



Kinross Newsletter

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Mrs Nan Walker, MBE

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DEADLINE for the May 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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(all emails will be acknowledged)

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Editor Eileen Thomas Typesetting and Layout Tony Dyson Distribution Lee Scammacca
Advertising Julia Fulton Treasurer and Subscriptions Ross McConnell Assistant Editor Joyce Horsman



Editorial

All things being equal, the next Newsletter deadline would normally fall on 14 April; however, that is the start of the Easter weekend, so the **deadline for the May issue** will be **THURSDAY 13 APRIL**. Contributors, if you are able to send your submission well in advance of this deadline, we would really appreciate it for this issue in particular. Thank you.

Hunters of Kinross are fundraising to obtain a **Public Access Defibrillator** for the centre of Kinross. Customers and community groups have been donating generously. A Facebook page has been set up to chart progress. Look for 'Kinross Heart Start'.

Registration to Resuscitation campaign: Does your organisation have a defibrillator? While there is no legal obligation to register these pieces of equipment, the Scottish Ambulance Service is appealing for all defibrillators to be registered with them. This is so that when someone calls 999, they will know where the nearest defibrillator is, should one be required. Find out more on the website: www.scottishambulance.com

Special **congratulations** this month to **Laura Muir and Eilidh Doyle**. (See page 90.) As a friend of the Newsletter pointed out, "30% of the medals won by Great Britain and NI at the recent European Indoor Athletics Championships in Belgrade were won by Kinross-shire athletes! This is an absolutely amazing statistic given our population."

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
CC: Community Council

CLlr: Councillor
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.

Meadows No More

I may be cynical, but I think Persimmon Homes would be more honest naming their new Kinross development 'Lathro Meadows No More'!

Karol Swanson
Blanefield, Kinross, KY13 0RN

Kinross High Street

The current criticism of the Kinross High Street modernisation scheme is misplaced. From the earlier restoration of the derelict Swansacre houses and thereafter to that of the High Street itself, the work has revealed the high quality and variety of the architecture in the town. The criticism of the results not only overlooks this substantial environmental gain but also ignores the basic modern principle of controlling the relationship between motorised and non-motorised traffic by means of the design of the roadway and its surroundings. This in other terms means putting the responsibility for care and attention equally on to the motorist and the cyclist or pedestrian. There is a learning process involved for everyone. Along with the design aspect (which has been used for example in Poundbury, a new town initiated by Prince Charles) and re-education, there is the associated matter of speed restriction. It would be much more useful if the critics, specifically the political ones, would arrange for the wider application of 20mph maximum zones in the Counties of Perth and Kinross where motorists would get used to cooperation with other thoroughfare users. Two prime candidates are Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell, which have not only no 20mph limit, but no pavements either. They, like Kinross, have an architectural inheritance to be protected. The press has reported that the whole of Perth and Kinross has only 11 streets with permanent 20mph limits while Edinburgh has 2,268. It is also reported that the lower limit reduces the fatal accidents by sevenfold.

A recent political pamphlet describes the Kinross High Street as a 'disaster,' and 'not safe'. Why is it so dangerous for me to cross Kinross High Street as it stands, with its traffic-calmed design and 20mph limit, and yet it is acceptable for me to negotiate the streets of Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell which, with its 30mph limit, is evidently seven times as risky?

Iain WD Forde FRIAS
Causewayend, Main Street, Scotlandwell

Weather



February Weather Report from Kinross

Total rainfall	115.5mm = 4.62 inches
Heaviest rainfall	16.7mm (22nd)
Total sunshine for the month	29.2 hours
Sunniest day	5.7 hours (20th)
Maximum temperature average	7.12°C
Highest temperature	13.6°C (20th)
Minimum temperature average	-0.97°C
Lowest temperature	-7.1°C (27th)

Kinross High Street – further rethink needed

It is welcome news that work is planned to start to reinstate a controlled pedestrian crossing in Kinross High Street close to the junction with Station Road.

The original £1.5 million or so scheme planned and implemented by PKC removed the then established safety features including kerbs, safety railings and the controlled crossing at the much used Day Centre, all in place to protect the safety of pedestrians from traffic.

PKC were aware from their own traffic surveys that although a 20mph zone had been in place for some 10 years, most traffic was ignoring this and some were being recorded up to 50mph.

PKC claimed the scheme would "create a safe and pleasant environment for the pedestrian".

The reality is that this flawed Shared Space concept has done little if anything to slow traffic and instead disadvantaged and endangered the safety of all and in particular the elderly, disabled and young children.

When submitting plans for the new Primary School, PKC acknowledged that no safe crossing now exists for children walking to school from the eastern side of the High Street. This latest U-turn by PKC confirms this scheme to be an ill-conceived and very expensive cosmetic exercise which has failed to address the very real traffic safety issues that are a priority for the community.

Due to the failure of PKC to listen to the community, an opportunity to resolve these issues by the implementation of a well-engineered plan has been lost to date.

The new crossing is a start but there remain many other outstanding safety issues that require attention.

Further safe crossing points are required elsewhere and measures to slow traffic are essential.

Piecemeal tinkering with the current scheme will not keep pedestrians safe.

Ken Miles
Turfhills, Kinross



Perform in Perth

Local success at the Perthshire Music Festival March 2017

Lucy Jamieson, Kinross & District Pipe Band, 1st, Practice Chanter, under 13.

Finlay Scott, Craigclowan, 2nd, Novice Bagpipes, under 13.

Hazel Bennet, Kinross & District Pipe Band, 2nd, Novice Bagpipes, aged 13-18.

Rebecca Oswald, Kinross & District Pipe Band, 1st, Solo snare drum, Novice, aged 13-18.

Euan Alexander, Kinross HS, 1st, Vocal Solo, Boys, changing voices.

Sam Roberts, Kinross HS, 1st, Vocal Solo, Boys aged 15 to 17.

Erin Bathgate, Kinross HS, 1st, Vocal Solo, Songs from the Shows including Light Opera, Boys or Girls aged 16 or 17.

Flora Caldwell, Kinross HS, 3=, Vocal Solo, Opera or Oratorio, Boys or Girls aged 16 or 17.

Martha Harvey, Kinross PS, 1st, Strings, Beginners.

Callum Newton, Kinross PS, 3rd, Strings, Beginners.

Munro Strachan, Milnathort PS, 3rd, Violin Solo, Elementary.

Logan Carlisle, Milnathort: 2nd, Violin Solo, Transitional; 1st, Classical Guitar Solo, Elementary.

Lewis Carlisle, Kinross HS, 3rd, Violin Solo, Intermediate.

Kirsty Darbyshire, Milnathort PS, 1st, Viola Solo, Elementary.

Ruaraidh Sturgess, Kinross PS, 2nd, Viola Solo, Elementary.

Chloë Vlasto, Portmoak PS, 3rd, Viola Solo, Elementary.

Calum Macpherson, Kinross HS, 3rd, Cello Solo, Advanced.

Eleanor Baughan, Kinross HS, 2nd, String Recital Class, Intermediate.

Andrew Michael, Kinross HS, 3=, String Recital Class, Intermediate.

Sophie Telfer, Kinross HS, 3=, String Recital Class, Intermediate.

Ola Stanton, Kinross HS, 2nd, String Recital Class, Open.

Zosia Stanton, Kinross HS, 3rd, String Recital Class, Open.

Garry Simpson, Kinross HS: 1st, Modern Guitar Solo, Open; 1st, Drum Kit Solo, Advanced.

Audrey Doyle, Milnathort, 2nd, Flute Solo, Advanced.

Tom Jackson, Muckhart: 1st, Snare Drum Solo, Beginners; 2nd, Drum Kit Solo, Beginners.

Alistair McBride, Kinross HS: 1st, Snare Drum Solo, Intermediate; 3rd, Xylophone Solo, Transitional; 1st, Timpani Solo, Transitional; 3=, Drum Kit Solo, Intermediate.

George Croudace, Kinross HS: 1st, Xylophone Solo, Transitional; 1st, Timpani Solo, Elementary; 2= Drum Kit Solo, Intermediate.

Jamie Lennon, Kinross HS, 2nd, Timpani Solo, Beginners.

Jacob Fulke, Kinross HS: 3rd, Timpani Solo, Beginners; 3= Drum Kit Solo, Elementary.

Jake Hodgson, Kinross HS, 1st, Drum Kit Solo, Beginners.

Oliver Dunn & Katie Miller, Milnathort PS, 1st, Duo (Strings), Elementary.

Joanyoung Perkins & Murray Gill, Milnathort PS, 2nd, Duo (Strings), Elementary.

Kiera Calder & Mya Saunders, Milnathort PS, 3rd, Duo (Strings), Elementary.

Iona Sutherland & Eleanor Baughan, Kinross HS, 1st, Duo (Strings), Advanced.

Ola & Zosia Stanton, Kinross HS, 1st, Duo (accompanied), Advanced.

Emily Scott, Craigclowan, 3=, Bible Reading, aged 9 or 10.

Milnathort String Trio, 3rd, Small Ensemble (Strings only), Elementary.

Kinross High String Orchestra: 2nd, String Orchestra (Schools), Advanced; 1st, Orchestra (Schools), Intermediate.

Irene McFarlane, Kinross: 2nd, Vocal Solo, Songs from the Shows, aged 18 & over; 1st, Vocal Solo, Music Hall, aged 18 & over; 1st, Burns Poems, aged 18 & over.

Apologies if we have missed any achievements by local people. We can't tell if attendees of private schools are local to Kinross-shire unless families notify us.



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Elizabeth Smith MSP for Mid Scotland and Fife

I was delighted to see “local girl done good”, Laura Muir, breeze to the European indoor title at 1500 and 3000m in March. This is a seriously impressive achievement considering the strength of talent on show and now Laura heads to the World Championships this summer as one of GB’s top medal prospects. Following this achievement I was delighted to submit a motion in parliament commending her for her double-medal triumph and was pleased to see it attract unanimous support from the chamber. The Scottish Parliament is backing Laura for gold this summer and will watch with real interest as the legacy of the Commonwealth Games continues to inspire our young athletes.

Staffing shortages in the NHS continue to affect care and recently Perth Royal Infirmary announced that they were moving into contingency measures as a result of nursing problems. Operations and appointments have been cancelled following these measures with patients starting to feel the sharp end of staffing shortages. Unfortunately, this is an issue that is only going to get worse over the coming years unless recruitment issues are dealt with today. Nurses across NHS Tayside do a fantastic job under real pressure but the Royal College of Nursing has warned that urgent help is needed otherwise patient safety will suffer. Back in 2013, health board chiefs were aware of impending staff shortages but nothing in the following four years has helped reverse this trend. What we need is strong structures to recruit and reward nursing staff. We need colleges and universities to train up talent as well as a Government able to offer incentives to retain them within Scotland. There is no easy answer to the current nursing crisis. In the short term all stops must be pulled out to recruit more staff but longer-term solutions must be found otherwise this story will be repeated time and time again.

In late March, I took time to question the First Minister on the increasing number of high-sided vehicles overturning on the Forth Road Bridge. Since the turn of the year we have had two lengthy and costly closures as a result of HGV drivers ignoring traffic warnings and gambling on crossing in blustery conditions. Whenever the Forth Road Bridge is closed, the knock-on effect for drivers and commuters in Kinross is acutely felt. Until the new Queensferry Crossing opens, which has wind shear protection designed to allow vehicles to cross in extreme weather, commuters in Kinross will have to put up with the prospect of being heavily delayed to and from work. What we need is real and serious action to deter HGV drivers from taking the gamble and a system of checks and balances to ensure that everyone is able cross safely in bad weather.

Liz Smith MSP

Liz Smith MSP always welcomes feedback from constituents. She can be contacted in the following ways:

Post: The Control Tower, Perth Airport, Scone, PH2 6P

Email: Elizabeth.smith.msp@parliament.scot

Telephone: 01738 553990



Local elections on 4 May

Local government elections will take place across Scotland on Thursday 4 May 2017. The Kinross-shire ward of Perth & Kinross Council is entitled to four councillors.

Current independent councillors Dave Cuthbert and Mike Barnacle have announced that they are standing again for election, as has Councillor Willie Robertson, the Liberal Democrat candidate. Councillor Joe Giacomazzi, current SNP councillor, has decided not to stand for re-election.

Callum Purves announced in the February issue of the Newsletter that he is standing as a Conservative candidate for the Kinross-shire ward. A number of other people have recently announced their candidature.

John Ross, a local businessman, has also been invited to stand as a Conservative candidate. John has lived in Kinross for 25 years and for the past 15 years has been a very active volunteer in the community, working with the cricket club and coaching in primary schools.

The Kinross-shire Branch of the Scottish National Party has chosen local resident Richard Watters as its candidate. Richard studied Geomatics (Surveying and Mapping) at Newcastle University before commencing his career as an IT project manager and developer.

David MacKenzie is standing as a Labour party candidate. David, a former Assistant Head Teacher of Kinross High School, has lived in Kinross since 1991 and is currently a member of Kinross Community Council.

The closing date for nominations of candidates occurs while this Newsletter is at press. All candidates will be invited to make an election statement for publication in the May issue of the Kinross Newsletter, which will be published on Saturday 29 April.

Call for voters to register for elections

With local government elections just a few weeks away, voters are being urged to make sure they are registered to vote and are able to take part on polling day, Thursday 4 May. The Electoral Registration Officer for Perth & Kinross Council is reminding voters that they need to register by the **deadline of Monday 17 April** otherwise they won't be able to take part in the council elections.

To register to vote, visit www.gov.uk/register-to-vote

Kinross-shire Decides!

1. Around 25 local community organisations have applied to the Participatory Budget, Perth & Kinross Council, for grants up to £1500 to fund their projects.
2. All organisations will have information stalls at the **Kinross Farmers' Market on Saturday 22 April, 9am-1pm**, High Street, Kinross. Come along and meet the organisations and **decide** who you think is doing a great job in Kinross-shire. They need your support!
3. It's your opportunity to be involved in **VOTING** for your preferred projects. Successful applicants will hear at the event!

For further information, visit www.pkc.gov.uk/communityplanning or contact Tracey Ramsay, 01577 867124, tramsay@pkc.gov.uk

Organised by Kinross-shire, Almond & Earn Action Partnership



Kinross-shire is a Fairtrade County

Councillor Giacopazzi

Valedictory. Despite having been invited by Kinross and District SNP to run, and having been accepted as a candidate by SNP Headquarters in Edinburgh, I have decided not to stand for re-election in the May Council elections. My reason; I am now at an age when most folk have retired and I wish to pursue other interests.



Having been elected Councillor after serving 12 years on Milnathort CC, I came to the job with certain preconceptions acquired over years which were quickly dispelled. I found the Council run mostly by dedicated and hard-working staff. In particular, senior officials are available to Councillors well outwith 'nine to five' hours. I also learned that, by comparison with other Scottish local authorities, Perth and Kinross is one of the best performing Councils, particularly in the area of financial management.

What I have also found surprising, is the low number of complaints which we Councillors receive from the public. My approach has been to admit that, while I might not be able to reach the resolution desired by constituents, I would certainly do my very best to achieve a result for them. People are generally realistic, appreciating Councillors' efforts on their behalf, whatever the outcome.

It has also been encouraging to realise that, at ward level, we Councillors cooperate in a non-political way to achieve the best results for our constituents. In particular, it has been a pleasure to work with Cllr Cuthbert, leader of the Independent Group, who instituted a schedule of monthly meetings which we all attended to discuss matters of relevance to Ward 8.

I am proud that, in the course of my term, much has been done to improve the infrastructure and appearance of Kinross in particular, and Ward 8 in general. No doubt others will soon be reminding you of these improvements and taking credit for them on the basis that while success has many fathers, failure is an orphan.

PKC Budget 2017/18. Despite dire predictions last year, extra money was found from increased Council Tax and from the Scottish Government, enabling the PKC Administration to present a budget which safeguarded the most vulnerable groups while maintaining most Council services. The budget was approved by 27 votes to 12. Some figures:

1. Total revenue budget allocated for 2017/18, £328,399,000;
2. Council Tax collection rate, 98%;
3. Previous year's underspend brought forward, £2,983,000;
4. Money taken from reserves to balance the budget, £2,007,000;
5. Increase in Council Tax Band D, 2%.

Interestingly, the sum of £328 million is about the same size as the budget for 2012/13; yet in the intervening years, expenditure has increased with wage inflation and the living wage, extra demographic demands, extra National Insurance demands from the Treasury and, latterly, a 1.5% levy on the Council's wage bill to fund a UK wide apprenticeship scheme. Yet we have balanced the budget despite these additional cost pressures.

Of course, there was a bit more to it than that, with the budget paper running to 337 pages. Incidentally, PKC's level of reserves puts it in seventh place out of 32 Scottish Councils. What's in the budget for Kinross-shire? This is the fifth year

that I have sat on the Budget Review Group, which consists of the Chief Executive, Head of Finance, the heads of Education, Social Work and the Environment Service, together with the Council Leader and four SNP Councillors. Over the course of a dozen meetings, we formulated a budget proposal which went forward to the full Council for approval.

I took advantage of my position to make the case that while there was no money in the Council's Car Park Account, Kinross was in need of additional car parking, particularly with the loss of unofficial car parking in the old High School site. Accordingly, my colleagues on the Budget Review Group agreed to allocate a one off sum of £250,000 as 'additional capital funding for future investment in the car parking estate'. It only remains for Ward 8 Councillors and officials to identify a suitable site and press for the construction of a new car park.

Pavilion at Donaldson Park Milnathort. At the March meeting of the Development Management Committee, I spoke in support of the proposal which was unanimously approved. Milnathort CC has taken an inconsistent position on the issue. Last year it gave its backing to the Kinross Colts' proposal for a changing facility; but when the planning application was lodged, the Chairman wrote a lengthy letter of objection reiterating a number of unfounded complaints which had been previously discussed and addressed. None of the grounds of objection were relevant planning issues. With the planning consent granted and the finance in place, the village can look forward to an excellent new facility for the young people of Kinross-shire. I would also add that Education and Children's Services has agreed to allow the Kinross Colts to use the Primary School car park during matches at the week-ends and to access the pavilion through the school grounds. The Council will be erecting a bollard at the Church Street entrance to prevent cars entering there. Indeed, for many of us who have put considerable efforts into bringing about this project in a way which would not conflict with concerns of neighbours, the unrelenting negativity emanating from a small number of folk has been disappointing.

Councillor Joe Giacopazzi

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www.visitlochleven.org

Community Benefit Society launched at astronomy evening

The Astronomy Evening held by Aero Space Kinross (ASK) on 16 March was attended by approximately 250 enthusiastic guests.

The audience enjoyed two fascinating illustrated talks.

One was by Jimmy Slaughter, a Satellite Applications Solutions Architect from Strathclyde University who spoke about satellite applications and the variety of careers that are associated with space and satellite technology.

Steve Owens, Glasgow Science Centre Astronomer and Planetarium Manager explored astrophysics with his "Wonders of the Night Sky" talk.

Alisdair Stewart, Chairman of ASK, provided an update on the project to provide Kinross with an aviation and space-themed visitor attraction. Two sites are under consideration: the Kinross West development park and the former Forth Wines premises at Milnathort. It is estimated the project will cost £10 million.

The evening also saw the launch of the conversion of Aero Space Scientific Educational Trust (ASSET) to a Community Benefit Society (CBS).

Explaining the rationale, Alisdair Stewart, Chairman said: "ASSET was established as a Company Limited by Guarantee and registered as a charity with OSCR. Over recent months it has become evident that our corporate structure was impeding discussions with key funders who felt ASSET was too narrowly governed despite the fact that it has an open membership. Conversion to a CBS makes the open membership structure much more transparent and ensures that control, ownership and benefits are clearly vested in the Kinross-shire community."

ASSET will continue to operate as a not for profit charity whose objectives are the advancement of education, heritage and science in relation to aviation, astronomy, technology, science and space for the public benefit. Aero Space Kinross will continue to be wholly owned and operated by ASSET.

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Councillor Robertson



Green Routes: Perth & Kinross Council are planning to expand the number of Green Routes (cycling and walking friendly roads) in Kinross-shire. The chosen roads both lead north from Milnathort to Glenfarg. The proposals will mean speed limit reductions to 30mph at Middleton, Netherton and from Drunzie into Glenfarg. Green Routes were first trialled in west Kinross-shire and have proved popular with local people.

Auld Mart Path: I have been unsuccessful in getting funding from the Council to repair the very busy path that runs from Auld Mart Road to Burleigh. I have therefore asked if the Criminal Justice Service could repair it and they have agreed. The Council will supply the five tonnes of materials required and offenders carrying out their community payback orders will carry out the work, hopefully during April.

Keep Kinross-shire Tidy: The road verges between Milnathort and Mawcarse were badly littered and I requested a litter pick here. I visited the area 48 hours later and was delighted to see that it had been done and looked much better. Please let me know if you see other roads requiring a litter pick.

20mph limit Drum: The road through the settlement of Drum is narrow in places and has no pavement. I have written to Perth & Kinross Council formally asking for a 20mph limit to be introduced. Hopefully if this is done it will deter vehicles using it as a shortcut and also make this road safer for pedestrian and local residents.

Hatchbank Bus Stop: I have had complaints about the southbound bus stance at Hatchbank. It consists of three small concrete slabs. When the Council saw the photographs I sent them, they responded by saying what was there was totally inadequate and agreed the stance wasn't really safe for bus users. They have issued a works order to create a proper bus stance. The next objective is to get a bus shelter installed. The Council has no budget for bus shelters so I will try and find the money from other sources.

The Green, Scotlandwell: The ground conditions at The Green, Scotlandwell, are very poor with a number of very wet, boggy areas. This makes it difficult for events to be held here. Following a site meeting with officers of the Council's Community Greenspace team, it has been agreed that drainage works will be carried out and completed later in the Spring.

Myre Park car park: The car park at The Myre is in a very poor state. The Council have agreed to repair it and this should be done in April/May.

May Council Elections: I am pleased to announce that I have been selected to stand for the Scottish Liberal Democrats in the Kinross-shire Ward in the Council elections on May 4th.

Councillor Willie Robertson

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Get stuck in!

♦ Perth and Kinross Year of Archaeology 2017 ♦

Over the last decade, Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust has delivered its annual Archaeology Month, an exciting celebration of our past through a programme of guided walks, talks, historically themed fairs, archaeological field surveys and excavations. Beginning as Archaeology Week in 2003, this well-established annual feature has showcased the outstanding historic environment of Perth and Kinross and is a popular feature in the county's events calendar. Officially declared as **the Scottish theme year of History, Heritage and Archaeology, 2017 is set to be a big year for cultural heritage in Scotland** and Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust is rising to the occasion with an extra special programme of events.

Thanks to the continued generous support of the Gannochy Trust, **'Perth and Kinross Archaeology Year' promises to be a vibrant, engaging and informative feature of 2017** with not just one event-packed month but seven. The programme contains more than 100 events and will span from the beginning of April to the end of October with an official launch event on 22 April.



Last year's Bronze Age Fair at Kilmagadwood: experimental archaeologist and potter Graham Taylor explains how bronze age urns were made. The large urn in the foreground is Graham's replica of the urn found at Kilmagadwood in the 1940s

The launch will be an exciting sunset ceremony beginning with a torch-lit procession through the atmospherically lit woodland of Moncreiffe Hill up to the hillfort of Moredun top, where the sound of a prehistoric horn will echo once more across the ramparts and a prehistoric world will be reconstructed through immersive hilltop virtual reality.

The wider events programme will offer new guided walks to some of the county's lesser-explored archaeological sites as well as reviving old favourites such as tours of the Roman Gask Ridge sites and trips to many of the hillforts that crown Perthshire's hilltops. There will be lots of opportunities to get your hands dirty and experience the past at the trowel's edge, with four excavations to sign-up and take part in. The first will be Tay Landscape Partnership's month-long dig (25 April to 20 May) on Moredun Top. The sixth and final

season of excavations on the Pictish longhouses at Lair, Glenshee, will be running for two weeks in June (6-17 June) and then there are two more hillfort digs in late June-July (Abernethy) and September (Dunkeld) to join in with or visit. Navigation courses using archaeological sites, workshops and demonstrations in archaeological survey, and a Medieval Fair in Perth city centre will be taking place. Doors Open Days is not to be forgotten. It will return in September, this time across three consecutive weekends instead of one: Kinross-shire & Strathearn over 2-3 September, Highland and Eastern Perthshire over 9-10 September and Perth City over 16-17 September.



One of the decorated Bronze Age urns found at Kilmagadwood

Events run by local historical societies and heritage organisations such as Culture Perth and Kinross and Historic Environment Scotland will also be included, making the programme a one-stop-shop for heritage happenings in Perth and Kinross between April and October.

Eastern Perthshire will feature prominently, with walks and talks delivered as part of the Catechan's Common Wealth, and Highland Perthshire will be an equally vibrant place to be, with exciting monthly events at the Scottish Crannog Centre to mark its 20th anniversary. An evening of captivating illustrated **talks** presenting the latest findings from the Urns of the **Kilmagadwood Bronze Age Cemetery near Portmoak** is definitely not to be missed in Kinross on **11 May!**

The printed programme is available from libraries, museums, Visit Scotland Information Centres and leaflet stands across Perth and Kinross and a digital programme with calendar and links to online booking systems can be found at Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust's website:

www.pkht.org.uk/news-events/archaeology-year

For the latest updates and events news, why not Like us on Facebook or Follow us on Twitter (@PKHeritageTrust)

There are lots of ways to explore Perth and Kinross-shire's past in 2017, so get stuck in and discover!

For a list of History, Heritage and Archaeology activities in Perth & Kinross in April, see facing page.





Featuring

- Jools Holland & His Rhythm & Blues Orchestra
- The View
- Justin Currie and the Pallbearers
- Marcus Brigstocke
- Martin Taylor and Alison Burns
- Treacherous Orchestra
- Rachel Sermanni
- Adam Holmes and The Embers
- Swinging at The Cotton Club - Lindy Hop Dance Company, The Harry Strutters Hot Rhythm Orchestra, Marlene Hill & Megs Etherington



Jools Holland



The View

Classical Programme

- Nigel Kennedy
- Nicola Benedetti
- Moscow Philharmonic Orchestra & Freddy Kempf
- English Touring Opera *Tosca* by Puccini
- Tenebrae Choir – Russian Treasures
- HMS Pinafore
- Scottish Opera Pop-up Roadshow
- Children's Classic Concerts
- ArTay contemporary Art Marquee featuring over 80 artists

Tickets now on sale

www.perthfestival.co.uk

Wedding Open Weekend at Tullibole

Tullibole Castle is holding a Wedding Open Weekend over the weekend of **22-23 April**.

The Great Hall will be dressed for a ceremony and the Carriage House will be set up for dining and dancing.

New from 2017 is the "Cathedral Tree" where 60 guests can be seated in a tree for a wedding!

Visitors will have a chance to meet a selection of Tullibole's recommended local suppliers.

Tullibole has beautiful grounds, including woodlands and a maze. Attendees are welcome to explore at their leisure after being shown around. To book a show round, email hitched@tullibolecastle.com

Right: the Cathedral Tree



The making of a house, through its past, present and future

It's often said that you'll just know when you've found the right house for you. Something inside will just click – it's like love at first sight!

With Shona and Charlie Benson, the most recent owners of Balgedie House, they knew instantly that they had found their dream house. "I'm not quite sure what it was exactly, I know it's beautiful and the setting is incredible, but it was more than that," says Shona.



Balgedie House

When they bought the house from the Lindsays in 2014, they were living in Australia. Their plan had always been to settle back 'home' after a couple of years but in 2015 Charlie, a structural engineer, was posted to Singapore and so their plans had to change a little.

"I was really heartbroken," says Shona, "I was so looking forward to making the house our home! But the move was a great opportunity, we couldn't *not* go, it just meant we had to have a good rethink about things."

Desperate to start living in Balgedie House as much as possible themselves, Shona and Charlie decided to switch from having the house as a long-term rental to short-term holiday lets. They

also wanted to renovate so the house, originally built in 1860, was designed for 21st century living!

In April last year they began. "Although we were modernising extensively we were really keen to retain many of its old features which give it so much of its character and charm. We had been playing with plans for months so it was really exciting when it all started happening!"

Extraordinarily, just as the renovations began, the Gate Lodge to the House went on the market. "It was incredible timing as we'd always dreamed of one day having the chance to reunite the two properties but we hadn't expected it to happen when it did – and we certainly hadn't budgeted for it!"

The Lodge had been run very successfully by Fiona Mead as a

self-catering holiday home for about six years and so it made a lot of sense for the Bensons to take it on and add it to the offering of holidaying at Balgedie House too.

Curiously, as pantry pavers were recycled to make patios, slate shelving became fire hearths, old corridors reinstated, new doorways knocked though and the Lodge and House were reunited, something else was unearthed too.

"As I talked to people about the House and the Lodge, and spoke of our plans for its future, I loved hearing about all the things that had happened in its past, too.

"David Buchan told me about exploring the gardens as a boy and how the old

gardener had restored vintage cars. A friend told me of how it was the coldest house in Scotland – although I was pleased to tell her we'd totally revamped the heating now! But every story was fascinating and each one felt like it was adding something new to the bricks and mortar of the place!"

So, the seed of an idea grew... Shona decided that with it to be two holiday homes, a place where people will stay and create new memories, she wanted to discover as much as she could about the houses' old memories too.

"I would love to hear from anyone who may have visited the house or lodge, worked in it, lived nearby or who knew people who lived there. Anything, in fact, however small or trivial it might seem! And any old photos would be fantastic!"

With all the information, along with her own research in local libraries and sources, she hopes to collate a book of memories, one that will give everyone who visits a little glimpse into who and what came before.



"By sharing the old memories, I hope it will help people capture the spirit and soul of the house, and they will fall in love with it, just as readily as we did!"

If you have any connection to the house, please contact Shona direct on shona@balgediehouseandlodge.com

Details about Balgedie House and Lodge can be found at balgediehouseandlodge.com or on the Facebook page.

Shona Benson is originally from Fife. Much of Shona's childhood was spent overseas, but she and her sisters were sent to boarding school in St Andrews as their parents were keen to ensure they knew where they were from!



Balgedie House has been adapted for modern living

Perth & Kinross achieves Fairtrade zone status

Perth & Kinross has successfully achieved Fairtrade Zone status, following its ongoing commitment to promoting Fairtrade principles.

