

Kinross Newsletter

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DEADLINE

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Contributions for inclusion in the Newsletter

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

Email: editor@kinrossnewsletter.org

(all emails will be acknowledged)

Post or hand in to:

Kinross Newsletter c/o Ross McConnell accountants 3 High Street Kinross KY13 8AW

Editor

Hannah Phillips......07591 228884 editor@kinrossnewsletter.org

Advertising Manager

Julia Fulton

10 Gowan Lea
Dollar, FK14 7FA......07936 151223

advertising@kinrossnewsletter.org

Treasurer

Ross McConnell 3 High Street

Kinross KY13 8AW......01577 865885

treasurer@kinrossnewsletter.org

Subscriptions

Ross McConnell (address as above)

subscriptions@kinrossnewsletter.org

Distribution

David Anderson07747 890375 distribution@kinrossnewsletter.org

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Our advertising terms and conditions are available to view at www.kinrossnewsletter.org.

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Rates shown are for new advertisers

	Eighth page	Quarter page	Half page	
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Colour (internal)	£19.00	£38.00	£76.00	

The above prices are per issue, based on a six-month run of advertising being placed. One-off adverts are charged at a higher rate. The Newsletter welcomes advertising enquiries. We do not have a waiting list for adverts.

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These adverts are text only. The price is the same per insertion whether the advert is placed for one issue or several issues.

Up to NINE lines (including blank lines) £8.60 per insertion TEN to FIFTEEN lines (including blank lines) £14.35 per insertion

As a guide, eight words is the maximum that can be fitted on a line. To place a Typed Advert, contact our Advertising Manager, Julia Fulton (see left for contact details). You will need to send her:

- Your name, address, telephone number and, optionally, email address.
- The wording of your advert.
- A note of the number of insertions required.
- Your remittance cheques payable to 'Kinross Newsletter Ltd'.

Send all this to the Advertising Manager by the normal monthly Newsletter deadline (see top of left-hand column for date).

The Newsletter reserves the right to vary the physical size of these adverts from issue to issue according to the space available.

If you wish to place a Typed Advert on a permanent or semi-permanent basis, contact the Advertising Manager to see if you can go on to our billing list.

For full information on advertising in the Newsletter, including terms and conditions, please go to our website www.kinrossnewsletter.org and click on 'Advertising'.

The Newsletter reserves the right to refuse or amend any advertisement or submission and accepts no liability for any omission or inaccuracy. No part of this publication may be reproduced or used in any form without the express written permission of the publishers.

Editor Hannah Phillips Assistant Editor Joyce Horsman Layout & Design Chris Colllins

Editor's Page

Cover photo: Tom Drysdale **Cover Design:** Lee Scammacca of Cree8.

Letter from The Editor

spring has spring, and brings its usual plethora of new starts and changes. Here at the *Kinross Newsletter*, we're sadly saying goodbye to Tony Dyson, who has worked on the *Newsletter* layout and the website for more years than he wants to remember. Taking a well-deserved retirement from his role, Tony has been an essential member of the team and has witnessed all the changes that have taken place over the years, seeing the *Newsletter* through some interesting times.

He has always managed to remain cheerful, taking whatever nit-picking task was thrown at him with good grace, and he will be much missed by all of us here at Newsletter Towers. I will miss his patience and dedication, not to mention his remarkable ability to find all the mistakes that I missed!

Welcome to Chris Collins, who takes over the demanding role of layout and design on the team.

What a month! How good to see people power triumph at Pitdownies where residents were able to show that by acting together, they could be a force to be reckoned with. There is lots on in

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

Kinross in March for you to enjoy whatever the weather brings, and let's hope it's not more rain.

Don't miss Learn to Play Day on Sunday 29 March at Loch Leven Music Tuition, a great opportunity to try playing a new musical instrument.

I hope you enjoy the new puzzles page at the back of the *Newsletter* — as always, send us your comments. letters and photos: we're always pleased to hear from our readers!

Hannah Phillips, Editor

DON'T FORGET!

The clocks go forward on

March 31



The Newsletter on Facebook

We use our Facebook page to announce:



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

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

www.facebook.com/kinrossnewsletter

About the Kinross Newsletter

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

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

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

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.

Thanks



GWEN would like to say a very big thank you to those who supported her at the recent Afternoon Tea in aid of Parkinsons (26 January in Millbridge Hall). The sum raised was £580.90. This was a great achievement and she is extremely grateful for the fellowship and support she received.

THE ORGANISERS OF CAROLS AT THE CROSS (IRENE, EILEEN AND ROSEMARY) would like to thank the following for their contribution and support:

- Milnathort and Orwell Community Council, in particular, Sean Coleburn and his team for putting up the Christmas tree which came from the Kilted Christmas Tree and was donated by Websters Group.
- Brenda Frier and the Loch Leven Voices for leading the carols on the evening.
- Andrew Scott of Heaven Scent and his team for opening the shop and providing tea and coffee and shortbread and also serving the mince pies (donated by Sainsbury's) and heating and serving the non-alcoholic mulled punch.
- Members of Milnathort in Bloom, Orwell and Portmoak Parish Church and Milnathort Town Hall and, of course, all who came along on the evening.

Carols at the Cross was held on Wednesday 18 December at Milnathort Town Hall and was once again a well-attended and successful evening, even if the rain meant we had to take shelter inside the hall.

Letters

I am writing on behalf of the drama group Lochleven Players. Sadly we recently decided after not being active since our last production in 2006 to dispose of our funds and close our bank account in accordance with our constitution. To this end we have donated the funds to sixteen local organisations. Should anyone require further information please contact me at the following address.

Linda Freeman (Hon. Treasurer) Lochleven Players, c/o 64 The Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8AU.

NOTICE FOR LONG-TERM ADVERTISERS

Please check your email inbox for our Review Letter regarding your advert for the period April to September 2020, and note that we've been able to hold prices at the same rate again.

If you don't receive an email please get in touch with Julia, our Advertising Manager, at advertising@kinrossnewsletter.org

Congratulations

ANDY AND LIZ WHATMORE are delighted to announce the arrival of Megan Alice, their third granddaughter, on 17 January 2020, weighing in at 7lb 8oz. Parents Katie and Jonny Bacon are really pleased, and big sisters Chloe and Rosa are chuffed to bits. All happily settled in at home, with big sisters even helping with nappy changing!

IAIN AND MO MACPHERSON are thrilled to announce the birth of their first granddaughter, Callie Jane, to Calum and Emma, on 26 January 2020. Many thanks to medical staff at the CLU, Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy, and to family and friends for their best wishes, gifts and cards.

Congratulations to **HEART AND SOUL** who have been nominated for Best Clinic/Practice and Best Therapist in the Holistic Scotland Magazine Wellbeing Awards 2020. The award ceremony takes place in April. Susan Wilken, beauty therapist was nominated, and Lindy Paterson (who teaches yoga) has been nominated for an Inspiration Award.

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News

Desperate Fight To Keep Kinross Banking

KINROSS HAS LOST a succession of banks in the past few years. The announcement that the Bank of Scotland, the last bank remaining in Kinross, is set to close in August has come as a shock and a disappointment to many. Lloyds Banking Group intend to close the Bank of Scotland branches in both Auchterarder and Kinross.

The TSB in Kinross is also scheduled to close in May, meaning a total departure of High Street banking from the town. The loss of all four banks from Kinross High Street means that Kinross-shire will have no banking facility of any sort.

While some banking services are still available at the local post office branches in Kinross and Milnathort, residents are dismayed and angry that with an increasing population, they may have to travel to more distant branches to access some of their banking needs. For local businesses who use their local branches to bank their daily takings, this could be a severe inconvenience.

Roseanna Cunningham, MSP said she would be writing to the Bank of Scotland 'to urge them to change their minds and, at the very least, whether arrangements can be made to leave the ATMs in place.'

John Nicolson, Member of Parliament for Ochil and South Perthshire, has arranged an urgent meeting with Group Public Affairs Director of the Bank of Scotland.

He said, 'I could not be more opposed to the decision of the Bank of Scotland to close these vital banking services in Kinross and Auchterarder. I know first-hand from family, friends, and constituents who have spoken to me in the past few weeks just how important these branches are in their day-to-day lives. Not everyone has access to online banking. And older custom-



The Bank of Scotland, Kinross Branch

ers and those with mobility challenges can't always travel the extra distance to another branch. For many people, going into a branch is their only way of being able to manage their finances.'

Mr Nicolson met with LINK, the UK's largest cash machine network, to discuss the importance of constituents maintaining access to cash withdrawals, especially those in rural communities. 'Everybody needs to be able to ac-

cess cash from time to time' he added. 'For people who have mobility issues or don't drive, accessible banks and cash machines are vital. People should also not need to pay to withdraw their own money.'

According to research released by consumer body Which?, a rise of bank branch and ATM closures has seen the amount paid by consumers to withdraw cash jump by £29m to £104m last year.

To complain about the loss of banking services in Kinross, write to the Managing Director of the Bank of Scotland at this address:

TARA FOLEY,
MANAGING DIRECTOR,
BANK OF SCOTLAND,
PO BOX 23581,
EDINBURGH EH1 1WH

For the full text of the letter sent by Cllr Willie Robertson, see p15

Grass Cutting, Rotovating, Hedge Trimming, Tree Pruning, Turfing, Slab Laying & Fencingwork undertaken

I. Robertson, Station Road, Crook of Devon Telephone: Fossoway 01577 840526 Need to check something in an old Newsletter?

Consult our electronic archive at **www.kinrossnewsletter.org**

Issues available: September 2006 to present

Learn To Play comes back to Kinross

Do you want to learn to play a musical instrument?

Learn to Play Day events offer the general public the chance to have a free 'taster' lesson on a musical instrument. Whether you have never played, or whether you used to play, Learn to Play Day is for you.

Learn to Play is coming to Kinross!

The ninth annual Learn to Play Day is happening again in Kinross at Loch Leven Music Tuition on Sunday 29 March 2020.

The basic premise of Learn to Play Day is to offer free, short taster lessons to inspire new and lapsed musicians.

Loch Leven Music Tuition will be offering free taster lessons on the electric and acoustic guitar, ukulele, bass guitar and the drums. Aside from your free taster lesson, Loch Leven Music Tuition's Sam will answer any musical questions you may have.

The event is suitable for



all ages, both kids and adults!

To take part on Learn to Play day or or to find out more about it you can email Sam at lochlevenmt@gmail.com.

More information is also available at the website *lochlevenmusictuition.com*. Please note that spaces for this event are limited and tend go fast, so booking is essential!

No holt to the Otters success' - they otter win again!

FRESH FROM THEIR WIN as the Club of the Year at the Scottish Swimming Awards last year, Kinross Otters once again have their sights set on success. Every year Live Active Leisure host the annual Perth and Kinross Sports Personality of the Year Awards ceremony where we celebrate the success of local athletes, teams, coaches and volunteers. The Perth and Kinross Sports Awards announced their nominees vesterday and Kinross Otters are in the running for Club of the Year, along with their friendly rivals, Perth City Swim Club. Their former swimmer, master's competitor and now integral part of the volunteer coaching team,

Euan Simpson is also nominated in the Young Coach of the Year category.

Head Coach Fiona Dodds said 'We are so thrilled to be part of this shortlist. We know just how much commitment it takes to run a successful club and we are honoured to be in such company. Whatever happens, we'll be celebrating this as a success for us, our swimmers and our volunteers.'

Kinross Otters Chair, Nigel Martin, was also delighted to hear the club had been nominated. 'Kinross Otters is a strong club with a real vision of what they want to achieve and that being recognised by the PKC Sports Awards body



is wonderful. Euan is a great example of what belonging to a club like ours can bring, not only to the individual but to the whole community. He has been with us for many years and his commitment to Kinross Otters is a testament as to how sports club membership can be such a

force for positivity in a young person. It can bring them a lifelong love of sport and offer them opportunities for personal development. We're very proud of him and everyone in the club for this nomination.'

The awards ceremony takes place on 18 March.

GOT A STORY?

If there's something you think people should know, then email us in strictest confidence: editor@kinrossnewsletter.org

People Power Prevails As Pitdownies Plans Rejected



Kevin Heneghan (back row, third from left) pictured with other protesters in Wester Loan. (pic: Ted Milton).

Developers intend to appeal...

OPPONENTS OF PLANS to build 67 houses at the Pitdownies in Milnathort are celebrating a victory of sorts after the plans were rejected by Perth and Kinross Council.

A deputation from the Pitdownies Action Group attended the meeting of the council's planning and development committee on February 12 to voice their objections to the proposed development.

The application, by Springfield Properties, was unanimously rejected by councillors — but only on the grounds of over-development and the lack of a biodiversity report on the marshland within the site.

Now Springfield has announced its intention to appeal and the group is preparing to do battle again.

Kevin Heneghan, who spoke on behalf of the protesters, said: 'None of our concerns were addressed within the planning officers' report, although we were heartened that at least some of the councillors appeared to take them on board.

'The main issues for us are the lack of suitable access; the strain on health and education services and the impact on the loch due to the pressure put on Milnathort Waste Water Plant.'

Meanwhile Councillor Willie Robertson has written to Peter Marshall, PKC's head of forward planning, expressing the community's dismay at the pace of development in the area. He asked why the developments were not being phased to allow infrastructure to be put in place to cope.

More than 160 objections to the Pitdownies application were received,

mainly on the grounds of access. A further 77 houses are already under construction at Pace Hill, at the top of North Street, and, should the Pitdownies go ahead, it's estimated that around 300 extra cars will have to use Wester Loan – already a notorious bottleneck.

'It's disappointing that this important issue wasn't taken into account by the planners,' said Mr Heneghan.

'While we are pleased that the application was refused, we are by no means complacent.'

...while Persimmon want even more!

The Local Development Plan allocation for housing at Lathro Park could be smashed out of the park if Persimmon's new application goes through.

Persimmon's initial application to build 195 houses in Phase 2 of Lathro Farm did not get as far as the planning committee. Currently they have permission for 113 hous-

es, and have now applied to build 56 more than they have permission for.

Persimmon claim their intent to build more smaller homes rather than fewer larger ones is in line with market demand.

This could take the total number of houses at Lathro Farm to 360 – 100 more than the Local Development Plan allocation.

There has been much

local opposion to the development. The Kinross Civic Trust have been highly critical of the application on the grounds of insufficient infrastructure and pressure on local services.

Anyone wishing to comment on the revised plan now only has until Wednesday 4 March to do so. See the article by the Civic Trust on p67 for full details.

News



HOW DOES THE SUN CLOCK WORK?

- In the centre are months of the year. Stand on the current month.
- Look to the two outer rings.
 Both have numbers, but the second ring is to take account of British Summer Time.
- Your shadow acts as the large hand of a clock and shows you the time.



£40k grant to help bring Wallace Park into the sun

THE FRIENDS OF Wallace Park in Glenfarg are delighted that, with the latest grant of £40K from EB Scotland Ltd, they are around halfway towards fulfilling their dreams for the local park.

This all began when the residents of Glenfarg were asked what was their priority for improvement in Glenfarg – and the response was 'develop Wallace Park'. Although well used by dog walkers and tennis players, the children's play area was dilapidated and the park lacked any other facilities. It didn't even have a path around it!

A local group was formed and the Friends began working with PKC and the community to bring about a transformation. Now the council has renovated the play area and supported the group in working with the community to bring

about change. Volunteer Days have seen neglected areas cleared, the Sun Clock brought back to its original glory, the kids making bug houses, and on 28 March there will be a mass tree planting of over 200 trees supplied by the Woodland Trust.

But there are bigger plans in place – for an extension to the existing path, three fitness stations, a zip wire and basketball area, picnic benches, a wetland area and other planting to encourage biodiversity. The main aim of the group is



The tranquil view from Wallace Park, Glenfarg

to encourage the community to get outdoors, explore the environment and benefit from an improvement in health and wellbeing. But of course, they will also welcome visitors from elsewhere to come and enjoy the new facilities in their local park.

All they have to do now is raise the other half of the necessary funds! They hope that some work can begin in the early summer, coordinated for them by TRACKS (The Rural Access Committee of Kinross-shire), with other features being

added as the funding allows. They are grateful for support from PKC Landscape Architects and Park Rangers, Binn Group, Glenfarg In Bloom, and for funding though the Landfill Communities Fund, Community Investment Fund and the Lochelbank Windfarm Community Benefit Fund.

To find out more about their work, email fowp@glenfarg.org, or visit www.glenfarg.org/Clubs/fowp.shtm.

Volunteers working hard on the Sun Clock at Wallace Park. See opposite page for details on all the proposed changes to be made at Wallace Park - and for how the sun clock works!.



Are you entitled to Pension Credit?

ROSEANNA CUNNINGHAM MSP is encouraging her constituents to ensure that they are receiving their full entitlement of Pension Credits. Many older people don't believe they are eligible for the payment, and have therefore not applied to receive it.

Over half of those who get Pension Credit own their own home or have savings, so its's worth making sure that you aren't entitled to Pension Credit if that applies to you. The average payment for Pension Credit is over £58 per week, a total of more than £3000 every year.

Roseanne Cunningham said, 'Having a claim approved for Pension Credit

can open doors to other benefits like help with rent and Council Tax as well as qualification for Cold Weather Payments.

Even if you are not entitled to a State Pension, you might still get Pension Credit and even if you have applied unsuccessfully in the past, changes in personal circumstances, income or capital, may mean that you now qualify.'

To find out if you are entitled to claim Pension Credit, you can use the online calculator or, if you prefer, you can speak to a benefits advisor (contact your local Citizens Advice bureau or the charity Age Scotland to get help with this)

Devon Angling Association

DUE TO UNFORESEEN circumstances permits for the River Devon will not be available from the usual outlet in Kinross this season.

The nearest available outlets are Crook of Devon Inn, Mona's of Muckhart and Deals on Reels in Cowdenbeath.

We hope that our members will not be greatly inconvenienced by this change. Permits for 2020 should be available from early March.

The DAA website is www.devonanglingassociation.org.uk

Loch Leven's Larder remember Jerry with their inaugural Customer Service Awards

LOCH LEVEN'S LARDER have held their first Jerry Mallet Customer Service Awards, celebrating employees who strive to provide a high standard of service across the company's foodhall, deli, gift shop and cafes.

The awards were created in memory of former employee Jerry Mallet, known as 'Jerry-In-The-Deli', who was always keen to share his extensive knowledge of all things food and drink, and is still very much missed by Larder staff and customers. Following his passing in 2019, his family and Emma Niven, owner of Loch Leven's Larder, decided that establishing the awards in his name would be a fitting tribute to a man who was so passionate about providing excellent customer service.

Emma Niven said 'Jerry's witty banter and food knowledge made him a wonderful deli expert, always keen to share recipes and tips with customers. He was constantly passing on this knowledge with the team and helping them develop their skills, so creating the annual Jerry Mallet Customer Service Awards seems like the perfect way to remember him.'

Staff throughout the business were invited to nominate the team members who they felt were working hard to cre-



Winner Julie Marsh and nominees, with Emma Niven



Nominees for the Young Persons award pictured with Emma

ate a special experience for customers. The difficult task of deciding which two employees should receive an award and a cheque for £250 fell to Emma Niven and James Watt, business mentor.

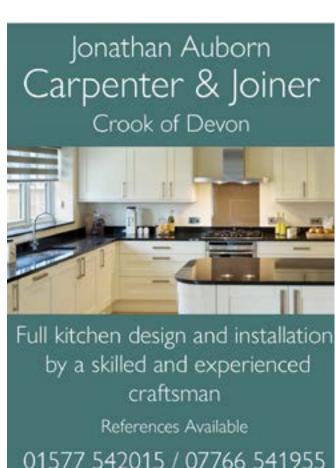
Emma said 'The wonderful list of nominees made it an incredibly hard choice but the length of time we spent coming to a decision is a testament to our dedicated team.'

Shop and deli assistant Julie Marsh and cafe assistant Thomas Pool were the first awardees, with judges noting that they had provided a consistently high standard of service which was regularly commented upon by customers.



Winner Thomas Pool

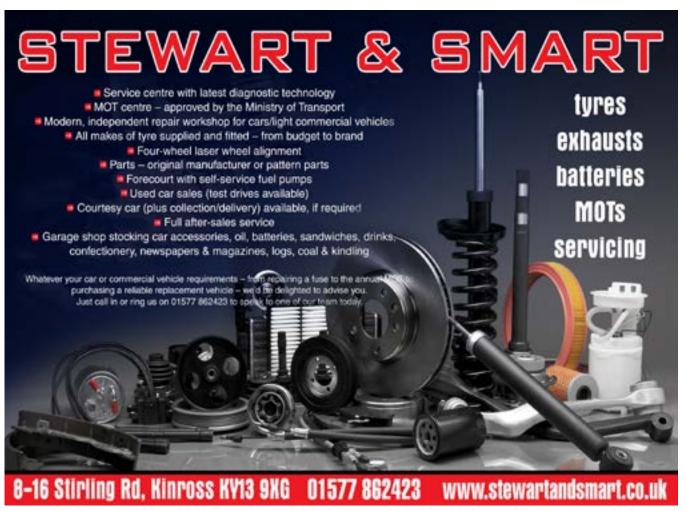




www.jonathanAuborn.co.uk









New viewing screen for Loch Leven NNR

BIRD WATCHERS ARE twitching with excitement at the news that Loch Leven NNR is to get a new viewing facility to replace the old Kirkgate hide.

Within the 2016-2025 Loch Leven NNR management plan Scottish Natural Heritage reviewed the potential for further viewing facilities around the reserve. They wanted these to fit in with the style of the existing award-winning hide near the Todd & Duncan Mill and the viewpoint at Brackley. SNH went to ICOSIS architects who were the designers of these structures and they came up with a great design for a viewing screen which follows the popular design theme of those earlier structures, and applied to PKC for planning permission (19/02053/FLL) for three potential locations.

Frequent visitors will remember that the hide Mary's Gate - was twice destroyed by ice in the win- Leven in 2009. All the hide's support posts had been snapped clean in two. ters of 2009 & 2010. Unfortunately there were never any practicable options to allow SNH to reinstate a hide in that precise location.

Although this initially seemed like a project which might go no further, SNH were successful in securing last-minute funding for building a new screen. But having funds for only one meant quickly deciding which location to go for first. They chose the old Kirkgate Hide which was so popular, and are looking to build others if money becomes available.

The reserve team had always wanted to replace that hide, but getting an alternative viewing opportunity near to the old hide location (which would be safe from the vagaries of the water and ice while still allowing good views) proved difficult. However, discussions with Kinross Estate Company has seen a location agreed which provides good views of the loch and part of the reed bed, allowing disturbance-free viewing of the many species which make their home there.

Contractors will be working on this project during March. While the Heritage Trail will remain open, there may be some temporary disruption as materials are moved in and out of the site. It is hoped that everyone will enjoy the new viewing facility and SNH will be interested to hear your feedback on the design and locations for future viewing opportunities around the reserve. Please follow the progress of the build and share your thoughts at: www.facebook.com/lochlevenNNR/





once located midway between the Kirkgate Park and The Kirkgate hide demonstrating the raw power of shifting ice packs on Loch

There's no biz like GrowBiz!

Thinking of starting your own business? GrowBiz provides support and advice to anyone thinking about starting or growing a small enterprise or business and who lives in a rural area.

The GrowBiz team works with businesses of all sizes and in all sectors, offering a professional and friendly service. They aim to increase people's capacity to be innovative and enterprising and to develop strong business networks. Their Making Rural Business Digital project provides training and advice on how to improve your digital skills.

GrowBiz holds free events throughout Perthshire that help clients feel more confident using technology. They are also working in partnership with a number of agencies to create enterprise hotspots and a smart village approach to enterprise in rural Perthshire.

For further information on any of their services, or to book a space at an event, please see the website at www. growbiz.co.uk. All our services are free and confidential.





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MARCH TIMETABLE



CROOK VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK SATURDAY 7th - 5pm fill 8pm

GLENFARG VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK SATURDAY 14th - 5pm till 8pm

MILNATHORT AT THISTLE HOTEL THURSDAY 19th- 5pm till 8pm

PORTMOAK CHURCH CAR PARK SATURDAY 21st - 5pm till 8pm

KINROSS AT OCHIL VIEW SATURDAY 28th - 5pm till 8pm







ALSO AVAILABLE FOR WEDDINGS / PARTIES / EVENTS PLEASE CONTACT US FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

e:info@pizzavia.co.uk t:07591 104652







Councillor Willie Robertson

Bank of Scotland closure: I, like many other Kinross-shire residents, am dismayed by the decision of the Bank of Scotland to close their Kinross branch. With the closure of the town's other banks many residents, businesses and local organisations had moved their accounts to the Bank of Scotland.



I have written to the Managing Director of the bank (see below) and asked for this decision to be reconsidered. I would urge everyone who shares my concerns to also write.

Tara Foley,

Managing Director, Bank of Scotland, PO Box 23581, Edinburgh EH1 1WH

Dear Ms. Foley,

Proposed Closure of the Bank of Scotland Kinross Branch

The news that the Bank of Scotland are planning to close their Kinross branch has been met with dismay by Kinross-shire residents, businesses and organisations. It seems especially galling given your current advertising campaign fronted by Susan Calman – By Your Side, which emphasises how the Bank of Scotland works to help and support communities.

If the closure goes ahead Kinross-shire will be the only county in Scotland without a bank. The Bank of Scotland will be the last bank to remain in Kinross when you close your doors for the last time. Many local residents, businesses and organisations have moved their accounts to your bank as your competitor banks have closed. The population of Kinross-shire is growing rapidly and we attract thousands of visitors each year to visit Loch Leven, its famous castle and the Loch Leven Heritage Trail which is a 13 mile all ability path which circles Loch Leven.

I fully understand if you need to downsize your branch in Kinross. This could easily be done if you were to acquire smaller premises or the building which is occupied by the soon to close Trustee Savings Bank. This would allow you to sell off your current bank premises.

I would respectfully ask that you reconsider your decision to turn your back on Kinross. A change of mind would prove to all your existing and future customers in Kinross-shire that the Bank of Scotland is a listening bank and one which takes its responsibility to the communities it serves very seriously.

I would be delighted to welcome you to Kinross to see for yourself what a vibrant, successful community we are.

Yours sincerely.

Willie Robertson, Kinross-shire Councillor, Perth & Kinross Council

Pitdownies: The planning application from Springfield Homes for the Pitdownies site at Milnathort was refused at the Council's planning committee on the 12 February on the grounds of over-development. The committee was addressed by the Pitdownies Action Group who not only asked the committee to refuse the application but also for the concerns of local residents about the traffic impact on Westerloan, and health and education provision to be taken into consideration. They asked for a new access road to the Pitdownies site, off Stirling Road, to be looked at, as this would alleviate many of the transport/congestion issues they fear. It would also prevent the likely impact the development will have on the quality of life of residents in Wester Loan, Manse Road and Curlers Crescent. I sat on the committee that day and backed this request. Planners said that this was not a reasonable request.

I also asked if a halt could be made to the flood of large applications coming forward for Kinross and Milnathort which is putting great pressure on all our services, especially education and health. There is still no guarantee that the large increase in housing is not having a serious effect on the water quality of Loch Leven. At the rate we are going all the large housing sites within the local development plan are likely to be completed

halfway through the life of the plan. Council planners said at the meeting that it is very difficult to get developers to phase house building. I think this is what planning should be about! I intend to write to the head of forward planning in the Council to see what can be done to 'put the brakes' on and allow our services to catch up with the house building already underway.

