Kinross Town Hall, the Carnegie Library and the former Post Office to nine dwellings.

Developers Edinburgh MI Ltd, who bought the buildings last summer, propose creating two townhouses in the library, one townhouse and two flats in the former Post Office and six flats in the town hall.

The developers intend to retain ownership of the buildings and to rent out the units to the "middle market". The clock tower will not form part of any residential accommodation but would be retained by the developers, who plan to keep the clock in working order.

The clock tower, former Post Office and Town Hall are B Listed Buildings and the Library is C Listed, and the buildings are in the town's Conservation Area.

Kinross-shire Civic Trust has objected to

the applications because the developers plan to retain most of the windows and doors that were installed without planning permission by the previous developer, the late Simon Wilson.

In their letter, Civic Trust Chairman Alistair Smith catalogues the changes that were carried out without the appropriate planning consent, including: "... replacement of all windows with uPVC framed double-glazed windows; replacement of almost all doors with composite doors with a PVC wood-grain effect surface; replacement of cast iron rainwater goods with uPVC; installation of CCTV cameras and an electrical cabinet; the replacement of the clock faces with Perspex .."

He reminds the PKC planners that "Your department is aware of these unauthorised works, which were the subject of extensive communication between Kinross-shire Civic Trust and

PKC's Nick Brian; other individuals and Mr Brian; and between Mr Brian and the previous owner and his agent, all over the course of several months in 2015."

The Kinross-shire Civic Trust letter states: "It is the responsibility of a purchaser to check whether past work was granted appropriate planning permission and the current owner of a building is liable for any past works carried out."

The deadlines for comments on the applications (refs 16/02053/LBC and 16/02054/FLL), which were validated on 7 December, have already passed.

Kinross CC has obtained an extension for its comments because PKC failed to send out the relevant list of planning applications to CCs in December. The CC will discuss the application at its meeting on Wednesday 1 February.

## Council backs Fair Trade Zone status bid

Councillors at PKC have backed a motion to support the efforts of the Fair Trade Steering Group to make Perth & Kinross a Fair Trade Zone.

The motion, proposed by Cllr Willie Robertson and seconded by Cllr Ann Gaunt, set out how the Council should demonstrate a commitment to Fair Trade, including:

- promote awareness of Fair Trade issues and the opportunities for supporting Fair Trade locally
- to encourage the use of Fair Trade goods, and offer these in Council venues, meetings and functions wherever possible
- to integrate Fair Trade considerations in the Council's Environmental Plan.

One Councillor from each of the 12 electoral wards has already volunteered to act as a Fair Trade Champion or to pass on relevant information, promoting the benefits of Fair Trade to businesses and residents in their area, and acting as a link to their local CCs. Willie Robertson is the Fair Trade Champion for Kinross-shire ward.

The support for Fair Trade at the December Council meeting is the latest stage in a long history of links with the Fair Trade movement in Perth and Kinross. In 2002 Aberfeldy became the first Fair Trade Town in Scotland, and in 2005 Perth became a Fair Trade City and Kinross-shire became Scotland's first Fair Trade County.

Karena Jarvie, chair of the Perth and Kinross Fair Trade Steering Group, said: "I am very pleased that Councillors have backed today's motion to support the efforts to make Perth & Kinross a Fair Trade Zone.

"As a key local organisation the Council's official recognition of the bid to achieve Fair Trade

Zone status is an important stage in the process. We are keen to continue to engage with local schools, businesses and community groups to spread the message of Fair Trade further, and demonstrate the commitment of people in Perth and Kinross to supporting producers in other countries by ensuring they are paid a fair price for their goods, have safe working conditions and use responsible environmental practices."

For more information and updates about the work to achieve Fair Trade Zone status for Perth and Kinross, search for P&K Fairtrade Zone Group on Facebook, @PKFairtrade on Twitter or visit:

[www.investinperth.co.uk/support/fair-trade-in-perth-kinross](http://www.investinperth.co.uk/support/fair-trade-in-perth-kinross)



*Some of the PKC Fair Trade Champions with Karena Jarvie, Chair of P&K Fair Trade Steering Group*

*Back, l to r: Cllr Alan Livingstone and Cllr Mike Williamson. Middle, l to r: Cllr Willie Robertson, Cllr Grant Laing, Cllr John Flynn and Cllr Lewis Simpson. Front, l to r: Cllr Peter Barrett, Cllr Willie Wilson, Karena Jarvie, Cllr Ann Gaunt, Cllr Bob Ellis*



## Councillor Cuthbert

### Kinross Town Centre

As mentioned in my article in the last edition of this Newsletter, a site visit to Kinross town centre was carried out on 13 December by your four local councillors, representatives of Kinross CC and senior PKC Environment Service officers.



Our first question to officers was why the paper outlining the improvements to Kinross Town Centre, which we had been promised in August 2016, had not appeared at the November meeting of the Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee. We were told that this was because the Senior Management Team had decided that this paper should not go to committee. As you might imagine, we were somewhat unhappy with this announcement. The officers would not tell us specifically who was responsible for this and to date I haven't found out. The explanation was that the changes we had proposed would have changed the shared space into a normal roadway.

Following this bombshell, we carried out the site visit and pointed out the issues to the officers. By the end of the visit the Head of Service was visibly shocked by some of what he saw and heard.

My thanks to the members of the public who stopped to chat with us about their concerns.

The upshot of this walkabout (and a subsequent meeting) is that the officers have informed us that there will be a controlled crossing outside the Co-op and that other safety initiatives will be introduced within the so called "shared space". Examples of these include bollards between the pavement and the road directly opposite the Salutation Hotel; reflective strips on the granite bollards in the Town Hall area; and a potential second controlled crossing near the chip shop.

Following the meeting where this matter was discussed, I have raised with officers the question of the suitability of this area for a shared space. The question I asked is as follows:

*"In a report entitled 'A Review of Simplified Streetscape Schemes' it was stated: 'Another way of interpreting the results is that the pedestrian area's road space will be used like an ordinary road, with no pedestrians walking along it if:*

- *Traffic (other than bus) flow exceeds 50 vehicles per hour with an 85th percentile speed of 30mph, or*
- *Traffic (other than bus) flow exceeds 100 vehicles per hour with an 85th percentile speed of 25mph, or*
- *Traffic (other than bus) flow exceeds 200 vehicles per hour with an 85th percentile speed of 20mph."*

*My understanding is that Traffic flow on Kinross High Street is currently 400 vehicles per hour at 3pm on week days, with an 85th percentile speed of 23.3 mph.*

*Given the traffic flows and the recorded speeds, the implication as I understand it is that the pedestrian area's road space will be used like an ordinary road, with no pedestrians walking along it.*

*As there is no clear definition of where the road ends and the pavement begins this is making residents very nervous about using the pavement in the Kinross Town Hall area.*

*Anecdotally this is supported by reports that residents of Causeway Court will not leave their property for fear of walking on the High Street.*

*I would welcome the views of officers on this matter."*

I await a response.

### Kinross Town Hall

An application has been received for the Town Hall to be converted into nine flats. The reference for this is 16/02054/FLL and you can read more about it on the PKC planning portal.

I am disappointed that there is no provision for retail or other commercial use proposed in this application.

### Review of Community Campuses

I outlined some of my concerns about the current "Community" aspect of the Community Campuses in my last article.

Following this article, I have met with the officers carrying out the review and have had sight of the draft paper which is planned to go before the Lifelong Learning Committee (Education) on 25 January.

The first thing I will say about this is that I am pleased to see that the officers have accepted that all the issues I raised had a foundation of fact and were real issues which needed to be addressed. I see this as a very encouraging development as the identification and acceptance of issues is the first step to resolving them.

Whilst the paper does not go as far as I would have liked, I am pleased that it does address the issues. For example, the paper currently says that not for profit community groups will be given the option of providing their own food supply to support meetings or fund-raising events or by working with Tayside Contracts to jointly deliver at a reduced cost.

I will update you with the final content of this paper once it has been approved by Council.

### Inaction Partnerships

I continue to be concerned about the lack of progress being made by the Kinross-shire, Almond and Earn Action Partnership. This has the task of distributing £20,000 to local groups by way of a participatory budgeting exercise by the end of March. I have no idea how this can be achieved given the timescales, but will of course keep you informed.

### Computer Failure

On a personal note, I suffered a complete failure on my laptop in December and a lot of emails and information was lost. I think I have managed to get most of the information back, but apologise now if I haven't got back to you.

### Snippet

This is a snippet of what is going on at the Council. There is an awful lot more, but space here doesn't allow me to include it all!

**Councillor Dave Cuthbert**  
**Independent Councillor for Kinross-shire**  
**dcuthbert@pkc.gov.uk**

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## Councillor Barnacle Proposed Constituency Boundary Changes

*Abridged copy of a letter by Cllr Barnacle to  
Boundary Commission of Scotland, 10/1/17*



### 2018 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies

I strongly suggest you reconsider your proposals affecting the PKC area for the following reasons, viz:

#### Fixation on Voter Numbers and Area of Representation

I note your Review is required by the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 and the requirement to reduce Scotland's constituencies from 59 to 53. Also that, apart from the 2 island constituencies, every one in Scotland must be between 71,031 and 78,507 voters and no constituency may exceed 13,000 square km. I further note that because of these constraints on constituency design, you have not been able to construct all constituencies from complete electoral wards. There is therefore, in my view, a fundamental flaw that results from these constraints, in producing proposals that are the outcome of being fixated on voter numbers rather than the identity and history people feel for their areas in our very diverse island. The proposals artificially force disparate communities together and force other strongly linked communities apart.

Whilst PKC and myself are content with your proposals for the Perthshire County Constituency, it is suggested this should be renamed 'Perth and North Perthshire Constituency', reflecting Perth's recent re-affirmation of City status and recognition it does not contain southern Perthshire.

**PKC and myself completely oppose your proposal for a Kinross-shire and Cowdenbeath County Constituency, for reasons outlined below:**

Southern Perthshire and Kinross-shire have little in common with Central Fife. Your current proposal pairs 4 rural wards of PKC with 4 urban wards from Central Fife that include the towns of Cowdenbeath, Kelty, Kirkcaldy and Lochgelly. The levels of population density and deprivation in these central Fife wards are much higher, meaning that the issues of this half of the proposed constituency would dominate the MP's time and leave Kinross-shire in particular effectively under represented.

**Even more significantly**, since Scotland began sending representatives to the UK Parliament in 1710, **no Westminster constituency has paired Kinross-shire with Fife.**

PKC in our motion debate of 14/12/16 unanimously called upon yourselves to consider alternative groupings of the Perth & Kinross, Fife, Clackmannanshire, Stirling and Falkirk Council areas, including the suggested constituencies of Kinross-shire and South Perthshire and Stirling City and Falkirk North.

I agree that Central Fife would be better paired with Clackmannanshire and Kinross-shire and South Perthshire better paired with Stirlingshire. This would allow for the creation of two entirely rural and two entirely urban constituencies, which makes more sense.

I note that in your 2013 Review, the Commission proposed a constituency of Clackmannanshire and Dunfermline West.

The suggested constituency of Kinross-shire and South Perthshire would pair the remaining parts of PKC with the rural parts of Stirling Council, the majority of which were in the historic former larger county of Perthshire and there remain strong local ties with these communities. It is submitted broadly that this constituency would be made up of PKC wards 6 - 9 and Stirling wards 1 - 3.

I urge the Commission to reconsider their proposal to ensure that Kinross-shire is not paired with Fife and serious thought given to the suggested alternative constituency of Kinross-shire and South Perthshire.

Yours faithfully

Cllr Michael Barnacle, Independent Member for Kinross-shire

## Capital Improvements to the A977

*Copy of an email to C Haggart and B Murray, PKC, 13/1/17*

Following our meeting the other day, I have examined my A977 files and suggest the following measures should be considered for consultation with the community.

- Gateway features of significance at entrances to Blairingone, Crook, Drum and Powmill
- Vehicle activated signing at same, alongside speed cameras
- Consideration of 20 mph limits in centres of villages, along with review of current limits
- Introduce a speed limit west of Balado crossroads to Turfhill and enhance cycle crossing point
- Introduce a pedestrian crossing point for the millennium footpath west of Crook of Devon
- Review crossing location near village hall, Crook and pavement provision from their car park
- Large roundabouts at Blairingone, Crook and Powmill
- Instigate feasibility study into potential bypass lines for above villages to produce more accurate costings for a longer term solution
- Repair the road surface at Drum, replace cats' eyes and improve white lining along the whole road between Blairingone and Turfhill (possibly funded from current maintenance budget)

It should be noted that the cost of large roundabouts at Blairingone and Crook, along with an improved crossing location and pavement provision east of Crook could be partly facilitated through development proposals that may arise following public consultation on LDP2 that is set for 18 February 2017 at Crook village hall. DC has suggested that this may also be an opportunity to consult the community on the A977 measures outlined above.

Kind regards

Councillor Mike Barnacle, Independent member for Kinross-shire

## Forward Planning - community consultation in Fossoway on 18 February

Readers may note my articles in the November and December editions regarding the delay in producing Local Development Plan 2 (LDP2) until after the next Local Authority elections and post summer recess of 2017. This presents an opportunity for further consultation which I and my fellow Ward Councillors identified as particularly valuable for Fossoway when we were briefed by Officers from Forward Planning on the Main Issues Report consultation responses from Kinross-shire for LDP2 last September.

In considering development proposals put forward, there is also an opportunity to consider and consult on mitigation measures for the A977 following the securing of extra funds of £600,000 in the Council's Capital Budget last June by myself and Cllr Cuthbert (see my email of 13/1/17 to Chic Haggart and Brenda Murray above).

An LDP 'Exhibition Event' will be held at Crook of Devon Village Hall on **Saturday 18 February** between 11am and 2pm at which development proposals for zoning in Blairingone, Crook of Devon and Rumbling Bridge will be presented, along with related possible mitigation measures for the A977 between Blairingone and Turfhill. **I urge folk from these villages, along with people from Balado and Powmill to attend this event**, in particular to assist Kinross-shire Councillors in assessing community support or opposition to the measures and proposals put forward for consideration.

In short summary, the development zoning submissions for further consultation are (as far as I am aware) as follows:

**Blairingone:** Identifying a wider settlement boundary to include land to the south of the A977 for housing development and contribution to provision of a large roundabout, possibly as part of developing a community plan.

*Continues over page*

### Councillor Barnacle continued...

**Crook of Devon:** A housing site east of the Village Hall with detailed and considerable developer proposals/requirements, including contribution to provision of large gateway roundabout at junction of B9097 with A977, improved pedestrian crossing facilities and footpath links, bus shelters, drainage network improvement, increased public parking and access to Crook Moss, contribution to improving sports facility at Waulkmill Park etc. In addition, proposals include a site for a café/restaurant/farm shop and a serviced business land employment element.

**Rumbling Bridge:** A proposal to include the former area of village setting north of the Nursing Home within the settlement boundary as per the 2004 Local Plan; a very modest housing proposal to include provision of a footpath from the Gorge alongside the northern boundary of the Nursing Home to the A823 and the Dollar footpath network, plus some public parking and open space.

### Kinross High Street

On 9/1/17, Councillors met with PKC Roads Officers Chic Haggart and Willie Young to discuss the Kinross High Street Regeneration Scheme following our walkabout in December with representatives from Kinross CC. Discussions continue on a number of changes we have requested but I would specifically mention a commitment, first intimated in August 2016 to the CC, to reinstate a formal pedestrian crossing in the High Street that was confirmed at the meeting.

### Westfield Biomass Plant

On 13/1/17, Councillors met with representatives from Portmoak CC and the Case Planning Officers from Fife and PK Councils to discuss the Westfield Biomass Plant application. Planning Officers confirmed the current objections from Kinross-shire Civic Trust, SEPA and SNH. Councillors made clear their preference for upgrading rail links to the site and limiting HGV traffic on the B9097 and C50 approaches; there was discussion around conditions relating to air quality, hours of operation, landscaping and noise etc. It was agreed to have further briefings with the planners before any decision or recommendation had been made.

**Councillor Mike Barnacle**  
*Independent Member for Kinross-shire*

### Christmas display helps Shelter

Kinross-shire resident **Quentin Julien**, known as Jules, has raised £141.72 for Shelter by putting out a donation box and inviting anyone who enjoyed the Christmas light display at his Crook of Devon home to spare a little cash for the charity. Shelter Scotland helps over half a million people a year struggling with bad housing or homelessness.

Jules is looking forward to putting on a bigger and better display next year. He would like to thank everyone in the community who supported him and his family in putting on his first Christmas lights and donating to Shelter.



*Quentin Julien handing his donation to Shelter Scotland*

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## News from the Health Centre



### Child Immunisation Clinics

The system for administering immunisations to pre-school children has been changed by the Health Board. In the past, this service was provided by the Health Visitors at the Health Centre and staff here were able to make, cancel or change appointments for patients. It was also possible to be flexible with the days of the clinics.

Since the introduction of the Universal Health Visiting Pathway in Scotland, the provision of childhood immunisations no longer forms part of the role of the Health Visitor. NHS Tayside has therefore created Immunisation Teams and the staff in these teams are responsible for administering all pre-school immunisations to patients registered with practices in Tayside.

Staff from the team will visit each practice on a set day of the week. The day allocated to Loch Leven Health Centre is a Monday and appointments are not available on other days. A list of patients to be vaccinated in each clinic is generated by SIRS (the Scottish Immunisation and Recall System) and sent to the practice. On completion of the clinic, details of the children vaccinated will be sent back to SIRS by the Immunisation Team and the child's record will be updated.

No receptionists or health visitors at the Health Centre are now allowed to make any changes to appointments. All requests for changes have to be addressed to the Child Health Department in NHS Tayside. Their contact number is 01382 432111.

This is a new system and there are inevitably teething problems. We would please ask patients to bear with this and address any questions about appointments to the Child Health Department rather than the staff at the Health Centre.

### Appointments with Midwives

Changes have also been made by NHS Tayside to the administration of appointments with midwives. In the past, appointments were managed by the staff here, but this too has been centralised and the staff here are no longer able to make or change midwifery appointments. All enquiries about appointments should be addressed to the central booking service on 01738 473270. The first appointment with the midwife can last for up to an hour. Prior to attending the first appointment all patients should please collect a pack of information from our Reception Desk. This contains the Pregnancy Record. Sections of this should be completed prior to the appointment with the midwife and the pack also contains guidance notes on how to complete the record.

### Baby Sensory is coming to Kinross!

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**Samantha Grant 07974 031842** [westlife@babysensory.co.uk](mailto:westlife@babysensory.co.uk)  
[www.facebook.com/westlifebabysensory](http://www.facebook.com/westlifebabysensory)

## Elizabeth Smith MSP for Mid Scotland and Fife



Improving Scotland's health is one of the Scottish Government's biggest challenges. Challenging our reputation as the sick man of Europe will require a concerted effort that tackles nearly every aspect of our collective lives.

The Scottish Conservatives are serious about meeting this challenge and launched our new healthy lifestyle strategy this week [ending 13 Jan]. We have consulted sporting organisations and third sector groups across Scotland to come up with policy recommendations that can make a real difference to how we approach physical literacy. We need to ensure that physical activity starts as early as possible in order to establish best practice. Equipping nursery teachers with the correct training to provide youngsters with meaningful exercise is important as is ensuring the nutritional value of food in schools and hospitals meets the highest standards. Early years interventions are proven to have the greatest impact when it comes to creating long-term healthy living patterns. Therefore, equipping nurseries and teachers with the skills to make a difference is incredibly important and one that we will press the Scottish Government to establish.

In addition to our policy launch I also had the pleasure of leading a debate in parliament on Kenny Logan's STEP Change programme. I have known Kenny for a number of years and as well as being one of Scotland's greatest ever rugby players he is also an ambassador for STEP which aims to use physical activity to improve classroom learning. As a child Kenny had undiagnosed dyslexia and found classroom learning difficult. He believes that if STEP had been around when he was a child his education would have been markedly different.

STEP consists of a set of exercises performed twice a day for ten minutes for children in primary 4 and 5. It helps develop fundamental skills that are needed to learn successfully. For many children, basic learning skills such as sitting still, maintaining concentration and physically following letters when reading are not automatic tasks. An inability to do those things usually means that those children are at an immediate disadvantage in the classroom. The STEP programme focuses on tackling that by improving three main skills: balance, eye tracking and co-ordination. Each pupil completes two short exercises focusing on one or more of those skills. The programme has been shown to have benefits for almost any pupil, but the greatest impact is shown to be on those in the lowest quartile of classroom performance. So far the programme has been rolled out, to great success, in parts of England and the United States and I would like to see Perth and Kinross Council pick up the baton and introduce it to classrooms in the region.

Unfortunately, these two examples serve in contrast to initiatives that the Scottish Government is backing. Recently they gave their support to a "Pizza Reading Club" where students were rewarded with hot chocolate, biscuits and pizza in exchange for reading books. Whilst the carrot and stick approach can be successful, the use of junk food as a reward is problematic. I would therefore call on the First Minister to examine our policy paper and look towards establishing consensus when it comes to early years learning and physical literacy.

As always I can be contacted at The Control Tower, Perth Airport, Scone, Perth PH2 6PL tel: 01738 553990 or email: [Elizabeth.Smith.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:Elizabeth.Smith.msp@parliament.scot)

**Elizabeth Smith MSP**

## Stagecoach launches mobile ticketing

Stagecoach East Scotland has launched mobile ticketing through its smartphone app. The full range of dayrider tickets available on Stagecoach East Scotland can now be bought via the Stagecoach Bus app.

Payments via the app can be made by PayPal, or via debit or credit card. The move provides an additional payment option for customers alongside existing smart ticketing and cash payments.

The Stagecoach Bus app was introduced in 2016 and is available free of charge for Apple and Android mobile phones, offering a number of journey planning tools for customers, including journey planning using interactive maps. The smartphone GPS system helps customers identify their nearest bus stop and the most suitable service for their requirements. Passengers can access live running times via their smartphone to check the status of their journey with live tracking information before catching the bus.

The Stagecoach Bus App is available to download from the Apple Store or from Google Play and more information is available at [stagecoachbus.com](http://stagecoachbus.com)



## 'A Good Life in Later Years' project

Age Scotland and the University of Stirling have been funded by the Life Changes Trust to conduct research on quality of life in later years.

Over 30 community researchers across Scotland are working to find out what the essence of a good life is and what older people need to achieve and/or maintain it. The project will also explore how quality of life differs for people with a long-term condition, like dementia, as well as older people who become carers for a partner, relative or friend.

The researchers have used a number of methods to gather this information, including focus groups involving people from across the country. Key 'quality of life' themes that have emerged from these meetings include: personal independence, health and wellbeing, care and support, mobility and transport, relationships, technology, services, communities and the role of older people in society.

The researchers are also developing a survey which will be distributed across Scotland, to involve and engage as many older people as possible. To receive a copy and contribute to the project, please email [agoodlife@stir.ac.uk](mailto:agoodlife@stir.ac.uk) or call the Age Scotland Policy Team on **0333 323 2400**.

The findings will be summarised in a final written and video report, and a series of short reports and posters on key themes. The researchers aim to use their findings to influence decision makers to improve policies that support older people as they age. The report will be published in autumn 2017.

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## Tasmina Ahmed-Sheikh MP for Ochil and South Perthshire



I'm looking forward to attending several celebrations of Robert Burns' life and work in the constituency and elsewhere in the coming weeks. Burns famously wrote: "*Man's inhumanity to man makes countless thousands mourn.*"

Some of his most famous lyrics seem eerily prophetic as we reflect on the past year. Conflicts in Syria and Yemen continue to rage and engulf the region, resulting in unimaginable horrors and a refugee crisis in both countries. With Burns' words resonating, now more than ever we must act and use our influence to improve the conditions thousands of civilians in Yemen and Syria face day to day. I have been contacted by a number of constituents who are horrified by the images of the horrendous living conditions in war-torn cities like Aleppo and Sanaa.

All SNP MPs voted against air strikes in Syria in the House of Commons, demanding that an effective plan be brought forward to defeat Daesh, one that puts humanitarian assistance to the forefront of the UK's wider strategy.

We need a similar approach in Yemen, which prioritises finding an end to the conflict rather than maximizing UK arms sales to Saudi Arabia.

On the home front, Scotland has taken a higher proportion of refugees than any other part of the UK. I have been heartened by my constituents who welcomed, with open arms, Syrian refugees fleeing atrocities as a result of the conflict. The warm welcome they received is testament to the generosity and community spirit I regularly see throughout the constituency. I will continue to push for action for a wider ethical and effective strategy to the growing humanitarian crisis in Syria and Yemen, one that moves away from knee-jerk militarism and instead focusses around humanitarian and political efforts.

Over the coming months I'll be holding a range of surgeries throughout the constituency. The next date in **Kinross** will be **Friday 10 March**. The up to date list can be found on my website at [tasmina.scot](http://tasmina.scot), or my Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/TasminaAhmedSheikhSNP](http://www.facebook.com/TasminaAhmedSheikhSNP).

Please drop me a line at [tas.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:tas.mp@parliament.uk) if you'd like to book an appointment, or if there is anything else I can help with please feel free to contact my office on 01259 726661.

**Tasmina Ahmed-Sheikh MP**

### HUSBAND & WIFE HANDY TEAM READY FOR ACTION

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Email us at: [mrands.mrs.readyforaction@gmail.com](mailto:mrands.mrs.readyforaction@gmail.com)

## Loch Leven Community Library

Loch Leven Community Campus, Muirs, Kinross

Tel: 01577 867205

Email: [lochlevenlibrary@culturepk.org.uk](mailto:lochlevenlibrary@culturepk.org.uk)

Website: [www.pkc.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.pkc.gov.uk/libraries)



### Opening Times

Sun closed

Mon limited service staffed by volunteers 10am-1pm

Tue, Wed & Thu 10am-8pm

Fri 10am-6pm

Sat 10am-4pm

(Saturdays 1-4pm limited service, staffed by volunteers)

### Regular Sessions for Young Children

No need to book, just come along:

#### Bookbug Rhymetimes

Saturdays 10.30am-11am. Wednesdays 2pm-2.30pm.

#### Pre-school Story Time

Tuesdays 10.15am-10.45am. Thursdays 10.45am-11.15am.

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

#### Stay and Play

Wednesdays 2.30-3.30pm. Thursdays 11.15am-12.15pm.

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.

#### French Storytelling, First Saturday of each month

French themed story-time for 4-8 year olds, 11.30am-12pm on the first Saturday of each month. This project aims to support the 1+2 approach to modern languages, where every child has the opportunity to learn a modern language from P1 onwards. Contact the library to book your free place.



#### IT Drop in Sessions

Need help with a specific task such as setting up an email account, completing online applications, using Microsoft Word, managing digital photographs? Then these informal volunteer-led sessions may be just for you. **Thursday 16 February**, 2-4pm. Free session, but booking **essential**.



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69 Whitecraigs, Kinnesswood, Kinross

Email: [pipreed68@icloud.com](mailto:pipreed68@icloud.com)

### 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

Please contact the Library for the next book group date.

### Harry Potter Book Night, Thursday 2 February

To celebrate Harry Potter Book Night we have 'Quidditch' with Live Active on 2 February from 4pm to 4.45pm, drop-in Harry Potter crafts and fun activities for children 6.30-7.30pm. All suitable for primary school age children.



If you really want to get in to the Hogwarts mood, why not come along dressed as a wizard, witch or your favourite Harry Potter character?

### Library Community Day, Thursday 23 February

Haven't used your library recently or new to the area? We'd love to show you around!

Free activities for everyone are on offer at Loch Leven Community Library on Thursday 23 February.

Join us for an exciting programme of activities for families, including Bookbug Rhymetime, Stay and Play, Storytelling and Soft Play, all of which are suitable for children aged 0-4yrs.