The achievement was celebrated at an event at Bells Sports Centre on 11 March, with representatives of the P&K Fairtrade Group, local councillors, and two of Fairtrade Flagship Employers: Live Active Leisure and Highland Spring Group.

Perth & Kinross was awarded the Fairtrade Zone status in recognition of the strong support for Fairtrade within the local authority, and the achievement of five qualifying goals, such as a wide availability of Fairtrade products in local shops and catering outlets, high levels of support from local people, businesses, the council, faith groups and schools.



Celebrating Fairtrade Zone status for Perth & Kinross

Karena Jarvie, chair of the Perth & Kinross Fair Trade Steering Group, said: "The steering group would like to especially thank the 11 Councillors who are our Fairtrade Champions, and our three Fairtrade Flagship Employers for Perth & Kinross: Culture Perth & Kinross, Live Active Leisure and Highland Spring Group. We appreciate their help in promoting Fairtrade Fortnight and encouraging the buying of Fairtrade products such as tea, coffee and sugar. Scotland has just renewed its status as a Fairtrade Nation and now we are the 25th Fairtrade Zone!"

Fairtrade helps small-scale farmers ensure they earn stable incomes and have long-term contracts with companies. In addition, they earn the Fairtrade Premium, which they invest as the farmer-owned co-operative democratically chooses, in projects that will benefit their business or community.

The FAIRTRADE Mark independently certifies that products meet economic, social and environmental standards. As such, it is the most widely recognised ethical mark worldwide.

For more information about the FAIRTRADE Mark and how to apply for Fairtrade status, visit www.fairtrade.org.uk

To get involved in the Fairtrade campaign in Perth & Kinross, go to P&K Fairtrade Zone Group on Facebook, @PKFairtrade on Twitter or email kjarvie@btinternet.com

SEWING ALTERATIONS

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CRY Heart Screenings at campus

The charity Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY) is coming to Loch Leven Community Campus on **Saturday 22 and Sunday 23 April**.

CRY provides heart screenings for young people aged 14-35. Every week in the UK at least twelve young people die of previously undiagnosed heart conditions. Since its formation in 1995, CRY has been working to reduce the frequency of young sudden cardiac death.

Screening involves having an Electrocardiogram (ECG), which looks at the electrical conduction pathways around the heart. Small stickers known as electrodes are placed on the chest and the wires connect to an ECG machine whilst you lie still. A printout of the heart's electrical activity is obtained for evaluation by the cardiologist.

This test is painless, non-invasive and takes only a few minutes to perform. Screening will detect most abnormalities.

Kinross Ladies Circle raised over £8000 to donate to CRY in order to fund these heart tests.

Screening appointments for 22 and 23 April can be booked by visiting www.testmyheart.org.uk. Appointments have been filling up quickly. If you find the screenings are fully booked and would like to be informed of any cancellations, please email agault2205@gmail.com and leave your contact details and any questions.

Further information about CRY can be found at c-r-y.org.uk



Every week in the UK at least 12 apparently **fit and healthy** young people die of undiagnosed heart conditions

Date: **Free heart test**
22nd & 23rd April 2017 For anyone aged 14-35

To book visit www.testmyheart.org.uk
Click on **Book Appointment** and select the location below

Location:
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KY13 8FQ

Please call 020 3691 0000 if you have any queries



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

subscriptions@kinrossnewsletter.org

Councillor Barnacle

Residents will have received their Council Tax Bills for 2017/18 last month and will have noted an increase of 2% set by PKC. I have worked with my Independent colleague, Cllr Cuthbert, in negotiating on the budget



proposals of the various political groups in order to try and get additional resources for the Kinross-shire Ward and we ended up supporting the Administration budget for the reasons outlined in Councillor Cuthbert's column, to which I would add a note of extra money for playparks and footpath/cycle networks of £362,000 in 2017/18 and £325,000 reinstated into the 2018/19 budget to provide primary schools with more flexibility to deliver music and PE in the curriculum. Although £100,000 for roadside footpaths may not seem very much given our long list of requirements (that budget has been frozen since 2009/10 as a consequence of an 'unprecedented' nine year Council Tax freeze), it is nevertheless welcome to have the flexibility now to resource expenditure urgently needed. As noted with your bills, PKC have 'no discretion' in relation to the extra percentage increases on Band E to H properties 'imposed' by the Scottish Government.

Roads Issues

*Copy of an email sent to C Haggart, PKC Roads, 20/3/17
Kinross-shire Ward Members' Meeting on 29/3/17*

I understand Ward Councillors are set to meet with yourself and colleagues at the above to discuss ongoing roads matters and write to outline the main points I wish to raise at that meeting viz:

CONSULTATIONS

As you are aware, a community consultation event was held on 18/2/17 in Crook of Devon regarding LDP2 zoning issues in Fossoway and **A977 mitigation measures** (I enclose the resident's letter, circulated by myself and Councillor Cuthbert). Whilst I understand why the Council's Roads' Department were not ready to consult on the A977 capital programme, Councillor Cuthbert and myself felt it was an opportunity for us to gather community views thereon and I enclose copy of our consultation form. The responses to this are significant and continuing; my secretary has prepared an up-to-date matrix of these and summarised comments, which I shall present at our meeting for your assistance in your future consultations with the community.

The **B9097 Action Plan** was the subject of comment from myself on 21/11/16 and Daryl will also note Brian Glennie's email of 22/2/17 forwarded on 28/2/17. I have been told the 'Action Plan' is not a consultation but a programme to be implemented regardless of community views; this seems an extraordinary position and I seek clarity?

Drum Main Street consultation on proposed weight restriction has received significant response from residents. I understand this must be the 'prohibition of entry' for commercial vehicles referred to in the B9097 Action Plan. From the responses, it is clear that residents, whilst welcoming the proposal, do not feel it goes far enough and will probably not be enforced. I share that view and feel a wider discussion is needed around the further measures suggested, including a 20mph limit put forward for consideration by Fossoway CC?

Waiting restrictions proposed on the approaches to Portmoak Primary School are the subject of comment from residents and I note the objections thereto. This was discussed at the March meeting of Portmoak CC and Councillor Robertson suggested consideration of a 'pilot' scheme, as exists around Arngask Primary School, to prohibit all but essential service vehicles and local residents from school approaches at school opening/closing times; it was also suggested that we should review the operation of the one-way system?

Pedestrian Safety in Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell was the subject of an assessment presented to Ward members on 29/9/16 and discussed at a packed meeting of residents at Portmoak CC on 11/10/16, from which I sent to Brian and Daryl a summary of my notes, in particular support for substantial village gateway entrances and 20mph limits. What is happening regarding this?

NOTES

Please note my email of 22/2/17 to Daryl suggesting that the 30 mph limit on Naemoor Road between Crook of Devon and Rumbling Ridge should be extended at its eastern and western ends; can you advise when you can assess this?

You should note my email to Brian of 10/3/17 supporting the proposed Green Route through Milnathort and Glenfarg CC areas and further notes thereon regarding the inappropriate use of the Dryside Road near Glenlmond by commercial vehicles to and from Fife, also the request for the blue signs for Findatie Car Park to include reference to café facilities.

THANKS

I note imminent improvements scheduled for the Kinross High Street Regeneration Scheme, in particular the re-installation of a Puffin Crossing and relocation of 20 mph signs programmed for 10/4/17 on a 3-week timescale. I note I requested same on 20/1/16 and fail to understand why the facility was removed in the first place.

I note the E & I Committee agreement of 8/3/17 to extend the 40 mph limit west of Pittendreich and Channel Farm on the A911 with countdown markers west of the Old Mill.

Kind regards, Councillor Mike Barnacle

Independent Member for Kinross-shire

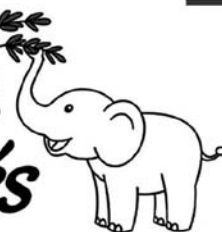
PS I look forward to further discussions at our meeting.

Planning Matters

The Community Consultation Event on the 18/2/17 called by myself and Cllr Cuthbert in relation to development proposals for zoning in LDP2 in Fossoway at Blairingone, Crook of Devon and Rumbling Bridge was very well attended and we are hugely encouraged by that. Forward Planning are collating responses, which should be available by the end of March. Fossoway CC is proposing to hold a further 'special' meeting on this matter on 18 April at Fossoway Primary School since they have still to decide their position on whether or not any of these proposals should be included in LDP2 for further consultation in Autumn 2017. I would encourage residents to attend this meeting, especially those who couldn't attend the event on 18/2/17, to give your views to the Community Council and Local Members present. There will also be a further opportunity to comment on priorities for the A977 capital programme using our consultation form (see email to Chic Haggart of 20/3/17).

Continues over page

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Councillor Barnacle continued...

I note Kinross-shire Civic Trust's letter to PKC of 3/2/17 complaining about PKC Planning Department's interpretation of our Local Plan as being 'indicative', whatever that means, when it comes to housing numbers quoted for sites. I agree with the Trust and also Cllr Cuthbert in his column that Local Plan numbers should be adhered to and only minor percentage changes allowed (certainly not the increases he highlights as examples of bad planning practice), for reasons stated.

A Proposal for a Holiday Park and Visitor Centre between Burleigh Castle and Sands is the subject of public consultation on Saturday 1 April at Loch Leven Community Campus between 10am and 2pm. This is a 'major' application for the area and was discussed at a surprisingly packed meeting of Milnathort CC on 9/3/17. I got the impression that a clear majority of folk were opposed to this proposal but people were encouraged to find out more at the public consultation and provide feedback to their Community Councils and Local Members. I am on record as advocating the concept of a Visitor Centre at the Pier area in Kinross, although I realise access difficulties may preclude this. I also quite like Burleigh Sands as it is at present and am therefore cautious about development proposals around here.

Finally, at time of writing, Fife Council is still consulting on the Westfield Biomass Plant proposals but confirmed receipt of an objection from PKC, principally in relation to projected lorry movements on the B9097 and C50 approaches. It is possible this decision could be made at Scottish Government level.

Councillor Mike Barnacle
Independent Member for Kinross-shire

Councillor Cuthbert

Perth and Kinross Council Budget

In last month's Newsletter, I mentioned that I had been working on the Independent Group Budget and that I had been trying to work with other political parties to get the things we wanted into the Council's final budget. I can now report how this went (a wee insider's view).

Over the two months prior to the budget meeting, the Independent Group went through all the paperwork and identified several areas where we wanted additional spending in the next couple of years.

I was then tasked by the Independent Group of Councillors to approach all the opposition parties to see if they wanted to work with us. In the first instance, the Labour and Liberal Democrat Groups agreed to work with us and we shared our budgets. The Tory Group decided that they wanted to do their own budget. Unfortunately, the Labour Group then pulled out and decided to do their own budget, which we respected. So, in the end I approached the Leader of the Administration (SNP) and presented a wish list which combined the ideas of the Liberal Democrat and Independent Groups. The discussions with the Leader of the Administration were more productive than I could have hoped and resulted in many of our ideas being incorporated into the final budget. There are too many items here to list them all, so I will only mention the more significant ones.

The first area which both the Liberal Democrats and the Independents were very keen to see receive additional funding relates to the Road Safety Team at the Council.

Your local Councillors maintain a list of road and pavement improvements requested for the ward since 2012. This list has 52 items outstanding, including some from 2012. The delays in the delivery of these improvements relates to a lack of resources in the Road Safety team, hence the desire to increase their budget. Included in the budget was the following: Rejection of a £34k saving on Traffic and Network and £1.621m non-recurring additional expenditure in 2017/18 for Road Safety/Traffic & Network/Vehicle Activated Signs... Success!

The next area we were keen to see additional expenditure was for new pavements in the Capital Budget. Interestingly this came up at Milnathort and Kinross Community Councils at their March meetings where new footpaths were identified as being needed in Gairney Bank and in Milnathort. Happily, £100k was added to the Capital Budget for this.

The final one I will mention relates to Action Partnerships. I am very keen to get more decision making into the rural areas of Perth and Kinross. PKC has a habit of being Perthcentric, which I find hugely frustrating! I believe Action Partnerships have the potential to do this.

The budget previously had £50k for Action Partnerships and we managed to get this increased to £250k... Success!

Action Partnerships

The £250k will be split between the five Perth and Kinross Action Partnership areas and will then be split by wards, so Kinross-shire will hopefully receive £25,000 to spend in the ward over the 2017/18 financial year. The decisions on how it will be spent will be taken locally. A good thing, in my view!



Continues over page

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taylor philbin	friday 9am - 6pm
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Councillor Cuthbert continued...

Public Transport Member Officer Working Group

One of the biggest inequality issues being picked up by almost all of the Action Partnerships is the lack of provision of Public Transport in rural wards.

Constituents regularly contact me about this, and it is a real problem in Kinross-shire.

On top of this, the cost of Council bus services is set to increase dramatically over the near future, with projections of school transport costs going up by £548,000 and tendered services (subsidised buses) going up by £230,000 in 2018/19. As a result, a member officer working group of which I am a member is looking at the service provided and is looking for innovative ways to deliver it going forward. I will update you on this, should I be re-elected in May.

Heritage Trail

The Heritage Trail continues to offer a fantastic facility both to residents of the area and to visitors. I have been raising this in Perth as I don't think officers are aware of the economic benefits that the trail is bringing to the area. We have seen the growth of a number of businesses focussing on this developing tourist trade, with farm shops, cafés and restaurants developing near to it (Loch Leven's Larder, Findatie, Vane Farm, Loch End Farm, Heaven Scent, the Boathouse, the Court House, Reminisce etc). I am trying to get through to the officers about this, as I would like them to actively promote Kinross-shire as a destination.

Commercial Tourism Development at Burleigh Sands, Milnathort - Planning application No 17/00002/PAN

Interestingly, a pre-application notification has been received by the Council for a major new tourist development, just off the Heritage Trail at Burleigh Sands. I will not comment on it here as I may need to sit on the planning committee considering it. However, I attended a meeting of Milnathort CC and the issues were thoroughly aired by the 130+ people who attended (it was standing room only). There were strong opinions both for and against the development.

Business Rates

One of the recent issues I have been involved with relates to business rates on commercial properties, some of which are on the Heritage Trail. Due to a revaluation of their rateable value and a change in the rate charged, some have seen a huge increase in the rates they are being charged.

Business rates are set by the Scottish Government; the valuations are done by a body set up by them. The money goes to them and is then re-allocated by them. However, the Council has the statutory duty to collect them. So, we get the flak! There is provision for the Council to reduce business rates, however, this has to be funded out of the Council's own money and given that services are continuing to be cut, this is a difficult issue to address.

Kinross Town Centre Regeneration

I was pleased to hear that work on the puffin crossing is due to start in April. This should help address one of the issues caused by the creation of the shared space in Kinross. There are others and your local members continue to pursue these with officers. Hopefully the additional money in the Council's budget will speed these up. I remain of the opinion that we were right to have this work done, as it has addressed issues of narrow pavements and the tired state that the High Street was in. However, I have been hugely disappointed that the

promised tweaking has taken so long and has required a lot of pressure from local members to get into place.

Local Development Plan 2 and A977 mitigation measures

Cllr Barnacle and I circulated a leaflet to the residents of the Fossoway area, inviting them to attend a meeting to get their feedback on several new proposed developments which had been put forward for inclusion in the next Local Development Plan and to prioritise the mitigation measures on the A977, to be paid for from a budget we managed to get included in the Council's Capital Budget last year. The attendance was very impressive. (I almost lost my voice during the day.) I am a great believer in listening to communities and I know the officers who attended on the day were impressed by the detailed knowledge of those who attended.

Overdevelopment of housing sites

The Local Development Plan contains housing sites identified as being acceptable to the Council. For each site the plan has recommendations on the number of houses to be built. However, we are repeatedly seeing the recommended number being exceeded, so, for example, the former Kinross High School site will have 91 units on it compared to the recommended number of 70 (+30%). Lathro Farm is to have 300 units against a recommended 260 (+15%). An application at Pace Hill in Milnathort was received for 80 units. This was withdrawn, but is expected to reappear at some point. This site is recommended to have 50 units on it (+60%). When we have challenged this, officers always say that the recommended number in the Local Development Plan is an indicative number only. My view is that more weight should be given to the number of units recommended in the Local Development Plan or we are in danger of making a mockery of it. The number of houses contained in the plan is derived from anticipated needs and cumulatively should equal the needs for the area. If every site exceeds the recommended number, we have more houses in the plan than necessary. In addition, the developers are not being asked to contribute to the infrastructure in the area apart from a contribution to the provision of local schools. Given the financial straits the Council is in, getting funding for road and pavement improvements, additional car parking and other infrastructure projects has been extremely difficult. Happily, we got some money into the Council's budget for the coming year, however there needs to be a long-term solution to this or we are in danger of adding loads of new houses without the infrastructure to deal with the additional cars and people.

Councillor Dave Cuthbert
Independent Councillor for Kinross-shire

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Loch Leven Community Library

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

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

The Fairy in the Kettle with Pauline Tait

Friday 7 April, 10.45-11.45am

Perfect for pre-school and primary school children. *The Fairy in the Kettle* takes you on a magical journey to the heart of Bramble Glen where you will meet Leona and her friends.

Find some fairies in the library and enjoy some fairy crafts after the reading.

Event is suitable for children aged 4-8 years. To reserve your space, please contact the library by telephone or email. (See header)

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 2.30pm-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 13 April**, 2pm-4pm. Free session, but booking **essential**.

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.

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



Discover Loch Leven Website

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

'Serving a Change in Scotland'

Police Scotland are pleased to introduce their Draft Ten Year Strategy for Policing in Scotland and seek the views of members of the public as part of their consultation.

Comments will assist in informing the final strategy, due for publication in June 2017.

The Strategy can be found online at:

consult.scotland.police.uk/consultation/2026

The consultation will close at 12 noon on 8 May 2017.

BeWitched at the Tullibole Trail

Tullibole Castle will be hosting "BeWitched at the Tullibole Trail", a three-day event just before Halloween, when those attending will have an opportunity to dress up in their scariest costumes and try the real Witches Maze. Other strange things are promised.

The owners of Tullibole hope to have some Scottish *Draconem* (na h-Alba) from the island eilean teine in as close to their natural habitat as possible to watch.

Kinross & District Rotary Club will be assisting with the events, to raise funds for their causes.

BeWitched takes place over the weekend 27-29 October. More information is on the Facebook page BeWitched Tullibole Trail.

Vandalism at The Sycamores

Between 19 January and 16 February there have been numerous thefts/vandalisms of brass letters from The Sycamores, 16 Muirs, Kinross.

If anyone has information in relation to this, please phone Police Scotland on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 quoting CR/4756/17.

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Stop Notice put on Persimmon

Persimmon have been issued with a temporary Stop Notice after the housebuilder started groundworks at Lathro Farm without planning permission.



Persimmon "now selling" at Lathro Meadows, even though planning permission has not yet been granted (as at 20 March)

Persimmon's application to build 300 houses at Lathro Farm was approved by PKC's Development Management Committee on 14 September 2016, but committee approval was subject to numerous conditions. "Suspensive conditions" have to be satisfied before permission is granted and a Decision Notice issued.

A resident at Lathro Park alerted council planners in mid March to the unauthorised activity. He described dumper trucks and JCBs at work in

the field between the established Lathro Park housing estate and Lathro Farmhouse. Contractors working for Persimmon appeared to be moving soil from an access being excavated from the A922 into the site and creating piles of soil behind some of the houses in Lathro Park.

A council spokesperson said, "We have been made aware of the issue and a temporary stop notice has been served."

By 20 March Persimmon had already started offering houses for sale at the Lathro Farm site, which they are marketing as 'Lathro Meadows'.



*Groundworks undertaken without planning consent.
Photo taken from the A922 looking west towards Lathro Farmhouse.*

Get Sage in Kinross

Kinross Learning Centre (Swansacre, Kinross) has added another course to its range of spring classes.

A ten-week course in **Sage Accounting** will start on Monday 24 April. The classes will run from 6.30pm until 9pm. The course costs £75.

For a list of the many other classes beginning in April, including languages, IT, art, craft and general interest, see page 20 of the March 2017 issue of the Newsletter. Alternatively, contact Maureen Ross at the Learning Centre by telephone on 01577 863863 or email pc.kinross.perth@uhi.ac.uk

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News from the Health Centre



April is Bowel Cancer Awareness Month

Bowel cancer is the UK's second biggest cancer killer but it is treatable and curable especially if diagnosed early.

The Scottish Bowel Cancer Screening programme aims to detect bowel cancer at an early stage when there are potentially more treatment options and a better chance of treatment being effective. People between the ages of 50 and 74 are invited for screening every 2 years, but only about half of those sent a testing kit actually complete and return it. The home screening test is the best way to find bowel cancer early. The screening test can spot hidden blood which can often be a sign of bowel cancer – blood you and your doctor wouldn't even know was there.

We would like to encourage everyone who is sent the home screening test to complete it. We know it is all a bit embarrassing, but it is well worth just getting on and doing it. It can be completed at home in privacy and then popped in the post. This is perfectly safe and it is free to post the test to the Scottish Bowel Screening Centre laboratory.

If you would like more information, there are lots of leaflets in the Health Centre and you can ask your GP or nurse for advice. Information can also be found on the following websites:

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/healthy-living/screening/bowel-screening/introduction-to-bowel-screening>

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/healthy-living/screening/bowel-screening/request-a-bowel-screening-test-kit>

<https://www.bowelcanceruk.org.uk/about-us/bowel-cancer-awareness-month/>

There is also a Freephone Patient Helpline Number for Bowel Screening : 0800 0121 833.

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Holiday Park at Burleigh – chance to see plans on 1 April

There was standing room only in Milnathort Town Hall at the March meeting of Milnathort CC, with over 120 residents attending out of concern for a proposal to develop a holiday park on land at Burleigh Sands.

A 'Proposal of Application' notice had been issued by planning consultants Rapleys on behalf of the Kinross Estate Company and D King Properties (Scotland) Ltd. The Proposal of Application gave very little detail, but it was announced at the meeting that the proposal is for approximately 80 holiday chalets, an activity area, a café and enlarged car park. The site of the proposed development stretches from the Burleigh Road near Burleigh Castle down to the field adjacent to the Heritage Trail, just west of the Burleigh Sands car park.

An application for planning permission has not been made yet. The Proposal of Application allows the developers to gather opinion and further shape their proposal before making a formal planning application.

Two **publication consultations** at the community campus regarding the proposals were advertised in the March issue of the Kinross Newsletter. One will have taken place while this Newsletter is at press (on Wednesday 29 March) and the other takes place on **Saturday 1 April**, 10am-2pm.

See also Milnathort CC, page 33.

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, April 1917

9 April	Peter Mackenzie
13 April	Joseph Hutton
14 April	William Coventry
14 April	Andrew Matson
17 April	David Bissett
23 April	James Anderson
23 April	George Boyter
23 April	David Brunton
23 April	James Cairns
23 April	Duncan M Harkness
23 April	John O'Hara
24 April	George A Imrie

First World War Timeline 1917

6 April	USA declares war on Germany
9 April	Arras offensive begins with the first Battle of the Scarpe
9-20 April	Second Battle of Aisne and Third Battle of Champagne
29 April – 20 May	Mutiny breaks out in French Army

Looking for a Job?

Check the situations vacant page at

www.kinross.cc

Police Box



Road Traffic Issues

Speeding: There have been several complaints regarding speeding vehicles in the Springfield Road and Gairney Bank areas of Kinross. Please remember to stick to the speed limit as we will be carrying out regular speed checks along with RPU officers. Motorists stopped for speeding will receive a £100 fine and 3 points on their licence.

Mobile phones: As most drivers will now be aware, from 1 March the penalty for using a mobile phone whilst driving has increased to 6 points and £200 fine. Please DO NOT USE your mobile phone when driving.

Swansacre: There are complaints again regarding local motorists using Swansacre in Kinross as a "rat run" with vehicles taking a short cut to avoid the High Street. Again, failing to obey a one-way sign is another 3 points and £100 fine. Checks have been carried out this month with several drivers warned and repeat offenders giving tickets.

Hare Coursing

Whilst carrying out a routine speed check at Gairney Bank, Kinross officers from the RPU came across a vehicle that failed to stop for Police when stopped for a speeding offence, with the occupants making off. On inspection of the recovered vehicle, it was apparent that the males were involved in hare coursing.

Hare Coursing is an offence covered by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended by the Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2011.

The relevant sections of the Act are Section 10A - Intentionally or recklessly kill, injure or take an animal in Schedule 5A (brown or mountain hare) in the close season; or Section 11G - Intentionally or recklessly kill, injure or take an animal in Schedule 6A (brown or mountain hare or rabbit). An attempt to commit these offences is also an offence (Section 18(1)).

Close seasons:	Brown Hare	1 Feb to 30 Sep
	Mountain Hare	1 Mar to 31 Jul

To prove the primary offences, the evidence of only a single witness is required, however attempts to kill, injure or take still require corroboration. In reality it is always preferable to have corroboration.

Section 18(2) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended, makes it an offence to be in possession of anything capable of being used to commit an offence against the Act. It may be that the possession of dogs under circumstances pointing to their use for Coursing at a locus will be held to be a contravention of Section 18(2). Corroboration is required for this Section.

The main offences are:

1. Intentionally or recklessly kill, injure or take an animal in Schedule 5A (brown or mountain hare) in the close season (Charge code WILD19810010A100);
2. Intentionally or recklessly kill, injure or take an animal in schedule 6A (brown or mountain hare or rabbit) (WILD19810011G100);
3. Attempt to commit relevant offence (WILD198100180100);
4. Possession of anything capable of being used to commit offence against the Act (WILD198100180200).

Hare coursing occurs all year round, however peaks of activity tend to be in the spring and autumn when the fields are bare and daylight extends into the evening. Historically weekends and evenings have been the times of day when coursing is likely to take place. Lamping has on occasion occurred. Arable and relatively flat farmland is generally favoured.

Persons involved in coursing are often (but not exclusively) members of the travelling community, or have links to them. The dogs used to course hares are predominantly Greyhounds or Lurchers.

If you see person(s) on farmland in the Kinross-shire area who appear to be involved in this activity, please call 101.

Bogus Callers

There was a recent crime in the Cameron Avenue area of Kinross whereby person(s) have "cold called" on the elderly resident and offered to carry out roofing work and charged the complainer an inflated amount for work that did not need to be done.

If you see person(s) or a vehicle going door to door offering to carry out work on properties, please note any vehicle registrations etc and call 101.

Rural Watch Schemes

Watch Schemes work well as a crime prevention and detection tool but are also extremely valuable in terms of enabling local communities to share information, allows agencies to send out relevant crime alerts, and empowers local communities to be more resilient. Please consider joining your local Rural / Farm Watch scheme and help us keep our rural communities a safe place to live and work. For further information please contact 01786 463732 or info@neighbourhoodwatchscotland.co.uk



Police Scotland – local community

Telephone 101 for non-emergencies

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

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

Community officers for Kinross-shire: **PC Atholl Spalding and PC Douglas Stapleton.**

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

Ways of following the Police:

Twitter: @KinrossPc or twitter.com/policescotland

Facebook: www.facebook.com/PoliceScotland

Website: www.scotland.police.uk

Community Watch

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

Crime Stoppers – Telephone 0800 555 111

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

Community Council News



The Community Council News is based on draft minutes of local CC meetings. Full draft minutes are posted on local websites and notice boards. Please note, the Community Council News is not a verbatim reproduction of CC minutes. Where there are two months' worth of reports, there will be a considerable amount of editing.

Kinross Community Council News from the March Meeting

Present at the meeting held on 1 March 2017 were: Cllrs B Freeman (Chair), E Thomas (Secretary), M Blyth, J Bryson, D Colliar, B Davies, I Jack and D West; P&K Cllrs M Barnacle, D Cuthbert and W Robertson. No members of the public.

Apologies were received from: Cllrs M Scott, D MacKenzie and T Stewart; and from P&K Cllr Giacopazzi.

Declarations of Interest: None.

Police Report: No police present and no report submitted.

Queen's Tree: CC members should think about wording for the plaque. Suggestions could be circulated by email before the next meeting. Cllr Cuthbert has mentioned the tree to the Lord Lieutenant of Perth & Kinross. It might be possible for a member of the royal family to be present for an official ceremony.

Defibrillator/Telephone Kiosk: Cllr Davies reported. The CC expects to hear from BT regarding the CC's wish to take over the kiosk. Cllr Davies has met with Mrs Hunter. Apparently there are seven defibrillators in Kinross, but none is registered with the ambulance authority. The ambulance authority provided information regarding maintenance costs etc. Hunters of Kinross customers have raised £500 so far.

Toilets at Pier: Cllr Robertson reported that George Lawrie of TRACKS is looking into costs.

Street Naming: Cllr Cuthbert confirmed that it is supposed to be local councillors who name streets, and in Kinross local councillors normally consult the CC. PKC officers would like the Kinross-shire councillors to provide a bank of names for future use. It was agreed this is inappropriate, as names should be chosen with the specific location in mind. For example, names of former headteachers would be appropriate for the former High School site.

Bus Stop Information: Andrew Warrington, PKC's Public Transport Manager, responded. It would appear that a member of the public broke into one of the timetable cases and redistributed the information, including sticking one information board with tape on the outside of the 'new' shelter. This action is highly regrettable and has caused unnecessary confusion. Information boards should not be tampered with and if anyone spots an error they should contact the Council's Public Transport Unit (PTU) in the first instance. PTU has now put out new information boards at both bus stops.

The bus stop opposite the park & ride is a second-hand one and although a base real time unit is installed, PKC does not intend to provide an electric connection to allow this unit to function, or to provide a real time unit in the main Park & Ride shelter. This is because of budgeting constraints. Information for most local bus services can be obtained via Traveline Scotland on the internet and mobile phone apps.

Cllr Colliar would like to consult with PTU to find out what it would cost to enable real time units. This was agreed.

Cllr Robertson has tried to press for real time information to be displayed. One problem is that Stagecoach buses are tracked but Citilink buses are not.

The problem of poor bus service from Edinburgh was discussed. Kinross is now served by fewer express bus services than before. Cllr Barnacle wrote to MSPs after the reduction in service. He believes all Park & Ride facilities should be served as a condition of the bus contract. Cllr Robertson said the Minister appears to have washed his hands of the problem.

Cllr Cuthbert said that there are now two new request bus stops at the south end of the town.

New Planning Applications

17/00202/FLL Alterations to dwelling house, 4 Kirkland Court, Kinross. No CC comment.