Stagecoach: Are you a user of Stagecoach buses and do you have a smart phone? If so there is a really good Stagecoach app which you can download which helps you find Stagecoach bus services throughout Scotland and also gives you real time information on where the bus you are waiting for is. I have written to Citylink and asked when they will introduce a similar app. They hope to have one available later this year. There is nothing worse than standing at a bus stop not knowing when and if your bus will turn up! Thanks to the Stagecoach app this is no longer the case with their services.

Willie Robertson

Councillor Richard Watters

Bank of Scotland closure: The Bank of Scotland has announced that it is closing its branch in Kinross-shire. This is very disturbing news, as it means that Kinross-shire will now be the only county in Scotland without any bank presence on its high street.



The closure of the branch will create problems for several groups of people, forcing them to travel outside Kinross-shire to access a bank. For instance:

- Business Customers will be forced to pay for alternative banking services or to travel to branches in Fife or Perth
- Individuals with mobility issues, who have problems using cash machines will have problems accessing cash, which they can now get from the branch
- The elderly or people on low incomes may not be comfortable using a computer or may simply not have access to internet banking

There is still a clear need for a high street bank in Kinross. This is backed up by Which, the consumer group, who state, 'The loss of yet more branches to an already devastated network will hit communities across the UK hard, as there is still a clear demand for access to traditional banking services and cash'.

This could have been avoided. Last year, the Scottish Affairs Committee at Westminster produced a number of recommendations to try and mobilise the government into heading off the situation we are now in, including:

- The need for public consultations before bank closures.
- Banks to look at creating 'Banking Hubs' where all high street branches can be represented within one 'local branch'.
- A commitment from banks that they will not close the last bank in town.

The Scottish Affairs Committee at Westminster also recommended that if banks failed to protect front line banking, then 'the Government should consider further measures, including legislation, to ensure communities still have access to vital banking services'.

While limited banking services will be available through the local Post Office and the occasional visit of mobile banking, the exact details still need to be confirmed. The failure of banks to work in the interest of our community means that the biggest impact will fall on the most vulnerable in our community and on the small businesses which are the lifeblood of the county.

Councillor Richard Watters

Councillor Mike Barnacle

BELOW IS AN EMAIL I sent to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on landscape guidance. I had the support for my request for a review from Cleish and Fossoway Community Councils, Friends of the Ochil's, Kinross-shire Civic Trust and



the Council of Rural Scotland. Unfortunately, my request for a review was deemed not a competent amendment by the Council's Legal Officer, something which I do have an issue with!

In the end, at the Committee on 29 January, following a recess a revised wording was suggested for the amendment so that the future work programme could look at this question again but because of concerns regarding slippage in that I lost the vote by one. However, subsequent to that decision, I have met with the Leader of the Council's Administration, who has asked Forward Planning to bring forward some options to address the communities' concerns on landscape designation and I await the outcome of that discussion.

Proposed LDP2 Supplementary Guidance on Landscape

Dear Colleagues

I am substituting for Councillor Stewart at the above. I have an urgent need to address the above paper in respect of Landscape Appendix 11, in particular para 2-24 on page 159 relating to the Devon Gorge & Cleish Hills.

I contest the Reports' analysis and enclose my letter of 12/9/19 to Forward Planning and enclosures for your consideration. I would particularly refer to that letter and the enclosures re Spring 2014, my letter of 19/1/15, representations to the E&I committee of 23/03/15, my letter of 31/8/17 on Renewable Energy Guidance, my email of 21/2/18 to Peter Marshall, etc, outlining the long community campaign on this matter.

In summary the Report does not acknowledge the importance given to the Cleish Hills and Devon Gorge and won as AGLV's in a previous local plan. The lack of recognising cross-border designations for both the Devon Gorge and Cleish Hills is contradicted in the Report, the Devon Gorge is not small scale if it is considered as part of the Ochil Hills LLA from which its river flows; it would be a simple matter to extend the Ochils LLA to include it.

The Report states that no evidence has been given to support the assertion that LUC's methodology was flawed. This is an incorrect statement, in particular it is subjective (see my letter of 19/1/15 aforementioned)! I fail to see why the conclusion of my letter of 12/9/19 has not been afforded due cognizance and thereby suggest an amendment which rejects Para 2-24 on Page 159 of the Report and instructs Forward Planning to carry out an in-house review of the assessment of the Devon Gorge & Cleish Hills with a view to designation as Local Landscape Areas, with special qualities previously recognised; I hope I have a seconder to this amendment.

Kind regards,

Councillor Mike Barnacle

Bank Closures

Imminent further bank closures in Kinross: You will no doubt be aware that there are plans announced to close the Bank of Scotland and TSB Branches in Kinross this year, something I discovered from a member of the public at the last meeting of Fossoway Community Council.

Councillor Watters and myself are planning a joint letter to parliamentarians and the Financial Conduct Authority regarding the approach of Banks in their disregard of the needs of local business and communities when announcing closures.

The net result of losing four banks from Kinross High Street in recent times, plus banking facilities in Milnathort, means that Kinross-shire is a county with no banking facility of any kind, other than the reduced service at the Post Office. I will write to give my full support to a proposal that there should be a Government Policy that seeks to insure that every large burgh town in the UK should have at least one banking facility retained. This should be the minimum requirement of the banking sector in response to the fact that the UK Government rescued them from financial implosion at the time of the last financial crisis, but they have shown no gratitude for that and continue to declare the mantra that 'nobody uses banks any more' when every time I go into a bank there is a queue! Any reader of the Newsletter that shares this view should be encouraged to write to their MP and or MSP as we are proposing.

Email to Councillor Roz McCall, Convenor of Planning Policy, Practise and Improvement MOWG.

Subject: Items for Future Discussion

Dear Roz,

At our group meeting on 10th instant, I intimated that there were a number of planning issues I had previously raised that I feel have not yet been addressed and so I summarise these below, in no particular order of importance, viz:

- 1. The availability of officers at Development Management Committees when special knowledge may be required for certain planning applications to answer members questions; I would mention expertise in biodiversity, community greenspace (especially re public access issues note that our Outdoor Access Forum have requested earlier consultation re path problems), conservation, flooding, tree loss and water quality.
- 2. A review of Policy RD5b (Gypsy Traveller Sites) given my experience of the Crook Moss Site, where currently only one traveller family is prepared to live due to a serious crime issue and drainage connections/adequate landscaping remain an issue since 2012, with 2 ongoing enforcement issues. Policy EP7 and the protocol for applications within the Lochleven catchment should be reviewed.
- 3. Removal of extant documents from planning files where $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$ site is still live.
- 4. Flexibility on the 20-metre rule for neighbour notification in rural areas.
- 5. Are devolved area committees a more likely outcome of local community planning partnerships. Kinross-shire Forum of Community Councils and elected members want a 'pilot' area committee.
- 6. A review of our propensity in PKC to zone prime agricultural land for housing, contrary to national planning policy, when we are promoting a Food Growing Strategy and have a finite area of such land and a growing population.
- 7. An examination of the need for phasing of large scale housing development, particularly where mentioned in development plans, to counter the effect of cumulative developments where pressure on community services are manifest (i.e. Kinross-shire).
- 8. Finally, I enclose the letter (indicating our dissent to approval of LDP2) signed by five councillors (three from Kinrossshire) to Kevin Stewart MSP, Minister for Planning regarding the current Local Plan System following Reporters examination and his disappointing replies for consideration. Is there any way that we can change things for the better?

I look forward to your response before our next Group Meeting on the 27 April 2020.

Kind regards,

Councillor Michael Barnacle

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they'd need to have a word with themselves.

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GrowBiz is funded by Perth & Kinross Council, Scottish Enterprise and The Scottish Government, and the Making Rural Business Digital project is supported by the Rural Perth and Kinross LEADER Programme 2014-2020: The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe investing in rural areas. For more on LEADER go to www.pkleader.org

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Councillor Callum Purves

Pitdownies Development

Encouragingly the proposed Pitdownies development for 67 new houses in Milnathort was refused. This was the first test of our new policy that assigns a range of house numbers to a development site rather



than an 'indicative' number. Previously, the indicative numbers assigned to sites had been greatly exceeded. Lathro Meadows, the former high school site and Pace Hill are key examples of this.

The aim of the range was to provide more certainty to the community and to ensure that local infrastructure could cope with any development. Now the range can only be exceeded when it can be demonstrated that there is good reason to do so. Unfortunately, the Scottish Government watered our policy down by stopping the upper bound of the range being an absolute maximum.

The real test will come when the developers of the Pitdownies site appeal the Council's refusal, which they have indicated they intend to do. Worryingly, the specific reasons for refusal were poor residential amenity as a result of the design, and failure to do the necessary environmental surveys.

Important community concerns such as access onto Wester Loan and the impact on schools and the GP surgery were not deemed appropriate grounds for refusal. In fact, one councillor insensitively described these concerns as 'red herrings'. It is disappointing that constructive suggestions such as building an access onto Stirling Road to alleviate some potential problems on Wester Loan were dismissed.

There is still much to be done to address concerns of local communities in the planning process. The Scottish Conservatives managed to amend the most recent Planning Bill to include provisions for mediation between communities and developers, allowing local residents to influence the size and scale of development and have a say on any possible community benefits they might bring. I hope such measures might be put to good use in Kinross-shire.

Bridge of Earn GP Practice

The closure of the GP practice at Bridge of Earn continues to have an impact on local residents. Coupled with the scale of local development, the pressure on Loch Leven Health Centre continues to increase.

Last September, the Perth & Kinross Integration Joint Board mandated officers to try to re-establish a GP surgery in Bridge of Earn to alleviate pressure elsewhere. As a first step, the old community nurse's house has been converted into a community health services hub, which will deliver services that do not require a GP, such as wound dressing, blood pressure monitoring and mental health support.

This should redirect some of the patients who were having to come to Kinross following the closure. We anticipate a further update on progress in April.

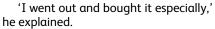
Cleish Primary School

Council officials have been undertaking a feasibility study into the possible options for the future of Cleish Primary School with a particular focus on the need to replace the portacabins that are currently situated in the playground. This process has taken longer than many would have liked, but I have been advised that this work should be completed in time to be presented to the council's Lifelong Learning Committee in May.

Councillor Callum Purves

John Nicolson, MP

I've just been in, with other new MPs, to see Mr Speaker in his very grand house. We sat round a long Gothic table with the Thames framed by high, arched windows. He served shortbread.





The new Speaker clearly loves his job. He was bursting with energy. The Speaker's Secretary, dressed in black kneebreeches, silk stockings, a frock coat, and a cravat sat by his side. The Speaker's Secretary's secretary didn't seem to have been invited. We talked about modernising Parliament.

I've now been an MP for eight weeks. Westminster has yet to issue my staff e-mail addresses. This matters because we have a mountain of case work. And with no permanent pass of his own, I've had to escort my researcher Niall around. If he strays too far, a Commons doorman will very politely return him to my close supervision. I don't think he's been treated quite like this since primary school.

The Tory benches are very animated. Lots of their new MPs clearly didn't expect to win and seem in a permanent state of astonishment. Almost all of them appear to be ferociously pro-Brexit. Many don't appear to care much whether it leads to Irish reunification, or Scottish independence. The English nationalists have triumphed over the Unionists and any price is a price worth paying for Brexit. Scotland has been dragged out of the EU against our will and I find it immensely sad.

I belong to a generation who've enjoyed all the benefits of membership—the right to live, love, learn and work across the greatest free trade area the world has ever known. And while we pool sovereignty in the EU, each country retains its independence.

I'm sometimes asked at Westminster why I want to leave the UK but stay in the EU. I explain that Denmark—a country similar in so many ways to Scotland—has, as an independent member of the EU, the right to its own foreign, defence, and macro-economic policy. It has a seat at the United Nations.

Scotland as a member of the UK has none of these rights. And although we were promised during our independence referendum that the UK would be a 'Union of equals', Boris Johnson bellows 'No!' across the Chamber whenever reasonable requests are made. No Dane would put up with it. No Scot should.

John Nicolson

About the Kinross Newsletter

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

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

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

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

Roseanna Cunningham, MSP

FROM NEXT MONTH, the Scottish Government takes on full responsibility for a whole slew of benefits to support people with disabilities from April 2020.



This year will see the introduction of the Child Disability Payment (CDP); Winter Heating Assistance (for those in receipt of the highest payment under CDP); early delivery later this year of the Scottish Child Payment for eligible children under six; and Disability Assistance for Working Age People.

The Scottish Government's disability benefits will replace the UK Government's Personal Independence Payment, Disability Living Allowance and Attendance Allowance.

The creation of a new social security system for Scotland has reached a new landmark with a £3.4billion allocation for benefit spend in the latest budget announcement, a development that will be of real benefit to those in Kinross-shire who most need help.

The Scottish Government has already introduced seven new benefits including Best Start Grant, which offers financial support to low-income families in the early years of a child's life and the Funeral Support Payment, the standard rate of which is being increased from £700 to £1000, from April.

In the next 18 months the pace of delivery will significantly increase. The Scottish Government will introduce the Scottish Child Payment by the end of the year, hailed as game changing in the fight against poverty by charities, and new disability payments, starting with the Child Disability Payment this summer.

As part of this budget, the Scottish Government has committed £73 million for Discretionary Housing Payments. This includes £60 million a year for continuing to mitigate the UK Government's bedroom tax, and an increase of £2 million so care-experienced young people receiving a qualifying benefit are further supported from April.

The Scottish Welfare Fund also increases by £3 million, from £38 million to £41 million for 2020/21.

We are building this new system from scratch — the most significant new public service to be created in Scotland since devolution. It is a huge undertaking but a massively important one.

By the end of this parliamentary term we will have introduced eleven benefits that will help over 800,000 people in the next year. And by 2024 we will deliver 16 benefits and reach 1.8 million children and adults, and pay out an estimated £4 billion.

We are creating a social security system with fairness, dignity and respect at its heart. A service that has been designed with the help of those that use it, to meet the needs of the people of Scotland now and in future.

What a contrast to the approach from those parts of the system still under the control of Westminster through the DWP, whose Universal Credit is causing financial uncertainty for many and driving some to absolute despair.

Roseanna Cunningham

Liz Smith, MSP

ONE ISSUE THAT is sure to result in lots of correspondence in my mail bag is the thorny subject of local bank branch closures.



Bank of Scotland has announced it will be closing the Kinross branch on

19 August and have said this is due to the 'changing ways customers' choose to bank with them, meaning the branch is being used less often.

The bank also announced its branches in Auchterader and Killin will also be closed, as part of a widespread plan to shut 56 of its local branches across the UK.

Kinross will be especially hard hit as the TSB branch in the town will close in May, meaning there will be no banks there at all.

Moves like this always cause great concern among local residents, particularly elderly people who more often than not don't use a computer and are therefore reliant on doing their banking at a local branch building.

Bank of Scotland have defended their decision by stating that customers can continue to bank locally (in Cowdenbeath) by visiting a mobile branch in Kinross or visit the nearby post office. Bank officials have claimed that the new mobile branch will provide a 'personal, face-to-face service' to local communities — giving customers access to everyday banking services such as making deposits, withdrawing cash and paying bills.

They have also stated that they will continue to 'make a significant investment' in their branches and are committed to maintaining the largest network in Scotland – a statement you really have to take with a pinch of salt.

Many local residents have contacted me about the decision to close the bank branch in Kinross and have expressed deep-seated concerns. However, I have been in touch with the Bank of Scotland and set up meetings for Kinross and Auchterarder.

Meanwhile, I was interested to read about the thoughts of a Kinross-shire GP who has said he fears for the future of health care in the area. In an article in a local newspaper, the doctor stated that a lack of medical facilities in the area, combined with over-development of housing in the area gave rise to his concerns.

I know that local residents' fears over health care provision in the area came to light during a recent planning meeting held by Perth and Kinross Council, when councillors rejected a proposal to build 67 new homes at a development in Milnathort.

A letter from the Kinross-shire GP was read out at this meeting. He highlighted his concerns for over-development by citing three housing plans and also underlining how he feels there is a 'scarcity' of GPs seeking posts across the UK. He pointed out that more than 50% of the GPs in Kinross are more than 50 years old and could reasonably be expected to retire in the next 10 years.

The GP also highlighted how increased patient demand in the area places a great strain on the administrative and reception staff working at local practices on a daily basis in Kinross-shire.

This is a very important matter to the local community and I will do whatever I can to support local people and local businesses at this troubling time.

Liz Smith

Police Box



Bank Transfer Fraud

Authorised Push Payment (APP).

This is where a victim is called by someone claiming to be from their bank or the police and convinces them to transfer monies to another third party account. The fraudster tends to claim that the victims own bank account has been compromised in some way and that to ensure the safety of their savings they must transfer their money to another account; either online or by going into a physical branch.

They may also use names of genuine bank employees or Police, which they have found from previous alerts about these types of frauds. The victim will always be sworn to secrecy as part of the 'ongoing investigation' and maybe told to come up with false reasons for transferring money if questioned by bank staff; or they've been told that the bank staff are in some way untrustworthy.

Almost £400 million has been lost to bank transfer fraud over the past 2 years which shows that the perpetrators of these crimes are professional and will come across as genuine, authoritative and convincing.

But let us be clear:

Nobody from your bank or the police will ever contact you and request that you transfer money from your account or reveal personal/ financial information over the phone.

If you receive such a call then politely hang up. If you feel a need to contact your bank then do this from another phone as the fraudsters can continue to hold your phone line so that when you think you are calling your bank you are in fact still speaking to them.

Alternatively contact the Police. You won't be wasting our time and I would much rather have my officers attend and potentially prevent a crime than see a victim suffer from these unscrupulous criminals.

Either way under no circumstances should you transfer any funds or provide people with personal or financial information over the phone.

Recent Incidents

Overnight on Monday 10 February a set of ladders were stolen from the roof of BT Openreach van parked at the rear of a property on the High St, Kinross. (CR/3898/20)

Between 9am on Monday 10 February and 2pm on Tuesday 11 February the Portmoak Church, Milnathort had slates and flashing stolen from its roof. (CR/4166/20)

Between 2pm on Monday 10 and Thursday 13 February a shed at Kinross bowling club was broken into a lawnmower

was stolen. (CR/4191/20)

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.

Updates

Following the theft of a trailer and excavator from a yard near Milnathort overnight on Monday 3 February, a 48-year-old male was arrested and will appear in court at a future date in relation to the crime. The trailer and excavator were recovered due to the machinery being fitted with a tracking device.

Police Scotland - local community

Telephone 101 for non-emergencies

Community officers for Kinross-shire:

PC Ben Clark and PC Matthew Ross.

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): Pl Katrina Thompson. PC Spalding is also on Police Scotland twitter and can be

PC Spalding is also on Police Scotland twitter and can be followed on twitter.com/policescotland or @Kinross

Ways of Following the Police:

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

Website: www.scotland.police.uk

Community Watch

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

Crime Stoppers - Telephone 0800 555 111

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

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Features

Scotland's Holy Water?

SCOTLANDWELL, AS ITS name suggests, is the home of an ancient – and, some would say, holy – well. The ornamental well takes its name from the 'healing waters' which bubble up through the sand at the foot of nearby Bishop's Hill. As long ago as AD84, Roman soldiers may have stopped on their journeys between Fife and Perthshire to rest and to sample the waters of this famous well.

The well is made of sandstone which was sourced from local quarries (at Greenhead of Arnot and Nivingston, near Cleish) and the canopy over the well was completed in 1858. The canopy was erected by local laird, Thomas Bruce of Arnot (1808-91). When completed, it was decorated with flowers and a special celebration was held, attended by all the residents of Scotlandwell.

The pure spring water from the well was once thought by many to have

properties would cure disease. It was a source of attraction for thousands of pilgrims, who believed the clear waters would cure them of their ailments. They flocked in great numbers to Scotlandwell to visit the hospice, which was originally founded by William Malvoisine, Bishop of St Andrews, and which was sited close to the springs. The David de Benham,

gifted the hospice to the Red Friars in 1250 who ran it until they were ejected in the mid-sixteenth century. King Robert the Bruce also allegedly visited the village in search of a cure for his lepro-

> sy in 1329, and held a parliament here. Scotlandwell was obviously of national significance in medieval times.

> No stranger to famous guests, the well was later visited by Mary, Queen of Scots. It became a place of pilgrimage in the Middle Ages and continued as such for several centuries thereafter. The well was one of several in the area, referred

to in old documents from c1245 as 'Fons Scocie' which translates as 'the well of Scotland'.

The Wash House, built in 1860, which local people called 'The Steamie' and where laundry was washed, was presumably once connected to the well's underground wa-

ter source, but sadly it has not been in use since the sixties. The Well and Wash House were originally designed by David Bryce, the architect who was responsible for Fettes College and the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh.

The whole area is now in a well-preserved state, thanks to Scotlandwell In Bloom. The group's aims are to achieve sustainable environmental improvements in the local area and it has undertaken various projects to improve standards. Volunteers helped to prepare the area and in 2009 funding was received to conserve and re-use the Wash House. After a successful bid for funding the building was restored in 2013.

Funding was awarded by Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), the Gannochy Trust, the Take a Pride in Perthshire Association, Rural Tayside LEADER, Perth and Kinross Rural Initiatives Fund, The Scottish Community Foundation through The Kinross-shire Fund, the Scott Davidson Trust, the Perth & Kinross Heritage Trust and the Pilgrim Trust.

To reach the site (which is signposted) go west from Kinross on the A911 (Leslie Road) and through Scotlandwell village. When you reach the end of the A911, cross over Main Street and walk along the short lane (Little Arnot); the well is on the left at the far end.

Read more about the project, and the history of the well and the wash house at: http://www.wellwashhouse.co.uk/



Scotlandwell wash house © Dave Fergusson - geograph.org.uk





bishop's successor, The Historic Well at Scotlandwell © G Laird - geograph.org.uk

Poet's Corner

WE'RE ALWAYS UP for a good rhyme here at Newsletter Towers. So when local wordsmith John Swankie sent this in, we knew you'd want to see it. John is raising money for the Doddie Weir Foundation. He has a new website and two books for sale. See his ad on page 73.

If you're an aspiring poet, send us your best work and let us share it with our readers. **email us at** *editor@kinrossnews-letter.org*



TO A HEDGEHOG

Ach wee man, ma spiky pal, what are you daein here? You shouldnae be in ma garden, at the cauldest time o year. You should be snuggled in yer nest and curled up in a ban, No wanderin roond ma patio wi a richt guid chance o snaw. I see you lookin up aw sad, at the bird food above yer heed, Is that whats brought ye oot? Dae Ye need a richt guid feed. It makes me awfy sad tae see, the frost nippin yer wee feet, I'll hae a look on Google, tae find oot what ye like tae eat. WORMS be goad!! and grubs, and other stuff I cannae dae, The grunds too hard wi frost, and that willnae shift till May. I'll just go and hiv a look in ma fridge, and see what I can find, Sausage and mash left frae ma tea! and some bits o bacon rind. I ken ye can hear me comin, cause ye've curled up in a spiky baw, Am just gonnae lay this plate doon, a mean ye nae herm at aw. Am watchin frae the windae noo, and he's sniffin at the plate, He's got stuck in tae the sausage and am feelin michty great! That's him noo I think he's done, and I guess he's had his fill, I hope he's liked Jocks café, and leaves a tip beside the till. Richt wee man, away hame noo and roll yersel up tight, I'll see ye later in the spring, and we'll enjoy some braw sunlight.

JOHN SWANKIE

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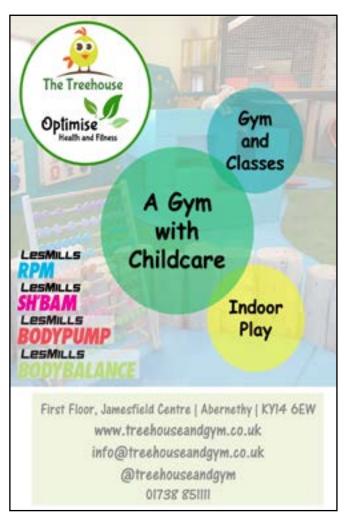


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Health & Wellbeing

News from the Health Centre

Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCov)

Coronavirus is a type of virus. Typical symptoms include fever, a cough that may progress to a severe pneumonia causing shortness of breath and breathing difficulties.

If you have these symptoms within 14 days of returning from areas affected by 2019-nCoV, or if you have had contact with a confirmed case of Coronavirus please do not come to the Health Centre. Phone us for advice from home on 01577 862112 or call NHS 24 (111) immediately.

The list of areas affected by 2019-nCov is being updated daily. To view the latest list of areas, as well as get further information on what to do next if you have developed any of the symptoms since arriving from an affected area, please visit NHS Inform website www.nhsinform.scot/coronavirus

Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month

7300 women a year are diagnosed with ovarian cancer in the UK, but most women are still unaware of the symptoms to look out for. Target Ovarian Cancer is a UK charity which works to improve early diagnosis. It also funds lifesaving research and provides support to women with ovarian



cancer. Their awareness campaign this month, which is supported by the Health Centre, is aimed at increasing knowledge amongst women of the signs and symptoms of ovarian cancer. Ovarian cancer cannot be detected by the smear test, so it is essential for women to know more about it so that they can raise any concerns as soon as possible with their GP or practice nurse. The symptoms of ovarian cancer are frequent (they usually happen more than 12 times per month) and persistent. They include: increased abdominal size/persistent bloating; difficulty eating/feeling full; pelvic or abdominal pain; needing to wee more urgently or more

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often. Other symptoms can include unexpected weight loss, change in bowel habits and extreme fatigue. If you have any of these symptoms more than 12 times a month and they are not normal for you please telephone Reception on 01577 862112 and make an appointment with your GP or one of our senior nurses. Further information is available on the Target Ovarian Cancer website: www.targetovariancancer.org.uk

PKAVS Carers Hub

PKAVS Carers Hub supports over 1000 unpaid carers in Perth & Kinross. They help people be individuals first, carers second.

Their services aim to improve the lives of carers through practical and emotional support, advocacy, training and information including:

- Information on support services for carers and how to access them, including key contacts
- Information and guidance on respite opportunities
- Financial advice i.e. Carers' Allowance, Self-Directed Support
- Advice on guardianship/power of attorney
- Information on Carers' Rights
- Referral to Carers' services to offer tailored support to meet your needs
- A calendar of events and training for Carers including support groups, conferences and much more

For further information visit www.pkavs.org.uk/Carers-Hub



Kinross-shire Health & Wellbeing Group

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 31st March 2020

2 - 4pm

at The Kinross Centre

Come along to have your say and to hear about health and wellbeing projects in Kinross-shire. Contact: Nicola Lindsay, Community Engagement Worker Email: nlindsay@pkc.gov.uk Tel: 01738 475973



Put Yourself Out To Posture!

Stand Up Straight!

How many of us actually heed that important advice?

Good posture is so important. It helps us with our balance. If you stand up straight, you centre your weight over your feet, which results in fewer injuries and greater gains when you are taking part in exercise. Having good balance can even improve your sporting abilities.

