



Kinross Newsletter

Founded in 1977 by Kinross Community Council
Published by Kinross Newsletter Limited, Company No. SC374361

All profits given away to local good causes by The Kinross Community Council Newsletter, Charitable Company No. SC040913

www.kinrosscommunitycouncil.com/kinross-newsletter www.facebook.com/kinrossnewsletter

Founding editor,
Mrs Nan Walker, MBE

ISSN 1757-4781

Issue No 516

March 2023

DEADLINE

for the April Issue

5pm,

Friday 17 March, 2023

for publication on

Saturday 1 April, 2023

Contributions

The *Newsletter* welcomes items from community organisations and individuals for publication. This is free of charge. (We only charge for business advertising – see below right.)

All items may be subject to editing and we reserve the right not to publish an item.

Please also see our Letters Policy and Notes on page 2. Submit your item (except adverts) in one of the following ways:

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Editor's Page

Cover photo: Jenny Beveridge Cover Design: Lee Scammacca of Cree8

Letter From The Editor

THANK GOODNESS SPRING IS nearly upon us! It's pouring with rain as I write this letter, and no one is sure if we are in for sunshine or snow next. But that is one of the delights of living in Scotland and we are all used to it!

With the dreadful events in Turkey and Syria, I'm counting my blessings that we live in a safe place. The events there seem unthinkable to us in Kinross, but I am sure the people there felt the same way as we do before this disaster happened. If you want to donate to the relief effort, the Rotary Club recommends you have a look at <https://shelterbox.org/>.

Shelterboxes provide emergency shelter and tools for families robbed of their homes by disaster, transforming despair into hope.

Winning Ways this month (p43) has inspired me to try to give up complaining and see the positives wherever I can. If only we could all look for the good things instead of focusing relentlessly on every little error or flaw in our lives or that we see around us, the world might be a much nicer place.

Everyone is delighted that the Better Place to Live Fair is back in Kinross on Saturday 25 March and will be

opened by the lovely Eilidh Doyle. It will be great to meet lots of the clubs and groups that are featured in the *Newsletter* every month as well as to meet you, our readers.

Please do come along and have a chat to our friendly team. We are always pleased to have feedback about the *Newsletter* and welcome any ideas that you might have.

Hannah Phillips, Editor

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 and the *Newsletter* accepts no liability for any inaccuracies contained therein. Senders should ensure 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 contact details. Letters should be truthful and not contain matter which could cause legal proceedings to be taken against the *Newsletter*, which accepts no liability for any inaccuracies contained therein. The *Newsletter* does not necessarily agree with any of the views expressed on the letters or indeed other pages. All letters must contain the sender's address, although this may be withheld from publication on request.

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PKC: Perth & Kinross Council
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About The Kinross Newsletter

The *Kinross Newsletter* has been informing and supporting the community for over 45 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.

TWINNING

OUR 2023 TWINNING TRIP to Gacé will be a precursor to a celebratory 50th anniversary twinning link when the Gacéans visit Kinross in the summer of 2024.

We extend a warm invitation to present, past and new residents to savour the twinning experience which has blessed our two communities over the past decades.

The only cost involved is your travel costs and you can choose to fly, drive or channel crossing or any combination of these modes of transport. Once there you will be paired with a host family, specially selected to have interests similar to your own.

Our Gacé friends are expecting us to arrive on the weekend of 29/30 July, departing the following weekend in August.

During the week long visit there will be optional trips to places of interest and there are many spectacular locations to explore in and around Gacé including the Normandy beach landings, the Bayeaux Tapestry and Mont St Michel.

Prior to the pandemic, Kinross High School had annual school exchanges with pupils from Gacé and we extend an invitation to all former exchange pupils over the years to get back in touch with your exchange partners for a reunion this summer.

Anyone with thoughts of taking up this offer is asked to get in touch with me to discuss any thoughts or concerns you may have about coming on board for our unique local twinning experience.

David G. Munro, secretary
e-mail: d_g_munro@hotmail.com
tel: (01577) 862126

BIKES, BELLS AND BYWAYS

AS THE WARMER WEATHER approaches, bikes are starting to come out in greater numbers. We live on the incline of a main road. Everyone loves going downhill. The lycra clad groups and individuals power up the hill – impressively, the E-bikes with their older owners saunter at pace, while the rest test themselves in front of patient (and not so) cars, or walk up the path to the brow.

In this time of increased fuel costs and warmer weather, folk are going to be using bikes more, but judging by the way some of those passing us are riding, it can't be too comfortable for them (excluding sore posteriors).

I remember three necessities, told when young, to good riding (cycling proficiency instruction?). The right pressure in the tyres – I notice a lot of mountain bikes seem to be low on air when on the road, which is harder to ride; pedal with the balls of the feet as it can be painful on the arches; have the right seat height so that your foot will just touch the ground when you stop – knees up round the chest when pedalling can't be comfortable.

I've learnt two other 'necessities' as an adult: the right distance between the handlebars and the seat – for long or short backs; and having a bell to alert walkers on our byways.

If you want to do the adjustments yourself, there's a very good site on the 'interweb' that looks at the ergonomic way to set up a bike – type in 'bike ergonomics reduce size'. If this is too technical then why not take your bike to Sinclair Cycles at Loch Leven's Larder and ask for help – Mark is very helpful and even more obliging if you buy a bell and fit it before you use the Loch Leven Heritage Trail.

Why a bell? I can't emphasise its need and use enough (as a walker, cyclist and driver). On one walking occasion when about to pass walkers coming towards us, I suggested to my

partner to come over to my side of the path. She fortunately ignored me, for at that moment an unannounced cyclist shot between us at speed. I still have palpitations at the thought of what would have happened had she moved at that moment – hospital, without a doubt. How serious, who knows. Please get a bell and use it on the Loch Leven Heritage Trail to warn of your approach.

NB. Other bike shops and internet sites are available.

Julian Foster, Kinross

LOCH WORRIES

FURTHER TO RECENT ARTICLES in the *Newsletter*, I have been told by two sources that one of the problems is that the soil in Kinross-shire and around the Loch is naturally unusually high in Phosphorus (even if there were no agricultural run-off), and that Scottish Water is making the problem worse by adding excessive amounts of phosphates to the drinking water at the Glen Farm reservoir. This is reported to be because of blanket EU advice which should be adjusted to local conditions.

This further addition of a phosphorus burden to an already high level not only runs over through the system into the Loch but causes problems for local water supplies such as at Wester Balgeddie (Queens) where the water supply system is forced to breach the required levels because the water arrives too high in phosphorus. This may have already led to sanctions.

On a more general approach:

- *The Loch is too shallow to function properly - restoring its depth should be considered for the future.*
- *There should be better natural balance - restoring access for eels to flourish and migrate.*
- *Housing and other developments should have green sewage and waste-water systems such as reed-beds/dry systems etc. Both stop polluting the loch and reduce the current load.*
- *There is an active Forth Water organisation working to improve and restore things right along the Forth catchment area and in the Firth - into which Loch Leven drains - and there should be close involvement; articles in the Newsletter; public meetings; active engagements for those living round the Loch and its tributaries.*

The huge increase in development round Kinross and Milnathort – which is causing a huge burden on Loch Leven - has been allowed to get out of hand in volume, and out of control as to proper planning by a persistent failure: a) to exercise due limits on numbers; b) to prevent illegal tree-felling (serious soil-damage and 150 years needed to repair the damage) and c) gross pollution of a once internationally famous Loch and its fish.

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All these are as serious as climate damage and show a wholly irresponsible dereliction of a duty of care to look after the environment, and to restore the damage done by generations up to and including this one. Everyone needs to be active in remedying this before it is too late.

Susan FG Forde, Scotlandwell

IN RESPONSE TO RECENT reports in the *Newsletter* that farming is being singled out as the principal input of importance in the decline in water quality of Loch Leven, I feel the following observations seem pertinent:

1. There is a real drop in livestock numbers in Kinross-Shire over the last 30 years or more, especially in the dairy sector, now only three dairies left in the county.

2. Fertiliser application onto cereal, grass, vegetable and root crops have probably plateaued in the last 20 years. The Nitrate Vulnerable Zone (NVZ) areas have set maximum targets for nitrogen applications per hectare, more precise fertiliser applications with weight cells on fertiliser spreaders and GPS in the tractor; better use of soil analysis to target fertiliser usage; no spreading fertiliser from 15 September-15 January on till land and 1 September-15 January for grassland; buffer strips along waterways and hedging.

3. Price of nitrogen in 2008 were around £140/T; January 2019 nitrogen was £240/T and July 2022 nitrogen sold to £840/T. Phosphorus prices in 2008 were around £291/T; January 2019 £337/T and July 2022 £925/T. Fertiliser prices are outwith the control of the farming community and every kilogram applied to the fields is done so precisely to get the full benefit of the growing crop.

4. Currently Scottish Environment Agency (SEPA) are conducting diffuse pollution inspections over all the farms in the Loch Leven Catchment Area and my understanding is that they have not found much evidence of poor practice.

5. There has to be an element of diffuse pollution from the tree felling that has been done in the shire over the last 10 years, the felled land is left reasonably bare for a couple of years before machinery enters to make ready for new planting. This surely has to make diffuse pollution a problem for the waterways from the top of the hills around the county when it rains, passing through the farmlands and onto the loch. Nutrients measured in the watercourse are not necessarily all from agriculture!