17/00166/FLL Extension to dwelling house and installation of rooflights, 11 Talla Park. No CC comment.

17/00005/FLL Erection of a dwelling house, land 20m W of Gellybank Farm. No CC comment.

17/00299/FLL Extension to dwelling house, 14 Gallowhill Gardens. No CC comment.

17/00201/FLL Erection of garage and ancillary accommodation, 103 Lathro Park. No CC comment.

17/00069/FLL Erection of 2 dwelling houses, land to the north of Kellieside. No CC comment.

17/00320/FLL Erection of a dwelling house and 2no garages, land 50m W of Easter Cockairney Farm. No CC comment.

17/00096/FLL Change of use of shop (class 1) to café (class 3) and installation of flue, 129 High Street. Agreed to send comment of support.

Planning Applications Determined by PKC

16/002247/FLL Alt and ext to dwelling house, Craigwell, Milnathort, Kinross. Approved.

16/02132/FLL Erection of a dwelling house and 2no garages, land 50m W of Easter Cockairney Farm. Application withdrawn.

15/02158/FLL Erection of 2 houses, former warehouse, Pier Road, Kinross. Approved.

Proposal of Application Notice: Erection of holiday park, visitor centre (café and restaurant) and recreational infrastructure, land at Burleigh Sands. Mailing received from Rapleys (planning consultants) on behalf of Kinross Estate Company and D King Properties (Scotland) Ltd. There will be public consultation events on 29 March and 1 April. In a letter on PKC's planning portal, Rapleys say that they will present the plans at public meetings of Milnathort CC, Kinross CC and Portmoak CC, but no one has been in touch. Ref on portal: 17/00002/PAN. It was suggested that one joint meeting to present plans might be better than separate ones. It was agreed that the secretary should contact all local CCs to see if they would be interested and also Rapleys. In the meantime, all are encouraged to attend the public events at the campus on 29 March or 1 April.

Appeal: Cllr Barnacle mentioned that application 16/01738/FLL (partial change of use from garden ground to form car sales area in retrospect, Orchard House, Old Cleish Road), which was refused, is going to appeal.

Former High School: Cllr Thomas asked the ward councillors if the plan to convert the Edwardian building to four dwellings has changed. It has not changed, to their knowledge.

Numbers in LDP: Cllr Barnacle referred to some statements made by PKC that numbers of dwellings for sites in the LDP

may be varied because there is flexibility for density to be increased depending on location, e.g. town centres are suited to higher density. He raised the point that surely site locations have already been taken into account by the reporter when examining the plan and therefore the numbers are already at a suitable density for the site.

Scottish Government Consultation: Members should look at the consultation and email other community councillors with any comments by 24 March.

Community Website, kinross.cc: Cllr Cuthbert explained that the Kinross-shire Partnership (KP) is no longer receiving funding from PKC, although KP is looking for other sources. KP is joint owner of the website along with Kinross CC, although KP has always had the principal role in administering the website. The possibility of the CC taking full responsibility for the website was raised. It was agreed that a representative of KP should be invited to the next CC meeting to discuss what is involved.

Town Centre Regeneration: Response received from Willie Young of PKC regarding measures to be taken on the High Street. These are: (1) Puffin crossing outside Co-op. (2) Move 20mph signs outside Co-op to High Street north of the mini roundabout and introduce them on Station Road on the approach to the mini roundabout. (3) Additional bollards outside the Salutation Hotel. (4) Reflectors on existing stone bollards. (5) Possible Puffin crossing at south end of regenerated area. (Location of bus stop and parking is making this difficult logistically.) Measures suggested by Kinross CC in its letter of 3/10/16 that do not appear to be taken forward are: Bringing back the stop line at the Give-Take by a short distance; Reintroducing Give Way indication at Burns Begg Street junction with High Street; Speed reduction measures; Return of some on-street parking spaces; Signage to indicate shared space at start and end of regenerated section of High Street.

A suggestion was made at the meeting that it might be appropriate to extend the 20mph area, i.e. to have it begin at the Kinross Business Centre on High Street and on Station Road at its junction with Swansacre. This was agreed. Secretary to write to PKC. The Secretary should also stress that the CC is keen to see the additional Puffin crossing at the south end of the regenerated area.

Cllr Bryson referred to an issue Cllr Cuthbert had raised with PKC officers about the number of vehicles passing through the High Street. The recommended maximum number for a street receiving "shared space" treatment is 100 per hour. Cllr Cuthbert said there are around 400 vehicles per hour in

Kinross at peak times. Cllr Jack suggested that Cllr Cuthbert obtain traffic figures for shared spaces in other towns for comparison.

New Primary School: Cllr Cuthbert reported. The Parent Council is pleased with progress. There won't be a fete this summer. The new building is on schedule for entry in December. Cllr Cuthbert had received comment from a parent concerned that there is no additional support need area. He had also received comment from a neighbour who has requested a change to the landscaping.

Action Partnership: Bids for project grants up to £1,500 are invited. Projects are supposed to tackle inequality and social deprivation. The CC is not keen on the method of choosing winning projects, i.e. by public vote at a farmers' market. The CC agreed to submit a bid that proposes subsidised use of the synthetic pitches at the campus for children during school holidays. This currently costs £2 per child. Cllr Bryson will draft the application.

Miscellaneous Correspondence. A summary of all mail was circulated before this meeting. Some items mentioned at the meeting were:

Dog mess: Email from Blairgowrie and Rattray CC with suggestion regarding action on dog mess. They've asked their local Tesco store to put a poster near the dog food, reminding owners to obtain poo bags. They're asking all CCs to mention this to their local supermarkets. Cllr Davies said that when helping with a TRACKS survey, 90% of comments were complaints about dog fouling. It was agreed that the secretary should write to Sainsbury's and the Co-op.

Winter service. Usual request from PKC re performance. Responses required by 21/4/17. It was agreed that the secretary should write with the following comments: More plant is required to be based in Kinross rather than Perth; Snowploughs returning from clearing major roads should clear any minor roads they are travelling on when returning to base; Recently drivers were advised to use the B912 during roadworks, but the B912 was very icy; Request for comments is premature again (weather conditions can be poor into April).

Castle Huntly: Community Projects Team officers at Castle Huntly are looking to form links with CCs. It was agreed to suggest two projects: (1) picking up dog mess bags on Heritage Trail and (2) clearing out the burn that runs through Sunnypark Wood. The latter will require a letter to the owner first to request permission.

TRACKS are preparing a bid to Sustrans for funding for proposed phase 2 of Kinross to Crook of Devon route and would like a letter of support. Agreed.

Reports from Ward Councillors

PKC Budget: Cllr Cuthbert gave a brief update on the budget process at the Council. He explained that the Independent Group had worked with the Labour and Liberal Democrat Groups and had negotiated the inclusion of a number of items in both the Council's Revenue Budget and Capital Budget. These had included: £250,000 for Action Partnerships, which would mean that the Kinross-shire part of the Action Partnership would have £25,000 available to spend locally in the next financial year; £1,621,000 for road safety improvements, including vehicle activated signs, road crossings, new speed limits and road and pavement upgrades (this was a key objective of both the Liberal Democrat and the Independent groups); £100,000 of capital for new

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pavements. This budget was completely used up, thereby preventing new pavements being built. (See reference to Gairney Bank in 'Speeding' below).

TRACKS: Cllr Barnacle has written in support of the phase 2 Kinross to Crook of Devon route. (See above.)

Turfhills to Balado: Cllr Barnacle reported that the consultation event at Fossoy on 18 Feb had given rise to a suggestion that there should be a reduced speed limit on the A977 from Turfhill to west of Balado crossroads. This could be 50mph or 40mph rather than the current 60mph. The CC agreed to support this. The secretary is to write to Chic Haggart.

Speeding: Cllr Robertson has received complaints from residents regarding speeding on Springfield Road in Kinross and the main road south of Kinross at Gairney Bank. There is no pavement at Gairney Bank, making it dangerous for residents walking to the bus stop at Hatchbank Road. It was agreed that the secretary should write to PKC in support of the residents' request for a pavement at Gairney Bank.

Secretarial Workload

Cllr Davies suggested employing a minute secretary from outwith the CC to help reduce Cllr Thomas's workload but the treasurer stated that the grant is insufficient to cover this. Cllr Thomas is willing to continue taking minutes if the letter-writing duties are shared out more. This was agreed. The treasurer summarised the regular outgoings. The army cadets still owe the CC money for a poppy wreath. Running a community website is a legitimate expense in PKC's grants guidelines for CCs and this CC should ensure that our full annual grant is spent by paying for some of the CC's share of the kinross.cc website costs from the CC grant rather than wholly from Newsletter profits. The secretary is to write to the Kinross-shire Partnership to check payment arrangements.

Rural Broadband: Cllr Jack said this is still very slow. Cllr Barnacle has contacts with BT Openreach and offered to pass these on.

Driver warning: Cllr West related that someone recently faced a £100 fine for driving without having properly cleared windows.

Attendance: Members of the CC need to think of ways of encouraging the public to attend the CC meetings.

Hustings: It was suggested that Kinross CC could hold an election hustings, as Portmoak CC are doing. This was not agreed. Cllr West might look into organising a hustings without CC involvement.

Sainsbury's: A car was damaged recently on a post at the parent and child parking area at Sainsbury's. A one-way system in that section may have helped to avoid the

incident. Cllr Davies had recently circulated a photo to the CC of the overflowing bottle banks at Sainsbury's. This is the responsibility of Sainsbury's, not the Council. Cllr Robertson will write to Sainsbury's regarding bottle uplift and to offer the one-way suggestion.

Campus: Cllr Davies expressed regret that the post for managing and generating events at the campus had been removed, despite council officers saying it wasn't part of the recent review. One person has been appointed to cover events in four campuses, with other campus staff also trained to help. It was agreed that the CC should write to Greg Boland to express concern about the loss of the post and the marketing of the campus venue and to ask for monitoring statistics. Cllrs Bryson and Davies will write. Cllr Cuthbert said that the campus management group should include councillors in future.

Councillor initiatives: Cllr Barnacle mentioned that he had tried to set up a Fossoy sport hub and wanted to do a survey but had nothing but obstacles put in his way by officers and Live Active Leisure. Cllr Robertson agreed that only initiatives coming from officers seem to be taken forward.

The Next Meeting of Kinross CC will take place on Wednesday 5 April 2017 at 7.30pm in the Masonic Hall, Muirs, Kinross.

Draft Agenda for the Meeting on 5 April

1. Apologies
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Minutes of Meeting of 1 March
4. Police Report
5. kinross.cc Website
6. Matters Arising from Minutes of 1 March
7. Planning Matters
8. Kinross Town Centre Regeneration
9. Signs at Roundabouts
10. New Primary School
11. Miscellaneous Correspondence
12. Reports from Perth & Kinross Councillors
13. Any Other Competent Business
14. Date of Next Meeting (3 May – also AGM)

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

Kinross CC minutes and agendas are posted online at:

www.kinross.cc/cc.htm

You can also follow Kinross CC on Facebook at:

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Milnathort Community Council News from the March Meeting

In attendance at the meeting held on Thursday 9 March 2017 were: CCLrs K Heneghan, E Kirkham, C Lawson, C Williams, S Young, M Leach and S McHardy; P&K Cllrs W Robertson, D Cuthbert, and M Barnacle and approximately 120 members of the public.

Burleigh Sands PAN (17/00002/PAN)

As it was felt the majority of attendees were primarily interested in the "Proposal: Erection of Holiday Park, Visitor Centre (Ancillary Café/Restaurant with Commercial Space), with Supporting Recreational Infrastructure at Land at Burleigh Sands, Milnathort" the CC decided to take queries and opinions from the floor on this matter first.

There were a number of questions from members of public in attendance. These included queries about the developers, the national nature reserve boundary, the status of an Environmental Impact Assessment and the impact of the proposed plan on the wildlife in the area. There were also queries regarding the rights of way in the area and the status of Loch Leven as a Site of Special Scientific Interest. Comments from the floor also included opinions that the development may bring local employment and tourists to the area. A member of the public encouraged people to visit the website www.naturallochleven.space

Cllr Robertson encouraged everyone to attend the public exhibition at the campus on 29 and 1 April.

Apologies sent from CCLr Cartwright and P&K Cllr Giacopazzi.

Police Matters: No police in attendance.

Kinross Colts pavilion at park in Milnathort. Development Management Committee decision will be made on 15 March. Matthew Leach advised that the issues he raised about the poor state of **tarmac** at Donaldson Park (South Street), the top of North Street and Victoria Avenue have been registered with PKC and that he will be kept informed of any planned remedial works once these areas have been surveyed. In response a member of the public asked that Linden Park Road also be assessed as the road condition was causing concern.

Richmond Homes has gone into liquidation and Websters have taken over contract at **Wester Loan** site. Site has been tidied and hardcore laid down.

Green bins can indeed be brought to the recycling centre. This was clarified by a member of staff at Kinross Recycling Centre.

Trustees of the land pertaining to the football pavilion have been asked to put the matter on hold pending clarification of

the lease. Cllr Robertson stated that the solicitor dealing with this is still working on it. Willie felt that having two members of MCC as trustees would not pose a problem. He further confirmed that no alcohol would be able to be consumed in the pavilion.

PKC Councillor surgeries: Cllrs Robertson and Cuthbert both stated that they felt this was a waste of time as when surgeries were held in the past, nobody turned up.

In response to a question from the floor, Cllr Robertson reported that **renewal of windows and doors** in council houses in Milnathort was not presently in the Council's budget.

20mph limit in village: views will be sought from the public.

Containers at Websters: Containers are still there, update from Joe Giacopazzi awaited.

Planning Applications Submitted

17/00069/FLL Erection of 2no. Dwelling houses at land to the north of Kellieside, Milnathort.

17/00252/IPL Residential development (in principle) at land 40m N of 1 Netherhall Steadings, Milnathort.

Proposal: 17/00002/PAN: Erection of Holiday Park, Visitor Centre (Ancillary Café/Restaurant with Commercial Space), with Supporting Recreational Infrastructure. Land at Burleigh Sands, Milnathort.

Planning Applications Determined

17/00010/FLL Alterations and extension to dwelling house, Burleigh Farm Cottage, Burleigh Road. Milnathort. Approve the application.

New Matters and Correspondence

Stuart McHardy - a number of questions were asked on a variety of subjects. The matter of a greater number of pedestrian crossings was raised. Cllr Robertson suggested MCC could write to PKC about this. In response to another question raised by Stuart, Cllr Robertson stated that a householder can request an additional blue wheelie bin.

Campbell Lawson - raised the possibility of a path or pavement for Back Loan. Cllr Robertson advised MCC to write to the Roads Department about this.

Elyse Kirkham - MCC has received a tree preservation order for the relevant trees at Pace Hill. Elyse queried the apparent disparity in the number of pedestrian crossings in Milnathort and Kinross.

Regarding the trustees at the park, Elyse commented that the majority of the trustees would be PKC employees. This may present a conflict of interest.

Kevin Heneghan - in addition to funding offered by Kinross Colts 2009s for a defibrillator, George Shiels of Stuart and



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

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Smart garage has generously offered to site the defibrillator at the garage. This means the defibrillator will have a source of power, will be under cover, covered by CCTV and available 24hrs a day. Kevin suggested an information notice indicating the site of the defibrillator be placed at Davidson's Chemist in Milnathort. A member of the public suggested organising training on the use of the defibrillator.

Steven Young - Steven wished to recognise the hard work by Lisa Cartwright particularly in setting up the social media and website presences for MCC. With Lisa's resignation a vacancy has arisen for a CC and this will be advertised in due course.

Matthew Leach - Matthew suggested a litter pick be organised for the village.

Cllr Robertson - In response to a question from the floor, Cllr Robertson reported that the walk leading from Auld Mart Road was being repaired in April making it suitable for wheelchair use.

Ramps on the bridges were also being attended to. Cllr Robertson also reported that whilst an active speed sign to be erected on the approach to Burleigh Castle had been bought, no funding was available for its installation and it would therefore not be installed.

Comments/Questions from the Floor

It was stated that there was a problem with cars turning into Church Street caused by parked cars. There is also an issue with parked cars at Heaven Scent and the Funeral Directors with people ignoring the white line and parking in residents' car park in Church Street.

Request was made for double yellow lines. MCC to request more traffic wardens and for PKC to conduct a survey to aid traffic flow at Church Street.

PKC Councillor's Comments

Cllr Barnacle stated that there was a £1.6 million budget some of which had been earmarked for active speed signs, such as the type planned for positioning near Burleigh Castle. Cllr Barnacle also talked about the Green Route from Glenfarg to Milnathort via Netherton, Middleton Road and Hattonburn Road. The Green Route has been funded by Sustrans.

Cllr Robertson stated that he has written to Transport Scotland regarding the full integration of junction 7. This will be needed in light of new housing development.

Cllr Cuthbert: An Action Partnership event will be held on 22 April. (See page 4.)

The Next Meeting of Milnathort CC will take place at 7.30pm on Thursday 13 April 2017 in Milnathort Town Hall.

Find Milnathort CC minutes, agenda and other information at:

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

Cleish & Blairadam CC

Cleish & Blairadam CC meets every second month. The next meeting takes place on **Monday 3 April 2017** at 7.30pm at Tabernacle Hall.

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

Fossoway & District CC News from the March Meeting

In attendance at the meeting held on 7 March 2017 were: CCllrs C Brown, A Cheape, J Donachie, T Duffy, C Farquhar and G Pye; P&K Cllrs M Barnacle, D Cuthbert and WRobertson; and 13 Members of the Public (MoP).

Apologies: CCllr G Kilby and P&K Cllr Giacopazzi.

Declarations of Interest: None.

Police report: Unfortunately, no Officer was able to be present at the meeting. There were two incidents to note in our area from the Commander's Reports: Between Friday 3 and Monday 6 February a large blue bucket containing horse feed was stolen from a field off Vicars Bridge Road; The Powmill Milk Bar was broken into during the early hours of Monday 20 February.

Minutes of the previous meeting: Cllr Giacopazzi clarified that the phrase "on top of additional funds raised" should have read "on top of any additional funds which might be raised".

Crook and Drum Growing Together: CCllr Duffy reported that the group is preparing for spring planting and planning fund-raising activities. Announcements of planned activities will be posted on the group's Facebook page.

Powmill Bloom Group: CCllr Farquhar reported that a meeting was held with the local Police who have advised that the precautions against theft are as good as can be. Plans to plant 100 trees are afoot. It has been decided to abandon the idea of the Phone Box adoption. The group will have a fund-raising stall at 22 April Farmers' Market selling second hand books – all contributions welcome.

Blairingone War Memorial: At the site meeting on 14 February, it was agreed that the memorial could be moved, although probably at a higher cost than has previously been thought. Cllr Barnacle has sent information to a mason in order that an estimate can be prepared. The current owner of the property is willing to contribute £2000 towards the move. The currently proposed new location on the wall of the North extension to the cemetery is not strong enough and would need further reinforcement. CCllr Brown is investigating possible funding opportunities and has had an initial response from the War Memorials Trust, who aren't able to fund the move unless it can be shown that access to the memorial would be prevented, however they may be able to support the wall strengthening if the memorial was to be moved.



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Station Road Adoption: Cllr Barnacle reports that preparation of a minute of agreement is nearly complete, just needing final details of the contributors, and it can then be signed and the contract will be set.

Rumbling Bridge Hydro Community Group: Cllr Duffy reported that the group is working on its terms of reference and will soon conduct a community engagement exercise to establish what sort of projects should be funded. The group is in need of more volunteers.

LDP Public Consultation: There was a meeting at Crook of Devon Village Hall on 18 February which was attended by a large number of people, whose replies are currently being analysed by PKC's planning department. Dealing with the areas in turn:

The proposal for Blairingone seems to be broadly welcomed by the community;

Rumbling Bridge – Mrs Johnstone described their proposed development of a restricted number of houses mostly relatively small in size. They would also provide some parking places for, and a footpath to, the Gorge. Christina Ritchie then told the meeting about a petition signed by the majority of the residents, opposing any development at all in Rumbling Bridge. Ms Ritchie also pointed out that there are already adequate car parking facilities and footpaths, so the planning gain offered by the proposed development is not needed. Cllr Barnacle noted that the existing paths are not ideally routed, and the car park is not complete. A number of other members of the community present expressed the opinion that the village does need its heart filling in. It was pointed out that an area of the village was nominated as "Village Settlement" in the 2004 plan in order to protect it, however this didn't prevent the Care Home being approved under appeal;

Crook of Devon: The zoning proposal is to create a maximum of fifty houses on land adjacent to the Village Hall. Local opinions seem to be evenly split on the desirability of this.

For all the areas, it's important that local residents should submit their own comments directly to PKC to enable them to get a complete picture of their views.

Additionally potential planning gains that may enable improvements to the A977 must be considered separately from considering whether developments are right for each area. This point was made by both Cllrs and others present.

Kinross to Crook of Devon Multi-use Track: TRACKS are preparing a funding application to support the next phase of this development. The CC approves of this proposal and will write a letter of support.

School Estate Review: PKC are currently planning "options appraisals" for various schools and Blairingone Primary school is included in the programme. Questions about this can be sent to ecsresources@pkc.gov.uk.

Planning Matters: 17/00160/FLL Alterations and formation of vehicular access, Blairingone Church. No CC comment.

Correspondence: All the correspondence was available for viewing: The bridge over the River Devon on the A91 at Yetts of Muckhart will be closed for two weeks from Monday 20 March.

PKC are seeking comments on gritting and snow clearing.

Decisions for allocation of funds from the Local Action Partnership will be decided by public vote at the Kinross Farmer's Market on 22 April.

The Scottish Government are seeking opinions on the future of the Scottish Planning System. Comments can be made until 4 April.

AOCB: Dog Waste in Crook of Devon – a MoP has reported this to the CC. Cllr Duffy has replied with suggestions that were found to be found successful in other places.

Draft Agenda for Next CC Meeting

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

Matters arising: A977 Mitigation, Crook and Drum Growing Together, Powmill in Bloom, Blairingone War Memorial, Station Road Adoption, Rumbling Bridge Hydro Community Benefit, LDP Public Consultation.

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


The Next Meeting of Fossoway & District CC will take place on Tuesday 4 April 2017 at 7.30pm in Carnbo Village Hall. All Welcome.

There will also be an Extraordinary General Meeting on Tuesday 18 April 2017 at 7.30pm in Fossoway Primary School This is to discuss the re-zoning proposals in Blairingone, Rumbling Bridge and Crook of Devon.

Fossoway & District CC minutes are posted on the website

www.fossoway.org

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



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Portmoak Community Council

News from the March Meeting

In attendance at the meeting held on 14 March 2017 were: Cllrs M Strang Steel (Chairman), R Cairncross (Secretary), B Calderwood, S Forde, A Robertson and T Smith; and Ward Councillors M Barnacle, D Cuthbert and W Robertson; 11 members of the public and PCs Atholl Spalding and Dougie Stapleton of Police Scotland.

Apologies: Cllrs D Morris and Ward Cllr J Giacopazzi.

All present acknowledged with great regret the death of Cllr Chris Vlasto and took time to remember Chris. Their thoughts were with his wife and daughter.

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

Our Community Kinross and Earn Partnership. The CC had submitted an application to the fund operated by the Partnership for support to provide and improve parking facilities for visitors to the Portmoak Moss and the core paths which run through it.

Arrangements at Whitecraigs and Stephen's Field. The CC had responded to an inquiry from a new resident to Whitecraigs who had been concerned at the lack of maintenance to the plot of land adjoining her property. The CC confirmed that it awaited a response from the owner, builder and developer, A & J Stephen, on that and other related matters.

The Devil's Burden Race. The Chairman and representatives of the CC had had met representatives of Fife Athletic Club to review the recent conduct of the Race as it passed through Portmoak. Changes in the descent routing to Kinnesswood together with new toilet provisions are to be considered by the Club.

Scottish Natural Heritage. Representatives of the CC would meet shortly with Neil Mitchell, Reserve Manager, Loch Leven NNR.

Management Plan for Portmoak Moss – Woodland Trust.

The CC welcomed Gary Bolton, Site Manager for the Woodland Trust. He explained that every five years the Woodland Trust reviewed management plans for its sites looking back at progress and forward to the future. This public management plan is available on line and briefly describes the site, specifically mentions information on public access, sets out the long term policy and lists the Key Features which drive management actions. This was a site of significant biodiversity and of importance to the community. While conservation of the raised bog is successful the large area of old and established woodland (mainly Sitka and Norway Spruce) alongside it is coming to the end of its life.

In the next few years this would be removed and eventually replaced with indigenous species. Public access was important and Trust was conscious of the need to maintain paths across the Moss. Resources were limited with more radical changes requiring external funding to be secured. Problems with path access to the Moss from Kinnesswood were identified. Resolution had proved challenging. Cllr Tom Smith would maintain contact and feed back on this matter. The CC noted that Woodland Trust Scotland is discussing with SNH the possibility of inclusion of Portmoak Moss within the Loch Leven NNR. The CC thanked Mr Bolton for his presentation.

Recycling provision, Kinnesswood. Arrangements to find a site for a limited recycling provision (bottle bank) in Kinnesswood were progressing, albeit slowly. Officers from PKC will revisit Kinnesswood shortly and if unable to find an appropriate site will contact the CC for advice. While such a provision would be welcomed by all, it would be particularly valued by those who had no ready access to distant recycling sites.

Police report: The CC welcomed PCs Atholl Spalding and Dougie Stapleton. There had been no significant crime in the Portmoak Area. Across Kinross-shire agricultural theft remained a challenge and recent episodes of sheep worrying were a concern. Area Commander's Bulletins of 16 & 23 February and 9 March were noted.

Treasurer's report: The General Account at the end of February was £389.27 while the Michael Bruce Way account was £739.62 giving a total of funds on hand of £1,128.89

New Planning Applications

17/00216/FLL Land 40m north of Levenmouth, Scotlandwell. Erection of a dwelling house on Plot 2 (Change of house type). No Comment.

17/00366/FLL Iona, Back Dykes Kinnesswood. Installation of replacement windows. No Comment.

17/00002/PAN Land 400m west of Tarnhill Milnathort, Erection of a Holiday Park, visitor centre, café/restaurant with residential accommodation and supporting recreational infrastructure. Information on the proposed development was at present sketchy. Residents were encouraged to attend an exhibition of what is proposed. This is to be held in the campus on 29 March and 1 April. They were encouraged to leave comments with the Planning Agent representative or to follow up with an email reflecting their comments after their visit. Portmoak CC is to be formally consulted. Subject to confirmation the agents for the applicants will make a presentation of the development proposals to the CC's meeting on 18 April to which all would be invited.

Progress with Developments

Westfield Restoration and Regeneration Project, Fife (16/03661/EIA). Arrangements for a further consultation involving Kinross-shire were anticipated.

Former Lomond Inn. Permission for part demolition of site buildings (16/00325/CON had been granted and was effectively concluded leaving the original Inn. Formal approval for the development had yet to be confirmed (16/00326/FLL). Until that had happened new build would not commence.

Glenlomond. No progress was noted. Formal approval for the development had yet to be confirmed (16/00751/FLL).

Roads report: The Chairman reported that he had written to C Haggart, Traffic and Network Manager, PKC, responding to his



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letter of 14 February making it clear that the CC's Comments made to PKC on 7 December were the culmination of three years careful consideration and community consultation. He clarified: why provisions were needed to advise HGVs of the unsuitability of transiting Portmoak along the A911; what speed restrictions were sought along the A911; that, with the possibility of a significant development at Westfield, safety measures along the B9097 should be kept under review; and why the promised option appraisal was needed to establish a safe foot path from Scotlandwell to the Church and beyond. The CC considered a suggestion from Cllr Robertson that the embankment on the west (lochside of the road) could be widened to make a safer footpath. It would write to PKC in support of this.

The Chairman noted that, while there was still a need to modify arrangements for certain build-outs, these had become increasingly acceptable across the community. The CC wished to look at the possibility of installing a further build-out at Woodmarch to enable safe pedestrian transit at that point.

Access to Portmoak Primary School. The CC had advised PKC of its view that:

- the proposed solution should be permanent and not just for an hour when the school opens or closes (large and emergency vehicles require access at all times); and that
- restricted parking areas must include the stretch on the left hand side of Buchan Avenue approaching the School and immediately opposite the sharp right hand turn leading to the car park. This is necessary for large vehicles to make the tight turn at that point.

Consultation on the proposals had revealed that some residents of Buchan Terrace had objected to the proposed parking restrictions in relation to their homes. Local residents were present and able to explain their concerns. In essence with the increasing size of a variety of service vehicles the road was plainly too narrow. These difficulties pertained irrespective of children arriving at or departing from the school. A number of alternative options were identified: build a new loop road and school access above the car park; reverse the current one way traffic flow; block off the entrance to the car park from Buchan Avenue obliging all vehicles to enter from Bruce Road; and require all parents driving their children to school to park in Whitecraigs and to drop-off and pick-up their children there. There were disadvantages to each option and discussion was inconclusive. At the suggestion of Cllr Robertson, representatives of the CC would examine new arrangements introduced at Arngask Primary School, Glenfarg.

Paths report: CCLlr Smith reflected on the loss of CCLlr Chris Valsto who had been an energetic and productive member of the Paths Group Team. He also reported that he had attended a PKC meeting for community council path groups and had found it very helpful. The Paths Group Team had an interesting agenda focusing on the development and maintenance of paths across Portmoak. It was looking for new

members from across the community. If you are interested please contact CCLlr Tom Smith on 01592 841160. The Team would look at accessing support for certain tasks from the community-based programme to rehabilitate offenders.

Consultation: The Future of the Scottish Planning System. The CC would submit comments.

PKC Ward Councillor Reports

Cllr Cuthbert confirmed that the PKC budget for the coming year was going to be a little larger than had been expected. As a consequence the Road Safety Team was no longer under threat. There would also now be limited funding for new pavements (e.g. possibly to cover a new safe pathway from Scotlandwell up to the Church and beyond).

Cllr Barnacle reported that the restricted speed limit on the A911 at Wester Balgedie would be extended to the west with count down markings on the approach to it. New signage is in the process of being installed on the Dryside Road and the increase of run-through traffic on the same road would be raised with Fife Council. As a member of TACTRAN he was aware that TACTRAN too wished HGVs to use appropriate SAT NAV software.

Cllr Robertson confirmed that he had written to Transport Scotland seeking a reassessment of the case for new slip roads to the south at Junction 7 of the M90. Given the economic upturn in the Milnathort area an economic assessment was now sought. The CC was supportive of this approach.