Many of us suffer the effects of our poor posture, which can be caused by a lack of regular exercise and long spells of time hunched over at desks. Poor posture can have unfortunate consequences for the body's muscles. As well as making you hunched, bad posture can limit your ability to move, reducing the effectiveness of the diaphragm.



Poor posture can contribute to tension headaches, due to increased muscle tension in the back of the neck.

Good awareness of your own body position is vital to having good posture. When busy working at a computer it's easy to fall into poor posture. Try posting a reminder on your computer to remind you to sit properly! If you can get your bones and joints in correct alignment, your muscles can be used as intended, resulting in less fatigue and more energy. Put simply, your muscles will not have to work so hard to do what they're supposed to do.





Bad Sitting

Many of us have developed poor sitting habits which cause muscle tension, leading to pain. If you have back pain, improving your posture may not address the root cause of your pain, but it could help to alleviate some of the tension. Correcting your posture may feel awkward at first, because you have become so used to sitting and standing in a certain way. It may feel uncomfortable to begin with, because your muscles have not been conditioned to support you correctly. Good posture requires practise, so it's worth getting into the habit of sitting correctly.

Over time, hunching over a desk can contribute to developing a rounded upper back, which can cause shoulder and upper back stiffness. When hunched, your head may tend to lean forward. Using a mobile phone can cause similar problems known as 'text neck'. This forward head posture puts unnecessary strain on the upper back, shoulders, and neck.

To make sure your neck is at a healthy angle, imagine that you have a book balancing on top of your head. This will continues over page...

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 - * Special Mother's Day bar available *

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Health & Wellbeing

continued from previous page...

help you adjust to the correct posture. Use memory cues to help you do this frequently. You could try and remember it when eating lunch, when walking to the toilet, when sitting at traffic lights, or whatever works for you. You can improve your posture by making some small adjustments to the way you sit at your desk and by the way you hold yourself when standing.

Bad Sleeping

Check your sleeping position. *Never* sleep on your front. It pushes the body's natural curves out of kilter. If you sleep with your neck hunched down, try and consciously sleep with your neck straighter.

The good news is, you can improve your posture!

Pilates is a great way to learn and develop good habits with regards to posture. Do something you enjoy that gets you moving for 30-40 minutes (3-5 times per week) to improve your mobility. Vigorous walking is good for everyone as a starting point.

Stretch Yourself

Every night and every morning, stretch your arms as high as you can get them and then slowly move them in a circular motion. This will help keep shoulders in a good place. Another simple stretch is to raise your arms up alongside your ears. Bend your forearms to your shoulders and touch your shoulder blades. Then raise your arms out to your sides at shoulder height, hold for a slow count up to ten and then slowly lower and release.





THE KEY TO GOOD POSTURE

STANDING

Imagine a string attached to the top of your head which pulls you upwards. The idea is to keep the body in perfect alignment, maintaining the natural curve of the spine, with the neck straight and shoulders parallel with the hips.

- Chin parallel to the floor
- Shoulders back and relaxed (roll the shoulders up, back, and down)
- Neutral spine (no flexing or arching)
- Arms at the sides, elbows straight and even
- Pull in the abdomen
- Hips even
- Knees even and pointing straight ahead
- Balance the body weight evenly on both feet, feet hip distance apart
- Head up; not tilted forward, backwards or sideways
- Keep the legs straight, but knees relaxed

SITTING

- Feet flat on the floor with even weight on both hips; knees and feet pointing straight ahead.
- Back should be mostly straight (natural curves in the lumbar, thoracic, and cervical areas)
- Shoulders back but relaxed
- Ears should line up over collarbones and the chin should be parallel to the floor
- If at a desk, the middle of the computer screen should be at eye-level
- Crossing the legs while sitting at a desk could lead to upper back problems.

It is always best to consult a doctor or other medical professional before attempting any new exercise regime.





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RAISING THE STANDARD OF CHILDCARE

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

Kinross Community Council met on Tuesday 28 January and on Tuesday 25 February. Due to low numbers of Community Councillors at the meetings there are no minutes available for publication.

The next meeting of Kinross Community Council will be on Tuesday 31 March in the Masonic Lodge, The Muirs, Kinross. All are welcome to attend.

Cleish and Blairadam CC

News from the February Meeting

Present at the meeting on 3 February, 2020 were CCllr F. Principe-Gillespie, Chair: CCllr P. Appleby, Vice Chair: CCllr N. Robertson, Secretary: CCllr F. Whalley, Planning:CCllr M. Traylor, Treasurer: CCllr J. Leishman, Cllr. M Barnacle, Cllr. C Purves and 4 members of the public.

Apologies: were received from CCllr R. Cairney, Data Controller, Cllr. W Robertson, Cllr. R Watters

Matters Arising

Crime Prevention

There were no police officers in attendance. Concerns were raised about the amount of mud on the B660 around the ongoing works at/near Blairfordel Farm. A vehicle and trailer had left the road as a result. The police had been made aware and had had attended the incident Concern was also expressed about pedestrians being peppered with mud and dirt as they walked on the footpath. Further concerns were raised regarding the relative high speeds of traffic on The B996 especially near to the junction at Blairforge.

Finance

The Treasurer gave a detailed breakdown of costings. The current account balance was £303.50 with an outstanding payment for the telephone box annual insurance payment. still to be paid. Concerns were raised regarding outlay, especially newsletter expenses, as it was clear that the accounts were running very close to budget. It was agreed that FG would look again at newsletter provision by email and/or website publication in an effort to reduce costs. MT agreed to represent the CC on Kinross-shire Community Investment Fund Ward Panel.

Cleish and Blairadam Newsletter

Discussions and suggestions for improving the viability of the newsletter provided useful points. Possibility of charging for adverts for commercial events or some form of sponsorship.

Planning

One new application- Conversion of part of Cleish Mill to a house. Comment sent regarding drainage.

Cllr Barnacle reported on the PKC meeting to approve landscape designations as part of the LDP2 supplementary guidance. His amendment to include Cleish Hills and Devon Gorge as Designated

Landscape Areas was defeated by one vote. However, post-

meeting discussion indicated that this would be discussed again at a near future date with leader of PKC.

Village update - Blairadam

Further concerns were raised regarding fly tipping. There had been 2 recent incidents the first immediately adjacent to the M90 which had been dealt with rapidly by BEAR Scotland. The second was a large trailer/van load of builders rubble and pallets dumped on the track to Dullomuir Farm. This is private property and hence not the Council's responsibility however the rubble etc was removed very quickly by the landowner. There was discussion on how to deal with this potential developing problem without any conclusions at this stage.

Village update - Cleish

Cllr Purves reported that a report on options for the future of Cleish Primary School could be expected in May2020.

AOCE

PA gave a brief feedback from the recently held Community Transport Forum the bulk of which concentrated on the provision of volunteer transport for the elderly/disabled and outlying schoolchildren.

MB spoke at length about this provision and was hopeful that each CC would provide a delegate for the Kinross-shire Community Transport Group the attendance at which had been poor to date. PA agreed to attend these proposed monthly meetings together with the quarterly Transport Forum meetings.

Meeting dates were discussed and agreed for the remainder of the year.

The next meeting of Cleish and Blairadam Community Council will be held on 6 April at 7.30pm in The Tabernacle

The Kinross Community Council Newsletter

is available from:

The Co-operative High Street, Kinross
Baillies High Street, Kinross
Sainsbury's Station Road, Kinross
Giacopazzi's Lathro, Kinross

Giacopazzi's New Road, Milnathort
Stewart & Smart Stirling Road, Milnathort
Heaven Scent South Street, Milnathort
Buchan's Garage 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

Milnathort And Orwell Community Council

News from the February meeting

In attendance at the meeting held on Thursday 13 February 2020 were Community Councillors (CCllrs) M Thomson (vice-chairman); E Rougvie (secretary) and S Colebourn (treasurer); Councillors (Cllrs) W Robertson, C Purves and R Watters, and seven members of the public. Apologies were received from CCllrs C Williams (chairman) and A McCrae.

Police Matters

No police were in attendance, but CCIIr Colebourn reported that a 48-year-old man had been arrested in connection with the theft of a trailer and excavator from a yard near Milnathort on 3 February and will appear in court. The machinery was fitted with a tracking device. CCIIr Colebourn also highlighted a police initiative aimed at tackling bank fraud.

Minutes Of Last Meeting

The minutes of the January meeting were proposed by CCllr Colebourn and seconded by CCllr Thomson.

Matters Arising

Football pavilion: Concerns remain about the state of the football pavilion currently under construction in Donaldson Park. It is understood that Kinross Colts have applied for further funding for the project. Cllr Purves advised that he had reported the matter to the Health and Safety Executive and was awaiting a reply. The secretary had also written to the Colts' chairman inviting him to attend the meeting to provide an update had not had a response. CCllrs expressed their disappointment about the situation and, following further discussion, it was agreed that CCllr Thomson would issue a further invitation in the hope that someone would attend the March meeting.

Pitdownies: Thanks were expressed to Kevin Heneghan of the Pitdownies Action Group and Cllr Purves, who had both spoken at the committee meeting at which the Pitdownies application was refused. The proposed development was rejected on the grounds of over-development and the lack of a bio-diversity report on the marshland within the site. However, the key points made by objectors – namely access; impact on health and education services and effects on the loch – were largely overlooked in the officials' report to the committee and were dismissed as 'red herrings' by Councillor Tom Gray, who represents Strathallan. The CC agreed with Mr Heneghan that his remarks had been offensive. The developer is unlikely to withdraw the plans but is expected either to amend and re-submit them or lodge an appeal. Following discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Robertson would write to Peter Marshall, head of forward planning, expressing the community's concerns about the pace of development in the area, which he said was becoming a 'free for all' for construction firms.

Core paths group: CCllr McCrae and Kevin Heneghan are setting up a group aimed at maintaining local paths. A number of volunteers have already come forward and a meeting will be held soon.

'ALTERED IMAGES'

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New Matters

Lathro Farm: A consultation has opened on an application by Persimmon Homes for 169 houses at Lathro. Milnathort Community Council is not a statutory consultee as the proposed development is outwith the CC area, but anyone wishing to object can do so at DevelopmentManagementr@pkc.gov.uk

Speeding traffic: A member of the public expressed concerns about the speed of the traffic on the stretch of road at Tillywhally, which is prone to flooding and ice. She had written to PKC's roads department, who had intimated that it was unlikely that a 30mph speed limit would be imposed. However, this was based on a traffic survey undertaken in 2012 and there had been a number of new housing developments since then. PKCllr Robertson said that the statistics from 2012 were still considered by PKC to be relevant – but once the new green routes were in place, the speed limit would be reduced from 60mph to 40mph, in which case speed checks and monitoring could be requested.

Correspondence

Email from COSLA regarding town twinning: noted, but it was agreed to continue to support Kinross with its long-standing association with Gace.

PKC budget consultation: noted.

Copy of 'Democracy Matters' Newsletter: noted.

Information about Scotland's Mental Health First Aid event: noted.

Councillors' Reports

Cllr Robertson

Bank closure: Cllr Robertson advised that he has written to the head of the Bank of Scotland in Edinburgh urging him to reconsider the decision to close the branch in Kinross. Following discussion, it was agreed that the CC would also write as it means there will be no banks in Kinross-shire at all. **Potholes:** Bad potholes in the village have been reported, and will be attended to once the weather improves.

Speedwatch: The Kinross-shire Forum has asked if the Speedwatch initiative can be introduced and possible sources of funding are being explored.

Cllr Purves

Junction 7: Transport Scotland is still not prepared to progress this and the Council cannot undertake the project on its own. Cllr Purves has therefore suggested that consideration be given to creating a roundabout at Mawcarse for traffic leaving at junction 8, which would cost £300,000 as opposed to £7million for a new junction. However, he was aware that this would create extra traffic in New Road.

Health services: The Health and Social Care Partnership is hoping that community health services can be made

Newsletter Deadlines

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

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available in the Bridge of Earn doctors' surgery, which has now closed. This would help take some of the pressure off Loch Leven Health Centre. An update will be provided in April. Following the recent negative press reports about NHS Tayside's mental health services, the Partnership now wishes to involve service users and their carers in informing how services are delivered.

Cllr Watters

Climate change: A commission is to be established between officials, councillors and communities aimed at reducing the carbon footprint in Kinross-shire. It was noted that the large algae bloom in Loch Leven is of particular concern.

The next meeting of Milnathort and Orwell Community Council will be held at 7.30pm on Thursday 12 March, 2020, in Milnathort Town Hall. Members of the public are invited to attend.

Portmoak Community Council

News from the February Meeting

Present at the meeting held on 11 February, 2020 were Community Councillors (CCllrs) S McGregor (Secretary); A Cragoe (Treasurer); S Forde; and D Morris; and Councillor (Cllr) W Robertson; and 2 members of the public. CCllr D. Morris took the chair.

Apologies were received from: Chairman G Cox; Cllr M Barnacle, Cllr R Watters, and Cllr C Purves.

Matters Arising

School Access: to achieve clear access for large vehicles (including emergency vehicles) to the School and, separately, to secure safe access routes for children. The CC has responded to the consultation in respect of restricted parking on Buchan Avenue. It noted that at the same location PKC had commented that proposals to revise and improve child safety including marked crossings will be presented separately. The revised school bus service from Scotlandwell to Portmoak Primary has alleviated congestion and parking issues to some extent. The plan from PKC is to put double yellow lines around the corners and scope future changes people might want. The CC has had some contact with PKC who advised they were awaiting comments from local people.

Rural Transport (Kinross-shire Community Transport Group: Previous meetings of the Transport Group have been poorly attended, however Cllr M Barnacle and CCllr A Cragoe attended a recent forum. Community transport have drawn up a proposal. A decision on the route will have to be made dependant on what the community wants. Will require subsidy. There will be another meeting, date to be confirmed at a time which will suit more representatives, which CCllr A Cragoe will attend.

Loch Leven: To receive Cllrs' Reports on potential future planning considerations/restrictions. Cllr W Robertson had been seeking more information about the water quality. Scottish Water have advised back in Dec 19 that they are verifying the additional capacity for flood water. Scottish Water say there is capacity, while there are local informal reports that sewage regularly spills over into the Milnathort golf course. SEPA samples are taken at the Sluice Gate at south-east end of Loch Leven, not downstream from the water treatment plants which may not give a clear reading of the sewage overflow situation in the Milnathort locale. Milnathort water plant has huge overflow tanks for flood water, but doesn't seem to be able to cope with a major flood. The public are requested to report any sewage smell to SEPA and the Kinross Newsletter.

Hedges: the CC received a new report of a hedge issue: to left of Friar Place in Scotlandwell obscuring the sight line for

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

traffic pulling out of Friar Place.

Balgedie VAS: Prior to the last CC meeting, PKC had confirmed this request had been added to the new 2020 budget for VAS signs but there has been no update since then. The PKC budget has been cut by 4% and the allocations will be announced on 4 March. It is uncertain if the budget will be available for VAS signs: Education and Social Services are priorities. Council have to produce a balanced budget. Road Safety and road repairs may be cut.

Kinnesswood Road Safety Initiative: The CC noted that there was a pressing need for a traffic control measure, temporary if necessary, to be in place when Kinnesswood village shop moves over to the garage. There is no road crossing provision. Crossing from the garage side is dangerous, with blind corners. Garage staff had reported incidents with vehicles speeding and cyclists who could not be heard when approaching around the corner to the south. There is a need to identify what local people want. The council will not spend a lot of money if no local agreement is in place on how to proceed. Cllr Robertson commented that pavement widths, in both Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell, are very narrow in places. The 20mph speed trial (due to happen in next financial year) will help. The CC asked if this could be brought forward, but this is unclear. While the 20mph speed trial is positive, a temporary measure needs to be in place for the date the shop relocates, which could include rumble strips and more signage, but it was thought that budgets would not stretch to additional spend until the 20mph speed trial has been assessed. Walking on narrow pavements is dangerous. Reducing traffic to single might be the only effective solution. An MOP commented that parked cars slow the traffic. Careful parking of cars might be the only option to slow traffic, facilitate road crossing and make pavements safe in the absence of funds from PKC. These requirements had been communicated repeatedly to PKC. Relying on garage staff escorting children across the road is not the responsibility of the Buchans. Cllr D Morris commented that he had picked up a tourist map in Edinburgh which specifically showed the A911 as a route, but not the B9097 road on the South side of the loch. Traffic was being directed to travel through the small villages while a better alternative was ignored. The CC and Cllrs commented that reclassification of the A911 has been requested, and denied repeatedly.

Local Report

Woodmarch Hall, which is undergoing renovation, had suffered a burglary in which equipment had been stolen.

Planning

New applications:

20/00026/FLL Installation of solar panels at Kinaskit Cottage Main Street Kinnesswood, no CC comment.

The Newsletter on Facebook

We use our Facebook page to announce:



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

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

www.facebook.com/kinrossnewsletter

Progress with Developments

Westfield Community Liaison Committee: update on public availability of minutes of the Westfield Liaison Group meetings.

Liaison committee minutes should start to be directed to Secretary at CC (email alteration needed) and the CC can then continue the previous practice of uploading them onto the Portmoak CC website. Draft minutes appeared many weeks after the last Liaison meeting and that caused some difficulty in reporting back to the CC.

A MoP who lives near the development commented that there are only 3 houses in the postcode, they live right at the entrance to the development and they feel they are never informed about what is going on at the site. It was agreed that it might be useful for the liaison meetings to be open to members of the public to be able to attend if they wish.

Cllr D Morris reported that Hargreaves & Brockwell had jointly agreed to fund a feasibility study into the development of an off road multiuse path along the B9097 between Westfield and the M90. It was hoped this study would commence within the next two months.

Roads

Potholes: A911 between Wester Balgedie to fork for Kinross / Milnathort

Cllr S McGregor confirmed that the potholes have been reported via MyPKC as directed at last CC meeting. Cllr W Robertson confirmed that repairs are due very soon, but probably delayed due to the bad weather. Additionally commented to PKC that the drains should be off the roads as on the B9097. The drains are very dangerous to cyclists. It would help if CC can write to PKC to sort the drains as soon as possible and recess the drains into the verge.

Paths Group: little progress due to weather. The CC agreed the Michael Bruce Way is extremely muddy due to wet weather and the cattle on the hill, Cllr D Morris had spoken to George Lawrie about this. A more hardy breed of cattle are being farmed and they are now able to be out on the hill in the winter. The best solution would appear to be to keep cattle off the hill and in lower fields if possible during the worst of the winter weather.

Treasurer's report: No movement on Michael Bruce Way Account: Balance £2021.48. General Account received a £113.70 top up grant from PKC. Balance: £695.80 The CC and previous CC Treasurer are arranging removal of previous signatories and setting up new Bank of Scotland account with new signatories.

Councillors' Reports

Cllr Willie Robertson reported that he had asked for funding from the Community Investment Fund to pay for the equipment required to start up a Speedwatch scheme. The request for a Kinross-shire based Speedwatch scheme had come from the last meeting of the Kinross-shire Forum. The CIF refused to give money to set up a Speedwatch scheme as they did not think that it was an inequality issue and that was where they were tasked to spend their funds. Willie will raise

Need Equipment for a Community Event?

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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.

this matter at the next meeting of the Kinross-shire Forum.

Cllrs W Robertson, R Watters, C Purves, and CCllr S McGregor had attended a meeting for The Community Investment Fund: The Community Investment Fund has been established to support community-led projects at a ward level, which seek to improve equality across Perth and Kinross. There is £50K to be allocated to spend on local projects The fund was very oversubscribed. All money has now been allocated. No project applications from Portmoak specifically.

Matters Raised From The Floor

Town Twin requests: There was some interest in Portmoak being more involved in the Kinross-shire twinning scheme with Gace in Normandy. Any members of public additionally interested in being liaison should reach out to the CC.

AOCB

Bank of Scotland, Kinross branch closure: The CC noted the former CC Chairman M Strang-Steele had sent a very good letter of complaint to Bank of Scotland regarding the closure. The closure of banks are usually subject to local consultation, but this does not seem to have happened in the Kinross area. The proposed Bank Buses replacement was not necessarily a good solution as it offered no privacy for banking and could be difficult to access for less able or disabled members of the public. The CC agreed that they should also complain to Bank of Scotland and query the closure. It was flagged that as far as the CC are aware, people can use the Post Office for withdrawals and deposits, this applies to all banks. Cllr Robertson said that the Ward Councillors agree that the bank closure is a disaster, and they have written to complain, but that they don't think there is anything more that they can do to change the banks' policy. MSPs have tried to change the banks' policies, but to no avail.

Completion of footpath between Wellside Park and the Village Green: The CC noted that the path has been completed by PKC and it is an excellent job. The path was completed in about 10 days. A pile of earth that is left is to be used for planting. A member of the public had complained that there had been no notification of the work commencing, but there was a PKC notice displayed about the forthcoming work.

Thank you: an email of thanks had been received at the CC from a person who lost their dog Digger, a golden retriever, in the Moss on Sat 1 Feb to the people of Portmoak who helped them to be reunited with their dog on Sunday. The owners were very thankful and praised the community spirit.

The next meeting of Portmoak Community Council will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 10 March 2020 in Portmoak Village Hall.

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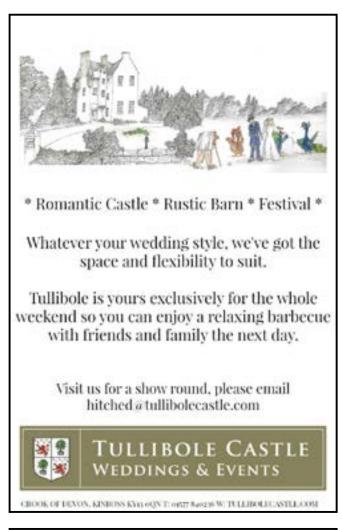
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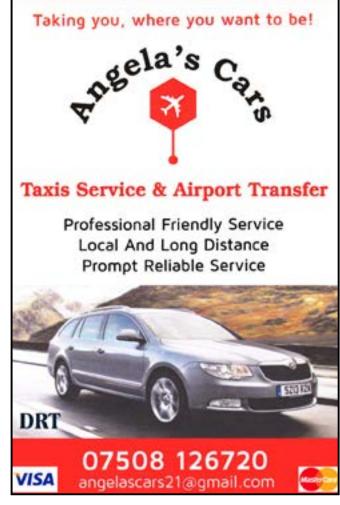
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Fossoway and District CC

News from the February Meeting

Present at the meeting held on 4 February 2020 were: Community Cllrs (CCllrs) S Bruce-Jones, T Duffy, C Farquhar, C Haigh, M Haigh and G Pye; Councillors (Cllrs) M Barnacle, C Purves, W Robertson and R Watters and seven members of the public (MoP).

Apologies were received from CCIIrs A Cheape and R Young.

Police report

There were no incidents to note in our area. Two trays of rolls were recently stolen from outside the Crook of Devon shop. No officer was present, but Trudy will ask them to come in future, since they are holding surgeries elsewhere. CCllr Cheape reported that the Police have been carrying out speed checks on the A977 and A91, and has spoken to the officers involved.

Matters Arising

residents.

Rumbling Bridge Gorge Bridge: CCIIr Duffy reported that there will be another site meeting, probably at 10am on 15 February, to ensure that the new design which increases the clearance above high water level is acceptable. CCIIr Bruce-Jones suggested that we ask the local school children to hold a competition to name the bridge. A MoP asked about access for wheelchair users, and although this is intended to be part of the design, as far as possible, there may still be steps on one side — CIIr Barnacle will ask PKC's Greenspace team if they can help.

Hydro Scheme Fund: There are hardly any applications from this area to both this and several other funds. The Hydro fund have three applications under examination at present, details should be available next month.

Powmill in Bloom: CCllr Farquhar reported that judging for this year's Well-Kept Village competition will be held in March. The group members are meeting to plan their preparations. An application has been made for a grant to fund equipment to be used by the group.

Crook & Drum Growing Together: CCllr Duffy reports that the group is also preparing for the Well-Kept Village competition. In the summer they are planning to provide a planted-up tub or hanging basket to every house on the main street — hopefully to then be maintained by the householder.

Fossoway Area Transport/DRT: Cllr Barnacle reported that there was a PKC wide transport forum on 16 January. Cllr Barnacle will set up another local meeting in February; this CC will be represented by CCllrs Farquhar and Michael Haigh. Crook Moss Travellers Site: Cllr Barnacle, CCllr Farquhar and Mr and Mrs McGregor from the Traveller's Site, together with representatives from the Police, PKC's Planning and Community Liaison departments and SEPA attended a meeting on 14 January. The planners have two enforcement issues outstanding, one for drainage connection now proposed to be done by March. Cllr Barnacle is trying to coordinate the contractor to improve the chances of successful completion. There doesn't seem to be much progress on the other enforcement issue. The police were unable to throw any light on the problem currently in the hands of the CID; meanwhile the site is not currently occupied by any

LDP2: The Supplementary Guidance on Landscape doesn't include designation of Devon Gorge and the Cleish Hills; Cllr Barnacle has proposed an amendment to include them but this was defeated, however Cllr Barnacle is continuing with his efforts, and has some support from PKC's CEO.

Blairingone War Memorial: A Listed Building application (19/01944/LBC) has been made and supported by this CC.

The Kinross Newsletter

by the community, for the community

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Vegetation on Aldie Road: Cllr Barnacle will ask for the ditches to be cleared.

Cemetery Extension: The Church is keen to progress this development, but it is currently held up pending identification of who would lease the land from the Church. Cllr Barnacle plans to drive creation of a Community Trust to resolve this. Other people expressed an interest in being part of the Trust.

New Business:

Fossoway Gathering: Will be held on Saturday 23 May. CCllr Duffy appealed for volunteers to help with preparation and on the day, details on the Gathering's Facebook page. A fundraising whisky tasting event will take place on 22 February in the Crook of Devon Hall.

Dunning Glen Forestry: A large area of land (approximately 1000 hectares/2500 acres), known as Coulshill Shoot, near Auchterarder has been acquired by the pension fund of one of the electricity companies. They intend to create a new woodland on the site, which is to the north-east of the Green Knowes wind farm. The developers expect to publish concept design proposals shortly. The woodland is expected to be mostly coniferous, but include significant open spaces and native broadleaves.

Great British Spring Clean: will be held between 20 March and 13 April, although Scotland has its own campaign in April and May, see https://www.keepscotlandbeautiful.org/local-environmental-quality/clean-up-scotland/spring-clean-2020/ for details.

Community Council Business

Sports Hub: CCllr Farquhar was unable to attend the last meeting, but has received the minutes.

Treasurer: The annual top-up grant of £351.24 from PKC has been received.

P&K Councillors' Reports

Willie Robertson: The Community Investment Fund was approached to finance equipment for Community Speedwatch but this was turned down, so another source of funding is being sought. Fly tipping appears to be increasing, all should keep an eye open and note registration numbers of culprits and pass them to the Police. The Budget process in currently in progress.

Mike Barnacle and Callum Purves: Nothing not already described above.

Richard Watters: The scheme to finance Wi-Fi provision in Village Halls is well under way. A Climate Change Partnership between the Council and Businesses is to be set up – it would be good if CCs were also involved.

