

Kinross Newsletter

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DEADLINE

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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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Editor's Page & Letters

Letter from The Editor

Happy New Year! It's a dreich January day in Kinross-shire as I write this, and no one really knows if we are heading for spring sunshine or six feet of snow in the coming weeks, although as always there is plenty of speculation. Whatever the weather has in store, there are plenty of indoor and outdoor activities restarting after the Christmas break to get involved with. This month's *Newsletter* is packed full of local information and news, but do let me know if there's something in particular you would like to see more of. As always, we have our useful diary page at the back so that you don't miss any important dates in the month to come.

Thank you for your continued feedback about the *Newsletter* and for sending in your letters and submissions. If you'd like a chance to have your best photos of Kinross and the surrounding areas used on the cover of the *Newsletter*, why not upload them to the photo library on the Kinross Community Council website at **www.kinross.cc** in the 'community' section. Fingers crossed for sunshine...

Hannah Phillips

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 CCIIr: Community Councillor

About the Kinross Newsletter

The Newsletter has been informing and supporting the community for 41 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.

The Newsletter is published by Kinross Newsletter Limited (company no SC374361). Any profits are transferred to charitable company Kinross Community Council Newsletter Limited (charitable company SC040913) to be given away to local good causes.

Kirklands Garage Site

I read the letter from Ken Miles of Kinross-shire Civic Trust regarding the development of the Kirklands Garage site with interest. He suggests that the new plans appear to endorse an 'anything would be an improvement' approach by our Council.

Having studied the plans carefully, I have to disagree with his view.

The existing stone buildings at the front of the site are being retained and converted into two stunning new houses. At the rear of the site, the existing poor-quality outbuildings are being demolished and replaced by four modern flats. The existing fuel contamination is being cleaned up, and the developer is making a substantial financial contribution to educational provision and affordable housing.

This seems to me to be a great new development providing six excellent homes in place of a derelict and contaminated garage site, and the Council should be applauded, not criticised.

Alan Thomson, Easter Dunochil, High Street, Kinross

A Dog's View

Dogs are not supposed to be allowed on the furniture in our house. But when Jen's chatting about all the interesting stuff in *The Newsletter*, Tilly wanted to see it for herself!



Dora Smith

Weather

November Weather Report from Kinross

Total rainfall 144.9mm = 5.79ins Heaviest rainfall 16.6mm (29th) Total sunshine for the month 58.4 hours 6.3 hours (4th) Sunniest day Minimum temperature average 1.15°C Lowest temperature -3.7°C (25th) Maximum temperature average 9.35°C 14.5°C (4th) Highest temperature

December Weather Report

Total rainfall

Heaviest rainfall

Total sunshine for the month

Sunniest day

Minimum temperature average
Lowest temperature

Highest temperature

81.8mm = 3.27ins

21mm (15th)

47.4 hours

5.2 hours (3rd)

-0.94°C

-7.3°C (4th)

6.81°C

11.1°C (6th)

Regeneration in Kinross-shire

There is a need for more strategic thinking and greater collaboration when dealing with conservation issues. Continued inability to compromise could result in even more derelict sites for protracted periods. There is little controversy indeed in saving buildings which are truly worthy of preservation. However, when conservation has somewhat less importance then the situation is much less predictable. A small number of shops, hotels, pubs and garages are becoming non-viable in some locations due to insufficient local custom. Few of these buildings are of special significance but some, which are not ideally suited for change of use, are in conservation areas.

Whilst every change of ownership must not be viewed as the opportunity for a new building, the ambitions of conservationists and those who oppose change must be tempered by realism. They should not be allowed to ruin the prospect of a complete new start for any site. The trouble normally arises when a developer chooses to develop without due regard to the history of an area or recognition of the sensitivities to change. Our villages and towns need to progress and flourish and that necessitates some regeneration. Potential objectors should realise that their actions could saddle a village or part of a town with dereliction. Rather than clashing with developers from the outset, benefit could be gained from pursuing compromise; then better future building sponsors could be attracted to Kinross-shire.

When change is contemplated, there is often great resistance to it. There is little point in attempting to save a building on the pretence of it being original when little of what exists is; or even demanding to preserve historic details when better examples exist in nearby buildings. Some of the current redundant eyesores are already beyond saving and scrutiny of the objections to planning often reveals that community groups knowingly made objections to planning applications that have resulted in a village or part of a town being left derelict.

Whilst we must continue to work strategically to protect prize buildings and heritage we must also anticipate and plan for change. There is no better reason to depart from the ideals of preservation and enhancement than the threat of dereliction. There is a need for pro-active collaboration in the exploration of tasteful regeneration.

JHR Hampson Fairview House, Kinnesswood

Light Up Kinross

This year, Light up Kinross has been chosen to benefit from the Co-op Local Community Fund. At a time when funds for charitable organisations are becoming more difficult to access, we're incredibly grateful for this opportunity to make a real difference in Kinross. We are raising funds for Kinross Christmas lights. Every time a Co-op shopper buys ownbrand products they get a 5% reward and a further 1% goes to causes like ours. Co-op members can decide which local group they would like to support online at www.co-op.co.uk/membership. We really hope people will visit the website and choose to support us. For more information about us, visit the Light up Kinross Facebook page.

David Colliar, Vice Chairman, Light Up Kinross davidcolliar@tiscali.co.uk

Congratulations



ENGAGEMENT: Both families are delighted to announce the engagement between **Hannah Henderson**, Milnathort and **Bruce McKerrow**, Linlithgow.

Janice Henderson, Landriggs, East Netherton, Milnathort

CONGRATULATIONS: Margot Moran would like to congratulate **Lucy Moran** and **Neve Anderson** on becoming under 11 Team Kata Scottish Champions (Karate).

Thanks



CAROLS AT THE CROSS

IRENE, AILEEN and ROSEMARY, on behalf of Milnathort in Bloom, Orwell and Portmoak Parish Church and Milnathort Town Hall Association, would like to thank everyone who came along and made this year's Carols at the Cross another successful community event.

Our grateful thanks go to those who helped set up, serve and marshalled on the day, and to the Community Council and Campbell Lawson and Webster Homes for sourcing and displaying such a lovely tree outside the hall. The lights looked fantastic.

Thanks to all at Milnathort in Bloom for the hard work they do throughout the year, voluntarily, to make our village look fantastic and for making the centre of the village look so beautiful with the lights for the Christmas season.

Indebted thanks to Heaven Scent, Giacopazzi and Sainsbury for providing the shortbread for the evening.

The collection taken on the evening went to a small local group called SPARKS who meet at the Campus. They are a group of adults who are supporting each other in their various disabilities, to remain part of the community through different activities and discussions. They are a very worthwhile and relatively unknown group, and were extremely grateful for the donation. Thank you.

Milnathort Christmas Party for the Over 70s

Christmas celebrations began in Milnathort Town Hall with a lunch for the senior citizens of Orwell Parish, organised by the Orwell 70 Plus committee.

Guests arrived to find the hall festively decorated and with tables laid for more than 80 people. Susan Britton, the chair of the committee, introduced and thanked many people for their hard work to make this party happen (forgetting herself of course). Susan made a presentation to Agnes Smith, who celebrated her 100th birthday earlier this year and has lived all her life in Kinross-shire.

The Minister, Angus Morrison, said grace and then the 'Helfies,' wearing tiaras, brought us our very good lunch. We even had crackers; a real party. After lunch we had musical entertainment from Jamie Dee of Kelty. Jean Paterson recited poems and then the Orwell Brownies arrived. They had made lovely Christmas cards by hand. They gave a card to every guest and had collected treats to put inside hampers. At the end of the afternoon Susan and her committee drew out lucky tickets.

The mix of generations made the party special. The elderly guests enjoyed seeing the Brownies. We have all been young once and it is amazing that the committee and helpers go to so much trouble. Milnathort is a wonderful place to live, thanks to the unselfish people who do so much for others.

News & Articles

Hunters Of Kinross In World Championship Scotch Pie Awards 2019

Hunters of Kinross have scooped another award, this time at the 20th World Championship Scotch Pie Awards. They were presented with a Bronze Award in the Scotch Pie Category by TV Personality and entrepreneur, Carol Smillie. Iain Hunter said 'I'm absolutely delighted to win an award at this prestigious event. Our customers will be delighted! We think our Scotch Pies are pretty special'.

Carol Smillie said, 'Each and every butcher and baker here today knows they make something special so a confirmation of this kind is the real icing on the cake.'



Haggis and black pudding Scotch eggs were particularly praised!

Following a busy judging day with over 80 butchers and bakers entering over 450 pies, sausage rolls, bridies, savouries and apple pies into the competition and with some 200 hopefuls attending the awards luncheon, all the shortlisted butchers and bakers can be proud to have produced some of the best products in the land.

Ronnie Miles, President of Scottish

Bakers, said 'My heartfelt congratulations go to everyone today taking away a prize.'

World

Championship

Scotch Pie

BRONZE

Hunters of Kinross have also secured three gold awards and one silver award for their products in the Scottish Craft Butchers Haggis/Pork Products Awards 2019. The golden plaudits went to their haggis and black pudding Scotch eggs, haggis saucy rolls and char sui pork and pepper stir fry. The Kinross butchers also earned silver for their haggis pinwheel meal.

Delighted assistant manager Conner Stuart, who helped create some of the award-winning products, said 'We are current East of Scotland Black Pudding Champions so we decided to use it in our entry for the haggis product awards,' he said. 'It works really well and creates a really tasty Scotch egg with a difference.'

Kinross Centre Bench Sheds Old Look

Recently one of our Shedders noticed that the bench he often sits on to watch the world go by was in need of a bit of TLC. Jim Ballingall, a regular at the Kinross Centre, thought he could do something about that. So, he mentioned it to the Shed Chairman and after a few of the other projects were out of the way, Alan Page used his large pickup and trailer to bring the bench to the Shed.

Alan took the lead on the project. It involved refurbishment of the old timbers and renewing some, as well as sanding back the grime and dirt.

Another Shedder, Alan Tennant, turned new acorn-shaped finials for the bench back ends. 'Captain' Billy finished off

the varnish coats to his usual high standards. Secretary Roy Gilmour designed and arranged for the plaque to be engraved and also photographed the unveiling.

After a few weeks the bench was returned better than new and officially unveiled to Centre Manager Nan Cook. May it be there for another good few decades to witness many more interesting conversations.

Happy New Year from all at the Men's Shed.



From left: Shedder 'Captain' Billy, Centre Manager Nan and Shedder John

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Councillor Purves Equal Right of Appeal

At present, developers can appeal council decisions to refuse their applications, but local communities do not have a similar right to appeal decisions to approve applications



that they oppose. The current system is therefore fundamentally imbalanced in favour of developers and against local residents.

The Scottish Government has published a report on the barriers to community engagement in the planning system. It found that 'there is a serious lack of trust, respect and confidence in the system, and that community engagement exerts very little influence on planning outcomes'.

The solution to this problem that has been put forward by the Scottish Government among others is to advocate more 'front-loading' of the planning system. Put simply, this means giving communities more of a say in the creation of local development plans. While this is welcome, the problem is that these plans are not always followed.

As readers will be acutely aware from our recent experiences here in Kinross-shire, developers can often get permission for developments with house numbers well in excess of the numbers allocated for the sites in the Local Development Plan.

When development plans are repeatedly flouted, communities rightly feel that their genuinely held concerns have been completely ignored. If development plans can be simply cast aside with no right to review, communities might question why they should even bother engaging with this process in the first place.

Giving communities an equal right of appeal would not only help rebuild trust in the planning process, but the possibility that a successful application could be appealed would also encourage developers to better engage communities at an earlier stage and to bring forward higher-quality proposals in the first place.

Planning legislation in Scotland is currently being reviewed so now is the perfect time to consider this issue. At the last full council meeting, I therefore proposed a motion that asked the Council to make its formal position one of supporting an equal right of appeal for our local communities.

Unfortunately, my motion was defeated by a substantial majority of councillors. I am disappointed that other colleagues did not feel able to stand up for the local communities and residents whom they represent and redress this fundamental imbalance and unfairness in our current planning system.



Think Yes

A number of changes are underway at Perth & Kinross Council and, in September, we welcomed Karen Reid as our new chief executive. At a recent meeting of the full council, Karen set out her vision for changing the Council's leadership culture and working environment.

One particularly welcome development is the commitment to a 'Think Yes' agenda. The Council can take months to deal with requests from the public and sometimes they are not dealt with at all. This is often not an issue of capacity but rather the red tape of council policies getting in the way.

This change would delegate decisions to staff at all levels of the Council and give them the ability to 'Think Yes' to fix problems for local residents. Where this has been implemented by housing associations and other organisations elsewhere, not only has staff and customer satisfaction gone through the roof, but there has been no significant increase in the cost of providing services.

Westfield Development

As readers will know, the developers plan to route their heavy-goods vehicles along the B9097 through Kinross-shire and past Loch Leven. While Fife will see employment benefits, the negative effects on the environment, local economy and residents in Kinross-shire will be significant.

Following a meeting facilitated by Portmoak Community Council, my ward colleagues and I wrote to the developers of the Westfield development in Fife in early December. We would like to see the proposed community liaison group established as soon as possible.

We also requested that this group had an independent chair. It is important that it does not become a talking shop but a forum where the local community can voice their genuinely held concerns. Unfortunately, at the time of writing, we continue to await a response.

Micro Business Funds

The council administration is committed to supporting our rural communities. Last year, significant investments in our revenue budget were made towards meeting this objective. More recently, we announced two new funds of £100,000 each to support small businesses in our rural areas.

One fund will provide small grants while the other will provide small loans. This will allow us to recycle the same pot of money to support more businesses in the future. These are two great initiatives, which will help these local businesses with the costs of expansion.

Councillor Callum Purves



Luke Graham MP

I would like to start by wishing you a Happy New Year. In Westminster we have returned to a challenging few weeks. The Brexit debate and negotiations are coming to a head, and now the tougher decisions have to be made. I campaigned for the UK to remain in the EU,



but I recognise Remain lost the referendum, and having been elected on a manifesto that we would leave the EU I have not tried to frustrate Brexit. I have therefore respected my manifesto pledge, while championing a close future economic relationship, supporting measures to protect EU citizen rights, environmental and social protections and continued scientific and security cooperation Post-Brexit.

Last week I did vote for the Prime Minister's deal, as the vote before the House of Commons was only whether or not to vote for the Prime Minister's Deal, there were no other options. It honoured the UK-wide referendum result to leave the EU, while keeping as close as possible economic relationships to protect our prosperity. The provisions within the Withdrawal Agreement on EU & British citizens' rights, as well as data management and mutual recognition of qualifications means that we can provide certainty and protection for individuals and businesses. I also stand against a 'no deal' outcome that could damage our prosperity.

I believe a second referendum would be an abdication of my responsibility as your MP, and I believe it is the responsibility of MPs to find a way through this. Referendums have done little to settle the problems or divisions in our society, often making them worse. To be elected as an MP is an honour, but it comes with the responsibility of decision making which I take incredibly seriously and for which I am ultimately accountable.

However, with the Prime Minister's deal now voted down, I will be working with colleagues from across the House of Commons to develop alternative options and identify a route forward for Parliament and our country.

Despite Brexit inevitably taking up so much of our time, I have still been working on other important issues to the constituency in Parliament. The UK Agriculture Bill remains a major concern for me. This leaves Scottish farmers facing the prospect of not being able to receive the payments they are due, as well as being excluded from the UK framework. I will continue to work on finding a solution, and in the mean time I hope the SNP administration in Edinburgh include Scotland in the Bill.

Finally, I have been working closely with Perth & Kinross Council on a number of local issues, including economic development opportunities stemming from the City Deal, which I hope to be able to share soon.

As always, if you have any issues or concerns please contact me at my office on 2 Comrie Street, Crieff, by telephone (01764 680384) or by email (luke.grahamoffice@parliament.uk).

Luke Graham MP

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.

Councillor Richard Watters

Cleish Primary School is within the current group of schools being evaluated as part of the School Estate Review. This appraisal will happen over the next few months and will set out the options available for the school.



Given that the school has an occupancy level of around 80 per cent and is performing well, the only reason for its inclusion in the review is the standard of the old portable cabins at the school. The poor condition of these cabins means the school buildings are given a D classification, reference to the poor state they are in, while the overall classification for the school is C.

Having seen first-hand the distress caused both to the parents and to the children when a 'potential closure option' threat is placed on a school, I have written to the convener of the 'Life Long Learning' committee. I have requested that any option for closure be removed from the options and I have requested that the review should focus on what is needed to bring the school up to the required standard—by evaluating the options for replacing the old portable cabins. This focus will eliminate any unnecessary distress for parents and children during the review process.

The final deadline for the Community Investment Fund is 15 February, so there is still time to submit applications for a share of the £50,000. The fund will be distributed through the Kinross-shire Action Partnership. The fund is aimed at dealing with inequalities within the area. These might be financial or they could be due to rural issues, age issues, or any other issue that creates inequalities.

As previously mentioned, the SPARKs group are currently visiting businesses in Kinross-shire to see if they would like to participate in the scheme sponsored by the Action Partnership to provide ramps and bells to premises that have access difficulties for people using wheelchairs or mobility scooters. A number of businesses have already signed up. If your business would like to participate in the scheme, please get in touch.

Councillor Richard Watters

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Councillor Willie Robertson

Housing Pressures

I am growing more and more concerned about the seemingly never-ending housing applications coming forward in the Kinross and Milnathort area. Currently we have large-



scale house building underway at Lathro Farm (300 houses) and the old high school site in Kinross (91) houses. Planning consent has been granted for another 77 houses on the land north of Linden Park, Milnathort. Now Persimmon Homes have lodged a pre-application notice for the second phase at Lathro (100 houses) and Springfield Homes are about to do likewise for the Pitdownies site at Milnathort (67 houses). This comes to a total of 635 houses from these sites alone. The draft Local Development Plan says that the Kinross-shire area needs just over 800 houses built between now and 2016 and 2028. At the rate we are going all these houses could be built by 2020!

I have written to the Head of Development Management in the Council asking if we can put the brakes on and hold back on housing sites with only outline consent from getting full consent until we have assessed the impact that the houses currently being built, or consented to be built, are likely to have on our schools and primary health services.

Kinross-shire is a great place to live and bring up children, but without care being taken we can easily spoil what we all come here to enjoy. Very rapid housebuilding in Dunfermline has put huge pressures on their local facilities, especially schools and health services. I most certainly don't want that to happen here.

Pot holes

Please report any potholes you see either direct to the Council (01738 476476) or to me and I will get them fixed. The ones reported to me recently in Mill Street have now been filled.

Road Resurfacing

Station Road has now been resurfaced and Green Road is about to be done too. I have asked for Lomond Mews to be resurfaced. This should be attended to in the next financial year.

Kinross High Street

I was shocked to be sent the attached photograph by a constituent of the vehicle priority notice outside the Salutation Hotel which had been flattened by a car. I have reported it and it will be fixed and the bollards replaced. The single carriageway was introduced here as previously the pavement outside the Salutation was very narrow and dangerous for pedestrians. It is frightening to think of the consequences if someone had been standing near the priority notice when it was struck.

I have also reported the subsidence in the road outside the opticians on the High Street. After initial inspections it is thought that it could be a Scottish Water problem. However, the Council will repair it and recharge whichever utility company is thought to be responsible.

Councillor Willie Robertson



The flattened vehicle priority notice outside the Salutation Hotel

Tangent Support Cycling Without Age

Kinross-shire Community Sport Hub's Cycling Without Age project was delighted to receive a donation of £200 from Kinross Tangent. The ladies from Tangent, a social group for women aged over 45, raised this in 2018 by manning food and water stations at the Kinross Sportive Cycling Event.



Kirsteen Ross of the Trishaws group said, 'we are really looking forward to commencing our programme of rides for elderly people in the local area in March this year. Our pilot cyclists have been very busy completing their training phase becoming familiar with the new trishaw bikes and the planned routes. If anyone would like further information about

accessing trishaw rides or wishes to make a donation to help us offer this free service to more people, they can email KinrossTrishaws@gmail.com.'

Some of the volunteer pilots (in their hi-visibility jackets) who will be delivering free rides for elderly people in Kinross-shire.

Kirsteen Ross of the Trishaws group receives the cheque from members of Kinross Tangent

Kinross Primary Pupil Wins School Calendar Competition

Roseanna Cunningham was delighted to meet with Jocelyn Paterson, a Primary 4 pupil at Kinross Primary School, who was a winner in the Scarf School Calendar competition. Her winning picture is featured on the January page in the calendar. Scarf is an award-winning social enterprise providing advice and support to of households across the north-east of Scotland on the subject of energy, fuel poverty and affordable warmth. For the past 15 years they have been running a school calendar competition which encourages children to consider energy use in the home and to nurture a generation of energy-conscious individuals. Roseanna Cunningham said, 'Many congratulations to Jocelyn for her success, I am sure that her family and her school are really proud of her. With Scottish Water partnering with Scarf to encourage children to save energy by using water wisely and to ensure the next generation values the water on which Scotland depends, it was appropriate that saving water was the theme of Jocelyn's design.'



Left to right: John Swinney MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Education; Jocelyn Paterson, Roseanna Cunningham MSP, Thane Lawrie, Chief Executive of Scarf and Brian Lironi, Director of Corporate Affairs for Scottish Water

Employers Urged to Reap Benefits of Young Workforce Initiative

Increasing numbers of young people and employers in Perth and Kinross are benefitting from a major initiative to boost skills in the workplace. The Developing Young Workforce (DYW) initiative is investing around £500,000 to help more young people into work and ensure employers have access to the skills they need to grow. The DYW programme in Perth and Kinross is encouraging more of the region's 6000 employers to offer work experience opportunities.

New figures from DYW Perth and Kinross show:

- 175 new employers have joined DYW programmes in the past 12 months
- a tenfold increase in the number of Foundation Apprenticeships for 5th and 6th year students in partnership with Perth College UHI
- dozens of additional new employers now offer work placements to young people following the very successful #LearnaLiving social media campaign
- more young people entered employment direct from school in 2017-18, with 26.2% taking this route into work, exceeding the 2018-19 target of 25.5%.

Resolutions, an innovative mentoring pilot programme, has encouraged a number of young people with personal challenges choose to either stay on at school, take up a college place or to embark on an apprenticeship or secure employment.

Steven Stewart, Chair of the Perth and Kinross DYW Regional Board, said: 'More local employers are taking advantage of the DYW initiative. They realise the wide range of benefits to be gained from building the skills of our young people. However, we invite more businesses to also get involved. Companies coming into the region are contributing to skills development by sharing their experiences and resources with students and teachers. This goes much deeper than talks and careers fairs and involves delivering activities and programmes that are

inspiring pupils as young as 13 to follow in their footsteps. We've seen a real change over the past 12 months in the number of young people taking up an apprenticeship route. An important part of our message is that there is no wrong path for a child after school - getting a job, an apprenticeship, a college or university place or starting up in business on your own are all equally positive destinations.

The young workforce initiative is making a real difference to employers who are solving recruitment challenges and securing a pipeline of talented young people who can make a positive contribution to business growth. Developing the Young Workforce is also a great way for companies to demonstrate their commitment to their local community and to young people.

Mr Stewart went on to say, 'This is a hugely exciting time for our region. With Tay Cities Deal and a new drive to promote the City of Perth, this is the ideal time for businesses to get involved in developing our future workforce.'



* Serving You Well *

We are grateful to all our outlets who help support the community by stocking the Newsletter

Giacopazzi's, Kinross

Giacopazzi's at Sands House, Kinross provides a great range of food to go, delicious Italian pizza, groceries, speciality wines, beers, spirits, tobacco, newspapers and magazines. There is also an in-store bakery, fresh coffee, as well as PayPoint, Lottery and ATM. Of course, there is also a counter for their famous homemade and delicious Italian ice cream.

This month Julia and David from the *Kinross Newsletter* met up with owners Joanna and Franck, store Manager Mairi and their team of friendly colleagues to find out about everything going on at the busy Giacopazzi's store in Kinross.

Joanna started off by telling us about the store's ethos which is tailored to the dynamic Kinross community; 'As more and more family homes have been built nearby we noticed that customers were looking for something different from their local store. We've really focused on our food-to-go offering, the in-store bakery as well as the traditional convenience store range. We want to make sure we provide exactly what our customers want.'

Franck adds; 'Our focus on the best freshly prepared food to go, along with quality bean to cup coffee has really proved very popular with our customers so it was a natural step to introduce freshly oven baked homemade Italian pizzas to our store

in Kinross. The flour for our freshly prepared pizza dough comes from Emiglia-Romagna, an Italian region famed for its food production.' Franck went on to tell us; 'We are developing exciting side dishes to go with the on Sundays, making sure we are here when our customers need us.

Joanna and Franck are well-known faces in the Kinross-shire community and the business supports the Making a Difference Locally programme,



From left to right are Franck, Agnes, Joanna and Mairi

pizza and will be running a series of offers for our customers as the range develops.'

Store Manager, Mairi, explained; 'We are right in the centre of a local community, with great car parking, and well located for customers passing between Milnathort and Kinross. We open from 6 am until 10pm every weekday, from 7am until 10pm on a Saturday and from 8am until 10pm

which partners Broke not Broken, the Kinross-shire and Glenfarg Community Food Bank. In addition to the fun and educational events they hold for local families in the store, they had a really successful 100-mile charity fundraising cycle tour.

Giacopazzi's Kinross really has put itself into the heart of the Kinross Community – the Kinross Newsletter is, of course, proudly stocked here. Agnes, one of the customer service team told us; 'We have customers coming in throughout the month to get the latest copy of the Newsletter – it is so popular'. She went on to say; 'As well as finding out the details of all the local community events, new householders moving into the area like to see the local adverts – a great way for them to find out about the local services on offer.'

So if you stay nearby, or are passing, why not pop in to see for yourself what's on offer in Giacopazzi's Kinross. Joanna, Franck, Mairi and their team really look forward to seeing you when you next visit. The pizza comes highly recommended!



Freshly oven-baked pizzas are a delicious treat!

Penney's Wood

On 2 December a ceremony was held at Penney's Wood, a community woodland in Crook of Devon, to celebrate some recent work carried out there, with the support of a Community Benefit Grant from the Rumbling Bridge Hydro project. The project included construction of wooden benches and new wooden signage at the three entrances to the woodland.

The engraving on the signs was by a training project in Aberfeldy, and they were constructed by local volunteer Alan Tennant. The main north entrance on the BackCrook Road has an attractive noticeboard with a slate roof, which will be used for notices about activities there and work from the Primary School about their time there. A ribbon around the noticeboard was cut, and then members of the woodland committee and visiting public enjoyed mulled wine and snacks afterwards.

25kg of daffodil bulbs were also planted at the woodland in November by Crook and Drum Growing Together with help from the PKC Unpaid Work Team. We hope these will be enjoyed by everyone who walks in the woodland in the spring.



Alan Tennant who designed and made the noticeboards with Janine.



Rory Sheehan, a retiring committee member, opening the noticeboard with Janine Brodie our Chairperson



The noticeboard

Positive inspection report for Kinross Primary School

A recent Education Scotland inspection visit to Kinross Primary School and Nursery Class has found many positives in the work of the school, according to the inspectors' report published on Tuesday 22 January 2019.

Education Scotland visited the school, noting a number of strengths:

- Courteous, respectful children, who are eager to learn and can talk with confidence about their learning;
- High levels of attainment in literacy and numeracy;
- Strong and supportive leadership;
- Very effective partnership working, providing children with significant skills for life, learning and work;
- The nursery class's carefully planned learning environment The report also covers the inspectors' evaluation of the school and nursery class using four national quality indicators (QIs). Across the school and nursery, all areas were evaluated as 'very good'. This covers (at the primary stages) leadership of change; learning, teaching and assessment; raising attainment and achievement, and ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion. For the nursery class, the QIs comprise leadership of change;

learning, teaching and assessment; securing children's progress, and ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion. It is of note that the areas for improvement identified by the inspection team were already being progressed by the school

The Council will continue to keep parents and carers informed of progress as part of its normal arrangements for reporting on the quality of schools. Lifelong Learning Convener, Councillor Caroline Shiers said: 'This report makes for welcome reading as it shows the commitment of the school to delivering a high quality education. Congratulations go to the Headteacher, all her staff, all the children and the wider school community for their hard work and enthusiasm.'

A full summary of the report is available at https://education.gov.scot/inspection-reports/perth-and-kinross/5345227.

Newsletter Deadlines

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

Roseanna Cunningham MSP

Roseanna welcomes town centre support

From big cities to village main streets, there is no doubt that town centres are having a hard time. Whether it is big chains or independent traders, shops are closing and



not being replaced, properties are lying empty, and in some cases allowed to fall into disrepair. There are all sorts of reasons for this, such as changes to the manner in which we do our shopping, and it is not a problem that is restricted to one area, or indeed country.

However, that doesn't mean that steps can't be taken to address the problem and I am pleased by two recent developments which could be important tools in the High Street fight back.

I am really pleased, for example, that the draft Scottish Government Budget contained the announcement by Finance Secretary, Derek Mackay MSP, of a new ring-fenced fund – available through the local authority settlement – and I hope that Perth & Kinross Council will take advantage of this £50 million Town Centre Fund.

The proposal aims to drive local economic growth by helping town centres fund projects such as re-purposing buildings for retail, business and community enterprise, while improving access and infrastructure.

It is proposals like this one that saw the Federation of Small Businesses, described their Scottish Government's plans as a 'no-gimmick budget at a difficult time', and I really hope that parliamentary colleagues from across the political divide will get behind these Budget proposals to ensure that town centres like Kinross can benefit from this boost.

The second development came in a report from the Scottish Land Council in which they outline proposals for compulsory sales order powers which would apply to sites and buildings which have been vacant or derelict 'for an undue period of time' and are having a detrimental impact on the surrounding community.

I am sure that we can all think of situations where these powers could be brought into play.

The Commission said current powers, including compulsory purchase orders, leave a gap as they require a clear plan in place for use, which the new orders would plug.

Bringing forward these orders within the course of the parliament was an SNP manifesto pledge in 2016 and the Commission has been developing a proposal to form the basis for a Scottish Government consultation.

The SLC report foresees the orders applying to small gap sites, derelict commercial buildings and empty homes.

The commission's report suggests council officers and councillors should identify potential CSO sites and proposes community groups are able to ask planning authorities to investigate a site for CSO.

This is a power of last resort that has been missing from the armoury of local councils for a long time. It really could make an important difference.

