



Kinross Newsletter

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Founding editor,
Mrs Nan Walker, MBE

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DEADLINE

for the June Issue

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Contributions for inclusion in the Newsletter

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

Email: **editor@kinrossnewsletter.org**

(all emails will be acknowledged)

Post or hand in to:

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Commercial Advertising in the Newsletter

Our advertising terms and conditions have recently been updated.

They are available to view at www.kinrossnewsletter.org.

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Advertising Julia Fulton **Treasurer and Subscriptions** Ross McConnell **Distribution** David Anderson

Editor's Page

Letter from The Editor

I grew up thinking that 'Ne'er cast a clout 'til May is oot' referred to the month of May, and only recently learnt that it refers to the May flower. Thankfully for me, we have a new gardening column this month in the Out and About section to help those of us who aren't very green-fingered (see p84). Thanks are due to Teresa Stirling for kindly offering to provide useful information every month that is so very far removed from my sphere of expertise!

Having moved into the centre of Kinross recently, I have been particularly fascinated by the Crosswell Fountain with its peculiar yet friendly looking gargoyles, and with help from the volunteers at the Kinross museum did some research into the history of this interesting landmark. Read all about it on p8-9 and discover what is hidden inside.

You'll find opinions about the closure of Blairingone Primary School in the columns of our local politicians this month, as well as their thoughts about restoring a direct rail link between Perth and Edinburgh (p13-19).

I hope the weather in May allows us all to 'cast a clout' or two and that you'll be able to sit out in the sunshine with your copy of *The Newsletter*.

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 CCllr: 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.

Hare today, gone tomorrow

Readers may be interested in a response Karol Swanson received regarding her letter in the April edition of *The Kinross Newsletter* about the recent lack of rabbits and hares.

Dear Karol,

Until about 20 years ago we had here, mostly open hill ground, a thriving population of rabbits, lapwings, curlews, oystercatchers, hill partridges, kestrels and a few brown hares. We now have none of these. There was a dramatic decline over only a few years.

The farming of the land has not changed and other factors like the introduction of forestry (increasing the fox numbers) has happened gradually over the last half century. The only dramatic change 20 years ago was the abolition of any control over avian predator numbers. There had always been a few buzzard around, but at that time the numbers here soared; it was magnificent to see so many of these splendid birds in the air at the same time. Of course there was plenty food – ground nesting birds, baby rabbits and hares and so on – but it couldn't last.

The buzzards have now eliminated their food species and so their numbers are greatly reduced but they are still around in sufficient numbers to make sure that none of their prey species has a chance of recovery. I expect that the kestrels have left as they have been outcompeted for food. A neighbour of mine, along the hill from here, says his problem is similar but with ravens.

Next time you see a well-fed buzzard or raven you know where your rabbits are.

Yours, Walter

Buzzards prey on small mammals and birds



The Kinross Community Council Newsletter

is available from:

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

Congratulations



Well done to **MATTHEW HENDRY**, from Kinross, on graduating from his 10 weeks of basic training at RAF Halton. He will now be doing 21 months at a language school, where he will be learning Arabic, and aiming to become an Intelligence Analyst Linguist.

Matthew's intake is named after George Thompson (1920-1945). A school boy in Kinross, George became apprenticed to David Sands the Grocer, but when war was declared, his thoughts turned to military service. He was promoted to Flight Sergeant in 1944, and awarded the Victoria Cross posthumously in 1945. His medals are now in the National War Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh Castle.



Congratulations to **MITCHELL BROWN** and **MARK CATHRO** on winning Scottish Cup Winners' Medals with City of Edinburgh Volleyball Club, who defeated City of Glasgow Ragazzi by 3 sets to 1 on Saturday 13 April. Both lads started playing volleyball with the Kinross Company when they were in Primary 7 in the Perth District League.

Congratulations to **JOANNE MYERSCOUGH** (Now Carr) and **ALEXANDER (Ally) CARR** who were married at Guardswell Farm on a beautiful sunny day at the end of March. Joanne, a pupil at Cleish Primary and Kinross High School studied Graphic Design at Edinburgh Napier University and now works as a graphic designer for Edinburgh based company, 'Contagious'. Ally is an HR manager with Marriott Hotels. Jo and Ally have made their home in Corstorphine, Edinburgh with their cat, Maisie.



Congratulations to local athlete **FERGUS MACGILP** who travelled to Sheffield in March to compete in the English Athletics National u15 Indoor Pentathlon. With a strong field present Fergus was just outside the medals before the final event the 800m in 4th position having delivered PBs in both 60m hurdles and Shot Putt events. A strong personal Best performance of 2m and 09 sec in the 800m elevated Fergus to silver medal with a Personal best points total. This capped off a great weekend for Scottish Athletes taking 4 of the 12 medals available in the Championships.



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Council defend Persimmon Homes

The chief executive of Perth and Kinross Council has insisted a housing giant is following rules imposed with planning permission following allegations of infringement. Persimmon Homes is working on a 350-home development in the Lathro Meadows area. Construction started in 2017 and has been the subject of a plethora of complaints from local residents, who say the developer has broken several planning conditions. Reports of machinery being left on site overnight, lack of buffer planting and houses being built too close to existing homes have all been raised.

Last month, Roseanna Cunningham MSP demanded that the local authority's planning team investigate the allegations. She had been contacted by the Lathro Action Group, who have documented a series of issues residents have at the site. Local authority

chief executive Karen Reid has now investigated the site herself. Ms Reid responded to the councillor and local residents last week when one woman complained that houses were being built too close to her property and infringing on her privacy. The chief executive is standing by the conditions set out by her planning department, which she believes are being adhered to. She said: 'I fully appreciate the current impact of adjacent construction on [the resident's] enjoyment of her property and I asked [head of planning and development] David Littlejohn to investigate. He has reviewed the application history and has advised that what is being built is fully in accord with the approved planning consent. The committee agreed with the officer recommendation that the design and layout of both the existing and new

property would ensure that there was no significant adverse impact on the amenity of Lathro Lane in terms of layout or daylight. The approved layout and landscaping proposals did not contain any proposal for a landscape buffer strip in this location. The monitoring officer regularly inspects the site and will continue to address evidenced breaches of planning consent. Both myself and the deputy chief executive have also visited the site. It is undoubtedly inconvenient to live adjacent to a building site however, arguably, this is an unavoidable consequence of urban development.' Perth and Kinross Council did not wish to add any further comment.

A spokesperson for Persimmon Homes North Scotland said: 'Persimmon Homes is building in accordance with the plans approved by the local authority.'

Open Farm Sunday

Sunday 9 June –

Down on the Farm

Local farmers Colin and Stuart Dawes will be opening their Farm Gates again this year, at Hilton of Aldie Farm near Crook of Devon KY13 0QJ, as part of the National Open Farm Sunday Celebrations on **Sunday 9 June, 2019**. The farm will be open from 12 noon until 3pm. Admission is by donation to local charity. We are looking for spinners, weavers, knitters or local craftspeople to join us at the event. If any *Kinross Newsletter* readers would like to take part, please contact colin@farmerdawes.co.uk. Tel: 01577 840111.



Orwell and Portmoak

Buildings Improvement Project

The plans for the development of Orwell Church to create a building suitable for social and leisure activities by the community as well as fulfilling its important function as a place of Christian worship are progressing well.

Some of the fundraising activities to finance the project are on-going. The 'Change for Church' boxes provide a steady income week by week with the simple collection of loose change. Also providing a welcome income is the 'Give as you live' scheme used by online shoppers at no additional cost to themselves. Buy-a-Brick is the latest of the on-going fundraising schemes and we are very grateful to the congregation, local folks and businesses for their support in this. If you would like to know more about any of these fundraising activities please contact Orwell & Portmoak Church Office, 29 South Street, Milnathort.

We intend producing a 2020 calendar illustrating our local area. We are running a photography competition with three sections – primary, secondary and adult. All entries will be displayed and visitors to the photography exhibition will vote for their favourite pictures in each section. The photos with the most votes will appear in the calendar. The closing date will be at the end of August and full details of the competition can be found at www.orwellportmoakchurch.org.uk.

Look out for information on a Milnathort Guided Village Walk coming up in September and the publication of the Ba' Hill Bakes recipe book.

Our grateful thanks go to everyone who has supported the Buildings Improvement Project by attending concerts, buying 'bricks' or saving up their loose change. Your interest and support is much appreciated.



Photo: Kinross Show

Love performing?

Applications are now open for the Kinross Show Entertainment Stage.

The Entertainment Stage at Kinross Show provides an opportunity for entertainers of all ages to perform on stage in the newly created entertainment area of Kinross Show. It's an opportunity to showcase your talents and applications are invited from groups as well as individuals who wish to sing, dance or entertain the crowds. With the show attracting 2500 visitors each year it's an amazing opportunity to gig in the heart of the spectacular showfield at RSPB, Loch Leven. After a thrilling debut in 2018 the stage is returning this year and looking to attract another great schedule of performances. Last year the line-up included a diverse range of live acts, from the Loch Leven Ukelele Group to fantastic routines from Dance Connect and Matthew Dance Academy. Music numbers from Sandy and Christine and the Scottish Women's Institute Choir were a highlight attracting huge crowds. The audience joined in with a classic rendition of Amazing Grace on the guitar and were treated to a sensory phenomenon when three talented young farmers commenced their awesome bagpipe playing. It's not every day you get to enjoy such rousing Scottish music in the sun on the banks of Loch Leven, topped off with Benarty Hill in the background!



The organising committee launched the area to add a new dimension to the show and is delighted that Soho Wealth, Hilton of Burleigh is the main sponsor for 2019. The stage is located away from the livestock and in a more relaxed area of the showground where families can unwind and enjoy the entertainment. The committee were also eager to showcase local talent and provide an opportunity for established and up-and-coming performers to play to a live audience. Lynsay Drysdale, Entertainment Stage Convenor, looks after the performers and the running order. Lynsay comments, 'The first year of the Entertainment Stage went really well and we were delighted at the variety of acts that took part and the positive feedback on the new area from everyone. I'm looking forward to see what 2019 will bring to the stage.' Kinross Show takes place on **Saturday 10 August 2019** at RSPB, Loch Leven. To make an application to perform on the entertainment stage email Jane Drysdale, Kinross Show Secretary at kinrossshow@gmail.com.

Free Training & Awareness Raising Sessions for Community Groups and Organisations in Kinross-shire 2019

Co-ordinated by the Kinross-shire Community Learning and Development Group organised and supported by Community Learning and Development – Perth and Kinross Council.

Future training opportunities to be held in Loch Leven Community Campus:

- Health and Safety
- Food and Hygiene

I am taking this opportunity to thank those who attended the training sessions that were held throughout February, March and April. These sessions were well attended. This positively influences future training opportunities. If people are showing an interest, please support this idea as makes a difference to local community groups and organisations.

If a community group or organisation is running training which you can open up to the wider community, please email me the details and I will add this to the schedule.

Tracey Ramsay

For further information please contact Tracey Ramsay (Community Learning and Development) on 01577 867124 or email tramsay@pkc.gov.uk, Loch Leven Community Campus.

www.pkc.gov.uk/article/20817/Training-Awareness-Raising-Sessions-for-Community-Groups-and-Organisations-in-Kinross-shire-2019

Crosswell Fountain

You will very probably have seen and admired the fountain that sits beside the steeple of the Town Hall on the High Street. You may well not be aware that there is actually a time capsule hidden within the masonry stone. Read on to find out more...

The fountain was built in 1885 directly over the Cross Well, which was the source of the public water supply. The previous year had seen The *Dundee Courier* report on the Inauguration of Water Works at Kinross on 1 August 1884. The opening ceremony of introducing water into Kinross by means of gravitation took place in the presence of the Burgh Commissioners. The works were constructed by Mr Thomas Finlay, a contractor, at a cost of £3693 19s 2d. The Rev John Wright, of the Free Church, said a prayer, after which Mr Bogie, Chief Magistrate intimated a letter from Lady Adam, Blairadam, 'couched in the kindest terms that she could not possibly be present'. Mrs Bogie, wife of the Chief Magistrate officiated, turning on the water, which was then supplied to residents of Kinross. After the ceremony (which was attended by

40 or more gentlemen) lunch was taken at the Green Hotel.

During the summer of 1885, Robert Burns Begg, a solicitor, and the great-nephew of Robert Burns, achieved great success in raising subscriptions for the erection of a fountain on what was described as 'a very suitable site adjoining the town steeple'. It was decided that the foundation should be made from stone rather than iron, and that the fountain should have a 'spouting apparatus'. A competition to design the fountain was held and the museum still holds the original drawings of some of the other competition entries. These are available to view at Kinross Museum on request.

At a meeting held in St Serf's Lodge held in the Town Hall on Monday 7 December 1885, the secretary intimated that the arrangements for carrying out the ceremony of laying the Foundation Stone of the Public Fountain were now completed. It was agreed that the Lodge members would meet in the county buildings at 1.30pm on Saturday 12 December and that the procession would start from there at 2pm.



*Historic photo from postcard
(David Munro's personal collection)*

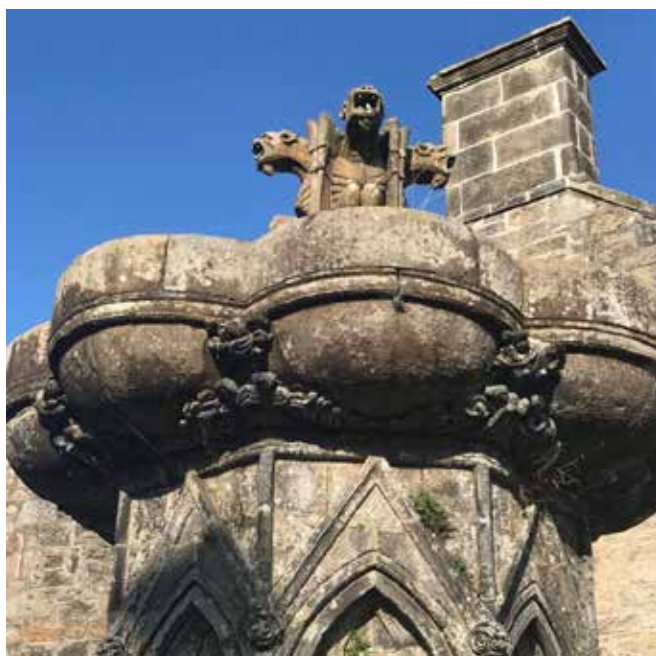
Water map of Kinross



Crosswell Fountain

The foundation stone was laid with Masonic Honours. A large number of people turned out to see the procession. Headed by the Milnathort Brass Band, the brethren marched, carrying banners and other insignia to the centre of the town, passing through arches of bunting and flags on their route. Arriving at the cross, they marched to the site of the fountain. A prayer was given, and a number of items making up a time capsule was then deposited into the lower part of the masonry in a cavity which had been specially prepared for them. These items include a number of coins, a *County Advertiser*, two directories and other county documents. Perhaps it will be possible to retrieve the capsule and its contents one day. The foundation stone was lowered down and the usual formalities carried out. Three cheers were given and wine and oil were poured over the stone to complete the ceremony. Lunch was held in the Bridgend Hotel at which Mr Bogie, Chief Magistrate, presided.

Robert Burns Begg's endeavours in Kinross had wider appeal with interest in the fountain reaching far beyond Kinross



The fountain today – looking up at the gargoyles
Photo: Sam Grant@www.theweewhitedug.com



and spreading to other parts of the UK. The December issue of the *Belfast Newsletter* talked of the ceremony to inform Scottish readers living in Belfast. The drinking fountain was opened in July of the following year, when Robert Burns Begg formally handed it over to the Burgh Commissioners, who were thought to be the proper custodians, in presence of plenty of spectators. In 1887, perhaps inspired by these events, Cupar Town Council received a proposal to erect a fountain at the cross there.

Thanks to the Kinross Museum volunteers for help compiling this information.

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Folk Enjoyed Fabulous Festival

www.glenfargfolkclub.com

On the weekend of 5-7 April, Glenfarg Folk Club held its 41st annual Folk Feast at the Green Hotel, Kinross. Guitars, fiddles, whistles and voice were in happy harmony in an atmosphere reminiscent of the sixties and seventies. Festivities began with a ceilidh-concert featuring the Lomond Ceilidh Band with songs from Gill Bowman, a firm favourite.

Saturday afternoons at the Feast are always good for a laugh with the funniest original song contest. Malcolm Hughes' entry was deemed most hilarious, and the £300 raised went to the Teenage Cancer Trust.



Anthony Toner

In a well attended workshop, Anthony Toner gave an illuminating and inspiring insight into the art of songwriting.

On Saturday evening 'Forgaitherin', a Fife-based quartet, opened the first of

two concerts. Hamish Grant and Lesley Toner led the line vocally in brilliant fashion with John Reid and Hugh Toner providing instrumentation that had the audience baying for more. Anthony Toner was next up, with beautifully crafted songs, in an absorbing performance.

Fara, four young ladies from Orkney, brought the night to an end with their high-octane fiddle music and driving piano. With an average age in the twenties, who said 'folk' was for old fogies?

At the 'In Conversation With' event, the spotlight was on Ian McCalman, who was invited to reminisce on his 50 years at the forefront of the folk music scene. Tales both poignant and humorous were inevitable and an hour was scarcely long enough.

The World Puff-a-Box Championship attracted the usual large number of overinflated blowhards vying to propel the inner tray of an empty matchbox the farthest. With a blow of 5 metres 30cms, Bob McCarron, defending champion, showed again that he still has more puff than the Vital Spark.

Meanwhile, as music and song filled most of the hotel and the nearby brewery, another capacity audience filled the hall for the Final Feast concert. The Ian Walker Band opened the evening show, before the comedy genius that is Les Barker took the stage. He appears in the summer at Crail Festival and, for those who missed

him, it would be wise to get the date in the diary. Siobhan Miller and her fabulous band were our final headline act and it became clear why she has been winner of the Scots Singer of the Year an unprecedented three times at the MG Alba Scots Trad Music Awards. Her polished performance was a fitting finale to a fabulous weekend.



Siobhan Miller

There is no doubt the popularity of the 'Feast', a 41-year old annual celebration of all that's good in traditional and contemporary acoustic music, remains undiminished. Sadly, this is no longer matched by mainstream television coverage of the genre, seemingly limited to a glimpse of 'Transatlantic Sessions' or the highlights of 'Celtic Connections'. Want to know what you're missing? Check out your local folk club. www.glenfargfolkclub.com

About GrowBiz

GrowBiz provides a community-based enterprise support service across rural Perth and Kinross. Covering Kinross-shire, we provide support to anyone who is considering becoming self-employed, or growing an existing small business or social enterprise. This is regardless of age or experience – we work with a wide range of people from all backgrounds and sectors. Services are free and confidential, and include 1-1 meetings, peer support, learning sessions, mentoring, training and networking opportunities.

We've worked with more than 700 rural businesses in the last two years, helping them to connect and collaborate. And our vision is to make Perth and Kinross the most entrepreneurial rural economy in Scotland.

Our new, revamped website went live at the end of March. As before you will see our calendar of events, information about our services, and our newsfeed. We will also be adding in more including useful resources, client case studies, and an archive of news and press releases in the coming weeks. Take a look for yourself – www.growbiz.co.uk

If you are thinking of starting an enterprise, or expanding an existing business, in rural Perthshire, more information is available on our GrowBiz website. Or email on connect@growbiz.co.uk and we'll get in touch.

Follow us on social media for news and updates – Facebook (@GrowBizPerthshire) and Twitter (@Grow_Biz) – you can also sign up to receive our Newsletters on the website.

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For free advice

Luke Graham MP



A couple of months ago I was appointed as Parliamentary Private Secretary (PPS) to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. This primarily involves supporting the government ministers in their duties both in the department and in the House of Commons. One of the major advantages of this position is the opportunity to help influence the department and its ministers on issues.

This will, I hope, prove beneficial as I have received a worrying amount of correspondence from constituents with complaints about the building quality of homes they have purchased. Buying a new home can be both one of the most stressful and most exciting moments of life, and so to be dissatisfied with the quality of the build once you have moved in is clearly unacceptable.

I am therefore hopeful that we will see the introduction of a new UK-wide Ombudsman that will deal with these sorts of issues, holding national housebuilders to account, so they cannot simply skip from one part of the UK to another. It is something I know the department are looking to introduce, and I have supported them in this, while my colleague at Holyrood, Graham Simpson MSP, is also lobbying for this change, both in Holyrood and directly with the housing Minister in Westminster as well.

Being a PPS can be frustrating at times as it means we cannot speak to the department in the House of Commons chamber, but the benefit of being able to speak directly to a relevant minister on issues that directly impact constituents, and directly influence national policy, cannot be underestimated. Recently, I was delighted to join the pupils of Kinross High School at Fife Airport as they had the first flight of the Eurofox two-seater aircraft they had built from scratch. Fifty-five pupils were involved in the school science project which began two years ago, and was designed to engage pupils in STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) subjects. The aircraft was assembled in a temporary workshop on the school campus and was overseen by Aerospace Kinross. I was immensely impressed by the pupils and their achievement and to see the aircraft take to the skies was remarkable to watch.

I was excited by this project for a number of reasons. First, I have been a passionate advocate of STEM education and even held a STEM day with the Royal Navy at Crieff High School last year, and so to see the level of engagement and enjoyment from the pupils was a joy to behold. Second, I was delighted that the new British spaceport is being located in Scotland, with the jobs, investment and opportunity that brings with it. It would be so exciting if some of the students involved today were to go on to build and progress the British aerospace industry right here in Scotland.

Finally, I have been working hard with Aerospace Kinross to try to help identify funding for the site, and their involvement in the school's project shows the potential of their own project to inspire young people, which I want to see fulfilled.

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

Luke Graham MP

Councillor Watters



Davis Park in Kinross is being considered for refurbishment in the coming years by Perth and Kinross Council. At this early stage in the process, the Council is looking for feedback from groups and individuals about the current usage of the park — as well as looking for ideas about what additional features or equipment would be welcomed. While it may not be possible for the Council to fund an enhanced re-development of the park, it is still possible to update the facilities and the immediate area around the park by raising funds from other sources — as has been done for other parks around Perth and Kinross. One of the ideas that people have suggested to me is a pump track — which is a circuit of rollers and banked turns designed to be ridden on BMX or mountain bikes.



A 'pump track' is one idea for part of the Davis Park refurbishment

Well-designed tracks can also be used by skateboarders and wheelchair users. One of the Kinross Community Councillors has also suggested a more traditional cycle circuit around the park.

I'm sure that there are many other great ideas on how the experience at Davis Park can be improved for the local children. It would be especially helpful to hear from these users of the park. Please contact me or any of the other local councillors with your feedback and ideas. We will then forward them to the relevant council officers.

I am very disappointed by the decision to close **Blairingone Primary School** and I am also very disappointed by the voting process that made that decision possible. This decision was made at the latest meeting of the Lifelong Learning Committee. Although the elected councillors on the committee voted 7 to 6 in favour of keeping the school open, this decision by the democratically elected members of the committee was overturned by two non-elected members of the committee — resulting in a vote of 8 to 7 to close the school. While there are other non-elected representatives on the committee, it is only the Church representatives that are allowed to vote.

While relevant representatives can add value to the council committees on which they sit, it is still undemocratic and unacceptable that important council decisions can be decided by their votes.

Richard Watters

Newsletter Deadlines

A list of future deadlines can be found on our website

www.kinrossnewsletter.org

Councillor Barnacle

Letter from Councillor Barnacle sent on 11 April 2019 to Richard Lochhead MSP, Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science, regarding Blairingone Primary School.



Dear Richard

Perth & Kinross Council Consultation Report Relating to Closure of Blairingone Primary School in Kinross-shire

I note from your colleague, John Swinney, that he will not be exercising any Ministerial role in relation to any Perth and Kinross Council (PKC) school closure proposal, given his constituency falls within PKC's area. I understand from him that Ministerial responsibility will be exercised by yourself, hence the enclosed correspondence.

PKC's Lifelong Learning Committee voted on 27 March 2019 to close the above school in my ward in contentious circumstances, I attach the amendment that lost by one vote. Notwithstanding continuing concerns around the process of this vote (prompting the enclosed motion to our full council of 24 April 2019 seconded by myself), I also believe the consultation report contained omissions and inaccuracies regarding housing development interest and the extent of the school catchment. I find PKC's forward planning role in this decision particularly concerning, when they have been negative throughout the process on pupil projections but on 22 March 2019, 5 days before the decision, they ask the interested developers' agent to provide a robust master plan and phasing strategy to accompany an application for outline consent that would include play provision adjacent to the school proposed for closure. I attach my email of 29 March 2019 to John and my address to the committee.

I also enclose copy of my letter of 3 October 2018 to Sheena Devlin referred to and background documentation. I very much hope that this letter and enclosures will persuade you and your colleagues to call in the proposed closure for further scrutiny and respectfully request that you do so.

Yours sincerely,

Councillor Michael Barnacle

Independent Member for Kinross-shire

27 March 2019

Statutory Consultation – Blairingone Primary School

Amendment

That the committee:

- Notes the contents of the Consultation Report (attached as Appendix A)
- Approves that education provision at Blairingone Primary School is continued beyond 28 June 2019; and
- Instructs the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) to investigate the viability of a nursery class within Blairingone Primary School to help sustain the future school roll.

MOTION TO FULL COUNCIL Wednesday 24 April 2019

Motion on the voting rights of religious representatives on the Lifelong Learning Committee

Background

Currently the Council is required under the terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 to have three religious representatives on any committee established by the Council to discharge their responsibilities as an education authority.

In the case of Perth & Kinross Council this is the Lifelong Learning Committee. The Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 sets out that the three religious representatives shall comprise: one nominated by the Church of Scotland; one nominated by the Catholic Church; and one appointed by the Council taking regard for the next largest religion (Christian Other at the time of the last census) in Perth & Kinross.