Also throughout the day, library staff will be on hand to showcase our free downloadable eBooks, eMagazines and other online resources, e.g. SCRAN and Find Health.

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

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## Newsletter grants deadline approaches

The deadline is approaching for the next opportunity to apply for grant funding from the Kinross CC Newsletter Ltd charitable fund, which was built up from past profits of the Kinross Newsletter. Applications must comply with at least one of the aims of the charity. The next deadline is **Friday 31 March**. See the notice on page 97 for more information.

## Gifts to Milnathort at Christmas time

Scottish Water and alliance partner aBV helped to make Christmas 2016 special in Milnathort with a donation of £500 to the community for a Christmas tree, lights and a laser to light up the town hall.

The donation came following major sewer works undertaken in Milnathort over a twelve-month period.

Scottish Water also donated £2000 to Milnathort in Bloom to help replace some trees and flowerbeds that had to be removed to carry out the work.

Theresa Stirling of Milnathort in Bloom said: "We're so pleased that we could work with Scottish Water to get the funds to refurbish the cross, so it's absolutely brilliant."

Referring to the Carols at the Cross event, Theresa said: "It's the first time, certainly since I've lived in Milnathort, that we've done something like this, so the fact that Scottish Water donated money for the Christmas Tree and the lights and that it helped us bring the community together is really good."

Clive Duncan, Scottish Water Regional Communities Manager for the area, said: "We are pleased to see that after our extensive project was completed we were able to leave a positive legacy for the people of the town. I would just like to take this opportunity to once again thank the people of the town for their cooperation and patience throughout the works."



*The Christmas tree donated by Scottish Water*

### Scotlandwell Frames

Bespoke framing for your sport shirts,  
photos, paintings, prints & mementos...

14 Friar Place  
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Call Stuart Garvie  
01592 840825/07788 142909

## Bin collection calendars are now paperless

Perth & Kinross Council will no longer provide hard copy bin collection calendars to householders.

The move is part of an effort to reduce waste and to promote online access to bin collection calendars.

Householders who still rely on having a printed collection calendar who do not have access to the internet can visit any Council Library to get access to a printer. Householders who require a large print version of a collection calendar, or who receive outside home care support, can request a printed collection calendar via the Customer Service Centre on 01738 476476, or email [recycle@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:recycle@pkc.gov.uk)

## New Permit System at Recycling Centres

A new Recycling Centre Permit System was introduced at Perth and Kinross Recycling Centres on 9 January 2017. It aims to target traders who claim to be residents with household waste and try to deposit it free of charge.

The majority of people who use recycling centres will be unaffected by the new permit system, however if any 'commercial' type vehicle is used to visit the centres (vans, both liveried and non-liveried, trailers etc), they will need to apply for an appropriate permit.

More information is available on the pkc website.

## Lest We Forget Reflections on the Great War

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



### Kinross-shire Roll of Honour

9 January 1917	William Rintoul
22 January 1917	William Thomson

### William Rintoul

William Rintoul, a Private in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, died on 9 January 1917 from wounds received in action while on duty in the front line trenches.

Private Rintoul's widow, who lived at Curate Wynd, Kinross, received the news in a letter from the Battalion's Colonel. A newspaper report of the time said:

'The following tribute "He was a good and brave soldier, and a favourite with both officers and men" will be readily endorsed by all who knew Private Rintoul. When resident in Kinross and employed in the Aitken pit, his quiet unassuming manner gained for him much respect. Shortly after war broke out he answered the call of King and country in the autumn of 1914, and much sympathy is felt for his widow and young family who are left to mourn his loss.'

Private Rintoul is buried at Guards' Cemetery, Combles.

# Police Box



## Local Incidents, mid Nov 2016 – mid Jan 2017

Two **Cheviot sheep** were **stolen** from land adjacent to Craigton House, **Cleish**, between 18 and 21 November. The sheep have a yellow tag in their left ears with the flock number UK542022.

On the evening of Wednesday 23 November a male used a distraction technique to **fraudulently obtain £200** from a shop in **Kinross** after deliberately confusing a member staff by asking them to exchange note denominations. Police are seeking a white, eastern European male aged about 25 in connection with the incident.

A **wildlife shelter** at Pier Road, **Kinross**, was **vandalised** over the weekend of 25 to 28 November. Ref: CR/31833/16.

On Saturday 8 December a black Range Rover parked in a driveway at **Burnbank Meadows, Kinross**, was found to have its wing mirror damaged.

**Counterfeit currency** was passed at two **Kinross** retailers during the afternoon of Wednesday 7 December. Retailers are reminded to be extra vigilant when accepting payment to ensure they are not being given counterfeit notes.

A **planter** containing an evergreen shrub was **stolen** from Church Road, **Crook of Devon**, between Friday 9 and Thursday 15 December.

At 1.30pm on Monday 2 January, within the car park at **Moto Service Station**, Turfhill, Kinross, two male cyclists used **threatening and abusive behaviour** towards the driver of a red Volkswagen Polo car and thereafter caused damage to the car by scratching same. One of the cyclists is white European, medium build, approximately 5ft 7" tall, 40 years, wearing a balaclava, a yellow neon jacket and a cycling helmet and glasses and had a local accent. The other cyclist had olive skin, medium build, approximately 6ft tall, 40 years, short dark hair, dark beard, black clothing and had a foreign accent.

At 1pm on Monday 9 January, a white male, aged 20 years, approximately 5'8" in height with dark brown hair, attempted to tender a **counterfeit** Bank of Ireland £50 note within the **Co-op**, High Street, Kinross.

Overnight on Tuesday 10 January, a property under construction in Church Brae, **Glenfarg**, was entered by persons. Alcohol was consumed and a set of **keys stolen** from the property.

Thieves made off with a **TV, DVD player** and **ornaments** following a sneak-in theft at **Muir's, Kinross**, sometime between 2pm and 3.45pm on Saturday 14 January.

A black leather wallet containing a **three-figure sum of money** was stolen during a break-in to a house in **School**

**Wynd, Kinross**, at about 9pm on Monday 16 January. A male aged approximately 25 years, stocky build, 6ft tall, wearing a dark blue top with brown shoulders was seen within the vicinity at the time of the break-in.

*If you have information on any of the above, please contact Police on **101** or Crimestoppers on **0800 555111**.*

## Police Staff Changes

Sergeant Amanda Nicolson, who was the Community Co-ordinator for the South Perthshire community, has moved to a new post in Dundee. She wrote to Community Councils in December, saying: "I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as Community Co-ordinator for the South Perthshire (and North Perthshire latterly) community and thank you for your support in this role."

"From 1st January 2017 there will be no Community Co-ordinator role in Perth and Kinross with your community policing point of contacts being the local Community Sergeants, who will be based in the community."

The new Community Sergeant for Kinross is Nichola Forrester (previously of Crieff).

In addition, there will also be a new South Perthshire Community Inspector, Kevin Chase.

## Police Scotland – local community

### Telephone 101 for non-emergencies

*Community Sergeant (Kinross-shire):* **Sgt Nicky Forrester.**

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

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

### Ways of following the Police:

twitter.com/policescotland

www.facebook.com/PoliceScotland

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.

## Can you help young people prepare for independent living?

Perth & Kinross Council is seeking local residents who would be willing to offer space in their homes to young people aged 16 and up who have been in local authority care and are now moving on towards adulthood and independent living. Supported lodgings provide a safe and supportive environment for previously looked after young people as they progress to independence.

More information is available at the webpage: [www.pkc.gov.uk/supportedlodgings](http://www.pkc.gov.uk/supportedlodgings)

## Dance Connect will perform Aladdin

Pupils of Dance Connect dance school began practising show dances in earnest after the Christmas and New Year break, ready for their performance of Aladdin at Lochgelly Theatre on 24 and 25 March. Teacher Rachel Webb said: "I cannot wait! This show will be magical with a dancing genie, Bollywood style numbers and beautiful ballet and a great second half of tap, jazz, street and highland."

Tickets will be available from Lochgelly Theatre.

Dance Connect pupils recently achieved exam success. See Congratulations on page 88.

# 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 December Meeting

**Present** at the meeting held on 7 December 2016 were: Cllrs Bill Freeman (Chair), E Thomas (Secy), M Blyth, J Bryson, D Colliar, B Davies, I Jack, D MacKenzie, T Stewart and David West. **Also in attendance:** P&K Cllrs D Cuthbert, J Giacomazzi and W Robertson; and one member of the public.

**Apologies:** Cllr M Scott and P&K Cllr M Barnacle.

**Declarations of Interest:** None.

**Police Report:** None received and no police present. Police are trying to organise attendance at CC meetings in the coming months. Where CC minutes are sent to Police, these are reviewed and policing matters actioned. The Area Commander's weekly bulletins since the last CC meeting were noted. The number of incidents in Kinross-shire appears to be greater over the last three months or so than normal. Cllr Jack wondered if we could be told of apprehension rates. The secretary will write to the Police.

**Queen's tree:** The trees have not been planted yet. Cllr Colliar is still to obtain a price for a plaque.

**Hearing loop:** The secretary has contacted Lodge St Serf but has not heard back yet.

**Venue:** It is possible that the CC may be allowed to meet free of charge at the campus. The Secy will check with CC Liaison and the campus.

**Defibrillator/kiosk:** Cllr Davies has made the necessary contact with BT and PKC to request adoption of the kiosk on the Muirs. Mrs Hunter is about to start fundraising for a town centre defibrillator and suggests that a small group be set up in the new year. Cllr Davies acknowledged that there will be a number of questions to address, e.g. who is responsible for ongoing maintenance, replacement of pads after use etc. He is trying to get information from the local First Responders group to help gauge likely usage rates.

**Toilets at Pier:** Cllr Robertson has arranged a meeting for 9 December. Cllr Davies will represent the CC.

**Provost's lamp:** The secretary reported on a telephone conversation with Mr White who had repaired the lamp. The lamp is the responsibility of Perth & Kinross Council.

**Development names:** G S Brown had responded by forwarding correspondence they had received from PKC regarding street naming and numbering. The secretary had circulated to CC members a link to the PKC webpage regarding street naming and numbering. Developers are asked to apply to PKC for a name as soon as they have planning permission. PKC then applies to Royal Mail for a postcode. It was the understanding of the meeting that the Council is supposed to consult with local councillors regarding new street names and the councillors usually consult with CCs. Local consultation would help prevent confusing or inappropriate naming. It was agreed that the secretary should write to Lisa Wilkie, Street Naming and Numbering Officer to ask if the Bishop View name can be changed and to ask if any application has been made yet regarding the former Kinross High School site.

**Streetlights:** Cllr Robertson had asked for the lights on all main thoroughfares to be brightened. He will now ask if it is possible to increase the spread of the lights, which may

be helpful on the Muirs near the Green Hotel where mature trees impede the efficacy of the lights.

**Campus review:** Sheena Devlin, Director of Education & Children's Services had agreed to reinstate the CC survey for a short time. The secretary had placed a post on this subject on the CC Facebook page, which had elicited around ten comments. She will include these in the CC's survey response. There will be a paper about the review at the January meeting of Education & Children's Services.

**Town Centre Regeneration:** Radio Tay interviewed the secretary about the Kinross shared space scheme shortly after the last CC meeting. A walkabout for local elected members, council officers and the CC will take place on 13 December. Cllrs Thomas, Davies and MacKenzie will represent the CC. The secretary asked if the recently completed Road Safety Audit would be available before the walkabout. This has not been provided yet but Cllr Cuthbert will ask for it again. Cllr Robertson stated that the parking survey has still not been made available.

**New Primary School:** The user group has not met for some time. The work is on schedule.

**New Planning Applications.** Applications advertised since the last CC meeting are listed below. The CC decided not to comment on any of them.

16/01763/FLL Extension to dwelling house and erection of replacement garage, 73 Muirs, Kinross.

16/01930/FLL Removal of condition 5 (use and ownership) of permission 09/00925/FLL Change of use from ancillary accommodation to dwelling house and erection of fence, 126 High Street, Kinross.

16/01894/FLL Alterations and extension to dwelling house, 193 High Street, Kinross.

16/01884/FLL Extension to dwelling house, The Ranch, 11 Hatchbank Lane, Gairney Bank, Kinross.

16/01972/FLL Alterations and extension to dwelling house and erection of a garage, 6 Millbridge, Kinross.

16/01901/FLL Erection of two holiday accommodation units, land 250m NE of Leepark, Coldrain.

16/01900/FLL Erection of a dwelling house, land 400m NE of Leepark, Coldrain.

### Planning Applications Determined by PKC:

16/01738/FLL Partial change of use from garden ground to form car sales area (in retrospect), Orchard House, Old Cleish Road, Kinross. Refused.

16/01660/MPO Discharge of planning obligation associated with permission 15/00415/FLL (Change of use from health centre (Class2) to retail units (Class 1), nursery (Class 10) and six flats and erection of block of 10 flats) confirmation that sums have been paid. Approved.

16/01580/IPL Erection of a dwelling house (in principle), land 60m N of Braeside Cottage, Kinross. Approved.

**Action Partnership (AP) Priorities:** Cllr MacKenzie sits on the Kinross-shire and Almond & Earn AP. He and Cllr Cuthbert are concerned at the slow progress. A budget of £20,000 is available until 31 March 2017, with a further £10,000 after that. Spending decisions have to be reached via a 'participatory budgeting event'. Cllr Cuthbert wrote to



Kinross-shire CCs on 2 November to ask for suggestions on what could be better in our area. Suggestions had also been gathered at an AP meeting. Transport is a big issue. This CC suggested that money could be spent subsidising hire costs at the Loch Leven Community Campus, which many find prohibitively expensive. This would be a pilot scheme to see if it increased usage. Councillor Bryson suggested that he put this suggestion on the CC Facebook page and ask the public to 'Like' the post if they approve. Councillor MacKenzie will put the suggestion to the other CCs on the AP.

**Correspondence:** A summary of all correspondence received since the last meeting had been circulated to community and ward councillors and was available to view. Some items mentioned were:

**Crumbling façade:** Cllr Cuthbert had updated the CC regarding the High Street and Old Causeway flats that have crumbling render. A detailed survey had taken place and various recommendations made. Four of the flats are Council-owned and two are private. It is hoped work can be carried out in the spring.

**Paperless bin collection calendars:** The CC had received a briefing paper from PKC on 7/12/16. Hard copies of bin collection dates will no longer be sent out to householders. Anyone wishing a hard copy must download one from the Council website. The CC's view is that bin calendar provision is part of an important frontline service and the CC strongly objects to this change, which is discriminatory against people who do not use the internet. The local elected members present were asked to note the CC's view and the secretary would also send an email to PKC.

### Reports from Perth & Kinross Councillors

**20mph zones:** Cllr Robertson, together with Cllr Lewis Simpson, intends to bring a motion to the next full Council meeting proposing 20mph speed limits for residential areas.

**Fairtrade zone:** Cllr Robertson reported that a motion to make Perth & Kinross a Fair Trade Zone would go to the next full Council meeting.

**Damp in council houses:** Cllr Robertson is concerned at the number of council houses apparently suffering from damp. This concern arises from communications he has received from residents. He has written to Cllr Dave Doogan, Convenor of Housing & Health, in an effort to establish the extent of the problem. Cllrs Cuthbert and Giacopazzi have also received communications from residents on this subject.

**Kinross Christmas lights:** Cllr Robertson congratulated those involved in organising and providing the lights.

**Campus review:** Cllr Giacopazzi raised the issue of a ban on food bought outwith the campus being consumed on campus premises (though packed lunches are allowed). PKC and Tayside Contracts appear to blame each other for the ruling. There was some discussion. A meeting is to take place at PKC on 8 December on this subject.

**PKC Budget:** Cllr Cuthbert said there will be lots of cutbacks.

**Kinross Winter Market and Lights:** Cllr Cuthbert commented on the success of the market and also congratulated those involved with the lights.

### Other Business

**Fence at M90:** Councillor Jack commented that fencing adjacent to the M90 around junction 6 is in need of repair. This is Bear Scotland's responsibility.

**LDP numbers:** Councillor Jack wondered why Planning Officers simply cannot decline an application for housing which exceeds the numbers stated in the LDP. Cllr Giacopazzi replied

that officers must consider whatever is put before them and that numbers in the LDP are merely indicative. There was some discussion on this subject.

**Kinross-shire Fund:** Councillor Colliar reported that the December meeting was cancelled as there were no applications.

**Chance Inn Pothole:** Councillor Stewart thanked the councillors for organising repair of this.

**Consultations:** Councillor Bryson mentioned that closing dates are looming for two Scottish Government consultations: one on early years provision and one on governance review. He will post something about these on the CC Facebook page.

**Textile bins:** Cllr Cuthbert confirmed that he had asked for textile bins to be emptied more often.

**Kirklands Garage:** A PKC Enforcement officer has asked the owner to carry out some repairs. The asking price has been dropped substantially.

**Bins:** There was some discussion regarding the recent introduction of smaller general waste bins. Larger families and those with babies are entitled to an extra bin. However, the point was made that it is easy for a small bin to become full if a household has visitors. The purpose of the smaller bins is to encourage more recycling. Households can obtain an extra brown-lidded and blue-lidded bin if desired.

**Ambulance response times:** Councillor Davies is concerned about this. Cllr Cuthbert is looking into it. It is one of the topics on the Action Partnership list.

**Secretary workload:** Councillor Davies commented on the extra workload experienced by the secretary recently with regard to the KCCNL (charity) changes and would like the KCCNL Directors to consider this.

**The Next Meeting of Kinross CC will take place on Wednesday 1 February 2017 at 7.30pm in the Masonic Hall, Muirs, Kinross.**

### Agenda for Meeting on Wednesday 1 February

1. Apologies
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Minutes of Meeting of 6 December 2016
4. Police Report
5. Matters Arising from Minutes of 6 December 2016
6. Planning Matters including applications 16/02053/LBC (Alterations, 108-114 High St, Kinross) and 16/02053/FLL (Change of use and alterations to former town hall, public library and post office to form 9no flats)
7. Town Centre Regeneration
8. Advertising on Roundabouts
9. kinross.cc Website
10. KCCNL Charity Changes
11. New Primary School
12. Miscellaneous Correspondence
13. Reports from P&K Councillors
14. AOCB
15. Date of Next Meeting (1 March 2017)

**Note:** 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](mailto:KinrossCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk)

Kinross CC minutes and agendas are posted online at:

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

You can also follow Kinross CC on Facebook at:

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

## Milnathort Community Council

### News from the December Meeting

**In attendance** at the meeting held on 8 December 2016 were: CCllrs S Young (Chair), C Williams, C Lawson, E Kirkham, L Cartwright and K Heneghan. Also in attendance were P&K Cllrs J Giacomazzi, W Robertson and D Cuthbert; and 20 members of the public.

**New Chairperson:** Since the November meeting, David Baudains has decided to stand down from the CC for personal reasons. Steven thanked David for helping to get MCC up and running again earlier in the year. After a vote of the attending community councillors, it was unanimously agreed that Steven Young take over as Chair. Steven asked Craig Williams to take on the role of Deputy Chair and Craig agreed.

**CC vacancies:** The above meant that the CC had a vacancy. Another community councillor, Stephen Bolland, advised that he will have to stand down because he is moving beyond the CC boundary. [Information was given on applying for vacancies – deadline was 30 December 2016.]

**Apologies:** CCllr S Bolland, Cllr M Barnacle and Police.

**Police matters:** There will be a community police sergeant based in Kinross from mid January. A bracelet was found in Church Street; please contact Steven Young.

**Guest speaker from Broke not Broken:** Ann Drummond spoke passionately about Broke Not Broken, a voluntary organisation.

**Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:** Lisa Cartwright raised the issue of lack of space on the Milnathort community notice board. Elyse Kirkham stated that the notice board was arranged, owned and funded by the previous Milnathort CC. Lisa Cartwright: It is seen as a community notice board. Glenfarg and Kinross CCs have separate boards. PKC Public Transport unit provided Kinross CC's board in a bus shelter. Lisa Cartwright will try this route of funding.

Campbell Lawson confirmed (with thanks) that Scottish Water had generously donated a **Christmas tree** and solar powered lighting for Milnathort.

Cllr Giacomazzi: **Community Woodlands Association** will advise on and help with training on and promotion of woodland in Scotland to community groups.

**Planning application submitted:** 16/01910/FLL Alterations and extension to dwelling house at 5 Coventry Way, Milnathort.

**Planning application determined:** 16/01366/FLL Erection of a dwelling house, land 70m SE of Hattonburn Lodge, Milnathort.

### New Matters and correspondence

Campbell Lawson: Jessie's Park entrance at Back Loan. Suggested reforming the entrance with a new wall to stop children running onto Back Loan and move the current wall 2ft to avoid collisions with delivery vehicles, as well as implementing a 20mph limit and restricting vehicle access to 3.5 tonnes. Cllr Robertson suggested useful contacts and organisations.

Lisa Cartwright: South Street build out: cars still not stopping. Contacted PKC. Message passed onto road safety department. LC asked Councillors to help.

Stephen Bolland: CC is reactive to issues. Should bring pro-activity to CC.

### Comments from the Floor

Q: Concern over parking at the Primary School for the proposed Football Pavilion.

Cllr Giacomazzi: Spoke to Head of Children's Services and feels no issue to oppose parking.

Q: If a new club was to be started up they could not play on pitch.

Cllr Robertson: The Colts won't own the pitch; PKC do and any new setup would be taken into account.

Q: Why council sold the blaze at Kinross High School?

Cllr Cuthbert: To pay for campus.

Q: Concerns on the monopoly that Tayside Contracts has within the Community Campus.

Cllr Giacomazzi: The policy is to do with all campuses and he is waiting for review.

### Perth & Kinross Councillor Comments

Cllr Robertson: Wrote to Chief Constable about speed watch scheme/ Pop up Police. Community Speed Watch is a traffic monitoring initiatives led by community volunteers as well as police officers with the aim of improving road safety and detecting dangerous driving. The scheme is simple to operate with fully trained community volunteers carrying out roadside checks by utilising specialist equipment. Drivers who are found to be exceeding the speed limit will be sent a letter and advised of their speed. No timescale. He will let us know.

Cllr Cuthbert commented that there usually is a speed check put in place followed by a two-week trial with pop up policeman.

Cllr Giacomazzi stated that Speed Site Grading, which assesses speed sites for enforcement, seems to be working.

**The Next Meeting of Milnathort CC will take place on Thursday 9 February 2017 at 7.30pm in Milnathort Town Hall.**

Find Milnathort CC minutes, agenda and other information at:

- [www.milnathortcommunitycouncil.org](http://www.milnathortcommunitycouncil.org)
- [www.facebook.com/milnathortcommunitycouncil](https://www.facebook.com/milnathortcommunitycouncil)
- [twitter.com/milnathort\\_cc](https://twitter.com/milnathort_cc)
- Loch Leven Community Library
- Milnathort Church Office

## Cleish and Blairadam CC

Cleish and Blairadam CC meets every second month. A meeting took place on 5 December 2016. Reports of CC meetings are reproduced in the Cleish & Blairadam newsletter, which is distributed to households in the Cleish and Blairadam CC area. The C&B newsletters are also available online at: [cleishandblairadam.co.uk](http://cleishandblairadam.co.uk)

**The Next Meeting of Cleish and Blairadam CC takes places on Monday 30 January 2017 at 7.30pm in Cleish Village Hall.**

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## Portmoak Community Council

### News from the December Meeting

**In attendance** at the meeting held on 13 December 2016 were: CCllrs M Strang Steel (Chairman), R Cairncross (Secy), B Calderwood (Treasurer), S Forde, D Morris, A Robertson, T Smith and C Vlasto; and Ward Cllrs M Barnacle, D Cuthbert and W Robertson; and 16 members of the public.

**Apologies:** Ward Cllr J Giacipazzi and Police Scotland.

**Approval of previous Minutes:** The draft Minute of the meeting held in November 2016 was approved subject to:

- Para 7.4 "WClr Calderwood" amend to "CClr Calderwood."
- Para 7.5 "....and no difficulties and been encountered" amend to "....and fewer difficulties had been encountered"
- Para 7.5 "....construction of the new drains had inadvertently enabled sheep to get through the fence." amend to "....construction of the new drains had inadvertently made it possible that sheep could get through the fence."

#### Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

A further meeting with the Roads Department would be delayed pending a response from PKC to the CC's recent letter on "Traffic in Portmoak."

A Newsletter article promoting better publicity for the Outdoor Access Code in relation to goose shooting would be targeted for September 2017.

#### Westfield Restoration and Regeneration Project, Fife (16/03661/EIA).

This was a major and complex development in Fife adjoining Portmoak at the now defunct open cast coal site. The CC had not been informed of the pre-application consultation and had only two weeks earlier learned of the formal planning application for which consultation closed on 21 December. The Chairman and Secretary had had a preliminary meeting with the Lead Planner in Fife to apprise him of our interests and concerns - specifically the designated access route for HGVs to and from the site through PKC and along the B9097, B920 and C50 from the M90. It was proposed to truck in significant waste which could mean up to some 500 HGV movements along the B9097 per 12 hour period for 5 days a week. The CC had signalled an interest in minimising that traffic by investing, where possible, in alternative rail transport using the branch line which still served the site. The CC had been granted an extension until the end of January to make comments.

Ward Cllrs commented that transport was a major issue, that the use of the rail line made sense and that the current "B9097 Action Plan" would now need to be revised. They agreed that they, together with CC representatives, would meet with PKC officials to review the PKC position (Cllr Cuthbert to arrange) and that it would be prudent to advise MSPs on the matter (Cllr W Robertson to pursue). Other points raised included: a need to ensure improved access corridors for walkers and cyclists along the proposed route; and that there would probably be a consequential increase in traffic along the A911 within Portmoak.

Residents voiced concerns about: the nature and diversity of the industrial process proposed; the risks of pollution; the large volume of waste to be processed; the designated route into the site along the C50 when it should be possible to continue on the B9097 to enter the site from the south; how far farming would be compromised were it to become impossible to move cattle across the B9097; and the need for speed restrictions. There was a broader national agenda to

accommodate here and to question whether trucking waste by road was the best way to proceed.

The CC would return to the matter at its meeting on 10 January before submitting comments.

#### Our Community:

**Kinross and Earn Action Partnership.** Cllr Cuthbert reported that, although the Partnership had held two meetings, progress towards agreeing how the "participatory budget" of £20,000 should be spent within the current financial year was slow. The CC would make some suggestions.

**A strategy and Vision for Portmoak.** Plans to take forward a programme to work with various community groups to use the "Place Standard" tool were in hand. Together the outputs should provide the CC with a better understanding of matters which affect the quality of life in Portmoak. This would inform and complement the work of the Kinross and Earn Action Partnership.

**Recycling:** The CC noted the result of a survey of Kinnesswood residents. 21 had replied confirming a unanimous wish for at least a bottle bank recycling unit. 16 respondees had made 21 suggestions for a possible location of which somewhere around the car park by the school was the most popular (11). Other suggestions included: the Bee Garden; behind the shelter on Main Street; and the golf course area. The CC acknowledged that the school did not support use of the car park and recommended that PKC officials be approached to see if the site behind the bus shelter was viable.

**Police Report:** The CC was pleased to receive a local report by PC Douglas Stapleton. The theft of agricultural machinery remained a significant problem. The CC thanked PC Stapleton for his report. It noted the Area Commander Bulletins of 10, 17 and 24 Nov and of 1 and 8 Dec.

**Roads Report:** Following the PKC consultations on the B9097 Action Plan and on proposals for traffic light controls for Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell the CC had submitted a letter to PKC setting out a comprehensive commentary on its views on traffic across Portmoak. The letter is available to view on the CC website. Further meetings with officials will be deferred until a response to the letter from PKC is received.