Roseanna Cunningham

'ALTERED IMAGES'

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Roseanna slams changes to pension credit

Roseanna Cunningham has slammed the government for 'sneaking out' changes to state pensions, which could affect older couples in her constituency to the tune of £7000 per year. Changes to benefits for 'mixed-age couples' - which will be introduced from 15 May 2019 – were quietly released on the eve of Theresa May's Brexit deal defeat. Currently, couples can claim Pension Credit – an income related benefit meant to top up the state pension as long as one partner is of pension age. Universal Credit will reverse this - meaning a 'mixed-age couple' will be defined by the working-age person, not the pensioner. Experts have claimed that the changes could leave some pensioners almost £7000 worse off per year, and Age UK warned that it could leave 'some of the poorest pensioners paying a hefty price for having a younger partner'. Ms Cunningham said: 'It is shocking that these changes mean that pensioners with partners who are not yet of pension age are set to lose out on hundreds of pounds each month. Those who may be affected by this change in my Perthshire South & Kinross-shire constituency deserve to know about it, and have been let down by government attempts to 'sneak out' the news at 7.20pm on the night of the Brexit vote'.

Scottish Parliament marks 20th anniversary

As the Scottish Parliament prepares to mark 20 years since it was established, Roseanna Cunningham is highlighting a search that is underway to locate young people born on 1 July 1999 and so will turn 20 on the same day as the Parliament. Ms Cunningham said '2019 is a special year for the Scottish Parliament as it will be 20 years since it came into being. To mark this important milestone, a series of events will be taking place throughout the year and, in particular, an event will be held in the Chamber on Saturday 29 June and the Parliament will host an open day to which the public are invited. On the Parliament's 10th anniversary, children who were born on the 1st of July 1999 were invited to join in the celebrations and the parliamentary authorities are looking for these young people so that they can be invited back to join in the 20th anniversary celebrations. If there is anyone in my constituency who shares their birthday with the parliament I would be delighted to hear from them and pass on their details.'

A NEW NAME & A NEW WEBSITE

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Dog Walking and Pet Care Services

Claire Murison BSC (Hons) Animal Science 10 years Vet Nursing Experience Insured & References Available

Tel: 01577 830588 claire@thehappydogcompany.net www.thehappydogcompany.net The Happy Dog Company is also on Facebook

Kinross-shire is a Fairtrade County

Liz Smith, MSP

One of my most memorable visits last year was to Loch Leven's Larder.

I made the trip to the food outlet in Kinross to coincide with them unveiling their newly extended food hall, bakery and tasting room in December.



More than 150 guests attended the event at Loch Leven's Larder, including local councillors. The extension to the business included a butchery, run by Hunter's of Kinross, a new 40-seater Greenhouse café, a 2.5km loop around the surrounding fields, a new bakery, tasting room, car park extension and plaza style entrance.

During my visit I took time to note the 'positive change' Loch Leven's Larder has made to the rural economy of the area. Loch Leven's Larder now employs more than 80 staff and it's estimated the site attracts around over 200,000 people every year.

The lochside larder is a farm diversification project in Kinross with a restaurant, shop and delicatessen. It was set up in part with the help of Scottish Rural Development Programme funds.



Liz with Emma and Robin Niven, owners of Loch Leven's Larder

It was great to hear first-hand of how Loch Leven's Larder are such a successful and thriving business. Emma and Robin Niven, the owners of the larder, first opened their doors back in 2005, after running a family farm at the beautiful site.

They began the food business with just seven staff, a café and market stall selling vegetables which were grown on the farm. Since then the business has gone through a series of developments.

Being situated on the Loch Leven Heritage Trail and near the M90 motorway, they are in an ideal location.

The extension at Loch Leven's Larder was achieved with the help of the Scottish Environment Protection Agency, Scottish Natural Heritage, Perth and Kinross Council and Portmoak Community Council.

At the opening night to mark the extension, it was great to hear how Mrs Niven had created sketches and mood boards and she told me she was delighted to see the team who worked on the project spend so much time and endeavour on it.

Loch Leven's Larder is a great success story and shows how small businesses can expand if given the right help and funding. Mr and Mrs Niven have worked very hard to grow the business, aiming for a food outlet with a family atmosphere serving healthy, locally-produced food.

They are now one of the biggest employers in the Kinrossshire area, with some of their staff having worked with them from their conception.

Loch Leven's Larder is a great example of a local success story and I was impressed by younger employees being able to develop their skills and build their confidence in the process. Mr and Mrs Niven are the third generation of the family to work on the land at Channel of Pittendreich after Arthur and Agnes Baird were given the tenancy back in 1934.

Liz Smith MSP

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

HUSBAND & WIFE HANDY TEAM READY FOR ACTION

Can't be bothered? Don't have the time for those jobs around the house?
Painting, Decorating, Repairs interior/exterior Slab & Mono block, layouts/repairs Major & minor repairs considered Flat pack assemble assistance
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CONTACT / TEXT us on

07532 811723 / 07532 814124 Email us at: mrandmrs.readyforaction@gmail.com

free quotations reliable quick service 'get plastered with wayne' 92 high street, kinross ky13 8aj 01577 861 903 or 07738 514 342

Community Website

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

Planning a special community event?

Check dates in the diary at www.kinross.cc/diary first to avoid clashes. Email admin@kinross.cc to have details of your event entered in the online diary.

Early learning and childcare in Kinross-shire

Decisions about childcare are often of concern to working parents before their children even arrive! There are many different options to choose from, including nursery, childminder, au pair or nanny. It's important to do your research so that you are well informed and confident that you are making the right decisions regarding the care of your children. You will also need to consider costs, flexibility, and the quality of the relationships your child will have with their care-givers.

There are passionate advocates for both nurseries and childminders. Nurseries are known to provide a stimulating and sociable environment for young children. Childminders provide a home-from-home nurturing environment which is shown to help children form healthy, emotional attachments. Nannies offer a high level of flexible, individual care but as such do tend to be more expensive.

You may find it helpful to visit the childcare providers in your area. Ask to see their most recent inspection report. Providers should be registered with the Care Inspectorate, who are responsible for monitoring how childcare services support the health and wellbeing of children. Inspection reports from all registered providers are available on the Care Inspectorate website.

Costs

A number of schemes are available to help with the costs of childcare. Some help may be available in the form of tax credits. Tax free childcare assistance is available from the government via childcare vouchers through your employer (this scheme ended in September 2018 for new applications but continues for those already in the scheme). They are also available through an online account, that the government will add £2 to for every £8 paid in by the working parent. More information about what schemes are available and how to apply can be found online at www.mygov.scot.

Funding

All children aged three and four years old are eligible for free part-time early learning and childcare. Local authorities must ensure that places are available for all three-and-four-year olds whose parents want them to attend. Children whose birthdays are:

- on or between 1 March and 31 August are eligible for a place in the autumn term
- on or between 1 September and 31 December are eligible for a place in the spring term
- on or between 1 January and the last day of February are eligible for a place in the summer term.
- The entitlement starts from the beginning of the school term immediately following the child's third birthday and continues until the end of the school term before they are eligible to start primary school.

Some children who are two years old are also eligible for free pre-school childcare. Funded early learning and childcare will be offered if you: care for a child who is 'looked after' by the local authority, or are a kinship carer, guardian, or are in receipt of a qualifying benefit.

Children who are eligible for free early learning and childcare are entitled to 600 hours of funded early learning and childcare over the school year. This usually means that a child is offered 16 hours a week during term time, throughout the school year. These hours can be used with local authority nursery schools, nursery classes in primary schools, local authority or private day nurseries, nursery classes in independent schools, playgroups, childminders, child and family centres run by social work departments, community childcare centres and college, university or workplace nurseries. Not all childcare services offer funded early learning and childcare places. The Scottish Family Information Service at www.families.scot provides free, impartial information on early learning and childcare services throughout Scotland.

Registration for nursery places in 2019

If your child was born between 1 March 2015 and 28 February 2017 registration for Early Learning & Childcare (ELC) nursery places for August 2019 intake, opened on 21 January 2019. There are also places available for eligible 2-year-old children in a number of local authority nurseries.

Apply as soon as possible

Please apply for your child's place as soon as possible. The initial registration period will close on Friday 15 February 2019. Applications received after this date will still be considered but will not be included in the initial allocation of places.

Easy registration process

Registration couldn't be easier. Simply select the correct application form for the nursery you wish to apply to from Perth & Kinross Council's website www.pkc.gov.uk, print it off and complete it in advance.

Remember to take correct documentation

Completing the form in advance will save you time at the nursery where you wish to register your child. Remember to take the correct documentation with you when you visit the nursery of your choice to deliver your application form.

All applications must be accompanied by your child's original birth certificate and proof of address.

1140 hours of ELC

Children will be eligible for 1140 hours of flexible free early learning and childcare if they currently receive a Support for Children and Families place, live within locality of an eligible setting or if the family receive any of the benefits listed on the website. Proof of these benefits will also be required if 1140 hours are being applied for.

Details of the Council's partner provider nurseries can also be found on the website.

For support and further information on any aspect of the application process contact Education & Children's Services at Perth & Kinross Council on 01738 476200 or e-mail: ecsschools@pkc.gov.uk

Kinross After School/Breakfast Club

Breakfast club 7.45am-9am, and after school club 3pm-5.55pm. Jo Masson: 07721 096173 kinrossafterschoolclub@gmail.com

The Kids Club, Milnathort

After school childcare for P1-14 years old. Term time and all school holidays with the exception of Christmas. Tel: 01577 863143

Rosemount Nursery

55 High St, Kinross KY13 8AA

Tel: 01577 864408

Email: info@rosemountnurserykinross.co.uk

Rosemount is a unique small nursery. Established since 1998, they work in partnership with all families and partners maintaining the ethos of the nursery as a valued part of the community. With a strong commitment to contributing to the development of quality and diversity of childcare and early education, they work collaboratively with other providers who share these values.

Embedded in the approach is a commitment to outdoor play and learning within the community. Building from a philosophy of a child-centred play-based approach, they plan with children to provide a broad and balanced range of experiences and opportunities that support and encourage curiosity, inquiry and creativity in a nurturing and caring environment.

Visit to find out what makes them special.

Out of School & Holiday Club

Rosemount has a fun and exciting club which provides a drop off and collection service to and from Kinross Primary School each morning and afternoon. During term time they provide supervised homework support and an after-school activity programme to include art and crafts, games console, sport, outdoor play and much more! During holiday time the club includes all of the above as well as days out.



Childcare as a career?

The Childcare Strategy Team provides support to people who are considering childminding as a career by offering free introductory sessions and pre-registration courses as well as start-up grants.

Becoming a Childminder - Introductory Sessions Thursday 14 March 9.30-11.30am or 7-9pm

Wednesday 28 August 9.30am-11.30am or 7-9pm

Morning and evening sessions are offered each day, with a creche available for the morning sessions if required.

Introductory sessions give the opportunity to find out exactly what childminding involves; it is much more than babysitting. Consider the impact working as a childminder would have on your home and family life, discuss the advantages and disadvantages of looking after children in your own home, think about whether childminding would suit you as an individual.

The sessions, which are held in the Community Wing at Perth Grammar School, are all very informal and involve quite a lot of group discussion.

Pre-registration training courses

Attending a childminder pre-registration course will give you all the information you need to get started as a childminder, including copies of relevant national documents, templates for business paperwork and sample policies. It is beneficial to attend an introductory session before booking on a course, however, we appreciate that may not always be possible and will do our best to make other arrangements to discuss the topics covered with people who are keen to attend.

There is no charge for the introductory sessions or for the preregistration courses. Please contact the Childcare Strategy Team for further information or to book places. There is also a Men In Childcare course which starts in April. It is open to any man living in Perth & Kinross.

Childcare Strategy Team, Perth Grammar School Community Wing, Perth, PH1 5AZ Email childcare@pkc.gov.uk Tel 01738 472350

Left: Rosemount children visiting the residents at Ashley House

Registered Childminders in the Kinross-shire Area

Go to www.families.scot for full listings Go to www.careinspectorate.com for inspection reports

Linda McNaughton 07703 199646

Jen's Childminding: 07753 204791 jencolliar@gmail.com Katy's Childcare: 07923 589957 kspain15@hotmail.co.uk Bernadette Cannon: 07852 509781

bernadette.cannon@btinternet.com

Sam Wilson childminding: 07748 186132 samlaing@hotmail.com

Laura Logan: 07804 209548 lauralogan965@gmail. Lynne Marshall: 07864 291 354 lynne8yt@gmail.com Mar Dyer: 07508 704589 pnrjmj@hotmail.co.uk

Natalie Loughney: 07884 006491 njloughney@hotmail.co.uk Hannah Macdonald, Broadacres Childcare: Contact via P&K Family

Information Service 0345 601 4477

Helen Stoker (Helen@home childcare): 07742 494237

helen.stoker@gmail.com

Shona Black: 01577 865334 shonablack63@yahoo.co.uk

Elizabeth Crawford (Bizzy Lizzy): 07712 348985 Leah Gordon: 07920 016604 leahgouick@hotmail.com Debbie Kennedy (Kidlets): 07545 339494 debileighs@hotmail.com Lisa's Childminding, Balado: Contact via P&K Family Information Service 0345 601 4477

Shaena Gudmundsson Childminding 07922 865 488 shaenagudmundsson16@gmail.com

Laura Smith, Country Kids Childcare: 07795 606341 Lisa Marshall's childminding: 07773 177393

Audrey Nelson: Contact via P&K Family Information Service

0345 601 4477

Milnathort

Wendy's Childminding 07858 047 543 loomacdon@gmail.com Stacey's Childminding 03456 014477 or staceymacd@hotmail.co.uk Deirdre Hutson: 07376 489356 deirdrehutson@gmail.com Little Buds: 07771 365702 littlebudsteam@outlook.com

Elizabeth Irwin: 07889 958 843

Elaine Crawford: 01577 864261 elcraw20@aol.com Lynne Bennet 01577 865109 sandyandlynne@talktalk.net

Joanne Kitson: 07946 541748/01577 863993

Glenfarg

Kerry Davidson: 01577 830130 kerrydavidson73@hotmail.com

Sarah (Free Range Kids) Fossoway: 07810 077182

Lauriston Nursery Win Investors In People Award

Lauriston Nursery is delighted to have been awarded an Investors In Young People Standard Accreditation 2018. This recognises their continued commitment to the recruitment, support, development and retention of young people in their business as well as their investment in training within the nursery sector. The nursery recognise the positive influence that young people can bring to their business, and applauds their drive and enthusiasm. They are keen to continue to strive to nurture their potential and support their growth.



Lauriston Nursery Ltd is a family owned business which has been trading since February 2009. They currently employ 43 staff within modern, purpose-designed nurseries, providing care for over 140 children each day. They were the first nursery in Fife to operate Connect software, which was a large investment, for both staff and parents to be involved with the learning journeys of children. Electronic

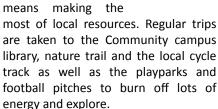
Personal Learning Plans (PLP's) linked to iConnect allow parents to be informed every step of the way with their child's progress and development.

They believe that investment is the key to success and this ethos runs through all that they do to continue to establish their nurseries as the best available.

Lauriston Nursery Kinross provides a friendly, fun, secure and stimulating environment. The happiness and safety of the children are their absolute priority, and they work within present educational frameworks and the national curriculum. They also receive support and guidance from the education department within Perth & Kinross Council.

Lauriston are the only nursery in Kinross to offer safe, dedicated off street parking for drop offs and pick-ups and are open 52 weeks of the year from the hours of 7.30am to 6pm. The nursery at Kinross is conveniently situated within enclosed, secure gardens for the children to enjoy and explore. A purpose-built nursery offers a safe environmentally friendly option. Hazards have been designed out from the start, such as staircases, hot radiators, heavy doors and a lack of internal clear visibility and daylight. Lauriston Nursery is a single storey building and gets its heating from a renewable energy source. Utilising underfloor heating avoids the need for dangerous hot radiators. With a high proportion of internal glazing combined with secure CCTV the Management and staff can view and monitor all areas to ensure the safety of children.

A high emphasis on outdoor learning means making the





You do not have to make a set appointment to come and see the nursery. Lauriston firmly believe that first impressions count, and have an open-door policy so that you are able to pop in at a time convenient to you, so why not come along and see what they have to offer?

From January 2019, pre-school funding is now also available at Lauriston Nursery in Kinross to meet the demands of a growing need for quality childcare provision in the area.

Lauriston Nursery @ Kinross Lathro, Kinross, KY13 8SY Tel: 01577 383838 mail@lauristonkinross.com





Please mention The Newsletter when answering advertisements

Hayfield Woodland Project

This spring, Kinross Primary School and volunteers from the Potager Garden are venturing on an exciting new project to renovate the Hayfield Wildlife area, which is adjacent to the Primary School and behind the tennis club. This area is situated in the heart of the town and was originally designed as a green space for the community to enjoy and a hub for wildlife. Since then, it has become overgrown with invasive plants and has not been maintained as a community garden. Our vision for the Hayfield is to develop a sustainable, intergenerational project. This will focus on creating an outdoor learning space for teachers and pupils to work in, composting, boosting local biodiversity and providing crucial habitats for a whole range of wildlife. Funding for this project will be predominantly from donations, grants and fundraising by Kinross Primary School. Hopefully, we will use as many recycled materials as possible to build seating areas, bird houses and feeders, with water harvesting, compost heaps and much more. We aim to bring people together from all aspects of the community to help us on our journey of renovating the garden and also to set up a committee to provide support throughout the project and maintain the woodland and grassland to ensure sustainability. If you would be interesting in supporting this project in any way, please feel free to get in touch with Sally McNicoll, Kinross Primary Teacher at KinrossPrimary@pkc.gov.uk or with

Amanda James at amandajames1577@gmail.com. We look forward to updating you with the progress of this community project and hopefully welcoming you to enjoy the garden in the near future.



The Hayfield Wildlife area is adjacent to Kinross Primary School, behind the tennis club

Low Impact Max Benefit

I've been exercising my whole life, starting off at school doing cross country running, judo, and circuit training. It was while living in Wuhan City, China that I discovered exercise is bad for you. I was having a friendly competition with a Chinese body builder on a machine called the Leg Press in a local gym. I was determined to win and I did, not realising the consequences to my knees and ankles on my return to Scotland a year later.

While working at an equestrian centre I thought I had the best part time job, fresh air and working with animals and getting paid too! I would cycle a few miles up hill and one morning I was having shooting pains in my ankles; they were so severe I had to go home and recover. Sadly I had to resign from that job as the pain in my ankles was excruciating.

Even after sessions with a physio therapist, nothing could be done to relieve the pain. What did resolve the problem was the most unexpected solution. I bought my first motorbike and, within a few months, my ankle pains had disappeared. So, by cutting down on cycling, the motorcycle was relieving my tendons which had been badly torn in China.

From then on I could no longer go on runs or hillwalking - but my obsession didn't stop there. When I lived in Edinburgh I started doing Body Pump classes. To my astonishment, the women who taught the classes could lift heavier weights than me, and, if you're a male, this can cause serious ego deflation. So I decided to fast track myself to catch up try to surpass them



Loch Leven paths: perfect for safe cycling

by a few kilos, which I did. However, I would then find that I was tearing the tendons in my arms, so had to give up on the Body Pump, ending up doing no exercise.

Many years later, while living in Kinross, it was suggested that I do some walking, just 20 minutes a day. Fortunately for me there's a path forming a circuit round the industrial estate - it's flat and full of nature. I tried this and found that I could get some really good aerobic exercise, and it wasn't hurting my knees or ankles.

I also discovered that I can ride my mountain bike round the Loch on a path that's completely safe from cars.

Perhaps my favourite low impact exercise is when I'm in the sea with my buddies at Perth Sub Aqua Club. Finning is a fantastic aerobic training for the muscles and you really feel the benefit to your mind and body the next day, that feeling you get when your body appreciates having a good workout.

I've since added a couple of free weights and discovered that they provide me with the same exercise as I would get if attending a multi gym—the advantage being that I can exercise from home which is great if you have a busy schedule.

By doing low impact activities I was getting the aerobic exercise needed and reducing the pounding and tearing to my joints and tendons. Each day I take an Omega 3 fish oil capsule which helps keep the joints, brain and heart in good shape.

I now include an element of gentle movement in my Meditation Classes to spend some time on exercise that is low impact while providing maximum benefit to mind, body and spirit. Classes are Mondays and Fridays 7pm to 8pm at Kinross Community Campus.

Vincent Johnston

News from the Health Centre

First Contact Physiotherapy

A new physiotherapy service is now available for our patients The First Contact Physiotherapy service offers patient's aged 16 or over the opportunity to book an assessment with a specialist physiotherapist instead of seeing their GP. If you have pain or movement issues associated with a muscle, back or joint problem, then seeing the First Contact Physiotherapist could be right for you. Problems causing pain which have arisen because of an accident or injury within the last 48 hours, particularly where there is also a wound which



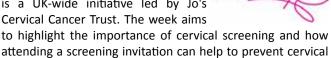
requires treatment, will still be dealt with by our practice nurses.

The First Contact Physiotherapist can assess, diagnose and give advice on your pain and movement issues. Once an examination has been carried out, they are able to refer for further treatment, arrange investigations or refer to specialists if required. First Contact Physiotherapy clinics currently take place on Thursday mornings and Friday afternoons. Please ask our Receptionists about this new service and discuss if the First Contact Physiotherapy service is right for you.

Cervical Cancer Prevention Week

Cervical Cancer Prevention Week Cancer trust is a UK-wide initiative led by Jo's Cervical Cancer Trust. The week aims

cancer.



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.jotrust.org.uk Tel: 0808 802 8000.

- In the UK, 22% of women still do not attend their cervical screening.
- Women aged 25-49 are invited for screening every 3 years.
- Women aged 50-64 are invited for screening every 5 years.
- 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 3000 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.
- Those who have had the HPV vaccine should still attend for cervical screening.
- 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.

Macbeth Currie in Merger

Macbeth Currie are pleased to announce a merger with Morgans on 1 September 2018. Since the 1980s there has been a Macbeth Currie office in Kinross and, while there may be a new name above the door, the faces remain the same. Ken Paterson remains as Solicitor, Wendy McEwan as Property Manager and Angela Prescott as Property Valuer. Margaret Scott is retiring and will be missed. Heather



Munnoch, a legal secretary from the Dunfermline office has joined the Kinross team.

The close connection between the two firms is nothing new. Morgans was established in 1993 by Blair Morgan, who, until then, had been a senior partner of Macbeth Currie. He was soon joined by the current senior partner of Morgans, Craig Bennet, who trained at Macbeth Currie under the watchful eyes of Blair and Ken. It seemed a natural choice to join forces.

The office has undergone a transformation with new signage and a new window display. The response has been very positive. Macbeth Currie are especially grateful to Nan and her team at the Day Centre for their patience during the works and to KLEO for asking the firm to continue supporting the Winter Festival with ticket sales.

Although they were unable to open the offices during last year's Christmas Market, they hope to be open and supporting that event and others in 2019.

Morgans offer help with an array of legal and property matters such as estate agency, lettings, conveyancing, financial and court matters. Please do go in for a chat or ring the office on 01577 863424. They look forward to welcoming you.



Police Box



Welcome

A warm welcome to PC Ben Clark, Community Officer, who will be working alongside PC Dougie Stapleton.

Ben lives in Clackmannanshire and is a very keen golfer.

Domestic Abuse

Police Scotland respond to a report of domestic abuse every 9 minutes.

Domestic abuse exists in all sections of our communities. Domestic abuse can exist in all types of relationships between partners and ex partners. Abusers and victims can be male or female, any race or religion and from all different types of background. Police Scotland works to a nationally agreed definition of domestic abuse which has been adopted by the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service.

This is: Any form of physical, verbal, sexual, psychological or financial abuse which might amount to criminal conduct and which takes place within the context of a relationship. The relationship will be between partners (married, cohabiting, civil partnership or otherwise) or ex-partners. The abuse may be committed in the home or elsewhere including online.

There is a common misconception that domestic abuse is just physical abuse. This is not the case. Domestic abuse can be physical, sexual, emotional or mental abuse.

Physical abuse includes:

All types of assault and physical attacks like hitting (including with objects), punching, kicking and burning.

Sexual abuse includes:

Forcing you to have sexual intercourse or forcing you to engage in sexual acts.

Mental/emotional abuse includes:

Threats (including threats of violence); criticism and name calling; coercive control, controlling what you do, where you go and who you speak to; threatening your children, isolating you from friends and family; accusing you of being unfaithful; threatening to 'out' your sexual orientation to family, friends or work colleagues; sharing or threatening to share intimate images of you with family, friends or work colleagues (commonly known as 'Revenge Porn').

Further information is available at http://www.scotland.police.uk/keep-safe/domestic-abuse/

Local Incidents

Between 7pm, Thursday 10 January and 10.30am, Sunday 13 January, a quantity of diesel was stolen from a lorry at Blairingone. (CR/1283/19)

The RSPB Centre at Vane Farm Cottages, Milnathort was broken into about 10.50pm on Saturday 19 January. It is thought the thief was disturbed during the incident as no property appears to have been stolen. (CR/1614/19)

Anyone with any information that may be useful should contact Tayside Division on 101 or any police officer, quoting the crime reference number listed at each incident. Alternatively, information can be passed anonymously via the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Police Scotland - local community

Telephone 101 for non-emergencies Community officers for Kinross-shire: POLICE

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PC Ben Clark and PC Douglas Stapleton.

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

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

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

Ways of following the Police:

Twitter: @KinrossPc or twitter.com/policescotland Facebook: www.facebook.com/PoliceScotland

Website: www.scotland.police.uk

Community Watch

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

Crime Stoppers - Telephone 0800 555 111

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



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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 5 December were: (CCllrs) B Freeman (Chair), M Blyth, J Bryson, D Colliar, D Cuthbert, B Davies, L McKay, T Stewart and I Jack, P&K Councillors (Cllrs) C Purves and W Robertson, a Kinross First Responder representative and Ken Miles (Kinross-shire Civic Trust).

Apologies were received from ClIrs R Watters and M Barnacle, CClIr D West as well as PC D Stapleton.

Police Report: In the absence of PC Stapleton, CCIIr B Freeman advised those present of a break-in at Dobbies Garden Centre, the theft of a trailer from Balado, theft of fuel from lorries at the car auction site, vandalism at Moto services and the theft of car number plates. Anyone wishing to raise any policing issues was asked to contact PC Stapleton or PC Spalding.

Kinross Community First Responders

A representative from the Community First Responders attended the meeting firstly to thank the CC for the donation of £351 made earlier in the year and to advise that discussions are ongoing within the group in respect of additional items which may be required. It was confirmed that the original donation was ring-fenced specifically for the Muirs AED but given the CC own the AED, they were happy to pay for replacement pads etc.

It was confirmed that discussions were being held with the Scottish Ambulance Service in respect of an additional two bags and funding was now in place, meaning four bags were now available in the area.

CCIIr B Davies confirmed that the AED had been used the previous week but unfortunately the outcome had not been successful. The device had been removed by the police but has since been returned with everything replaced. In respect of the laminate detailing contact telephone numbers, it was agreed that two laminates should be made, and contact details should also be added to the website. The CC were thanked for their ongoing support.

Resignation of Secretary/Replacement

Following the resignation of Eileen Thomas, members had previously been asked, at the last meeting, to consider whether they could take on the role of Secretary. There was a suggestion that members could take on the role on a quarterly basis. CCIIr B Freeman would continue to deal with emails in the meantime.

There were no volunteers for the role of Secretary and it was agreed that the item would remain on the agenda for the next meeting.

Matters Arising

Clock: Cllr C Purves confirmed that Steven Crawford had not replied to CCllr D Cuthbert. However, he had spoken to Donald Wilson who confirmed that £14,000 had been spent putting in a digital clock. Cllr W Robertson advised he had managed to speak to Steven Crawford who confirmed that the clock did not belong to PKC and had been sold along with other Council belongings. CCllr I Jack enquired as to who owned the clock tower and was advised that whole building, including the clock tower had been sold. CCllr D Cuthbert

confirmed that he would contact the factor to find out who now owned the building.

CC Boundaries: Cllr C Purves confirmed that he would reply to Portmoak CC confirming that the CC were happy to have overlapping boundaries.

Community Investment Fund: CCIIr D Cuthbert advised that he had attended the most recent meeting of the CIF Panel but ultimately felt that the Panel were not making decisions appropriately. There followed a long debate in respect of the Panel and it was agreed that CCIIr D Cuthbert would sit on the Panel. This was proposed by CCIIr I Jack and seconded by CCIIr B Freeman.

Myre Park: Cllr C Purves advised that D Stubbs had returned his call but, as yet, they had been unable to speak. A further update will be given at the next meeting.

20 MPH Signs: this work had now been completed although concern was noted in respect of the mess which had been left

Speed activation signs: these had now been connected to the electricity supply. Cllr W Robertson agreed to chase this up.

Windlestrae Hotel Planning Application: Cllr C Purves confirmed that the hotel was not on a conservation area and therefore no trees would be felled outwith the conservation area. Mr Miles advised that the planning application was to clear everything from the site in order that there was a 'blank canvas' including a new entrance and suds in a conservation area (Market Park). Ultimately it was felt that the proposals did not enhance the area.

CCIIr B Freeman asked whether a TPO should be requested for the trees and CIIr C Purves suggested that this be requested for some mature trees outwith the conservation area. CIIr Purves commented that if a TPO was requested for all trees, then this would be refused. After a long discussion, it was agreed that a letter of objection be sent to PKC on grounds of density, suds, access and trees.

Grit Bins: no response had been received and Cllr C Purves confirmed that the request was on the budget list.

Hedges/Drain at Springfield Corner: members were advised that the issue with the hedges had been reported, and that CCllr L Mackay had sent photos in respect of the drain. Cllr R Watters had chased this up.



Provost's Lamp: Cllr W Robertson confirmed that the lamp had been inspected but not repaired. There was a discussion in respect of where the lamp should be placed once it had been repaired and it was agreed that a site visit should be arranged with CC members and PKC Lighting Dept. Any CC members who were available on the day of the visit, should attend if they wish. CCllr B Freeman confirmed he would email Tracey in respect of this.

Kinross Town Centre Regeneration

CCIIr D Cuthbert requested a review of the town centre regeneration and CIIr C Purves agreed to arrange this.

Bollards: CCllr T Stewart highlighted a health and safety issue with the silver strips on the bollards where drivers are being 'blinded' when the sun shone. CCllr D Colliar reported a number of bent/missing bollards and requested that these be replaced ASAP.

Kinross-shire Forum Meeting: Cllr C Purves advised that a number of items had been discussed including Sistra - a traffic modelling system for Kinross and Milnathort. number of requests had been made in respect of redesigning junctions etc. but the meeting came to the conclusion that none of the changes would make a significant impact. CCllr J Bryson advised that there had been a request for a traffic crossing at the Muirs/Springfield Road junction to increase the safety of children walking to school. Cllr W Robertson confirmed that a number of safe routes had been identified previously and CCIIr J Bryson agreed to feed this back to the concerned parents. Cllr C Purves suggested that the information be circulated to members and suggested that this be discussed in more detail at a future meeting. It was agreed that the Plan would be circulated to members and information uploaded onto the Facebook page.