Planning Matters

19/02066/FLL Erection of a dwelling house (plot 1) at Land 30 metres south of Crook of Devon House, Main Street, Crook of Devon. This application only arrived on the afternoon of the last meeting so was subsequently discussed by email, no CC comment.

20/00073/IPL Renewal of permission 17/00029/IPL Erection of a dwelling house (in principle) at Land 50 metres north of Craighead House, Drum, no CC comment.

20/00074/IPL Renewal of permission 17/00947/IPL Erection of a dwelling house (in principle) at Land 60 metres northwest of Craighead House, Drum, no CC comment.

Community Council News

Decided Applications

19/01881/IPL Residential development (in principle) Land 80 metres north-east of Powmill Milk Bar, Powmill. The Application was refused – the CC had objected.

19/01651/IPL Renewal of permission 16/01450/IPL Erection of a dwelling house (in principle) Land 30 metres north-west of Firs of Viewfield, Drum. Approved, no CC comment.

19/01921/FLL Alteration and extension to dwelling house and formation of raised decking area (in part retrospect) 3 Riverside Lodges, Main Street, Crook of Devon, Kinross. Approved, no CC comment.

19/01539/FLL Erection of four dwelling houses at Land 30 metres south of Easter Muirhead Bothy Blairingone. The CC had objected to this application, and the planning department responded to our objection, however not all of their responses are satisfactory: The CC sought clarity on the ownership of the land, however it's still not clear who the existing conditions will be held against. Clearly Scottish Water must have infrastructure in this area, otherwise there would be no supply, and hence the concerns expressed by neighbours are relevant.

Correspondence

All correspondence was available for viewing. The CC has been invited to a consultation on Future Policy Development of Sexual Entertainment Venues, as licensing of these venues has been devolved from the Scottish Government to Local Authorities. Comments can be sent to civiclicensing@pkc. gov.uk.

The proposed 40mph limits at Crook of Devon and Blairingone described last month are likely to go ahead following support from this CC.

AOCB

A MoP asked about the continuing problem with rubbish at

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.

the Devonshaw quarry. Cllr Barnacle has made attempts to contact the owner but with no success, and in the absence of such contact there is little that can be done.

Following the planned closure in the Kinross branch of the TSB in May, closure of the Bank of Scotland branch in Kinross has now also been announced. This will mean that there are no permanent bank branches anywhere in Kinross-shire, with only two ATMs outside premises. The CC will write to our MP asking for action to preserve branches in the area.

The next meeting of Fossoway and District Community Council will be held on Tuesday 3 March 2020 at 7.30pm in Fossoway Primary School. All welcome.

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Photographs can be downloaded (free of charge) from http://www.kinross.cc/PhotoLibrary/Index.asp

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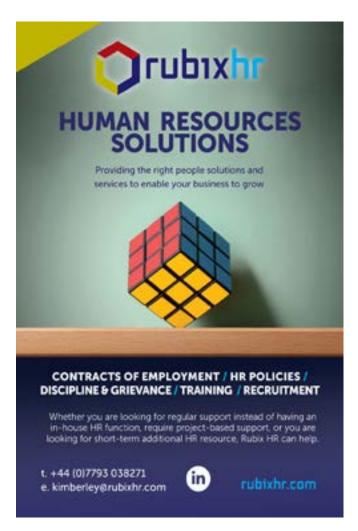
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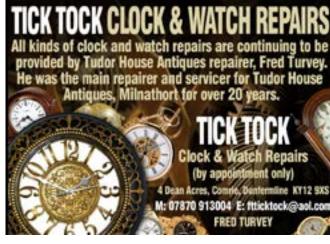


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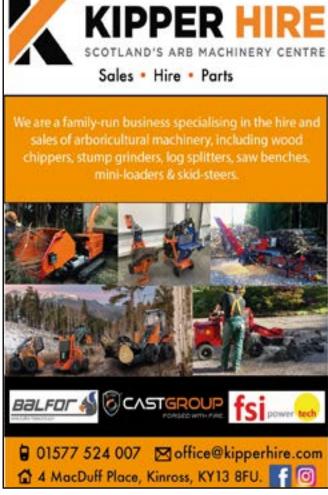


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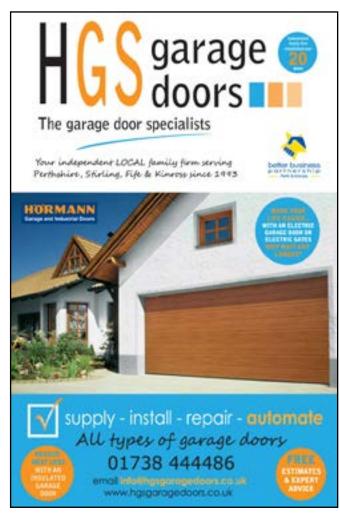
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Club & Community Group News

Kinross-shire Historical Society

ON MONDAY 20 JANUARY, Lieutenant Colonel Andy Middlemiss spoke on the topic of 'World War One; The Aftermath'. The talk covered many aspects of life after the war for the servicemen who returned home. It



incorporated words written by returned soldiers which were read out by audience members.

After stretching from 1914-18, the armistice for World War One only stopped the fighting. The Treaty of Versailles was drawn up in June 1919 but was not ratified until June 1920; nearly two years later. Then the war had finally ended.

The Jocks suffered wounds, terrible conditions and deprivation during the war. Their expectations of coming home to a country for heroes were not met. They found that the country had changed and that there was nothing for them; no work and no money.

Over three million were killed, injured or missing from the British forces. Some who returned felt survivor guilt and sadness as well as relief and pride. There was also the flu pandemic which affected the country badly.

The fields of battle had to be cleared and returned to farmland. The bodies had to be buried and, by the battle sites in France and Belgium, graveyards were put in place. Some have huge arches listing the names of those who lost their lives.

Meanwhile, at home, towns and villages erected their own war memorials. Some villages in England and Wales were lucky to lose no one in the war and they were known as 'Thankful Villages'. However, there were no such places in Scotland as all lost members of their communities

People started to visit the battle sites but this was dangerous because of the amount of unexploded bombs remaining. About twenty people each year were killed by World War One ordnance and remains from the war are still being found to this day. Lieutenant Colonel Middlemiss showed a slide of a KOSB badge on fabric that was found on a Belgian building site last year, over 100 later.

There was no employment for the returning soldiers. Their service for their country did not count as far as getting a job was concerned. Children didn't know their fathers and poverty was rife. Injured and limbless soldiers had to be looked after. The Erskine charity for Limbless Sailors and Soldiers was set up. Earl Haig set up poppy factories.

The role of women had changed during the war as they had to do all sorts of jobs previously carried out by the men who were away in the army. Women's football became a big thing; ladies' football leagues were set up and huge crowds attended the matches. However, when the war ended, their football stopped too.

The entitlement for women to vote had been campaigned for before the war and in 1918 women over 30 were given the vote. However, it was not until 1928 that the right to vote was extended to all women.

Many changes came from the Treaty of Versailles, including that Germany was required to make reparation. In addition, lost land and foreign territories and the Rhineland were demilitarised.

The League of Nations was set up with 58 members excluding the USA and Russia. There were also political changes in many areas; Alsace Lorraine was returned to France and Poland, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia were created.

The depression of the twenties and the stockmarket crash caused disaffection and there were riots in Glasgow. Thousands of people took up the offer of land in Canada, Australia and South Africa for the cost of a £2 fare and left home to start anew.

After some questions from the members, Anne Milburn gave the vote of thanks. She said that it was a very powerful and poignant talk, made more so by the readings from the audience. She also pointed out that we can read about the local men who died in the First World War in Kinross Museum thanks to the Roll of Honour made by Alistair Smith.

Lieutenant Colonel Middlemiss said he would give his speaker's fee to SSAFA, an armed forces charity that he works with. Many members of the audience added to this amount.

[This report is repeated from the February Newsletter, where it only appeared in part due to a technical problem - ED].

The Great North Road

The talk on 17 February was given by two speakers. Mr Eric Simpson talked about general aspects of travel on the Great North Road and Mr George Robertson the journey by coach from North Queensferry to Kinross.

In the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, the roads in Scotland needed improvement. Wade's military roads still existed in some parts but roads were generally in very poor condition and bridges were few. Turnpike Road Trusts were set up to pay for the road and bridge building by charging tolls. Thomas Telford was employed as an engineer and built 1000 miles of roads and bridges on the east coast.

The evolution of better roads meant that faster coaches could travel and so faster horses were bred to pull them. Horses were changed every eight to ten miles. Tens of thousands of horses were needed. Mail coaches were the fastest, all with the same livery, with a guard to protect the mail who would have been armed with pistols and a blunderbuss. Not only did mail travel on the Mail coach, but newspapers did too. The outside of coaches told stories of victories in war and of new laws passed.

Tolls were collected at Toll Houses. They had a bar across the road to stop people passing without payment. Fees were based on mileage; each mile was marked by a milestone on Turnpike Roads. Many toll houses can still be seen today, and are now homes. They can be found all the way up to Thurso. As more people travelled by coach, so more accommodation

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Club & Community Group News

was needed. Inns had to have rooms for travellers and stables for horses. Slides were shown of some old coaching inns that are still in use today.

In Dunkeld, Telford built a new bridge across the river. It was paid for partly by the government and partly by the Duke of Atholl. This meant that people had to stop using his ferry (which they had paid for) to cross the Tay, and had to pay to cross a bridge instead. Locals rioted and threw the toll gates into the river.

North of Inverness there were no military roads, and the Duke of Sutherland and Sir John Sinclair put a lot of money in to improving the roads. Blacksmiths were found along the roadway, providing shoes for the horses and repairs to coach wheels. Street names often reflected the route of the Great North Road, as in Milnathort with 'Old Perth Road'.

When the railways came the roads were deserted. From 1880s cyclists started to use the roads again, when the safety bike was introduced.

Mr Robertson's talk took us to North Queensferry, where travellers would cross the Forth by ferry. There were 13 establishments providing refreshments for travellers and horses. Originally the route started with a very steep hill but in 1772 it was moved to a different, less steep road. The 'Ferry Toll House' has gone but the 'Ferry Toll Bus Park and Ride' now sits on the site of it.

Several groups could pass through Inverkeithing without paying a toll, including soldiers, and those going to the salt pans. The route of the old Great North Road, no longer in use, can be still be seen at various points on the way north.

Crossgates, named for the meeting of roads from north, south, east and west, had the Cross Inn for coaches. In 1842 Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, travelling north, changed horses in Cowdenbeath. This is where the road from Burntisland and its ferry met the Great North Road. Continuing to travel north, there was an inn at Blairadam and another one at Gairneybridge. In 1812, the South Queich bridge in Kinross was in a ruinous state but the road tolls helped to pay for repairs.

Kinross was also visited by Queen Victoria and Prince Albert when they changed horses at the Kirklands Inn. Other Coaching Inns in Kinross were the Red Lion, the Green and the Salutation. They all had vehicles and horses available as well as accommodation and refreshments. Travellers recorded reports of their visits to Kinross as early as 1769, mostly praising them.

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In Kinross, there is a milestone still to be seen opposite the Campus in the Muirs and another in the southern end of the town. Many milestones have disappeared over the years.

Coach travel didn't last long. Railways brought it to an end but the inns still had coaches waiting at the stations to collect passengers. In 1878, there was a meeting of the Trustees of the Great North Road in the Kirklands. Their debt had amounted to £17,352 12s 6d. The decision of the meeting was that The County and the Burgh should take over looking after the roads. Now we have a motorway, and can make the same journey by bus from North Queensferry to Kinross. The future is moving towards driverless buses.

Prof David Munro thanked the two speakers for great insight, showing how life changes and for how short a time the coaches actually ran.

Portmoak Film Society

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A GOOD AUDIENCE of dedicated hill

climbers and mountaineers (among other more sedentary fans) appreciated the opportunity to watch our February film. It was the national geographic documentary of Alex Hannold's 2017 rope free ascent of the 3000 foot cliff El Capitan in Yosemite national park. Viewers gave the film 100% on the satisfaction gauge.

'And now...for something completely different' as we show Monty Python's Life of Brian. This is our fond tribute to the multi-talented Terry Jones, recently deceased, who was one of the Pythons and directed the film in 1979. The film is a satirical take on just about everything. However, it loosely covers the story of Jesus' life as embodied by the hapless Brian who was born at the right time in the wrong place.

It caused huge controversy at the time for its irreverence and, on its fortieth anniversary last year, critics credited it with being an amazing comic achievement that has stood the test of time. So come and judge for yourselves and settle in for an evening of hilarity and raucous bad taste!

Life of Brian will be shown on Saturday 14 March in Portmoak Village Hall, Scotlandwell at 7.30pm. Hot drinks and refreshments are provided after the movie. Use your membership card to get in or pay £6 on the door. Loyal PFS fans and newcomers alike are welcome!



Club & Community Group News

Kinross Garden Group



We had an extremely entertaining and informative demonstration in February about pot plants from Andrew Cathacart and Tom Sneddon, who showed us some great techniques to propagate our own stock of plants. Our next meeting is on 12 March 2020 at 2pm in the Millbridge Hall, Kinross, when Professor Stephen Phillips from Glasgow University will talk about 'Plants for medicinal uses'.

Membership fees are £20 for the year and £5 for visitors. If you are new to Kinross-shire and interested in meeting fellow garden enthusiasts you will be made very welcome. Doors will be open from 1.30pm. For more details contact Caroline Anderson on 01577 864589.

Kinross-shire Partnership Networking Breakfast



How To Make The Most Of Networking Events

The truly spectacular sunrise over the loch would have been reward enough for driving to Loch Leven's Larder on the morning of Wednesday 5 February, but there were also myriad other benefits for the 20-plus local businesses and organisations represented at the Kinross-shire Partnership's Networking Breakfast. In addition to enjoying a luscious Loch Leven's Larder breakfast, attendees had the chance to network with entrepreneurs from Kinross-shire and beyond. Moreover, nuggets of networking advice were imparted which proved useful for everyone present.

Host Archie Hipwell welcomed breakfasters before introducing the morning's speaker – local building surveyor Colin Low. In a slight break from the customary format, Colin gave a 'before-breakfast' presentation. The reason for this change in running order quickly became apparent when he shared several 'Dos and don'ts' of networking. This meant

that while tucking into their eggs and bacon (or porridge for those who preferred), breakfasters were still able to tweak their 60-second pitch.

Colin defined networking as 'the action of interacting with others to exchange information and develop professional and social contacts'. Here are three of his networking tips:

- 1. While many of us exchange business cards at networking events, if we don't subsequently do anything with them then this is a waste of time. After the event, drop your new contact a (non-salesy) email or arrange to meet for a coffee on another day if you feel you could help one another professionally.
- 2. At many networking events, attendees are offered a 60-second slot to make what's known as an 'elevator pitch'. Colin issued a useful handout featuring a suggested structure for this micro-speech, and he encouraged everyone to prepare their pitch in advance to ensure they make the most of this valuable PR opportunity. He counselled against comments such as 'You all know who I am' or 'You all know what I do' or 'You'll no doubt heard of me before.' Equally, he advised against using the same pitch every time you network because, as with familiar TV ads, people tend to 'switch off' and not listen.
- 3. These days many entrepreneurs are involved in several businesses, and Colin's final piece of advice was not to mention too many businesses/activities in one pitch. Pick the one (or two) you wish to focus on that day, to avoid diluting your brand(s) and your message.

The Kinross-shire Partnership's next breakfast will be held at Loch Leven's Larder from 7.15am-9am on Wednesday 4 March 2020. Retired Lieutenant Colonel Andy Middlemiss will be speaking on the subject of leadership. Please email Karen Grunwell in advance at mail@kinrosspartnership.org. uk to book your place (all-inclusive cost £10).





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Kinross and District Probus Club

'Discovering the Deep' by Hermione Cockburn



Hermione is a Director at the Dynamic Earth Science Centre in Edinburgh. In January she gave us a most interesting talk on the major role of Scotland and its nineteenth-century scientists in discovering the secrets of the deep oceans.

Up to the middle 1800s little was known of our deep oceans and the general consensus was that, due to high pressures and lack of light, there could be no life below what was called the azoic zone (lifeless).

This is where we are introduced to our hero, Charles Wyville Thomson, a Scottish natural historian and marine zoologist. In 1868 he carried out an expedition in the North East Atlantic where the ocean floor was dredged for the first time. His findings were amazing and they kick started a whole new era of scientific study into our oceans.

In 1872, there followed a four-year expedition around the world on the HMS Challenger. This covered some 69,000 nautical miles and found in excess of 4000 new species. As the lead scientist, Charles Wyville Thomson set about writing up the expedition findings. The 50 volumes that were completed by John Murray following the death of Thomson in 1882, are still considered to be 'the greatest advance in our understanding of the oceans'.

At Dynamic Earth, Hermione and her team are developing a major exhibition of Thomson's contribution to marine science and how the research continues to this day with the launch of the Sir David Attenborough's research ship. The exhibition will be called 'Discovering the Deep' and is due to open in 2021.

A vote of thanks was given by Dick Crighton.

Kinross & Ochil Walking Group

(Affiliated to Ramblers Scotland)

Living on your own? Children left home? Finding it difficult to fill your weekends? We'd love you to come out walking with us. We are a relaxed and sociable group who are always very happy to welcome new people on our weekend walks. What better way to cheer yourself up during the winter months than by getting out into the open air and exercising? So, do come along and try out a walk or two to see if you'd like to join us. We operate car-sharing but it is not essential to have a car.

Weekend Walks

Sunday 1 March: Tillicoultry to Kirk Glen, 6 miles.

Following the River Devon to Glenfoot Bridge, a little road walking up to the golf club, over to Kirk Glen, down to Harvieston and returning along old railway line.

Saturday 14 March: Sauchie Crags, 6 miles.

Easy walk with spectacular scenery including a site of scientific interest, historic features and hardwood forest.

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

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

Tuesday Short Walks

Tuesday 10 March: Kennet Pans and Old Distillery

Walking from Kincardine along the Forth to visit the ruins of an old distillery and a hidden harbour. Return by a different route.

Tuesday 24 March: Riverside Park, Glenrothes

A combination of some of the 10 short walks in the park to provide a 4 mile walk. Walk starts in Daffodil Avenue where we may see the Marie Curie Field of Hope (depending on when spring arrives this year).

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

Crook & Drum Growing Together

Despite the snowy weather during February, snowdrops are already flowering in St Serf's churchyard, soon to be followed by those in the grass triangle in Drum. Here's looking forward to spring!



This year we are entering separately for the 'Well Kept'' competition through the Civic Trust. Judging for villages will be on 16 March and in Drum, as a hamlet, on 19 March. We would ask residents to help us to keep both places looking their best around this time; for example, lifting any litter and clearing dead leaves and old foliage around their property. Many thanks.

In preparation for the judging, we are planning a litter pick with pupils from Fossoway Primary School as part of an initiative with Beautiful Scotland.

Soon we will be leafleting residents on the main street of Crook of Devon to ask if they would like us to provide a free planted hanging basket or planter in the summer; we just ask that these are kept watered and dead flower heads removed. If this initiative is successful, we may extend it to other areas of the village next year.

On 23 May we are planning to sell plants at the Fossoway Gathering. Any donations of extra seedlings or divided perennials would be gratefully received. If you can help, please contact Amanda using the contact details provided below. We may also have a stand at the Open Farm Day at Aldie on 6 June.

We are pleased to welcome Carole, a new volunteer. Please get in touch if you could help us in any way, even occasionally, or have any ideas for us. **Contact Amanda by email at** amandajames1577@gmail.com or on 07963 476803.

Common Grounds

www.spanglefish.com/ commongroundscharitycafe



Another month flying in! Despite the

awful weather (snow and hailstones as I write), Common Grounds has been ticking over very nicely and providing a cheery refuge to all, especially on our special Valentine's coffee morning. Our project lunch is on Wednesday 4 March (see below) and we hope to see you there!

Project: Our project for March is Syria Relief which is the largest Syria-focused, UK based charity. Around 3 million people have been forced from their home, 2.1 million children do not have access to education and, in Idlib, more than 500,000 people have been displaced since last April. Hospitals, schools, markets and civilians are continually targeted by airstrikes. Since 2011 Syria Relief has worked to provide shelter, food aid, medical care, education, clean drinking water and training.

Project Lunch: Our next Project Lunch is on Wednesday 4 March at 12 noon in the Guide Hall, Church Street, Milnathort. We are very pleased to say that Euan MacNeish, Fundraising Manager for KidsOR, is the guest speaker for our February project. A lunch of homemade soup, bread, tray bakes and Fairtrade tea and coffee will follow the talk. All welcome.

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

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

Kinross & District Rotary Club

www.ribi.org



Scatterweeks

During our Christmas and New Year break, Rotarians visited clubs at Anstruther, Falkirk, Howe of Fife, St Andrews and Tayport. It is interesting to observe and reflect on the work of other clubs. We concluded that the Kinross and District club is progressing well and we look forward to new projects in 2020.

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The Happy Dog Company is also on Facebook



Jo Middlemiss receives a cheque for £4000 for The Ethiopia Medical Project

Young Musician

Kinross Rotary Young Musician, Eleanor Baughan, performed two beautiful violin pieces at the district final. This was held at Loch Leven Campus on Saturday 25 January, organised by the Rotary Club of Auchterarder.

Young people from all over the Rotary 1010 (Scotland North) district participated. The standard was extremely high. Many club members joined the audience and thoroughly enjoyed the occasion. First and second places only are announced and Eleanor was not one of these but we are hugely proud of her talent and commitment. Well done Eleanor!

International Service

Rotarian Jo Middlemiss MBE and rotary champion UK was presented with a cheque for £4000 and the good wishes of the club as she prepares to set off for her annual trip to Buccama, Ethiopia.

This sum was raised by club fund-raising and a grant from district 1010. Jo observed that rotary clubs worldwide are playing an important role in the goal of eradicating polio; now Kinross Rotary Club is helping to deal with podoconiosis (a form of elephantiasis caused by long term exposure of bare feet to the red clay soil of volcanic origin) in this area. She reminded us of the humanitarian spirit expressed in the rotary motto, 'Service above self'. We are proud to be able to contribute and assist Jo's awesome work in Buccama.

Recent Speakers

Rotarian Dugald McIntyre gave us a history of boilers and heating systems which reminded us of the progress we have seen in recent decades. From the earliest attempts by the Romans, to the back boilers installed behind coal fires in the 1930s to 1940s. Then we remembered the cumbersome, unattractive floor-standing and potentially dangerous boilers taking up space in the kitchen to the popular 'baxi bermuda' installed behind gas fires. Of course, we now have the combi boiler which currently takes 85% of the market. This reminded us of the various systems we have experienced in our lifetime, allowing us to enjoy the comfort and convenience of heating and hot water. We now control our heating and hot water safely, with ease and comfort.

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Club & Community Group News

However, by 2025 new houses will not be equipped with gas central heating. So what is the way forward? Solar power? Heat pumps? Hydrogen? With a move to electric cars as well, the present system cannot cope and will be very expensive to adjust.

'What is an Engineer?' was the question posed by Rotarian Alistair Smith on 27 January. The Latin origin of the word is 'ingenio' meaning 'I create, design'. Alistair is a civil engineer and reminded us of the golden age of engineering when the heroes of the Victorian industrial revolution set about transforming our infrastructure with their design and creation of roads, canals, railways, bridges, sewers and water supplies.

Moving on to the twentieth century, remarkable projects include some of Scotland's bridges; Forth Road, Tay Road, Kessock, Cromarty, Dornoch, Erskine and many others. These structures created effective links and opened communication up and down the country with dramatic social and economic benefits.

Alistair started work in 1964 and was involved in many exciting projects during his career. He reminded us of some of the other branches of engineering including naval architecture, aircraft design and power stations. All have helped to create a modern infrastructure today for tomorrow. Alistair still works with students at Edinburgh University on bridge design projects. He stressed the vital need for the UK to encourage, recruit and retain our young scientists and engineers.

Local farmer and entrepreneur, Jonathan Sloan, spoke about farm diversification at the meeting on 10 February. Jonathan arrived in Kinross just over 14 years ago and, together with his father, set about establishing from scratch a successful livestock farm at Springfield Farm, Glen Lomond, where they specialise in cattle and sheep.

The farm is QMS assured and is a Marks and Spencer select farm, proving the high standards achieved. He also explained that, in recent years, they have diversified into digger hire, the manufacture of glamping pods and the production of wool yarns and insulation. The glamping pods had been particularly successful with demand growing from camp sites, caravan parks and private householders. The

basic model has now developed into units having fitted kitchens bathrooms. Recently and Jonathan had acquired, for breeding purposes only, some Valais Blacknose sheep from Switzerland who were due to have their first lambs this year.

Come and Join Us!

We have had some fascinating speakers this month with more to come in March.

Why don't you join us and enjoy excellent hospitality at the Kirklands Hotel? It's an opportunity to broaden your mind with our excellent speakers and become involved in any way you would like in our upcoming projects.

We meet at 6.15pm for 6.30pm on Monday evenings; except for the third week of the month when we meet at 7.15am for 7.30am for a breakfast meeting.

If you would like to join us for a meeting, please contact **Dugald McIntyre, club secretary, by email at** *secretary.krdc@* gmail.com or check our Facebook page.

Kinross and District Art Club

www.kadac.co.uk

Always an inspirational time for artists, the weather and nature of February 2020 did not disappoint our members. From the drama of stunning sunsets, stormy days and snowy scenes, to the serenity of perfect snowdrops popping through the wintry ground, there was certainly no shortage of pictures to paint.

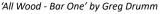
Our regular club sessions have been well attended with the first demonstration visit from an artist on Tuesday 18 February. Photos and details of this will be reported next month.

We are thrilled to report an exciting achievement by one of our members, Greg Drumm. Greg, from Milnathort, is 'totally over the moon' at being selected as one of the Scottish Artists to exhibit a painting at the Fabriano Acquarello International Exhibition.

The Exhibition will be held in Fabriano Town, Italy on 25-31 May and then on 1-5 June in Milan, Italy. He is now planning a trip to Italy to visit the exhibition and to view his painting there. Greg's painting, which measures 56cm by 38cm, is called 'All Wood-Bar One' and is painted in watercolour. Club members are delighted for Greg and congratulate him on his fabulous success.

The Kinross and District Art Club meets weekly on Tuesdays and Fridays (2-4pm) in Millbridge Hall.

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





Kinross and District Town Twinning Association

Although there is no official twinning visit in 2020, twinning families keep in touch by writing letters as well as through social media.



Both Kinross and Gacé have suffered bouts of extreme weather recently and everyone is looking forward to more



settled, warmer conditions in the coming months.

The political upheaval of Brexit has done little to dampen the spirits of twinners on both sides of the channel. Everyone is supportive and upbeat about our future relationships.

The focus of Kinross

twinners in 2020 will be two-fold; organising a number of social events as well as having a fund-raising component where possible. All funds raised are for hosting visits when the Gacéans come to Kinross in 2022.

A twinning coffee morning will be held in Kinross Church Centre on Saturday 21 March, 10am-12 noon. It will feature tombola, cake and candy, lucky dip stall and more. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Meanwhile, we are always looking for new members to join us. Our local twinning group has been in existence since 1974. For further information please contact David Munro on **01577 862126**.

Broke Not Broken



Kinross Food Bank

Our AGM signed off our Report and Accounts from 2018/19 ahead of schedule. Thanks to Louise, Joanne and Smartworx for their help with the accounts.