We cannot say that farming does not contribute to the water quality of Loch Leven, agriculture will have a very small part in the issue. In my view the biggest change within the county is the amount of new build housing around the town and villages of Kinross and a sewer system that is more than likely working beyond its maximum capacity.

Mark Thomson, Tillyrie Farm

OUR MP

I SYMPATHISE WITH OUR MP, John Nicolson, for the pain he is suffering from his osteoarthritis as I had the same problem, until I had a hip replacement operation last November. I was very lucky in that I could get enough money together to pay for the operation privately.

However, I wish Mr Nicolson would stop filling his column with personal matters and instead address the concerns of his constituents. He could, for instance, reply to an email I sent him last October, an email which I also sent to Mr Jim Fairlie, our MSP. I informed Mr Nicolson that I had been given a waiting time of two to three years for NHS treatment and was angry and frustrated that the NHS was letting me down despite paying my taxes willingly all my life. I pointed

out that his party had been in total control of the NHS in Scotland for some 15 years and that Ms Sturgeon had cut back medical training places when she was in charge of that brief. While acknowledging that the UK government had made a mess of the economy since 2010, no amount of SNP complaining about 'not having the necessary levers' etc. could excuse the currently poor state of the NHS here.

Being in government means making choices about priorities and so I wonder how many hip operations could be paid for by the cost of all the Gaelic signage and publishing official documents in archaic Scots that few people understand. The SNP should pay less attention to pursuing their fantasy wish lists and instead concentrate their efforts on improving the things that matter for the day-to-day lives of normal people.

Bill Cooper, Kinross

WINDFARM WORRIES

I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS my concerns to the readers of the *Kinross Newsletter* about the wind farm proposals that are springing up around the Kinross and Milnathort area – two, so far....

We live an area of outstanding beauty with the loch, the nature reserve and the fabulous hills all around the Kinross basin. I am extremely concerned about the height of these wind farms, one of 12 turbines at 200 metres and the other much larger with 26 turbines at a massive 220 metres. There are no other wind farms (I believe) on this scale on the main land of Scotland. To give an idea of the height of these turbines the Queensferry crossing from sea height at high tide to the top of the bridge is 207 metres. Imagine that sitting on top of the hills surrounding Kinross.

Don't get me wrong, I'm all for renewable energy but at a local community meeting people were quick to point out they aren't 'nimby's' (Not In My Back Yard). However, the scale of these developments mean that most of central Scotland will be able to see these turbines from their windows so residents shouldn't feel scared or concerned to voice their concerns and to ask questions. These turbines will be in all our back yards and will be on the horizon for at least 20 years and probably more! Not only am I concerned about the height and visibility, this will be compounded by the flashing red light 24 hours a day to warn aircraft. At a recent development south of Edinburgh the MOD voiced concerns only for the application to be approved by the Scottish government.

Over the border in England there is a much tighter control over planning for wind farms, but with these due to be relaxed at the end of the year one proposal to reduce the likelihood of wind farms being built in more residential areas is, properties within 1 mile receive 100% free electricity and within 2 miles 50% free electricity. So far one of the companies in Kinross has touted the figure of £300,000 to local communities. This sounds a large sum of money but split between the six bordering local communities this reduces the sum to £50,000. Compared to the many millions that the company will bring in this is small change.

But forgetting the money, which is a nice carrot to win local approval I am very concerned that once these wind farms are approved there is no going back. What was once a beautiful hillside and view will be gone forever!

The volume of off-shore licenses for wind farms sold across the Scottish crown waters far exceeds the needs of this beautiful land. Why are these companies still trying develop on-shore in high population areas like Kinross? Greed and profit.

Please, Kinross – think before you agree to this proposal.

Name & Address Withheld

Letters

A977

BELOW IS A COPY of a letter that I sent on 6 February to Brian Cargill (Traffic & Network Service Manager at PKC and Daryl McKeown, a member of his team) regarding the A977:

SUBJECT: A977 MITIGATION MEASURES
AND RELATED MATTERS

Dear Brian and Daryl,

In the Council's Capital Budget of June 2016, Cllr Cuthbert and myself secured £600,000 for the above. Following community consultation, 4 main projects to slow traffic were agreed but only one has been delivered, namely the signalisation of the junction west of Blairingone. The other 3 projects agreed were the signalisation of the Drum X roads and the School Road Junction, along with re-alignment of the B9097 junction. In May 2022 assurances were given to me by Blair Watt that the Roads Department were actively working on delivering these projects, following significant delays attributed to the pandemic and staff shortages.

I am now informed that there are insufficient funds to deliver the remaining projects and I would like to know what has happened to this capital allocation because the Blairingone signalisation should not have cost the provision secured? If my information is correct, it is incumbent on the Council to make further capital provision for the projects agreed on a road that carries the highest volume of traffic, particularly HGV's, of any road under PKC control (PKC figures!).

Whilst I was a PKC representative for the Kinross-shire Ward between 1999 and 2022, I frequently raised the lack of finance allocated for this road and the effect increasing HGV traffic was having on the villages in west Kinross-shire that straddle it. This concern was also expressed by me in a request for PKC to carry out a survey of HGV usage (many fuel tankers use this road to access the M90 from Clackmannan Bridge but there is only one garage before

the motorway services) which they have never done! Also, at Transport Forums involving Transport Scotland, I raised concerns on satellite navigation and signage for HGVs without receiving a sympathetic hearing i.e. Why aren't HGVs, through the Road Hauliers Association, encouraged to use dedicated SATNAV's directing them to trunk roads for anything but local access required (A977 is not a trunk road!); also why doesn't national signage in central Scotland at the junction of the M876 and M80 direct HGV's for Aberdeen, Dundee and Inverness to use the M9/A9 to Broxden which avoids such traffic going through villages?

I thought I would give you the opportunity to respond before contacting PKC's Chief Executive and provost about the way the authorities have let down our west Kinross-shire communities by not giving the above the priority it deserves. Surely the issue should be an agenda item for Kinross-shire's Area Committee!

Yours Sincerely,
Michael A Barnacle

Chair of Fossoway Community Development Trust

DIRECT BUS TO THE PANDAS

THE TWO GIANT PANDAS at Edinburgh Zoo are likely to return to China this year so time is running out to visit, or revisit, them. Did you know that there is a direct express bus from the Kinross Park and Ride to a stop right outside the Zoo? This saves using your car or taking a bus in to central Edinburgh first. The Ember electric buses run approximately every hour and twenty minutes and take around 50 minutes to the zoo. They are easily booked online (www.ember.to).

On a recent visit, during a school strike day, a number of Kinross-shire families were using the Ember bus to visit the zoo. If you do go, I recommend the talk about the pandas given at their enclosure (usually at 12.30pm – check on the zoo's website).

Gordon McFarlane, Kinross



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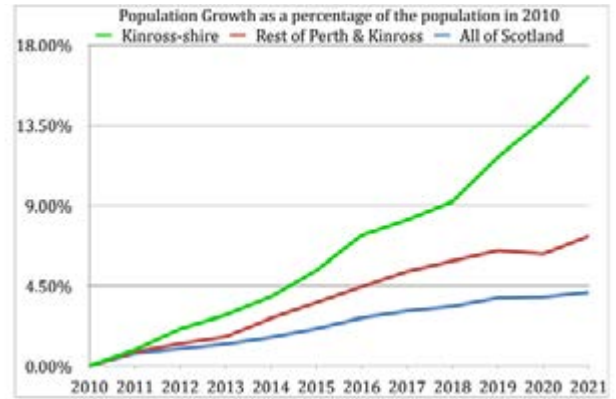
The poster features a green background with a gold border. It is decorated with purple and pink flowers and two champagne glasses. The text is centered and uses a mix of serif and script fonts.

GRAPH ERROR

ON BEHALF OF THE Board and Staff of the *Newsletter* I offer our apologies to the Civic Trust and our readers for the error in placing the wrong graph with the letter from the Civic Trust in the February issue. The *Newsletter* print deadline is tight and we sincerely regret the error. Changes have been put in place to prevent a similar situation creeping in again.

What I hope we can all agree on is that Kinross-shire, like many settlements on the M90 corridor, has experienced faster growth than the average, and the graph (opposite) demonstrates this most clearly. I will leave debate about the consequences of this for others to consider going forward.

David West, Chair of the Newsletter Board



(Data from Electoral Ward Population Estimates, Scotland, mid 2010 to mid 2021, National Records of Scotland.)

Thanks

KIRSTY MCCLOSKEY

MANY OF YOU MAY remember in the summer of 2021 there was a huge community fundraiser for **Kirsty McCloskey**. She is the daughter of good friends of ours and sadly had to have a lifesaving operation early in 2020 to remove a brain tumour. The operation left her with significant balance and co-ordination issues along with complex eye issues including double vision and facial palsy. In the last three years she has been involved in the battle of her life to get back to as normal a life as possible.

Her bravery, determination and sheer doggedness to get that life back has been truly phenomenal and she has made significant progress. From being wheelchair bound, she can now walk on a flat surface unaided for a few metres.

However, the journey is only part over and that journey is very expensive and intense. Kirsty receives no NHS input to her rehabilitation. It is all private. In order to help fund further treatment I decided to host a different kind of fundraiser on 27 January in Milnathort Town Hall. The fabulous local musicians, The Burleigh Blues Band donated their time to play for us and we very quickly sold 120 tickets. The Green Hotel donated the welcome drinks, Loch Leven's Larder some delicious canapes for everyone and Greens and Giacopazzi's also gave generously.

