



# Kinross Newsletter

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Founding editor,  
Mrs Nan Walker, MBE

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## DEADLINE for the March Issue

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## Contributions for inclusion in the Newsletter

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

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(all emails will be acknowledged)

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## CONTENTS

From the Editor .....	2
Letters .....	2
Congratulations & Thanks. ....	4
News and Articles.....	5
Police Box .....	17
Community Councils .....	18
Club & Community Group News .....	28
Sport.....	44
Scottish Women's Institutes. ....	49
Out & About. ....	50
Church Information .....	52
Playgroups and Toddlers.....	55
Notices .....	56
Day Centre & Chemists.....	62
Classified Adverts, Situations Vacant.....	63
Diary .....	64

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These prices are with effect from the October 2017 issue

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- The wording of your advert.
- A note of the number of insertions required.
- Your remittance – cheques payable to "Kinross Newsletter Ltd".

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## Editorial

### Happy New Year

Welcome to the first edition of the Newsletter for 2018.

### Local Development Plan 2

There's an important deadline a few days after this issue is published. The last chance to comment on Perth & Kinross Council's Proposed Local Development Plan (LDP2) is **Friday 2 February**. Drop-in events took place in December and early January, but you can still view the Proposed Plan online. See page 7.

### Council Budget

PKC is also inviting local residents to complete a survey to help the Council understand residents' priorities for spending. The survey is open until **Sunday 4 February**. See page 7.

### Better Place to Live Fair

Although it does not take place until March, we are promoting the Better Place to Live Fair in this, our February, issue. The Fair is a great opportunity to find out about many of the clubs, businesses and other organisations in Kinross-shire. If your organisation hasn't booked a stall yet, there may still be time. The applications deadline is 31 January. This year the Fair plays host to the Kinross-shire Decides! participatory budgeting event. Local residents are invited to vote for local good causes that have applied for funding from the local Action Partnership.

### Note to Contributors

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

### Letters Policy

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

### Note to Readers: Advertising

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

### Abbreviations

PKC: Perth & Kinross Council

Cllr: Councillor

CC: Community Council

CCllr: Community Councillor

### About the Kinross Newsletter

The Newsletter has been informing and supporting the community for 40 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.

## Rail Network Funding

Alan Thomson, letter in last Newsletter, is incorrect in his statement about Rail Network Funding for Scotland. Scotland will lose in every respect.

Westminster returns funding in addition to the block 'grant' for maintenance but the increase does not cover the expansion of the network, nor re-openings, nor modernisation such as electrification, nor inflation.

Scotland has 11.17% of the UK rail network, but over the next five-year period Westminster will use the Barnett formula based on population (8.4%) which will result in a loss of £600 million. At the same time Scotland is obliged to contribute 8.4% to all rail developments in England, including the £500 billion Crossrail in London, and the spiralling costs of HS2, rail infrastructure of no benefit to the people of Scotland. The funding system already makes it very difficult for Scotland to develop rail, and the change will make things worse.

Susan FG Forde

Causewayend, Main Street, Scotlandwell

## Thanks from Anchor House

Over the festive period Anchor House had a collection box in Sainsbury's in Kinross. We wish to convey a huge thank you to the residents of Kinross as we were overwhelmed by their generosity. The goods that were donated have been distributed to our clients and they are grateful for this support in what is a very difficult time.

In addition, we wish to thank the Manager Michael Bryant and his team for their consideration and support of our charity. As well as organising our drop box they worked tirelessly promoting our cause in store.

Anchor House is a Perth and Kinross based charity and supports over 100 people at any time. We have individuals living in our supported accommodation who are without their own homes, and in addition work to ensure those that are in their own homes sustain their tenancy. We offer practical support to people and we are a service that they can contact anytime and with any issue.

A resident of Kinross, who was homeless and lived with us for a year and is now settled in his home and getting ongoing support from us, sent a thank you card today and wrote "Anchor foundations to a brighter life". This for us sums up what we aim to achieve and could not do exclusively, so thank you again to everyone for their support.

Derek Given, Manager

Anchor House, Perth



## JOE BURNS Computer Repairs & Servicing

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needing upgraded or internet problems?

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**07850897924 Mobile**

[JBcomputing@btinternet.com](mailto:JBcomputing@btinternet.com)

### Area Action Planning Partnership

I was surprised and disappointed to read the letter from David A MacKenzie in the December issue of the Newsletter. Readers might have wondered why Mr MacKenzie chose to attack me personally about the Kinross-shire Almond and Earn Action Partnership.

My supposition is that this relates to the fact that Mr MacKenzie was a member of the Kinross-shire Almond and Earn Action Partnership.

Mr MacKenzie was elected to this post by the Kinross-shire Community Council forum to act as a liaison between the Kinross-shire Community Councils and the Action Partnership.

In his letter Mr MacKenzie referred to the many groups the Action Partnership supported. I assume he is referring to the groups who were selected at an un-minuted meeting, who then went on to receive funding from the Participatory Budgeting (PB) event last year.

My understanding of this is that 27 groups applied to take part in the PB event and 15 of these were rejected as their applications did not meet the following criteria: *"Local community groups are eligible to apply. By this we mean community-led groups based in neighbourhoods located within the agreed boundary of each PB project working to address the identified key priorities."*

Rejected groups included Community Councils, a local Primary School and others deeply embedded in the community. Many of these groups remain baffled as to why

their applications were rejected as the Key Priorities have never been defined and there are no minutes to explain the process followed.

Unfortunately, Mr MacKenzie's letter fails to answer the points I raised in my letter concerning the Action Partnership, so I will reiterate them now.

Action Partnerships were established by Perth and Kinross Council as part of their work with the Perth and Kinross Community Planning Partnership.

The agreed intention was that the Action Partnerships would be Community Led, with elections for community representatives, public meetings and public papers.

The latest papers for the Kinross-shire Almond and Earn Action Partnership I have been able to locate are minutes for the September meeting. The Chair is a Council employee, there are no background papers and meetings are private.

From these minutes, I note references to sub-group meetings, but there appear to be no minutes for these.

Also in these minutes, there is a record of a discussion on recruiting new Community Representatives and the inference was that these would be selected by the members of the Committee.

So, I would ask, where is the transparency and accountability of this group? After all they are managing a budget of £84,752 of public money this year.

Dave Cuthbert  
8 Highfield Circle, Kinross

## Mud on road at Lathro Meadows site causes anger

A Kinross Community Councillor has demanded action over the dangerous condition of the main road and footpath adjacent to the Lathro Meadows housing development.

CCLlr Barry Davies, a Lathro Park resident, has written to local Perth & Kinross Councillors several times in recent months about mud on the pavement and road. The situation became worse over Christmas and New Year; a retaining wall that previously held back the much higher ground on the site had been removed, leaving mounds of earth unsecured over the holiday period.

Fellow Lathro resident Ken Whitcombe said: "A responsible builder would not remove a retaining wall and leave such steep, unstable, bare earth banks, which would enable heavy rain to carry the loose material directly on to the pavement and the road below." Local councillor Callum Purves said he would ask if Persimmon can be made to find a solution.



*The unsecured embankment at Lathro Meadows*  
Photo courtesy of Ken Whitcombe, Aerial Photography Solutions



# Congratulations



Towards the end of 2017, **HUNTERS OF KINROSS** received recognition from various organisations for their work in establishing the Kinross Heart Start project, part of which involved the installation of a public access defibrillator outside their High Street premises. Hunters of Kinross won the St Andrew's First Aid Small Organisation of the Year Award for First Aid Excellence. They also reached the finals of the UK Butcher's Shop of the Year awards in London in the Innovation of the Year category and the finals of the Perthshire Chamber of Commerce Star Awards in the Commitment to the Community category.

More recently, in the Scottish Craft Butcher Awards 2018, Hunters of Kinross won silver awards for their Scotch Pie, Sausage Roll, Pork Pie (in the Speciality Pie category) and Chicken & Ham Pie (in the Chicken Pie category) and a gold award for their Hand-held Steak Pie.



*Pamela and Iain Hunter at the UK Butcher's Shop of the Year awards in London*

# Thanks



The **KINROSS COLTS 2003 Football Club** would like to thank local businesses in and around Kinross for their generous support.

A Race Night was held at the end of November in Orwell Bowling Club to contribute to raising funds to take the team to Southport in 2018 to participate in a national football tournament. Along with selling squares on football cards, the Race Night and the raffle, a total of £1542 was raised, which exceeded all expectation



*Sincere thanks from Kinross Colts 2003s to all their sponsors and supporters*

A massive thank-you to our main sponsor, **The Grouse and Claret**, as well as all the other businesses that supported our efforts: **Hunters of Kinross**, **Time to Relax**, **Nando's**, **Uncorked Crafts**, **Angel Cakes Tea Room**, **Pro Torq**, **Dean Park Hotel**, **Thistle Hotel**, **Powmill Milk Bar**, **Hey Diddle Doodle**, **Sian Beauty**, **The Barn**, **Sidey Ltd**, **Caledonia Heating**, **Bizzy Lizzie Childminder**, **Caledonia Play**, **Gilvenbank Hotel**, **The Green Hotel and Golf Resort**, **Retreat**, **Giacopazzi's**, **Unorthodox Roasters**, **Rangers FC**, **Raith Rovers FC**, **Dundee Utd FC**, **Aberdeen FC**, **Diagio**, **Stewart and Smart**, **The Boathouse Bistro**, **Salon 62**, **Kirklands Hotel**, **Loch Leven Brewery**, **Knockhill**, **Mark the Barbers** and **Light Up My Heart**, not to mention the players, parents and local individuals who attended and supported our event.

On behalf of the **MILNATHORT TOWN HALL COMMITTEE** and all the folks in Milnathort, I would like to thank all those who helped make Milnathort look so great over Christmas: **Milnathort in Bloom** as always for decorating the trees, and for all their hard work during the year; **Milnathort Community Council** for organising a Christmas tree outside Milnathort Town Hall; **Paul Webster** and **Webster's** for donating the beautiful tree and some of his men for helping Campbell Lawson put the tree up; **Ronnie Reid** for his expertise and help; **Tony Bartlett** for putting in the electrics required; **George Shiels Snr** for donating the lights for the Christmas tree; and all who made sure it was taken down and away.

Thanks also for the fantastic community event outside The Town Hall, **Carols@thecross**, which I missed because of the dreaded lurgy, but have been told by many it was another huge success. Great work by the organisers and helpers, especially **Brenda Frier** for leading the singing on the night, **Loch Leven Singers**, **Milnathort in Bloom**, **the Town Hall Committee** and **Orwell and Portmoak Church**. It is fantastic when we can all come together like this. Any suggestions for other community events, please let me know.

*Rosemary Tolson*

**Note from editor:** For more thanks, see also reports in the *Club News* section, e.g. *Scotlandwell in Bloom* (page 47), *Broke Not Broken* (page 53), *Swansacre Playgroup* (page 66) and *Otters* (p. 77) in the *Sport* section.

**Heather Davidson Psychotherapist**

**BEREAVEMENT GROUP THERAPY**

New group starting soon ~  
Saturdays 12.30pm £6 per session

79 High Street, Kinross, KY13 8AA  
Tel: 07789 317 956 to book



## The consultation period for Perth & Kinross Council's Proposed Local Development Plan ends soon.

The period of representation began on Friday 1 December 2017 and runs until Friday 2 February 2018.

The Proposed Plan is a land use planning document which includes a clear long-term sustainable settlement strategy that reflects local needs, priorities and circumstances. The Plan will influence the location and form of new development by providing a basis for determining planning applications.

The Proposed Plan can be viewed on the Council's website at: [www.pkc.gov.uk/ProposedLDP2](http://www.pkc.gov.uk/ProposedLDP2)

Representations can be made using an online form, or by emailing [LDPConsultation@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:LDPConsultation@pkc.gov.uk) or by writing to: Local Development Plans team, Pullar House, 35 Kinnoull Street, Perth, PH1 5GD.

The final date for representations is **Friday 2 February 2018**.

## Universal Credit help

On 6 December 2017, Universal Credit (UC) was fully rolled out in Kinross and surrounding communities.

Universal Credit is a new benefit which combines Income related Jobseekers Allowance (JSA), Income related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) Income Support (IS), Child Tax Credit (CTC), Working Tax Credit (WTC) and Housing Benefit (HB). These benefits will continue to exist as separate entities, however new claimants will claim UC, and those whose circumstances change *may* have to claim UC in place of an existing benefit.

Although the government has recently introduced measures to minimise the impact, the rollout of UC across the UK has generated a lot of negative attention, particularly on issues including the length of time claimants have to wait for their first payment and those who are not computer literate struggling to complete claims online. Whilst this is indeed a worry for many, help is available in Kinross.

Perth Citizens Advice Bureau continues to run the Benefits Advice in Libraries (BAIL) service in Loch Leven Library. As well as dealing with any general queries about UC, the CAB benefits specialist can assist with online applications and provide advice on support available should the wait for first payment cause financial hardship to a claimant.

The service is available by **appointment only**. To make an appointment, please call 01738 450581 or email [Andrew.Scobie@Perthcab.casonline.org.uk](mailto:Andrew.Scobie@Perthcab.casonline.org.uk)

## 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.

## Have your say on future Council service priorities

Perth and Kinross residents are being asked to tell the Council about their priorities for the coming years through an online survey which will feed into the budget-setting process next year.

Like all local authorities, PKC is preparing for the significant financial challenges which lie ahead. Public views gathered in the survey will help Councillors make informed decisions when considering the options for the 2018/19 financial year and beyond.

The survey is open until midnight on **Sunday 4 February**.

A summary of responses will be included in the report considered by the Council when agreeing the budget later that month. The survey asks residents to tell the Council how they feel about different service areas. Respondents are asked how they would make savings from the Council budget, and to share any ideas they may have for helping the Council generate additional income to offset the savings required.

The survey can be accessed via the webpage [www.pkc.gov.uk/budget](http://www.pkc.gov.uk/budget) which also includes information about how the Council budget is currently spent.

## New funding to help upgrade IT skills at Kinross Learning Centre

*by Kinross Learning Centre*

Whether you want to get back to work, improve your promotion prospects or gain a nationally recognised qualification for your CV, Kinross Learning Centre's Open Access IT courses are the perfect place to start.

**And, you could be eligible for funding to help pay for your study!**

The Scottish Government's recently launched Individual Training Account scheme offers those looking to get back to work or improve their promotion prospects up to £200 towards eligible training. You could use the money to build the skills you need for a job or get some training to take your career to the next level. Because it's not a loan, you don't have to pay it back.

This funding can be used towards any of our open access IT courses which offer you the flexibility to study at your own pace and to fit learning around your work, family and other commitments.

You could choose from:

- Microsoft-accredited qualifications so you can improve your productivity in a range of Microsoft packages and gain formal accreditation for existing skills;
- European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL) which is widely recognised and sought after by employers;
- For those with less experience, ICT Levels 4 and 5 will provide the essential building blocks for further study.

Whichever option you choose, you will have ongoing support from our tutors and the Learning Centre Manager.

Full details of available courses and funding options can be found on our website [www.perth.uhi.ac.uk](http://www.perth.uhi.ac.uk) or by contacting Maureen Ross, the Learning Centre Manager on 01577 863863. Or call in to the centre at 15 Swansacre, Kinross, KY13 8TE.

## Councillor Purves

### Budget

This is a busy time of year at the Council as we set about preparing for our budget. On 15 February, we shall set out our planned expenditure and savings for the next three years. The Scottish Government's provisional budget announced by the finance secretary in December will mean that the Council's revenue budget for the coming financial has been cut by 5% in cash terms and 1.8% in real terms. Even with any extra funding that might come our way as a result of deals at Holyrood to ensure that the budget passes, the increasing pressures on public services will mean that tough choices will have to be made. To that end, we are very keen to hear your priorities for the Council's budget, including which services you think need to be improved, your views on whether you think there should be a charge for some services and the level at which you think council tax should be set. You can take part in our on-line budget consultation until Sunday 4 February at [www.pkc.gov.uk/budget](http://www.pkc.gov.uk/budget)

### Kinross Curling

Liz Smith MSP and I recently visited Kinross Curling to hear about Kinross Curling Trust's ambitious plans for a £200,000 refurbishment that will mean that the facilities at the rink both expand and become more accessible to curlers and visitors with disabilities. Their excellent fundraising efforts thus far have raised 85% of their target. The facility is home to the oldest curling club in the world, Kinross Curling Club, and is enjoyed by those of all ages from Kinross-shire and further afield. Liz and I are keen to do what we can to support the trust and this project in the 350th anniversary year of Kinross Curling Club.

### Blairingone Primary School

Further to my comments in the last edition on this issue, the Convener of the Lifelong Learning Committee has given the go ahead for a scoping exercise into a possible review of the catchment area for Blairingone Primary School. Parents that would be affected by any changes of this nature in both the Blairingone and Fossoway catchments have been asked to participate in a survey. This will inform the options appraisal that comes before the Council on the way forward for the school. In order to allow time for this scoping exercise and for the consultation responses to be considered in detail, the issue is likely to be discussed at the Lifelong Learning Committee in March rather than in January.

**Councillor Callum Purves**  
*Scottish Conservative & Unionist*



## Councillor Barnacle

*Copy of an email sent to Lachlan MacLean, PKC Officer, 22/12/17.*

Dear Lachlan

### A977 Mitigation Resources

Following our recent meeting, ward councillors have met and decided on what we feel should be the priority use of the capital money for the above, subject to community consultation in the New Year, viz:

1. A977/B9097 Realignment	£70,000
2. A977/Saline Road in Blairingone Signalisation	£135,000
3. A977/School Road in Crook of Devon	£115,000
4. Signing and Bollard Strategy for A977	£40,944
5. Replacement of Vehicle Activated Signs	£28,215
6. Upgrade of Turning Vehicle signs to include vehicle monitoring at Rumbling Bridge and East Balado	£38,457
7. Installation of automatic traffic counters at Balado straight and between Powmill and Rumbling Bridge	£14,806
8. Solar studs at various locations	£15,300
9. Gateway features (with potential for In- Bloom Groups to enhance same)	£39,000
	<hr/> £496,722
We note a contingency fund of 5% say ...	£27,000
We note a completed spend already of	£10,157
Total	<hr/> £533,879

We note a figure requested for a lay-by at eastern end of Crook Main Street.

We note that the A977/Drum Crossroads signalisation at £155,000, incorporating a reduced speed limit to 30mph and prohibition of entry to Drum main street is also needed.

You should perhaps be aware that the site MU266 introduced into LDP2 for current consultation includes developer requirements in relation to pedestrian crossing facilities and a contribution to A977 mitigation measures (possibly in relation to the A977/B9097 realignment). If this was forthcoming then probably the Drum Crossroads signalisation could be included above also.

Councillor Mike Barnacle

### Local Development Plan 2

Readers may note my article in the December 2017 edition of the Newsletter and I will be making a submission on policy and site issues outlined then by the deadline for comment of 4pm on 2 February 2018.

I have since noted that the Powmill settlement includes site H53 at Gartwhinzean for between 46 and 73 homes but that there seems no requirement for A977 mitigation measures to be addressed through contributions, as there is for Blairingone (MU74) and Crook of Devon (MU266), which I suggest is an oversight to be corrected. (See my summary of Councillors' priorities for the capital money allocated from the 2016 budget discussions to be consulted on, above.)

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



## SHOP AT THE GREEN

DON'T MISS OUR BIG WINTER SALE

WEDNESDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2018

9.30 AM – 5.00 PM

ALL CLOTHES \*HALF PRICE\*

(EXCLUDING VIZ-A-VIZ and NEW STOCK)



# KILGRASTON

JUNIOR YEARS · SENIOR · SIXTH FORM

## Kilgraston ignites STEM interest amongst girls

Kilgraston, a leading independent girls' school, is surging forward with 65% of university application in STEM subjects.

Girls learning in a single-sex environment develop outwith the stereotypical views of what is and what is not 'conventional'; they make subject choices based on interest and ability. For this reason, participation in STEM subjects and plans for careers in STEM-based fields are radically different in girls' schools to those observed in co-educational institutions.

Overall, the statistics make for happy reading. Women made up almost 61% of all Scottish applications to undergraduate programmes in 2016. Of Scottish applications to STEM courses, women made up nearly 53% of applicants. Zoom in to the finer details, however, and it can be seen that of the 13,870 applications to study Engineering in this period, only 1,990 – just 14% - were made by girls.

Kilgraston nurtures this by ensuring subject experts guide the girls towards fulfilling their full potential, far away from any kind of restrictive stereotypes. Small class environments as well as state of the art newly built Science Centre, shows the commitment the school has to supporting the girls into STEM related fields of study.

Please come to our Open Day on 3 February 2018 11am - 2pm to explore your daughter's potential. Contact Amanda Johnstone on [admissions@kilgraston.com](mailto:admissions@kilgraston.com)

**Independent day and boarding school for girls aged 5-18**  
**Kilgraston School, Bridge of Earn, Perth, PH2 9BQ 01738 812 257**



**Open Day 2018**

**3 February**

**11 am- 2pm**

**[www.kilgraston.com](http://www.kilgraston.com)**

# Kinross to host the 40th Glenfarg Folk Feast

Friday 6 April – Sunday 8 April



Once again, Kinross is to host the Glenfarg Folk Feast, the event taking place over the weekend of 6 to 8 April and centred around The Green Hotel. This will be the 40th such Feast and will be the highlight of the Folk Club's very special 40th birthday celebrations, the



*The James Brothers*

club having formally opening its doors in Glenfarg in 1978. Hence the committee have spent many happy hours finding some of Britain and Ireland's very finest artists to grace the Backstage at the Green and to provide all attendees with stellar entertainment.

So, what will be on offer? Well, apart from the expected singarounds, sessions and general background of music in the hotel and village pubs throughout the weekend, the celebrations will get underway on the Friday night with a Ceilidh-Concert to get the spirits roused for the remainder of the weekend. The music will be provided by The Jimi Shandrix Experience, under the leadership of the amazing Sandy Brechin on accordion. One of the top

ceilidh bands in the world, they will be ably assisted during the night by local lad Tich Frier and the club's own Farg Folk.

Saturday will formally begin with a fiddle workshop undertaken by Charlie Stewart, another local lad and last year's Young Scottish Traditional Musician of the Year. Charlie will be followed by an organised Singaround. This will be followed by The Original Song Competition, this year's theme being, appropriately, "Party Time", with the trophy for the event being awarded to the funniest original song of the afternoon. As is normal for the Feast, the day will end with an evening concert. On this celebratory occasion, it will feature the internationally famous, and sensational, Boys of the Lough (BOL), the wonderful Irish singer-songwriter-guitarist John Doyle and the brilliant young Scottish duo of Mairead Green and Anna Massie. The line-up for this concert is truly exceptional and is guaranteed to be a sell-out.

Having thought that it couldn't get any better, Sunday starts with a special event as it will feature A Conversation with Cathal McConnell who, of course,

is the main man from the BOL. That is followed by another Singaround and the world-famous Puff-a-Box championships! And there will be no let up as we move to another great night at Backstage featuring the exciting antipodean duo The James Brothers who will be joined on stage for the night by the inspirational Emily Smith, the legendary musician and entertainer Richard Digance, and the beautiful vocals of Pauline Alexander performing alongside the guitar expertise of Sandy Stanage. When the music finally stops, everyone will know that they have experienced a fittingly brilliant climax to a truly memorable birthday party. Further information on all of the above and on available accommodation can be found on our club website. Tickets can be obtained either on-line through the website or our ticket hotline 07944 665617. The committee have done their bit and would now love you to come along and see for yourself just how good a weekend's entertainment you have on your doorstep. Hope to see you all there!

**Website: [www.glenfargfolkclub.com](http://www.glenfargfolkclub.com)**



*The Boys of the Lough*

## Forestry contracting

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# Better Place to Live Fair 2018

Loch Leven Community Campus, Kinross

Saturday 3 March, 10am – 2pm

Free Community Event



Are you looking to join a club or get involved in the community?

This is an event with something for everyone, your chance to come along and see what your local community has to offer.

Meet your local clubs, groups and local businesses and different services available to you.



## Kinross-shire Decides!

Come and support the community groups that have applied for Kinross-shire Decides funding. This money comes from the Perth and Kinross Health and Social Care Partnership and the Scottish Government Community Choices Fund.

This is your opportunity to come along on the day to be involved in VOTING for your preferred projects.

Successful applicants will hear at the event!

## Sports Activities

Come and try fun sporting activities for all ages and abilities.

Maybe this will be your opportunity to join a new group.



- \* Fire Engine
- \* Fun Activities
- \* Information
- \* Local Projects
- \* Family Treasure Hunt
- \* Music Workshop
- \* Project Displays
- \* Come And Try Sessions
- \* Face Painting

Photographs by Vincent Johnston

And lots more to do and see.....

There may be still a chance to get a stall or space to showcase what you do

Visit [www.kinross.cc](http://www.kinross.cc) for a booking form

Organised by Kinross-shire Community Learning and Development Group. For Further Information:

Tracey Ramsay – Community Learning and Development Worker

Loch Leven Community Campus, Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8FQ

Email: [TRamsay@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:TRamsay@pkc.gov.uk), Tel: 01577 867124 or Community Learning Base 01577 867177

## Phone box makeover could save lives

Kinross Community Council has put a redundant phone kiosk to good use by 'adopting' it and having a defibrillator installed. A defibrillator is a piece of equipment that can help save the life of someone experiencing a cardiac incident.

The phone box near 62 Muirs (at the former Alphavet premises) was on a list of kiosks earmarked for decommissioning by BT due to lack of use. Following a required consultation period, Perth & Kinross Council agreed to the telephone being removed and the way was clear for the Community Council to adopt the kiosk for £1 and put it to good use for the community. An application to Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks' Resilient Communities Fund was successful, enabling the Community Council to purchase the defibrillator and security equipment.



*L to r: First Responder James Mathie, Community Councillors Eileen Thomas and Barry Davies, electrician Andrew Craig and First Responder Stef Grzybowski at the former telephone kiosk on the Muirs that now houses a defibrillator*

After being cleaned, repaired and repainted, the kiosk was ready for the defibrillator to be put in.

Barry Davies, the Community Councillor who has managed the two-year project, liaised with the Scottish Ambulance Service, Kinross First Responders and Kinross Heart Start. The defibrillator is the type recommended by the Scottish Ambulance Service and installed by Kinross Heart Start at other locations. The Muirs defibrillator will be inspected regularly and maintained by Kinross Community First Responders. No code is required to access it. However, security against theft is provided by a tracking device and CCTV coverage.

Barry said: "We are very grateful to Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks for the generous grant which enabled us to buy the equipment. We are also very grateful to Andrew from A Craig Electrical, who kindly installed the equipment for us and to Kinross Community First Responders for agreeing to make regular checks."

The defibrillator at the Muirs is the third public access defibrillator to be installed in Kinross recent weeks. Scottish Natural Heritage installed a defibrillator outside their office at The Pier, Kinross, in November. Then in December, the Kinross Heart Start group installed one at Sutherland Drive. Pamela Hunter, who started the Kinross Heart Start project, said: "A huge thank you to Glendale Security Systems from Kinross who generously donated the CCTV camera and system which protects the defibrillator in Sutherland Drive." Kinross Heart Start's first defibrillator installation was on the side wall of Hunters of Kinross in the centre of town in September 2017.

The number of Community First Responders locally has increased in recent months. There are now four in the Kinross area, with one more currently in the process of being trained. A First Responder is a trained volunteer who can attend quickly following an emergency call, and perhaps administer aid before an ambulance and paramedics arrive.

Kinross Community First Responders plan to give some free cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training sessions and tuition on using a defibrillator.

To stay informed, follow the Facebook pages for 'Kinross Community first Responders' and 'Kinross-shire Heart Start'.

### Registration of defibrillators

The defibrillators in Kinross High Street (at Hunters), Sutherland Drive, the Muirs and at the SNH office are all publicly accessible 24 hours per day. Others known to the Newsletter are at the Stewart & Smart garage in Milnathort (installed by Milnathort CC, at the phone box in Cleish and at Portmoak Hall.