We thanked outgoing trustees Rory and Jenni and also our chair, Clare, who is stepping down from her role. We are not sure how we are going to manage without her at the helm, but we will all pull together to try our best. Clare will stay on as a trustee (thank goodness!).

To say that Clare has been instrumental in the formation, growth and success of Broke Not Broken is an understatement. Her boundless energy and can-do attitude and unwillingness to take no for an answer, has been an inspiration to the rest of us.

Annie will be stepping into some very big shoes in the role of chair, and we also welcomed John, Hannah and Susan as trustees. Welcome aboard. They are three very capable and welcome additions to the committee.

We heard from Carrie, our counsellor, on the success of the counselling sessions, from Shona Fowler about the importance of the link with Broke Not Broken, the Advice Hub and also the Recovery Café.

We would like to thank the community once again for their ongoing support; donating 653kgs of food in January! Thanks also to Kinross Masonic Lodge and Sainsburys for their £100



Claire Slight, who was instrumental in the founding and growth of Broke not Broken

donation and to Portmoak Primary school for their £250 donation.

There are several plans for the year ahead including family away days, cookery classes, tackling fuel poverty, counselling and an appearance at the Better Place to Live fair and the Fossoway Gathering.

If you would like to get involved in the charity or would like to learn more and have us come speak to your group or school please contact secretary@broken.org.

Kinross Beavers

For our first meeting of 2020 and a new term, the beavers took part in a couple of challenges; egg drop and the paper plate challenge. They also reviewed the code of conduct as a reminder of the expectations of all beavers.

We also presented the last of the badges earned last term, together with several awards. Congratulations to Angus, Fraser and Andrew who were presented with a special recognition award for working hard and being kind and helpful last term. Well done boys!

Well done to Rupert, Finlay R, Atholl, Euan B, Finlay T and Ben who were presented with a certificate for having 100% attendance last term. Congratulations boys!

Finally, congratulations to Benjamin and Aaron who were both presented with their Chief Scouts Bronze Award after successfully achieving all six challenge badges and four stage/activity badges.



Club & Community Group News



The following day the beavers had their winter sleepover at the hall. It was a fantastic evening as they took part in a variety of activities including making fake snot, pioneering, board games and lots of games. They also enjoyed an indoor campfire before settling down to watch a DVD. It must have been tiring for them as they all slept in the following morning! At the end of January the beavers watched as Erin, a section assistant leader at beavers, delivered a presentation as part of her Queen's Scout Award. Alison, District Scout Commissioner Network for Perth and Kinross, was also in attendance. After Erin's presentation, Alison presented Erin with her Queen's Scout Award. Congratulations Erin!

On the same evening we said goodbye to Angus, Fraser and Ewan W who are all moving on to cubs. We also said goodbye to Matthew is also moving on from beavers. Good luck to you all.

Other recent activities have included a problem solving evening, learning about tents and knots and a Scottish themed evening to celebrate Burn's Night.

Sarah from Letsbefit came along at the beginning of February to run a bootcamp so the beavers had a great time taking part in numerous activities.

Are you interested in volunteering with Scouting? Volunteering is easier than you think. We have opportunities both behind the scenes and directly supporting young people in our group. With full support and training, you can volunteer on a flexible basis. Not only is it incredibly rewarding and great fun, you'll learn some brilliant skills transferable to the workplace and further education. Please contact us by email at kinrossbeavers@hotmail.co.uk for more information.

SEWING ALTERATIONS

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Boys Brigade

There is a lot going on for section members at Boys Brigade.



The Perth battalion mini-volleyball tournament took place at Bell's Sports Centre in mid-January.

In February, the battalion 5-a-side football competitions for junior and company sections took place.

In March, we look forward to the popular battalion midnight hike on Friday 6 March. This event is for company section members but there is also a daytime hike for anchors on Saturday 14 March in the afternoon.

The battalion chess competition for juniors and company sections takes place at Scone on Sunday 22 March.

Thereafter, the junior section festival of activities which involves figure marching, singing and potted sports takes place at Bankfoot on Friday 27 March.

The battalion drill competition for company section members, along with the scripture Search competition, will be held on a suitable Friday evening in the church centre.

A number of senior members are working towards their Queen's Badge; the highest award in the Brigade.

Company section members are also taking part in the BB international games competition. This is open to companies throughout the world and has a focus on bible, general knowledge, physical and mental agility.

The annual summer camp will be held at the 1st Kirkwall BB hall on the second week of July. The campsite will be set up adjacent to their BB hall which hosts a small games hall, kitchen and toilets.



Our 1983 logo and members of all sections during their worship session



Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation

www.kleo.org.uk



Comedy Night

This will be an evening packed with laughs featuring comedians John Gavin, Bruce Fummey, Joe Heenan and headliner Fred McAulay! Come along to another fun comedy night on Saturday 28 March at 8pm in Milnathort Town Hall. Tickets (£10) available at Morgans Estate Agent's in Kinross, Light Up My Heart in Milnathort and through on our website. There will be a bar at the event.

Leven Voices Community Choir Concert

Come and listen to all the songs Leven Voices have been working on with Horsecross Arts Tutor David McLean. The concert is on Tuesday 17 March at 8.30pm in Kinross Parish Church. Donations at the door and proceeds go to local charities.

There will be songs for everyone so come along and enjoy!

After the Easter break sessions will start from Tuesday 21 April onwards at 7pm in Kinross Parish Church. You pay as you go (£4 or £3 concession). There is a £6 'registration fee' which is used to pay for the hall for 10 week period. Just come along, sing and enjoy!

OPEN STRING KACOPHONY

This special session will run on Sunday 26 April from 1pm-4pm at Loch Leven Community Campus. The fee is £5 and the session is open to all string players, whatever ability

This will be a special event for any adult who would like to play cello, violin, viola or double bass in a group. Maybe you have not played for a while or have just picked up a new instrument? This is a fun session, suitable for complete beginners and more experienced players alike. We can even provide instruments for new players on request.

Conductor Dougie Flower from Kinross Kacophony Orchestra will lead this session and Sarah Oxnard (cello tutor) and Sharon Doyle (violin tutor) will be on hand to help out too.

Please book your place by sending an e-mail to Bouwien Bennet at bouwien@kleo.org.uk.

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.

This block of sessions will run until 18 March (no rehearsal on 4 March), 7.15pm-9.15pm at Loch Leven Community Campus. After the Easter break sessions start again from 22 April onwards. Weekly fee £5.

Kinross Farmers' Markets

The markets will start again in April with the first one on Saturday 25 April, 10am-2pm on the High Street of Kinross.

The following market dates will be on every fourth Saturday of the month from April to October (apart from the July market there will not be a market that month). The exact dates are 25 April, 23 May, 27 June, 22 August, 26 September and 24 October, 10am-2pm. Please note that, as before, the High Street will be closed from the entrance to Burns Begg Street to the entrance to Montgomery Street.

For more information about KLEO events go to our website.

SPARKS

Supportive Project for Activities & Recreation in Kinross-shire Here's a brief overview of what SPARKs has been up to this month.

A huge thank-you to Kinross Day Centre who accommodated us for three Thursdays in January. We appreciated being offered the space and are most grateful for the refreshments you provided. We took part in the usual quiz and a few additional board games. Ross had a run of winning three domino games in a row against Lindsay and Deborah on one occasion! We also played a few boccia games. All games are played in a friendly but competitive way each week.

On 13 February we had a great introductory session to 'The Wellbeing Project'. Thanks to Mairi Speedie from Perth and Kinross Council for the summary and points for discussion. We are looking forward to rest of the project. Mairi also joined us for a game of boccia and we look forward to a Wellbeing Team v SPARKs match later in the project.

Now that we are back to our usual campus location, we can start thinking and planning our next activities and outings.

To celebrate the tenth anniversary of the campus this year

we hope to arrange a boccia game between SPARKs and pupils of the High School who have additional support needs. At our meetings, refreshments are available, usually followed by a quiz, board games, arts and crafts, boccia and the occasional guest speaker. Each activity is on a voluntary basis and is open to all disabilities. We aim to reduce isolation within Kinross-shire. We ask for a small weekly donation of 50p or £1, to cover the cost of refreshments. We meet on Thursday, 1-3pm at Loch Leven Community Campus.

In addition, we have specific access to the marked boccia court on Saturday's at 12.30-1.30pm, also at Loch Leven Community Campus. The price for this activity varies from £1 to £2 per session (depending on numbers), just to cover the cost of the court.

For further information, contact Shona Fowler on 07896 280843 or by email at <code>shonafowler@nhs.net</code>. Alternatively get in touch with Roseanne Gray on 01577 867216 or by email <code>rgray@pks.gov.uk</code>.

SCOTLANDWELL FRAMES

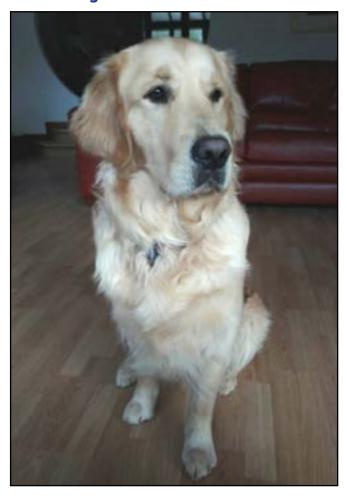
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Guide Dogs Kinross



This is Ollie who is hoping to become a stud dog for lots of lovely new guide dog puppies. He is in the middle of all the checks needed to make sure he is as good as we all think he is. Paws crossed that he makes the grade and we get to see some mini Ollies in the future.

Meanwhile we are holding our first fundraiser of the year on 4 March at The Courthouse; it is called 'Dine in the Dark' and will start at 6.30pm for 7pm. Tickets are available at the venue priced at £20. This includes a donation of £5 per ticket which is being contributed by The Courthouse. Blindfolds will be supplied so you can learn how it feels to have a visual impairment. There will certainly be lots of fun and raffle prizes to be won.

Thereafter, our next meeting will take place on 17 March at Caulders Kisas cafe at 10am. As always pups will be in attendance and volunteers will be available for a chat. If you have any ideas about fundraising or sponsorship we'd love to see you there. Please come and join in, even if it's just for a cuppa.

Kinross Flower Club

www.kinrossfloralartclub.org

Our March meeting will be held in Millbridge Hall at 2pm on Thursday 26 March.

Mrs Julia Loudon will give a demonstration called 'A World Full of Interest'. We have thoroughly enjoyed Julia's previous demonstrations; she is both entertaining and very imaginative with her designs. Come along and join us for a fun afternoon.

Kinross-shire U3A

u3asites.org.uk/Kinross



Our February meeting took the form of a discussion led by one of our members, Gareth Thomas, on the subject of dementia. Gareth is well placed to lead such a discussion given his background and experience as a consultant in old age psychiatry at Queen Margaret Hospital in Dunfermline. He is now happily retired.

Gareth introduced the discussion by outlining the various forms of dementia, then the audience were given the opportunity to ask questions. There were many of these, illustrating the deep interest members have in the topic. The discussion ranged between causes, any means of prevention and forecast of likelihood of onset of dementia, to name just a few. Several members spoke movingly from their own experience of cases close to them. We did come away, however, with the upbeat advice that we should take part in activities and social occasions we enjoy; surely good news to all of us!

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 3 March at 2.30pm in Kinross Parish Church. Neil Mitchell of Scottish National Heritage will be talking to us on the topic of Loch Leven Nature Reserve.

We hope you may be inspired to come and join us and possibly take part in one or more of our learning groups. Activities include Scrabble, Rummikub, going to cinemas and theatres, visiting places of interest, famous Scots, military history and various other topics.

Milnathort in Bloom

Spring has sprung! Well, I hope it has by the time you read this.

The spring tubs in the centre of the village have been blooming for the past few weeks, hopefully bringing a bit of cheer and colour to the drab and dreary days. We're very pleased with the polyanthus in the tubs; we replant them at the poly tunnel after we clear the village tubs in early summer and this is now their fourth year of blooming in the village.

We have been busy planning for the year ahead. We've been developing planting plans and colour schemes so that the village will look gorgeous all through the summer. This year we've decided that red and hot pink are the colours that will be dominating the village, along with cool white and greens to balance out and provide a stunning display.

This year we also plan to replace the old wooden tubs at Croftwynd as they're looking a bit old and dilapidated. We also plan to place patches of wild flowers around the village to add spots of colour and attract those all-important pollinators. So if you've noticed a spot that could do with some sprucing up, please do let us know.

Later this year we're sadly going to lose our co-chairs Peter and Teresa. They have fronted Milnathort in Bloom for the last five years and have decided it's time to hang up their trowels and let someone else lead the group to new heights. If you, or someone you know, is interested in getting involved with an exciting and dynamic group with a view to leading it, please do get in touch via our Facebook page.

Our next event will be the potting on of plug plants (over 4000 of them!) on Saturday 4 April. If you fancy joining us, we'll be at the poly tunnel at Hattonburn from 10am. There will be tea and chat too!

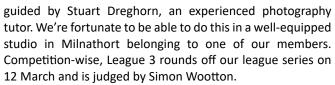


Fountains Abbey by Bill Paton

Kinross Camera Club

kinrosscameraclub.org.uk/wp/

The Camera Club's syllabus continues apace on Thursday evenings throughout March starting off on 5 March with a Studio Portraiture session



Fife based photographer Dawn White will be giving her advice on 'Travelling with non-photographers' on 19 March – likely to be valuable advice! Our Digital Group (7.30pm in the Stables function room of the Inn at Crook of Devon) meets on Tuesday 24 March at which you can learn post-processing techniques and ask the experts about photo-editing software. To round off the month, we're hosting the annual joint evening with the Fife branch of the Scottish Wildlife Trust and we're delighted to welcome the internationally acclaimed wildlife photographer Neil McIntyre from Aviemore who specialises in the wildlife of the Cairngorms, with his talk 'Visions of Nature'. Regular club nights are at 7.30pm in the Church Centre, Kinross.

For more details please see our website or email secretary@ kinrosscameraclub.org.uk

About the Kinross Newsletter

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

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

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

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

Lomond Antique and Collectors Club

This month Dr Essie Tough shared with her love of detective literature with us. She focused particularly on the 'Golden Age' and writers like Denis Wheatley. As well as the writing, she was intrigued by the art produced for this genre of books. With a keen interest in antiques Essie bought a series of illustrations and began her own detective task. She found that the work was produced for Melrose publishers of Edinburgh and that the artist could be Frank Watson Wood. One of the illustrations was called 'The Grey Ghost' with John Cassells named as the author. With twin avenues of investigation to pursue, Essie set out to discover what she could about the author and the artist.

The author, John Cassells, proved to be something of an enigma. Cassells was a pseudonym for W. Murdoch Duncan; a prolific writer born in Glasgow in 1909 who wrote over 200 crime novels in total. Of that number, 53 were written under his own name and the remainder under various pseudonyms including Cassells.

Frank Watson Wood (1862 - 1953) was born in Berwick on Tweed. He studied at the Berwick Art School, Kensington School of Art and the Academie Julian in Paris. He taught at the School of Art in Newcastle and then as Headmaster of Hawick Art School. In 1899 he gave up teaching and became a

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Club & Community Group News

professional artist, first in Southsea and then Portsmouth. He had a particular talent for marine painting and, in 1903, his view of Portsmouth Harbour was purchased by King Edward VII. This royal patronage led to further Royal purchases.

In 1918 Watson Wood was present at the surrender of the German Fleet in Scapa Flow and, in 1939, accompanied George VI and Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, on their official tour of Canada. He died in Strathyre, Perthshire in 1953 aged 91.

Watson Wood had a son of the same name who also studied art and sold illustrative work. With no cast iron link established between the book covers, illustrations and Watson Wood Senior, it seems entirely plausible that they were the work of the son.

Contact us at: lomondacc@gmail.com

Kinross 50-Plus Club

The monthly meeting is on Thursday 5 March when it is our AGM and annual lunch.



Notices

Members going to AGM and annual lunch, please note that time is 12pm for 12.30pm. Our holiday to Scarborough on 8 March – coach will leave Green Hotel at 9am.

Friday Walkers

6 March Letham Glen and Dunbog

20 March Carden Glen

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

Friday Hillwalkers

13 MarchAtholl Woods, DunkeldJoan20 MarchBraefordieJockPlease meet at Green Hotel at 9am for car share

Contact Carolyn Jenkins 07925 972650

Activities

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

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

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

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

Fly Tyers meet each Monday in Millbridge Hall. *Contact Alistair Ford*, **01577 861722**.

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

COMMUNITY WEBSITE

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



Kinross And District Inner Wheel

Inner Wheel members, in conjunction with Day Centre staff, organised a Tea Dance for all who attended the Centre on 6 February. We had an enjoyable afternoon of conversation, dancing, piano music and afternoon tea.

At our monthly meeting our speaker, Kirsty Watt, braved the snow and sleet to come and talk to us. She gave an inspirational talk regarding the challenges and successes of raising a child with multiple disabilities. She gained the admiration of our members for her approach and the way she was continually seeking ways to improve the quality of her daughter's life.

The photograph shows some of the committee members with a sack containing over 10 kilos of jewellery, electronic gadgets and currency, which we collected for recycling. The cash raised from this is going to Jessie's Fund, a charity which helps children with complex needs or serious illness to communicate through music.

Our next meeting is on Monday 9 March at Milnathort Golf Club. Our speaker will be David Chisholm who will talk to us about Nepal.

For more information about Inner Wheel contact us by email at admin@innerwheel.co.uk or at our website www. innerwheel.co.uk.

Kinross Centre

We are all well and truly over Christmas and New Year now and following our New Year's resolutions! Well, some of us are! We are all patiently awaiting spring and hoping for some nicer weather to arrive.

February has been a busy month. A great big thank you to the Ladies from Kinross Inner Wheel who gave us a brilliant afternoon Tea Dance on Thursday 6 February. The food was just fantastic and the entertainment by Alec Cant was just wonderful. At the time of writing, we are looking forward to the Dance Sing event at the Campus on Friday 14 February. We will tell you all about it in the next issue!

Meanwhile, we continue with our regular activities every day. Exercises appear to be a big hit at the Centre as many of us like to keep active and fit.

The hearing loss drop-in clinic (held on the first Monday of each month) continues to be a great success for all users and it is very popular. We are very grateful for this service.

We also have some exciting news to share! We have a new class called Gentle Line Dancing due to start soon. Dates are still to be confirmed so look out for details in the Newsletter timetable.

Again we want to take this opportunity to give huge thanks to all our volunteers. We really do appreciate every one of 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 in Bloom

Our first meeting of the New Year brought welcome news; we now have enough money to complete the restoration of Crosswell Fountain! Our thanks to everyone who has donated to have this category C listed structure cleaned and restored. A proviso of receiving a generous grant from the Arthur and Margaret Thompson Charitable Trust is that the work must be completed by June 2020.

We have had to replace one of the planters at the Courthouse. Our next meeting will take place on Wednesday 4 March at 7pm in the church centre.

We also welcomed five new volunteers to our first meeting. We would welcome any new volunteers to help with the work of Kinross in Bloom in 2020. If you would like to help in any way (formally or informally) please contact us by email at susan.mitchell50@gmail.com

Kinnesswood in Bloom



We are pleased to welcome back Janice Hills as our new

treasurer. It is great to have someone to take on this role permanently.

A new work party list has been issued and, as usual, is displayed in the notice board and shop. We really welcome new people to our regular sessions on Saturday mornings. The first one took place on a rather chilly mid-February day. Let's hope there are not too many weekend storms ahead.

Rory has been looking at the cart at Gamekeepers. The metal base is in reasonably good condition and should be fine to rebuild on. The wood will need to be replaced and painted. It's great to have such practical help on our doorstep. We look forward to seeing a revamped cart in the summer.

The quiz and curry night will take place on Saturday 28 March at 7.30pm. Raymond will be our quizmaster. The evening will start with food, followed by the quiz and raffles. Tickets are £7.

We will be entering Beautiful Scotland again but, after three years of winning the Take a Pride in Perthshire small village category, we are ineligible to enter this year. The well-kept village competition is in spring this year and judging takes place on Monday 16 March.

There is a theme of 'coasts and waters' for Beautiful Scotland this year. If any local crafters can sew, knit, crochet fish or other sea creatures we welcome your contributions. Contact Norma for patterns and wool. Margaret Paton has already offered a glass fish.

We hope you are enjoying the many new bulbs planted at Benarty View. It should be a splendid display.



Recipe

Supplied by Kinnesswood in Bloom

Fudge-Topped Coffee Sponge

SWI ladies are renowned for their baking. Here is Joanne's recipe for fudge topped coffee sponge which, I can assure you, is delicious.

Ingredients

225g self-raising flour

225g margarine

225g caster sugar

4 eggs

3 rounded teaspoons of instant coffee dissolved in boiling water (about half a cup)

Icing sugar

6 fudge sweets

Method

Using the all in one method mix the flour, margarine, sugar and eggs, then add around half the coffee to make a dropping consistency. Bake in a well-greased cake tin at 180 degrees until firm to the touch.

Remove from oven and allow to cool. Once cool, make coffee icing using icing sugar with the rest of the cooled coffee. Spread to cover the cake. Use around 6 fudge sweets, cut into small pieces, and sprinkle over the top of the cake.

Portmoak Community Woodland Group

We celebrated another year in the community woodlands with a Burns Ceilidh in Portmoak Village Hall on Saturday 1 February. Of course, any excuse will do for a few drinks and a lively strip the willow but we've always found that the Bard offers the perfect starting point. It gives our group a chance to show pictures of everything we've been doing in Portmoak Moss and Kilmagad Wood; from apple picking to bog restoration. It's also an opportunity for people from across the area to get to know us a bit better.

Our band was Ceilidh Minogue who make a great sound and guarantee to get people out of their seats. We had a half time break for haggis, neeps and tatties with huge,

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steaming portions provided by Lochend Farm Shop. Jaya Verden Anderson, as Poosie Nancy, carried in the haggis and Eilidh Buchanan said the Selkirk Grace before Dr Bill Carr gave the Address, as only he knows how. This year he sported a colourful eighteenth century costume complete with tricorn and used a First World War German bayonet and a Samurai sword to eviscerate the haggis (not the one we ate).



While we digested our haggis suppers, Elaine Carruthers recited Tam O'Shanter. There's few can beat her at bringing Burns' characters to life and you could have heard a pin drop as she took us on Tam's frightful, haunted journey with his grey mare.

Portmoak Hall 100 Club

January Draw

1st No 101 Lynn O'Hara Kinnesswood

2nd No 2 Rita Prichard Kinnesswood

3rd No 82 Anna Garner Scotlandwell

Our MC for the night, Dave Batchelor, quickly got everyone back on their feet with a brief pause later to pick the main raffle winner. The first prize was donated by Matt Hogg. He made another of his fantastic bird tables, constructed out of local recycled wood and including a church pew. Burns himself may have found something pithy to say about our wildlife benefitting from redundant kirk furniture.

Meanwhile we choose, as ever, to park ourselves in the Well Inn, Scotlandwell, at 7.30pm on the third Tuesday of the month to conjure up new ways of improving our woodlands and raise money for the cause. Please join us.

Circle Dancing

The Kinross Circle Dance groups will be taking a two week Easter break at the beginning of April. However we will then be dancing each week until the end of June.

If you would like more information regarding circle dancing, please contact Lynne on 07931 398098 or email lynne244@ btinternet.com. A warm welcome awaits you.

DON'T FORGET!

The clocks go forward on

31 March



RURAL GIGABIT FULL FIBRE BROADBAND

Rural Gigabit is a Full Fibre broadband initiative, run by the Cleish Hills Community Interest Company, supported by Perth & Kinross Council and the UK Government's Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme.

We help communities across Kinross-shire get the best possible broadband upgrade. Our aim is for all upgrades to be zero or minimal cost, based on the availability of government funding. Following a Full Fibre upgrade you are unlikely to pay any more than you do now for telephone and broadband services, unless you are currently on a very low cost "basic" broadband package. You can keep your existing telephone number, and the upgrade may add value to your property.

So far we have facilitated upgrades for 180 properties in Kinross-shire, and are helping a further 320 properties in Cleish, Benarty and Blairadam. We are here to advise any household or business on how to get their ageing copper line replaced with a Full Fibre (Fibre to the Premise) line.

Run on a voluntary basis, for locals by locals, we strive to ensure that upgrades in Kinross-shire deliver broadband that gives everyone: freedom to choose and switch suppliers on an open network; and the cheapest and widest choice of subscription packages. We facilitate this through Openreach Community Fibre Partnerships that deliver affordable, hyperfast, reliable, stable and future-proofed broadband.

Whether you are interested in a price conscious 30 Mbps service (superfast) or a reasonably priced 1,000 Mbps service (hyperfast), Openreach Community Fibre Partnerships deliver this, giving you an open choice of Internet Service Provider (ISP). Community Fibre Partnership upgrades are private, individual and not shared. Your existing Openreach copper line is replaced by a new Openreach fibre optic line, direct from the exchange to your property. No more noise or crackling on telephone calls or super-slow Internet!

www.ruralgigabit.org







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Potager Garden

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www.potagergardenkinross.com

As the weather improves, our Monday morning volunteer sessions (10.30-12.30) will be starting. If you are interested in joining us, or learning more about gardening, call in for a chat and a cuppa, or give Amanda a ring (details below).

In December our Christmas wreath making session in Gateside was busy. Thanks for the warm welcome and a fun creative evening.

We will also be placing plants for sale at Fossoway store in Crook of Devon and Kinross Laundry. Thanks to both businesses for their help with this. We have a wide range of perennial plants and shrubs at reasonable prices. These are also available at the garden on Monday mornings, or by arrangement.

Over the summer term we will be working with Kinross Primary school again. The children will learn about growing their own vegetables and will gain some practical experience. We will also be explaining about the plans for an allotment area in the school grounds; this is being supported by Kinross Rotary Club.

A circle of benches has been installed in the Hayfield wildlife area beside the school. We are also working on renovating the notice board and signage and installing an interpretive panel about the history of the site. This is being done with help from volunteers at the museum.

Thank you to Richard Rutherford for donating a number of trays, large pots and other items to the garden. Although people are trying to reduce plastic waste, please note that we have plenty of plastic plant pots for now. Thank you.

Both of the planted troughs on the garden gates have recently been broken. If anyone has any information about this please contact Amanda on the contact details below.

For further information, have a look at our website. You may also contact us on 07963 476803 or by email at amandajames1577@gmail.com.

Fairtrade

Fairtrade Fortnight 2020 - Make a Difference!

Please come along to the Kinross Church Centre on Saturday 7 March from 10am to 12pm to enjoy coffee, tea and delicious



baking, all using Fairtrade ingredients.

If you would like to make a difference to the people who grow our tea, coffee and sugar please make a commitment to buy products featuring the Fairtrade mark. This guarantees that the producers have been paid a fair price, use sustainable methods and respect the environment. It also means that they do not use child labour and they promote good working conditions and gender equity. It also promotes capacity building and the people in the community can decide how the Fairtrade premium (which is an extra on top of the fair price) is used; they do not have to apply to a group in the UK or another country to make that decision for them.

Everytime you choose a Fairtrade product you make a difference. Please ask for Fairtrade goods in our local shops, restaurants and cafes.