I set myself a challenge to find as many good raffle and auction prizes as I could over a couple of months and was simply blown away by the generosity of local businesses as well as individuals. I took letters along the High Street to speak to people about Kirsty personally and was so rewarded with all sorts of vouchers, experiences and gifts.

We had the most amazing fun night, lots of dancing, catch-

ing up with friends and incredibly together we managed to raise £7550 towards Kirsty's rehabilitation. Mike and I, along with Kirsty and her family, would like to say a HUGE thank you to every single person and business who has supported this fundraiser (the list is too long to mention them all) – it is very much appreciated.

We really do live in an amazing community.

It is still possible to add a few pennies to the 'pot' if you wish so, do email us at mikeandsallyjones@hotmail.com if you would like to donate.

Thank you.

Sally and Mike Jones (Me & Mrs Jones!)

THANK YOU GORDON!

GORDON BAILLIE has been delighting the customers of Baillies Newsagent in Kinross for more than a decade. It's now time for a change and Gordon has sold the shop to new owner Ash and his family (see p14).

The *Newsletter* Team popped in to see Gordon as he was closing the front door for the last time.

Gordon told us; 'It's the end of an era for us in Kinross. After eleven and a half years we have decided to take on a fresh opportunity. Our first child was only 8 months old when we bought the shop and now we have three gorgeous kids who our customers have met over the years 'helping out' in the shop.'



'We've made so many friends in Kinross and it we will really miss all our customers and the great staff who have been part of the team over the years. I'm looking forward to a few longer lie-ins, though!' He continued; 'Thinking of the paper boys and girls, it has been amazing watching and following their progress over the years, they have all been a credit to their parents. We have had some start at age 13 and still be with us at 17 or 18 when they head off for their next steps in life.'

Although it's farewell to Baillie's Newsagents Gordon is moving forward with Blackhouse, his online furniture business (Blackhouse.co.uk). We're sure this will be a big success if Gordon's enthusiasm for his latest venture is anything to go by!

It's a big 'Thank You' from all at the *Kinross Newsletter* – Baillies has been a big supporter of the *Newsletter* and we take this chance to wish Gordon all the very best for the future.

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KINROSS GETS THE OSCARS!

Local Businesses Triumph At Countryside Alliance Awards



THE SCOTTISH COUNTRYSIDE ALLIANCE AWARDS, often called the ‘Rural Oscars’, have this year paid tribute to the excellence of Kinross by giving not one, but two local businesses prestigious awards. The awards, held this year at the National Museum of Scotland, celebrate our rural communities and the role that rural businesses, whether food, farming, enterprise or heritage play in keeping them together.

Hunters Win Best Scottish Butcher

HUNTERS OF KINROSS have won the ‘Best Butcher’ category.

The Butcher Award celebrates butchers who are providing that key link between local people and the farms and fields that surround them. It commends those who have high regard for animal welfare and put their community on the map through the quality local produce they sell.

Hunters were crowned ‘Champions for Scotland’ after getting overwhelming support in a vote by the public. The awards are driven by public nominations, with customers voting for their favourite businesses.

They were up against three other Scottish butchers in the competition and cheered as they received a ceremonial

Jubilant Hunters staff outside the shop



plaque at the awards ceremony held in the National Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh.

They will now head to London in May where they will face national competition in a bid to win the title ‘Best Butcher’ of 2023.

Pamela Hunter told the *Newsletter*, ‘The shop and team have worked so hard to achieve this win. To be given the title of Champion of Butchers across all of Scotland is a huge achievement.’



Loch Leven Larder staff at the award ceremony

Loch Leven’s Larder: Winner, Best Local Food

THE LOCAL FOOD AWARD celebrates those who are playing an integral role in supporting the rural economy. It commends those that champion local produce and help to enhance their local community.

The team at Loch Leven’s Larder said they were ‘chuffed’ at receiving the award. Co-owner Robin Niven added that it was a huge honour for the owners, staff and customers.

‘We’ve been through an incredibly difficult period coming out of Covid and then entering the cost-of-living crisis. To get recognition for all the hard work is hugely rewarding,’ he said.

‘It really allows us to showcase what Scotland can do and it shows how much teamwork we have in our organisation. From the producers on the land, to the team in the kitchen, to the outward facing staff and to our customers.’

Scottish Director, Jake Swindells said: ‘The Scottish Countryside Alliance Awards celebrate and honour those rural businesses in Scotland who go the extra mile and recognise the contribution they make to their communities.’

Olympian Eilidh To Open Better Place to Live Fair

FOLLOWING THE SUCCESS of previous events, the Better Place to Live Fair is back – and will be opened this year by Scotland's most decorated track and field athlete of all time, Eilidh Doyle.

Designed to showcase the breadth of activities available in Kinross-shire the event, run by the Kinross-shire Partnership, will take place at the Loch Leven Community Campus on 25 March. Entry is free.

The fair, at Loch Leven Community Campus, is an opportunity for local groups, clubs and associations to show how residents and visitors to Kinross-shire can take advantage of the many opportunities here.

Speaking about the forthcoming event, Eilidh said: 'I'm delighted to have been asked to open the Better Place to Live Fair and it's great to see it back. Kinross-shire



really is a thriving community and the fair is a wonderful way for groups and businesses in the area to shout about what they do. I'm looking forward to meeting people from across the shire who do so much to make this such a flourishing corner of Scotland.'

Bruce Crawford, Chair of The Kinross-shire Partnership, is thrilled to have Eilidh on board. 'This event has been hugely successful since its inception in 2001 and having our very own Olympic athlete involved is a real honour. As a Kinross-shire resident, Eilidh knows just how many wonderful and interesting things are going on here and we're so pleased that she's using her voice to share that more widely. There is a huge range of activities taking place during the event from live music from local bands and performers and scores of stalls, to a planetarium to visit and an Army assault course to try out! We hope that the fair will help residents old and new to appreciate just how much is on offer here in Kinross-shire and encourage them to get involved.'

BALLO THE OTTER COMES BACK FROM THE DEAD!

BALLO THE OTTER WENT to the Scottish SPCA National Wildlife Rescue Centre just before Christmas after he was found near Kinross at the side of the road by a member of the public.

He had been hit by a car and heartbreakingly, people were driving over him and past him. Thankfully one person noticed that his head was moving and that he was in fact alive!

When Ballo arrived he was much more lively than when he was found. Our wildlife assistants needed to sedate him in the car as he was understandably feisty after his ordeal and was reluctant to be caught.

Once sedated he was taken to our vet suite where a series of x-rays were carried out and a physical examination to see what damage there might be. Amazingly, there wasn't a single break or fracture and all of his teeth were intact.



Ballo had a gash on his face and nose which needed treatment, but luckily he started eating well so all of his medication could be put in his food.

A spokesperson for the Scottish SPCA said, 'He was in our care for a few weeks

until his face healed, he gained weight and became strong and fit enough to survive in the wild.

We were so pleased when Ballo was released at the beginning of the year near to where he was found.'

Road collisions are the leading cause of mortality for otters. There are an estimated 8000 otters in Scotland and they are regularly spotted around lochs and rivers.

If anyone is concerned about an animal, please do not hesitate to contact our confidential animal helpline on 03000 999 999.

SECOND WIND FARM FOR CARNBO?

THE POSSIBILITY OF A second wind farm for Carnbo is now on the cards, with 12 large turbines proposed at Craighead Windfarm adjacent to Brunt Hill. The two projects are not connected, so this is in addition to the Brunt Hill proposal which the *Newsletter* reported on in the February issue. If planning permission is approved, the projects would involve a total of 38 turbines for the area.

The developers came to Carnbo to present this development and the hall was packed with interested members of the public at the recent Fossoway and District Community Council meeting in February.

There was a presentation from Galileo, who seemed confident that the Scottish Government will be receptive to the proposals. There was a significant amount of community benefit suggested.

Galileo is an Italian company formed in 2020 but the Edinburgh office is staffed by people with longer experience of projects in this area. The Project Manager explained that following a hiatus in onshore wind development, there was now UK and Scottish governmental pressure to dramatically expand wind generation to stabilise the availability of power and move towards net zero. All the 'easy' sites had already been developed and it was now necessary to consider sites at higher altitudes and with larger turbines (in excess of 200 metres high) in order to catch enough wind to make the site economic.

Further, with only European suppliers of turbines currently operating, there is no availability of smaller turbines anyway. This site would have about 12 turbines of this size.

Councillor Neil Freshwater said, 'The E Power application suggests that turbines could be up to 235m tall including blades. As a comparison, last week the *Guardian* reported that consent was given for England's tallest turbine at 190m including blades. I read elsewhere that Vestas energy has announced the 'world's tallest on shore tower' for wind turbines at 199m (ex blades) in Denmark.'

The 10km radius area surrounding the site covers several Community Council areas so it would be necessary to identify how any grants were distributed. There will also be a Construction Fund to address impacts of the construction process. The presenters stressed the company's desire to work with the community.

As the Craighead project is intended to generate over 50MW, in the same way as the Brunt Hill scheme, it falls outside the normal planning process, but will be governed by a 'Section 36' application which is decided directly by the Scottish Government, intended to be submitted in 2024.

Cllr Cuthbert explained that PKC's Planning Committee are statutory consultees to these applications and will submit their opinion to the application, consequently Cllrs Cuthbert and Waters will not be able to make any public comments to avoid invalidating their membership of the Committee.

Former councillor Mike Barnacle, now Chair of Fossoway Community Development Trust, told the *Newsletter*, 'With the Brunt

Hill proposal that makes 38 turbines in an LLA, which will have a major cumulative effect on the landscape and effectively create a wind farm dominated landscape between Glendevon and the M90, that would be surely contrary to PKC'S Policy - unless there has been a complete U-turn in that regard!'