Planning Matters

Members were reminded that the Persimmon Homes meeting was arranged for Monday 10 December at Loch Leven Community Campus.

Planning Applications

18/000013/PAN: Residential development on land 300 metres North West of Lathro Farm, Kinross

18/0964/FLL: Site of former Windlestrae Hotel, Muirs, Kinross – erection of 36 dwelling houses, 8 flats, community lounge/guest suite, formation of parking areas, landscaping and associated works

18/02053/FLL: extension to dwelling house at 34 Morlich Place, Kinross, KY13 8BW

18/02044/CON: demolition of pump house at former Kinross High School, High Street, Kinross. An objection had been submitted in respect of this application from the Civic Trust. Mr Miles advised that Persimmon Homes had previously agreed to keep the pump house but were now going back on their previous decision. CCllr I Jack questioned what the purpose of retaining the pump house was and was advised that this was a historic site. CCllr I Jack went on to ask who would be responsible for this. CCllr D Cuthbert confirmed that it would be the responsibility of the person who buys the plot of land that the pump house site is on and if it was not on a plot, then it would remain the responsibility of Persimmon Homes. After discussion, it was agreed that CCIIr D Cuthbert would write to PKC objecting to the planning application and requesting that the original planning application be reinstated.

18/02032/FLL: demolition of pump house and erection of a wall at former Kinross High School, High Street, Kinross.

18/02121/IPL: residential development (in principle) at land 20m east of 27 Curate Wynd, Kinross.

18/02107/LAW: extension to dwelling house (proposed) at 19 Mavisbank, Kinross.

18/02039/FLL: extension to dwelling house at 2 Morlich Place, Kinross.

18/02172/FLL: change of use of agricultural land to form additional garden ground and erection of a fence at Craigwell, Milnathort, Kinross.

Planning Applications Determined by PKC

18/01935/FLL: change of use of agricultural land to garden ground, erection of a garage/workshop/store and formation of a vehicular access, approved.

18/01827/FLL: extension to dwelling house at 79 Lathro Park, Kinross, approved.

18/01055/CON: part demolition of buildings at Kirklands Garage, 10 High Street, Kinross, approved.

18/01054/FLL: part demolition of buildings, erection of two dwelling houses and four flats and associated works at Kirklands Garage, 10 High Street, Kinross, approved.

18/01914/PNA: extension to agricultural building at Gellybank Farm, Kinross, approved.

18/01725/FLL: alterations and extension to dwelling house at 9 Sunnypark, Kinross, approved.

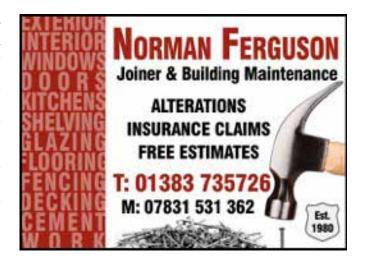
18/01690/FLL: erection of a garden building, replacement fencing, formation of decking, landscaping and associated works (in part retrospect) at 58 Simpson Wynd, Kinross, approved.

Other Planning Matters

CCIIr D Cuthbert commented that PKC appeared to be deleting all comments over one year old on the planning application section of their website and CCIIr I Jack advised that all companies were required to retain information/records for seven years. CIIr C Purves agreed to check this with PKC.

Reports from Perth & Kinross Councillors

Cllr W Robertson advised that any street lights which were not working should be reported to either the Community Councillors or PKC Councillors. He also mentioned that due to the Station Road closure, buses would not be serving the High Street and that a shuttle service had been requested while the roadworks were ongoing. In response to CCIIr J Bryson who felt that the works should have been better planned and could have taken place during the October school holidays, CIIr Robertson advised that these were part of a rolling programme of work. CIIr Robertson also advised



that a letter had been sent to PKC earlier today expressing concerns around the difficulty of getting parked and no access to the Co-operative car park. Cllr Robertson also highlighted that a resident had contacted him with concerns with Persimmon Homes working on a Sunday and this matter had been reported to an Enforcement Officer.

Clir C Purves advised that the SPR Committee had been launched and that two funds had been set up to help small enterprises in rural areas. In 2019, a micro credit fund will be launched. In respect of care at home, there is a shortage of carers/care packages available and this is another area which is being looked into.

CCIIr D Colliar advised that he had written to CIIrs Purves and Robertson raising a number of objections in relation to commercial advertising in schools.

Reports from CC Representatives

School Opening: those present were advised that CC members who had attended the opening of the school had been very impressed. They had been given a comprehensive explanation of all the classes and felt that the community were very lucky to have such a facility.

Correspondence: CCllr B Freeman circulated a summary of the main communications received since the last meeting - there were no communications highlighted.

Any Other Competent Business

Loch Leven Community Campus: CCllr D Cuthbert advised that the Community Campus Management Group had met recently and nominations were required to sit on the Committee for a two year period. CCllr B Freeman asked whether a deputy/substitute could be nominated and after discussion it was agreed that CCllr B Davies and CCllr D Cuthbert would be the CC nominees. This was proposed by CCllr D Colliar and seconded by CCllr J Bryson.

Community transport: Members were advised that a meeting of the four Ward Councillors had been held in respect of rural transport difficulties and to identify whether any funding would be available via Action Partnership. It had been agreed at the meeting that a survey to identify the demand of community transport for rural areas would be undertaken. Margaret Roy would be asked to circulate the information.

Lamps under trees at the Green: CC were asked whether it would be possible to request that the lightbulbs be changed back to orange, as concerns had been raised in respect of the 'dark areas' between lamp posts where members of the community could not be seen. It was felt that this was a health and safety issue.

School Kitchens: members were advised by CCllr T Stewart that PKC were proposing to close school kitchens in order to create one large facility. Cllr C Purves confirmed that Dundee and Angus already operate this system providing a net saving of around £400,000 for PKC.

Use of Masonic Lodge: CCllr I Jack advised that he had received a letter from the Treasurer of the Lodge asking the Community Council to consider changing their meeting date to allow other community groups to use the Lodge on a regular basis. After discussion it was agreed that a response be sent advising that the CC would not be changing their meeting dates. CCllr Jack also agreed to let CCllr Davies have a copy of the letter, which he would raise at Thursday's meeting.

Remembrance Day Wreaths: CCllr I Jack advised that a number of local organisations (Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, and Army Cadets) had not paid for wreaths provided by the Community Council. Members agreed that a letter be sent to the organisations requesting payment and also advising that if payment was not made, wreaths would not be provided in future.

Pavement outside Bank of Scotland: Cllr W Robertson advised that a resident had slipped and fallen outside the Bank due to continual ponding. The Manager of the Bank has phoned the Roads Dept to report the issue and Cllr Robertson will take photographs.

Inconsiderate parking: CCllr L Mackay advised that a resident had raised an issue with parking on corners/turning circle. Cllr Robertson agreed to speak to the Police about this and CCllr Mackay would pass on the contact details of the resident.

Action Partnership Vacancy: CCllr B Davies enquired as to whether the vacancy had been advertised as the last one had not been.

Farmers Market: although this was fully supported, two health and safety concerns had been raised in respect of cabling. It was agreed that the risk assessment would be shared.

There was no meeting in January. The next meeting of Kinross Community Council will be on Wednesday 6 February 2019 at 7.30pm in the Masonic Hall, Muirs, Kinross.

Kinross CC minutes and agendas are posted online at:

www.kinross.cc/cc.htm

You can also follow Kinross CC on Facebook at:

www.Facebook.com/KinrossCC



Milnathort & Orwell Community Council News from the December Meeting

In attendance at the meeting held on 13 December were: CCIIr C Williams (chairman); CCIIr C Flory (vice-chairman/secretary); CCIIrs C Lawson and D Flory; P&K CIIrs (CCIIrs) R Watters, C Purves and W Robertson; minute-taker Elizabeth Rougvie and six members of the public. Also in attendance was Mary Jack, library supervisor at Loch Leven Community Campus.

Presentation: Mary Jack outlined the many activities and events offered by Loch Leven community library, which is one of 13 in Perth and Kinross run by Culture Perth and Kinross Charitable Trust. It also provides a gateway to council services and the support of the local community is very much encouraged.

Police matters: No police were in attendance and once again concern was expressed about their shortage of resources. A member of the public reported that diesel had been stolen from a local farm but said that police in Fife responded much quicker to rural crimes than those in the Tayside division.

Matters arising

Cllr Purves

Flooding at the Stackyard: This has been resolved.

Signs in Burleigh Road: A 30mph sign is not deemed necessary but the installation of a sign at The Stackyard indicating that people are crossing has been added to PKC's list of works.

Re-surfacing: The re-surfacing of Linden Park Road and the pavement in North Street are to be added to PKC's list of works, as requested at the CC's previous meeting.

Pace Hill access: PKC's transport department officials do not think that the alternative routes to the new development (i.e. via Hattonburn and Tillywhally), as suggested at the previous meeting, are suitable. It is hoped that such access issues will be taken into consideration before any future planning permissions are granted.

Crime issues: Cllr Purves is to meet with the Safer Communities Team along with CCllrs Williams and C. Flory to look at the pattern of crime in the village over the past six months with the view to the team becoming involved, as they currently are in Kinross.

Planning matters

Change of use and alterations to agricultural building to form a house at Game Larder, Craigow, noted.

Erection of three houses, landscaping and associated works at Redhouse Wood, Tillyrie Farm. A member of the public who owns land adjoining the site said that he had not received neighbour notification of the proposal, which is for three five-bedroom houses. Following discussion, Cllr Robertson said he would take the matter up on his behalf.

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Applications decided

Extension to house at 3 Mill Lade, approved.

Erection of an agricultural building at Arlary Farm, approved. Pitdownies: Plans for the proposed development at The Pitdownies will be on display in the Church Hall from 1pm to 7pm on January 24.

Resignation: CCIIr Lawson announced that he was stepping down from the CC, mainly due to what he said was his disillusionment with the planning system and his feeling that the CC's views were ignored. He then left the meeting. Following his departure, CIIr Robertson commented that the CC had been instrumental in halting the application for holiday chalets at Burleigh.

New member: CCllr Williams welcomed CCllr Derek Flory to his first meeting. Another two members are required.

New matters and correspondence

Mawcarse footpath: A resident had expressed safety concerns about a lack of a pavement at Mawcarse. This is a historical issue about which little can be done. However, speed restrictions have now been introduced, which has helped.

Persimmon consultation: CCllr D. Flory had attended the public consultation event on December 10 in relation to the Proposal of Application by Persimmon Homes for phase two of the Lathro development. He clarified the following: There will be no change to the existing access points. A recreational park extending to around 80 acres will be created to form a buffer between Kinross and Milnathort. management assessment will be updated due to an increase in the number of houses proposed. A total of 202 are now planned, 89 more than originally envisaged. This is due to difficulties selling existing five and six-bedroomed houses, so the next phase would comprise smaller properties, thus increasing the number. Some 25 per cent would be affordable. Following discussion, during which concerns were raised about the impact on local infrastructure, it was agreed to invite a representative from Persimmon to the February meeting.*

Comments from the floor

Back Loan: A member of the public expressed concern about a proposal to install a speed bump in Back Loan as he felt vehicles could be damaged. Cllr Purves advised that it was very unlikely that the council would deem a speed bump necessary.

South Street: A member of the public suggested that a white line in the centre of South Street would be useful but this would not be in keeping with council policy.



Councillors' reports

PKCIIr Robertson

The sign at Mayfield Gardens has now been re-instated.

A notice was being installed at the track at Burleigh advising that only agricultural vehicles were permitted.

Mawcarse junction: Cllr Robertson has asked if lighting could be installed as motorists find it difficult to see at this point, especially those coming off the motorway at speed.

PKCIIr Watters

Cllr Watters has met with flooding officers in Milnathort with a view to assessing the effectiveness of the two new pipes installed by Scottish Water. The engineering consultancy SWECO will carry out an analysis and look at the potential for future flooding.

PKCIIr Purves

Cllr Purves is putting forward a motion to the full council asking them to support equal rights for communities in terms of appealing planning decisions.

CC boundaries: CCllrs were asked if they agreed to share responsibility for the land on the shores of Loch Leven with Portmoak and Kinross CCs, meaning they would be notified of any future planning applications. Agreed.

Change of name: CCIIrs agreed that MCC will forthwith be known as Milnathort and Orwell Community Council, which will include an area from Stronachie to Path of Condie that is currently within Earn CC. CIIr Purves and CCIIr C. Flory will send the necessary correspondence.

There was no meeting in January. The next meeting of Milnathort and Orwell Community Council will be held on Thursday, February 14, 2019, in the Milnathort Town Hall. Guest speaker: Alisdair Stewart of Aerospace Kinross. Members of the public are invited to attend.

* Persimmon Homes have since advised that they will not be available to attend MCC meetings, but members of the public can ask questions or make comments at www.milnathortcommunitycouncil.org, or speak to a community councillor.

Find Milnathort CC minutes, agenda and other information at:

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

Portmoak Community Council News from the December Meeting

In attendance at the meeting held on 11 December were: CCllrs M Strang Steel (Chairman), R Cairncross (Secretary), B Calderwood (Treasurer) G Cox, A Muszynski and T Smith; and P&K Councillors (Cllrs) W Robertson; and two members of the public.

Apologies: CCllrs D Morris, S Forde; WCllrs M Barnacle, C Purves, R Watters; and Police Scotland PC D Stapleton.

Matters Arising

School Access – policy on parking and safe access routes for children. The absence of progress on this policy was disappointing. The Chairman had written to Cllr Angus Forbes (Convenor of the Environment and Infrastructure Committee) on 22 October detailing its concern that PKC had failed to respond to the CC's requests to progress the matters of parking in the vicinity of the school and of safe access routes for children. It was unfortunate that to date he had received no acknowledgement of his letter.

Footpath from Scotlandwell to the Church, Hall and beyond. The Chairman reported that progress was being made towards establishing surveys to support the required option appraisal of potential routes.

Resilience - being better prepared for risks. Community Emergency Plan. The CC received the minutes of a Local Resilience meeting held on 20 November. CCllrs A Muszynski and G Cox reported that this had been a constructive meeting enabling the CC to progress the matter. The scope of the Portmoak Community Resilience Plan was: a) in the Short-term to capture best practice, engage key members of the community and develop a basic Community Resilience plan in consultation with partners focussed around severe weather; and b) in the Long-term to establish a robust Community Resilience Group and Plan that can be activated during any/all community resilience emergencies. A number of areas had been identified that could be included in the local Draft Plan. The newly appointed lead on the PKC Local Resilience Partnership, Keith Colville, will meet with the CC at its Management Group Meeting on Monday 28 January and the SSEN coordinator for resilience matters will visit Portmoak shortly. A further meeting of the Local Resilience Group will take place in January.

Review of Scheme of Establishment of Community Councils.

The CC had submitted a comprehensive commentary to PKC on the proposed draft Scheme of Establishment of Community Councils. Separately the CC had contacted both





Milnathort and Kinross CCs to explain its proposal that an arrangement be introduced to include Loch Leven within the respective CC boundaries. Both CCs had supported the proposal and the CC had forwarded their comments to PKC.

Moss Road Car park. The Chairman reported that, following discussions with the relevant parties, it had become clear that there was no way that the CC could secure ownership of the car park and that a leasing option had also proved impracticable. It would, however, remain possible to continue to use this space a car park.

Whitecraigs redundant land plots. Dave Stubbs, PKC Greenspace Coordinator, will review the matter of maintenance arrangements for the eight or so plots of land within the Whitecraigs estate that are now owned by PKC. He will identify one of the team to take this forward.

Portmoak Cemetery. The Chairman reported that, although progress on this matter was slow, following recent discussions with PKC Bereavement Department there were possibly other options to consider.

Any Other Competent Business

Charging Children for school transport on the 201 service bus. This was an important matter that was being taken forward by CCIIr C Purves.

RSPB Scotland Loch Leven – new management plan. Uwe Stoneman (RSPB Tayside Reserve Manager) presented a summary of the proposed new Plan. He explained the RSPB reserve was part of the larger SNH managed Loch Leven NNR. The following were noted:

It was proposed to change the management of the westmost part of the RSPB's land to the north of the B9097 to better support both winter grazing for geese and summer breeding for waders. This included better water level control. At the same time livestock would continue to graze the area.

The stock of lapwings was thriving and had been helped by improved predator control as a result of the surrounding fence.

With both winter and summer interest the Reserve attracted significant visitor numbers year round.

Visitor numbers were anticipated to increase supported by better publicity and signage. There were increasing overseas visitors and with that an increased interest in the wider Loch Leven visitor attractions. Staff are being trained to respond to queries about the area attractions generally.

The underpass would be complete by 19 January and would provide unparalleled access for disabled victors.

In general discussion Uwe fielded a range of diverse questions before being thanked by the Chairman for his presentation.

Rural Transport. Cllrs had been meeting with PKC transport officials. There is a proposal to carry out a detailed survey of demand for transport services across Kinross-shire with a view to supporting a new venture using small buses. Current arrangements in Comrie and Auchterarder could provide a relevant model.

Reports

Police: The CC noted the local report from PC D Stapleton – there had been no local crime. The CC also noted the Area Commander Bulletins of 14, 21 and 28 November and of 5 December.

Deadline for all Submissions 5pm, Friday 15 February for publication on Saturday 2 March **Treasurer:** There had been no in-month change. The balance at the month ending 30 November was £655.00 in the General Account; and £1144.12 in the Michael Bruce Way Account giving a total of £1799.12. The new "Holding Account" No. 3 held £1500.

Planning

Progress with Developments:

17/02227/FLL. Levenmouth, Scotlandwell. Erection of two houses. The Chairman had received a helpful response from Cllr Roz McCall (Convenor, Planning and Development Management Committee) concerning the CC's view that the planning decision should have been made by the Planning and Development Management Committee and not delegated to a planning officer. He would explore further the regulatory basis on which the decision had been made. Cllr McCall had offered to meet the Council. The CC warmly welcomed the offer and would suggest the Management Group Meeting of Monday 25 February.

18/00667/FLL. Former Lomond Inn, Kinnesswood. Erection of a dwellinghouse. The CC noted that following their recent letter to the CC PKC had been in touch with the developer. New arrangements were in preparation.

FIFE 18/18/02342/ARC Westfield, Energy Recover Facility. Brockwell Energy Ltd (new owners of Westfield) had been sold for a sum in excess of £21M to an investment company or companies. It seemed possible that this could lead to investment in the proposed energy from waste development during 2019.

Local Development Plan 2. The CC noted that it had been approached by the Scottish Government's Planning and Environmental Appeals Division to provide further information in respect of infrastructure contributions.

18/01477/FLL Land 100 metres SW of Liathach Leslie. Erection of two camping pods. Following refusal of this application on 4 October, the applicant had determined to appeal and had sought support from the CC. The CC had made no comment on the application. The CC on advice decided that it could not in such circumstances provide the requested support.

Roads: To note progress with the Roads Report for 2018 and: **Hedge at Friar Place - visibility for drivers.** The hedge would be monitored. It may in due course require to be trimmed.

Road Markings: B9097; junction B9097 and B920; and on the C50 to Fife Border.

Paths Group: To note progress with work programme for 2018. It was noted that signage at either end of the Dryside Road together with a gate at Springfield Farm would be installed within the next few days.

The meeting on Tuesday 8 January 2019 was cancelled. The next meeting of the Portmoak Community Council will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 12 February 2019 at 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

Cleish & Blairadam CC

Cleish and Blairadam CC are due to meet on **Monday 4 February** at the Cleish Village Hall, 7.30pm. Draft minutes of previous meetings may be available on the CC's website at www.cleishandblairadam.org.uk.

Fossoway and District CC

News from the December Meeting

In attendance at the meeting held on 4 December 2018 were: Community Cllrs (CCllrs) A Cheape, J Donachie, T Duffy, C Farquhar and P&K Cllrs C Purves, W Robertson and five members of the public.

Apologies: CCllr G Pye and associate member T Carroll; P&K Cllrs M Barnacle and R Watters; Fossoway Parent Council, Christina Smith.

Declarations of Interest: CCllr Cheape – LDP2

Police report: Unfortunately, no officer was able to be present at the meeting. There was one incident to note since the last CC Meeting: Cairnfold Farm, Blairingone was broken into between 1pm and 10.15pm on Thursday 22 November. During this time several people are believed to have visited the nearby Dollar Equestrian Centre. Officers are appealing for any witnesses to suspicious vehicles or people in the area.

Matters Arising

Secretary, Fossoway & District Community Council - resignation: CCllr Duffy announced with regret that Cameron Brown who was the secretary had resigned due to conflicting commitments with work and other interests. He will be sadly missed however we all wish him well for the future.

Blairingone School Estate Transformation: Cllr Purves informed that the report from Education Scotland has been published and that it will be discussed at a forthcoming committee meeting.

Crook and Drum Growing Together: CCllr Duffy reported that there was not much activity at present. A wreath making workshop was planned for December, which she hoped would be well attended.

Powmill in Bloom: CCllr Farquhar reported that there was not much activity at the moment. She attended a meeting hosted by David Hill, a judge for Best Kept village. The meeting was very informative, covering topics such as participating successfully in competitions, generating local enthusiasm and cooperation between villages. The competition is to be renamed 'Well Kept Village' next year. CCllr Farquhar also mentioned groups were working together to find ways of accessing funds for Bloom Group activities.

Hydro Scheme & Crook of Devon Bridge: CCllr Duffy reported that the planned walk/inspection of site will take place on Saturday 8 December at 11.30pm. This will establish where the new Crook of Devon Bridge will be situated. Some CC members and local residents will attend. Money from the Hydro Scheme will be made available next year for the Crook of Devon Bridge project.

Fossoway Gathering: CCIIr Duffy reported that planning for this is going well. There will be a fundraiser in Crook of Devon village hall sometime in February.

Blairingone War Memorial: CCllr Donachie stated that the planning application for a modified vehicle access at Blairingone Church had been approved. It is anticipated that the approval may lead to progress regarding the Blairingone War Memorial.

Carnbo VAS: An online query from a Carnbo resident regarding the installation of the VAS had a response on 21 November, from the Road Safety team. The manufacturer of the solar panels which power the signs in Carnbo has had to order more panels; timescales are not available as yet for delivery but will be communicated when this information exists. Cllr Purves indicated that another VAS will be installed

in the village, however no timescale has been given for this as yet.

World War One Centenary: CCllr Cheape reported that there was a good turnout, the celebration went well and there was a lot of interesting material on display. A tree was planted on Waulkmill Green in commemoration. CCllr Cheape thanked those who participated and the public who came along on the day.

Fossoway Area Transport/DRT: CCIIr Duffy reported that at the last meeting it was stated that only one taxi operator was left in this scheme. CIIr Robertson indicated that the four local councillors met with PKC Public Transport Manager, Margaret Roy to discuss this issue. The councillors are optimistic that more taxi companies will come on board. A survey will be carried out regarding a Rural Bus Network to see if there is a demand and once the results of the survey are analysed the initiative will be taken forward.

Matters Arising

No information at present regarding: Crook Moss Travellers Site, A977 Mitigation, Ivy Cottage Powmill, Powmill Play Park and LDP2.

New Business

Roadworks at the School Road, Crook of Devon: CCllr Duffy reported that some residents have queried the length of time the roadworks are taking. Cllr Robertson understood that the works were nearly completed. Cables had been found unexpectedly under the ground which hindered progress. Cllr Robertson will seek clarification regarding the completion date of the roadworks.

A977: Cllr Duffy asked if the Safety Audit on the mitigation measures had been carried out regarding the A977. The Safety Audit was carried out regarding realigning the A977, the preferred option from the A977 consultation. Cllr Robertson confirmed the report had been published, however it was not available for councillors as yet. Cllr Robertson offered to make available a timetable of works to clarify when any action will take place. A MoP queried if the developer for the plans in the field at the institute would make a contribution to the work on the A977. Cllr Robertson stated that PKC were footing the bill, money had been budgeted for the A977 and it was important to carry out this necessary work as soon as possible. A MoP stated that there was an offer from a landowner to gift a piece of land to make the realignment safer as it may be tight for the turning of lorries. Cllr Robertson offered to look into this on receipt of an email from the MoP, detailing their concerns.



Community Council Business - Meetings Attended

Kinross-shire Forum: CCllr Duffy attended this meeting which dealt mainly with Transport & Traffic and also the Kinross in Action Partnership.

Kinross Fund Meeting: CCllr Cheape reported that a small grant was awarded to Kinross Parent Council for equipment. Kinross Rotary were also awarded a grant. The fund is available for all local areas, money has not been taken up as expected therefore it was important that local organisations submit bids for worthwhile projects.

P&K Councillors' Reports

Callum Purves: Cllr Purves reported that two funds, Micro Enterprise Grant Scheme and Micro Credit loans Scheme were launched. Care in the community is a PKC focus. A cooperative model is being investigated as pilot schemes in other areas have been successful.

Willie Robertson: No new information to report this month. Planning Matters

New applications

18/02006/FLL Alterations and extensions to dwellinghouse, 1 Mossend green, Powmill, no CC Comment.

18/02015/FLL Siting of caravan for use as site office/reception/welfare building (in retrospect) at Land 10 metres north of Lambhill, Blairingone, the CC commented.

Decided applications

18/01622/FLL Formation of vehicular access, Blairingone Church, Main Street, Blairingone, the CC did not comment.

Local Review Body Decisions

TCP/11/16(550)/1800473/FLL Erection of a wind turbine and associated works on land south east of Warlawhill Farm, Carnbo. The CC commented. Still under review by the Local Review Body.

Correspondence

Fly tipping: A local resident has reported by email, the fly tipping of garden waste (leaves, plant materials) dumped in two piles at the entrance gateway to fields off the unclassified road to Barnhill/Pitfar/Craigend which comes from the A977 between Powmill and Blairingone. The resident wishes the incident to be noted as they are concerned that materials such as grass clippings/poisonous plants can cause death in farm animals. An additional concern is there may be an increase in fly tipping due to the council now charging for the uplift of these materials in brown bins. A Customer Service Advisor with PKC responded to the email and has reported the incident to the Community Waste team. Cllr Purves indicated that there has been no significant increase in fly tipping in other areas, this is evidence based and the public appear to be taking garden waste to recycling centres. The uptake for paying for brown bins is 55%. The charge for brown bins will increase from £25 to £30 next year.

Any Other Competent Business

Flooding on the road at Drum: A MoP stated the road in Drum has been resurfaced however there is still flooding. PKC tried to fix this, a blockage was cleared but not on the road drain. This issue still has not been addressed by PKC. Cllr Robertson will take this up.

Discover Loch Leven Website

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

www.visitlochleven.org

News from the January Meeting

In attendance at the meeting held on 8 January 2019 were: Community Councillors (CCIIrs) T Duffy (Chair), A Cheape and C Farquhar, P&K CIIrs R Watters and four members of the public.

Apologies were received from CCllrs Graham Pye and Jennifer Donachie and associate member Tam Carroll; CClrs Mike Barnacle, Willie Robertson and Callum Purves.

Community Policing: No officer was able to be present at the meeting. CClr Duffy reported that a caravan had been stolen in Blairingone and this appeared to be the only incident since the previous CC meeting.

Matters Arising

Blairingone School Estate: Cllr Watters reported that following the extensive consultation period the proposed closure of Blairingone School would be discussed further at a meeting of the full Council at the end of January. Meantime a report to be considered at this meeting was in preparation and this could either be accepted by the Council, rejected or amended subject to conditions. All points of view and perspectives reflected in the consultation would be covered in the report.

Crook and Drum Growing Together: CCIIr Duffy reported that following an excellent Christmas fundraiser (£250 raised) the prospect for Spring planting was excellent. It was noted that 'Well Kept' would be substituted for 'Best Kept' in the well-established competition. Blairingone, Crook of Devon, Carnbo, Rumbling Bridge and Powmill were all encouraged to take part.

Hydro Scheme: Nothing to report beyond the call to raise further capital which had been fully subscribed by existing shareholders.

Crook of Devon Bridge: CCIIr Duffy reported that the site inspection planned for December had been postponed but would be reconvened shortly with progress expected during March.

Fossoway Gathering: CCIIr Duffy reported that the committee would meet next week to discuss a budget and that a fundraiser would be held in Crook of Devon Hall on 22 February.

Blairingone War Memorial: Nothing to report.

Fossoway Area Transport/DRT: Cllr Watters reported on a recent meeting of the full Council at which the need to recruit additional taxi firms was discussed albeit that nothing was decided. There was potential also for a community bus and arrangements in Auchterarder and Comrie were quoted as examples (buses run by Sweeneys of Muthill). The Kinross Partnership were meeting on Wednesday 9 January to review an action plan.



Cllr Watters reported that DRT take-up in P&K Council area during the past 6 months had totalled 2665 for a variety of purposes.

Carnbo VAS: A member of the public from Carnbo expressed concern at the siting of the VAS (2) in Carnbo. There were no streetlights and at their house (opposite Ochil Cottage) on the north side of the A91 the light from the VAS was intrusive. Further, from a practical viewpoint siting of the VAS at the west side of the village would be better beyond the bridge over the Quiech Burn. Cllr Watters undertook to take up this issue with Lachlan Maclean at the Roads Department. There was a real risk of nuisance arising from the present VAS siting.

Matters with no Update since last Meeting

Crook Moss Travellers Site – Nothing to report.

Ivy Cottage, Powmill – Nothing to report.

Powmill Play Park – CCllr Farquhar to follow up on progress.

A977 Mitigation

Traffic Counters, signage and bollards, new VAS signs have been installed;

Upgrade of vehicle turning signs will be upgraded in March 2019;

School road Crook of Devon Junction will be completed in March 2019;

Signalisation Saline Road Blairingone will be completed in February 2019;

A977/B9097 re-alignment expected to be completed in June 2019.

A member of the public took issue with the proposed realignment at the junction of the A977 and the B9097. It was noted that there had been a Safety Audit undertaken which had covered sundry issues arising. Cllr Watters commented that it would be difficult at this stage to reallocate the funding set aside for this improvement in 2016.

New Business

Cover for Minute Secretary: CCIIr Duffy reported that Kinross Community Council uses a Minute Secretary at a rate of £35 per meeting. Both CCIIrs Pye and Donachie produced excellent minutes when able to attend meetings but a standin on a paid basis was now regarded as a priority.

CC Business

Meetings Attended: None. CCllr Farquhar reported that business connected with the Sports Hub remained on-going.

PKC Business

Cllr Watters reported on improved arrangements for disability provision in shops, pubs etc to include ramps, handrails and other facilities. Funding would be made available.



Planning Matters

18/02124/FLL: Erection of a dwellinghouse and office (Class 4) at Land 180 Metres South West Of Powmill Cottage, Rumbling Bridge, no comment.