Other organisations or businesses locally may have defibrillators within their buildings and, although these may not be available at all times, it would

be useful if these could be registered with the Scottish Ambulance Service if this has not already been done. For information on registering, see: [www.scottishambulance.com/YourCommunity](http://www.scottishambulance.com/YourCommunity)

Perth & Kinross Council has compiled a map of defibrillators in the local authority area and would also appreciate custodians of defibrillators registering these with PKC to give a complete map. See: [www.pkc.gov.uk/defibrillators](http://www.pkc.gov.uk/defibrillators)

The Newsletter would also be interested in compiling a list of defibrillators in the county. Please email [editor@kinrossnewsletter.org](mailto:editor@kinrossnewsletter.org) with details, including hours of access. Thank you.

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## Portmoak Primary School receives high praise in inspection report

A recent Education Scotland inspection of Portmoak Primary School has found much to praise in the school's work.

Inspectors visited the school in September 2017 to evaluate the quality of leadership and management, learning provision and children's successes and achievements and published the report in November 2017. Key strengths found at Portmoak are:

- Confident, articulate children who had great pride in the school and were enthusiastic, motivated learners responding well to the many diverse learning opportunities available through staff both in school and in the wider local community.
- Dynamic leadership from the headteacher combined with the teamwork of the school's principal teacher and staff having a positive impact and helping to secure school improvement, sustain high levels of attainment and create a nurturing and inclusive school ethos.

- Very strong partnerships with parents, partner organisations and agencies and the wider community to deliver enriching learning experiences for children who were achieving in a wide range of ways.
- Excellent provision for both health and wellbeing and meeting children's learning needs fully.

Inspectors also assessed the school equally favourably on a number of key quality indicators, rating Portmoak Primary as 'excellent' in terms of leadership of change, and ensuring health, wellbeing and inclusion; and 'very good' for learning, teaching and assessment, and for its work on raising attainment and achievement.

The report recommends one area for improvement (which had already been identified by the school and the Council), specifically to continue developments in the area of skills for learning, life and work, including digital skills.

Perth & Kinross Council's Lifelong Learning Convener, Councillor Caroline Shiers, said: "My warmest congratulations go to the Headteacher, her staff, pupils and the wider school community at Portmoak Primary - this is a fantastic report that reflects the commitment to delivering a high quality education at all levels within the school."

Headteacher Louise Gordon said: "We are absolutely delighted that Education Scotland found so much to praise in our school. It is a privilege to lead such a hard working team who are so committed to giving our children and families a great experience. This is enhanced by the many partnerships we have in our local community and the staff and I would like to thank all of our parents and partners for their support. We will continue to work hard to ensure every Portmoak learner can be the best they can be."



*Portmoak Primary School pupils celebrate the recent inspection report*

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# Kinross-shire Decides!

1

Community organisations apply to the Participatory Budget, Perth & Kinross Council for grants up to £2000 to fund their projects. This money comes from the Perth and Kinross Health and Social Care Partnership and the Scottish Government's Community Choices Fund. Those applications from Kinross-shire that the Partnership deems to meet its criterion of tackling inequalities will be invited to take part in a participatory budgeting event.

2

Organisations will have information stalls at the

**Better Place to Live Fair**

**Saturday 3 March 2018**

**10am - 2pm**

**at Loch Leven Community Campus**

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](http://www.pkc.gov.uk/communityplanning)

Or contact: Tracey Ramsay, 01577 867124, [tramsay@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:tramsay@pkc.gov.uk)

Loch Leven Community Campus, Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8FQ

*Organised by Kinross-shire, Almond & Earn Action Partnership*

## LOCH LEVEN'S LARDER

GET ACTIVE & GET CONNECTED IN 2018



We know that many of our customers love to use the Larder as a base for keeping fit and remote working. So we've been working on a better solution for those of you who want to drop in for a coffee, a quick bite to eat or takeaway food to enjoy on the go. We believe our new Greenhouse cafe will fit the bill - come along in early February and let us know what you think!

Working from home? You'll love our free wifi, plenty of sockets for re-charging, a great place to meet clients and of course, the great outdoors just a step away for when you need to brush off the cobwebs.

Work will soon start outside too, extending our path into a 2 km loop around our fields, with a smoother surface for wheelchairs and prams. Weather permitting, we hope this will be ready sometime in March.

Check out our Facebook page for updates - we can't wait to share the finished works with you!

Channel Farm, Kinross KY13 9HD



[lochlevenslarder.com](http://lochlevenslarder.com) | 01592 841000



## Fundraising for orphanage in Kerala

### £1000 donation by Simpli Yoga Clients

by Sarah of Simpli Yoga

Building on the International Yoga Day fundraising in June of last year, we have continued to receive donations at yoga classes and the amount raised exceeded our expectations. Donations were gathered throughout the year from our Kinross class members, workshops, staff at Registrars of Scotland and a yoga party for a very special girl, Abigail.

A large part of the donations came from the class members who attend on Tuesday mornings at the Kinross Leisure Centre. During the Christmas lunch on 28 November, Suthesh was presented with a cheque for £300 and a quick cash collection on the day raised another £150. We are extremely grateful to everyone's support for making this possible and to Claire for all her help with this.

The Orphanage Thanal Balashramam Secretary was very touched by the generous donation and said: "it is of immense help to us in meeting our day to day expenses for providing food, education, medical care, and support generally for our children." In India, this money will go really far; it is, for example, what some full-time workers are paid for a whole year's employment.

We hope to continue supporting the children at Thanal for as long as possible with donations and the provision of educational resources.

Blessings,

Sutheth & Sarah, Simpli Yoga



Suthesh of Simpli Yoga (right) presenting the Orphanage Secretary K Sasikuamar with the cheque in December

## Nichol Wheatley Live!

Talk in aid of Dollar Museum on Friday 9 March at 7.30pm in Dollar Academy Music Auditorium

Nichol Wheatley is a former pupil of Dollar Academy. He is also an artist, mainly focussed on making paintings, mosaics and murals. He founded and ran Perfect Circle Art in Glasgow, one of the UK's largest commercial fine art studios, for 15 years. Two years ago, he started to focus on just being an artist.

In the past couple of years, he has had two very successful shows at the Grouse and Claret in Kinross and he has worked on both *Trainspotting 2* and *Outlaw King*, the film about Robert the Bruce. He has also just received his largest commission to date. He has been engaged to paint the story of Tam o' Shanter in mural form for a client in Glasgow.

On the evening of 9 March, Nichol will be doing a demonstration painting. He will start a large painting (3ft by 2ft) of Castle Campbell. He will discuss and show the source material that is gathered to make a painting and will demonstrate the process, hopefully showing the link between the first sketch and a rough version of the finished painting.

Castle Campbell, originally Castle Gloom, sits above Dollar and has done so since about 1430. It was drawn by Turner in 1834.

Tickets £6.00 from Cecilia Condal: tel 01259 743914, mob 07712841963, email cacondal@aol.com and from Brian Devlin's and Dollar Deli.

## Charge for garden waste collection

From 1 April 2018, Perth & Kinross Council will be introducing an annual charge for the collection of garden waste presented in brown bins.

Households will still be able to recycle all of their cooked and uncooked food waste in their brown bin free of charge.

All households in the Kinross-shire area which currently receive a brown bin service should have received a letter in the week beginning 22 January advising them of the change to service, and how to register and pay for a Garden Waste Permit.

The annual charge for 2018/19 will be £25 per bin for all those who want to use the service. Households can have a maximum of two bins per property and will require to apply for a permit for each bin if they are both used for garden waste. If bins containing garden waste are presented after 1 April 2018 without a valid permit, then they will not be emptied.

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### Newsletter Deadlines

A list of future deadlines can be found on our website

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

## Luke Graham MP for Ochil and South Perthshire

### Royal Bank of Scotland proposed closures

Luke Graham MP has launched a petition to oppose the Royal Bank of Scotland closures in his constituency.

He was due to be in Kinross on Saturday 20 January collecting signatures (while this Newsletter is in preparation).

In a Westminster Hall debate in early January, Mr Graham said: *"We're facing closures across Ochil and South Perthshire in Alloa, Kinross and Comrie."*

*"We're facing a situation where the alternative of going to the Post Office is not practical. It is already an area with poor broadband, inadequate infrastructure, while the local Post Office sub-branch may be located in a newsagent."*

*"It's pathetic customer service from the Royal Bank of Scotland, and it's not acceptable."*

Since the proposed closures were announced, Luke Graham has joined with his Scottish Conservative and Unionist parliamentary colleagues in writing a letter to Treasury Ministers opposing the proposed closures, as well as meeting with RBS representatives to take constituent concerns directly to the bank.



Luke Graham MP with Sarah Newton, Minister for Disabled People

### Disability Confident scheme

On 10 January, Luke Graham MP led a Westminster Hall debate on the 'Disability Confident' scheme.

The Disability Confident scheme is aimed at promoting and encouraging businesses to employ more disabled people, and has contributed to the 600,000 increased of disabled employees in the UK workforce since 2010.

During the debate, Mr Graham spoke about the scheme's aims and benefits and said: *"Since 2016, over 5,000 employers have signed up to the scheme, including my own parliamentary offices, both Clackmannanshire and Perth and Kinross councils, as well as several other businesses in my constituency of Ochil and South Perthshire."*

In closing his speech, Mr Graham said: *"For our nation to reach its full potential, every one of its citizens must reach theirs. Harnessing the skills and talents of everyone is at the heart of a successful economic plan."*

*"This scheme is not a charity or favour, it is about realising the talent we have. In the past disabled individuals have been President of the USA (in the form of FDR) and unlocked the secrets of the universe through our own Sir Stephen Hawking. These achievements were before the scheme; I look forward to seeing what disabled people are able to contribute in the years after."*

## Roseanna Cunningham MSP for Perthshire South & Kinross-shire



### Royal Bank of Scotland proposed closures

On the day in December when the Royal Bank of Scotland announced its proposed branch closures, Roseanna Cunningham MSP expressed anger and disappointment, saying:

*"The branch closures announced by the Royal Bank of Scotland in Comrie and Kinross are part of a large scale closure of branches across the country but it is in those local communities that the impact will be felt."*

*"RBS market themselves as the Royal Bank FOR Scotland and claim on their website to be 'committed to serving communities and putting the interests of customers first'. Well, they can delete that sentence for a start!"*

She continued: *"There was no indication in the communication I received from RBS of what this will mean for bank staff, particularly in those branches that are to be closed."*

*"At the very least, I want to hear an assurance from RBS that there will be no compulsory redundancies as a consequence of these closures and that they will work closely with staff and their representatives to ensure the best possible outcomes."*

She also remarked: *"This is not responding to changes in the modern nature of banking, this is bringing an end to the whole concept of the High Street Bank."*

*"Internet and telephone banking and mobile apps are great but sometimes you need to speak face to face with a human being. We entrust our money to the banks and should be able to expect a better and more localised service than will be available if these closures go through."*

*"If you have been used to doing your banking in Kinross or Comrie all your life, it is more than just an inconvenience to have to go to Perth or Stirling or Dunfermline to speak to someone behind a counter."*

*"This will be incredibly disruptive and even unsettling for the elderly and for the bank's most vulnerable customers who will be most affected by these changes, potentially to the extent that they are being frozen out of access to banking services altogether."*

*"There are six months from today's announcement to the planned closure dates. I urge the Royal Bank of Scotland to remember that commitment to serving communities and customers and think again about the future of these branches."*

### Help for Heroes Campaign

In January, Roseanna Cunningham MSP gave her backing to the latest campaign by Help for Heroes.

She said: *"Help for Heroes is a charity that supports those with injuries and illnesses sustained while serving in the Armed Forces. They do a fantastic amount of good work offering the support ex-service men and women need to enable them to lead active, independent and fulfilling lives."*

*"In their latest campaign, Help for Heroes is encouraging all Armed Forces family members who are worried about the mental health of a loved one and the impact that might be having on their own wellbeing, to get in touch and talk to them."*

*"I applaud them for their work and I back them 100 per cent on this incredibly important campaign."*



## News from the Health Centre



### Cervical Screening Awareness Week (CSAW)

Cervical Screening Awareness Week (CSAW) is a UK-wide initiative led by Jo's Cervical Cancer Trust. The week aims to highlight the importance of cervical screening and how attending a screening invitation can help to prevent cervical cancer.



- In the UK, 22% of women still do not attend their cervical screening.
- Cervical screening is NOT a test to find cancer. It is a screening test to detect abnormalities (pre-cancer) at an early stage in the cells in the cervix.
- Around 3,000 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer in the UK each year.
- Regular cervical screening provides a high degree of protection against developing cervical cancer and is offered free on the NHS.
- It is estimated that early detection and treatment through cervical screening saves 5000 lives a year in the UK.
- Having regular cervical screening offers the best protection against developing cervical cancer.
- If you are feeling anxious beforehand, ask a member of your family or friend to accompany you. Your practice nurse or GP will be happy to talk through any anxieties that you have prior to your cervical screening appointment.

Please take up your invitation to attend your cervical screening test. It saves lives. If you have received an invitation letter, please call our Reception Team on 01577 862112 and ask for an appointment for a smear test. Further information is available on the website of Jo's Cervical Cancer Trust: [www.jostrust.org.uk](http://www.jostrust.org.uk) Tel: 0808 802 8000.

## Kinross band play at Edinburgh Hogmanay event

Kinross High School student Joey Lawrence and his band (Josef Lawrence and The Hypocrites) wowed the estimated 20,000 strong crowd as they took to the stage as headliners in Holyrood Park for the culmination of the famous Hogmanay Torchlight Procession.

The young band (16 - 20 years old) formed having first met at Perth's DIY Rockshop and soon became a favourite on the Perth music scene. The band certainly warmed up the crowd and unquestionably gained a few more fans on the day with their infectious, original songs.

Check out some of their music at Amazon (search for Josef Lawrence and The Hypocrites). Their new album is just in the process of being finalised and should be available around the end of March.



*Joey Lawrence on stage in Edinburgh at Hogmanay*

## Bus staff raise funds for SANDS

Staff from Stagecoach East Scotland's training school in Dunfermline walked around the perimeter of Loch Leven in November, raising funds and awareness for the organisation SANDS.



*Some of the Stagecoach East Scotland staff involved in a walk around Loch Leven for the charity SANDS*

Norma Davison, Kenny Dowie, Alex Hogan, Gordon Hunter, Lynsey Maxwell, Alistair Ross, Ian Stalley and Alyson Stevens walked the full route, with training co-ordinator Ashley Skinner even completing parts of the walk at six and a half months pregnant. Collectively they walked 115 miles and raised over £1500.

SANDS is a stillbirth and neonatal death charity that supports anyone affected by the death of a baby and promotes the vital research needed to reduce the loss of babies' lives. This charity is close to the heart of Ashley and Michael Skinner, who both work at Stagecoach East Scotland; their daughter Leigha was stillborn in March 2013.

Stagecoach East Scotland have added to the sum raised by the walkers, making a total of £2000 to be donated to SANDS. Paul Thomas, Managing Director, said: "We're extremely proud of our team of walkers and we all applaud their efforts. We hope the money raised will help SANDS in the crucial work they do day to day, helping families like Ashley and Michael deal with the loss of a child. I think I speak for everyone at Stagecoach when I say well done and we're delighted to add to their funding total."

## Elizabeth Smith MSP for mid Scotland and Fife Kinross Curling Trust



In January, I took time to meet with members of the Kinross Curling Trust alongside local councillor, Callum Purves. I was keen to learn more about their ambitious redevelopment plans and current progress. For many curlers, Kinross is the spiritual home of the sport with a club based there, Kinross Curling Club, believed to be the oldest in the world.

Kinross Curling Trust is hoping to raise £200,000 to create an enlarged lounge, redeveloped changing rooms, office space and better storage facilities. So far, they have raised 85% of the total but they require more donations, small or large, to meet the target. With the Winter Olympics fast approaching, and curling offering Team GB their best medal hope, there is no better time to promote curling and encourage people into the sport. The Kinross rink is already considered one of the best facilities in Scotland and has the potential to get even better. Scottish curling star, Eve Muirhead, cut her teeth in Kinross and it's important that the rink benefits from greater promotion in order to get young people into the sport. Curling is a great way to stay active and meet people and I would encourage readers who are interested in playing to get in touch with the rink.

### Rail link

I recently wrote to the Transport Minister, Humza Yousaf, to petition for a feasibility study into the reopening of a direct rail link between Perth and Edinburgh, which would pass through Kinross. I started this campaign three years ago and since then the number of voices offering their support has multiplied. The fact that it was faster travelling between Perth and Edinburgh in the age of steam is not good enough and public transport infrastructure must match the demands of an increasing population in the area. I hope that pressure pays off and the Scottish Government green light a study into the potential of this project which would either bring closure or light to a project that has always attracted significant public support.

### High-speed broadband

From 2020, residents in Perth and Kinross will have a legal right to demand high-speed broadband. I welcomed this move from the UK Government and believe that this is a step in the right direction for rural residents in Kinross. Under the proposals, the UK Government will mandate broadband providers to provide high-speed broadband to anyone who requests it, subject to a yet undisclosed cost threshold. For years, residents have put up with snail-pace broadband and this legal requirement will hopefully pressure companies to narrow the current rural-urban broadband divide.

**Liz Smith MSP**

*As ever, Liz Smith welcomes feedback from constituents. She can be contacted at the Control Tower, Perth Airport, Scone, PH2 6PL or via email at [Elizabeth.Smith.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:Elizabeth.Smith.msp@parliament.scot) or by telephone at 01738 553 990.*

### Community Website

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

## Lest We Forget Reflections on the Great War



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

### Kinross-shire Roll of Honour January 1918

9th

Robert Burns-Begg

#### Colonel Robert Burns-Begg, KC, MA

Robert Burns-Begg was born on 10 March 1872 in Kinross, the elder son of Robert Burns-Begg (1833-1900), Sheriff-Clerk of Kinross, and his second wife, Mary Leburn.

Colonel Robert Burns-Begg was a grand nephew of the poet Robert Burns.

He was educated privately then studied arts and law at Edinburgh University. He pursued a career in law in Rhodesia. The Boer War broke out, and he volunteered as a soldier, rising to a position in Lord Kitchener's intelligence staff. After the Boer War, he held posts as a legal adviser to the Transvaal Government and Commissioner of the Transvaal police. He was reputedly a strict disciplinarian and a man of exceptional organisational abilities.

At the outbreak of the Great War, he returned to Britain. After a period in the Intelligence Department of the War Office, he was appointed Town Commandant of Folkestone, a position graded equivalent to Assistant Adjutant-General. The responsibilities were onerous, and his health became strained.

As a result of illness, he was in consultation with the Medical Board and it was hoped that a period of rest would restore him. In January 1918, while on leave, he visited his home town of Kinross. Then, while staying with friends at 9 Rothesay Place, Edinburgh, he passed away suddenly, aged just 45.

Col Robert Burns-Begg was laid to rest beside his late father in the kirkyard at Kinross Parish Church.

He was survived by Ethel Mary Tappley of Middlesex, whom he had married in 1902.

## Assistant Sport Hub appointment

Greg Welsh has been appointed as Assistant Community Sport Hubs Officer with Live Active Leisure. Greg will work closely with Kirsteen Ross, Community Sport Hubs Officer, in the development of sport hubs across Perth & Kinross.

### Piano Tuition

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

Teacher with over 30 years' experience

Please contact: Mrs Michelle Smith 07925 267997



# Police Box



## Adverse Weather Conditions

At this time of year, we expect periods where ice and snow are a common occurrence, and this often makes for difficult or hazardous driving conditions. A few simple checks could avoid potential problems for drivers during these times.

- Is your journey absolutely essential?
- Have you checked the weather forecast prior to departing?
- Have you filled the car with de-icer/anti-freeze?
- If embarking on a longer trip, do you have more than sufficient fuel to complete the journey if you are delayed/stranded?
- Do you have warm clothing, hot drinks and food in the vehicle in case of emergency?
- Do you possess warning signs that can be placed at the front and rear of the vehicle to alert other drivers in case of breakdown?
- Do you have contact details for your car insurer and breakdown provider within the vehicle in case of emergency?
- Ensure hazard lights are activated as soon as possible.

AND OF COURSE, PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR VEHICLE IS ROADWORTHY; ESPECIALLY TYRES, WINDSCREEN WIPERS, WINDSCREEN WASH AND DE-ICER.

## Neighbours

I know many of us will have elderly neighbours, who find this time of year more challenging than most. I am sure that an occasional quick call or visit to check on their health and wellbeing would be greatly appreciated.

## Police Scotland – local community

**Telephone 101 for non-emergencies**

*Community officers for Kinross-shire:*

**PC Atholl Spalding and PC Douglas Stapleton.**

**Email:** [taysidekinross-shireCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:taysidekinross-shireCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk)

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

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

## Ways of following the Police:

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**Website:** [www.scotland.police.uk](http://www.scotland.police.uk)

## Community Watch

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## 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.

# Christian Aid Heritage Trail fundraiser



Are you looking for a local event for the kids? Do you fancy a bit of a challenge while helping people across the world to thrive? Christian Aid's Loch Leven Heritage Trail could be just for you. Taking place on **Saturday 9 June** at 11am, this is a fantastic event for all ages and abilities.

Starting at Loch Leven's Larder, there are three routes around the heritage trail with the option to walk or cycle.

There will be the opportunity to stop for a picnic half way at the RSPB, and Christian Aid will lay on some entertainment at the finish line. This event incorporates wildlife, history and some incredible views and is not to be missed!

If you'd like to take part, volunteer on the day or join the local organising committee, get in touch with [lkirkland@christian-aid.org](mailto:lkirkland@christian-aid.org) or call on 0141 221 7475.



*The Christian Aid fundraiser is a family friendly event for walkers and cyclists*

# Community Council News



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

## Kinross Community Council News from the December Meeting

**Present** at the meeting held on 6 December 2017 were: CCllrs B Freeman (Chair), J Bryson, D Colliar, D Cuthbert, I Jack and T Stewart; P&K Cllrs M Barnacle, C Purves, R Watters and W Robertson; and eleven members of the public (MoP).

**Apologies:** CCllrs M Blyth, B Davies, E Thomas and D West and community police officers A Spalding and D Stapleton.

**Minutes:** In the absence of the Secretary, the minutes were taken by Brenda Frier.

**Declarations of Interest:** None.

**Police Report:** A report had been submitted by email. There were a couple of door to door salesman nuisance calls - please do not entertain door to door sellers and if you think they look suspicious please contact Police, preferably with any vehicle registrations if applicable.

There were a couple of minor road collisions involving cars and the bollards around the High Street at the old Town Hall. Due to the ongoing works at the Town Hall the road width is narrowed and the contractors have put cones around the bollards. Reflective strips on the bollards had been suggested but PKC seemed to suggest these could not be fitted. CCllrs asked the Ward Councillors to take this issue back to the council.

**Traffic Management Model Meeting:** CC has not received invitation yet. It is more likely that it will meet early in 2018.

**Action Partnership:** Cllr Purves informed the meeting that there are 3 vacancies in Kinross and 2 in Almond & Earn. Cllr Watters tabled the application form for Kinross-shire. These forms are available online and the Action Partnership will decide who to co-opt.

**A Participatory Budgeting** event will be held at the Better Place to Live Fair on 3 March when the public will be asked to vote on allocating funds to applicants. Applications of up to £2,000 per application will be considered. Funding of £20,000 will be available for the Participatory Budgeting event for Kinross-shire. The Action Partnership has additional funds available to it and decisions on how this will be spent will be made by the Kinross-shire Councillors and Action Partnership members.

### Planning Matters

**Update on former Kinross High School site:** The CC had written to Nick Brian on 3 November following discovery that new-build units were occupied, despite development of the Edwardian building not being completed. The CC had enquired about completion certificates for new-build units. Completion certificates only relate to building standards and cannot be withheld for other reasons, such as conditions on a planning application. Council officers had met with Persimmon representatives. The CC wrote to the ward councillors urging them to demand that PKC issue a Temporary Stop Notice to Persimmon. Council officers had a meeting with ward councillors. Nick Brian emailed Kinross CC on 21 November (in fuller response to email of 3 November). He outlined the approach being taken by the Council, which appeared to involve a 'bond'. The CC wrote again on 24 November (three-page letter copied to MSPs etc.)

stating "Kinross Community Council is of the view that a Temporary Stop Notice should be served immediately on all construction and sales activities on the former High School site, followed in short order by the appropriate Section 145 Breach of Condition and/or Enforcement Notice with a clear written warning that a Section 146 Interdict will be applied for unless Persimmon immediately complies with the above and a binding legal arrangement is concluded to secure the completion of the retained section of the former High School building in line with said Condition 8, not only to the satisfaction of Perth and Kinross Council, but also to the satisfaction of Kinross Community Council." The Secretary prompted Nick Brian for a reply and one was received on 6 December stating that a copy of the work programme would be placed on the planning portal when the associated legal agreement and financial commitment with Persimmon Homes has been formalised. The rebuild cost of £305,000 is based on advice and estimate from PKC surveyors and allows for a contingency of 16%.

Cllr Robertson advised that Persimmon has handed over £305,000 to PKC to be used to complete the works on the front part of the former High School, in the event that Persimmon default on the agreed timescale. That cash is now in the Council bank account.

A MoP (Ken Whitcombe) reminded the CC that there was a firm condition, hard fought for, that the High School building would be finished before occupancy of the houses took place. He asked how we have ended up with the building stripped and new houses occupied in direct contravention of the condition.

He stated that a chunky dossier had been given to PKC about Persimmon's ethics. He cited, as an example, the fact that Persimmon had asked on a Thursday if they could commence working at 8am on the Sunday and PKC refused to grant permission as it was not in the conditions. Nevertheless, they went ahead. He referred to the papers he submitted in advance of the meeting pointing out that Persimmon have been guilty of similar practices in the past.

He asked what the CC is doing about this because it would appear that if the CC accepts what the planners are saying, Persimmon is basically bribing the community to do the things they are prohibited from doing.

CCllr Colliar said that the Community Councillors could not do any more. There is now a plan in place. He reminded the meeting that CCllrs are here to represent all the community but we also need to remember that the people occupying the new houses are the future of the town. Developers will always take chances.

A MoP noted that PKC had allocated five of the cheaper units for affordable housing through the assisted mortgage scheme. However, only one of these was taken up so the other four units have been returned to the developer. Persimmon should have no problem developing the old High School building yet they are putting it off and in all likelihood will eventually pull it down.

CCllr Jack said he was astonished that Nick Brian had stated that conditions given on planning applications are not



coupled with building warrants and occupancy. It would appear the Officers do not know what they are doing.

Cllr Bryson said it is a shambles but we need to focus on outcomes. There is now a chance that the old High School building will be developed.

Cllr Robertson said that Councillors have been brought kicking and screaming to the point we are now at. We cannot evict the people who are occupying these homes. He referred to the situation a few years ago at Boreland Steading. Councillors got their fingers burned there so the current Council is determined that the same will not happen with the Edwardian frontage in Kinross. Persimmon are extremely difficult to deal with but the £305,000 is now with the Council and the four ward Councillors are doing their utmost to keep them in line.

Cllr Cuthbert said that PKC had taken the soft option of money into their bank account. He asked if PKC councillors had negotiated rendering of the houses facing onto the High Street or the transfer of land from Persimmon to 47a Alexander Drive? Cllrs indicated that this had not been done. Cllr Purves said the Ward Councillors had asked for a temporary stop notice to prevent Persimmon from breaching the conditions but PKC officers did not think that that step was commensurate to the order. Councillors do not have the powers to deal with Persimmon – it is delegated to Planning Officers and these would have to be reviewed in order to be strengthened.

Cllr Cuthbert said that as a result people have lost confidence in the planning process.

A MoP with a construction professional background asked why the Chief Planner would not go to the CEO and Court to take out an injunction. He very much doubted whether the figure set aside would be enough. Persimmon has craftily passed on the risk to the Council. The development of the High School façade cannot really be done until Persimmon has developed the site. It is not properly shored up – just heavy scaffolding – so it is unclear how it can be developed. It could be construed that there is benefit to the Council to allow this to happen.

Cllr Robertson said he was not sure how a solicitor allowed the sale of a house on the site to go ahead with that condition in place.

A MoP (Ken Whitcombe) stated that once a house is built and conforms to the building conditions it cannot be refused a certificate. This applies everywhere. He stated his opinion that Persimmon were playing P&K Council.

Cllr Purves said PKC have to address the issues and ask questions about the solicitor's role. However, no-one wants to see people being evicted.

A MoP commented that the Council doesn't seem to care about the existing resident at the Lathro site.