Drainage at The Green, Scotlandwell. A meeting with PKC officials was to take place the next day to seek remedies for the problem.

The Next Meeting of Portmoak CC will be held at 7pm on Tuesday 18 April 2017 in Portmoak Village Hall.

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

Hustings at Portmoak

Tuesday 11 April

Local Government Elections to appoint Councillors to Perth & Kinross Council will take place on 4 May 2017. Portmoak Community Council will hold a Hustings on Tuesday 11 April at 7pm in Portmoak Village Hall to which all candidates will be invited. All are welcome. Come along.

Kinross-shire Visitor Information Points

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

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Club & Community Group News



Seamab School



Thanks to a generous grant from Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN), Seamab has had a safer, more secure winter period.

Through the network operator's Resilient Communities Fund, we received £4607 to purchase resilience equipment for use in the event of extreme weather or significant power cut. The funding was used to buy emergency food rations, sleeping bags and pillows, satellite telephones, torches, first aid kits and books for the children about coping in the dark and managing emergencies.

Seamab cares for, and educates, 15 children who have had experiences of trauma, loss, abuse or neglect. Both the charity's school and care complex are in rural, isolated areas. They have previously experienced short power outages and



Alistair McAllister, Seamab Care Team Manager (left) and Stevie Garvie, Facilities Manager, test out the new satellite telephones bought using the grant from SSEN

occasions when extreme weather has meant children and staff can't leave the buildings they are in without risking their safety.

During these times, only one landline phone remains available at the school, and mobile reception is unpredictable. In the event of an extended power outage, there is risk to the food stored for the children's meals in the freezers and fridges.

Joanna McCreadie, Chief Executive of Seamab, explained: "Our children can find it hard to cope when presented with sudden change or an emergency – it is always better for us to be able to keep the children in a familiar place that feels safe with adults they know and trust.

"The resilience equipment purchased means staff and children at Seamab can remain in a safe place as a first line of defence in the event of a long power cut or bad weather. The satellite phones mean we can maintain contact with the organisation's management and the social workers responsible for the children's care, the emergency services and others within the local community. We're so grateful for the fund's support in keeping our children and staff safe."

Fundraising activity has taken off in a huge way at Seamab! Eight of our care staff will be taking on a 'Jump for Joy!' skydive at Fife Airport in June. See www.justgiving.org.uk/fundraising/seamabjumpforjoy for more information. We also have runners taking up places in Color Me Rad in Glasgow on Saturday 13 May, the Dundee Kiltwalk in August and the Great Scottish Run in October. If you'd like to join in and raise funds through any of these events, please contact Susie, Fundraising Manager on 07823 413470 or email swilliamson@seamab.org.uk.

All this extra activity means that we are also in need of volunteers who can help with placing collection cans, organising activities and attending events. Whether you're just looking to fill an hour or two of your time, or would like to build up some experience for your CV, we'd love to hear from you!

Visit www.seamab.org.uk/working to see the three role descriptions available and to get involved.

Kinross-shire Day Centre

In February, we were entertained to a tea dance by a group of senior pupils at Kinross High School. They are involved with a project called 'Interact' in association with the Rotary club and they gave us a wonderful afternoon with Bob Pryde providing the music. Thank you to everyone who helped to organise the event.

In spite of it still being winter, we have had some lovely days this month so we set off in the minibus one afternoon for a trip along the Fife coast with a stop in Cupar for ice cream. Hopefully there will be many more opportunities for outings in the coming summer.

The beginning of March sees the annual World Day of Prayer and this year it was the turn of Orwell Parish Church to host the afternoon service at the Day Centre. This is always a happy occasion that brings together old friends from all over the county, so thank you to the ladies of Orwell Church.

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 & District Inner Wheel



Never let it be said that we have boring meetings!

So far this year we've gone from a talk about Robert Burns in January, 'Being Procurator Fiscal' in February to a Beetle Drive at our March meeting. We sat quietly to listen to our January and February speakers and then made a huge amount of noise as the excitement mounted at our March Beetle Drive. Thanks to member Margaret for organising it.

By the time you read this we will have held our annual Bridge afternoon on Friday 31 March in Orwell Bowlers Hall. Tickets are selling fast and we hope to make a good amount for the various charities we support. The Bridge Afternoon is our major fundraiser of the year.

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 & Ochil Walking Group

(Affiliated to Ramblers Scotland)

Hopefully, spring has arrived; daffodils, bluebells and trees coming into leaf and longer days. This is the perfect time to come out walking with us. Explore new places, improve your mental and physical fitness and meet people. Whether you're new or returning to walking, or a regular walker, try out a walk or two to see if you'd like to join our friendly and relaxed group. You will be made very welcome. We operate car-sharing but it is not essential to have a car.

Weekend Walks

Saturday 1 April: Aberfeldy - Rob Roy Trail, 6.5 miles.

Initial fairly steep climb through Birks of Aberfeldy to Falls of Moness. Then follow parts of Rob Roy Way with good views over open moorland and to the north, across Strathtay to Schiehallion.

Sunday 16 April: Three Hills of Auchterhouse, 7 miles.

Circular walk taking in three modest hills, with good views to north and south.

Saturday 29 April: Falkirk Wheel Circular, 9 miles.

From the wheel along the canal path (through a tunnel) towards Pirleyhill. Then along country tracks, returning to the wheel car park.

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 (1½-2 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 11 April: Fife Coastal Path, Kirkcaldy to Kinghorn.

Linear walk to and from Kinghorn, passing the 16th century Seafield Tower. Great views over the Forth. The area is rich in bird life, and seals can often be seen basking on the rocks.

Tuesday 25 April: Dollar Bluebell Walk. An opportunity to feast your eyes on a sea of bluebells on a circuit around the outskirts of Dollar, taking in some little known paths.

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

Portmoak Community Woodland

www.portmoakcw.org.uk

Normally our monthly meetings are very jolly affairs but this was not the case in February. We had just lost one of our most active members, Chris Vlasto, whose death on 20 February, the day before we met, was unexpected.

Chris loved all our outdoor work and was passionate about the natural environment. In fact his whole family, widow Charlotte and daughter Chloe, were hugely involved in all our activities, from apple days to Burns Suppers. In January Chloe was Poozie Nancy at the Burns Supper. It was lovely that Charlotte wanted a strong community woodland theme at the service of thanksgiving and during the get together afterwards.

Chris was running the bar for what turned out to be one of our busiest and most successful Burns Suppers. The Burns season is well past so this isn't a detailed account but the highlights included Tich Frier's Immortal Memory, Dr Bill Carr's Address to (and demolition of) the Haggis, complete with canon, and a highly entertaining Toast to the Lasses by Simon Kay, followed by his wife, Jessica, giving as good as she got, in her reply.

Anyone who follows our work knows that there's always something on the go. Winter and early spring are the perfect times for planting and pruning and the Woodland Trust, who own our woodlands, have put in new young trees high up on the hill in Kilmagad Wood. There was an old rabbit fence around the site which was being used as a trial area to see if trees would regrow naturally there. However, the vegetation proved too dense and only a handful of naturally regenerated trees managed to establish themselves.

So the WT gave nature a helping hand, removing the old rabbit fencing and then planting the area with a mixture of native tree species. The trees are predominately sessile oak with a mixture of silver birch, aspen, scots pine, hazel, rowan and blackthorn planted throughout. An element of open ground has been retained.

In mid-March we will prune the orchard in the hope of more bumper crops in the autumn and, on Sunday 23 April from 11am, we'll be in Portmoak Moss pruning Christmas trees. This isn't as eccentric as it might sound as we've discovered that tidying up round the conifers and reducing them to single trees, where they are growing as doubles, makes for a better shaped crop in December.

Moss regulars should also be able to spot improvements to some of the infrastructure, as the Woodland Trust have been employing a contractor to carry out much-needed maintenance work. The WT have also published a draft management plan for Portmoak Moss. It's an important document, a blueprint for the future shape of the Moss, and you can access it by going to our website. The consultation period finishes on Saturday 8 April, so there isn't much time to respond.

Meanwhile, the Woodland Group will be exploring what further peat bog restoration work can be done. If you have any ideas for this, or anything else we could do in the woodlands, please come along to our informal meetings at 7.30pm on the third Tuesday of every month, in the Well Inn, Scotlandwell.

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It's a measure of how loyal our volunteers are when they quickly adapted to our new temporary home. With the industrial heater finally groaning to a demise, we had to move into the guiding kitchen and, despite the disruption, we quickly settled into the cosy room. Thanks to all for their patience at this time. We had the pleasure of welcoming a few new faces and hope they will make that promised return soon.

Now back to the main hall, we are enjoying the new gas central heating although, rest assured, the cheery wood burner will still be burning bright!

At the time of writing, volunteers are busy preparing for a fun fundraiser which has kindly been organised for us by Kate Francis, along with Betty Brennan and Alexis Crawford. Their hard work is greatly appreciated and a full report, including 'going to the dogs' will be given next month!

In the meantime, when better days tempt you out for a spring stroll, do factor in a rewarding stop at Common Grounds!

Project: Our project for April is Link Community Development International, a Scottish based charity that works to transform sub-Saharan schools through community involvement.

One of their current projects is in Uganda where they have been working since 2000. Uganda has the youngest population but one of the highest youth unemployment rates in Africa. Good literacy and numeracy are essential skills. To hear more about their work, please come along to our next project lunch, see below.

Project lunch: Our next project lunch will be on **Wednesday 5 April** at 12 noon with speaker Caroline McKay from Link Community Development in the Guide Hall, Church Street, Milnathort. Homemade soup, bread, tray bakes and fairtrade tea and coffee. Everyone welcome.

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.

Portmoak Hall 100 Club

February Draw

1st	No 2	Mike Thomson, Kinnesswood.
2nd	No 97	Elaine Jessop, Wester Balgedie.
3rd	No 99	Evelyn Hampton, Kilmagawood.

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Lomond Antiques and Collectors Club



We had a good attendance for our meeting in March which was a members' evening. Thank you to our lady members who mostly responded to the request to wear red to commemorate International Women's Day. This was put in action by our hostess's husband making the coffee!

Our Chairman advised of an exhibition of Maria Merian's butterfly paintings at The Queen's Gallery in Edinburgh from March to July. More information is available online.

To begin the evening, Doreen told us about a painting on her wall by Sam Bough, an accredited RSA artist.

Ian followed with some interesting Mauchline pieces, two match box covers and a miniature cricket bat that had been made from the great oak once situated on the North Inch, Perth, until it was 'wantonly destroyed' in 1906.

Claudia read us a letter from a family member living in Kenya many years ago giving an insight to the way of life then. Trixie showed us a beautiful Tunbridge Ware needlework box which had been lovingly restored by a friend. Marjorie brought a small Chinese porcelain dish and the book that showed an illustration of the same piece. Kate had a lovely collection of very pretty Limoges boxes and told us about Limoges ware. Mostly, these boxes were decorated with flowers but one was an illustration of the French Revolution. Gwyn ended the session by showing an old Edwardian scrapbook with some rather bizarre scraps and showed a recent one she had made to contrast the different styles possible with the 'craft stash' available now.

Thank you to our hostess Doreen (and husband!) and Claudia, her helper.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 12 April and our topic will be the Kinross-shire archives.

Anyone wishing to join the club can email the secretary, Gwyn Clayton, at gwynnethc@hotmail.co.uk.

Kinross Garden Group

We had a very entertaining and informative talk in March from Alison Goldie and Mark Hutson of the Scottish Auricula and Primula Society. Lots of people bought the Auricula plants that Mark and Alison had brought – hopefully not to the eventual detriment of their children's inheritance!

Our next meeting is on **Thursday 13 April** at 2pm in the Millbridge Hall, Kinross, when Professor David Rankin of Edinburgh University and Kevoek Garden Plants will give a talk entitled 'Poles Apart, China and Chile'.

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 & District Probus Club

A Recipe for Longevity

presented by Roger Stark



On 15 February, Roger presented a very entertaining talk on how and why we can expect to live longer than our grandparents and great grandparents. He painted the picture of us growing older and enjoying 'old age.'

Recent research has shown that age expectancy could rise to as much as 142 within the next generation or two. Already we see that there are far more centenarians now and the level is growing fast.

So why are we living longer? A better understanding of diet, less manual labour and the great advances in medical science are all contributing factors.

However, advice to eat well and get plenty of exercise is not new. Your old Scots Granny always said to eat your greens and fish!

One of the best pieces of advice is to enjoy life ... 'you don't stop doing things because you're old; you grow old because you stop doing things'. Roger Bromley gave the vote of thanks.

Where's the Driver? presented by Dick Crighton

After a very successful career as a school teacher, most people would be looking to retire, put their feet up and enjoy the golden years, but not Dick Crighton. Early retirement for him meant a new challenge, and that challenge was to become a coach driver. Dick shared his experiences with us on 1 March. Dick started driving for Earnside Coaches, based in Glenfarg, 26 years ago after having taught in various schools throughout the area. This was to be a period in Dick's life that would bring a great deal of pleasure, fun and no small amount of adventure.

Hotel accommodation for the drivers went from the ridiculous to the sublime and Dick has many happy memories of some luxury hotels abroad.

Travelling to the continent was a highlight of Dick's driving years, unlike his trips to Blackpool which he described as 'hellish'. Foreign travel did sometimes have its difficulties and the main one was getting through customs. He described having to think on your feet to satisfy the guards and having to be very imaginative.

Tour guides would always intrigue Dick as some would seem to know very little about the subject they had been hired to talk about, whereas others could talk the hind legs off a donkey, to the extent that passengers would be falling asleep in their seats.

Looking back over his career, Dick reflected on his time both as a teacher and coach driver and his happiest memories are definitely his time spent driving for Earnside Coaches.

The vote of thanks was given by Duncan Stenhouse.

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Three Kingdoms for a Mass

presented by Christine Short

On 15 March, Christine gave the members a most intriguing talk on the Old Pretender.

Prince James Francis Edward was born on 10 June 1688 at St James's Palace, the son of King James II of England and Ireland (VII of Scotland) and his Roman Catholic second wife, Mary of Modena. The Prince's birth was controversial and unanticipated on the part of a number of British Protestants. The Glorious Revolution of 1688-89 resulted in the Roman Catholic Stuart king fleeing to exile in France. James' daughter and her husband became joint British sovereigns, William and Mary. In 1690 Presbyterianism was established as the state religion of Scotland. The Act of Settlement 1701 settled the succession of the English throne on the Protestant House of Hanover. The Act of Union 1707 applied the Act of Settlement to Scotland.

Young James always had the understanding that he would one day return and rule the Three Kingdoms, but he would never give up his Catholic faith. By 1715 James was being urged by his supporters to act and on 14 March he appealed to Pope Clement XI for help for a Jacobite rising.

Although there was no commission from James to start the rising, the Earl of Mar held the first council of war on 27 August at Braemar. By October, Mar's forces had taken control of most of Scotland north of the Forth. However, Mar was indecisive, giving the Hanoverian forces under the command of the Duke of Argyll time to increase their strength.

The English Jacobites joined with a force of Scottish Borderer Jacobites and they marched into England as far as Preston where the Government forces caught up with them. After fighting, the Jacobites eventually surrendered.

Belatedly, on 22 December 1715, the Pretender landed in Scotland at Peterhead but, by the time he arrived at Perth on 9 January 1716, the Jacobite army numbered less than 5,000. In contrast, Argyll's forces had acquired heavy artillery and were advancing quickly.

On 30 January Mar led the Jacobite forces out of Perth and on 4 February the Pretender wrote a farewell letter to Scotland, sailing from Montrose the day after, never to return.

There are many reasons why James failed in his attempt to regain the throne but clearly the main reason was his dogged determination not to relinquish his faith. He will go down in history as the man who gave up Three Kingdoms for a Mass. The vote of thanks was given by Jim King.

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday 5 April**.

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Kinross-shire 50 Plus Club

The **monthly meeting** is at the Millbridge Hall at 2pm on **Thursday 6 April** when the speaker will be Mr Tom Smith on "It Started with a Threepenny Piece".



Away Days

13 Apr Melrose.

27 Apr Scone Palace.

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

Friday Walkers

7 Apr Lady Mary's Walk at Crieff.

21 Apr St Andrews, The Lade Braes and Craigton Park.

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

Friday Hill Walkers

14 Apr Glen Tilt

Ann & Kath

28 Apr Stronachie

Richard

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.

Bowling, Keep Fit and Flytying have finished for the summer.

Kinross in Bloom

On Saturday 4 March our final eleven new planters were placed in position, courtesy of the payback team. The team also stabilised the planters with gravel then topped them up with compost. These were later temporarily planted with daffodils, tulips and polyanthus until more sustainable plants are introduced.

Our order of summer plants should arrive at the polytunnel in the week commencing 10 April. These will be in plug form and will need transplanting into larger cells, enabling them to be brought on to be ready for planting in to baskets and planters. Help will be required to carry out this operation so, if you can spare an hour or two, please get in touch with Aileen on 01577 861477, Derek on 01577 862833 or Iain 01577 208110. We will be very pleased to hear from you.

Our **200 Club winners for March** were:

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. No 22, Mrs M Gibson. | 2. No 11, Mr & Mrs D Cochrane. |
| 3. No 12, Mrs M Dobson. | 4. No 70, Mrs E Thomas. |

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Networking for Community Organisations

You are invited to attend

A face-to-face networking event

Wednesday 26 April

7.30pm – 9.30pm

Loch Leven Community Campus

(Muir, Kinross, KY13 8FQ)

This evening is designed to bring together individuals and organisations from Kinross-shire. We hope you will get involved in getting to know each other through conversation and interactions to:

- Develop positive relationships
- Learn what others are doing in the area
- Establish common ground about how organisations can work together to support each other
- Share information, resources and knowledge
- Develop a network that supports what you do.

There will be advice on funding from the **Big Lottery Fund** and **Perth & Kinross Action for Volunteers**. There is also a guest speaker who aims to share his story about the journey of a group and the excellent work they do in Kinross-shire. Refreshments provided.

For further information please contact: Tracey Ramsay (Community Capacity Building Worker), Loch Leven Community Campus, telephone 01577 867124 or email tramsay@pkc.gov.uk

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Kinross Camera Club

kinrosscameraclub.org.uk

Another exciting month at Kinross Camera Club in February saw Tom Smith win the Fortune and Greer cup with a wonderful photo on the subject of 'movement'.

We then had Steve McGonnell give a talk on flower photography, which sounds easy but is difficult to do well. He covered his approach for producing colourful, vibrant and sharp photos of a wide range of different floral subjects.

Our other guest speaker in February was Jamie Simpson who is a full time photographer with the Herald group of newspapers in Glasgow. He showed us a stunning portfolio of images, many of which have graced the front pages of



Scottish newspapers and magazines. Images included well known celebrities, sports stars and TV personalities. What a great job he has!

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

It's worth noting that we continue to meet informally on Thursday evenings throughout the summer at various nearby locations to hone our photographic skills. Prospective new members are always welcome to come along.



'Inversion' by Bill Paton, which won first place in a recent league competition

Kinross Museum

Loch Leven Community Campus

www.kinrossmuseum.org.uk

www.facebook.com/Kinross.Museum

The *Our Portmoak: Uncovering stories from the past* project got off the ground with some exciting geophysics carried out by archaeologist Dr Oliver O'Grady and community volunteers at Portmoak Chapel and in fields at Kilmagadwood. On **Sunday 23 April** David Munro will lead a **'Portmoak Myths and Legends'** walk exploring stories such as 'The Rock of the Irishmen' and 'The Ghost of the Gulleets' commencing at 2pm from the Scottish Gliding Centre. *[For more information and details of how to book a place, see 'Our Portmoak', page 58.]*

Amongst the March accessions to the Museum was a collection of 20th century folded maps gifted by John and Claudia Pleass. These include Ordnance Survey maps published just after the First World War with cover illustrations by artist Ellis Martin who was employed by the Director General Sir Charles Close to help boost map sales by making them more attractive to look at.

Right: one of the early 20th century Ordnance Survey maps recently donated to the Museum



The Newsletter on Facebook

We use our Facebook page to announce:

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

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

www.facebook.com/kinrossnewsletter



Kinross Beavers

On Friday 10 February our three new beavers were invested into the colony after saying their beaver promise. Welcome to Eli, Tom and Charlie.

On the same evening two new Lodge Leaders were appointed. Congratulations to Gregor F, the new Lodge Leader for the Dam Builders Lodge, and Archie who is the new Lodge Leader for the Tree Fellers Lodge.

February was also #YouShape month for the Scout Association. #YouShape month is a platform to empower young people to shape their scouting experience at a local and national level. During the month, all sections are encouraged to run local activities that will help their young people engage on a national level. Our activities got underway with us collecting ideas from the beavers for future activities. Also all the beavers, young leaders and leaders signed the #YouShape pledge agreeing to take part in the activities and to make sure our young people's voices are heard. We will be doing more activities relating to this over the next few months as we look to make Youth Shaped Scouting a part of the long-term format of the colony.



Three new beavers are invested into the colony

It was a hobbies evening on Friday 24 February. All the beavers made a presentation to the other members of their lodge about what hobbies they have been taking part in for the last six weeks as part of their hobbies badge. We heard about a variety of hobbies including baking, gardening, gymnastics and swimming. Well done to all the beavers who took part.

At the beginning of March, during Fairtrade fortnight, we had a Fairtrade evening which was organised by one of our young leaders. The beavers got to learn more about Fairtrade, how they can identify Fairtrade products and where they can buy them.

It's been a busy term for the beavers and there is still plenty to happen before the Easter break, including a visit to Pets at Home in Perth to cover some of the requirements of the Animal Friends badge. Details about this, along with our other activities, will appear in the next Newsletter.

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



New Lodge Leaders are appointed

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

The Kinross Newsletter
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all profits are given away to local good causes

Kinross and District Art Club

www.kadac.co.uk

Members recently enjoyed an excellent demonstration by Pauline McGee. A graduate of Glasgow School of Art, Pauline is also a trained Art Therapist and has wide experience as a practitioner and tutor in the role of art in wellbeing and mental health. Her current interest is in collage and the demonstration showed how everyday materials can be used to create vibrant works of art. Using her 'treasure box' (a small case full of scraps of material, pieces of coloured paper and torn off extracts from printed material) she built up a picture of memories of a friend's wedding. Once all the pieces were arranged and stuck on, she used vibrant coloured inks to create a unifying background. This was a departure from the more conventional painting usually done in the club and it clearly inspired a number of people present to have a go! Pauline's website, with examples of her work, is paulinemcgee.com

The club meets on Tuesdays and Fridays from 2pm to 4pm in the Millbridge Hall with a break for tea at 3pm. Visitors are welcome to pop in and see what we are doing, especially if you are thinking of joining the club. We all work at our own level and receive help and encouragement from each other and from our resident professional artist, Tom Sutton-Smith. For more information and a calendar of events, see our website.



Pauline McGee demonstrates how to create vibrant works of art from everyday materials

Need to check something in an old Newsletter?

Consult our electronic archive at
www.kinrossnewsletter.org
 Issues from September 2006 to two months ago available

Kinross Parish Church

Kinross Church helps drought-stricken Malawi



The wonders of mobile phone technology recently allowed the congregation at Kinross Parish Church to see photographs of their food aid to the village of Cape Maclear, Malawi, being distributed only days before – and to receive messages of thanks from residents.



Mobile phone technology allows swift recognition of food aid given to Malawi by Kinross parishioners

Kinross has a connection with Cape Maclear as it is the original home of Billy Samanyika, who lived with his wife Sarah in Kinross for some years. They now live again in Malawi and on a visit back here last year they spoke about the failure of the 2016 harvest because of severe drought. This drought was inevitably going to lead to hunger because Malawi was already one of Africa's poorest countries,

The church decided to help by sending £1,000 to be spent on buying food when this was required. By February food had run out for many, so Billy, Sarah and their children went to Cape Maclear to help the Village Organisation Committee distribute this food to those most in need.

Sending photographs of the day from the beautiful village, which lies on the shores of Lake Malawi, Sarah Samanyika said to Kinross Parish Church: "Heart-felt thanks for the generous donation. Over 200 families will now have food until they harvest their crops. Really, I cannot describe how moving this was. Aid being handed directly to those in need. Truly amazing".

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Kinross & District Men's Shed

Welcome to the first Newsletter article for the newly formed Kinross & District Men's Shed.

What's a Men's Shed we hear you ask? Well it's a bit like a larger version of a typical shed or garage where people can get involved in doing practical things, sharing skills and, most importantly, feel they can belong to a purposeful community. There are currently 50 active Men's Sheds across Scotland, all of which are unique to the members that they serve. However, they all do have three things in common, namely:

- 1) Workshop facilities for people to make, learn and create;
- 2) A social space for people to meet, connect and belong;
- 3) Some sort of project(s) that benefit society by using the time and energy of those involved.



A small working group has been formed to steer the Men's Shed through its pioneering first year

So let me tell you a bit about our story so far. In December last year Shona Fowler (Project support worker with NHS) and Tracey Ramsay (Community Capacity Building Worker, PKC) hosted a proposal evening to test the interest for such an initiative, and they were pleasantly surprised. Close to 50 men attended the event from all backgrounds, ages and abilities. Since then, with their vital support and guidance, we have met a number of times and a smaller working group and committee has been formed by members of the community to steer the group through the pioneering first year.

What's special about the Men's Shed movement is its ethos. It values everyone who would like to attend and has a safe and non-judgmental environment where the main purpose is to help each other thrive. It has been incredible to see the range of abilities and interests within our community. Without a place such as a Men's Shed, these would likely go undernourished and sadly remain isolated. Well, not any more. Even in our early days without a workshop we can tell beautiful stories of people helping each other with computer skills and others passionately sharing the ups and downs of their life journeys. It's safe to say there are many people who want to give their care and attention to create this incredible space within our community. And space is exactly what you can help us with.

We need a home for our workshop. Currently we are aiming to use the incredible workshop facilities within the community campus when they are not in use. If successful, we will be able to set up a pop up workshop in the evenings, weekends and school holidays. This would get us up and running and we hope that, because of our proximity within the campus, this would lead to some incredible cross-generational skill sharing and projects.

However, we see this as a temporary home and are keen to ask if you know of any empty spaces within the Kinross area that would benefit from being lovingly looked after by us in exchange for our hard work and a very small rent. Ideally we would require a space large enough to host around 30 to 50 people with a social, workshop, kitchen, toilets and storage area. If you know of any spaces that might fit the purpose, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. Even if it turns out not to be viable, the process of us exploring these options helps us greatly and it makes connections within our community which is what we are all about.

So, if you are interested in joining, know of a space, or want to support us in any way, please feel free to get in contact with us through our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/MSKinross/>.

Alternatively, come along to our social drop in meetings in the campus every Saturday morning between 10am and 12 noon. Just ask at reception to find us.

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Kinnesswood in Bloom

It's a time of change in Kinnesswood with demolition of outbuildings at The Lomond. The compost bins at the back were rescued and three bins will be made out of four, two at the cart area and one to the school. There will also be changes in the main street with the purchase of the cottage behind the cottage garden. Carol and John had a very amicable meeting with the new owners and, in the meantime, we will be maintaining the area as usual.

Our bulbs are looking good, with the crocuses in particular looking lovely in Lavender Walk.



Crocuses planted by Kinnesswood in Bloom

Our Quiz and Curry night was held on Friday 25 March and we will let you know how much was raised next month.

We were delighted to receive a letter from the Rotary, giving us a cheque for £100. We really appreciate the help we are given from local organisations. We will be placing a Rotary sign on one of our planters in the main street.

The younger children in the school have been planning outdoor activities for the summer term. Meanwhile, after dyeing wool with local plants, Primary 6 and 7 have been weaving landscapes on homemade willow frames. Hopefully their artwork will be on display in the summer term. Dobbies have kindly provided seeds to plant shortly. The children appreciate their continued support.

Keep Scotland Beautiful have a theme of birds, bees and trees this year. If anyone in the village wants to knit, crochet or sew some birds or bees, contact Norma Smith on 01592 841160. Patterns and wool will be made available.

Recipe



supplied by Kinnesswood in Bloom Potato Bhaji

You may have missed our Quiz and Curry night but here's an opportunity to make a curry of your own. If you have leftover small potatoes, you can make this simple spicy curry.

Ingredients

500g small potatoes boiled with the skin on
125g chopped onion
60g oil
60g margarine
½ teaspoon turmeric powder
½ teaspoon cumin powder
1 teaspoon coriander powder
1 teaspoon chilli powder
¾ teaspoon salt
¾ teaspoon cumin seeds
½ teaspoon fenugreek seeds
½ teaspoon onion seeds
400g tin chopped tomatoes
2 pinches hing

Method

Heat oil on medium and add the cumin, fenugreek and onion seeds, pinch of hing and chilli. Add the onion and stir well, add margarine, cover the pan and cook for four to five minutes until the onion is cooked. Add all the powders, salt and stir well. Add boiled potatoes, turn heat on high and stir fry for one to two minutes. Add chopped tomatoes and stir well. As soon as it is boiling, turn off the heat.

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Our Portmoak: Uncovering Stories from the past

Portmoak was host to a very rare beast last month. Not, for once, a seldom seen wildfowl blown off course on to the loch, but a cutting edge piece of magnetometry kit from Germany called "Magneto". With only three available in the world, we were privileged to have use of Magneto for a geophysics survey in two areas of known historical importance in the Portmoak area.



Magneto, rather complicated, but guaranteed to uncover Portmoak's secrets

I to r: Wendy Gray, Cara Gray, Tom Smith, Dr Oliver O'Grady

Unfortunately, in its unassembled form, Magneto is the technological equivalent of an IKEA flatpack, but with our experts and volunteers on hand we managed to get all the bolts in the right places and set to work. Once assembled, Magneto is able to survey large areas in a fraction of the time of standard geophysics equipment. It is also super-sensitive and combined with specialised archaeology-tailored software is able to analyse and interpret areas in great detail to give a clear picture of what is hidden in the ground.



Our ambition was to identify the position of a hitherto uncovered Medieval road and further investigate the site of a Bronze Age cemetery at Kilmagadwood.

The initial results are positive and we will have the full analysis shortly, so watch this space for news of what we have uncovered. Thank you to all our volunteers and our experts for their time and efforts, and to the Heritage Lottery Fund for their financial support.