Decided

18/02006/FLL: Alterations and extensions to dwellinghouse 1 Mossend Green Powmill Dollar, approved.

18/02015/FLL: Siting of caravan for use as site office/reception/welfare building (in retrospect) Land 10 Metres North Of Lambhill Blairingone, refused.

18/01855/IPL: Renewal of permission 15/01110/IPL (residential development (in principle) Land 100 Metres North West Of Schiehallion Crook Of Devon, approved.

Any Other Competent Business

A member of the public expressed grave concern at the condition of the access to the Dalkeiths and Seamab School. He had at his own expense filled in potholes on the approximately ¼ mile stretch from the public road before Christmas and the weight of traffic had already resulted in significant deterioration. Over Dalkeith (currently on the market) owned the road with others enjoying a Right of Access and it was assumed therefore that maintenance would be on a user basis. Given that wear and tear on the access was increased greatly by Seamab School (70 staff) the merits of involving P&K Council to assume some responsibility for maintenance were discussed at some length. Cllr Watters undertook to research the background so far as possible and establish the proportion of pupils using Seamab School resident within P&K.

Draft Agenda for Next CC Meeting Welcome and Apologies, Declarations of Interest, Community Policing, Minutes of last meeting.

Matters arising: Blairingone School Estate Transformation, Crook & Drum Growing Together, Powmill in Bloom, Bridge over the Devon, Fossoway Gathering, Carnbo VAS, Community transport, Blairingone War Memorial.

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

The next meeting of Fossoway and District Community Council will be held on Tuesday 5 February, at 7.30 pm, in Fossoway Primary School.

Fossoway & District CC minutes are posted on the website

www.fossoway.org

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



Club & Community Group News

Portmoak Community Woodland

www.portmoakcw.org.uk

There's lot to report from the darkening days at the end of last year. At the end of November we were visited by Roseanna Cunningham MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform. She came to see the progress of the major bog restoration project in Portmoak Moss and find out what's been happening in the community woodland she opened more than 20 years ago. Ms Cunningham was then our MP. This time she came, not only as our local MSP, but as a government minister.

This status as a 'ministerial visit' turned it into quite an event with representatives coming from the Woodland Trust Scotland (who own the Moss), the Forestry Commission and Scottish Natural Heritage. It was a great opportunity to get everyone together, as all these organisations have an interest in the future of Portmoak Moss; from the WTS who manage it, to the Commission who regulate tree felling and restocking and SNH who give grants for peat bog restoration.

Roseanna Cunningham showed a keen interest in everything going on in the Moss. It touches on all aspects of her ministerial brief including forestry, carbon capture in peat, and community involvement in land management.

Luckily the rain held off. The forecast had been dreadful but we got away with it and, thanks to John Whiteford at Portmoak Stables, we had somewhere warm and dry to take our visitors for coffee and home baking (and they would never have guessed that it was usually his dog's kennel!).

Once again, we were lucky with the weather for the Christmas tree event. By mid-December it was icy underfoot but lovely and sunny. A grand total of 123 people came along and we raised over a £1000 which is a record! As ever, this will go towards our community events such as the annual apple day, as well as equipment for projects like the bog restoration. We'd like to

thank everyone who came along and contributed towards such a successful day.

Finally, you may be reading this in time to catch our Burns Ceilidh. This will take place on Saturday 2 February at 7.30pm in Portmoak Village Hall. Top band Ceilidh Minogue will be there to provide the music to dance to. If you are interested, contact Dave Batchelor on 07740 982367 to find out if there are still tickets. They're £15 and include haggis, neeps and tatties.

Our regular meetings continue to be on the third Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in The Well Inn, Scotlandwell. All are welcome. There's more information and contact details on our website.



Sheena Jamieson of PCWG explaining about testing water levels

Kinross Flower Club

www.kinrossfloralartclub.org

Our coffee afternoon in November was a great success. Mrs Pauline Todd, from Newton Stewart, did five beautiful arrangements using 'Magic of Christmas' as her theme. These were then raffled while we enjoyed teas and coffees, sandwiches and home baking.

Our next meeting is at 1pm-3pm on Thursday 28 February 2019 in the Parish Church in Kinross. Mrs Christine McKenna will be giving us a demonstration entitled 'The World's Your Oyster'.

We welcome anyone who wants to come along. Further details of our club can be found on our website.

Grass Cutting, Rotovating Hedge Trimming, Tree Pruning Turfing, Slab Laying, Fencing work undertaken

I. Robertson, Station Road, Crook of Devon Telephone: Fossoway 01577 840526

Kinross Bridge Club

We had an excellent turn out of seven and a half tables at our Christmas party bridge evening. The winners were as follows:

1st North South Jim Marshall and Sandy Greenhill.

2nd North South Morag Ridings and Jim Cowan.

1st East West Richard Melville and David Poole.

2nd East West Madge Malcolm and Jean Toshack.

If anyone wishes to join us, please ring Catriona Marshall 01577 864482 for information.

Circle Dancing

Circle dancing in Kinross is now in full swing after the Christmas break and if you would like to join one of my classes I would be delighted to welcome you. No previous experience is required, and you do not need to have a partner. Tuesdays from 10.30am until 12.30pm in the Millbridge Hall, and Wednesdays from 10am to 11am in the Dance Connect studio in Junction Road. Come along and see what circle dancing is all about. You will be sure of a warm welcome. Should you want to know any more please ring Lynne Barlow on 01259 742173.

Common Grounds

www.spanglefish.com/commongroundscharitycafe



2018 ended on a very happy note with Scottish Charity No. SC031582

over 50 people attending our Christmas get together for nibbles and raffle. We all had a most enjoyable morning and £250 was raised from the raffle. Along with our final total from the craft stall reaching £832.55, this proved a very suitable reward for all the hard work shown by our volunteers and friends. Once again, we extend our grateful thanks to all. The new year started equally well as we welcomed three new volunteers. They are Gaylor Hoskins and two Duke of Edinburgh girls, Alice Colliar and Katie Robertson. They are settling in well and proving to be very useful.

After a couple of weeks in the meeting room/kitchen, we have moved back into the Guiding Hall which has been further upgraded. Our next project lunch will be held there and we are very much looking forward to that.

Project: The charity we are supporting in February is Comfort Rwanda and Congo. This Scottish charity was formed in 1999 to support Rwandan partners in the recovery of genocide survivors. It has expanded into Congo and the aim is to encourage and support individuals and communities to transition from requiring basic care and relief through to self-sustainability.

They are active in short, medium and long-term projects, including those in housing, agriculture, education, street kids, vocational training and handicrafts.

Project Lunch: Our next Project Lunch is on **Tuesday 5 March** at 12 noon in the Guide Hall, Church Street, Milnathort. It will feature a speaker from Eagles Malawi. A lunch of homemade soup, bread, traybakes and Fairtrade tea and coffee will follow the speaker. All welcome.

Visit our website for more information. Our opening hours are still 10am-12.30pm on Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at the Guide and Scout Hall, Church Street, Milnathort.

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



Visiting Kinross-shire?

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

www.visitlochleven.org

Kinross Centre

Brrrrr, it's really cold outside!

Now that all the festivities have passed, we are all working hard to shed the few extra pounds that we put on over Christmas. So why not join our very popular exercise classes? They are geared towards more mature people and can be a lot of fun.

December was a very busy month and it feels like such a long time ago. At the beginning of December we held our annual Christmas fair featuring lots of lovely goodies and a tombola stall. We raised in excess of £600 which is absolutely fantastic and a great achievement. Thank you to everyone who came along and supported us. As always it is greatly appreciated. Pupils from Kinross Primary School came to visit and sang some Christmas songs; some new and some we know quite well. We thoroughly enjoyed listening to them and hope they come back to see us again soon.

Our Christmas party was a great success with over 90 of us enjoying a lovely traditional Christmas dinner with all the trimmings. After our lunch we had entertainment from the fabulous Linton Osborne. Most of us even managed to get up and dance, although we don't know how after feeling so stuffed. Santa even took time out of his busy schedule to pay us a visit. It was a lovely afternoon and got us right in the mood for Christmas.

And lastly, on Friday 21 December, we had our annual trip to the Alhambra Theatre for the Sleeping Beauty Panto. What a laugh we had from shouting 'boo, hiss and he's behind you'! We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. It was a great performance and Kinross Centre even got a mention when they were calling out names. What a great start to our Christmas festivities.

January has now arrived and our usual programme of activities are again becoming very popular. They include exercise classes, indoor curling, morning worship, singing group, bingo, relaxation class, T'ai Chi and dominoes to name a few.

We would love to see you at the Kinross Centre either as a service user, volunteer or as a supporter. If you would like further information please contact Nan Cook on 01577 863869.

Kinross Garden Group

In December, Margaret Kilpatrick, at very short notice gave us a highly entertaining



talk about her garden at Boreland House in Cleish with some beautiful photos taken to illustrate its development. January produced a very enjoyable and delicious festive lunch at the Orwell Bowling Club with fantastic catering by Heaven Scent. Our next meeting is on Thursday 14 February in the Millbridge Hall, Kinross at 2pm. John Marshall will give us 'Tattie Talks' – which will be an illustrated worldwide adventure with potatoes – and who knows what else relating to potatoes! 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.

Looking for a Job?

Check the situations vacant page at **www.kinross.cc**

Broke Not Broken

Hampers, bag packing, slow cookers and our Joan!

We have been blown away once more by **BROKE** the seemingly never-ending generosity of

our community. We would like to thank the following people and groups for their financial donations and support: Thistle Hotel, St Pauls, Mr and Mrs Forde, Sandra Smith, Kinross 41 Club, Friends of Portmoak School, Flutterby Fitness, Muriel Markland, Caledonia Washrooms, Loch Leven Cycles, Gutters4Glory, Drummond Property Maintenance, Jac Salvage, Span Access Solutions.



Volunteers packing bags at the supermarket

A particular thanks goes to all the local primary schools, high school, and churches. Thank you for the food, gift vouchers, presents, money and time. An amazing 2061.42kg has been donated over the festive period!

We used around 2860kg of food and toiletries to make up our festive hampers. We were able to spend a few nights sorting these at Millbridge Hall thanks to their support and flexibility. Thanks to everyone who came. Once again it was a great atmosphere and it was lovely to see so many faces who contribute throughout the year.

We made 143 hampers this year with a number going to Perthshire Women's Aid. They support us, we refer clients to each other and we also had a collection point at Sainsbury's in Perth. This year we felt that the people they referred were in dire need, not only of food, but also of a little kindness. Kinross High School also made up 23 hampers that were



One of the many bootloads of donations

distributed to the residents at Causeway Court. The hampers aren't always about feeding our clients over Christmas, although sadly that is a big part of it. They are also about reaching out to people who are vulnerable in other ways, for example, due to sickness or loneliness. It also raises awareness that we are here to help.

You might have seen us helping pack your bags in Kinross Sainsbury's before Christmas too. We were very proud to have the support of so many volunteers for this. Volunteers from other clubs and groups also participated, in particular Kinross Colts, Kinross Otters and SHIP as well as pupils from the local high school. We were so impressed with how polite and thoughtful the young volunteers were. They are so often underestimated!

Once all our hampers were made up we took stock of what was surplus (mainly soups and sweet things) and contacted Kirkcaldy food bank. They are an independent foodbank like us, but with a much higher demand, giving out almost 1000 parcels of food per month. We were also able to pass on nappies and baby food and some milk that would have gone out of date otherwise. Please trust us that we take the donations made to us (food, money and otherwise) very seriously and, when it is passed on to other agencies outside Kinross-shire, it has been considered.

On top of the food collected and put into hampers we also delivered presents to local families. Moorelands Travel again did a sterling job collecting presents and we know that the local families who benefited were overwhelmed. We were



Some of our hampers

also able to donate gift cards for various stores so that families could buy their own gifts for their children. This is something we learnt from last year. Leaving the presents unwrapped meant that parents could see what was being given.

As if all that didn't make us busy enough, we distributed our Winter Warmer packs. This was a project whereby applications were made to receive a slow cooker and recipe book, plus a voucher for the local butcher. The aim was to encourage healthy cooking that is easy and manageable over winter. This will be followed up with cookery class offers and replicated at the end of this year. We gave out eight packs.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Joan Cornwall, who is retiring from the committee. Joan has been instrumental in the setting up, smooth running and direction of the charity. She has been at the helm from the beginning as founder and treasurer and we are hugely grateful for her time, energy, constant positivity and of course, her Peter!

Kinross-shire Partnership Networking Breakfast

www.kinross-shirepartnership.org.uk

Sheepish speaker addresses the breakfast

Undaunted by the darkness and thick mist, a stalwart posse of local entrepreneurs congregated at Loch Leven's Larder on the first Wednesday of December to enjoy the final Networking Breakfast of 2018. The event was ably hosted by Liz Jeffrey (Motorhome Adventures/Tyrefair) and Richard Scott (C.I.A. Cleaning/Loch Leven Laundry).

Representatives from a wide range of local businesses and organisations conversed convivially around the Larder's tables, and in-between wolfing down a hearty Scottish breakfast, each local entrepreneur was invited to share a rapid overview of their products and/or services in 60 seconds.

Thereafter. Partnership chairman. Alisdair Stewart, invited Archie Hipwell of Hipwell Consulting to take the floor. If attendees were expecting a presentation about Archie's job as a business consultant, they were in for a big surprise. For instead of spouting logistics, production processes and time management, Archie launched into a frank and fascinating account of how he and his wife, veterinary surgeon Fiona, made the move from their city life in Edinburgh to run a smallholding in the countryside.

It was when their second son left home to go to university that their sons bought Fiona five hens 'to give their mother something to cluck over'! This was when the couple first began to pursue 'the good life', keeping the hens in their garden in Edinburgh; a fact which fortunately seemed to escape their neighbours' attention!

A year later, they decided to move to



the country and, over a period of 18 months viewed some 40 properties, eventually purchasing a steading with 6.5 acres situated halfway between Cleish and Kinross. Originally intending to keep some chickens and run 'a few' sheep, they began their flock with two native breeds, Ryelands and Shetlands, but later decided to focus purely on Shetlands. The plan for a 'few sheep' has been modified slightly over the years, as the woolly residents on the smallholding now number over 30.



Archie Hipwell

Archie explained that, although Shetlands are small, they are full of personality and the lambs mature slowly, with the result that their meat is superior in flavour to many other breeds. Moreover, there's no need for a sheepdog with Shetlands, given that they're the Usain Bolts of the ovine world and would probably outrun a collie anyway.

They're no fools either; if they see a yellow bucket from a mile off, they

know it contains food and come sprinting towards the bearer. Whereas if they see an orange bucket (containing jags or wormer), they make a swift dash in the opposite direction!

In addition to providing meat, the flock is a source of prize-winning Shetland fleeces, not to mention wool and sheepskins. As he spoke, Archie sported a Shetland wool jumper knitted from their own flock's wool and he had brought with him a handmade shepherd's crook featuring a horn from one of their tups (rams).

He emphasised that no air (and very few road) miles are involved in any of the smallholding's produce, adding that he and Fiona have relished the many challenges that their move to the country has thrown up. These have included learning new skills such as drystone wall building, spinning/felting, and knowing when to call in an expert to save time and embarrassment!

It was clear from Archie's presentation that he and Fiona are glad they exchanged their Edinburgh existence for life in rural Kinross-shire. They both evidently derive immense satisfaction from growing their own fruit and vegetables, as well as tending their hens and sheep. Listeners were left in no doubt that running a Kinross-shire smallholding is not a bad life at all!

The next Networking Breakfast will take place at the customary venue of Loch Leven's Larder from 7.15am-9am on **Wednesday 6 February**, when the speaker will be Jamie Montgomery of Loch Leven Brewery. Please email Karen Grunwell in advance at mail@kinrosspartnership.org.uk to book your place at this enjoyable local business event.

Kinross U3A

Thanks are due to our two speakers since the last *Newsletter*



– Alisdair Stewart for his presentation on AeroSpace Kinross, and George Sutherland for his Travels Through History, both very interesting. For February, we are delighted to have as our guest speaker, Gillian Forbes: Stone Carver, and you can hear her talk 'Set in Stone' at the usual time of 2.30pm on the first Tuesday of the month, that's Tuesday 5 February, at Kinross Parish Church.

Meanwhile, our interest groups continue to meet, more details are available on our website www.u3asites.org.uk/ Kinross. We are always looking to support people wishing to form a new group. If you are interested, please get in touch.

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Kinross and District Town Twinning Association

Politicians across the planet are currently causing havoc and hostility rather than harmony and humanity. Our political leaders

are being more 'fiends' than 'friends' with the missing letter 'R' showing that they appear to care less about responsibility for people's rights.

Despite this we are all looking forward to hosting our Norman neighbours this summer for their official twinning visit to Kinross. This will take place over the last week of July. Our long established twinning with Gacé will see old friendships deepen and new friendships develop.

The party will set sail from Ouistreham, bound for Portsmouth, and embark on the long coach journey north before reaching their Kinross destination. A number of trips to local attractions will be supplemented by the traditional bowls competitions (one Scottish version and one French version) which usually means hilarity all round. The week will conclude with a dinner and ceilidh dance before our French guests depart for the return journey back to Gacé.

The Kinross High School pupil exchange programme will see a number of Kinross pupils and staff head out to France in May to spend a week with their Gacé partner families. Any new families in the Kinrossshire area (including Glenfarg) interested in becoming involved in twinning should contact secretary David Munro on 01577 862126 for further information.



The photo shows detail from a metal medal which was struck in Normandy and gifted to the Kinross Association on a previous visit

Fairtrade

Fairtrade Fortnight is 25 February-10 March and we are asked to support the farmers and workers who grow our food. We are having a Coffee Morning in



the Church Centre on Saturday 2 March, 10-12pm. Please come along and enjoy some Traidcraft goodies, and support the 'She Deserves a Living Income' campaign.



Kinross Beavers

On 16 November, the beavers took part in UK Parliament Week. They learned about democracy and how everyone is entitled to express their opinion before taking part in their own mini vote. They got to taste three different types of food from other countries before voting for their favourite. The winner was American cookies which won by a landslide!

On the same evening, we said goodbye to Eli, Rannoch, Innes, Ewan, Harry and Sam who are moving to cubs. Good luck boys! Their departure meant we had to appoint new Lodge Leaders for some of our Lodges. Congratulations Rory, Muir and Sonny who have been appointed the new Lodge Leaders for Tree Fellers, Flat Tails and Dam Builders.

A big congratulations to our young leader Ailsa who was presented with two mission badges in November. This forms part of her training as a young leader. Well done!

The end of November saw seven new beavers invested into the colony. A big welcome to Brodie, Archie, Jude, Alfie, Aaron, Angus and Fraser. On the same evening our three new Assistant Beaver Scout leaders Richard, Mark and Angela were invested into the group by our Group Scout Leader.

The beavers took part in a variety of activities in the final few weeks of the term before the Christmas holidays. This included working on the disability awareness badge, a Scottish themed evening for St Andrews Day and Steven from Cosmos Planetarium visited us to help the beavers work on their space badge.

We also enjoyed a visit to Perth Theatre to see the Snow White and the Seven Dames pantomime along with the cubs and scouts from the group.

Finally, on the last week of term we visited the children at Rachel House to sing them some Christmas songs. Thank you to Anna from Lendrick Muir who came along to provide the music.

Over the last few months Eli, Harry, Caitlin, Tom, Oscar, Muir and Sonny have been presented with their Chief Scout's Bronze Award after successfully achieving all six challenge badges and four stage/activity badges. Well done!

Just before the Christmas break we said goodbye to our oldest beaver Scott who is moving on from the Beaver Colony after two years.

The start of 2019 has also been a busy one with the beavers enjoying their winter sleepover at the hall. Whilst the beavers attended the sleepover they also got the opportunity to work on their experiment badge by taking part in three different experiments. After completing this it was time for tea before they settled down for the evening to watch the movie Incredibles 2. The next morning before everyone departed for home, all the beavers were presented with their nights away and experiment badges. Also, Caitlin was appointed the new Lodge Leader for Sharp Teeth. There is always a lot going on in the colony. If you would like to have the beavers help your community group, or are interested in volunteering with Scouting, please contact us on kinrossbeavers@hotmail.co.uk.

Do you have

Photographs of Kinross-shire

you'd be happy to share with others? Visit www.kinross.cc to find out how to add your photos to the Photo Library. The aim of the library is to provide a resource for promoting Kinross-shire.

Kinross and District Probus Club

1918 – What happened? A presentation by Andy Middlemiss, 21 November 2018 Louis McGuffie, a young lad from Wigtown,

who had signed up and more than played his part in the war leading up to 1918, overpowered a German gun position. He lost his life in the war and his mother went to London, with a heavy heart, where she was presented with his Victoria Cross. Andy recalled this incident and the fact that it was repeated up and down the country. Young men were fighting for their country but also for their friends and family.

The German Spring Offensive came as a surprise to the Allies and from March to July the German forces made impressive advances, pushing back the allies for miles. But it was not to last. Germany was running short of manpower and they overstretched their supply lines. The Allies counter was decisive and the 100 days to follow would lead to the end of The First World War.

With greatly improved tactics, new mechanical transport, tanks and the element of surprise the Allies made rapid advances with 20-30 miles covered in the first four days. The Americans joined the battle in July and the battle of St Mihiel was a bloody introduction to the war, with a whole battalion lost.

When the end came there was a flood of emotions. Initial joy followed by sadness for lost comrades and strangely the guilt of survival. From the 700,000 Scots who took part there were 174,000 who never came back and 74 Victoria Crosses awarded. It wasn't just those who took part who were affected, every community in the land suffered losses.

In this the 100th anniversary of Armistice we remember them:

We are the Dead. Short days ago, We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow, Loved and were loved, and now we lie In Flanders fields.

'Faraday to TV and Smart Phones' A presentation by Jack Dempsey, 9 January 2019

We have all become very familiar with the technology we now casually carry around in our pockets. The smart phone has become a must-have item, and we give little thought to how powerful it is. The fact is there is more computing capacity in a smart phone than the computers used to get Neil Armstrong to the moon.

Jack took us back to the start with Michael Faraday in 1821 and his work with electromagnetic rotary devices. He knew there was a connection between electricity and magnets, but not how or why. Faraday discovered electromagnetic induction, the principle behind the electric transformer and generator. This discovery was crucial in allowing electricity to be transformed from a curiosity into a powerful new technology. Transformers dramatically increased voltage and allowed electricity to be distributed for far greater distances, and more importantly into the home.

Rapid technological change started and with input from engineers and scientists like Tesla, A G Bell and James Maxwell, we saw the beginning of the new age of communication, with the telegraph, radio, TV and birth of electronics. Integrated circuits allowed faster, smaller and more reliable devices to be manufactured. In our lifetime the phone has progressed from the most basic of landlines to the most amazing technology in the form of the smart phone.

A major thank you is due to Michael Faraday for starting us on this incredible journey. Have we reached the end... who knows?

Need Equipment for a Community Event?

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

Items are listed on www.kinross.cc at:

www.kinross.cc/equipment_hire/equipment.htm

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

Kinross Museum

Just before Christmas, Chairman of the Kinross (Marshall) Museum Trust Prof David Munro presented



prizes to the winners of two museum competitions. The first was a postcard design competition for children which was won by Chloe Thompson from Alloa whose prize was a set of drawing materials. The second competition was the annual Christmas Quiz which this year posed 20 questions on the theme "How well do you know Kinross-shire?". The winners, both from Milnathort, were David Miller who answered every question correctly, and Evelyn Low a close runner-up. Both were presented with Christmas hampers. If you still want to know all the answers, drop by the museum on a Thursday or Saturday to find them out. Many thanks to all those who supported the museum by taking part in these competitions.

If you would like to become a museum volunteer (no previous experience required) then do drop by to find out more about what we do to promote an interest in the historic heritage of Kinross-shire.



David Munro presents competition prizes to David Miller, Evelyn Low and Chloe Thompson

Kinross & District Rotary Club

Did your New Year's resolutions include wanting to do more things for the local community? Possibly also to help with some of the world's problems in areas normally beyond your reach?

Then join Rotary because that's what we do! It's easy! If you happen to know a Rotarian then talk to them about it. If not, then come to one of our meetings — normally on a Monday at 6.30pm at the Kirklands. Experience a typical meeting, talk to us and see what we're doing. Or contact Brian Timms (Club Secretary) by email at secretary.kdrc@gmail.com to find out more. Or check out our Facebook page for more information.

Young Musician Competition.

Each year Rotary sponsors a UK wide 'Young Musician of the Year' competition. On 12 December we held our local heat at Kinross High School. It was a great evening of music featuring 12 competitors in both vocal and instrumental categories.



Winners of the 'Young Musician of the Year' competition

The judges were Barry Douglas from KYTHE, Choir Director Isobel Watt, and Bandmaster Kieran Forsyth of the Highland Band of the army. We are very grateful to them and also to KHS head of music Paul Rosie for all their work to make this great event a success.

Thanks also to all competitors who made it such an enjoyable night. Our congratulations go to **Niamh Clark** who won best instrumental on violin, and **Euan Alexander** who was best vocalist. The overall winner was judged to be Niamh. Well done!

Now they each go on to represent Kinross at the District finals in Perth. Niamh will perform in the instrumental section on 2 March and Euan on 9 March in the vocalist section.

PLANNING PERMISSION BUILDING WARRANTS

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

We specialise in Extensions, Attic Conversions, Conservatories, Porches and Internal and External Alterations.

Contact Eric or Fiona McNeil 01577 863000

For free advice

We'd also like to thank Rotarian Brian Timms who worked with the school to organise this highly successful event.

Santa's Sleigh

This year Santa was very busy indeed. He had to put on an extra round to visit everyone due to the increase in the number of houses in Kinross and District. The club wants to say thank you very much to Santa for all the extra work he puts in for the families of Kinross and district!



Santa had to work extra hard in Kinross this Christmas!

Of course Santa couldn't do it without the local organisations that provide collectors for the rounds. We sincerely thank everyone for their enthusiastic support this year namely; Kinross Primary School Parents Council, Loch Leven Diamonds, Kinross Vaulting group, Swansacre/First responders, Kinross Cricket Club, Kinross Colts, Kinross Otters and, of course, the Rotarians.

Once again we express our sincere thanks to the great guys at the Kinross and District Men's Shed who did a superb job of refurbishing the sleigh this year. Well done gents!

Recent Speakers

Teaching and the Ethiopia Medical Project

Our Associate member **Jo Middlemiss** spoke to us firstly about her career and then she gave us an update on her charity, Ethiopia Medical Project.

Jo started as a primary teacher in Glasgow, teaching sevenyear-olds. Amongst various amusing anecdotes, Jo told us of the time when, as a fresh young teacher, having escorted one of her pupils home with his broken arm in plaster, she suggested to his father that it might be a good idea to give wee Jimmy a bath. At that time this was not the best approach to the occupant of a Glasgow tenement as she quickly learned and she beat a hasty retreat!

After a few years in Glasgow, Jo signed up as a teacher in the Army and later trained as a Samaritan, dealing with mental health and learning support. This later led to marriage guidance, coaching and positive thinking. This part of Jo's talk finished with some searching questions we should all tackle each morning to lift spirits and make us happy to take on the day to day challenges life throws at us.

Jo then showed a video of the work her charity does in Ethiopia. The earlier prolapse problems are now under control and the latest problem is with feet and elephantiasis. Once again, those people affected are embarrassed and tend to lock themselves away out of sight. Walking in bare feet on the red volcanic dust seems to be the cause, so the appeal now is for socks and shoes. Jo is now in Ethiopia again, her tenth trip.

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

Kinross & District Rotary Club continued...

Tonka Trucks and Broken Rails

Our very own Rotarian and club secretary Brian Timms gave us the run down on his life working with the huge tonka trucks and what it was like to work the railways.

Brian explained to us that he was brought up in a terraced house in Rosyth in the 1950s. One of his memories of school life was using the old air raid shelters as goals in the playground! However, the most striking thing for him at that age was watching the huge machinery and, in particular, the tonka trucks that were helping to make the M90 motorway and Forth Road Bridge in 1961. This shaped his adult life.

After leaving school Brian's first job took him into Civil Engineering. He started to work in coal-mining and quarrying and was soon driving the huge trucks helping to build the Sumburgh airport in Shetland.

When working as the commercial manager for British coal, one of Brian's tasks was to buy the Aces of Spades crane. This machine could dig out 120 tonnes of coal in one movement. However, at a cost of £60 million pounds in 1991, it wasn't cheap.

It was time for a change and Brian was offered a role on the railways. He was in charge of rail track maintenance, the importance of which was brought into grim prominence after the Hatfield Crash in 2000. The incident, which was due to a broken rail on the East coast main line, killed four people with 70 injured.

One crazy fact is that the Allies winning the Second World War actually disadvantaged the UK railways. This happened because, in other European countries, lots of their rail network was damaged and subsequently fully restored with new track.

Brian became a member of the Redditch Rotary and, when he retired in 2012, he moved up to Kinross. He carried out some consultancy work before joining the Kinross Rotary, in his words, to 'give something back to the community'. Brian has been a major asset to the club. It is clear that Brian still has the passion and enthusiasm he had when he was a young boy. No doubt he will no doubt pass his love of railways to his grandchildren.



Planning a Community Event?

Check the Diary on www.kinross.cc to ensure that your event won't clash with another.
List your event as soon as you can to help others with their planning. Contact the website administrator by email: admin@kinross.cc

Rotary Socialising

Our club Christmas dinner was held on Monday 17 December. The night started with music from a quintet of young musicians from Kinross High School who played as guests arrived. This set the mood for a great night. As a thank you to the young ladies and their teacher the club was pleased to make a donation to the school instruments funds.

The Kirklands Hotel provided an excellent menu selection for guests and, between courses, folk were encouraged to meet and chat with others using a place mat game. There was certainly plenty of discussion going on (some might call it organised chaos!) but a few club members managed to find their matching place mat, and guest, and then share the second course together.

The international theme continued after dessert with a short quiz on international Christmas traditions. For example, did you know that spiders' webs are traditional Christmas decorations in Ukraine?

A mainstay of the Christmas dinner is always a raffle, with suitably dodgy prizes. Nevertheless, we ended up with a healthy donation to the Rotary Foundation Fund and the night ended on a high!

Upcoming speakers

We look forward to welcoming the following in the next few weeks:

- 4 February, Club Business Meeting.
- 11 February, Liz Mackay from Kinross Vaulting Group.
- 18 February, Breakfast meeting with Iain Cormack talking about 'The Mill'.
- 25 February, to be confirmed.
- 4 March, Club Business Meeting.

Light Up Kinross

Charity No. SC047534

We thank all those who contributed to our appeal this year. Many individuals and businesses paid directly to our bank account



anonymously, therefore it is not possible to name everyone who supported the 2018 Christmas display after the large increase in costs.