**Paths Report:** Although it had been a dry autumn/winter, so far the work to improve drainage on the Michael Bruce Way had stood up well. The problem with some sheep escaping through the revised drains had been resolved. The proposals for the Trail Head sign from the Living Lomonds Landscape Project for the Church car park had been circulated. CCllr Tom Smith had provided comment. It should be in place shortly.

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**Superfast Broadband in Portmoak - commissioning Arrangements:** New arrangements were now in hand for both Scotlandwell and Glenlomond. Concerns about the lack of progress with the proposed broadband provisions for Wester Balgedie were expressed. Contact with BT to clarify the reason for the delay had proved elusive. Cllr M Barnacle would advise of possible names in BT to approach who may assist in clarifying the position of Wester Balgedie.

**Ward Councillor Reports:**

Councillors reported that: the Full Council will shortly move to confirm its budget for the coming year - cuts could be anticipated; St Paul's Church in Perth, which occupied a prominent position, would be renovated retaining only the walls; and that Perth and Kinross would become a "Free Trade County."

**AOCB:** A representative of Bishopshire Golf Club and the Chairman confirmed that steps had been taken to try to obtain an agreement with four adjacent residents regarding the management of the tall cypress "hedge" that bordered the Golf Club and abutted their properties in Whitecraigs.

**News from the January Meeting**

**In attendance** at the meeting held on 10 January 2017 were: CCllrs M Strang Steel, R Cairncross, B Calderwood, S Forde, A Robertson, T Smith and C Vlasto; and Ward Cllrs D Cuthbert; and W Robertson; and 20 members of the public.

**Apologies:** CCllr D Morris and Ward Cllrs J Giacopazzi and M Barnacle.

**Approval of previous Minutes:** The draft Minute of the meeting held in December 2016 was approved subject to the following amendment: *"The problem with some sheep escaping through....."* amend to *"The problem with the possibility of some sheep escaping through...."*

**Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

*Our Community: Kinross and Earn Action Partnership.* Progress towards agreeing a budget to have effect for the coming financial year remained slow. Ideas for a future work programme were sought. The CC would write to the Partnership Leader proposing support for a permanent car park at Scotlandwell on the Moss access road.

*Our Community: A strategy and vision for Portmoak.* Arrangements were in hand to secure, through disparate local community groups, their input to the "Place Standard Tool". The outcomes will inform PKC activities including the new Local Development Plan.

**Westfield Restoration and Regeneration Project, Fife (16/03661/EIA).** The CC returned to discussion on this matter. The Chairman summarised the history of developments on this large brownfield site since open cast coal mining had stopped:

1. 2001 - Application for a large development focusing on waste processing including biomass boilers and landfill. This application was eventually determined by Government and consent granted. It was renewed in 2011 for 5 years and had now expired. It is important to note that a condition of this consent capped the amount of waste to be transported to the site and restricted waste transported by road to 40% of the capped amount with the remainder to be transported into the site on the existing rail link.
2. 2007 - Scottish Biofuels made an application for a biomass boiler burning waste and a pelleting plant. The application was approved. An application for an extension had been lodged and approved subject to a section 75 agreement being signed. That had not so far happened. The site of this development is on ground leased to Scottish Biofuels and lies alongside that of the new application.
3. 2016 - Application for the Westfield Restoration and Regeneration Project, Fife (16/03661/EIA).

All three applications proposed waste transport to the site from the M90 (Jct 5) via the B9097 (south loch road) and C50 roads into the site. The current application proposes 500 HGVs, including those serving the Biofuels proposed development, using the B9097 (per 12 hour day 5 days per week). This was a major concern. It represents a tenfold increase from the 50 per day or so that use the road now. It is very likely that PKC will judge the structure of this road link adequate and able to support this increased load (although a supportive maintenance arrangement may be required). Such an increase in use of the B9097 would very probably produce a significant secondary increase in traffic using the A911 through Portmoak. The potential impact of increased traffic on the B9097 on human health, wild life, tourism and business in the Loch Leven basin needs to be taken into account. There were of course many other concerns: noise, air quality, pollution from boiler stacks as to which SEPA had lodged a comprehensive comment with the planners.

It appeared likely that, if this application progresses, it will in the end gain consent. What would then matter would be the effect of any conditions on that consent and in particular those affecting transport arrangements.

There was an extant branch railway line from the Fife circular route which led directly into the site. A scoping study had shown that it was potentially viable and that there was capacity to move such freight on the Scottish Rail network. Scottish Government policy promoted transferring freight from road to rail where practicable. This in turn had been picked up in the current planning reports of different and complementary organisations: Tayplan; Tactran; as well as Fife and Perth Councils. Depending on its configuration one train taking waste to the site could replace between 50 and 75 HGVs. That figure is doubled if the empty HGVs making the return trip from the site are included.

As a result of pressure from the CC and with the help of Ward Councillors, there will be a meeting on 13 January to review these matters with both Perth and Fife Planning

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Departments. Depending on what transpires at that meeting the CC is minded to object, unless a condition is included in any consent requiring the rail link to be reopened before any other development and the use of the road restricted, as was the case with the original 2001 application. The CC will respond to Fife Council in respect of this application by the end of the month.

**Recycling provision, Kinnesswood:** A meeting to be convened by Cllr Barnacle with representatives from the school, community and PKC will examine options for the type of recycling facility and its position.

**Police Report:** No matters raised. The CC noted the Area Commander Bulletins of 15, 22, and 29 Dec and of 5 January. The CC also noted that Sgt Amanda Nicholson, Community Coordinator, had left to take up a new position. The CC had thanked her and wished her well in her new position. The new "community policing point" for Kinross would be Sgt Nichola Forrester.

**Treasurer:** General Account at end December: £590.70. Michael Bruce Way account: £739.62.

**Planning: New applications:**

16/02070/FLL 26 Gamekeepers Road, Kinnesswood. Alterations and extension. No CC comment.

16/02143/FLL Craigard, Main Street Scotlandwell. Installation of replacement windows. No CC comment.

16/02201/LBC 16/02202/FLL Lilybank House, Kinnesswood, Installation of doors. No CC comment.

**Planning: Progress with Developments:**

**Former Lomond Inn.** Formal consent for this development to proceed was awaited. Arrangements were in hand to preserve the stained glass windows of the Inn and to re-site a bottle bank recycling provision from the site to elsewhere within the village.

**Glenlomond.** No progress to note. Formal consent for this development to proceed was awaited.

**Roads Report**

The CC received a revised Roads Report for 2017. This summarised the key points of the Chairman's letter of 7 December to Mr Jim Valentine, Depute Chief Executive of PCK, on traffic flows across Portmoak. The Report focused on a requirement for improved signage and speed restrictions on both the A911 and B9097 and on the need for an options appraisal for a safe pedestrian route from Scotlandwell to the Church, Hall and beyond. These were comparatively low cost interventions. CCllr Calderwood pointed out that the justification of the key points was set out in the letter to Mr Valentine. The response from Mr Young on behalf of

Mr Valentine had been disappointing and it appeared that the matter was unlikely to be progressed by PKC. Ward Councillors will be meeting with Mr Young shortly and will raise this matter. They advised that the CC should re-submit its request for 20mph speed limits to Mr Young. The CC will do so. It was surprising to learn that the Council had a stock of electronic speed warning signs but no apparent means of erecting them.

**Portmoak Matters**

**Superfast Broadband in Portmoak.** The arrangements for providing this service across almost all of Portmoak served by the Scotlandwell exchange were becoming clear. Impediments to instituting this service at Wester Balgedie now appeared resolved. The CC recommended that routine reports monitoring progress with this programme across Kinross-shire should be shared with Ward Councillors. These reports are held by PKC officers.

**Portmoak Cemetery.** Evaluation of a possible new site had been completed and found to be satisfactory. The matter now lay with PKC to progress. Ward Councillors commented that there should be funding available to support this development.

**Arrangements at Whitecraigs and Stephen's Field.** A consensus on the management strategy for the large cypress hedge bordering the path from the A911 to Stephen's Field and between it and the golf course, remained to be confirmed. The Chairman will pursue the matter with Bishopshire Golf Club and the residents of the four properties close to the hedge and golf course.

**Ward Councillor Reports**

Councillors referred to the growing and large workload of activities across Kinross-shire. The budget for the forthcoming year was under pressure and it appeared that cuts to the Environmental Budget in particular could affect certain local services. The road safety budget should be preserved. It was a concern that there was a "Perth-centric" focus to the budget including, for example, extensive renovation of the Council's offices.

**The Next Meeting of Portmoak CC will be held at 7pm on Tuesday 14 February 2017 in Portmoak Primary School.**

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](http://www.portmoak.org)

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## Fossoway & District CC

### News from the December Meeting

**In attendance** at the meeting held on 6 December 2016 were: Councillors A Cheape, J Donachie, T Duffy, C Farquhar, G Kilby and G Pye; P&K Councillors M Barnacle and D Cuthbert; and 14 Members of the Public (MoP).

**Apologies:** P&K Councillors J Giacomazzi and W Robertson.

**Co-option of New CC Member:** Cameron Brown. Proposed: Councillor Duffy; Seconded: Councillor Kilby.

**Declarations of Interest:** Councillors Duffy and Donachie declared an interest in planning application 16/01313/FLL.

**Police report:** No officer present. There were three incidents to note, received via Community Watch and from PC Stapleton. Councillor Cuthbert reports that there is to be a new Community Police Sergeant in Kinross – hopefully that will mean more police attendance at these meetings in future.

**Minutes of the previous meeting:** The minutes were signed off with an amendment to minute the issue with the adoption of Craighton Lane. (See below.)

**Tullibole Castle's Halloween Walk:** Rhoderick Moncrieff described how this year 400 people walked through the woods on the weekend before Halloween. He proposes to run a fund-raising event similar to the Enchanted Forest for the week leading up to Halloween next year, with the potential for a large number of vehicles and visitors. The Rotary Club will provide the principal stewards and take a percentage of the proceeds. There is an opportunity for other local groups or individual volunteers to help with the stewarding. Approximately twelve stewards would be needed each evening.

**A977 Defects and Mitigation Measures:** Councillor Giacomazzi arranged for drains to be cleared on the A977 to the south of Gairney Burn Lane. Councillor Duffy has received numerous complaints from MoP about the lack of white lines in the sections of the A977 that have been resurfaced. Councillor Cuthbert has been told that winter gritting would damage new lines. Ian Kipling, a new member of PKC's highways department, is looking into the speed activated signs and the bollards opposite Crook Village Hall. Councillors Cuthbert and Barnacle are seeking a meeting with Mr Kipling to discuss the A977 Mitigation Measures before proposals are published. The CC will hopefully join this meeting. MoP reported that the grass verge is being dug up along the A977 between Crook of Devon and Powmill. Councillors will investigate.

**Rumbling Bridge Hydro Scheme:** A MoP reports that there is rubbish left over from the construction. Councillor Duffy will mail Hugh Wallace to ask for this to be addressed.

**Speeding Through Villages:** Councillor Duffy has been assured that we can apply for surveys of vehicle speeds through the villages. Councillor Cuthbert has been pursuing the deployment of "pop-up policemen", however the lack of any documented proof that they actually work is holding this up.

**Crook and Drum Growing Together** are still waiting to receive their grant.

**Powmill Bloom Group:** Wooden slats have been removed from a bench opposite Aldie Road. Additionally, the bench opposite the Milk Bar has also been attacked by vandals.

**Station Road Adoption:** Councillor Barnacle reports that letters containing the new contribution amount have been sent out, and already two people have agreed to it.

**B9097 Route Action Plan:** Portmoak CC had proposed that the section of the B9097 to the east of the M90 should

receive a 50mph speed limit; Councillor Barnacle supported this, and proposed that the limit should be imposed on the entire length of the road, however PKC's Road Safety Officer has rejected this on the grounds that this was not raised as a road safety issue by Police Scotland. The community present noted that the current speed of vehicles is already often in excess of the national limit, but the limit seems to be rarely, if ever, enforced.

**Ivy Cottage, Powmill:** PKC have issued a repair notice to the owner, who lives in America.

**Craighton Lane Adoption:** Councillor Barnacle is trying to get Eddie Jordan, PKC's Enforcement Officer, to clarify the position about the preparation for adoption of this road, which was started on earlier in the year but no work has been done since June.

**CC Business: Meetings Attended:** Councillor Duffy attended the Living Streets Workshop on 15 November where the "walkability of a community" was discussed. The tool enables identification of areas that could be improved to make them better for pedestrians. Councillor Duffy hopes to adapt this tool so it can also be applied to rural environments.

Councillor Brown attended the Planning Users' Forum on 9 November. PKC will publish a Whitepaper in December containing guidance for CCs on input to planning decisions. The Place Standard tool may be useful to identify local issues.

#### Councillors' Reports

Councillor Barnacle reminds us that the delay to the Main Issues Report allows the possibility of further consultation in some areas.

Councillor Cuthbert notes that the budget setting period is approaching, and uncertainty about future finances are resulting in further cuts being proposed, with some areas already at critical staffing levels.

The Action Partnerships seem to have stalled at the earliest stage of identifying issues, without any significant progress in actually addressing the issues already identified. Perhaps these groups would work better if done at a more local level, where the issues are already well known.

#### Planning Matters

16/01747/FLL Erection of 3 dwelling houses at Crook of Devon House (former manse), Main Street, Crook of Devon. Object on grounds of over-development (discussed by email prior to this meeting, following a lack of quorum at an earlier meeting.) Several MoPs noted that the applicant has felled a large number of large trees on the site and also cleared other vegetation. Councillor Cuthbert will report this to the enforcement officer.

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**References.**





16/01879/FLL Erection of a dwelling house and shed, Cairnfold Farm, Blairingone. No CC comment.

16/01922/FLL Alterations and extension to dwelling house and installation of flue at Craighead Cottage, Drum. No CC comment.

16/01874/FLM Deletion of condition 6 (occupation) of permission 08/01561/FLM (Formation of Equestrian Centre, utility shed, Indoor riding school, stables, four chalets and seven dwelling houses with associated car parking at land 100m W of Easter Muirhead Cottage, Blairingone. Object on grounds of increased traffic on unsuitable road.

16/01743/FLL Erection of stable buildings (in retrospect) at Dollar Equestrian Centre, Blairingone. Object on grounds of increased traffic on unsuitable road.

16/01962/FLL Extensions to dwelling house and formation of decking at 1 Windy Ridge, Blairingone. No CC comment.

16/01313/FLL Erection of a dwelling house, land 40m W of Devonlade, Main Street, Crook of Devon. Object on the grounds that the outline consent specified only a single storey house and now two storeys is proposed; Land raising is proposed on a functional flood plain contrary to the development plan.

16/02014/FLL Alterations/extensions to dwelling house use at 8, Mossend Green, Powmill. No CC comment.

16/01900/FLL Erection of a dwelling house at land 400m NE of Leepark, Coldrain. No CC comment.

16/01901/FLL Erection of two holiday accommodation units at land 250m north east of Leepark, Coldrain. No CC comment.

16/02007/FLL Erection of a replacement garage at Garden Cottage, Solsgirth, Dollar. No CC comment.

**Correspondence:** All the correspondence was available for viewing. It is proposed to extend the 40mph speed limit in Carnbo onto Gelvan Moor Road.

**AOCB:** The Rumbling Bridge Car Park has changed owners; Cllr Barnacle is seeking written confirmation of the enforcement position.

### News from the January Meeting

In attendance at the meeting held on 10 January 2017 were: CCllrs C Brown, A Cheape, J Donachie, T Duffy, C Farquhar and G Pye; P&K Cllrs M Barnacle and J Giacomazzi; and five Members of the Public (MoP).

**Apologies:** CCllr G Kilby; P&K Cllrs D Cuthbert and W Robertson (both attending Portmoak CC.)

**Declarations of Interest:** None.

**Police report:** No officer present. There was one incident to note, received via Community Watch: A large tub containing an evergreen shrub was stolen from Church Road, Crook of Devon, between 7 and 15 December. Sgt Amanda Nicholson is no longer the Community Co-ordinator for Perth and Kinross, and the role will not be filled. Instead, our point of contact is the local Community Sergeant (Sgt Nichola Forrester). There is also going to be a new Inspector, replacing Inspector Pettigrew.

**Crook Moss Traveller's Site:** New chalet appeared at the site. Cllr Robertson asked PKC's enforcement officer to investigate; the chalet is intended for one of the approved pitches and is only in its current position temporarily. Cllr Barnacle has received a response from Scottish Water, stating that investigations into extraneous surface water joining the waste have revealed some problems that can be fixed. This means that the Drum processing plant does have a small amount of spare capacity, which will allow the Traveller's

site, and several other sites that had applied earlier, to be connected, although the applicants will still need to fund the connection themselves. Cllr Giacomazzi noted that the Scottish Government are proposing that retrospective applications will in future attract a higher fee.

**A977 Defects and Mitigation Measures:** Cllr Cuthbert raised the issue of missing white lines and cats-eyes with Stuart D'All who replied explaining that painting white lines between October and March is generally unsuccessful, however they will try and repaint the longer sections that have been resurfaced. Edge lines are no longer being painted; only statutory lines are painted due to budget restrictions. The cats-eyes will be replaced when the A832/A977 junction is (hopefully) resurfaced later this year.

Local Cllrs met Chic Haggart this week during which it emerged that the officer working on the plan for the A977 measures is no longer employed by PKC.

**Rumbling Bridge Hydro Scheme:** The Community Benefit Group are still finalising their organisation and preparing for the community engagement exercise in the next few months. Cllr Barnacle suggested that it might be possible to combine this exercise with a proposed survey of sports requirements in Fossoway, although this has not yet been agreed with PKC. There is the potential for some of the scheme's contingency fund to be passed on to the Community Group; however the amount is not yet known.

**Powmill Bloom Group:** CCllr Farquhar reported that another plant tub has been stolen, this time from the display on the bridge, which is very frustrating and demoralising for the group, nevertheless, the group is determined to continue. More funding is being applied for, and 100 saplings have been donated by another charitable group.

The phone box at Gartwhinzean Feus, Powmill, is scheduled for removal. BT has a scheme whereby unused phone boxes can be purchased by the community for £1. The Bloom Group have expressed a desire to adopt this box, however BT will only pass them on to recognised local authorities, so the CC have asked BT if they can purchase it and then pass it on to the Bloom Group. There is a small issue that the CC is not allowed to spend its administration grant on this sort of purchase, so the necessary funds will have to be donated to the CC, which should not be a major problem!

**Station Road Adoption:** Cllr Barnacle reports that the Roads Department and Church Committee are awaiting an updated list of frontagers, as some properties have changed hands. Once this is available, then the letters can be sent out and the contract set.



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**Blairingone War Memorial:** Cllr Barnacle has now had confirmation that the developers did originally agree to fund the removal to the sum of £2000. The next step is to get a qualified mason to confirm that it is possible to move the monument without damaging it or the building.

**Ivy Cottage, Powmill:** Cllr Barnacle will investigate whether the notice has been served on the owner.

**Craigton Lane Adoption:** Cllrs Barnacle and Giacopazzi both believe that this is a private matter and the council can't do anything to make the developer complete the work.

**Sports Hub:** CCllr Farquhar attended a meeting of the hub on 15 December at which the member clubs reported on analyses of their members' interests and the strengths and weaknesses of their clubs. Generally there is considerable enthusiasm and amongst other events a Junior Park Run is planned for later this year, and volunteers will be sought to help organise this.

**Bollards Opposite Crook Village Hall:** We are still awaiting a report from PKC Roads Department on how the safety of this section of road could be improved, however local Cllrs are pressing them for a prompt response.

**20s Plenty for Us Campaign:** The CC has received a suggestion from this campaign that we should start a group in this area. CCllr Duffy has looked into this scheme, and it seems more appropriate for urban areas. Cllr Giacopazzi reports that PKC already has a policy of only implementing 20mph limits in carefully chosen places.

**CC Business:** CCllr Cheape attended a meeting of the **Kinross-shire Fund** in January, but there were no grant applications to consider. The next meeting, in February, will concentrate on fund-raising.

#### Councillors' Reports

Cllr Barnacle is attending a meeting to discuss a proposed Biomass plant at Westfield with Fife and PKC councillors. This scheme would use the B9097 as a haul road, which may affect the B9097 action plan.

There is to be a review of UK Parliamentary Constituencies in 2018, and the Boundary Commission has published initial proposals suggesting that Kinross-shire should be combined with Cowdenbeath. Cllr Barnacle has strongly objected to this proposal on the grounds that the two areas are of completely different rural vs urban character. Additionally Cllr Cuthbert has produced detailed population figures for alternative ward groupings suggested by PKC.

There is to be a public consultation about how the Local Development Plan will affect Blairingone, Crook of Devon, Drum and Rumbling Bridge. The event will be on 18 Feb between 11am and 2pm in the Crook of Devon Hall. It's not clear how this can best be publicised, although the suggestion by PKC that this CC would be able to deliver leaflets to 650 houses is certainly not realistic, however the CC will assist with displaying posters and announcing the event on its Facebook page and website.

Cllr Giacopazzi: It's going to be a tough year for budgeting, with a further grant cut from central government, however there is some good news in that the Council is now going to be allowed to keep all of the Commercial Council Tax income, and to make an increase in Domestic Council Tax rates.

#### Planning Matters

16/02132/FLL Erection of a dwelling house and 2 garages at land 50m W of Easter Cockairney Farm. No CC comment.

16/02209/IPL Erection of a dwelling house (in principle) at Thornybrook, Fossoway. No CC comment.

Cllr Barnacle notes that conditions imposed by an outline application seem to disappear when a full application is granted. Local Councillors intend to discuss this anomaly at the next Member Officer Working Group.

**Correspondence:** All the correspondence was available for viewing.

PKC will no longer be issuing bin collection calendars.

From 9 January, a yearly permit will be required to take a van, whether liveried or not, or a trailer longer than six feet to PKC's rubbish dumps. Private individuals can apply for a (free) Domestic Exemption Permit. A MoP pointed out that meeting the criteria to actually obtain a permit for a private individual seems to be very difficult. Cllr Barnacle will look into this.

The 40mph speed limit in Carnbo is being extended from the A91 into the U221.

**AOCB:** John Anderson asked the local councillors to look into the lack of enforcement of planning conditions. Cllr Giacopazzi said that this would be a good topic for discussion at the next MOWG.

#### Draft Agenda for Next CC Meeting

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

Matters arising: Crook Moss Site, A977 Mitigation, Rumbling Bridge Hydro Scheme, Crook and Drum Growing Together, Powmill in Bloom, Station Road Adoption, Blairingone War Memorial.

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

**The Next Meeting of Fossoway & District CC will take place on Tuesday 7 February 2017 at 7.30pm at Fossoway Primary School. All welcome.**

Fossoway & District CC minutes are posted on the website

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

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

#### Community Website

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

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# Club & Community Group News



## Kinnesswood in Bloom

We are just waiting for a legal agreement to be drawn up before work can be started on Benarty View. Hopefully this project can be completed by next summer. The last of the money from Living Lomonds has been transferred to our account so funding is now complete.

Work on weeding, cutting back and emptying tubs continued through November and the group have now had a well-earned rest. We had our night out at the end of January before we start on work parties for 2017.



## Recipe

### supplied by Kinnesswood in Bloom Vegetable Shepherd's Pie

#### Ingredients

For the filling:

- 1 tbsp oil
- 1 leek, trimmed
- 2 finely chopped carrots
- 150g chopped mushrooms
- Finely chopped sage leaves
- Roughly chopped thyme leaves
- 1 x 400g tin green or puy lentils
- 1 x 400g tin chopped tomatoes
- 200ml vegetable stock
- 200ml red wine
- 1 tbsp Worcestershire sauce
- 1 tbsp soy sauce
- 1 tsp caster sugar
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper

For the topping:

- 2 sweet potatoes (approx 500g), peeled and cut into 2cm chunks
- 2 floury potatoes (approx 500g) peeled and cut into 2cm chunks
- Half small cauliflower, separated into florets
- Knob of unsalted butter
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1 tbsp finely grated parmesan

#### Method

For the filling, heat the oil in a frying pan over a medium heat. Add the leeks and fry for 4 to 5 minutes, or until beginning to soften. Add the carrots, mushrooms and continue to cook, stirring regularly, for 4 to 5 minutes. Add the sage, thyme, tinned lentils, tinned tomatoes, stock and red wine and stir together until well combined. Bring the mixture to the boil, then reduce the heat until it is simmering and continue to simmer for 18 to 20 minutes while you make the topping. Preheat the oven to 200°C/180 fan.

For the topping, bring a large saucepan of water to the boil. Add the sweet potato and potato and boil for 10 to 12 minutes. Add the cauliflower and boil for a further 8 to 10 minutes or until tender. Drain the vegetables well and return them to the pan. Add the butter, season well with salt and freshly ground black pepper, then mash until smooth. Set aside and keep warm.

Stir the Worcestershire sauce, soy sauce, and sugar into the filling mixture, which should have thickened during cooking. Continue to simmer for a further 1 to 2 minutes, adding water if the mixture is too dry. Season to taste.

Transfer the filling mixture to an ovenproof baking dish, then spoon over the topping and spread into an even layer. Sprinkle over the parmesan. Bake the shepherd's pie in the oven for 18 to 20 minutes until the topping is golden brown and the filling is bubbling.



*Tidying tubs during November*

The school has a new system to involve children in outdoor activities and all children will be taking part in gardening activities at some point throughout the year. Some of the older children have worked hard to weed, empty raised beds, and cut back bushes. Soon they will be planning what they will plant this year.

John and Rory acquired a tree from the Moss through the Woodland Trust and this was placed in the village centre. It was well decorated by the group and more lights were installed on various trees and bushes along the main street. We hope everyone enjoyed the decorations.

We were pleased to hear that the Michael Bruce Trust had been awarded £5000 from the Celebration Lottery Fund. They will be involved in improvements to the garden and various art activities with the children.



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## Common Grounds

www.spanglefish.com/  
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Scottish Charity No. SC031582

As this is being written, the weather forecast is for gales, snow and plummeting temperatures, which reminds us of how lucky we were for the Winter Market and Light Up Kinross event. With benevolent skies, it was well attended and our craft stall so well supported, we raised £418.

Our Christmas Eve celebrations were enjoyed by many volunteers and friends, with several of them going home with not one, but an armful, of raffle prizes from the very generous selection. The raffle raised a total of £213.

Thanks to all who contributed to the success of both events: your generosity never fails to amaze!

However, looking forward, we are turning our attention to 2017 and putting some thought into future fundraisers to tempt even more support. Please keep an eye out for posters and details in the local press. Hopefully, as you read this, the January storms will have fizzled out and hints of spring will be just around the corner!

**Project:** Our project for February 2017 will be Malaria No More (UK). This charity has been raising support with the UK Government, businesses and the British people to combat malaria since 2009. Every two minutes a child dies of malaria yet £1 is enough to save a life. The Malaria No More UK programme has helped to protect 10 million lives already. Their vision is for a malaria free world hence their name, 'Malaria No More'.

**Thanks:** We were delighted to welcome Richard Wardell, son of Sheila, to Common Grounds on Saturday 26 November and to hear of his work with Malaria No More USA. Thanks to Richard for an interesting insight into the work of the charity, to everyone who came to support the morning and for being so generous to our Teddy. We were pleased to be able to advise Richard that Common Grounds will be donating £800 to the sister charity in the UK in February.

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

Contacts outside of opening hours are Elspeth Caldwell (Convener) on 01577 863350 and Linda Freeman (Secretary) on 01577 865045.