Cllr Jack emphatically stated that the CC can do no more as we do not have the powers. Mr Whitcombe interjected to say that the CC does have the power. Cllr Jack asked if Mr Whitcombe could advise them of these powers and he agreed to do so. Cllr Freeman asked Mr Whitcombe to forward the relevant information to the CC.

Cllr Robertson agreed that PKC have been completely ineffective in dealing with existing Lathro residents.

The same Lathro MoP said she had received communications from various Council officers e.g. Nick Brian and asked if she could copy these to CC members.

Concerns were raised by Cllr Robertson and some MoPs present about the access to the site. Persimmon are using Green Road and Emslie Drive for heavy plant and brick deliveries.

A MoP asked if the street names have been decided because First Responders will need to know. Cllr Colliar confirmed that they have been named.

**Update on Lathro Farm Site:** Cllr Purves spoke about the issues regarding the site entrance: mess and water ponding. After protracted discussion sleeping policemen have been installed and this has helped the water and mud issue. However, it took several attempts at Council to achieve this. Cllr Robertson said that because there is now better access to the site, some of the traffic problems have eased.

A MoP noted that there is a clause in the Planning Act allowing the Scottish Government to call in any planning application but they have not commenced this part of the Act. Instead, they have delegated these powers to the Council and if communities don't like it they have to take the Council to court. He declared that elected members need to get back more power from Council officers. There followed a spirited discussion during which Cllr Stewart felt he had to withdraw from the meeting.

Cllr Robertson said the Ward Councillors had met with Nick Brian and legal representatives and they have to be advised by them as Councillors do not have the power.

A MoP (Ken Whitcombe) said he was in possession of a letter from a very senior police officer about the EU regulation / statute of natural habitat. This relates to what happened at the Lathro site where an environmental impact study was not carried out and trees were felled.

Cllr Freeman stated that the CC has been writing to PKC for six months to try and get some answers and a resolution of the problem.

Cllr Robertson said he has asked for the PKC Scrutiny Committee to be much more proactive.

**Address to CC by Ken Whitcombe:** Papers had been circulated in advance of the meeting on Lathro Farm and formation of PKPIG (Perth & Kinross Planning Investigation Group.) Some of Ken Whitcombe's address occurred during discussion on the first two planning matters above. With regard to PKPIG he emphasised that formation of this group is the only means by which the CC can hold PKC officers to account. PKPIG has written to the Scrutiny Committee. The CC have to "push their buttons" and make PKC more democratic. Cllr Barnacle said we need a step change in the way PKC do things. Cllr Purves said he is on the Scrutiny committee and it is going to



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look at the shortcomings of the committee.

The Kinross-shire Civic Trust has asked for a letter in support of their position from the CC.

Cllr Cuthbert suggested the CC write a letter to Ian Campbell stating that the Kinross community has lost faith in the Planning process. A MoP asked if a vote of no confidence could come from all the Cllrs and the Ward Councillors. "The public are asking you to do this on our behalf." Cllr Bryson asked for some time to reflect on this before the CC make a final decision. The Chair suggested the issue be deferred until the next meeting in February when more Cllrs are able to be present.

### New Planning Applications to be Considered

17/01923/FLL Alterations, extension and formation of a dormer, 16 Smith Street, Kinross. No comment.

17/01909/FLL Renewal of permission 15/01015/FLL (erection of a dwelling house), land 30m SW of Rowan House, Kinross. No comment.

17/01887/FLL Siting of portable building to provide toilets for a temporary period, Scottish Natural Heritage, Pier Road, Kinross. Approved.

17/02095/FLL Extension to dwelling house at 13 Alexander Drive, Kinross. No Comment.

**Planning Applications Determined by PKC:** Cllr Colliar reported that the toilets at the pier have been approved.

**Proposed Local Development Plan 2:** This had been approved by PKC on 22 November, with some amendments, and is now out for public consultation. There was a consultation drop-in event at the campus on 2 December and will be another on 10 January. The Plan was signed off on 28 November but Cllr Robertson and Cllr Barnacle both raised concerns about the private sewerage systems at Balado. Cllr Barnacle reported the following:

- He expressed concerns about the number of planning applications granted which are above the Local Development Plan, for example Pacehill in Milnathort.
- He was outvoted on some changes proposed.
- He moved an amendment on Balado but asked that Beaufield be taken out due to sewerage and traffic concerns. There are also strong feelings in the Balado community that the plan should revert to L004.
- He felt the change of wording by PKC to "a range" was helpful.
- He encouraged the CC to send a representative to the consultation at the campus on 10 January. Comment can be made on what is or is not in the plan and thereafter P&KC will take the settled view and the Officers will report back to Council.

Cllr Jack stated that the CC should delegate that task of attending the Consultation meeting to the CC Planning sub-group who should then write directly to PKC on behalf of the CC.

### Planning Correspondence and Other Planning Matters

**Civic Trust/Scrutiny Committee:** Kinross-shire Civic Trust had forwarded a copy of their email to Cllr Laing, Convenor of PKC's Scrutiny Committee. KCT wishes the Scrutiny Committee to identify and seek remedies to current failings in service delivery of PKC's Development Planning. KCT asks for the CC's support for a call for action.

**TAYplan:** Email received on 2 November: The approved TAYplan Strategic Development Plan (2016-36) has been published. It supersedes the first SDP that was approved in June 2012.

### Kinross Town Centre Regeneration

The Secretary has sent the CC's consultation response regarding the proposed Puffin crossing at the south end of High Street to PKC. The CC is asking PKC to revisit the existing proposal as the resultant loss of parking was unacceptable.

The Secretary has written to Barbara Renton to support residents' requests for improvements to Avenue Road and Talla Park. A MoP from Avenue Road requested that Cllrs continue to press these concerns with PKC because of the safety issues which have been acknowledged by Council officers.

Cllr Colliar noted that bollards are to be placed outside the Salutation Hotel and queried when these would be put in place. Cllr Purves agreed to check on this issue and Cllr Robertson agreed to check up on the other points arising from the walkaround.

A MoP stated that there is a range of road safety issues around Kinross and expressed reservations about the commitment of PKC officers to address them. Cllr Robertson said he felt this arose because of the pressure of work on this team but agreed to chase it.

Cllr Cuthbert noted that the 20mph signs at the roundabout in the centre of town are pointing the wrong way.

### Kinross War Memorial

When the weather is windy there is a problem with wreaths being blown away. In the past, it has been difficult to remedy this. However, with the creation of the car park area around the monument it might be possible to erect a railing onto which wreaths could be secured to ensure they do not shift. Cllr Colliar agreed to follow up this suggestion with the relevant bodies.

### Community website kinross.cc

The community councillors at the Kinross Community Council Newsletter Ltd grants meeting and the community councillors on the Kinross Newsletter Ltd board of directors have discussed the website further. As the CC is required to provide most, if not all, of the funding to support the website, it would make sense for the CC to oversee the website rather than the Kinross-shire Partnership. The decision to suggest this to KP needs to be made by a meeting of the Community Council (rather than KCCNL or KNL), however, as four Cllrs were absent it was decided to defer this item until the February meeting.

### Miscellaneous Correspondence

Over 70 items of correspondence were received. Most forwarded to community councillors and a summary provided.

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## Reports from P&K Councillors

**Cllr C Purves. Parking.** There are a limited number of parking spaces available in the town. PKC has allocated £200,000 for a car park but, currently, there is no available site. Cllrs Purves and Barnacle are pursuing the idea of an expansion of the existing Millbridge car park.

**Cllr Watters. The Westfield site.** It would seem that mitigation is only within Fife Council. A number of Councillors have put in a lot of work attempting to get this application called in by the Scottish Government via a formal objection from Nick Brian. However, Bernadette Malone and Nick Brian are saying the CC doesn't have a legal right to object because they didn't formally object to the proposal at an earlier stage in the process. Cllr Watters will keep pressing on this because it would really help to have the Scottish Govt call it in.

## Cllr Barnacle.

**1. Council Budget.** PKC had a five-hour meeting on 1 December discussing the budget. It is very challenging because the Council seems to be all about cuts at present. It would be good if things were to change but it is not looking hopeful. They keep suggesting doing things in partnership with local communities and discussion will be held between January and March to change the Local Action Partnerships to make them more powerful. This process has to be completed by March 2018. Cllr Barnacle's position is that you have to put money on the table and that people need to believe their voices will be heard - devolved power. Cllr Colliar questioned why there is no budget for things in Kinross while projects in Perth e.g. the Theatre, receive funding. (It was noted that Horsecross couldn't raise all the money for the renovation so the Council stepped in to plug the funding gap.)

**2. RBS closure.** Cllr Barnacle is bringing a motion to the Council in December re RBS closures. The motion will be an invitation to RBS to explain the rationale behind these closures.

Cllr Jack intimated that today (6 Dec) RBS sent a letter to customers advising them there will be a visit from a mobile bank twice a week. Cllr Colliar observed that when the Kelty branch closed, customers were promised this but, in reality, the mobile bank only visits for one hour per week. Cllr Bryson noted that RBS claim that online banking is driving the closures. Some of the Cllrs disagreed that "people don't use bank branches". Cllr Bryson stated that if people think banks provide a service then the Westminster Government should put such a clause in bank licences.

## Other Business

**New primary school building:** Cllr Bryson noted that the new school opened today and the children love it. A MoP expressed huge concern that the P 1-3 toilets have a clear glass door. It is possible to see in to the wash-hand basins, cubicle doors etc. Cllr Cuthbert asked if, and when there would be an official opening.

**Kinross-shire Fund meeting.** Cllr Colliar attended this meeting. Two applications were received. 1. Cleish Village Hall and Kinross Guides - each received the other half of the funding asked for in their previous applications. 2. Kinross P. School asked for new nursery equipment. This was approved and the money will be awarded through Foundation Scotland.

**Better Place to Live Fair.** Cllr Colliar suggested that the CC should consider having a stand at this event to raise and enhance the public profile of the CC and promote its work.

**Traffic Lights at Giocapazzi's/ Loch Leven Campus.** Cllr Freeman stated that these are not functioning properly.

**TRACKS.** Cllr Jack informed the meeting that TRACKS have reimbursed the CC for loan they received.

**Blairingone Primary School.** A MoP expressed concern that communities around Kinross are losing public buildings e.g. shops, banks etc. Cllr Colliar agreed and raised concerns about Blairingone Primary School. Cllr Purves updated the meeting on the recent consultation about the future of the school. Option 4 - a review of the catchment area - has been chosen and will be the one to go forward. Cllr Robertson did, however, raise the point that that would not stop parents exercising their right to choose to send their children to other schools.

**The Next Meeting of Kinross CC will take place on Wednesday 7 February 2018 at 7.30pm in the Masonic Hall, Muirs, Kinross. All welcome.**

## Draft Agenda for the Meeting on 7 February 2018

Apologies. Declarations of Interest. Minutes of the Meeting of 6 December 2017. Police Report. Matters Arising from the Minutes of 6 December 2017. Community website kinross.cc. Traffic Management Model. Planning Matters. Kinross Town Centre Regeneration. Correspondence. Reports from P&K Councillors. Any Other Competent Business. Date of Next Meeting.

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

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

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Email: [KinrossCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:KinrossCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk)

Kinross CC minutes and agendas are posted online at:

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

You can also follow Kinross CC on Facebook at:

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## Vacancy on Kinross Community Council

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

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

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

For an informal chat about what being on the CC is all about, contact one of the Community Councillors (see p. 96.)

## Portmoak Community Council

### News from the December Meeting

**In attendance** at the meeting held on 12 December 2017 were: Cllrs M Strang Steel (Chair); B Calderwood, R Cairncross (Secretary), S Forde, D Morris, T Smith and A Robertson; Ward Cllrs M Barnacle, and R Watters; and 15 members of the public.

**Apologies:** Cllr A Muszynski; Ward Cllrs C Purves and W Robertson; and PC D Stapleton, Police Scotland.

**Approval of Previous minutes:** The Minutes of the CC meeting held on 14 November 2017 were approved subject to two amendments.

**Matter Arising from Previous Minutes:** *School access - policy on parking.* The CC was concerned that PKC had indicated that it would not re-open this matter until it could be demonstrated by the CC that there was support from local residents for parking restrictions. It seemed extraordinary that the challenge here could continue unaddressed and that there was unfettered parking right up against the school gates. Cllr Barnacle would raise the matter with PKC Roads Department and assist them in preparing a paper to put to a committee of elected councillors for a decision.

**Loch Leven's Larder – planning applications** 17/01738/ADV (Display of signs); 17/01621/FLL (Alterations to car park, play area and landscaping); and 17/01885/FLL (Erection of mixed use barn – retail cook school and function venue).

Robin Niven of the Larder explained that the aim of the proposals for a new 2km pathway, an extended landscaped car park together with improved catering and retail facilities and a mixed use activities barn, was to provide visitors with an interesting and varied experience encouraging them to enjoy the Larder and its setting and to stay longer and to return. Casual walkers, cyclists or motorists together with those participating in more formal occasions would be accommodated. The two-storey "barn" would cater for functions such as weddings on the upper floor while the lower level would sustain a variety of culinary and craft activities.

The CC had some concerns about potential noise but it was thought that any noise of an evening would be at a significant distance from residents' housing. Mr Niven said that a noise impact assessment was in course of preparation. The CC was aware that an increase in traffic consequent on these developments could impact on the already dangerous junction at Balgedie Toll. Mr Niven supported the short-term solution of traffic lights at this junction.

The CC would write in support of the development but seek that: a) the need for traffic lights at the Toll junction be specifically considered now by PKC and b) the provision of a bus halt within the plans for the new internal traffic circulation be considered.

**Car park on Moss Access Road.** Discussions continue with the aim of enabling confirmation of the transfer of ownership to the CC.

**Police report:** A sheep worrying incident at Scotlandwell; caution advised if approached to engage in door to door selling; the annual Drink Driving Campaign. The Area Commander's weekly bulletins were noted.

**New Planning applications:** None advised.

#### Progress with Developments

**17/01596/IPL** Land 50m south of 9 Bishop Terrace, Kinnesswood: erection of a dwelling house in principle. (Stephen's Field). A further meeting held on 4 December between A & J Stephen, PKC and representatives of the CC determined that a further appraisal of options was required. Once concluded the parties would meet once more.

**Fife 16/03661/EIA** Westfield Opencast Site Planning in Principle. To note progress: a) CC Request to Scottish Ministers to Call-in the Application; b) Fife Council - Draft Decision Notice; and c) Letter from Fife Council to Applicant - Hargreaves/Axis of 2 November.

The CC had still to hear formally from the Minister concerned but others who had approached the Scottish Government had now heard that Scottish Ministers will not call-in the application. Cllr Watters reported that, although local Ward Councillors and the Leader of the Council had written to Ministers in support of a call-in, this had not been sufficient to alter the position of an officer-determined PKC position not to request a call-in. As a statutory body, were PKC to make such a request, it could trigger a call-in. PKC legal department was considering the validity of this position. There was scope for our MP, MSPs and others to put pressure on PKC to reverse its decision. Noted that West Fife councillors were unhappy that they had not been involved in the decision making process.

The CC was reminded that Fife Council had written to the applicant seeking that it convene a Local Liaison Group which could help resolve operational matters and be a focus for pursuing community benefit. The CC would write to the applicant in support of this.

**Fife 17/03377/FULL** Installation of up to 10 gas engines generating 19.96MWe at Westfield OCCS Fife. To note progress including proposals for an Action Group. The CC had submitted its objection. Representatives of the CC had participated in meeting at Ballingry which established a Fife Action Group to challenge this application and the way that it had been handled. The Group would focus on the validity of the planning process and the relevance and impact (especially noise) of this new power station. It appeared possible that a decision would be made early in the New Year.

**Progress with Local Development Plan 2:** The latest iteration of the draft PKC LDP and Environmental Report was now available for comment. The CC will comment before the closing of 2 February. CC representatives will participate in an "LDP surgery" for community councils on 20 January.

#### Roads report:

*Wester Balgedie/Carsehall Junction - Increased traffic risk.* At a very positive meeting with PKC Roads department, Cllr W Robertson, local residents and representatives of the Balgedie Toll and Loch Leven's Larder and the CC, the gravity

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of the traffic risk was recognised. It identified that a short-term solution lay in the installation of traffic lights. The long-term solution was that the Toll should be by-passed and that, with that in mind, relevant land should be safeguarded in the proposed LDP.

The CC was subsequently concerned to learn that, because of budgetary constraints, there was no likelihood of the provision of traffic lights in the foreseeable future. The CC decided to write to challenge this decision and to point out that increased traffic following commissioning of developments at Loch Leven's Larder made it even more necessary that early action be taken at this junction to improve road safety. *Footpath from Scotlandwell to the Church, Hall and beyond.* An approach to the owners of the field between the Church and Scotlandwell had elicited no response. The CC with the support of Cllr Purves would now look to arrange a meeting of relevant parties in the near future.

*Vehicle Activated Signs - siting of five signs.* Work was underway to establish these signs. The CC through Cllr Calderwood had commented on the options for positioning each sign.

#### **PKC Ward Councillor Reports**

*Cllr Barnacle* reported that the budget for the coming financial year would be "difficult". Responding to the CC's wishes for improvements to the A911 footpath and to traffic flow challenges could be taxing. It was possible that changes to the Action Partnerships may open the way to greater devolved governance and that Kinross-shire may benefit were such change introduced.

*Cllr Watters* reported that members were being sought for the Kinross-shire, Almond and Earn Action Partnership. Traffic flow studies were being undertaken in Kinross and Milnathort. It was thought that they could be better informed were they to include Portmoak.

#### **Other Matters**

*Broadband Developments.* The Chairman reported on meetings with Andrew Mitchell of Classloch. The use of wireless technology would give opportunities to improve broadband access across Kinross-shire for those unable to access superfast broadband by way of fibre optic cable. If anyone has difficulties and is interested in a connection they should contact either the Chairman (01592-840459) or Andrew Mitchell (0779 311 1386).

*Portmoak Primary School Report.* The CC warmly congratulated the head teacher, staff parents and pupils on the recent outstanding report by Education Scotland (HMI Report) of the school. The school received rare excellent evaluations in two categories and very good in the other two representing an outstanding result.

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## **News from the January Meeting**

**In attendance** at the meeting held on 9 January 2018 were: CCllrs B Calderwood (Deputy Chair and Treasurer), R Cairncross (Secretary), S Forde, D Morris, T Smith, A Muszynski, and A Robertson; Ward Cllr C Purves, PC D Stapleton (Police Scotland) and nine members of the public.

**Apologies:** CCllr M Strang Steel; and Ward Cllrs M Barnacle and W Robertson.

#### **Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

*School access - policy on parking.* Cllr Barnacle's request to have this matter reviewed by the relevant councillor committee had not been supported by officers. The CC would now write to PKC supporting Cllr Barnacle's action. While there were challenges relating the drop-off and pick-up arrangements at the school, the principal and long-standing problem remained difficult access along Buchan Avenue to the School and onward round to the car park. This could compromise access to the school and car park for emergency vehicles, gritters and large service vehicles such as refuse lorries. The provisions for parking in and around Buchan Avenue merited a careful review.

*Item 4 Loch Leven's Larder - three planning applications.* The CC had made no comment in respect of applications 01/01738/ADV and 17/01621/FLL. While it had written in support of application 17/01885/FLL, it had made plain its concern that increased traffic to the Larder would increase the risk of an accident at the already dangerous Balgedie Toll junction. It supported the PKC solution that in the short-term traffic lights should be installed as a matter of urgency. *Car Park on Moss Access Road.* The CC awaited resolution of outstanding legal matters.

**Police report:** PC Stapleton reported a break-in to the Powerwasher at Buchan's Garage and that a driver had been apprehended in Portmoak as part of the "don't drink and drive programme" over the festive period. He reminded the CC of the helpful preparatory checklist prepared by Police Scotland if undertaking a long car journey at this time of year. The Area Commander's bulletins of 21 and 28 December and of 4 January were noted.

**Treasurer's report:** The balance at the month ending 30 December was £439.20 in the General Account; and £1,042.35 in the Michael Bruce Way Account, giving a total of £1,481.55.

**New Planning Application:** 17/02274/IPL Land 20m East of Leven House (Levenmouth) Scotlandwell. Residential development in principle (2 new dwelling houses to replace

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existing stable block). The CC noted the planning history for developments on this site. In 2007 an application for the demolition of existing agricultural sheds and stables, conversion of the existing barn, redevelopment of the existing farmhouse and the erection of 10 dwelling houses was refused on appeal. For the same site in 2012 consent was given for a dwelling house and garage and in 2014 for two dwelling houses with garages. While the CC acknowledged the case for this application presented in respect of the current Housing in the Countryside policy, it is mindful that, if granted, this application would increase recent new builds on this site to 5 dwelling houses. It recognises also that, if granted, further applications would almost inevitably follow. It supports the view of the Reporter in 2008, in dismissing the application for 10 plus houses, that the establishment of a settlement of around 10 houses on this site could not be justified. The CC notes that this new build proposal is unique in lying so close to the NNR, SSSCI, Ramsar site and the Heritage Trail. As there appears no means of curtailing further development on this site the CC objects to this application.

### Progress with Developments

*17/01596/IPL Land 50m south of 9 Bishop Terrace, Kinnesswood.* Erection of a dwelling house in principle. (Stephen's Field). Progress with an agreed further appraisal of options was awaited.

*Fife 16/03661/EIA) Westfield Opencast Site Planning in Principle.* The Chairman had now received formal notification from Scottish Ministers that they would not entertain calling-in the application. They indicated that a formal request from a statutory body, such as a PKC, would be necessary for a call-in to be considered. While Ward Councillors from the Kinross-shire Ward, together with the Leader of the Council, had written in support of such a call-in, the Council itself had declined to do so. That said, the CC's objection with its request for mitigation remained in place. It would now contact the applicant, Hargreaves/Axis, indicating its willingness to participate in both the preparation of Community Liaison Protocols and in a Community Liaison Group. These were activities requested of Hargreaves/Axis by Fife Council in their letter to them of 2 November.

*Fife 17/03377/FULL Installation of up to 10 gas engines generating 19.96MWe at Westfield OCCS Fife.* To note progress. The CC was a participant in the Fife Action Group. There had been a significant number of objections to the application which Fife Council would consider shortly.

*14/03661/CON Former Lomond Inn: proposals for part*

*demolition and erection of 5 dwelling houses.* The CC was concerned at lack of progress with this application and at the deterioration of the Inn. The matter would be followed up with both the developer and PKC.

### Progress with Local Development Plan 2

The CC would submit its comments before 2 February.

### Roads report

*Wester Balgedie/Carsehall Junction - Increased traffic risk.* PKC had met with community representatives and had recognised the need for an intervention. It had identified that the preferred short to medium term option was to install traffic lights. It was disappointing that officers had subsequently indicated that there was no intention of progressing this at present.

*Footpath from Scotlandwell to the Church, Hall and beyond.*

Cllr Purves would arrange a meeting with PKC and CC representatives sometime after the first week of February. While it was appreciated that there could be no commitment to fund such an endeavour at present, assurance was sought that PKC would, as a result of this meeting, identify, set out and consult on plans for a preferred route.

*Vehicle Activated Signs - siting of five signs.* Cllr Calderwood confirmed that the sites for the signs had been agreed and that they should be installed within the current financial year. A plan of their location would be circulated to members.

**Paths report:** CCllr Smith reported that the programme for the forthcoming year was under review and would be reported on in due course.

### PKC Ward Councillor Reports

Cllr Purves reported that arrangements for the PKC budget for the forthcoming year were progressing and that with cut of 1.8% in real terms both savings and efficiencies could be expected which could mean cuts in services. The PKC website invited members of the public to suggest budget priorities.

### Other Matters

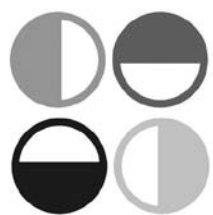
The CC had been approached by "Broke not Broken" seeking its participation in an open meeting or to comment on the proposals to establish a "Community Hub for Kinross-shire". The CC would indicate support. Separately the CC noted that there was difficulty in learning of the activities of the Kinross-shire, Almond and Earn Action Partnership. It had been difficult to obtain a copy of its Action Plan. The Partnership had never approached the CC for comment on its proposals. *Potholes and Drains.* Several drains along the A911 had "dropped" and required realignment. Some drains had also been prone to flooding and could require to be "sucked out". These are matters that can be handled by reporting to PKC on-line. Members and the public were encouraged to do so at the PKC website.

**The Next Meeting of Portmoak CC will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 13 February 2018 in Portmoak Village Hall, Scotlandwell.**

Portmoak CC minutes can be viewed:

- on the notice board in the village hall
- in a file in Kinnesswood Village Shop
- on the website [www.portmoak.org](http://www.portmoak.org)

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## Fossoway and District CC News from the December Meeting

**In attendance** at the meeting held on 5 December 2017 were: CCllrs C Brown, A Cheape, J Donachie, T Duffy, C Farquhar and G Pye; P&K Cllrs M Barnacle, C Purves, W Robertson and R Watters; and 13 Members of the Public (MoP).

**Apologies:** None.

**Declarations of Interest:** CCllr Cheape declared an interest in the LDP2 discussion.

**Police report:** No Officer was able to be present. Between 7.15pm and 10.25pm on Thursday 9 November 2017, an Ifor Williams GX84 ramp trailer was stolen from outside a property on the A823 in the area of Blairhill, Rumbling Bridge.

**Blairingone School:** Cllr Purves had emailed Cllr Shiers, the Convenor of PKC's Lifelong Learning Committee, raising concerns about the process not being done in a "joined up way". Cllr Shiers assured Cllr Purves that further consultation can still take place. CCllr Duffy had previously emailed Michelle Ridgway of PKC expressing the concerns raised during the last CC meeting about the information provided during the consultation exercise and asked for the consultation to be repeated before the comments were published. Carol Taylor, PKC Service Manager, replied that the analysis of the comments were nearly ready and would be published as planned, which the CC received on 29 November. The results were strongly in favour of Option 4, extend the catchment area. Consequently, PKC are sending surveys to parents of potential pupils both locally and in a widened catchment to see what their opinions would be, and although this is not a statutory requirement, the results of that survey will be used as part of the decision making process. Cllr Barnacle added that he suggested at the consultation exercise that the catchment review should be further widened to include Cleish. Cllr Purves agreed that all options should be considered. MoP was concerned that the survey of potential pupils is going to be only online and wonders how the list of parents might be reliably determined in order to be properly representative. Cllr Purves undertook to look into that.

**Blairingone Lambhill Site:** The applicant's agent has submitted a new traffic report which was not thought to be very accurate by local residents, and has elicited a number of objections from them. Cllr Purves has arranged for a motion to be raised in the Scottish Parliament to address the long running problems experienced by Blairingone residents. Local Councillors and a member of PKC's planning team recently made a visit to the site, and noted that no vehicle movements took place during their visit, but they were not allowed permission to enter the "Cow Barn". Cllr Robertson reported that the top area is clearly being used for industrial purposes, and is definitely not an agricultural site. John Anderson emphasised that it's very important for local residents to continue to enter objections.

**LDP2 Draft:** The draft plan was published on 1 December, and comments may be made until 2 February 2018. Cllr Barnacle has published some details from the plan in the Kinross Newsletter, and mentioned his concerns about policies on Gypsy Travellers and Zoning. Local Councillors included amendments to add the field beside the Village Hall in Crook of Devon as a mixed use site and the site next to the care home in Rumbling Bridge as principally open space. There is no change to the settlement boundary in Powmill, but there are proposals to investigate possible options for LDP3.

Cllr Barnacle intends to distribute an open letter on the addition of the Crook of Devon site, and emphasised that the meeting at LLCC on 10 January will be important to attend. He also stressed that there is still time for everyone to comment on included items and add anything thought to be missed.

Cllr Robertson noted that the plan does not allow for any more development in Balado until a sewage connection is available.

Comments on the plan can be made by post or email but Cllr Watters strongly recommended use of the new "Interactive Story Map" tool to navigate LDP2, which can be accessed via [www.pkc.gov.uk/ProposedLDP2](http://www.pkc.gov.uk/ProposedLDP2). Cllr Purves noted that Tay Plan specifies that the majority of development should be in bigger settlements, hence why we have smaller proposals locally. The minimum and maximum number of houses for each site are now included in plan.

CCllr Duffy attended an LDP2 consultation meeting at LLCC and asked what guarantees the public had that the details of the plan would be followed. The planner said that small housing would be enforced in our area.