Kinross High School

Pupils Push for Period Poverty Prevention

S6 pupils Freya and Sarah were invited to a Scottish Parliament consultation on the Period Poverty Bill

at PKAVS in Perth to share their thoughts on the benefits of free period products with representatives from Perth and Kinross Foodbank, members of local government, MSPs and the Communities Committee. Standing with the girls on this issue were a local endometriosis group and young carers who gave insight into a range of issues regarding period poverty and their experience with existing provision schemes.

Lori Hughes, partnership and communities manager at PKAVS was happy to facilitate such a 'lively and vibrant discussion on an important issue' and Sarah Boyack MSP added: 'The committee began its inquiry into the Period Products (Free Provision) (Scotland) Bill with the aim of discovering whether such a scheme is necessary and how it would be implemented. Our visit to PKAVS was very productive with a great turnout. It was encouraging to hear such a wide variety of views on period product provision, and those views will be invaluable as we consider this bill.'

During the last summer holidays, the school received a government grant to purchase products from Hey Girls whose 'Buy One Give One' scheme donates a box of sanitary towels to someone in need for every pack we buy. Well stocked 'Purple Boxes' made their way into KHS classrooms

at the start of this school year and can be found in various locations throughout the school such as the office, the medical room, Home Economics, PE and the house offices. No one should have to miss out at school or struggle to concentrate because they don't have access to period products.

Mrs Spears, Freya and Sarah's Advanced Higher Modern Studies teacher highlighted their involvement in the consultation and is very proud of the girls for using their voice to fight for what they believe in. As a school, we're inspired by the senior pupils and aim to make access to essentials even easier.

S2 Pupils Make a Difference

A group of enterprising S2 pupils recently gave their time to dress the window of CHAS to drive donations to the charity and

Club & Community Group News



encourage locals to embrace upcycling and recycling.

As part of the Social Enterprise in Education programme, the team set up a project called 'Same Difference' which aims to raise money and create relationships with children from Rachel House and staff from the high street outlet.

The pupils' display was designed to make customers question themselves about what household goods they get rid of and where they could alternatively go to good use.

Mrs Penny, Teacher of Business Education said: 'The children and I all feel very proud to be building a relationship between CHAS and Kinross High School. So far we have raised a substantial amount to help with the amazing work that happens in Rachel House and we look forward to what we plan to do for the rest of the year. The project is giving our pupils the opportunity to develop their employability skills and raising their awareness of how they can impact society to make a difference.'

Lyndsay Stobie, community fundraiser for CHAS, added: 'It has been an absolute pleasure partnering with the social enterprise students at Kinross High School over the last few months. The students are learning how to build a successful business that will also give back to the community, which is such a commendable vision. It has been heartwarming to establish this link with the students, and I hope we can continue to help each other to support children and families when they need it most.'

We're proud to see pupils exemplifying our values, particularly compassion and responsibility. Keep up the great work.

Success for S1 Designers

Following on from last month's article, our S1 team of CDT pupils impressed the judges with their idea for a Social Hive, so much so that they secured a place in the 'Design Jam' at the V&A in Dundee!

The team had the chance to collaborate with a professional who worked in the industry which helped them fully realise their design. The pupils were inspired by a tour of the robotics exhibition and had the chance to look at biomimicry and how it can influence shape; even the way the exhibition was curated encouraged the team to explore how the walls in their design worked.

The group worked tirelessly to prototype and present their design to all competing teams, professionals and even a TV crew! We can't wait to hear the outcome!



Sportive Kinross

As a keen cyclist, S3 pupil Rory is working at lunchtimes to produce a specially designed cycle jersey to celebrate the tenth anniversary of Sportive Kinross supporting CHAS. Rory is using his DTP skills to incorporate paintings of a young child who attends Rachel House into his design. Event organisers have received a selection of refined concepts from Rory and we are looking forward to hearing which is chosen for the event which takes place in April 2020.

School Show Merchandise

A dedicated group of S3 girls are attending the CDT department on a Wednesday lunchtime to design and manufacture a range of merchandise that will be on sale at this year's school show. The 'Oliver' inspired designs make use of upcycled materials and are then being enhanced with computer generated designs using our laser cutter for etching. The group who are actively involved in this year's school show are using their enterprise skills to consider product suitability, copyright infringement, target market, sales strategy and promotion.

Wolfson Foundation Grant

The Science Faculty have been awarded a grant of £32,000 from the Wolfson Foundation which will help turn the department into a Centre for Scientific Excellence.

The support given by the Wolfson Foundation helps high-achieving, state-funded secondary schools improve teaching in STEM (Science, Technologies, Mathematics and Engineering) subject areas. Our impressive exam results and the progress of pupils were contributing factors in successfully securing the grant.

We plan to create four high-tech laboratory areas which will

About the Kinross Newsletter

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

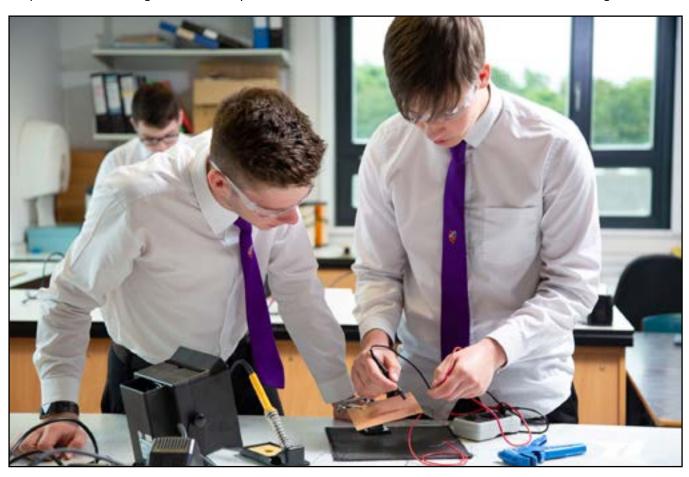
It began as a way of letting residents know what Kinross Community Council was saying and doing, but soon expanded to be so much more.

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

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

comprise of a microscopy classroom, a digital laboratory, an analytical laboratory and a microbiology area. These invaluable additions will allow young people studying Science access to state-of-the-art equipment and the chance to take their exploration of cutting-edge science to a whole new level.

Mrs Brown – headteacher and former Chemistry teacher – commented, 'Science continues to be a popular and exciting subject choice for young people at Kinross High School. I am delighted that the Wolfson Foundation has been able to support our ambition to become a centre of excellence for science.' Paul Ramsbottom, Chief Executive of the Wolfson Foundation added that 'Kinross High School is an ambitious secondary school with an impressive science track-record. We are pleased to support their aspiration to further encourage students to learn sciences in a modern learning environment



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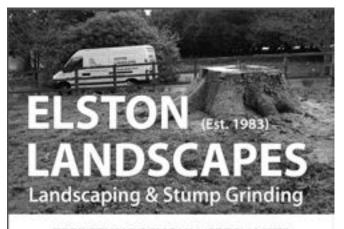
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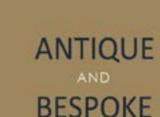
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Email: KinrossshireCivicTrustSecy@gmail.com

Lathro Phase 2 Revised Application: 169 Houses

Persimmon Homes have made changes to their application for phase 2 of Lathro Farm. Members of the public have a fresh opportunity to comment on the revised plans. The deadline for comments is Wednesday 4 March.

Last summer Persimmon applied for permission to build 195 houses in Phase 2, an increase of 82 dwellings over the number they currently have consent for. This application did not progress to the planning committee. Persimmon have now revised it to 169 dwellings, an increase of 56 over their current consent.

In 2017 Persimmon were granted permission for 300 houses across the whole Lathro Farm site. This has increased to 304 due to sub-applications by Springfield. The split was 187 houses in phase 1 (going up to 191 houses with Springfield's extra four) and 113 houses in phase 2.

The decision to grant 300 (or 304) houses was made despite the Council's first Local Development Plan (LDP) giving the

Lathro Farm site an allocation of 260 dwellings, with a supposed limit of 140 to be built up to the year 2024.

If Persimmon are granted permission for 169 houses in Phase 2, that will take the total number of houses over the whole of Lathro Farm to 360. That is 100 houses above the allocation given in the LDP – an increase of 38%.

Persimmon say they are responding to market demand by building a larger number of small size homes rather than a smaller number of mainly large houses as originally consented.

To see the revised plans and, if wished, make a comment, go to www.pkc.gov.uk. Click on View/comment on planning applications. Click on the link to the online planning system. Put the reference 19/00917/FLM in to the Planning – Simple Search search box and click

Search. This takes you to the planning record for the application. Click on

Documents to see the layout plans etc. Click on Comments then Make a Comment to submit a comment directly online.

Alternatively send an email with your comments to: **developmentmanagement@pkc.gov.uk**. You must include your full name and address, but only your name will be published with your comments. Quote the reference 19/00917/FLM.

Or you can write to: Planning and Development, Pullar House, Kinnoull Street, Perth, PH1 5GD. Quote the reference number, your name and address. Remember, the deadline for comments is 4 March.

Pitdownies Housing Application Rejected

Springfield's application to build 67 dwellings at Pitdownies in Milnathort was refused permission by PKC's planning

committee in February. Planning officers had actually recommended refusal — a rare occurrence. Some reasons given were that the number of dwellings exceeded the capacity range stated in LDP2 and some properties would be adversely affected with privacy and overlooking issues.

Annual General Meeting

The AGM of Kinross-shire Civic Trust will take place on Wednesday 29 April 2020 at 7.30pm in Cleish Village Hall.

Well Kept County Awards

The number of entries this year currently (as at 14 Feb) stands at three villages, which is one fewer than last year, and six hamlets, which is one more than last year.

The villages will be judged on 16 March and the hamlets on 19 March.

David Hill, Chair of Well Kept County Awards Committee

Email: drhmarshbrook@gmail.com



Persimmon's latest proposal would mean 360 houses in total at Lathro Farm (Photo: Eileen Thomas)

PLANNING PERMISSION BUILDING WARRANTS

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

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

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Loch Leven Community Library



Loch Leven Community Campus, Muirs, Kinross

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loch leven library @culture pk.org.uk

www.culturepk.org.uk

Opening Times

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

(Monday 10am-1pm & Saturdays 1-3pm. Limited service, staffed by volunteers)

Jump Into Libraries family morning.

Sat 14 March 10am-1pm.

Come along to Loch Leven library on 14 March to our Digital Morning. Find out all about what the library has to offer including our new Makerspace. Digital Maker_Spaces have the latest in cutting edge digital technology, and are free to use if you are a Culture Perth and Kinross Library member. They offer an opportunity to edit photos, create mini-movies, paint digitally, make posters, print in 3D and so much more. Maker_Spaces also offer a creative working zone for everyone including community groups, creatives, small businesses and individuals.

Also on or digital morning, learn how to access E books, e Audios and E newspapers. Find out what to look out for with fraud and scams.

Have a go —Virtual reality headsets, science experiments, Robot Lego challenge and lots more for an fun morning.

Makerspace Event

Thursday 26 March 6-8pm, £5

How to... get started 3D prototyping & printing. Please book: www.culturepk.org.uk/what's-on

Regular Sessions for Young Children

No need to book, just come along:

Bookbug Rhymetime

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

Pre-school Story Time

Tuesdays 10.15am-10.45am.

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

Stay and Play

Wednesdays 2.30-3.30pm, Saturdays 11am-12.00.

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 and one for children running at Loch Leven Community Library.

Crime book group:

Once a month on a Tuesday evening, 6.45-7.45pm

General Book group:

Once a month on a Friday morning 10.30-11.30am

Cafe book group:

Once a month on a Saturday morning 11.15am.

Next meeting 7 March.

Children's book group:

For children aged 7-11 years. First Friday of each month 4-5pm

Next meeting: 13 March

New members welcome. Contact the library for more info. Please contact the library for any further book group dates

IT Help Sessions

Free sessions but booking essential as spaces are limited. Twice monthly on a Thursday 2pm onwards. Please phone to book a place.

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 that 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 25 Feb 6-7.45 pm.

Foodbank

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

- Free WiFi & Computer use for library guests and members
- 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 (FLLCL)



Planning a holiday to a new and exciting place this summer? If so, why not come along to the library and choose an appropriate travel guide?

FOLLCL volunteers extend Kinross Community library opening hours on Mondays (10am-1pm) and Saturdays (1pm-3pm) throughout the year, excluding public holidays.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, why not come along during the hours mentioned above to find out what we do? Alternatively give Richard a call on **07999 510 500** for more information. We look forward to meeting you.

Sports News



Kinross Volleyball's new premier league team

Kinross Volleyball Club

The Kinross Volleyball club WAGS (Women And Girls in Sport) initiative has welcomed a few more newcomers on Monday evenings. The social component of volleyball has increased across the country. Indoor social volleyball sessions will continue at the campus until the end of March so anyone, male or female, considering trying it should simply come along. Sessions take place in the large games hall on Monday evenings, 8pm-9.45pm. The cost is £2 per week.

The Perth District Leagues at Bell's Sports Centre on Sunday evenings are drawing to a close. There are just a few league matches outstanding and the league titles have already been decided. Our premier league team has been going through a transition this season; three new under 16 boys joined with our older, more experienced adults.

Our recreational teams have also been in a transitional phase this season. There are new faces in the mixed Mongrels team and the girls' team from Kinross High School competed in their first season.



Our Kinross Boys' Brigade team has is the only team which has not changed much.

There will be an end of season spring cup competition for both premier and recreational league teams. Fixtures will be announced by the end of February.

There have been 30 teams (including a mixed Kinross team) already entered into this season's Scottish Open Volleyball tournament. Over 100 teams are expected to play on the 40 grass courts. The event will take place on the North Inch on 23-24 May.

Once again, the club will be travelling to De Haan in Belgium for the annual outdoor tournament in August.

Meanwhile, Kinross High School pupils are looking forward to Scottish Volleyball's competitive festivals for S1,2 and 3 pupils in March and for S4,5 and 6 pupils in May.

Kinross Road Runnners

http://kinrossroadrunners.weebly.com

Despite the wild weather our winter training sessions continue



Sports News

to be popular. There is something for everyone, no matter your running ability, and we are always keen to see new faces.

We have well over 100 club members and there are many more local runners out there who are not members of a club. This is very evident from the growing numbers who take on the parkrun at Loch Leven's Larder on a Saturday morning. Joining a club is not for everyone but it certainly provides motivation, camaraderie and a focus on how to get the most out of your running; whether that be enjoyment, general fitness or improvement.

Our training sessions fit all abilities and involve a variety of running activities. We have interval or repetition sessions (often on a small hill) to improve running speed, evening torchlit trail runs of up to 5 or 6 miles to help with strength and stamina and slower chatty runs where socialising takes priority.

We have a busy club championship programme throughout the year. This encourages members to take on a 10k, half marathon or trail run in lovely settings across central Scotland and into the Highlands.

The training schedule for March is outlined below. We meet for all sessions at 7pm. For local sessions we meet at the reception of the community campus and for runs outside Kinross or Milnathort we meet at the start of the run (or earlier at the health centre car park for car share).

In addition, we have occasional sessions at the Fife Cycle Park in Glencraig to take advantage of their traffic free and well-lit track. There is an informal trail or hill run on Sunday mornings at a very leisurely pace. Details are publicised on Facebook page and we meet at 9am at the health centre car park. Check our Facebook page or website for further information.

March Programme

1 Sun Bishop Hill Race3 Tues 5 mile street-lit run

4 Wed 2 mile time trial, kit sale and hot chocolate

10 Tues Hills, interval training

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

11 Wed Pyramid reps/parlaufs12 Thurs Torchlit trail run, Blairadam

17 Tues
18 Wed
21 Sat
Hills, pyramid
8 x 90 sec intervals
Ceilidh at Portmoak Hall

24 Tues Hills, benchmark at Fife Cycle Park

25 Wed 5 mile street-lit run

Milnathort Golf Club

www.milnathortaolfclub.co.uk

Whilst the golf season has yet to start for 2020, some of our junior members have been recognised for their achievements last season at the Perth and Kinross County Golf AGM and prize giving recently held at Craigie Hill.

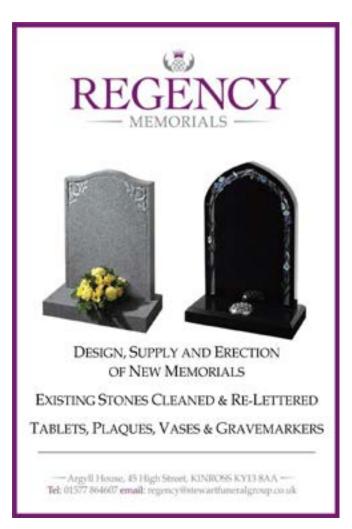
The junior Bell Salver is a handicap match play competition which runs across the season and, last year, involved eight clubs across the county, playing matches at home and away.

Last season, the club entered two teams (the only club in the county to do so), to allow more of our junior members to play and gain experience.

Our Milnathort 1 team, played 4 away matches and 3 home during the round robin stages. There were no losses, and they progressed via the semi-final to the final against Muckhart, which was played at Muckhart golf club.



Winners Ramsay Scott, Euan Wallace, Adam Ruiz and Oliver Ruiz with Calum Hill













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During a fantastic afternoon of golf, our team of Ramsay Scott, Euan Wallace, Adam Ruiz and Oliver Ruiz come away as winners. The attached picture shows the team, being presented with vouchers and the Bells Salver by Calum Hill, 2020 European Tour player.

The junior section continues to thrive, with some 72 junior members. Alongside the handicap competition, we enter a team into the scratch league, golf 6's (for younger, new golfers) and organise our own training evenings on Friday nights.

We have recently welcomed Alastair Wallace as our new club captain and are also pleased to have several new members. We are looking forward to a wonderful season with recent improvements to the course.

The club welcomes new members and offers the 'get into golf' membership scheme, which allows those wishing to take up the game to do so at lower cost.

The club is recognised as one of the best 9-hole courses in the country, and for the past two years has hosted the R&A 9-hole championship competition.

For more information please visit our website.

Kinross Bowling Club

The AGM of Kinross Bowling Club was held in the clubhouse on Sunday 26 January, 2020. Officials elected as below:

PresidentG M RennieVice PresidentJanet MitchellTreasurerChristine Matthews

Secretary S M Rennie

The President thanked the outgoing President Paul Grant for his three years' service. Prize winners for 2019 were as follows:

	Winner	Runner Up
Tuesday Hat Game	Jean Cousar	I Stewart/ I Christophers
Barnes Trophy	Sheila Rennie	G.M. Rennie
Handicap	Paul Grant	G.M. Rennie
Montgomery	Paul Grant	G.M. Rennie
S/S Hand	Jim Cousar	S.M. Rennie
Ladies Pairs	Christine Matthe	ws/Sheila Rennie
Gents Pairs	Paul Grant/Geor	ge Rennie

Club Correspondents

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

Thank you

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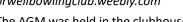
	R Sneddon/Jim Cousar	
Mixed Pairs	Sheila Rennie/	Jean Cousar/
	Paul Grant	G.M. Rennie
Presidents	Paul Grant	Jim Cousar
Bess Hunter	Sheila Rennie	P Sneddon
Ladies Championship	Sheila Rennie	Jean Cousar
Gibson Triples (2018)	Paul Grant/	G.M. Rennie
	Jean Cousar/	S.M. Rennie
	C Matthews	R Sneddon
Gents Championship	Carried over to next season due to illness	
	P Grant, V.R Moffat	
Renton Trophy	Paul Grant	S.M. Rennie

If anyone would like to have a go at bowling this coming season, **contact G.M. Rennie on 01577 864727**. Young or old, come along and have a go! It's a good outdoor sport for all ages – you would be very welcome and coaching is available to any prospective bowler.

The green opens on Saturday 25 April at 2pm.

Orwell Bowling Club

Bowling Green Avenue, Milnathort Tel: 01577 865538 orwellbowlingclub.weebly.com



The AGM was held in the clubhouse at the end of November. The following positions were filled:- President, Jim Whittet; Vice-President, Tom Reid; Secretary, Sandra Fullerton; Treasurer, Jim Whittet; Match Secretary, Maz Thorn.

NEED HELP PREPARING FOR ENGLISH OR MATHS EXAMS?

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Sports News

Committee members are Jean Menzies, Mike Thorn, Bobby Brian, Graeme Duncan, David Winton and Alistair Morgan.

It was agreed to leave the membership fees at £85 for full members. It was also agreed that any children in a family would be free up to 15 years old, this includes single parent families.

The green will open on Saturday 11 April at 1.30pm for a 2pm start. Please come along to pay your fees and catch up with all the members you haven't seen during the winter.

The opening game is in aid of the blind bowlers so please bring a raffle; contributions are much appreciated during the season as well. More information is available on our website and we now also have a Facebook page.

Please note there will be a quiz night in the clubhouse on Saturday 21 March. Teams of four can be entered at £2.50 per person. Please contact Mike or Maz Thorn on 01577 842271 for information.

Kinross Tennis Club

www.kinrosstennisclub.org.uk

We will be hosting an open day on Saturday 28 March and everyone is welcome! Our fantastic new courts will be available all day for free play and we'll also be running free taster coaching sessions throughout the day. All equipment is provided. There will also be an opportunity to meet current members and find out about membership and the coaching sessions available. Check our Facebook page @ Kinrosstennisclub and our website for more details.

Our busy winter coaching programme will continue until the Easter break. We're currently running sessions for Tots (3-5 years) and Family Tennis (for ages 6 and over with a participating adult) on Saturday mornings. On Tuesdays we run sessions for children ages 5 up to teenagers, including a dedicated class for teenage girls. All sessions are run indoors at Loch Leven Community Campus.

There are also lots of opportunities for adults to play. We are running beginner and improver classes on Monday and/or Tuesday mornings and Sunday evenings. These sessions are outdoors and currently run on a 'weather dependent, pay on the day' basis. Members and non-members are welcome.

During the Easter holidays, junior sessions will run on 15, 16 and 17 April. More details will be available on our Facebook page and website soon.

For more information on any coaching sessions, contact Siobhan MacLeod at kinrosstenniscoaching@gmail.com.

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Grate Building, Tiling etc.

Social sessions are also continuing to run on Wednesday evenings, Thursday afternoons and Sunday mornings, weather permitting! New players are always welcome Further details on all coaching and club activities can also be found on Facebook, our website or by email at *kinrosstennis@qmail.com*.

Kinross Colts

The Colts are delighted to have achieved charitable status from the Scottish charity regulator OSCR.

This achievement recognises the efforts of our trustees in ensuring that club governance is maintained to the highest standards as we seek to grow the club and the provision of football activities in Kinross-shire.

Our 2008 team are moving up from 7-a-side to 11-a-side football this year and are aiming to bring new players in to add to their squad. Anyone interested should call Ian on 07788 912048.

Our 2009s are undertaking a series of fundraising events to buy new training kit and support Mindspace, a local mental health charity. One group of players and parents will be completing a mini triathlon before jumping in Loch Ore. A Quiz Night and Ceilidh are also planned. If you'd like to support the kids and a worthy charity, please visit the Kinross 2009 page on justgiving.com to make a donation.

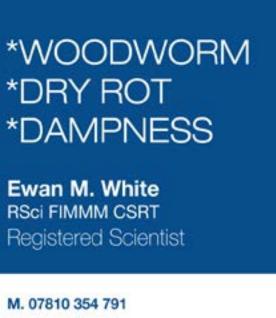
As our 7-a-side teams prepare for the start of the season in early March and five of our teams have been kitted out in brand new strips.

If any businesses would like to sponsor any of our teams, please call John on 07504 398668.









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Scottish Women's Institutes



GLENFARG – With snow and ice lying thickly outside, and the threat of Storm Dennis to come, what better than to escape to the warmth of Spain and enjoy a meal of tapas and sangria? For a short evening, members could pretend the sun was out as Lynda Stuart introduced them to garlicky mushrooms, empanadrillas, meatballs in tomato sauce, Spanish omelette, three different types of olives and the most wonderful crispy squid rings with a velvety aioli. With sangria to wash it all down, it was a demonstration and spread to remember. Margaret Scott proposed a well-deserved vote of thanks.

Valentine's card:Alison HarrisonHeart-shaped biscuit:Sheena ChisholmFlower of the month:Vivien Hepplethwaite

BISHOPSHIRE – Joanne Cowan welcomed members and visitors to our meeting on Thursday 13 February. After dealing with business, she introduced our speaker – Jay Hutchison from Carnbo SWI. Jay spoke to us about her exciting experience as an Evelyn Baxter Scholar and her year touring Scotland teaching Felting to SWI groups. We were then treated to a hands-on demonstration of simple felting techniques when we all managed to produce ladybird gift tags. This was a very enjoyable evening much enjoyed by all. *Next meeting will be a members' night when our own members*

will be providing the entertainment. Members should bring a hard-boiled egg and egg cup. New members welcome.

Three sweets: Margaret Paton
Flower of the month: Shelagh Gouldie

BLAIRINGONE – At the February meeting, President Mary Ramsay introduced Sara Brown who outlined her pathway to becoming a Reiki Instructor. Through her own ill health that the NHS seemed unable to cure she was introduced to Reiki and the rest was history. Having been restored to full health she began her training into Reiki and over the past twenty years has been treating people and also horses and dogs. She is able to transfer the energy she has within her to others to effect improvement in their conditions. Our members thoroughly enjoyed her presentation and a vote of thanks was given by Joyce Petrie.

Favourite dog picture: Agnes Murray & Joyce Petrie

Flower of the month: Joyce Petrie

CARNBO – President Angela Browning welcomed members and our speaker Dahlia Campbell, Dietitian to the February meeting. Dahlia gave a very informative talk on key foods and women's health. Lisa Dawson gave the vote of thanks.

Flower of the month: Jessie Stirling
Carved fruit or veg: Margaret Greener



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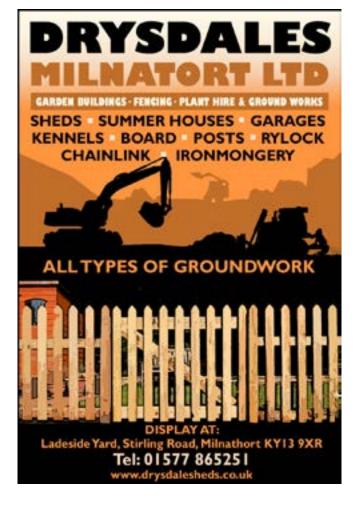
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Out & About

RSPB Loch Leven

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www.rspb.org.uk/lochleven

Telephone: 01577 862355



SPRING IS ON its way: snowdrops are flowering in our wildlife garden at RSPB Loch Leven and we are hearing song thrushes, blackbirds and chaffinches singing in the woodlands early in the morning.

There are still plenty of woodland birds

visiting the bird feeders in the Leafy Loop and Wildlife Garden. At the end of January, we welcomed the Tay Bird Ringing Group to our reserve and its fully trained and licensed bird ringers provided a very informative bird ringing demonstration in which they managed to ring a total of 126 woodland birds mainly blue tits, great tits, goldfinches and chaffinches but also greenfinches, a tree-creeper and a lovely family of long tailed tits. All the birds quickly flew back to the woodland to carry on with their daily routines after being ringed. This process allows scientists to obtain important information about the movement of birds, their average lifespans and population increases or decreases, providing vital data for species recovery, habitat management and the effects of climate change.