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### Club Correspondents

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

## Kinross-shire Day Centre

A favourite pastime for our regular service-users is to help with decorating the Day Centre for Christmas and this year was no exception. They spent a happy afternoon dressing the tree and supervising the streamers in good time for the parties which are held on the premises by many local groups. One of these parties was a delightful evening of entertainment and good food hosted by the Rotary Club. We know it was very much enjoyed by the residents of Whyte Court and Causeway Court.

We do try to encourage our service-users to help with the running of the Day Centre in any way they can. So most of them were also involved with our successful Christmas Fair which raised funds for the Day Centre.

On 7 December we enjoyed a restful afternoon watching a movie called Home Alone. We even had ice creams during the film!

About 70 P4 children from Kinross Primary School came to entertain with a nativity story on 13 December. We enjoyed their performance immensely and had a game of all-age bingo with them afterwards! It's lovely for the different age groups to be able to celebrate together and get to know a little bit about each other's lives.

We had a full house for our own Christmas lunch and party, with the food being organised by our hard working cooks and we extend a big thank-you to them. Lunch was followed by entertainment from Teresa, who sang music from all decades from the 60s to the present day. There was something for everyone.

Our carol concert on 20 December was very well attended, with the singing ably led by our regular group of Tuesday singers accompanied by Alex Cant.

What better way to spend the last afternoon before Christmas than a visit to the panto? We were able to take 28 service-users to a fun-filled, hilarious showing of Mother McGoose at the Alhambra in Dunfermline.

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.

## Kinross Garden Group



Our next meeting is on **Thursday 9 February** in the **Millbridge Hall**, Kinross, at 2pm. Sally Lorimore of Willowhill, Newport, will give a talk entitled 'Over the Wall'. Sally is heavily involved with Scotland's Gardens (the Yellow Book scheme) and part of her talk will refer to this.

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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## Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation

Website: [www.kleo.org.uk](http://www.kleo.org.uk)



### Monthly Farmers' Market from April to October:

As 2016, our trial year for the Kinross Farmers' Market, has been such a success, KLEO has decided to organise a monthly market in 2017. Market days are to be on **every fourth Saturday of the month from April to November**. Dates thus being: **22 April, 27 May, 24 June, 22 July, 26 August, 23 September, 28 October** (all 9am-1pm) and **25 November** (Festive Street Market from 4pm to 7pm).

**Survey road closure markets:** Last year the High Street remained open for traffic and the market took place on the wider pavement area at the old Town Hall. Feedback indicated that many visitors of the market would prefer to have the High Street closed off at the market area (from entrance Burns Begg Street to entrance Montgomery Street) to make it safer. If the road were to be closed, it would only affect that portion of the High Street. Thus, unlike the yearly Festive Street market, the High Street at the **top end of town** (Co-op to Salutation) and entrances to Mill Street and to Burns Begg Street **would remain open for traffic**. There would be special signs in place to guide traffic to alternative routes via Burns Begg Street/Sandport or Bowton Road/Montgomery Street. Please let us know what you think of this idea by filling in our survey on: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/VWK3XNX>

A link is also to be found on the KLEO website. The survey will run until 1 March 2017. If you prefer to fill in a paper copy, fill in the survey in this Newsletter (at right) and hand it in at Macbeth Currie Estate Agent's, Kinross, or The Shire, Milnathort. Alternatively you can scan it in and email it to [info@kleo.org.uk](mailto:info@kleo.org.uk)

**Extra funding available for local community group:** KLEO is looking for a community group or local sports club who can help once a month (April to November) with setting up and dismantling stalls for the Farmers' Markets and who can deliver the market equipment to Kinross High Street. KLEO has received funding to pay a local group £200 for their assistance for each of these events. Market days are to be on every fourth Saturday of the month, April to November (see dates above). During the month of June there is an opportunity to have one or two additional events for which market equipment will be needed. So, overall, there is an opportunity to earn **£2000** a year for your local group.

### We need a local group:

- who can provide six to eight helpers for the dates above from 6am to 8am (setting up stalls) and the breakdown of the equipment after the market from 1pm to 2.30pm;
- who can provide a driver (with clean driving licence) and car with tow bar to tow the KLEO trailer with market equipment from Fruix Farm to the market site on Kinross High Street.

If interested in this opportunity, please contact Bouwien Bennet by e-mail [bouwien@kleo.org.uk](mailto:bouwien@kleo.org.uk).

### Leven Voices

A new block of sessions has started in January with Horsecross Arts tutors Dougie Flower (until 7 Feb) and Alice Marra (14 Feb until 14 March). All at 7.30pm at the Kinross Parish Church. Leven Voices is a fun, informal drop-in singing group which you can join anytime. No music reading or singing experience is necessary; just come along, sing and enjoy! You pay as you

go (£4 or £3 concession). There is a £6 'registration fee' which is used to pay for the hall for a 10-week period. Just come along, sing and enjoy!

For more information about KLEO events, see our website or e-mail [info@kleo.org.uk](mailto:info@kleo.org.uk)

## Kinross Farmers' Market Survey

1. How often did you visit the Kinross Farmers' Market in 2016?
  - o all three markets
  - o one or two of the markets
  - o none
2. If so, did you enjoy the experience and why?
3. If not visited any of the markets, why not?
4. If you have visited the market, what do you think about the amount and variety of stalls?
  - o far too few
  - o right amount and variety
  - o too many
5. If too few, or you would like to see any more added, please let us know.
6. The High Street remained open for all traffic during the markets in 2016. For future markets, would you like to see the road open or closed at the market area?\*- o open for all markets
- o closed for a few of the markets
- o closed for all markets
7. Please indicate underneath why you would like to keep High Street open or closed during market days.
8. If the road would be closed at the market area, we would have space and opportunity to put on additional activities ... mores stalls, tasting sessions, other entertainment (music). Would you be interested in this?
  - o very interested
  - o neutral
  - o not at all interested
9. If interested, how often would you like a 'special event market' to happen?
  - o for all the seven market dates
  - o only for some of the market dates
  - o for none of the market dates
10. Do you have other questions, comments or concerns?

\* Road closure would be from entrance Burns Begg Street to entrance Montgomery Street. The High Street at the **top end of town** (Co-op to Salutation) and entrance Mill Street to Burns Begg Street **would remain open for traffic**. There would be special signs in place to guide traffic to alternative routes via Burns Begg Street/Sandport or Bowton Road/Montgomery Street.

The survey will run until 1 March 2017. Please e-mail your filled in copy of the survey to [info@kleo.org.uk](mailto:info@kleo.org.uk) or hand it in at Macbeth Currie Estate Agents, Kinross, or The Shire, Milnathort. Alternatively fill the survey in online: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/VWK3XNX> or via a link on [www.kleo.org.uk](http://www.kleo.org.uk). Many thanks for your time!

## Orwell Old Folks Association Christmas Lunch



Around 85 of our senior citizens attended Orwell Old Folks' Association's Christmas Lunch event on Saturday 3 December in Milnathort Town Hall.

Guests enjoyed a wonderful steak pie meal, followed by trifle, prepared and cooked for us by staff at Kinross-shire Day Centre. Wine was served with the meal and home-made mince pies accompanied the teas and coffees.

Entertainment was provided by Elizabeth Campbell (accordion) and the Rural Blend choir and was greatly enjoyed by all. We were fortunate, too, to manage to secure the services of Santa Claus, just before he set off on his annual expedition!

The committee would like to thank very sincerely all those local businesses, organisations and individuals who donated goods or gave their time to help make the day such a great success: **Kinross-shire Day Centre; Dobbies, Perth; Giacomazzi's, Milnathort; Sainsbury's, Kinross; Kirkforthar Potatoes, Milnathort; Thistle Hotel, Milnathort; Elizabeth Campbell; Members of Rural Blend; Jinty Kidd; Gillian and Rosemary in the kitchen; Sandy Smith; and all our volunteer drivers and helpers.**

Our next event will be the annual summer outing; anyone over 70 and living in Orwell Parish is very welcome to attend. Look out for details coming soon.

*Carole Anderson, Secretary*

## Healing Rooms Kinross and Loch Leven

For the past 5½ years Healing Rooms has been open in the Orwell and Portmoak church office, 29 South Street, Milnathort, on Thursdays from 10.30am until 12 noon. During this time the team has prayed for many men and women from various places in Fife and Kinross-shire, and even further afield. We are one of almost 50 Rooms in Scotland and are part of an International and National organisation. All our volunteers are from different churches and have to undergo training, and all the Healing Rooms in Scotland are supervised by a national leadership team based in Glasgow. Please don't think that you have to be seriously ill to come for help! We will pray for anything that is troubling you, emotional, physical or spiritual, no matter how insignificant you feel it might be. All sorts of people, young and old, are blessed through personal prayer and we should like to give a special invitation to everyone in the community, whether you go to church or not, whether you have a religion or none at all, to come and experience this too. No-one ever goes away feeling worse than when they came in!

Please either call into the office on a Thursday morning between 10.30 and 11.45, or you can make an appointment by contacting the church office on 01577 861200 or using the contact details on the website [www.healingrooms-scotland.com](http://www.healingrooms-scotland.com). This service is completely free and totally confidential. We look forward to seeing you!

*Grace Simpson  
Local Director, Healing Rooms*

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## Kinross-shire Time Exchange

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

Although it now seems like a distant memory, the baubles and tinsel packed away for another year, I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas. We also had a Christmas get together in December. Thank you to all the members who were able to attend. I am sure you will agree it was lovely meeting everyone and getting to know each other. We enjoyed a good chat, food and a free raffle.

The other activity we participated in was a lucky dip. We all pulled a name out of the hat and the idea was to carry out a random act of kindness for the person you chose. One such act was a lucky lady who found a beautiful plant on her doorstep, which absolutely delighted her. This illustrates how such a simple, kind, act can be really uplifting.

In the lead up to Christmas several members received help preparing for Christmas. This included putting up decorations, sorting addresses for Christmas cards, delivering cards, shopping trips and a lift to the hairdressers.

We are now at the beginning of a new year when we start making plans for the year ahead, whether that be a holiday, making changes to the garden or house or simply making more time to meet up with friends and family.

Unfortunately, not everyone has family or lots of friends near them. This is where the time exchange can help. There may be odd jobs that you need help with, someone to take you shopping or simply someone to have a cup of coffee and a chat with. Remember we are only a phone call or email away. One of the things we are doing is sending birthday cards to our members (as long as we know when your birthday is) as it is always lovely to receive a card. One of our members is kindly writing the cards for us to deliver.

I wish you all a very Happy New Year and we at the Time Exchange look forward to hearing from you and making lots of exchanges in the year ahead.

You can contact us by email at [admin@kinrosstimeexchange.org](mailto:admin@kinrosstimeexchange.org) or by telephoning 07469 758984. Please also look at our website.



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## Business breakfasters warned of threats to IT security

A stalwart band of intrepid networkers headed for Loch Leven's Larder on 7 December for the last Kinross-shire Partnership Business Breakfast of 2016. The mix of local businesses represented proved as eclectic as ever, with professionals from the fields of financial and mortgage advice, Chinese medicine, song writing, and oven cleaning – to name but a few – sitting down to the usual slap-up Scottish breakfast.

December is always the darkest morning of the Kinross-shire Business Networking Breakfast series, so it seemed somehow appropriate that the topic addressed by speaker Wynn Jones, from Praetorian Security, was equally sinister: the threats posed to the IT security of small and medium-sized businesses by the dark art of computer hacking.

Wynn is an IT security consultant and consequently a valuable man to have on side in this digital age, when many businesses are highly reliant on the internet for various critical aspects of their business. Computer downtime means lost working time and – worse still – potential security threats to any clients whose details are stored by your company.

Businesses employ Wynn to conduct ethical hacking, a process which allows him to test a computer system (whether involving single or multiple devices) to identify areas of vulnerability. He explained that it is not just big banks or blue chip companies who are at risk. Companies with under 500 members of staff are also vulnerable. As he cheerfully (!) pointed out, there is a huge amount of cybercrime around the world...

According to The National Crime Agency, 53% of all crime is now computer crime, and 87% of all small businesses had

some sort of security breach in 2016. If hacking is well done, you will not know it has even happened. Wynn pointed out that many people present at the breakfast were probably using the same passwords for many different accounts (cue much shuffling of feet) – and in the majority of cases, the information used to create the passwords (e.g. name of a pet, year of birth, etc.) is available on one's Facebook page.

Free automated hacking tools abound online, and there are 1000s of videos on YouTube showing you how to use them. The brutal truth is that cybercriminals can easily steal hundreds of thousands of pounds from business and private bank accounts, and it simply disappears.

Wynn explained that Ransomware is one of the more recent methods being used to infiltrate a system. You receive a legitimate email and deal with it, then later you notice your computer is going a bit slow. Once the computer is affected, the company is effectively held to ransom and the cyber crooks can extort a sum of up to thousands of pounds to 'release' it.

The weakest link in IT, as Wynn says, is the connection between the chair and the keyboard, i.e. the user! Common sense should always prevail: if you receive an email from someone (especially unknown) with an attachment, do not open it.

Software – such as Cyber Essentials – can also protect businesses against between 80% and 85% of all cyberattacks, so it is worth investing in. Equally, Wynn offers to visit local companies to conduct a free assessment of their vulnerability. His presentation provoked a lot of interest from the floor and while not perhaps the most festive of topics, it was extremely interesting and informative.

**The next breakfast** will take place on **Wednesday 1 February** and the following one on 1 March. To book your place at either event, just contact KP administrator Karen Grunwell by email on [mail@kinrosspartnership.org.uk](mailto:mail@kinrosspartnership.org.uk)

## Portmoak Film Society

The new year started with a very enjoyable evening as Portmoak Films showed the beautifully constructed, atmospheric cold war thriller 'Bridge of Spies' to an audience of almost 30 people who gave it a 90% 'excellent' or 'good' rating. Mark Rylance's Oscar-winning performance as Best Supporting Actor was compelling to watch, and his character's relationship with lawyer Tom Hanks one of the film's delights. The content dealt with in February's film is of an altogether darker nature. Released in 2015 and directed by Tom McCarthy and starring Mark Ruffalo, it's the true story of the 2001 investigation by Boston Globe reporters into the historical abuse of almost 100 boys by Catholic priest John Geoghan. The film '**Spotlight**' will be shown on **Saturday 11 February** and scooped many awards, winning both Best Picture and Best Original Screenplay at the Oscars last year. Films start promptly at 7.30pm with hot drinks and refreshments afterwards. Entry costs £5 on the door, or you can purchase a membership card for the remaining season from Stuart Mackenzie on 01592 840638. We're pleased that new film fans are coming to our films and look forward to welcoming you and our loyal friends again; for further info visit: [www.portmoakfilmsociety.org.uk](http://www.portmoakfilmsociety.org.uk)

## Kinross and District Town Twinning Association

Although 2017 is a year free of official twinning visits between Kinross-shire and Gacé, we are still active with promotion, fund-raising and social activities.

Chairperson Jeannie Paterson and treasurer Alfred Fyfe have started their 'roadshow of visual promotion materials' giving **illustrated talks to local groups** about the history behind our long established twinning organisation.

The first of these illustrated talks takes place at Carnbo Hall on the evening of **Monday 6 February**.

Other local groups wishing to book the 'roadshow' should contact secretary David Munro on 01577 862126.

Our next social fundraiser will be a **pot luck supper** at Dale and Helen Coldwell's Milnathort home on the evening of **Saturday 18 February**. Participants pay £5 and bring along a dish or dishes (main course or sweet) to share. For further details, contact our secretary as above.



### Looking for Contact Details?

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

## Kinross Camera Club

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

The club was treated to a fantastic talk from Ron O'Donnell in November. He is one of Scotland's finest contemporary art photographers and a highly individual talent. Ron has exhibited both nationally and internationally and is collected by eminent institutions and discerning individuals throughout the world. Despite his fame, Ron is a very grounded and funny Edinburgh lad who had the club in stitches with many funny stories of his photographic exploits.

Not to be outdone, our very own Robert Walker gave a thought-provoking talk called 'Here and There' which made many of us reconsider what makes a good photograph.

The competitions for 2016/2017 are now well underway and congratulations go to Dick Crighton, Linda Reid, Bill Paton, Jim Wilson, Andrew MacPherson, and Doug Carrie for their success in league one.

Our meetings are held in the Church Centre, Kinross, every Thursday at 7.30pm. 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](mailto:alison.rutherford1@live.com) or visit our website.



*Reflections in the Flowing Fount by Andrew MacPherson*

## Kinross in Bloom

I wish you all a happy and healthy 2017.

As I write this, the winter sunshine is shining brightly again, and although the rainy icy blasts are never far away, signs of spring are beginning to show. Some yellow crocuses are daring to show their heads, and other green shoots of spring bulbs are poking through.

Although it is far too early yet, our polyanthus, daffodils and tulips in the new planters will hopefully will make a fine show of colour in the coming months. Not so at the fountain, where we planted pots of daffodils, tulips and irises, and were disappointed to find that all had been trampled upon, probably by the people who put up the Christmas lights. Not only that, but someone is taking a great delight in dumping the residue from their smokeless fire halfway round the fountain on top of the pots of plants. Why should we spend our time and money trying to brighten the town centre when these sort of mindless acts take place?

On a brighter note, the first meeting of the new year takes place on **Wednesday 1 February** at 7.30pm in the Garden Room at the Church Centre, High Street. Our diary is slowly filling up, and we implore anyone who has an interest in keeping Kinross Blooming to please come along. The majority of our committee is on the wrong side of 70 now, and could do with a rest, so we are pleading with you, if you can spare an hour or so, please do come along; you will be made very welcome. Can't come to the meeting but still want to help? Contact [iandmtodd@talktalk.net](mailto:iandmtodd@talktalk.net) or [Lawrencecottage27@outlook.com](mailto:Lawrencecottage27@outlook.com) No experience necessary.

Here's to a blooming 2017.



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## Dobbies Community Champion

In the run up to Christmas we were very busy here at Dobbies. Santa had many visitors in his lovely grotto, where children followed the story of Dobbie the reindeer and her frosty friends, before arriving in Santa's cosy hut. Santa also paid a special visit to the members of the Little Seedlings Club at their meeting in December and they made Christmas crafts and cards. Many thanks to our busy Santa, and Ashleigh the elf.

We also held our fundraising events at Santa's arrival and Ladies Night in aid of the **Teenage Cancer Trust**. Kenny the Clown and the dancers from the Mathew dance academy entertained us at Santa's event, and there was a tombola and face painting, as well as children's crafts. Many thanks to everyone who helped with the activities.

Ladies Night featured several local beauty and alternative therapists, with music from Bruce Davies and the Sabres which was enjoyed by all. There was also a floral art demonstration from the Floral Art Club. Again, thank you to everyone who helped, and for your generous donations, including placing wish baubles on our special tree.

We would particularly like to thank the lady who made an anonymous donation of a cheque for £150 for the Teenage Cancer Trust via the store. **All together we raised just over £1100.**

I also donated a Christmas tree with lights and decorations to the **Kinross-shire Day Centre**, and the photo shows our special visitor Dobbie the Reindeer with myself, and some of the ladies who visit the Centre.

At their January, meeting the Little Seedlings Club learned

about some very ancient plants, mosses and ferns, and some of their uses today.

The next meetings will be on **Sunday 5 February** and **Sunday 5 March** at 11am. New members are always welcome, accompanied by an adult. Please ask in store, or register online at [dobbies.com](http://dobbies.com).

Our current **Local Charity**, Swansacre Playgroup, will continue to collect in store until the end of February. We are **currently seeking applications** from other local registered charities to be considered for next year. Please look for the application form at [www.dobbies.com](http://www.dobbies.com), under the heading 'Dobbies in the Community'. For more information, contact Amanda James by email at [community.kinross@dobbies.com](mailto:community.kinross@dobbies.com).



*Dobbie the reindeer makes a visit to the Day Centre!*

## Heather Davidson

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## Kinross & District Rotary Club

www.ribi.org



### Young chef competition

This took place on 9 December, with 10 entrants taking part preparing a wide variety of dishes of an extremely high standard. It was organised jointly by the club and Catriona Cairney, principal teacher of domestic science at the High School.

For the second year running the first prize was awarded to Lewie Reith for his pork tapenade prosciutto and lemon meringue pie. Second and third places went to Freya Conway and Eilidh MacGilp respectively. The winner goes forward to a district competition in Dundee on Saturday 28 January.



Lewie Reith receiving his prize from Rotarian George Lawrie

The judges were Ron Kitchin, managing director of The Kitchin, Trevor Wootton of Burnbank bed and breakfast and Rotarian Dugald McIntyre. Prizes were presented by senior vice president of the Rotary Club, George Lawrie, and included chefs' whites (supplied by Malcolm Wood), a signed copy of a Tom Kitchin cookery book and aprons from The Kitchin restaurant (supplied by Ron Kitchen) as well cash prizes provided by Rotary. Certificates were presented to all entrants.

Ron Kitchin commented, 'I would be happy to see some of these dishes served in our michelin starred restaurant'. Trevor Wootton provided constructive criticism for the future efforts of all the competitors.

### Young musician competition

This took place at Kinross High School on 13 December. Overseeing the event was 'master of ceremonies', Rotarian David Reid. The club assisted music teachers Paul Rosie and Finlay Turnbull with the running and organisation of event.



Cameron Macfarlane, Rotarian Malcolm Wood, Lilly Roy and overall winner Ola Stanton

Seven competitors performed two pieces each on a variety of instruments including violin, euphonium, cornet and saxophone. First prize was awarded to Ola Stanton on violin for her 'captivating performances' of Burleigh's Allegro and Bohm's Sarabande. Second and third prizes respectively went to Lilly Roy on violin and Cameron Macfarlane on Saxophone. The competition was ably judged by Captain Craig Burns, director of music for 'The Highland Band', and local musicians Isobel Watt and Jenny MacLeod. Captain Burns complimented all the competitors for performing well under pressure. Coupons were presented as prizes by Rotary Club president Malcolm Wood and Head Teacher Sarah Brown gave a vote of thanks to all involved.

### Euroscola

This project involves Rotary Clubs sponsoring a young person, proficient in French (usually at Advanced Higher level), to join a group of 26 Scottish school students on a visit to the European Union Parliament in Strasbourg. They will pose questions and debate in the Parliament Chamber with students across the EU. The scheme is recognised by HM Inspectorate of Education in the booklet, 'Improving Scottish Education' (Modern Language in Secondary Schools).

Without doubt, the visit is a fantastic opportunity for a local young person to experience France, use their language skills in a meaningful, realistic, context and meet young people from all over Europe. It develops cultural awareness, understanding, and an appreciation for cooperation across borders. The UK Parliament have assured that Euroscola will continue, and that schools and groups are encouraged to take part in the programme, until the UK fully leaves the European Union.

A panel of Rotarians chose High School pupil Rosie Cormack from four local candidates after a rigorous selection process. The visit is funded by the local Rotary Club and will take place in February 2017. Rosie will make a presentation to the club upon her return.

### Santa's Sleigh

Along with Round Table, we have been heavily involved in the organisation and execution of 2016's Santa's Sleigh tour of Kinross, Milnathort, and the outlying villages of Kinross-shire. The events have been successfully run for many, many years and the residents, particularly the younger ones, in all the towns and villages look forward to seeing Santa.

The event creates a wonderful community spirit and is enjoyed by all, including those collecting. It also provides a great opportunity to raise funds for charities and organisations within Kinross-shire. Santa and his sleigh went on tour for seven nights. Other local groups assisted by carrying out a door to door collection raising in excess of £3000 in aid of local charities.

### Meetings

We meet 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 club secretary, Brian Timms, at brian.timms230@btinternet.com to find out more.

**Kinross-shire is a Fairtrade County**

## Kinross Beavers

It was a busy end to 2016 for the Beavers.

On Friday 18 November we said goodbye to Ben who moved onto Cubs. Ben was our longest serving Beaver, having completed the full two years. Good luck at Cubs, Ben! The following week, Gregor M was appointed the new Sharp Teeth Lodge Leader, replacing Ben. Congratulations, Gregor! At the beginning of December, Annie from Kinross Food Bank kindly came along and talked to the Beavers through what a food bank is and why it's so important. The Beavers also made their own collection tins and learned about the Greyhound rescue charity. This term, the Beavers have also been working towards their Scottish Thistle Award. This is a new challenge badge that is only available to Scottish colonies. It allows Beavers to learn more about what Scotland looks like, its place in the world and other Scottish interests such as the different tartans and Scottish playground games.

Along with the Cubs and Scouts in the group, the Beavers went to see the Dick McWhittington pantomime at Perth Concert Hall on Wednesday 14 December. All the Beavers had a great time although were rather tired by the end.

Our final meeting before Christmas was a craft night and we made a variety of Christmas related gifts. The Beavers were also presented with badges they had earned during the term. Three members were also given recognition awards for working really hard and being kind and helpful all term. Congratulations to Harry, Mia and Cameron D!

On our last night, Gregor F was presented with his Bronze Award after successfully achieving all six challenge badges and four stage/activity badges. Well done, Gregor!

As you can see, we have lots going on in the colony at the moment. If you would like to have the Beavers help your community group, or if you are interested in volunteering with Scouting, please contact us at [kinrossbeavers@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:kinrossbeavers@hotmail.co.uk).



Recognition Awards for being kind, helpful and working hard!



Goodbye to Ben...



Gregor with his Bronze Award



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## Friends of Loch Leven Community Library

**Now open on Monday mornings!**



We are celebrating six months of opening Loch Leven Community Library on Saturday afternoons. This has been so successful that we are now extending our opening hours; from Monday 30 January the library will be open from 10am until 1pm. Why not come along? We would be delighted to see you.

We are a group of independent volunteers who staff Loch Leven Community Library on Saturdays from 1pm to 4pm and on Mondays from 10am to 1pm.

If you would like to join us as a volunteer, please get in touch by calling 07543657539 or find us on Facebook.

### Need Equipment for a Community Event?

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

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

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

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





# Kinross High School



May 2016 saw the start of our first ever challenge week and plans are already underway to make this year even better.

The focus of the week was helping our young people develop as successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens. We achieved this through a range of different activities with one common goal; to challenge our pupils.

Throughout the week all S1, S2 and S3 pupils learned new skills and gained qualifications, took part in a volunteering activity, an educational excursion, a whole school walk and a celebration of the year as a house group.

Some of the highlights were: over 400 pupils engaging with our local community doing volunteering work developing skills for learning, life and work; 329 pupils were all trained, assessed and passed the British Heart Foundation CPR course; S1 pupils went on a two-day residential trip to Hadrian's Wall in Hexham where they visited two different museums and walked along a section of the wall; S1 pupils were involved in a rapid response exercise where they were required to solve a number of practical challenges throughout the day;



*Planting raised beds in Kinnesswood*



*Helping out at Orwell Manse*

150 S2 and S3 pupils had a day away at a number of different venues where they developed outdoor skills, (white water rafting and mountain biking), gained science knowledge at the Glasgow Science Centre or learned about animal behaviour at Edinburgh Zoo's Education Centre; 400 pupils took part in our annual walk around Loch Leven.

Feedback from community groups was very positive, with pupils being praised for their excellent behaviour, attitude and work ethic, and we would like to make 2017 even better. We have extended the range of residential excursions on offer to our pupils, engaged with a wider range of outside providers to deliver new skills provisions and aim to use the whole school walk as an opportunity to raise money for our chosen school charity and the school fund.

We would like to thank all voluntary partners for taking part in our 2016 challenge week and to expand our involvement



*Lending a hand to Milnathort in Bloom*

with local community groups and charities by inviting more community groups or local charities to take part in 2017.

The range of volunteer partner groups and activities were diverse in 2016; they ranged from working with our feeder primary schools to churches and community groups.