Thanks to the Kilted Christmas Tree Co. for donating and erecting the tree and lights. Thanks to Kinross Men's Shed for repairing the lights and arranging the fountain lights. We had support from other charities including *Kinross Newsletter*, the Kinross Common Good Fund, Kinross Rotary Club & Kinross & District Pipe Band. We thank all those that assisted in any way and hope you will continue to help maintain the Christmas lights in future years.

There will be a quiz night in the Masonic Hall on **Friday 22 February** at 7pm for a 7.30pm start. Teams of four are welcome at £20 per team. For future fundraisers during the year please check *Kinross Newsletter* and our Facebook page for details. We would be delighted for you to come along and have a fun night out.

We are a very small committee and would appreciate any help you can give. If you have a spare few hours please contact any committee member or post it on Facebook page. Our AGM, to which all are invited to attend, will be held on April 25 in the Millbridge Hall at 7.30pm. Please come along.

Boys Brigade and Girls Association and Scouts

Members have returned after the Christmas break and it is straight into badge work and competitions.





The first Battalion Competition of the new year is the popular minivolleyball tournament which takes place in late January at Perth's Bell's Sports Centre for both Junior and Company sections. This is followed by the Company Section Drill Competition which was won last year by the Kinross Company.

Juniors are preparing for their festival of activities

competition involving figure marching, singing and potted sports. Juniors are also preparing for a sleepover at the Church Centre.

The Battalion five-a-side Football competition will take place at Bell's Sports Centre for both Junior and Company Section members in a few weeks' time.

Company Section summer camp will take place from 29 June to 6 July and will be based at Jedburgh in the Scottish borders.

Two members are attending a 'Build your Skills' course being organised by Stirling Battalion as part of their work towards gaining their President's Badge.

Three senior members are working towards their Queen's Badge which concludes with a residential weekend at Boys Brigade Scotland headquarters in Carronvale House.

A number of current staff and former officers of the Kinross Company will be attending Perth Battalion's 125th anniversary dinner. This will be held at Dewars Rinks on **Saturday 16 February**. The commemoration badge produced for this event was designed by Kinross BB staff sergeant, Chris Cassells.

Boys' Brigade Scotland has organised a number of roadshows to promote the world famous youth organisation under the banner of 'Raise the Bar'. Our local one will take place at the Mercure Hotel (formerly City Mills) in Perth on **Saturday 23 February** at 9.45am. Any interested parents are welcome to attend.

Uniform amnesty; there are still a number of uniform items outstanding from former members. Can parents please check cupboards and drawers? Any items can be handed into the Day Centre at any time. This can be done anonymously.

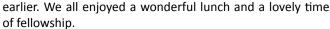
Marquee bookings are starting to come in for the coming season. Anyone wishing to hire a white 40 foot by 20 foot marquee should contact Company Captain David Munro on 01577 862126 for details. Each hire includes erection and dismantling at a cost of £200 per occasion.

Finally, our annual coffee morning will be held in the Church Centre on **Saturday 23 February** from 10am-12noon. There will be the usual stalls including a bottle stall and raffle. Cost is £2 per person.

Kinross & District Inner Wheel

www.innerwheel.co.uk

On Saturday 12 January we met at our president's home for a delicious finger buffet lunch to celebrate Inner Wheel Day which was two days earlier. We all enjoyed a wonderful lunch and a lo



At our January meeting President Elaine Matthew welcomed Pat Sneddon back to the club. Pat was a past president who recently moved back to live in Kinross. She was keen to meet up with members old and new.



President Elaine Matthew welcoming Pat Sneddon back to the club

Our speaker for January was Brian Timms, secretary of the local Rotary club, who gave a talk on the National Parks in the United States. He gave a background to the parks in Wyoming, Utah, Arizona and California and how they differ in terms of landscape, topography and wildlife. His talk was illustrated by photographs taken on his tours.

Following a change of ownership at the Boathouse, the February meeting will take place on **Monday 11 February** at a new venue, Milnathort Golf Club. We shall meet there at 6.15pm for 6.30pm. The speaker that evening will be Rachel Webb from Dance Connect.

For more information contact us by email at Admin@ innerwheel.co.uk or visit our website.



The Kinross Newsletter

by the community, for the community

all profits are given away to local good causes

Kinross and District Art Club

www.kadac.co.uk

Our AGM took place on Tuesday 27 November 2018. A good turnout of members enjoyed sausage rolls, mincemeat pies and yule log before settling down to the business of the meeting. The chair reflected on the year gone by; paying tribute to those members who had sadly passed away as well as acknowledging the hard work of the committee and the achievements of our members. The election of office bearers and the committee took place with Gillian Ross re-elected as chair.

Although the regular club meetings finished at the end of November, a group of 30 members met at the Kirklands Hotel on Tuesday 4 December 2018 to enjoy a festive lunch. This brought the club year to a cheery end.

Tuesday 8 January 2019 saw an enthusiastic start to the club's new year. Regular members, along with keen new

members, gathered at Millbridge Hall to paint, draw and create their own works of art.

As well as meeting for normal painting sessions, Tom Sutton-Smith, our professional adviser, organises demonstrations and workshops, inviting artists in to share their expertise with members. We are looking forward to our

first demonstration/ workshop afternoon on **Tuesday 19 February**.

We meet on each week on Tuesday and Friday (2-4pm) in Millbridge Hall.

If you are interested in joining the club and developing your own creativity, you will find more information and contact details on our website.



Members enjoying the first day back in 2019

Milnathort in Bloom

By the time you read this report we'll be well into 2019 and Christmas will be a distant memory. We would like to thank all those who braved the elements in December to join us for Carols at the Cross. Despite the rain there



was excellent attendance and great singing too. We really enjoy working with others to bring this event to the village and also raise money for local charities. We're sure that Rosemary from Friends of Milnathort Town Hall Committee will have included all the details in her report and thanks to all who supported us on the night.

Last year the children's sunflower competition was so successful that we are planning to launch a new competition this year. Watch this space for details of a fun gardening competition in 2019.

We will be having a recruitment drive for funds and new volunteers in March, so keep an eye out for leaflets and Facebook articles. There are a wide range of activities to get involved in and most don't require a major commitment of your time. For example, our work includes planting up plug plants and baskets in the polytunnel and helping to plant out the tubs in the village and it's always great fun. Any help would be hugely appreciated.

If you would like to get in touch to find out more about volunteering for Milnathort in Bloom, please contact Teresa on 01577 865645 or message our Facebook page.

Subscriptions to the Newsletter

Useful for readers living outside the distribution area of the Newsletter, a subscription service is available. For further details see www.kinrossnewsletter.org or phone Ross McConnell on 01577 865885 or email

subscriptions@kinrossnewsletter.org

Portmoak Film Society

www.portmoakfilmsociety.org.uk

The new year kicked off with Scottish director Paul McGuigan's 2017 film,



'Filmstars don't die in Liverpool'. It was the bittersweet story of a romance between young Liverpudlian actor Peter Turner and the much older, former Hollywood film diva, Gloria Grahame, based on the book he wrote. Our audience rated it 78% good/excellent, not least in tribute to the fantastic acting by leads Jamie Bell and Annette Bening, who were both nominated for BAFTA best actor awards.

February's film, to be shown on Saturday 9 February, is 'I, Tonya', another true story but this time with a very different vibe. Tonya Harding was an American ice-skater tipped for Olympic superstardom... until everything went horribly wrong after a shocking event in this uber-competitive sport. Be prepared for the sparks to fly as she tries to salvage her career and her reputation!

March and April are traditionally 'surprise slots' in our film calendar, as we review the latest films released in the second half of 2018, so keep an eye on our website.

Films start at 7.30pm in Portmoak Hall, Scotlandwell, and you pay £5 on the door or use your season's membership card. Hot drinks and refreshments are served after the film. Loyal fans and newcomers always welcome!

Portmoak Hall 100 Club

November Draw

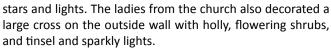
No 5	Richard Hughes	Scotlandwell
No 90	Sue Abbott Smith	Scotlandwell
No 34	Roy Stevens	Kinnesswood
	No 90	No 5 Richard Hughes No 90 Sue Abbott Smith No 34 Roy Stevens

December Draw

1st	No 70	Doreen Thomson	Kinnesswood
2nd	No 22	Helen Martin	Lochend Farm Shop
3rd	No 63	Sylvia Wilson	Scotlandwell
	2nd	2nd No 22	2nd No 22 Helen Martin

Crook & Drum Growing Together

Over the festive season, there was a lovely Christmas tree at the village hall, and we decorated our rowan tree on the green with gold



In December, we held a very successful Christmas wreath workshop in the hall, attended by 22 people. Three children also made festive pom-pom garlands and decorations. This was a lovely festive occasion and a good fundraiser for the group. Many thanks to all who attended and helped with the workshops.

We have recently created some new borders inside the churchyard. These have been planted with daffodils and wildflowers such as foxgloves, campion, and oxeye daisies. We have also added bulbs and wildflowers beside the fence at the tennis club. With the mild weather so far in the new year, the first snowdrops are flowering in the churchyard in mid-January.



Snowdrops at St Serf's Churchyard, Crook of Devon

Looking ahead to the spring, we are hoping to work jointly with the council to improve the area at the entrance to West Crook Way, which is quite weedy and overgrown. This will be weeded and a weed-proof membrane laid with bark and plants added such as evergreen shrubs, ornamental grasses and perennial flowers. We hope that, with the three tier planter and daffodils in the verges, this will create an attractive 'gateway' to the village when entering from the West.

We also now have our own Facebook page so please 'like' our site and keep up to date with our activities there.

If you would like to be involved in any of our activities, or have ideas on how we can make improvements in Crook of Devon or Drum, please contact Amanda James by email at amandajames1577@gmail.com or on 07963 476803.

Kinross & Ochil Walking Group

(Affiliated to Ramblers Scotland)

Winter is upon us and what better way to cheer yourself up than by getting out into the open air and exercising. We are a relaxed and sociable group who are always very happy to welcome new people, especially on our weekend walks. Do come along and try out a walk or two to see if you'd like to join us. We operate car-sharing but it is not essential to have a car.

Weekend Walks

Sunday 10 February – Wormit Circular, 9 miles

A coastal, woodland and country walk with lovely views of the Tay, Dundee and Balmerino Abbey.

Saturday 23 February – Lady Mary's Walk & Laggan Hill, 6 miles

A varied walk from the Glenturret Distillery down to MacRosty Park, along the River Earn and up Laggan Hill.

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

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

Tuesday Short Walks

For those who are new to walking or want a shorter walk, come and join us on our Tuesday morning walks. These are usually a maximum of 4 miles, 1½-2 hours, followed by a sociable visit to a coffee shop/farm shop/pub for refreshments.

Tuesday 5 February - Dysart & West Wemyss

A choice of two walks: An easy linear walk along Fife Coastal Path from Dysart to W Wemyss or a more vigorous circular walk returning from W Wemyss through Chapel Wood. Many points of historical interest.

Tuesday 19 February – Valleyfield Snowdrop Trail

A walk through Valleyfield Woodland Park with its wonderful display of snowdrops and the remnants of a Humphry Repton designed landscape of the former Valleyfield Estate.

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

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Need to check something in an old Newsletter?

Consult our electronic archive at

www.kinrossnewsletter.org

Issues from September 2006 to two months ago available

Kinross Camera Club

kinrosscameraclub.org.uk

We start February's activities with our Annual General Meeting on **Thursday 7 February** at which we'll be electing new committee members. On Wednesday 13 February we're travelling to St Andrews to take on St Andrews and Cupar clubs in a 3-way inter-club competition - fingers crossed! On Thursday 14 February we have a double competition: the Fortune & Greer competition with submissions of two prints on the theme of 'Water', and our new Smartphone Photography competition with submissions of up to three digital images which must have been taken on a camera phone. Mike Bell from Perth is speaking on Thursday 21 February on the subject 'Photography tours – do they help?' and we round off the month with another competition – the '10 minute talk and audio-visual (AV)' competition.

We meet on Thursdays at 7.30pm in the Church Centre, 64 High Street, Kinross. We also have a Digital Group which meets informally in The Inn, Crook of Devon, on the last Tuesday of every month – next one is Tuesday 26 February. Full details and

the syllabus are available on the website. Please contact secretary@kinrosscameraclub.org.uk with any questions.



We look forward to welcoming new members and you can try up to three sessions for free before committing to a membership. Hope to see you along at Kinross Camera Club soon!



'Provost Fleeing' by Doug Carrie which took first place in our Creative Digital competition in December, judged by Stan Farrow.

Kinross-shire Volunteer Group and Rural Outreach Scheme

Best wishes to all our service users and the amazing volunteer drivers for 2019, we wish you all a happy, healthy year.

KVG and ROS had a very heart-warming end to 2018. First of all there was bag-packing in Sainsbury's on 15 December. Everyone who helped enjoyed the experience because the customers were so cheery and interested in finding out about the group. £1008.47 was raised. Thank you to everyone who donated and who stopped to speak to us. A very big thanks, too, to the staff of Sainsbury's who, even on a busy pre-Christmas Saturday, went out of their way to be helpful and supportive.

Over Christmas we also received donations from several individuals and a local church group. All donations are very welcome and they also make us realise just how much the service KVG & ROS provides is valued in the community. One user wrote 'Thank you for being so helpful. I don't think I could manage without you all. You are all so kind'.

Our next fundraising event will be a concert on 16 March in Milnathort Town Hall. Sadly, Gaberlunzie recently retired but Gordon Menzies is still performing, and he and his friends will be providing the entertainment. Tickets will be out shortly so if you wish to join us please let a committee member know that you are interested. Last year was a great night so we know tickets will sell out very quickly this year.

Once again KVG & ROS are supporting the DanceSing Event that is being organised by the Kinross-shire Community Learning and Development Group. This, free, annual event will take place on **Thursday 14 February**, 1.30-3.30pm in the Campus. We will be writing to all our users informing them of the event and offering transport to anyone who is interested in attending but has no way of getting there.

If you spoke to us at Sainsbury's you will have seen our figures for 2017-2018 which are staggering. Our co-ordinator, Ann Munro and her assistant Ella Ward, handled 1954 requests for transport and the drivers clocked up 41,452 miles! This does put quite a lot of pressure on the 42 volunteer drivers. If you think you could become involved, we would love to hear from you.

Some people are happy to do the long journeys to hospitals as far away as Dundee, Edinburgh and Glasgow but other people only wish to do local runs. All are welcome and valued. With more people staying in their own homes for longer we are now regularly asked to drive people to the local shops, hairdressers, etc. This might not seem much to most of us but to someone who lives alone and has no access to transport it can make a huge difference to their health and wellbeing. If you are interested in becoming involved, please ring Ann Munro 01577 840196 – she would love to hear from you and talk you through the application process.

Kinross-shire Volunteer Group & Rural Outreach are looking forward to continue 'Bridging the Gap' in 2019.



Kinross-shire Historical Society December Meeting

On 10 December 2108, Prof David Munro and Jim Paterson gave a really interesting illustrated talk 'Oor Ain Game o' Curlin', the 350-year story of Kinross Curing Club. Jim Paterson is the President of the Curling Club and has curled with great success for many years. He has published a book about the club to mark the anniversary.

Although Loch Leven hasn't frozen over in recent years, possibly due to climate change, the loch has a history of several winter sports, including speed skating, of which Andrew Downie was a local champion. His skates and medal are in Kinross Museum. But the oldest winter sport is curling. By using the records of the club, the Annuals of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club, researched by Rita Watt [a volunteer at the Museum], and *The History of Curling* by John Kerr, the speakers traced the story of different aspects of curling.

The earliest stones did not have a handle but over time evolved to the design of today. Two early ones were found by Jim Paterson set in the wall of a house, the tradition being that if a curler died, his wife should set his stone in the house wall.

The first meeting, recorded in the Minute Book dated February 1818, was held with the annual dinner at Mr Donaldson's Inn [now the Green Hotel]. The meeting was concerned to record the age of the club, the regulations and the rules of the game as played on Loch Leven. Two years later, 16 rules appeared for Kinross-shire Curling Society. At another meeting six byelaws were introduced.

The oldest members had been in the club since 1768 and it was finally agreed on their evidence that 1668 was its start date.

Lots of clubs developed over the country and in 1838 a meeting was held in Edinburgh to create a national curling association. Kinross Club was well represented. The rules of the Caledonian Curling Club that were sent out to all the clubs later that year were more or less the Kinross rules.

Matches can only be played on the loch if it freezes to a good depth, so the club looked to providing other rinks. They included Bracklemoss, The Fish Pond and Mary's Knowe. In 1844 a rink was made on the Myre. The last rink created and still in use, behind the Bowling Green, was created as a commercial venture but the club took it over in 1935. In 1982, the club curled on Gallowhill Farm when a flooded field froze over. In 1978 an indoor curling rink was opened at the Green Hotel.

A curling competition started in 1864, competing for a gold and silver medal, and is still taking place today. Other trophies were played for including a gold one designed by Henry Flockhart of Annacroich in 1840. Jim Paterson has won many curling matches. His team won the Scottish Rotary trophy and then went to Canada where they won the Rotary World Championship. A painting which was first played for in 1840, still passes to each president of the club.

For Bonspeils, special trains would bring curlers to Loch Leven and make a special stop near the loch with special deals for carrying the stones. Jim Paterson was a new member in 1959 when Kinross won the Bonspeil held on the loch. The members of each team were given a gold medal and all members were given a meal at the Green Hotel. The last Bonspeil or Grand Match was held on the loch in 1978.

David Munro and Jim Paterson were thanked for a wonderful evening, David for his research and presentation and Jim for the amount of hard work he has put in to organising the 350th anniversary and producing the book.

January Meeting

Kinross-shire Historical Society were given an informative and entertaining talk on 19 January, 'My Jute Journey' by Sandra Thomson of McGregor Balfour.

The earliest records show jute was used as a soup in 800BC. It was then used for clothing and medicines and now it has *c*650 uses. In earlier times there were 110 jute mills and factories in Dundee, mainly employing women and children under nine who were small enough to crawl under the looms. Fire was a big problem due to the dust and caused many deaths. Dundee was proud of its spinners and weavers.

The East India Company brought the first jute to Dundee in 1820 because of the engineering skills of the city. The flax weavers were already there and it was the biggest whaling port in Europe. Whale oil was needed to soften the jute.

Jute is the fibre from a plant which grows in India and Bangladesh. From seeds, the plants grow 12-15 feet tall in a few months. It is then cut and left to break down, and the fibre taken from the stems. The fibre goes through nine processes to become twine.

Sandra Thomson was born in Calcutta and was sent to boarding school in Scotland. When her parents returned to Scotland, she finished her education in Dundee. She was not involved with jute but worked in other fields until her father died, when she thought she would have to close his company. However, that never happened. There were ups and downs to go through, with orders not arriving at one point because of industrial action in India. Sandra spent time in India and Bangladesh learning the business. She told many amusing stories from her time there.

Jute is very 'green' as it is totally biodegradable. Sandra is always trying to find new uses for jute and her attempts to start using it for shrouds and coffins were recounted with great humour. Her ideas have included jute flower pots, hats and bags. There was a wonderful display of jute bags for members to see and feel.

Sandra was asked to become the first female member of the Incorporation of Weavers, one of the Nine Trades. She is now their Liaison Officer and goes to care homes, schools, therapy and cancer units which she finds really rewarding.

Anne Milburn thanked her for her wonderful talk which showed her enthusiasm for jute and her wonderful sense of humour.



Ethiopia In The New Year

www.ethiopiamedicalproject.com

It's early in the New Year, and once again I find myself in Ethiopia. By the time you read this, I shall be deeply ensconced in the life of Buccama Clinic. As some of you may know, I made a supplementary visit in October to make sure a couple of things were happening well, and it was a very different experience, because the rains had come. Crops were high in the field, flowers were blooming, cows had enough grass and so were able to give milk. Even the birds seemed brighter and more colourful. In short, the place, which is usually arid and dry, was beautiful. The beauty can be distracting, because the problems are also plentiful. Buccama Clinic is still where it was, in deeply rural Southern Ethiopia. The people are still eeking out a living, with buying and selling small amounts at market - if you don't work, you don't get anything - no welfare state here. Everyone has to be resourceful in order to survive.



Jo in action

Ethiopia Medical Project (EMP) also has to be resourceful, in order to keep the project current, effective, manageable



Jo with some of the mothers in their finery

and do-able. Many of you will know that initially our main interest was women suffering from uterine prolapse. We have made great inroads into helping with this problem – education, hygiene, pants, exercises, pessaries and in some cases, medical intervention, have all gone a long way to alleviating the problem in our area.

We pay the salaries of the clinic staff (£2000 per month for 20 people) so the staff is stable and fairly constant.

However, we have recently taken on the education and alleviation of the problem of Podoconiosis, which is a form of elephantiasis in the lower leg area, contracted from the soil, and not from worms or mosquitoes. The care and cure is very simple. Simple, but not easy: soaking, soaping, massaging, socks and shoes. Simple if you have access to all those things, impossible if you don't. The clinic is now running outdoor clinics for this treatment. You don't need doctors or nurses. You just need the basics, plus determination and a good deal of courage and empathy. Podoconiosis is not pretty, the affected feet and legs swell badly, it is incredibly debilitating, uncomfortable and the people are ashamed and disgusted. None of us would or could tolerate it for half a day.

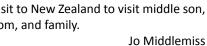


Jo with a mother, repaired and returning to her family

The phrase: 'You have seen our shame and you haven't been ashamed of us.' ...was spoken once during a farewell speech. That sentence alone keeps us going.

None of what we do would be possible without the help of the good people of Kinross-shire, so this article is really a letter of thanks to all you good souls out there who help The Ethiopia Medical Project (EMP), who support us, who give socks, pants, money, love and support. Special thanks to our local Rotary Club, the Inner Wheel ladies, Common Grounds, St Paul's Episcopal Church, Richard at Loch Leven Laundry, 'She's No In She's 'Oot' ladies and the many, many individually generous people, who have contributed over the last few years.

I'll be back at the end of March, after a visit to New Zealand to visit middle son, Tom, and family.





Jo with local politicians, clinic staff and guards

The Kinross-shire Civic Trust

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Planning Matters

The Trust continues to monitor planning issues in Kinross-shire. Here are some noteworthy items from recent weeks:

Lathro Park extra houses

Persimmon Homes lodged a 'Proposal of Application Notice' (PAN) with the Council in November regarding phase 2 of the Lathro Farm development. A PAN, followed by a public exhibition, is required for major developments (over 50 houses).

Persimmon already have permission to build 113 houses in phase 2, under consent granted in 2017.

houses, but this still means an increase of 23% in terms of bedrooms. The Trust has lodged a formal complaint with PKC regarding the wording of the PAN, which the Trust believes was misleading.

The PKC Local Development Plan (adopted in 2014) stated an allocation of 260 dwellings for the whole Lathro site, with a limit of 140 dwellings up to the year 2024. In 2017 the Council gave Persimmon permission to build 300 houses across the whole site and disregarded the 2024 limit. So if Persimmon are successful in their new proposal, it will mean a total of 389

removal of virtually all trees and shrubs in the hotel grounds. It also involves the removal of one of the large trees in the avenue of trees in the Market Park.

The formal garden in the grounds of the Windlestrae contains some fine specimen trees and their removal would be detrimental to the backdrop view to the Market Park, a key location in the Conservation Area.

The application is now closed for comment but has not yet gone to the Council's Planning Committee.

In principle applications in Conservation Areas

The adopted Local Development Plan states: 'Applications for Planning Permission in Principle in Conservation Areas will not be considered acceptable without detailed plans including elevations, which show the development in its setting.' (Policy HE3A).

The Trust has noticed two examples recently of 'in Principle' applications to erect dwelling houses in the Kinross Conservation Area being publicised by the local authority and open for comment even though the only drawings supplied were basic plot diagrams with no detailed plans or elevation drawings. The Trust is puzzled as to why PKC validates these applications.



This event takes place on **Wednesday 20 February** at 7.30pm at the Grouse & Claret. There will be a wine and canapé reception followed by a three-course dinner and a talk by Peter Nurick on the V&A Dundee. Tickets are £35 (service included) per head. Please contact Elsa Sinclair on 01577 863279 if you are interested in attending.

Alistair Smith, Chair



Persimmon intend to apply for new permission at Lathro Farm, hoping to gain consent for a further 89 houses Photo courtesy of Ken Whitcombe/Aerial Photography Solutions

The PAN said 'Residential Development (revised housetype mix)'. So far, so innocent, you might think. It was only on attending the public exhibition on 10 December that it became apparent that Persimmon want to build 202 dwellings in phase 2 – so that's an extra 89 houses on this part of the Lathro Farm site. The current permission is for mainly larger (including five- and six-bedroom) houses and Persimmon want to change this to a greater number of smaller (mainly two-, three- and four-bedroom)

houses on a site that was only ever intended to have 260 houses, and all in a much shorter timescale.

The PAN means that it is likely that Persimmon will follow with a formal full planning application in the next few weeks. There will be an opportunity for the public to comment.

Windlestrae site

The Trust is not opposed to the idea of a retirement development at the Windlestrae, but objected to the recent application as the proposal involves the

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Well Kept County Competitions

At the end of the year the Awards Steering Group held very useful separate meetings with the Hamlet and Village Organisers. In the coming year we will be building on the changes made in 2018 and very much hope that these will encourage more communities to take part in the competition. The Steering Group will be meeting this month to work out

the criteria for the three, two or one star awards and will present these to a full meeting of organisers in March.

They will also be following up all possible contacts with a view to encouraging them to take part and would be very pleased to hear from anyone living in a community which has not yet taken part.

Contact the Chair of the awards committee, David Hill at drhmarshbrook@gmail.com.

The current proposals are as follows:

- · to rename the competitions 'Well-kept' instead of 'Best Kept'.
- to use 'Well Kept County' as an umbrella name to include both hamlets and villages.
- to run the competitions for hamlets and villages separately on different days with different judges and judging criteria.
- to hold the competition at a different time each year: autumn in 2019, spring in 2020 and summer in 2021.
- to send out in April invitations to take part for return by the end of the month.
- to give each organiser the opportunity to show the steering group what their community is doing and to agree the judges' route round the settlement.
- to provide each organiser with advice on obtaining financial and practical support.
- to continue to award the cups for the best kept village and best kept hamlet and from 2020 the cup for the most improved.
- to award three, two or one stars and present each entrant with an appropriate certificate.
- to announce the result by email on the same evening.
- to hold the Presentation Ceremony in the Masonic Hall, in 2019 in October.

Kinross Potager Garden

Although the garden is currently 'sleeping' for the winter, our volunteer group are still meeting up weekly to have a coffee and chat, and we'll soon be thinking about ideas for the new season.



Margaret and I were asked back to Gateside Village Hall just before Christmas for a fresh wreath workshop, which we all enjoyed, along with mince pies and mulled wine. We are grateful for this fundraising opportunity, and hope that everyone enjoyed their wreaths or table decorations over Christmas.



A range of creative designs was produced at the wreath workshop

This spring and summer we will be working with Kinross Primary School to start some growing in the school grounds, and also developing the Hayfield area beside the school as a wildlife habitat, and a safe and stimulating outdoor learning area (see p24). If you would be interested in helping with this project, please contact Amanda James, garden convenor, at amandajames1577@gmail.com.

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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.

Loch Leven Community Library

Loch Leven Community Campus, Muirs, Kinross Tel: 01577 867205 E: lochlevenlibrary@culturepk.org.uk www.culturepk.org.uk

Opening Times

Mon* 10am-1pm
Tue, Wed & Thu 10am-8pm
Fri 10am-6pm
Sat* 10am-3pm

*Mon 10am-1pm & Sat 1-3pm. Limited service, run by volunteers

Regular Sessions for Young Children

No need to book, just come along:

- Bookbug Rhymetimes Sat 10.30-11am. Wed 2-2.30pm.
- Pre-school Story Time Tues 10.15-10.45am

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

Stay and Play Wed 2.30-3.30pm Sat 11am-12.

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

Book Groups at the Library

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

Crime: Once a month on a Tuesday, 6.45-7.45pm **General**: Once a month on a Friday 10.30-11.30am

Cafe: Once a month on a Saturday 11.15am. Next meetings: **Sat 9 February, Sat 9 March**.

Please contact the Library for the other book group dates.

Book Group for Children:

Chatterbooks. For children aged 7-11. On the first Friday of each month. **Next meeting 1 Feb 4-5pm.** New members welcome. Please contact the library to book a place.

Code Club: Code Club gives children aged 7-11 years an opportunity to learn to code. The project introduces coding concepts to allow children to build their knowledge incrementally. Every Thursday 4-5pm. New members welcome. Please contact the library to book a place.

IT Help Sessions

Free sessions – booking essential. Monthly on a Thursday 2pm onwards. Next session 7 Feb (then 7 March).

Coffee and Crochet

Fancy coming along to a crochet club? Chat, enjoy coffee and share hints & tips while working on your project. Next meeting Friday 8 Feb 1.30pm. Come along and join this small friendly group. Please note although help will be given this is not a teaching class for beginners.

Creative Writing Group

Always wanted to try your hand at creative writing? Come along, its free, interesting and supportive to budding writers. Next meeting Tuesday 26 Feb 6-7.45 pm.

Foodbank: The library is now a foodbank collection point for 'Broke not Broken'

Free WiFi & Computer use for library guests and members Dog waste bags available

Kitchen waste caddies available

More information on all Library, Museum and Art gallery events at: www.culturepk.org.uk/whats-on

Friends of Loch Leven Community Library (FOLLCL)

Happy New Year! By the time you read this 2019 will be well underway (and hopefully you'll still be sticking to your New Year's



resolutions!). It seems a while since our AGM — which we held in November — but we thought you would like to know that in the 12 months prior to that we had nearly 2000 visits from the public during the hours we opened the library. You borrowed, returned and ordered books, used the library computers, took away kitchen bins and dog waste bags ...and more! We have really enjoyed meeting you all and getting to know our regular customers. We're looking forward to seeing you all in 2019! Thanks to you all for your support.

FOLLCL is a group of independent volunteers who staff Loch Leven Community Library on Saturday afternoons from 1pm-3pm and on Monday mornings from 10am-1pm. For further information, please contact Richard Scott on 07999 510500 or find us on Facebook.

Community Resource Group

After discussions with various Kinross-shire groups and organisations we have identified a need to upskill and train members and volunteers to ensure they are equipped with the skills and knowledge they require to run their activities effectively.



The Community Resource Group has come together with partners from the Kinross-shire Community Learning and Development Group. Partners are representatives from Broke Not Broken, Friends of Loch Leven Library, Kinross and District Men's Shed and PKAVs. This group have only met once and already we aim to take forward supporting community groups and organisations in Kinross-shire. We would welcome more community representatives if anyone feels they could contribute to the development of this group. The group aims are to:

Work together to develop support and training sessions to upskill and show appreciation to volunteers, community organisations and groups in the area.