A MoP complained that the local Councillors have included the Crook of Devon development even though it didn't seem to have the support of the local residents. Cllr Barnacle replied that there were 60 people at the last CC meeting where this was discussed, and he had sent out 350 letters. In response 13 supportive comments were received with eight respondents against. He also noted that all four local councillors supported the amendment. Cllr Robertson said that sometimes decisions have to be made for the benefit of the wider community, especially those who would like to move to the area if only there were suitable houses, and reminds us that people can still comment on LDP2.

**B9097:** The CC received a copy of a letter from Chic Haggart, PKC Traffic & Network Manager, to be sent to local residents, proposing to introduce a 40mph speed limit on the B9097 at Drum from the A977 to the junction with the U241. CCllr Duffy asked the community present for their opinions. There was support, but concern whether it would be enforced? Cllr Robertson said that Community Police are doing speed checks and will carry out checks on request. MoP asked if they could do checks on the A977, especially by Blairingone School (during opening hours) and in the vicinity of the Powmill Milk Bar. Cllr Robertson agreed to request these.

**Fossoway Pre-School** (beside Moubray Hall) are experiencing some financial difficulties, and are seeking grants or other ways to support the running costs of this valuable resource for the community. Cllr Robertson suggested that the Kinross Newsletter fund might be able to help.

**A977 Mitigation:** Local Councillors will be briefed on the costs of their preferred options on 8 December, and a consultation document will be issued.

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**Fossoway Area Public Transport:** There needs to be a robust way of recording the availability and any non-availability of the DRT service. In the interim, any problems should be reported to the local Councillors. Cllr Robertson reported that PKC are preparing a consultation on DRT which should have the effect of creating a logging system.

**Hydro Scheme:** The public consultation is now closed. Hugh Wallace is hopeful that £50-60K of extra money will shortly be provided to the scheme from unused contingency funds.

**New Business:** Cllr Robertson reminded the meeting that the Local Action Partnerships have quite a lot of money to spend, and the bidding process for the next round of funding is just about to start.

**CC Business:** Cllr Farquhar was to have attended a meeting of the Disability and Additional Sports Need Workshop of the Sports Hub which unfortunately was postponed. The Sports Hub members expressed disappointment about lack of young people joining sports clubs. The 2km run is very successful, but they are still looking for a venue for the 5km run.

Cllr Cheape attended a meeting of the Kinross-shire Fund, and grants were made to organisations outside Fossoway, however, he noted that they have quite a lot of money to be distributed.

### P&K Councillors' Reports

**Cllr Barnacle** and Cllr McDade (Independent) are proposing a motion to PKC about the RBS bank branch closures.

**Cllr Robertson:** PKC's annual budget process just being started. There is currently a £3m shortage even with savings already made, so it's going to be a difficult process, with unwelcome cuts likely to be proposed.

**Cllr Purves** is a Budget Review Group member, and noted that because some statutory services, e.g. schools, can't be reduced, the impact on other areas of the budget will be worse.

**Cllr Watters:** Nothing not already covered.

### Planning Matters

17/01818/FLL Erection of a dwelling house at land 50m north of Mellock House, Fossoway. CC object on grounds of excessive size of proposed house.

17/02015/FLL Siting of static caravan for use as staff accommodation for a temporary period (in retrospect) at land 10m north of Lambhill, Blairingone. CC object on grounds that there is no evidence to support the need for a resident worker.

17/02037/IPL Erection of a dwelling house (in principle) at land 400m NW of Rivendell, Blairingone. No CC comment.

17/01902/FLL Erection of 2no. wind turbines and associated works at land SE of Wharlawhill Farm, Carnbo. Application received last month, and although the CC did not formally object, the CC will confirm their normal policy to the officer responsible for this case, i.e. objecting to all wind turbine applications until there is a coherent plan from PKC.

**Correspondence:** All the correspondence was available for viewing: Luke Graham MP for Ochil and South Perthshire is conducting a survey into the impact of migrant workers on businesses in this area following Brexit. If you would like to take part in this survey, please contact david.robertson@parliament.uk to get a copy.

### Other Business

MoP asks what happens when bins are not collected due to bad weather, can you then leave extra next time? Cllr Purves asked MoPs to tell them when bins are not collected and what happens as a result.

## News from the January Meeting

**In attendance** at the meeting held on 9 January 2018 were: CCllrs C Brown, J Donachie, T Duffy, C Farquhar and G Pye; P&K Cllrs M Barnacle and R Watters; 26 Members of the Public (MoP); PKC Officers Lachlan MacLean, Daryl McKeown and Frank Mills.

**Apologies:** P&K Cllrs W Robertson and C Purves and Cllr A Cheape.

**Declarations of Interest:** None.

**Police report:** Unfortunately, no Officer was able to be present at the meeting.

**A977 Defects and Mitigation:** £540,000 budget has been obtained by local Councillors. There was a meeting on 8 December where local Councillors were briefed on the costs of their preferred options. PKC has analysed accident statistics, driven the route in various conditions and consulted other parties. Traffic counts were performed at various locations during a week in September 2017. An inventory of street furniture was also undertaken. Mr MacLean described various proposals for improvements. Local Councillors think that the priorities should be as follows:

1. A977/B9097 Realignment.
2. A977/Saline Road in Blairingone Signalisation.
3. A977/School Road in Crook of Devon.
4. Signing and Bollard Strategy for A977.
5. Replacement of Vehicle Activated Signs.
6. Upgrade of Turning Vehicle signs to include turning vehicle monitoring at Rumbling Bridge and both vehicle and pedestrian monitoring at East Balado.
7. Installation of automatic traffic counters at Balado straight and between Powmill and Rumbling Bridge to collect traffic numbers and speed throughout the year, including the class of vehicle.
8. Solar studs at various locations.
9. Gateway features (with potential for In-Bloom groups to enhance same.)

Local residents will be given opportunities to discuss the proposals in more detail and decide which ones should be implemented. Consultation events will be held in various locations along the A977; the CC will publish the details as soon as they are known.

The CC thanked the local Councillors for their tireless efforts to obtain the budget for these measures, and thanked Mr MacLean and his colleagues for the work done in preparing these proposals.

A MoP asked if any speed limits would be reduced as part of this project; if the Drum signalisation takes place then the 30mph limit would be extended to cover that site. In addition, PKC is reviewing the application of 20mph village limits throughout the county.

**Hydro Scheme:** The data from the Community Survey has been analysed and there are several clear messages. In the next few months the first grants will be made.

**Blairingone Lambhill Site:** The application will be discussed at the Development Management Committee on 17 January. There were numerous comments from the residents present about the vagueness of the current application which is for storage and distribution with no details about what material is due to be handled there. Blairingone residents will choose someone to speak at the meeting, and a number of them plan to attend. The CC will ask Cllr Purves, who is a local Councillor, but not on the DMC, to speak on behalf of the

residents, and the CC also plan to speak at the meeting.

**LDP2 Draft:** Comments can still be made.

**Blairingone School Estate Transformation:** Cllr Purves was unable to attend the meeting, but sent the following information: The current scoping exercise will not involve Cleish as it does not directly border the Blairingone catchment area and it will therefore be dealt with in the second phase of the review.

Email was used as the primary method of contact for parents and carers to issue the survey but ECS said that any parent who did not have an email address would be contacted by other means. The contact details were primarily obtained from the schools.

In addition, given the scoping exercise and to allow extra time for the consideration of submissions to the consultation, the Blairingone options appraisal is likely to come before the Lifelong Learning Committee in March rather than January as previously indicated. The decision has also been taken to dedicate a committee meeting to a few schools at a time rather than take them all in one go, which will allow for greater scrutiny of the proposals.

**Naemoor Road Roadworks:** Cllr Barnacle explained the proposal to move the weight restriction signs further north, clearing vegetation to improve their visibility and adding white lines just before the bridge to show that southbound traffic should give way to oncoming traffic.

#### **P&K Councillors' Reports**

**Cllr Watters:** Budget discussions are in full swing at the moment. There is a survey on the PKC website to allow people to say what things they think are important. Cllr Watters stressed how useful this sort of information is.

The Action Partnership still has about £16.5k to distribute, and are seeking three further members to join the committee to help decide how to allocate the funds. The Better Place to Live Fair on 3 March will allow communities to present suggestions for grant allocation which will be voted on by attendees.

**Cllr Barnacle:** The council has decided to conduct a review of local decision making. Cllr Barnacle would like to see devolved committees for areas like Planning, and will be suggesting this is included in the discussion.

Cllr Barnacle recommended that a Paths Group could be setup in this area, which would then have access to funds for local projects.

Cllr Barnacle has arranged for an area of ground to be fenced to act as a car park in Waulkmill.

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A MoP asked about the state of the A91 in Carnbo, which has acquired a number of large potholes during the recent weather, even though the major work done last year was supposed to have made the surface more robust. The problem appears to be that the surface water is still not being properly cleared. Cllr Barnacle undertook to investigate this.

#### **Planning Matters – New Applications**

17/02107/FLL Alterations and installation of a flue, Fir Cottage, Drum. No CC comment.

17/02050/FLL Erection of replacement garage with ancillary accommodation, Thimblewell Cottage, Powmill. No CC comment.

17/02189/FLL Erection of a dwelling house, land 50m north of Mellock House, Fossoway. No CC comment.

17/02068/FLL Erection of an equestrian store at land south-east of An Darach, Fossoway. No CC comment.

**Correspondence:** All the correspondence was available for viewing: Perth and Kinross Planning Investigation Group sent a copy of their press release which has been posted on the CC's Facebook page.

#### **Draft Agenda for Next CC Meeting**

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

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

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

**The Next Meeting of Fossoway & District CC will take place on Tuesday 6 February 2018 at 7.30pm in Blairingone Primary School. All Welcome.**

Fossoway & District CC minutes are posted on the website

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

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

### **Milnathort Community Council**

Milnathort CC did not meet in December 2017 or January 2018.

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

### **Cleish and Blairadam CC**

Cleish and Blairadam CC met on 4 December 2017. No minutes have been received by the Kinross Newsletter. Minutes may be available on the website [cleishandblairadam.org.uk](http://cleishandblairadam.org.uk)

**The next meeting of Cleish and Blairadam CC is due to take place on Monday 5 February 2018 at 7.30pm in Cleish Village Hall.**

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# Club & Community Group News



## Kinross & District Rotary Club

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### Young Musician Competition

The Kinross heat of this nationwide competition was held at the High School on 13 December 2017. Twelve competitors played and sang their hearts out in a very close competition. There was great support from the school Music Department. The judging was extremely difficult, however the winners, who go on to the District heat of the competition in Perth on 24 February, were guitarist Garry Simpson and vocalist Euan Alexander. All competitors received a certificate, with the winners receiving music vouchers.



*Euan Alexander and Garry Simpson receiving their certificates from Rotarian Andy Middlemiss (centre)*

### Santa's Sleigh 2017

Santa's sleigh visited all the towns and villages in Kinross-shire over a two-week period in December. As well as providing seasonal excitement to many children (and adults), £3000 was raised for local charities.

### Recent speakers

Our November speaker was Dr Bill MacFarlane Smith, Honorary Research Fellow at the James Hutton Institute, who talked to us about the global challenges ahead for mankind. For example, in the next 20 to 30-year timeframe, we will need to provide 40% more food, 30% more freshwater and 50% more energy than today just to sustain the human

population. This is not possible using today's techniques. The institute believes that Genomics is critical to achieving these goals and that DNA engineering will have to be used to greatly change the nature of plants and animals. Dr Smith's view is that there is no other answer to the looming shortages and is proud that Scotland is in the forefront of research in this critical area.

In December, Robert Walker spoke to us about Kinross and District Men's Shed. It was established early in 2017, is based in Milnathort, and currently has 30 members. Men's Sheds are social, recreational groups where men of all ages can get together and take part in activities or just sit around and have a coffee and a chat. They provide camaraderie and meaningful ways of working together. Membership is growing steadily. There are no membership fees. Lifts can be arranged to and from meetings if people do not have transport or it's too far to walk for them. The club meets twice weekly and more information can be found on Facebook or by calling 07388 869 934.

### Upcoming speakers

Our speaker on **Monday 26 February** will be **Chris Tiso**. Chris is the CEO of the Tiso Group, one of the leading national retailers of outdoor clothing and equipment. He is the recipient of several Scottish Business Awards, an ambassador for Dyslexia Scotland and Countryside Learning Scotland and is Honorary President of Scouts Scotland.

When not participating in, or leading, expeditions all over the world Chris lives in rural Kinross-shire with his wife and family.

Chris' talk is likely to be inspirational and interesting so this would be an ideal time to bring along any potential new members. Please give the matter some thought and come back to me if you have anybody in mind.

### Join Us!

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 and information

Contact Brian Timms, Club Secretary, at [secretary.kdrc@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.kdrc@gmail.com) to find out more or find us on Facebook.

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## Kinross & Ochil Walking Group

(Affiliated to Ramblers Scotland)

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

### Weekend Walks

**Saturday 3 February: Cleish Hills and Loch Glow, 6 miles.** Circular forestry and lochside walk in the Cleish Hills.

**Sunday 18 February: Linlithgow Circular, 8½ miles.** A walk along good paths and tracks, starting by the loch. Then along the canal towpath and River Avon to the Aqueduct, returning alongside the loch.

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.

**Tue 13 February: Balgownie Forest.** A walk through the forest on good paths in an old mining area.

**Tue 27 February: Blairadam Forest, Keltybridge and Maryburgh.** A walk around Blairadam Forest, taking in the hamlets of Keltybridge and Maryburgh.

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

## Kinross Bridge Club

Our Christmas party evening was enjoyed by all with 6 1/2 tables on Wednesday 20 December.

The winners were as follows:

2nd	North South	Jean Toshack and Sandy Greenhill
2nd	East West	Elizabeth Harley and Jim Marshall
1st	North South	Jessie Mitchell and Liz Pottie
1st	East West	Madge Malcolm and Anne Macdonald



## Portmoak Hall 100 Club

### November Draw

1st	No 13	Alastair Burnside, Scotlandwell
2nd	No 73	Michael Silvera, Lochend Farm
3rd	No 105	George Brown, Kinross

### December Draw

1st	No 11	Bruce Inglis, Kinnesswood
2nd	No 26	Nigel Kelley, Kinnesswood
3rd	No 53	Ian McGrattan, Kinnesswood

## Common Grounds

[www.spanglefish.com/](http://www.spanglefish.com/)

[commongroundscharitycafe](http://commongroundscharitycafe)



Although by the time of reading this the New Year will be well underway, we must report on how 2017 ended, as we saw it out with a flourish. Our craft stall at the Festive Winter Market/Light up Kinross event raised £932.20. This was followed by an equally successful Christmas raffle raising £236 and then topped up with £102.60 in Teddy from our social get-together to draw the winning tickets. A huge thanks to everyone involved. Your hard work and generosity certainly were responsible for such a record-breaking success!

Renovations to the 'Scout' end of the hall will be now underway and we are working from the cosy Guide kitchen. However, we are looking forward to returning to the new kitchen, along with disabled toilet facilities. Throughout the building work, we are open for business as usual and look forward to seeing you soon, perhaps at our first Project Lunch in 2018.

**Project:** Our next project is Tools for Self Reliance whose workshops are part of the Global Concerns Trust. This is a Scottish based charity focusing on providing tools and sewing machines to disabled people in Malawi. The Ecology Centre at Kinghorn Loch runs Tool Shed workshops which provide an outlet for people who are experiencing social isolation, mental health issues or just have the ability to work on a worthy project in a tool based workshop. In 2017 they sent eleven carpentry and cane furniture making kits to Malawi along with seventeen Singer sewing machines.

**Project Lunch:** Our next Project Lunch is on **Tuesday 20 February** in the Guide Hall, Church Street, Milnathort at 12 noon. The speaker will be Lee Brown from the charity Tools for Self Reliance. Homemade soup, bread, cheese, biscuits, tray bakes and Fairtrade tea and coffee. Everyone welcome. Our opening hours are still 10am to 12.30pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at the Guide and Scout Hall, Church Street, Milnathort.

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

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### Club Correspondents

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

## Kinross & District Inner Wheel

As with all clubs, December was a busy month for members. At our normal meeting at the Boathouse, we welcomed Phil Dean who gave us an A-Z of birds. We also held a supper at a member's home which raised a substantial sum for our overseas projects. A number of members also attended the Rotary Club Christmas party at the Kirklands Hotel and were treated to an excellent meal and entertainment.

Members met for their first meeting of 2018 at the Boathouse on 8 January. Our speaker was Lt Col Andy Middlemiss who gave us a very informative talk about the work SSAFA, the Armed Forces charity, whose work is supported by around 6,500 volunteers. Andy enthusiastically explained how SSAFA helps so many ex-servicemen and their families in many different ways.

On 13 January, members attended a baked potato lunch at the home of President, Christine MacLure, to celebrate Inner Wheel Day.

February sees members organising a Tea Dance at the Kinross Day Centre, providing an afternoon of music and dance plus a 'cuppa with eats' and a goodie bag to take home for their tea.

Our next meeting is on **Monday 12 February** at the Boathouse. Our speaker is Julian Reeves, who will talk about Seamab.



## Kinross & District Probud Club

**'1917; a look back' by Andy Middlemiss**

*'In Flanders fields the poppies blow,  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.'*



At the end of the First World War, a Canadian army Major, John McCrae, was moved to write the above poem when he saw the poppies growing in what had been the battlefields of Flanders. Andy Middlemiss opened his presentation by reading the poem, which is used to this day in our commemorations of WW1.

1917 is now seen as one of the major turning points of the war. Up to that point, both sides were making little advance, but with heavy casualties.

Attrition became the cry in 1917 and there were a number of battles like Arras, Ypres and Messines which finally led to Passchendaele. Although the Germans made a final onslaught in the spring of 1918 after releasing thousands of troops from the Russian front, these battles of attrition did finally have an impact on the strength of the German forces. The allies, Britain and France, had the support of many nations and finally that of the USA, and this wore down the German army whose resources were getting stretched.

Andy spoke of the amazing fighting spirit of the allied forces, Kitchener's Army, made up increasingly of conscripts and not professional soldiers. They joined up in their thousands to 'fight for King and Country' we were told, but many joined up to fight alongside their friends and family. Conditions were dreadful, with weeks and weeks of rain. The trenches were knee-deep in mud and if you didn't get shot there was a good chance you'd catch trench foot or some horrendous disease. There were stories of outstanding bravery; the VC was awarded to ordinary men who fought like lions to save others without thinking of their own safety. There were many loved ones left behind who had to endure the war not knowing the fate of the young men.

1917 will always be remembered for the tremendous loss of life on both sides and the sacrifice made by the thousands of young men from communities across the land and further afield. Passchendaele is a small rural village in Belgium where this series of battles ended. It wasn't the end of the war, it was just the beginning of the end. Haig launched his 100 day campaign which was to lead to Armistice Day on 11 November 1918.

The vote of thanks was given by John Pleass.



Lt Col Andy Middlemiss with Mrs Sandra Findlay,  
whose husband Bob served in the RAF

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## Speakers enthral attendees at Kinross-shire Partnership Networking Breakfasts



If any of the 30 or so local business people who attended the Kinross-shire Partnership Networking Breakfast on Wednesday 6 December had ever doubted the wisdom of getting up with the lark (or 'owl', given how dark it was!), the inspiring post-prandial presentation by Chris Tiso undoubtedly more than compensated for their early start. Local entrepreneur and adventurer Chris gave a frank account of his company's development, which was fascinating and inspiring in equal measure.

He explained how his parents, Graham and Maude, both experienced climbers, opened the first Tiso shop in Edinburgh in 1962, seeking the freedom and flexibility of being their own bosses. They had identified a niche market: the supply of quality outdoor clothing and equipment in Scotland to mountaineers, hillwalkers and other outdoors enthusiasts. With few competitors in the market, the company prospered and expanded, eventually opening Outdoor Experience stores in various Scottish cities. Gradually, competition in the marketplace intensified, but despite this and the tough challenges posed by the credit crunch, the family company successfully adapted their business

model while retaining the company's 'DNA', thereby remaining true to Maude and Graham Tiso's original founding principles.

Fast-forward a month, and the first networking breakfast of 2018, held at the customary venue of Loch Leven's Larder on Wednesday 10 January, saw another highly successful local entrepreneur share his business story with attendees. David Sands, whose family was involved in the local convenience store business for over 200 years, spoke avidly about the benefits of growing up in a family business, and how important it is for young people to gain work experience at an early age.

Having been mentored initially by his father, David left Kinross High School to study for a degree in business and law from Edinburgh University then joined Sainsbury's in London as a graduate trainee. There he acquired extensive knowledge of the retail trade, which was to prove invaluable when – at the age of 22 – he was unexpectedly given the majority shareholding in the family grocery business. By the time the group was sold to the Co-op in April 2012, the David Sands chain had grown from the original two stores (in Kinross

and Glenfarg) to encompass 30 stores around Perth & Kinross and Fife, with an annual turnover in excess of £40 million and an annual profit of over £2 million.

However, David is not a man to sit idle for long, and since the sale of David Sands Ltd to the Co-op, he has started up six new property and retail businesses. His commercial interests currently include an eco-homes company and David's Kitchen – a format combining a coffee shop, bakery and convenience store. David also keeps his eye on trends in the business world in general, and he mentioned the potential opportunities of blockchain technology in the future. Like Chris Tiso at the December breakfast before him, David Sands captivated his audience with his frank and insightful presentation. Moreover, as ever, attendees enjoyed the opportunity to network prior to tucking into a hearty Scottish breakfast, and to make a 60-second elevator pitch introducing their company or organisation to other breakfasters.

*For details of the next Networking Breakfast on Wednesday 7 February, see the notice on page 93.*

## Scotlandwell in Bloom

On 26 November 2017, members of the Scotlandwell in Bloom team, the Well Country Inn and friends, together with some of Kinross High School's World Challenge Team 2 (Madagascar chums), held a Christmas Fayre in Scotlandwell to raise funds for the Ankizy Gasy Foundation (children of Madagascar). Over £1,000 was raised and as such we were able to post five Christmas parcels for the children and donate £1,000 to their charity. Our volunteer contact 'Ony', was overwhelmed by the amount we sent and will let us know in due course how the money will be spent.



On a personal note, I would like to thank everyone who came along and supported the event; to those who spent many hours knitting, crafting, bottling, preserving etc; to Santa and Rudolph for their wonderful BBQ skills; to the staff of the Well Country Inn for all their help and support, above and beyond the call of duty; and extra special thanks to Ronnie and Tanya, owners of the Well Country Inn for hosting the event and all their tremendous donations; and last but by no means least, to the 'boys' for returning everything back to normal the following day! Having seen Ankizy Gasy first hand, and met with the volunteers, I know the money we have raised will be well spent, and look forward to updating

everyone in the near future. Once again, my personal thanks to all our supporters.

Scotlandwell in Bloom also hosted a Christmas Hamper Raffle in aid of Cash for Kids; the raffle was drawn on 18 December and the lucky winner was a young lady from Cardenden. An amazing £650 in total was raised. Once again, grateful thanks to all the staff at the Well Country Inn for selling the raffle tickets.

*Elaine Carruthers*

## Kinross Garden Group



After a short break from talks, we had a members' quiz afternoon in December and a very enjoyable Festive Lunch in January at the Orwell Bowling Club, with catering by Heaven Scent.

Our next meeting is on **Thursday 8 February** in the **Millbridge Hall, Kinross** at 2pm. **Jane Sanderson**, from The Abernethy Horticultural Group, will give a talk entitled 'The Plants of Mount Kilimanjaro'.

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.

## **Kinross-shire Historical Society Martin and Birrell; Two Local 19th Century Land Surveyors by Professor David Munro**



Professor Munro began by explaining the history of map making and those involved in drawing early maps, including Blaeu and Roy. There was an increased need for plans and maps following the 1695 Division of Commonly and Run Rig Acts. He showed some examples of early plans held in Kinross Museum.

The Loch Leven Drainage Scheme pursued by the Graham family to create more farmland by the loch involved a Cupar land surveyor called Alexander Martin. In 1824, Martin engraved a datum mark on a stone in the wall of the Kirkgate Graveyard to show the level the loch was to be. He produced a report and plan required for an Act of Parliament to be passed. The plan Martin drew was very large, covering 2000 acres and took three years to produce. Some of the marker stones he set in place in 1818 can still be found today.

When he was asked to work on the Leven improvements, Martin needed help and chose Ebenezer Birrell, who was born in Kinnesswood in 1800. He was from a family of vellum and parchment makers but he was also an artist – a useful talent for map making.

Birrell worked with Martin on the plans round Loch Leven and the banks of the River Leven. The first plan of 1828 shows, in exquisite detail, where all the marker stones were placed, but Professor Munro has only ever found one.

Martin and Birrell played a huge part in the major scheme of lowering the loch, putting in the Cut and the Sluice House, but then they disappeared completely from the records of the area. Other people such as Robert Burns Begg, the local schoolmaster, were drawing the plans in the area.

Martin had moved to Brooklyn in America and was city surveyor there. His name is on many old plans of Brooklyn. He died in 1840.

Birrell sailed for Canada on the General Graham from Alloa to Montreal alongside other Kinross-shire passengers. He kept a diary of the crossing and on through his life. He went to Pickering and built a house that survived until 1963. He continued with his painting. One hangs in the Hamilton

Gallery and Museum. He still owned property in Kinnesswood and Kinross and corresponded with local people. He died in 1888 and has a tombstone in Pickering and a memorial stone in Portmoak.

Professor Munro thanked Janet Mullan, one of the Museum volunteers, for her genealogical research on the Martin and Birrell families.

Catriona McLeod thanked Professor Munro for yet another interesting Christmas talk. As a Museum volunteer herself, she was pleased that the Museum, and Janet in particular, had been a good source of information.

## **Town Twinning; Birth, Early Years and Maturity by David Munro**

The twinning of Kinross came about after the French town of Gacé contacted both Perth and Kinross Town Councils in the early 1970s. Provost Tom McBain of Kinross responded with the support of several prominent residents of the town.

David Munro's involvement began as a result of connections with Boys' Brigade around 1974; they have visited Gacé several times over the years.

Gacé is a country town in Normandy set in a farming area. Both towns share the same issues. The symbol of the twinning is the twin towers of Kinross and Gacé and, during visits, gifts are exchanged between the two places.

Visitors stay with a family and the time is split between visiting the surrounding area, twinning events and family time. Over the years there have been visits to Versailles, Paris, Caen, Deauville and Mont St Michel. Sporting events have included football and 'It's A Knockout'. Heritage is celebrated by Un Spectacle (son et lumière). This has been performed twice in Gacé and once in Kinross. This involves drama, music and dancing.

Town twinning continues with a three year cycle consisting of a visit to Gacé, a visit to Kinross, and a year when nothing is organised. This year there will be a visit to Gacé at the end of July.

Professor David Munro said that it was a pleasure to hear his namesake, David Munro's, informative talk. Many of the twinning gifts are stored in the Kinross Museum which held an exhibition to mark the first 40 years. He wished them well for the future.

## **Boys Brigade**

### **Activities Update**

The Company is now back in full swing after the festive break. Members thoroughly enjoyed Perth Theatre's pantomime production of Aladdin just before the Christmas holidays.

Coming up this month is the annual battalion chess competition for Junior and Company Section members which will be followed by the Scripture Search competition and Drill Competition.

### **Section Information**

Our Anchor Section caters for boys and girls in primaries one, two and three and meets at the Church Centre on Friday evenings from 6pm to 7.15pm. The youngsters follow a national awards programme which involves crafts, games and team activities.

Our Junior Section caters for boys and girls in primaries four, five and six and meets at the Church Centre, also on Friday evenings, from 7pm to 9pm. The BB national awards



programme is followed and supplemented by a range of individual and group activities.

Our Company Section caters for boys and girls from primary seven to age 18 and meets in the Church Centre, also on Friday evenings, from 7pm to 10pm. As well as the BB national awards programme and badge scheme, the more senior Company take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme which involves volunteer work, taking up a new interest as well as overnight expedition work.

### **Summer Camp**

This year's Company Summer Camp will be based at Kenmore over the last week of July and will be based on outdoor adventure type activities including white water rafting.

### **BB Uniform**

The Company is finding a shortage of uniforms due to members not handing back these items when leaving to go to college university or work. Can you check your cupboards please and return any outstanding items of uniform? Uniforms can be handed into either the Church Office or the Day Centre.