In an email to PKC he went on to say, 'The Scottish Gov't have launched a consultation on Energy Policy to 2045 that is predicated on concentration on onshore windfarms to meet climate targets, an incredibly short-sighted policy that will do untold damage to our hill landscapes and damage a tourist industry significantly reliant on visitors who come to Scotland for its scenery; it would appear that this drive is principally for enabling the export of energy to the south!'

Councillor Willie Robertson said, 'No planning applications have been lodged to date but what is of concern to me is that because of changes in the Scottish governments planning laws both these applications will be decided by Scottish ministers and not PKC. This is yet another erosion of local democracy and will lessen the ability of local people to influence decisions which will affect them.'

Fossoway and District Community Council told the *Newsletter*. 'Incidentally, there is a consultation to which members of the public may want to reply.*'

They went on to say, 'We acknowledge the need to harness all technologies available to reach the goal of Net Zero. We will work with communities and developers to reach mutually agreeable solutions.'

*The online consultation can be found at: **Draft Energy Strategy and Just Transition Plan:** <https://consult.gov.scot/energy-and-climate-change-directorate/energy-strategy-and-just-transition-plan/> The Scottish Government's vision for Scotland's energy system to 2045 and a route map of ambitions and actions to transform the way Scotland generates, transports and uses energy. **Closes 4 April 2023.'**



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Kinross-Shire Volunteer Group Looking For Drivers

THE KINROSS-SHIRE VOLUNTEER GROUP and Rural Outreach Scheme (KVG-ROS) has for many years been providing a driver service for people living within the Kinross-shire and Glenfarg area. This enables clients to attend hospital, health centre and other health related appointments such as the podiatrist or dentist. This can be within Tayside but also out with the region taking clients to appointments in Edinburgh or Stirling for example. This is a door-to-door service with drivers providing assistance where necessary. The service is open to anyone over the age of 18 years, although younger people can be taken to appointments if accompanied by a parent/relative. Demand for the service has been growing since the pandemic and it was clear that more volunteer drivers were needed. The KVG-ROS Committee have worked hard in recent months to recruit new drivers and say they are delighted to welcome some new faces to their pool of wonderful volunteer drivers.



A spokesperson said, 'We already provide support to help with local shopping but with increased driver numbers we are pleased now to be able to expand the service to include social requests to



help reduce social isolation and support people's mental health and wellbeing. This might include visits to the local hairdresser, clubs or other social events.

If you would like more information about the service we offer and the charges that apply please call 01577 840196 and speak to one of our Administrators or email administrator@kvgandros.org.uk.

PORTMOAK FESTIVAL 2023

THE PORTMOAK FESTIVAL held a series of events last year around the time of the Jubilee and after Covid restrictions had lifted. This year there are plans to have a two week festival, beginning straight after the local gala which takes place on 3 June.

The art work is already being completed by the pupils of Portmoak Primary School and they can promise you a very colourful display. There may be other displays in the hall for the duration of the festival.

The usual favourites will be taking place, the pudding club and the cream teas. Some groups like the under 5s group are planning activities and we would be delighted to welcome other groups getting involved.

More details on the festival programme will follow in April and May.

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EIA REFUSAL FOR MILLER HOMES 'UNACCEPTABLE'

WIDESPREAD DISMAY GREETED the recent decision from Scottish government ministers' that an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) will not be required for the proposed Miller Homes development of 160 dwellings on the controversial Davies Park/H46 plot.

The letter says the development 'Would not be likely to have a significant effect on the environment and therefore an EIA will not be required'.

This means, in effect, that the question of whether the new development, consisting of 160 dwellings, could have a negative effect on Kinross by contributing to increased pollution levels in Loch Leven through discharges into the sewerage system, will not be addressed.

This decision goes against the opinion of PKC and flies in the face of almost all local opinion. A spokesperson for the Kinross Action Group said, 'This is just another example of how biased the planning process is toward developers.'

Cllr Willie Robertson has expressed his frustration with the decision. He says 'Sewage treatment plants serving Kinross and Milnathort have been shown not to be able to cope in periods of heavy rain, forcing Scottish Water to divert untreated sewage directly into the loch. This situation is totally unacceptable.'

'Scottish Water must ensure that the consents are complied with and that the discharge will not cause combined sewage overflows to overflow more regularly.'

A spokesperson for Kinross-shire Civic Trust said, 'We are disappointed that the Scottish Government has overturned the opinion of PKC about the need for an EIA for this proposed development.'

'Scottish Ministers seem to have wilfully ignored the simple logic that more houses mean more phosphates in Loch Leven which is detrimental to water quality.'

'We also have the problem of raw sewage discharge in times of heavy rain. The Decision checklist said that Scottish Water must ensure that the discharge from the proposed development would 'not cause combined sewage overflows to overflow more regularly'. We know that surface water from any new development has to drain away separately and sustainably, but the foul waste will still be going through the combined sewage system at the Treatment Works. We'd like to know how Scottish Water will ensure



The boundary of Miller Homes' current proposed area of interest.

there will not be more overflows, as according to reports from our local Councillors of a meeting held in December, Scottish Water do not keep records of storm sewage overflows into Loch Leven.

'As Loch Leven is a Special Protection Area, we feel a precautionary approach should have been taken and the developer made to carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment.'

Cllr Dave Cuthbert said he was disappointed for two reasons, the first being that he 'had asked for an EIA at the council's pre-application meeting, following a discussion with a local resident about the presence of bats being in the area. He went on to say, 'I also strongly believe that planning decisions and the paperwork surrounding them should rest with the people who have been elected to make these decisions. Not with a faceless bureaucrat who doesn't know the area like we do. I have been told that 70% of decisions which have been appealed to the DPEA (Planning & Environmental

Appeals Division) following a refusal decision by the council are upheld, thereby overturning the decisions of those whose job it is to shape the Local Development Plan and judge applications against it. If councillors get it wrong, we are answerable to our electorate. If the DPEA get it wrong, then who are they answerable to?'

Cllr Neil Freshwater said 'This is disappointing news especially in light of recent environmental concerns about Loch Leven. Yet again the Scottish Government is showing its total disregard of local democracy. Similarly, we should not forget that the decision to install what could be 26 of the world's largest wind turbines in Kinross-shire will also bypass the council.'

It is not only our local councillors who are disappointed with this decision by Scottish government ministers.

Liz Smith, MSP said 'PKC was – rightly in my opinion – very keen that a full EIA was required and so it is very disappointing to hear that Scottish Ministers believe otherwise.'

There has been widespread concern amongst the local community about this proposed development not least because of the implications for the local infrastructure. Residents have every right to be angry that their opinions are being undermined.'

In a statement that seemed to indicate he also believed the Scottish Government should have requested the EIA, MP John Nicolson told the *Newsletter*, 'I am disappointed. I completely understand local feeling. Loch Leven is a place of outstanding natural beauty and great historical importance.'

'It's also ecologically vulnerable. The land use round about it should reflect these special factors. And while I understand the need for more housing especially for young families, I don't believe the developers have adequately addressed the issues raised by my constituents.'

'As an MP at Westminster I don't have any power over local planning. But it's my view that we need to move towards more brownfield site reclamation and urban, town and village repopulation. Long term, I welcome Scottish Government changes to planning rules which will further prioritise ecological concerns in future developments.'

SARAH'S RHINO MARATHON

A KEEN RUNNER FROM Milnathort is gearing up for her toughest challenge yet in a bid to help save one of the world's most endangered species.

Sarah Eaton (63), a member of Kinross Road Runners, has signed up for the London Marathon on April 23 in aid of Save the Rhino, an international charity devoted to halting the decline of these magnificent animals, which are at risk of extinction because of poaching and loss of habitat.

And now Sarah's calling on kind-hearted Kinross-shire residents to help her raise the funds she needs to secure her place in the event.

She's holding a quiz night in Milnathort Scout Hall on 18 March, which will include a 'name the rhino' competition, and is inviting people to take part in virtual races in aid of the charity. For more information email sarah.eaton58@gmail.com.

Entries are now open for the races, and every entrant will receive a unique, hand-made rhino medal.

'You can either sign up for a 5k or 10k race, and donations are £5 and £10 respectively,' explained Sarah.

'You can either run, walk, or even use a treadmill; once you're done, just upload the proof via app screenshots such as Strava, Fitbit or Garmin, or email a url link to sarah.eaton58@gmail.com. 'If you're using a treadmill, just take a photo of the display panel.'

You have until April 7 to enter the virtual race via Sarah's JustGiving page, www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Sarah-Eaton17.

Added Sarah: 'I'm very interested in conservation issues and I was inspired to raise funds for this charity as it's perhaps one that's not uppermost in people's minds.

"The fact is that rhinos are in grave



danger of extinction, not just because their natural habitat is being destroyed by increasing agricultural activity, but also because they're still being killed for their horns in the misguided belief that they have some sort of aphrodisiac qualities.'

For more information about the plight of the rhinos, visit www.savetherhino.org.

ALL CHANGE AT BAILLIES

IT'S ALL CHANGE AT Baillies Newsagents in Kinross following the sale of the business by Gordon Baillie.

The *Kinross Newsletter* team were delighted to meet up with the new owners and staff and give them a warm welcome to Kinross.

Owner Ash has existing retail businesses in the Scottish Borders and his brother Mahesh is the Regional Manager for the group of shops. They are assisted by the team who run the shop on a day to day basis, Jasmine, Neil and Chay.