A Scottish Government spokesperson recently clarified the Scottish Government's interpretation of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 in recent press articles where they state, "where an education authority appoints a committee to discharge their functions, the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 requires councils to appoint members to that committee, including religious representatives." they go on to state "voting rights on committees are a matter for each local authority".

Proposed Changes

In line with the above clarification statement by the Scottish Government, the following is proposed:

That the Council agrees to amend the Scheme of Administration with effect from 1st May 2019 to agree that only elected members of the Council with a mandate from the electorate should be allowed to vote on the Lifelong Learning Committee.

Implementation

The Council instructs the Head of Legal & Governance to implement the agreed changes to all relevant Council documentation so that they take effect from the 1st May 2019.

Proposed by Councillor Xander McDade

Seconded by Councillor Mike Barnacle

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.

RECEIVED 11.25 am 10/4/2019 E. M. M.

Copy of an email sent from Cllr Barnacle to John Swinney on 29 March 2019

Dear John

PKC Consultation Report Relating to Closure of Blairingone Primary School

PKC's Lifelong Learning Committee voted on 27 instant to close the above school in my Ward. The vote was carried by one committee member, the votes of the religious representatives on the committee carrying the decision, since the votes of elected members only would have secured the amendment to continue education at the school. Three of the local members support retention of the school.

Whilst due process may have been followed in this regard, I am particularly aggrieved by this decision, especially as the religious members of the committee do not make available to the public their contact details. I attach a copy of my address to the committee and you will note my reference to a letter of 3 October 2018 to Sheena Devlin, Executive Director of Education and Children's Services at PKC; I sent you a copy of this letter at the time, along with background information, but I am not sure you got sight of that.

I feel the content of the address contains sufficient reasons for you to call in the proposal for further scrutiny and would respectfully request that you do so. I have copied in relevant fellow councillors who may wish to put together a joint letter with me before the deadline of 17 April 2019 and would also be happy to meet with you before then to discuss this issue further.

Yours sincerely

Councillor M Barnacle

Independent Member for Kinross-shire



Blairingone Primary School

Luke Graham visits Seamab

Local MP, Luke Graham, was welcomed to Seamab School this week to meet with teachers and care providers. Seamab is a unique charity who are committed to transforming the lives of the most vulnerable children in our society. Almost all the children attending Seamab have suffered significant trauma and the school works to give children back their childhood, making sure they feel safe and happy. Commenting on the visit, Mr Graham said: 'Seamab is a fabulous and unique school. The work the teachers, carers and support staff are doing to help these kids is nothing short of amazing. It was an absolute pleasure to be able to see, first-hand, this work, hear about their unique delivery of education and see just how enthusiastic each of them is for the work that they do.'

Joanna McCreadie, CEO Seamab said: 'We were delighted to welcome Luke Graham to Seamab, and really appreciate the time he took to understand the work we do. Our children are some of the most vulnerable in Scotland and have experienced significant trauma including physical, sexual and emotional abuse and physical neglect. In a number of cases they have experienced all of

these before arriving with us. We think it's our job to gift all the children with relationships and experiences that support them to heal – and to grow into competent and confident adults. We can only do that with the help of the wider community and visits such as this give the children not only a fantastic experience but also allow their voices to be heard.'



*Luke Graham
visiting Seamab School*

Councillor Purves

Blairingone Primary School

At the Lifelong Learning Committee, the decision was taken to close Blairingone Primary School permanently. This was not a decision I supported.



I know that many people might find it strange why I and others think it is so important to keep such a small school open. From my own perspective as a Conservative, the answer is simple: I value choice in our education system.

We should trust and empower parents to make the right choices about the best educational environment for their children. Within the state sector in Scotland, parental choice is already limited. Parents can choose whether or not to send their child to a denominational school and they can choose whether to send their child to a big school or a small one.

The assumption made by organisations like Education Scotland is that bigger is always better. But this is not true for every pupil. Different pupils thrive in different environments and we must trust parents to make the right decision about what is right for their children as the people who know them best. If we value parental choice, however, we cannot and should not deprive parents of options as the closure of Blairingone seeks to do.

I have often been told by other councillors that it is not an easy decision to close a small, rural school. I must disagree. Closing a small, rural school is the easy option. The hard decision is, in fact, to keep such a school open and to adopt an approach of innovation rather than rationalisation.

Sadly, this has never been the case with Blairingone. Long-serving councillors have told me that the Council has been considering closing the school for many years, which has undoubtedly deterred many parents from sending their children to the school.

Moreover, not all options were fully considered. There was merit in exploring options for the establishment of early years provision at the school but this was not examined in detail. In Blair Atholl, for example, the introduction of a nursery led to a dramatic and positive impact on the school roll. If parents are forced to send their children elsewhere to nursery, however, it can be difficult for them to take their children away from their peers and put them back to their local school.

Another factor that was glossed over by many who supported closure of the school was that, unlike almost anywhere else in Kinross-shire, the community is very supportive of local development proposals to expand Blairingone. To remove the school now, prior to the completion of any development, would be premature in the extreme.

Furthermore, there was really no financial need to close Blairingone Primary School. The £85,000 worth of savings generated by its closure are minimal when compared to the Council's roughly £330 million budget, particularly for a Council administration that has put council tax up by 4% a year for the next three years.

I proposed an amendment to keep the school open, which was defeated by 8 votes to 7 despite the fact that elected councillors voted 7 votes to 6 in favour of keeping the school open. This was because the Lifelong Learning Committee also includes two unelected church representatives who voted to close the school, which was a disappointing outcome.

Kinross-shire Rail Link

I have long campaigned for the direct rail link between Perth and Edinburgh to be reinstated and for a park-and-ride station at Kinross to be created. It is ridiculous that it takes longer now to travel between Perth and Edinburgh by train than when steam trains were running on our rail network. For Kinross-shire specifically, such a link would not only benefit our significant commuter population but would also make our county a more attractive destination for tourists.

I managed to secure the backing of the Council for such a proposal back in October 2017 and, in the local press, I recently renewed my calls for a feasibility study into the proposal. Transport Scotland have since indicated that they will be considering transport links between Perth and Edinburgh as part of their upcoming project review. I very much welcome this development and will be asking the Council to reiterate its support for reinstating the direct rail link to those undertaking the review.

Kinross Learning Centre

I was very disappointed to learn of the proposed closure of the Kinross Learning Centres, which was covered in last month's edition of the *Newsletter*. I myself used to make use of their evening language classes a few years ago and found them extremely worthwhile. Such classes and others offered are great for those in many different circumstances – whether that be studying, working or retired – who want to study in a convenient and flexible way without having to travel into Perth.

While I am not sure that Perth College UHI has made the best use of its learning centres in recent years, it is extremely concerning that people will no longer be able to access these opportunities for learning locally. My Conservative colleagues in the Scottish Parliament Liz Smith and Murdo Fraser are due to meet with the management of Perth College UHI shortly prior to the publication of this edition to urge them to reconsider. I am strongly of the opinion that this decision should be reversed and that our learning centre should remain open.

Davies Park

Since becoming a councillor, I have had a number of queries about the possibility of upgrading Davies Park in Kinross. I was recently informed that the Community Greenspace team are looking to upgrade it in the next couple of years. Park upgrades have become a much more collaborative affair in recent years. Rather than simply designing and building things in isolation, the Council works with the community to find out which improvements they would like to see.

There is also the potential for community groups to raise funds for additional play equipment, for example, to expand the scope of the refurbishment beyond what it would be if it were solely Council funded. There is a good local example in Glenfarg, where a 'Friends of Wallace Park' group has been set up to bring together individuals and community groups to ensure that the community leads and enhances the proposed developments. If you or a group of which you are a member are interested in being involved with the project, please let me know.

Casework

As always, I am more than happy to hear from constituents and do what I can to help. If you think I can be of assistance, please get in touch using the contact details towards the end of the *Newsletter*.

Callum Purves

Liz Smith, MSP

I am pleased that Transport Scotland will be looking into proposals to introduce a direct rail link between Perth and Edinburgh.

This is an issue I first raised back in 2014 when I carried out an opinion survey in communities south of Perth, regarding the impact of a direct rail link between the two cities via Kinross and found the response was overwhelmingly positive.

Then in 2017, both Transform Scotland and the Royal Scottish Geographical Society made public their desire to see a feasibility study carried out into a direct rail link between Perth and Edinburgh.

At that time, I wrote to Hamza Yousaf, the then Transport Minister, to ask if a feasibility study would be considered by the Scottish Government. And Councillor Callum Purves, a Scottish Conservative colleague who represents the Kinross-shire area, recently renewed the call for this to take place to enable the rail link to be opened.

Councillor Purves also called for the rail link to have a park and ride station at Kinross. Like myself, he feels it is something that would have significant benefits and attract more tourists to the many things that Kinross-shire has to offer.



Communities are keen on a direct rail link between Perth and Edinburgh

In October 2017, he successfully raised a motion with Perth and Kinross Council on the matter and this gained cross-party support. Transport Scotland recently told Councillor Purves that they will investigate proposals to introduce the direct rail link as part of strategic transport projects review.

It had been suggested that a direct rail link would take at least 35 minutes off the journey time – this would make a huge difference for commuters. The rail line goes through Fife, with many stops and takes on average around 85 minutes to travel between Perth and Edinburgh.

It is very frustrating to think that it was faster to get to Edinburgh from Perth in the age of steam than it is today – that is not progress by anyone's yardstick. The direct rail link between Perth and Edinburgh was closed in 1970 to make way for the new M90 motorway, but I feel that rail travel between the two cities has been second rate since that time. I have felt for some time that for Perth and its surrounding communities to fully realise their potential then fast and efficient public transport links are necessary. I will endeavour to do my best to achieve this.

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.

Roseanna Cunningham MSP

I regularly get updates from the National Lottery informing me when local groups are successful in securing funds from one or other of their various funding streams.

I was pleased to learn that the Junior Section of Milnathort Golf Club Junior Section received a National Lottery Awards for All Scotland grant of almost £10,000 from SportScotland which they will use to buy golfing equipment and provide PGA coaching.

As well as enabling the club to provide a better service to junior players, it should also be a reminder to everyone involved in running community groups, charities and voluntary organisations in this area that there all sorts of sources of funding out there providing grants of different sizes to a huge variety of projects.

I am delighted to be able to share with you details from SSE about the opening of the third round of their Perth and Kinross Sustainable Development Fund, making £240,000 available to support 'transformative' community projects.

The Fund is open to non-profit making organisations, community groups and charities across the Perth & Kinross area. Successful projects will have the potential to deliver transformational social, economic and environmental changes in the local area and support long-term community development.

Projects will also achieve one or more of the following priority themes:

- Creating opportunities – increase opportunities for education and employment.
- Empowering communities – build resilience and protect vulnerable residents.
- Building sustainable places – stimulate meaningful community regeneration.

The deadline for applications to be received is 12 noon on 25 July 2019. Fund guidelines and an application form are available online at <https://sse.com/communities/sustainablefund/>

Another potential funding stream that I want to highlight to groups across my constituency is the National Lottery's Community Assets grants. 4 October 2019 will be the last chance to start the process of applying for these and they will then close to all new enquiries about this funding.

Community Assets is the National Lottery funding for community-owned building or capital projects and I know that there are groups in Kinross-shire who might be looking to access some of those funds. For more information on the funding and how to apply, visit their website:

www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/community-assets

and note that all projects seeking Community Assets funding must be ready to submit their final application documents and strategic plans by March 31, 2020. They offer grants from £10,000 up to £1million.

I have a huge amount of respect and admiration for the works that so many people do in the towns and villages I represent, making our communities stronger, greener, happier and, generally, more pleasant places to live, work, grow up in or simply come and visit. I am always happy to help point such groups in the direction of new sources of funding and help in whatever way I can to facilitate the application process.

Roseanna Cunningham



Romance Fraud

Romance scams are often reported as a fraud and many victims don't come forward due to embarrassment, lack of evidence or a feeling it might have been their fault.

Police Scotland management figures from April to December 2018 show the number of reported fraud incidents, including romance scams, increased by 21 per cent, from 6106 the previous year to 7398.

Romance fraud can have a shattering effect on people who may be embarrassed that they've fallen victim to a scam and don't want to speak about their experience.

Criminals can be extremely convincing and they prey on people who are emotionally vulnerable, particularly online. It can be easy to get caught up with the attention you receive but it's important to stop and think if a stranger's actions are genuine.

There are warning signs for these scams and one of them is a request for money. Don't send money to someone you've never met, or even recently met, regardless of the story they tell you.

We need to raise awareness of this type of crime and encourage people to speak to us so we can gather evidence and target offenders.

Advice

- Never share or exchange personal information. Fraudsters can use this to obtain credit in your name.
- Never share or exchange explicit photographs. Fraudsters can use this to exploit individuals.
- Remain on the website you met them on and do not be tempted to communicate off-line. This is where scam artists operate more effectively.
- If someone threatens you to share money with them – don't make any payments. Stop all communication and keep all evidence of the communications you have had. This information is needed urgently to help the police tackle it.
- Never send money or your bank details to someone you've met online, no matter how convincing the reason they give for needing it, nor how long you've been speaking to them.
- If someone asks you for money, report it immediately to the dating platform you are using.
- If you suspect you have been a victim of fraud, please report this to the police. We will deal with your case professionally and sensitively.

Local Incidents

A Ford Transit van which was parked in MacDonald Avenue, Kinross was broken into between 10pm, Tuesday 2 April and 6am, Wednesday 3 April. A quantity of tools was stolen. (CR/8577/19)

Between 8pm, Sunday 7 April and 1pm, Monday 8 April a window was smashed at a property in MacDonald Avenue, Kinross. (CR/9046/19)

Between 4.45pm, Tuesday 9 April and 9am, Wednesday 10 April, a number of high value power tools were stolen from an outbuilding at Lethangie, Milnathort. (CR/9224/19)

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

We would like to welcome a new Community Sergeant for Kinross-shire, Sgt Michelle Burns.

Telephone 101 for non-emergencies

Community officers for Kinross-shire:

PC Ben Clark and PC Douglas Stapleton.

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

Community Sergeant (Kinross-shire): **Sgt Michelle Burns.**

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.

The Newsletter on Facebook

We use our Facebook page to announce:

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



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Health & Wellbeing

Men's Shed

K&DMS Open Learning Day

Our Men's Shed's recent success in gaining SCIO Charitable status couldn't go without celebrating. So, in partnership with and funded by Tracey Ramsey, Community Learning and Development Worker at P&KC's Culture and Community Services, we invited South Perthshire and Clackmannanshire Men's Sheds, our Shed's VIP's and sponsors to come along and celebrate with us.



Tim Green, Age Scotland's Men's Sheds Development Officer, with Glen Douglas, of the Kinross & District Men's Shed

Six Sheds in total with five Sheddors from each came to join in. We also invited Historic Environment Scotland's Stonemasons to come along to offer stone block carving sessions, Citizens Advice were there to offer information on pensions, scams and funding. Two Charge nurses from the Perth Royal Infirmary 'Move Ahead Team' came to give free individual Health Screening which was well attended.

Shona Fowler, Project Officer, from NHS Perth and Kinross Healthy Communities is the South Perthshire Men's Shed's

co-ordinator and mainly responsible for starting our Sheds in the region and for giving them continuous support. She gave a short talk on how our Shed had flourished and was thankful to the other Sheds for attending.

Tim Green, Age Scotland Men's Shed's Community Development officer also came to give a short talk on how Sheds are increasing in Scotland and have reached 177 and climbing. He gave information on Scot Gov Asset Transfer policy and offered his support to Sheds looking to use this policy to acquire a home.

Each Shed brought a small 'Show n Tell' item and it was great to see the goings on in other Sheds. Our Kinross Shed brought our recent project of converting and recycling donated bikes to E-Bikes. These E-Bikes offer battery assisted cycling through a hub motor to allow Sheddors and especially those unlikely to be able to cycle longer distances or hilly terrain because of health reasons to once again get back out on the roads

and tracks and better their health and reduce social isolation.

We also had recent success in our bid to the Perth and Kinross Council Community Investment Fund and received £4340 to convert another six or more bikes, including a trike and folding bike to electrical assisted versions as well as buying the needed tools, nuts, bolts and paint and even building a solar charger to help charge the bikes' batteries. The E-Trike kit will help disabled Sheddors get out cycling and will also be shared with the Kinross SPARKS Disabled group for the same reasons.

The day also offered a fantastic catered lunch buffet by Tayside Contracts.

The Kinross and District Men's Shed **AGM** will be held on **11 May**, at the Men's Shed, 10am-12noon.

The agenda can be found on www.kinrossmensshed.org.

All welcome. There will be tea and coffee for a small donation to Shed funds.



The Men's Shed converts and recycles donated bikes to create E-Bikes



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



Mon 7.15pm - 8.00pm



Wed 7.15pm - 8.00pm



with Evelyn Crichton
KINROSS CHURCH CENTRE

Booking information:
TRX and Pilates classes must be pre-booked.
Pay as you go or 4 week packages also available.

telephone
m 07884 233144
email
evelyncrichton@hotmail.co.uk

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News from the Health Centre



St Serf's Medical Practice

There have been some changes recently in the GP team at St Serf's Medical Practice. Dr Richmond is now working part-time rather than full-time and will usually be consulting on a Wednesday and Friday. Dr Smith and Dr Allott have also reduced their sessions, whilst Dr Dalgety's have increased. The partnership is also delighted to announce that they have been joined by a new GP Dr Lynsey Frew. Dr Frew has extensive experience gained in a number of practices in Fife and she also works in the Fife Out of Hours Service. Dr Frew will be consulting on a Monday morning, and all day on a Tuesday and Wednesday. Patients are free to consult with any GP in the practice. The practice is also aware that waiting times for routine appointments are rather longer than they would wish and additional sessions are being provided by Nurse Prescribers. It is hoped that this increased capacity will reduce waiting times.


Asthma

World Asthma Day falls on 7 May, and the aim of the day is to raise awareness of asthma and promote the care and support of those affected by asthma. Asthma is a condition which affects the airways – the small tubes which carry air in and out of the lungs. When asthma flares up the usual symptoms are wheezing, coughing, shortness of breath, and tightness in the chest. The symptoms can range from mild to severe and not everyone will get all of the symptoms. Some people experience symptoms all the time because they are not taking their medicines, or not taking their medicines correctly.



We have run an asthma clinic for many years at the Health Centre. The clinic is run by three of our nurses, Sue, Heather and Caron, and they provide help and support to patients affected by asthma. Patients are invited for a review at least annually but reviews may be more frequent if medication is changed or if a patient has had a severe asthma attack. We are also sending out an Asthma Control Test Questionnaire (ACT) to complete at home, and dependent on the result of the questionnaire there may be an indication for more or less frequent review. During the review, the nurses will assess whether the patient's asthma is under control by discussing their symptoms and whether these symptoms affect sleep or daily activities. The nurses will also discuss and prescribe medication and they will ensure that patients know how to use their inhalers properly. A recent study has shown that a third of patients using an inhaler are not using it correctly. Sue, Heather and Caron are keen to help patients manage their asthma better and stop the symptoms having a negative impact on life. Failure to manage symptoms can lead to severe asthma attacks which could lead to hospitalisation and be life threatening. They would therefore strongly encourage all those who have asthma to attend their review appointments. The nurses review all requests for asthma medication/inhalers and will contact patients who are requesting medication more frequently than anticipated and invite them for review as this can be an indication of poor control.

The website of Asthma UK has a lot of very useful information about asthma and can be found at www.asthma.org.uk



Yoga Classes in Kinross
www.simpliyoga.com

Tuesday Evenings - Kinross Church Centre
@ 7pm - All Levels
@ 8pm - Active Yoga

Thursdays - The Millbridge Hall
Baby Yoga - Mums, Dads & Carers welcome
Pregnancy Yoga

enquiries@simpliyoga.com **07466 360152**
Please contact before attending to ensure availability.



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Singing is Good For the Soul

Whether you enjoy singing in the shower, on the football terrace or even as part of a formal choir, singing is decidedly good for your soul. The occasional out of tune note or forgotten word doesn't take away those great feelings released when you start to sing. A session of singing is uplifting, raising your spirits, enhanced by the endorphins that begin to flood through your body.

But is it the singing itself that makes you feel better, or simply the communal engagement within a group who are all focused on one activity?

It's not really a shock to discover that scientists have proved singing in a choir doesn't only make you feel good, but has real physical health benefits. There are distinct benefits to the body produced by singing that can't be ignored – increased lung capacity, better immunity and greater oxygenation of the blood resulting in improved alertness. Singing is thought to reduce stress levels and even help patients cope with chronic pain.

Researchers at the University of Gothenburg in Sweden discovered that choristers' heartbeats synchronise when they sing together, which produces a calming effect, thought to be just as good for you as yoga breathing. When we sing, we practise regular, controlled breathing which helps us relax. They asked a selection of teens to perform choral exercises – chanting, humming and singing a hymn. They monitored heart rhythms during these exercises and were able to show that singing has a dramatic effect on heart rate variability, linked to a reduced risk of heart disease. The researchers proved that with singing we can train our lungs to breathe better; a study at Cardiff University found that lung cancer patients who sang in a choir had a greater expiratory capacity than those who didn't.

*'The only thing better
than singing – is more singing'*
Ella Fitzgerald

Neuroscientists are interested in what singing does for the brain, too. Processing music uses more of our brains than almost any other activity. In a study of four to five-year-olds, those with musical training showed enhanced language abilities and memory for words, and there is evidence that engaging in musical activities can improve aspects of non-

verbal reasoning, literacy and numeracy. Music is beneficial to babies too; the pitch and rhythm of speech used to communicate is vital to a developing understanding of language.

Some dementia sufferers have been able to remember their families by hearing songs from their childhood. Singing can enable them to access memories and joy at a time when communication is faltering.



Singing with Leven Voices

Singing lessons can benefit patients with vocal weaknesses or vocal fold paralysis. It can even play a role in stroke rehabilitation and with sufferers of Parkinson's Disease, which causes the voice to become defective. It is arguably in its power to lift depression, however, that the value of singing for dementia sufferers really lies. Singing can restore people's confidence in learning new things. This confidence in itself protects against the effects of deterioration: when you believe in yourself, and learn something new, you create new neuronal connections, which in turn helps to restore function.

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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 April Meeting

Present at the meeting held on Wednesday 3 April 2019 were Community Councillors (Cllrs) B Freeman (Chair), M Blyth, J Bryson, D Colliar, D Cuthbert, I Jack, L McKay, T Stewart and D West, Perth & Kinross Councillors (Cllrs) W Robertson and R Watters, and PS D Stapleton.

Apologies were received from Cllrs M Barnacle, C Purves and CCllr J Bryson.

Minor amendments to the minutes of the previous meeting: Present – CCllr D West to be removed from Ward Councillors list. CCllr M Blyth confirmed that the car she had mentioned had been parked on the junction at Station Road. LLCC Management Group Meeting – CCllr I Jack was to draft a letter to the Lodge. AOCB – surplus funds were to be donated to the website and not *The Newsletter*.

Police Report

Members welcomed PS D Stapleton to the meeting and noted the Police Report which had been submitted prior to the meeting:

Vandalism at Sandport, Kinross on 23 March – coping stones pushed off wall. Theft of Stihl saw from vehicle at Rannoch Place, Kinross on 23 March. Theft of mobile phone from High School, Kinross on 22 March. Vandalism to site manager's car at Persimmon Homes, Lathro on 20 March. These are all under enquiry.

PS Stapleton also advised that there had been a spate of daylight house break-ins (Kinross, Auchterarder and Kinneswood). All incidents are under enquiry by the CIU in Perth, with positive lines of enquiry ongoing. PS Stapleton reminded the CC that if they see anyone suspicious e.g., vehicles or people 'hanging around' then they should not hesitate to call 999. He reminded members that these people should not be challenged, especially at night.

PS Stapleton asked for the CC to look out for elderly people being preyed on as they can be more overly trusting. He advised that there had already been a couple of calls with regard to youth annoyance (the previous day) with youths trying to gain access to Kinross House grounds from Kirkgate. PS Stapleton asked that if any issues arose between CC meetings, then the CC should not hesitate to contact him by email.

CCllr L McKay enquired as to whether PS Stapleton was based in Kinross or elsewhere and he advised that he was still the Community Police Officer but that a new model had been launched at the start of the month and a new sergeant had been appointed (Michelle Burns).

The issue of parking outside the school at Emslie Road/ Station Road was raised with PS Stapleton being advised of the issues which had been raised. Cllr W Robertson suggested that parking wardens be requested to patrol the area and it was agreed that he would follow this up. Cllr Robertson also advised that there had been a Road Safety Officer meeting held earlier in the day and a consultation process on variable speed signs would be distributed in due course. In response to a question about speeding hotspots, PS Stapleton was advised that The Muirs was probably the main issue.

PS Stapleton questioned whether there was to be any redevelopment at the bottom of the High Street and was advised that it was on the Council's agenda with officers looking at a shared space idea.

CCllr W Freeman enquired whether Police still attended house/business alarm activation and was advised that if people are paying for this service, then officers still attended. However, PS Stapleton advised that officers will only check the premises and if all is OK, will not wait for the owners to return.

The CC thanked PS Stapleton for attending the meeting.

Resignation of Secretary/replacement: No further update but it was noted that CCllr W Freeman and CCllr D Cuthbert continued to deal with any correspondence.

Matters Arising

School Crossing Patrol Officers: Cllr W Robertson commented that it was his understanding that funds had been returned to the budgets in order to allow the Council some flexibility in where the Crossing Patrol Officers would be placed. A review in respect of Springfield Road/Station Road is to be undertaken. CCllr D West commented that there had been no statement from the Council clarifying the position and asked whether this could be requested.

KYTHE: Ex CCllr B Davies had not provided CCllr D West with the contact details and CCllr D West agreed to speak to B Davies about this.