# Kinross and District Art Club



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

If you want a job done, ask a busy woman, so the saying goes. This certainly applies to our committee as a new Chair and Treasurer have just been appointed. Thanks to the outgoing post holders, Glenys Andrews and Annie Dawson, for all their hard work over recent years and welcome to Gillian Ross and Jackie Sutherland!

Both live locally and both have recently joined the club having, in Gillian's case, rekindled an interest in art and in Jackie's case, found a new activity in her retirement. They each have an interesting story of career focussed lives to tell and now have the time to enjoy the creativity of painting and meeting like-minded people at KADAC.

Gillian, the new President, is a retired Headteacher. She spent her childhood in this area, trained as a teacher at Dundee and worked in schools in Fife and latterly Aberdeen City. She has also been a teacher trainer and worked with parent groups.

In addition to well-honed interpersonal and presentation skills, Gillian has IT skills and a range of interests including yoga, gardening and DIY. She is also Wardrobe Manager for Kirkcaldy Amateur Operatic Society.

Gillian's interest in art has been lifelong, although during her busy career it had to take a back seat. She says, 'I enjoy a project and love sewing and craft activities and I love the art club which has bounced me back into painting and

drawing again. I used to be a member of the Kirkcaldy and Glenrothes art clubs many moons ago, then had a break of 15 years whilst in Aberdeen.'

Gillian took over as Acting Chair following this year's Exhibition before being confirmed as Chair (President) at the AGM in December.



*Jackie in her garden and Gillian at the Kirklands in festive mood when the club enjoyed an excellent Christmas lunch*

Jackie, the new Treasurer, tells her story; 'Treasurer of the Art Club? Well, I actually have more experience and skill with a financial spreadsheet than I do with a paintbrush! Not having picked up a brush since school days, I (briefly) tried watercolours and then, through the art club, discovered acrylics. Still very much a beginner but, with so much support and encouragement in the club, I look forward to acquiring some

skills – I dream about big landscapes with vivid colours!' Before Jackie retired, her work was in Environmental Education (working for the RSPB, formal teaching, consultancy, and latterly work with Loch Leven Heritage Trail and other Kinross footpaths).



Being married to a (now retired) former Director of Finance at Edinburgh University helped Jackie to hone her 'balance' skills when she was treasurer of a club in Edinburgh for some years. Although Jackie has lived in Kinross-shire for over 30 years, she is relatively new to the art club. 'Members are so welcoming and friendly, it will be a pleasure to be able to give something back,' she said.

## Portmoak Film Society

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

2018 got off to a rip-roaring start with very good attendance, despite the dreich weather, for David Mackenzie's 2016 bank heist film, 'Hell or High Water', set in post-subprime crisis rural Texas. Very reminiscent of the 'Bonnie & Clyde'-type films of the '70s, after initial laughs it packed a truly shocking punch when people started actually getting killed. The audience gave it a 90% satisfaction rating.

Our next film is also about the lives of contemporary Americans, but in a completely different vein: the multi-award winning 'Manchester by the Sea' to be shown on **Saturday 10 February**. It's about a loner who's burnt all his bridges with his past and moved away from his home town, only to be recalled when his brother dies, leaving him as guardian of a teenage nephew. The film, despite dealing with modern-day loneliness and desperation, has been described as too good not to watch - with Oscars for Best Actor (Casey Affleck) and Best Screenplay (Kenneth Lonergan, who also directed it). Give it a try - they can't all be wrong!

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

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

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or visit  
[www.alisonmuirsoftfurnishings.co.uk](http://www.alisonmuirsoftfurnishings.co.uk)



## Kinross Camera Club

kinrosscameraclub.org.uk

In December, the club was treated to talks from two of our members, John StClair and Robert Walker. John and Robert are very experienced photographers and shared much of their experience and knowledge during a very interesting evening.

We also had two excellent external speakers. These were David Lintern, who is a serious adventurer with an interest in photography, and Martin Weir, who described some of the challenges of being a professional photographer.

One of the great strengths of our club is the wide range of speakers we have along, who both inspire and teach on all aspects of photography.

Next month we have Duncan McEwan, an ex-Glasgow Herald photo journalist, who will be speaking about 'Glorious Glasgow'. No doubt it will include many nostalgic photographs for those of us who are familiar with that great city.

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

*The member's photo featured this month is called Geronimo Brollies*



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



## St Paul's Episcopal Church

### 100 years since Provost's son died on military service

A service took place in St Paul's on 24 December 2017 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the death of Lt Herbert Anderson of the Royal Flying Corps.

Cadets from 1145 (Kinross) Detached Flight RAF Air Cadets attended at the invitation of Lt Col (Retd) Andy Middlemiss of SSAFA. Fr David Mackenzie Mills officiated.

The son of the local Provost, Lt Anderson was killed whilst undertaking manoeuvres in his aircraft over Beverley Westwood Golf course and he died, at the age of 18, a few weeks before the Squadron was deployed to France.

The Lieutenant's body was returned to St Paul's Church before being buried with full military honours at the East Cemetery, Kirkgate, by Loch Leven.



Representatives from 1145 (Kinross) Detached Flight at the service

### A Couple of Fr David's Reflections from Christmas 2017

Although we're only a hair's breadth away from Lent, it's good to pause and reflect on the festive season now passed. Within the space of four days, Christmas worship at St Paul's had encompassed the creative, the deeply poignant and the outrageously playful.

Side by side with the traditional themes of Christingle, our family service this year also considered a rather small and furry member of the Christmas story. We heard about Michael Mouse who, despite having no gift for the new King, gave himself as a hole-filler in the stable roof for as long as he needed him. We also had the chance to craft our own mousey clay creations to hang on the Christmas tree!

As the separate piece (left) explains, on Christmas Eve we commemorated the centenary of the tragic death of a young pilot during training for active service in World War I. Our church remembers him on a brass plaque in the Nave. We were privileged to welcome those who currently live in his house along with some of the Kinross cadets for whom I am honoured to provide a listening ear as their chaplain. It was fitting that this short commemoration took place in our normal Sunday Eucharist. God's abundant, overflowing, never-ending gift to the world of Jesus Christ was aptly demonstrated on Christmas morning with fistfuls of 'Celebrations' being scattered above the heads of the congregation. There was much mirth as folk both tried to dodge a Twix in the back of the head whilst, at the same time, gathering up the chocolatey treats for later! You'll also notice that the scaffolding has now finally gone! Hurrah!

With our blessings for 2018.

Fr David Mackenzie Mills

# Broke Not Broken Kinross Food Bank



Before Christmas we did a tally of the food donated to date. We have received over 8000kgs of food; that's 8 metric tonnes of food! Anyone who has been to The Beacon will tell you there isn't 8 tons of food there, so we do pass it all on to people in time of crisis. After a busy Christmas we are sure that number has increased hugely! A list of thanks will probably fill our space in the Newsletter but we have so many people to thank.

Our now Annual Food Drive and Christmas hamper pack resulted in 100 hampers and 25 bags of presents. The recipients were all referred to us by social workers, housing officers, health care professionals and teachers, which means we were assured that they were going to people who needed them badly. This amounts to a large number of people who are struggling in our community over the festive period, I think you will agree. We were gifted vouchers by Hunter's Butchers and by the Kinross Christian Fellowship. The time and wrapping expertise donated by the generous people of Kinross was a sight to behold.

Donations were plentiful and generous over the month of December and we would like to thank Juran Benchmarking, J&G Wilson, Milnathort Parent Council, Kinross High School, CHAS, Kinross Colts, Kinross Otters, John Flaherty, Margaret Chapman, Milnathort in Bloom, Sainsbury's, Loch Leven's Larder, Val Oswald Pilates Class, PA Advocacy, Sandy Fraser and Glenfarg Village Shop, Friends of Milnathort Town Hall and all the local Primary schools and churches who give of their support and donations so generously.

There were plenty of anonymous donations as well; including monetary as well as food donations and donations of gifts for families and children. Thanks again to Moorelands Travel for co-ordinating the collection of the gifts in Santa's Suitcase. Not to mention ongoing support from Gutters2Glory and the great team there.

We also played host to 60 interested and engaged children from Kinross Primary School P2 classes who are

What is so heartening for us is that we are a regular part of this generous community's culture of giving. Seeing families coming along as a traditional part of their Christmas year after year in order to show their children that giving is the more satisfying side of the coin to receiving. Seeing the schools reinforcing this and instilling it in our children gives us enormous hope for the future.



*100 hampers packed and ready to go to local people in need*

working on the topics of kindness. They came to The Beacon and took part in some activities and made up their own hampers. Kinross Primary School did a week-long food collection as a house event and collected over 480kgs of food for the food bank. P5 and P5/6 raised over £188 selling Christmas crafts and chose to donate it to us. Kinross High School did a similar event and collected 44 boxes of food. Portmoak Primary School donated food and sold made up hampers to raise over £260.

Sadly, the few weeks before Christmas and the first weeks of January have been very busy for the food bank. The effects of Universal Credit in Kinross-shire are hitting already struggling families hard. Currently, opening hours for clients are Tuesday and Thursday from 10am to 2pm. *[See notice on page 94]*

For drop-offs, please leave food donations in either Co-op or Sainsbury's collection points. Contact us by email at [admin@brokennotbroken.org](mailto:admin@brokennotbroken.org).



*Kinross Primary School collected over 480kg of food for the food bank for thier house event*

## Lochend Farm Shop Scotlandwell

Fresh seasonal vegetables  
carrots, turnips, cabbage  
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## Kinnesswood in Bloom

Happy New Year to residents of Kinnesswood and all local bloom groups. Let's hope we all have a great growing season in 2018. One of our members suggested there might be a reduction in slugs and snails this year after all the cold weather, so here's hoping.

We were fortunate to get £1500 from the Perth Creative Communities Fund and will use most of this to purchase a solar listening post for the Michael Bruce Garden. There will be two recordings on the post; one is a piece of music called 'Loan to the Hill', composed by Ian Dunnett and the other is a recording by David Munro. The rest of the funding will be used to commission a piece of sculpture designed by the children of Portmoak Primary and made by a local blacksmith. Why not stop by Kinnesswood and visit the Michael Bruce Museum and Garden? Hopefully, the listening post will soon be installed.



## Recipe



supplied by Kinnesswood in Bloom

### Cheesy Potato Bake

We had this recipe with some leftover ham after New Year and it went down very well with the family. It also used up some of our old tatties from the garden.

#### Ingredients

- 60 g butter
- ¼ cup cornflour
- 3 cups milk
- 2 cups grated cheese
- 1.2 kg old potatoes, peeled and thinly sliced

#### Method

Preheat oven to 180°C. Grease a 6cm deep, 24cm square baking dish.

Melt butter over a medium heat. Add flour and cook, stirring constantly for 2 minutes or until bubbly. Remove from heat. Slowly add milk, stirring until well combined. Return to heat until sauce comes to the boil. Add most of the cheese and stir to combine.

Arrange one third of the sliced potatoes, overlapping slightly, over base of baking dish. Spoon one third of the cheese over the potatoes. Repeat twice, then sprinkle with remaining cheese.

Bake for an hour or until potatoes are tender and top is golden. If it begins to brown too much, cover with foil.



An interpretation board installed at Michael Bruce's cottage last summer as part of the 250th anniversary commemoration

Meanwhile, designs are being finalised for the Benarty View project. Some removal and thinning of trees will soon take place with additional and more suitable planting along one of the borders. It will be excellent to see this project moving ahead at last.



Our Christmas tree was installed on 16 December and carols were sung in front of the tree after it was decorated. Perhaps we have a choir in the making? We finished January with a night out for volunteers and others who help to enhance the village.

The new greenhouse has stood up to the winter gales so far. We hope to start some planting with the school grounds group soon. Don't forget to look out for Portmoak School's lovely book on Michael Bruce. It has been selling like hotcakes and is a very professional publication.

Our next meeting is on **Thursday 1 February** at the Well Country Inn.

### Discover Loch Leven Website

To discover the myriad things to see and do in Kinross-shire and its neighbouring counties, visit [www.visitlochleven.org](http://www.visitlochleven.org)



## HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM ALL OF US AT Milnathort filmhouse


### Thank You for Supporting Us During 2017

Our First Screening this year will be in March 2018


Details will be available soon on our Website, Facebook Page, Twitter and in the next edition of the Kinross Newsletter

We Look Forward to Seeing You at a Screening Soon



Additionally We Would Like to Thank the Following for their Kind Donations to our Raffle in Aid of Social Bite's Sleep in the Park that was held at our Christmas Night Out Film - Bridget Jones's Baby. With their help and the generosity of our audience on the night, we raised £165 for a great cause.



The Kirlands  
The Courthouse  
Connie Weir  
Light Up My Heart  
The Zen Zone  
Giacopazzi's  
Scarlet Goose



Information and Online Booking  
[www.milnathortfilmhouse.com](http://www.milnathortfilmhouse.com)

Follow Us On:  






# Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation



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

We would like to thank everybody locally for their support over the last few years! Many volunteers have helped out and numerous people attended our events (the Kinross Farmers'



*The KLEO committee*

markets, Leven Voices and Winter Festival events with talks, concerts, shows and the Festive Street market). Also many local businesses have supported KLEO by advertising in the Winter Festival brochure. All greatly appreciated!

KLEO began as a community group in 2008, and is now a registered charity (SC044056). There is a small volunteer committee (currently nine local people), headed by four volunteer trustees and an administrator. With our events we like to bring the community together! New committee members are always welcome and we meet once a month. For more information about KLEO, please visit our website or e-mail [info@kleo.org.uk](mailto:info@kleo.org.uk).

## Leven Voices

A new block of sessions has started in January with Horsecross Arts tutor Alice Marra. Leven Voices is a fun, informal drop-in singing group which you can join anytime. No music reading or singing experience is necessary! You pay as you go (£4 or £3 concession). There is a £6 'registration fee' which is used to pay for the hall for a 10-week period. Leven Voices meet on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm at the Kinross Parish Church. Just come along, sing and enjoy!

## Rosemount Nursery

Joining with Natalie Young from the Daisy Foundation, Rosemount Nursery school are supporting the social and physical development of their youngest children in weekly baby and toddler classes. The baby classes promote baby massage and yoga, rhyme and song along with infant education and sensory play. We are delighted to be working together, promoting such development each week and learning from each other. The classes facilitated by Natalie throughout the Kinross area ensure that there is a supportive community for mum and dad and it is this support network that we need to know that, as parents, we are not alone on our journey through parenthood.



*Natalie Young from the Daisy Foundation has been providing sessions for the youngest children at Rosemount Nursery*



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## Kinross High School

### Performing Arts Faculty News

Last term was busy. In September, S4 pupils took part in a composition workshop based on American Minimalism with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, followed by a trip to Perth Concert Hall. S4 to 6 pupils went to see Scottish Opera's production of La Traviata at the Festival Theatre in Edinburgh where they developed their knowledge and enjoyment of opera.

The Drama team presented two evenings of Advanced Higher Drama productions which were a huge success and demonstrated the talent of many of our S6 pupils. They have also started work in earnest for next year's Rock Challenge and there has been much enthusiasm generated so far.

A number of pupils took part in the Annual ChildLine Concert at Perth Concert Hall on 7 December 2017. It was impressive to see a large number of our young people taking part in a wide range of different groups in Perth Youth Orchestra.

In December we held our second Rotary Young Musician competition. The overall winner was electric guitarist Garry Simpson and the vocal winner was Euan Alexander; both pupils will take part in a regional heat in February.

The Annual Christmas Concert was also a great success. The programme included the School Choir, Ukulele Orchestra, Show Band, Wind ensembles, String Orchestra, Chamber Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble and much more.

This term we are organising a trip to see Miss Saigon in Edinburgh.

We will be preparing pupils for Perform in Perth, SQA Exams, Rock Challenge and our **Spring Concert on Tuesday 27 March 2018**. Rehearsals have also started for our annual **School Show**. This will be Little Shop of Horrors which will run from **19 to 21 June**.

### Senior Mathematical Challenge

This event is run by the UK Mathematics Trust. It was established in 1961 and encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought, and fluency in using basic mathematical

techniques to solve interesting problems. The problems are designed to make students think.

This session we entered twelve S5 pupils and sixteen S6 pupils. We gained five silver and fourteen bronze awards:

**S5 Silver Award:** Struan Fotheringham. **S6 Silver Awards:** Nicholas Baughan, Rebecca Bisset, Flora Caldwell and Sally Montford. **S5 Bronze Awards:** Guy Bathgate, Cameron MacFarlane, Lewis Pilkington, Freddie Bull, Rhona Brown, Eleanor Senior and Duncan Ballantyne. **S6 Bronze Awards:** Iona Crawford, Fraser Eadie, Hannah Miller, Jonah Ramponi, Struan Smith, Oscar Thompson and Ewan Thompson.



Welcome to Mandarin teacher Lu Bai

### Language Department

We extend a warm welcome to Lu Bai who, in November, joined the staff as a Mandarin teacher for the PKC Confucius Hub which was recently relocated to Kinross High School. Miss Bai has taught Chinese language and literature for four years at Tianjin High School. She is affiliated to Beijing Normal University, and is very much looking forward to teaching Chinese language and culture here in Kinross and elsewhere within the local authority.



A spirited performance from the Advanced Higher Drama students!



## Kinross & District Men's Shed

Out with the old year and in with the new; a busy period starting with the Christmas Market, where our new gazebo attracted many stoppers by. Thank you to everyone for supporting us by buying the crafted tea lights and donated gifts.

Our first festive meal at The Muirs was enjoyed by all. Robert had devoured another the previous evening at The Kirklands as our representative guest speaker at the Rotary Club. A new

year diet for you, my man! Despite December's freezing weather the Shed remained open as usual. Our warm marquee-within-a-shed offered companionship for men alone at that time; a gesture welcomed by AGE Concern Scotland.

The New Year has started well! The work on our premises is almost complete; the kitchen area is operational, the WC is up-to-date and new work benches are in place.

Photography studio lights were erected by Roy in the second marquee. AeroSpace Kinross, our benefactor, have new offices. In return, Alan levelled the warped top of an impressive reception desk. By making timber stands, he's also transformed wall-mounted electric radiators into portable ones.

Individual projects are underway. Renovated old bikes are available and donations are appreciated. As are sharpened, old hand tools, many being vintage of interest to collectors. Our qualified electrician will tackle minor electrical problems, so bring along your faulty, beloved lamp or old drill.

This year we aim to teach shedders new skills. Now the Shed is established, more men should be starting their own projects, which also will enable the beginners to learn by shadowing them. Feel free to visit us and discover what we have achieved in the first year and what we have to offer. We're at the former Forth Wines, Milnathort, open on Wednesday mornings from 11am to 1pm and on Saturdays from 10am to 2pm.

Finally, the Shed continues to surprise. The latest donation is a dinghy named 'Oscar'! He will be sailed, when restored, on Loch Ore. If you don't believe it, come along and see for yourself.



*The gazebo at the Festive Market*

### Traidcraft – a new outlet

At the start of this New Year we are delighted to announce that the Scottish Gliding Union at Portmoak Airfield are using Fairtrade Goods provided by the Traidcraft group based at Kinross Parish Church.

The Cafe at the Gliding Centre, which is run by Donna Davie, is open to all seven days a week and we are really pleased to have them on board. They join our other outlets in showing their support by promoting Fairtrade, so please pop in and sample some of the goods!

If you're a business in the Kinross area and would like to be involved in using Traidcraft goods, then please contact either Karena Jarvie at [kjarvie@btinternet.com](mailto:kjarvie@btinternet.com) or Isobel Watt at [issiewatt@icloud.com](mailto:issiewatt@icloud.com)



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### Visiting Kinross-shire?

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

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



## Kinross Parish Church

### New Constitution

Kinross Parish Church has moved to a new constitution. The last meeting of the church's Congregational Board before its duties were amalgamated with those of the Kirk Session at the start of 2018 under the new 'Unitary Constitution' recommended by the Church of Scotland is shown in the photo.



The last meeting: Kinross Parish Church Congregational Board, 30 November 2017

Session Clerk Jaffrey Weir said, "the changes will simplify and clarify our decisions and help us concentrate on our mission of 'Following Christ, Spreading the Word, Helping the Community'."

The first meeting of the Kirk Session under the new arrangements will take place on **Monday 5 February**.

### New Year Wishes

All at Kinross Parish Church send their prayerful good wishes for 2018. The church's message for the New Year on its Facebook page is a quote from the American author, Rick Warren: 'God specialises in giving people a fresh start'.

Over 550 people passed through the church doors on Christmas Eve. There was a service of 'Carols and Readings' in the morning, a Crib Service for Families in the afternoon and a Watchnight Service at 11.15pm leading into Christmas Day. Collections were made at these services towards the local work of two charities: Street Pastors for their work in Perth and Crossreach for its support of families visiting Perth Prison. Together with collections at the Communion services earlier in December, an impressive total of £1850 was raised to be split between the two charities.



## Kinross Museum

Loch Leven Community Campus

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

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



Many thanks to all those who supported the Museum by taking part in the annual Christmas Quiz on Scots Songs. Devised again by George Shand, no-one managed to answer all 20 questions, the first and second prize-winners being Ann Wilson and Jeanette Littlejohn who managed to answer 14 and 13 questions correctly. Christmas hampers, containing items donated by Museum volunteers, were presented to the winners by Museum Trust Chairman, David Munro.

Answers to all of the questions can be obtained in the Museum.



George Shand (left) and David Munro (right) with quiz prize-winners Jeanette Littlejohn and Ann Wilson



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### SSAFA – Perth & Kinross Branch

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

### Where are we?

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

### What we do

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

### Contact

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

Telephone: 01738 625346

Email: [perth@ssafa.org.uk](mailto:perth@ssafa.org.uk)

## Kinross Centre

It seems a long time ago now but we had a wonderful Christmas. Early in December we had our Christmas Fayre and a big thank-you goes to all who supported the event in any way. We raised £410 for Centre funds.

The partying started on 13 December with the concert and refreshments organised by our local Rotary Club. This is an evening event at which we are able to assist by providing transport. Kinross is lucky with the extent to which different organisations are willing to work together for the benefit of all of us.

Our own Christmas lunch and party took place on the next day when our talented cooks served a full Christmas lunch with all the trimmings to nearly 60 service-users. Lunch was followed by lively musical entertainment which got all of us tapping our feet or up and dancing. By three o'clock we all managed tea and a home-made mince pie in spite of having had our Christmas lunch earlier! There was a real feel-good atmosphere which meant everyone left with a smile on their face.

Our carol concert, too, was a delightful afternoon with the singing led by our regular Tuesday singing group and accompanied by Alex Cant. Irma, who co-incidentally leads our relaxation class, sang a couple of lovely solos; a lady of many talents!

The P4 classes of Kinross Primary left their lovely new school to come and share with us, in words and song, what they had been learning about Christmas around the world. They also enjoyed a game of bingo with us!

28 of us went to the panto at the Alhambra in Dunfermline which was excellent. The show was very funny with lovely singing and dancing and it was a really good afternoon's entertainment.

These events do not organise themselves, so a big thank-you to all who worked so hard to pull it all off successfully.

Finally, you might notice that we have changed our name to Kinross Centre, which the committee feel better reflects what we offer. Forgive us if we continue to answer the phone with our old name; you'll still get the same cheerful service! If you would like to be involved with the Kinross Centre, as a service-user, a volunteer or as a supporter, speak to Nan Cook on 01577 863869.

**Kinross-shire is a Fairtrade County**

## Kinross-shire 50 Plus Club

The next meeting is on **Thursday 1 February** when the speaker will be Mrs C Scholes giving a talk on "Crown Derby".

**Notices:** Payment (£12) for our Annual Lunch on 1 March is due this month.

### Away Days

**8 Feb** Angus Gateway.

**22 Feb** Mining Museum near Edinburgh.

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

### Friday Walkers

**9 Feb** Elmwood Golf Cub, Crawford Priory and Springfield.

**23 Feb** Ravenscraig Park, then along the coastal path to West Wemyss and return.

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

### Hill Walkers

**2 Feb** T.B.A. (fairly local) Jock 9am

**16 Feb** Dunblane Allanwater Carolyn 9am

Contact Pauline Watson, telephone 01577 862685.

### Activities

Activities are open to all members of the club.

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

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

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

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

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

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

## The Kinross Community Council Newsletter

is available from:

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



## Swansacre Playgroup

### New Outdoor Classroom for Swansacre

All the children at Swansacre Playgroup would like to say thank you to everyone in the community who has helped to make their new outdoor classroom a reality.

Swansacre Playgroup now offers a full day outdoor play session called Garden Guddle, based on forest school principles. The children play outside all day, eat their snacks in the new classroom and shelter there if they need a rest from puddle jumping, water pumping, leaf decorating or mudcake baking.

"We started Swansacre's Garden Guddle session in response to local interest in forest school style childcare and parents' requests for a longer play session. The new outdoor classroom means that their play doesn't have to be interrupted when it's time for a snack. My son absolutely loves being outdoors all day and always comes home with stories about building things and splashing. The care provided by the play leaders at Swansacre is excellent, it really is Kinross's best kept childcare secret," said Hazel Lambert, Swansacre Committee member and Garden Guddle mum.

There are a few places available at Garden Guddle for children aged between three and five years old. Garden Guddle runs from 9am to 3pm every Monday and costs £25. Children bring their own pack lunch and wear waterproofs from head to toe. Swansacre Playgroup is located in the centre of Kinross. The specially adapted building has a large garden where all the Garden Guddle fun happens. If you'd like to find out more, please email [enrolments.swansacre@gmail.com](mailto:enrolments.swansacre@gmail.com)

Thank you to the **Co-op, Kinross Ladies Circle, Round Table, TSB, TGB Sheds, Gutters2Glory** and everyone who attended one of our Christmas fundraising events – your contributions all helped us to buy the outdoor classroom.



## Kinross and District

### Town Twinning Association

#### Quiz Night

Local clubs and organisations are invited to take part in our Quiz Night, which will be held in Orwell Church Hall on **Saturday 10 February** starting at 7.30pm. Who will finish up as the top club in our local area? Teams of either three or four are welcome with a £20 entry fee per team, which includes refreshments.

#### Twinning Visit 2018

This summer sees our turn to visit our twin town of Gacé. The plan is for the visit to leave Kinross on Sunday 29 July, returning on 6 or 7 August. There will be a full itinerary of visits to local and national attractions as well as time spent with host families. New families will be made most welcome by our Gacéan hosts.

Twinning visits started in 1974 and have been ongoing since that time, supplemented by school exchange visits between Kinross High School and the Gacé schools. Although final details are still to be confirmed, it is planned to travel by coach and ferry and anyone wishing to find out more should contact secretary David Munro (call 01577 862126) for more details.

Twinning members are also available to give illustrated talks to local groups about the benefits of twinning. Contact our secretary to make a booking.



## Third Sector Interface

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

### Here to Help Community Groups

This is a short introduction to Third Sector Interface (TSI), what we do, and how we may be able to help you.

The Scottish Government fund 32 TSIs throughout Scotland to provide services to support volunteering development, social enterprise development, supporting and developing a strong third sector and building the third sector relationship with community planning.

In Perth and Kinross, the charity PKAVS is funded to provide these services and delivers them through the Third Sector and Volunteering Hubs. There is a hub for Perth and Kinross and a team who are there to develop TSI in this area.

We can provide help and support in a number of areas including organisation development, social enterprise, opportunities to network and learn, community planning, including and recruiting volunteers, providing information on volunteering, online and e-communication and delivering awards for both groups (Volunteer Friendly Award) and individuals (Saltire Award for young people) who volunteer.

In this area, the Kinross-shire Volunteer Group and Rural Outreach Scheme hold the Volunteer Friendly Award, which they achieved in September 2016.

#### Contact us

You can find out about our team and their roles on our website. If you'd like any further information, or think we could help you, then please contact us by email at [info@thirdsectorpk.org.uk](mailto:info@thirdsectorpk.org.uk) or by calling 01738 567076.