Jasmine is already well settled in the store and explained that she is very excited about the upcoming St Valentine's Day and Mothering Sunday. Baillies has always had a great range of quality cards for these very special days. She loves helping the regular customers of the shop and she explained that both her and husband Neil live in Kinross and are very much looking forward to being part of the community.

Regional Manager, Mahesh, told us a bit about the plans for the store; "We plan to continue with a very sharp focus on customer service – we really want to be in the heart of Kinross." He continued; 'As well as having a super range to meet our customers' stationery, gift, party and celebration needs the store will operate under the Premier network and we will develop a range of groceries and drinks as the business grows.'

Of course the store will continue with newspapers and magazines and you will always be able to get your copy of the *Kinross Newsletter* at Baillies, either in the store or delivered to your home.

We wish the new team at Baillies all the very best. Why don't you pop in to say hello? You're certain of a very warm welcome.



New owners Mahesh and Jasmine.

ALTERED IMAGES

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NEW RESTING PLACE FOR BLAIRINGONE WAR MEMORIAL

AS EARLY AS NOVEMBER 2006 there is mention in the Fossoway Community Council minutes that, should Blairingone Church become a private residence, the War Memorial should be relocated to a more suitable setting.

The Church did become a private residence; a stunning building, converted in a respectful way. It featured in a Channel 5 programme but never sold as a private home. Until recently, the War Memorial was an integrated part of one of the walls of the Church.

Ever since 2006, Fossoway and District Community Council, PKC officers and the Elected Members have tried to progress the relocation of the War Memorial. Former Councillor Mike Barnacle stands out in this process; he kept going where others would have thrown in the towel.

It became somewhat of a joke on the agenda of FDCC; sometimes there was a snippet of progress, sometimes it appeared on the agenda for months on end without any news.

After 17 years, it has now been detached from the wall, mounted on a background and relocated to a spot further in the graveyard, where it will be easier to visit and to hold a memorial service.

Trudy Duffy-Wigman, Chair of FDCC said, 'It will give me great pleasure that we can take this item off the FDCC agenda. It will be a shock to the system!'



Photo: Nicola Marchant

NEW FARM SHOP LINK TO HERITAGE TRAIL!

A NEW PATH WILL join the Loch Leven Heritage Trail to Lochend Farm Shop near Scotlandwell. Now visitors to the excellent farm shop and cafe will be able to park and access the trail on foot from the farm shop, or vice versa.

The path starts opposite the Lochend Farm shop and runs parallel to the B920 to the Glider Centre entrance road. There is then a short section (100m) on the B920 to the Levenmouth Farm entrance road. The farm road is then followed through the Carneil Homes development to the trail.

Father and son Michael and Martin Silvera, the owners of Lochend Farm, have worked with TRACKS to secure planning permission and funding from the Perth and Kinross' Community Environment Challenge Fund and the Scottish Government's Rural Payments Improving Public Access Fund.

You can explore the new link and other links to the Loch Leven Heritage Trail here: <https://kinross-tracks.org.uk/walks-and-links/>

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BREAK-IN AT RSPB LOCH LEVEN



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POLICE SCOTLAND ARE APPEALING for information following a break-in at RSPB Scotland Loch Leven.

Around 10pm on Friday 10 February, the RSPB Scotland Loch Leven Reserve Visitor Centre at Vane Farm was broken into and a large quantity of very high quality and valuable binoculars and telescopes, from brands including Swarovski, Leica, Zeiss & Nikon, were stolen.

These items are worth around £33,000 and are very identifiable and traceable.

Constable Matthew Bull at Perth Community Investigation Unit said 'Not only have the staff had the trauma of discovering the break in, but the stolen equipment means the important

work they do to protect nature and the environment has been disrupted.

'We are keen to hear from anyone who has been offered Swarovski optics for sale recently, or from anyone who was in the area at the time and may have seen someone acting suspiciously.

Anyone with information should contact police in Perth via 101 quoting incident number 3990 of 10 February 2023.

Alternatively calls can be made to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 where anonymity can be maintained.

A spokesperson from RSPB Loch Leven on Facebook urged the public to be on the look out for sales of stolen goods locally, saying, 'High quality binoculars and telescopes that are up for sale and seem like too good a deal to be true probably are!'

The Retail Manager told the *Newsletter*, 'Around 10pm on Friday 10 February, the shop at RSPB Loch Leven was broken into and a large quantity of high value identifiable binoculars and telescopes was stolen (brands including Swarovski, Leica, Zeiss & Nikon). This obviously this has been very devastating to the team.

'As well as the theft the thieves also damaged cabinets and a large window. This also really impacts on our ability to do the conservation work we do here. Police are keen to hear if anyone has been offered any items or saw anything suspicious at that time.'

PIZZA VIA

MARCH STREET TRADING

CROOK - VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK
SATURDAY 4th

GLENFARG - VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK
SATURDAY 11th

MILNATHORT - STEWART + SMART GARAGE
THURSDAY 16th

PORTMOAK - CHURCH CAR PARK
SATURDAY 18th

KINROSS - OCHIL VIEW
SATURDAY 25th

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ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARD

WILL YOU BE 16-17 years old in July? Do you fancy a (heavily subsidised) life changing week? Then have a go at applying for the Rotary Youth Leadership Award, otherwise known as RYLA.

What Is RYLA?

RYLA is a leadership development course. Your local Kinross and District Rotary Club will pay most of the fees and expenses for one boy and one girl to attend a week long, full board, residential adventure and leadership camp in the Highlands in July.

The girls' camp is 8-15 July and the boys' camp is 15-22 July. It is not a pass or fail course, and you will be as successful on it as you are willing to be. We aim to help you realise some of the leadership potential that others have seen when they selected you for the course.

A lot of the activities take place outside. It is a rare opportunity to experience and learn things about yourself, about working in a team, but more importantly about leading others: skills employers look for in the workplace.

Courses are open to young people who will be 16 and 17 years old in July,



and take place at Abernethy's Outdoor Centre at Nethybridge, located in the Cairngorm National Park, and which has been running RYLA courses with Rotary for over 30 years.

The activities on the course are all based on elements of problem solving, communication, organisation, delegation and teamwork.

Leadership

The activity side of the course is used to highlight the problems of leadership in a practical situation, and to allow each course member the opportunity to take on a leader's role. You will then be given feedback. Don't worry, there is no exam!

Who Are The Staff?

The staff are a mixture of Rotarians, professional instructors and mentors. All of them have a lot of experience in leadership roles, and they are all there to assist with development of your leadership skills.

During the week, you will be in a team of 7/8 and will work with a mentor, who will support you. They will do their best to make sure your whole team benefit from the experiences that you will all go through.

Challenging And Exciting!

Here are words former RYLA candidates have used:

- Transformative
- Invigorating
- Inspiring
- Enlightening
- Invaluable
- Motivational
- Life-changing
- Uplifting
- Fun

Kinross And District Rotary Club will sponsor your place, fund most of it and arrange for transport. They are also available to answer any questions. Their aim is that each awardee leaves the course with a clearer understanding of their role as potential leaders, and managers of the future, no matter what their chosen career paths.

How To Apply

Go to www.ryla1010.com and find the online application form. Make sure you say you are from the Kinross Club area. After that, all the applications will be looked at, and a short list will be interviewed by a club member, and a school teacher.

Go on - have a go!

GCTG IN THE DRIVING SEAT

THE GLENFARG COMMUNITY TRANSPORT Group is well on its way on the road to providing inclusive transport and a viable alternatives to cars to the residents of Glenfarg.

They have now been running their first weekly route for two months. The affectionately named 'Thursday Bus' runs between Kinross and Glenfarg, taking in Duncrievie, Mawcarse and even Loch Leven's Larder and has proven to be very popular with Kinrossians and Glenfargians alike. The new route provides opportunities for socialising, shopping or even simply sight-seeing along the back roads.

Please note that some slight adjustments have been made to the Thursday Bus timetable (below). This is in order to allow visitors from Glenfarg extra time in between journeys.

As per its mission, the GCTC has been busy providing im-



TIMETABLE



KINROSS – GLENFARG

KHS Campus Library	09.55
Kinross P&R	10.00
Drunzie	10.15
Duncrievie	10.15
Glenfarg Village Hall	10.20

KINROSS – GLENFARG

Kinross P&R	12.25
KHS Campus Library	12.30
Loch Leven's Larder	12.40
Mawcarse	12.50
Drunzie	12.55
Duncrievie	12.55
Glenfarg Village Hall	13.00

GLENFARG – KINROSS

Glenfarg Village Hall	11.20
Duncrievie	11.25
Drunzie	11.25
Mawcarse	11.35
Loch Leven's Larder	11.40
KHS Campus Library	11.45
Kinross P&R	11.55

GLENFARG – KINROSS

Glenfarg Village Hall	14.10
Cuthill Towers	14.15
Mawcarse	14.20
Milnathort via M90	14.25
KHS Campus Library	14.35

proved access to cultural and social activities. Trips have included providing transport to the local a Burns' Society's Burns night, and a day trip for the local Greener Glenfarg discussion group to the V&A Museum in Dundee to visit the *Plastic: Remaking our World* exhibition.

It's great to see the project gaining momentum and the GCTG plan to develop their scope in the next few months. Watch this space!

To let us know to look out for you at any point along the route or to arrange for your community (or private) group, please email transport@glenfarg.org

So why not try something new, get out and about, support the new community link and Get on Board!