If you take a walk along our woodland trails, you should see many nest boxes already in place waiting for potential occupants. Hopefully plenty of birds will take up residence over the next few weeks and successfully produce plenty of fledglings later in the spring.



Snowdrops (pic: Andy Hay, copyright rspb)

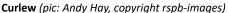
Out on the wetlands and in Vane Bay there have been large flocks of ducks, including teals, wigeons, tufted ducks and goldeneyes. There are still around 1000 pink-footed geese roosting and feeding around the Loch Leven area. This number should start to increase again when geese return from further south stopping over to re-stock on food before their long flight north to their breeding grounds in Iceland.

There has been a large flock of almost 200 curlews on the reserve, feeding on the wetland and getting ready for the breeding season. It has been wonderful to see so many curlews together. A quarter of the world's population of curlews breeds in the UK but curlews are on the red list of endangered species. Surveys show that curlew numbers are falling fast and that curlews are having trouble breeding successfully in the uplands.

There will be two Optics weekends at the reserve this month – the weekend of Saturday 29 February and Sunday 1 March and then later in the month on the weekend of 28 and 29 March. Come and try out our range of binoculars and telescopes with advice readily available from our friendly team.

We are also hosting a Spring Writing Workshop on Sunday 22 March 10am to 2pm. This workshop is always very popular and will be led once again by our writer in residence Anita John. If you are ready to be inspired by the sights and sound of nature and want to learn how to capture the images in words, then book a place online at rspblochleven.eventbrite.com or visit our reserve and book a place in person.

Anne Sinclair Visitor Experience Officer, RSPB Scotland Loch Leven





Loch Leven NNR

Life On The Loch



THE STORMS HAVE continued during the month. We have been managing to get outside when we can this month. Spring is surely just around the corner.

Once again, Trout in the Classroom is going ahead this year. Since 2008 we've been going into schools with trout eggs. Pupils see the eggs hatch into tiny fish, then they release them into the local burns in March. In June we return with electro fishing equipment to see what we can find. This year Portmoak and Kinross primary schools are involved. All releases are conducted under strict licence regulations.

We have done a few repairs to Burleigh carpark. We have filled in the potholes and tried to work on the drainage. Burleigh is a busy carpark and we managed to do this without shutting it. We look to go in once a year and tidy it up.

At this time of year, we look at potential dangers around the trail. A few years back we removed a few of the Scots pines. It is always a last resort to fell trees. We have found that trying to predict which trees will be the next to be removed by the weather is difficult. We plant hundreds of trees every year to replace the ones that are lost.

January and February can be quiet months for interesting nature sightings around the loch. The most interesting thing was the high count of little egrets roosting on the loch shore.

Up to 10 were present throughout the month. The great white egret made a reappearance during the month too. The usual Slavonian grebes and greater scaup were also present. The nuthatch remained throughout the winter period on a golf course bird feeder.

Discovery Day date has been set. This year it will be on 24 May at Kirkgate Park and will run between 12 and 4pm. We will, in the meantime, pray for good weather. All activities will be undercover. Discovery Day is a great opportunity for local wildlife related groups to get together.

The volunteers have been busy this month. We have laid the hedge in Burleigh. Now we have done this, it will be a while before we do it again because all our hedges have been laid. When the path was put in no one predicted the cost and effort that would entail. Years later we are still removing the plastic forest from around the reserve. All these are lovingly processed and sent away to be recycled. More trees have been planted.

Please keep an eye on the Blog (Loch Leven Wordpress), Loch Leven NNR Facebook page and the Loch Leven NNR Instagram. All are regularly updated. There will be more in the coming months about our organisations name change in the coming months too. We will be known at Nature Scot.

Look forward to writing to you next month unless I get blown away.

TTFN Jeremy Squire

Little Egret



Gardening



WELCOME BACK! I hope the winter's been kind to you and you've been able to spend even a little time in your garden in the driving rain, wind, snow and ice. March is the month when it all kicks off again for the year – planning, cleaning, clearing and sowing.

If you've left growth on your perennials to die off over the winter to help the wildlife, now's the time to cut it back to allow the young green shoots to develop and give them space and light.

Spring's also a great time to lift and divide clumps of perennials that have become choked and overgrown. They'll look much better and will give the added bonus of free plants. They'll benefit from feeding and mulching too – well-rotted manure is great for this.

Tubs and pots will also benefit from a top dressing of compost – I usually clear out the top three or four inches and put fresh stuff on top ready for summer planting.

It's time to start weeding again, yay! Weed now and there will be less to do later on – that's what I keep telling myself anyway, even though there's more interesting stuff to do around the garden.

Talking of interesting stuff, I usually start some annual flower

seeds off in a heated propagator towards the end of March. As a rule, annuals take six to eight weeks from germination to planting out, so the end of March/beginning of April is ideal. However, some take much longer, such as snapdragons, which I usually start off indoors in February. Once the seeds have germinated and the seedlings have their first set of true leaves not the first set to appear, usually the second – pot up into trays of compost or cells. I use 15-cell tray inserts as these are large enough not to have to pot on again before planting out.

If, like me, you lifted begonias and stored them somewhere cool and dry over the winter, you should probably take a peek at them. I've been resisting the last few weeks but fingers crossed they'll be starting to chit (small shoots

appearing on the corms) and can be potted up. I put them in small pots of compost, flattish side down, concave side up, in a heated propagator to give them a good start. Don't cover them with compost, rest them on top and push down slightly. Don't worry if you don't have a propagator, somewhere warm and light is ideal. Remember to water around the corm so that water doesn't collect in the middle and rot the corm.

Overwintered plants in the greenhouse should be starting to show some signs of life now. I bought lots of Dahlia tubers last year and planted them in large pots to use on the

patio and to fill gaps in the borders – also, I didn't want the job of digging them all up in the autumn. The pots were put in the greenhouse and wrapped in bubblewrap over the winter. During March they should start shooting (I hope) and I'll scrape off the top few inches of compost and replace with manure – Dahlias are extremely hungry plants. They'll also benefit from cutting back slightly as they grow to encourage a bushy, flower infested show during summer.

Spring is probably my favourite season – lots to do and the promise of a great season to come. I hope you all enjoy your time in the garden over the coming month.

Theresa Stirling

Discover Loch Leven Website

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

www.visitlochleven.org



Local Gardens to Visit



GARDENS OPEN IN MARCH

The historic gardens and grounds of **Fingask Castle** (*Rait PH2 7SA*) are open by arrangement on **Monday 2 March and on Thursday 5 March** for winter walks amongst ancient topiary and drifts of snowdrops.

To arrange a visit, please contact Mr & Mrs Murray Threipland, andrew@fingaskcastle.com. www. fingaskcastle.com Entry £3, children free.

Rowberrow (18 Castle Road, Dollar FK14 7BE) Please contact Bill & Rosemary Jarvis Tel: 01259 742584, rjarvis1000@hotmail.com to arrange your visit.

Admission £5, children free.



Weather



Recent Weather Reports from Kinross

January

Total Rainfall 109.7ml / 4.38in Heaviest Fall 15.5ml (29 Jan)

Total Sunshine 36 hrs

Sunniest Day 5 hrs (18 Jan)

Max Temp Average 7.78c

Highest Temp 12.9c (7 Jan)

Min Temp Average -0.12c Lowest Temp -5.8c (9 Jan)

Snowfall Recorded **003cm** (28 Jan)

Loch Leven Ferry Times

1 Apr to 30 Sept: Daily, 10am to last outward

sailing at 4.15pm.

1-31 Oct: Daily, 10am to last outward

sailing at 3.15pm.

Admission prices Adult £9, Child £5.40 (includes ferry trip) Conc £7.20. HS card free



Climate change in Kinross?



This has been an exceptional month for rain. Whether this is evidence of climate change or not remains to be determined but the fact remains that the water level in the loch is at a height rarely seen. Compare these two pictures of the pier (above) – one taken during



summer and the other towards the end of February, after Storm Ciara and Storm Dennis led to localised flooding across Kinrossshire. The pic below is of the Heritage Trail (wellies required!). Thanks to Loch Leven NNR for their photo.



Ferry Opening Times

Loch Leven Castle, Castle Island, Kinross

The ferry to Loch Leven will resume service on 1 April. 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.

1 Apr to 30 Sept:

1-31 Oct:

Daily, 10am to last outward

sailing at 4.15pm.

sailing at 3.15pm.

Admission prices: (includes ferry trip) Adult £9, Child £5.40, Conc £7.20. HS members free.

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Donald, Where's Your Troosers?

IT'S NICE TO SEE the hours of daylight lengthening, ending the short, dark days of midwinter. It always amazes me how, after just a couple of weeks from the shortest day there is a noticeable difference in the daylight hours. (But as they say, simple things please simple minds!)

By the time you are reading this article, it won't be long until the clocks change to 'summer time' but this seasonal changing of the clocks is under scrutiny from the European Union and, in turn, the UK government. The current arrangement results in lighter mornings in winter and lighter evenings in summer, and it makes more of a difference to those of us in further north areas such as here in Scotland. Whatever is decided the sun will still rise in the morning and set at night but at exactly what time remains to be seen.

Here at backward farm, at the moment, the lengthening hours of daylight have just allowed me to see all the puddles lying as a result of the heavy rain recently, although compared with some other areas of the country, we should consider ourselves fortunate. Getting on to the fields with anything other than the quad bike has been almost impossible, but now we are having to muck out the cattle sheds as the level of dung is building up and the herd of cows we are over wintering will soon be calving, so the sheds need prepared for that.

I think the cattle will have been quite glad to have been inside these past few months, being sheltered from the rain but they probably wish that the sheds were more closed in. Our buildings are mostly quite open sided which is good for the health of the animals as generous airflow means that they don't sweat and respiratory problems very rarely occur. The downside though is that the wind blows straight through three of the sheds in particular and if it snows, the cattle turn white and the bedding gets soaked, although fortunately it isn't often a problem.

The ewes have been pregnancy scanned and have access to our clover-rich silage. The potential number of lambs scanned is better than last year, but I had hoped for a slightly higher percentage, considering that I had treated the ewes to some vitamin and mineral 'licks'. Still, it's a reasonable result, so we will see how it all pans out during lambing.

The pigs are continuing their work of destroying an ever-increasing area of the farm and they are evidently quite hardy creatures because it is very rare to see them sheltering in their arcs, no matter how inclement the weather seems.

When they do take shelter, though, it seems that they do it en masse. In one of the paddocks, two sows each have an arc for themselves and their respective piglets. Donald, the

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.



Tamworth boar Donald and the gang

Tamworth boar has been granted visiting rights recently from the neighbouring paddock he was sharing with the other sows

Just this morning when Ian and Kerry went out to feed them, 2 sows, 18 piglets three months old and a ginger Tamworth boar emerged from a single arc, that is designed for a sow and her piglets. To describe the situation as cosy would be an understatement. A very metropolitan arrangement indeed!

John





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Kinross-shire Churches Together



Kinross Parish Church

Church of Scotland (Charity no SC012555)

Following Christ I Spreading the Word I

 $oldsymbol{S}$ erving the Community

10 Station Road, Kinross KY13 8TG

Church website: www.kinrossparishchurch.org Facebook:www.facebook/kinrossparishchurch.org Church E-mail: office@kinrossparishchurch.org

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

Church Office: Tel. (01577) 862570

Contact the church office if you are interested in leasing

rooms in the church or church centre.

Minister: Rev Alan D. Reid MA, BD Tel: (01577) 862952

Ordained Local Minister: Rev Margaret Michie

Tel: (01592) 840602

Session Clerk: Jaffrey Weir Tel: (01577) 865780

Events listed below are in the church unless indicated otherwise.

Regular Services and Events

Sundays: 10.30am: Morning Service with creche. Junior

Church (age 3 to P7) and 'Jam Pact' (Secondary Age) meet at church centre from 10.15am, finish

at church.

7.30pm: 'Crossfire' (S1 upwards) in church centre.

Tuesdays: 10am: Pram Service.

Wednesdays: 10.45am: Service, Church Centre.

1.30pm: Craft Group.

Fridays: The Brigade, Church Centre.

Anchor Section 6-7.15pm, Junior Section 7-9pm,

Company Section 8-10pm (Contact: David Munro 862126).

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

Other Events and Services in March

Sun 1 10.30am Quarterly Communion. Retiring offeringthe Kinross-shire Volunteer Group and Rural

Outreach Scheme (SC015642)

4.30pm Informal Café Church, organised by the

Family Week team: 'Sticks and Stones'

Mon 2 8am: Silent Meditation.

Tue 3 2.30pm: Service at Whyte Court 4pm: Service at The Sycamores

7.15pm: Guild, church centre. Dr. Pam Cairns on one of this year's Guild Projects: 'Free to Live

Trust'. Collection for the project

Thu 5 7.30pm: Thursday Group, church centre:

Open Beetle Drive

Fri 6 World Day of Prayer: prepared by the women of Zimbabwe. 2pm: short service, church centre

6pm: Cleish Parish Church

Sat 7 8.30am: Prayer Breakfast (names in advance to

church office)

Sun 8 2.30pm: 'Let's Sing' tea and sing along. Particularly

for those with dementia and their carers

Sat 14 8.30am: Prayer Breakfast (names in advance to

church office)

Tue 17 7.15pm: Guild, church centre:

'Backhouse Rossie Estate'

Thu 19 9pm: late evening service of Compline

Sun 22 10.30am Morning Service, including Annual

Stated Meeting

Loch Leven Church (Charity No: SC049050)

Loch Leven Church meets at Loch Leven Community Campus, at 10.30am each Sunday.

Forthcoming services:

1 Mar Caroline Jones.

8 Mar Life-Changing Encounters:

An anxious politician (John 18/19) - Jim Crooks.

15 Mar Andrea Wigglesworth:

Crossreach/ National Christian Counselling

Service.

22 Mar Life-Changing Encounters:

A demanding sceptic (John 20) – Josh McLellan.

Everyone is warmly welcome. To find out more about us, please visit www.lochlevenchurch.com.



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

March

Sun 1 11.15am Morning Worship followed by refreshments in aid of Guild funds. Traidcraft Stall.

Mon 2 3.15pm Messy Church in the Village Hall. Open to all children and their carers.

Sun 8 11.15am Morning Worship*.

Sat 14 8.30am Men's Breakfast Meeting in Elizabeth Wilkie Hall, Fossoway.

Sun 15 11.15am Morning Worship*.

Sun 22 11.15am Morning Worship*.
Sacrament of Baptism

Sun 29 11.15am Morning Worship*. Stated Annual Meeting followed by Congregational Lunch.

Mon 30 2.00pm Cleish Guild meet in the Village Hall.

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

Churches Together

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 Saturday 29 February in Orwell Hall from 4-6pm.

No morning service at Portmoak Church.

3 Mar The Guild meets in Orwell Hall at 2pm – Kate White

talks about The Japanese Garden – followed by AGM

10 Mar Culdees Celtic Service in Portmoak New Room at

10.30am – All are welcome.

17 Mar The Guild meets in Orwell Hall at 7pm for the Charity

Mea

27 Mar Oasis Ladies Group meets in Portmoak New Room at

10.15am for a Craft Morning

31 Mar Culdees Celtic Service in Portmoak New Room at

10.30am – All are welcome.

EVERYONE WELCOME!

Church office & shop open Mon-Fri. 10am-12pm.

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

or well and portmoak church @gmail.com

Fossoway, St Serf's & Devonside Church

Church of Scotland (Charity number SC013157)

Church Road, Crook of Devon, Kinross-shire, KY13 OUY www.fossowaychurch.org.uk

Minister: Rev Lis Stenhouse Telephone: (01577) 842128

Email: estenhouse@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk: Mrs Janet Harper Telephone: (01577) 840225

Email: aclassicsoul@aol.com

Our church is a very warm and welcoming place situated in the Crook of Devon, a small village about six miles from Kinross. Come and join us, we would love to meet you.

Sunday Services at 9.45am. All are welcome.

February

Sun 1	9.15-9.30am	A Time for Prayer.
	9.45am	Morning Worship.
		Followed by refreshments: bacon
		rolls, coffee and tea. Fair Trade goods
		also available for purchase
Sun 8	9.15-9.30am	A Time for Prayer.
	9.45am	Morning Worship.
Sun 15	9.15-9.30am	A Time for Prayer.
	9.45am	Morning Worship.
Sun 22	9.15-9.30am	A Time for Prayer.
	9.45am	Morning Worship.
Sun 29	9.15-9.30am	A Time for Prayer.
	9.45am	Morning Worship.
		Followed by Stated Annual Meeting

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

Friday **6 Mar** 7.30–9.30pm (Church Hall)
Our next film is **Judy**: Legendary performer Judy
Garland (*Renée Zellweger*) arrives in London in
1968 to perform a series of sold-out concerts.
Please join us for the film, a cuppa and a blether
and even some popcorn.

Fossoway Babies and Toddlers

Every Friday during term time 9.30-11.30am, Fossoway Church Hall. A warm, cosy space for play, stories, snacks and chat.

KIN-NECTIONS OUT NOW

The March - May issue of Kin-nections, the magazine of Kinross Parish Church, is now available. The magazine is free and you can pick it up at the church, church office, church centre, the library and various cafes around Kinross.

This issue includes reflections and prayers which you may find useful in the run up to Easter. There is information on what is going on in the church in Kinross and the wider world, covering all ages from '100 years of Kinross BB' to 'Let's Sing', the church's dementia-friendly sing along and afternoon tea held on the second Sunday of the month.

Church Supports Volunteer Group: The work of the Kinross-shire Volunteer Group and Rural Outreach Scheme is due for a boost following the decision of Kinross Parish Church to make it the recipient of its special 'retiring collection' at the Quarterly Communion Service on 1 March. The group's volunteer drivers provide a valuable service to local residents who require transport and the collection should help meet the associated costs.







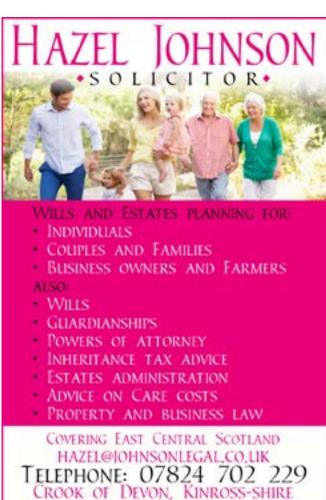












Coffee Shop

OPEN

Monday - Saturday 9am - 4.45pm

Sunday 11am - 4.15pm

Lunch menu served daily 11am - 4.00pm

Before relaxing in our popular Coffee Shop enjoy a browse in our store where you will find a fantastic selection of gifts, ladies & mens branded clothing as well as our cashmere clothing & accessories.

Breakfast Rolls (until 11.30am) Soup & Sandwiches Toasties & Paninis Cakes & Traybakes

Teas & Coffees Cold Drinks

Cashmere at Lochleven Lochleven Mills, Kinross KY13 8DH

Tel: 01577 867570 www.cashmereatlochleven









St Paul's Scottish Episcopal Church (Part of the Worldwide Anglican Communion)

Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8AY Tel: 01577 864299

Email: office@stpaulskinross51.plus.com

www.stpauls-kinross.co.uk Fr David Mackenzie Mills, Rector.

Tel: 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 licensed by the Registrar's Office to conduct same sex marriages at St Paul's). Our aim is to express our deep appreciation of both the spoken and sacramental Word with

a lightness of touch and a smile.

Children are equally welcome to stay in church during the service or go to the meeting room for Sunday School and everyone is particularly invited to stay together during our monthly 'Whole Church' services.

We predominantly use the 1982 Liturgy on Sunday mornings but create experimental devotion for special events throughout the year. If you would like to give us a try, we look forward to meeting and greeting you and hope that you might enjoy becoming part of this faithful family of Christ.

1st Sundays 4pm Evensong with hymns **1st Mondays** 10am Pastoral Care group

1st Mondays 10am Pastoral Care group (Side Chapel). **Tuesdays** 11am Informal Holy Communion (Church Office). **Thursdays** 10am Thursday Morning study group (usually in the Meeting Room). 1.45-2.45pm Rector's Hour. An opportunity to drop in and speak to the Rector in the Church Office.

Forthcoming services and events – all welcome

March Services and Events

Sun 1 Lent 1

8.30am Holy Communion11am Sung Eucharist4pm Evensong with hymns

Fri 6 World Day of Prayer

1.30pm Kinross Centre;7pm Cleish Church of Scotland

Sun 8 Lent 2

8.30am Holy Communion 11am Sung Eucharist

Sun 15 Lent 3

8.30am Holy Communion 11am Sung Eucharist

Sun 22 Lent 4 (Mothering Sunday)

8.30am Holy Communion

11am Whole Church Sung Eucharist

Sun 29 PASSION SUNDAY

8.30am Holy Communion

11am Lay-led Liturgy of the Word and Sung Eucharist

Tues 3rd ST PAUL'S QUIZ NIGHT

7.30pm in the Church

Save The Date(s)

Sat 28 & Sun 29

Weekend of Prayer for the world, our country, our local community and the potential plans for development at St Paul's

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

& Confessions (9.30-9.50am)

3pm Divine Mercy Devotions.

Sat 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 cafe – see separate notice in the Newsletter. Additionally, the Friday evening Youth Group at the Millbridge Hall (Space) is also the responsibility of our Fellowship, and we are pleased to accept this privilege.

Kinross Gospel Hall

Montgomery Street, Kinross www.kinrossgospelhall.info

Sunday 10.30am Breaking of Bread.

12.30pm Sunday School.

4.00pm Gospel Meeting (1st and 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).

playgroups and Toddlers

Milnathort Babies & Toddlers

Orwell Church Hall, Milnathort Friday 9.30am-11.15am

A relaxed and friendly group Healthy snacks, tea & coffee Children from birth to 3 years (5 years if attending with younger sibling) Great fun for the kids, mums, dads and carers!

PLACES NOW AVAILABLE!



To join in the fun call 07745 804539 Email milnathortbt@gmail.com Or find us on Facebook



GLENFARG BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

We meet in the newly refurbished village hall, Greenbank Road, Glenfarg on Mondays, 9.30-11.30am, term times.

Healthy snack for children, coffee/tea & biscuits for carer Role play, jigsaws, physical toys and arts and crafts Friendly support for all carers

First session free, £2 thereafter (£1 for additional children)

Contact Catherine Mason on 07583 022608 or just come along!

LOCHLEVEN BABIES & TODDLERS

Masonic Hall, The Muirs, Kinross Session times (term time only)

Tuesdays 9.30-11.15am, Fridays 9.30-11.15am 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 11.30am
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

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

 ${\bf Swansacre\ Playgroup\ SCIO-SC017748-Registered\ Scottish\ Charity}$

PORTMOAK UNDER 5s

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



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

Session times: Tues & Fri 9.45am-11.30am.
Sessions are £2 per child (£1.50 for under 1s) and 50p for each additional child. A snack is provided.

For all queries please email portmoakplaygroup@hotmail.com or find us on Facebook

MONTGOMERY TODDLERS

Every Thursday 9.30am-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 Playaroup information, please send an email to: editor@kinrossnewsletter.org





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www.alisonmuirsoftfurnishings.co.uk















64 High Street Kinross **KY13 8AJ**

Kinross-shire Centre

Weekly Programme

Friday

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
	Board Games, Dominoes etc	1.15pm
	Singing group with Alex Cant	1.45pm
Wednesday	Morning Worship	10.45am
	Dominoes, Scrabble & other games	1.30pm

Tai Chi 1.30pm (4th, 18th ONLY)

Art Class 1.30pm

Thursday Carpet Curling or Boccia 11am Film or Music Afternoon 1.30pm

Balance & Strength Class

Dominoes, Scrabble, Cards 1.30pm **Balance & Strength Class** 1.30pm

Dominoes, Games or Music 1.30pm (EXCEPT 14th) 1.30pm (EXCEPT 14th) **Bingo**



Film shows • Cards **Dominoes • Art Class Exercises • Chiropody Trips • Daily Papers**

* GENTLE LINE DANCING * **NEW CLASS COMING SOON – DATES TO BE CONFIRMED!**

COFFEE BAR OPEN TO ALL from 8.30am - 4pm Older Adults Lunches Daily

11.15am

Our activities are open to everyone. Please feel free to come in and have a great afternoon. 01577 863869

kindaycent@tiscali.co.uk



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-6p	om) 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



NOTICE of AGM

Scottish Charity SCO45931

Community Benefit Society 7524

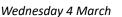
The Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held on

Friday 6 March 2020 at 7pm

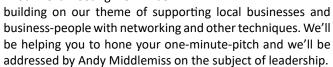
Loch Leven Community Campus, Lecture Theatre

Kinross-Shire

Networking Breakfast



In our next meeting we will be



Andy was a career soldier in the Kings Own Scottish Borderers for 33 years, serving throughout the world, including Malaysia and Borneo, Belize, Germany (during the Cold War) and Northern Ireland. His roles included running Jungle Warfare Training, instructor at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, and commanding his regiment in Edinburgh. He now works as a volunteer for the Perth and Kinross Branch of SSAFA, a charity helping serving, and ex-serving members of the armed forces and their families.

The meeting will be at Loch Leven's Larder from 7.15 to 8.30am and we welcome businesses, individuals and groups to come and find out about each other's organisations and get to know one-another. If you've been before, we'd like you to bring a friend, colleague, customer or supplier with you on Wednesday 4 March, we'd like to meet them too!

If you're new to Kinross-shire this is a great way to find out what services or businesses are in the area. If you're starting a new venture, looking to extend an existing one, or trying to find a specific point of contact, come and tell the Networking Breakfast so we can help you.

Our next Breakfast will feature a talk on running a small business efficiently, from Jim Boyd of No.98 Kinross (on Wednesday 1 April), and after this we will have a talk from the owner of the Buffalo Farm in Fife, who has run a successful crowdfunding campaign. These meetings will be really popular, so fix those dates in your diary. To book your place, email Karen Grunwell at mail@kinrosspartnership.org.uk. You can book and pay in advance (through EVENTBRITE) or pay in cash on the day. Please let us know you are coming to ensure the Larder staff have breakfast ready for you.

The meeting cost, including a full cooked breakfast, is £10 per person.

www.visitlochleven.org

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

KINROSS-SHIRE PARTNERSHIP

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 8th April 2020, 7:00pm

Loch Leven Community Campus, ICT Room





Kinross-shire Volunteer Group and Rural Outreach Scheme



Gordon Menzies Concert

Saturday 14 March 7.30-10.30pm Milnathort Town Hall BYOB & nibbles. Raffle. Tickets from David Aird on 01577 830

Tickets from David Aird on 01577 830370, Sandy Smith on 01577 862536 or any committee member.

Fairtrade Fortnight

24 February - 8 March 2020

Coffee Morning

Saturday 7 March 10am-12pm

Kinross Church Centre 'She Deserves a Living Income' Tea and Coffee and lots of Fairtrade goodies to sample!

Race Night

Saturday 21 March Masonic Hall, 7pm

Kaleb Widley is, like some other Kinross High School pupils, fundraising £4000 to enable him to take part in the World Challenge in 2021. He will be going to Borneo to take part in conservation efforts with orangutans, giant sea turtles and sun bears. The experience of a lifetime, the trip will also involve some hard graft involved digging ditches and assembling water pipes to help local villages get safe, fresh water.