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## Loch Leven Community Library

Loch Leven Community Campus, Muirs, Kinross

Tel: 01577 867205

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

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



### Opening Times

Monday\* 10am-1pm

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 10am-8pm

Friday 10am-6pm

Saturday\* 10am-4pm

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

### Regular Sessions for Young Children

No need to book, just come along:

- **Bookbug Rhymetimes:** Saturdays 10.30am-11am and Wednesdays 2pm-2.30pm.
- **Pre-school Story Time:** Tuesdays 10.15am-10.45am. Parents, grandparents or guardians and toddlers will be made most welcome at these free, open sessions.
- **Stay and Play:** Wednesdays 2.30pm-3.30pm. Saturdays 11am-12 noon. Pop into the library where you can meet other parents, have a coffee, chat, read a magazine or just relax while your child plays. Toys provided. Family-friendly. These sessions are suitable for pre-school children and their parents or guardians.

**IT Help Sessions:** Free, but booking essential. Next session **Thursday 8 February**, 2pm onwards.

### Author Talk: Helen Forbes

**Wednesday 7 March at 7.15pm**

Crime fiction was not what Helen Forbes expected to write. As a single parent and mature law student, she used her limited spare time to write contemporary and historical Scottish fiction. It was a chance remark at a writing club some years later that led to her debut crime novel, *In the Shadow of the Hill*, featuring Detective Sergeant Joe Galbraith, and a plot described in one newspaper review as having 'more twists and turns than the road to the isles, making it impossible to put down.' The novel and characters proved popular with readers, leading to the recent publication of a second book in the DS Joe Galbraith series, *Madness Lies*.

Helen has now taken to crime with a passion, recently completing a psychological thriller, *Deception*.

Helen will talk about her novels, the influences that turned her to crime, and how she manages to balance a demanding legal career with the life of a published author.

The talk takes place on Wednesday 7 March at 7.15pm. Expected finish time is 8.15pm/8.30pm.

**Cost: Free, but pre-booking is essential.** Contact Loch Leven Community Library to reserve a ticket.

### Book Groups at the Library

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

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

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

**Café Book Group:** Once a month on a Saturday morning, 11.15am. The next meeting for the Café Book Group is **Saturday 10 February**.

Please contact the Library for the other book group dates.

## Friends of Loch Leven

### Community Library

#### Did you know?

If you've made a New Year's resolution to be healthier and lose some of those extra Christmas pounds we have a great selection of books to help you stay on track! You can borrow some of the latest celebrity diet and fitness books from the shelves and, not only that, you can download online magazines for free too when you are a library member. There are many popular current titles to choose from and there are several fitness and healthy living magazines available. So why not drop in and see us for more information?

On the other hand, if you've given up on the diet this year, you can always open a box of chocolates and settle down with a book from the romance section in time for Valentine's Day!

**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. For further information, please contact Richard Scott on 07999 510 500 or find us on Facebook.



## The Kinross-shire Civic Trust

**Helping protect, conserve and provide a better built and natural environment**

website: [www.kinross-shirecivictrust.org](http://www.kinross-shirecivictrust.org)

Find us on Facebook



### Best Kept Village Competition - 2018

Last year's competition went very well. Two villages and five hamlets took part. Kinrosswood won the award for the Best Kept Village, Keltybridge and Maryburgh for the Best Kept Hamlet, and Easter & Wester Balgedie for the greatest improvement over 2016.

We have a new sub-group taking over from Patrick Milne Home the responsibility for running the awards: David Hill (01577 866871), Elsa Sinclair (01577 863279), and Ian Smith (01577 865122).

They are in the process of contacting organisers of the local groups and checking contact details. They plan to meet with the organiser in each village and hamlet and trial with them a revised (and simplified) marking scheme.

They are also exploring the feasibility of setting up a competition between "wards" (defined areas) of Kinross and Milnathort, so that the whole county is involved in caring for their environment and developing the community spirit that was the aim of the founder of the Civic Trust and the Awards, Sir Robert Stewart.

Sir Robert's aim for the competition, which is now over 50 years old, was to engender community spirit within the villages and hamlets of Kinross-shire, and it speaks highly of this aim that the competition continues so successfully today. The Trust encourages everyone to take part.

Invitations to participate will be sent out in March, and entry forms must be returned by the end of April. The judging will take place in the beginning of July and the awards will be presented towards the end of August.

**Kinross-shire is a Fairtrade County**



## Kinross Swimmers

We all hope you're now enjoying a great 2018 after your festive break. For those of you who have a resolution (and for those of you that don't), remember that swimming is a great, zero impact part of an overall fitness regime. It works on all your major muscle groups, assists in maintaining your core strength and improves your overall physical and mental health. We often see a surge in members in the New Year and hope that some of you may manage along this year too. You never know, you might like it and decide to stay with us, improving as you go! So, for those of you who want to improve in 2018 and those who want to carry on, we look forward to seeing you in the pool. For a varied and challenging swim, we continue to meet every Tuesday evening at the pool at Loch Leven Leisure Centre for an in water start at 8pm swimming until 9pm. Our intention is to improve the stroke, stamina and style of those attending so that any other swimming is more worthwhile, effective and enjoyable. We welcome anyone looking to improve their swimming for whatever reason; all we ask is that you can complete four lengths. Experienced swimmers looking for a friendly but directed extra session are especially welcome.

For further information, please either contact us on Facebook (Kinross Swimmers) or Ian Shepherd via email at shepherd\_ian@hotmail.com or on mobile 07944 503074.

## Kinross Golf Club

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

We've had our fair share of snow, ice, frost, speedy thaw and heavy rain so far this winter. This has made the courses unplayable on a number of occasions. That said, the Sunday morning gents' Winter league competition has been played when possible. After 10 rounds, J G Smith is in top position in the 0-9 handicap section and R Houston is top in the 10-28 handicap section. The Winter league continues until the start of the new 2018 season and all golfers are welcome.

There are a number of social events planned in the Clubhouse for the month of February as detailed below.

**Friday 9 February:** Valentines dinner with jazz/blues band 'Baby Isaac'.

**Friday 16 February:** 'Mr and Mrs' Quiz Night.

**Friday 23 February:** Ladies Night.

More details about these, and other upcoming social events, will be available on Facebook and in the Clubhouse.

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## Kinross Tennis Club

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

**Winter junior coaching** is running at Loch Leven Community Campus. This block runs until 27 March on Tuesdays from 5pm to 7pm.

There are three different sessions dependent upon age/ability and there are still a few spaces available. If you are interested, please contact Siobhan for further information at [kinrosstenniscoaching@gmail.com](mailto:kinrosstenniscoaching@gmail.com)

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

Our **Annual Quiz** takes place on **Tuesday 20 March** starting at 7.30pm at the KGV rugby clubhouse. It is always a great evening and we invite club members, their family and friends to come along and support the club in this fundraising event. Remember that it's the taking part that counts, although the supper and good fun are obviously a bonus!

We are delighted to once more have Kinross Quizzicals putting our grey matter to the test. Mike Spain is a busy man but gives a huge amount of his time to community groups and charities and we'd like to thank him for being our quiz master extraordinaire once again.

We're busy planning for the season ahead, with a full programme of junior and adult coaching. Further details will be announced shortly. Meanwhile, as ever, new members are welcome and enquiries can be made to our secretary, Margaret Hamblin, on 07832 937233 or at [kinrosstennis@gmail.com](mailto:kinrosstennis@gmail.com).

Visitors are also welcome. Keys are available from Sands the Ironmongers for a small fee.



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### The Kinross Newsletter

**by the community, for the community**

all profits are given away to local good causes

## Kinross Curling

Green Road, Kinross, KY13 8TU

Tel: 01577 861821

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

Email: [Iceman@KinrossCurling.co.uk](mailto:Iceman@KinrossCurling.co.uk)

[www.Facebook.com/KinrossCurlingRink](http://www.Facebook.com/KinrossCurlingRink)

This month one of the biggest sporting events of the year starts over in Pyeongchang, South Korea – the Winter Olympic Games. During the Winter Olympics Curling will be featured every day, with Mixed Doubles action, Men's and Women's.

The sport of curling is a great social sport for all ages and abilities; you really can make friends for life playing the sport. If you fancy giving it a try, then why not come along to our

### TRY CURLING SESSIONS:

<b>Saturday 17 February</b>	<b>1500 hrs</b>
<b>Sunday 18 February</b>	<b>1500 hrs</b>
<b>Tuesday 27 February</b>	<b>1800 hrs</b>

If you are interested, then please visit [www.trycurling.com](http://www.trycurling.com) and then search for Kinross while on the website. You can sign up for the session that suits you best!



On **Sunday 18 February**, we will be holding a 'Festival' where you can come along and speak to curlers and coaches in Kinross, watch some of the Olympic games on the screen we have in the bar and participate in some fun games in the bar area as well as get some tea and coffee from the great catering found here at the ice rink.

If you have any queries, please contact Robin@[royalcaledoniancurlingclub.org](mailto:royalcaledoniancurlingclub.org) (Marketing & Curling Development Officer).

## Fossoway Curling Club

Our annual Fraser Cup competition was won by Tom McColgan, Willie Thomson, John Taylor and Ian Davidson.



Fossoway also came third place in the annual Christmas Potty, which is organised by Loch Leven Province. Fossoway are a small and friendly local curling club based in Crook of Devon, although our members come from far and wide. We play throughout the season mostly at Kinross with a few games in Perth. We are always looking for new members (beginners and experienced) who will find a warm welcome awaiting. Coaching is available. Contact Alan on 01577 840695 or Willie on 01577 840405 for details.

### 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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## Kinross Road Runners

kinrossroadrunners.weebly.com

It's good to see new faces at the club at the start of 2018 – evidence that the New Year resolutions to get more active are being taken forward. Our winter training programme runs through until March and it's a good way to

joint winners of the female off-road championship and Matt Newton, winner of the male off-road championship. Jillian Gordon retained the female road championship prize and David Scott won the male road championship. The Athlete of the Year award for 2017 was presented to John Beveridge.



Kinross Road Runners Awards Evening

keep running through the dark winter months.

Our Annual Dinner and Awards evening was held on 13 January at Loch Leven's Larder. Award winners included Judith Dobson and Fiona Nisbett who were

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

On **Tuesday evenings** there is an informal training run (usually around

the streets of Kinross and Milnathort) of 8-10km in length. Again, we meet at 7pm at the health centre car park.

The informal **Sunday morning** run also continues throughout the winter months – meet at 9am at the health centre car park for either a trail or hill run at a very leisurely pace.

The Kinross Junior Parkrun continues to attract around 80 runners taking on the 2km circuit round Kirkgate Park and we await news of the senior Parkrun which we hope will be launched in the near future – watch this space.

### Programme for February

Sun 4	Informal run
Tue 6	Informal run
Wed 7	Hill reps (Milnathort)
Sun 11	Informal run
Tue 13	Informal run
Wed 14	Torch trail run
Sun 18	Informal run
Tue 20	Informal run
Wed 21	8 x 400m
Sun 25	Informal run
Tue 27	Informal run
Wed 28	Hill reps (Milnathort)



## Strathallan Canoe Club, Forgandenny



Don't miss the fun and games

**Mondays or Thursdays 6.30pm – 7.30pm**

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*New sessions starting in January – book now*

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

for more information or to book

## Volleyball

Monday evening training sessions have resumed at the campus from 8pm to 9.45pm and new members will be made most welcome. We are open to any age and ability from beginner to returning and more experienced players.

We operate two teams in the Perth and District Premier League and two teams in the local Recreational League. Games are played fortnightly on Sunday evenings at Bell's Sports Centre in Perth.

Results this season have been mixed so far, based on player availability. However, it is encouraging to see a number of youngsters making good progress.

Kinross High School teams are back in action over the next couple of months with the S2/3 boys' team due to play their Scottish Cup match against Belmont Academy before the end of January. The senior boys' and girls' teams travel to Dundee in mid-February for the annual Dundee Festival.

## Kinross Rugby Club

**MINI RUGBY** is for **boys and girls** aged 5 and over in P1-7. Training will resume at the KGV playing fields from **Saturday 17 February** at 10.30am. No prior rugby experience needed.

**MIDI RUGBY** is for **boys** in S1 to S6. At Kinross we offer everyone, regardless of background or experience, the chance to play. Midis training takes place every Tuesday night, 7pm, at the KGV Playing Fields, Kinross.

**Contact us.** If you or your child is interested in getting involved in rugby, please contact Morven Clark, Youth Convenor, Kinross Rugby Club, email: [ianandmorven@hotmail.com](mailto:ianandmorven@hotmail.com)



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## Kinross Otters

The Otters are all back to training with great vigour after their festive break and the highlight of the swim calendar, the Kinross Otters Club Championships!

Held in early December, all the results are kept secret until our Awards Night fundraiser held on 5 January 2018.

In a change to previous events, this year saw a quiz with general knowledge and swimming rounds, a photo booth and our much anticipated grand prize raffle.



*Coaches in the PhotoBooth!*

A great night was had by all at the campus and we are especially grateful to all the local donors who provided us with some very generous prizes for our fundraising raffle namely: 20 minute Microlight flight from Microflight Academy, Balado; La Cigno voucher; Court House voucher for pizza and wine for two; Complete Look voucher; Unorthodox Roasters; Plush Otter (donated by Vane Farm RSPB); Party Lites lantern; Angel cakes tea/coffee and cake for two; Boathouse meal voucher; Heart and Soul treatment voucher; The Muirs voucher; Loch Leven's Larder voucher; Swimming heart rate monitor donated by PA Advocacy; Hunters of Kinross voucher; Mandy's Hairdressing vouchers; Bowers' Hair voucher.



*Swimmers of the Year: Ben Smallwood and Emily Cumming*

The Awards were a roaring success with a huge range of PBs across all age groups and lots of great results.

None was more anticipated than the outcome of the tightly fought photo-finish in the Retired Otters race. This was between Juniors Coach Fiona Dodds and Otters mum and former Otter, Lyndsey Ewen, with Fiona just inching ahead for a gold medal place.

In the men's race, Head Coach Simon was pipped at the post by former Otter and now Perth City swimmer, Murray Pritchard, who looked pretty pleased to have beaten his former coach!

Thanks to our committee for all their hard work in putting together the awards. Particular thanks to Pam and Amanda for laying out the bewildering array of trophies in the right order, ensuring an easy task for Ann Marie Neave, our MC for the evening. Ann Marie stepped in at the last minute for our Chair Nigel Martin who lost his voice and was unable to present the prizes!

Thanks also go to Annie McCormack for organising the event, creating and scoring the quiz (a great hit with Otters and adults alike) and generally running the show.

This is the highlight of our year. The Swimmer of Year award goes to swimmers who have made great achievements and improved their times over the course of the year. The very deserving winners for 2017 were Emily Cumming and Ben Smallwood.

However, the awards not only celebrate success but also drive and commitment. Coaches Awards go to swimmers who may not have won prizes, but who have shown particular determination or enthusiasm. This year's winners were: Bronze, Hannah Breingan; Silver, Maisie Drummond; Gold, Maeve Pakravan; Platinum, Libby Broadhurst.

We are raring to go for 2018 and, after our open assessment on 14 January, will be welcoming some new Otters to the ranks.

Thanks for supporting us in 2017 and we look forward to sharing another great season of swimming from Kinross Otters; the community club with a competitive edge.



*Maisie Drummond receiving Bronze Coaches Award from Juniors Coach Fiona Dodds*



## Kinross Hockey Club

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



### Korinthians

The Korinthians are enjoying another happy season, under the watchful eyes of new coaches Kirsty Dunn and Claire Brownbridge. The group was set up to allow people to try hockey, or perhaps return to it after a break, without having the commitment of playing in a team. With the emphasis on fun, Korinthians have developed into a friendly, social group, where players can learn or update skills and form new friendships. Korinthians is open to men and women of all ages (over 14) regardless of levels of skill or fitness.

If you would like to try out Korinthians, or just come along to see what's involved, the group trains at KAS, which can be found at Kinross King George V playing fields. Training takes place on Monday nights from 7.30pm to 8.30pm. Sticks are available free of charge, as are your first two sessions, to see if it's

for you. You will be guaranteed a very warm welcome. Further information is available on the club website.

### Ladies Section

As for the ladies teams, it's the season break at the moment so everyone is making the most of their weekends! Games start again on **Sunday 25 February** for the 1sts with a home tie

against Uddingston Ladies. This will be a tough start back against the team currently sitting in second place in the league.

The seconds restart the season on **Saturday 3 February** with a home tie against St Andrews Uni IV in the Knockout Cup. Both teams will be super keen to get back to playing after such a long period without a fixture.



*The Korinthians having a fun game, before heading out for Christmas drinks*

## Kinross Kobras Junior Hockey

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



2018 got off to a great start with an indoor tournament hosted by Brechin Monarchs and held in Dundee. There were four Kinross teams taking part. The indoor sessions held at Kinross High School have certainly helped, as all teams played with a confidence that we have not often seen at indoor tournaments. All teams enjoyed themselves,

played some great hockey and notched up some good wins against district rivals.

There is another indoor tournament at the start of February, so hopefully we can continue the good progress.

Training has restarted at the KAS astroturf pitch at The Muirs and numbers have been good at all age groups, despite some chilly weather.

Those who would like to give hockey a go are more than welcome. Training is on Tuesday and Thursday from 6.30pm to 7.30pm. More details are available on the club website.



*The two U12 teams from the indoor tournament in Dundee*



**BISHOPSHIRE** – Jeanette McLennan welcomed members to The Well Country Inn where they had a delicious Christmas Meal thanks to Ronnie and staff.

Wrapped Christmas parcel (to be donated to Salvation Army)

Mary Nisbet

Flower of the Month

Jane Martin

Jeanette McLennan welcomed members to the first meeting of the new year. Our speaker was Eileen Thomas, the editor of the Kinross Newsletter, who gave a very interesting and informative talk on the history of the Newsletter.

Slice of Christmas Cake

Joanne Cowan

Recent Local Photograph

Margaret Paton

Flower of the Month

Jane Martin

**CROOK OF DEVON** – The first meeting of the Crook of Devon SWI in the New Year was held on 9 January to which members of neighbouring SWI groups were invited.

Andrew Sharple and Geraldine Graff gave a presentation of their tour company, Brightwater Holidays. The Company offers themed tours to special interest groups such as the arts, archaeology, gardening etc, and operates in UK and abroad.

At the end of the meeting the Crook of Devon members remained to hold a business meeting.

**CARNBO** – Our December Meeting was thoroughly enjoyable; delicious Christmas dinner (beautifully presented and served by Heaven Scent), grand company and good fun. Thanks to our committee for their thoughtful preparation for a successful evening.

Decorated Napkin Ring

Dianne Mitchell

Flower of the Month

Mary Lapsley

Henry Rae was our guest for our January meeting; under the auspices of "St Andrews Heart Start", we were given a comprehensive demonstration of the importance of ordinary people like us being able to be a first response to an emergency. In addition, the desirability for communities like Carnbo to own a readily accessible defibrillator was made abundantly clear. Margaret Greener voiced our sincere thanks to Mr Rae.

My Favourite Earrings

Margaret Greener

Flower of the Month

Josephine Paterson

At our next meeting on Monday 19 February, Ian Smith will introduce us to his collection of Mauchline Ware. All welcome.

**BLAIRINGONE** – President Joyce Petrie introduced Mrs Mary Wilson from Powmill Women's Institute who provided an impressive example of flower arranging. Although not easy at this time of the year as flowers in the garden are somewhat limited, nevertheless she skillfully showed the possibilities on offer through the use of a simple bunch of flowers from the local supermarket and with lovely greenery from her garden.

Our SWI members all managed to emulate some lovely arrangements under the watchful eye of Mary. Perhaps not quite with the same degree of professionalism, but they provided some very presentable displays. Vice President Mary Ramsay thanked her on behalf of the ladies for giving of her expertise.

One Slice of Victoria Sponge

Mary Ramsay

Flower of the Month

Mary Ramsay

**POWMILL** – President Sharon Buchanan welcomed members of Powmill and Blairingone Institutes for our Christmas meal at Heaven Scent in Milnathort. Crackers pulled and party hats donned, we enjoyed a delicious festive meal in a warm, friendly atmosphere. A Christmas words quiz was prepared for all by Gillian Taylor. After the meal, the entire membership of Powmill SWI performed an amusing version of 'The Twelve Days of Christmas' using appropriate actions and props with Tricia Greer starring as a rather saucy Partridge in a Pear Tree! We finished with our usual carol singing. Joyce Petrie gave a vote of thanks.

Three Mince Pies

Ella Shand

Mini Christmas Tree (any craft)

Sharon Buchanan

Sadly, our Burns Supper on 17 January was cancelled due to poor weather conditions.

**GLENFARG** – Members are familiar with the results of Mrs Helen Quartermaine's basketry, so at our January meeting it was a treat to be able to see just how she achieves them. Taking us through the basics of canework and then how to shape and create baskets and trays (and hats!) sparked much interest and perhaps even more ladies will now attempt this lovely craft. Mrs Allison Messenger proposed the vote of thanks.

Pot stand

Margot Moran

Cornish Pasty

Allison Messenger

Pot Plant

Sheena Chisholm

**CLEISH** – President Mrs Helen Buchanan welcomed thirty members to our January meeting. After business was completed, all members enjoyed an evening of crafting.

Healthy Dip

Agnes Thomson

Decorated Photo Frame

Dorothy Morris

Flower of the Month (Pot Plant)

Eleanor Craig



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# Out & About



## Loch Leven NNR



A belated Happy New year to you all.

The air temperature dropped as low -8°C (ground -12.5°C) locally and over an inch of rain and gusty winds around new year; it's been a character-building time, weather-wise.

We had a busted pipe in the office but managed to contain the water easily. We've had nearly 100% ice coverage on the loch, with some areas kept ice free by the water coming in or a high concentration of waterfowl. Large groups of geese have been roosting on the ice and it is easy to see where they've been by the large debris field of dropping left behind. The cold weather has helped us do a fair amount of work about the trail. We have removed the latest tranche of dangerous trees. Our trees are regularly surveyed and if we see any that are hung up, leaning or dead, we will look to remove them if they appear to be a threat to the visiting public. This time we removed about ten Scots Pines from Burleigh round to Grahamstone.

We've also had the digger in. We've had the ponds at Burleigh dredged and some stumps removed from the meadow at Mary's Knowe. The ponds were getting rather overgrown with Mare's Tail. We've also reprofiled them to make them more wildlife-friendly. It made digging out the pond quite challenging with four inches thickness of ice.

The volunteers have been busy once again. Not only have they been helping with the day-to-day running of the reserve but they have been tidying up our workshop, putting out signs, helping with the recycling, removing the never-ending piles of tree guards, cutting gorse and cleaning the boardwalks.

Many of the regulars will have noticed that the long stretch of hedge at Mary's Knowe has now been laid. With help from our volunteers, folk from the RSPB and our staff, we've managed to lay a total of 190 metres over two years. The plan was to do it over three. There is a short section left to do that runs at a right angle to the laid section. We may do that in the spring. Many thanks to Torquil Varty for the guidance and Graham Paton for allowing us access through his field.

The Loch Leven blog has been getting a record number of hits recently. I've taken over the management of the blog since Gus left. We try to complete a weekly write-up of wildlife sightings and goings on with lots of photos from the reserve. If you put Loch Leven NNR wordpress into your search engine, it will come up. Many thanks to Craig and Gus for writing guest blogs for me: always a great way of keeping the content fresh.

Even with the ice, we've retrained quite a lot of wildfowl on the loch. There have been a pair of Smew, Little Egret, a Greenland Whitefronted Goose and Greater Scaup.

Start listening for Collared Doves, Mistle Thrush and Dunnocks. These birds will all be singing soon and the cogs of spring slowly start to spin.

TTFN,

Jeremy Squire  
Reserve Officer, Loch Leven NNR

### Looking for a Job?

Check the situations vacant page at  
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## RSPB Loch Leven

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

Telephone:  
01577 862355



Hope you are all settled into 2018!

The reserve is alive with the chatter of birds. Flocks of finches, chaff and gold, can be seen in the trees and shrubs; tree sparrows are calling loudly and mixed flocks of blue tits, great tits and long-tailed tits can be seen in large gangs all over the reserve. Not to be outdone, our wetland species can also be seen gathering, with flocks of curlew and lapwing; groups of geese, whooper and mute swan; and mixed rafts of pochard, goosander, goldeneye, teal, wigeon and mallard ducks gathering in the ice-free pockets of the loch. I have only now just returned from a lunchtime stroll of the wetland trail and spotted two little egret, working together with wee foot shuffles to dislodge prey from the bottom of the wetland pools. RSPB Scotland Loch Leven – always something to see! We are not just about birds – the warden team want your squirrel sightings! If you spot red or grey squirrels on the reserve, please can you report this to a member of staff at the visitor centre, letting them know where you saw them. This will help to inform our conservation work.

We welcome two new faces to our team for 2018, so please say hello when you see them. Lauren Smith is our new Office Manager (if you phone the reserve, it'll be Lauren who answers!) and Rachel Gooday is joining us as Visitor Experience Officer and will be "floating" around the reserve, greeting visitors and making sure everyone is happy!

Plans to build a new, fully accessible underpass to connect the Loch Leven Heritage Trail to our facilities and the 'Sleeping Giant Path' to Lochore are progressing. We are currently awaiting a crucial funding decision from Perth and Kinross Council. Depending on the outcome, construction may then start in March. We will update you in next month's Newsletter – fingers crossed.

Our shop continues to offer all you need to keep your garden beasties fed, housed and watered, and our range of optical equipment will help you keep an eye on your garden bird feeders. The new season stock has just arrived too, with plenty of new gifts and goodies on offer for all ages and tastes. And after all that shopping, why not pop up to the café to sample our new menu? All organic and sustainably sourced, of course!

As usual, we have a number of events for wildlife lovers and nature explorers. February's **Optics Weekend** is on **3-4 February** and will give you a chance to try our full range of binoculars and scopes and seek advice from our shop experts. If you are looking to get into bird watching, our **Beginners Birdwatching Walk** on **Sunday 18 February**, 10am – 2pm, will provide hints and tips to help you build your bird spotting confidence. For the kids, **Nature Tots**, our monthly pre-school nature exploration event, will focus on Ducks on **Wednesday 14 February**, 10am – 11.30am and our **Wildlife Explorers Club** for 5 – 12 year olds will meet on **Sunday 25 February**, 1pm – 3pm. Book online at [rspblochleven.eventbrite.com](http://rspblochleven.eventbrite.com) (except Wildlife Explorers – call us!).

Hope to see you at the reserve soon,

Craig Leitch  
Community Learning Officer

# Farming



Happy New year to everyone in 'Newsletter' country and I hope you comfortably survived the festive season which seems to start earlier every year – bah, humbug!

From a farming point of view, the year just gone has certainly been an interesting one. On the financial front, uncertainties over the 'B' word resulted in the value of the pound dropping, which has meant that in general prices for farm produce have held up pretty well. The downside is that it has also meant that input costs for fertiliser, feed and fuel as well as the price of machinery has crept even higher, so our businesses are working with bigger numbers but the gap between income and expenditure stays the same – if we are lucky. It's not so good news for people living on lower incomes as a higher percentage of their income is spent on essentials such as food, so they will suffer the most.

The true meaning of Christmas has been in the news over the last few days, with the financial performance of the major retailers over the festive season being published and the results generally showed that the value of food sales had risen but only due to the rise in the price of food. One chairman of a large retailer was being interviewed about his company's performance and on the subject of food he stated that they would be 'working hard with suppliers' to bring the price of food down. That comment brings a shiver to the spines of those of us on the supply side of the food chain as it suggests that the already fearsome reputation of the multiple retailers for being vicious negotiators is to be reinforced. Or maybe I'm just being paranoid.

Of course, I can't look back on the year without mentioning the dreaded 'w' word. Yes, the weather, and it was certainly a year of two halves. Spring started off very promising; lambing time was cold, certainly, but it was dry, which made a huge

difference. Spring fieldwork was done in good time and in good conditions but, ironically, the extreme dry spell caused poor germination of spring sown seeds, resulting in variable crops, in particular on heavier soils like ours. When it came to the silage and hay making season, the weather got very tricky as we hardly saw two or three dry days together, and this continued right through harvest into autumn. So far this winter we have had quite a lot of cold, frosty weather which is good for killing off pests and diseases. Surprisingly, it has been a year of about, or just below, average rainfall, but it is the pattern of that rainfall in summer and into autumn which has caused more problems than would normally expected. As you all know, farmers like a good moan about the weather and this past year has given us plenty of opportunity to indulge. Too dry, too cold, too wet – it's been the stuff of dreams!