Some of the activities included gardening and preparing planters in Kinross, painting fences and carrying out various maintenance tasks and one group worked at the manse of the minister of Orwell and Portmoak Parish Church preparing the garden for his return from his year as Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

The 2017 challenge volunteering days take place on 29 and 30 May and 1 June. If you are a member of a local community group or charity and you would like to be involved, please get in touch at [KinrossHigh@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:KinrossHigh@pkc.gov.uk).



## Kinross Museum

Loch Leven Community Campus  
[www.kinrossmuseum.org.uk](http://www.kinrossmuseum.org.uk)  
[www.facebook.com/Kinross.Museum](https://www.facebook.com/Kinross.Museum)



### Projects

Last year saw the completion of the Museum's involvement as a Board Member of the HLF-funded Living Lomonds Landscape Partnership Programme after three years of delivering assorted community projects extending from Falkland to Lochore Meadows.

This year has been designated the 'Year of History, Heritage and Archaeology', with smaller scale funding being made available for a wide range of projects throughout the country. Kinross Museum has taken the lead in putting in a bid for funding from Heritage Lottery Fund Scotland and Historic Environment Scotland for a project focussed in Portmoak Parish entitled 'Our Portmoak: Uncovering Stories from the Past.' The good news is that we have been successful in securing funding from both of these organisations for a year of archaeological and story telling activities. Watch this space for further details.

Why not drop by the Museum to see our exhibitions and find out more about the history of Kinross-shire? If you would like to help out as a volunteer, please visit us in the Museum Study Room on Thursdays and Saturdays.

### Lochs and Rivers Quiz

We hope that everyone who helped to support the Museum by purchasing an entry form for our Lochs and Rivers Quiz enjoyed the mental challenge! There were two entries with a best score of 17 out of 22 and, after a random draw between the two, the winner was Mrs Jeanette Littlejohn of Muckhart. Jeanette's prize was a beautiful framed photograph of Loch

Leven by renowned local photographer Willie Shand. Many thanks to all who took part, and to Willie for donating the photograph. The correct answers were:

1. Almond. 2. Turk. 3. Teith. 4. Lauder. 5. Luibeg. 6. Tweed. 7. Maree. 8. Shiel. 9. Ewe. 10. Findhorn. 11. Quaich. 12. Esk. 13. Gala. 14. Katrine. 15. Drunkie. 16. Yetholm. 17. Long. 18. Awe. 19. Endrick. 20. Dee. 21. Bannock. 22. Earn.



*Museum Trust Chairman Professor David Munro presents Mrs Jeanette Littlejohn with her prize for winning the Lochs and Rivers Quiz*

### Golf Poster

Yvonne and Brian Bell were the highest bidders for the rare golf poster signed by Darren Clarke, Open Championship winner. We are grateful to the Bells for their support, and for the generosity of museum volunteer Gordon Anthony who donated the poster for auction.

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## Broke Not Broken

Christmas hamper night at the community campus was a huge success, resulting in 72 hampers which were distributed in the local community. We have had lovely messages of gratitude from people who had worried how they might cope over Christmas, so grateful for this little gesture. Thanks to everyone who attended, to Councillor Dave Cuthbert, Giacomazzi's local store staff and all the locals who came along to help us.

Delivering these hampers is a major task in itself. This year, we were lucky to have the help of Gordon Izatt from Delivery Monkeys and Iain Stewart from Caledonia Washrooms who did the majority of the deliveries. Thanks to both of you for doing the hard graft!

Portmoak Primary school donated a total of £330 which they had raised by selling hampers and tombolas: a staggering amount which was gratefully received.



*Pupil council of Portmoak Primary School and Broke Not Broken representative*

Kinross High School donated a massive amount of food thanks to the co-ordination of all in Lomond House who helped collect food for their reverse advent calendars.

The staff at Sainsbury's were also busy behind the scenes on their reverse advent calendars. They donated hampers which went to elderly people in need in our community. Special thanks to Jane who helps us continually throughout the year with our collection point there.

A mention also for Glenfarg Village shop who have supported us since before we even opened our doors! They continue to support us and collect food for us. Thank you.

Thanks also go to Kinross Colts 09 who donated food to us. It is great to get children involved in charity as early as possible, they gain a lot from it.

Another thank-you to the ladies and gents from Val Oswald's pilates class, Flutterby, for their generous donation of £121. Hunters the Butchers have to be thanked for again donating vouchers that could be passed on. We love being able to give these to our service users so they can purchase their own fresh food.

Moorelands travel organised a huge toy collection; thanks to them and the wider community for their amazing generosity. We were able to pass on so many of your gifts to children and families who were finding Christmas a challenge.

Thanks to TSB Kinross for donating £365 to our funds.

Thanks to The Boathouse for providing Christmas lunch to some of our users; a very kind thing to do, which made lots of people very happy.

Thanks to the Milnathort Brownies for their delicious donations of homemade chutney and hot chocolate. These went into our hampers and were a very special addition. Massive thanks to Mo Saunders and all the Brownies who made these little pots of joy.

We were also able to spread the message of what we are doing. Thanks to Milnathort CC for asking us to speak at their December meeting. They were engaged and interested and we hope to work with them in the future.

Also we were able to do workshops with the Kinross Beavers to help them work towards a badge and talk to them about food banks and why they exist. Thank you to the children and leaders for their time.

Just reading through the list of thanks, and the way our community got involved with us over Christmas and over the past 6-7 months, is truly overwhelming. There are caring ways, generous ways and creative ways of being involved. If you would like to be involved in other ways, for example

through volunteering, we are looking for people for our rotas. We need people who can spare just two hours per month to cover shifts in the food bank.

Thank you to everyone who bought our Christmas cards. We have received generous financial donations and we think long and hard about what to use these for. For example, we knew of a very useful local project which had lost its funding so we have decided to step in and use some of the donations you have given us to support The Conversation Café.

This group runs once a week at Millbridge Hall and is open to people struggling with, and recovering from, addictions or substance misuse. We are proud to be able to keep this

important group going.

We would also like to extend our thanks to everyone who has offered us various household items. We currently don't have any storage for these items but if, and when, a need arises we will post it on Facebook.

Our facebook page is [www.facebook.com/BrokeNot](http://www.facebook.com/BrokeNot) but you can still use the community group.

You can also follow us on twitter using @broke\_not or email us at [clare.slight@brokenotbroken.org](mailto:clare.slight@brokenotbroken.org) or [graham.holden@brokenotbroken.org](mailto:graham.holden@brokenotbroken.org)



*Toys donated via Moorelands Travel*



## Fossoway Primary School PTA

Members of Fossoway Primary School Parent Teacher Association were delighted to receive a donation of a Christmas tree in November from local specialist grower and supplier, the Kilted Christmas Tree Company.

This academic year PTA funds will be used to create an eco-garden. If this is an area that you feel you may have talent or interest in, then please get in touch with the school office in the first instance.

The school hopes to learn from the Kilted Christmas Tree Co experts in an eco-learning experience focusing on the growth and life cycle of their speciality trees.

Speaking in November, a representative of the Kilted Christmas Tree Co said: "Christmas is a time for giving, and here at The Kilted Christmas Tree Company it is important to us to give back to our local community, so we have been delighted to work with Fossoway Primary School this year. We hope our donation early next year can make a real difference to the children. We certainly hope our Christmas tree brings a lot of joy to them this festive season!"

The Head of Fossoway School said: "We would like to thank Kilted Christmas Tree Company for their donation to the school and local community. We appreciate their ongoing association with school, and their future support in classes regarding enterprise and the



Head Boy and Girl and Deputy Head Boy and Girl with the 8ft tree kindly donated to the school by the Kilted Christmas Tree Co.

world of work. We also welcome further enrichment of outdoor learning for our children. I'm sure this association will continue to be beneficial to our locality in years to come."



### WATCH THIS SPACE

**Thursday 16th March 2017, 7.30pm**  
Loch Leven Community Campus Assembly Hall

**THE WONDERS OF THE NIGHT SKY**  
**Steve Owens**, Astronomer and Planetarium Manager at Glasgow Science Centre.  
*Author: Star gazing for dummies*

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Physical Address: Matthew Dance Academy Studios, Kingfisher House, Auld Mart Business Park, Milnathort, KY13 9DA





## Kinross-shire Historical Society

### A Scotsman in Monte Carlo



At our annual Christmas talk, Professor David Munro traced the connections between the Scots and Monte Carlo since the nineteenth century and the significant science which emerged as a result.

In 1898 William Spiers Bruce, a naturalist with medical training, had completed an Arctic expedition on board the *Blencathra*, owned by Andrew Coats. The *Blencathra* was berthed in Norway at the same time as the *Princesse Alice III*, the research ship of Prince Albert I of Monaco, and Bruce was invited to join Prince Albert's ship.

The royal family of Monaco, the Grimaldis, originally a Genoese family, captured the strategic rock between Nice and Italy, with bays on either side and backed by mountains. The area is less than one square mile. During the nineteenth century, Prince Charles III, followed later by Prince Albert I, created a destination for the wealthy with hotels, casino and marinas as a place to winter. However, it was also a place for serious scientific research.

Prince Albert built four research ships in his lifetime and is seen as the father of Oceanography. He also had skills in meteorology and attended lectures in Scotland.

When Bruce changed ships in 1898, he went to Spitzbergen along with two other Scots (David Wedderburn and Dr John Young Buchanan), and a more detailed study took place the following year. Much scientific research was carried out and Bruce took his work back to Edinburgh where the Scottish Oceanographic Laboratory was set up at Surgeon's Hall. Another two Scots involved with Prince Albert were Hugh Robert Mill and Alexander Buchan from Kinnesswood, a meteorologist.

Bruce was not on Scott's Antarctic Expedition, but led his own Scottish National Antarctic Expedition on the *Scotia*. He reached Scotia Bay and was there for seven months.

Professor Munro wanted to retell Bruce's story to mark the centenary of the voyage and involved Princess Anne and the present Prince Albert as royal patrons.

Prince Albert has now been given an honorary degree by Edinburgh University and a fellowship of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society. Having learned of his ancestor's involvement with Bruce and the *Scotia*, Prince Albert has now been to both North and South Poles.

A charitable foundation has now been set up by Prince Albert. This supports environmental projects due to his interests in conservation, climate change, biodiversity and access to water. Professor Munro is on the advisory committee and was honoured recently by Prince Albert for his work with the foundation. The foundation has funded projects by Edinburgh and Plymouth Universities, Water Aid and the Natural History Museum.

Had it not been for the chance meeting of two ships in Norway, this story would not exist. Catriona McLeod thanked Professor Munro for telling this fascinating story, illustrated with a great selection of photos, paintings and maps.

### Loch Leven Past and Present

Willie Wilson from Loch Leven Fishery came to speak to us in January.

He explained that the loch was formed as glaciers moved from the area at the end of the Ice Age. This left rounded hills and a loch with shallows and deep holes of 70 and over 80 feet.

In the late nineteenth century, the loch was lowered by

several feet, with sluices to control the outflow. These are still controlled by the River Leven Trust. This created more farmland and totally changed the character of the loch.

Fishing as a sport was started in the late 1800s. By the 1950s, the number of boats had doubled to 20, with another dozen boats with part-time boatmen. The season ran from April to September and the men would have other jobs for the winter. The loch produced many good brown trout with a regular size and weight.

In the 1950s the loch was affected by gravel extraction and forestation. This altered the amount of water in the feeder streams, which are very important. The results were seen in the 1960s and 1970s when fish numbers dropped. When the fish farm at Burleigh was rejuvenated, numbers went up again.

Algae was a huge problem on the loch in the 1990s, culminating with "Scum Friday" which caused major problems for the grand opening event to mark the Nature Conservancy Council becoming Scottish Natural Heritage. Loch Leven is a National Nature Reserve and a Site of Special Scientific Interest, so the environment is very important. Although the algae disappeared, the fishing didn't recover properly. Despite best efforts to boost the fish, including a trial with rainbow trout before reverting to brown trout, there still weren't enough in the loch. Boats and employment reduced and, by the early 21st century, there were only 12 boats left compared to 50 boats in the 1990s.

We also heard about predators of the trout, such as cormorants and pike, and the different ways of dealing with them, and the chironimids (the Loch Leven midges), which trout feed on when they hatch.

SNH and SEPA have a huge job in keeping the water treatment in the loch to a high standard. The future of fishing lies with the enthusiasm of young fishermen.

Ian Campbell gave the vote of thanks for a very interesting talk.

## Kinross & District Art Club

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



2017 has got off to a good start for KADAC with one new member joining us on the first Tuesday session. This promises to be a rather special year for the club, as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of its founding in 1967. Our Annual Exhibition in September will have a number of new features and other activities are planned through the year, including a themed summer picnic. Significantly, we are sharing this anniversary with the Loch Leven RSPB Centre at Vane Farm and a joint planning group has already been working on ways to mark the fact that both of these local institutions have made such a significant input to the local community over so many years.

We are looking to gather and document as much history of the club as possible and would welcome hearing from anyone who has been a member, particularly between the years of 1967 and 2007. If you have any material: a photograph, a newspaper cutting, an exhibition programme, or an anecdote of your time at the club, please get in touch by email to [gjandrews7@aol.com](mailto:gjandrews7@aol.com)

We have an excellent programme for our Spring Term sessions on Tuesdays and Fridays at 2.00pm in The Millbridge Hall, which will include two visiting artists' demonstrations, two in-house workshops and an audiovisual presentation. The calendar of events and other information about the club are on our website.

## Kinross-shire 50 Plus Club

The **monthly meeting** is on **2 February**, when the speaker will be Mr S Paterson on "wildlife in your garden".



### Notices

Our **Annual Holiday** is on 5 March 2017. We are doing the Highlands this year and will stay at Nethybridge Hotel as our base. Anyone interested, please contact Jean Beveridge, tel 01577 862655.

### Away Days

**9 Feb** Callendar House, Falkirk.

**23 Feb** Mining Museum, Dalkeith.

Bus leaves the Green Hotel at 9.15am. Contact Mrs P Crawford, 01577 862962.

### Friday Walkers

**12 Feb** Elmwood Golf Club, Crawford Priory and Springfield.

**26 Feb** Ravenscraig Park, Kirkcaldy, along coastal path to West Wemyss and return.

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

### Friday Hill Walkers

**3 Feb** Balmerino Margaret 9am

**17 Feb** Fife Coastal Path, Crail Flora 9am

**3 Mar** Lomond Craigmead car park Robin 9am

### Activities

Activities are open to all members of the club.

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Portmoak Hall 100 Club

### November Draw

1st	No 37	Mrs Aitken, Scotlandwell.
2nd	No 83	Sheila Drysdale, Kinnesswood.
3rd	No 94	Mrs McKenzie, Wester Balgedie.

### December Draw

1st	No 96	Elenor White, Kinneston.
2nd	No 40	Simon Herrington, Scotlandwell.
3rd	No 59	Tanya Loftus, Scotlandwell.

### Images of Kinross-shire

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

### Photo Library

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

## Kinross & Ochil Walking Group

(Affiliated to Ramblers Scotland)

Don't just sit in the house this winter. Being active not only improves your physical fitness but also maintains good mental health. Walking gives you a sense of achievement and boosts the chemicals in your brain that help put you in a good mood. Being active can help eliminate tiredness, anxiety and stress. Whether you've never walked much, are returning to walking, or are a regular walker, come out with us, explore new places and meet new people to see if you'd like to join our very 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

**Saturday 4 February: Tillicoultry to Dollar, 8 miles.**

A walk in mixed woodland using the Devonway to walk to Dollar and back.

**Sunday 19 February: Meallbrodden, 7 miles.**

Circular walk with great views towards the Sma' Glen and beyond. Lovely fishing loch and some woodland tracks.

In case it turns cold and wet, you do need appropriate clothing, including boots or 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.

**Tuesday 7 February: Pitmedden Forest.**

A woodland walk on good tracks, where the kings and queens of Scotland once rode out from Falkland Palace in pursuit of wild boar.

**Tuesday 21 February: Edinburgh West End Exploration.**

A walk around the historic streets of Edinburgh's West End, discovering hidden gems of architecture and artwork, along with locations of some of its past residents.

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

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## Kinross & District Probus Club Loch Leven, the great meeting place and sanctuary



The presentation in December was given by David Munro, a local Geographical Consultant who lives near, and loves, Loch Leven.

Interest in the loch can be traced as far back as 1654, but it was after artist John Millais painted the abundant wildlife on and around the loch in the early 20th century that scientific studies began and, by the 1970s, it was a National Nature Reserve.

The algal bloom which affected the loch in 1992 resulted in the formation of a Management Action Plan.

The royal connection with the loch is also significant, none more so than the imprisonment of Mary Queen of Scots, about which Sir Walter Scott wrote so passionately. During this time the loch attracted numerous writers and artists which greatly increased public awareness.

Sport has played an important part on the loch, with curling and fishing being the best known. Kinross can proudly claim to be the home of curling. Fishing, originally by net and then by rod, remains an integral part of the life of the loch today. More recently, there has been a dramatic change with the start of a process to recreate some new wetlands. RSPB at Vane Farm and the community around Portmoak are heavily involved in this.

Today the loch and its surroundings have become a major tourist attraction with the development of the Heritage Trail which allows people to get closer to the whole loch, while at the same time respecting the wildlife in and around it.

A vote of thanks was given by Robin Webster.

### Robinson Crusoe: fact or fiction?

Dr David Caldwell from Edinburgh University presented this

talk in January. David spent 38 years working for the National Museums of Scotland until he retired in 2012. Over the years he has tackled a broad range of archaeological and historical projects.

David had always held a strong interest in the story of Robinson Crusoe and where the author, Daniel Defoe, got the inspiration to write his famous story. It is believed that Defoe used the exploits of Alexander Selkirk, from Lower Largo, to create the character Robinson Crusoe.

Selkirk had come from a troubled family and he took to the seas to escape the turmoil. He became a master mariner and undertook a number of voyages to the southern oceans. It was there, off the coast of Chile, that he was to be marooned. In 2002 David got the opportunity to participate in an expedition to the island (originally called Más a Tierra) on which Selkirk is believed to have been marooned for four years from 1704 to 1708. The journey to the island was long and hazardous.

The main aim was to find the campsite used by Selkirk and, after some false trails, the team eventually came across a building thought to be a gun powder store from around 1750, many years after Selkirk's time. Further examination revealed that the site had been used prior to 1750 and, after more archaeological digging, a significant artefact was found. This was identified as a piece from a navigator's dividers, a tool which would have been invaluable to Selkirk as a master mariner. This evidence placed Selkirk on the remote island and indicated that Defoe used this experience to create Robinson Crusoe.

So what of Alexander Selkirk? On his return to Scotland he could not settle and joined the navy and died in service in 1722, unaware that his exploits would live forever through Robinson Crusoe.

The vote of thanks was given by George Ponton.

## Kinross & District Inner Wheel



In December, Kinross Inner Wheel held a candlelit supper in aid of ShelterBox, a charity which delivers the essentials people need to begin rebuilding their lives in the aftermath of a disaster. A wonderful total was raised on the evening and we plan to add to this amount at a Baked Potato lunch to celebrate 'Inner Wheel Day' to be held later in January - more fundraising combined with a social occasion.

We were delighted to welcome Irene McFarlane to the January meeting as our speaker. Irene's topic was 'The place of Scots in my Life'. And what an interesting talk it was!

Irene spoke mainly about Robert Burns with particular reference to 'Tam o' Shanter'. She set the scene of the poem, telling us about the witchcraft stories which Burns would have heard as a child and leading on to how the poem came to be written - supposedly in one day - for Francis Grose whom Burns had met by chance at the home of his friend, Captain Riddell. Francis Grose had asked for a poem to be written to accompany a drawing of Alloway Kirk in volume two of his book 'The Antiquities of Scotland'. Burns remembered the Ayrshire tale from his boyhood and wrote to Grose in June 1790, outlining three witch stories associated with Alloway Kirk. The second of the stories was 'Tam o' Shanter'. To complete her talk, Irene entertained us all with a wonderfully acted rendition of the poem. We could definitely imagine the witches screaming in the churchyard!

## Kinross Parish Church

### Keeping up to date with Kinross Parish Church



Use of the Facebook page of Kinross Parish Church of Scotland has continued to increase since its launch in May last year. The page has become a well-used supplement to the church's website, giving up-to-date information on what is going on in the church. Why not follow our page? Go to:

[www.facebook.com/kinrossparishchurch](http://www.facebook.com/kinrossparishchurch)

### Christmas Collection for Combat Stress

Grateful thanks have been received from 'Combat Stress' (the veterans' mental health charity) for all those who contributed to the total of £1,180.59 collected at this year's Christmas Services at Kinross Parish Church.



Minister Rev Alan Reid said: "It was great to see so many people moved by the message of Christ's birth and attending our range of Christmas Services, from Communion at the start of December through our Christmas Eve Crib Service and Watchnight Service to our family Christmas Day worship. We are thankful that those attending have raised this impressive amount, which will be used to help those whose mental health has been affected by combat."



## Loch Leven Community Campus

Muir, Kinross, KY13 8FQ

Website: [lochlevencommunitycampus.org](http://lochlevencommunitycampus.org)

[www.facebook.com/pages/Loch-Leven-Community-Campus-Events/586177994767618?fref=ts](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Loch-Leven-Community-Campus-Events/586177994767618?fref=ts)

Tel: 01577 867200 Email: [lochlevenreception@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:lochlevenreception@pkc.gov.uk)

### What's Happening at the Campus

**French Story Telling in the Library, Sat 4 Feb.** See p. 20.

**Kinross Hub The Carers Café, Mon 6 Feb.** The Café is an informal meeting place to chat over a cuppa with other carers, cared for and family members. The guest speaker for February is PKAVS on six legal must dos. Talk starts at 10.15am prompt.

**Kinross High School K Factor, Fri 10 Feb.** For more information, please see KHS website.

**Antiques, Vintage, Retro & Collectors Fair, Sat 18 Feb.** There will be buying, selling and valuations given. Admission will be from 9.30am to 3.30pm.

### Classes and Groups at the Campus

**Sew Smart Classes** at the Campus with Perth College on Tuesday evenings. This ten-week course started on Tuesday 17 January. Classes are 7pm-9pm covering Sewing, Mending, Altering, Recycling and Tailoring. For booking and information contact Kinross Learning Centre on 01577 863863.

**Upholstery Classes** at the Campus with Perth College on Wednesday evenings. This ten-week course started on Wednesday 11 January. Classes are 4.30pm-6.30pm and 7pm-9pm. For booking and information contact Kinross Learning Centre on 01577 863863.

**WeightWatchers** meet on Wednesdays at 6.30pm.

**Spark-2** is a supportive project for activities and recreation. Are you an adult with a disability? Would you like there to be more for you to do in Kinross? Spark-2 has activities such as Boccia, Indoor Kurling, Technology (iPads etc), Crafts or just a blether! Come along and tell us what YOU would like to do. For more information, please contact Roseanne Gray on 01577 867216.

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



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**Kinross-shire Visitor Information Points**

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

## Boys Brigade

All company members enjoyed their visit to Dunfermline's Alhambra Theatre for their production of Mother McGoose just prior to the Christmas break.



Anchors and Juniors also attended Perth Battalion's Christmas Carol service in Perth.

Junior and Company members are preparing for the next Battalion activity, which is the chess competition. Junior members are preparing for their festival of activities with drill and musical items. The company section drill competition is also due in the next few weeks with five a side football, basketball and volleyball taking place before Easter.

Company members will be taking part in the International Top Team Challenge. For this, teams of four open a sealed envelope and have one hour to complete a variety of unseen mental, physical and fun challenges with their completed papers sent to BB HQ in London to be marked and graded.

Preparations for the Duke of Edinburgh awards scheme have resumed at Bronze, Silver and Gold levels. These preparatory sessions on map reading skills, personal safety, first aid, campcraft, cooking, photography, use of technologies and so on are also open to youngsters outwith the BB; any youngster interested should contact the Company Captain David Munro on 01577 862126.

A number of Company members are working towards their Queen's Badge with others working towards their President's Badge.

There are still a few vacancies in all three sections with Anchors (for boys and girls in primaries one, two and three) meeting at the Church Centre on Friday evenings from 6pm to 7.15pm. Juniors (for boys and girls in primaries four, five and six) meet from 7pm to 9pm and Company (from primary seven till secondary six) from 7pm to 10pm, also on a Friday.

**Uniform Amnesty:** Any former members who still have items of uniform are invited to hand them in to the Church Centre at any time (bagged please).



**Yoga Classes in Kinross**  
[www.simpliyoga.com](http://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](mailto:enquiries@simpliyoga.com) **07466 360152**

Please contact before attending to ensure availability.



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## Kinross Otters

It has been a busy festive season for the Otters and not only in the water!

Congratulations are due to Iona Crawford and Ola Stanton who competed at the Scottish Swimming National Short Course Championships on 9 and 10 December. Both did exceptionally well, with Iona in the 200 breaststroke with an impressive 2:51:34 and swimming a very strong 100 breaststroke to finish in 1:18.57 beating her own PB. Ola also had a great meet with excellent swims in the 50 freestyle, 50 breaststroke and 100m IM. Well done, girls!



*Jumping for joy! Amy and Libby Broadhurst celebrate a successful season for the Otters*

Fundraising is a huge part of what is required (along with our committed coaches, parents and swimmers) to keep our club striving for success and our fundraising team, led by Pamela Watson, were kept very busy indeed in December.

On 11 December Santa Claus came to town and the Otters were granted a slot by the Rotary who have taken over the running of this Kinross-shire institution from the now disbanded Round Table. We were delighted to be involved. Many thanks to all the coaches and swimmers who came along on a chilly and wet evening to raise money for good causes as well as a portion to the club as a thank you.

Pamela also arranged a pre-Christmas bag pack at Morrison's in Perth, which raised a fantastic £439. Many thanks to everyone who gave up their afternoon at this very busy time of year when they really should have been doing their own shopping!

The Club Championships Awards night is the biggest celebration in the Otters calendar. The 2016 awards took place on 6 January at the Windlestrae Hotel, arranged again by Pam Watson and her team of helpers. A great night was had by all; not only the many happy swimmers whose achievements were celebrated, but by the jockeys and punters during the horse races, the raffle winners and successful auction bidders.

We are indebted to Pamela and her team, as well as her husband Gordon, who did a sterling job as auctioneer and raffle announcer! We would also like to thank the many local businesses and individuals who donated raffle and auction prizes. What great community spirit!

There were prizes awarded for top point scorers by age group and also for individual races. There are far too many talented swimmers to list here!

However, special mention should be made of the 'Swimmers of the Year' who were named as Ola Stanton and Murray Prtichard. Both have achieved spectacular things in 2016 and have continued to inspire their peers and younger swimmers to train hard and do their best.

There are also coaches awards given out for those swimmers who have shown dedication, perseverance and commitment. These awards were granted to Kailey Brannigan in bronze, Elle Gordon in silver, Mia McKenzie in gold and Amy Hardie in platinum. Well done to them and all the swimmers who not only won prizes but who competed and supported their friends during the Championship event. Everyone showed great competitive spirit and camaraderie.

We're looking forward to another great year at Otters and thank all swimmers, coaches, poolside helpers and parents who help to run the club. Here's to an even more successful 2017!

## Kinross Ladies Netball Club

Training started again on Friday 6 January. We train every Friday in the large sports hall at the campus from 7pm to 8pm and always look forward to new members coming along. The first week is free so, if you're looking to get into a new sport or get back to netball, come along for some fitness and fun. We usually see higher numbers at the start of the year so, if you've always wanted to give it a go, now is the time to do it.

We had a good turnout for our 'hockey tries netball' in November. Thanks to the hockey team for coming along; there were some natural netballers present and we hope to see some of you back again.