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Kinross Town Centre Re-generation: the letter had not been sent to the Head of Planning and this would be done as soon as possible.

Website: CClr D West was still to draft a letter for the Chair's signature.

Community Investment Fund: there had been no meetings since the last CC meeting and it was agreed that CClr D Cuthbert would determine who had received funding.

Letter to Persimmon Homes: a letter had been sent to the officer in charge of the planning application. Funds had been transferred to the *Kinross Newsletter* but on discussion it was discovered that these should have been transferred to the website funds. CClr I Jack agreed to resolve this issue.

CClr W Freeman advised that an email had been received from Fossoway CC asking for clarification as to whether this could be done, and also seeking advice on what they should do with their remaining funds. It was agreed that CClr W Freeman would respond advising that it was possible to transfer the remaining budget, within restrictions, and that it was up to their CC as to what they wished to do with their remaining budget.

All actions allocated to CClr C Purves and CClr J Bryson would be held over until the next meeting.

Provost's Lamp: CClr W Robertson advised that the lamp had been returned from the Museum although work was required to modify it in order that it worked from the electricity supply. The CC agreed to look at this again once this work had been completed.

It was commented that the clock also did not work and CClr R Watters agreed to find out who owned the clock tower. CClr D Cuthbert is to email the Factors in this respect.

Kinross Town Centre Regeneration: CClr D Cuthbert advised that Michael Morgan was speaking to other officers and would come back to the CC as soon as possible. CClr W Robertson advised that there had been a series of meetings to decide the way forward and it was agreed that CClr D Cuthbert would write to Burnsbeck St advising that the police have concerns.

Kinross-shire Forum meeting

There had been no meetings since the last CC meeting, although it was noted that there was one scheduled for later in April. The CC were advised that CClr C Purves was requesting that this was delayed but a final decision had not yet been made.

Planning Matters

Planning Applications Received since the Last Meeting

19/00354/FLL. Alterations and extension to dwelling house at Craigwell, Milnathort.

19/00322/FLL. Application under Section 42 of the town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 to remove condition 2 (hours of operation) of planning permission 16/01289/FLL (change of use, alterations extension to form microbrewery)

19/00476/FLL. Installation of 2 solar arrays at 5 Newton of Classloch.

Planning Applications Determined by PKC

19/00065/LAW. Extension to dwelling house (proposed) at 19 Mavisbank, approved.

18/01964/FLL. Erection of 36 dwelling houses, 8 flats, community lounge/guest suite, formation of parking areas, landscaping and associated works at site of former Windlestrae Hotel, Muirs, withdrawn.

19/00138/FLL. Change of use to retail unit (class 1) to form a non-residential institution unit (class 10) at shop, Loch Leven Health Centre, Muirs, approved.

17/01903/FLL. Demolition of building an erection of 8 flats on land 30 metres east of 177 High Street, Old Causeway, approved.

Former Kinross High School site. It was noted that the letter of objection in respect of the Edwardian building had been sent.

Other Planning Matters

Community Council boundaries: CClr W Freeman advised that there were approximately six houses situated in the Kinross boundary, although they were officially in Milnathort. After discussion, it was agreed that the CC would confirm with Milnathort CC that they were happy for these houses to come under Milnathort and that Milnathort CC would need to write to the Council to request this officially. In respect of the proposed revision of boundaries involving the Loch, the CC confirmed that they were happy with the proposals contained in Malcolm Strang Steel's email of 24 March. CClr W Freeman would reply confirming this. Members agreed that there would be no change to the boundaries with Cleish.

Reports from Perth & Kinross Councillors

Cllr R Watters advised that PKC had been given around £2m from the Scottish Government Town Centre Fund. The Fund was initially meant for settlements greater than 1000 people and has clear criteria in that it is to be used to create/enhance economies. A number of Councillors had got together to look at potential projects which may benefit from the Fund with most of them following the same theme – to get better routes into Kinross. CClr Watters advised that funds had to be used within two years and projects had to be new. It was suggested that a cycling/walking route from the Pier or Muirs into Kinross would be a good option. CClr D Colliar suggested that a Mary, Queen of Scots visitor centre would also be a good suggestion.



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Cllr W Robertson advised that the work at Green Road was now complete and the play area at Kirkgate was now open; the toilets at the Pier were now operational, although landscaping work was still to be completed and he suggested that the CC should take some pride in this work. Cllr Robertson also advised that there had been a rise in the number of complaints in respect of dog fouling, although people were praising Cllr L McKay's efforts. Cllr Robertson also advised that the lights at Lathro would be repaired next week.

Reports from CC representatives

Following the resignation of B Davies at the last meeting, a number of meetings needed to be covered by members including the LLCC. Cllr D West agreed to attend this meeting, with Cllr D Cuthbert to remain as deputy. Cllr M Blyth agreed to sit on the sub-committees in the temporary absence of Cllr J Bryson. A meeting regarding *The Kinross Newsletter* needs to be arranged for as soon as possible. A meeting of the Grants committee is arranged for 23 April. Members noted that six applications had been received.

Correspondence

Davies Play Park: members were advised that an email had been received from Diane Cassidy reporting that the play park was being considered for refurbishment and was looking for ideas of what the community would like. It was agreed that Diane would be invited to attend the next CC meeting and that Cllr W Freeman would circulate Diane's email to members. He would also invite Diane to the meeting. Members suggested that this information should be shared on the Facebook page and website. Cllr D West also agreed to contact the Action Group in this respect.

Any Other Competent Business

Dog fouling: Cllr L McKay advised that she required more chalk spray for this purpose and it was agreed that the purchase of six cans (£42) would be made.

Blairingone School: Cllr D Colliar raised the issue of two unelected members voting to sell the school. Cllr W Robertson advised that the Education Committee, through Scottish Statute had representation from three religious groups (amongst others) who were allowed to vote and unfortunately there was nothing the Council could do about this.

Closure of Learning Centre: Cllr D Colliar suggested that this was another asset being lost to the town and asked whether this would be an opportunity for a community buyout. It was agreed that this would be looked at in further detail.

Signage to Milnathort: Members were advised that the signage was not particularly clear, with the ring road signs being covered by trees.

The next meeting of Kinross Community Council will be held on Wednesday 1 May 2019 at 7.30pm in Loch Leven Community Campus.

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

**Deadline for all Submissions
5pm, Friday 17 May
for publication on Saturday 1 June**

Fossoway and District CC

News from the April Meeting

Present at the meeting held on 2 April 2019 were Community Councillors (CCllrs) S Bruce-Jones, T Duffy, C Farquhar, G Pye and R Young; Perth & Kinross Councillors (Cllrs) M Barnacle, C Purves, W Robertson and R Watters and seven members of the public (MoP).

Apologies were received from Cllr A Cheape and Associate Member T Carroll.

Police report: PC Dougie Stapleton attended the meeting. A new Community Model has been implemented which aims to increase community engagement; PC Stapleton now has a full-time partner so he hopes that one of them will be able to attend this meeting more often. If anyone has any community policing concerns, they should email PC Stapleton directly at douglas.stapleton@scotland.pnn.police.uk without waiting for a future meeting.

PC Stapleton informed us that the only incident he was aware of in the last month was a speeding offence on Main Street, Crook of Devon where a driver was reported for travelling at 50mph in a 30mph zone. There has been a recent spate of daytime break-ins in Kinross, so the police advice would be to report any suspicious persons or vehicles at once via 999. There were no incidents to note in our area since the last CC Meeting from the Commander's Reports received via Perth and Kinross Community Watch.

A MoP asked if the Community Speed Watch program was still going to happen. Cllr Duffy replied that the CC had asked to be included in the programme, but had received no reply as yet. PC Stapleton added that communities would need to fund the purchase of their own equipment. Cllr Barnacle suggested that the subject could be brought up at the Kinross-shire Forum with the idea that equipment could be purchased jointly by all the local CCs.

Cllr Robertson asked about the role of the police in fly-tipping incidents. PC Stapleton said that it can be reported via the non-urgent number 101 and although they would obviously like to catch people, it would normally require some evidence in the rubbish that's left.

Matters Arising

Community Council By-Election: Cllr Duffy welcomed newly elected members S Bruce-Jones who has agreed to be secretary and R Young who has agreed to look at planning.

Blairingone School Estate Transformation: The Lifelong Learning Committee approved the closure proposal at the meeting on 27 March 2019. Hence the school will close

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from 28 June 2019 and pupils will transfer to Fossoway Primary School. The decision has been passed to the Scottish Ministers, with their considerations being received by 21 May 2019. Cllr Barnacle and another Councillor and a parent addressed the meeting; Cllr Barnacle stressed that proposed housing developments in the area had not been properly considered.

Cllr Purves had resigned his position as vice-convenor of the Committee in order to bring a motion to not accept the closure. The motion was only defeated by one vote, and if the vote had only included elected Councillors it would have been passed. However, the votes against the motion, and hence for closure, by two members nominated by their religious bodies with no vote from the public, resulted in the motion being defeated.

The Community Council shares the view of Local Councillors and Members of the Public present that it seems highly unreasonable that non-elected members should have a vote on a non-denominational matter like this. Additionally, unlike the elected members of the Committee, there was no way to contact these members beforehand to express the CC's point of view, whereas all the elected members were contacted. Consequently, the CC and Cllr Barnacle will write to John Swinney asking him to call in the decision.

Cllr Barnacle reported that the local developers had a pre-application discussion with PKC planners in September 2018 but it was 22 March before the planners responded saying a master plan for Blairingone should be prepared, however this was too late to be taken into account.

A MoP asked what will happen to the building if the decision to close goes ahead. The local Cllrs answered that the legislation allows the community to take it over if they want to, but they would need to get a body organised to raise the funds and run it.

Powmill in Bloom: Cllr Farquhar attended a meeting of the group on 1 April; they have applied to the *Kinross Newsletter* Fund for funds to complete the upgrade of a trailer into a planter to be displayed appropriately. Arrangements are being made for summer watering. The group has received £300 from PKC for bulbs, seeds, etc. They will take part in the Well-Kept Village competition, judging will be in September. Villages are allowed to nominate two areas that can be discounted from the judging, which are likely to be the old Hotel and Ivy Cottage.

Crook & Drum Growing Together: Cllr Duffy reported that the group are busy planting things which they already have finance for. They will probably take part in the Well-Kept Village competition.

Hydro Scheme Fund / Crook of Devon Bridge: Cllr Pye reported that the previously planned site visit had to be cancelled due to inclement weather. At the TRACKS Committee Meeting on 27 March, the Project Officer provided the cost for an 18m bridge to the required standard as £13k. In addition, ground works, assembly and installation of the bridge would bring the total cost to approximately £45k. Provision for ongoing maintenance of the bridge will need to be made, although this is not expected to be very onerous. The site visit has been rescheduled to 4 April to finalise the location of the new bridge.

Fossoway Gathering: Cllr Duffy reported that the organising committee now has £4k in the bank from two sources, enabling arrangements to be finalised. There are still opportunities for organisations and individuals to have stalls, and to place adverts in the programme. The Gathering will be on 25 May from 11.30am onwards.

Fossoway Area Transport/DRT: In order to assess the requirements for a service a survey is being conducted, for which the end date has been extended to 15 April. Some copies are being distributed on paper, or it can be completed online at: <https://kwiksveys.com/s/0pw6ISbo>.

The eventual aim is to found a Community Group to organise the service.

Carnbo Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS): Cllr Robertson said that the VAS is not set correctly when approaching from the East, and he has contacted PKC to get it looked at.

Blairingone War Memorial: Cllr Barnacle reported that the mason contacted by Associate Member Carroll has looked at the memorial and thinks it can be moved. Cllr Barnacle will check that the PKC planners are still happy with the proposed new location and then will arrange a site meeting with Profile Project, the mason and other interested parties.

A977 Mitigation: Cllr Duffy observed that nothing seems to be happening at the moment. Cllr Barnacle replied that the work is still due to take place, it's just a bit delayed. Cllr Duffy is worried that the traffic counter box in the pathway on the long straight stretch between Powmill and Rumbling Bridge could be hazardous to walkers and cyclists – could it be moved or made more visible? A MoP wondered if its position is because it also counts people/cycles. Cllr Watters will bring it up with Highways Department.

LDP2: Cllr Barnacle noted that it will be June or July before PKC receive the Reporter's response, so LDP2 would not be likely to go before the full Council until after the Summer Recess.



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New Business

Cllr Farquhar reported that the Powmill notice board is in need of urgent maintenance. Cllr Pye agreed to investigate.

P&K Councillors' Reports

Willie Robertson: Cllr Robertson said that there is a problem with a gate on the Aldie Road to Drum path, which is difficult to keep open while passing through it on horseback or cycle, and has caused at least two accidents. It would be better if it could be removed completely, or failing that perhaps a post could be erected next to it to allow it to be temporarily fixed open. The TRACKS Project Officer is going to contact the landowner to discuss the options.

Cllr Robertson has discovered that there are over 500 items on the waiting list for Road Safety improvements. The local Cllrs are having a meeting on 3 April to see where local issues are on the list and possibly influence priorities.

It would be a good idea if any necessary litter picks were done now before new plant growth takes place.

The Aldie Road to Drum Path has become very popular with walkers, cyclists and horse riders which is very encouraging; however, there is an increasing problem with horse droppings on the path. Although this is not such an immediate health problem as dog waste, it is unpleasant for other users of the path, and if left, causes damage to the path surface. Cllr Robertson and this CC appeal to horse riders to clear up after their mounts.

Callum Purves: Cllrs Purves and Barnacle have been contacted about parking problems outside the Church at Crook of Devon, potentially causing obstructions to emergency vehicles. They are looking into possible solutions.

Cllr Purves has received a reply from Anne Condliffe about retention of Planning Information. Cllr Purves believes that planning information should be a matter of public record forever.

Richard Watters: Cllr Watters had visited the SEAMAB School to investigate the issue with getting their access road surfaced. In the absence of agreement of all the frontagers, this has not yet been fixed.

Mike Barnacle: Cllr Barnacle asked the CC whether the idea of creating an overflow car park south of the cemetery had been raised in the past. Cllr Duffy replied that she thought it was previously looked into by the CC but was never finalised, Sandy Morrison might know more.

Planning Matters

19/00026/FLL. Change of use of equestrian land to form outdoor children's nursery, siting of a yurt and associated works at land 70 metres North of An Darach, Fossoway, no CC comment.

19/00337/FLL. Alterations and extension to dwelling house at Morvern, Powmill, Dollar, no CC comment.

19/00445/FLL. Erection of two dwelling houses (change of house type - plot 2) at Land 30 metres South of Crook of Devon House, Main Street, Crook of Devon, no CC comment.

Decided Applications

19/00020/FLL. Change of use of agricultural land to garden ground and alterations and extensions to dwelling house at Merryhills, Rumbling Bridge, Kinross.

18/02250/FLL. Change of use from open space to garden ground and erection of a fence (in retrospect) at 1 St Serf's Road, Crook of Devon, Kinross, approved.

Correspondence

Last month this CC joined the objectors to removal of planning information from the website. Anne Condliffe replied to Cllr Purves on 7 March describing a change such that the information will now be kept for four years rather than one. However, Kinross-shire Civic Trust is not happy with the response and has asked for details of the exact clauses of the GDPR that are being invoked to justify the removal at all.

AOCB

A MoP observed that there are no cats-eyes on the A977 between Kinross and Drum. Cllr Robertson said that it's no longer common practice to install these. Cllr Purves said that local Cllrs will ask the Highways Department if they think they would be appropriate there.

A MoP asked why there were no signs on the A977 telling you that you're entering villages. Cllr Duffy replied that this may change when the Bloom groups create features at entrance to villages. The MoP added that the road signs on the A977 aren't cleaned often enough. The Cllrs agreed to ask about this.

Another MoP requested that the A977 between Crook of Devon and Gartwhinzean Loan be litter picked, so Cllr Robertson agreed to arrange that.

Cllr Barnacle is still trying to find the owner of the disused quarry along the A977 and has written letters to possible companies.

The next meeting and AGM of Fossoway and District Community Council will be held on Tuesday 7 May 2019 at 7.30pm in Fossoway Primary School. All are welcome.

Fossoway & District CC minutes are posted on the website

www.fossoway.org

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



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Milnathort & Orwell Community Council News from the April Meeting

Present at the meeting held on Thursday, April 11, 2019 were Community Councillors (CCLRs) C Williams (chairman); C Flory (secretary/vice chairman); D Flory (treasurer/planning) M Leach (roads and safety); Perth and Kinross Councillors (CLRs) W Robertson, minute-taker E Rougvié and eight members of the public (MoPs).

Apologies were received from Cllr C Purves.

Police matters

No police were in attendance but CCLr D Flory highlighted the following issues on their behalf: Small businesses are urged to beware of fraudsters who are hacking into computers, posing as creditors and sending invoices with purportedly new account details. In one case, a business in Perth was defrauded to the tune of £155,000. Thefts from outbuildings and gardens are also increasingly prevalent. Householders are advised to keep sheds and garden equipment secure and install security lighting where possible. There has been a 21% increase in so-called romance fraud since last year whereby criminals ask for money from people they meet online. Anyone using dating sites or social media is reminded not to share personal details. CCLr Leach has sent the dates of all the forthcoming CC meetings to PC D Stapleton, the local community officer. It is hoped that shift patterns will allow the police to attend more meetings in future.

Matters arising

High hedge: The secretary reported that PKC's roads team has inspected the hedge near Carrs Billington and is satisfied with its height. However, there are still concerns that it affects the visibility of children going to school. CCLr C Flory will take up the matter with Cllr Purves.

Roads and transport

Vehicle-activated signs: CCLr Leach reported that the sign in South Street was now operational, but the one in Stirling Road had not yet been activated. There were no plans at this stage to install any in North Street despite concerns about speeding traffic. Following discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Robertson would ask the police to carry out a speed check between 8am and 9am on a school day and ask if North Street could be considered for a vehicle-activated sign.

Church Street: Cllr Robertson and the other ward councillors met with Daryl McKeown of PKC to discuss projects planned for the coming year. Amongst them is the refiguring of the junction of Church Street and Stirling Road, where visibility is very poor.

Crossings: Cllr Robertson is to ask PKC to divert some funding into replacing the existing zebra crossings with pelican crossings as they are considered to be much safer.

20mph zone: Concerns were raised about drivers ignoring or being unaware of the 20mph signs in New Road. Cllr Robertson will ask for a speed monitoring exercise to be carried out with a view to putting the sign on to the road itself. He will also ask the roads department if the 20mph zone could be extended.

Planning matters

Applications submitted:

Erection of a replacement house at Rintoul (19/00483/FLL), noted.

Applications decided:

Alterations to house at Viewfield, West Netherton (19/00199/FLL), approved.

Siting of modular office building and formation of car parking area (in part retrospect) at Adam Neilson Ltd., South Street (19/00058/FLL), approved.

Correspondence

Letter from Kinross-shire Civic Trust with an update on its activities, noted.

Information about Greenspace Scotland, a new initiative that offers funding for community events, noted.

New matters

Poo bags: CCLr C Flory advised that green dog poo bags are no longer to be provided by PKC.

Broadband speeds: CCLr Williams said he had received an e-mail from Broadway Partners, which offers faster broadband speeds free of charge. The Town Hall had been identified as an ideal Wi-Fi hotspot. Following discussion, it was agreed that this should be considered by the Town Hall Committee.

North Street closure: CCLr Leach reminded the meeting that North Street was to be closed for four weeks between the junctions with Morton Wynd and Tillywhally from April 29 to allow drainage works to take place. PKCllr Robertson advised that affected residents should be notified prior to work starting. The secretary will contact the contractor involved in order to ensure this happens.

Community survey: The deadline for returning the community transport questionnaire has been extended. The survey is aimed at people living in outlying areas and there has been a good response so far.

New CC member: The chairman extended a welcome to Sean Colebourn, who is to join the CC in May.

Councillors' reports

Litter: Cllr Robertson reported that the landowner of the community woodland has agreed to padlock the gate following incidents of fly-tipping. Anyone who sees areas blighted by litter is asked to contact Cllr Robertson, who will organise a litter-picking team. It was noted that BEAR Scotland is responsible for the motorway verges.

Donaldson Park: A MoP said that the gate between the park and Church Street had been taken off its hinges. Cllr Robertson will follow up.

The next meeting of Milnathort and Orwell Community Council will be held at 7.30pm on Thursday, May 9, 2019, in Milnathort Town Hall, when the guest speaker will be a representative of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.

Members of the public are invited to attend.

Find Milnathort CC minutes, agenda and other information at:

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

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

subscriptions@kinrossnewsletter.org

Portmoak Community Council News from the April Meeting

Present at the meeting held on 9 April 2019 were Community Councillors (Cllrs) M Strang Steel (Chairman), R Cairncross (Secretary), B Calderwood (Treasurer), G Cox, D Morris, A Muszynski; and Perth & Kinross Councillors (Cllrs) M Barnacle, W Robertson; and four members of the public (MoP).

Apologies were received from Cllrs S Forde, T Smith; Cllrs C Purves and R Watters; and PC D Stapleton.

Matters Arising

School Access: policy on parking and safe access routes for children. The CC noted that, in respect of school access and possible associated road markings, a Report is to be presented shortly to the Environment and Infrastructure Committee for decision. In respect of the safe walking routes for children in the vicinity of the school (improved red strip and possible build-out at the school) a separate design brief has been commissioned. A protocol advising drop-off/pick-up and parking in the vicinity of the school is a matter for the school and local community to develop.

Footpath from Scotlandwell to the Church, Hall and beyond:

Cllr W Robertson advised that PKC Road Safety Officers had confirmed that completing the outstanding option appraisal of eligible routes was on their list to deliver within the current financial year. Cllrs will monitor progress.

Resilience – being better prepared for risks: Community Emergency Plan. The project was progressing. Consideration is being given to bidding for funding from SSEN for backup communication facilities.

Review of Scheme of Establishment of Community Councils:

Agreement on the new boundaries as they affect Loch Leven had been sought by the Chairman. Cllrs confirmed that Kinross CC had so agreed and the matter would be reviewed by Milnathort and Orwell CC shortly.

Separately the CC learned that the necessary improvements to traffic flows at the Balgedie/Carsehall junction had been identified as eligible for support from what is now an 'earlier budget.' However, that budget has been incorporated into one large 'road safety pot' in the new budget for the current financial year. Unfortunately this project has been overtaken by other priorities. The matter should be revisited.

Portmoak Cemetery: No progress. PKC had yet to comment on the suitability of a potential site.

Rural Transport: Questionnaires had been distributed to homes around Portmoak. It was agreed that the young

(teenagers and above), the elderly who may not be able to drive and those trying to access employment merited particular attention. It could be useful to meet specifically with teenagers through the school, with the elderly at a number of venues and to hear the views of local employers and their employees.

Removal of Objections and Other Comments on the PKC Planning Portal from Public Access:

The CC noted further correspondence between Kinross Civic Trust and PKC. There remained a need to clarify and confirm PKC's interpretation of the GDP Regulation in respect of this matter.

New arrangements for the provision of school meals: The CC noted that there had been a lively debate at the School Parent Council on the matter. The policy appeared to be in conflict with the values accorded to healthy eating.

Minute of 12 February Planning Performance Framework

Feedback: The CC noted the response from Scottish Ministers to its recent letter. This had been disappointing. It reported that the Planning Bill currently before Parliament had initially included provisions to put performance reporting on a statutory basis and various other measures designed to improve performance but that Scottish Ministers had been disappointed by the removal of these provisions by Parliament's Local Government and Communities Committee. The letter did not directly address the issues raised by the CC. The CC would seek assurances that they would be taken into consideration.

Reports

Police: The CC noted the local report from PC D Stapleton. There had been a daytime housebreaking and theft in Kinnesswood. He also reported that there had been a recent spate of break-ins to residential properties and garages in the Kinross-shire area over the past 2-3 weeks. In addition there had been a daylight theft of scrap metal from the Gliding Club. This was of particular concern as the thieves had placed lives at risk by crossing live take-off and landing areas. The CC also noted the Area Commander Bulletins of 13, 20 and 27 March and of 3 April.

Treasurer: The balance at the month ending 31st 2019 was £0.00 in the General Account; and £1,144.41 in the Michael Bruce Way Account giving a total of £1,144.41. The 'Holding Account' No. 3 held £0.00. The Treasurer reported that, with support from PKC, an historic legal liability had been resolved. The CC would retain a full administrative grant for the forthcoming financial year.



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Planning

Progress with Developments:

18/00667/FLL. Former Lomond Inn, Kinnesswood. While there is already planning consent for the construction of five dwellinghouses, a new planning application to modify that consent had recently been submitted. Instead of building on the shell of the old inn at Plot 1, the new application would instead seek its demolition and its replacement with a new build. The application also included provisions to modify the plans for the dwellinghouse at Plot 5 (site of the former annex). Once PKC is satisfied with the application and it has been validated, it will be presented for consultation and comment. The CC was aware of the recent removal of slates, apparently to store them for reuse. It acknowledged that that could result in damage to the property.

In discussion there was concern at uncertainty and delay. It was agreed that a public meeting should be held to ascertain how the public would like to see the site developed and whether there is interest in attempting a community buy-out.

FIFE 16/0366/EIA Planning permission in Principle; **FIFE 17/03377/FUL** Westfield, Erection of gas peaking plant; and **FIFE 18/02342/ARC** Energy from Waste plant. The Chairman reported that he had been approached by Hargreaves Land to chair an initial meeting on 1 May in Balingry. This would aim to establish a Community Liaison Group. The membership of the Group had yet to be settled.

Reporter seeks comment on LDP2: The CC had been informed that the Government's Reporter had sought further information from PKC in respect of a comment made by the CC in respect of the new policy 25 'Housing Mix.' That was 'The Community Council welcomes this new policy. It recommends more flexibility. For example the cumulative build of 20 or more homes over a set period (and not just on one site and at one time) should trigger a requirement to meet an appropriate mix of housing and types.'