Here at Backward Farm it has been an exciting year (well, we're easily amused out here). On a personal level, our youngest son is on a ten-month school exchange to Arkansas, USA. Staying with a family on a farm, it is proving to be a fantastic experience. On a business level, our eldest son has introduced a new species to the valley with his rare breed pigs. They have certainly brought new fencing requirements to the farm and they haven't escaped too often, although a neighbour happened upon a group of the piglets trotting merrily along the road on one occasion. They should be appearing on a plate near you very soon! We will be pregnancy scanning the ewes soon, so we will see if the new squad of tups have done their job and give us the potential of a good crop of lambs come springtime. Lambing time again already – how time flies.

John



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[orla.beaton@btinternet.com](mailto:orla.beaton@btinternet.com)

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Space to stop, to slow down and just be

## Weather

### November Weather Report from Kinross



Total rainfall	54.5mm = 2.18ins
Heaviest rainfall	13.4mm (22nd)
Total sunshine for the month	25.2 hours
Sunniest day	2.3 hours (5th & 12th)
Minimum temperature average	-2.75°C
Lowest temperature	-7.8°C (29th)

### December Weather Report from Kinross

Total rainfall	70.4mm = 2.81ins
Heaviest rainfall	15.7mm (24th)
Total sunshine for the month	17.5 hours
Sunniest day	2.2 hours (1st)
Minimum temperature average	-4.1°C
Lowest temperature	-13.6°C (10th)

#### Subscriptions to the Newsletter

Useful for readers living outside the distribution area of the Newsletter, a subscription service is available.

For further details see [www.kinrossnewsletter.org](http://www.kinrossnewsletter.org) or phone Ross McConnell on 01577 865885 or email

[subscriptions@kinrossnewsletter.org](mailto:subscriptions@kinrossnewsletter.org)

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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](http://www.kinrossparishchurch.org)  
Facebook: [www.facebook/kinrossparishchurch.org](http://www.facebook/kinrossparishchurch.org)  
Church E-mail: [office@kinrossparishchurch.org](mailto:office@kinrossparishchurch.org)  
Church office and church open: Mon-Fri 10am-12 noon.  
Church Office: Tel. (01577) 862570  
Minister: Rev Alan D. Reid MA, BD Tel: (01577) 862952  
Ordained Local Minister:  
Rev Margaret Michie Tel: (01592) 840602  
Session Clerk: Jaffrey Weir Tel: (01577) 865780

Events listed below are in the church unless indicated otherwise.

### Regular Services and Events

**Sundays:** 10.30am: Morning Service with Crèche. Junior Church (age 3 to P7) and 'Jam Pact' (Secondary Age) meet at church centre from 10.15am, finish at church.

7.30pm: 'Crossfire' (S1 upwards) in church centre.

**Tuesdays:** 10am: Pram Service.

**Wednesdays:** 10.45am Service, church centre.

1.30pm: Craft Group.

**Fridays:** The Brigade, church centre.

Anchor Section 6 - 7.15pm, Junior Section 7 - 9pm, Company Section 8 - 10pm (Contact: David Munro 862126).

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

### Other Events and Services

#### January

**Sun 28** 6.30pm: Evening Service: 'A Thin Place - Reflective Celtic Worship'.

**Tue 30** 2.30pm: Service at Causeway Court.

#### February

**Thu 1** 7.30pm: Thursday Group, church centre: 'Wildlife in your Garden'.

**Sun 4** 10.30am: Morning Service, with informal Communion at 11.45am.

**Mon 5** 8am: Silent Meditation.

**Tue 6** 2.30pm: Service at Whyte Court.  
4pm: Service at The Sycamores.

**Sat 10** 8.30am: Prayer Breakfast (names in advance to church office).

**Thu 15** 9pm: late evening service of Compline.

**Sat 17** 11am: All Friends Together.

**Tue 20** 7.15pm: Guild, church centre: 'Who's Who? - Go in Love'.

**Sun 25** 6.30pm: Evening Service: Panel answering 'Questions about Faith'.

For more from Kinross Parish Church, see Community group News, page 62.

## Cleish Parish Church Church of Scotland

(Charity No: SC003168)

Minister: Rev Lis Stenhouse BD (Hons)

Email: [estenhouse@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:estenhouse@churchofscotland.org.uk)

Session Clerk: Neil Maclure

Email: [neil.maclure19@gmail.com](mailto:neil.maclure19@gmail.com) Tel: 01577 864826

Please visit our website: [www.cleishchurch.org](http://www.cleishchurch.org)



### Sunday Services 11.15am

#### February

**Sun 4** 11.15am **Morning Worship and Junior Church** followed by refreshments in the Village Hall served by Guild members in aid of Guild funds. Traidcraft Stall.

**Mon 5** 3.15pm **Messy Church** in the Village Hall. Open to all children and their carers.

**Sat 10** 8.30am **Men's Breakfast** in Elizabeth Wilkie Hall, Fossoway Church.

**Sun 11** 11.15am **Morning Worship\***

**Sun 18** 11.15am **Morning Worship\***

**Sun 25** 11.15am **Morning Worship\***

**Sacrament of Holy Communion.**

**Mon 26** 2pm **Cleish Guild** afternoon meeting and **AGM** in Cleish Village Hall.

**Tue 27** 7.30pm **Kirk Session meeting.**

\* Please note that refreshments will be served in the Young Room after Morning Worship.

All welcome

## Kinross Christian Fellowship

Jesus said, 'I am among you as one who serves.'

Sunday morning service at 10.30am (refreshments and blether at 10am), Millbridge Hall, Old Causeway, Kinross.

Lively praise (children participate), reverent worship open to the leading of the Holy Spirit, prayer, ministry and solid Bible-based preaching and teaching. An all-round family service for families, which includes Sunday School. Communion every second Sunday, as is our evening service at 6.30pm; a time for praise, worship, sharing and joy in The Lord Jesus. (Followed by light refreshments and more blether.)

Everyone is welcome to either service or to both, so please come and, *taste and see that the LORD is good.*

Contact Peter on 01577 863509, for further information.

*KCF also runs the Talking Donkey café - see separate notice in the Newsletter. Additionally, the Friday evening Youth Group at the Millbridge Hall (Space) is also the responsibility of our Fellowship, and we are pleased to accept this privilege.*

## Kinross Gospel Hall

Montgomery Street, Kinross

Website: [www.kinrossgospelhall.info](http://www.kinrossgospelhall.info)

**Sunday** 10.30am Breaking of Bread

12.30pm Sunday School

4.00pm Gospel Meeting (1st & 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)

### Contributors

Please write or type clearly  
Leave a margin  
Use one side of the paper only

## Fossoway, St Serf's & Devonside Church

**Church of Scotland** (Charity number SC013157)

Church Road, Crook of Devon, Kinross-shire, KY13 0UY

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

Minister: Rev Lis Stenhouse Telephone: (01577) 842128

Email: [estenhouse@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:estenhouse@churchofscotland.org.uk)

Session Clerk: Mrs Janet Harper Telephone: (01577) 840225

Email: [aclassicsoul@aol.com](mailto:aclassicsoul@aol.com)

Our church is a very warm and welcoming place situated in the Crook of Devon, a small village about 6 miles from Kinross. Come and join us, we would love to meet you.

**Sunday Services** at 9.45am. All are welcome.

### February

- Sun 4** 9.15-9.30am A Time for Prayer.  
9.45am Morning Worship, followed by Refreshments and Traidcraft Stall.
- Sun 11** 9.15-9.30am A Time for Prayer.  
9.45am Morning Worship.
- Sun 18** 9.15-9.30am A Time for Prayer.  
9.45am Morning Worship.
- Sun 25** 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](mailto:messychurch@fossoway)

Friday 23 February, 3.30-4.30pm, at the Crook of Devon Village Hall.

### House Group

Please contact Debbie Hill for further details, 01577 842268.

### Film Evening

Friday 2 February, 7.30pm – 9.30pm, in the Church Hall. *Please join us for the film, a cuppa and a blether and even some popcorn.*

## Trinity Church

*A new Church ... A new Beginning.*

Trinity Church is a **MISSION OUTREACH** of the **UNITED FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**, led by **REVEREND JEROME O'BRIEN**.



Crook of Devon, Station Road, KY13 0PG

Website [www.trinity-church.co.uk](http://www.trinity-church.co.uk)

Sauchie & Fishcross United Free Church of Scotland, Scottish Charity No. SC009740.

### Sunday Service

We meet every Sunday at the Crook of Devon Village Hall. The service starts at 10.30m for teas and coffees, with the gathering to worship God commencing at 11am. After the service, there will be occasion for refreshments and conversation.

For more information about who we are and what we do, visit our website.

### Want to sell something?

Advertise your item free of charge in the **Classified Advertisements** section on [www.kinross.cc](http://www.kinross.cc)

## St Paul's Scottish Episcopal Church

*(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Communion)*

Muir, Kinross, KY13 8AY Telephone: 01577 864299

Email: [office@stpaulskinross51.plus.com](mailto:office@stpaulskinross51.plus.com)

Website: [www.stpauls-kinross.co.uk](http://www.stpauls-kinross.co.uk)

Fr David Mackenzie Mills, Rector Telephone: 01577 863795

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

You can also find us on Facebook

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

### Mondays and Wednesdays

8am Morning Prayer, said quietly in the warmth of the meeting room!

(1st Mondays) 10am Pastoral Care group (Side chapel).

### Tuesdays

11am Informal Holy Communion (celebrated in the Church Office).

### Thursdays

10.30am Thursday morning Discussion Group (*usually in the Meeting Room unless otherwise advertised.*)

3.30pm – 4.30pm Rector's Hour – an opportunity to drop in and speak to the Rector in the Church Office.

### February Services and Events - all welcome

#### Sun 4 Candlemas Sunday

8.30am Holy Communion.

11am Sung Eucharist followed by the 'Bring and Share' Church Lunch.

#### Sun 11 Sunday Before Lent

8.30am Holy Communion.

11am Sung Eucharist.

#### Tue 13 Shrove Tuesday Pancakes

5-7pm Sue Jones' house (6 George Drive).

*Donations for St Paul's gratefully received.*

#### Wed 14 ASH WEDNESDAY

8.30am Holy Communion with the Imposition of ashes.

7.30pm Holy Communion with the Imposition of ashes.

#### Sun 18 Lent 1

8.30am Holy Communion.

11am Sung Eucharist.

*There is an opportunity today for a lunchtime discussion on a Lenten topic. Please bring your own lunch!*

#### Sun 25 Lent 2

8.30am Holy Communion.

11am Sung Eucharist.

*There is an opportunity today for a lunchtime discussion on a Lenten topic. Please bring your own lunch!*

5pm Said Evensong with hymns.

For more from St. Paul's Church, see Community group News, page 52.

### Images of Kinross-shire

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

### Photo Library

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

**Orwell and Portmoak Parish Church**

**Church of Scotland** (Charity number SC015523)

Minister - Very Rev Dr Angus Morrison

Telephone: 01577 863461

Email: angusmorrison3@gmail.com

Website: www.orwellportmoakchurch.org.uk

**Sunday Worship, Junior Church and crèche:**

10am Portmoak Church,

11.30am Orwell Church.

All children welcome. Crèche available during the services.

**Please note that joint services will be held on the first Sunday of each month in alternate churches at 10.30am.**

**Prayer Meeting** held 30 mins before each service.

**Messy Church:** Saturday 24 February in Portmoak Hall, 4 - 6pm.

**Service at Ashley House:** first Thursday of the month at 2.30pm.

**Morning Prayers at 9am**

Each Thursday at Portmoak Church New Room.

Each Friday at Orwell Church.

**Dates and events for your diary**

- 4 Feb** Joint service in Portmoak Church at 10.30am. No service at Orwell Church.
- 6 Feb** Guild meeting at **2pm** in Orwell Hall – Julian Reeves will talk about Seamab School.
- 20 Feb** Guild meeting at **2pm** in Orwell Hall – Gill Lyth will talk about 'Care for the Family'.
- 23 Feb** Oasis Ladies' Group meets in Portmoak New Room at 10.15am .
- 4 Mar** Joint service at Orwell Church at 10.30am. No service at Portmoak Church.

Everyone welcome

**Church office & shop** open Mon – Fri. 10am until 2pm.

29 South Street, Milnathort KY13 9XA.

Christian cards, gifts, bibles and books for sale. Printing and copying facilities available. Recycling for ink toners, stamps & batteries. Donations of food can be made for the local Foodbank.

Contact the Office 01577 861200

orwellandportmoakchurch@gmail.com

**St James' Catholic Church**

5 High Street, Kinross, KY13 8AW

Parish Priest: Father Martin Pletts. Tel: 01577 863329

www.catholickinross.com Email: Fr.MartinPletts@gmail.com

m.facebook.com/parishpriestkinross/

m.facebook.com/stjamesprayergroup/

**Regular Services**

Mon	7pm	Holy Mass preceded by Confessions and Prayer Group at 8pm in the church hall.
Tue	10am	Holy Mass preceded by Confessions and Morning Prayer (9.30 - 9.50am).
Wed	10am	Holy Mass preceded by Confessions and Morning Prayer (9.30 - 9.50am). Teas / Coffees after Mass, in the church hall.
Thu	10am	Holy Mass preceded by Confessions and Morning Prayer (9.30 - 9.50am).
Fri	10am	Holy Mass preceded by Morning Prayer and Confessions (9.30 - 9.50am).
	3pm	Divine Mercy Devotions.
Sat	10-10.30am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions (first Saturday of every month Holy Mass at 10am).
	7pm	Vigil Mass.
Sun	9.30am	Mass (teas/coffees after Mass in church hall).

**Confessions** also on request.

**Prayer Group** meets on a Monday, 8pm-10pm, in the church hall and is open to all.

**Children's Catechism class** meets every Monday during term time, 3.45pm-4.30pm in the church hall.

The weekly newsletter, Mass times, news and updates or changes can be found on our website.

**World Day of Prayer**

Where in the world is SURINAME?

We will all know when we share together in the World Day of Prayer 2018 written by the women of that country.

The focus is on Genesis 1, the story of Creation, with the theme "All God's Creation is very Good!" Universal issues of climate change, natural disasters, pollution and human abuse of the environment will be explored.

Women, men, young people and children in more than 170 countries and regions will celebrate World Day of Prayer on Friday 2 March this year.

We are invited to learn about Suriname's history and rich cultural diversity.

This year's services in Kinross will be held in the afternoon of 2 March in Kinross Centre at 2pm. The evening service will be in St Paul's Episcopal Church Kinross at 7pm of the same day. We invite you, your friends, family and community to join us in celebration at either or both of these events. You will be most welcome.

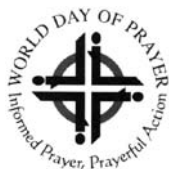
Refreshments will be served after the services.

For further details, please contact me by phone on 01337 827773 or email: denisroyal63@gmailcom

Irene Stephenson

**World Day of Prayer**

**Friday 2 March 2018**



**This year's service comes from Suriname  
and the theme is:**

**"All God's creation is very good!"**

**Services:**

**Kinross Church Centre at 2pm**

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church at 7pm**

Refreshments will be available after each service

**The Kinross Newsletter**

**by the community, for the community**  
all profits are given away to local good causes



# Playgroups and Toddlers

## Milnathort Babies & Toddlers

**Orwell Church Hall, Milnathort**

**Friday 9.30am-11.15am**

A relaxed and friendly group  
Healthy snacks, tea & coffee  
Children from birth to 3 years  
(5 years if attending with younger sibling)  
Great fun for the kids, mums, dads and carers!

### PLACES NOW AVAILABLE!



To join in the fun  
call 07745 804539  
Email [milnathortbt@gmail.com](mailto:milnathortbt@gmail.com)  
Or find us on Facebook



## SWANSACRE PLAYGROUP

21-23 Swansacre, Kinross  
Kinross-shire Playgroup Association  
Aka Swansacre Playgroup  
Reg Scottish Charity No SC017748



**Tel: 01577 862071 Mobile: 07592 392235**

*We provide a warm, friendly and stimulating environment in which children can learn and develop through play.*

**Garden Guddle:** Mon 9am - 3pm.

**Playgroup:** Children from age 2 years welcome.

Tue, Wed, Fri 9.05am - 11.50am

**Inbetweeners:** Mon 9.05 - 11.50am, optional Lunch Club afterwards. Children from the age of 3 years welcome.

**Rising Fives:** Tues 12.55pm - 3.10pm, optional Lunch Club beforehand, 12.10-12.55pm. Complementary to preschool Nursery.

**For availability or more information, please contact:**

Lisa 07736 642070, [enrolments.swansacre@gmail.com](mailto:enrolments.swansacre@gmail.com)  
or Playgroup on telephone numbers above.

### Baby and Toddler Group – Thurs 12.45 - 2.45pm

Unfortunately this group is not on at present as there is no one to run it. Should anyone wish to volunteer to start the group up again, please contact Swansacre Playgroup.

The premises are available to hire for Private Functions. For more information, please contact Louise on 07926 600 0657 or the Playgroup on 07592 392235.

## GLENFARG BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

We meet in the newly refurbished village hall, Greenbank Road, Glenfarg on Wednesdays, 9.30-11.30am.

Healthy snack for children, coffee/tea & biscuits for carer  
Role play, jigsaws, physical toys and arts and crafts  
Friendly support for all carers  
First session free, £2 thereafter (£1 for additional children)

Contact Donna Smith on 07535 595430 or just come along!

## LOCHLEVEN BABIES & TODDLERS

**Masonic Hall, The Muirs, Kinross**

**Session times (term time only)**

Tuesdays 9.30 - 11.15, Fridays 9.30 - 11.15

Contact Debbie Kennedy 07545 339494,  
[debileighs@hotmail.com](mailto:debileighs@hotmail.com)

All Mothers, Fathers, and Carers are welcome to attend, with children aged birth to 5 years if accompanied by a younger sibling who shall be 3 years old or younger.

## FOSSOWAY PRE-SCHOOL GROUP

**Glenbank Cottage, Powmill**

Partner-provider for P&K Education



Places available for 3-5-year-olds and Rising Fives  
Sessions 9.30am - 12.45pm Monday - Thursday,  
9.30am - 12.30pm Fridays

Contact Pat Irvine 07703 177766 or  
[www.childcarelink.gov.uk/perthandkinross](http://www.childcarelink.gov.uk/perthandkinross)

## PORTMOAK UNDER 5s

Portmoak Hall – between Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell (only 10 mins from Milnathort and Kinross)



We are a friendly and relaxed group welcoming children under 5 years and their parents/carers. We offer a wide range of activities including arts and crafts, dressing up, outdoor play and stories. We also on occasion arrange outings, parties and have special visitors who come to the group!

Session times: Tues & Fri 9.45am – 11.30am.  
Sessions are £2 per child (£1.50 for under 1s) and 50p for each additional child. A snack is provided.

For all queries please email  
[portmoakplaygroup@hotmail.com](mailto:portmoakplaygroup@hotmail.com)  
or find us on Facebook

## MONTGOMERY TODDLERS

Every Thursday 9.30am to 11am (term-time only)

The Gospel Hall, Montgomery Street, Kinross.

Contact Christina Smith 01577 840733 or 07792 260509

## Private Nurseries and Childcare

For private nurseries and childcare services, please see advertisements throughout the Newsletter.

To inform the Newsletter of any changes to Playgroup information, please send an email to: [editor@kinrossnewsletter.org](mailto:editor@kinrossnewsletter.org)

# Notices



## Running for the 35,000 COFFEE MORNING

to raise funds for  
Maggie's Fife & Breast Cancer Care  
Everyone Welcome

**Saturday 3 February**

Portmoak Village Hall, Scotlandwell  
10am – 12 noon

Entry £1.50 (includes hot drink & biscuit)  
all proceeds to Maggie's Fife & Breast Cancer Care

• Home Baking • Raffle • Tombola



## Glenfarg Village Folk Club

*The club meets at "Backstage at the Green",  
Green Hotel, Kinross, on Mondays  
Doors open 7.30pm Music starts 8pm*

For more info, see: [www.glenfargfolkclub.com](http://www.glenfargfolkclub.com)

**29 Jan: The Outside Track** perform Scottish, Irish and Cape Breton songs and step-dance! Entry: members £8, non-members £10.

**5 Feb: Singaround.** The theme is "injury, illness or death"! All £2.

**12 Feb:** Nova Scotia sister duo **Cassie and Maggie McDonald** offer a unique blend of traditional and contemporary Celtic instrumentals, vocals and step-dance. Entry: members £6, non-members £9.

**19 Feb: Singaround.** "Love" is the theme. Too easy! Hopefully, some lateral thinking will be on offer. All £2.

**26 Feb: Fara.** These four young ladies have gained wide acclaim, whether as a group or individually. Plaudits include the BBC Radio 2 Young Folk Award, the BBC Radio Scotland Young Traditional Musician of the Year Award and the Danny Kyle Award at Celtic Connections. Entry: members £6, non-members £10.

## The Thursday Group

This is a women's group meeting on the first Thursday of the month in the lower hall of the Church Centre at 7.30pm. New members welcome. Contact 01577 863421.

- |              |                                |                |
|--------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>1 Feb</b> | <b>Wildlife in Your Garden</b> | Scott Paterson |
| <b>1 Mar</b> | <b>Beetle Drive</b>            |                |
| <b>5 Apr</b> | <b>Haiti Help</b>              |                |
| <b>3 May</b> | <b>AGM</b>                     |                |

## Skeins and Bobbins Classes

**Spring Primary Knitting Classes, 3.30pm – 4.15pm:**  
(LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE)

Tuesday class: Jan 30, February 6 & 27, March 6, 13 & 20.

Thursday class: February 1 & 8, March 1, 8, 15 & 22.

**Spring Secondary Knitting Classes, 1.30pm – 2.30pm:**

Friday class: February 2 & 9, March 2, 9, 16 & 23.

## Adult Knitting and Crochet Club

Knitting and crochet clubs now take place on a Saturday afternoon, 2pm-4pm. We have amalgamated the clubs so that people can come along with whichever craft they wish to do; however, there will be a crochet or knitting specialist on alternative Saturdays as follows:

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Knitting: | Jan 27, February 10 & 24, March 10 & 24. |
| Crochet:  | February 3 & 17, March 3 & 17.           |

## KINROSS HUB THE CARERS CAFE

**5 February 2018**

**Kinross Museum  
(David Munro)**

**5 March 2018**

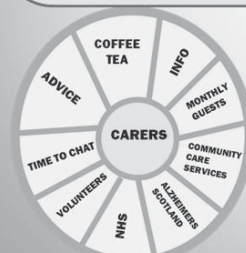
**Age Concern  
(Carole Anderson)**

**9 April 2018**

**Trading Standards  
(Janet Reay)**

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. 07760 363800  
Or Annette Bond  
01738 567076



## Kinross Garden Group

2017/18 Season

**Thursday 8 February**

at 2pm in the Millbridge Hall, Kinross,  
with Jane Sanderson of the Abernethy Horticultural Group  
'The Plants of Mount Kilimanjaro'  
All welcome to join us.

## The Gaelic Society of Perth

After a wonderful ceilidh in January with the fantastic singing of James Graham and Kaitlyn Smith and the new local Gaelic group Glé, the Society will hold their February Ceilidh at **St. Matthew's Church Hall, Tay St., Perth** on **Friday 9 February 2018** at 7.30pm.

The Mod Gold Medallists Steven McIver and Margaret Callan will be joined by Mairi and Michael Callan on the Clarsach and accordion. Come and hear these great Gaelic singers and instrumentalists.

Admission is £5 for Members and £6 for Non-Members – for an evening's entertainment plus refreshments!

Further information can be obtained from the Secretary on 01577 864589, on our website [gaelicsocietyofperth.com](http://gaelicsocietyofperth.com) or like us on Facebook - we are **Gaelic Society of Perth**.

## Dollar Museum

Open from Easter to Christmas at the following times:

<b>Saturdays</b>	<b>11am – 1pm</b>	<b>and</b>	<b>2pm – 4.30pm</b>
<b>Sundays</b>			<b>2pm – 4.30pm</b>

Access also possible by arrangement

Email: [dollarmuseum@btconnect.com](mailto:dollarmuseum@btconnect.com)

Free entry. All welcome. Parking and disabled access.

1 High Street, Dollar, FK14 7AY



## Networking Breakfast Wednesday 7 February

Halfway through January already and the Kinross-shire Partnership are keen to tell you about the next Networking Breakfast meeting on Wednesday 7 February. Fix the date in your diary to make sure you enjoy the relaxed networking and excellent breakfast on offer. Cost of the networking and full Scottish breakfast is £10 – the opportunity to listen to our excellent speaker is, of course, priceless! In February, we are delighted to welcome farmer, entrepreneur and businessman, **Robin Niven**, to his own restaurant to share some of his business experiences with us. A local man through and through, Robin went from Strathallan School to Newcastle University, where he studied Agricultural Economics. Farming in partnership with his parents from 1992 to 2003, he also set up and ran a contracting company from 1999 to 2002, before moving to Channel Farm in 2003 and starting Loch Leven's Larder in 2005, which now attracts around 150,000 visitors per annum.

Alongside his wife, Emma, and his brother, Robin runs Channel Farming Company which comprises Loch Leven's Larder and a 1000-acre arable farm. He also graduated in the Scottish Enterprise Rural Leadership Programme 2015-6.

Robin has served as a Director on the Perthshire Agricultural Society, Perthshire Chamber of Commerce and Kinross Partnership. He is in his third year on the Board, and is currently Chairman of The Royal Caledonian Curling Club, the governing body for Scottish curling. He is also a director of British Curling, the governing body for the Olympic pathway. With sporting interests of curling, golf and cricket, he'll hopefully tell us how he managed to fit in the Loch Leven Half Marathon last year and training for the Edinburgh Marathon in May 2018!

As always, the meeting will be at Loch Leven's Larder from 7.15 to 9am and we welcome local businesses, individuals and groups to come and network, find out about each other's organisations and get to know one another. Whether you're new to Kinross-shire and looking to find out what services or businesses are in the Shire, or you'd like to make new contacts in the area, we'd love to meet you. If you've been to the Networking Breakfast before, you'll know how good it is, so tell your friends, colleagues and fellow Kinross-shire dwellers what they've been missing and encourage them to come along with you on 7 February; we'd like to meet them too!

To book your place, please email Karen Grunwell at mail@kinrosspartnership.org.uk. You can choose whether to pay online in advance or in cash on the day and full details are available when you book. The meeting cost, including a full cooked breakfast, is £10 per person.

[www.kinrosspartnership.org.uk](http://www.kinrosspartnership.org.uk) [www.facebook.com/visitlochleven](http://www.facebook.com/visitlochleven)  
[www.visitlochleven.org](http://www.visitlochleven.org) [www.twitter.com/VisitLochLeven](http://www.twitter.com/VisitLochLeven)

## La Leche League meetings in Kinross ...

**First Thursday of the month,  
10am – 12 noon**

St Paul's Church Meeting Room, The Muirs, Kinross

- Friendly, relaxed mum-to-mum breastfeeding support and chat.
- Informal chat and an interesting group discussion.
- Plenty of time for answering your questions.

We welcome any mums (and mums to be) who are interested in breastfeeding. Children all very welcome.

For more details, contact:

Hannah Dalgety (LLL Leader, Kinross) 07886 859461

[www.lll-fife-tayside.co.uk](http://www.lll-fife-tayside.co.uk)

Find us on Facebook: La Leche League Fife and Tayside



## Kinross-shire Historical Society

Meetings are held at Kinross Parish Church, Station Road, Kinross, at 7.30pm. Membership entitles free entry to all six talks of the season. Membership: Adults £6; Senior £5; U18 free. Visitors: £2 per talk.

### Remaining Programme for 2017-18

**19 Feb** *My Father built the Sydney Brig.* **Bill Glennie.** The story of the Scots who helped to build the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

**19 Mar** *Lethangie House.* **Claire Paton.** The family home of the Paton family since 1848.

## Ceilidh Dancing

**Mondays:** 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.

**Monthly Sunday Ceilidhs:** These take place in Milnathort Town Hall, 2pm until 5pm, with a break at 3pm for tea and biscuits. Cost: £5. There is no pressure to dance; what better way to spend a Sunday afternoon than hearing these top players? (Many of them are recent Scottish champions.) People wishing to learn dances could attend the Monday classes (see above).