So far this year we have a few things planned. For the first time, Scotland has entered a team in the Netball Superleague. Some of us are going to watch their match against Surrey Storm on Saturday 8 April. If anyone fancies coming along let us know, as there should still be tickets available.

We plan to enter at least one team in the 'Pitch on the Park' tournament which will be held at Rugby Park in Kilmarnock on Saturday 10 June. Hopefully we can repeat, or better, the same success we had last year. (We came second overall).

For more information, please contact us through our Facebook page or by email to [kinrossnetball@hotmail.com](mailto:kinrossnetball@hotmail.com).



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## Kinross Tennis Club

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

The mince pie finish to the lovely club Christmas dinner at The Kirklands Hotel seems a distant memory and, whilst festivities have quietened down, there is still plenty happening!

**Winter junior coaching** is running at Loch Leven Community Campus. The block runs for 10 weeks until 14 March on Tuesdays from 5pm to 7pm. There are three different sessions dependent upon age/ability. There are still a few spaces if you are interested. Please contact Siobhan for further information at [kinrosstenniscoaching@gmail.com](mailto:kinrosstenniscoaching@gmail.com)

**Adult club sessions** continue on Wednesdays at 6.30pm and Sundays at 10.30am. It's been only the weather hardy who have appeared recently, but wrap up warm and you'll enjoy some bracing winter tennis and feel all the better for it! Thursday afternoon adult social tennis has, however, temporarily popped indoors at Gleneagles. The guarantee of regular play is obviously the attraction rather than the setting and posh coffees!

Another block of **adult coaching** by Daniel Reed is taking place on Fridays at 1.30pm. This is open to members and non-members of all abilities. Further information is available from our secretary by emailing [kinrosstennis@gmail.com](mailto:kinrosstennis@gmail.com).

Our **Annual Quiz** takes place on **Tuesday 7 March** starting at 7.30pm at the KGV rugby clubhouse. It is always a great evening and we invite club members, their family and friends to come along and support the club in this fundraising event. Remember it's the taking part that counts, although the chilli supper and good fun are obviously a bonus! We are delighted, once more, to have Kinross Quizzicals put our grey matter to the test. Mike Spain is a busy man but gives a huge amount of his time to community groups and charities. We'd like to thank him for being our quiz master extraordinaire once again.

We're busy planning for the season ahead and will give you more details next month. Meanwhile, as ever, new members are welcome and enquiries can be made to our secretary, Margaret Hamblin, on 01577 850252 or at [kinrosstennis@gmail.com](mailto:kinrosstennis@gmail.com). Visitors are also welcome. Keys are available from Sands the Ironmongers for a small fee.



## Kinross Curling Club

The Rankine Cup reached an exciting climax on 10 January, with six of the eight rinks having something to play for. At the top of the table, Paul Baughan's defeat in the penultimate round of games saw him drop out of the race for top spot, leaving the cup to be decided by a straight shoot-out between the top two rinks of Dave Beveridge and Iain Cormack. At the bottom, Shane Johnston needed to avoid defeat to ensure that the Hogg Trophy (i.e. the wooden spoon) would go to Peter Malcolm.

The top game saw Iain establish a narrow lead in the first half, but a score of four to Dave in the sixth end, followed by a steal of one, put him in an unassailable position. The Rankine Cup will remain on the Beveridge mantelpiece for another year. Congratulations to Dave and his rink of Jim Taylor, Craig McNaughton and Craig Sutherland. Iain's defeat allowed Davie Clydesdale's rink to slip through into second place and claim the MacIntosh Trophy as runners-up. At the bottom, both Shane and Peter won their games so Peter Malcolm takes the wooden spoon.

The finalists in the pairs competitions have now battled their way through. The Gartwhinzean Trophy for the high road competition will be contested by Iain Cormack and Tom Graham against Dougie Rodger and Denis Sweeney. The Skinner Rosebowl for the low road will go to either Shane Johnston and Craig Sutherland or Davie Clydesdale and Jamie Montgomery.

The focus now switches to the Poole Trophy, played on ends scored rather than shots, and the Montgomery Trophy. A number of friendlies and external league games also remain, and the big derby match against Dunfermline in March is not so far away.

January also tends to offer the best chance of ice on the outdoor curling pond so all eyes will be on the weather forecasts for the next few weeks. The club has installed new LED floodlights at the pond which will allow full advantage to be taken of any ice.

For information on the club, check out our facebook page or get in touch with the secretary at [blairmelville@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:blairmelville@tiscali.co.uk).



## Kinross Golf Club

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

Our **AGM** takes place at 2.30pm on **Sunday 29 January** in the clubhouse.

Throughout the winter, golf continues, weather permitting. The gents' winter league takes place on a Sunday morning and ladies play on Thursday and Saturday mornings. All members welcome. See noticeboards for times.

For more information about golf and social memberships and other club activities, check out our website, follow us on Facebook and Twitter, or pop into the Clubhouse.

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### Newsletter Deadlines

A list of future deadlines can be found on our website

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

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### Photographs of Kinross-shire

you'd be happy to share with others?

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## Kinross Cycling Club

### Cycling jersey is spot on with new design



A Kinross teenager will see her winning design come to life in this year's Sportive Kinross cycling event. When Kinross Cycling Club needed a new design for their annual Sportive cycling jersey, they asked Higher Graphic students at Kinross High School to come up with a jersey that was iconic, reflected the event and the area, and would be suitable for both sexes. The students took the challenge with great enthusiasm and came up with seven designs.

After much deliberation the club chose the design from S5 student Amy Broadhurst, with Patrick Freeman in second place. Amy, 16, is a keen cyclist and based her design on the King of the Mountains jersey from the Tour de France, but with purple spots rather than red, complementing the existing club kit. She will be riding the sportive herself, alongside her father, Jon.

Richard Smith, Design Technology teacher, said of the approach from the club: "I knew it represented a fantastic opportunity for our Higher Graphic Communication students



Amy Broadhurst, S5 Student and winner, Craig Barron Synergy Cycles (Main Sponsor), Patrick Freeman, S5 student and runner up.



Richard Smith, Design & Technology teacher, Kinross High School; Donnie Macleod, Synergy Cycles; Amy Broadhurst; Patrick Freeman; Craig Barron, Synergy Cycles; Stewart Wilson, Sportive Kinross.

to be involved in a live project. All too rarely do our students have the opportunity to work alongside a real client with their

winning entry actually being produced.

"I was really pleased with how the students responded to the project ... they were enthusiastic and put a tremendous amount of effort in to their submissions ... devoting a lot of their time before and after school and even during lunchtimes."

Sportive Kinross event organiser, Jeff Wall, said: "We were really blown away by the quality of the work the students produced and I'm sure the jersey will be a best seller. The club would like to thank Amy and her fellow students for their hard work, as well as our sponsors Synergy Cycles in Auchterarder, Heaven Scent and CHAS."

The Kinross Sportive is one of the most popular cycling events in Scotland and has raised over £52,000 for CHAS in the past six years.

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



The final design for the new Kinross Sportive jersey

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**Contact: Isobel on: 07928 560 474**

or email me at: [Izziq4@aol.co.uk](mailto:Izziq4@aol.co.uk)



## **Kinross Rugby Club**

### **Youth Section**

In the December newsletter, we reported that the Kinross minis P7 team were returning to BT Murrayfield to play in the Edinburgh Rugby P7 tournament. A wonderful evening's rugby took place on 10 December, when the boys played against winning teams from other previous tournaments. Some strong teams were on display with Currie, Kelso, Linlithgow, Peebles, Watsonians, Stirling County and Perthshire also playing.

We played matches against all the teams and comprehensively won four of our matches, won another two tight games and unfortunately lost 1-0 to Peebles. However, having scored 20 tries and only conceded 1 try all day, we ran out as overall tournament winners, having a better tries score of 5 over the second placed Peebles.

The standard of play and determination from the entire team was excellent and the boys can proudly claim to be the best P7 team in East Scotland.



*The band 'Top Table' played at the club Christmas Night*

played previously, we would be delighted to see you at the KGV playing fields on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 7pm.

### **The Clubhouse**

Our Christmas night was a great success and a big thanks to the live band Top Table. A good night was had by all.

### **Six Nations**

The clubhouse will be open for the games so why not come on down and enjoy the games with a beer and enjoy the banter as a typical rugby club does?

Saturday 4 February, Scotland v Ireland, 2.25pm kick off.

Sunday 12 February, France v Scotland, 3pm kick off.

Saturday 11 March, England v Scotland, 4pm kick off.

Saturday 18 March, Scotland v Italy (Six Nations Super Saturday), 12.30pm kick off.



*The P7 Boys' Team at the Murrayfield Tournament*

Kinross RFC run an active youth section, with children from P1 to P7 (minis) and S1 upwards (midis), playing regularly both locally and further afield. All new children are most welcome. Our minis train on Saturday mornings from 10.30am and midis train on Tuesday evenings from 7pm.

### **Senior Section**

We have had a tough season with the senior section but we still continue to fulfil fixtures. We only have a few left this season and are looking to keep the senior section alive and kicking. So much so, the club decided to create a space so that the players can work out. Finally, after a few months, we now have this space up and running. We would like to thank all the helpers involved in setting up the space.

During the Christmas break we always have our annual overs v unders game and, as usual, this was a great success. Everyone involved worked off their Christmas indulgences.

### **Fixtures**

Saturday 18 February, away to Kirkcaldy 2nd XV.

Saturday 4 March, away to Morgan FP 1st XV.

Saturday 11 March, home to Panmure 1st XV.

Our senior teams play in the BT national leagues and, despite having a difficult season on the pitch, we continue to fulfil all fixtures with a full team. If you are keen to try rugby, or have

### **Contact Us**

Email [Kinrossrugby@gmail.com](mailto:Kinrossrugby@gmail.com).

Clubhouse phone number: 01577 861773.

Facebook Kinross Rugby Club.

Twitter @KinrossRugby.



*Get fit with Kinross Rugby Club!*



## Kinross Volleyball Club

Kinross High School senior boys' team travelled to the Aberdeen sports village on the last full day of term. In the opening fixture against Huntly's Gordon Schools, the Kinross boys opened strongly and recorded a 25-15 first set win. The second set was a different story as the Huntly team dug in and scraped a 25-23 win to level the game. The third set decider saw the Kinross side get their act together to finish as victors 15-9.

Their second fixture was against Oban High School who had made the four and a half hour journey to play. The Kinross boys dominated from the first whistle and won the first two sets 25-18, 25-8. The third set was much closer but the Kinross side did enough to see the set out 15-12.

The three boys' teams were also due to play Stromness Academy but storm Barbara put a swift stop to that. Although the team could reach the mainland by ferry there was no guarantee they would board a return ferry until after Christmas. Scottish Volleyball will now need to arbitrate on how they wish to progress things from here.

The senior boys' and girls' teams will compete in the Dundee festival on Tuesday 7 February.

The under 16 boys who compete in Scottish Volleyball's Junior National League play their home set of fixtures at the Loch Leven Campus on **Sunday 5 February**.

Our five volleyball teams are competing in the Perth District Volleyball league with two teams playing in the premier league and three teams in the recreational league.

Open coaching sessions continue in the large campus games hall on Monday evenings from 8 to 9.50pm with new members welcome.



*The Kinross High School senior boys' team*

### The Newsletter on Facebook

We use our Facebook page to announce:

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

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

[www.facebook.com/kinrossnewsletter](http://www.facebook.com/kinrossnewsletter)



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## Kinross Kobras

It has been a happy and busy New Year for the Kobras. Monty has been organising indoor hockey sessions the past few weeks to keep people busy and we have started the outdoor training sessions again (as the weather allows us!). The indoor training has been put to good use with the tournaments at this time of year taking place indoors. Before



The Under 10 (below) and Under 12 (right) teams from the Bell's Tournament



Christmas we had teams playing at Bell's Sport Centre in Perth and two indoor tournaments being held in Dundee are coming up. A slightly different style of hockey is required for indoors but the juniors have adapted well and all teams had some positive results. With the new pitch planned to be laid at KGV over the coming few weeks, training will be slightly disrupted for a while but hopefully, come March, we will be on a great new astroturf surface.

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## Fife Sailability

### Club receives donation from Port Edgar Yacht Club

Fife Sailability, a charity providing sailing experiences for the disabled, was delighted to receive a donation of £900 from Port Edgar Yacht Club just before Christmas.

Port Edgar Yacht Club used their annual dinner dance to raise the funds for the charity. Their Commodore, Terry Kirchen, presented the cheque to Merrick Yates, Fife Disability Chairman, who thanked Terry and explained that the money would be put towards the purchase of a Weta trimaran that will provide additional experiences for its disabled sailors. The Weta has been chosen as one of the classes of boats at this year's World Disabled Sailing Championships.



*Jim Galloway buddied by Kinross High School student Alistair Higgins on their way to winning the Bronze Class of Sailability Scotland's Challenger races held at Fife Sailability  
Photo: Ian Cameron*

Fife Sailability is a friendly and proactive club formed just four years ago with just three volunteers, four sailors and **no** money. Now with a membership of 42, the progress made has been such that the club was delighted to receive Accreditation from RYA Sailability, just one of three clubs in Scotland to do so. In addition, following an RYA Disability Training Course, Fife Sailability became an RYA Disability Training Centre, the second to receive this recognition in Scotland.

Fife Sailability is based at Lochore Meadows and provides sailing for disabled people in Fife, Perthshire, Kinross-shire and the Lothians. The club offers hourly sessions on alternate Saturdays, starting on 1 April.

The club sails Challenger dinghies specifically designed for disabled sailors. These dinghies can be sailed single-handed or with an experienced buddy. The club also uses the popular Hawk 20, which can carry six at a time.

For more information, contact Merrick Yates at 01577 864876 or look for Fife Sailability on Facebook.

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## Kinross Swimmers

Hope you all had a good new year. Are you looking to make good on your resolutions? Well remember Kinross Swimmers; a whole group of friendly people looking forward to welcoming you into the pool in Kinross.

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

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.

For further information please either contact us on facebook (Kinross Swimmers) or via email at [shepherd\\_ian@hotmail.com](mailto:shepherd_ian@hotmail.com) or on mobile number 07944503074.



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The rink continues to welcome curlers from across Scotland. At the time of submitting this article, 16 rinks are preparing to take part in the inaugural Over 40s bonspiel. Two of the rinks have won World Championships, however the focus is not just on competitive curling. The 64+ curlers will enjoy a dinner and ceilidh at the Windlestrae. The sponsorship of Hatrick Bruce Ltd and Andersons Solicitors is appreciated.

At the end of February we welcome the best lady curlers from all rinks across Scotland. The Henderson Bishop competition commences on Monday 27 February, concluding with the final on Thursday 1 March. This is a super opportunity to spectate and enjoy fine competitive curling. In Scottish Curling there is another major Ladies competition - the Morton Trophy. To date, Kinross Ladies are making good progress to reach the national finals.

Kinross Curling is pleased to report that to date four curlers from local clubs have already been selected to represent Ireland, Wales and England respectively at the Senior World Curling Championships in Lethbridge, Alberta, in April. All curlers consider curling in Canada as a great thrill. We now hope that we can have some curlers who will be in Canada by representing Scotland.

Kinross Curling Trust AGM takes place on 18 January. Members will be excited to consider the prospect of providing full wheelchair access to the bar/lounge. At the same time it is planned that the changing rooms and other facilities will be improved.

Finally, excitement and anticipation is slowly building as Kinross Curling Club is approaching the amazing milestone of being 350 years old - making it the oldest curling club IN THE WORLD!!

If you want to find out more about curling you will be made very welcome at the rink - behind the Green Hotel. The entrance is off Green Road.

## Fossoway Curling Club

Our first trophy of the season, the Fraser Cup, has been won by Ian Nicholson.

All members are now looking forward to our annual points competition with Fossoway Ladies and Tulliallan Curling clubs on Saturday 18 February.

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.



## Over-50s Walking Football Kinross

"Walking" football? What's that all about? Well, you may have seen the TV adverts by a well-known high street bank featuring a walking football group. If not, it's a growing activity aimed at encouraging over-50s to remain or get active. And it's not just for men either - plenty of women nationally are joining in.

Maybe you played when younger and thought that pesky knee or ankle had put paid to your playing days? Or maybe you are just looking for a fun and sociable form of exercise. By limiting the action to a walking pace, those old injuries needn't be a problem and the game becomes enjoyable for all levels of fitness and mobility, with the emphasis on passing and touch rather than running and tackling. It's an excellent core muscle and aerobic workout and maybe that old Cruyff turn is still in there somewhere!

A group was set up in Kinross last summer and is going strong, but anyone is welcome to come along and join our friendly session. The group ranges in age from 50s to 70s so there's no excuse not to have a go. We play every Tuesday at 6pm on the all-weather courts at Loch Leven Campus and, best of all, it's free! Just turn up and bend it like Beckham!

For information on walking football generally, contact Iain Hutton at LiveActive ([IHutton@liveactive.co.uk](mailto:IHutton@liveactive.co.uk))

## Orwell Colts Football Club



Kinross swimming school, Gravity Swim Stars, have sponsored the new football strips for Orwell Colts 2005 team.

Morag from Orwell Colts 2005 said: "We're so grateful to Lindsay and Gravity Swim Stars for their kind donation. The children are thrilled to have new strips this year."

*The Orwell Colts 2005  
in their new strips*





**BISHOPSHIRE** – President Norma Smith welcomed everyone to our Christmas meal, which was catered by Scott Hospitality (Heaven Scent). It was a fabulous meal, as always, and the service was excellent. Thanks to our own members, Jane, Ann and Mary for their contributions to the evening and to Maz Thorn who came along with her guitar to have us all singing favourite carols and Christmas songs.

Competition: Wrapped child's gift: 1st Jane Martin, 2nd Margo Waddell and 3rd Margaret Paton.

Many children's gifts were donated to Broke not Broken.

President Norma Smith welcomed 19 members and one visitor along to our first meeting of 2017. Thanks to our own members for providing the entertainment, Jane Martin for her slide show of a holiday on a Russian river cruise and a group of members who presented an Ann Cleaves whodunnit which kept everyone guessing. Congratulations to Greta Hogg who correctly guessed the identity of the murderer.

Most words from 'Bishopshire SWI' Joanne Cowan  
Flask of Soup Greta Hogg

**CARNBO** – Our Christmas party on 19 December began with a beautifully presented and delicious three-course meal served by the staff of Heaven Scent. Our sincere thanks to them for yet another stunning success at Carnbo SWI. After dinner we participated in a hilarious evening provided by our President and members of the committee. Thank you to them for their clever ideas and careful preparation.

Flower of the Month Frances Drysdale  
Decorated Christmas Parcel Jay Hutchison

Our first meeting of 2017 took the form of a celebration of Scottish Country Dance, ably led by our guest for the evening, Mr Robin Lambie. To our surprise, we learned that 'Country Dancing', according to available records, began in England at the court of Queen Elizabeth I, where it was enjoyed as a form of light relief after the restraints of the stylised 'Court Dancing'! Many other very interesting facts were interpolated with opportunities for audience participation, beginning with a sedate circular 16th century dance and ending with a lively Dashing White Sergeant! A wonderfully energetic evening was enjoyed by all.

A gold star to our President Jay who, earlier, had successfully covered all business efficiently and comprehensively.

Flower of the Month Cath Mearns  
An Item in Tartan Linda Band

Our next meeting, on Monday 20 February at 7.15pm in Carnbo Hall, entitled "Practical Tips to Improve your Photography Skills" will be led by Mr W Shand.

**GLENFARG** – January: President Margot Moran welcomed Susan Robertson of Scottish Fire and Rescue to talk about the organisation. Her description of the diversity of the work and changing structure of the Fire and Rescue Service which allows for a much more integrated service to the public was both useful and reassuring. Many of the services now available were an eye-opener to the members and her advice on these very much appreciated. Linda Stuart gave the vote of thanks.

Oven Mitt Alison Harrison  
Three Potato Scones Liz Yull  
Pot Plant Margot Moran

**CLEISH** – On 9 December we welcomed around 80 ladies to our Coffee, Cake and Carol evening in Cleish Village Hall. Thanks to the members of Cleish SWI who provided an entertaining and enjoyable festive evening.

President Mrs Helen Buchanan welcomed twenty-six members and visitors to our January meeting. Prior to business our members enjoyed an enthusiastic and fun-filled evening participating in a variety of physical activities and a brain-teaser puzzle.

During business President Mrs Helen Buchanan thanked our members for ensuring the previous month's Coffee, Cake and Carol evening was a resounding success.

Small Knitted Article Dorothy Morris  
Flask of Soup Heather McDougall  
Flower of the Month (pot plant) Lizzie Glennie

**CROOK OF DEVON** – There was no meeting in December as members had a lovely Christmas Meal at The Inn, Crook of Devon, followed by Christmas stories and games, organised by Kim Massey.

President Mrs Alice Johnson opened the first meeting of 2017. She wished everyone a Happy New Year and then introduced Mr Jim Christie from the Woodland Trust Scotland, who gave a very interesting talk along with a beautiful slide show on the work of the Trust. A vote of thanks was given by Mrs Isobel Mill.

Flower of the Month Alice Johnson  
Fascinator Mary Paterson

**POWMILL** – November: President Sharon Buchanan welcomed everyone and introduced Willie Shand, who gave us another comprehensive presentation of slides and music featuring the beautiful scenery of Argyll. Ruth Briscoe gave the vote of thanks. Tea was served by Margaret Broomfield and Janet Mitchell.

Meat Loaf Mary Wilson  
Photograph of a Castle Janie Buchanan  
Garden Gem Mary Wilson

Congratulations to our indoor bowling team, Jeannie Jackson (Crook of Devon), Janet Mitchell and Maz Thorn, who won the Federation heats at Dewar's Centre in Perth and will go to the national competition at Falkirk Bowling Stadium in April. December: We joined with Blairingone Institute for our Christmas meal at the Woodsman in Fishcross.

Decorated Christmas Gingerbread Biscuit Mary Wilson  
Favourite Christmas Decoration Mary Wilson

On 15 February at 7.30pm Dorothy Morris will lead a workshop in "Napkin Art". Please remember to bring a packet of napkins and a pair of small, sharp scissors.

Visitors are always welcome to join us at the Moubray Hall, Powmill. We only ask for £2 towards your tea and goodies.

## Subscriptions to the Newsletter

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

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

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

# Out & About



## Loch Leven NNR



A happy new year to you all! The weather was somewhat trying over the new year. We've been quite lucky; I was expecting to spend the first few days removing fallen trees from the trail.

We've had a busy start to the year with contractors in to remove scrub from the grassland at Mary's Knowe. Our grand plan is to fence the area off and put livestock in there. This is a prime area for one of our rare vascular plants, Holy Grass. In areas where we've removed trees in the past, Holy Grass has already started coming back.

As there hasn't been much ice coverage on Loch Leven this winter and the water has been very low, there are still a lot of ducks and waders about. High winter counts of Pintail, Coot and Golden Plover have been recorded. The latter are only really recorded in the winter. We've also seen a Little Egret, up to five Slavonian Grebes, two Smew, a few Scaup and up to 40 Waxwing lingered into the new year. Gus also spotted Crossbills singing on the reserve. Maybe they'll breed for only the second time on the reserve.

The volunteers have been busy around the reserve. They've been building nest boxes ready for the coming breeding season. Many of our nest boxes are quite ropery and many have been attacked by Great Spotted Woodpeckers who like to open up the fronts of nest boxes to predate the nestlings inside. Lots of the trees that were planted for mitigation around the trail have got to the height where they need to be managed. Down at Carsehall we have created a brash hedge. This will be good for birds that nest nearer the ground like Willow Warblers, Reed Buntings and Whitethroats.

As part of Discovery Day we commissioned Willow Weaver Georgia Crook to make willow sculptures for us. Regular walkers around the trail will be familiar with the dragonfly in the ponds along the railway line section of the path. The fish that were constructed were going to go in the pond with the bench but as there was no water in there we decided to put them in the ponds at Mary's Knowe. If you are passing by, please stop to have a look.

Gus has been busy updating the blog. Put Loch Leven NNR blog into your search engines to see regular updates. If you are a Wordpress user you can also follow it. We are still putting out snippets of news on Scotland's National Nature Reserves on Facebook.

Discovery Day will take place on 28 May 2017, a little earlier than last year. Hopefully the weather will be a little better! We will announce the programme in the coming months. Other events will be announced in next month's Newsletter.

For those of you who are keen for winter to be over, there is light at the end of the tunnel. Our first summer visitors are back already! Some Shelduck are back on their territories for the summer. They are generally absent from the loch between August and December. Also Herring Gulls and Oystercatchers are setting up territories on St Serf's. The song of Dunnocks, Dippers and Song Thrushes can also be heard.

Jeremy Squire  
Reserve Manager

## RSPB Loch Leven

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



A belated "Happy New Year" to you all and I hope you had a guid yin and you are sufficiently recovered to read my first rambles for this year? If yer no, it must have been a wail o' a party!

Goose numbers have dropped to between 1000 and 2000 at the last count in mid January. Other wildfowl numbers seem to be holding up with some good counts by volunteers and visitors to the reserve. The Little Egret is still around, as is the juvenile White tailed eagle from time to time. It seems to be a sneaky guy/girl by hiding very effectively in the trees on St Serf's due to its mainly brown plumage, so not always easily seen, in spite of its size.

With the winter wearing through and spring creeping ever nearer, there are already signs that nature is starting to prepare for the better weather to come. Weel, mibee; who can tell what we'll get? Local tit populations will be prospecting nest boxes in your gardens as well as continuing to use feeders to get them through the rest of what winter has to throw at us. Birds will begin to be a bit more vocal as males proclaim territories and on sunny days they are already getting into fine voice before the crescendo of Spring. You still have time to put up new nest boxes if you want and it will allow them to weather in before breeding season proper. Surprisingly enough, we happen to sell lots of different ones in the shop; what a coincidence that is, just after me mentioning it!

Talking about nest boxes, it will be one of the activities we will be doing at our annual **Big Garden Birdwatch**, running from 10am until 3pm on **Saturday 28 January**. Bird ringing by the local ringing group will take part from 10am until 12 noon. See birds up close and personal, maybe even get the chance to release them for the kids, along with advice on a whole host of bird-related information to encourage wildlife in to your garden. In the afternoon, from 1pm to 3pm, you can build your own nest box to take home for only £8. It's very satisfying to see a self-made box taken over by a family of birds! No need to book; just drop in.

**February events include:**

<b>Sat 4th &amp; Sun 5th</b>	<b>Optics Weekend</b>
<b>Tue 7th</b>	<b>Stargazing</b>
<b>Wed 8th</b>	<b>Nature Tots</b>
<b>Sun 19th</b>	<b>Beginners Birdwatching Walk</b>
<b>Sun 26th</b>	<b>WEX Group</b>
<b>Tue 28th</b>	and last but not least, local historian and geographer <b>David Munro explores the loch and its surrounding landscape.</b>

Space prohibits full details of these events, but to book, or for prices, times etc, please contact the reserve for more information on the usual number, 01577 862355.

Think that's the journalistic duties done again for this month. See you next time. Ta ta,

Colin

## Farming



I think I'm middle aged. I like it. Not too many grey hairs but enough to have learned a few lessons and have become a wee bit wiser (although I'm still sheep farming so I'm not sure about that one.)

However, with me not belonging to the "Young Farmer" group anymore I'm all too aware that there is a whole new generation hot on my heels anxious to farm in their own right, just like I was. The Scottish Rural University College (SRUC) receives more applicants than places for some of their agriculture courses and with a host of opportunities within the industry I believe that it is a very positive career choice for anyone who is enthusiastic about farming and the rural economy.

Whilst many graduates are fortunate to return to the family farm to work alongside the older generation, others become farm managers, advisers or join companies who supply the industry. A few entrepreneurial individuals seek out opportunities to rent land or become a tenant. Their desire to experience everything that is involved in running their own place will see them become a new entrant to agriculture.