Roads: To note progress.

Action Plan for A911: The CC noted that the proposed 'Action Plan' for the A911 had been dropped. It was not seen as justified if there was no budget to support its conclusions. The CC noted that along the A911 as it traversed Portmoak there were a number of significant and related issues that would make better sense were they considered as part of an overall 'Plan'. With the support of Ward Councillors the CC would press for the reinstatement of the Plan.

Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) at Easter Balgiedie: A new VAS had just been commissioned at the entrance to Easter Balgiedie on the approach from Wester Balgiedie. While

there was no change in the required maximum speed limit of 40mph at this point evidence supported the modifying effect of VAS devices.

State of the roads within the Whitecraigs estate: The poor state and deterioration of some of the roads within the Whitecraigs estate was highlighted. This was attributed at least in part to site construction traffic during the completion of the final phase of Whitecraigs.

Poor sight lines looking to the left obscured by large hedge at foot of Bruce Road, Kinnesswood. CCllr D Morris raised the matter of poor sight lines at the junction of Bruce Road with Main Street. Drivers trying to exit on to Main Street find it difficult to see cars coming from the direction of Scotlandwell because of a large overhanging hedge.

Insurance Cover for Resilient Communities. The CC noted this new Insurance provision which had been aimed at supporting community emergency plans and resilience work. It could be relevant to the cover required by the Paths Group and would be drawn to its attention.

Councillor Reports

Willie Robertson: Fly tipping was causing a significant problem. Members of the public should, if they witness this happening, report the matter to the police providing if at all possible the registration number of the vehicle concerned. It was noted that the owner of the land involved may have to bear the cost of clearing the waste material.

Mike Barnacle reported that: a) he had provided further information to the Government's Reporter in respect of LDP2; and b) there will shortly be a meeting of the Planning Members and Officers Group at which a number of salient planning issues would be reviewed. He raised the question of whether it was timely to initiate an anti-litter clean up campaign.

Matters raised from the floor

Solhiem Cup Community Fund 2019. Papers on this had been circulated. Applications were due by 27 May.

AOCB

The Gliding Club will have an Open Day on Sunday 23 June to which all would be welcome.

The next meeting and AGM of Portmoak Community Council will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 14 May 2019 in Portmoak Village Hall, Scotlandwell.

Portmoak CC minutes can be viewed:

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



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Cleish & Blairadam CC

News from the April Meeting

Present at the meeting held on 1 April 2019 were Community Councillors (CCllrs) F Principe-Gillespie, H Somerville, F Whalley and R Cairney and Perth & Kinross Councillors (Cllrs) C Purves and R Watters and 12 members of the public (MoP).

Apologies were received from Cllr M Barnacle, CCllrs P Fraser, R Kitchen and M T aylor.

Crime Prevention

The Police were not present. A reported break-in at Kinross, a chainsaw was stolen.

Financial Update

£100 is in the account. An invoice for two copies of the Newsletter has been received (£133). The accounts are soon to be submitted for end of financial year.

Newsletter

The next newsletter will hopefully be produced and distributed promptly to allow inclusion of the Community Transport Survey feedback form – whilst this can be submitted electronically, we will try and get a copy to all our local residents in time for submission.

Planning Applications

Land west of Greenacres and a new access road (which is noted to be outwith the settlement boundary), approved.

Pending Applications

Boreland Farm Steading: this has been approved but not finalised. The new builders appear to be doing a good job and are cladding in the originally proposed stone work.

Cleish Mill: a full application for one house, and a second in principle for a house and courtyard development. Change of use from woodland to garden at Hillview, Kinnaid.

Greenacres: a retrospective application outwith the agreed settlement boundary. There is both concern and frustration that there appears to be no consensus or limits to the ongoing sprawling development at this site despite a settlement boundary appearing in the new LDP.

Redwood: there is still activity on the site, irrespective of the refused application at both planning and appeal level.

The CC boundary proposed changes were passed at the last PKC full council meeting. We are waiting for Kinross CC to accept the proposal. Cllr C Purves to raise at the next KCC meeting.

B9097: whilst there is a new 40mph speed limit in Drum due in part to the new houses there, we still suffer from the dangerous speeding motorbikes on the B9097 around Cleish. The existing houses around Craigton, Cleish and Templeton are much closer to the road than the new houses in Drum. It is both anti-social and dangerous.



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Village updates – Blairadam

No further development in instigating a **20mph limit in Maryburgh**. Cllr C Purves reported that whilst money has been allocated in the budget for 20mph limits, the Council has initially started an 18mth trial in a few areas (including Kinnesswood) first.

The increase in cost of garden recycling was raised: this increased to £30 this month, and then £35 next year. This is not a statutory service by PKC, but instead is a revenue generating service to help fund other Council services.

The Tabernacle Hall has been successful in the application for a full grant for floor and kitchen replacement.

Lochran Sidings road signs: Cllr W Robertson had actioned this after the previous meeting. The signs are due to be installed at the start of this financial year, then more speed surveys can be undertaken.

B996: There was another bad vehicle accident at the end of February (a total of three within a month at that corner). It is difficult to know how to improve this, there are already large and clear road signs.

Village updates – Cleish

There is a **Big Lunch Event** (in conjunction with the Eden Project and National Lottery) on 1 June at the Cleish playing fields and then the village hall. This is a free community event, with games, food and the licensed Up In Arms open from 2pm.

The Up In Arms is next open on 3 May: thank you to all from Blairadam, Maryburgh and Keltybridge who have supported this Community Venture – it has proven to be extremely successful and all are welcome.

Cleish School: the current feasibility study has resulted in a positive initial report, with a consensus for an affordable solution to keep the school open and replace the external portacabin buildings. This study should be completed in May, where the final options will be presented.

AOCB

A local resident explained that he had removed large unsightly trees from the front garden boundary and replaced them with a fence. This is primarily to protect his young family when playing in the garden from the adjacent road. He wasn't aware of the need for planning permission if the fence is higher than 1m. He has put in a retrospective application, and many neighbours and local residents have supported his actions – it has actually improved both the visual appearance of the boundary as well as improving sight lines due to the removal of tall and thick bushes and trees. In light of the strength of support, the CC agreed to review the application once live and if the application was as discussed would support the application, but suggested that his neighbours did the same. It was advised that supplying photographic evidence of the improvement despite the fence being taller than 1m would be beneficial.

The next meeting of Cleish and Blairadam Community Council will be on Monday 3 June at 7.30pm at Cleish Village Hall.

More community information for Cleish & Blairadam CC is posted on the website

www.cleishandblairadam.org.uk

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

Club & Community Group News



Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation

www.kleo.org.uk



Early bird tickets for Dougie MacLean

We are delighted to announce that singer-songwriter Dougie MacLean, who is internationally renowned for his song 'Caledonia', will headline this year's Kinross-shire's Winter Festival on Saturday 7 Dec. Early bird tickets (£20) are available until 1 June at Morgans Solicitors and Estate Agents in Kinross and Light up my Heart in Milnathort, or through www.kleo.org.uk. After that tickets will be £22.



Community Investment Fund grant for KLEO

We are so pleased that KLEO has been awarded a grant of £3097.99 from the Community Investment Fund for event equipment. With this grant we are able to buy five more

farmers' market stalls, a new roof for our marquee and some mobile PA equipment which we can use at our outdoor events like the Festive Street Market.

Kinross Farmers' markets

The next Farmers' Market is **Saturday 25 May** from 10am-2pm in the High Street at the old town hall. The market is a great place to buy high quality, fresh food from local producers and artisan traders and to shop at the High Street's established businesses. We look forward to seeing you all there.



Kinross Kacophony Orchestra

An orchestra for adults who like to play their instruments in a group with conductor Dougie Flower. All abilities are 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. Sessions are on Wednesday evenings from 7.15pm to 9.15pm at Loch Leven Community Campus and on **Wednesday 12 June** when we have our performance showcasing all the tunes we have been working on. Weekly fee £5. If interested please e-mail bouwien@kleo.org.uk.

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! Sessions are on Tuesday evenings with Horsecross Arts tutor Heather Macleod, 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.

For more information about KLEO events go to our website.

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Kinross & District Town Twinning Association

An anticipated 29 twinnings from Gacé will be hosted in and around Kinross-shire from 1-8 August. The Normandy flag of 'three little cats' is similar to that of England's three lions. It dates back to the times of William the Conqueror who originated from Normandy.

We are planning many trips for their visit and are hoping for some good weather so that Scotland looks at its best. These trips will be open to the public on a first come, first served basis. Details will follow in subsequent issues of the *Newsletter*.

We are still on the lookout for new host families keen to get involved in this cultural exchange. Anyone interested should contact David Munro on 01577 862126 for further details.



*Carved wooden shield
gifted by our Gacé friends*

Kinross and District Art Club

kadac.co.uk

Another busy month has gone by, with well attended regular art sessions twice a week in the Millbridge Hall.

Many of our club members have created and finished artworks to enter into this year's club calendar competition. Members are given the unenviable task of choosing the winning entries from a wide array of wonderful paintings. They will vote for the top 13 paintings; one for each month and another for the front cover of the calendar. The 2020 calendar will be on sale at our annual exhibition in September, which we have also started preparing for. More information on this will be announced over the summer months.

On Friday 12 April, we were thrilled to welcome Leo du Feu, a Fife-based artist, to our club session. Leo is a full-time professional artist and art tutor, exhibiting around Scotland and the UK. His inspiration is the natural world and his passion for this was evident in his demonstration which focused on watercolour painting of birds, as well as explaining how he sketched them 'en plein air'. To finish his presentation, Leo displayed and discussed some of his works. The demonstration was well received by a busy audience.



Leo du Feu presenting his workshop

The club meets at Millbridge Hall on Tuesdays and Fridays (2-4pm) each week. If you are interested in joining the club and developing your own creativity, you will find more information and contact details on our website.



Kinross Centre

April has been very eventful weather-wise. We have had rain, snow and wind, and all four seasons in one day. It could only happen in Scotland!

We ended March on a great note, with a concert from the Sabres. Lots of our members came to enjoy the music and most were up dancing. Those who couldn't dance swayed in their chairs to music from the sixties, seventies and eighties. It was a really enjoyable afternoon.

Over the last month on Tuesdays and Fridays we have been enjoying trips out on the trishaws, touring around Kinross and Loch Leven. We have seen some spectacular sights, spring flowers, wildlife and we even saw some deer in a local field. We are looking forward to many more trips out on the trishaws. If you see us, give us a wave.

Our regular activities continue on a daily basis and our Tuesday singing group has become very popular with lots of members joining in. Our games corner is becoming quite popular with Dominoes and Scrabble being a big hit. And our art class continues with some brilliant pieces of art being made.

We had a concert on Monday 22 April with the Tuesday Crew plus one; these are a few volunteers from the Seagull Trust. On the same day some staff and members went away on our annual holiday, this year to Melrose for the week. At the end of April our Barge trips start again.

The Coffee bar, open to everyone from Monday to Friday, has been very busy. Our full breakfast is very popular as are our cheeseburgers. We also have home baking on a daily basis, at very reasonable prices. Why not pop in and see us? We would love to welcome you.

We would love you to be involved with the Kinross Centre, either as a service-user, a volunteer or as a supporter, if you would like further information please contact Nan Cook on 01577 863869.

Kinross Garden Group



After the AGM for the Garden Group the talk in April from Julia Corden of the Explorers Garden in Pitlochry was a holiday in itself! She described the architecture of Santiago in Chile, and the scenery, wildlife and plants of Patagonia and the Falklands. It was a superb talk sponsored by the Scottish Rock Plant Group. Many members also took the opportunity to buy some of the lovely plants that Julia had brought along with her.

This was the final talk in the winter season and from May we now have the summer garden visits. Our first outing of the season, on Thursday 16 May, will be on a car share trip to Eastbank Cottage and Pitcurran House in Abernethy. All participants have been given their individual instructions but more details about the outing (and membership) can be obtained from Ms C Anderson on 01577 864589.

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.



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Kinross & District Inner Wheel

www.innerwheel.co.uk

We held our monthly meeting at Milnathort Golf Club. Our speaker this month was Kit Gow, a former Scottish International hockey player, who had a dream to play hockey for Scotland which came true.



Kit Gow with her Scotland hockey blazer

In 1971 Kit was part of the Scottish hockey squad which had a world tour, incorporating the world championship in New Zealand. They flew from Glasgow (known as Abbotsinch at that time) to London, then onward to Ceylon (Sri Lanka), Singapore and Hong Kong where she met a friend from Alva. Then it was on to Sydney and Canberra before flying to Auckland for the competition. On the return journey they flew to Fiji, Hawaii, and California

where she stayed with a friend from home, and then to New Jersey. The final flight was New York to Glasgow. Everywhere they went on this tour they were met with friendliness and had the opportunity to sample the local culture.

Our next meeting is on **Monday 13 May** at Milnathort Golf Club at 6.30pm. It is the club AGM.

For more information about Inner Wheel contact us by email on Admin@innerwheel.co.uk or visit our website.



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What we do

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Contact

SSAFA, Queen's Barracks
131 Dunkeld Road
Perth, PH1 5BT
Telephone: 01738 625346
Email: perth@ssafa.org.uk



Kinross Museum



It is that time of year when we begin to put together new exhibitions in the museum. To replace the display called 'Greetings from Kinross-shire', we are planning a new exhibit telling the story of the postal service in Kinross-shire. It will include colourful characters like Tam Reid the Scotlandwell 'postie' who announced his arrival by blowing a horn.



The post van

By contrast, our rolling exhibition on World War I will be followed by displays on two great feats of discovery and exploration that took place 50 years ago in 1969. Namely the British Trans-Arctic Expedition led by Wally Herbert and Man's first landing on the Moon. If you have any souvenirs or memorabilia on these topics and would be willing to lend them to the museum for display, please get in touch.

Drop by on Thursdays or Saturdays when you will receive a warm welcome from our volunteers. Also don't forget that the museum will have a presence at the Loch Leven Discovery Day in the Kirkgate Park on **Sunday 26 May**. Drop by to view displays on the history of Loch Leven.

Kinross Bridge Club



Another very enjoyable season has come to an end. The number of members playing regularly has continued to rise which is very encouraging. At the end of season party the Peter Stirling trophy for the best average score over the year was presented to Sandy Greenhill with Jim Marshall as runner up.

The winners on the night were as follows:

North South	1st	Sandy Greenhill and Jim Marshall
	2nd	Brendan Hamill and Nicol Tomney
East West	1st	Jane Muirhead and Catriona Marshall
	2nd	Gloria Wilson and Colin Wilson.

The next season will start in mid September. New members will be most welcome.

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Kinross & District Rotary Club

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Ethiopia Medical Project (EMP)

Two issues ago we were delighted to tell you that club member Jo Middlemiss had won a Rotary UK Community Champion Award for her dedication and hard work for the EMP which she and her cousin set up. Since then she has been featured on the front page of the *Courier*, and in a radio interview on the John Beattie programme.

EMP has now been running for 10 years and, in that time, has helped more than 8000 women suffering from uterine prolapse. The Buccama clinic has grown to have a staff of 22 and Jo and her cousin Maureen work each year to raise the funds to support it.

The clinic has recently been working on educating people about podoconiosis. This is a form of elephantiasis in the lower leg area, contracted from the soil and not from worms or mosquitoes. Care and cure is very simple but not easy. It involves soaking, soaping, massaging, socks and shoes. This is simple if you have access to all those things but impossible if you don't. The clinic is now running outdoor sessions for treatment. Doctors and nurses are not required; just the basics, determination and a good deal of courage and empathy. Have a look at the EMP website at www.ethiopiamedicalproject.com or get in touch if you want to help in any way at all.

Cyclone Relief

The club has bought a shelterbox which is being sent to Malawi to help with the disaster relief effort. More than 86,000 people there have had to flee their homes putting them at increased risk of disease, violence and even trafficking. Families' homes have been washed away by the floods. Rotary International is working to support such families in this area and others.

A shelterbox is a sturdy green box packed with items like mosquito nets, water containers, water purification equipment, blankets, a family tent, a family cooking set, solar lights, tools and much more. More information is available online at www.shelterbox.org.

Your local club is glad to be able to play a part in this relief effort. We can do this because of the support you give to our fundraising activities. This is one example of how supporting Rotary can have an international impact (in addition to our all local activities that we are glad to be able to fund). As we are one of more than 36,000 such clubs in the world, when Rotary gets involved in international issues it can make a big difference; for example the campaign to eradicate Polio worldwide is now very close to 100% success.



What's in a Shelterbox?



If you would like to know more about how to send a shelterbox then either donate through their website above or get in touch with us – contact details for our secretary are at the end of the article.

Interact Club

The High School Interact club provided us with much-appreciated support at this year's Primary School Quiz. It's great to have the Interactors working alongside us.

They also ran a very successful disco at the campus for P7 children. Interact carry out all the organisation for this event including running it and leading the games and dances. It's quite a job! Thanks also go to Lynn Caldwell, Craig Scrimand and Mrs Skea.

Euroscola Trip to Strasbourg

Prior to the Club AGM on 1 April, our Euroscola candidate Rebecca Peedle was interviewed by Rotarian Andy Middlemiss.

Rebecca, who is proficient in French and Mandarin, listed her many interests which include sport, reading, languages, coaching and volunteering. Rebecca was chosen to represent our club in a group visiting the European Parliament. We sponsored her trip to Strasbourg, and the programme of activities with that parliament. Depending on the eventual outcome of Brexit, this may well be the last occasion when we are invited to send delegates to join with other young folk from all over Europe.



Rebecca Peedle with Rotarians Sean Bolton and Andy Middlemiss

Rebecca explained the various activities which took place during her stay in Strasbourg and how interesting it was to take part in discussions with others from other countries. She covered many topics including climate change, terrorism, Brexit and the environment and found it very interesting to hear the views of others.

She confirmed what a wonderful experience the trip was. It included a day in the actual parliament and conducting a survey, in French, on the streets of Strasbourg. Rebecca concluded by showing photographs of various aspects of the trip. Members were very impressed by this very confident and literate young lady and wished her every success in her future career, the next stage of which is study at Aberdeen University.

Continues over page...

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

Kinross & District Rotary Club continued...

Primary School Quiz

All the local schools (Arngask, Cleish, Fossoway, Kinross, Milnathort and Portmoak) took part in our annual quiz. Everyone enjoyed it and showed the wide range of their knowledge. In the end Kinross Primary were worthy winners. Thanks to Loch Leven Campus for the use of the hall and technical equipment and to the Rotarians and Interactors who supported the event. We now look forward to Kinross representing our area at the next leg, which is at Dalgety Bay on 24 April. We'll let you know how they got on in the next issue.



The Kinross team Left to right: Zoe Neave, Callum Newton, Andrew Newton and Libby Kinninmonth

Children's Hospice Association Scotland (CHAS)

Representatives of the club were given a tour of CHAS to get an update on the facilities of Rachel House. There have been many changes to the hospice in the years since the club last visited. We'd like to thank Lyndsay Stobie for organising this for us.

Some days later a group of rotations joined CHAS gardener Clare Hickie for a spring clean-up in the hospice garden. This is an activity which we hope to repeat regularly.

Recent Speakers

Ann McCormack is a full-time graphic designer, who is also a volunteer with the Broke not Broken organisation in Kinross. Ann explained to our breakfast meeting that they are not simply a food bank now, having developed over the past four years to offer much more support to the people of Kinross-shire who find themselves in hard times.

Clients are mostly referred by the health centre, schools or social workers and are issued with vouchers through this referral system.

One project which has turned into a big success is the development of garden space behind the Broke not Broken building. This is now an allotment-type space where clients can take part in gardening and growing vegetables. As part of the support, cookery classes are run to teach the basics of cookery and this gives a further opportunity to meet others with similar problems.

During the school holidays, they run a kids club including outings to the theatre and football clubs for example. Lunch is also provided.

They also provide funding for counselling for those with mental health issues and provide an outreach facility at the health centre every Friday. This service is supported by Citizens Advice, Welfare Rights, Credit Union and the Job Centre.

Ann Thallon is a retired teacher and now a volunteer with the charity Hearing Link. Ann spoke to us with obvious passion about the work the charity carries out, providing support for people who suffer from hearing loss. Surprisingly, 1 in 6 people suffer some form of hearing loss, with 40% of people over 50 being affected, rising to 70% in over 70s.

Untreated, patients can suffer from withdrawal and depression with the feeling of being 'left out' which, in the longer term, can lead to dementia. Family members are affected too. It is interesting to note that, on average, most people suffer ten years of denial before eventually seeking help. Hearing Link can help; by working for and with people who have experienced changes in their hearing, and with their families and friends across the UK.

Help is available by email at helpdesk@hearinglink.org and there's also lots of help and support at www.hearinglink.org. Alternatively, you can call 07564 916798.

Douglas White is Head of Advocacy at the Carnegie UK Trust. With a brief introductory history of the life of Andrew Carnegie, Douglas explained to us that the Trust was set up in 1913, with the aim of improving the wellbeing of people in the UK and Ireland. It covers everywhere except Dunfermline, Carnegie's birthplace, which has a Trust of its own.

The Trust covers a wide range of topics including libraries, playing fields, social work and wildlife trusts to mention just a few. It works in partnership with other organisations and charities, carrying out research and working with government and local authorities to influence policy.

The Trust does not give grants. They work with a five year strategic plan. Some of the work currently undertaken includes advising on the recent discussions regarding digital media abuse and they work with young people in care, teaching them digital technology and how to manage personal privacy when using the internet.

Although the Trust handed over control of libraries set up by Carnegie to local authorities, it still gets involved with projects within libraries. In what Douglas referred to as 'Flourishing Towns', he explained that one project is to encourage towns at opposite ends of the country to share characteristics and ideas.

All projects and research are subject to quarterly reporting to the Trustees. This is followed by an annual report to assess the success or otherwise of each project. Douglas showed a great knowledge of his subject and is clearly passionate about the work of the Trust.

Upcoming Speakers

- 29 April** Connor McLeod of Kinross Flyball team 'Back n Forth'
- 6 May** Club Business meeting
- 13 May** Kenny Wiggins of Kinross company Span Access Solutions
- 21 May** Member Archie Hipwell's experiences Keeping Shetland Sheep
- 27 May** Alex Waterson talks about Mental Health in Australia
- 3 June** Club Assembly
- 10 June** Kate Caithness talking about World Curling
- 18 June** Phil Teale's plans for the next rotary year

To come and meet us, please contact Brian Timms, club secretary, by email at secretary.kdrc@gmail.com. Also check out our Facebook page.

Milnathort in Bloom

A massive thank you! We would like to say a huge thank you to the people and businesses of Milnathort. For the first time since 2014, Milnathort in Bloom has been running an official fundraiser to raise much-needed funds to cover increasing running costs. We do receive a small grant from Perth and Kinross Council, and this covers part of the cost of (over 4000) plug plants we buy each year. We have many other costs, including compost (lots!) insurance and equipment.

We have written to local businesses, are running a Facebook campaign for crowdfunding and our volunteers have undertaken a door drop around the village.

We asked and, wow! The wonderful people of Milnathort have responded. Our fundraising target for this year is £1500. At the time of writing, we have raised over £3000, which has smashed our target twice over – we have been genuinely gobsmacked at the level of support from the community, but we shouldn't be, this is really a brilliant place to live.

There isn't enough room in the *Newsletter* to thank all the individuals who have responded to our door drop and Facebook fundraiser, but I would like to share some of the lovely comments we have received:

'With thanks for all the volunteers do'

'Keep up the good work, it really is very much appreciated'

'Thank you to all the volunteers for making Milnathort beautiful with flowers'

'Hope you all have a blooming nice year'

Thank you to each and every one of you for your donations and kind words, you have helped us to continue to do what we do to make Milnathort a beautiful place to live in and visit. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank local businesses which have donated so far to our fundraiser:

The Good House Company

The Isle of Skye Whisky Company

Finlay M and Soho Wealth



We would also like to extend a special thank you to Corrinne Mason of Light up my Heart in Milnathort. Corrinne has been fantastic in her support of Milnathort in Bloom – collecting donations, selling postcards and allocating items to be sold to raise funds for us.

In other news

Following the success of our sunflower competition last year, we will be running a scarecrow competition this year. The competition is open to individuals and groups and many points will be given for using recycled materials. Judging will take place near the end of July, please keep an eye out for posters and Facebook updates. Entry is £2 and forms will be available in the next few weeks from Light up my Heart in Milnathort.

We carried out our first activity of the year on 6 April and potted on over 4000 plug plants. Many thanks to everyone who turned up to lend a hand – including many of our new recruits.

Our next activity will be to plant up all of our hanging baskets – this will take place in May. See p84 for details of things to do in your garden in May.



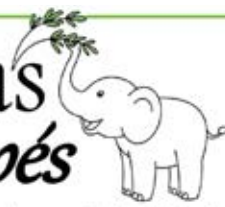
Over 4000 plug plants were potted up during April!

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Kinross & Ochil Walking Group

(Affiliated to Ramblers Scotland)

Spring is the perfect time to come out walking with us as, hopefully, the weather will be improving. Explore new places, improve your mental and physical fitness and meet people. Whether you're new or returning to walking, or a regular walker, try out a walk or two to see if you'd like to join our friendly and relaxed group. We operate car-sharing but it is not essential to have a car.

Weekend Walks

We would very much like to have some new walkers join us at the weekends and can guarantee you a warm welcome.

Sunday 5 May: Upper Bridge of Allan Circuit, 5.5 miles.

A scenic walk through Mine Woods to Cocksburn Reservoir, Pandreich Woods and Whitehill with some short steep sections.

Saturday 18 May: Backwater Dam, Glen Isla, 8 miles.

A low level circular walk following well-made tracks, paths and minor roads round Backwater Dam.

Friday 31 May to Sunday 2 June: Weekend away at Arrochar (members only).