We are busy planning and organising events for the rest of the year. These will include, in August, **trips to the protected site of St Serf's Island** in Loch Leven, which was once home to the Culdee monks and then an Augustinian monastic community at St Serf's Priory. The monastery benefited from grants bestowed by King Macbeth (yes, *the* Macbeth) and his wife Gruoch in the 11th century.

A **"Muckle Dig"** on 27 and 28 May will give budding archaeologists the opportunity to have the services of a real archaeologist for the day to help dig in their own garden.

We will also run **community digs** (dates TBC) at two key historical sites in the Portmoak area. Who knows what we will find?

Our next event will be the first in a series of **Portmoak Myths and Legends walks**. On **Sunday 23 April** a storytelling walk will tell the tale of the **Ghost of the Gulleets** and **Lock of the Irishmen**. No one knows the story better than Professor David Munro, who will be leading the walk. So join us for an afternoon of storytelling and myth-busting.

The walk will start at 2pm. **Contact us for more information or to book a space. Places must be booked in advance.**

All Our Portmoak events are FREE.

For more information, to sign up for email notifications of upcoming events or to contact Our Portmoak: e: ourportmoak@kinrossmuseum.org.uk



Our Portmoak



@ourportmoak

Ruralympics

P&K Federation of Scottish Women's Institutes

Fun and Games were had at the amazing Ruralympic final at Bankfoot on Saturday 18 February. After an action packed afternoon spent dribbling hockey balls, felling skittles, throwing beanbags and jumping through hula hoops, two teams had a tight play off for the winners' trophy. The killer curling game finally put paid to Cleish's (Kinross group) hopes and they were narrowly beaten by Fowlis Wester SWI (Strathearn Group). Kirkmichael SWI (Blairgowrie group) were third and Forteviot SWI (Strathearn group) proudly took home the wooden spoon.



Competitors at the Ruralympic finals: I to r: Faye Gibb, Lizzie Glennie, Elinor Craig, Heather McDougall, Ursula Stewart, Fiona Lambie, Audrey McCall, Anne Hubbard and Heather Walker

Kinross & District Rotary Club

Speakers and social events



As usual it has been a busy month for the club, with a variety of interesting speakers at our weekly meetings as well as a couple of social events.

Speakers over the last month have included John Marshall whose talk 'A Potato Story' enlightened us about his life and travels in the world of potato growing and marketing.

At our recent breakfast meeting associate member, Richard Scott, spoke about the work of the dedicated group of volunteers who keep the Kinross Library open on the days when the council staff aren't present.

Retired Marie Curie nurse, Margaret Meade, spoke passionately about the work of the Marie Curie charity including some touching stories from her own experience and at the most recent meeting our guest was Kirsteen Ross of the Kinross Cricket Club. She gave us a fascinating insight into her role at the club over the past 14 years of the club's 162 year history.

Groups of Rotarians and their partners have also enjoyed a showing of the 'Buddy Holly Story' at the Edinburgh Festival Theatre on 1 March and more recently attended the Aero Space Kinross 'Astronomy evening'.



Rotary club meeting at the Kirklands

Purple4Polio

For over 30 years, Rotary and its members have been committed to fighting to eradicate polio across the world. The amount of polio-endemic countries has dropped from 125 to just three, with over 2.5 billion children receiving vaccinations, thanks to the help of Rotary.

With eradication now closer than ever, Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland's latest campaign, Purple4Polio, is designed to unite communities to engage in activities as part of the final push to eradicate polio for good.

Following a request from a Rotarian in District 1240, Tiptree Jam (Wilkin & Sons Ltd) will be making and donating 52,000 jars of Purple4Polio jam! A jar of either Greengage or Early Rivers Plum Jam will be donated to every single Rotarian across Great Britain and Ireland. The aim of the scheme is to raise £1,000,000 for Purple4Polio. By making a donation for the jam and collecting coins in the empty jar, that target can be reached. 48 jars of Jam for the Purple4Polio have been received by the Rotary club of Kinross.

Euroscola and mock interviews

As reported earlier in the year, Euroscola is a project which involves Rotary Clubs sponsoring a young person to join a group of other Scottish school students on a visit to the

European Union Parliament in Strasbourg, where they pose questions and debate in the Parliament Chamber with students across the EU.

Our representative, Rosie Cormack of Kinross High School, has made her visit to Strasbourg and arrangements are in place for her to share her experiences with the club at a future meeting.

Amongst the club's other work with local young people, we undertake mock interviews. In order to give final year students at the High School a taste of what a job interview might be like, each year the club provides volunteers with experience in the professional and business worlds to perform these interviews. One of this year's interviewees was in the process of applying for the Navy, an application which was subsequently successful.

Breakfast meetings and Associate membership

As well as the regular weekly evening meetings, the club continues to meet over breakfast on every third Tuesday of the month. Since the start of these meetings in 2016, the club has recruited ten associate members who enjoy many of the privileges of full membership and are able to take part in the vast array of activities of the club. The club is currently looking to double the number of associate members.

Meetings

We meet most Mondays in the Kirklands Hotel, Kinross, at 6.30pm. On the third week of the month the Monday meeting is replaced by a Tuesday breakfast meeting at 7.30am, also at the Kirklands. Come along and find out what's happening in the club and meet some of our members. Contact the Club Secretary, Brian Timms, by email at brian.timms230@btinternet.com to find out more.

Kinross & District Town Twinning Association



Twinning members from both sides of the channel were saddened to learn of the recent passing of Terry McKay.

Terry and her husband Ron have been members of Kinross and District Town Twinning Association from very near the beginning of our twinning links with Gacé in Normandy.

Terry was always a happy, enthusiastic member and over many years the Mackays hosted Michel and Marie France Brodin. Michel later became President of the Jumelage in Gacé, a position he holds to this day. As well as the normal twinning exchanges, Ron and Terry welcomed Michel and Marie France during the annual school exchanges. Michel related that Ron and Terry became like their "own family."

Terry always enjoyed her visits to France, enjoying the architecture, culture and, especially, the gardens. Michel has the most beautiful garden in Gacé, so this twinning was well matched.

Terry was always a willing host, until this year when she decided to take a break from hosting, with the Brodins being hosted by Fred and Dorothy Fyfe.

Members of Kinross and District Town Twinning Association attended the memorial service in St James' Church. Terry will be lovingly remembered; she was such a happy fun loving lady who was always smiling.

Both Mackays and Brodins have many, many happy memories to reflect upon: the true meaning of twinning when families become entwined, sharing each others' joys and tragedies.

Portmoak Primary School

The year started with sad news for us at Portmoak, with the death firstly of Alison Greenshields and then the loss of one of our parents, Chris Vlasto. At times like this it is lovely to be such a small and close school community and the way that everyone has pulled together and supported each other has been really heartwarming.

News from the Classes

Primary 1/2 topic for this term is Weather. They will be making and using a range of instruments to measure and record the weather. They will discuss the effect different types of weather has on the environment and how it makes us feel. They will also be investigating how water can change from one form to another and how different materials can keep us warm and dry.

Primary 2/3 finished a topic on electricity with some great projects that were lit up by a simple electric circuit and bulb. They had lots of problems to solve and realised how inventors need to design, test, tinker and try again to create their inventions. It was great to see everyone's enthusiasm and perseverance. This term they are doing a topic called Extreme Weather, looking at climate zones around the world using atlases and working on maps. They will look at different countries and the animals that live there and how these animals survive in extreme climates.

Primary 4/5 children explored the world of inventions and learned about Alexander Graham Bell along with other Scottish inventors. The children were surprised to find out how many inventions were created by Scots along with the discovery of some local Kinross-shire inventors! The children also had the opportunity to create an invention of their own which would solve a problem that already existed. They came up with fantastic ideas and turned these into their very own prototype 3D models! This term, the context for learning is 'Extreme Climates', concentrating on the rainforest and the polar regions. In March they will move on to 'Mary Queen of Scots' and will visit Falkland Palace.

Last term the topic for **Primary 5/6** was Energy Sources. The children had the opportunity to learn about renewable and non-renewable energy and how these sources affect the world we live in. As part of the topic, the class walked up Bishop Hill. The children

looked at the potential for renewable energy sources at the top of the hill. Their topic until Easter will be the Highland Clearances. They will develop their knowledge of why the clearances happened and the impact it had on families' lives. The class novel this term will be 'The Desperate Journey' by Kathleen Fidler. It tells the story of a family evicted from their Highland home and how their lives unfold. As the novel leads on to tell about the family's emigration to Canada, they will go on to investigate and explore life in Canada. The children will compare similarities and differences in lifestyles and cultures along with weather, climate and land use.

This term, **Primary 6/7** context for learning is through the novel 'The Desperate Journey' by Kathleen Fidler. They will be learning about the events leading up to the Highland Clearances, including the Jacobite Rebellion, and then we will move on to emigration to Canada and complete a country comparison of Canada and Scotland.

Whole School Scottish Week

All classes took part in Scottish week to celebrate Burns' birthday and our annual Scots' Poetry Competition was a highlight of this week.

Once again we were astounded by the level of participation in the Scots' poetry competition held to celebrate Burns' day. There was an incredibly high standard throughout the school however Mrs Wilson (former Portmoak Headteacher) and Mr Morgan (Jolly Beggars Burns Club) decided that the winners for each year group were as follows:

P1: Jude Oliver and Caitlin Cox, P2: Vidal Mann, Olivia Nevitt and Luka McLaughlin, P3: Aiden Croft, Craig Hardie and Helena Verden-Anderson, P4: Hayden Cameron, Heather Cox, Millie Monaghan and Will Carmichael, P5: Rory Palin and Daisy Wringe, P6: Isabel Gray, Keira Robertson, Cara Gray, Jacob Mellis and Chloe Vlasto and P7: Niamh Brown and Finlay Clark. Finlay also won the Burns Quaich for his rendition of Tam O' Shanter.



Celebrating Robert Burns

They will also be participating in a Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) challenge this term. An engineer will visit the class to discuss the different elements of engineering and the children will design their own invention, which will be entered into a national competition.

They are involved in a big art project for this year's Michael Bruce themed Portmoak Festival. Primary 6/7 are learning how to dye wool using natural materials found in the local area and will then create a woven picture of the landscape around Kinnesswood using their dyed wool.

Bags to School

If you have any rag bag donations (clothing, textiles, curtains etc) you are able to add to our Bags 2 School collection we would be very grateful. Community donations have a big impact on the amount of money we raise through this. The next date is 9am on Friday 21 April. Donations can be dropped off here or at Buchan's garage. Thank you for reading our news. If you have time or expertise that you would like to share with our school, then please get in touch. Kind regards,

Louise Gordon, Headteacher

Portmoak Film Society

www.portmoakfilmsociety.org.uk

The March film, 'Hunt for the Wilderpeople', is a New Zealand film shot in the mountainous plateau of North Island and is about a 'difficult' young Maori boy who is sent into the wilds to be fostered by a middle-aged couple. The film proved very popular with our audience, garnering 96% in the 'excellent/good' category. It was a poignant and, at times, laugh-out-loud tale of the boy's relationship with the equally 'difficult' father-figure, played brilliantly against character by Sam Neill. The season ends with a special treat on **Saturday 8 April**. We're showing Ken Loach's 'I, Daniel Blake' which won Best British Film award at this year's BAFTAs. In the 'social realist' genre, which his work has consistently defined, the film tells, without flinching, what happens when a normal citizen – due to illness – becomes reliant on the welfare system in this age of austerity. Hard-hitting, but ultimately not without hope, this is a great opportunity to see a great film in your own neighbourhood!

As it's the last night of the season, we traditionally hold our **AGM** before the film starts. This lasts about ten minutes, and you will also have the opportunity to take part in an audience survey, to tell us what kind of films you would like to see featured in the next season.

Films start promptly at 7.30pm with hot drinks and refreshments afterwards. Entry is with membership card or costs £5 on the door; for further info, visit our website.

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. This service is completely free and totally confidential. We look forward to seeing you!

*Grace Simpson
Local Director, Healing Rooms*

Want to sell something?

Advertise your item free of charge in the
Classified Advertisements section on
www.kinross.cc

Potager Garden

Spring is springing, and we are looking forward to a new growing season at the Potager garden, where we are celebrating our **21st birthday!** Watch out for details of a celebration for this anniversary in future newsletters. We would be pleased to hear from anyone who has been involved in the past and would like to join us. Please contact Amanda on the details below.

Lorna Jack's P5 class from Kinross Primary will again be visiting over the summer term to learn about plants and grow vegetables, with their first visit before the Easter holidays. We will also have some educational visits for some of the younger pupils in the Willow Tree group. Visits are also planned soon from Rosemount Nursery.

The garden will also be **open for visitors** during the day after Easter, and you are welcome to enjoy the plants and peace and quiet. Please take care around the garden, and do not touch or taste the plants, dogs on a lead please.

Our **volunteer sessions** have started again on Monday mornings from about 10.30am to 12.30pm. Do call in if you would like to find out about helping at the garden. We can also give gardening advice and sell plants at these times.

If you would like to arrange a group visit, or have any other enquiries, please contact Amanda James on 01577 840809 or by email at amanda@tyafon.plus.com.

Dobbies Community Champion

It is lovely to see the signs of spring and flowers appearing. In March the **Little Seedlings Club** learned about the importance of wildflowers for bees and other minibeasts, and sowed their own seeds to grow over the summer. We also visited our growing bed at the allotments behind the store, and sowed broad bean seeds to grow there.

Weather permitting, the April meeting on **Sunday 2 April** at 11am will be at the allotment site, and we will learn about the onion family, and grow chive seeds.

We will also have an 'eggstra' special **Easter holiday session** of the club on **Monday 10 April**, from 2.30pm to 4pm with some learning about growing, a game and craft. All children aged 4 to 10 years are welcome, accompanied by an adult. Please book in advance at www.dobbies.com. All Little Seedlings meetings are free.

The May meeting will be on **Sunday 7 May** at 11am.

We are pleased to announce that our new local **charity partner** for this year is **Seamab School** at Rumbling Bridge. They care for, and teach, children who have come from traumatic backgrounds and enable them to learn to trust other people and build their self-esteem. We are looking forward to working with Susie, their fundraiser, and her volunteers, with events and collections at the store. The monies raised will be used for outdoor activities for the children at Seamab.

I have recently donated seed potatoes, onion sets and some vegetable seeds to Portmoak and Fossoway Primary Schools so the children can grow their own over the summer. I will also be visiting the Laurieston Nursery and Lochies House School in Clackmannanshire to look into a donation of growing items under our programme, 'Get your community Growing'. Dobbies nationwide recently won the community involvement award at the Garden Centre Retail Awards.

If you would like a school or community group to be considered for a donation for a growing project, please contact Amanda James at the store by calling 01577 863327 or by email at community.kinross@dobbies.com.





Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation



Survey results, Kinross Farmers' Market

In February KLEO conducted a survey about the Kinross Farmers' Market (online and in Kinross Newsletter). 162 people took part in the online survey and we received six paper copies. Results are:

1. **How often did you visit the Kinross Farmers' Market in 2016?** 168 responses. All 3 markets: 24%. One or two of the markets: 60%. None: 16%.
2. **If so, did you enjoy the experience and why?** 131 people responded that they enjoyed the experience. People mentioned good atmosphere and community feel, good variety of stalls. Two people didn't enjoy experience (but no reason given).
3. **If not visited any of the markets, why not?** 27 people answered this question that they were too busy, not interested or they found it too expensive.
4. **If you have visited the market, what do you think about the amount and variety of stalls?** 135 responses. Far too few: 35%. Right amount and variety: 63%. Too many: 2%.
5. **If too few, or you would like to see any more added, please let us know.** 54 people answered this question. Most of these respondents indicated they would like more variety, more fresh produce, food stalls. A few people indicated that a few more local craft stalls could be added.
6. **The High Street has 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?** 168 respondents. Open for all markets: 12%. Closed for a few of the markets: 11%. Closed for all markets: 76%. One person did not mind: 1%.
7. **Please indicate underneath why you would like to keep High Street open or closed during market days.** 144 people answered this question of which the majority answered that they would like to have the road closed because of safety, better atmosphere and more space. Nine respondents don't like a road closure with main reason accessibility to shops and that diversions can add to traffic confusion.
8. **If road would be closed at market area we would have space and opportunity to put on additional activities ... more stalls, tasting sessions, other entertainment (music). Would you be interested in this?** 164 respondents. Very interested: 76%. Neutral: 15%. Not at all interested: 9%.
9. **If interested, how often would you like a 'special event market' to happen?** 152 respondents. For all the seven market dates: 43%. Only for some of the market dates: 55%. For none of the market dates: 2%.
10. **Do you have other questions, comments or concerns?** Variety of answers with a lot of people indicating that a regular market is a good thing for Kinross. It was also mentioned that people don't want any political stalls at the markets, allow car access to Carnegie apartments, use car parking at the Pier.

If you would like a full overview of the results, please send an e-mail to info@kleo.org.uk and we will send it out to you. KLEO will take these survey results into account for the next market dates. The April market is a special bigger event (see next column) and it has been decided that the High Street will be closed at the market area for this event. A decision about a road closure for the other markets has not been made yet.

Need Equipment for a Community Event?

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

Items are listed on www.kinross.cc at:

www.kinross.cc/equipment_hire/equipment.htm

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

Kinross-shire Decides!

Special event at 22 April Kinross Farmers' Market

The first Kinross Farmers' Market of this year, on 22 April, will be a bigger festive event as the market will be in conjunction with the 'Kinross-shire Decides' event. Apart from browsing through the farmers' market stalls everybody is invited to come along to the market and vote to fund their favourite community project. (See page 4 for more information.)

For this event the **High Street will be closed** from entrance Burns Begg Street to entrance Montgomery Street. There will be special signs in place to guide traffic to alternative routes via Burns Begg Street/Sandport or Bowton Road/Montgomery Street.

Markets Dates

All market dates in 2017 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-7pm).

Kinross-shire's Winter Festival 2017

A few exciting events and concerts are already lined up for this year's festival. Scotland's National Poet Liz Lochhead & The Hazey Janes will perform on Friday 3 November at the campus at 8pm. Other events at the festival include Lights Out By Nine (4 Nov), Comedy with Billy Kirkwood (10 Nov), The Messiah (12 Nov), All Dance Event (17 Nov), Choirs Together (19 Nov) and The Festive Street Market/Light Up Kinross (25 Nov).

For more events and tickets, go to www.kleo.org.uk

Leven Voices

A new block of Leven Voices will start on 18 April with Horsecross Arts tutors Joanne Greer (sessions 1-5) and Heather Macleod (sessions 6-10). 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 10 week period. Just come along, sing and enjoy!

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

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The Early Bird Catches the... Business Contacts!

The glorious sunrise which provided a stunning backdrop while driving to the Kinross-shire Partnership networking breakfast on 1 March was so mesmerising that it was tempting just to stop the car at the side of the road and watch it, and leave networking for another day. However, fortunately, the lure of a Loch Leven's Larder slap-up Scottish breakfast drew well over 20 businesses to this, the final breakfast of the 2016/2017 season.

Several additional guests were in attendance, as members of Business Links Fife had been invited to join Kinross-shire Partnership for the morning's networking, and it was great to see even more new faces than usual. Chairman Alisdair Stewart welcomed the wide range of entrepreneurs and once breakfast had been enjoyed by all, attendees were invited to tell a bit about their business and its products or services. The latter spanned guitar lessons, architectural design, gardening services, car valeting, insurance broking and wedding photography, to name but a few.

The morning's speaker was Uwe Stoneman, Senior Site Manager at RSPB Scotland's Loch Leven Nature Reserve nearby. The affable and effervescent Uwe adopted a unique approach to conveying the information he wanted to share with the gaggle of breakfast guests, in that he divided everyone present into four teams then proceeded to hold an "RSPB breakfast quiz" (a bit like a pub quiz, but with participants tucking into bacon instead of beer!).

After much frantic scribbling, the correct answers were revealed to the highly competitive teams. Attendees learned, for example, that RSPB Loch Leven will be celebrating their 50th anniversary this year, and that around 58,000 visitors (and of course, thousands of birds) flock to the reserve on an annual basis. Of these visitors, 2500 are school children, who come not only to view the multifarious birds but also to learn about minibests and conservation work.

To mark their golden anniversary, RSPB Loch Leven will be hosting a range of family events during the coming months, culminating in an Open Day on 29 October. They're also inviting the public to share their memories, anecdotes and photos of fifty years of RSPB Scotland Loch Leven. [See *March Newsletter* for details.] To mark the occasion, a limited edition pin badge is also now available in the form of a golden goose. Looking to the future, Uwe explained that RSPB is working with TRACKS and other partners to construct a new underpass between the Loch Leven Heritage Trail and the new 'Sleeping Giant' path over Benarty Hill to Lochore, which will provide safe access under the B9097 for bicycles, buggies and wheelchair users. RSPB and TRACKS need to raise around £800,000 and would be grateful for any donations (small or large) from businesses or individuals towards this new project.

The next series of Kinross-shire Partnership business breakfasts will start on the first Wednesday of October 2017, and details will be sent out in the autumn to invite local entrepreneurs to register for this event. In the meantime, the Chairman and Committee of Kinross-shire Partnership would like to wish all businesses who have joined us during the past season of networking a prosperous spring and summer ahead.

Milnathort in Bloom

In season 2016/17, many things happened in our Bloom world and, as a result, there are many local businesses, organisations and friends to thank for their contributions to Milnathort in Bloom.



Arthur and Margaret Thompson Trust for their very generous donation, enabling us to buy our new bloom buggy.

Giacopazzi's of Milnathort for naming us Charity of the Year and donating the proceeds from the sale of carrier bags, and for their kind donation of mince pies for the Carols at the Cross event.

John Drysdale Agricultural Engineers for the supply of our new bloom buggy.

R&D Spray Co. Milnathort, for fitting the pump and spray and **D&M Sheet Metal**, Milnathort, for securing the water tank to the buggy.

We'd like to thank **Scottish Water** for their generous donation for the Christmas Tree and lights at the Cross – the Carol Service was great! Also for their donation towards restoration of the Cross – everyone will see a marked difference this year.

Kirkforthar Potato Company, Milnathort, for supplying three very large potato boxes to use in our display at the Cross and **Restoration & Renovation, Drysdale Fencing & Huts** and **Webster Building Supplies** for their help with cladding and supply of sand and gravel.

A huge thank you to **Turffit** who kindly came along and cut the turf at the Orchard so that we could plant daffodil bulbs and wild flowers, and for their donation of wild flower seed.

Kinross-shire Fund for their donation, which enabled us to buy new tubs for the village for this year.

Robertson's Farm Supplies and **Carrs Billington** for supply of compost and fertiliser.

Stewart & Smart, Milnathort, and **Derry Houston** for servicing and repairs for our old Bloom Buggy and the new one.

June Paton of Hattonburn Nurseries for housing our polytunnel and putting up with our constant comings and goings.

Councillor Willie Robertson for his advice and guidance.

Mrs Gillon for the generous donation left for Milnathort in Bloom in her will.

And lastly, a huge, huge thank you to **our volunteers and supporters** — without you we couldn't do what we do.

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Kinross-shire Historical Society

Missing in Borneo by George Sutherland



On 20 February, we were enthralled by a historical detective story with many twists and turns. While working for Shell in Borneo in 1985, George Sutherland read a newspaper article about a crashed wartime Japanese aircraft discovered in the jungle. Having previous experience of wreck searches, Mr Sutherland set off with two others on the first expedition.

Searching was difficult but they found parts, including a wheel and a tail section. He had with him books which identified all kinds of Japanese aircraft but the parts didn't match any of them. After further inspection, it became apparent that the plane was a twin engined aircraft with 75 foot wingspan made by Glen Martin Co USA. They had built the first all metal bomber with retractable undercarriage which became obsolete in the late 1930s. These planes had been delivered to Holland in US colours with orange triangles and then repainted green.

In 1986 Mr Sutherland was contacted by the Dutch Airforce. Great excitement had been caused by the reports of the plane. There was to be a celebration in 1988 to mark the formation of the Dutch Airforce and they wanted some of the bits of the plane, found in the jungle, to put on display in the museum as this was the first crashed plane to be found. There were three further expeditions to the site with the aim of recovering the aircraft. There were many tales to tell about these trips.

Some numbers were found but there was confusion around this. It was finally discovered that 551 was the correct number. Research supported the fact that the crash site was on the direct route to the base at Samarinda where 551 was based. Unfortunately the number confusion meant that families, met by George Sutherland at the Dutch Museum,

who had thought they now knew where the crew of 571 had died, were disappointed.

A recent visit to the museum showed that the wreckage of 571 had been found by an Englishman. When the mistakes were pointed out to the museum, the sign was amended to say 551 found by a Scotsman.

Professor Munro thanked George Sutherland for an outstanding evening.

The Ways of the Wanderers by Jess Smith

On 20 March, Jess spoke about her life as a traveller child and related stories about family members and some of their customs. Jess had promised her father, on his death bed, that she would write about the lives of the travellers as the paper he wrote, called 'White Nigger', failed to get published.

Having had little education, Jess joined a writers' group and a 50 plus group. She then published a successful book which led on to other books. However, Jess still felt that she hadn't kept her promise to her father to expose the truth about the treatment of the Travellers in society.

Jess also spoke of the research she did at places such as the AK Bell library and the National library. She spoke of historical information relating to the travelling people and their place internationally. For example, 'Egyptians' deriving from the word 'gypsies' and Romanies who are the top level of travellers as their licences needed to have the seal of Rome on them.

Jess wrote a more serious book called 'The Way of the Wanderer'. It was initially rejected and she had to restructure it, mixing the information with stories, to have it published. Music was important to travellers; both singing and playing instruments. Jess rounded off her talk with a lovely song called 'Yellow on the Broom'.

Anne Milburn thanked Jess for an amazing evening. The whole audience were kept enthralled by the humour, poignancy and social history.

Kinross Circle Dancing

Kinross Circle dancers meet every Tuesday morning in Millbridge Hall from 10.30am to 12.30pm, and also on Wednesday mornings in the new dance studio, Junction Road, Kinross, for one hour, starting at 10am.

Circle dancing is great fun, and no previous experience is necessary. Do come and join us. We would love to welcome you. For further details, please phone Lynne Barlow on 01259 742173.

Boys Brigade

As the session draws towards a close with the annual display and presentation of awards scheduled for Friday 12 March, all sections are busy completing badge work and activities.



Juniors are preparing for their annual Battalion competition involving figure marching, singing and games. They are also preparing for their 'away fun day' in early May. Company section members have all done well in the Battalion Scripture Search competition. They are also due to compete in the popular Midnight Hike, which they have won for the past two years, as well as the Drill Competition.

Preparations for the annual summer camp in North Yorkshire are underway with a busy schedule planned, including the standard visit to a nearby theme park.

Duke of Edinburgh awards preparations are also well to the fore for the senior members of the Company Section involving expedition work, volunteering and individual interest targets. Four members are due to be presented with their Queen's Badges at a ceremony being held in Blairgowrie at the end of May.

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Kinross High School

Meaningful May and Work Experience Week

This May, a group of S4 pupils will be taking part in an exciting programme of events designed to enhance their employability, communication and presentation skills. As part of the Scottish Government's current focus on 'Raising Attainment for All', events will engage pupils in activities which will improve their skills in personal finance, interview technique, career selection, CV building and will involve outdoor learning opportunities including volunteer work, fitness sessions and team building. More information can be found on the school website.

This comprehensive programme of opportunities could not be offered without the substantial input of time and experience from our local partners in the Kinross-shire area. We are grateful to all businesses and organisations for their involvement.

We are also keen to establish further links with local employers and individuals who are keen to support our enthusiastic pupils.

Week beginning 15 May is work experience week and we are keen to secure places for our pupils. If you think you can offer a work experience placement, please get in touch with Jennie Mears at kinrosshigh@pkc.gov.uk or on 01577 867100.

If you would like further information, or to form a partnership with Kinross High School, please contact Jenny Breen (responsible for enhancing enterprise and employability) on the details above.

Confucius Institute Scotland's Schools (CISS)

We are delighted to again offer the opportunity for senior pupils to travel to China. This summer nine pupils from S4 and S5 will be travelling to Tianjin in China for the Chinese Bridge Summer Camp. The pupils, accompanied by their teacher Mr Becher, will be learning Mandarin language and will attend Chinese cultural classes. They will also have the opportunity to visit sites such as the Great Wall of China, the Forbidden City and the birth place of Confucius.

We are also finalising arrangements for a Confucius classroom to be located in Kinross High School from August 2017. We hope that this will provide the opportunity for more pupils in Kinross-shire to have the opportunity to learn about Chinese language and culture.

Letter from Franco-Scottish

Dear Mrs Brown,

This is just a short note of thanks for the warm welcome we received when visiting your school on Tuesday. It was very heart-warming to meet Paul Becher's students who clearly like him and it is no exaggeration to say that he played a big part in helping us to decide to present this year's Alexander Gray Award to Ben Hood. We were very impressed with the school and, despite living in Perthshire for ten years, we were unaware of the school's existence. I am sure that is something we can address in the future and look forward to the Society playing a more active role in the development of the school's students.

Best wishes,

Lucyna Lindsay,
President of the Franco-Scottish Society (Perth Branch)



The Kinross-shire Civic Trust

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Kinross-shire Civic Trust is pleased to announce its programme for the coming year.

Programme for 2017

Tue 25 April	Annual General Meeting. See below for details.
TBA	Visit to Cowden House .
Sat 10 June	Visit to Falkland House .
w/c 17 July	Best Kept Village Competition.
Sat 12 August	Kinross Show: The Trust will have a stand at the show.
Wed 25 Oct	Annual Dinner , Grouse & Claret.
TBA	Joint meeting with other Civic Trusts and CCs.

Kinross-shire Civic Trust Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 25 April at 7.30pm

in Cleish Hall

The Annual General Meeting will be followed by refreshments and a talk by

Neil Mitchell,

Regional Manager of Scottish Natural Heritage,
entitled:

'The SNH work at Kinross and its aspirations'

SNH's work around Loch Leven and its surroundings is very important to the area and it will be very interesting to hear from Neil.

All members are cordially invited and any non-members are very welcome as well.

Friends of Loch Leven Community Library

Open Mic Event

A not-to-be-missed date for your calendar! On **Saturday 22 April** we are holding an Open Mic event in Loch Leven Community Library from 2pm to 3pm. It's free and you don't need a ticket to come and listen, but performers need to pre-register. There are still a few slots available so, if you'd like to sing or play to an audience (or know someone who would), please contact us on 07999 510500 for application details.