Identify and provide opportunities to enable groups and organisations to celebrate their achievements.

Encourage services, groups and organisations to share training opportunities that can be opened up to the wider community, sharing resources, skills and knowledge.

Training Opportunities for Community Groups and Organisations in Kinross-shire

Community Resource Group Meeting, Campus, 7 Feb at 1.30pm.

Impact of Poverty Awareness Session (Free, 16 spaces available) Campus, 14 March from 9.30am to 12.30pm

Community Fundraising (Free, 15 spaces available) Campus

Community Fundraising (Free, 15 spaces available) Campus, 17 April at 7-9pm.

First Aid at Work Certificate from the Red Cross (Free, 15 spaces available) Campus, 2 April from 9.30am to 5pm.

For further information please contact Tracey Ramsay on 01577 867124 or email tramsay@pkc.gov.uk or KinrossComLearn@pkc.gov.uk.

Kinnesswood in Bloom

We are pleased to see the completion of the Benarty View Project. This was suggested as an area for development by local residents three years ago. Progress has at times been frustrating,



difficult and very slow but in October we finally had a lease approved and got the funding together. We were able to appoint contractors and they have worked hard to fulfill our requirements and produce the high-quality landscaping and stonework we can see at Benarty View.

Thanks are due to David Buchan and Turfitt who between them have enabled the project to be finished to a high standard. The funding for the bench was collected in memory of Tom Buchan. It is a stunning place to view the Benarty Hills. Mrs Clydesdale's bench has also found a new place in the garden.

We hope to open the garden and dedicate the bench in the spring. By then the grass will be well established and the heather bed reinstated.



The beautiful village feature which is 'Benarty View'

The wording for an interpretation board has been produced by Prof David Munro, emphasising the importance of the landscape and the many interesting finds which have been found in the Year of Archaeology and History. Thank you, Rory for building the frame for the board.

Funding has come from Perth and Kinross CECF Fund, Awards for All (lottery), Kinross-shire Fund, Scottish Landfill, Kinnesswood in Bloom, Residents' Fundraising, Kinross Community Council and the Memorial Bench Fund.

It is especially pleasing to see people using the bench and even to spot a family having their first picnic of the year. Please post any pictures on our Facebook page!

Work parties continued into December, ending with the Christmas tree going up before Christmas and there was even a big group who came to take it down again at the beginning of January.

We have a night out planned for February to celebrate 2018 and look forward to the gardening year in 2019.

Scotlandwell Frames

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Recipe

supplied by Kinnesswood in Bloom

Couscous with Butternut Squash and Herbs

Ingredients

750g butternut squash

- 3 tbsp olive oil
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 clove garlic, crushed
- 250g couscous
- 1 cinnamon stick
- Grated zest of a lemon
- ½ long red chilli, chopped
- 20g fresh flat-leaf parsley, chopped
- 4 tbsp mint leaves, chopped
- 100g pine nuts, toasted
- 60g golden raisins
- ¼ tsp ground allspice

Method

Peel and remove seeds from the squash and cut flesh into 1cm diced pieces.

Heat 2 tbsp of the oil in a large frying pan over a low heat. Add the squash and cook, stirring, for about 10 minutes. Add the onion and garlic and cook for a further 7-8 minutes, or until the vegetables are tender.

Cook the couscous with the cinnamon stick in a large pot of boiling salted water, following pack instructions. Drain and add the couscous to the vegetables and toss with the remaining oil. Add the lemon zest, chilli, parsley, mint, pine nuts, raisins, allspice and salt and pepper to taste.

Toss to mix well and cook until heated through.





Kinross High School

Creative Writing Workshop

To celebrate Book Week Scotland, we hosted a creative writing workshop for some of our S3 pupils with the Carnegie Medal Award winning author, Theresa Breslin. Theresa worked with pupils to explore developing character in their writing and the pupils left the workshop inspired and ready to write!

Family Literacy Event

We were delighted to host our first ever Family Literacy event with Loch Leven Community Campus on Wednesday 21 November. Parents and carers of Primary 7, S1 and S2 pupils were invited to come along and find out more about ways to support young people with their reading. Pupils spoke about their involvement with our paired reading scheme and the library staff shared recommended reads. It was great to see so many turn out to support this event.

S2 Digging In Trip

On Wednesday 5 December, 35 pupils across S2 travelled to Pollok Park in Glasgow to visit a series of WWI trenches that had been recreated by Digging In. They spent 90 minutes exploring the trenches before heading back to school and creating presentations which they showed to their classes, thereby sharing their experiences with the whole year group. Pupils were able to handle a broken bayonet and a piece of tin helmet which were once part of a soldiers required kit. They were also dressed up in the full wool uniform and saw various types of gas masks used during the First World War. The main focal point was the trenches themselves; pupils were guided around and took part in various tasks before having some time to explore the trenches on their own. Although the weather was bitterly cold, pupils appreciated that soldiers fighting on the Western Front would have faced far worse conditions with less equipment.

One S2 pupil said 'although it was cold, we learned a lot and we were able to take part in various re-enactments including dressing up in soldiers' clothing, handling artefacts and learning how to use signal flags. I found it incredibly fun and it was worth being out in the cold'.



KHS pupils explored a recreation of WWI trenches in Glasgow

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Please call Raymond Crawford Tel: 01577 862865 Mob: 07891 661309

Staff vs Pupil Bake-off

Staff and pupils went head to head before the holidays in our second bake-off competition. The challenge was to create a traybake and the results looked and tasted amazing.

Mr Bain was forced to hand the trophy over to our new winner Mrs Prentice who wowed the judges with her 'Cherry Blast from the Past'. The resulting treats were sold in the staff room with all proceeds going to Kinross First Responders. Well done to everyone who took part.

Broke Not Broken Christmas Appeal

Dr Armstrong and his team of hardworking Christmas elves had a hefty task on their hands, sorting and packaging the huge amount of food, supplies and treats collected for the Broke Not Broken Christmas Hamper Appeal. Thanks to everyone who contributed. We were able to fill 23 hampers and still had seven boxes full of extra donations which are sure to have brought some Christmas cheer to local families.



The huge amount of donations for the Christmas Hamper Appeal

Equestrian News

The Equestrian Team has been very successful recently with a number of excellent performances at Strathallan Schools Show Jumping Team Event at Howe Equestrian Centre.

The team competed in jumps from 55cm to 1m. The 75 and 85cm jumps were fantastic rounds for everyone but the competitors really shone in the 55cm where Maisie (S1) came sixth with the team placing second overall. Team two placed fifth in the 85cm. The highlight of the event was winning the 1m round with Anna (S5) being placed first in the individual competition too!

Also, in their final competition of the year, Sophie (S1) competed as an individual, coming sixth in the 85cm and first place in her first ever attempt at the 95cm class! Well done girls. (See also page 52.)



Maisie Price, Anna Bayne and Lucy Allison

Kinross High School continued...

Interact Group Shoebox Appeal

For a number of years now, Kinross High School have taken part in the Rotary Club's 'Interact' initiative. This brings young people aged 12 to 18 together to develop leadership skills while discovering the power of 'service above self'.

The school are working with the Rotary Club of Kinross to deliver the Interact programme for students in S5 and S6 and, as part of the programme, we decided to run the Shoebox appeal within school.

The Rotary Club of Kinross collected a total of 364 boxes which were delivered to Eastern Europe in time for Christmas. Your very kind gifts helped to brighten the lives of children who may not have had a very merry Christmas otherwise. Rotary International and the Kinross High School Interact Group would like to thank all who contributed to our Shoebox Appeal; you really have made such a huge difference.

Scottish Schools Individual Fencing Championships

The annual Scottish Schools Individual Fencing Championships were hosted by Linlithgow Academy at the end of November. The event included all three of the weapons that are used in the Olympic sport of Fencing. Participants competed in three different age categories (under 14, under 16 and over 16). Fencing has been shown to improve self-discipline, confidence and courage (qualities we aim to encourage in our pupils) as well as improving reaction times, mental agility, balance and hand-eye coordination.

Well done to our pupils who competed; Caitlin (S4) who was placed tenth and Charlotte (S4) and Sam (S5) who both came first

Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation (KLEO)

www.kleo.org.uk

Kinross Farmers' market



The Kinross Farmers'
Market will start again in April, with the

first market on **Saturday 27 April** from 10am-2pm on the High Street of Kinross.

The following market dates will be on every fourth Saturday of the month from April to October (there is no market in July). Markets will be on the following dates: 27 Apr, 25 May, 22 June, 24 Aug, 28 Sept and 26 Oct from 10am-2pm. Like last year the High Street will be closed from the entrance to Burns Begg Street to the entrance of Montgomery Street.

Kinross Kacophony Orchestra

An orchestra for adults who like to play their instruments in a group with conductor Dougie Flower. All abilities welcome but it is handy if you read music. Please don't worry if you haven't played for a while, we are a very friendly and informal bunch. This block will run until 20 March (no rehearsal on 13 Feb), 7.15pm to 9.15pm at Loch Leven Community Campus. Contact Bouwien Bennet on 01577 863107 for more information. Weekly fee £5.

Leven Voices

Leven Voices is a fun, informal drop-in singing group which you can join any time. No music reading or singing experience is necessary, just come along, sing and enjoy! The current block of 10 sessions with tutor Emma Neck will run until 13 March, 7.30pm at Kinross Parish Church. You pay as you go (£4 or £3 concession). There is a £6 'registration fee' which is used to pay for the hall for 10-week period. Just come along, sing and enjoy!

For more information about KLEO events go to www.kleo.org.uk

Kinross 50-Plus Club

The monthly meeting is on **Thursday 7 February** when our speaker is Mr W Shand who will give a film showing the north of Scotland.



Away Days

28 Feb Abernyte Antiques

The bus leaves the Green Hotel at 9.15am. Contact Mrs P Crawford 01577 862962.

Notices

Regretfully I have to advise members that our treasurer, Jean Beveridge, has decided to retire after over 18 years in post. In addition, she has, more recently, organised our annual holiday and the speakers for our monthly meetings. I would like to place on record our thanks to Jean for her tremendous contribution to the club and its members.

As a consequence, the club requires a new treasurer, and in addition more candidates for the club committee would be most welcome. I would like to point out that most members of the committee have served for a long number of years and deserve a rest.

The duties are not onerous and it is a case of many hands make light work. If you feel you could give a little of your time to assist in the running of the club please contact W. Fubister Law, Chairman on 01577 208469 or any member of the committee.

Friday Walkers

8 Feb Elmwood Golf Club and Crawford Priory

22 Feb Powmill Circular Walk

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

Friday Hillwalkers

1 Feb Strathmiglo, Falkland Anne/Kate 9am 15 Feb St Ninians, Loch Fitty Moira 9am Contact Pauline Watson, 01577 862685

Activities

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 Alastair Ford, 01577 861722.

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

Sports News

Kinross Kobras Junior Hockey

www.kinrosshockey.org

Our last competitive outing was an indoor tournament in Dundee before Christmas. Some players had been practising at indoor sessions and the U12s benefited with some good results. Some of the U10s had their first tournament experience and they played some great hockey.

The mild weather has meant our outdoor training has restarted at KGV and (as at time of writing) we are still running popular indoor sessions on Sundays at the High School.

In February we look forward to an U14 tournament then the outdoor tournaments for all age groups will start again at the end of March.

Special mention goes to the Girls Development squad who played a number of games recently, including one against the Kinross Ladies second team. They get stronger and stronger with each game. Thanks go to Kirsty Dunn for organising the squad. Kobras train on Tuesday and Thursday

nights from 6.30-7.30pm with an earlier session for 7-8 year KOBRAS olds starting at 5.30pm. Check our website for more details.



Players from the Dundee Tournament





Kinross Rugby Club

Youth Section - Minis

Happy New Year to all! After a couple of weeks of wall to wall selection boxes and Fortnite, the

wee'uns at Kinross Rugby are currently sheltering from the cold in the warmth of the campus for a few weeks of winter training. However, come mid-February we will be back out on the pitches, soaking up the (ahem) winter sun and probably a fair amount of mud!

With a couple of away games to get the ball bouncing, our first home fixture of the year is against Kirkcaldy and Bannockburn on **Sunday 24 February**. All are welcome to come and support our youngest players with hot drinks and home baking available.

Training for P1-P7 takes place on Saturday mornings. Please contact Morven Clark or any other coach for details of times over the winter.

Youth Section - Midis

Training for S1-S4 boys has resumed on a Tuesday evening at 7pm under the guidance of Rab Allan; former

Kinross RFC player and experienced coach. All Kinross RFC coaches are SRU qualified and PVG'd. We are currently looking to recruit more boys to build on the collaboration with Kinross High School's rugby initiatives. No prior experience needed; just a touch of enthusiasm and a 'give it a try' attitude.

Seniors

We had a hard game on Saturday 12 January against Stirling Accies. Kinross were slow to start and were three tries down in 20 minutes. The game plan was better thereafter. Good forward play saw a driving maul lead to veteran Martin Bell driving over. Scores from open play in the second half saw scores from Garry Tolson and Cameron Mchardy. Our injury hit side finished with 14 men but fought well until the final whistle. The final score was Kinross RFC 15, Stirling Accies 31.

Our next home game is on **Friday 1 February** against Madras with kick off at 7pm.

The rugby club will be open to everyone during the up and coming 'Six Nations Championship'.

Kinross-shire Cricket Club

AGM

The Annual General Meeting was held at the pavilion on 7 December. Anthony Drew, chair, outlined the 2018 season and thanked everyone



who played a part in the continued growth of the club during the year. One of the highlights was the tour to Austria to play Vienna and their return fixtures to Kinross in September. The following officials were elected: Chair, Kirsteen Ross; Treasurer, Elizabeth Porter; Secretary, Graham Glover; Club Captain, John Ross; Vice captain, Anthony Drew; Junior convener, David Millikan; Junior Representative, Oliver Roe; Committee member, Brian Jennings; Committee member, Ivan Groenewald; Committee member, Simon Kay.

2019 Season

The club has undergone considerable investment over the past three years with the addition of two artificial pitches, an extension to the pavilion and the addition of a groundman's store.

The coming year will focus on senior and junior matches and many more community events at the ground. The senior teams have a solid fixture list of both league and friendly games starting in April. While most games are in the local area, there are games planned at two of Scotland's One-day International grounds at The Grange, Edinburgh and Mannofield in Aberdeen. Junior matches will be at the Larder and clubs across Fife and Perth-shire.

Junior winter training is underway at the Campus every Monday evening.

Seniors have a range of indoor league matches and social events planned over the winter. Events include an indoor table tennis tournament, scalextric grand-prix night, indoor BBQ and indoor golf in Dunfermline.

Club History

The club captain has spent time looking at the club history with a view to producing a book later in 2019. We have considerable information on the club from its creation in 1853 up to the early 1900s. We are very keen to hear from anyone whose family may have a connection with the club in those times. Some of the most prominent club committee members during this time were Mr D M Hutchison, member from 1894-1934 and lived at Merkland, Kinross; Arthur, Alex and R Beveridge who all played during the 1890s and Mr R Telfer of Lochburn Terrace who was secretary from 1904-1945. If you do know these people, or have any information on the club, please contact the club by email at secretary@kinrosscc.co.uk or at our club address of 15 Springfield Park.



Kinross Netball Club

We are now back in full swing after our Christmas break. Training started again on 4 January and it's been great to see some new faces joining our club.



A big well done to our league team, Kinross Stars, who have started the year with a clean sheet beating Dunedin Lions 71-16. So far the team have been unbeaten in their debut season in the CENA league.

Also a big well done to our BBNers who entered the BBN Christmas tournament; they only ended up winning the whole tournament! It was a great day out and everyone enjoyed themselves.



Our very own BBN Christmas tournament winners!

If you've always fancied giving netball a go or, if you haven't played for a while and want to come back to it, please come along to one of our sessions. They're held on a Friday night from 7-8.30pm in the large games hall at the Loch Leven community campus.

You can also follow us on our Facebook page (Kinross Netball Club) to keep up with our latest news and events.

Under 13s

Kinross U13s started back in January and also hosted their very first friendly against Fife. At the time of writing, the outcome of the match was not known but we'll keep you updated. Kinross U13s was set up to encourage and develop kids netball skills aged P7 and S1. We do also have a few younger ones who come along and look like they'll form a new U12s team this coming season.

If you'd like to come along, we train on a Friday at 6-7pm in the large games hall at the campus and the cost is £3 per session.

Piano Tuition for all ages and abilities

Local teacher with over 35 years' experience from complete beginners to retirees.

School exams a speciality.

Please contact: Mrs Michelle Smith 07925 267997

Kinross Tennis Club

www.kinrosstennisclub.org.uk

The weather is certainly turning colder but the tennis will continue in Kinross! Weather permitting, our adult club sessions will still be

on Wednesday evenings (6.30pm) and Sunday mornings (10.30am). Thursday afternoon social sessions are also continuing indoors at Gleneagles. New players are always very welcome to join us.

Tennis for Tots

Sessions will continue throughout winter. The Tots have been indoor at the Millbridge Hall since the October holidays and we've got nearly 30 children joining us for the spring term. Sessions are also continuing with Rosemount Nursery on Wednesday morning when we have an extra 13 tots joining us.

For information, or to book a place, contact coach Siobhan MacLeod at kinrosstenniscoaching@gmail.com.

Junior Coaching

Coaching has also been continuing indoors on a Tuesday evening at LLCC between 5-7pm. Contact coach Daniel Reed at dartennis@gmx.co.uk for more information.

Further details on all coaching and club activities can also be found by visiting our Facebook page (Kinross Tennis Club).

New members

New members are always welcome at the club. If you are new to tennis, or would like to get playing again after a break, please contact us at kinrosstennisclub@gmail.com.

Visitor keys are available from Sands the Ironmonger for a small fee.



Siobahn Macleod with the Rosemount Nursery Tennis Tots

Kinross Swimmers

Hopefully you're enjoying a great 2019 after the 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! 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. We start in the water 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 contact us on Facebook (Kinross Swimmers). Alternatively contact Ian Shepherd by email at shepherd_ian@hotmail.com or mobile number 07944 503074.

Fossoway Curling Club

The club recently took part in 'The Christmas Potty' and, although we didn't win the competition, we did win the prize for the best fancy dress in the first session.



We were defeated in the semi-final of The Wilson Trophy by Kinross Juniors going down 8-4. Given that Kinross Juniors are a very strong club with two of their members winning a gold medal at the recent European Championship, we didn't do too badly.

Meanwhile, our club competitions continue with the top three players in the club championship being separated by only two points.

Since becoming a mixed club we have increased our membership by 40% and now have six lady members.

Fossoway are a small and friendly mixed curling club based in Crook of Devon, although our members come from far and wide. We play throughout the season, mostly at Kinross, with a few games in Perth. We are always looking for new members (beginners and experienced) who will find a warm welcome waiting. Coaching is available. Contact Alan on 01577 840695 or Willie on 01577 840405 for details.

Kinross-shire is a Fairtrade County

Volleyball

Congratulations to two of our local volleyballers who won their first international caps playing for Scotland Men In International matches against English men's teams.



Jack McKelvey

Jack McKelvey and Mitchell Brown started playing volleyball aged 12 at Kinross High School and are the first two locals to represent their country in a full international team.

Both also play beach volleyball and have aspirations to continue playing the 2 ν 2 version of the sport at international level over the summer months.

Kinross teams competing in the local Perth and Kinross District league have had mixed fortunes to date. The men's premier league side have a fair number of new younger players in their ranks.

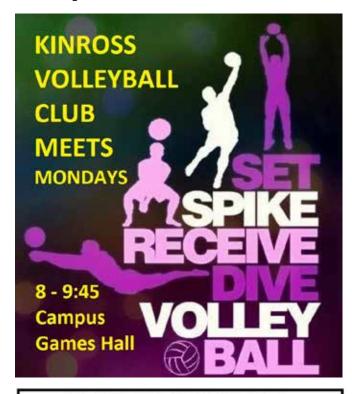
In the recreational league Kinross BB and Mongrels have also had new, younger blood brought in and it is taking time for the youngsters to bed in. Monday night training sessions at the Kinross Campus continue to attract new members with a number of new adults and youngsters taking up the sport. Volleyball is the fifth largest team sport in the world.

Numbers of youngsters attending the Wednesday volleyball sessions have also increased and a number of festivals at varying age groups, organised by Scottish Volleyball, will take place this term.

A European Volleyball Federation initiative to encourage upper primary school pupils into the sport will be rolled out to a number of our local primary schools. A local festival will be held in the Campus games hall in the summer term.



Mitchell Brown



DAVID NAIRN

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Kinross Golf Club

www.kinrossgolfclub.co.uk

As of 1 January 2019, new golf rules came into play worldwide. The changes have been brought in to modernise the game while making the rules more consistent, fair and easier to understand and apply. Fraser Munro, Head of Events at Scottish Golf, who is an experienced Rules Official and a member of Kinross golf club, gave a very interesting and informative presentation just before the end of the year on the new rules and the impact they would have on members. Neil Cairney, Match Secretary thanked Fraser and hoped the session had given everyone present a greater understanding of the new rules and reminded everyone of the new Player's Edition of the Rules of Golf which is available to members. Gents and ladies winter golf is ongoing and those members who continue to play throughout the winter will have a grand opportunity to familiarise themselves with the new rules before the season opens on 30 March.

The dates of our Kinross Golf Club 2019 Opens are:

Sunday 12 May – Mixed Greensomes. Sunday 2 June – Gents Individual Strokeplay. Thursday 11 July – Senior Ladies Greensomes. Tuesday 16 July – Junior Individual Strokeplay. Wednesday 4 September – Senior Gents 4BBB. Saturday 7 September – Ladies Individual Stableford.

Check out our website for more information, or follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

SEWING ALTERATIONS by

MAUREEN

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KHS Equestrian

Huge congratulations to the Kinross High School Equestrian Team who were out competing again, this time at Strathallan's School Show Jumping Team Event at Howe Equestrian Centre on 18 November 2018.

We had entries for every class with fantastic results from everyone.

55cm Team: Maisie Price, Anna Bayne, Lucy Allison. Team

placed 2nd, Maisie Price Individual 6th.

70cm Team: Lucy Allison, Fern Smith, Maisie Price.

Fantastic rounds by everyone.

85cm Team 1: Fern Smith, Rachael Davis, Anna Casasola, Lucy Allison. Fantastic rounds from everyone.

85cmTeam 2: Mhairi Gallagher, Sophie

Normille, Aimee Hamilton, Finn Thomson. Team placed 5th.

1m Individual: Rachael Davis. Great round.

1m Team: Anna Casasola, Anna Smith, Beth Casasola, Gina

Haywood. Team WON!

Anna Casasola won 1st individual.

Anna Smith 6th individual.

See also Kinross High School, page 74.







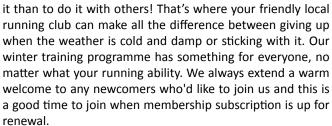
Maisie Price, Lucy Allison and Fern Smith

Finn and Aimee

Kinross Road Runners

http://kinrossroadrunners.weebly.com

It's a New Year and there are lots of people resolving to fit more exercise into their busy daily routine – and there is no better way to do



The annual awards dinner was held in January at Loch Leven's Larder attended by around 80 members and friends. It was a great night of good food, good company and entertainment from Roger Stark with his audio visual 'round up' of the club's activities in 2018. This year featured an extended list of prize winners in recognition of a variety of running achievements over all the distances from the 5k Parkrun series to ultra marathons. The Club Championship winners were Jillian Gordon and David Scott (Road races) and Lynn Hunter and Matt Newton (Off-road). The coveted Athlete Of The Year Award was jointly presented to Leigh Verdot and Scott Strachan.

The Loch Leven parkrun is now a firm fixture every Saturday morning at 9.30am for the 5km loop from Loch Leven's Larder and recently featured as one of the 10 most scenic

park runs in Scotland by *The Scotsman*. It's not surprising that it attracts locals and visitors alike. The Loch Leven Junior Parkrun is held every Sunday morning at 9.30am over a 2k course at Kirkgate Park for 4 to 14-year-olds.

Club training for February is outlined below. We meet for all sessions at 7pm at the health centre car park opposite the Campus. Tuesday nights will focus mainly on hill work with a programme of sessions designed to improve your running strength whilst Wednesday evenings are mainly speedwork. We have a couple of less formally structured torchlit trail runs where we head out on the quieter trails with head torches. We meet up for an informal Sunday morning run every week at 9am at the health centre car park for either a trail or hill run at a very leisurely pace.

Check our Facebook page or website for further information or to make contact.

Programme for February

Tuesday 5 Feb Hills: reps

Wednesday 6 Feb 2 mile time trial, kit sale & hot

chocolate

Tuesday 12 Feb
Wednesday 13 Feb
Thursday 14 Feb
Tuesday 19 Feb
Wednesday 20 Feb
Tuesday 26 Feb
Wednesday 27 Feb
Hills – benchmark
S x 4 min intervals
Valentine's torch run
SM streetlit run
KGV Diagonals
Hills – intervals
Hills – reps

Scottish Women's Institutes



CLEISH - In December Cleish SWI held an evening of Coffee, Cake and Carols when children from Cleish primary school sang a few carols. The main entertainment for the night was Rural Blend, who led the singing with a fair bit of audience participation, By the end of the night everyone was in festive mood.

In January President Helen Buchanan welcomed everyone back for the first meeting of 2019. After business, our speaker Pat Graham told us about different ways to declutter our wardrobes and advice on choosing clothes to fit our lifestyles. The next meeting is on 11 February.

Shortbread A Bayne Favourite handbag S Webster Pot plant **D** Morris

CARNBO – President Jay Hutchison welcomed all members to our Christmas party night in December. We had a lovely meal catered by Heaven Scent. Entertainment and music was provided by member Rosemary Hudson. Each member was given a gift from the Secret Santa.

A sewn Christmas item Susan Malcolm

President Jay Hutchison welcomed 35 members and one guest to the January meeting. After business, Claire Paton gave us a talk and slide show which gave us an insight to the history of her home at Lethangie House.

Flower of the month Cath Mearns A cake made with honey Ann Petherick

The next meeting is on 18 February at Carnbo Hall at 7.15pm. All welcome.

GLENFARG – President Margaret Scott welcomed members to a pot luck Christmas Party, held this year in the Village Hall. Entertainment was provided by Lesley Murison whose funny stories, ditties and 'Would I Tell a Lie' quiz caused much laughter and enjoyment and the whole occasion was a pleasurable start to Christmas.

Christmas tree decoration Jeannie Black Three assorted sweets Alison Harrison

(and the judges ate them all....)

Flower of the month Allison Messenger

BISHOPSHIRE - Joanne Cowan welcomed members to our December meeting which took the form of a lovely meal provided by Heaven Scent from Milnathort. Entertainment was provided by Mary Nisbet, Norma Smith, Avril Martin and Joanne Cowan. Sylvia gave the vote of thanks to the excellent staff from Heaven Scent who looked after us all so well. Members brought along gifts to be donated to Broke not Broken. It was a most enjoyable evening.

A decorated gift tag Mary Nisbett

After dealing with business and correspondence at the January meeting Joanne Cowan welcomed our speaker Graeme Ramage from the Sandpiper Trust. Graeme gave us a fantastic talk on first response first aid and gave us instructions on how to use the community defibrillator, how to deal with choking, catastrophic bleeding and unconsciousness.

Medical joke Norma Smith Open sandwich Norma Smith Flower of the month Jane Martin

BLAIRINGONE -

Joyce Petrie welcomed everyone to our meeting on Monday 14 January to celebrate our Poet, Robert Our Address to Burns the Haggis was delivered by Moira Coursar and Jan King gave a reply to Womankind. A hilarious sketch as to how to make haggis was delivered by 'Maggie' and 'Aggie' (alias Irene and Irene) Haggis making at the Burns Supper! which included a sheep's



head in a galvanized bath and brought great mirth to the proceedings. Mary Mitchell gave us a historical rendering of how the haggis came into being and we concluded the evening with a lovely Burns Supper.

Best tartan purse Agnes Murray Flower of the month Valerie Scott

POWMILL – In December we had a joint Christmas party with Blairingone SWI which took the form of a lovely meal at Muckhart golf club followed by a quiz, poem and a pass the parcel. The piece de resistance was the appearance of the 'Full Monty' cast (they say for one night only!). Great fun and hilarity was had by all.

Decorated gingerbread biscuit Mary Wilson Christmas table centre (any craft) Sharon Buchanan

In January President Fiona Buchanan welcomed members to the Burns Supper. The haggis was carried in by Fiona Harley and Wilma Sim gave the address, Mary Wilson said the grace and the committee served the tea complete with cheese and oatcakes and shortbread. Everyone then got a chance to socialise and catch up.

My favourite Burns verse (handwritten) Mary Wilson Decorated tartan parcel (Cameron Quaich) Jacqui Tait

MILNATHORT -Milnathort SWI met on Thursday 17 January in the Town Hall. Jean Paterson, President, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Unfortunately, our speaker for this evening had cancelled his visit. Jean continued with the business and we had time to discuss various items from Federation Minutes, our proposed entries for Kinross Show and also the entry for the Radio Play.

We had all enjoyed our Christmas Meal at the Thistle Hotel just prior to Christmas. The time seems to have passed quickly since that evening.

We all enjoyed catching up with each other and then had a short quiz about TV Shows. There were not an awful lot of correct answers, which caused some hilarity.

After delicious refreshments the raffle was drawn and the competitions judged.

Pillbox Janet Probert 3 pieces of shortbread Denise Stephenson Flower of the month Jean Paterson

Jean thanked everyone for attending and wished everyone a safe journey home.

The next meeting will be on 21 February, where the speaker will be David Millar. Visitors are always welcome.

Out & About

Loch Leven NNR

A very Happy New Year to you all. The weather continues to be rather neutral punctuated by the odd storm but at the time of writing it definitely does not feel like a real winter. Maybe we've got all that to come.

World Wetlands day is on Saturday **2 February**. We are having a walk round Loch Leven to celebrate what a great wetland it is. We will meet at Burleigh car park at 10am. As well as being a national and European protected site, Loch Leven NNR is recognised amongst the best wetlands in the world for its breeding and wintering wildfowl. These elite world wetlands are known as Ramsaar sites. The loch was in the first tranch of these sites designated in 1971. If you wish to book on this event, please email us on Lochlevennnr@ nature.scot or call us on 01738 458609. We are currently finalising our events programme. We will be doing the usual guided walks and Discovery Day. When the programme is finalised we will publish it on our NNR blog.

We have been busy making duck nest boxes to put up around the reserve. Goosander, goldeneye and mallard are the target species but it is more likely tawny owls, starlings or stock doves will use them. It's the first time we've put new nest boxes up since 2010. We made 16 plywood boxes with the help of staff and volunteers. The volunteers have also been clearing out and maintaining the nest boxes for small birds.