A selection of walks in the Trossachs over three days. Idyllic location, good food, a quiz evening and excellent company. In case it turns cold and wet, you do need appropriate clothing, including boots or strong shoes and waterproofs. Bring water, a packed lunch hot drink.

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

New Midweek Walks

We are trialling a monthly midweek walk of approximately 6-7 miles on the **first Thursday of each month.**

Thursday 2 May: Mackintosh and Glasgow.

Meet at 8.15am at Kinross park and ride to share cars.

Thereafter, heading to Halbeath park and ride to catch the X26 bus to Glasgow at 8.45am.

A walk round Glasgow taking in some of the architecture. We will view some of the iconic buildings and interiors created by Charles Rennie Mackintosh which are now classed as world famous. Lunch at Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum.

Thursday 6 June: Glen Tarken Circular, 7 miles.

Meet at 9am at Kinross park and ride to share cars or, alternatively, meet at St Fillans at 10.30am.

From St Fillans, head up towards Glen Tarken Wood and follow track uphill. Steep climb at start, taken at a moderate pace, with superb views of the glen.

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

For further information regarding these walks, please contact Moira McCauley on 01383 839795.

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 four miles followed by a sociable visit to a coffee shop, farm shop or pub for refreshments. We would be delighted to welcome anyone who would like to try walking with us.

Tuesday 14 May: Michael Bruce Trail and Portmoak Moss.

A steepish climb up the cobbles, taken at an easy pace. Flat walk along Bishop Hill with panoramic views over Kinnesswood and Loch Leven. Short road walk into the moss and circle back to start.

Tuesday 28 May: Moncrieffe Hill Sculpture Trail

A fairly short steepish section to start with, then easy walking along good paths. Woodland walk with good views and the fun of spotting the numerous sculptures.

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

Kinross in Bloom

Since our last meeting we have been busy, out and about in Kinross. The planter beside the Kilt Shop was replaced and pansies were replaced in the planters at the Park and Ride and also outside the Kirklands Hotel. We are still waiting delivery for the replacement planters at the Courthouse. We now have over 3000 summer plug plants and have planted them on in the polytunnel.

200 Club Winners

May Draw

- | | | |
|---|--------|--------------------------|
| 1 | No. 7 | Bill and Barbara Belford |
| 2 | No. 85 | Denise Stephenson |
| 3 | No. 84 | James and Lorraine Whyte |
| 4 | No. 16 | Beverley Dolan |

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 1 May at 7.30pm in the Church Centre. We would welcome any new volunteers to help with the work of Kinross in Bloom. If you are interested, please contact susan.mitchell50@gmail.com.

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.



Kinross-shire U3A

<https://u3asites.org.uk/kinross>
kinrossshireu3a@gmail.com



Thanks are due to Mike Robinson from the Royal Scottish Geographical Society for his informative and comprehensible talk about climate change at our March meeting. Cause for concern and action, but not yet despair!

We had another fascinating talk in April, this time an introduction to genealogy by Elma Lindsay, illustrated by power-point, books and a walking stick! Next month is the last of our regular meetings for season 2018-2019, we will be having a pause until September, but the interest groups will continue to run. The May meeting will be our Annual General Meeting, and the draft agenda is available from the links page on our website. We will need new committee members, so please contact the secretary, or any other committee member if you would like to help, or want more information. Our email is kinrossshireu3a@gmail.com.

As well as the business of the AGM, we will try to add to the fun by holding a Quick Kinross-shire Quiz to see how much you know about Kinross-shire, and how much attention you've been paying at the meetings! There may even be a prize, so please come along to Kinross Parish Church, 2.30pm **Tuesday 7 May.**

Kinross 50-Plus Club

The monthly meeting is on **Thursday 2 May** when we have a talk by Mr Iain Baird on the Woodland Trust.



Away Days

9 May Peebles

23 May Helensborough

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

Special Notice

There will be an Extraordinary General Meeting held in the Millbridge Hall on Thursday 9 May to which members are invited to attend, when the future of the club will be discussed.

Friday Walkers

3 May Lady Mary's Walk in Crieff

17 May Carnoustie to Arbroath

31 May Loch Ordie and the cuckoos

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

Friday Hillwalkers

10 May Fife Coast including service bus ride Flora 9am

24 May TBC Jock 9am

Contact Pauline Watson, 01577 862685

Activities

Fly Tying, Crafts, and Keep Fit have finished for the summer. 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.

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

Portmoak Hall 100 Club

March Draw

1st	No 36	Andrea Drummond	Kinnesswood
2nd	No 34	Roy Stevens	Kinnesswood
3rd	No 94	Richard Green	Easter Balgedie

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Community Website

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

Portmoak Community Woodland

www.portmoakcw.org.uk

We have been sprucing things up in both community woodlands. Yes, pun intended! In the past month members of the group have re-instated the viewpoint indicator in Kilmagad Wood and pruned Christmas trees in Portmoak Moss.

If you're looking for a lovely spring walk, head up through Kilmagad Wood and, shortly after the main path turns back towards the Bishop, you'll find the viewpoint indicator which identifies all the principal landmarks. If the weather's clear you can see both the Bass Rock and the Wallace Monument, as well as Arthur's Seat.

Parts of the indicator had become rotten so we had to take it down last year. Thanks to PCWG member, Stuart Garvie of Scotlandwell Frames, it's now looking as good as new. Stuart Byers and Dave Batchelor helped him to haul it back up the hill and re-install it.



Stuart Garvie and Stuart Byers with the Viewpoint Indicator in Portmoak Woods

After the fairly stiff walk up the hill the indicator provides an excellent excuse to stop and learn about the scenery. Unfortunately, the bench seat which used to be there was also collapsing and had to be removed. We're planning to replace it.

Another excuse to do a bit of walking and standing about is our imminent Dawn Chorus event in Portmoak Moss. There are still a few places left. It's on **Saturday 4 May at 4am**, meeting at the Scotlandwell entrance to the Moss. Scott Paterson, the Perth and Kinross County Bird Recorder, will lead it. If you'd like to be there please contact Stuart Garvie on 01592 840825 or 07788 142909.

Pruning Christmas trees is probably the most eccentric task in our calendar. Removing self-seeded spruce saplings from the raised peat bog is part of the ongoing restoration project (too many trees on the bog simply dry it out and stop it being, er, boggy). So, even though it's a bit weird thinking about Christmas decorations on a spring day, we have found that it improves the shape of the trees in December if we do a bit of early thinning.

If you've spotted the woodland group's 'gilets jaunes' in the Moss, the ongoing work of pulling out birch saplings from the main peat dome has been continuing most weekends. Open meetings, as always, are at 7.30pm on the third Tuesday of the month in the Well Inn, Scotlandwell.

Kinross Camera Club

kinrosscameraclub.org.uk

Our regular syllabus finished at the end of April with our annual prize-giving dinner. It has been a busy, but successful, season. Congratulations to all those who did well in competitions and thanks to everyone who helped make the club run as smoothly as it does.

However, we don't stop our photographic activities completely over the summer! Apart from our annual weekend away in May (this year to Oban), we run a series of



'summer evening classes' which are informal photographic nights on Thursdays throughout the summer. We meet at 6.30pm outside the Green Hotel, Kinross, and travel to a different location in central Scotland each week. It's a chance for less experienced photographers to try their hand whilst benefitting from the guidance available from more experienced club members. It is an excellent way to learn. Details of the summer programme will be posted on the club website soon. If you have any questions, please contact secretary@kinrosscameraclub.org.uk.



'Sunday Driver' by Richard Dibley

Kinross Beavers

During March the beavers were working on the Safety Activity Badge and spent two evenings completing it. Whilst completing this badge they found out about the green cross code, fire safety and stranger danger before practising what they learned about the green cross code.



Beavers putting the green cross code into action

They have also recently been learning about how to read maps and compass directions as part of the Navigator Stage One badge. They will be given the opportunity to put this into action in the next few months when we will be outside enjoying the nice sunny evenings (hopefully!).

Congratulations to Rory, who was presented with a special recognition award for being kind and helpful for the Spring term. Congratulations also go to Mungo, Rory and Jamie who were presented with their Chief Scout's Bronze Award at the end of term. A lot of hard work was put in to achieve this. Well done boys!

As you can see, there's a lot going on in the colony at the moment. If you would like the Beavers to help your community group, or if you are interested in volunteering with Scouting please contact us by email at kinrossbeavers@hotmail.co.uk.



Rory with his award

Kinnesswood in Bloom

We've managed a few work parties this year but are looking forward to some warmer, drier weather to get into full swing. There's still quite a lot to do at Benarty View but thankfully the heathers and lavenders have finally been planted.

At the request of the residents, Perth and Kinross Council have cleared the area at the bottom of Buchan Avenue to allow us to create a small garden and seating area. Work will begin on that within the next few weeks.

Our Quiz and Curry night was a great success and raised £477.20. Thank you to everyone who came along, to all those who assisted with the catering and organisation and to our very own Quizmaster, Raymond Sutherland.

We have already completed entry forms for the 'Kinross-shire Well Kept Villages Competition' and 'Beautiful Scotland' so busy times ahead. If you'd like to get involved, please take a look at our work party schedule on the village noticeboard or contact us via our Facebook page.

Our next meeting will be held at 7.30pm on **Thursday 2 May** in the Well Country Inn.



Recipe



supplied by Kinnesswood in Bloom

Rory's Aubergine Salad with Pomegranate and Feta

Ingredients

3 medium sized aubergines
Olive oil
1 pomegranate
Juice of 2 lemons
1 clove of garlic
100g feta cheese
Parsley
Mint

Method

Wash the aubergines and cut into 1 cm thick slices. Brush with olive oil, season with salt and pepper, then grill until golden brown. Remove the seeds from the pomegranate. Mix two tablespoons of olive oil with the lemon juice. Press the garlic clove into the lemon oil mixture and combine. Sprinkle the warm aubergine slices with the lemon oil and garlic dressing. Add roughly chopped parsley and mint to the dressed aubergine slices. Serve sprinkled with the pomegranate seeds and crumbled feta cheese.



Hard at work on at Benarty View

Common Grounds

www.spanglefish.com/

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April has been a month of preparation and our Easter raffle sales have been going well. Customers have been tempted by the array of attractive prizes including a variety of Easter treats. The final total will be reported next month after our Easter coffee morning.

Secondly, we have set up a collection point for all your old bras and they will raise money for Breast Cancer Research, before then being recycled in Africa. It's a 'win, win' cause so please, raid your cupboards and drop them off. Thanks to Jacky Chalmers for overseeing this appeal.

Lastly, but very importantly, we have welcomed two new supporters, Theresa Cannon and Dorothy Dalton. Hopefully you will be able to meet them at our May project lunch.

Project: Our May project will be chosen at the next Volunteers' meeting on 17 April.

Project Lunch: Our next Project Lunch will be on **Tuesday 28 May** at 12 noon in the Guide Hall, Church Street, Milnathort. We will welcome a speaker from Signpost International, our April project. The talk will be followed by a lunch of homemade soup, bread, tray bakes and Fairtrade tea and coffee. Everyone welcome.

For more information please visit our website.

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 Caldwell (Convener) on 01577 863350 and Linda Freeman (Secretary) on 01577 865045.

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Loch Leven Community Library

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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.

Delayed opening. Thursday 2 May. The library will be closed until 1pm for staff training.

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, open 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 meeting: Sat 4 May.

Please contact the Library for the other book group dates.

Cafe Book Club choice for May

The Librarian, by Sally Vickers. Available to reserve from your library. This is a light, easy read. The story is about an enthusiastic young librarian who takes over a struggling children's library in an English market town in the 1950's. She overcomes small-town pettiness and manages to make a lasting impact on the lives of the young people in the town by encouraging them to read and instilling in them a love of books and nature.

Book Group for Children:

Chatterbooks. For children aged 7-11. On the first Friday of each month. **Next meeting: 3 May.** 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, no matter who they are or where they come from. 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: 16 May.**

Visiting Kinross-shire?

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

www.visitlochleven.org



Coffee and Crochet

Fancy coming along to a crochet club? Chat, enjoy coffee and share hints and tips while working on your project. Weekly on Thursdays at 10am. 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: Tues 28 May 6-7.45pm.

Upcoming Events

Saturday 18 May 10.30am. Bookbug's Big Picnic singalong with Malcolm and Alan. A chance to meet Book Bug and have your picture taken with him.

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)



Just a wee reminder about our opening times.

The Friends of Loch Leven Community Library are a group of independent volunteers.

We open and staff the library on Saturdays from 1pm-3pm and on Mondays from 10am-1pm. This is the only library in Perth & Kinross open at these times. We're always happy to see you and help out where we can – it's really helpful if you bring your library card with you as you will need this to access some of the services we can offer you.

For further information, please contact Richard Scott on 07999 510500 or find us on Facebook.

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Kinross-shire Partnership Networkers Urged to 'Have the Conversation'

Once again, the first Wednesday of the month saw 20 or so local businessmen and women head to Loch Leven's Larder for a networking breakfast. The customary warm welcome was extended – on this occasion by Richard Scott and Steve Hamblin; the Larder's full Scottish breakfast was – as usual – excellent; the 60-second elevator pitches, plus the lively conversation, were – as ever – testament to the dynamism of the Kinross-shire community. However, what was different about the event on 3 April was the searing poignancy of the presentation, which caused many breakfasters to pause mid-forkful to reflect.

Engaging, frank, moving. Those three words best sum up the story told by heart transplant survivor Stephen Kirkham. While these short presentations often focus on the important business of making a living, Stephen's talk focused on the fundamental business of staying alive. Or, to be more specific, he spoke about the reason that he is still alive today: the donation of a heart by a woman whose name he does not know, but with whose daughters he has exchanged letters.

Such concepts are not the normal stuff of breakfast table conversation, but those present hung on to Stephen's every word, as he charted the emotional roller coaster upon which he and his family embarked after his diagnosis in 2005 with severe heart failure caused by dilated cardiomyopathy.

The next few years saw the lives of Stephen and his family turned upside



down. Having spent the first 26 years of his career in the army, where he rose to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, he had subsequently felt called to the ministry; he then read theology at Cambridge and was happily serving the parish of North



Stephen Kirkham

Leigh in Oxfordshire when he began to feel unwell. His wife persuaded him to seek medical advice, which resulted in the devastating prognosis that he 'might live five years if he was lucky'. Forced to give up his parish duties, he described vividly the emotional trauma of losing both his identity and his role in life.

By the time he and his wife moved to Scotland in 2014 to be near their daughter, Stephen's health had deteriorated to the extent that he

was referred to the Scottish National Advanced Heart Failure Service. He was told he would not live long unless a suitable transplant could be found.

Stephen was fortunate. Within a couple of months, a match was found and his transplant went ahead; he spoke in glowing terms of the care he received at the unit. In January 2016, eight months after his transplant, he reached the top of Benarty Hill. He explained that his motivation is twofold: to honour the investment of the medics in his future; to honour the gift given to him by the family of his donor. He stressed that joining an organ donor registry is not enough, as bereaved families are often unaware of loved ones' thoughts on organ donation and doctors will not take organs in the face of grief-stricken objection, despite an entry on the donation register. He summed up his story in Dickensian fashion, 'How the worst of times became the best of times', and urged anyone willing to be an organ donor not only to register but also to have the conversation with their family. His very presence in front of the projector was a powerful call to action in itself.

The Kinross-shire Partnership's next Networking Breakfast will take place at Loch Leven's Larder from 7.15am to 9am on **Wednesday 1 May**. Instead of a speaker, there will be extended networking time this month, so remember to prepare your elevator pitch! Please email Karen Grunwell in advance at mail@kinrosspartnership.org.uk to book your place.

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Removal of planning comments

Back in November 2018 we noticed that Perth & Kinross Council had removed comments by members of the public and non-statutory organisations from PKC's planning portal, Public Access. The comments had been removed from past planning applications that had already been decided.

Kinross-shire Civic Trust quite often refers back to comments on previous planning applications. These can be relevant for new applications, e.g. when subsequent applications are made for a site that already has permission. We felt strongly that the full planning record should be shown even after permission has been granted, as it can take several years for a site to be developed and matters raised in comments may crop up during development.

We complained to PKC's Interim Development Quality Manager, Anne Condliffe, who said that PKC staff were removing the comments in order to comply with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) that came into effect in spring 2018.

After intervention from Cllr Callum Purves, Ms Condliffe relented slightly, saying staff would keep the comments online for a certain period of time before removing them. However, as the council redacts all personal information in comments anyway, we continue to be of the view that the comments are not subject to the GDPR, and should remain on the planning record.

It is a matter of concern to the Trust that the decision to remove the planning comments appears to have been made last year without the knowledge of Councillors and without any announcement to the public.

We continue to be in correspondence with the Council on this issue.

Former Kinross High School building

The Trust recently complained to the Council about the replacement windows and doors in the old High School building, which are not an accurate representation of what was there before.



The building in 2007, two years before the school closed

Photo: Eileen Thomas

The new windows have ruined the character of the building which, although not Listed, should have had better protection than this as a key building of interest in a Conservation Area. A response from PKC's Chief Executive said that the Council considered the windows to be 'acceptable', but the doors 'do not resemble what was previously agreed' and this matter 'has been passed to Enforcement to investigate'.

We also complained about Persimmon failing to comply with the revised renovation schedule agreed with PKC in December 2017. The Chief Executive said: '... the Council is satisfied with the current timescales involved.'



The same part of the building in February 2019

Photo: Eileen Thomas

Events

Annual General Meeting: The Kinross-shire Civic Trust AGM takes place while this *Newsletter* is at press, so we will report on that in the June issue.

Visit to the Japanese Gardens, Cowden: The Trust is organising a visit to these amazing gardens at Cowden, near Dollar, on **Friday 24 May** in the afternoon. This will be the best time to see the azaleas and rhododendrons. The cost of a guided tour plus tea or coffee and biscuits is £12 per person. A brief introduction then unaccompanied walk around the gardens with tea or coffee and biscuits is £10 per person. Members have been sent an invitation. If you have not received yours, or are not a member but would like to join, please email us (see header).

Visit to the V&A, Dundee: Members of the Trust are taking a V&A Highlights tour on **Friday 27 September** at 11.45am. The cost is £6 per person. Members have been sent an invitation. If you have not received yours, or are not a member but would like to join, please email us (see header).

HIGH STREET SEWING

Clothing and Curtain Alterations/Repairs
Custom made curtains, Roman blinds, cushions

Workshop opening hours: 09.30-17.00 Mon-Thurs
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Kinross High School

Spring Concert

During the final week of term, the Performing Arts faculty wowed a full house with their musical offerings. The String Orchestra kicked off the programme with some contemporary pieces including Coldplay's 'Viva la Vida' and a stirring arrangement of 'Rey's Theme' from Star Wars. The Boys Vocal Ensemble gave everyone goose bumps with their rendition of soul classic 'I'll Be There' then transformed the audience into a gospel congregation as they clapped along to 'Climbin' Up the Mountain, Children!'

The Wind Band jollied everyone along with the well-known theme tune, 'The Great Escape' then handed over to the Chamber Ensemble for a classical offering of JS Bach's 'Brandenburg Concerto'. Following that, the Jazz Ensemble did an exceptional job of Christopher Norton's 'Street Scene' and 'Stick Together'.

Next up, the admiring assembly were bowled over by one of Vivaldi's famously intricate concertos for violin from sister duo, Ola and Zosia. Sprits were then kept high by the Ukelele Orchestra who quite literally brought some sunshine to the stage! Following a charming performance of American Authors' pop hit 'Best Day of My Life', Rana and Harry donned the stage wearing bright yellow sunshine costumes to the tune of 'Here Comes the Sun' by the Beatles.



The Cello Ensemble then performed a medley of themes from Pirates of the Caribbean, arranged by Mrs Oxnard, our very own cello instructor. To round off the first half, the choir performed an ABBA medley that got the audience's toes tapping.

After the interval, the Show Band debuted 'Take the 'A' Train' and 'Birdland'. Then came the turn of the Percussion Ensemble who are under the mentorship of Mr Turnbull. They impressed the crowds with 'Blue Rondo a la Turk', a jazzy piece with a topsy-turvy beat, followed by another complex arrangement called Caravan. The percussionists' final hurrah came from S6 soloist James who played a striking concerto for snare drum and marimba. It's safe to say the audience were amazed that he could use four beaters at a time!

After that, S5 pupil Euan channelled his inner Freddie Mercury to sing 'Crazy Little Thing Called Love' with a fantastic accompaniment from the Guitar Ensemble who were then joined by a small group of violinists to perform Irish Washerwoman together.

Mr Scrimgeour's Ceilidh Band then performed a couple of traditional pieces followed by the Orchestra's selection of Cole Porter classics and songs from 'Les Misérables'. After

a vote of thanks from Mrs Brown, they gave the audience a show stopping finale with highlights from 'The Greatest Showman!'

Special thanks go to the Home Economics department for providing refreshments in the interval; the backstage crew; sound and light technicians; Mr Rosie, Mr Turnbull, Mr Blyth and Mr Scrimgeour and, of course, our instrumental instructors. The biggest thanks of all must go to our talented young performers who continue to work hard to deliver outstanding entertainment.



Rock Challenge

After months of preparations and rehearsals, our Rock Challengers showcased their latest performance 'Going, Going, Gone' at Dundee's Caird Hall. Schools from across Tayside gathered to compete but, having already secured a place in the final due to last year's success, the pressure was well and truly off for our team. Their incredible Titanic-inspired performance blew the audience away and earned them the front page spot in the *Courier*! On the night, Kinross High School scooped up 11 awards including the Janome Award of Excellence for Costuming Character. Something we are most proud of as a school is the exemplary kindness our team show to other competitors; this year, our pupils gifted memory books to teams from other schools so everyone could capture their favourite Rock Challenge moments. We will now be keeping our fingers crossed until **Friday 14 June** when the team compete in the Scottish Final!

SQA Exams

Thursday 25 April marks the beginning of the SQA exam diet for 2019. Pupils have been encouraged to sign up for the MyExams, MyStudyPlan and the MySQA apps, all provided free of charge from SQA. The apps allow students to build their own exam timetables, study plans and to receive their results by text or email.

Continues over page...

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Kinross High School continued...

Past papers can also be downloaded free of charge from the SQA website.

Study leave starts on 29 April 2019, with pupils returning to their new timetables at school on 29 May. Those returning as senior pupils can purchase senior ties via ParentPay and collect from the school office the next day.

Easter study clubs proved extremely popular with students again this year. Many of our young people took advantage of the opportunity for some additional tuition in a wide range of subjects. Thanks go to our staff who have given up their holidays to provide this valuable support.

Dates for your Diary

25 April	SQA Exams start.
29 April	Study Leave for eligible S4 – S6 students.
6 May	May Day holiday (school closed).
7–16 May	French Exchange for S3 pupils.
13–16 May	STEM trip to Bletchley Park for S2 pupils.
20–24 May	Outward Bound trip to Loch Eli for S2 pupils.
21–24 May	Performing Arts trip to London for S2 pupils.
29 May	Pupils return to school from study leave.
6–7 June	P7 Induction to High School.
18–20 June	School show 'Fiddler on the Roof'
28 June	School closes at 12pm.
8–15 May	German Exchange for S3 Pupils.
29 May	Pupils return to school from study leave.

Kinross & District Probus Club

In April the Rev John McGregor gave the meeting a presentation on his time as an army chaplain and, specifically, his deployment to Basra in Iraq some 10 years ago. John was assigned to the Royal Highland Fusiliers and was given no special treatment while serving in a very dangerous land. Accommodation was basic comprising of 'Corrivecs'; a sort of reinforced portakabin. These were set in a camp bigger than Milnathort and linked together by walkways and tunnels. Normally padres were not allowed to go outside the tented area. However, John was an exception; most of the soldiers he was assigned to were outside so he had no option. He was always accompanied by an armed soldier who insisted on walking in front of him. When asked by John why he wouldn't walk beside him, the soldier replied 'because I'm your human sandbag'. No escaping the horrors of war.

Many of the soldiers were only 18 or 19 years old. So there was often a knock at the door from one of these young lads needing an ear to listen and, sometimes, a shoulder to cry on. Many of the youngsters were confused as to why they were there and had questions about whether or not it was right to kill a man and would they still go to heaven.

It was clear from John's talk that, in his role as chaplain, he provided a very important and vital service; not just in the provision of Bible studies and Church services, but in maintaining and supporting morale amongst the troops.

One of his lasting memories of his time in Basra was when the Remembrance Poppy Appeal was launched at the 'Basra Wall' memorial.

The vote of thanks was given by Duncan Stenhouse.



Boys Brigade and Girls Association and Scouts



The Anchor section has been busy with themes and activities based around St Patrick, Spring, Mothers' Day and Easter. Juniors are refining preparations for the Battalion Festival of activities competition being held at Bankfoot in May. This involves figure marching, singing and potted sports.



Anchors stone painting

Both Juniors and Company section members are preparing for the Battalion Chess competition which also takes place in May. They are also preparing for the Battalion Bible quiz. Kinross Juniors are the current holders of this trophy.

Company section members took part in the Battalion Annual Drill competition, competing for the Major Ralston medal which dates back to the nineteenth century.

Company Section members enjoyed a trip to see Captain Marvel at Perth's Playhouse cinema during the school Easter break.

We now have five members of the Company section working towards their Queen's Badge.

All sections are preparing for the Company's annual display and presentation of awards which has been rescheduled for **Friday 31 May** from 7pm due to late Battalion competitions. The annual display is open to all members of the public and is held in the church centre. Company Section summer camp will take place in Jedburgh from 29 June to 6 July. The camp will feature hill walking, mountain biking, kayaking and other outdoor pursuits.

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.

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Sports News

Kinross Netball Club

Adults

We are a group of ladies between the ages of 18 to 60 years! We have a wide range of ability, from those who are new to netball, to those who have not played since school and there are those of us who want to play competitive netball. Our sessions are on Friday nights in the large sports hall at the community campus and cost £4 per session.