For more information, visit www.glenfarg.org/Community/gctgabout.shtml

Dont Be Idle – Ease the Wheeze!

NEW POWERS TO IMPROVE air quality and reduce the impact of climate change in P&K comes into effect on 1 March.

The anti-idling policy aims to make drivers aware of the harmful emissions produced when motor vehicles are left running, and how they can affect the environment and human health.

A stationary engine left running for more than 10 seconds uses more fuel and produces more CO2 than if the vehicle was switched off and then restarted.

Vehicle idling is an offence against road traffic regulations. Over half of all Scottish councils have already adopted measures to encourage drivers to switch their engines off.

From 1 March, monitoring staff will follow the 'Four E's' approach (Engage, Explain, Encourage and Enforce) when reminding drivers to switch off their engines. A £20 Fixed Penalty Notice will be issued if motorists do not comply.



Councillor Andrew Parrott, PKC's Environment, Infrastructure and Economic Development Convener commented: 'The introduction of our anti-idling policy is not about penalising drivers, but improving local air quality and reducing harmful emissions. I really hope we do not have to issue many Fixed Penalty Notices.'

Climate Change and Sustainability Con-

venor, Councillor Richard Watters added: 'We can all do our bit to help 'ease the wheeze' and make a positive choice for our environment. The approach we are taking is to educate drivers and encourage them to switch off when stationary.'

Anyone affected by excessive vehicle idling can report this by email and environmental health officers will investigate.

KINNESSWOOD FOR SCOTLAND AT BRITAIN IN BLOOM



KINNESSWOOD HAS BEEN CHOSEN to represent Scotland in the village category of the RHS Britain in Bloom Awards 2023. Other Scottish finalists are Aberdeen, East Haven Together and Bonnie Blantyre. Kinnesswood/Beautiful Scotland will be hosting a lunch and get together in March so that team Scotland can share ideas and experience.

Judging will take place during July and August and the award ceremony will be held in October.

A spokesperson said, 'It's going to be a busy but exciting year... we have lots of plans and look forward to sharing details soon!'

'We have won many awards over the years, the local Kinross Best Village, Take a Pride in Perthshire and the Beautiful Scotland Awards. In the last few years we have had a consistent Gold and in 2022 won Best Small Village as well as a Discretionary Young People Award for work with Portmoak Primary School.

We're thrilled to be finalists at this year's Britain in Bloom awards. We are so pleased that all the hard work has paid off!

Spring Into Support with GrowBiz

IT'S TIME TO LOOK ahead to the brighter and milder days of spring, and to make sure we have definable goals and intentions for the new season. Here's a few ways GrowBiz can help:

- **One-to-one advice:** The GrowBiz team all run their own businesses, so understand the highs and lows of being self-employed. They are able to provide support to help you with challenges, as well as the reassurance that comes from having an experienced person by your side.
- **Downloadable resources:** GrowBiz is here to support you to achieve your goals. We have free resources available to help you create a business plan, marketing plan, cash-flow template and more, and we can talk you through how to use them.
- **Regular updates:** The GrowBiz newsletter, website and social media pages are regularly updated with the latest events and opportunities for rural enterprise, as well as inspiring client stories. Most recently, we added a cost of living support page to our website.
- **Mentoring:** If you would like to gain confidence, develop your skills and resilience, and make meaningful connections in a flexible and open environment, the GrowBiz mentoring programme is for you.

Specialised Support

In addition to our core range of support, designed for small rural enterprises in all sectors, we have other services that offer more specialised support in Perth and Kinross:

Creatives can apply to be part of Perthshire Artisans, care and wellbeing practitioners can become members of the Care and Wellbeing Collective, young entrepreneurs between 18-25 can benefit from the SEED programme, social enterprises can join the Perth and Kinross Social Enterprise Support Group, and micro businesses can get listed on the REDS online directory for free.

Learn more about support available from GrowBiz at www.growbiz.co.uk



KIRKLANDS NARROWLY MISS OUT AT THISTLE AWARDS

THE KIRKLANDS MAY not have won but they still feel like winners. Their trip to the Visit Scotland Thistle Awards was a fantastic night of celebration and they were thrilled to be there.

A spokesperson said, 'It's rare that we manage to get everyone in their glad rags enjoying a fabulous party! We missed our younger team members who weren't able to attend – their contribution is just as valuable, and we are so grateful for all their hard work and dedication to The Kirklands, which helped us get here in the first place.'

'We want to thank all our customers for being understanding on our closure while we attended the event, and for all the lovely messages of support and encouragement.'

'Being nominated and then crowned regional winners was overwhelming and it was lovely to see that our customers were just as pleased as we were. We really do value every one of you.'

'Congratulations to Dounside House, Aboyne who were very worthy winners and thanks to the organisers who laid on a wonderful event.'

CORONATION WEEKEND CELEBRATIONS

MOST READERS WILL HAVE heard about the national plans to celebrate the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III over the long weekend of 6 to 8 May.

Saturday 6 May: Coronation service in Westminster Abbey; coronation procession; Buckingham Palace balcony.

Sunday 7 May: Concert and lightshow at Windsor Castle; Coronation Big Lunch street parties.

Monday 8 May: Extra bank holiday; Big Help Out encouraging people to get involved in local volunteering.

Organised by The Together Coalition and 25 of the UK's biggest charities, The Big Help Out will highlight the positive impact volunteering has on communities across the nation – www.thebighelpout.org.uk. From rolling your sleeves up to pick litter, to volunteering at a food bank, this is the chance to lend a hand in your neighbourhood. Sports and youth groups are especially encouraged to take part. For example, the Samaritans will be telling people about the importance of 'active listening'.

The National Literary Trust will be out and about reading to people. Here in Scotland, we have Volunteering Scotland www.volunteerscotland.net.

The coronation at Westminster Abbey will see the crowning of King Charles and the Queen Consort Camilla, in a service full of religious symbolism and pageantry.



The ceremony is expected to be a shorter, smaller and a more diverse occasion than for Queen Elizabeth II's coronation in 1953.

That previous coronation lasted three hours and the ceremony for King Charles is expected to be considerably shorter. There were more than 8,000 guests for the 1953 coronation, while the ceremony in May is expected to be smaller, with Westminster Abbey usually having a capacity of about 2200.

The coronation procession is expected to be more modest. In 1953, there were 16,000 participants in a procession that

took 45 minutes to pass any stationary point on the 7km (4.3 miles) route.

This time round the King and Queen Consort will arrive at the abbey from the palace, in the King's procession and return in a larger Coronation procession, joined by other members of the Royal Family. It is not yet confirmed who will then appear with them on the balcony at Buckingham Palace.

A more inclusive, multi-faith dimension is anticipated for the service, with representatives of a range of religions.

The line-up for the Windsor concert has still to be announced but organisers are promising 'some of the world's biggest entertainers'. The event is expected to be a wide mix of music, dancing and a laser lightshow will be linked to the illumination of famous sites around the UK. For the Shakespeare-loving monarch there will be spoken-word performances from stage and screen stars.

You might want to think about holding a Coronation Big Lunch in your village street, park or garden. Funding of up to £10,000 for Coronation related events and activities via the National Lottery Awards for All programme is available. T&C's at www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/under10k.



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LOTTERY FUNDING FOR SEAMAB

CHILDREN'S CHARITY SEAMAB, based in Rumbling Bridge, is celebrating after being awarded £170,295 in funding from The National Lottery Community Fund, the largest funder of community activity in the UK.

Seamab provides care and education to children aged 5-18, many of whom have experienced complex issues such as trauma and neglect. The charity will use their funding to deliver their project in Developing a Trauma Responsive Environment for children who have experienced significant adverse childhood experiences.

Beginning in March 2023, this new National Lottery funding will enable Seamab to provide therapeutic support to 30 children who will both live at and be educated by Seamab, facilitating their recovery from trauma.

In addition to this, through this project, 120 staff will also benefit;

assisting them in supporting some of Scotland's most vulnerable children.

National Lottery players raise over £30 million a week for good causes across the UK. The National Lottery Community



Fund distributes a share of this to projects to support people and communities to prosper and thrive.

During the pandemic, in 2020 alone, The National Lottery Community Fund distrib-

uted almost £1 billion to charities and community organisations across the UK.

Stuart Provan, Seamab's Chief Executive said: 'Thanks to National Lottery players, this grant means that we can ensure that our children have an all-encompassing therapeutic support structure, tailored to each of their individual needs. This will make a huge difference to their lives in their journey of recovery.'

Stuart continued, "This grant comes at an exciting time in Seamab's development as an organisation, as we are currently fundraising for our £5.5m capital appeal "Building our Future – a New School for Seamab"; which will provide a state-of-the-art school where

therapeutic and sensory considerations have been uppermost in our thinking in its design."

To find out more visit www.TNLCommunityFund.org.uk/www.seamab.org.uk

NEW KIN-NECTIONS

THE NEW ISSUE OF Kin-nections, the magazine of Kinross Parish Church, is now available covering March – May. The three key themes are stewardship of creation following the church's recent Eco-Con-



gregation Award, encouraging young people to grow in faith, and supporting our global neighbours.

The free magazine is delivered to the congregation but is also available at the Library, Church Centre, and at a number of cafes in the town. Contact the church office if you would like a copy delivered (01577 862570; office@kinrossparishchurch.org). The magazine may be read online at www.kinrossparishchurch.org/news/kin-nections-magazine.



Cleish Cemetery Needs Friends!