About Us

FOLLCL is a group of independent volunteers who staff Loch Leven Community Library on Saturday afternoons from 1pm to 4pm and on Mondays from 10am to 1pm.

We would be delighted if you would like to join us as a volunteer; please get in touch on 07543 657539 or find us on Facebook.



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Kinross-shire shines at sports ceremony

The Perth & Kinross Sports Awards 2016 ceremony held on 3 March at Perth Grammar School was dominated by Kinross-shire winners, with Milnathort's **Laura Muir** taking the top award as the **Live Active Leisure Sports Person of the Year Award for 2016**.

Perth Provost Liz Grant welcomed individual and team nominees along with volunteers, coaches, Live Active staff and parents to the prestigious evening before handing over to hostess Nicola Martin who introduced the awards and their sponsors.



Milnathort's Laura Muir is Live Active Leisure Sports Person of the Year for 2016

Laura Muir was unable to be present in person to receive her award as she was running at the European Indoor Championships in Belgrade, winning double gold in both the 1500 metres and 3000 metres races.

The Perth Trophy Shop **Volunteer of the Year Award** was jointly won by **Anthony Drew** and **John Ross** of Kinross-shire Cricket Club for their many hours spent converting a portacabin into a functioning club house on the shores of Loch Leven.

The Tactran **Coach of the Year** went to **Peter Ross** of Kinross-shire Cricket Club for his various roles with schools, clubs and junior national squad players.

The Live Active Sports Development **Event of the Year** was won by the **Scottish Open Volleyball Tournament**, the brainchild of Kinross Volleyball Club's **Dave Munro**, now in its 31st year and the biggest volleyball tournament in the UK,

attracting over 100 teams from around the UK and Europe. As well as the winners just mentioned, there were also local runners-up with the Kinross Under 16 Boys' Volleyball Team just missing out on the Small City Big Personality Team of the Year Award to Curling's Team Kinnear.

Ola Stanton of the Kinross Otters Swimming Club was runner up in the Alison Wilson Junior Female Sports' Person of the Year.

The evening highlighted the amazing amount of hours spent by dedicated volunteers as well as the many hours spent by athletes in preparation for competition at national and international levels.

Perth & Kinross Council deserve congratulations for the recognition they give to local sportsmen and women who contribute greatly to a wide range of sports within Tayside and Fife.



l to r: Anthony Drew, Peter Ross, John Ross and David Munro of Kinross-shire; all winners at the Perth & Kinross Sports Awards

Walking Football

It's the fastest growing sport in Scotland. The sheer brutality combined with lightening reflexes and speed make cage-fighting look like a Victorian tea party in comparison. Each Tuesday evening their children weep, their spouses check the exclusion clauses in the life insurance policies, as twelve to twenty brave souls make their way to the campus to compete outdoors in howling wind, driving rain and occasional balmy evenings.

Photographs of loved ones are pinned to the surrounding fences, hearing aids, false teeth and walking sticks are stored in the corner of the pitch. The smell of Deep Heat rises into the atmosphere as the warm-up proceeds under the watchful eyes of Jovial Jim and Cricketer Ken, who is believed to be about a hundred.

The coaching is carried out by Blind Charlie, the Kelty Psycho, rumoured to be a one-time associate of the Kray twins. After demanding money with menaces, Charlie gives the squad a demonstration of his skills during which he defies the old motto "never run before you can walk".

Inspired by his teaching, the players set to battle; jumping joiners, visually impaired vets, dyspraxic doctors, beefy bus drivers, reconditioned TV salesmen and woeful wine

merchants all defy the remorseless march of time to roll back the years to the halcyon days of Scottish football.

Muscles are pulled, tendons are torn, hips creak and knees swell. One rotund, diminutive member of the squad who bears a passing resemblance to Thomas the Tank Engine steams about, full of enthusiasm for the first few minutes, then his oil pressure drops, his pistons leak, his gears jam and then his wheels fall off. He is then wheeled off to the repair sheds or Hutts and to date is still undergoing reconditioning. The squad have achieved international recognition, having been invited to take part in a prestigious national tournament at the Stenhousemuir Emirates Arena in April.

Further reports will follow; meantime, all old crocks are welcome, particularly if you have first aid experience.

Piano Tuition

Tuition for all levels from complete beginners to those wishing to refresh their skills.

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Kinross Vaulting Group

We are running a taster session on **Sunday 23 April** from 2pm to 4pm at our training venue at Carnbo. The cost is £16 per person and must be booked in advance.



This session is available for anybody aged 8 years and upwards. However, we do have availability for 5 to 8 year olds. Please contact us if you are interested and would like to organise a taster session in this age category. Please contact lizmacward@hotmail.com for more information, or to book.

Vaulting is a rapidly growing sport which can best be described as 'gymnastics on a moving horse'. The horse is controlled by a lunger and moves in a fifteen metre circle. Most exercises are performed at canter although difficult exercises and fun classes can be done in walk.

Orwell Bowling Club

Bowling Green Avenue, Milnathort

01577 863739

orwellbowlingclub.weebly.com

The opening of the green will be on **Saturday 15 April** at 1.30pm for a 2pm start. Please come along and pay your fees (no increase again this year) and catch up with all the members you haven't seen during the winter.

Our opening game is in aid of the blind bowlers so please bring a raffle. Raffles are much appreciated during the season as well.

Our office bearers elected at the AGM are as follows: President, Jim Whittet; Vice President, Mike Thorn; Secretary, Sandra Fullerton; Treasurer, Jim Whitter; Match Secretary, Maz Thorn.

Let's hope the weather is kind to us. We also hope that as many members as possible, and anyone who is interested in bowling, comes along. During the summer we intend to hold a 'try bowls weekend', so watch this space.

Fossoway Tennis Club

We are a family friendly club (nothing too serious) based in Crook of Devon welcoming to new members of all abilities. We have internal competitions for all ages including coaching for younger children. Have a look at our Facebook page or come along on a Thursday evening from 6.30pm to speak to a member. Individual and family memberships available. Contact Gerry on 07549 553063 or email fossowaytennis@hotmail.co.uk.



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Kinross Curling Club

www.kinrosscurlingclub.com



The finals are now coming thick and fast as the season moves into its last few weeks.

The pairs finals were both close games in different ways. In the high road final for the Gartwhinzean Cup, Iain Cormack and Tom Graham jumped out to a two-shot lead in the first end over Dougie Rodger and Denis Sweeney. Thereafter the game was nip and tuck but Iain and Tom held on to that two-shot margin to take the trophy.

In the low road final for the Skinner Rosebowl, Shane Johnston and Craig Sutherland leapt into a strong early lead but Davie Clydesdale and partner Jamie Montgomery slowly whittled the lead back to secure a 5-5 draw. A single draw shot was required to decide the outcome and Davie prevailed to lift the trophy.

Davie then contested the Poole Trophy final against Paul Baughan. This competition is scored on ends won rather than shots. The first two ends were exchanged, but Davie's rink adapted better to stones which were curling much more than in recent weeks, and steals in the third and fourth ends established a lead which Paul could not overturn. Handshakes were offered with the score at 5 ends to 2, leaving Davie Clydesdale, Scott Beveridge, Jim Paterson and Bob Mitchell to lift the trophy.

The Points competition saw Ben Cormack take the Beveridge Bowl with an impressive 50 points on tricky ice. Davie Clydesdale took the silver medal and Peter Malcolm the bronze medal. The Fife Quaich for the best-placed lead or second was won by Mark Francey.

The Montgomery and Fulton knock-out finals were both tight games. In the Montgomery, Dave Beveridge took an early lead against Sandy Nelson, but the game was back to level by the fifth end. Still peels playing the last, Sandy's rink of Tom Graham, Denis Sweeney and Mike Spain played a flawless last end to lift the trophy. The Fulton Quaich final finished all square but the rink of Shane Johnston, Ally Simms, Jamie Montgomery and Craig Purvis won on ends scored.

The annual friendly against Dunfermline is perhaps the most keenly-contested club fixture locally. This year was no exception, with Kinross opening up a ten shot lead after the first session of four games. Dunfermline pegged this back in the second session and the entire match swung backwards and forwards over the last four ends. With only two games left on the ice, the overall score was tied and both Dunfermline skips faced last stones against multiple Kinross shots in the houses. Both skips had to draw the four-foot circle to take single shots to win the bonspiel and, to their credit, both produced perfect shots for a 48 – 46 win for Dunfermline, ending a five-year winning streak by Kinross.

For information on the club, check out our new website, our Facebook page, or get in touch with the secretary by email at secretary@kinrosscurlingclub.com.

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Kinross Otters

Another busy month for the Otters. February saw the first of the Midland District League galas for this year where teams from Forfar, Brechin, Carnoustie, Montrose and several other areas compete for a coveted team title. Kinross put forward several squads across the age groups in both the first and premier division competitions.

The premier division gala took place at the Dundee Olympia complex on 17 February and the coaches were delighted with the outcome. Some very strong swims for every age group and a raft of PBs across the board, including a storming 50m fly from Thomas Pritchard who knocked an astonishing 16.43 seconds of his previous time. Kinross finished third overall. A great start to the competition, especially as some of the team are relatively new to the squad.



The Kinross Otters premier division squad

The first division team had a home gala as their first swim, with Live Active Kinross hosting the event. Teams from Montrose, Brechin, Blairgowrie and Perth City attended with Kinross coming fifth despite some excellent performances. Unfortunately, the club are very low on boys in the upper age groups (aged 13 and over) which meant that, in several races, we were unable to field a swimmer and lost points as a result.

If you are a former Otter or have a child in this age range who is keen on sport, swimming is a great way to improve stamina and endurance, as well as toning muscle and providing a

great cardiovascular workout. We'd love to hear from any boys aged 13 and above who'd be interested in improving their general fitness level and becoming involved in a great team.

Three Otters competed in the SNAGS Last Chance Meet in late February. SNAGS is the Scottish National Age Groups and this 50m course is typically the first national competition young swimmers will compete in.

Over 1000 of the best age group swimmers representing over 90 clubs from across the UK will compete in the championships, which take place at Aberdeen Sports Village from 29 March to 2 April 2017.

For many, the event will provide an opportunity to win that first National Championships medal, make a final or score points for their club in the top team competition. The meet also serves as a chance for athletes to gain ranking positions for the British summer nationals along with the Scottish summer meet held in July, so this is a prestigious event to be part of.

Helen Hamilton, Ola Stanton and Zosia Stanton all competed in the Last Chance event and did Kinross Otters proud. Ola clocked up a whopping 12.93 second improvement in her 200m breaststroke event. Well done girls!

Every gala requires officials, from starters to timekeepers and Scottish Swimming insist on every club putting forward volunteers to take up these posts during competitions. We are delighted that ten parents have recently completed the timekeeper's course and we are grateful to them for their support of the club. It's also the best way to watch your Otter perform. Best seats in the house!

Pamela, our fundraising manager, has once again taken on the task of securing funding for a piece of kit the Otters need to remain competitive. Our goal is to provide the best facilities we can for our young swimmers to make sure they reach their full potential.

A backstroke ledge is an adjustable piece of equipment with several height settings which hangs off the starting blocks and helps to make backstroke starts more efficient. Many clubs across the UK now use this as many swimmers at even the very highest level can slip and take themselves out of a race before it has even begun. The ledge helps to stabilise the swimmer's feet and give them the best opportunity to win races.

The cost for such an item is high and Pamela will be securing funds from a range of activities throughout the year, including a bag pack at Asda in Perth.

Do you have
Photographs of Kinross-shire
you'd be happy to share with others?

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Kinross-shire Cricket Club

www.kinrosscc.co.uk

New Season Dates

Junior Cricket

Junior outdoor training starts again on **Monday 24 April** at Loch Leven's Larder ground from 6.30pm to 8pm. Junior training is split into age groups from primary 3 up to senior school S6. All our coaches are UKCC qualified and PVG certified. Junior numbers continue to grow but we still have space for any child looking to 'give cricket a go'.

This season will see the return of the hugely popular 'Wee Stramash' junior inter-club fixtures as well as ECB Natwest Cup campaigns for U13s and U15s and a wide range of hardball fixtures against other clubs and regular Kwik Cricket festivals for younger players.

Senior Cricket

This season our senior teams will play Sunday cricket in the Strathmore and Perthshire West league and Wednesday night in the national Last Man Stands league. We also have plans for a number of social matches and BBQ events. We have about 30 seniors who play matches as work and family life allow. Some manage most games while others play a few games during the season. Occasional players are very welcome to join and we will manage to arrange for you to play when you want. Senior training and nets are on Wednesday evenings from 6.30pm.

2016 Sports Awards

The club was delighted that our members won two of the 2016 Perth and Kinross Sports Council Awards. Coach Peter Ross was named Coach of the Year for his work within the club, local schools and with the national academy and Scotland Women's team. Anthony Drew and John Ross shared the Volunteer of the Year award in recognition of the work they did building the pavilion extension and their involvement in the primary schools coaching programme. *(see photo page 72)*

The club was also delighted that 2016 Junior of the Year, Oliver Roe, was selected as a participant for the Community Achievement Award Programme run by Cricket Scotland and Kelvin College. This is a development programme to help create Young Leaders in sport. So Oliver will benefit from mentoring and leadership development training from national level coaches from within Cricket Scotland and other national bodies during 2017.

Pavilion Upgrade

Work has started on the second phase of the pavilion upgrade with raised decking being installed across the front of the building. This will provide a greatly increased space for teams and spectators. A number of minor works are being completed inside and it is planned that the official opening of the new building will take place in May.

Contact Details

More information on the club, training nights and match details can be found on the club website, our Facebook page and on Twitter.



Kinross Golf Club

www.kinrossgolfclub.co.uk

Winter League progress update

With one round to go, still all to play for. In the low section George R Thomson is leading Stephen Hynd by 3 points, Stephen Hynd is leading the eclectic with Andrew Jackson 1 shot behind. In the high section David Farmer on 23 points is one point in front of Craig Hynd and Rodney Duncan is 3 shots clear in the eclectic.

A number of hardy ladies have braved the elements and have been playing casual golf throughout much of the winter. The Ladies season opens with a 9-hole non-counting competition on **Saturday 1 April**. This is a 'Bring and Win' fun competition where everyone brings along a gift and everyone goes home with a prize. The afternoon is rounded off with refreshments in the clubhouse.

The **Ladies Invitation Greensomes** is on **Saturday 15 April**, with tee times 1.30pm and 2.30pm. This will be played on the Bruce course, followed by tea in the clubhouse. The entry sheet is on the noticeboard in the ladies locker room.

Charity Quiz

Come along and test your general knowledge and give to a good cause at the same time. On **Saturday 22 April** the club will be hosting its annual charity quiz night. All members and guests will be welcomed by question masters for the evening; Tom Graham and Kenny Wardrope. The entry fee is £5 per person, in teams of four, and all proceeds will go to a charity picked by the winning team. The quiz will start at 7.30pm with last orders for food at 6.30pm. Contact Lyn or her bar staff to book your team's place.

2017 Mixed Open

The date for this is **Sunday 7 May**. The format is Greensomes and the entry fee is £12 per couple. To enter you can download an application form from the website golfempire.co.uk or email office@kinrossgolfclub.co.uk.

About Us

Kinross Golf Club has four golfing sections, namely Gents, Ladies, Seniors and Juniors. All have their own schedule of competitions running from April through to October, as well as participating in local leagues and friendly matches during the season. Competitions are played over two 18-hole courses; 'The Bruce' and 'The Montgomery'. New members are always welcome.

For non-golfers, a social membership is available for £45 a year. This offers access to the clubhouse facilities, including live Sky Sports and all social events such as dances and other entertainment, as well as a discount on food and drink.

For more information check out our website, follow us on Facebook and Twitter or pop into the clubhouse.

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Contributors

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Kinross Tennis Club

www.kinrossstennisclub.org.uk

A big thank you to everyone (members, their families and many friends) who came along to our annual fundraising quiz night at the rugby club in March. The chilli and traybakes were delicious, the raffle was the longest on record and, most importantly of all, Mike and Elaine Spain once again ran an excellent and enjoyable quiz. Some teams bulked up their numbers to ensure a good result whilst others demonstrated that taking part really is what counts.

The changing of the clocks and the blooming of the bulbs can only mean one thing; the start of a new tennis season! So blow the dust off your racket, come down to the courts next to Kinross Primary School and join us for a hit at our **Open Day on Saturday 1 April** any time between 10.30am and 3pm. Membership enquiries and renewals, coaching information and bookings and the exchange of members' court keys for the new season will all be handled in the clubhouse.

Having now received our ticket allocation for **Wimbledon**, the club's internal ballot for tickets will take place on **Wednesday 12 April**. Members, please remember that you must have renewed your membership before this date in order to be eligible for the ballot.

Junior coaching starts with the **Easter Camp** from **Monday 10 April to Friday 14 April** and is closely followed by the summer term block of coaching on Tuesdays and Fridays which will start on **Friday 21 April**. More information is available on the website and bookings for both can be made by emailing Siobhan at kinrossstenniscoaching@gmail.com.

For adults, we hope to see increased numbers at the regular club sessions on **Wednesdays at 6.30pm**, **Sundays at 10.30am** and the **Thursday afternoon social session at 1.30pm**.

The Tennis Tayside leagues will also start at the end of April, with Perth and District leagues close behind.

We would like to run some **adult coaching sessions on Tuesday evenings** for different levels of players but these will depend on demand, so please email Margaret at kinrossstennis@gmail.com if you are interested.

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



Kinross Swimmers

Well we've had our winter social at the Apricot in Dunfermline; good food and good company, couldn't ask for more. Think everyone enjoyed it and there was good turnout so thanks for that.

However, we still haven't had our AGM which is now moving into the overdue stage. Unfortunately, Tara injured herself skiing so won't be in the pool quite so often in the near future. However, on the plus side, she has set her sights on organising the AGM to coincide with one of her coaching nights, so hopefully that is in hand and an actual date will be out soon.

It will be interesting to see the range of training programmes that Lachlan has taken note of during the preceding year. It will be handy to have access to that reference folder to help the coaches and session takers at short notice.

Swimming in a club setting is proven to be much more beneficial than solo swimming as it encourages you to push your own boundaries. 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 Ian Shepherd via email at shepherd_ian@hotmail.com or on mobile number 07944503074.



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Kinross Rugby Club

Minis

The restart of the season got off to a shaky start for the minis section, or should that be a watery start? We started off well with home games on a sunny and dry February Sunday; the perfect antidote to weeks of indoor training. But thereafter things got a bit muddy, with flooded unplayable pitches in Stirling, Edinburgh and Dunfermline stopping us in our tracks. Nevertheless, we soldiered on and last weekend took us to a bright and (dare I say) warm Howe of Fife. The boys and girls of Kinross RFC thrived in the sunshine and played their hearts out, clearly glad to be out in the fresh air again. So with training well under way again and a run of tournaments lined up for the second half of the season, the push is on to get as many children down to the KGV on Saturday mornings as possible. Training for P1s to P7s takes place at 10.30am. For enquiries, please contact Morven on 07740589647, or just come along.

Midis

If you don't like getting wet, cold and muddy or are afraid of the dark, then clearly Kinross Midis isn't for you! However, for the 20 or so boys training with the club on a Tuesday night, the muddier the better!! The Midis section continues to grow and, we are pleased to say, so does our fixtures list. With a busy schedule of fixtures ahead, the boys are working hard at training, but we are always looking for fresh faces. So if you think you would like to give it a go, come along at 7pm every Tuesday to the KGV. No previous experience needed. Boys only from S1 to S6.

Senior/Adult

We are getting close to the end of the season. We had our last home game against Panmure RFC on Saturday 11 March which was a hard-fought game.

We have one more game left in the season, against Blairgowrie on Saturday 1 April.



We are heading to Bielefeld, Germany, at the end of May for a tour to meet up with some old friends and also to play a game out there.

Next Season

As you have previously read, we have had a tough season this year. Despite the scores, we have always managed to fulfil all the fixtures although it has been a tough job. So we have started to look at next season and we are looking for more players. If you fancy trying rugby for the first time, or even if you haven't played since High School, get in contact and get involved. Training is every Tuesday and Thursday from 7pm. We are also looking for sponsors for next season so, if you are interested in supporting a local club, please get in contact.

The Club House

March has been a good month for the six nations rugby and, as always, there has been a great atmosphere around the club even with the shock results. Our clubhouse is available for any function, be it a quiz night or even a birthday party; please get in contact.

Contact Us

Email, kinrossrugby@gmail.com

Club House, 01577 861773

Facebook, Kinross Rugby Club

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

Henderson Bishop Competition: At the end of February we welcomed the best lady curlers from all ice rinks across Scotland. Twenty teams participated in the four-day competition, which saw many hard-fought matches. The teams reaching the final were Stranraer and Murrayfield 2, with Murrayfield 2 taking the trophy. It was a clean sweep for the Edinburgh ice rink as Murrayfield 1 won the Cherrystone (low road), beating Aberdeen.

Off-ice activities were much enjoyed. They began on Monday 27 February, with a civic reception at the Windlestrae Hotel, with Liz Grant, Provost of Perth & Kinross, welcoming our visitors. This was followed by a fashion show courtesy of the Shop at the Green, with clothes modelled by the local Henderson Bishop organising committee, Jane Drysdale, Fiona Rutherford, Maggie Scott, Liz Glennie, Ena Stevenson, Fiona Doig and Susan Rigby. On the second evening there was a supper in the Windlestrae and on the third a gala dinner, packed with fun and laughter from start to finish, with many teams contributing to the entertainment.

Sincere thanks to: the organising committee; all sponsors, particularly the main sponsor, Brian Johnson Pharmacy; helpers, teams and spectators.

25 years: On 2 March, as it was the last day of the Henderson Bishop finals, there was a good crowd to help celebrate the 25th anniversary of Steven Kerr's arrival at Kinross ice rink (and Steven's birthday, but we won't say how many years!). Steven's passionate commitment to making the best possible ice plays a huge part in making Kinross Curling such a great place to curl.

Morton Trophy: On 14 March three teams representing Kinross narrowly lost to Forfar in the national finals of this ladies' competition. The ice at Kirkcaldy

was very tricky.

Ayr: Twelve local curlers had a great match in Ayr representing Kinross Curling v Ayr Curling Club. All the details are on our website and Facebook page.

British Curling: The elite athletes return to Kinross post season to prepare for the Olympics. This recognises the super quality of the ice at Kinross. Look out for more news.

The Kinross Curling Closing Bonspiel and Prize-giving is on **Saturday 8 April**.

If you want to find out more about curling, you will be made very welcome at the rink, which is behind the Green Hotel. The entrance is off Green Road.



The local Henderson Bishop organising committee: Susan Rigby, Maggie Scott, Fiona Rutherford, Jane Drysdale, Ena Stevenson, Fiona Doig and Liz Glennie.

Bishopshire Curling Club

150th Anniversary Bonspiel

On Saturday 18 February a bonspiel was held at the Kinross Curling Rink to celebrate Bishopshire Curling Club's 150th Anniversary.

The stellar organisational skills of club secretary Michelle Silvera and the excellent turnout ensured an enjoyable event.



Some of the action during the Bishopshire Curling Club 150th Anniversary Bonspiel

Bishopshire Curling Club would like to say a big thank you to our friends at Dollar & Devonvale, Dunfermline Men, Falkland, Fossoway, Glenfarg, Kinross Ladies, Kinross Men, Orwell Ladies, Orwell Men and Rothes for helping us celebrate in style.

For the record, Falkland won the first session and were also the overall winners. John White's Bishopshire team won the second session.

Thank you also to all members, past and present, for your contributions over the years which have helped to keep our small but friendly club going throughout its long history.

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Kinross Colts J.F.C.

Donaldson Park Development

We have received planning approval for our proposed pavilion at Donaldson Park, which will enable our eleven-a-side teams to play their games there. The club would like to thank our architect Andrew Megginson and local councillors Joe Giacobazzi and Willie Robertson for their assistance throughout the process.

Kinross Colts Sticker Book

The Kinross Colts sticker book was launched last month and contains every player involved in all the squads in the club. There's now lots of sticker trading going on and profit from the stickers goes back towards club funds. A massive thank you to all involved in making it happen including Hazel, Susan, Yvonne, Kathrine, Fiona, Michelle W & P Stickers and finally we would like to say a very big thank you to all the local businesses who supported the club by placing adverts in the sticker book.

Squad News

The **2005 Colts** successfully completed their winter season at the Beith astro facility. It was a long, cold winter but the squad did really well and had some fantastic games. They are now progressing into their transition year with home and away fixtures now and then moving to eleven-a-side after the summer holidays.

The **2007 Colts** completed their winter indoor futsal season this month. They are now back to seven-a-side weekend matches at Pitreavie but now playing on Sundays.



The 2007 Colts

The **2008 Colts** started in the soccer 7s at Pitreavie, which was very exciting for all. It was the first time they've played a competitive match and on grass, however thoroughly enjoyed the occasion. They looked very smart in their strips, kindly sponsored by John Hepburn motors (01577 840575). We currently have a full squad of 12 boys and four girls.

Kinross Colts 2009s enjoyed their first set of 'league' fixtures recently. The 09s have three teams playing in the Fun 5s: Eagles, Falcons and Harriers. It was great to finally get started after 18 months of training. Here's to many more great Saturdays in Dunfermline!

Please contact kinrosscolts@gmail.com if you wish any further information on the club or are interested in getting involved. Also check out our Facebook page, Kinross Colts FC Juniors, for all our up to date news.



The 2009 Colts

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Gymnastics

Well done to all the gymnasts from Kinross Primary and High Schools who took part in the Perth and Kinross schools gymnastics championships at Bells Sports Centre on Tuesday 21 February.

This was a floor and vault competition and all the gymnasts performed really well. An extra well done goes to Holly Mewse, Beth Pollock and Erin Winton, who took Bronze at the Level 2 Secondary school section.



Holly Mewse, Beth Pollock and Erin Winton

Also to the pre-level primary section; Orla Mewse, Alsya Ross, Oscar Reid and Isla Fotheringham, who won Silver and now go forward to the overall Scottish schools championships against schools from all other regions in Scotland. Good luck, guys!



Orla Mewse, Alsya Ross, Isla Fotheringham and Oscar Reid

Kinross Kobras

Junior Hockey



The indoor hockey tournament season came to an end on 12 March with a tournament at DISC in Dundee where there were Kobras teams at all age groups. The two U10 teams had a busy schedule of eight matches one after the other and came away with a good number of wins over strong opponents. The U12s had a harder time with some players having also played at U10; tiredness had an impact but they still came away with a couple of wins under their belt. The U14s avoided the usual Kinross habit of starting slowly and won their opening two games against a Grove Menzieshill side and against Madras. Two games against Perthshire teams followed. Both were very close and hard-fought games, with Perthshire winning the first and Kinross the second.

We move outdoors for the next few months with two tournaments over the next few weeks. The first at the end of March will be the first to be held at the resurfaced hockey pitch in Kinross against Stirling Wanderers, Trossach Tigers and others and the next in early April at Kilgraston against our usual opponents from Midland District.

It is great to be back on the resurfaced hockey pitch in Kinross for our training. The Kobras would like to thank all those that have made this happen. Training is on Tuesdays and Thursdays 6.30 – 7.30pm. Newcomers (typically aged 8 - 13) welcome.



The U12 team at the DISC tournament in Dundee



The U14 team at the DISC tournament in Dundee



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Kinross Netball Club

Kinross Netball Club train every Friday in the large sports hall at the campus between 7pm and 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've had a few friendlies recently, including a very close match with Perth Pumas which ended in a draw after being five goals down going into the last quarter. We've also had a good match against BBN team Carluke who always put us through our paces. I think everyone really enjoyed both matches.



Events to look forward to: BBN Auchterarder are organising a mini festival in Perth on 25 March and the BBN summer festival is being held in Dundee this year on 4 June. We have two teams entered into this and it's always a fun tournament to be involved in. We're also looking forward to returning to Play on the Pitch in Kilmarnock on the 10 June. Hopefully we'll manage to organise a few more friendlies in the coming months too, not to mention our trip to the Emirates Arena to watch the Sirens take on Surrey Storm in the Netball Superleague!

If you want to get in contact with us for more information, please do either through our Facebook page or email kinrossnetball@hotmail.com



Kinross Netball Club's team with the BBN team Carluke

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Orwell Colts

Orwell Colts are delighted to have Moorelands as one of their sponsors and are proud to have new tracksuits to wear in their first season of home and away matches.

Scott Patterson, Director from Moorelands said: "Moorelands Travel are proud to sponsor Orwell Colts and will continue to support the local community. We wish the boys all the success for the coming season."



Some of the team in their new kit with Moorelands Travel team based in Kinross: Pamela Hannah, Manager, and Amanda Evans-Nash and Sarah Barnes, travel advisors.

Kinross Hockey Club

Ladies Section

After many months of waiting in hopeful expectation, our new pitch has finally been laid! Celebratory training started with the Kobras and Men on Tuesday 14 March and the ladies Wednesday 15th. It's been a long haul, but it's fantastic to have our new Kinross Astro up and running – a huge thank you to everyone who has worked so relentlessly to make it happen.

As we approach the final stretch of the season, we find our teams at opposing ends of their respective league tables. Our firsts have found this a challenging season, playing some very good and tough opposition (arguably some of the best teams out with National League Division 1). We have fought well, but our internal struggle with fielding a consistent team has made it even more difficult to achieve the results we hoped for at the start of the season. With only four games left to play, we are sitting bottom of the table having played 14 games, won 2, drawn 1 and lost 11. If we can win some of these, we can finish further up the table this year.

Our seconds are having a much better season, currently sitting third in their league with only one point separating the top three teams. We have played 10 games, won nine and lost one, so are hopeful if we can keep this winning run going. With two games in hand over the teams above us, two more wins will see us as League champions for the first time. Sadly our cup performance has not been quite so strong, having been knocked out by Monarchs in the quarter finals of the Plate.

Good luck, ladies, in all remaining games – so much to play for still!



Kinross Cycling Club

www.kinrosscyclingclub.co.uk



The AGM took place on 1 March and a new committee has been elected. Carolanne Cappie and Jane Timperley continue for a further year as co-chairs, supported by new treasurer Ann Malcolm, secretary Kathryn Baker and general committee members old and new. Paul Zarb continues as club president for a second year. We are looking forward to the challenges of the year ahead. Thanks to Kirklands Hotel for hospitality.