Our members are affiliated to netball with either a Bounce Bank to Netball (BBN) membership or a full Netball Scotland membership.

From time to time our BBN members play friendly matches against other BBN teams. They also enter the BBN

tournaments which are usually held twice a year. Our league team plays most Sundays in the CENA league in Edinburgh.

We recently welcomed Kinghorn to a well contested friendly. It was a close game but Kinghorn took the win 26-27. We also took part in Netball Scotland's 'Play it Pink' recently. This involved everyone wearing pink one evening in support of Race for Life.

Our Kinross Stars team have continued their unbeaten season in the CENA league. With two more games to win, they have already won the league and will be promoted to the fourth division next season. A big well done to them! Also we are now on Instagram so please follow us!

We have seen some more new faces recently and would love to see loads

more. If you would like to get back into netball, or give netball a go, please feel free to come along to one of our sessions or get in touch through Facebook or by email at kinrossnetball@hotmail.com.

Under 13s

Our under 13s train on Friday nights between 6–7pm in the large games hall at the community campus.

In March we took them through to Airdrie to play a friendly with the Airdrie Aces team. We put on an excellent performance and, despite shooting in full size nets which we're not used to, we ended up coming away with a comfortable win.

We also took some of our younger players through to play Bridge of Earn. Despite playing some great netball we didn't get a win this time. However we hope for a different result next time.

To celebrate Mothers' Day we challenged our Mum's to a friendly match. This was a great success with lots of Mums coming along to play in what ended up as a hotly contested game! Who knew they would all be so competitive? Everyone had a fun time and there was even some talk of some of the Mums coming along to our adult sessions. We hope to see you all soon! If you are interested in joining please contact Kim Kilgour on 07833 914289.



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Saturday 18 May 2019

at St Paul's, Muirs, Kinross KY13 8AU

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with hired table: add £5

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KY13 8BS for seller parking*

Volleyball

Outdoor park volleyball has resumed on the grass area to the rear of the campus on Monday evenings from 7-8.30pm. These sessions are open to all ages and are free of charge.



This is in preparation for two forthcoming outdoor international tournaments. Firstly, the Scottish Open Volleyball Tournament on Perth's North Inch on 25-26 May. Thereafter the De Haan (Belgium) Tournament on 10-11 August. Three local girls attended Scottish Volleyball's Easter Camp at Kilgraston School, Bridge of Earn. The four day residential camp was attended by 16 young athletes from across Scotland and was supported by four coaches from the Scottish Volleyball Association.

The theme for the camp was 'Linkages'. The aim was to develop the players' skills and their understanding of the linkages between different aspects of the game. The first day concentrated on players' positioning and posture when passing. The youngsters were encouraged to move early then pass with a peak to target. Day two recapped on the importance of posture and correct positioning prior to playing the ball then progressed with the introduction of attacking skills and linking with the setter. The third day began with the group completing a jigsaw puzzle and a discussion about the many aspects of volleyball. The group consolidated their knowledge and moved onto small sided court games during which they linked the three elements of pass, set and attack. Games drills continued in the evening and culminated in a tournament style competition. On the final day progress was reviewed and the focus moved to the role of the passer/hitter.

Participants also enjoyed two sport science activities where they shared interesting aspects about themselves and their volleyball ambitions. Emma Waldie, who attended the camp as an assistant coach and mentor, shared her career story to date. Emma gave an inspiring account of her volleyball experiences. Feedback from the athletes was very positive. Head coach Vince Krawczyk also said that the camp was a huge success. It is hoped that many, if not all, of the players will take part in the next stage of the Scottish Volleyball national pathway which is with the Flying Scots Programme at the beginning of June.

Local primary schools have received coaching as part of the 'Net Set Go' initiative supported by the European Volleyball Federation. A one day volleyball festival will be held at Kinross High School on **Friday 10 May**.

Orwell Bowling Club

Bowling Green Avenue, Milnathort

Tel: 01577 865538

orwellbowlingclub.weebly.com

The bowling green opened on Saturday 13 April.

It was a fine, sunny day but a chilly wind. Thirty-four members turned up to pay their dues and check the fixtures for the season. The president's wife, June Whittet, delivered the first jack and 24 members went out to play 11 ends of bowls with a President versus Vice President Game. When the scores were tallied up at the end the President came out on top with 38 shots to 33 shots. This was followed by a welcome plate of soup and sandwiches provided by June and her helpers. The raffle and donations raised £179; this money will be added to the closing game collection and divided between the Blind Bowlers and the RLNI. We are all looking forward to a successful season and good weather. If anyone would like to come along and try bowls they would be very welcome. Our contact detail are above. You can also find us on Facebook and on our website.



June Whittet delivering the first jack

Fossoway Tennis Club

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

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Kinross Otters

Well, where to start? It has been an epic few weeks for Otters and our swimmers, parent helpers and coaching staff have once again proved that small is indeed mighty!

We were delighted to send off three of our swimmers to the Scottish National Age Group (SNAGS) Championships held at Tollcross International Swim Centre. This is a major event in the swimming calendar and many previous attendees have gone on to compete at national, international and even Commonwealth and Olympic level. Having our little club represented is an outstanding achievement for Kinross



Otters. Against the competition we get much less pool time, very little long course training and are staffed entirely by volunteers. We were competing against several athletes who train daily in 50m pools with paid coaching staff. But if you follow Kinross Otters, you'll not be surprised to learn that we held our own against the big guns!

Emily Cumming, Ben Smallwood and Struan Bennet turned out some truly epic performances over the course of the event. Head Coach Fiona and Coach Bob were there and kept the rest of us updated with increasingly tense and exciting Facebook updates!

Struan is a seasoned triathlete but this was his first ever long course

(50m pool) 1500m race and he did not disappoint. Keeping up an impressive pace throughout, he finished in 5th place overall for the 15 and over boys.

Ben ended up with only 15 minutes between his afternoon swims, not ideal for recovery, but he didn't let that stop him as he ended



Scottish
Swimming

the day with a new 50m freestyle PB, a new 100m breast stroke long course PB and just to round it off, a new 50m breast stroke PB as well!

Emily achieved a 6th place finish in the 100m fly and an 8th in the 50m backstroke but her 50m fly was an absolute cracker as she finished 4th place in her age group.

These placings are for SCOTLAND! Meaning our wee club is competing at the highest level and we could not be prouder!

While we recover from all of that, we have the Midland Distance meet coming up in early May which allows a much greater number of our swimmers to compete in a long course competition. We'll also be hosting our rescheduled First Division home meet which had to be cancelled due to a problem at the pool. Several of our team will also be taking part in the Menzieshill Whitehall meet in Dundee and we're looking forward to bringing you good news from those galas too. Stay tuned. #kinrossottersrock



Kinross Badminton Club

Kinross Badminton Club's season has been successful so far this year. We have had a good number of new players join us, and we have been running with 3 courts at our club night each Tuesday evening. Our team playing in the Perth & District league ended up in 5th place in division 1 – well done to all the players who have been part of the team playing in a strong division.

The badminton club will continue to play every Tuesday until the end of May, possibly continuing until the end of June if there are sufficient numbers wishing to play. The club will start the new season on 13 August 2019.

The club night is Tuesday evening at 8pm at Loch Leven Community Campus in the main sports hall, playing until 9.45pm.

New members are always welcome, so please come along if you would like to play regularly at a friendly club, or to try it out and see how you fit in. The nightly cost is £4 for members, and £6 for non-members, with the first night for new members being free.

You can follow Kinross Badminton Club on facebook for the latest club news or to send a message/enquiry. Contact Bill MacDonald on 07933 164167 or Matt Brown on mnbrown37@gmail.com.



Kinross Ladies' Hockey Club

www.kinrosshockey.org

As the competition season draws to a close, both ladies' teams have completed their entire league and cup fixtures for the year. It has been a season of mixed results for both teams with some great wins and some games we found a bit more testing.

Our firsts have finished a very busy season in the Championship. They played 26 games; won 7, drew 3 and lost 16. They finish a respectable ninth overall with little separating the middle of the table teams at the end of the day.

Our seconds currently sit sixth in Midland Division 1, having played all 14 of their games. They won 4, drew 1 and lost 9. Their final position fate is now in the hands of others. The result of one of the last outstanding fixtures of the league can leave them in sixth or may unfortunately drop them to seventh.

As with the firsts, the top two teams in this competition are a long way off the rest, with only eight points separating the other six teams. It is a very competitive league.

Our seconds had success in the Knockout Cup, reaching the semi-finals. Sadly they were knocked out by last year's Division One and League Cup winners, Madras. We wish them well in the final.

Season 2018/19 draws to a close with our annual AGM which took place on Wednesday 17 April.



Kinross Road Runners

<http://kinrossroadrunners.weebly.com>.

We are well into our summer training programme, enjoying evening running sessions every Tuesday and Wednesday with a fortnightly Thursday session added in as well – so there's plenty of options for runners of all abilities. We are delighted to welcome quite a number of new members since the new year and we will be organising some training sessions specifically geared towards new members as it's sometimes a bit daunting coming along to your first training session. Check our Facebook page for more details. You can join the club at any point in the year so new members are always welcome – just come along to any of our sessions to try it out before you commit to joining.

We host our annual Loch Leven Half Marathon on **Saturday 11 May** so watch out for some disruption to traffic as the race sets off near Bridgend at 11am. Local support on the race route is always appreciated by the runners so here's hoping for a nice day for runners and supporters alike.



KRR training session

Club training for May is outlined below. We meet for all sessions at the health centre car park opposite the campus. For Tuesdays and Thursdays meet at 7pm and for Wednesdays a little earlier at 6.45pm to car-share to the start of the run. Tuesdays will focus on interval type sessions with a programme designed to improve your running speed whilst Wednesday evenings are mainly group trail runs, excellent for developing strength and stamina and socialising at the same time! The fortnightly Thursday evening sessions provide additional speed or endurance sessions. And if you still have some energy left at the weekend, we meet for an informal Sunday morning run at 9am at the health centre for either a trail or hill run at a very leisurely pace.

Many of our members are also addicted to 'Parkrun' – a 5k race at 9.30am every Saturday morning. We are very fortunate to have so many Parkruns in the local area – Loch Leven (from the Larder); Lochore; Kirkcaldy; Dunfermline and Perth. There are now 587 parkruns across the UK with 46 in Scotland. This is a reflection on how popular running has become and it's a sure way to better physical and mental health – so check our Facebook page or website for further information or to make contact.

KRR Programme for May

Wednesday 1	Maspie Den, Falkland
Thursday 2	5 x 4 min intervals
Tuesday 7	2 mile time trial, kit sale and hot chocolate
Wednesday 8	River Devon from Crook of Devon
Tuesday 14	12 x 30 sec intervals
Wednesday 15	Bishop Hill
Tuesday 21	Hill reps
Wednesday 22	Falkland Duck Pond
Tuesday 28	Fife Cycle Park – 2 min intervals
Wednesday 29	John Knox's Pulpit
Thursday 30	Black Rock group run

Kinross Rugby Minis

Kinross Minis are fast approaching festival season, which sees us playing away every weekend, from Stonehaven to Livingston, right up to the end of the season awards day on Saturday 18 May. This is a great opportunity for the young rugby stars of Kinross-shire to put their hard work and dedication into practice. Despite this busy schedule, training continues on Saturday mornings from 10.30am, at the KGV Park (behind the Muirs Inn). Our last day is the awards and fun day on 18 May, a chance for all age groups to get together, play some fun games, and maybe even entice the parents to take to the pitch. If your child would like to take up rugby, please contact Morven Clark, Youth Coach KRFC at kinrossrugby.juniors@gmail.com.

TICK TOCK CLOCK & WATCH REPAIRS

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

TICK TOCK

Clock & Watch Repairs
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4 Dean Acres, Comrie, Dunfermline KY12 9XS
M: 07870 913004 E: ftticktock@aol.com
FRED TURVEY

Kinross Kobras Junior Hockey

The second tournament of the year took us into the wilds of Perthshire with a trip to Glenalmond. With nine teams playing there was plenty of action. The younger age group teams had a good mix of results and the older age group teams were used as an opportunity for many players to step up an age group. They will build on this experience as the year goes by. Rosalie's hat got a special mention and kept us entertained. Training and tournaments continue all the way through till the summer holidays. The club website www.kinrosshockey.org has full details of training times together with other useful information.



Kinross Kobras squads from the recent tournament at Glenalmond.

*From top:
10+under,
12+under
14+under*

Kinross-shire Cricket Club Junior Cricket

The new junior season started at the end of April. Outdoor training began on Monday 26 April at 6.30pm at Loch Leven's Larder Cricket Ground. As with previous years we will be running juniors at under 10, under 12, under 14 and under 18 age groups for both boys and girls. We also run the ECB All Stars programme for under 8s. Sessions will start on Sunday mornings from 12 May at 10-11am.

The club will be hosting several Kwik Cricket festivals during the season as well as attending events across Scotland. We will also play other clubs and schools.

Everyone is welcome, regardless of ability or experience. All equipment is provided and all coaches are ECB qualified, PVG approved and insured.

Senior Cricket

This is open to men and women of any age. League fixtures for May are as follows:-

Sunday 5 May, Alloa CC (Home).

Sunday 12 May, St Modans CC (Home).

Sunday 19 May, Largo CC (Home).

Sunday 26 May, Callander CC (Away).

Home matches start at 1pm and generally finish around 7pm. Spectators are always welcome.



Senior outdoor nets are held on Wednesday evenings at the cricket ground from around 6.30pm till dark.

New players are always welcome. If you would like more information, please contact the club on our Facebook page.

Player Profile

Each month we aim to feature one of our regular players and give readers a little more information on our local cricket stars. This month, it's **Anthony Drew**.

RH bat and opening bowler, occasional wicketkeeper.

Debut: 13 June 2006.

Matches played: 103.

Total runs scored: 842.

Highest batting score: 58 not out.

Total wickets: 77.

Best bowling figures: 4/41.

Roles: Groundsman and management committee member.

Nickname: Ant.



Anthony Drew

Kinross Tennis Club

www.kinrosstennisclub.org.uk

The great spell of weather prior to Easter meant bright days for those that took part in Easter tennis camp and a great turn-out at our Open Day where tennis was enjoyed by many from age 2 to... lots older! We were delighted to welcome many new members and very impressed with the quality of tennis in the Quorn Family Tournament. Well done to everyone who took part and congratulations to runners-up Matthew & Annabel Leach, and winners Siobhan & Patrick MacLeod.



Quorn Family Tournament held at the Open Day on Saturday 13 April

Adult Tennis Coaching for beginners, improvers and team players is being offered at the club on Tuesday evenings from 7.30pm, and beginner's classes will also be starting on Tuesday mornings. If you are interested, please contact us at kinrosstennis@gmail.com.

Junior summer term coaching is now running on Tuesdays from 5pm till 7.30pm, with various classes for mini red, orange, green and yellow ball players, ranging in age from 5 to 12+. Bookings can be made to Daniel at dartennis@gmx.co.uk.

Tennis for Tots, ages 2.5 to 5 years with a parent/grandparent/guardian runs on Saturday mornings with Siobhan. Sessions at 9.15 and 10.15am. And new, Family Tennis for ages 6 to 9 with an adult beginner/rusty racket starting on Saturday mornings at 11.15am.

Enquiries for both to kinrosstenniscoaching@gmail.com



Winners Siobhan and Patrick in 'the frame'

Our annual family Quiz Night takes place on Friday 10 May 2019 at the KGV Rugby Clubhouse, 7pm for 7.30pm. Mike Spain is Quizmaster Extraordinaire and the evening is always great fun. It's the club's main fundraiser for the year and it would be great if members, their families and friends could support us.

Looking forward to seeing you all on court soon. There is scope for everyone at the club, young, old, beginner, rusty rackets, social players and competitors – pop in on the way past and give tennis a try, or make contact at kinrosstennis@gmail.com, or via Facebook.

Adult club sessions on Wednesdays 6.30pm, Thursdays 1.30pm and Sundays 10.30am.

As ever, new members are welcome and enquiries can be made to kinrosstennis@gmail.com. Visitors are also welcome with access available from Sands the Ironmongers for a small fee.

Kinross Rugby Club

Tartan Touch is coming to Kinross

Tartan Touch is a fun, simple and social version of non-contact rugby. Sessions begin on **Friday 3 May** at KGV playing fields (behind the Muirs) and run for ten weeks. Sessions will be run from 6.30-8pm.

What is Tartan Touch?

It's a game for all abilities and all ages. In the past two seasons, hubs have welcomed players aged 5 to 75 years old from those who have never played rugby before to retired players! Tartan Touch gives you the chance to work on your fitness, learn new skills, make new friends and keep active during the sunny Scottish summer!

The aim is to touch the ball down over opponent's goal line. There are various sizes of pitches to accommodate different levels of skill and fitness; indeed this is a game for all the family to play together. Join in the fun and get fit at a hub near you this summer for only £3.

Register online at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/tartan-touch-summer-pass-kinross-rfc-registration-60072005987> or sign in on the evening.



Get in Touch

For the latest club news, follow us on Facebook @KinrossRugbyRugby or Twitter @KinrossRugby.

AGM and Annual Awards

As we draw to the end of another successful season we say thank you to all the players, coaches, volunteers and parent helpers that have contributed so much to make this the family friendly place it is.

We will be marking the end of the season with our AGM on **Monday 13 May** at 7.30pm in the clubhouse at KGV Playing Fields. In addition, the Club Annual Awards Dinner will be on **Saturday 11 May** and the Minis Annual Awards and Fun Day on **Saturday 18 May**. These events will also be held at the clubhouse.

Need a new member of staff?

Employers – advertise for staff on
www.kinross.cc

Kinross Golf Club

www.kinrossgolfclub.co.uk

Thanks to all our members who came along to support our Captain versus Vice Captain season opening competition. Despite a little early drizzle it turned into a very pleasant morning. It was a tight competition with the scores tied at one stage before the last few groups secured the final points to give the Captain's side a win by 13.5–11.5. Thanks to everyone involved in helping to ensure the event was a great success. Thanks to the greenkeeping staff, catering and bar staff and, of course, the organisers!



Vice Captain Simon Dunn and Lenore Kyle who played in the opening match against Captain David Eastop and Ladies' Captain Jennifer Simpson

The Ladies' 'Bring a Prize and Win a Prize' fun 9-hole competition was held on Saturday 6 April on the Montgomery course. The damp conditions did not prevent some excellent scoring with the Ladies' Captain, Jennifer Simpson, bringing in the field with a gross score of 44, nett 33. After the golf, the ladies enjoyed refreshments in the members' restaurant. Everyone enjoyed a great day.

Winners of the Ladies Winter Eclectic: Bruce, 1st Jennifer Simpson, 2nd Maggie Byford; Montgomery, 1st Rena Duncan, 2nd Mo Macpherson.

Winners of the Gents Winter League: Handicaps 0–11, 1st Stephen Hynd, 2nd Tom Bruce, 3rd Gordon Clunie; Handicaps 12–36, 1st Peter Hastie, 2nd George Duncan, 3rd Roy Houston.

Adrian Simpson and Peter Hastie represented Kinross Golf Club at the Caledonian League's AGM at Blairgowrie Golf Club. Along with the other 46 club representatives, they finished the day with a round on the Lansdown course.



Adrian Simpson and Peter Hastie

There are still places available for the Kinross Golf Club Mixed Open Greensomes on **Sunday 12 May**. The entry fee is £14 per couple and catering in the clubhouse will be available throughout the day. Please telephone Susan Quinn on 01577 8622637 if you would like a late entry.

The date for the 2019 Gents Individual Open is Sunday 2 June. The entry fee is £12. There is an entry sheet in the clubhouse or you can download an application form online at www.scottishgolf.org or www.golfempire.co.uk.

An annual social membership is available to non-golfers for £30. This offers access to the clubhouse facilities (including Sky Sports), all social events and a discount on food and drink. Call in to the clubhouse for more information about golf or social membership, follow Kinross Golf Club on Facebook and Twitter, or check out our website.



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Kinross Vaulting Group

Carnbo, Kinross

kinrossvaultinggroup.co.uk

After a busy winter training program creating new routines, learning new moves and designing fabulous new freestyle costumes, the vaulters are back into competition season once again.

The first competition on the Scottish calendar was held at SNEC, Ecclesmachan, on Saturday 6 April and proved to be a successful day out for Team Kinross. In total there were 20 Kinross vaulters competing on six horses, making for an action-packed day. Three vaulters (Taylor, Lily and Caitlin) were attending their very first competition and we have a new horse too. This meant that there was much excitement coupled with a few nerves and jitters!

Liz Mackay's Omeath Clover (Laith) is KVG's new horse. He is a stunning 17.2hh liver chestnut Irish sports horse. Having only arrived at Hillside two weeks before the competition and being incredibly new to the sport, Laith behaved beautifully at the event. After being warmed up wearing his L plates, he then went in to perform like a true professional in two walk classes.

Laith will continue his training over this year. The aim is to have him ready to compete internationally with our senior elite vaulters by Spring 2020.

KVG's results for the SNEC competition on 6 April were as follows: **Individual** Pre-novice Walk Walk, Lily White 3rd, Taylor Dawson 2nd; Pre-novice Canter Walk, Rosalie Peck 1st; Novice Individual, Lana McDougall 6th and 5th; Female Child 1*, Catrina Mackie 15th, Tabitha Peck 13th, Beth Robertson 12th, Iona Robertson 8th, Zoe McColl 7th and 3rd, Caitlin Mitchell 2nd and 1st; Female Junior 2*, Sophie Wilson 10th; Female Senior 1*, Heidi Ballantyne 2nd, Lesley Campbell 1st; Female Senior 2*, Hannah Ballantyne 4th, Yasmin Williamson 3rd, Molly Turner 1st. **Pas de Deux** Walk Pas de Deux Novice, Lily White and Taylor Dawson 2nd; Walk Pas de Deux Open, Catrina Mackie and Beth Robertson 5th, Zoe McColl and Caitlin Mitchell 2nd; Senior Pas de Deux, Molly Turner and Hannah Ballantyne 1st. **Squad** Novice Squad class, Tabitha Peck, Rosalie Peck, Lana McDougall, Catrina Mackie, Beth Robertson, Iona Robertson 2nd.

The next outing for the club is a trip to Saumur in France from 17-20 April. Four of our vaulters (Hannah, Molly,

Sophie and Iona) will be on the trip. They will be competing on the Ballantyne family's Superdelux and Liz Mackay's Ullisco de Montsec.

This will be followed by the next Scottish competition at Highfield Equestrian at Howe on **Saturday 18 May**. We'd be delighted to see you there and entry is free for spectators. Vaulting is an exhilarating sport, both to watch and to take part in. You may be inspired to come along to one of our taster sessions once you've seen our team in action!

RIP Rambo

Those of you who regularly drive past Hillside at Carnbo may have noticed that you no longer see our beautiful skewbald horse Rum n' Coke (Rambo) romping around in his paddock. Tragically, Liz Mackay's Rambo had to be euthanised recently following a severe injury in the field. Rambo was a unique horse who was courageous, noble, kind-hearted and had a real sense of humour. He will be greatly missed.

For information or, if you would like to try equestrian vaulting, please contact Liz Mackay by email at lizmacward@hotmail.com.



Novice squad with coach Hannah



Our fabulous new catsuits



Team KVG at prizegiving



Liz with new horse, Omeath Clover (Laith)

CLEISH – President Helen Buchanan welcomed members and two visitors to the April meeting. We had a very informative, emotional but happy talk from Lyndsay Stobie from CHAS. She told us how the families look forward to their visits to Rachel House and the range of facilities available.

Easter card	Dorothy Morris
Easter biscuit	Marion Laird
Flower of the month	Elinor Craig

CARNBO – President Jay Hutchison welcomed 35 members and a guest to the April meeting. After business Jay introduced Mary Mitchell and Margaret Paton. Mary gave a demonstration on stained glass making and had lots of lovely pieces she had made to show us. Margaret talked about her work with fused glass and the lovely items she had made. Molly White gave a vote of thanks to these two very talented ladies.

Flower of the month	Cath Mearns
An item of paper craft	Sheila Reid

The AGM will be on 20 May at Carnbo Hall at 7.15pm.

BISHOPSHIRE – Joanne Cowan welcomed members to the March meeting which took the form of a Members night. After dealing with the evening's business members took the floor. A talk on the Suffragettes tour of Fife was given by Margo Waddell. Margaret Paton held a glass workshop making brooches and Linda Chapman gave a very interesting talk on making character dolls, one of which was an image of Kate Dalrymple. Mary Nesbit and Norma Smith gave an excellent rendition of the poem Kate Dalrymple for the amusement of the company. An excellent evening was rounded off by Sylvia Herrington giving readings from Bishopshire SWI minutes from before and just after WW2.

Pretty plate	Wilma Barclay
Pate	Wilma Barclay
Flower of the month	Sylvia Herrington

The April meeting took the form of an open quiz night to raise funds. Joanne Cowan welcomed members and visitors from Carnbo SWI as well as friends and family to the hall. Raymond Sutherland was an excellent quiz master, ably aided by Marion Sutherland who looked after the scores. After a very enjoyable quiz which tested many areas of general knowledge participants enjoyed a lovely tea and raffle provided by members. Our next meeting in May will be our AGM.

POWMILL – President Fiona Buchanan welcomed members and visitors to the April meeting. She then introduced Claire Paton of Lethangie House, Kinross who showed us slides of the house, farm buildings and other places of interest around the garden. Claire gave us a glimpse into the history of her beautiful home with its antiques, paintings and ancestry. Tricia Greer gave a vote of thanks and a delicious tea was served by Margaret Brookfield and Janet Mitchell.