Kaleb's sister Murrin recently had to have life-saving spinal surgery, and poor Kaleb struggled with his emotions. The family found him help and support with PKAVS in Perth, who helped Kaleb re-build his self-confidence. As a thank you to them, Kaleb and his family want to donate any extra funds raised over his total to PKVAS so that they can help others as they helped him.

Kaleb's next Fundraiser is a Race Night, on Saturday 21 March in the Masonic Hall in Kinross, with music and a buffet. Doors open at 6pm and the races will start about 7pm. Everyone is welcome to come along and help Kaleb raise funds. Tickets are available on the door at £3, and there will be a raffle.

For more details, contact Deborah Widley at debs.w@sky.com

The Gaelic Society of Perth

We had a great ceilidh in February with the superb singing of the Perth Gaelic Choir and Gordon McKeeve with wonderful piping from John William – who will be a future star piper; and The Gaelic Society of Perth will hold their 140th Anniversary ceilidh at St Matthew's Church Hall, Tay St, Perth on Friday 13 March 2020 at 7.30pm.

We have a great line up of performers – Norrie MacIver, Deirdre MacTaggart and Calum Angus MacDonald will all sing, while Stella Wilkie (fiddle) and Joan Blue (piano) and a piper from Perth and District Pipe Band will provide the music.

This is the final ceilidh of the winter season. Come and hear these great Gaelic singers and instrumentalists and celebrate this landmark birthday with us!

Admission is £6 for Members and £7 for Non-Members – for an evening's entertainment plus refreshments! Further information can be obtained from the Secretary on 01577 864589, on our website gaelicsocietyofperth.com or like us on Facebook – we are Gaelic Society of Perth.

Gardeners' Question Time

in Abernethy Masonic Hall Main Street Abernethy PH2 9JB.

7pm for 7.30pm on Friday 20 March for the local Horticultural Society.





Notices

Music In Dollar

Saturday 21 March

www.roxburghquartet.com

Music In Dollar will hold their next concert of the season on Saturday 21 March at 7.30pm at the Gibson Hall, Dollar Academy, Dollar. The Roxburgh Quartet, from Edinburgh, will play string quartets by Haydn – the Friedhofsquartett, Britten – Three Divertimenti for String Quartet and Beethoven – The Razumovsky. The Roxburgh are the quartet in residence at the Lauriston Hall, and they play a wide repertoire of music for string quartet. 'Inspired music played with complete control, imagination and deep insight.' (The Courier). Supported by Cafe des Fleurs, Dollar. Tickets cost £10 either on line or at the door, £7 for members and free to under 18s and those in full time education.

Further information from the Concert Secretary on 01577 864589 or the Society website www.musicindollar.org.uk.

Kinross Garden Group

Thursday 12 March, 2pm Millbridge Hall, Kinross. Professor Stephen Phillips 'Plants For Medicinal Uses' All welcome to join us.

Orwell Bowling Club Quiz Nights

Saturday 14 March in the Orwell Bowling Club clubhouse. Teams of four £2.50 per person

Contact Mike or Maz thorn on 01577 842271 for information.

Glenfarg Folk Club

March 2nd, Sing-around March 9th, Eddie Walker March 16th, Open Mic

March 23rd, Becky Mills & Ruth Angell

March 30th, BrÒg

Cleish Church Fete

Saturday 16 May

The Cleish church fete will be held on Saturday 16 May 2020, from 1pm. There will be the usual stalls, refreshments and a barbecue, along with a display of classic cars and a musical recital in the church.

The Fossoway Gathering

Saturday 22 May 2020

We hope to build on the success of the 2019 Gathering which was, despite the dismal weather, a great success.

We invite small businesses, crafters and makers to take a stand at the Gathering. Last year we had 500 visitors so there is an opportunity to sell your products and produce and promote your business. Local organisations wanting to promote themselves are very welcome too.

HEDGES, BUSHES OR TREES CAUSING OBSTRUCTION

Property owners are reminded that it is their responsibility to cut back hedges, branches, bushes etc to ensure that pavements and public footpaths are not obstructed.

Property owners may be liable if injury is caused to others and may be charged costs if Perth & Kinross Council is forced to take action.

When undertaking work on hedges, check that there are no birds nesting. It is an offence under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 to damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built. The bird nesting season is usually considered to run from March to August.

Please get in touch if you are interested. Email Trudy at fossowaygathering@gmail.com.

Let's Sing

Sunday 8 March, 2.30pm

This is an informal get-together in Kinross Parish Church, mainly for people with dementia who enjoy singing and who are accompanied by their carer(s) – but we also welcome anybody who just likes a good sing!! We will have tea and a chat, sing some well-known songs and have time to meet new friends If you know of someone who might like to come along, please let them know. Even better, bring them along! Future dates are Sunday 12 April, 10 May, & 14 June. For further information please contact:

Broke Not Broken

Drop off donations at:

Sainsbury's, Kinross Glenfarg Village Shop Co-operative, Kinross

Brenda Frier 07771985265 or Isobel Watt 07961919967

BROKE NOT BROKEN

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

LOCAL CHEMIST INFORMATION

Rowlands Pharmacy, Kinross

Mon-Fri **9am-6pm**Saturday **9am-5pm**Tel **862422**

Davidson's Chemist, Milnathort

Mon to Fri: 9am-6pm (Open lunchtime)

Saturday: **9am-12.30pm** Tel: **01577 862219**

Sundays: The nearest open pharmacy is

Asda, Dunfermline







Scottish Country Dancing

Country Dancing has started again in Milnathort Town Hall on Wednesday nights at 7.30pm. No partners are required, and new members are very welcome. For more information please contact Cathie on 01577 861103.

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.

The Bike Station

Donate unwanted bikes, parts and cycling accessories for reuse. Poorer bikes are **REVOLE** 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.



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



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

Befriending Kinross



Are you new to the Area? Would you like someone to talk to?

Someone to have a coffee with?

Help to feel less socially isolated?

If you would like to request a befriender please contact us and we will arrange a time to meet with you to discuss the process.

ptb.kinross@bethanyct.com

t: 07747 018 550



Kinross-shire Fund

The Kinross-shire Fund was established in 2006 to make the area a better place to live, by making



grants to a wide range of local charities, organisations and projects which make a positive difference to the community. To date, over 50 organisations within the 73 square miles of Kinross-shire have benefited from an award, with beneficiaries ranging in age from pre-school to the elderly. The Fund is managed by Foundation Scotland and is currently open for applications, with deadlines quarterly on the first Monday of February, May, August and November each year.

The next deadline is Monday 4 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.

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.

SUNDAY CEILIDHS

Mar 29 Leonard Brown **Ewan Galloway** Apr 19 Apr 5 Leonard Brown & May 24 **Scott Carnegie** Jun 21 **Scott Band** The Homelanders

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

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

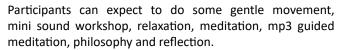
Richard Lister: 07885 971298, richard.lister@cairscotland.org.uk

Supported and funded by Broke Not Broken, a local charity tackling the effects of poverty.

Mindful Relaxation Class

Mondays, 7pm-8pm

Loch Leven Community Campus ITC Room.



The sessions are run on a drop-in basis. Entry is by donation. Further information from Vincent Johnston at:







Better Place to Live Fair

Kinross-shire Community Learning and Development Group Loch Leven Community Campus

Saturday 30 May 2020

10am - 2pm

After the successes of the previous Better Place to Live Fair Events the KCLDG invites you to take part in the event for 2020.

The purpose of the fair is to provide an opportunity for the community to celebrate what Kinross-shire has to offer.

This is a fabulous opportunity to showcase what your group/club/organisation and small businesses can offer/share.

Why not take this chance to interest people by offering hands-on taster sessions, demonstrations, or to try out an activity.

BOOK NOW

Can you afford not to be there?

PLEASE RETURN BOOKING FORM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BUT NO LATER THAN 27TH MARCH 2020

Booking forms are available from www.kinross.cc/cld_group/events.htm

Alternatively please contact:

Tracey Ramsay - Senior Capacity Building Worker Loch Leven Community Campus, Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8FQ

Email: TRamsay@pkc.gov.uk, Tel: 01577 867124



Kinross Recycling Centre

Bridgend Industrial Estate

Opening Times: Mondays to Fridays

Saturdays and Sundays

9am to 7pm 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.

Funding Alert!

PKC regularly produces a huge list summarising funding opportunities for the voluntary sector. The list will be posted on www.kinross.cc or telephone the PKC grants helpline on 0345 60 52000.

If your organisation is seeking funds, look out for notices in the *Newsletter* for Kinross Community Council Newsletter Ltd Charitable Grants and the Kinross-shire Fund.



Perth Citizens Advice Bureau

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)

People who need help to identify and claim the right benefits or advice to help them to negotiate the benefits system in any way can access assistance from Perth Citizens Advice Bureau's 'Benefits Advice In Libraries' project in Kinross at Loch Leven Library. The service is available on Tuesdays by appointment only. Telephone the bureau on 01738 450581 to make an appointment.

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

Enquire

Are you looking for information about your child's rights to support in School? If so, contact Enquire, the national advice and information service for additional support for learning.

Enquire offer: a confidential telephone helpline and online enquiry service, practical guides, fact sheets and newsletters, helpful materials for children and young people with additional support needs.

For more information contact: Tel 0345 123 2303

Website: www.enquire.org.uk

Enquire is funded by the Scottish Government and managed by Children in Scotland.



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

Your last chance to catch the 2019 exhibition on the Development of Housing in the last 100 Years in Dollar. 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 are open at weekends: from 11-1 and 2-4.30pm on Saturdays and 2-4.30pm on Sundays, from Easter until Christmas.

Entry is free and all are welcome. Parking and disabled access. The Museum will also open on request at other times for visiting groups and researchers – please see our website or contact dollarmuseum@btconnect.com.

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
April	Friday 13 March	Saturday 28 March
May	Friday 17 April	Saturday 25 April

Funding Alert!

PKC regularly produces a huge list summarising funding opportunities for the voluntary sector. The list will be posted on www.kinross.cc or telephone the PKC grants helpline on 0345 60 52000.

If your organisation is seeking funds, look out for notices in the *Newsletter* for Kinross Community Council Newsletter Ltd Charitable Grants and the Kinross-shire Fund.

Grants and Funding Websites

www.pkgrantsdirect.com www.foundationscotland.org.uk

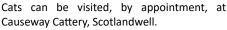
Mindspace Recovery College

Mindspace Recovery College runs free courses covering all aspects of mental health, co-delivered by people with lived experience, and are open to all.



Homes for Cats Wanted

Fife Cat Shelter, a Scottish Registered Charity, is always looking for homes for rescued cats.



Contact Rhona on 01383 830286.



Notices

Community Councils

Kinross: Chair: Bill Freeman, 01577 865045

Email: kinrosscommunitycouncil@gmail.com

Milnathort Chair: Craig Williams, 07885 722125

& Orwell: Email: craig@stovestuff.scot

Sec: Elizabeth Rougvie

Email: communitycouncilmilnathort@gmail.com

Portmoak: Chair: Graham Cox

Email: PortmoakCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk

Fossoway & District: Chair: Trudy Duffy-Wigman, 01577 840669

Email: fossoway.cc@gmail.com

Cleish & Blairadam: Sec: Patty Fraser, 01577 850253 Email: CleishCommunityCouncil@pkc.gov.uk

Kinross Community Councillors

Margaret Blyth6 Muir GroveDavid Colliar10 Rannoch Place01577 864037Bill Freeman (Chair)64 Muirs01577 865045Lynne McKay5 Springfield Road01577 531076Thomas StewartGellybank Farm01577 864603Malcolm McFarlane

Portmoak Community Councillors

 S McGregor
 (Secretary)

 A Cragoe
 (Treasurer)

 Susan Forde
 01592 840128

 Tom Smith
 01592 841160

 Graham Cox
 (Chairman)

 Dave Morris
 01592 840500

Have a look at our website: www.portmoak.org

01592 840467

Perth and Kinross Councillors Kinross-shire Ward

Clir MIKE BARNACLE (Independent)

Andrew Muszynski

Tel/Fax (home): 01577 840516. Email: michaelabarnacle@gmail.com Website: mikebarnacle.co.uk

Moorend, Waulkmill Road, Crook of Devon, Kinross, KY13 OUZ

Clir CALLUM PURVES (Scottish Conservative & Unionist) Tel (office): 01738 475092. Mobile: 07557 812570.

Email: CPurves@pkc.gov.uk 54 Lathro Park, Kinross, KY13 8RU

Clir WILLIE ROBERTSON (Scottish Liberal Democrats)
Tel (home): 01577 865178, Mobile: 07909 884042.

Email: wbrobertson@pkc.gov.uk

85 South Street, Milnathort, Kinross, KY13 9XA

CIIr RICHARD WATTERS (SNP)

Mobile: 07557 812513. Email: RWatters@pkc.gov.uk

Applegarth, Sunnypark, Kinross, KY13 8BX

John Nicolson MP Member of Parliament for Ochil and South Perthshire

Telephone: 020 7219 3000
Email: john.nicolson.mp@parliament.uk.
Twitter: https://twitter.com/mrjohnnicolson
Facebook: https://facebook.com/JohnNicolsonSNP
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/johnnicolsonmp

Member of the Scottish Parliament for Perthshire South & Kinross-shire

Roseanna Cunningham MSP

Constituency office: 63 Glasgow Road, Perth, PH2 OPE

Telephone: 01738 620540

Email: Roseanna.Cunningham.msp@parliament.scot

Members of the Scottish Parliament for Mid Scotland and Fife Region

All MSPs can be contacted at the following address: The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

Claire Baker MSP (Labour) Tel: 0131 348 6769

Email: Claire.Baker.msp@parliament.scot

Murdo Fraser MSP (Conservative) Tel: 0131 348 5293 Email: Murdo.Fraser.msp@parliament.scot Dean Lockhart MSP (Conservative) Tel: 0131 348 5993

Email: Dean.Lockhart.msp@parliament.scot

Alex Rowley MSP (Labour) Tel: 0131 348 6826 Email: 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

Main Street

1200-1300

Visiting on Tuesdays 10 & 24 March

Widin Street	1200 1000		
Rossie Place	1545-1615		
Visiting on Wednesdays 4 & 18 March			
Opposite shop	0930-1000		
Hall	1005-1020		
Leslie Road	1025-1050		
	1100-1120		
Gairneybank	1140-1200		
Mill Gardens	1320-1340		
Village Inn	1345-1445		
Pitcairnie Lane	1500-1530		
Kinross	1545-1615		
	days 4 & 18 March Opposite shop Hall Leslie Road Gairneybank Mill Gardens Village Inn Pitcairnie Lane		

For more information, see: www.culturepk.org.uk/libraries and click on 'Services in the Community'

Perth Samaritans

Need to talk? We'll listen.

Contact us by

Glenfarg

phone on 01738 626666 or 08457 909090 **Email** us jo@samaritans.org

or visit us at 3 King's Place, Perth, PH2 8AA

 $\begin{array}{ccccc} \mbox{Mondays} & 1630 - 2130 & \mbox{Thursdays} & 1630 - 1900 \\ \mbox{Wednesdays} & 0830 - 1100 & \mbox{Fridays} & 1000 - 1630 \\ \mbox{\it and} & 1930 - 2130 & \mbox{Sundays} & 0800 - 2130 \end{array}$

No pressure, no names, no judgment. We're here for you, anytime.

Local Volunteer Opportunities

Broke not Broken is a voluntary organisation working for the prevention and relief of poverty by providing support and practical assistance to individuals and families experiencing hardship. Please contact Claire Slight to find out how you can help: clare.slight@brokenotbroken.org

Greyhound Rescue Fife at Baltree Country Centre, Gairneybank, Kinross, needs volunteers to clean the kennels and walk and feed the greyhounds. Can you help? Phone 01592 890583. Visit our website at www.greyhoundrescuefife.com

Kinross in Bloom: Volunteer group that provides and maintains floral displays to enhance the environment of Kinross. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact 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 Caldow on 01577 863350 or Secretary Linda Freeman on 01577 865045 for more information.

The Potager Garden is a small community garden in Bowton Road, Kinross, KY13 8EQ. It is a registered charity run by volunteers, a main aim being to give education to schoolchildren about plants, gardening and the environment. If you would like more information about our volunteering opportunities, please contact the Convenor, Amanda James, on 01577 840809, or amandajames1577@gmail.com

Children's Hospices Across Scotland: Can you spare a few hours of your time? We are looking for volunteers in our **kitchen**, **housekeeping**, **driving**, **childcare** and **garden** teams.



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.

Volunteer Mentor

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.

Kinross-shire Volunteer Group and Rural Outreach Scheme



Do you have some spare time? Do you enjoy driving? Are you a people person? If so we have the ideal

volunteering opportunity for you. Kinross-shire Volunteer Group and Rural Outreach Scheme provide drivers to take people, mainly elderly, to appointments, shopping, etc.

Basically any trip most of us take for granted can be a challenge for someone without a car who cannot manage public transport. Our volunteers provide not just a driver but a helping hand and a listening ear.

There is never any pressure, you accept the trips you want to do and no more. Some of our drivers are happy taking people to Ninewells, etc, others prefer to just do local runs – both are equally valuable. At KVG&ROS we value all our volunteers and in fact are the holders of a Volunteer Friendly Award. If you are interested and would like to hear more please phone Pauline on 01577 862685.

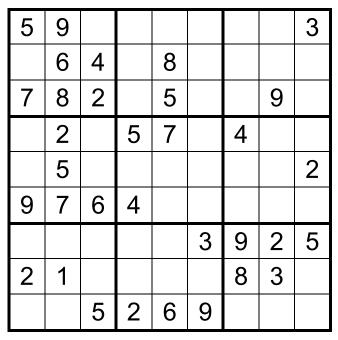
For more volunteering opportunities, go to the community website www.kinross.cc and look for 'Volunteering', or look at www.vaperthshire.org

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.

Puzzles

Welcome to our not-so-fiendishly-difficult puzzles page — enough to test your brain, not so much that it explodes from the strain. A moderately difficult sudoku and a Kinross-themed crossword should be enough to accompany your mid-afternoon cup of tea and shortbread. Answers are on the facing page. Let us know what you think — if you like it, we'll make it a regular feature.

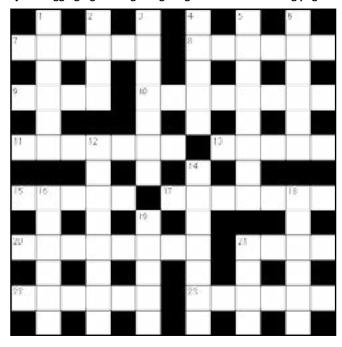
SUDOKU





KINROSS-WORD

Test your local knowledge with our crossword, where a number of the clues relate to Kinross and the surrounding area. No prizes - just bragging rights for getting it right. Answers on facing page.



ACROSS

- 7 This type of stronghold in Milnathort is muscle-bound (6)
- 8 Acquired by hard working Beavers (6)
- 9 Ivan the Terrible, for one (4)
- 10 Widely seen rodent, in two colours (8)
- 11 Elaborate bagpiping (7)
- 13 Popular Heritage Trail exercise equipment (5)
- 15 Rise to a higher level, like Benarty? (5)
- 17 Army unit, not just for boys (7)
- 20 Responsible for new houses (8)
- 21 Circular path, not always round a loch (4)
- 22 Often seen in the air over Kinross (6)
- 23 Something that Mary, Queen of Scots did (6)

DOWN

- 1 A Japanese battle cry (6)
- 2 Milky way unit (4)
- 3 How you might feel on a boat to Loch Leven if it was very windy (7)
- 4 Out and ____, a section in this Newsletter (5)
- 5 Light Up Kinross are doing this to the town every year (8)
- 6 Hard to endure (6)
- 12 Kinross-shire bridge or a sign of hunger (8)
- 14 A summer game for Kirkgate Park (7)
- 16 How Carols at the Cross will be sung, by some (6)
- 18 Resembles week-old flowers (6)
- 19 They come back to Kinross every year (5)
- 21 Local beauty spot (4)

Situations Vacant

In conjunction with www.kinross.cc, the Newsletter is pleased to publish local situations vacant. Please go to the kinross.cc website before applying to see full details and to check whether a position is still available. (Go to www.kinross.cc then click on 'Local Adverts' and choose 'Situations Vacant').

Volunteer Coordinator

Kinross-shire Volunteer Group and Rural Outreach Scheme (KVG&ROS) is a volunteer community transport scheme and registered charity. We are looking to employ a coordinator to work 20 flexible hours per week, from home. The successful applicant must have computer skills, a good telephone manner, local knowledge and a sympathetic, caring approach to our mainly elderly service users. The co-ordinator is responsible for organising drivers from a pool of 30-40 volunteers to meet requests for lifts to medical and social appointments. Amongst other things, the job will include providing support for the volunteers, record keeping and occasionally helping with fund raising activities Job description and application form can be found on our website and should be submitted to David Aird, 1 Elm Row, Glenfarg PH2 9PQ, or by email to d.aird@outlook.com. Deadline for applications is 15 March.

Senior Care Assistant, Ashley House, Milnathort

Mainly evening shifts (5pm-10pm) to include every second weekend and dayshift cover when required. Applicants must have an SVQ level 3 and previous medication training. Wages are dependent upon experience and qualifications. For further information or to apply please email/forward CV to <code>info@ashleyhouse.org</code>.

Website/Facebook Content Manager, Kinross Agricultural Show

This is a voluntary position. The Kinross Show Committee need help with keeping our website, Facebook and Twitter pages up to date. Is this something you could help with to promote this great local event? We would also like you to develop new ways to promote the Kinross Show online. Please note that the Kinross Show website structure will be renewed and updated within the next few months. If interested please contact secretary Jane Drysdale for more information by email at kinrossshow@gmail.com or phone 07836 764183.

Treasurer, Kinross Agricultural Show

This is a voluntary position. Good with numbers? We need you! The Kinross Show Committee is looking for a new treasurer. Do you have the skills and time to help with this great community? Duties include working with excel spreadsheets and bi-monthly committee meetings during event session (July to October). Note that the Kinross Show financial year ends on 30 September and all invoicing and receipts are dealt with by the secretary. If interested please contact Jane Drysdale for more information by email at kinrossshow@gmail.com or phone 07836 764183.

Catering Assistant, Milnathort Golf Club

We are looking for people who have a flexible attitude and who can demonstrate excellent customer service.

Duties are varied. They include welcoming members and visitors to the clubhouse, preparing, cooking and serving snacks and meals, waiting tables, serving at the bar as well as some simple golf-related administration tasks and working as part of our existing small, friendly team.

The successful candidate will have completed food hygiene training, have some cooking experience in a retail environment, some bar experience would be preferred but is not essential as all necessary training will be given. Some evening and weekend working will be required. Part time or full time hours will be considered. Wage dependent on experience. Please contact or forward your CV by email to Milnathort.gc@btconnect.com.

Items for Sale

The Newsletter publishes items for sale listed on the kinross.cc website. If interested in purchasing an item, we suggest checking the website for current availability (www.kinross.cc then 'Local Adverts' then 'Classified Adverts'). If interested in selling an item, please list it on www.kinross.cc and it will automatically be published in the next available Newsletter, subject to space.

Electric fire £50

Wall mounted. 7 months old. Very good condition.

Seller Details:

Alex Penny 01577 862943

p22eck@hotmail.co.uk

Tassimo Coffee Machine and Pods £30

T45 Joy model. In full working order. Comes with 72 coffee pods (Americano and Cappuccino).

Seller Details:

Joyce Horsman 07423 751 262

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

Perth & Kinross School Term Dates 2020

TERM	START (for pupils)	END
Spring Term	Mon 6 Jan	Fri 3 Apr
Spring Holiday	Mon 6 April	Fri 17 Apr
Summer Term	Mon 20 Apr	Wed 1 July
Summer Holiday	Thurs 2 July	Tues 18 Aug
Autumn Term	Wed 19 Aug	
Mayday Holiday	Fri 8 May	
In-Service Days	Fri 22 May, Tues 18 Aug	

KIN-ROSSWORD ANSWERS

Escape DOWN: 1 Banzai; 2 Star; 3 Seasick; 4 About; 5 Adorning; 6 severe; 12 Rumbling; 14 Frisbee; 16 Loudly; 18 Droopy; 19 Geese; 21 Loch

ACROSS: 7 Castle; 8 Badges; 9 Czar; 10 Squirrel; 11 Pibroch; 13 Bikes; 15 Climb; 17 Brigade; 20 Builders; 21 Loop; 22 Planes; 23

Kinross-shire Centre

Weekly Programme

Monday Hearing Loss Support & Advice 11.00am (6th ONLY)

Scrabble, cards & other games 1.15pm
Bingo 1.30pm
'Stride for Life' Walking Group 2pm

Tuesday Carpet Curling 11am
Relaxation Class 1.15pm

Board Games, Dominoes et 1.45pm Sing Ago to w A4 exter V 1.45 S

Wednesday Morning Worship 10.45am

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Art Class 1.30pm

Thursday Further Notice

Film or Music Afternoon 1.30pm
Dominoes, Scrabble, Cards 1.30pm
Balance & Strength Class 1.30pm

Sabres Concert 1.30pm (16th ONLY)

Friday Carpet Curling or Boccia 11am

Dominoes, Games or Music 1.30pm (EXCEPT 14th)
Bingo 1.30pm (EXCEPT 14th)



Film shows • Cards Dominoes • Art Class Exercises • Chiropody Trips • Daily Papers

* GENTLE LINE DANCING *

COFFEE BAR OPEN TO ALL from 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



Useful telephone numbers

Medical		Perth & Kinross Council (PKC)
Loch Leven Health Centre	01577 862112	Customer Service Centre (Mon- Fri, 8am-6pm) 01738 475000
Loch Leven Health Centre Out of Hours	01577 865252	Reporting non-emergency Road and
NHS 24	111	Lighting faults (CLARENCE) 0800 232323
Perth Royal Infirmary main switchboard	01382 660111	PKC Out of Hours emergency numbers
Perth Royal Infirmary (Admissions and		Adult care services 0345 301 11 20
Enquiries Desk)	01738 473734	Anti-social behaviour helpline 01738 476173*42*
Ninewells Hospital, Dundee	01382 660111	(*42* telephone and leave a voicemail)
Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy	01592 643355	Child protection 01738 476768
Queen Margaret Hospital, Dunfermline	01383 623623	Council housing emergency repairs 01738 476000
Rowlands Pharmacy, Kinross	01577 862422	Dangerous buildings 01738 476476
Davidson's Chemist, Milnathort	01577 862219	Environmental Health 01738 476476
Police, non-emergency 10	101	Flooding 01738 476476
	Homelessness	Homelessness 0800 917 0708
Police, Fire & Rescue, Ambulance & Coastguard emergencies 999		Mental health services 0345 301 11 20
Gas (worried about gas safety)	0800 111 999	Roads (e.g. reporting blockage) 01738 476476
		Traveline Scotland 0871 200 22 33
Water (loss of supply, foul water emergency)	0845 600 8855	Loch Leven Community Campus 01577 867200
Floods SEPA Floodline recorded messages	0345 988 1188	Kinross High School 01577 867100