RESIDENTS AND ANYONE with an interest in Cleish and the condition of the cemetery and churchyard are invited to a meeting at Cleish Hall on Wednesday 22 March at 7.30pm, to discuss forming a Friends of Cleish Cemetery group.

There has been growing interest in the upkeep of cemeteries in recent years, and PKC are keen to support local people who want to improve their local burial ground.

A dozen local 'Friends of the Cemetery' groups have registered with PKC across the region in the last year, with

volunteers helping with a range of tasks such as bulb planting, helping to maintain shrub beds, painting gates and railings as well as other tasks to complement the regular maintenance carried out by the Council.

This meeting is organised by Cleish Village Hall Committee and Robert Ross from PKC's Community Greenspace team who will be there to give us all full information and answer questions on how we can help them to help us improve our Graveyard – please do come along and find out what it's all about.



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You will need:

Serves 4

Butter for greasing

Handful of finely ground bread-crumbs or grated parmesan

50g butter

50g plain flour

275ml whole milk

Half an Arbroath Smokie, flesh removed from the bone and well picked

4 eggs, separated

100g smoked or extra mature cheddar

1 tsp mustard powder

½ tsp cayenne pepper

Salt and pepper

These are so delicious and moreish, and nothing like as tricky as their reputation might suggest. Make sure your ramekins are well greased and dusted with parmesan or finely ground breadcrumbs to allow the mixture to 'climb' up the side of the dish for that ultimate rise.



Arbroath Smokie Soufflé

PREHEAT YOUR OVEN TO 200/180/Gas 6 and place a large baking sheet inside to heat. Use the middle shelf and make sure the upper shelf has been removed to give your soufflés lots of space to rise.

Grease and line 4 ramekins with butter and breadcrumbs or parmesan. Make a thick white sauce with the butter, flour and milk and season well with salt and pepper and add the cayenne and mustard powder. Add the cheese and heat gently until melted. Remove from the heat and whisk in the egg yolks one by one. Add in the flaked smokie and stir to combine well.

In a very clean bowl, whisk the egg whites to soft peaks and very gently fold into the cheese mixture using a large metal spoon.

Gently tip into the prepared ramekins. Once filled, use a butter knife to flatten the tops. Then take your thumb around the edge of each ramekin to create a shallow channel all the way round the edge. This will encourage the soufflé to rise.

Place the ramekins on the heated baking sheet and bake for 25 minutes until very well risen. They may crack or sink a little once removed from the oven, but don't worry. Sprinkle the top with a mix of finely grated cheese and spring onion or chives. Eat immediately!



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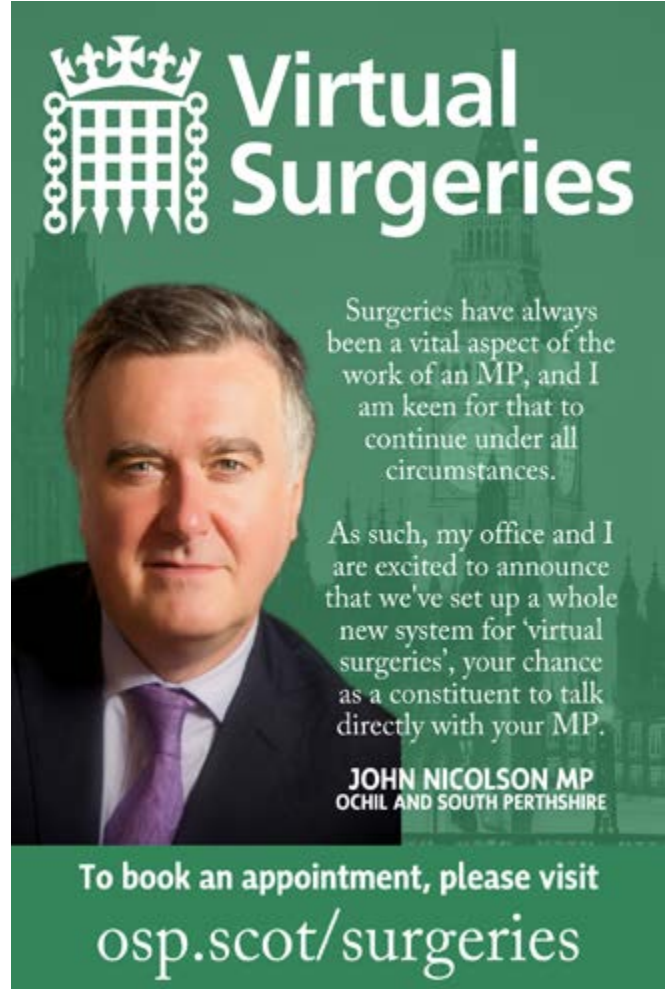
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Councillor Willie Robertson



Windfarm Proposals

As many of you will be aware there are proposals to build two very large windfarms north of Carnbo with turbines up to 200 metres tall. No planning applications have been lodged to date but what is of concern to me is that because of changes in the Scottish governments planning laws both these applications will be decided by Scottish ministers and not Perth & Kinross Council. This is yet another erosion of local democracy and will lessen the ability of local people to influence decisions which will affect them.

Orwell Cemetery

The cemetery at Milnathort is now at capacity so Milnathort residents wishing to have their loved ones interred are being told to use the North Cemetery in Kinross. There is land between the Milnathort cemetery and the M90 which I am sure could be used for a cemetery extension but when I asked for this to be investigated in the past, I was told that it wasn't suitable. I am going to ask for that assessment to be looked at again. I am still of the view that every parish should have a cemetery for their community.

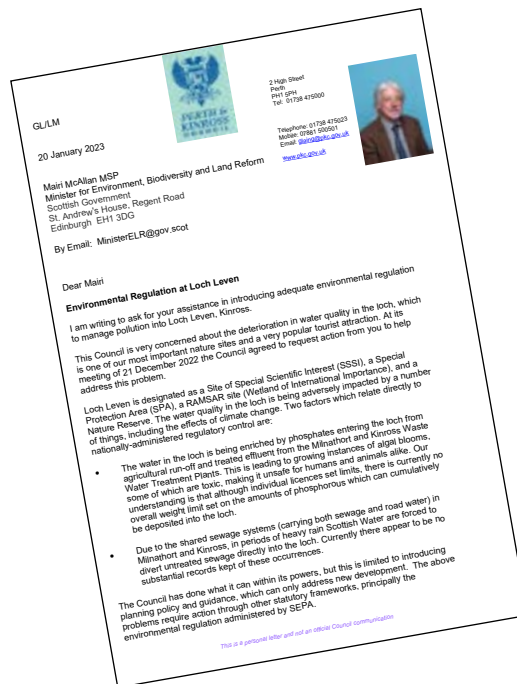
Miller Homes

The Scottish Government's planning directorate (DPEA) has decided not to require Miller Homes to provide an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for their proposed housing development in Kinross. I am very disappointed that once again the DPEA has failed to take a precautionary approach when it comes to large housing developments in the Loch Leven catchment. I think that it is now accepted that the decline in the quality of water in the loch can be linked directly to the large increase in housing numbers within the catchment. Each development, often approved by the DPEA at appeal, incrementally adds to the phosphorous loading of Loch Leven. Added to that the sewage treatment plants serving Kinross and Milnathort have been shown not to be able to cope with the volumes of combined sewage and flood water in periods of heavy rain forcing Scottish Water to divert untreated sewage directly into the loch. This situation is totally unacceptable. I am pleased that Perth and Kinross Council planners recognised these issues by asking for an EIA on the possible added impact of the Miller Homes proposals but am frustrated and upset at the attitude to the environmental protection of Loch Leven again being shown by the DPEA.

Letter To The Environment Minister

As I write this there has still been no response to the letter sent by the Leader of Perth and Kinross Council, Cllr. Grant Laing to the Environment Minister Mairi McCallan MSP. This followed my motion to the Council in December. I think the letter was excellent and am enclosing it (opposite) for you all to read. Let's hope it prompts the minister to take real action.

Councillor Willie Robertson



Letter from Cllr Grant Laing to the Environment Minister

Dear Mairi

Environmental Regulation at Loch Leven

I am writing to ask for your assistance in introducing adequate environmental regulation to manage pollution into Loch Leven, Kinross.

This Council is very concerned about the deterioration in water quality in the loch, which is one of our most important nature sites and a very popular tourist attraction. At its meeting of 21 December 2022 the Council agreed to request action from you to help address this problem.

Loch Leven is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), a Special Protection Area (SPA), a RAMSAR site (Wetland of International Importance), and a Nature Reserve. The water quality in the loch is being adversely impacted by a number of things, including the effects of climate change.

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AFTER 22 YEARS providing a bespoke curtain and blind making service in the Kinross area, I have decided to retire early to concentrate on my art and crafts plus needle felting classes.

My new venture, along with my husband, will be called MUIRMADE, where we hope to showcase our handmade crafts. So look out for our new website, coming in the Autumn.

I would like to thank all my lovely customers over the years, who have made my job so rewarding.