The Scottish Government has developed a Starter Farmer Scheme to help nurture this passion and provide opportunities to get onto the first rung of the farming ladder. Accessing the land has always been very difficult for young people as, without a track record, landlords are reluctant to offer a tenancy for a farm. The Government initiative offers a 10-year tenancy of land and buildings with a farmhouse.

The starter farmers start from scratch arriving on the farm with just some stock that they have built up on rented land. The livestock are often sheep as being the least expensive to buy they make a good first investment, the cash flow also returns faster than cattle. Equipping the machinery shed is a real challenge; even a second hand tractor can cost tens of thousands so you require a friendly bank manager to help in the early days. I believe that most starter farmers also hold down a full or part-time job elsewhere as it's the only way to make ends meet.

There are now about a dozen starter farms in Scotland, none in Kinross-shire but we do have young people from the area who have moved to farms in Ayrshire and Inverness. There are also two starter farms in Fife. They are a special bunch of talented and inspiring farmers. I'm hoping to write about some of their experiences for you soon.

And I'm certain that Gillian, my lovely hairdresser, will disagree about the number of grey hairs. I must make an appointment soon so at least my hair can stay middle aged forever.

Fiona

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## Weather



### November Weather Report from Kinross

Total rainfall	64.6mm = 2.58 inches
Heaviest rainfall	16.3mm (16th)
Total sunshine for the month	16.7 hours
Sunniest day	1.9 hours (22nd)
Maximum temperature average	6.89°C
Highest temperature	13.7°C (14th)
Minimum temperature average	-3.46°C
Lowest temperature	-10.2°C (24th)

### December Weather Report

Total rainfall	92.1mm = 3.68 inches
Heaviest rainfall	26.1mm (23rd)
Total sunshine for the month	6.3 hours
Sunniest day	1.9 hours (4th)
Maximum temperature average	9.3°C
Highest temperature	14.2°C (7th)
Minimum temperature average	-0.42°C
Lowest temperature	-8.4°C (5th)

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### The Kinross Community Council Newsletter

is available from:

<b>The Co-operative</b>	High Street, Kinross
<b>Baillies</b>	High Street, Kinross
<b>Sainsbury's</b>	Station Road, Kinross
<b>Costcutter</b>	Green Road, Kinross
<b>Giacopazzi's</b>	Lathro, Kinross
<b>Giacopazzi's</b>	New Road, Milnathort
<b>Stewart &amp; Smart</b>	Stirling Road, Milnathort
<b>Buchan's Garage</b>	Main Street, Kinnesswood
<b>Shop</b>	Main Street, Kinnesswood
<b>Fossoway Store</b>	Crook of Devon
<b>Fossoway Garage</b>	Crook of Devon
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<b>Moto Shop</b>	Turfhills
<b>RSPB Shop</b>	RSPB Loch Leven
<b>Loch Leven's Larder</b>	Near Wester Balgedie
<b>Glenfarg Village Shop</b>	Glenfarg



## Congratulations



Both families are delighted to announce the marriage of **CRAIG MUNRO WATSON** to **ASHLEIGH LOUISE HANNA** on Saturday 14 January 2017 at Fingask Castle. May your lives be filled with happiness.

Robbe and Adele **SMART** of Gairney Bank are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, **ZOE**, who was born on Saturday 26 November 2016 in Kirkcaldy, weighing 7 lb 8 oz.

**JAMES DUDLEY** of Lomond Mews, Kinross, has been awarded the Légion d'honneur.

On the 70th anniversary of D-Day in June 2014, the French President announced that the distinction would be awarded to all British veterans who fought for the liberation of France during the Second World War (veterans must have taken part in military operations in France between 1944 and 1945).

Mr Dudley was 19 years old and serving with the Royal Artillery in 1944 when he was sent over to France. After the war he studied Architecture in London and the United States. Having lived in America for many years he moved to Kinross 30 years ago.

Mr Dudley was invited by the French Consul to an awards ceremony in Edinburgh so that he could be officially presented with the medal but, unfortunately, he was unwell at the time and unable to attend.

The Légion d'honneur was established in 1802 by Napoléon Bonaparte. It is France's highest distinction and is awarded in recognition of both military and civilian merit.

Local dance school **DANCE CONNECT** had a 100% success rate in exams recently. Teacher Rachel Webb said: "Passing an RAD exam at any level is always cause for celebration as the standards are demanding. The certificates are beautiful and signed by Darcy Bussell." Rachel also congratulates **Jodie Dunne**, who has auditioned successfully for a professional dance course at Edinburgh College under Performing Arts Studio Scotland. Congratulations also go to Dance Connect's ongoing successful Ballet West scholars, **Millie Roe**, **Eilidh Robertson** and **Struan Robertson**.

Milnathort athlete **LAURA MUIR** broke the British indoor record over 5,000m at the Glasgow Emirates Arena on 4 January. Laura was running only the second 5,000m race of her career – her usual event is 1,500m. Her time of 14min 49.12sec places her ninth in the world and smashed Liz McColgan's 25-year-old British indoor record by an amazing 14 seconds.

## Thanks



A huge thank-you to the **Rotary Club** for **Santa's visit** in December. I rushed out to see him and his wonderful helpers, as did my daughter, granddaughter, and great-granddaughter. At my age I can't count on many, or indeed any, more Christmases, and this visit made us all so very happy.

Also another huge thank-you to the **Talking Donkey** where, for the fourth year running, they have made me so very welcome at their Christmas dinner, where I met old friends from past years – a wonderful time and so greatly appreciated.

*Lorna, Montgomery Way, Kinross*

**LIGHT UP KINROSS** would like to thank everyone who attended the switch on of the lights by Mr Lindsay Sands (a trustee of the Arthur & Margaret Thomson Trust) and all who gave generously to our collection cans, which raised £326.05 towards our funds. We do hope you enjoy our new and enlarged light display. Please make any comments, good or bad, on our Facebook page or to any committee member. We also thank the following for their support:

**Arthur & Margaret Thomson Trust (major sponsor); McCarthy & Stone; Kinross Common Good Fund; Kinross Community Council Newsletter; Kinross Round Table; Kinross & District Rotary Club; KLEO; Kilted Christmas Tree Co; Bob Purvis (Purvis group); Tayside Contracts; MB Sheet Metal (Adam Neilson); Baynes the Bakers, Kirkland's Hotel, Muirs Inn, Le Jardin, Stewart Funeral Directors, Todd & Duncan, Ivan Wood & Sons, Hunters the Butchers and the Co-operative.**

Thanks also to all the members of the public who have assisted us during the year.

**CAROLS AT THE CROSS:** Irene, Aileen and Rosemary would like to thank everyone who came along to Carols at the Cross in Milnathort on Thursday 15 December. There was a fantastic turnout to sing carols outside and enjoy mulled wine, tea, coffee, mince pies and shortbread in the Town Hall. It was so successful that we plan to do it again in December 2017.

We would also like to thank **Milnathort in Bloom, Milnathort Town Hall Association, Orwell and Portmoak Parish Church, Brenda Frier** for leading the singing with her guitar and folks from **Leven Voices** who came along. In addition, **Orwell Brownies and Guides** for making the posters to put up in the village and decorating the baubles for the Christmas tree, **Dobbies** for donating the baubles, **Giocopazzi's** for the mince pies, **Heaven Scent** for the shortbread, **Stewart and Smart** for the photocopying and **Scottish Water** for donating the Christmas Tree.

It was a fantastic coming together of the community. Thank you.

See also page 15 (Christmas display helps Shelter), and various club reports also expressing thanks.

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Telephone : **Fossway 01577 840526**

# Kinross-shire Churches Together



## Kinross Parish Church of Scotland

*Following Christ | Spreading the Word  
Serving the Community*



10 Station Road, Kinross KY13 8TG (Charity no SC012555)  
Church website: [www.kinrossparishchurch.org](http://www.kinrossparishchurch.org)  
Church E-mail: [office@kinrossparishchurch.org](mailto:office@kinrossparishchurch.org)  
Church office and church open: Mon-Fri 10am-12 noon.  
Church Office: Tel. (01577) 862570  
Minister: Rev Alan D. Reid MA, BD Tel: (01577) 862952  
Ordained Local Minister:  
Rev Margaret Michie Tel: (01592) 840602  
Session Clerk: Jaffrey Weir Tel: (01577) 865780

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

### Regular Services and Events

**Sundays:** 10.30am: Morning Service with Crèche. Junior Church (age 3 to P7) and 'Jam Pact' (Secondary Age) meet at church centre from 10.15am, finish at church.

7.30pm: 'Crossfire' (S1 upwards) in church centre.

**Tuesdays:** 10am Pram Service.

**Wednesdays:** 10.45am Service, church centre.

1.30pm, Craft Group.

**Fridays:** The Brigade, church centre. Anchor Section 6 – 7.15pm, Junior Section 7 – 9pm, Company section 8 – 10pm (Contact: David Munro 862126).

**Most Saturdays:** 10am -12noon 'Coffee Stop', church centre.

Coffee, cakes and book sale.

### Other Events and Services

#### January

**Tue 31** 2.30pm: Service at Causeway Court.

#### February

**Thu 2** 7.30pm: Thursday Group, church centre. 'Scams Awareness'.

**Sun 5** 10.30am: Morning Service, with informal Communion at 11.45am.

**Mon 6** 8am: Silent Meditation.

**Tue 7** 2.30pm: Service at Whyte Court.

**Sat 11** 8.30am: Prayer Breakfast (names in advance to church office).

**Tue 14** 7.15pm: Guild, church centre. Musical Evening.

**Thu 16** 9pm: Late evening service of Compline.

## 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.*

## Cleish Parish Church Church of Scotland

(Charity No: SC003168)

Minister: Rev Lis Stenhouse BD (Hons)

Email: [estenhouse@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:estenhouse@churchofscotland.org.uk)

Reader: Brian Ogilvie

Session Clerk: Neil Maclure

Email: [neil.maclure19@gmail.com](mailto:neil.maclure19@gmail.com) Tel: 01577 864826

Please visit our website: [www.cleishchurch.org](http://www.cleishchurch.org)



### Sunday Services 11.15am

#### February

**Sun 5** 11.15am Morning Worship. Junior Church. Tea and coffee in Village Hall. Traidcraft stall.

**Sun 12** 11.15am Morning Worship.

**Mon 13** 3.15pm Cleish Messy Church in the Village Hall. All children and carers welcome.

**Sun 19** 11.15am Morning Worship followed by refreshments in the Young Room.

**Sun 26** 11.15pm Morning Worship. Sacrament of Holy Communion.

**Mon 27** 7.15pm Cleish Guild meets in the Village Hall.

All welcome

## St James' R C Church

5 High Street, Kinross, KY13 8AW

Parish Priest: Father Martin Pletts. Tel: 01577 863329

[www.catholickinross.com](http://www.catholickinross.com) Email: [Fr.MartinPletts@gmail.com](mailto:Fr.MartinPletts@gmail.com)

[m.facebook.com/parishpriestkinross/](https://m.facebook.com/parishpriestkinross/)

[m.facebook.com/stjamesprayergroup/](https://m.facebook.com/stjamesprayergroup/)

### Regular Services

Monday	7pm	Mass followed by Confessions
Tuesday		NO MASS
Wednesday	10am	Mass followed by Morning Prayer
Thursday	10am	Mass followed by Morning Prayer
Friday	10am	Mass followed by Morning Prayer
Saturday	10-10.30am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions
Saturday	7pm	Mass (teas/coffees after Mass in church hall)
Sunday	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.

**R.C.I.A.** for those wishing to join the Church, every Wednesday in the church hall, 7pm-8pm.

**The Ladies' Group** meets in the hall on the first Thursday of the month at 7pm.

The weekly newsletter, Mass times, news and updates or changes can be found on our website.

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

Consult our electronic archive at

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

Issues from September 2006 to two months ago available

## **St Paul's Scottish Episcopal Church**

*(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Communion)*

Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8AY Telephone: 01577 864299

Email: [office@stpaulskinross51.plus.com](mailto:office@stpaulskinross51.plus.com)

Website: [www.stpauls-kinross.co.uk](http://www.stpauls-kinross.co.uk)

Fr David Mackenzie Mills, Rector Telephone: 01577 863795

Email: [frdavidkinross@gmail.com](mailto:frdavidkinross@gmail.com)

You can also find us on Facebook

[www.facebook.com/stpaulsepiscopalchurchkinross](http://www.facebook.com/stpaulsepiscopalchurchkinross)

We aim to be friendly and welcoming to all age groups and hope our worship speaks to everyone who is interested in making a journey of faith.

Children are equally welcome to stay in church during the service or go to the Meeting Room for Sunday School and everyone is particularly invited to stay together during our monthly 'Whole Church' services.

We usually use the 1982 Liturgy on Sunday mornings but also enjoy trying out experimental worship for special events throughout the year. On the last Sunday of the month, we are introducing a monthly service of Evensong from the Book of Common Prayer.

If you would like to give us a try, we look forward to meeting and greeting you and hope that you might enjoy becoming part of this faithful family of Christ.

The Church is open and available every day for anyone to sit quietly and perhaps light a candle.

### **February Services and Events - all welcome**

#### **Sun 5 EPIPHANY 5**

8.30am Holy Communion.

11am Sung Eucharist.

#### **Sun 12 EPIPHANY 6**

8.30am Holy Communion.

11am Sung Eucharist.

#### **Sun 19 EPIPHANY 7**

8.30am Holy Communion.

11am Whole Church Sung Eucharist.

#### **Sun 26 SUNDAY BEFORE LENT**

8.30am Holy Communion.

11am Sung Eucharist

6pm Said Evensong (BCP).



*St Paul's Episcopal Church, Kinross*

*Photo: Dave Cuthbert, courtesy of kinross.cc photolibrary*

### **Want to sell something?**

Advertise your item free of charge in the  
**Classified Advertisements** section on  
**[www.kinross.cc](http://www.kinross.cc)**

## **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](http://www.fossowaychurch.org.uk)

Minister: Rev Lis Stenhouse Telephone: (01577) 842128

Email: [estenhouse@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:estenhouse@churchofscotland.org.uk)

Reader: Mr Brian Ogilvie Telephone: (01592) 840823

Email: [brianj.ogilvie1@btopenworld.com](mailto:brianj.ogilvie1@btopenworld.com)

Session Clerk: Mrs Janet Harper Telephone: (01577) 840225

Email: [aclassicsoul@aol.com](mailto: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.

### **February**

**Sun 5** 9.15-9.30am A Time for Prayer.

9.45am Morning Worship and Junior Church followed by Refreshments and Traidcraft Stall.

**Sun 12** 9.45am Morning Worship.

**Mon 13** 7pm Pudding party in the Elizabeth Wilkie Hall.

**Sun 19** 9.45am Morning Worship.

**Sun 26** 9.45am Morning Worship and Celebration of Holy Communion.

3pm Italian Style Beetle Drive for all the family, with refreshments.

### **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](mailto:messychurch@fossoway)**

Friday 24 February at Crook of Devon Village Hall, 3.15 - 4.30pm.

### **House group**

Wednesday evenings 7pm. Please contact Debbie Hill for details, 01577 842268.

### **Parents/Carers and Toddlers Group**

Friday 3 February at 9am in the Church Hall.

### **Film Evening**

Friday 3 February 7.30 - 9.30pm in the Church Hall. *Please join us for the film, a cuppa and a blether and even some popcorn.*

## **Kinross Gospel Hall**

Montgomery Street, Kinross

Website: [www.kinrossgospelhall.info](http://www.kinrossgospelhall.info)

Sunday	10.30am	Breaking of Bread
	12.30pm	Sunday School
	4.00pm	Gospel Meeting (1st & 2nd of the month, Friends and Neighbours Tea)
Monday	7.30pm	Prayer Meeting
	8.15pm	Bible Study
Thursday	9.30am	Toddlers Group (Montgomery Toddlers)

### **POLISH TUITION AND TRANSLATION**

Documents, Correspondence, Applications

**GOSIA 01577 861237 or 07817 534284**

[www.sozanska@btinternet.com](mailto:www.sozanska@btinternet.com)

<http://enigmapol.weebly.com>



## 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.

**Service at Ashley House:** first Thursday of the month at 2.30pm.

### Morning Prayers at 9am

Each Thursday at Portmoak Church New Room.

Each Friday at Orwell Church.

**Messy Church** meets in Portmoak Hall on **Saturday 25 February** from 4 - 6pm.

### Dates and events for your diary

- 5 Feb** Joint service in Milnathort Town Hall at 10.30am followed by Souper Sunday Lunch. No service at Portmoak Church. Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving in Orwell Church at 3pm.
- 7 Feb** The Guild meets in Orwell Hall at 2pm. Fiona and Allan Dearing talk about 'Our Baltic cruise'.
- 21 Feb** The Guild meets in Orwell Hall at 2pm to hear about the Guild Project 'All Friends Together'.
- 24 Feb** Oasis Ladies Group meets in Portmoak Church New Room at 10.15am.

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



Portmoak Churchyard

Photo: John McPake, courtesy of kinross.cc photolibrary

### Discover Loch Leven Website

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

**www.visitlochleven.org**

## Acknowledgements

**OSWALD** – Mrs Edith Oswald, and Gillian and Marc Colmy, wish to thank friends and neighbours who so kindly sent flowers and sympathy cards on the passing of Gordon, a dearly loved son, brother and brother-in-law.

**MOWAT** – William Mowat died 20 September 2016.

Rena, Marcelle, Ryan and Keir would like to sincerely thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for all the lovely cards, flowers, letters and phone calls received on their very sudden and extremely sad loss of Bill. Thanks also to Rev Alan Reid for a wonderful service and to Father Martin for his visit.

We were overwhelmed at how many people Bill's life had touched. Thanks to all who came to the church and the graveside. A sum of £622.62 was raised for CHAS.

Lastly, thanks to Stewart's funeral directors who guided us through this very sad time.

Personal service from a local business

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**Pilates**

Mon 7.15pm - 8.00pm

**TRX**  
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Wed 7.15pm - 8.00pm

**Booking information:**

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

# 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](mailto:milnathortbt@gmail.com)  
Or find us on Facebook



## GLENFARG BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

We meet in the newly refurbished village hall, Greenbank Road, Glenfarg on Wednesdays, 9.30-11.30am.

Healthy snack for children, coffee/tea & biscuits for carer  
Role play, jigsaws, physical toys and arts and crafts  
Friendly support for all carers  
First session free, £2 thereafter (£1 for additional children)

Contact Donna Smith on 07535 595430 or just come along!

## LOCHLEVEN TWOS CLUB

**Masonic Hall, The Muirs, Kinross**

**Thursdays 9.45 to 11.15am (term time only)**

A relaxed, friendly group for children from about 18 months to pre-school with their parent/carers. Play and pre-school activities, with a variety of toys. A snack is provided, plus coffee and tea for parents/carers. Younger siblings also welcome.

Contact Lynne Penny on [babygaj@yahoo.com](mailto:babygaj@yahoo.com)  
or 07736 930923 for further details,  
or find us on Facebook: Two's Club Kinross

## 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](mailto:portmoakplaygroup@hotmail.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.*

**Playgroup:** Children from age 2 years welcome.

Tue to 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 & Wed 12.55pm - 3.10pm, optional Lunch Club beforehand. Complementary to preschool Nursery.

**For availability or more information, please contact:**

Lisa 07736 642070, [enrolments.swansacre@gmail.com](mailto: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.

## 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](mailto: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.

## MONTGOMERY TODDLERS

Every Thursday 9.30am to 11am (term-time only)

The Gospel Hall, Montgomery Street, Kinross.

Contact Christina Smith 01577 840733 or 07792 260509

## FOSSOWAY PRE-SCHOOL GROUP

**Glenbank Cottage, Powmill**



Partner-provider for P&K Education

Places available for 3-5-year-olds and Rising Fives

Sessions 9.30am - 12.45pm Monday - Thursday,  
9.30am - 12.30pm Fridays

Contact Pat Irvine 07703 177766 or  
[www.childcarelink.gov.uk/perthandkinross](http://www.childcarelink.gov.uk/perthandkinross)

## Private Nurseries and Childcare

For private nurseries and childcare services, please see advertisements throughout the Newsletter.

To inform the Newsletter of any changes to Playgroup information, please send an email to: [editor@kinrossnewsletter.org](mailto:editor@kinrossnewsletter.org)

# Notices



## Kinross-shire Sports Hub Junior Park Run

The Kinross-shire Sports Hub was formed in 2016 with, amongst its objectives, the promotion of sport in the Community. A wide ranging fact find and survey was carried out to see what priorities the public had in respect of sport and one popular response was Junior Athletics and possibly a Junior Park Run.

The Hub Committee think that a Junior Park Run in Kinross would be viable and wonder if there are any volunteers out there who might be interested in joining a Sub-Group to make this happen. The work would involve making contact with the National Organising Committee to establish procedures, to find a suitable venue and to bring out a timetable for the run to be established. Any volunteers please contact: mail@andersons-kinross.co.uk



## 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](http://www.glenfargfolkclub.com)*

*Entry: Members £6, non-members £9, except Singaround (£3)*

**30 January: Tannara**, one of the brightest and most energetic young bands in Scotland, are sure to get the feet stomping.

**6 February: Singaround**. As we approach Valentine's Day, the birds and bees are in our thoughts. So "Buds or Birds" will be the theme for tonight. All welcome, as always.

**13 February: Dave Gibb** is a superb and original guitarist with a brilliant and often hilarious repertoire of songs and tales.

**20 February: Quicksilver**. The amazing voice of Hilary Spencer and the musicianship and humour of Grant Baynham always succeed in bring the audience to tears and laughter.

**27 February: Damien Barber and Mike Wilson** are two of the finest exponents of UK traditional song and combine to give a performance to delight everyone with their mix of songs, harmonies and sense of humour.

## 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.

<b>2 February</b>	<b>Scams Awareness</b>	Janet Reay
<b>6 April</b>	<b>The Royal Yacht Britannia</b>	Derek Miller
<b>4 May</b>	<b>Annual General Meeting</b>	

## Orwell and Portmoak Parish Church Joint Service

### Souper Sunday

**Sunday 5 February**

All-age service at 10.30am at Milnathort Town Hall  
followed by soup lunch

All Welcome

The Church of Scotland HIV Programme:  
Changing the world one spoonful at a time  
Find out more by coming along!

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

## KINROSS HUB THE CARERS CAFE

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2017**  
**PKAVS**  
**(6 Legal Must Do's)**  
**POA, Wills, Legal Aid etc**

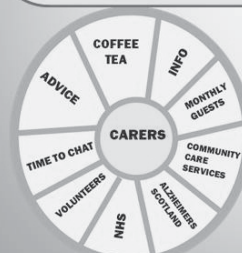
**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017**  
**Wellbeing Support Team**  
**(Ian Robertson)**  
**Talk & Relaxation**

**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.



**LOCHLEVEN COMMUNITY CAMPUS  
KINROSS**  
**1st MONDAY of EVERY MONTH**  
**10am–12noon**



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



## Kinross Garden Group

2016/17 Season

**Thursday 9 February**

at 2pm in the Millbridge Hall, Kinross,  
with Sally Lorimore 'Over the Wall'  
All welcome to join us

## The Gaelic Society of Perth

After a very enjoyable Ceilidh in January with Calum Angus MacDonald, Calum Hughes and Graham Neilson providing a variety of Gaelic songs and Clare Polson, banjo, and Fiona Johnston, accordion, providing feet tapping tunes, the next Ceilidh will be held at **St Matthew's Church Hall, Tay Street, Perth**, on **Friday 10 February at 7.30pm**. This month we have a rather different evening as Stirling Gaelic Choir will provide a host of musical entertainment. They will be joined by the very talented Mod Gold Medallist Robert Robertson who will also play the accordion.

Admission is £5 for Members and £6 for Non-Members – for an evening's entertainment plus refreshments!  
Further information can be obtained from the Secretary on 01577 864589.

## Local Development Plan

### A Public Consultation

on how the Local Development Plan will affect

**Blairingone, Crook of Devon, Drum and Rumbling Bridge**  
will take place on

**Saturday 18 February**

11am – 2pm  
Crook of Devon Hall





## Business Breakfasts

Open to all Kinross-shire Businesses

Local networking at its best

Kinross-shire Partnership will be hosting more Business Breakfasts at Loch Leven's Larder as the second half of the 2016/17 season gets underway in February. Please do come along; everyone is welcome whatever size your business and it is a great opportunity for local businesses to meet each other.

The Breakfast on **Wednesday 1 February** will take place from **7.30am to 9am**. The other breakfasts in the season will take place on **Wednesdays 1 March and 5 April**.

There will be a speaker at each breakfast giving a short talk on a business related topic.

The aim of the breakfasts is to allow local businesses of all sizes to get together, network, introduce their business and to share their business goals. Please bring along your business cards and any brochures you wish to display.

The cost for listening to an interesting speaker, networking and enjoying a full Scottish breakfast, in beautiful surroundings is £15 per person or £10 for those who have joined the Partnership membership scheme. This price includes the cost of the breakfast, administrative costs and a small contribution to the Kinross-shire partnership.

In response to feedback you can now choose whether to pay on-line in advance or by cash on the day - further details will be given when you book your place.

To book your place at one or more of the Breakfasts, please email Karen Grunwell, Kinross-shire Partnership Administrator at [mail@kinrosspartnership.org.uk](mailto:mail@kinrosspartnership.org.uk) or call 07865 193844.

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

[www.kinrosspartnership.org.uk](http://www.kinrosspartnership.org.uk) [www.facebook.com/visitlochleven](https://www.facebook.com/visitlochleven)  
[www.visitlochleven.org](http://www.visitlochleven.org) [www.twitter.com/VisitLochLeven](https://www.twitter.com/VisitLochLeven)

## Kinross Floral Art Club

meets on

**Thursday 23 February**

at 7.15pm in Kinross Parish Church

"Zest for Life" – Mrs Margo Black

All Welcome

## Quiz Night

Orwell Bowling Club, Westerloan, Milnathort

**Saturday 25 February**

at 7.30pm

£2.50 per person (maximum of four in a team)

Contact Mike or Maz Thorn on 01577 8422271 for tickets

## Quiz Night

Orwell Bowling Club, Westerloan, Milnathort

**Saturday 18 March**

at 7.30pm

£2.50 per person (maximum of four in a team)

Contact Mike or Maz Thorn on 01577 8422271 for tickets

## 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: Adult £6; Senior £5; U18 free. Visitors: £2 per talk.



**Remaining Programme for Season 2016-17**

**20 Feb** *Missing in Borneo. George Sutherland CA FCMI.*  
 The discovery, investigation and identification of a historically important wartime aircraft wreck.

**20 Mar** *The Way of the Wanderers. Jess Smith.* Travelling people, a guide to their origins and history in Scotland.

See also Historical Society report on page 65.

## Music in Dollar

Season 2016 – 2017

All concerts are at the Gibson Hall, Dollar Academy. Ticket prices are £10 for non-members, with discounts for members and season ticket holders with free entry to anyone in full-time education.

**Sun 29 Jan** 3.00pm. **CUILLIN SOUND** – flute, clarinet and bassoon. Including music performed to silent movies showing life in the Hebrides almost 100 years ago.

**Sat 25 Feb** 7.30pm. **RUISI STRING QUINTET** – violins, viola and cello. Classical music by an award-winning quartet.

**Sat 11 Mar** 7.30pm. **POMEGRANATE PIANO TRIO** – piano, violin and cello. Varied programme, including pieces by Beethoven and Rachmaninov.