Bowl of bulbs	Mary Wilson
Easter nest	Mary Wilson
Garden gem	Mary Wilson

MILNATHORT – Milnathort SWI met on 21 March in the Town Hall. Jean Paterson, President, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Business matters were brought to members attention, membership cards were distributed. Jean then introduced Rhona Bradbury with her 'Ritzy Glass', she explained how she had been a lawyer and a photographer before embarking on her career with glass, she explained how she makes all her lovely colourful items. She really held our attention before showing us some of her beautiful work. After refreshments, the competitions were judged.

Bowl of bulbs	Denise Stephenson
Jar of chutney	Cathie Cochrane
Flower of the month	May Paterson



See SWI crafts on display at this year's Kinross Show

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Out & About

RSPB Loch Leven

facebook.com/RSPBTaysideFife

www.rspb.org.uk/lochleven

Telephone: 01577 862355



A lone blackbird can be spotted on the highest tip of a tree at RSPB Loch Leven, the warm sun reflecting off his sleek glossy black feathers. The bird raises its head and releases its song into the crisp morning air. A sudden movement interrupts the sound as a red squirrel



pokes its head up from a nearby moss-covered log. Quickly he scurries up a tree and freezes, scanning his surroundings. The penetrating yellow of the daffodils and the greenery below intensifies the red of his fur as he leaps onto the peanut feeder to feast on his prize. Meanwhile, greenfinch and goldfinch scan the sky warily before launching themselves to

forage for food. Springtime has sprung at Loch Leven.

Down on the wetland trail the sky is full of the familiar 'pee-wit' sound and tumbling movement of lapwing diving through the air to protect their nests. Thirteen nests have been spotted on this trail so far. The reserve team will be hard at work over the next few months monitoring and surveying the lapwings progress. The team will be on the lookout for eggs too so if you spot any on your travels please let us know. Little egret, redshank (courting), osprey, sand martin and swallows have also been spotted along this trail too.

We have some exciting events coming up over the next few months with a **Dawn Chorus walk on Sunday 5 May** 6-7.30am. Wake up to a cacophony of sound this spring and discover the dawn chorus. Perfect for the wildlife enthusiast wanting to learn more about bird song. **Booking essential;** RSPB members £8, (child members £4) non-members £10 (child £6).

A talk about Curling on the Loch **'Oor ain game o' curlin': the 350-year story of the Kinross Curling Club'** on

Saturday 1 June at 7pm. David Munro, chairman of Kinross (Marshall) Museum Trust, tells the 350-year story of Kinross Curling Club, said to have been established c.1668. Grand matches played on Loch Leven and roarin' games held on local curling ponds around the loch are described and the role of the Kinross Club in laying down the rules of the game established by the Royal Caledonian Curling Club is explored.

Booking essential.

The water pipe diversion is still causing a hold up on the completion of our new accessible underpass. Work to the South side of the road has been finished for some time now but there have been on-going delays to the work on the North side of the road where the water pipe is situated. There has been some progress made with approvals from Scottish Water but there is still a way to go before the project can be completed and open to the public. We would like to thank the local community and Heritage Trail users for their patience and hope to have another update in the next *Newsletter*.



Springing in to summer on Loch Leven

Photo: Pauline Watson, courtesy Kinross.cc photo library

Loch Leven NNR



With prevailing winds from the east, it's been a cold run in to spring. The leaves are not coming out as quickly as it looked early on. The first swallows arrived in early April. We look forward to more arriving zipping around the summer skies.

Discovery Day is on **26 May** this year. There will be more nature-orientated activities and stalls this year and with Sarah organising it I'm sure there will be some surprises. Keep an eye on the blog for details nearer the time. Once again, it's in Kirkgate Park from 12 until 4pm.

We've been planting willows along the south shoreline to improve habitat for the breeding ducks. We reckon we've planted around 3000 willow whips. Willows self root so if a small length is stuck in the ground it should hopefully grow. We transplant from trees that are nearby to grow. Many thanks to the RSPB for donating the last of their trees they had left from their underpass project. These have gone in at Levenmouth meaning we have planted nearly 5000 trees in various spots and have only removed a few trees from Mary's Knowe.

Thanks for all the positive feedback we are getting for the toilets and car park. It is nearly all complete down here. The car park is looking very tidy ready for the busy summer tourist season we have ahead of us.

The work is complete at near the big house and the area will be planted. It's great to have got this work done. This part of the reserve is really been tidied up over the last couple of years.

Water levels have risen quickly speeding up the departure of most of our wintering wildfowl. Mallards have paired off

with the drakes taking the females away from other mallards. Shoveler ducks are spring migrants to the reserve. A nice place to see them displaying is from the hide at Levenmouth. They are active at this time of year. Short-eared owl and crossbill were present during the month and a green woodpecker was

seen at Levenmouth. The core area for these is Portmoak Moss but we occasionally see them on the reserve. This is quite a scarce bird in Scotland.

Keep an eye out for our new courteous trail signs, going in soon. These offer a reminder to visitors that the trail is a multi-user path and shared space and everyone has equal responsibility to keep each other safe on the path. I notice when I'm out and about that many bikes don't have



A Peacock butterfly

bells on them. Bells are essential on the trail and a polite way to let people know a bike is approaching at speed.

Unfortunately, there is an increasing amount of vandalism around the reserve. The hides at the mill and Burleigh have both been damaged recently. It is our volunteers that generally go out to fix damage, clear up smashed bottles of alcohol or erase graffiti. Loch Leven is a special place and we want to keep it that way.

There's lots of stuff going onto the various social networks. The Loch Leven NNR Wordpress Blog is being updated weekly. The brand new Loch Leven NNR Facebook page is gathering momentum also. The SNH Instagram @Stevethecapercaillie puts out content from North Perthshire, Grampian and stuff from Loch Leven too. I'm out enjoying the long summer evenings and so should you. TTFN

Jeremy Squire (Reserve Officer)



*The Pier
Photo: Hannah Phillips*

Weather



March Weather Report from Kinross

Total rainfall	97.5mm = 3.9ins
Heaviest rainfall	13.3mm (12th)
Total sunshine for the month	115.2 hours
Sunniest day	9.1 hours (9th)
Minimum temperature average	-0.44°C
Lowest temperature	-6.6°C (31st)
Maximum temperature average	9.1°C
Highest temperature	13.7°C (22nd)

Local Attraction Opening Times Lochleven Castle, Castle Island, Kinross



Located on an island in beautiful Loch Leven, this is one of Scotland's oldest castles, probably built in the early 1300s.

Mary, Queen of Scots spent a traumatic year in captivity here, when she miscarried twins and was forced to abdicate. She dramatically escaped in 1568.

The property is reached by boat, operated by Historic Scotland and departing from the fishery pier (Pier Road, KY13 8UF) where there is parking and a Historic Scotland shop and ticket office.

Due to limited capacity, it is recommended that all visits are booked in advance. This can be done online at www.historicenvironment.scot/lochleven-castle or via the local ticket office. Phone 01577 862670 for further information.

Access times for 2019

26 March to 30 September: Daily, 10am to last outward sailing at 4.15pm.

1-31 October: Daily, 10am to last outward sailing at 3.15pm.

Admission prices:
(includes ferry trip) Adult £7.50, Child £4.50, Conc £6. HS members free.

Farming

Will Brexit be the end of my heated handlebars?

I've been doing the 'snacking' every day as I'm still avoiding the heavy jobs after my op. The lambs and their mums are turned out of the lambing shed at about two days old into the fields, but the grass in April isn't sufficient to meet the nutritional needs of the lactating ewe so we provide supplementary feeding. It's my job to visit every field and deposit the required feeding out of the snacker, which is trailed behind the quad bike.

It's a good job as I get to check on the progress of the stock, I look out for eye infections or sore joints in the lambs or signs of mastitis in the ewes, all of which are easily treated with a small dose of antibiotics if caught early. I like to get it done quite sharp so that I return the quad bike for my helpers to start putting ewes and lambs out of the shed into the other fields. So, there is often a nip in the air when I'm doing my rounds.

It's made easier in a number of ways though. Firstly, my snacker is very simple to operate and the handle is easy to pull. It's also filled by gravity from a feed bin that I bought a few years ago so no shoveling or lifting of bags is required. It may seem minor but all of our gates swing. We saw it as a priority and spent a fair number of weekends hanging all

of the field gates properly when we started farming here. It's really paid off this winter as I can easily jump on and off the quad to open and close them. I couldn't do it if they were tied with baler twine and I had to lift them. It's also a comfortable job as the new quad bike we bought last winter has an automatic



gear box so I don't have to yank my left foot under the sticky lever to move up gears like our old one. The new bike also has heated handlebars, which really are the best invention ever! They keep my hands cosy on windy, cold and wet days.

In light of what happened to me, requiring unexpected surgery, I'm really glad that I invested in all of these and other improvements to the farm. If I'm honest it's because, in recent years, I've been selling lambs at a decent price and working hard to keep my costs down. So, it's no wonder I'm watching in disbelief at the shenanigans of trying to sort out Britain's exit from the EU. Scotch lamb and beef are highly valued in Europe but I believe the price for beef is already back due to the uncertainty and the press is forecasting a £20-£25 drop in the value of each lamb. It's because more than half of all the lamb produced in Scotland is exported to Spain, France, Italy and other EU countries. I really hope our markets don't disappear, as it just wouldn't make sense to not be able to supply the demand. It would prevent farmers investing in their businesses and could eventually mean a lot less livestock farming in Scotland.

On a happier note, to my team of helpers, I can't thank you all enough for supporting me through the lambing this year, I feel truly blessed that you have worked so hard to help out and make it successful.

Fiona

Local Attraction Opening Times

Burleigh Castle, Milnathort

The castle is a fascinating semi-ruin dating from around 1500. Remarkable corner tower, with square cap-house corbelled out. Visited by James IV. Grounds open during daylight hours. Access inside the tower can be pre-arranged by calling 01241 878 756. Burleigh Castle is ½ mile from Milnathort on the A911.

Balvaird Castle

A late 15th century tower on an L plan. Refined architectural details. View exterior only. Near Gateside and Glenfarg. Grid ref NO 169 115.

Elcho Castle, near Rhynd, Bridge of Earn

This remarkably complete 16th century house was the country retreat of the Wemyss family. The orchard has been replanted with traditional varieties of apple, pear and plum and has become a haven for butterflies and wildlife. Elcho is five miles NE of Bridge of Earn. Open daily, 9.30am to 5.30pm (last entry 5pm), in summer season (until 30 Sept 2018). Closed at lunchtime. Tel 01738 639998. Admission prices: Adult £5, Child £3, Concessions £4. HS members free.

Abernethy Round Tower

One of the two round towers of Irish style surviving in Scotland dating from the late 11th century. Good views of the Firth of Tay. Closed Mondays and Tuesdays. Key available Wed to Sun from nearby Berryfields Tearoom all year and from Museum of Abernethy afternoons only, May to Sept.



Balvaird Castle

Gardening

Spring should be well and truly here, even in Scotland!

May is an exciting month in the garden, late spring plants are in bloom, biennials are about to flower and the perennials are bulking up ready to flower later in the summer.

If you have bedding plants (tender annuals), remember, there's still a high chance of frost this month. Continue to keep them under cover – in the greenhouse, cold frame or under



fleece until all chance of frost has passed, usually at the end of May or beginning of June. Harden them off gradually by putting outside during the day and then back under cover at night, usually for a couple of weeks... then you can plant them out and enjoy. It's a little-known fact that garden centres order two loads of bedding plants – the first delivery is for the unwary who buy them early and plant them out only to have them killed by frost. The second delivery is to replace the lost plants and for those who buy later. Don't be tempted by all the lovely colours unless you have somewhere frost free to keep them.

The bees have now started to arrive! Please don't pull all your dandelions up straight away as they are the bees first source of food. You'll see them buzzing around the flowers in your garden, making a lovely noise and ensuring all our flowers and food are pollinated and hopefully give us a lovely crop.



It's now time to mulch your flower beds. Mulch helps to keep the weeds down and retain moisture, after all, who likes weeding? Some garden compost, spent mushroom compost or rotted leaves make great mulch. If you collect leaves during autumn, you can keep them in black bags with holes in the bottom and they'll be ready to use in a couple of years. Even better, they are completely free!

May is also the month to finish cutting back old foliage and stems on perennials – this helps to keep them tidy and make way for beautiful new growth during the summer. Pile the old stems in an out of the way corner of the garden to give a home to all the bugs who eat garden pests for you. Stake and tie tall perennials such as delphiniums as they grow, this will save trying to rescue them after they've flopped in the wind. You can start to sow lettuce outside this month. It's so easy to grow and much tastier than the stuff they sell in supermarkets. I usually grow mine in a couple of small tubs and sow a couple of weeks apart so that it's not all ready at once and I can enjoy all the way through the spring and summer.

I hope you have a lovely time in your garden this month and most importantly – find time to have a seat with a nice cuppa and enjoy your efforts.

Teresa Stirling



Gardens to visit in May

There are some beautiful private local gardens opening this month, and the recent warm weather will ensure that there will be swathes of blossom and blooms to enjoy!

- Cloan, by Auchterarder, PH3 1PP. Sunday 5 May 11am-5pm admission £4, children free.
- Fingask Castle, Rait, PH2 7SA. Sunday 5 May 1.30-4.30pm admission £3, children free.
- Gleneagles House, Auchterarder, PH3 1PJ. Mondays only 6 May, 13 May & 27 May 2-5pm admission £5, children free.
- Rossie Gardens, Forgandenny, PH2 9EH. Saturday 25 May 2-5pm admission £5, children free. Cream teas.
- Delvine, Murthly, PH1 4LD. Sunday 26 May 2-6pm admission £5, children free.
- Bradystone House, Murthly, PH1 4EW. Thursday 30 May 11am-4pm admission £5, children free.
- Plant Sale: Sunday 19 May 11-6pm at Bradystone House, Murthly, PH1 4EW. (admission by donation). Plant sale of herbaceous plants and shrubs, including plants not normally sold in garden centres.



Cloan Garden

Buying plants from local sales means that they are acclimatised to our growing conditions. It's also a great way of getting advice, ideas and tips from local growers, and other garden enthusiasts.

Further information about these gardens, plus many more that are open across Scotland is available on the Scotland's Gardens website: Scotlandsgardens.org



Images of Kinross-shire

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Photo Library

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Kinross-shire Churches Together



Kinross Parish Church of Scotland

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Church office and church open: Mon-Fri 10am-12 noon.
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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 during term time.

Wednesdays: 10.45am Service, Church Centre.
1.30pm: Craft Group.

Fridays: The Brigade, church centre.

Anchor Section 6-7.15pm, Junior Section 7-9pm,
Company Section 8-10pm (Contact: David Munro 862126).

Saturdays: 10am-12noon 'Coffee Stop', Church Centre. Coffee, cakes and book sale most Saturdays.

Other Events and Services

April

Sun 28 10.30am: Morning Service.
2.15pm: Cheese Roll and a Chat.
6.30pm: Informal evening service: 'Easter Stories'.

Tue 30 2.30pm: Service at Causeway Court.

May

Wed 1 7pm: **Abaana New Life Choir** from Uganda.

Thu 2 7.30pm: Thursday Group, church centre: Annual General Meeting.

Sun 5 10.30am: Morning Service, followed by informal Communion.

Mon 6 8am: Silent Meditation.

Tue 7 2.30pm: Service at Whyte Court.
4pm: Service at The Sycamores.

Sat 11 8.30am: Prayer Breakfast (names in advance to church office).

Sun 12 – Sat 18: Christian Aid Week.

Sun 19 10.30am: Morning Service.
12.15pm: Cheese Roll and a Chat.

Thu 16 9pm: Late-Evening Service of Compline.

Sat 25 10am – noon: **Coffee Morning with Crafts and Plant sale.**

Sun 26 6.30pm: Informal Evening Service – 'Themes from C.S. Lewis'.

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

May

Sun 5 11.15am **Morning Worship** followed by refreshments. Traidcraft Stall.

Sat 11 1pm **Cleish Church Fete and Classic Car Show.** Cream Teas, Produce, Cake & Candy, Plant Stall, Cards/Books/Media and Children's Stall. Organ recital by Bruce Inglis in the Church. All welcome.

Sun 12 11.15am **Morning Worship*.**

Mon 13 3.15pm **Messy Church** in the Village Hall. Open to all children with their carers.

Sun 19 11.15am **Morning Worship*.**

Sun 26 11.15am **Morning Worship*.**

Sacrament of Holy Communion.

* Please note that refreshments will be served in the Young Room after Morning Worship. All welcome.

Loch Leven Church

(Charity No: SC049050)

Loch Leven Church meets at Loch Leven Community Campus, at 3pm each Sunday.



Our sermons throughout May will be focused on Philippians.

Everyone is warmly welcome and there are separate activities for children during the service.

To find out more about us and our forthcoming services, please visit www.lochlevenchurch.com.

Abaana New Life Choir

African Choir in Kinross: On Wednesday 1 May at 7pm Kinross Parish Church plays host to a concert by the Abaana New Life Choir from Uganda.

Rev Margaret Michie of the church says: 'We have enjoyed two African choirs on previous visits and are thrilled and excited to hear these enthusiastic youngsters proclaiming the gospel in song and dance. We will host the choir of 20 children and 10 chaperones for two nights as they tour in Northern Ireland, Scotland and England.'

There is free admission to the concert but an offering will be taken in aid of Abaana and their work with African Children.



The Kinross Newsletter

by the community, for the community

all profits are given away to local good causes

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 Orwell Hall on 25 May from 4 to 6pm.

Dates and events for your diary

5 May Joint All-age Service in Portmoak Church at 10.30am, followed by the Annual Stated Meeting
No morning service at Orwell Church.

14 May Culdees Celtic Service in Portmoak New Room at 10.30am.

28 May Culdees Celtic Service in Portmoak New Room at 10.30am.

31 May Oasis Ladies Group meets in Portmoak New Room from 10:15am to 11.45am.

2 June Joint All-age Service in Orwell Church at 10.30am.
No morning service at Portmoak 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

Kinross Parish Church (SC 012555)

Plant and Craft Sale with Coffee Morning

Come along to Kinross Church Centre in the High Street on **Saturday 25 May**, 10am till noon, for the annual Coffee Morning of Kinross Parish Church with its plant and craft sale. The church's active Craft Group has been working hard on preparing items to buy and the plant sale is a fixed part of the Kinross Year – timed for the traditional period for planting in Scotland, after 15 May when frosts become unlikely. All funds raised go to help support the work of the church here in Kinross and in the wider world.



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.

Fossway, St Serf's & Devonside Church

Church of Scotland (Charity number SC013157)

Church Road, Crook of Devon, Kinross-shire, KY13 0UY

www.fosswaychurch.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.

Sunday Services at 9.45am. All are welcome.

May

Sun 5 9.15-9.30am A Time for Prayer.
9.45am Morning Worship followed by refreshments.

Sun 12 9.15-9.30am A Time for Prayer.
9.45am Morning Worship.

Sun 19 9.15-9.30am A Time for Prayer.
9.45am Morning Worship.

Sun 26 9.15-9.30am A Time for Prayer.
9.45am Morning Worship and Celebration of Holy Communion.

Refresh Thursday

Thursday afternoons, 2-4pm. Join us for a friendly blether with delicious home baking, tea and coffee. All are welcome.

House Group

The House Group meets on Wednesday evenings 7.30pm till approx 9pm. All are welcome. For more details please phone Debbie Hill 01577 842268.

Film Evening

7.30pm-9.30pm in the Church Hall.

Our next film is: *Bohemian Rhapsody*. The story of the legendary rock band Queen and lead singer Freddie Mercury, leading up to their famous performance at Live Aid (1985). Please join us for the film, a cuppa and a blether and even some popcorn.

Fossway Babies and Toddlers

Every Friday during term time 9.30-11.30am, Fossway Church Hall.

Snacks, play and blether, baby yoga coming soon.

Trinity Church

A new Church ... A new Beginning.

Trinity Church is a congregation of the **UNITED FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**, led by **REVEREND JEROME O'BRIEN**.



Sunday Service

We meet every Sunday at the Old Coach House, Lendrick Muir, off Naemoor Road, KY13 0QA.

The gathering starts at 4pm.

The style of worship is informal and friendly. After the gathering, there will be time for refreshments and conversation.

For more information about who we are and what we do, please visit our website (www.trinity-church.co.uk) or call Jerome on 07843 873 091.

Kinross-shire is a Fairtrade County

St Paul's Scottish Episcopal Church

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Communion)

Muir, Kinross, KY13 8AY Telephone: 01577 864299

Email: office@stpaulskinross51.plus.com

Website: www.stpauls-kinross.co.uk

Fr David Mackenzie Mills, Rector. Telephone: 01577 863795

Email: frdavidkinross@gmail.com

You can also find us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/stpaulsepiscopalchurchkinross

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.

Mondays and Wednesdays 8am Morning Prayer (said quietly in the warmth of the Meeting Room!)

1st Mondays 10am Pastoral Care group (Side chapel)

Tuesdays 11am Informal Holy Communion (Church Office).

Thursdays 10am Thursday Morning discussion group (usually in the Meeting Room). 3.30-4.30pm Rector's Hour. An opportunity to drop in and speak to the Rector in the Church Office.

Forthcoming Services and Events - all welcome

May

Sun 5 Easter 3

8.30am Holy Communion.

11am Sung Eucharist.

4pm Evensong (1928) with hymns.

Sun 12 VOCATIONS SUNDAY

8.30am Holy Communion.

11am Sung Eucharist with Holy Baptism.

In Conversation with Mrs Annie Hughes, Ordinand in training.

Sun 19 Easter 5

8.30am Holy Communion.

11am Whole Church Sung Eucharist.

Sun 26 Easter 6

8.30am Holy Communion.

11am Sung Eucharist.

Thu 30 ASCENSION DAY

12 noon Holy Communion. *(replaces our usual Tuesday Holy Communion service).*

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)

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

Mon 7pm Holy Mass preceded by Confessions and Prayer Group at 8pm in the church hall.

Tue 10am Holy Mass preceded by Confessions and Morning Prayer (9.30-9.50am).

Wed 10am Holy Mass preceded by Confessions and Morning Prayer (9.30-9.50am). Teas/Coffees after Mass, in the church hall.

Thu 10am Holy Mass preceded by Confessions and Morning Prayer (9.30-9.50am).

Fri 10am Holy Mass preceded by Morning Prayer and Confessions (9.30-9.50am).

3pm Divine Mercy Devotions.

Sat 10-10.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions (first Saturday of every month Holy Mass at 10am).

6pm Vigil Mass.

Sun 9.30am Mass (teas/coffees after Mass in church hall).

Confessions also on request.

Prayer Group meets on a Monday, 8pm-10pm, in the church hall and is open to all.

Children's Catechism class meets every Monday during term time, 3.45pm-4.30pm in the church hall.

The weekly newsletter, Mass times, news and updates or changes can be found on our website.

Kinross Christian Fellowship

Jesus said, 'I am among you as one who serves.'

Sunday morning service at 10.30am (refreshments and blether at 10am), Millbridge Hall, Old Causeway, Kinross.

Lively praise (children participate), reverent worship open to the leading of the Holy Spirit, prayer, ministry and solid Bible-based preaching and teaching. An all-round family service for families, which includes Sunday School. Communion every second Sunday, as is our evening service at 6.30pm; a time for praise, worship, sharing and joy in The Lord Jesus. (Followed by light refreshments and more blether.)

Everyone is welcome to either service or to both, so please come and, *taste and see that the LORD is good.*

Contact Peter on 01577 863509, for further information.

KCF also runs the Talking Donkey café - see separate notice in the Newsletter. Additionally, the Friday evening Youth Group at the Millbridge Hall (Space) is also the responsibility of our Fellowship, and we are pleased to accept this privilege.

Deaths

MILLER

Rena and family wish to thank everyone who sent cards and flowers following the death of John. They were a great comfort to us at this very sad time. Thank you again.

Playgroups and Toddlers

Milnathort Babies & Toddlers

Orwell Church Hall, Milnathort

Friday 9.30am-11.15am

A relaxed and friendly group

Healthy snacks, tea & coffee

Children from birth to 3 years

(5 years if attending with younger sibling)

Great fun for the kids, mums, dads and carers!

PLACES NOW AVAILABLE!

To join in the fun

call 07745 804539

Email milnathortbt@gmail.com

Or find us on Facebook



SWANSACRE PLAYGROUP, 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

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.



FOSSOWAY TODDLER GROUP

Fridays 9.30 and 11.30 (term time)

Fossoway Church Hall, Crook of Devon

£2 for 2 hours play

Warm and cosy space

Fresh fruit snack and juice or water for kids

Tea/coffee and biscuits for adults

PORTMOAK UNDER 5s

Portmoak Hall – between Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell (only 10 mins from Milnathort and Kinross)



We are a friendly and relaxed group welcoming children under 5 years and their parents/carers. We offer a wide range of activities including arts and crafts, dressing up, outdoor play and stories. We also on occasion arrange outings, parties and have special visitors who come to the group!

Session times: Tues & Fri 9.45am – 11.30am.

Sessions are £2 per child (£1.50 for under 1s) and 50p for each additional child. A snack is provided.

For all queries please email

portmoakplaygroup@hotmail.com

or find us on Facebook

MONTGOMERY TODDLERS

Every Thursday 9.30am to 11am (term-time only)

The Gospel Hall, Montgomery Street, Kinross.

Contact Christina Smith 01577 840733 or 07792 260509

Private Nurseries and Childcare

For private nurseries and childcare services, please see advertisements throughout the Newsletter.

To inform the Newsletter of any changes to Playgroup information, please send an email to: editor@kinrossnewsletter.org

Notices



Networking Breakfast Wednesday 1 May

At Loch Leven's Larder, 7.15am-9am

Kinross-shire Partnership is going from strength to strength and the numbers attending are on the up. There's a real buzz about the events and business contacts are bearing fruit as a result! The next Networking Breakfast meeting, taking place on **Wednesday 1 May**, looks like being just as popular, so fix the date in your diary and don't forget to book ahead so that the Larder staff can have one of the excellent breakfasts ready for you.