Spring is in the air and there is eager anticipation of the cycling to come. Regular weekend activities continue for a broad range of cycling interests and abilities:

Saturday social ride: Departs LLCC at 10am on Saturday mornings and is a leisurely ride of around 25 miles with a café stop. This is a very inclusive ride ideally suited to ladies and gents new to cycling, building fitness or returning from injury. Nobody gets dropped and there will be a ride captain to support the ride each week.

Saturday Bun Run: After the clocks go forward this ride departs LLCC at 9.30am. This ride covers 35 to 50 miles at a speed of 13 to 15mph with café stop. Details of the route are posted on website in advance. Nobody gets dropped.

Sunday club run: After the clocks go forward these rides depart LLCC at 9am and are at a brisker club run pace of 14 to 18mph. Route details posted in advance. Ride captain ensures that any riders in a slower group are not dropped.

Thursday evening fitness classes: This fantastic session, hosted by Joanna Waz of Wazfit, will continue until mid-April before taking a summer break. They are held at 7.30pm in the Dance Connect studio and cost £3. Please notify attendance on the KCC Facebook page.

Defibrillator fund: KCC will be donating a sum of £500 towards the cost of a public defibrillator for Kinross.

Kinross Sportive, Saturday 29 April: This is our major annual event which attracts a field of over 800 riders from far and wide. It showcases our beautiful area with routes ranging from 45 to 90 miles in length and taking in some spectacular rural roads and challenging climbs. Riders depart the campus from 8am. The club would like to thank fellow road users for their patience and consideration on the day.

Family Fun Day, Sunday 30 April, 10am from pier car park, Kinross: All families are welcome to attend this informal family cycling challenge on the day. Our gazebo will be down at the boathouse/pier car park with departures from 10am. All riders to have completed by 1pm, please. Cycling will all be off road on the beautiful, flat Loch Leven trail, with a choice of routes depending on age and ability. Families can either cycle to Burleigh Sands and back, or they can complete the full 13 mile circuit of the Loch. There will be commemorative mugs and cake for all competitors. All revenues will be donated to PADS dog shelter and the Fife Cat Shelter. Both of these animal rescues are located on the course of the sportive. There is a suggested donation of £10 per family for entry to this event.

Community Website

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

Kinross Road Runners

kinrossroadrunners.weebly.com

Our summer training programme starts in April with Tuesday evenings focusing on speedwork training based at Kirkgate Park and Wednesday evenings we have a trail run. Both sessions cater for all abilities and new members are always warmly welcomed and given encouragement and support.

The club meets on **Tuesdays at 7pm at Kirkgate** and on **Wednesdays at 6.45pm at the Medical Centre car park** (or 7pm at the start of the run). There is also an informal run on **Sunday mornings meeting at 9am at the Medical Centre**. Our programme of training sessions through April is detailed here. Check our website for more information.

April

Sun 2nd	Informal run (also Tay Ten Championship Race)
Tue 4th	2-mile Time Trial + hot choc and kit sale afterwards in garage
Wed 5th	Blairadam
Sun 9th	Informal run
Tue 11th	8 x 400m at Kirkgate Park
Wed 12th	Lochore Meadows
Sun 16th	Informal run
Tue 18th	Pyramid reps
Wed 19th	Michael Bruce Trail
Sun 23rd	Informal run
Tue 25th	5 x 1k at Kirkgate Park
Wed 26th	Benarty
Thu 27th	Kinross High School PTA 10k race (TBC)
Sat 29th	Norman's Law Hill Race
Sun 30th	Informal run



Kinross Volleyball Club

With the indoor competitive season now at an end, the club resumes its free outdoor sessions on **Monday 24 April**. These take place on the grass area at the rear of the Community Campus from 7pm to 8.30pm. These free sessions are open to all who wish to have a bit of fun playing recreational volleyball.

Primary 7 pupils from the area are being invited to attend a transition coaching programme after the Easter holidays in the large games hall of Kinross High School on five consecutive Wednesdays from 5pm to 6pm. These sessions will give pupils the opportunity of meeting their peers from other schools as well as having fun learning about one of the world's most popular ball sports.

Adult members and High School senior pupils are preparing to enter teams in this year's Scottish Open Volleyball Tournament being held over the last weekend of May on Perth's North Inch. The 2016 event won Perth and Kinross Council's 'Event of the Year' at a recent awards ceremony held in Perth Grammar School (see page 72). This year's event is also expected to attract over 100 teams from around the UK and Europe.

Kinross pupils in Scottish Volleyball Cup Semi-Final

Kinross High School's first year pupils were involved in the Scottish Volleyball Association's Schools' Cup semi-finals in both the boys' and girls' competitions.

Both sides had to travel away from home with the girls' team making the short trip down the M90 to South Queensferry to play Queensferry High School. The girls found this tough going and unfortunately lost out to their more experienced opponents.

The boys travelled to Glasgow's Woodfarm High School where they were involved in a very close match.

The boys came from 17-12 down to win the first set 25-23. They moved on to take the second set 25-21 to qualify for the school's first ever national volleyball final. This will be held in Glasgow's Kelvin Hall on Tuesday 21 March starting at 1 pm. We wish the boys well in the forthcoming cup final.

Laura and Eilidh win medals in Europe

Two Kinross-shire athletes represented Great Britain at the European Indoor Championships in Belgrade in March 2017.

LAURA MUIR of Milnathort won the first medals of her career, taking gold in both the 1,500m and 3,000m races.

EILIDH DOYLE, originally from Kinross, missed out on qualifying for the final of the individual 400m, but won a silver medal in the 4 x 400m relay.



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MILNATHORT – President Jean Paterson welcomed all to the meeting. Our speaker for the evening, Dr McCracken from the Loch Leven Health Centre, gave us an interesting talk on his beginnings as a young doctor and gave some wonderful anecdotes of people and incidents he has come across over the years (no names mentioned!) It was also a reminder of how medical care has changed over the years. Competition winners:

Limerick	Vi Todd
Three Pieces of Tablet	Vi Todd
Flower of the Month	Nan Paterson

CARNBO – Our President, Jay Hutchison, warmly welcomed a number of visitors who joined us for our meeting on Monday 20 February. Our well known guest, Willie Shand, had been asked to give us a talk entitled "Practical Tips to Improve your Photography Skills". Far from being a dry and technical list of advice, we were treated to an informative and humorous insight into the skills of the photographer, gloriously illustrated, of course, by a selection of Willie's own extremely beautiful and varied photographs. Our sincere thanks for entertaining us, alongside encouraging us in our own efforts at taking successful photographs, was voiced by Sandra Turnbull. Competition winners:

Flower of the Month	Sandra Turnbull
Photograph of a Winter Scene	Linda Band

President Jay Hutchison welcomed us to our meeting on Monday 20 March. This took the form of four "Corner Demonstrations", each of which gave us very informative insights into looking after our health so that we may keep well in mind, body and soul. These ranged from hilarious hoola-hooping (with varying degrees of success, it must be said), eating well but healthily, the importance of health checks, especially with your dentist, through to the importance of mental relaxation and ways in which to achieve this. Many thanks to the four visiting demonstrators who brought with them their expertise and infectious enthusiasm, which resulted in a very full and very enjoyable evening. Competition winners:

A Waldorf Salad	Frances Drysdale
Flower of the Month	Margaret Greener

At **next month's meeting** on Monday 17 April at 7.15pm, we shall learn about "A Butcher's Life" from Mr and Mrs K Allan. All welcome.

BISHOPSHIRE – Vice President Sylvia Herrington welcomed everyone to the March meeting. After dealing with business and discussing the questionnaires sent to us from headquarters, members enjoyed a Beetle Drive with four lucky winners going home with small prizes. Competition winners:

Three Small Sweeties/Truffles	Joanne Cowan
Bookmark, any craft	Sylvia Herrington

GLENFARG – Nikki from the Erskine Hospitals surprised the members with her presentation on the work of the Erskine Hospitals for ex-servicemen. Very few of us were aware of the changing nature of the organisation and the varied work it does within the ex-service community. Not only are there hospitals and care homes at Erskine but also in Glasgow itself and in Edinburgh, offering safe and caring homes for service people and their families requiring help either for physical injuries or mental trauma. It was a revelation and very informative. Andzia Scott proposed the vote of thanks. Competition winners:

Poppy, any craft	Allison Messenger
Individual Savoury Filo Pastry Tart	Alison Harrison
Bowl of Bulbs	Liz Yull

CROOK OF DEVON – At the February meeting Mrs Margaret Arbuckle welcomed members and introduced Mrs Margo Moran, who gave a most interesting talk on Hardanger embroidery. She had brought along samples of her work and later members tried their hand at some stitching. A vote of thanks was given by Mary Paterson. Competition winner:

Valentine card	Marjory Walsh
----------------	---------------

At the March meeting President Alice Johnson welcomed members and introduced our speaker, Ben Houston from Blair Drummond Safari Park. He gave us a bit of history on how the park started and a very interesting and entertaining talk on life with the animals at Blair Drummond. Kim Massey gave the vote of thanks for an excellent evening. Competition winners:

Pancakes	Chris Bennett
Flower of the Month	Chris Bennett

POWMILL – President Sharon Buchanan welcomed everyone to the March meeting and the business was conducted. Maz Thorn then led a workshop making small, decorated gift boxes. Soft pastels were used to create a rainbow effect on the back of a net for a small cuboid box with a lid. After spraying with hairspray to set the colours, the box was cut out and flaps were scored before assembling the box. Fiona Buchanan gave a vote of thanks and supper was served by Anne McKay and Ella Shand. Competition results:

Easter Cup Cake, decorated	Mary Wilson
Easter Chick, any craft	Elsie Johnston
Garden Gem	Catriona Fleming

CLEISH – President Mrs Helen Buchanan welcomed thirty-two members to our March meeting. She welcomed our speaker, Margo Wills, and we enjoyed an interesting and informative talk on the Royal Scottish Agricultural Benevolent Institute and how they assist those that fall on hard times. A vote of thanks was given by Lynn Hewitt. Competition results:

Loaf of Bread	Anne Bayne
Photograph of Countryside	Anne Bayne
Flower of the Month	Sandra Webster

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Telephone:
(01577) 864196

Email: keithwatson.c@btinternet.com

Out & About



Loch Leven NNR



The weather is definitely warming up. Spring is in full flow. Many of our resident birds are in full song. A lot of rain at the start of March meant that the loch filled up to a highest level we've had this winter.

Many thanks for your patience with parts of the trail being closed. Some of the trail is over 10 years old and ready for some TLC. The trail should be fully open again by the second week of April. By then we shall have also cleared the dangerous trees from around the trail too.

Now we are in spring, it is possible to access the loch with the non motorised or non sailed boats again. If you are planning to do this, please follow our guidance that we have in place. Loch Leven is a nature reserve and we would like to protect it. Our guidance is on our website. Please stick to 200 metres away from the shoreline and islands and avoid the large concentrations of birds.

The volunteers have been busy. We've finished off the hedgelaying. We've also been tidying up the hides and getting out equipment serviced.

We've been lucky enough to have the Soft Track working on some of the meadows around the loch. This machine cuts and collects grass from around the reserve. Because it is extremely low ground pressure we can cut wetter areas including areas we don't usually get into. Hopefully we will be getting stock into some of the bits we have improved. Getting the sward right around the lochside meadows is an important part of our work. Hopefully we'll have meadows full of orchids this spring.

A lot of wintering wildfowl have now left the site. We've not been seeing much scarce wildfowl but a count of 40 Greater Scaup and six Slavonian Grebes were noteworthy. The Little Egrets still flies all round the loch.

It has been too cold for moth trapping but we have been in the schools in the last six weeks with the Trout in the Classroom project. This is part of the Growing up with Loch Leven project. Pupils get a chance to see Brown Trout hatch from eggs and become small trout then they get released into the local burns. It's a great project with subjects like biology, history, geography, maths and art all covered. They have a fridge with a fish tank set up to be like a river and watch the fish develop. Kinross and Arngask took part this year and we even had a tank set up in our office. Many thanks to Willie Wilson from Kinross Estate for taking time out from boat fixing to help us out.

Gus is still keenly blogging, Facebooking, Instagram and tweeting news from around the reserve.

Soon we should be enjoying sunshine!

TTFN,

Jeremy Squire, Reserve Officer

Images of Kinross-shire

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

Photo Library

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

RSPB Loch Leven



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

Lots of our returning breeding birds have been slowly appearing back on the reserve, with Lapwing numbers building steadily. At least we should be able to see if the new predator fence installed a few months back is doing its job when we start to monitor nesting attempts. Please note the fence is now in live mode and has electric current running through it, so gonnae no go near it! Dinnae want ye gettin a seventies perm if ye happen tae touch it! Warning signs have been attached at regular intervals along its length to warn people.

The little egret is still with us at time of writing, along with a good selection of wetland and garden birds seen daily. I have had reports of osprey and sand martin both back for summer, and at the last goose count the numbers have dropped a lot, suggesting birds are moving north.

This months events are:

An **Optics Weekend** on **1 and 2 April** from 10am until 5pm both days. Free expert advice on what to buy for your needs, and a chance to try them out. Free event.

Tuesday 4 April from 10am until 2pm is "**Spring Bird Song**," a relaxed and enjoyable **walk** to help you identify spring bird songs, from residents to migrants. All levels of experience welcome. Costs £10 members and £15 non-members, binocular hire included should you need them. Booking essential.

Saturday 8 April, 10am – 12.30pm, "**Family Bushcraft**": simple outdoor skills, fire lighting etc. Costs for this very popular event are £16 per member family and £20 for non-members. Individual tickets are also available; phone for details. Booking essential.

"**Nature Tots**" on **Wednesday 12 April** will be "Mud and Mess" from 10am until 12 noon. Soonds a bit clarty, that yin – washing machines at the ready! Booking essential; costs £3 per member family, £6 for non-members.

Friday 14 to Monday 17 April we are doing the "**Easter Lapwing Trail**." Follow the trail, solve the puzzle and win a tasty treat! No need to book; drop in and take part. Costs £2 per entry.

Sunday 23 April, 10am – 2pm, we are doing a "**Beginners Birdwatching Walk**," with hints and tips on bird identification during a nice relaxing walk. The last time we did this course it got high praise, so if ye want it, book it! Costs £8 members and £12 non-members. Again, binocular hire is include if required.

Loch Leven WEX Group for 5-12 year olds will be doing a **Loch Leven Bioblitz** on **Sunday 30 April** from 1pm until 3pm. For further details, email Margaret, the group leader, on lochlevenWEX@rspb.org.uk. Please note under 8s must be accompanied by an adult.

You can, of course, visit the reserve outwith these events any day, and have a great family day out or just do your own thing by walking, cycling or anything else that takes your fancy... well, within reason. We have binoculars and kids' backpacks for hire and nature trails and spotter sheets available from reception which are free, although donations are welcome. OK, my rambles endeth once more.

Ta ta till next time,

Colin

Farming



Busy Spring for new Kinross Show President

The newly elected President of Kinross-shire Agricultural Society is Andy Marshall from Mains of Struie. I caught up with him recently during a wee break from calving and lambing to find out more about this hard-working farmer and his aspirations for Kinross Show.

Andy has been involved with the committee for the last seven years but has helped with the mammoth task of setting up the show since he was a member of Kinross Young Farmers. In his role as Vice-President he was instrumental in launching the Food and Farming Tent for Children at the 2016 show. Supported by RHET and Farmer Dawes, it was a popular attraction and he's passionate about developing this further to highlight the connection between local farming and food. The production of quality food is at the heart of the farming enterprise at Mains of Struie. It's a mixed upland farm situated at Path of Condie. The land extends to 1640 acres and rises to 900 ft above sea level. Andy comments, "We run 1750 ewes on the farm, mostly homebred Texel crosses but we have a flock of 300 pure Cheviots that graze the highest heather. When I'm up on the hill checking on the Cheviots I always take a moment to enjoy the spectacular view of Kinross-shire. On a clear day, I can see the show field at RSPB Loch Leven so the plans for 12 August are never far from my mind."

Andy farms in partnership with his brothers. They have a herd of 200 suckler cows, more than half of which live outside, being over-wintered on the hills. The hardy cows shelter in the deep glens and old woods, while the remainder are brought into the steading. The entire herd calve in March and April, just ahead of the ewes lambing, so Spring is a very busy period for the family, with their primary focus on ensuring all the new arrivals get off to a good start in life. The cows are crossed with Angus, Simmental and Limousin bulls and the calves are sold straight off their mothers in November to be reared on low ground farms. With most of the lambs finished on the farm, they are sold for export or to the major retailers through the two auction markets in Stirling.

The Struie Shetland Pony Stud, established by Andy's Mum, Catherine, is also based on the farm and it's the female side of the family that looks after these miniature ponies. Supported by Andy's wife, Nicky, The Struie Shetlands compete in show rings across Scotland and their six year old daughter, Anna, regularly captures the limelight showing her own pony.

Andy brings a wealth of experience and he's passionate about making the show successful with a good mix of attractions for everyone. Look out for all the show coverage in future editions of the Newsletter.

Fiona

Gardens Open in Spring

Hollytree Lodge, Muckhart, Dollar, FK14 7JW. Open by arrangement from 1 April to 31 October.

Contact Liz and Peter Wyatt, Tel: 0797 337 4687 or email: elizwyatt@aol.com

Pitcurran House, Abernethy, PH2 9LH. Open by arrangement from 1 April to 30 September. Contact Mrs Noel-Paton, Tel: 01738 850933 or email: patricianp@pitcurran.com

Full listings of the many other garden openings across Scotland are available on Scotland's Gardens website www.scotlandsgardens.org

Kinross-shire Garden Trail

Do you have a pretty garden...even if it's tiny? Or maybe a fabulous vegetable patch? Scotland's Gardens are looking for gardens of all types in Kinross or outlying villages to be part of a 'Garden Trail', opening for charity for one afternoon in the summer or autumn.

Why open for Scotland's Gardens?

You will have the benefit of Scotland's Gardens' 85 years of experience of opening private gardens to the public. You will receive free promotional support, such as:

- Listings in our District and Regional flyers.
- Posters for your opening in a variety of sizes.
- Road signage, arrows and banners to advertise your opening on the day.
- Press releases and info included on the Scotland's Gardens website.
- Donation collection buckets/cans.
- Insurance cover on the day.

If you are interested, or would like to know more, please email Lizzie Montgomery on lizzie@tarhill.co.uk



Local Attraction Opening Times Lochleven Castle, Castle Island, Kinross

This semi-ruined 14th century castle is set on an island in beautiful Loch Leven, within a National Nature Reserve.



Mary, Queen of Scots was imprisoned here in 1567. She was forced to abdicate during the year she spent here before dramatically escaping.

The property is reached by boat, operated by Historic Scotland and departing from the fishery pier (Pier Road, KY13 8UF) where there is parking and a Historic Scotland shop and ticket office. The boat is not equipped to carry passengers in wheelchairs. Dogs are not allowed.

Due to limited capacity it is recommended that all visits are booked in advance. This can be done online at www.historicenvironment.scot or via the local ticket office. Phone 01577 862670 for further information. Access times for 2017:

1 April to 30 September:	Daily, 10am to last outward sailing at 4.15pm
1-31 October:	Daily, 10am to last outward sailing at 3.15pm

Admission prices:	Adult £7.50, Child £4.50,
(includes ferry trip)	Conc £6. HS members free.

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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
Facebook: www.facebook/kinrossparishchurch.org
Church E-mail: office@kinrossparishchurch.org
Church office and church open: Mon-Fri 10am-12 noon.
Church Office: Tel. (01577) 862570
Minister: Rev Alan D. Reid MA, BD Tel: (01577) 862952
Ordained Local Minister:
Rev Margaret Michie Tel: (01592) 840602
Session Clerk: Jaffrey Weir Tel: (01577) 865780

Events listed below are in the church unless indicated otherwise.

Regular Services and Events

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

April

Tue 4 2.30pm: Service at Whyte Court.
7.15pm: Guild - 'Seamab School', church centre.
Thu 6 7.30pm: Thursday Group, church centre: 'Royal Yacht Britannia'.
Sat 8 8.30am: Prayer Breakfast (names in advance to church office).
Mon 10 8am: Silent Meditation.

Holy Week and Easter at Kinross Parish Church

During Holy Week, short reflective services 9am and 9pm each day

Fri 14 Good Friday 10.30am- 12.30pm 'One Friday' (for families).

7.30pm Good Friday Service.

Sun 16 Easter 10.30am Easter Morning Worship.

(Note other Holy Week services listed elsewhere in the Newsletter)

Thu 20 9pm: late evening service of Compline.

Tue 25 2.30pm: Service at Causeway Court.

Sun 12 2pm - 4pm: 'A Perfect Sunday Afternoon'. Tea, chat and music.

Kinross Gospel Hall

Montgomery Street, Kinross
Website: www.kinrossgospelhall.info

Sunday 10.30am Breaking of Bread
12.30pm Sunday School
4.00pm Gospel Meeting (1st & 3rd Sundays of the month, Friends and Neighbours Tea)
Monday 7.30pm Prayer Meeting
8.15pm Bible Study
Thursday 9.30am Toddlers Group (Montgomery Toddlers)

Cleish Parish Church Church of Scotland

(Charity No: SC003168)

Minister: Rev Lis Stenhouse BD (Hons)

Email: estenhouse@churchofscotland.org.uk

Reader: Brian Ogilvie

Session Clerk: Neil Maclure

Email: neil.maclure19@gmail.com Tel: 01577 864826

Please visit our website: www.cleishchurch.org



Sunday Services 11.15am

April

Sun 2 11.15am Morning Worship. Refreshments served by members of Cleish Guild in aid of Guild funds. Traidcraft stall.

Sun 9 11.15am Palm Sunday Morning Worship.

Wed 12 2.30pm **Cleish Guild Afternoon Tea** in Cleish Village Hall. All welcome.

Sun 16 11.15am Easter Sunday Family Service followed by Informal Communion and Easter Egg Hunt (children).

6.30pm **KCT Easter Songs of Praise in Cleish Church**. All welcome.




Sun 23 11.15am Morning Worship.

Tue 25 7.30pm Kirk Session Meeting.

Mon 30 11.15am Morning Worship.



All welcome

**Cleish Church Fete will take place on
Saturday 20 May this year.**









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Tel: 01577 841010 ~ www.lochlevenequine.co.uk

Fossoway, St Serf's & Devonside Church**Church of Scotland** (Charity number SC013157)

Church Road, Crook of Devon, Kinross-shire, KY13 0UY

www.fossowaychurch.org.uk

Minister: Rev Lis Stenhouse Telephone: (01577) 842128

Email: estenhouse@churchofscotland.org.uk

Reader: Mr Brian Ogilvie Telephone: (01592) 840823

Email: brianj.ogilvie1@btopenworld.com

Session Clerk: Mrs Janet Harper Telephone: (01577) 840225

Email: aclassicsoul@aol.com

Our church is a very warm and welcoming place situated in the Crook of Devon, a small village about 6 miles from Kinross. Come and join us, we would love to meet you.

Sunday Services at 9.45am. All are welcome.**April**

- Sun 2** 9.15-9.30am A Time for Prayer.
9.45am Morning Worship and Junior Church followed by Refreshments and Traidcraft Stall.
- Sun 9** 9.15-9.30am A Time for Prayer.
9.45am Morning Worship.
- Tue 11** 2pm Easter service at Rumbling Bridge Care Home.
- Sun 16** 9.15-9.30am A Time for Prayer.
9.45am Easter Sunday family service and celebration of Holy Communion.
6.30pm **Cleish** Parish Church will be hosting a Songs of Praise service.
- Fri 21** 3pm – 5pm Tea Dance in the Crook of Devon Hall. **Everyone welcome, all ages and abilities, 'Strictly' ready or two left feet! Great music and instruction and delicious traditional afternoon tea. Tickets £5.**
- Sun 23** 9.15-9.30am A Time for Prayer.
9.45am Morning Worship.
- Sun 30** 9.15-9.30am A Time for Prayer.
9.45am Morning Worship.

Café Refresh

Every Thursday in the Church Hall, 2 - 4pm. Join us for a friendly blether with scrummy home baking, teas and coffees. *All are welcome.*

messychurch@fossoway

Friday 28 April at 3.15pm in the Crook of Devon hall.

House group

Wednesday evenings 7pm. Please contact Debbie Hill for details, 01577 842268.

Parents/Carers and Toddlers Group

Friday 7 April at 9am in the Church Hall.

Film Evening

Friday 7 April 7.30 – 9.30pm in the Church Hall. *Please join us for the film, a cuppa and a blether and even some popcorn.*

HIGH STREET SEWING

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All Ladies, Gents and Children's clothing
Curtains, Roman blinds, cushions and more!

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Tel. No: 01577 865341 / 07732902419

St Paul's Scottish Episcopal Church*(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Communion)*

Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8AY Telephone: 01577 864299

Email: office@stpaulskinross51.plus.com

Website: www.stpauls-kinross.co.uk

Fr David Mackenzie Mills, Rector Telephone: 01577 863795

Email: frdavidkinross@gmail.com

You can also find us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/stpaulsepiscopalchurchkinross

St Paul's is open, friendly and welcoming to **all age groups** (whether regular churchgoers or if you're simply inquisitive about who we are and what we do.)

We are excited about the ways in which God is calling us to grow as a community, for the community. Our aim is to express our deep appreciation of both the spoken and sacramental Word with a lightness of touch and a smile.

Children are equally welcome to stay in church during the service or go to the Meeting Room for Sunday School and everyone is particularly invited to stay together during our monthly 'Whole Church' services.

We predominantly use the 1982 Liturgy on Sunday mornings but create experimental devotion for special events throughout the year. If you would like to give us a try, we look forward to meeting and greeting you and hope that you might enjoy becoming part of this faithful family of Christ.

Mondays and Wednesdays

8am Morning Prayer, said quietly in the side chapel

Tuesdays

(1st & 3rd) 12.30pm Simple soup lunch followed by a led reflection and silent meditation and Holy Communion from the Reserved Sacrament (Meeting Room).

(2nd & 4th) 11am Informal Holy Communion (Side Chapel)
7.30pm 'Skypable Study' (Luke's Gospel). *Please speak to the Rector directly if you're interested in joining.*

Thursdays

10 for 10.15am Lent Study Discussion Group – York Course (**until April 6**). *This is usually in the Meeting Room unless otherwise advertised.* 3.30pm – 4.30pm Rector's Hour (Church Office).

April Services and Events - all welcome**Sun 2 5th Sunday in Lent (Passion Sunday)**

8.30am Holy Communion. 11am Sung Eucharist.
12.30pm Lent Lunchtime 'Pilgrim' Study Course.

Sun 9 PALM SUNDAY

8.30am Holy Communion.
11am Sung Eucharist and dramatic retelling of the Passion story according to Matthew.

Thu 13 MAUNDY THURSDAY

11am Chrism Mass and Renewal of Vows for Diocesan Clergy (St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth).
7.30pm Sung Eucharist with the Washing of the Feet, Stripping the Altar. N.B. We will be joining St James' Catholic Church for the 'Watch' in their Hall.

Fri 14 GOOD FRIDAY

9am Liturgy of the Cross.
12 Noon – 2pm Walk of Witness, concluding with a service of readings and hymns.
7pm Good Friday evening service at St Matthew's, Auchtermuchty.

Sat 15 11pm Easter Vigil Holy Communion.**Sun 16 EASTER DAY**

7.30am Easter Morning Service and Breakfast at the Pier.
8.30am Holy Communion. 11am Family Sung Eucharist.

Sun 23 EASTER 2

8.30am Holy Communion. 11am Sung Eucharist.

Sun 30 EASTER 3

8.30am Holy Communion. 11am Sung Eucharist.
5.30pm BCP Evensong (said).

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 Orwell Hall on **Saturday 29 April** from 4 - 6pm.

Dates and events for your diary

- 2 Apr** Joint service in Orwell Church at 10.30am. No service at Portmoak Church.
- 9 Apr** Palm Sunday services in both churches at the normal times.
- 13 Apr** Maunday Thursday Service in Portmoak Church at 7.30pm.
- 16 Apr** Easter Sunday services in both churches at the normal times.
- 28 Apr** Oasis Ladies Group meets in Portmoak Church New Room at 10.15am. Speaker: Cath Stewart.

Everyone welcome

Church office & shop open Mon – Fri. 10am until 2pm.

29 South Street, Milnathort KY13 9XA.

Christian cards, gifts, bibles and books for sale. Printing and copying facilities available. Recycling for ink toners, stamps & batteries. Donations of food can be made for the local Foodbank.

Contact the Office 01577 861200

orwellandportmoakchurch@gmail.com

Kinross Christian Fellowship

Jesus said, *'I am among you as one who serves.'*

Sunday morning service at 10.30am (refreshments and bleeher 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 bleeher.)

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.

St James' R C Church

5 High Street, Kinross, KY13 8AW

Parish Priest: Father Martin Pletts. Tel: 01577 863329

www.catholickinross.com Email: Fr.MartinPletts@gmail.com

m.facebook.com/parishpriestkinross/

m.facebook.com/stjamesprayergroup/

Regular Services

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.

Acknowledgements

HARLEY - Elza (Elizabeth) Nairn Harley

Died 12 February 2017

George and family would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for their kind expressions of sympathy and support following their recent sad loss.

Many thanks to Stewart's of Kinross for helping guide through a difficult time.

The Rev. Liz Stenhouse for lovely service and the ladies of Fossoway Parish church for their help after in the Elizabeth Wilkie Hall.

Special thanks to all who attended to pay their last respects and for their kind generosity, £676.70 raised and donated to Fossoway Parish Church.

McGOULDRICK – Anne, Jim and family wish to thank friends and neighbours for their kind expressions of sympathy and support, the cards, letters, flowers and visits after the sad loss of Alistair, a much loved son and brother.

The amount so generously donated at Dunfermline Crematorium for MS Trust Scotland (in memory of Alistair) was £645.85.

VLASTO – Charlotte and Chloe would like to thank all their friends and neighbours for the love and support received following the death of their beloved Chris and they are extremely grateful to all those who helped to make his funeral a memorable and uplifting occasion, which provided a very personal and poignant tribute to his life.

Playgroups and Toddlers

Milnathort Babies & Toddlers

**Orwell Church Hall, Milnathort
Friday 9.30am-11.15am**

A relaxed and friendly group
Healthy snacks, tea & coffee
Children from birth to 3 years
(5 years if attending with younger sibling)
Great fun for the kids, mums, dads and carers!