Music in Dollar is a not-for-profit organisation run by volunteers. For more information about Music in Dollar, or any of the artists performing in the new season, visit [www.musicindollar.org.uk](http://www.musicindollar.org.uk)

## Milnathort & Kinross Scottish Country Dancing Class every Wednesday

at 7.30pm in Milnathort Town Hall

New Season started on 21 September 2016

New and Past Members welcome

For more information, contact Helen on 01577 861349 or visit our website: [milnathortcountrydancing.blogspot.com](http://milnathortcountrydancing.blogspot.com)

## 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.

Compost can be collected from the Recycling Centre, subject to availability. Maximum of 2 x 25kg bags per visitor.

## Funding Alert!

PKC regularly produces a huge list summarising funding opportunities for the voluntary sector. The list will be posted on [www.kinross.cc](http://www.kinross.cc) or telephone the PKC grants helpline on 0345 60 52000.

If your organisation is seeking funds, look out for notices in the Newsletter for Kinross Community Council Newsletter Ltd Charitable Grants and the Kinross-shire Fund.



## Light Up Kinross Quiz Night

Masonic Hall, Kinross

Friday 24 February

7pm for a 7.30pm start

Teams of 4 people: £20 per team or £5 per person  
Raffle



## 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.

Call Vi Todd for more details: 01577 863244.

## Grants for good causes

Kinross Community Council

Newsletter Limited (KCCNL)

Charity No. SC040913



All profits from the Kinross Newsletter are transferred to a charitable company, KCCNL, and given away to local good causes. Groups and individuals are invited to apply to KCCNL for grant funding. Decisions on grants are made at two meetings per year. The deadlines for grant applications are: **30 September** and **31 March**.

More information is available on the kinross.cc website. Applications may be downloaded from the website or obtained from the Applications Administrator, Barry Davies, tel 01577 865004 or email barrydavies57@btinternet.com

## Perth Samaritans

Need to talk? We'll listen.

Contact us by

**phone** on 01738 626666 or 08457 909090

**Email** us jo@samaritans.org

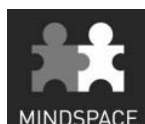
or **visit** us at 3 King's Place, Perth, PH2 8AA

Mondays	1630 – 2130	Thursdays	1630 – 1900
Wednesdays	0830 – 1100	Fridays	1000 – 1630
and	1930 – 2130	Sundays	0800 – 2130

**No pressure, no names, no judgment.**  
**We're here for you, anytime.**

## Mindspace Recovery College

Mindspace Recovery College runs free courses covering all aspects of mental health, co-delivered by people with lived experience, and are open to all.



## Newsletter Deadlines

Please note, deadlines are on a **FRIDAY**. More deadlines for the months ahead can be found on our website.

In very rare circumstances it may be necessary to change a deadline at short notice. Check Newsletter website for latest information: [www.kinrossnewsletter.org](http://www.kinrossnewsletter.org)

Issue	Deadline	Publication Date
March	Fri 10 February	Saturday 25 February
April	Fri 17 March	Saturday 1 April



## Kinross-shire Fund

Grants available for local community projects



e.g. Events, Information, Transport, Welfare, Physical Amenities, Recreational Facilities, Support for Care of the Elderly, Voluntary Organisations

For more information and to download an application form, see [www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/kinross-shire-fund](http://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/kinross-shire-fund) or telephone 0131 5240300

## Healing Rooms Kinross and Loch Leven

Every Thursday from 10.30am -12 noon

at the Orwell and Portmoak Church Office,  
29 South Street, Milnathort, KY13 9XA.

Trained volunteers from different churches will pray for your healing, physical, spiritual or emotional. Totally confidential. No charge.

No appointment needed, but if preferred appointments can be arranged through the contact details on the website [www.healingrooms-scotland.org](http://www.healingrooms-scotland.org)

## PLUS Perth

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

Tel: 01738 626242

77 Canal Street, Perth



PLUS is a member-led local charity and social movement which gives hope and opportunity to those affected by disadvantage; in the main to those with experience of mental ill health and substance misuse.

The PLUS office is open Mon-Fri 9.30am – 4pm  
for mental health signposting and enquiries.

## 100th Birthday and Diamond Wedding Anniversaries

Do you know a Perth & Kinross resident who is celebrating their 100th or 105th+ birthday?

Do you know a Perth & Kinross couple celebrating their 60th, 65th or 70th wedding anniversary?

PKC would like to help celebrate the special occasion. PKC can arrange delivery of a basket of flowers or for a local Councillor to present a basket of flowers to the person or couple on their special day.

Tel: 01738 475051 Email: [CivicServices@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:CivicServices@pkc.gov.uk)

## Homes for Cats Wanted

Fife Cat Shelter, a Scottish Registered Charity, is always looking for homes for rescued cats.

Cats can be visited, by appointment, at Causeway Cattery, Scotlandwell.

Contact Rhona on 01383 830286.



## Blythswood Care collection in Perth

The charity Blythswood Care is no longer uplifting donations of second hand items in Kinross. The nearest uplift is in Perth, at Asda on Dunkeld Road. There will be a collection there on the following Tuesdays, from 11.30am until 1.30pm:

**7 February, 7 March, 4 April, 2 May, 6 June**

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.

Regrettably 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.



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**



## 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](http://www.perth-kinross.org.uk) or find us on Facebook: MS Society Perth&Kinross Branch.



## Perth & Kinross School Term Dates 2017

Term	Start	End
Spring	Mon 9 Jan 2017	Fri 31 Mar 2017
Summer	Wed 19 Apr 2017	Thu 29 Jun 2017

### Holidays and In-Service Days:

In-Service and occasional holidays:	Wed 15 Feb – Fri 17 Feb 2017
Spring holiday:	Mon 3 Apr – Mon 17 Apr 2017 (Easter Sunday is 16 April 2017)
In-Service day:	Tue 18 Apr 2017
May Day holiday:	Mon 1 May 2017 (tbc)

## Kinross Community Care Advice & Information

Financial and Welfare Rights

Occupational Therapy	Accessing Services
Community Alarms	Appetito Meals

### Kinross Day Centre

every month, 11.30am – 12 noon

**15 February, 15 March, 19 April**

## 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: **14 and 28 February**

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](mailto: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](mailto:David.Ogston@Perthcab.casonline.org.uk)

## Scottish Mining Trust Holidays Blair Castle, Culross

Charity number SC036188 Web: [www.blaircastle.net](http://www.blaircastle.net)

### Subsidised holidays for retired miners and relatives

If you worked in the mining industry, or if you are related to a miner or someone who worked in the mining industry, you may be eligible for subsidised full bed and board holidays at Blair Castle in Culross.

Blair Castle is set in beautiful grounds with stunning views over the Forth Estuary. Excellent facilities: 28 well-appointed en-suite rooms, disabled accommodation, games room, quiet rooms, social lounges etc.

Call 01383 880307 or email [charles@blaircastle.net](mailto:charles@blaircastle.net) to find out more and ask for an application form.

Find us on Facebook: Scottish Mining Trust Culross

## Dollar Museum

Open from Easter to Christmas at the following times:

<b>Saturdays</b>	<b>11am – 1pm</b>	<b>and</b>	<b>2pm – 4.30pm</b>
<b>Sundays</b>			<b>2pm – 4.30pm</b>

Access also possible by arrangement

Email: [dollarmuseum@btconnect.com](mailto:dollarmuseum@btconnect.com)

Free entry. All welcome. Parking and disabled access.

1 High Street, Dollar, FK14 7AY

## Local Correspondent

for Perthshire Advertiser and Fife Herald newspapers

**Linda Freeman**

Tel 01577 865045. Email: [linda.freeman\\_64@btinternet.com](mailto:linda.freeman_64@btinternet.com)



## Community Councils

**Kinross:** Secy: Mrs E Thomas (01577) 863714  
KinrossCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk

**Milnathort:**

**Cleish & Blairadam:** Secy: Patty Fraser (01577) 850253,  
CleishCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk

**Fossoway & District:** Chair: Trudy Duffy-Wigman (01577) 840669,  
fossoway.cc@gmail.com

**Portmoak:** Chair: Malcolm Strang Steel (01592) 840459,  
PortmoakCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk

## Perth and Kinross Councillors Kinross-shire Ward

**Councillor Mike Barnacle** (Independent)

Tel/Fax (home): 01577 840516.

Email: michaelabarnacle@gmail.com

Website: mikebarnacle.co.uk

Moorend, Waulkmill Road, Crook of Devon, Kinross, KY13 0UZ

**Councillor Dave Cuthbert** (Independent)

Tel (home): 01577 861681. Email: dcuthbert@pkc.gov.uk

8 Highfield Circle, Kinross, KY13 8RZ

**Councillor Joe Giacomazzi** (Scottish National Party)

Tel (home): 01577 864025.

Email: jgiacomazzi@pkc.gov.uk

38A New Road, Milnathort, Kinross, KY13 9XT

**Councillor Willie Robertson** (Scottish Liberal Democrats)

Tel (home): 01577 865178. Email: wbrobertson@pkc.gov.uk

85 South Street, Milnathort, Kinross, KY13XA

## Tasmina Ahmed-Sheikh MP

### Member of Parliament for Ochil and South Perthshire

I hold regular surgeries in Kinross-shire.

For more information, general enquiries and for anything else I can help with, please do not hesitate to contact me using the details below.

Telephone: 01259 219333

Email: tas.mp@parliament.uk

Unit 4, Townhead Institute, 39 Drysdale Street, Alloa, FK10 1JA

## Mobile Library Service

**Visiting on Tuesdays 31 January, 14 & 28 February:**

Milnathort	South Street	1215-1300
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**Visiting every Tuesday:**

Glenfarg	Main Street	1130-1300
Forgandenny School		1430-1530

**Visiting on Wednesdays 8 & 22 February:**

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](http://www.pkc.gov.uk/mobilelibrary) or phone 01577 867205.

## Kinross Community Councillors

Margaret Blyth	6 Muir Grove	
Jonathan Bryson	4 Burnbank Meadows	(01577) 531141
David Colliar	10 Rannoch Place	(01577) 864037
Barry Davies	60 Lathro Park	(01577) 865004
Bill Freeman (Chair)	64 Muirs	(01577) 865045
Ian Jack	Burnbrae Grange	(01577) 863980
David MacKenzie	12 Torridon Place	07703 820051
(Vice Chair)		
Margaret Scott	21 Ross Street	(01577) 862945
Thomas Stewart	Gellybank Farm	(01577) 864603
Eileen Thomas (Secy)	50 Muirs	(01577) 863714
David West	9 Leven Place	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
Chris Vlasto		01592 840017

Have a look at our website: [www.portmoak.org](http://www.portmoak.org)

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:Claire.Baker.msp@parliament.scot)

**Murdo Fraser MSP** (Conservative) Tel: 0131 348 5293

Email: [Murdo.Fraser.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:Murdo.Fraser.msp@parliament.scot)

**Dean Lockhart MSP** (Conservative) Tel: 0131 348 5993

Email: [Dean.Lockhart.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:Dean.Lockhart.msp@parliament.scot)

**Alex Rowley MSP** (Labour) Tel: 0131 348 6826

Email: [Alex.Rowley.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:Alex.Rowley.msp@parliament.scot)

**Mark Ruskell MSP** (Green) Tel: 0131 348 6468

Email: [Mark.Ruskell.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:Mark.Ruskell.msp@parliament.scot)

**Liz Smith MSP** (Conservative) Tel: 0131 348 6762

Email: [Elizabeth.Smith.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:Elizabeth.Smith.msp@parliament.scot)

**Alexander Stewart MSP** (Conservative) Tel: 0131 348 6134

Email: [Alexander.Stewart.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:Alexander.Stewart.msp@parliament.scot)

## Perth & Kinross Council

[www.pkc.gov.uk](http://www.pkc.gov.uk)

**Customer Service Centre**

Tel: 01738 475000

(Mon to Fri, 8am-6pm)

**Out of Hours Emergencies**

Tel: 01738 625411

(Roads, flooding, environmental health and dangerous buildings)

**Clarence** (for non-emergency road and lighting defects)

Tel: 0800 232323

**Registrar**

Tel: 01577 867133

The Registrar is normally in Kinross only on Tuesdays and Fridays at the Loch Leven Community Campus



Film shows • Cards • Dominoes • Art Class  
Daily Papers • Chiropody • Trips • Exercises

## Weekly Programme

<b>Monday</b>	Exercise Class	11am	Bingo	1.30pm
	Scrabble, cards & other Games			1.15pm
	"Stride for Life" Walking Group			2pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	Carpet Curling	11am		
	Relaxation Class	1.15pm		
	Games	1.15pm		
	Singing group with Alex Cant	1.45pm		
<b>Wednesday</b>	Morning Worship	10.45am		
	Dominoes, Scrabble & other Games			1.30pm
	Fantastic Fun Quiz	1.30pm		
<b>Thursday</b>	Art Class	1.30pm	Film Afternoon	1.30pm
	Dominoes, Scrabble, cards etc			1.30pm
	Balance & Strength Class			1.30pm
<b>Friday</b>	Exercise Class	11am - 12pm		
	Dominoes, Games and Filmshow	1.30pm	(except 10th)	
	Bingo	1.30pm	(except 10th)	



## Additional Events for February

### Chiropody

**Thursday 2nd, 23rd** 9.45am - 1pm  
(phone 01577 863869 for an appointment)

### Hearing Loss Support and Advice

**Monday 6th** 11am

### Tai Chi

**Wednesday 8th, 22nd** 1.30pm - 2pm

### Entertainment Afternoon

**Friday 10th** 1.30pm

### Kinross Community Care Advice and Information

**Wednesday 15th** 11.30am - 12pm

### Library Visit

**Thursday 23rd** 1.30pm



## Coffee Bar open to the public 8.30am - 4pm, Older Adults Lunches Daily

Our activities are open to everyone - please feel free to come in and have a great afternoon.

**Phone: 01577 863869 Fax: 01577 863869 Email: kindaycent@tiscali.co.uk**

## LOCAL CHEMIST INFORMATION



### Rowlands Pharmacy, Kinross

Mon - Fri: 9.00 am - 6.00 pm  
Saturday: 9.00 am - 5.00 pm  
Tel: 862422

### Davidson's Chemist, Milnathort

Mon to Fri: 9.00 am - 1.00 pm &  
2.00 pm - 6.00 pm  
Saturday: 9.00 am - 12.30 pm  
Tel: 862219



**Sundays:** The nearest open pharmacy is Asda, Dunfermline



## ITV IS LOOKING FOR BRITAIN'S LONGEST REIGNING DRIVERS!



Are you over 90 years of age AND still driving – we would love to hear from you!

Do you have a passion for motoring?  
Does your car give you freedom and independence?

Do you know someone who is over 90  
and still passionate about driving?

With a wealth of experience on the road,  
we'd love to hear YOUR stories!

If this sounds like you or someone you know please call us  
on 0207 013 4411 or by email at [drivers@rdftelevision.com](mailto:drivers@rdftelevision.com)



Get involved  
to help make  
Perth & Kinross a

### FAIR TRADE Zone

P & K Fair Trade Zone Group  
@PKFairtrade



## Free Energy Saving Advice Freephone 0800 512 012

Free, impartial advice on energy efficiency in the home,  
sustainable transport choices, small-scale use of micro-  
renewables etc. Advice to individuals, communities and small  
businesses.



## Situations Vacant

In conjunction with [www.kinross.cc](http://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](http://www.kinross.cc) then click on 'Local Adverts' and choose 'Situations Vacant').

### Personal Assistants

Private employer looking to recruit a small team of part-time Personal Assistants to provide personal care support to an elderly gentleman with Dementia living in Glenfarg. Shared position 18 hours per week. Support is required over 4 visits per day Monday to Sunday. Flexibility to cover holidays and sickness absence essential. Must be part of the PVG (Protecting Vulnerable Groups) Scheme or willing to become part of the scheme. 2 references required. Closing Date: When sufficient suitable applicants have been received.

For more information, please call 07708290884 or email with CV to [djs020@yahoo.com](mailto:djs020@yahoo.com).

### Nursery Staff, Rosemount Nursery School, Kinross

Part time. We are looking for a creative, enthusiastic individual to join our team.

Applicants will be responsible for the effective planning and delivery of high quality experiences for children's learning and development. Showing a child-led approach through the principles of play, candidates will be able to demonstrate an understanding of Pre Birth to Three and the Curriculum for Excellence. As a partner provider nursery within Perth and Kinross, the applicant will work within our small team of qualified professionals to ensure the delivery of high quality care and education. Please email [info@rosemountnurserykinross.co.uk](mailto:info@rosemountnurserykinross.co.uk) for details.

### Accounts Assistant, Caledonia Play, Drum, Crook of Devon

We are looking to recruit an Accounts Assistant for our growing play equipment business near Kinross. Covering all areas of our accounts processing but with specific emphasis on the Purchase Ledger and Stock function there is also an opportunity to be involved in all areas as part of a growing team. Experience with Sage 50 Accounts, Payroll and CIS would be preferred. General accounts administration and computing skills and use of Microsoft Office. Part time position with flexibility to suit the right candidate. For more details or to submit your CV please email Sarah Bruce Jones [sarah@caledoniaplay.com](mailto:sarah@caledoniaplay.com)

**Part Time Accounts / Office Assistant, THCL – See following page, which also has notices advertising other posts, including voluntary positions.**

## Hope Pregnancy Crisis Centre

based in the centre of Perth

Offers free, confidential, non-judgemental advice and support to anyone facing a pregnancy related crisis.

In a safe, secure environment we aim to assist women (or couples) in making their own informed decisions about their future and support them through the process if they require it.

We offer confidential advice, free pregnancy testing, pregnancy crisis and miscarriage support, adoption advice and counselling for post abortion stress.

The office is open 10am to 2pm Monday to Friday and outwith those hours can be contacted on the office number 01738 621174. On-line support and information can be obtained from our website [www.hopepregnancy.co.uk](http://www.hopepregnancy.co.uk)

Hope Pregnancy Crisis Centre  
40 St John Street, Perth, PH1 5SP  
[www.hopepregnancy.co.uk](http://www.hopepregnancy.co.uk)  
email: [hope-pregnancy@btconnect.com](mailto:hope-pregnancy@btconnect.com)  
Helpline 01738 621174  
We are a Scottish Charity SC037103

## 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](http://www.kinross.cc) then 'Local Adverts' then 'Classified Adverts'). If interested in selling an item, please list it on [www.kinross.cc](http://www.kinross.cc) and it will automatically be published in the next available Newsletter, subject to space.

### 3 in 1 Printer £25

Epson DX7400

### Samsung TV £50

26" screen. Freeview HD Ready

Seller Details for above 2 items:

Carolyn Jenkins 07925 972650

[Carolynjenkins1309@gmail.com](mailto:Carolynjenkins1309@gmail.com)

### Boys Xrated BMX bike £50

BMX Halfords Xrated bike for sale, less than a year old, unfortunately never used, 20" wheels, stunt pegs for back of bike.

Seller Details:

Louise Knox

[louisegknox@hotmail.com](mailto:louisegknox@hotmail.com)

### Ski Boots £50

Ladies Nordica Ski boots size 5. Worn twice.

Seller Details:

Michael Thorn

[mmthorn36@hotmail.com](mailto:mmthorn36@hotmail.com)

### Marshall Acoustic Soloist

#### Model AS80R £250

With footswitch for chorus and reverb.

Seller Details:

Ian

07778 523379

### Set of oriental furniture

#### in camphor wood £300 ono

Large altar sideboard (H 80cm x D 40cm x W 122cm max).

Set of 4 occasional tables (H 63cm D 35cm W 50cm).

Storage cabinet (H 65cm D 46cm W 47cm).

All in excellent condition.

### Epson Workforce WP-4535

#### 4 in 1 printer £40

Excellent condition and in full working order.

Seller Details for above 2 items:

Lyn Haworth

07792 270609

[lynhaworth57@gmail.com](mailto:lynhaworth57@gmail.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, 1.30-3.30pm.

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.

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: [Info@positive-choices.org.uk](mailto:Info@positive-choices.org.uk)

We are a registered Scottish Charity SC031076

Empowering Lives, Improving Health

## Job Vacancy

### Part Time Accounts / Office Assistant

THCL are a busy, fast-growing local construction company looking to recruit an enthusiastic person with Sage Accounts, Payroll and CIS experience and processing Year End.

You should be capable of organising a busy office and assisting the directors with the development of the company. Good inter-personal skills essential as is the ability to work unsupervised after initial training. Flexible hours. Pay dependent upon experience.

Job Type: Part-time (approx 20 hrs per week)

Based at our office at Blairnathort Farm, Milnathort.

Please email CV and current remuneration to morag.thomson@thcl.net

**Closing Date: Monday 6 February 2017.**

## Wanted: Dance Teacher

**Lochleven Diamonds** are looking for a dance teacher or student to teach basic ballet for one hour per month on a Wednesday evening at the community campus. An hourly rate plus mileage is offered. If anyone can help, please message the Lochleven Diamonds Facebook page or text Morag Stobie on 07730 255869

## Exam Invigilators – Kinross High School

We are looking to expand the bank of people who are registered with the SQA for paid exam invigilation at the school, for the main SQA exam diet throughout May. We also engage a number of these invigilators for internal prelim exams in November and January each year. Training and support will be given.

If you are interested, please contact Elizabeth Cargill Business Manager for more information either by telephone on 01577 867100 or by email: kinrosshigh.pkc.gov.uk

## Children's Hospice Association Scotland



Children's Hospice Association Scotland  
Children, young people and their families at the heart of all we do.

### Shop Volunteers

We urgently require volunteers for our two shops in Kinross. Can you spare a few hours of your time? In return you will be rewarded by our friendly and welcoming retail team and volunteering with CHAS is a great way to meet new people, learn new skills and to make a huge difference to the lives of the families who use our services.

For further information, contact Sarah Stephen on 01577 864692 or email volunteering@chas.org.uk for an application pack.

## Enquire

**Are you looking for information about your child's rights to support in School?**

If so, contact **Enquire**, the national advice and information service for additional support for learning.

Enquire offer: a confidential telephone helpline and online enquiry service, practical guides, fact sheets and newsletters, helpful materials for children and young people with additional support needs.

For more information contact: tel 0845 123 2303

Website: [www.enquire.org.uk](http://www.enquire.org.uk)

*Enquire is funded by the Scottish Government and managed by Children in Scotland*

## Kinross Recovery and Conversation Café

This weekly group is for anyone with an interest in improving their wellbeing and needing support on their recovery journey from addiction or substance misuse. The Café aims to get people speaking about recovery and wellbeing in all its many forms and provides the opportunity to:

- share ideas, information and resources
- explore support networks and ways of moving forward
- breakdown isolation
- improve health and wellbeing

The Café takes place **every Tuesday**, 1pm-3pm, at Millbridge Hall, Kinross. Drop in and have a cuppa and a chat.

For more information, contact:

Shona Fowler: 07896 280843, [shonafowler@nhs.net](mailto:shonafowler@nhs.net)

Richard Lister: 07885 971298, [richard.lister@cairscotland.org.uk](mailto:richard.lister@cairscotland.org.uk)



Supported and funded by Broke Not Broken, a local charity tackling the effects of poverty.

## Broke Not Broken

Drop off donations at:

**Sainsbury's, Kinross**  
**Glenfarg Village Shop**  
**Giacopazzi's, Kinross**



Open to clients:

**Every Tuesday and Thursday, 10am – 2pm**

The Beacon, St Paul's Church, Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8AU

Contact: Tel: 07709 107640

Email: [admin@brokenotbroken.org](mailto:admin@brokenotbroken.org)



Broke Not Broken. Tackling the effects of poverty. Scottish Registered Charity SC046033

Home | Contact | [www.kinross.co](http://www.kinross.co)

**Kinross Community Council Newsletter**

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Find us on Facebook

October Issue Deadline: 5.00pm, Friday 12 September  
Publication Date: Saturday 27 September

November Issue Deadline: 5.00pm, Friday 17 October  
Publication Date: Saturday 4 November

December Issue Deadline: 5.00pm, Friday 14 November  
Publication Date: Saturday 29 November

Gardens Open: Click here to visit our Gardens Open page!

Welcome...

to the website of The Kinross Community Council Newsletter.

Our name is usually shortened to 'The Kinross Newsletter' or even just 'The Newsletter' - the essential publication for Kinross-shire!

Click on the cover at right to find out what's in the latest issue!

The Newsletter is a monthly magazine that has been providing news, comment and interaction for the whole community since 1977.

Discover Local Lives

KINROSS-SHIRE

visit [www.kinross.co](http://www.kinross.co) for business, community and visitor information on Kinross-shire

The Kinross Community Council Newsletter can be purchased at the following outlets, price £1

Baillies, High Street, Kinross  
The Co-operative, High Street, Kinross  
Sainsbury's, Station Road, Kinross  
Costcutters, Green Road, Kinross  
The Post Office, Milnathort  
Giacopazzi's, Milnathort  
Stewart & Smart, String Road, Milnathort  
Foskaway Stores, Cross of Deer  
Garage & Shop, Greenwood  
Pavement of Milnathort  
Powell Mill Bar  
Moto Shop, Turfhill

## Newsletter Queries?

### When is the next deadline?

### How much does it cost to advertise?

### Can I get a subscription?

For the answers to these questions and more, visit our website

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

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

Mainly for visitors, but also of interest to local residents. Find information on places to stay, where to eat, things to do and places to visit. (Website set up by the Kinross-shire Partnership.)

Map courtesy of the Kinross-shire Partnership

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# Diary

*A more extensive and regularly updated  
Diary of Events can be found on [www.kinross.cc](http://www.kinross.cc)*

## January

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Sat	28	Big Garden Birdwatch with RSPB	84
Sun	29	Kinross Golf Club Annual General Meeting	72
Mon	30	Cleish & Blairadam CC meets	29
Mon	30	Glenfarg Folk Club meets weekly at Green Hotel	95

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Wed	1	Business Breakfast	48, 96
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Wed	1	Kinross in Bloom meets	51
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Thu	2	Harry Potter Book Night	20
Thu	2	Kinross Camera Club meets weekly	51
Thu	2	The Thursday Group: Scams awareness	95
Fri	3	Kinross & District Art Club meets regularly	65
Sat	4	French Storytelling for children	20
Sat	4	Kinross & Ochil Walking Group: walks throughout the month	66
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Sun	5	Souper Sunday	95
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Mon	6	Rotary Club meets regularly	53
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Tue	7	Leven Voices weekly choir	44
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Wed	8	Shop at the Green Big Winter Sale	4
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Tue	14	Citizens Advice Bureau outreach surgery (also on 28th)	98
Tue	14	Portmoak CC meets	34
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Fri	17	Fizz Night at the Boathouse	73
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Sat	18	Town Twinning Association pot luck supper	48
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Mon	20	Historical Society: Missing in Borneo	96
Thu	23	Kinross Floral Art Club: Zest for Life	96
Thu	23	Library Community Day	20
Thu	23	Boathouse Quiz Night	73
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Sat	25	Christine Bovill's Piaf at the Boathouse	55
Sat	25	Quiz Night at Orwell Bowling Club	96
Sun	26	WEX group meets at RSPB Loch Leven	84
Tue	28	The loch and its surrounding landscape with David Munro at RSPB	84

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Wed	1	Business Breakfast	96
Sun	5	Little Seedlings Club meets	52
Mon	6	Kinross Hub, The Carers Café	95
Tue	7	Kinross Tennis Club Annual Quiz	72
Fri	10	Tasmina Ahmed-Sheikh MP Surgery in Kinross	19
Thu	16	Wonders of the Night Sky and Opportunities from Space, Aero Space Kinross	62
Sat	18	Quiz Night at Orwell Bowling Club	96
Sun	19	Loch Leven Walkathon for Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland	78
Mon	20	Historical Society: The Way of the Wanderers	96