In a change to our regular format of a post breakfast speaker, we're handing the floor to the Networkers themselves. In a slight change of style, people will have more time to extend their networking opportunities as they enjoy their breakfast and there will also be more time per person to deliver their 'Elevator Pitch' to their fellow attendees.

As always, the meeting will be at Loch Leven's Larder from 7.15 to 9am and we welcome local businesses, individuals and groups to come and network, find out about each other's organisations and get to know one-another. If you're new to Kinross-shire and looking to find out what services or businesses are in the Shire, this is a great way to do it. Likewise, if you're starting a new venture or looking to extend an existing one, come and tell the Networking Breakfast all about it.

If you've been to the Networking Breakfast before, you'll know how good it is, so tell your friends, colleagues and fellow Kinross-shire dwellers and encourage them to come along with you on Wednesday 1 May, we'd like to meet them too!

We encourage everyone to book a place in advance. In the first place, please email Karen Grunwell at mail@kinrosspartnership.org.uk and she will send you a reply with the option to book and pay in advance through EVENTBRITE. If you choose not to pay online in advance, you can pay in cash on the day. Full details are available when you book. The meeting cost, including a full cooked breakfast, is £10 per person.

www.kinrosspartnership.org.uk www.facebook.com/visitlochleven
www.visitlochleven.org www.twitter.com/VisitLochLeven

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.

2 May AGM

Plant & Bake Sale and Coffee Morning Scotlandwell In Bloom

Saturday 4 May
10.30am-2pm

The Well Country Inn, Scotlandwell

Things Scot, Things Not: an evening of music, poems and recitations by Clacks, Jacks and Jills.

Friday 10 May
Kinross Parish Church
from 7.30pm until 9.30pm

The charity evening will feature compere Sandy Sinclair, soprano Vivian Fairchild, singer Ewart McAuslane, fiddler John Crozier, actor Susan Chown, trumpet and flugel player David Hynd and accompanist Lawrence Wright.



Coffee, tea and biscuits will be served at the interval. Tickets can be purchased from the CHAS charity shops for £8 with all proceeds going to CHAS. Please contact Lyndsay Stobie, Community Fundraiser, for ticket enquiries: lyndsaystobie@chas.org.uk or 01577 867802.

Portmoak Hall Ceilidh With the Glenfarg Ceilidh Band

Saturday 11 May

7.30pm-11.30pm

Adults £10, children £5 In aid of hall funds

Supper included, licensed bar

Tickets available from Kinnesswood shop or from
John Nicol 01592 840573 or Shelagh Goudie 01592 840200

The Kinross and District Men's Shed AGM

Saturday 11 May

At the Men's Shed, 10am-12noon.

The agenda can be found on www.kinrossmensshed.org

All welcome.

There will be tea and coffee for a small donation to Shed funds.

Kinross Garden Group

2018/19 Season

Summer Garden Visit

Gardens in Abernethy

Thursday 16 May

Information from Ms Anderson

01577 864589

1st Kinross Scouts Group AGM

20 June 2019 at 7pm


'Junior Dippers'



Decoupage Painting Drawing Poetry Knitting
 Crochet Baking Sewing Cookery Drama
 Creative Writing Felting Paper crafts Floral Art
 Calligraphy Gardening Sports Literature Dancing

This exciting & innovative project has come about from positive joint working with Community Learning and Development – Perth and Kinross Council

This is a new group for children who are interested in learning crafts and life skills with experienced mentors. Activities are family based enabling families to take part have new experiences; learn new skills with all the family. Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

FREE MEMBERSHIP

Sessions run in the ICT room within the Library at Kinross Community Campus from 1pm – 2.30pm on the second and fourth Saturday of every month.

Enrolment starts on Saturday 11th May at 12.30pm followed by our very first session in paper crafting at 1pm.

Please contact Jay Hutchison, SWI Kinross Group Secretary on 07795490561 or email swikinrossgroupsec@gmail.com with any enquiries.

Need a wheelchair?

The British Red cross will be in Sainsbury's Car park every
Wednesday 10am-12noon
 for more information please call 01506409927
 SCO37738

Kinross Parish Church Plant and Craft Sale with Coffee Morning:

Kinross Church Centre
Saturday 25 May, 10am-12 noon
 All funds raised go to help support the work of the church (SC 012555) here in Kinross and in the wider world

Sainsbury's Kinross Car Boot Sale

Last Sunday of the month for the next three months
 Sainsbury's car park 10am-1pm

26 May Broke not Broken
30 June Store colleague's charity of choice
28 July Store colleague's charity of choice
 £5 per car: all proceeds will go to charity.

Please call 01577 864067 to register, then pay in store at the customer service desk on your next visit. Cash only.

Cleish Fete and Classic Car Show

(Postcode KY13 0LR)

Saturday 11 May 2019

Cleish Village Hall

1-3.30pm



Classic Car Show, BBQ ('Rootin & Roamin')

Cream Teas, Produce and Cake & Candy and Tombola
 in the Village Hall

Plant Stall in the Church Garden
 Cards/Books/Media and Children's Stall
 Organ Recital by Bruce Inglis in Cleish Church



All pre-1990s cars welcome – Please be in field by 12pm
 Entry to Classic Car Show free but please contact David Leslie on 07778 772349 or at cleishcarshow@cleish.org to confirm car details and entry.

If you have a pre-90s car please come, and let someone know

All proceeds in aid of Cleish Church (Charity No SCO03168)

Scottish Handcraft Circle – Exhibition of Work (Stitched Textiles and Handcrafts)

Kinross Parish Church, 10 Station Road, Kinross,

Thursday 23 May 10am-4pm,

Friday 24 May 10am-4pm,

Saturday 25 May 10am-3pm

£3 entry including refreshments (under 15s FREE)

Sales Table

Disabled Parking/Access

Contact: 01577 842271 email: mazthorn648@gmail.com



AGM of the Potager Garden

Garden Room of the Church Centre



Thursday 23 May

7.30pm to 9pm

All welcome

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.

THE 5th ANNUAL AURICULA & PRIMULA SHOW



SATURDAY MAY 18TH 2019

A rare opportunity to see some of the finest auriculas perfectly displayed by Auricula growers from across the country. A feast for the eye, & an opportunity to learn more about these beautiful heritage plants which were once so widely grown.

Show Hall Open 12.00 – 2.30pm. Admission free.

Plant Nurseries: sales from 10am.

Auchterarder Community Church Hall PH3 1DF

The Scottish Auricula & Primula Society



www.thescottishauriculaandprimulasociety.com

A FUN DAY FOR ALL THE FAMILY

The Fossoway Gathering 25 May 2019

Fancy dress parade Dance demonstration
Face painting BBQ & food stalls
Vintage cars Beer tent
Plant sale Fun run
Beat the goalie Pony rides
Horse riding displays Inflatable fun park

STARTS
AT MIDDAY



**Milnathort
filmhouse** at Milnathort Town Hall

Saturday 25th May 2019



Guarantee Your Seats By Booking Your Tickets Online Today



**Information and Online Booking at
milnathortfilmhouse.com**



A BRAND NEW PILOT INSTITUTE FOR KINROSS WOMEN



Please join your fellow women of Kinross at an informal meeting to assess local interest in a new Institute.

Run by you, for you!

Experienced mentors will be on hand to discuss your needs and vision. They will also provide a simple guide with regard to running an Institute.

Wednesday 29 May at 7pm

The Kirklands Hotel, Kinross

Complimentary Refreshments are provided

All women are welcome from 16 to 116

For general enquiries please contact Jay Hutchison at
swikinrossgroupsec@gmail.com



Charity Ceilidh
in support of Mary's Meals

on 1 June at 7:30pm,
Milnathort Town Hall.

Music by Glenfarg
Ceilidh Band.

£10 per ticket,
all ages welcome.



The Alexander/McLaren Trust

The above newly established charity has been set up in memory of the late Douglas & Elspeth Alexander (*nee* McLaren), who resided at Hilton of Burleigh, Milnathort and died in 2012 and 2013 respectively. Douglas was born at Ballingall, Milnathort before moving to Hilton of Burleigh as a teenager in 1940, his father having secured the tenancy of the Hilton land in 1920.

Douglas was enrolled at Dollar Academy on 3 September 1939, the day war was declared on Germany. After finishing his education, he lived and farmed Hilton of Burleigh for over 70 years. Elspeth, originally from Coupar Angus, attended Perth Academy and secured a place at Edinburgh University in 1943 to study maths and science at the age of 17. On graduating she secured a teaching post at Kinross High School and through the tutoring of Douglas's sister Nancy, the couple met and married in 1950.

Douglas and Elspeth were both passionate about education and were staunch supporters, at many levels, of several local organisations, including the Young Farmers' Club, the British Red Cross and the Kinross-shire Day Centre. The couple also took a lifelong interest in Milnathort Primary School, with (to date) three generations of their family attending there.

The Charity's objectives are wide ranging and seek to benefit local community groups and individuals along with educational and recreational facilities. The aim is to make the charity as flexible and approachable as possible and will be locally administered.

The Charity Trustees can be contacted via email:
alexandermclarentrust@gmail.com.

The Gaelic Society of Perth

The Gaelic Society of Perth will not have a ceilidh this month but the AGM is on Thursday 9 May to which all members are invited. Please note that the day is changed from the usual Friday. Come and put your views forward and hear what the Society has been involved with this year and the plans for the future! The annual **Gaelic Service** will be held in Perth in June on a date yet to be decided.

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**.



**STEP OUT OF
YOUR COMFORT
ZONE!**

Join a Band with a Difference
Perform all over the UK and overseas

If you're aged between 12 & 18 and interested in Music, come along to a rehearsal and see what we do. If you already play an instrument, Great! If not, we offer free tuition by qualified Adult Volunteers and the free use of an instrument whilst you are a member.



**ARMY
CADETS**

**REGIMENTAL BAND
Black Watch ACF**

Sunday Nights - 6:30pm to 9pm
ACF Centre, Elgin Street, Dunfermline
www.facebook.com/BandBWACF

The Army Cadet Force is a Uniformed Youth Organisation sponsored by the Ministry of Defence.

Lip Reading Classes

Do you or someone else you know have a hearing loss? Lip Reading Classes can help.

Advice is available on tinnitus, cochlea implants, access to work and getting benefits.

Learn how your hearing aids work and about equipment to help you with your hearing loss, e.g. smoke alarms, television aids, flashing doorbells and more. The above equipment is free. Classes start in Kinross in October and a few places are still available on Fridays in Perth. Classes are funded and free to participants. To book a place, or for more information, contact Susan Brown Tel: 01250 872861 or 07940 333924, or by email at Perthshirelipreading@hotmail.com.

Facebook-Perthshire Lipreading

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.


KINROSS HUB THE CARERS CAFE




The hub cafe is an informal meeting place to chat over a cuppa with other carers, cared for and family members.



**LOCHLEVEN COMMUNITY CAMPUS
KINROSS**
1st MONDAY of EVERY MONTH
10am—12noon



Contact Gail Boath
Tel. 01577 867306
Or Annette Bond
01738 567076



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 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.

KINROSS CARERS THERAPIES



REIKI



* you can be an unpaid carer and still receive benefits such as Carers Allowance

IF YOU ARE AN UNPAID CARER* REGISTERED WITH PKAVS CARERS HUB YOU COULD ENJOY A FREE COMPLEMENTARY THERAPY SESSION!

BOOKING IS REQUIRED & DONATIONS ARE WELCOME

Therapy Days are the 2nd Monday of each month with Shirley Morgan @ Heart and Soul Centre, High Street, Kinross, KY13 8AN

 @PKAVSCarersHub

 pkavscarershub.org.uk

For more info on support for unpaid carers in Kinross contact Carer Support Worker Annette Bond on 01738 567076



**CRYSTAL
THERAPY**

Bookings open the 1st Monday of each month. Please call the Carers Hub on 01738 567076 to book an appointment.

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 6 May.

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.

May 19	Ian Cameron	Oct 20	Colin Brown
June 23	John Stuart	Nov 17	Johnny Duncan
July 28	Richard Ross	Dec 1	Christmas Concert
Aug 18	Ewan Galloway	Dec 15	Peter Bruce
Sept 22	Leonard Brown		

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



Perth & Kinross School Term Dates 2018-19

Term	Start (for pupils)	End
Summer	Mon 15 Apr 2019	Fri 28 Jun 2019
Inservice days	Thur 14 Nov, Fri 15 Nov	
Autumn	Wed 21 Aug 2019	Fri 4 Oct 2019
Winter	Mon 21 Oct 2019	Fri 20 Dec 2019

Holidays and In-Service Days:

May Day holiday: Mon 6 May 2019

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



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



Broke Not Broken. Tackling the effects of poverty.
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.



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
June	Friday 17 May	Saturday 1 June
July	Friday 14 June	Saturday 29 June



THE TALKING DONKEY

Every Friday 11am – 2pm
@ The Millbridge Hall

For further information, or if you want to be involved please ring
07766 515 950 or 07771 696 830

The Cafe where everything is **FREE!**

 Soups 

 Snacks 

 Hot Drinks 

 Cold Drinks 

 Home-cooked lunches 

All brought to your table by our friendly staff

The Talking Donkey is a Christian venture so there will always be people on hand to offer

Prayer For Any Need



La Leche League meetings in Kinross

First Thursday of the month,
10am-12 noon



St Paul's Church Meeting Room, The Muirs, Kinross

- Friendly, relaxed mum-to-mum breastfeeding support and chat.
- Informal chat and an interesting group discussion.
- Plenty of time for answering your questions.

We welcome any mums (and mums to be) who are interested in breastfeeding. Children all very welcome.

For more details, contact:

Hannah Dalgety (LLL Leader, Kinross) 07886 859461
www.lll-fife-tayside.co.uk

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

Mondays 1630 – 2130 Thursdays 1630 – 1900

Wednesdays 0830 – 1100 Fridays 1000 – 1630

and 1930 – 2130 Sundays 0800 – 2130

No pressure, no names, no judgment.

We're here for you, anytime.

Perth Citizens Advice Bureau

Outreach Advice Surgery

The Kinross surgery is held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month from 1.30pm to 3.30pm at St Paul's Church Hall, Muirs, Kinross. The next visits are:

14 & 28 May

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 or jeanshearer630@btinternet.com

Mindful Relaxation Class

Mondays, 7pm-8pm

Loch Leven Community Campus Conference 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 & Orwell: Chair: Craig Williams, 07885 722125
Email: craig@stovestuff.scot
Secy: Caroline Flory
Email: communitycouncilmilnathort@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
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 Muszynski		01592 840467

Have a look at our website: www.portmoak.org

Perth and Kinross Councillors Kinross-shire Ward

Cllr MIKE BARNACLE (*Independent*)
Tel/Fax (home): 01577 840516.
Email: michaelabarnacle@gmail.com
Website: mikebarnacle.co.uk
Moorend, Waulkmill Road, Crook of Devon, Kinross, KY13 0UZ

Cllr CALLUM PURVES (*Scottish Conservative & Unionist*)
Tel (office): 01738 475092. Mobile: 07557 812570.
Email: CPurves@pkc.gov.uk
54 Lathro Park, Kinross, KY13 8RU

Cllr WILLIE ROBERTSON (*Scottish Liberal Democrats*)
Tel (home): 01577 865178. Mobile: 07909 884042.
Email: wbrobertson@pkc.gov.uk
85 South Street, Milnathort, Kinross, KY13 9XA

Cllr RICHARD WATTERS (*SNP*)
Mobile: 07557 812513.
Email: RWatters@pkc.gov.uk
Applegarth, Sunnypark, Kinross, KY13 8BX

Luke Graham MP

Member of Parliament for Ochil and South Perthshire

38 Primrose Street, Alloa, FK10 1JG

Telephone: 01259 764407

Email: luke.graham.mp@parliament.uk

Twitter: @LukeGrahamMP

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Luke-Graham-for-Ochil-and-South-Perthshire-392788644215614

Member of the Scottish Parliament for Perthshire South & Kinross-shire

Roseanna Cunningham MSP

Constituency office:

63 Glasgow Road, Perth, PH2 0PE

Telephone: 01738 620540

Email: Roseanna.Cunningham.msp@parliament.scot

Members of the Scottish Parliament for Mid Scotland and Fife Region

All MSPs can be contacted at the following address:

The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

Claire Baker MSP (Labour) Tel: 0131 348 6769

Email: Claire.Baker.msp@parliament.scot

Murdo Fraser MSP (Conservative) Tel: 0131 348 5293

Email: Murdo.Fraser.msp@parliament.scot

Dean Lockhart MSP (Conservative) Tel: 0131 348 5993

Email: Dean.Lockhart.msp@parliament.scot

Alex Rowley MSP (Labour) Tel: 0131 348 6826

Email: Alex.Rowley.msp@parliament.scot

Mark Ruskell MSP (Green) Tel: 0131 348 6468

Email: Mark.Ruskell.msp@parliament.scot

Liz Smith MSP (Conservative) Tel: 0131 348 6762

Email: Elizabeth.Smith.msp@parliament.scot

Alexander Stewart MSP (Conservative) Tel: 0131 348 6134

Email: Alexander.Stewart.msp@parliament.scot

Mobile Library Service

Visiting on Tuesdays 14 & 28 May

Glenfarg	Main Street	1200-1300
Forgandenny	Rossie Place	1545-1615

Visiting on Wednesday 1 & 15 May

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@brokennotbroken.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 Susan Mitchell at: susan.mitchell50@gmail.com

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 Caldwell 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:



Kitchen volunteer (mornings), Home Baking volunteer (fortnightly Wednesday 2-4 pm), Housekeeping volunteers (afternoons), Driving volunteers (flexible).

Anyone who is interested is welcome to come for a visit. Please contact us by phone on 01577 865777 or email volunteering@chas.org.uk. To apply online visit www.chas.org.uk.

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 milnathorttownhall1@gmail.com. We would love to hear from you.



Volunteering with Aberlour!

We are currently recruiting new volunteers to 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.

Local Volunteer Opportunities continued

1st Kinross cubs are looking for an assistant leader: Do you or someone you know have a few hours to spare a week? Looking to give back to the community? Want to help children learn new skills and grow into great adults? Cubs meet up on a Wednesday evening 6.30pm-8pm at the Millbridge Hall. Please contact Victoria@VictoriaVA.co.uk for more details or speak directly with a cub leader on Wednesday evening.

1st Kinross Scout Group needs a new treasurer: Do you or someone you know have a couple of hours to spare each month? The current treasurer is standing down in June 2019 and a new treasurer is needed. This is not an onerous task, just a couple of hours each month. No accounting experience required. Without a treasurer, 1st Kinross beavers, cubs and scouts cannot run. Please contact Lynne Bennet on sandyandlynne@talktalk.net if you can help.

Situations Vacant

In conjunction with www.kinross.cc, the *Newsletter* is pleased to publish local situations vacant. Please go to the [kinross.cc](http://www.kinross.cc) website before applying to see 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').

Property Professional, J&G Wilson, Kinross

J&G Wilson Law and Property are looking to recruit an experienced property professional to join our busy Kinross office. Ideally, you will have the relevant experience of working within a busy Estate Agency office and have a good understanding and knowledge of the property market. A clean driving licence and access to your own car is an essential requirement of this post as you will have to carry out property valuations and viewings. We are keen to hear from applicants who are looking for a full-time position. Please apply by email with your CV to our Property Manager Margaret Peebles at m.peebles@jgwilson.co.uk.

Music In Dollar

We had a fantastic last concert of the season in March with the Alastair Savage trio who played a superb set of traditional Scottish tunes as well as some of their own compositions. Our next meeting is the AGM – to which all members are cordially invited. This will take place at the Dollar Golf Club on the Burnside, Dollar at 7.30pm on Thursday 16 May. The AGM will be quite short but will include some freebies and snacks and also information about the next Music in Dollar season, and then we will have a performance from a fiddle and accordion duo.

Further information is available from the Concert Secretary on 01577 864589, e-mail info@musicindollar.org, website www.MusicinDollar.org

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



Items for Sale

The Newsletter publishes items for sale listed on the [kinross.cc](http://www.kinross.cc) website. If interested in purchasing an item, we suggest **checking the website for current availability** (www.kinross.cc then 'Local Adverts' then 'Classified Adverts'). If interested in selling an item, please list it on www.kinross.cc and it will automatically be published in the next available Newsletter, subject to space.

Raleigh Mountain Bike

£40

Gents Raleigh Firefly mountain bike 18" frame, 26" alloy wheels, no suspension. 18 Speed with twist shifter gears. Very good condition.

Seller Details: George Mitchell

01577 865426

geoliz360@btinternet.com

600w PA System with Mixing Desk

£150 ono

KAM KXR 600 amplifier with mixing desk and cables.

Seller Details: Sandra Ralston

07774 181768.

mail@sandraralston.co.uk

Male Indian Runner ducks

£10

Handsome black male runners for sale. Approximately 5 months old. Great for training sheepdogs!

Seller Details: Marion Hutt

01577 861741

stephen950@btinternet.com

Baby High Chair

£15

Mamas and Papas high chair used at Grandparents house.

Seller Details: Kathleen Seaton

01577 863677

confusedwife@hotmail.co.uk

Gents Bicycle

£50

Excellent condition, hardly used. Perfect for around the loch, not for the Tour de France.

Seller Details: Graham Haworth

07967 321199

lynhaworth57@gmail.com

Wake Up to Lyme

Lyme Disease UK
www.lymediseaseuk.com
Facebook.com/Lymediseaseuk
@UKLyme

Lyme disease can be difficult to treat if not diagnosed early. Follow these tips to protect yourself and your family from Lyme disease this year:

- ✓ **AVOID** walking through long grass and stick to pathways
- ✓ **TUCK** your trousers in your socks and **WEAR** long sleeved tops
- ✓ **USE** insect repellent when walking in wooded areas
- ✓ **CHECK** yourself and your children for ticks (hairline, navel, groin, ears, in-between fingers and toes) and **SHOWER** when you get home
- ✓ If you see an embedded tick, **REMOVE** it as quickly as possible using the correct tick removal technique - see our website for details
- ✓ If you become **UNWELL** or notice a **RASH**, see your **GP** immediately and mention your concerns about Lyme disease

Did you know Lyme disease mimics many other conditions including Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, Fibromyalgia, M.E. and ALS?

About ticks

Ticks can be found all over the UK including woodland, heathland, long grass and even urban parks and gardens.

Some ticks can be as small as a poppy seed and so it can be very easy to miss them.

Ticks cause a number of infections, including Lyme disease.

There can be serious complications if the disease is left untreated.

What is Lyme disease?

Lyme disease is an infection caused by numerous strains of *Borrelia*, which are corkscrew-shaped spirochaetal bacteria.

Lyme disease may be spread by other biting insects too.

There is ongoing debate about whether the illness can be transmitted congenitally, sexually as well as via blood and organ donation. More research is desperately needed in this area.

Symptoms

Tick bites aren't painful, many people don't even notice a bite.

The most distinctive sign is a bull's-eye rash but many patients do not experience this or may present with an atypical rash instead.

Initial symptoms may include: fatigue, fevers, nausea, 'summer flu', Bell's palsy, headaches and a stiff neck.

Visit www.lymediseaseuk.com to find out more about the complexities of Lyme disease testing, diagnosis and treatment

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 (15th, 29th) Fantastic Fun Quiz 2pm Art Class 1.30pm
Thursday	Carpet Curling or Boccia 11am Film or music Afternoon 1.30pm Dominoes, Scrabble, cards 1.30pm Balance & Strength Class 1.30pm
Friday	Balance & Strength Class 11.15am Dominoes, Games or music 1.30pm Bingo 1.30pm

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



Additional Events for May

Hearing Loss Support and Advice	11am-12pm	Monday 13th
Chiropody (Tel 01577 863869 for an appointment)	9.45am-1pm	Thursdays 2nd, 16th
Barge Trip	9.30am-4pm	Friday 24th
Library Trip	1.30pm	Thursday 30th

Please note: the Centre will be closed **from 1.30pm on Wednesday 1 May** for afternoon training, and also on **Monday 6 May** for the Monday holiday.

Useful telephone numbers

Medical

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

Perth & Kinross Council (PKC)

Customer Service Centre (Mon- Fri, 8am-6pm)	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
Homelessness	0800 917 0708
Mental health services	0345 301 11 20
Roads (e.g. reporting blockage)	01738 476476

Traveline Scotland 0871 200 22 33

Loch Leven Community Campus 01577 867200

Kinross High School 01577 867100

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

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

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Wed	1	Networking Breakfast, Loch Leven's Larder	93
Wed	1	Abaana New Life Choir	87
Wed	1	Kinross CC meets	30
Thu	2	Kinross 50-Plus Club: Talk on the Woodland Trust	54
Thu	2	The Thursday Group: AGM	93
Sat	4	Dawn Chorus Walk, Portmoak Moss	54
Sat	4	Scotlandwell in Bloom Plant and Bake Sale and Coffee Morning	93
Sat	4	Café Book Club at the library	59
Sun	5	Dawn Chorus Walk, RSPB Loch Leven	81
Sun	5	Kinross & Ochil Ramblers Walk (see notice for other walks throughout the month)	53
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Mon	6	Deadline for Kinross-shire Fund	97
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Sat	11	Junior Dippers Children's Craft Group, Library	94
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Sat	11	Men's Shed AGM	93
Sat	11	Portmoak Hall Ceilidh	93
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Thu	16	Kinross Garden Group	93
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Sat	25	Kinross Parish Church Plant and Craft Sale with Coffee Morning	88
Sat	25	Milnathort Filmhouse: Mary Poppins Returns/Mary, Queen of Scots	95
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Sat	1	Charity ceilidh, Milnathort Town Hall	96
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