All money left over after paying the band and hall will go to charity. I am looking for suggestions for these donations. All I ask is that the charity sends someone along to say a few words and take the money away. Please contact Vi Todd, 01577 863244.

18 February	Ian Cameron
25 March	Scott Carnegie
22 April	Gordon Patullo
27 May	George Rennie
24 June	Alan Small
22 July	Steven Carcary
19 August	Liam Hope
16 September	Leonard Brown
21 October	Scott Band
25 November	Liam Stewart
16 December	Ian McCallum

## Kinross Floral Art Club

### Thursday 22 February

in Kinross Parish Church at 7.15pm

Mrs Karine Murray: "Don't Stop Me Now"

All welcome

## Quiz Nights

Orwell Bowling Club, Bowling Green Avenue, Milnathort

### Saturdays 24 February and 24 March

At 7.30pm. Cost: £2.50 per person. Four in a team.

Nibbles and Raffle

Contact Mike or Maz Thorn on 01577 8422271



## Fairtrade Fortnight 26 February – 11 March 2018



### Coffee Morning Saturday 24 February

10am-12 noon

Kinross Church Centre – "Come On In To Fairtrade"

Tea and Coffee and lots of Fairtrade goodies to sample!



## 58 Kinross Newsletter



**THE TALKING DONKEY**

Every Friday 11am - 2pm  
@ The Millbridge Hall

For further information, or if you want to be involved please ring  
07766 515 950 or 07771 696 830

The Cafe where everything is **FREE!**

🍲 Soups 🍲  
🥪 Snacks 🥪  
☕ Hot Drinks ☕  
🥤 Cold Drinks 🥤  
🍲 Home-cooked lunches 🍲

All brought to your table by our friendly staff

The Talking Donkey is a Christian venture so there will always be people on hand to offer  
**Prayer For Any Need**

## Perth Citizens Advice Bureau

### Outreach Advice Surgery

The Kinross surgery is held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month from 1.30pm to 3.30pm at St Paul's Church Hall, Muirs, Kinross.

The next visits are: **13 & 27 February**

No appointment is necessary as the surgery is a drop-in service. For complex issues a further appointment may be necessary. Perth CAB can help you. Our advice is free, confidential, impartial and independent.

Contact us: Advice line 01738 450580.

Appointment line 01738 450581.

### Benefits Advice in Libraries (BAIL)

Benefits specialist Sarah MacLean is available at Loch Leven Community Campus to provide advice on all benefit related issues. Alongside general benefits advice, Sarah can help with: completing forms (including online), conducting checks to see if clients are receiving everything they are entitled to, and providing advice and support where an application is refused or awarded at a lower level than expected.

Sarah is available **by appointment only**. Appointments are usually offered on Wednesdays and Thursdays. To make an appointment, call 01738 450599 or email Andrew Scobie (benefits and debt administration) using the following: [Andrew.Scobie@Perthcab.casonline.org.uk](mailto:Andrew.Scobie@Perthcab.casonline.org.uk)

### Debt and Money Advice Service

Perth CAB has a team of specialist debt advisers. Advice is free, confidential, impartial and independent. To talk to a specialist debt adviser call 01738 450590 or email David Ogston (senior debt adviser) using the following email address: [David.Ogston@Perthcab.casonline.org.uk](mailto:David.Ogston@Perthcab.casonline.org.uk)

## 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](mailto:perthkinross@mssociety.org.uk) or check out our website [www.perth-kinross.org.uk](http://www.perth-kinross.org.uk) or find us on Facebook: MS Society Perth&Kinross Branch.



## Blythswood Care collection in Perth

Blythswood Care collects second hand items to help with "Christian care for body and soul". The uplift is in Perth, at Asda on Dunkeld Road, on the following Tuesdays, from 11.30am until 1.15pm:

**6 February, 6 March, 3 April, 8 May, 5 June**

Blythswood Care welcomes donations of: clothes, shoes, books, toys, blankets, bric à brac and small items of furniture. All soft furnishing must have a fire label with BS code BS7177 attached. Regrettably Blythswood **cannot** accept: prams, pushchairs, highchairs, car seats, bikes, carpets, duvets, coat hangers, gas appliances, TVs, computer monitors, exercise equipment, wall units, electrical items and video cassettes.

## Local Correspondent

for Perthshire Advertiser and Fife Herald newspapers

**Linda Freeman**

Tel 01577 865045. Email: [linda.freeman\\_64@btinternet.com](mailto:linda.freeman_64@btinternet.com)

## Scottish Country Dancing

Milnathort Town Hall

on **Wednesday evenings** at 7.30pm

Old and new members welcome

For more information, please ring Cathie on 01577 861103

## Perth & Kinross School Term Dates 2017-18

Term	Start (for pupils)	End
Winter	Mon 23 Oct 2017	Fri 22 Dec 2017
Spring	Mon 8 Jan 2018	Thu 29 Mar 2018
Summer	Tue 17 Apr 2018	Thu 28 Jun 2018

### Holidays and In-Service Days:

In-Service & occasional holidays:	Wed 14 Feb – Fri 16 Feb 2018
Spring holiday:	Fri 30 Mar – Fri 13 Apr 2018 (Easter Sunday is 1 April 2018)
In-Service day:	Mon 16 Apr 2018
May Day holiday:	Mon 7 May 2018

## Loch Leven and Mary Queen of Scots

### Arrest! Abdication! Escape!

- 16th century people and their lives
- How Mary is remembered to this day

Exhibition in the Library, Loch Leven Community Campus, Muirs, Kinross. Exhibition open during library hours.

Volunteers also on hand:  
Thursdays 10am-8pm,  
Saturdays 10am-3pm



### Community Councils

**Kinross:** Secy: Eileen Thomas, 01577 863714  
Email: KinrossCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk

**Milnathort:** Chair: Craig Williams  
Email: MilnathortCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk

**Portmoak:** Chair: Malcolm Strang Steel, 01592 840459  
Email: PortmoakCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk

**Fossoway & District:** Chair: Trudy Duffy-Wigman, 01577 840669  
Email: fossoway.cc@gmail.com

**Cleish & Blairadam:** Secy: Patty Fraser, 01577 850253  
Email: CleishCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk

### Kinross Community Councillors

Margaret Blyth	6 Muir Grove	
Jonathan Bryson	4 Burnbank Meadows	
David Colliar	10 Rannoch Place	(01577) 864037
Dave Cuthbert	8 Highfield Circle	07799 750289
Barry Davies	60 Lathro Park	(01577) 865004
Bill Freeman (Chair)	64 Muirs	(01577) 865045
Ian Jack	Burnbrae Grange	(01577) 863980
Thomas Stewart	Gellybank Farm	(01577) 864603
Eileen Thomas (Secy)	50 Muirs	(01577) 863714
David West	30 Muirs	07824 313974

### Portmoak Community Councillors

Robin Cairncross	(Secretary)	01592 840672
Bruce Calderwood	(Treasurer)	01592 840423
Susan Forde		01592 840128
Tom Smith		01592 841160
Malcolm Strang Steel	(Chairman)	01592 840459
Dave Morris		01592 840500
Alison Robertson		01592 840131
Andrew Muszynski		01592 840467

Have a look at our website: [www.portmoak.org](http://www.portmoak.org)

### Perth and Kinross Councillors Kinross-shire Ward

**Cllr MIKE BARNACLE** (*Independent*)  
Tel/Fax (home): 01577 840516.  
Email: michaelabarnacle@gmail.com  
Website: mikebarnacle.co.uk  
Moorend, Waulkmill Road, Crook of Devon, Kinross, KY13 0UZ

**Cllr CALLUM PURVES** (*Scottish Conservative & Unionist*)  
Tel (office): 01738 475092. Mobile: 07557 812570.  
Email: CPurves@pkc.gov.uk  
54 Lathro Park, Kinross, KY13 8RU

**Cllr WILLIE ROBERTSON** (*Scottish Liberal Democrats*)  
Tel (home): 01577 865178. Email: wbrobertson@pkc.gov.uk  
85 South Street, Milnathort, Kinross, KY13 9XA

**Cllr RICHARD WATTERS** (*SNP*)  
Mobile: 07557 812513.  
Email: RWatters@pkc.gov.uk  
Applegarth, Sunnypark, Kinross, KY13 8BX

### Luke Graham MP Member of Parliament for Ochil and South Perthshire

38 Primrose Street, Alloa, FK10 1JG

Telephone: 01259 764407

Email: [luke.graham.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:luke.graham.mp@parliament.uk)

Twitter: @LukeGrahamMP

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/Luke-Graham-for-Ochil-and-South-Perthshire-392788644215614](https://www.facebook.com/Luke-Graham-for-Ochil-and-South-Perthshire-392788644215614)

### Member of the Scottish Parliament for Perthshire South & Kinross-shire

#### Roseanna Cunningham MSP

Constituency office:

63 Glasgow Road, Perth, PH2 0PE

Telephone: 01738 620540

Email: [Roseanna.Cunningham.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:Roseanna.Cunningham.msp@parliament.scot)

### Members of the Scottish Parliament for Mid Scotland and Fife Region

All MSPs can be contacted at the following address:

The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

**Claire Baker MSP** (Labour) Tel: 0131 348 6769

Email: [Claire.Baker.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:Claire.Baker.msp@parliament.scot)

**Murdo Fraser MSP** (Conservative) Tel: 0131 348 5293

Email: [Murdo.Fraser.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:Murdo.Fraser.msp@parliament.scot)

**Dean Lockhart MSP** (Conservative) Tel: 0131 348 5993

Email: [Dean.Lockhart.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:Dean.Lockhart.msp@parliament.scot)

**Alex Rowley MSP** (Labour) Tel: 0131 348 6826

Email: [Alex.Rowley.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:Alex.Rowley.msp@parliament.scot)

**Mark Ruskell MSP** (Green) Tel: 0131 348 6468

Email: [Mark.Ruskell.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:Mark.Ruskell.msp@parliament.scot)

**Liz Smith MSP** (Conservative) Tel: 0131 348 6762

Email: [Elizabeth.Smith.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:Elizabeth.Smith.msp@parliament.scot)

**Alexander Stewart MSP** (Conservative) Tel: 0131 348 6134

Email: [Alexander.Stewart.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:Alexander.Stewart.msp@parliament.scot)

### Perth & Kinross Council [www.pkc.gov.uk](http://www.pkc.gov.uk)

**Customer Service Centre** Tel: 01738 475000

(Mon to Fri, 8am-6pm)

**Out of Hours Emergencies** Tel: 01738 625411

(Roads, flooding, environmental health and dangerous buildings)

**Clarence** (for non-emergency road and lighting defects) Tel: 0800 232323

**Registrar** Tel: 01577 867133

The Registrar is normally in Kinross only on Tuesdays and Fridays at the Loch Leven Community Campus

### Mobile Library Service

**Visiting on Tuesdays 30 January and 13 & 27 February:**

Milnathort	South Street	1230-1315
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**Visiting every Tuesday:**

Glenfarg	Main Street	1130-1300
Forgandenny	School	1430-1530

**Visiting on Wednesdays 7 & 21 February:**

Powmill	Mill Gardens	0930-0950
Fossoway Pre-school	Powmill	0955-1020
Kinnesswood	Shop	1050-1120
Portmoak	Community Hall	1125-1140
Scotlandwell	Leslie Road	1145-1205
Hatchbank	Road	1220-1240
Cleish	Phone Box	1400-1415
Crook of Devon	Inn, Main Street	1430-1530
Carnbo	Pitcairnie Lane	1540-1610
Milnathort	South Road	1620-1650
Mawcarse		1700-1710

For more information, see: [www.culturepk.org.uk/libraries](http://www.culturepk.org.uk/libraries) and click on 'Services in the Community'





area a better place to live, by making grants to a wide range of local charities, organisations and projects which make a positive difference to the community.

To date, over 50 organisations within the 73 square miles of Kinross-shire have benefited from an award, with beneficiaries ranging in age from pre-school to the elderly.

The Fund is managed by Foundation Scotland and is currently open for applications, with deadlines quarterly on the first Monday of February, May, August and November each year.

**The next deadlines are Monday 5 February and Monday 7 May 2018.**

Full details, including how to apply via our online application link, can be found at:

[www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/kinross-shire-fund](http://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/kinross-shire-fund)

## The Bike Station

Donate unwanted bikes, parts and cycling accessories for reuse. Poorer bikes are salvaged for parts. Bikes are refurbished by qualified expert mechanics and sold on to the public at affordable prices with a three-month warranty.

Donated bikes and parts are collected from all Perth & Kinross Recycling Centres, including the Kinross centre at the Bridgend Industrial Estate.

Bike sales are held at The Bike Station, 284 High Street, Perth, PH1 5QS, Tuesday to Saturday 10am – 5pm.

The Bike Station also offers a Repair Service, a Fix Your Own Bike facility and a Dr Bike mobile service.

Tel: 01738 444430. Website: [www.thebikestation.org.uk](http://www.thebikestation.org.uk)

The Perth Bike Station is an accredited Revolve organisation.



## Looking for a venue that can tick all the boxes?

### Crook of Devon Village Hall

- ☑ **Space** We can seat up to 100 for a formal meal; 120 for meetings, theatrical performance, talent shows; 80-90 for discos, family gatherings, community events. We can even accommodate bouncy castles for that “all weather” children’s party.



- ☑ **Car Parking** - ample parking for the hall.
- ☑ **Catering** - Kitchen with oven, dishwasher and microwave, plus a great serving area.
- ☑ **Stage** and back stage area for performances, costume changes, etc.
- ☑ Plus the usual facilities - toilets, disabled toilets, changing areas.
- ☑ We also offer chair and table rental for functions at home.
- ☑ **Weekly bookings** taken for activities, e.g. yoga, ballet, fitness classes, badminton, youth clubs.

For all hall bookings and enquiries, including our **special block booking rates**, please contact Jean on 01577 840543 or [jeanshearer630@btinternet.com](mailto:jeanshearer630@btinternet.com)

## Hedges/Bushes/Trees Causing Obstruction

Property owners are reminded that it is their responsibility to cut back hedges, branches, bushes etc to ensure that pavements and public footpaths are not obstructed.

Property owners may be liable if injury is caused to others and may be charged costs if Perth & Kinross Council is forced to take action.

## Local Volunteer Opportunities

**Broke not Broken** is a voluntary organisation working for the prevention and relief of poverty by providing support and practical assistance to individuals and families experiencing hardship. Please contact Claire Slight to find out how you can help: [clare.slight@brokennotbroken.org](mailto:clare.slight@brokennotbroken.org)

**Children’s Hospices Across Scotland:** We are looking for kitchen volunteers. Please contact: [volunteering@chas.org.uk](mailto:volunteering@chas.org.uk)

**Greyhound Rescue Fife** at Balfour Country Centre, Gairneybank, Kinross, need volunteers to clean the kennels and walk and feed the greyhounds. Can you help? Phone 01592 890583. Visit our website at [www.greyhoundrescuefife.com](http://www.greyhoundrescuefife.com)

**Kinross Heart Start:** Campaign to secure funds for public access defibrillators in Kinross. Contact Pamela Hunter to find out how you can volunteer on 01577 862419.

**Kinross in Bloom:** Volunteer group that provides and maintains floral displays to enhance the environment of Kinross. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Iain Todd at: [iandmtodd@talktalk.net](mailto:iandmtodd@talktalk.net)

**Kinross-shire Day Centre:** We are looking for volunteers to serve meals and help with day trips and activities, such as bingo and singing, for a lively bunch of over-aged teenagers (over 65s). If you would like to find out more, we would love to hear from you. Pop in and speak to Nan or telephone 01577 863869.

**KLEO (Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation):** If you enjoy local events on your doorstep, like the monthly Kinross Farmers' market and the winter festival events (concerts, comedy and the festive street market), please join the KLEO team! For more info about KLEO events, go to [www.kleo.org.uk](http://www.kleo.org.uk). If interested, please contact Bouwien Bennet at [info@kleo.org.uk](mailto:info@kleo.org.uk) or call 01577 863107.

**The Potager Garden** is a small community garden in Bowton Road in Kinross, KY13 8EQ. It is a registered charity run by volunteers, and a main aim is to give education to schoolchildren about plants, gardening and the environment. If you would like more information about our volunteering opportunities, please contact the Convenor, Amanda James, on 01577 840809, or [amanda@tyafon.plus.com](mailto:amanda@tyafon.plus.com)

**RSPB Scotland Loch Leven:** We need volunteer fundraisers to help support the wonderful world of nature on our doorstep. Pin badges, bucket collections, events and sponsored walks – if you’d like to join our team, please contact Lyndsay Stobie at: [Lyndsay.Stobie@rspb.org.uk](mailto:Lyndsay.Stobie@rspb.org.uk) or call 01577 862355.

**Swansacre Playgroup:** A long established charity playgroup for children aged 2-5 years, we need volunteers to help support us with play sessions. For more information, please email [swansacre@gmail.com](mailto:swansacre@gmail.com)

**Light Up Kinross** is a small local charity with responsibility for Kinross Christmas lights and decorations. We require additional volunteers to assist with fundraising and administration of the lights. If you are interested, please contact David Colliar, email [davidcolliar@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:davidcolliar@tiscali.co.uk) or Bill Freeman, email [billywhizkid78@gmail.com](mailto:billywhizkid78@gmail.com) or through our Facebook page.

**Common Grounds:** Charity café staffed by volunteers on Tuesdays, Wednesday, Fridays and Saturdays in Guide Hall, Church Street, Milnathort. Open to public 10am – 12.30pm. Opportunity to serve in café or bake for the café. Also opportunity to gain recognised hours towards Duke of Edinburgh Awards and Saltire Awards for young people 16 years and over. Funds raised are used to support charities mainly in Africa. Contact: Convener Elspeth Caldwell on 01577 863350 or Secretary Linda Freeman on 01577 865045 for more information.

For more volunteering opportunities, go to the community website [www.kinross.cc](http://www.kinross.cc) and look for ‘Volunteering’, or look at [www.vaperthshire.org](http://www.vaperthshire.org)

Organisations: If you would like a volunteer appeal to be added to the list above, please email the Newsletter Editor. Please let us know if you no longer need your appeal to be listed.

Film shows • Cards • Dominoes • Art Class  
Daily Papers • Chiropody • Trips • Exercises

## Weekly Programme

<b>Monday</b>	Exercise Class	11am	Bingo	1.30pm
	Scrabble, cards & other Games			1.15pm
	"Stride for Life" Walking Group			2pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	Carpet Curling	11am		
	Relaxation Class	1.15pm		
	Games	1.15pm		
	Singing group with Alex Cant	1.45pm		
<b>Wednesday</b>	Morning Worship	10.45am		
	Dominoes, Scrabble & other Games			1.30pm
	Fantastic Fun Quiz	2pm		
<b>Thursday</b>	Carpet Curling or Boccia	11am		
	Crafts (not 8th)	1.30pm	Film or music Afternoon	1.30pm (not 8th)
	Dominoes, Scrabble, cards etc	1.30pm	(not 8th)	
	Balance & Strength Class	1.30pm	(not 8th)	
<b>Friday</b>	Balance & Strength Exercise Class	11am - 12pm		
	Dominoes, Games or music	1.30pm	(not 9th)	
	Bingo	1.30pm	(not 9th)	



## Additional Events for February

Chiropody	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>1st, 22nd</b>	9.45am - 1pm (phone 01577 863869 for an appointment)
Hearing Loss Support and Advice	<b>Monday</b>	<b>5th</b>	11am - 12pm
Tai Chi	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>7th, 21st</b>	1.30pm - 2pm
Tea Dance hosted by The Inner Wheel	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>8th</b>	1.30pm - 3pm
Tea Dance hosted by Interact LLCC	<b>Friday</b>	<b>9th</b>	2pm - 4pm
Library Visit	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>22nd</b>	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](mailto: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 Bridge Club

We meet every Wednesday during Winter and Spring.  
The evening starts at 6.45pm prompt and finishes by 10pm.  
New members are always welcome.  
For further information, please contact Catriona Marshall 864482.

## 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](mailto:enquiries.positivechoices@gmail.com)

We are a registered Scottish Charity SC031076

Empowering Lives, Improving Health

**Kinross-shire is a Fairtrade County**

## Situations Vacant

In conjunction with [www.kinross.cc](http://www.kinross.cc), the Newsletter is pleased to publish local situations vacant. Please go to the [kinross.cc](http://www.kinross.cc) website before applying to see fuller details and to **check whether a position is still available**. (Go to [www.kinross.cc](http://www.kinross.cc) then click on 'Local Adverts' and choose 'Situations Vacant').

### Part Time Coffee Shop Assistant, Cashmere at Lochleven, Kinross

We are looking for an enthusiastic person to join the team within our busy Coffee Shop. Working 2 days out of 7 you will be involved in all areas of both front and back of house.

You will have at least 2/3 years experience, have a friendly outgoing manner, offer excellent customer service and be able to adapt to change when required. Interested, then please contact Cashmere at Lochleven by calling 01577 867570 or call into the shop for an application form.

### Part Time Care Assistant/Driver, Kinross Centre

16 hours per week. The applicant must have D1 on their driving licence and be prepared to do a MIDAS (minibus) test. If interested, please phone 01577 863869 and ask for Nan or Isobel. Alternatively, email [kindaycent@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:kindaycent@tiscali.co.uk) or call in at the Centre at 64 High Street, Kinross.

### Cafe Manager, Loch Leven's Larder, Channel Farm, Near Kinross

With a hands-on, 'can do' attitude and great communication skills, you will be self-motivated, have a flexible attitude to working and able to demonstrate an outstanding commitment to customer service.

Our ideal candidate will be interested in developing our existing café and new take-away offering and will work collaboratively with our Catering Manager and management team. You will also be involved in training, developing and supporting our café staff. Café responsibilities will include supervision of staff including food hygiene, health and safety, opening and closing, food and drink preparation and serving our customers.

You will have 5 years' experience working in food and/or hospitality, have a genuine passion for the industry and will relish going the extra mile to help. Find out more online at <http://lochlevenslarder.com/news-and-events/news/recruitment-cafe-manager-1/>.

### Assistant Café Manager, Loch Leven's Larder, Channel Farm, Near Kinross

Our ideal candidate is committed to outstanding customer service with a 'can do' attitude and great communication skills.

Responsibilities will include supporting the Café Manager in supervision, development and support of staff, particularly in areas of food hygiene, customer service and health and safety, opening and closing, food and drink preparation and serving our customers.

You will have one year's experience working in food and/or hospitality, have a genuine passion for the industry and will relish going the extra mile to help. It is essential you are fully flexible across the week and at weekends. Find out more online at <http://lochlevenslarder.com/news-and-events/news/recruitment-assistant-cafe-manager/>.

## Perth Samaritans

Need to talk? We'll listen.

Contact us by

**phone** on 01738 626666 or 08457 909090

**Email** us [jo@samaritans.org](mailto: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.**

## Items for Sale

The Newsletter publishes items for sale listed on the [kinross.cc](http://www.kinross.cc) website. If interested in purchasing an item, we suggest **checking the website for current availability** ([www.kinross.cc](http://www.kinross.cc) then 'Local Adverts' then 'Classified Adverts'). If interested in selling an item, please list it on [www.kinross.cc](http://www.kinross.cc) and it will automatically be published in the next available Newsletter, subject to space.

**Mothercare Bouncy Chair** £5

Nice condition.

**Moses Basket** £15

Good condition.

Seller Details for above two items:

Laura Watson

[pauline@thegreyhouse.co.uk](mailto:pauline@thegreyhouse.co.uk)

**Ecoair Dehumidifier** £75

Not often used.

Seller Details:

Pauline Watson

[pauline@thegreyhouse.co.uk](mailto:pauline@thegreyhouse.co.uk)

## Kinross Recycling Centre

Bridgend Industrial Estate

Opening Times: **Mondays to Fridays** 9am to 7pm  
**Saturdays and Sundays** 9am to 5pm

Bras, bicycles, cans (inc aerosols, biscuit tins, aluminium foil), car and household batteries, cardboard, cooking oil, electricals (WEEE), engine oil, fluorescent tubes, long life light bulbs, food and drinks cartons (Tetra packs), fridges, freezers, garden waste, glass, large domestic appliances, paper, plastic (rigid plastic packaging), rubble stone and soil, scrap metal, telephone directories, textiles (clothes and shoes), timber, tyres (maximum two per visit, strictly householders only) and non-recyclable (general) waste.

Bikes and bike parts will be recycled. (See separate Bike Station notice.)

Collection point for Perth College WEEE project: IT equipment will be refurbished and sold on at an affordable price or recycled for parts. Items accepted include: desktop computers, laptops, mobile phones (without the sim card), tablets, keyboards, mouse controls, cables, DVD players, video players, portable music players, games consoles, new or empty printer cartridges, projectors and flat screen working monitors. The project cannot accept Cathode Ray Tube or broken monitors.

Compost can be collected from the Recycling Centre, subject to availability. Maximum of 2 x 25kg bags per visitor.

## PKAVS Carer Therapies

Now on the first Monday of the month (rather than Friday)

Now at Loch Leven Community Campus (not Health Centre)

By appointment. Tel: Annette Bond 01738 567076

## 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](mailto:ptb.kinross@bethanyct.com)

t: 07747 018 550



January		Page
Sat	27	Milnathort Town Hall Association Burns Supper
Sat	27	Portmoak Burns Supper
Mon	29	Glenfarg Village Folk Club meets weekly at Green Hotel 92
Wed	31	Deadline for stall applications for Better Place to Live Fair 11
February		Page
Thu	1	Fifty Plus Club meets 65
Thu	1	Kinross Camera Club meets weekly 52
Thu	1	The Thursday Group meets 92
Fri	2	<b>Deadline for comments on Proposed Local Development Plan 2</b> 7
Sat	3	Kinross & Ochil Walking Group: walks throughout the month 43
Sat-Sun	3-4	Optics Weekend at RSPB Loch Leven 82
Sat	3	Coffee Morning for cancer charities, Portmoak Hall 92
Sun	4	Little Seedlings Club meets, 11am, Dobbies
Sun	4	Deadline for comments on PKC budget 7
Mon	5	Kinross Hub Carers Café 92
Mon	5	Cleish and Blairadam CC meets 41
Tue	6	Fossoway and District CC meets 41
Wed	7	Shop at the Green Winter Sale 8
Wed	7	<b>Networking Breakfast with Robin Niven</b> 93
Wed	7	<b>Kinross CC meets</b> 29
Thu	8	Kinross Garden Group meets 47, 92
Thu	8	IT Help Session at library 71
Thu	8	Milnathort CC meets 41
Fri	9	<b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b> 1
Sat	10	Café Book Group at the library 71
Sat	10	Portmoak Film Society: Manchester by the Sea 51
Sat	10	Quiz Night (Town Twinning Association) 66
Tue	13	Citizens Advice Bureau surgery (also on 27th) 95
Tue	13	Portmoak CC meets 34
Wed	14	Nature Tots with RSPB Loch Leven 82
Sat	17	Try Curling Session 75
Sun	18	Beginners Birdwatching Walk 82
Sun	18	Try Curling Session 75
Sun	18	Drop-in Curling Festival 75
Sun	18	Ceilidh in Milnathort Town Hall 93
Mon	19	Kinross-shire Historical Society meets 93
Tue	20	Common Grounds project lunch 43
Thu	22	Floral Art Club meets 93
Sat	24	Fairtrade Coffee Morning, Kinross Church Centre 93
Sat	24	Quiz Night at Orwell Bowling Club 93
Sun	25	Wildlife Explorers Club 82
Mon	26	Kinross & District Rotary Club meets regularly 42
Tue	27	Try Curling Session 75
March		Page
Fri	2	World Day of Prayer 88
Sat	3	<b>BETTER PLACE TO LIVE FAIR and Kinross-shire Decides!</b> 11, 14
Mon	5	Kinross Hub Carers Café 92
Wed	7	Author Talk at library, with Helen Forbes 71
Fri	9	Nichol Wheatley Live! 17
Mon	19	Kinross-shire Historical Society meets 93
Tue	20	Kinross Tennis Club Annual Quiz at Rugby Clubhouse 72
Sat	24	Quiz Night at Orwell Bowling Club 93
Sun	25	Loch Leven Walkathon for Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland 80
Sun	25	Ceilidh in Milnathort Town Hall 93
Tue	27	High School Spring Concert 58
Sat	31	<b>Gaberlunzie and Friends in Concert</b> 94
Sat	31	Deadline for applications to KCCNL charity 94