We have been planting many trees around the reserve recently. We've planted shoreline willows along the south shore and now the timber has been removed from the fenced area along the golf course we can complete the planting in the newly reclaimed plantation.

There have been some good bird sightings from around the reserve. There has been a healthy population of wildfowl around the loch this winter and an exceptional count of 205 redbreasted mergansers were counted before Christmas. We've also possibly had a loch record flock of greater scaup numbering at least 70. We've also seen the Iceland gull, greenshank, shorteared owl, little egret and brambling this year. Hopefully this is the start of a bird filled year at Loch Leven.

We are interested in hearing about sightings of grey squirrels around the loch. We currently appear to have a healthy population of red squirrels and we want to help to maintain that. If you spot any greys please let us know.

We are still updating the Loch Leven wordpress blog. We had record readership last year so thanks to all who logged on. We have also taken ownership of the Loch Leven NNR Facebook page and we will be updating this regularly. We also put things out on @SNHNortheast on twitter and @ StevetheCapercaille on Instagram.

I'm looking forward to reporting more good news to you in the coming months. TTFN,

> Jeremy Squire (Loch Leven NNR Reserve Officer)

Gardens open in February

Gardens in winter can be magical places, and the excitement of seeing the first signs of life peeping through the frosty ground can really lift the spirits. Scotland has some stunning snowdrop gardens, some of which open for charity as part of Scotland's

Gardens' Snowdrop Festival. Two local gardens where you can celebrate the first signs of spring this month are opening as follows:

The Scottish Snowdrop Festival

Cloan, by Auchterarder, PH3 1PP, Sunday 17 February 10am-3pm.

Two acres of wild garden, with a wide variety of rhododendrons and azaleas, and an impressive collection of trees, also an acre of walled garden and a large herbaceous border. Fine views of Strathearn from the front of the house. Directions: From A823, just south of A9, follow small road heading north east, signposted Duchally. Continue for approximately two and a half miles, turn right at sign Coulshill. Continue just under half a mile. Entrance through stone pillars on right.

Kilgraston School, Bridge of Earn, PH2 9BQ, Sunday 24 February 1.30pm-4pm. Admission £4.00, children free. Enjoy the carpet of snowdrops, admire the ancient yews, towering wellingtonias, and the resident red squirrels, whilst exploring the pathways and woodlands within the extensive grounds of this 19th-century house. Formerly home to the Grant family, it has been a girls' boarding school since 1930. Statues and sculptures, some by renowned architect Hew Lorimer, dot the landscape. There is a ruined chapel to visit in the grounds, a good children's play area and an excellent display of artwork within the school. Directions: Bridge Earn is three miles south of Perth on the A912. Kilgraston School is well signposted from the main road. Maps are available at the school website.



The woodland at Kilgraston School



Further information about these, and other garden openings in 2019 can be found on www.scotlandsgardens.org.

RSPB Loch Leven

facebook.com/RSPBTaysideFife

www.rspb.org.uk/lochleven

Telephone: 01577 862355



We have had some lovely sightings around the reserve at Loch Leven this month, with regular visitors including three little egret, flocks of redwing and fieldfare, bullfinch, goldfinch, and even a brambling on the feeders! The snowdrops are now in bloom and can be seen along the path from the car park to the visitor centre. These beautiful flowers are a sight to behold when in full bloom and provide a great welcome for our visitors. We have seen lots of wading birds on our wetlands too, including flocks of curlew, wigeon, teal, pochard, goldeneye and goosander on the bay and around the loch.

The leafy loop woodland has once again been spectacular for red squirrel activity. The squirrels here have been seen daily, and have even been spotted building a drey (nest) above our



wildlife garden. Although the activity around this drey seems to have diminished, squirrels are known to make more than one to confuse predators or in case one gets damaged. The breeding season starts with mating chases in January (of which we have seen many), and a first litter of three to four

babies (which are called kittens) born in March. If a female squirrel gains sufficient food over the summer months, she can have a second litter in July/August. So keep your eyes peeled for more red squirrel activity at Loch Leven!

We have some exciting events happening here too, with A trip back in time: Mary Queen of Scots' on Saturday 23 February 7-9pm. Join local writer Prof David Munro who tells the story of Mary Queen of Scots' dramatic escape from Loch Leven Castle 450 years ago. Hear about her 11-month imprisonment on Castle Island and her frequent earlier visits to this corner of Scotland which included a near capture at the foot of Benarty Hill and an encounter in Kinross with the Protestant reformer, John Knox. Booking essential; RSPB members £8, non-members £10 (child member £3, child non-member £5).

We will be hosting another spring writing workshop on **Sunday 17 March** 10am-2pm. Come with paper and pen and a readiness to be inspired by the sights and sounds of springtime at Loch Leven! Author and poet Anita John will lead you through a range of exercises designed to get you writing. We will take a tour of the reserve then return indoors to capture our images in words. Tea and coffee are provided. Open to all levels of experience. Booking essential; RSPB members £10, non-members £15. To book please visit our Eventbrite page at rspblochleven.eventbrite.com

Rachel Gooday, Visitor Experience Officer.

Farming

I can almost sense the palpitations of disappointment echoing round 'Newsletter' country, as one by one the readers leaf through the shiny, informative pages of the February edition until the 'Farming' section comes into view. 'Ahh,' goes a contented sigh, with the thought of soaking up an informative, well researched and well rounded article about some topical rural issues expertly penned by Fiona, but no, it's not, it's some insane havers from 'the other one'. But wait, wasn't it his turn last time?

And you'd be right, its two in a row from me, I am afraid. For those of you who don't know, Fiona underwent a major operation in December and didn't feel able to provide an article to her usual standard just yet. On behalf of the whole of Kinross-shire I would like to wish her a full and speedy recovery. Your *Newsletter* needs you, Fiona! The readers need certainty and stability and only you can provide it!

So here we are in mid-January at the moment and it is traditional with the changing of the calendar to reflect on the year just gone and plan for the year ahead. If I was to open an imaginary 'Backward Farm' report card what

results might it contain? Teacher's pet with straight 'A's? Probably not. Sits at the back of the class with the dunce's hat? Hopefully not but it could be edging uncomfortably close to the second option in some subjects. would probably summarise with a 'could do better' or 'failed to capitalise on initial optimism.' So where could improvement be made? The main enterprise with scope for improvement is probably the herd of cows. Lotus, our solitary bull turned out to be a very unreliable 'worker' and as a result the number of calves being born has been considerably lower than it should have been. The industry benchmark target is to produce a calf per cow every 365 days and we have been way off this target. The bull is no longer with us and I am considering a few options on how to improve the efficiency of the herd over the next 12 months. The sheep haven't been too bad, but as always there is plenty room for improvement. We will be pregnancy scanning them soon so we will find out how successful a mating season it has been. Then we come to the pigs. They are a law unto themselves. Although they are lan our eldest son's enterprise, they have come on leaps and bounds over the past year and show great potential for the future and for him to build his own separate business.

So, the upcoming year is going to be all about planning. Fail to plan, plan to fail, so they say. There is an army saying, I believe which states that no battle plan last more than ten seconds after first contact. But you still need a plan and the best plans are ones that can be changed at any time. Farming can be very unpredictable, being very weather dependent, with situations changing in the blink of an eye, but that is the challenge, or even fun of farming. It's the unpredictable, no two days are the same aspect of the job. But it's more than a job, it's a way of life, and its very common for best laid plans of mice and men to 'gang aft agley' (or oot the windae) but we wouldn't have it any other way. It gives us farmers something to moan about, and we enjoy a good moan, as you know.

But sometimes our complaints are put into sharp perspective and we appreciate what really matters. Speedy recovery, Fiona.

John

Kinross-shire Churches Together



Kinross Parish Church of Scotland

Following Christ I Spreading the Word Serving the Community



(Charity no SC012555) 10 Station Road, Kinross KY13 8TG Church website: www.kinrossparishchurch.org Facebook: www.facebook/kinrossparishchurch.org

Church E-mail: office@kinrossparishchurch.org Church office and church open: Mon-Fri 10am-12 noon.

Church Office: Tel. (01577) 862570 Contact the church office if you are interested in leasing rooms in the church or church centre.

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

February

Sun 3 10.30am: Morning Service, with informal Communion at 11.45am.

Mon 4 8am: Silent Meditation.

Tue 5 2.30pm: Service at Whyte Court. 4pm: Service at The Sycamores.

7.15pm: Guild, church centre: 'My Life and Journey to

Thu 7 7.30pm: Thursday Group, church centre: 'Jewellery –

Gillian Skene'.

8.30am: Prayer Breakfast (names in advance to Sat 9 church office).

Thu 14 9pm: late evening service of Compline.

Sat 16 11am: All Friends Together.

Tue 19 7.15pm: Guild, church centre: 'Traidcraft in Peru'.

Sun 24 6.30pm Informal Evening Service.

Tue 26 2.30pm Service at Causeway Court.

March

World Day of Prayer. This year prepared by Slovenia. Fri 1

2pm: Kinross Church Centre.

7pm: St James'.

Sun 3 10.30am: Quarterly Communion Service.

Visiting Kinross-shire?

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

www.visitlochleven.org

Cleish Parish Church Church of Scotland

(Charity No: SC003168)

Minister: Rev Lis Stenhouse BD (Hons)

Tel: 01577 842128

Email: estenhouse@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk: Neil Maclure

Email: neil.maclure19@gmail.com Tel: 01577 864826

Please visit our website: www.cleishchurch.org

Sunday Services 11.15am

February

Sun 3 11.15am Morning Worship followed by refreshments. Traidcraft Stall.

3.15pm Messy Church in the Village Hall. Open to Mon 4 all children and their carers.

8.30am Men's Breakfast. Sat

Sun 10 11.15am Morning Worship*.

Sun 17 11.15am Morning Worship*.

11.15am Morning Worship* Sun 24 Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Mon 25 2pm Cleish Guild meeting and AGM in Cleish Village Hall.

Tue 26 7.30pm Kirk Session meeting.

* Please note that refreshments will be served in the Young Room after Morning Worship. All welcome.

Cleish Church Fete will be held this year on Saturday 11 May, from 1pm. There will be the usual stalls, refreshments and a barbecue, a display of Classic cars and a music recital in the Church.

Loch Leven Church

Loch Leven Church meets at Loch Leven Community Campus, from 2.45pm - 4.30pm each Sunday.

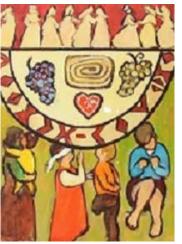


World Day of Prayer

World Day of Prayer on 1 March is an international prayer movement carried out by Christian women in more than 180 countries, in over 1000 languages and



across denominations. Each year women from a particular



country prepare the study and prayer resources, and artwork. This year this has been prepared by Slovenia around the theme of 'Come - Everything Is Readv'.

In Kinross, World Day of Prayer is organised by Kinross-shire Together, and all are invited to the services on Friday 1 March, in the Kinross Church Centre at 2pm and at St James' Church at 7pm.

Orwell and Portmoak Parish Church

Church of Scotland (Charity number SC015523)

Minister - Very Rev Dr Angus Morrison

Telephone: 01577 863461

Email: angusmorrison3@gmail.com

Website: www.orwellportmoakchurch.org.uk Sunday Worship, Junior Church and crèche:

10am Portmoak Church,

11.30am Orwell Church.

All children welcome. Crèche available during the services.

Please note that joint services will be held on the first Sunday of each month in alternate churches at 10.30am.

Prayer Meeting held 30 mins before each service.

Service at Ashley House: first Thursday of the month at 2.30pm.

Morning Prayers at 9am

Each Thursday at Portmoak Church New Room. Each Friday at Orwell Church.

Messy Church in Portmoak Hall on 23 February from 4 to 6pm.

Dates and events for your diary

Joint All-age Service in Orwell Church at 10.30am. 3 Feb No morning service at Portmoak Church.

The Guild meets in Orwell Hall at 2pm -'Music Therapy' – Sheila Montgomery.

12 Feb Culdees Celtic Service in Portmoak New Room at 10.30am.

19 Feb The Guild meets in Orwell Hall at 2pm -'Faith in Young People' – Guild Project.

22 Feb Oasis Ladies Group meets in Portmoak New Room from 10.15am to 11.45am. The speaker is from KYTHE.

26 Feb Culdees Celtic Service in Portmoak New Room at 10.30am.

Joint All-age Service in Portmoak Church at 10.30am. No morning service at Orwell Church.

Everyone welcome

Church office & shop open Mon – Fri. 10am – 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

Fossoway, St Serf's & Devonside Church

Church of Scotland (Charity number SC013157)

Church Road, Crook of Devon, Kinross-shire, KY13 OUY

www.fossowaychurch.org.uk

Minister: Rev Lis Stenhouse Telephone: (01577) 842128

Email: estenhouse@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk: Mrs Janet Harper Telephone: (01577) 840225

Email: aclassicsoul@aol.com

Our church is a very warm and welcoming place situated in the Crook of Devon, a small village about six miles from Kinross. Come and join us, we would love to meet you.

We have prayer time every Sunday before worship, 9.15-9.30pm. All are welcome.

Sunday Services at 9.45am. All are welcome.

February

Sun 3 9.15-9.30am A Time for Prayer. 9.45am Morning Worship followed by refreshments.

Sun 10 9.15-9.30am A Time for Prayer. 9.45am Morning Worship.

Sun 17 9.15-9.30am A Time for Prayer. 9.45am Morning Worship.

Sun 24 9.15-9.30am A Time for Prayer. 9.45am Morning Worship and Celebration of Holy Communion.

Thursday afternoons, 2-4pm. Join us for a friendly blether with delicious home baking, tea and coffee. All are welcome.

Film Evening

7.30pm-9.30pm in the Church Hall.

On Friday 1 February we will be showing The Greatest Showman, and on Friday 1 March, The Bookshop.

Please join us for the film, a cuppa and a blether and even some popcorn.



Yoga Classes in Kinross

www.simpliyoga.com

Tuesday Evenings - Kinross Church Centre @7pm - All Levels @ 8pm - Active Yoga

Thursdays - The Millbridge Hall

Baby Yoga - Mums, Dads & Carers welcome

Pregnancy Yoga

enauiries@simplivoaa.com

07466 360152

Please contact before attending to ensure availability



Looking for a new way to exercise?



Free taster sessions 'Learn to Nordic Walk' Courses Regular walks and workouts www.exercise-anywhere.com

Facebook: Nordic Walking Kinross

Phone: 07788 263178

St Paul's Scottish Episcopal Church

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Communion)

Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8AY Telephone: 01577 864299

Email: office@stpaulskinross51.plus.com Website: www.stpauls-kinross.co.uk

Fr David Mackenzie Mills, Rector. Telephone: 01577 863795

Email: frdavidkinross@gmail.com You can also find us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/stpaulsepiscopalchurchkinross

St Paul's is inclusive, friendly and welcoming to all age groups (whether regular churchgoers or if you're simply inquisitive about who we are and what we do.)

We are excited about the ways in which God is calling us to grow as a community, for the community. (The Rector is now licensed by the Registrar's Office to conduct Same Sex marriages at St Paul's). Our aim is to express our deep appreciation of both the spoken and sacramental Word with a lightness of touch and a smile.

Children are equally welcome to stay in church during the service or go to the Meeting Room for Sunday School and everyone is particularly invited to stay together during our monthly 'Whole Church' services.

We predominantly use the 1982 Liturgy on Sunday mornings but create experimental devotion for special events throughout the year. If you would like to give us a try, we look forward to meeting and greeting you and hope that you might enjoy becoming part of this faithful family of Christ.

1st Mondays

10am Pastoral Care group (Side chapel).

Tuesdays

11am Informal Holy Communion (Side chapel).

Thursdays

1.45 – 2.45pm Rector's Hour. An opportunity to drop in and speak to the Rector in the Church Office.

Forthcoming Services and Events - all welcome

February

Sun 3 CANDLEMAS SUNDAY

8.30am Holy Communion.

11am Whole Church Sung Eucharist and church Lunch (Meeting Room).

Sun 10 Epiphany 5

8.30am Holy Communion.

11am Sung Eucharist.

Sun 17 Epiphany 6

8.30am Holy Communion.

11am Sung Eucharist.

Celebrant & Preacher: Bishop Ian Paton.

Sat 23 7pm Quiz night! (Masonic Hall, Muirs, Kinross).

Teams of up to 4. £3 entry. Raffles, refreshments, real good fun! Come along for a great evening and help fundraise for our active little church. For more information, please either phone the church office (Thursdays 1.45pm - 2.45pm) or send us an email.

Sun 24 Epiphany 7

8.30am Holy Communion.

11am Sung Eucharist followed by prayers for healing. 4pm Said Evensong with hymn.

Classified Advertisements

Check the Classified Ads section on www.kinross.cc

Buy or Sell Goods up to the value of £750 Items are advertised free of charge for up to six weeks $\frac{1}{2}$

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

facebook.com/parishpriestkinross/facebook.com/stjamesprayergroup/

Regular Services

veg	uiai seivices	
Mor	n 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).
	6pm	Vigil Mass.

Sun 9.30am Mass (teas/coffees after Mass in church hall).

Confessions also on request.

Christmas Services

Vigil Mass at 5pm in St Matthew's, Auchtermuchty Midnight Mass in St James', Kinross – with Carols beginning at 11.30pm.

Christmas Day Mass at 9.30am in St James'.

Christmas Day Mass at 11.30am in St Matthew's.

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.







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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 OPG www.trinity-church.co.uk

Sauchie & Fishcross United Free Church of Scotland, Scottish Charity No. SC009740.

Sunday Service

We meet every Sunday at the Crook of Devon Village Hall. The service starts at 10.30am for teas and coffees, with the gathering to worship God commencing at 11am.

After the service, there will be refreshments and conversation. For more information about who we are and what we do, visit our website.

Kinross Gospel Hall

Montgomery Street, Kinross 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)

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 Biblebased 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.



Podiatrist/Chiropodist
HPC Registered

Kate Miller BSC MChS

Tel: 01577 863498

Christmas Past

'A busy but meaningful time' is how Rev Alan Reid summarises the Christmas season at Kinross Parish Church with seven



services in nine days. Special services included an all-age Nativity Service with the children and young people of the church retelling the story of the birth of Jesus both as a play (see photo) and as a video shot 'on location' in Kinross (visit Kinross Parish Church of Scotland Facebook). The church also hosted a Christmas Dinner for those on their own, a crib service for families on Christmas Eve — around 150 turned up!, a busy Watchnight Service and a quiet reflective service for those remembering loved ones at Christmas. Collections raised £1400 for the Sailors' Society and over 140 presents were donated and wrapped for distribution by the Perthbased charity, Churches Action for the Homeless.



Kinross Parish Church Nativity Service

Kinross Supports Sailors

Those who attended services at Kinross Parish Church of Scotland over the Christmas period donated over £1400 to the work of one of the country's oldest charities – the Sailors' Society. The Society helps seafarers and their families, especially those from poorer countries, with welfare and practical support. Much of the charity's work is to support seafaring communities in places such as India and the Philippines whose seafarers can be away from home for up to a year at a time. Kirk elder, Robin Webster, who has a long-standing connection with the charity, says 'We should care because almost everything we own or use comes by sea. We all rely on these seafarers. The Society, which is now 200 years old, is grateful for this support and to all those who donated.'

The Sailors' Society is one of the projects currently adopted by the Church of Scotland Guild, both nationally and in Kinross Parish Church, as part of their themed strategy of 'One Journey, Many Roads'.

Obituaries

Note from the Editor: Due to an erratum in the December Issue of the Newsletter, we are reprinting the obituary of George Kirk in full.

George Kirk

George Kirk passed away peacefully in Moncreiffe Care Home on 20 October 2018 aged 95 years. Born on 15 April 1923 in Gorton, Manchester, he was the middle child of three. His older brother Fred died at a very young age and younger sister Jean passed away just under a year ago.

George's early career was in the engineering sector in Manchester. At the outset of The Second World War he applied to enrol in the Armed forces but was turned down due to his reserved occupation. He instead joined the Home Guard, as well as continuing full-time work.

He had a great love of dancing and met his wife Olive in a dance hall. They married in 1952 and later achieved several medals for ballroom dancing. They had two children, Peter and Elaine. Sadly Peter passed away one month short of his nineteenth birthday in 1975, and Olive in 1992.

Athletics became a very large part of George's life. He competed in many competitions, including the Liverpool Marathon three times, where his best time was 3hrs 9mins 47secs when he was 35. He was a member of Blackley Harriers, Liverpool Pembroke, Paisley Harriers and latterly Pitreavie Amateur Athletic Club. He had joined the Civil Service and with each promotion moved throughout England and Scotland.

When he applied to join Pitreavie he was told they were in need of coaches, and thus began his long career in coaching until ill health stopped him at the age of 87. He never turned anyone away from his group if they wanted to run. On occasions he had 40-50 youngsters being put through their paces. That didn't prevent him coaching athletes to the highest level, including Alasdair Donaldson, a GB international athlete.

Cross country was his favourite and he took on PAAC Cross Country Team Manager's post in 1974 and carried on for another 33yrs. He was a Past President (1978/79) and elected Life Member in 1992 of Pitreavie and played an enormous part in developing it into one of Scotland's major athletic clubs.

He helped to set up the Young Athletes Track & Field League and was League Secretary for many years. He was a UK Athletics qualified coach and official timekeeper and officiated at the Ultra Two Bridges Race for almost 25 years. He was awarded the Services to Sport Award by Dunfermline & West Fife Sports Council in 1986 and became a Life Member of Scottish Athletics in 2006.

He was a founder member of Kinross over-50's Club and led and took part in their weekly walks. He also helped to start up Kinross Croquet Club where he would play twice a week in the grounds of the Green Hotel.

To be nearer to family, George moved from Dunfermline to Kinross, and immediately took part in all the activities on offer, in particular the quiz night, Scrabble and carpet bowling. He later became a quizmaster. He thoroughly enjoyed the companionship of his neighbours where he spent seven extremely happy years.

He attended Kinross Day Centre regularly and enjoyed the companionship and activities on offer there. accomplished pianist and puzzle fanatic, when his eyesight and hearing began to deteriorate he found it increasingly difficult to partake in these pursuits.

Up until the beginning of this year George enjoyed good health. The funeral service to celebrate his long well-lived life was held on 6 November at Dunfermline Crematorium. The collection raised £409 for Kinross Day Centre.

He is survived by his daughter Elaine, son-in-law David and granddaughters Charlotte and Bethany.

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Workshop opening hours: 09.30-17.00 Mon-Thurs Fri 09.30-12.30 and Sat 10-12noon Location - behind Loch Leven Laundry and Baillies Contact LINETTE MANN - 07732 902419

Deaths

RUSSELL - Valerie wishes to thank all the relatives, friends and neighbours for the cards, flowers and comforting messages of sympathy received following John's death in December. Special thanks for the amazing care received during his short stay in Rumbling Bridge Care Home, to all the Staff at Tummel Ward, Murray Royal Hospital, Perth and for all the care and kindness he received from the Orwell Medical Practice, Kinross. John will live forever in my heart.



playgroups and Toddlers

Milnathort Babies & Toddlers

Orwell Church Hall, Milnathort Friday 9.30am-11.15am

A relaxed and friendly group
Healthy snacks, tea & coffee
Children from birth to 3 years
(5 years if attending with younger sibling)
Great fun for the kids, mums, dads and carers!

PLACES NOW AVAILABLE!



To join in the fun call 07745 804539 Email milnathortbt@gmail.com Or find us on Facebook



GLENFARG BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

We meet in the newly refurbished village hall, Greenbank Road, Glenfarg on Mondays, 9.30-11.30am, term times.

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 Catherine Mason on 07583 022608 or just come along!

LOCHLEVEN BABIES & TODDLERS

Masonic Hall, The Muirs, Kinross Session times (term time only)

Tuesdays 9.30 - 11.15, Fridays 9.30 - 11.15 Contact Debbie Kennedy 07545 339494, debileighs@hotmail.com

All Mothers, Fathers, and Carers are welcome to attend, with children aged birth to 5 years if accompanied by a younger sibling who shall be 3 years old or younger.

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

SWANSACRE PLAYGROUP, SCIO

21-23 Swansacre, Kinross Tel: 01577 862071/07592 392235 www.swansacreplaygroup.org.uk Facebook @Swansacre



We provide a warm, friendly, nurturing and stimulating environment in which children can learn and develop through play.

Monday Garden Guddle: 9am-3pm Tuesday Playgroup: 9.05am-11.50am Rising 5's including Lunch Club: 12.10pm-3.10pm Wednesday Playgroup: 9.05am-11.50am Thursday Playgroup: 9.05am-11.50am Friday Playgroup: 9.05am-11.50am

Garden Guddle is an outdoor session in the grounds of Swansacre Gardens. The children can expect lots of mud, water, fun and exploration. Aimed at 3-5 year olds.

Playgroup is aimed at children from 2-5 years of age. The children have a vast variety of equipment and resources to help them learn through play.

Rising 5's is aimed at children in their pre-school year. It aims to sit alongside school nursery, and the sessions are more structured and filled with activities to engage children.

Please contact Victoria for availability or more information on the above sessions: **enrolments.swansacre@gmail.com**

Swansacre is also available to hire for Private Functions. For more information or to book please contact Lesley on: facilities.swansacre@gmail.com

Swansacre Playgroup SCIO – SC017748 – Registered Scottish Charity

PORTMOAK UNDER 5s

Portmoak Hall – between Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell (only 10 mins from Milnathort and Kinross)



We are a friendly and relaxed group welcoming children under 5 years and their parents/carers. We offer a wide range of activities including arts and crafts, dressing up, outdoor play and stories. We also on occasion arrange outings, parties and have special visitors who come to the group!

Session times: Tues & Fri 9.45am – 11.30am. Sessions are £2 per child (£1.50 for under 1s) and 50p for each additional child. A snack is provided.

For all queries please email portmoakplaygroup@hotmail.com or find us on Facebook

Private Nurseries and Childcare

For private nurseries and childcare services, please see p19-23.

To inform the Newsletter of any changes to Playgroup information, please send an email to: editor@kinrossnewsletter.org

Notices

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. Existing and new members very welcome. Contact Elaine on 01592 840266.

7 Feb Jewellery (Gillian Skene)7 Mar Woodland Trust (Ian Baird)

4 Apr Aero Space Kinross (Alisdair Stewart)

2 May AGM



Dancesina

Do you like to enjoy yourself? We would love to see you:



1.30pm - 3.30pm

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

Come along - have a Dance or Sing along to some great music, or just enjoy being there

Fun Entertainment

Tea ◆ coffee ◆ home baking ◆free raffle

If you require transport please get in touch,

as we may be able to help.

Free Admission

Organised by Kinross-shire Community Learning and Development Group. For further information please contact:

Tracey Ramsay, Community Education Worker
Tel: 01577 867124 or Email: tramsay@pkc.gov.uk.
Or Shona Fowler, Healthy Communities 01577 867218

Glenfarg Village Folk Club

The club meets 'Backstage at the Green' Green Hotel, Kinross, on Mondays Doors open 7.30pm Music starts 8pm For more info, see: www.glenfargfolkclub.com

4 Feb: Plaidsong/Jim Thornton. Two great acts for the price of one! With their contrasting styles and sounds, both offer an attractive blend of traditional and original songs, with wit, charm and great musicianship. Entry: members £6, non-members £9.

11 Feb: Tannahill Weavers. We welcome back the 'Tannies', with their diverse repertoire of high-octane instrumentals and rich vocals, which, for over 50 years, have brought these versatile musicians worldwide accolades as one of Scotland's premier traditional bands. When superb musicianship is matched by enthusiasm and great audience rapport, a grand night's entertainment is guaranteed. Entry: members £7, non-members £10.

18 Feb: Singaround. With Valentine's Day just past, love is still in the air, as well as being tonight's theme. The scope here is almost without limit. So, either come and pour your heart out, or, as ever, some divergent thinking's always welcome. Entry £2.

25 Feb: Tom McConville and Tony Wilson. When a highly influential, award-winning fiddler and singer joins forces with another multi-instrumentalist, singer and storyteller, an entertaining night of diverse music and song is assured, all delivered with the inimitable sense of humour and style we've come to expect from this Geordie duo. Entry: members £6, non-members £9.

Saturday Family Fun at Loch Leven Community Library



16 February23 February2 March



1pm to 2.30pm

Community Learning and Development – Perth and Kinross Council are working together with Friends of Loch Leven Community Library and the Scottish Women's Institute to provide a range of simple **paper crafts**, **sewing** and **felt techniques** for families. All activities are safe, simple and fun giving great easily achievable results. Why not bring your kids along and enjoy these interesting activities for all the family. You will be welcome to meet local groups and find out more about your Community Library. Meet your local Learning and Development Worker and discuss further possible opportunities for family activities in your area.

For further information please contact Tracey Ramsay (Community Learning and Development) on 01577 867124 or email tramsay@pkc.gov.uk. Loch Leven Community Campus, Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8FQ.

Or email KinrossComLearn@pkc.gov.uk.

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 £7.50; under 18s free. Visitors: £2 per talk.

Programme for 2019

18 Feb: Bounty Whalers and the Inuit – Dr Eric Graham. The

effect of whaling on native communities.

18 Mar: The Klondike Gold Rush – Dr Martin Hepworth. The

search for gold in America in the nineteenth century.



The Kinross-shire Civic Trust



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

www.kinross-shirecivictrust.org Find us on Facebook

Annual Dinner: Our annual dinner will be held on **Wednesday 20 February 2019** at the Grouse and Claret.

The speaker will be Peter Nurick, who will be talking about the new V&A Dundee.

The Trust will follow that up by arranging a visit to the V&A.

Asset

(Aero Space Scientific Educational Trust)

Scottish Charity SCO45931 Community Benefit Society 7524



NOTICE of AGM



The Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held on Thursday 21 February at 7pm

Loch Leven Community Campus, Lecture Theatre



Kinross Garden Group

2018/19 Season



Millbridge Hall, Kinross.

John Marshall

'Tattie Talks'

Adventures with potatoes All welcome to join us.



Light up Kinross Quiz Night

Masonic Hall Kinross 7pm for 7.30pm start Friday 22 February

Entry Teams of 4 £20 per team



Quiz Night for the Fossoway Gathering

On **Friday 22 February** the Fossoway Gathering will organise a Quiz Night to raise funds for the upcoming Gathering, which will be held in May.

The Quiz night is in the Crook of Devon Village by

The Quiz night is in the Crook of Devon Village Hall and starts at 7.30pm BYOB, light supper provided. Young people welcome. £5 per person. There will be a raffle.

Come and join us for

KYTHE - The Gathering 2019

Sunday 24 February at 3pm

at Milbridge Hall, Kinross

to celebrate the story so far and join us for the next part of the adventure.

To assist with catering, please rsvp with numbers attending to comms@kythe.org.uk by **Friday 15 February**.