PLACES NOW AVAILABLE!



To join in the fun
call 07745 804539
Email milnathortbt@gmail.com
Or find us on Facebook



GLENFARG BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

We meet in the newly refurbished village hall, Greenbank Road, Glenfarg on Wednesdays, 9.30-11.30am.

Healthy snack for children, coffee/tea & biscuits for carer
Role play, jigsaws, physical toys and arts and crafts
Friendly support for all carers
First session free, £2 thereafter (£1 for additional children)

Contact Donna Smith on 07535 595430 or just come along!

LOCHLEVEN TWOS CLUB

**Masonic Hall, The Muirs, Kinross
Thursdays 9.45 to 11.15am (term time only)**

A relaxed, friendly group for children from about 18 months to pre-school with their parent/carers. Play and pre-school activities, with a variety of toys. A snack is provided, plus coffee and tea for parents/carers. Younger siblings also welcome.

Contact Lynne Penny on babygaj@yahoo.com
or 07736 930923 for further details,
or find us on Facebook: Two's Club Kinross

PORTMOAK UNDER 5s

Portmoak Hall – between Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell (only 10 mins from Milnathort and Kinross)



We are a friendly and relaxed group welcoming children under 5 years and their parents/carers. We offer a wide range of activities including arts and crafts, dressing up, outdoor play and stories. We also on occasion arrange outings, parties and have special visitors who come to the group!

Session times: Tues & Fri 9.45am – 11.30am.
Sessions are £2 per child (£1.50 for under 1s) and 50p for each additional child. A snack is provided.

For all queries please email
portmoakplaygroup@hotmail.com
or find us on Facebook

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
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

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

Private Nurseries and Childcare

For private nurseries and childcare services, please see advertisements throughout the Newsletter.

To inform the Newsletter of any changes to Playgroup information, please send an email to: editor@kinrossnewsletter.org

Notices



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

Mon 3 April: The Quiggs. Welcome back to Stephen (ex-McCalmans) and his wife Pernille. A warm, friendly night in store with a wide variety of songs, from traditional to self-penned. Members £6, Non-members £9.

7 to 9 April: The 39th Glenfarg Folk Feast. See Glenfarg Folk Club website for more information.

Mon 10 April: Post-Feast Singaround. Come and wind down. All survivors welcome to come and share your songs and tales of the weekend. No theme for tonight. All welcome as always. All £3.

Mon 17 April: Ewan McLennan. Since arriving on the folk scene just a few years ago, Ewan has gained a massive reputation for great song-writing, vocal and guitar skills, musicianship and tales. Members £6, Non-members £9.

Mon 24 April: Stuart Forrester/Barbara Dymock and Christopher Marra. The first of our double-headers for the year. Stuart is a singer-songwriter, guitarist and dulcimer player who performs both traditional and contemporary material. Barbara and Christopher are both "well kent" in the Scottish folk scene. Great vocals and accompaniment. Members £6, Non-members £9.

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.

6 April The Royal Yacht Britannia Derek Miller
4 May Annual General Meeting

Kinross Time Exchange Annual General Meeting

Saturday 8 April

10.30am – 12 noon

St Paul's Meeting Room, Muirs, Kinross
All welcome

Hustings at Portmoak Tuesday 11 April

Local Government Elections to appoint Councillors to Perth & Kinross Council will take place on 4 May 2017. Portmoak Community Council will hold a Hustings on Tuesday 11 April at 7pm in Portmoak Village Hall to which all candidates will be invited.
All are welcome. Come along.



Cleish Guild Daffodil Tea

Cleish Village Hall

Wednesday 12 April

2.30pm – 4.30pm

Sales Table

£4. All proceeds to Guild projects.
Cleish Church Charity No. 003168



Fossoway Community Council Extraordinary General Meeting Tuesday 18 April

7.30pm in Fossoway Primary School
to discuss the re-zoning proposals in
Blairingone, Rumbling Bridge and Crook of Devon

KINROSS HUB THE CARERS CAFE

**Monday 3rd April 2017
Community Alarm Team**

**Monday 1st May 2017
Moving & Handling**

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 13 April

at 2pm, Millbridge Hall, Kinross
Professor David Rankin of Edinburgh University
and Kevock Garden
'Poles apart, China and Chile'
All welcome to join us

One Friday

'One Friday' is an event for children and their families that will take place in Kinross Parish Church on **Good Friday, 14 April**, from 10.30am until 12.30pm.
One Friday, almost 2000 years ago, in the city of Jerusalem, Jesus set out on a journey that would change the world. We'll reflect on that journey through drama, songs, crafts and activities. A light lunch will also be included. Everyone is very welcome to join us for this Good Friday experience.

The Gaelic Society of Perth

After a wonderful ceilidh in March with Rhona Morrison, Catriona Lang and Emma Deans singing and Gordon Patullo on the accordion, The Gaelic Society of Perth will not have a ceilidh in April but the **AGM** is on **Friday 12 May** to which all members are invited. Please note that the date is changed from 5 May. Come and put your views forward and hear what the Society has been involved with this year and the plans for the future!

Further information can be obtained from the Secretary on 01577 864589, on our website gaelicsocietyofperth.com or like us on Facebook - we are **Gaelic Society of Perth**.



Annual General Meeting Monday 24 April

at 7.30pm in the Green Hotel, 2 Muirs, Kinross

All are welcome to attend and learn about the work of the Partnership across the past year and plans for the coming year.

Please let Karen Grunwell, Kinross-shire Partnership Administrator, know if you plan to attend by emailing mail@kinrosspartnership.org.uk or calling 07865 193844.

Kinross Floral Art Club Annual General Meeting Thursday 27 April

Kirklands Hotel, Kinross, at 6.45pm
Members only



Scotlandwell In Bloom PLANT & BAKE SALE Saturday 29 April

11am – 2pm

The Well Country Inn, Scotlandwell

**"In every gardener there is a child who believes
in The Seed Fairy"**

Scotlandwell in Bloom is holding a Plant & Bake Sale on Saturday 29 April in the Well Country Inn from 11am until 2pm, where a varied selection of plants, flowers and vegetables ready for planting up will be on sale. In addition there will be an opportunity to buy delicious home baking and locally produced jams and chutneys; small hanging baskets and other garden bits 'n' bobs. There will also be a Tombola plus a second-hand book stall. Come along and see what's on offer, or if gardening's not your thing, simply come along for coffee, cake and a blether – we'd love to see you there. All proceeds towards the upkeep of planters, tubs, floral displays and generally helping to keep our 'patch up to scratch'.

All Welcome

Yarn Shop Day at Skeins & Bobbins Saturday 6 May

Support your local independent yarn shop by coming along to Skeins & Bobbins on Yarn Shop Day, 10am – 4.30pm.

Complimentary tea/coffee/biscuits/cake

Free Patterns Free Raffle Special Offers

Judging of competition (details of this available soon)

Milnathort & Kinross Scottish Country Dancing Class every Wednesday

at 7.30pm in Milnathort Town Hall
New and Past Members welcome

For more information, contact Helen on 01577 861349 or visit our website: milnathortcountrydancingblogspot.com

Grants and Funding Websites

www.pkgrantsdirect.com
www.foundationscotland.org.uk



The annual Portmoak Hall Ceilidh

Saturday 13 May, 8pm

With the GLENFARG CEILIDH BAND, buffet, bar, and raffle, what more could you ask?

Tickets at £10 adult and £5 children are available from Kinnesswood Shop, John Nicol on 01592 840573 or Wendy MacPhedran 01592 840779



Ceilidh Dancing

From 2pm till 3pm **every Monday** in the Guide Hall, Milnathort. You don't need a partner and it is all very informal and great fun. Just come along – the more the merrier. No age limit. All proceeds go to the Scouts and Guides.

And a **Ceilidh** now takes place in the Town Hall, Milnathort, **once a month on a Sunday**. These ceilidhs run from 2pm until 5pm with a break at 3pm for tea and biscuits. Cost: £5. There will be a different band every month and all money left over after paying the band and the hall will go to charity.

Heaven Scent have agreed to stay open later on these dates and to serve stovies afterwards (not included in price of entry.)

Month	Date	Band	Charity
April	16th	Adin Graham	Air Ambulance
May	28th	Gordon Patullo	
June	18th	Peter Bruce	
July	16th	Ian Cameron	
August	20th	Leonard Brown	
September	24th	Gary Stherland	
October	15th	Alan Small	
November	26th	Ewan Galloway	
December	17th	Lorna Mair	

Call Vi Todd for more details: 01577 863244. I have earmarked the charities up until April but would be open to suggestions for the others so if anyone has a good cause in mind, feel free to contact me. I look forward to hearing from you. – Vi Todd.



Are you living with a long-term health condition?

We are a charity supporting those living with a long-term health condition in Perth & Kinross. We help people improve the quality of their lives and well being by providing information and running regular self-management courses, workshops and peer support groups.

One of our peer support groups is based in Kinross in the meeting room of St Paul's Church, Muirs. This runs on the first Thursday of every month, 1pm-3pm.

If you would like to come along and connect with others who understand the challenges of living with a condition, learn how to make positive changes to your life and have access to useful information, then please contact us for an informal chat or anyone who wishes can just pop in.

All of our services are confidential, free and designed to be flexible depending on individual and community need. Find us at:

Perth Business Centre/NCOC, 28 Glasgow Road, Perth, PH2 0NX
Tel: 01738440099. Email: enquiries.positivechoices@gmail.com

We are a registered Scottish Charity SC031076
Empowering Lives, Improving Health



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 or find us on Facebook: MS Society Perth&Kinross Branch.



Perth & Kinross School Term Dates 2017

Term	Start	End
Summer	Wed 19 Apr 2017	Thu 29 Jun 2017
Holidays and In-Service Days:		
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)	

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.

Perth Citizens Advice Bureau

Outreach Advice Surgery

An outreach surgery is normally held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month from 1.30pm to 3.30pm at St Paul's Church Hall, Muirs, Kinross. Citizens Advice Bureau confirms the dates for six months at a time. Unfortunately, at the time of going to press, CAB could not definitely confirm to the Newsletter that the outreach service will be taking place April onwards. To check, we suggest looking at the CAB website at www.perthcab.org.uk or telephone 01738 450580.



Benefits Advice in Libraries (BAIL)

Benefits specialist Sarah MacLean is available at Loch Leven Community Campus to provide advice on all benefit related issues. Alongside general benefits advice, Sarah can help with: completing forms (including online), conducting checks to see if clients are receiving everything they are entitled to, and providing advice and support where an application is refused or awarded at a lower level than expected.

Sarah is available **by appointment only**. Appointments are usually offered on Wednesdays and Thursdays. To make an appointment, call 01738 450599 or email Andrew Scobie (benefits and debt administration) using the following: Andrew.Scobie@Perthcab.casonline.org.uk

Debt and Money Advice Service

Perth CAB has a team of specialist debt advisers. Advice is free, confidential, impartial and independent. To talk to a specialist debt adviser call 01738 450590 or email David Ogston (senior debt adviser) using the following email address: David.Ogston@Perthcab.casonline.org.uk

Scottish Mining Trust Holidays Blair Castle, Culross

Charity number SC036188 Web: 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 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:

Saturdays	11am – 1pm	and	2pm – 4.30pm
Sundays			2pm – 4.30pm

Access also possible by arrangement

Email: 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

Community Councils

Kinross: Secy: Eileen Thomas, 01577 863714
Email: KinrossCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk

Milnathort: Chair: Steven Young, 01577 864529
Email: skyo5763@gmail.com

Portmoak: Chair: Malcolm Strang Steel, 01592 840459
Email: PortmoakCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk

Fossoway & District: Chair: Trudy Duffy-Wigman, 01577 840669
Email: fossoway.cc@gmail.com

Cleish & Blairadam: Secy: Patty Fraser, 01577 850253
Email: CleishCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk

Perth and Kinross Councillors Kinross-shire Ward

Councillor Mike Barnacle (Independent)

Tel/Fax (home): 01577 840516.

Email: michaelabarnacle@gmail.com

Website: mikebarnacle.co.uk

Moorend, Waulkmill Road, Crook of Devon, Kinross, KY13 0UZ

Councillor Dave Cuthbert (Independent)

Tel (home): 01577 861681. Email: dcuthbert@pkc.gov.uk

8 Highfield Circle, Kinross, KY13 8RZ

Councillor Joe Giacopazzi (Scottish National Party)

Tel (home): 01577 864025.

Email: jgiacopazzi@pkc.gov.uk

38A New Road, Milnathort, Kinross, KY13 9XT

Councillor Willie Robertson (Scottish Liberal Democrats)

Tel (home): 01577 865178. Email: wbrobertson@pkc.gov.uk

85 South Street, Milnathort, Kinross, KY13XA

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
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

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

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

Members of the Scottish Parliament for Mid Scotland and Fife Region

All MSPs can be contacted at the following address:

The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

Claire Baker MSP (Labour) Tel: 0131 348 6769

Email: Claire.Baker.msp@parliament.scot

Murdo Fraser MSP (Conservative) Tel: 0131 348 5293

Email: Murdo.Fraser.msp@parliament.scot

Dean Lockhart MSP (Conservative) Tel: 0131 348 5993

Email: Dean.Lockhart.msp@parliament.scot

Alex Rowley MSP (Labour) Tel: 0131 348 6826

Email: Alex.Rowley.msp@parliament.scot

Mark Ruskell MSP (Green) Tel: 0131 348 6468

Email: Mark.Ruskell.msp@parliament.scot

Liz Smith MSP (Conservative) Tel: 0131 348 6762

Email: Elizabeth.Smith.msp@parliament.scot

Alexander Stewart MSP (Conservative) Tel: 0131 348 6134

Email: Alexander.Stewart.msp@parliament.scot

Mobile Library Service

Visiting on Tuesdays 11 & 25 April:

Milnathort	South Street	1215-1300
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Visiting every Tuesday:

Glenfarg	Main Street	1130-1300
Forgandenny School		1430-1530

Visiting on Wednesdays 5 & 19 April:

Powmill	Mill Gardens	0930-0950
Fossoway Pre-school	Powmill	0955-1020
Kinnesswood	Shop	1050-1120
Portmoak	Community Hall	1125-1140
Scotlandwell	Leslie Road	1145-1205
Hatchbank	Road	1220-1240
Cleish	Phone Box	1400-1415
Crook of Devon	Inn, Main Street	1430-1530
Carnbo	Main Road	1540-1610
Milnathort	South Road	1620-1650
Mawcarse		1700-1710

For more information, see www.pkc.gov.uk/mobilelibrary or phone 01577 867205.

Perth & Kinross Council www.pkc.gov.uk

Customer Service Centre Tel: 01738 475000
(Mon to Fri, 8am-6pm)

Out of Hours Emergencies Tel: 01738 625411
(Roads, flooding, environmental health and dangerous buildings)

Clarence (for non-emergency road and lighting defects) Tel: 0800 232323

Registrar Tel: 01577 867133

The Registrar is normally in Kinross only on Tuesdays and Fridays at the Loch Leven Community Campus

Looking for a venue that can tick all the boxes?

Crook of Devon Village Hall

- ☑ **Space** We can seat up to 100 for a formal meal; 120 for meetings, theatrical performance, talent shows; 80-90 for discos, family gatherings, community events. We can even accommodate bouncy castles for that "all weather" children's party.
- ☑ **Car Parking** - ample parking for the hall.
- ☑ **Catering** - Kitchen with oven, dishwasher and microwave, plus a great serving area.
- ☑ **Stage** and back stage area for performances, costume changes, etc.
- ☑ Plus the usual facilities - toilets, disabled toilets, changing areas.
- ☑ We also offer chair and table rental for functions at home.
- ☑ **Weekly bookings** taken for activities, e.g. yoga, ballet, fitness classes, badminton, youth clubs.



For all hall bookings and enquiries, including our **special block booking rates**, please contact Jean on 01577 840543 or jeanshearer630@btinternet.com

The Bike Station

Donate unwanted bikes, parts and cycling accessories for reuse. Poorer bikes are salvaged for parts. Bikes are refurbished by qualified expert mechanics and sold on to the public at affordable prices with a three-month warranty.

Donated bikes and parts are collected from all Perth & Kinross Recycling Centres, including the Kinross centre at the Bridgend Industrial Estate.

Bike sales are held at The Bike Station, 284 High Street, Perth, PH1 5QS, Tuesday to Saturday 10am – 5pm.

The Bike Station also offers a Repair Service, a Fix Your Own Bike facility and a Dr Bike mobile service.

Tel: 01738 444430. Website: www.thebikestation.org.uk

The Perth Bike Station is an accredited Revolve organisation.





Welcome to the Kinross-shire Volunteer Information Point

Perth and Kinross

Volunteer Information Point

Located in the Loch Leven Community Campus Library Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8FQ

Here you can find information about **Volunteering Opportunities** available in Kinross-shire. Take your time and see what is available. You will also find leaflets in the folders explaining where you can go for further help such as Voluntary Action Perthshire www.vaperthshire.org

If you would like to promote your **Organisations Volunteering Opportunities** please hand your information into reception for attention of: Tracey Ramsay (Community Capacity Building Worker)

Blank profiles are also available for your use if required. These are in the organisation folder at the VIP alternatively follow this link: www.pkc.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=22228&p=0

The Volunteer Information Point has been organised and supported by Partners of the Kinross-shire Community Learning and Development Group.







For further information please contact Tracey Ramsay 01577 867177 or email Tramsay@pkc.gov.uk

La Leche League meetings in Kinross ...

First Thursday of the month, 10am – 12 noon



LA LECHE LEAGUE INTERNATIONAL

St Paul's Church Meeting Room, The Muirs, Kinross

- Friendly, relaxed mum-to-mum breastfeeding support and chat.
- Informal chat and an interesting group discussion.
- Plenty of time for answering your questions.

We welcome any mums (and mums to be) who are interested in breastfeeding. Children all very welcome.

For more details, contact:

Hannah Dalgety (LLL Leader, Kinross) 07886 859461

www.lll-fife-tayside.co.uk

Find us on Facebook: La Leche League Fife and Tayside

Hope Pregnancy Crisis Centre

based in the centre of Perth

Offers free, confidential, non-judgemental advice and support to anyone facing a pregnancy related crisis.

In a safe, secure environment we aim to assist women (or couples) in making their own informed decisions about their future and support them through the process if they require it.

We offer confidential advice, free pregnancy testing, pregnancy crisis and miscarriage support, adoption advice and counselling for post abortion stress.

The office is open 10am to 2pm Monday to Friday and outwith those hours can be contacted on the office number 01738 621174.

On-line support and information can be obtained from our website www.hopepregnancy.co.uk

Hope Pregnancy Crisis Centre

40 St John Street, Perth, PH1 5SP

www.hopepregnancy.co.uk

email: hope-pregnancy@btconnect.com

Helpline 01738 621174

We are a Scottish Charity SC037103

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:

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.

Regretfully Blythswood **cannot** accept: prams, pushchairs, highchairs, car seats, bikes, carpets, duvets, coat hangers, gas appliances, TVs, computer monitors, exercise equipment, wall units, electrical items and video cassettes.

Befriending Kinross



Are you new to the Area?
Would you like someone to talk to?
Someone to have a coffee with?
Help to feel less socially isolated?

If you would like to request a befriender please contact us and we will arrange a time to meet with you to discuss the process.

ptb.kinross@bethanyct.com

t: 07747 018 550

Film shows • Cards • Dominoes • Art Class
Daily Papers • Chiropody • Trips • Exercises

Weekly Programme

Monday	Exercise Class	11am	Bingo	1.30pm
	Scrabble, cards & other Games			1.15pm
	"Stride for Life" Walking Group			2pm
Tuesday	Carpet Curling	11am		
	Community Health & Wellbeing support			11am - 12pm
	Relaxation Class	1.15pm		
	Games	1.15pm		
	Singing group with Alex Cant	1.45pm		
Wednesday	Morning Worship	10.45am		
	Dominoes, Scrabble & other Games			1.30pm
	Fantastic Fun Quiz	2pm		
Thursday	Carpet Curling or Boccia	11am (except 27th)		
	Art Class	1.30pm	Film or music Afternoon	1.30pm
	Dominoes, Scrabble, cards etc	1.30pm		
	Balance & Strength Class	1.30pm		
Friday	Exercise Class	11am - 12pm		
	Dominoes, Games and Filmshow	1.30pm	(except 21st, 28th)	
	Bingo	1.30pm		



Public Holiday: The Day Centre will be closed on **Monday 17 April**.

Please note: The Day Centre & coffee bar will not open until 11am on Thursday 27 April for staff training.

Additional Events for April

Hearing Loss Support and Advice	Monday	3rd	11am - 12pm
Tai Chi	Wednesday	5th, 19th	1.30pm - 2pm
Chiropody	Thursday	6th, 20th	9.45am - 1pm
			(phone 01577 863869 for an appointment)
Community Health & Wellbeing Support	Tuesday	7th	11am - 12pm
Easter Pantomime, Wizard of Oz, Alhambra, Dunfermline (tickets)	Friday	14th	2pm
Kinross Community Care Advice and Information	Wednesday	19th	11.30am - 12pm
Barge Trip	Thursday	20th	11am - 4pm
Library Visit	Thursday	27th	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

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

Next visit: 19 April

Community Website

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

Items for Sale

The Newsletter publishes items for sale listed on the kinross.cc website. If interested in purchasing an item, we suggest **checking the website for current availability** (www.kinross.cc then 'Local Adverts' then 'Classified Adverts'). If interested in selling an item, please list it on www.kinross.cc and it will automatically be published in the next available Newsletter, subject to space.

Two wall-hangings/rugs £40 each

New condition. Brought back from Singapore after the war. Country scenes: one of a deer scene other of a tiger scene. 2m (L), 1.25m (W)

Seller Details: David Payne 01577 862715
shearerpayne@hotmail.com

Flat screen monitor, HP deskjet printer and Canon scanner £49

Flat screen monitor, by Hanns, used until I got rid of PC. Ditto Hewlet Packard Deskjet printer and Canon scanner. Can sell separately, i.e. £10 for Screen, £10 for scanner, £30 for printer, which has recently had new black and multi-colour cartridges.

2 time switches £5

Unused. Not needed. To make your lights and TV, radio, etc go on and off when you are out. Good for electric blankets

Seller Details for above 2 items:
L Aspey 07890 805663

Caravan Awning £275

Top quality German DWT Zelte Bristol II. Perfect condition, size 2 (250cm long, 220cm deep). Top quality fabric and aluminium poles etc.

Seller Details: Ian Wilson 07708365044
iw090797@gmail.com

Strider Mobility Scooter £1500

Model: MIDI 4 PLUS. 7 years old. Excellent condition (hardly used). Fully serviced every year.

Seller Details: 07801 181857

Electric Bike (Cyclamatic GTE Step Through) £550.00

Seven months old. Three usage modes. No power assist, Assisted Mode or Fully Powered 30 km range on normal terrain Lithium-ion battery. Padded saddle. Shimano gears (7 speed). Front suspension. Front and rear mudguards. Low step through aluminium frame, suitable for use from approx. 5'4 to 6'2. Weight up to 110 kg. 26" wheels with stainless steel spokes. 200W brushless motor. Built in front and rear lights. Storage rack at rear. Front V brake and rear expansion brake, quick release battery, bell and reflectors. Weighs 27kg with battery. Includes battery charger.

Seller Details: Rhona Morris 01577 531049
rhona.morris@sky.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.

Situations Vacant

In conjunction with www.kinross.cc, the Newsletter is pleased to publish local situations vacant. Please go to the kinross.cc website before applying to see fuller details and to **check whether a position is still available**. (Go to www.kinross.cc then click on 'Local Adverts' and choose 'Situations Vacant').

Personal Assistant

Assistance required for elderly gentleman close to Kinross. Work on Friday and Saturday evenings 5.30 to 8.30pm approx. Aged care experience preferred. Duties to include preparation of evening meal, laundry, and personal care. Must have own transport and be a non-smoker. Please apply with CV and references to Carol Miller on carolandakmiller@yahoo.co.uk.

Part Time Shop Assistant, Giacomazzi Store, Kinross

20-25 hours. Are you warm, friendly and approachable? Do you have a passion to deliver great customer service? Do you thrive whilst working in a supportive team? Would you go the extra mile for your customers? Can you adapt to working in a fast paced, ever changing environment? If so, we would love to hear from you! Please email CV and covering letter to danjbrownemail@gmail.com

Full time Chef de Partie, Loch Leven's Larder

Are you an ambitious, creative chef looking to work in a fast-paced company? We have an exciting opportunity for someone who is as passionate as we are about using local, seasonal ingredients to create innovate dishes. We are looking for: Full qualifications and at least 3 years experience; initiative and creativity, strong background in baking, commitment to following food hygiene guidelines, experience in pastry would be useful but not essential. Salary £7.50-£10 per hour, depending on experience. 40 hours per week. No split shifts. Accommodation available. 28 days holiday p.a. Excellent work/life balance. Email CV and covering letter to hr@lochlevenslarder.com. Closing date: **10 April 2017**.

Part Time Shop Assistant, Pillars of Hercules, Falkland

Pillars of Hercules is an organic farm with a busy cafe and farm shop selling a wide range of organic foods. We require an enthusiastic and responsible person to join our small busy shop team. Previous retail experience essential, good computer skills and the ability to acquire a solid stock knowledge. Knowledge of wholefoods and healthy eating would be a distinct advantage. 24 hours per week over 3 days. Must be available at weekends and flexible to assist with more hours covering team holidays. Good hourly rate of pay on offer. Start date is end of April 2017. Please send a CV with brief covering letter to post@pillars.co.uk

Weekend Leisure Club Assistant, Green Hotel, Windlestrae, Kinross

Join our busy leisure club and become part of a successful team. You will need to ensure that all hotel guests and members of the leisure club are welcomed in a friendly manner and give them assistance during their stay. You'll be on reception, carrying out pool tests, keeping the leisure club clean and tidy. 16 hours per week weekends only. Salary range £6.70 - £7.20 per hour. CV to LindsayRobertson@green-hotel.com

Leisure Club Assistant, The Green Hotel, Windlestrae,

Description of work as for weekend leisure club assistant above, but this post is 16 - 30 hours per week (shifts covering lates and earlies over 7 days). Salary range £6.70 - £7.20 per hour. Initially with a CV please to LindsayRobertson@green-hotel.com

Part Time Beauty Therapist, The Green Hotel, Windlestrae,

We are looking for part time Beauty Therapists to join our team. You will promote a friendly, relaxing and professional environment to ensure all our members and guests receive an exceptional experience. You will be required to carry out all treatments to a very high standard. You must maintain exceptional standards of customer service and be prepared to work hard as part of the team to continue to grow the business.

Approximately 16 hours per week, including weekends. Salary: £6.70 - £8.00 per hour. Apply by phone 01577 866509 or email LindsayRobertson@green-hotel.com

April			Page
Sat	1	Kinross & Ochil Walking Group; walks throughout the month	43
Sat	1	Consultation event: Proposal for development at Burleigh Sands , 10am-2pm	24
Sat	1	Open Day at Kinross Tennis Club	80
Sat-Sun	1-2	Optics Weekend at RSPB Loch Leven	92
Sun	2	Little Seedlings Club meets	65
Mon	3	Kinross Hub Café for Carers	100
Mon	3	Glenfarg Village Folk Club meets weekly at The Green Hotel	100
Mon	3	Cleish & Blairadam CC meets	34
Tue	4	Spring Bird Song Walk with RSPB Loch Leven	92
Tue	4	Fossoway & District CC meets	37
Wed	5	Common Grounds project lunch	44
Wed	5	Kinross CC meets	30
Thu	6	Fifty Plus Club meets	48
Thu	6	Milnathort & Kinross Allotments Association Meeting, 7pm, campus	
Thu	6	The Thursday Group: The Royal Yacht Britannia	100
Fri	7	The Fairy in the Kettle (children's library event)	20
Fri-Sun	7-9	Glenfarg Folk Feast	100
Sat	8	Family Bushcraft with RSPB Loch Leven	92
Sat	8	Portmoak Film Society: 'I, Daniel Blake' and AGM	65
Mon	10	Little Seedlings Club meets	65
Tue	11	Election Hustings at Portmoak	41, 100
Wed	12	Nature Tots: Mud and Mess, with RSPB	92
Wed	12	Cleish Guild Daffodil Tea	100
Thu	13	IT session at the library (booking required)	20
Thu	13	Kinross Garden Group: Poles Apart, China and Chile	44
Thu	13	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	1, 2
Thu	13	Milnathort CC meets	34
Fri	14	One Friday - Good Friday event for children and families	100
Fri-Mon	14-17	East Lapwing Trail at RSPB Loch Leven	92
Sat	15	Opening of the green at Orwell Bowling Club	75
Sat	15	Opening of the green at Kinross Bowling Club, 2pm	
Sun	16	EASTER SUNDAY	
Tue	18	Fossoway & District CC EGM	37
Tue	18	Portmoak CC meets	41
Sat-Sun	22-23	Wedding Open Weekend at Tullibole Castle	12
Sat-Sun	22-23	Heart screenings for young people	14
Sat	22	Kinross Farmers' Market including Kinross-shire Decides!	4, 66
Sat	22	Open Mic event with Friends of Loch Leven Library	71
Sun	23	Beginners Birdwatching Walk	92
Sun	23	Our Portmoak Myths and Legends Walk (fully booked)	58
Sun	23	Kinross Vaulting Group taster session	75
Mon	24	Outdoor volleyball season begins	90
Mon	24	Kinross-shire Partnership AGM	101
Tue	25	Kinross-shire Civic Trust AGM and talk on SNH	71
Wed	26	Networking for Community Organisations	48
Thu	27	Kinross Floral Art Club AGM	101
Sat	29	Plant & Bake Sale, Scotlandwell in Bloom	101
Sun	30	Family Fun Day Cycle Event	89
Sun	30	Loch Leven Bioblitz, RSPB WEX group	92
May			Page
Mon	1	Kinross Hub Café for Carers	100
Wed	3	Open day at Enable Mobility	21
Thu	4	LOCAL ELECTIONS	4
Thu	4	The Thursday Group AGM	100
Thu	4	Milnathort & Kinross Allotments Association Meeting, 7pm, campus	
Fri-Sat	5-6	Remnant Clearance Event at County Fabrics	109
Sat	6	Yarn Shop Day, Skeins & Bobbins	101
Sun	7	Little Seedlings Club meets	65
Sat	13	Annual Portmoak Hall Ceilidh	101