Kinross-shire Youth Enterprise Registered Scottish Charity No. SC 045043





Fairtrade Fortnight

25 February – 10 March 2019



Saturday 2 March 10am-12pm Coffee Morning

Kinross Church Centre – "She Deserves a Living Income" Tea and Coffee and lots of Fairtrade goodies to sample!

Scottish Mining Trust Holidays Blair Castle, Culross

Charity number SC036188 www.blaircastle.net

Subsidised holidays for retired miners and relatives

If you worked in the mining industry, or if you are related to a miner or someone who worked in the mining industry, you may be eligible for subsidised full bed and board holidays at Blair Castle in Culross. Blair Castle is set in beautiful grounds with stunning views over the Forth Estuary. Excellent facilities: 28 well-appointed en-suite rooms, disabled accommodation, games room, quiet rooms, social lounges

Call 01383 880307 or email charles@blaircastle.net to find out more and ask for an application form.

Find us on Facebook: Scottish Mining Trust Culross

The Gaelic Society of Perth

After a wonderful ceilidh in January with the fantastic singing of Ian MacLean, Seumas Campbell and Rhona Morrison and the jaunty box playing of Irene Anderson, The Gaelic Society of Perth will hold their February ceilidh at St Matthew's Church Hall, Tay St, Perth on Friday 8 February 2019 at 7.30pm. Janet MacSween and Aileen Ogilvie will sing, Karys Watt will play the fiddle and David MacFarlane will play the guitar. John MacKay will tell us about his trip to St Kilda. Come and hear these lovely Gaelic singers and the up and coming instrumentalists. Admission is £6 for Members and £7 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 or like us on Facebook – we are Gaelic Society of Perth.

Music in Dollar

www.MusicinDollar.org

Our next concert is on **Sunday 24 February**, 3pm at the Gibson Hall, Dollar Academy with the Emily Mitchell Vocal Ensemble. Scottish Soprano Emily Mitchell has had an extensive concert career ranging from opera to solo recitals to oratorio. She is a Live Music Now! artist with her accompanist Geoffrey Tanti and is a regular performer with Scottish Opera and also sings regularly with the Dunedin Consort and is broadcast on radio. With another singer and accompanist Emily will take us through some of her repertoire highlights as well as selections of songs by Cole Porter, Gershwin and Jerome Kern amongst others. www.emilymitchellsoprano.com

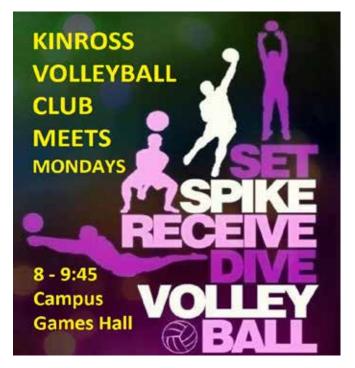
This concert is supported by The Bridal Studio, Dollar. Tickets cost £10 on line or at the door but £7 for members of the society. Further information is available from the concert secretary on 01577 864589, email info@musicindollar.

AN EVENING WITH GORDON MENZIES in aid of KVG&ROS

Saturday 16 March

Doors open at 7pm for 7.30pm start. BYOB. Raffle.

Tickets £10 available from: David Aird: 01577 830370 Sandy Smith: 01577 862536





ARE BACK FOR 2019 WITH SUPER SATURDAY

2nd February 2019



Guarantee Your Seats By Booking Your Tickets Online Today



Information and Online Booking at milnathortfilmhouse.com



SPARKs need 2 volunteers

SPARKs are a group which offers adults of all ages who have support needs or disabilities to meet together with their



carers to improve their health & wellbeing. They meet in Loch Leven Community Campus every Thursday 1-3pm.

The group are using their personal experiences to take forward difficulties they have within their local area; dropped pavements, parking for disabled & bringing relevant services to the area and access to local facilities. The group helps to combat isolation and build informal support networks.

The Group gives members the opportunity to:

- Share experiences and knowledge of issues around disabilities
- Members also take part in activities such as group quizzes, arts/crafts, learning programmes & "Friendly" Boccia games
- The group are always looking for new things to do together & go on outings

Volunteers are needed to support all of the above. Volunteers will be supported by workers Shona Fowler, NHS Project Worker, and Roseanne Gray, P&K Community Learning and Development Worker.

For more information please call 01577 867216 / 867218 07769 243282 / 07896 280843

Grants and Funding Websites

www.pkgrantsdirect.com www.foundationscotland.org.uk

filmhouse

at Milnathort Town

A somewhat belated Happy New Year to one and all!

2018 was a great Milnathort Filmhouse year with lots of fab films and amazing audiences.

The year ended with 2 sellout films: our Christmas Night Out film - The Greatest Showman and our Christmas Eve film - Elf.

Thanks to ticket sales for The Greatest Showman, we were able to pay for a Family Film Screening for Perthshire Women's Aid.

Being able to give back to the Community is a vital part of the Milnathort Filmhouse and we couldn't do it without the people who come to our screenings.



Information and Online Booking at milnathortfilmhouse.com







Orwell, Portmoak and Glenfarg District Girl Guiding

Due to an increase in guide numbers and the new exciting programme recently rolled out, we are looking for an enthusiastic volunteer to open a unit in Portmoak and a unit helper for our Milnathort unit.

There will be full support from our great team. If interested, please give Alison a buzz on 07764 750212.

The Bike Station

Donate unwanted bikes, parts and cycling **REVOL'E** accessories for reuse. Poorer bikes are salvaged for parts. Bikes are refurbished by qualified expert mechanics and sold on to the public at affordable prices with a three-month warranty.

Donated bikes and parts are collected from all Perth & Kinross Recycling Centres, including the Kinross centre at the Bridgend Industrial Estate.

Bike sales are held at The Bike Station, 284 High Street, Perth, PH1 5QS, Tuesday to Saturday 10am – 5pm.

The Bike Station also offers a Repair Service, a Fix Your Own Bike facility and a Dr Bike mobile service.

Tel: 01738 444430. Website: www.thebikestation.org.uk The Perth Bike Station is an accredited Revolve organisation.

Skeins & Bobbins Classes

Thursdays are fully booked. For Tuesdays and Fridays, please book in advance.

Primary classes take place on Tuesdays and Senior classes on Fridays. For confirmation of dates and availability of places, please contact the shop.

Knitting and crochet group for adults continues on Saturdays, 2pm-4pm.

Skeins & Bobbins, 120 High Street, Kinross. Tel: 01577 208107.



Befriending Kinross



Are you new to the Area? Would you like someone to talk to?

Someone to have a coffee with? Help to feel less socially isolated?

If you would like to request a befriender please contact us and we will arrange a time to meet with you to discuss the process.

ptb.kinross@bethanyct.com

t: 07747 018 550



Kinross-shire Fund

The Kinross-shire Fund was established in 2006 to make the area a better place to live, by making



grants to a wide range of local charities, organisations and projects which make a positive difference to the community. To date, over 50 organisations within the 73 square miles of Kinross-shire have benefited from an award, with beneficiaries ranging in age from pre-school to the elderly. The Fund is managed by Foundation Scotland and is currently open for applications, with deadlines quarterly on the first Monday of February, May, August and November each year.

The next deadline is Monday 4 February 2019.

Full details, including how to apply via our online application link, can be found at:

www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/kinross-shire-fund

Ceilidh Dancing

Mondays: From 2pm until 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? 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. To make charity suggestions, contact Vi Todd, 01577 863244.

Perth & Kinross School Term Dates 2018-19

Term Start (for pupils) Spring Mon 7 Jan 2019 Fri 29 Mar 2019 Summer Mon 15 Apr 2019 Fri 28 Jun 2018

Holidays and In-Service Days:

Wed 13 Feb - Fri 15 Feb 2019 In-Service & occ holidays: Spring holiday: Mon 1 Apr - Fri 12 Apr 2019 Easter w/e & In-Service day: Fri 19 Apr - Tue 23 Apr 2019

(Easter Sunday is 21 April 2019)

May Day holiday: Mon 6 May 2019

PLUS Perth

www.plusperth.co.uk Tel: 01738 626242 77 Canal Street, Perth



PLUS is a member-led local charity and social movement which gives hope and opportunity to those affected by disadvantage; in the main to those with experience of mental ill health and substance misuse.

> The PLUS office is open Mon-Fri, 9.30am - 4pm for mental health signposting and enquiries.

Homes for Cats Wanted

Fife Cat Shelter, a Scottish Registered Charity, is always looking for homes for rescued cats.

Cats can be visited, by appointment, at Causeway Cattery, Scotlandwell.

Contact Rhona on 01383 830286.



Give a Greyhound a Home www.greyhoundrescuefife.com

Forever homes needed for rescued greyhounds. Greyhounds are very gentle

creatures that require very little walking!

Please call or email for details Tel: 01577 850393 (evenings)

07826 244765 (daytime) Email: femiejimmyf@aol.com



Visiting Kinross-shire?

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

www.visitlochleven.org

Kinross Recovery and Conversation Café

This weekly group is for anyone with an interest in improving their wellbeing and needing support on their recovery journey from addiction or substance misuse. The café aims to get people speaking about recovery and wellbeing in all its many forms and provides the opportunity to:

- share ideas, information and resources
- explore support networks and ways of moving forward
- breakdown isolation
- improve health and wellbeing

The café takes place every Tuesday, 1pm-3pm, at Millbridge Hall, Kinross. Drop in and have a cuppa and a chat.

For more information, contact:

Shona Fowler: 07896 280843, shonafowler@nhs.net

Richard Lister: 07885 971298, richard.lister@cairscotland.org.uk

BROKE NOT Supported and funded by Broke Not Broken, a local charity tackling the effects of poverty.

Broke Not Broken

Drop off donations at:

Sainsbury's, Kinross **Glenfarg Village Shop** Co-operative, Kinross



Open to clients:

Every Tuesday and Thursday, 10am - 2pm

The Beacon, St Paul's Church, Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8AU

Contact: Tel· 07518 913107

Email: admin@brokenotbroken.org BRAKE Broke Not Broken. Tackling the effects of poverty.

BROKEN Scottish Registered Charity SC046033

Grants for good causes

Kinross Community Council Newsletter Limited (KCCNL) Charity No. SC040913



All profits from the Kinross Newsletter are transferred to a charitable company, KCCNL, and given away to local good causes. Groups and individuals are invited to apply to KCCNL for grant funding. Decisions on grants are made at two meetings per year. The deadlines for grant applications are:

31 March and 30 September

More information is available on the kinross.cc website. Applications may be downloaded from the website or obtained from the Applications Administrator, Barry Davies, Tel 01577 865004 or email barrydavies57@btinternet.com

Mindspace Recovery College

Mindspace Recovery College runs free courses covering all aspects of mental health, co-delivered by people with lived experience, and are open to all. MINDSPACE



Newsletter Deadlines

More deadlines for the months ahead can be found on our website.

In very rare circumstances it may be necessary to change a deadline at short notice. Check Newsletter website for latest information: www.kinrossnewsletter.org

Issue	Deadline	Publication Date
March	Friday 15 February	Saturday 2 March
April	Friday 15 March	Saturday 30 March



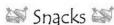
@ The Millbridge Hall

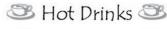
For further information, or if you want to be involved please ring 07766 515 950 or 07771 696 830

> The Cafe where everything is













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

La Leche League meetings in Kinross

First Thursday of the month, 10am-12 noon



0800 - 2130

St Paul's Church Meeting Room, The Muirs, Kinross

- Friendly, relaxed mum-to-mum breastfeeding support and chat.
- Informal chat and an interesting group discussion.
- Plenty of time for answering your questions.

We welcome any mums (and mums to be) who are interested in breastfeeding. Children all very welcome.

For more details, contact:

Hannah Dalgety (LLL Leader, Kinross) 07886 859461 www.lll-fife-tayside.co.uk

Find us on Facebook: La Leche League Fife and Tayside

Local Correspondent

for Perthshire Advertiser and Fife Herald newspapers Linda Freeman

Tel 01577 865045. Email: linda.freeman 64@btinternet.com

Perth Samaritans

Need to talk? We'll listen.

Contact us by

phone on 01738 626666 or 08457 909090 Email us jo@samaritans.org or visit us at 3 King's Place, Perth, PH2 8AA

1630 - 2130Thursdays 1630 - 1900Mondays Wednesdays 0830 - 1100Fridays 1000 - 1630

No pressure, no names, no judgment.

and 1930 - 2130

We're here for you, anytime.

Sundays

Perth Citizens Advice Bureau

Outreach Advice Surgery The Kinross surgery is held on the second and fourth

Tuesday of the month from 1.30pm to 3.30pm at St Paul's Church Hall, Muirs, Kinross. The next visits are:

12 & 26 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

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

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 jeanshearer630@btinternet.com

Mindful Relaxation Class

Mondays and Fridays, 7pm-8pm

Loch Leven Community Campus ICT Room

Participants can expect to do some gentle movement, mini sound workshop, relaxation, meditation, mp3 guided meditation, philosophy and reflection.

The sessions are run on a drop-in basis. Entry is by donation. Further information from Vincent Johnston at:

Vincent.johnston@icloud.com

Community Councils

Kinross: Chair: Bill Freeman, 01577 865045

Email: kinrosscommunitycouncil@gmail.com

Milnathort: Chair: Craig Williams, 07885 722125

Email: craig@stovestuff.scot Secv: Caroline Flory

Email: miln at hort community council @gmail.com

Portmoak: Chair: Malcolm Strang Steel, 01592 840459

Email: PortmoakCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk

Fossoway & District: Chair: Trudy Duffy-Wigman, 01577 840669

Email: fossoway.cc@gmail.com

Cleish & Blairadam: Secy: Patty Fraser, 01577 850253

Email: CleishCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk

Kinross Community Councillors

Margaret Blyth	6 Muir Grove	
Jonathan Bryson	4 Burnbank Meadows	
David Colliar	10 Rannoch Place	01577 864037
Dave Cuthbert	85 Bowton Road	07799 750289
Barry Davies	60 Lathro Park	01577 865004
Bill Freeman (Chair)	64 Muirs	01577 865045
Ian Jack	Burnbrae Grange	01577 863980
Lynne McKay	5 Springfield Road	01577 531076
Thomas Stewart	Gellybank Farm	01577 864603
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
Andrew Muszvnski		01592 840467

Have a look at our website: www.portmoak.org

Perth and Kinross Councillors Kinross-shire Ward

Clir MIKE BARNACLE (Independent) Tel/Fax (home): 01577 840516.

Email: michaelabarnacle@gmail.com

Website: mikebarnacle.co.uk

Moorend, Waulkmill Road, Crook of Devon, Kinross, KY13 OUZ

Clir CALLUM PURVES (Scottish Conservative & Unionist)

Tel (office): 01738 475092. Mobile: 07557 812570. Email: CPurves@pkc.gov.uk

Email: CPurves@pkc.gov.uk 54 Lathro Park, Kinross, KY13 8RU

Clir WILLIE ROBERTSON (Scottish Liberal Democrats)

Tel (home): 01577 865178. Mobile: 07909 884042.

Email: wbrobertson@pkc.gov.uk

85 South Street, Milnathort, Kinross, KY13 9XA

Clir RICHARD WATTERS (SNP) Mobile: 07557 812513.

Email: RWatters@pkc.gov.uk

Applegarth, Sunnypark, Kinross, KY13 8BX

Luke Graham MP Member of Parliament for Ochil and South Perthshire

38 Primrose Street, Alloa, FK10 1JG Telephone: 01259 764407

Email: luke.graham.mp@parliament.uk
Twitter: @LukeGrahamMP

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Luke-Graham-for-Ochil-and-South-

Perthshire-392788644215614

Member of the Scottish Parliament for Perthshire South & Kinross-shire Roseanna Cunningham MSP

Constituency office:

63 Glasgow Road, Perth, PH2 OPE

Telephone: 01738 620540

Email: Roseanna.Cunningham.msp@parliament.scot

Members of the Scottish Parliament for Mid Scotland and Fife Region

All MSPs can be contacted at the following address: The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

Claire Baker MSP (Labour) Tel: 0131 348 6769

Email: Claire.Baker.msp@parliament.scot

Murdo Fraser MSP (Conservative) Tel: 0131 348 5293 Email: Murdo.Fraser.msp@parliament.scot

Dean Lockhart MSP (Conservative) Tel: 0131 348 5993

Email: Dean.Lockhart.msp@parliament.scot

Alex Rowley MSP (Labour) Tel: 0131 348 6826

Email: A lex. Rowley. msp@parliament. scot

Mark Ruskell MSP (Green) Tel: 0131 348 6468

Email: Mark. Ruskell. msp@parliament. scot

Liz Smith MSP (Conservative) Tel: 0131 348 6762

Email: Elizabeth. Smith. msp@parliament. scot

Alexander Stewart MSP (Conservative) Tel: 0131 348 6134 Email: Alexander.Stewart.msp@parliament.scot

Mobile Library Service

1200-1300

Visiting on Tuesdays 12 & 26 February

Glerriarg	Main Street	1200-1300
Forgandenny	Rossie Place	1545-1615
Visiting on Wednesda	ay 6 & 20 February	
Kinnesswood	Opposite shop	0930-1000
Portmoak	Hall	1005-1020
Scotlandwell	Leslie Road	1025-1050
Portmoak	Hall	1125-1140
Scotlandwell	Leslie Road	1145-1205
Levenmouth Farm		1100-1120
Hatchbank Road	Gairneybank	1140-1200
Powmill	Mill Gardens	1320-1340
Cleish	Phone Box	1400-1415
Crook of Devon	Village Inn	1345-1430
Carnbo	Pitcairnie Lane	1440-1500
Causeway Court	Kinross	1515-1535
Whyte Court	Kinross	1540-1610

For more information, see: www.culturepk.org.uk/libraries and click on 'Services in the Community'

100th Birthday and Diamond Wedding Anniversaries

Do you know a Perth & Kinross resident who is celebrating their 100th or 105th+ birthday?

Do you know a Perth & Kinross couple celebrating their 60th, 65th or 70th wedding anniversary?

PKC can arrange delivery of flowers or for a local Councillor to present a basket of flowers to the person or couple on their special day.

Tel: 01738 475051 Email: CivicServices@pkc.gov.uk

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@brokenotbroken.org

Greyhound Rescue Fife at Baltree Country Centre, Gairneybank, Kinross, needs volunteers to clean the kennels and walk and feed the greyhounds. Can you help? Phone 01592 890583. Visit our website at www.greyhoundrescuefife.com

Kinross in Bloom: Volunteer group that provides and maintains floral displays to enhance the environment of Kinross. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Iain Todd at: iandmtodd@ talktalk.net

Kinross-shire Day Centre: We are looking for volunteers to serve meals and help with day trips and activities, such as bingo and singing, for a lively bunch of over-aged teenagers (over 65s). If you would like to find out more, we would love to hear from you. Pop in and speak to Nan or telephone 01577 863869.

KLEO (Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation): If you enjoy local events on your doorstep, like the monthly Kinross Farmers' market and the winter festival events (concerts, comedy and the festive street market), please join the KLEO team! For more info about KLEO events, go to www.kleo.org.uk. If interested, please contact Bouwien Bennet at info@kleo.org,uk or call 01577 863107.

RSPB Scotland Loch Leven: We need volunteer fundraisers to help support the wonderful world of nature on our doorstep. Pin badges, bucket collections, events and sponsored walks - if you'd like to join our team, please contact Lyndsay Stobie at: Lyndsay.Stobie@rspb.org.uk or call 01577 862355.

Kinross (Marshall) Museum: The Museum Trust is looking for volunteers to help care for Kinross-shire's heritage collections and man the Museum Study Room in the Loch Leven Community Campus on Thursdays and Saturdays. If you would like to know more, drop by or contact the Museum on 01577 867153 or email: information@kinrossmuseum.org.uk.

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

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.

Light Up Kinross is a small local charity with responsibility for Kinross Christmas lights and decorations. We require additional volunteers to assist with fundraising and administration of the lights. If you are interested, please contact David Colliar, email davidcolliar@tiscali.co.uk or Bill Freeman, email billywhizkid78@ gmail.com or contact 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 Caldow on 01577 863350 or Secretary Linda Freeman on 01577 865045 for more information.

The Potager Garden is a small community garden in Bowton Road, Kinross, KY13 8EQ. It is a registered charity run by volunteers, a main aim being 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 amandajames1577@gmail. com

Children's Hospices Across Scotland: Can you spare a few hours of your time? We are looking to fill the following volunteer vacancies:



Therapists, Complementary Support, Housekeeping, Garden, Kitchen and Retail Shops.

Volunteering with CHAS is a great way to meet new people, learn new skills and to make a huge difference to the lives of the families who use our services. For further information please visit www.chas.org.uk/get-involved/volunteer/volunteer-opportunities.

Seamab is a residential school that cares for and educates some of the most vulnerable



children in Scotland. We are looking for volunteers to help us place and manage collecting cans across Perth and Kinross. Volunteering for Seamab will help make a huge difference to the lives of the children at Seamab and will be a great way to meet new people and develop new skills. For more information please contact Melloney Flinn at mflinn@seamab.org.uk or call 01577 840307.

Milnathort Town Hall committee: Can you spare a couple of hours a month? We are looking for volunteers to join us. For further information please contact us at $\sqrt{}$ milnathorttownhall1@gmail.com. We would love to hear from you.



Volunteering with Aberlour!

We are currently recruiting new volunteers to aberlou support Aberlour, Scotland's Children's Charity.



If you have a genuine interest in the wellbeing of children and families and live in the Perth and Kinross area we would love to hear from you.

Aberlour Sustain (Perth and Kinross) help families on the 'edge of care' to stay together, by giving them the help and support they need to prevent a child from being taken into care. The families we work with need help for a range of reasons and our workers spend time with children, young people, parents and carers in order to understand what the family needs to



thrive. We understand that family life can be difficult for all sorts of reasons. Our approach is always sympathetic and non-judgemental.

Volunteer Befrienders

Befrienders build 1:1 relationships with children, sharing in a hobby or interest, developing social skills and helping to develop confidence and self-esteem. Befrienders give a child someone to talk to and someone they can rely on.

Volunteer Mentor

Mentors support parents by building relationships and supporting them through day to day challenges. Mentors encourage parents to set goals, building confidence and promoting independence.

If you are looking to try something new in 2019, develop new skills or meet new people, volunteering is a fantastic way to achieve this. To find out more, visit www.aberlour.org.uk/volunteer, or contact Shonagh (Volunteer Coordinator) on 07864 625069/shonagh. ferguson@aberlour.org.uk.

SPARKs are a group allowing adults of all ages who have support needs or disabilities to meet together with their carers to improve their health & wellbeing. They meet in Loch Leven Community Campus every Thursday 1-3pm. Volunteers will be supported by workers Roseanne Gray - P&K Community Learning & Development Worker and Shona Fowler – NHS Project Worker. For more information please call 01577 867216 / 867218 or

07769 243282 / 07896 280843

For more volunteering opportunities, go to the community website www.kinross.cc and look for 'Volunteering', or look at www.vaperthshire.org

Organisations: If you would like a volunteer appeal to be added to the list above, please email the Newsletter Editor. Please let us know if you no longer need your appeal to be listed.



Weekly Programme

Monday Exercise Class 11.15am

Scrabble, cards & other Games 1.15pm

Bingo 1.30pm

'Stride for Life' Walking Group 2pm

Tuesday Carpet Curling 11am

Relaxation Class 1.15pm

Games 1.15pm

Singing group with Alex Cant 1.45pm

Wednesday Morning Worship 10.45am

Dominoes, Scrabble & other Games 1.30pm

Tai Chi 1.30pm (6th, 20th) Fantastic Fun Quiz 2pm

Thursday Carpet Curling or Boccia 11am

Crafts 1.30pm

Film or music Afternoon 1.30pm

Dominoes, Scrabble, cards 1.30pm (except 7th)
Balance & Strength Class 1.30pm (except 7th)

Friday Balance & Strength Class 11.15am

Dominoes, Games or music 1.30pm

Bingo 1.30pm (except 21st)

Coffee Bar open to all

8.30am - 4pm

Older Adults Lunches Daily

Our activities are open to everyone. Please feel free to come in and have a great afternoon.

01577 863869

kindaycent@tiscali.co.uk

Film shows • Cards Dominoes • Art Class Exercises • Chiropody Trips • Daily Papers



0800 917 0708

0345 301 11 20

01577 867100

Additional Events for February

Hearing Loss Support and Advice11am-12pmMonday 4thChiropody (Tel 01577 863869 for an appointment)9.45am-1pmThursdays 7th, 21stTea Dance hosted by the1.30pmThursday 7th

Ladies of Inner Wheel Kinross

Tea Dance at Health and Wellbeing Group, 2pm

Lochleven Campus

Medical

Library Trip 1.30pm Thursday 28th

Useful telephone numbers

Loch Leven Health Centre	01577 862112		
Loch Leven Health Centre Out of Hours	01577 865252		
NHS 24	111		
Perth Royal Infirmary main switchboard	01382 660111		
Perth Royal Infirmary (Admissions and			
Enquiries Desk)	01738 473734		
Ninewells Hospital, Dundee	01382 660111		
Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy	01592 643355		
Queen Margaret Hospital, Dunfermline	01383 623623		
Rowlands Pharmacy, Kinross	01577 862422		
Davidson's Chemist, Milnathort	01577 862219		
Police, non-emergency	101		
Police, Fire & Rescue, Ambulance & Coastguard emergencies 999			
Gas (worried about gas safety)	0800 111 999		
Water (loss of supply, foul water emergency)	0845 600 8855		
Floods SEPA Floodline recorded messages	0345 988 1188		

Subscriptions to the Newsletter

Useful for readers living outside the distribution area of the Newsletter, a subscription service is available. For further details see www.kinrossnewsletter.org or phone Ross McConnell on 01577 865885 or email

subscriptions@kinrossnewsletter.org

Perth & Kinross Council (PKC)

Thursday 14th

Homelessness

Kinross High School

Mental health services

Customer Service Centre (Mon- Fri, 8am-6p	m) 01738 475000
Reporting non-emergency Road and	
Lighting faults (CLARENCE)	0800 232323
PKC Out of Hours emergency numbers	
Adult care services	0345 301 11 20
Anti-social behaviour helpline	01738 476173*42*
(*42* telephone and leave a voicemail)	
Child protection	01738 476768
Council housing emergency repairs	01738 476000
Dangerous buildings	01738 476476
Environmental Health	01738 476476
Flooding	01738 476476

Roads (e.g. reporting blockage) 01738 476476

Traveline Scotland 0871 200 22 33

Loch Leven Community Campus 01577 867200

Planning a Community Event?

Check the Diary on www.kinross.cc to ensure that your event won't clash with another.

List your event as soon as you can to help others with their planning. Contact the website administrator by email: admin@kinross.cc

Items for Sale

The Newsletter publishes items for sale listed on the kinross.cc website. If interested in purchasing an item, we suggest **checking the website for current availability** (www.kinross.cc then 'Local Adverts' then 'Classified Adverts'). If interested in selling an item, please list it on www.kinross.cc and it will automatically be published in the next available Newsletter, subject to space.

Brass finish Standard Lamp with 3 Glass Shades £45

New and unused, complete with bulbs.

Seller Details: Ruth Barbour 07741 452856

ruth_barbour@hotmail.co.uk

Jigsaw Board and Jigsaws £50

Excellent condition case for easy storage of jigsaws while they are being assembled. Four smaller integrated assembly blocks. Including 10 complete jigsaws, no pieces missing.

Magimix Food Processor

£80

Never been used or out of its box, compact food processor with automatic speed control, integrated, mini-processor and blade storage box.

Seller Details for above 2 items:

Ruth Cunningham 01577 864956

ruth.cunningham@homecall.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.

Dollar Museum

1 High Street, Dollar, KY14 7AY

Open from Easter to Christmas at the following times:

Saturdays 11am-1pm and 2pm-4.30pm Sunday 2pm-4.30pm

Free Entry

Access also possible by arrangement. Email: dollarmuseum@btconnect.com www.dollarmuseum.org.uk

Dollar Museum is a lively, award-winning visitor attraction. It is situated at the top of the Burnside, beside the Golf Club and at the entrance to the Mill Green and Dollar Glen. We have both parking and disabled access.

There are displays on the History of Dollar, Castle Campbell, the Devon Valley Railway, the Japanese Garden at Cowden and Prehistoric items excavated in the local area. There are exhibitions on WW1 and the Bicentenary of Dollar Academy.

Situations Vacant

In conjunction with www.kinross.cc, the *Newsletter* is pleased to publish local situations vacant. Please go to the kinross.cc website before applying to see full details and to **check whether a position is still available**. (Go to www.kinross.cc then click on 'Local Adverts' and choose 'Situations Vacant').

Part time Delivery Driver, Heaven Scent, Milnathort

Our outdoor catering company seeks a part time delivery driver (18 to 24 hours) to fill food vending machines and deliver corporate lunches to offices and factories. Shifts are early morning and lunch time, Monday to Friday. Some weekend work may be required. Email andrew@heavenscentkitchen.co.uk.

Home Carers, Kippen Care Services

We are a private care company covering a large part of Kinross, all of Milnathort, Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell. We are currently looking for full and part time Home Carers. Driver with own car essential. £8.75 per hour plus mileage (40p per mile). Full training given. Email marie@kippencare.net or call 01738 629 228 during office hours (Monday to Friday 9am-5pm).

Personal Carer wanted

For an elderly man in Buckhaven. Suggested visiting would be four times a week for about an hour each day just to make sure he is well and to spend some social time with him. Must be Disclosure checked. In the first instance please contact 07971 460490. Good rate of pay offered plus mileage allowance if required.

Enquire

Are you looking for information about your child's rights to support in School? If so, contact Enquire, the national advice and information service for additional support for learning.

Enquire offer: a confidential telephone helpline and online enquiry service, practical guides, fact sheets and newsletters, helpful materials for children and young people with additional support needs

For more information contact: Tel 0345 123 2303

Website: www.enquire.org.uk

Enquire is funded by the Scottish Government and managed by Children in Scotland.

Funding Alert!

PKC regularly produces a huge list summarising funding opportunities for the voluntary sector. The list will be posted on www.kinross.cc or telephone the PKC grants helpline on 0345 60 52000.

If your organisation is seeking funds, look out for notices in the *Newsletter* for Kinross Community Council Newsletter Ltd Charitable Grants and the Kinross-shire Fund.

LOCAL CHEMIST INFORMATION

Rowlands Pharmacy, Kinross

Mon-Fri: 9am-6pm Saturday: 9am-5pm Tel: 862422

Davidson's Chemist, Milnathort

Mon to Fri: 9am-1pm & 2pm-6pm

Saturday: 9am-12.30

Tel: 862219

Sundays: The nearest open pharmacy is

Asda, Dunfermline



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