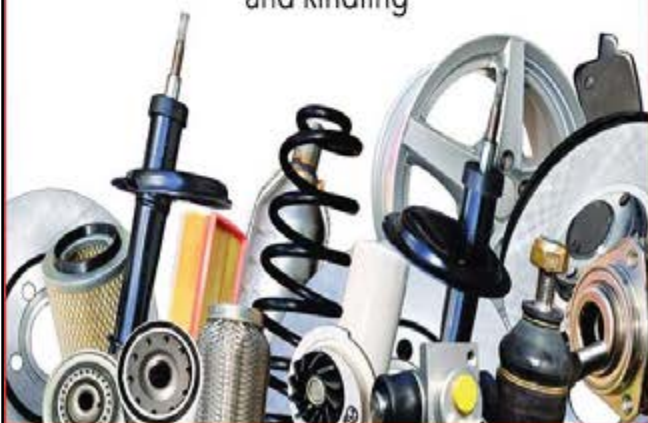


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Two factors which relate directly to nationally-administered regulatory control are:

- The water in the loch is being enriched by phosphates entering the loch from agricultural run-off and treated effluent from the Milnathort and Kinross Waste Water Treatment Plants. This is leading to growing instances of algal blooms, some of which are toxic, making it unsafe for humans and animals alike. Our understanding is that although individual licences set limits, there is currently no overall weight limit set on the amounts of phosphorous which can cumulatively be deposited into the loch.

- Due to the shared sewage systems (carrying both sewage and road water) in Milnathort and Kinross, in periods of heavy rain Scottish Water are forced to divert untreated sewage directly into the loch. Currently there appear to be no substantial records kept of these occurrences.

The Council has done what it can within its powers, but this is limited to introducing planning policy and guidance, which can only address new development. The above problems require action through other statutory frameworks, principally the environmental regulation administered by SEPA.

Accordingly, I request that the Scottish Government:

- Instruct SEPA to introduce an overall weight limit on the amount of phosphorous permitted to be deposited into Loch Leven.
- Instruct SEPA to introduce tighter controls to stop Scottish Water depositing untreated sewage into Loch Leven and to ensure that any such overspill events are recorded and reported.

I am hopeful that this is something which you can assist with and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Councillor Grant Laing
Leader of the Council

Councillor Dave Cuthbert



IT HAS BEEN A busy period at Council as Elected Members prepare to decide how to adjust Council Services so the budget balances. The budget is made up of a block grant and other awards from the Scottish Government as well as Council Tax set by PKC. As things stand as I write this it would take around a 50% increase in Council Tax levels to maintain a balanced budget. Of course, this is not what will happen and there is much effort by officers and elected members to find adjustments that provide the least negative impact. All of the efforts from this process will become clear at the Council Meeting on 1 March.

I have my first meeting as Convenor of Kinross-shire Local Committee on 16 February. We will be testing out having the meeting in person in Kinross-shire for the first time. This will be at Loch Leven Community Campus with some hybrid attendance by some PKC officers and Community Council Members not able to attend in person. We are still tweaking the best time and format for this committee. From my point of view it is important that it is local and the local people can attend, watch and participate. You will have seen the most recent minutes in the February *Newsletter*. This will continue. A transparent process with timeous reporting is important for this project. I look forward to significant agenda items in the coming months.

Over the many years I have worked inside and outside PKC the slippage that happens between decisions and information processes that happen at Council and the local needs, projects and resources, is the biggest issue. Our Independent Group of elected members is very keen that services are delivered in the most efficient and targeted manner. Local Committees are an aspect of that aspiration. PKC has set up groups in the past with this kind of remit.

I am hoping the Local Committee Scheme of Delegation will provide the more formal conduit between PKC and our local community which will remain transparent and have regular public meeting and reporting which helps hold everybody to account. Most people want local democracy to work better; this is the objective.

Councillor Dave Cuthbert

LOOKING FOR HELP WITH SOCIAL CARE & SUPPORT?



Support Choices will be attending Loch Leven Health Centre drop in session on Wednesday 15 February from 1pm to 3pm. Come along for a chat about anything social care and community supports.

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Councillor Neil Freshwater



More Windfarms for Kinross-shire?

Readers will have seen reports in last month's Newsletter about plans for a wind farm (up to 26 turbines) at Brunt Hill near Carnbo. E Power Limited has submitted a pre-planning application to Scottish Government, as was reported.

Further to that, I have been advised that a second company, Galileo Green Energy GmbH is considering an application at neighbouring Craighead for up to 12 turbines. Galileo presented to Fossoway Community Council at a packed Carnbo Hall last week which led to some interesting discussion.

They talked about potential community benefit fund of £360,000 per annum for the life of the windfarm depending on power generation. We also discussed the need for wind turbines in Scotland to be higher than existing ones, given that the number of available sites suitable for 'smaller' turbines is depleting.

Notably, the E Power application suggests that turbines could be up to 235m tall including blades. As a comparison, last week *The Guardian* reported that consent was given for England's tallest turbine at 190m including blades. I read elsewhere that Vestas energy has announced the 'world's tallest on shore tower' for wind turbines at 199m (ex blades) in Denmark.

I sought clarity on whether the two applications are related but seemingly not, although it is apparently the case when a windfarm application goes in, a competitor application may follow nearby.

Perth Harbour Closure

A number of Kinross-shire residents have been in touch about the Council's decision to close Perth Harbour because they either work there or have connections to it. At relatively short notice, the Full Council was presented with a recommendation to close the harbour given that it is currently loss-making. I spoke in a debate in the chamber last week and voiced my concerns about the closure. Whilst the harbour is a great asset for the area, and I do not believe that it is for the council to run it as a loss making enterprise, I did want to ensure that if there was the possibility of a company taking on the full operation, that should be explored. A motion to keep the harbour open and dredge it, with a view to finding a fully commercial operator was defeated. However, although the Council did agree to close it, it will welcome approaches from interested parties who could lease it on a long term basis in order to keep it open as a commercial port.

Community Speedwatch for Kinross-shire

Fossoway Community Council has secured funding to operate a community speedwatch and buy the necessary equipment. This will be open to all community council areas in the county. It will allow (following training) volunteers to monitor traffic speeds. Anyone 'caught' speeding will receive a warning letter from the police advising them of their speeding. This is a really good scheme to empower communities who are frustrated with speeding, to take real action. Anyone interested should contact Fossoway Community Council (or myself and I can pass on details).

Councillor Neil Freshwater

Grants and Funding Websites

www.pkgrantsdirect.com

www.foundationscotland.org.uk

Liz Smith, MSP



I am delighted to announce the official lodging of the final proposal for my Outdoor Education Private Member's Bill in January. Readers will know from my previous articles in the *Kinross Newsletter* just how passionate I am about the aims of this Bill. Outdoor education has a proven track-record of developing life skills and building self-esteem in young people and this is needed more than ever following the Covid-19 pandemic.

My final Bill proposal has been lodged under the text: "A proposal for a Bill to ensure that young people, in particular those in their first four years of secondary school, have the opportunity to experience residential outdoor education to an approved educational standard."

This also coincided with the publishing of the consultation responses to my Bill which can now be accessed here: <https://www.parliament.scot/bills-and-laws/proposals-for-bills/proposed-schools-residential-outdoor-education-scotland-bill>. I would like to thank all of the 535 individuals and organisations that completed the survey with over 95% of the responses supportive of the proposal.

The final proposal now has one month to get support from other MSPs. In order to progress, the Bill must receive the support of at least 18 individual MSPs across at least two different political parties. I am glad to say this threshold has already been met comfortably and I extend my thanks to all those who have already shown their support.

Now that my Bill has been so enthusiastically supported by both the outdoor education sector and the public, my focus will now be on ensuring that I can convince my colleagues in the Scottish Parliament to vote through this legislation to ensure no child in Scotland will be disadvantaged by missing this enriching learning experience.

Liz Smith, MSP

The Newsletter on Facebook

We use our Facebook page to announce:

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

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Jim Fairlie, MSP



IN PARLIAMENT I RECENTLY had the privilege to host a Members’ Business Debate on the subject of Male Suicide in Scotland. This is a highly sensitive issue, and I appreciate that this is a topic that can be unsettling and difficult to discuss openly but it is my strong belief that MSPs should do absolutely everything to raise awareness and to remove perceived stigma of suicide so that necessary, open discussions can take place across our communities.

Far too many of us know a family member, a friend or somebody meaningful that has died by suicide -- myself included. Statistics show that overall death figures by suicide are falling but the number is still stubbornly high, and men are three times more likely to die this way than women, with three times as many deaths occurring in more deprived areas. It remains the biggest killer of men aged under 50.

Since becoming a MSP I have become aware of the exceptional work being undertaken by Samaritans and Andy’s Man Club in the local area – both of which promote the positive value of conversation. I intend to invite both organisations to Holyrood in the near future so that they can share their experiences and expertise to MSPs so they may return to their own constituencies to relay the vitally important message that ‘it’s okay to talk’.

Andy’s Man Club meets every Monday 7pm at football grounds McDiarmid Park and Central Park, whilst Samaritans can be contacted on 116123.

This month two of our most popular and highly-regarded local businesses have received national acclaim by winning the Countryside Alliance’s Champion for Scotland awards. Hunters of Kinross scored a first place finish in the Butcher category, whilst Loch Leven’s Larder topped the Local Food and Drink Category.

This is a huge achievement for both businesses and I have submitted motions to Parliament congratulating them on their success, which I am pleased to report has received support from MSPs across Scotland and across the party political divide.

These awards are particularly meaningful as they are nominated by members of the general public on a basis of ‘celebrating rural businesses that go the extra mile, supporting their local economy, and are the unsung heroes in every community’. The awards are otherwise known as ‘The Rural Oscars’ and highlights the diversity of rural enterprise and the determination of rural communities to survive and prosper.

Both businesses are no strangers to winning awards and they will now compete for the title of the best in the UK at a final in London scheduled for 17 May 2023. I know only too well how dedicated each business is to producing quality local produce to a high standard, and each brings great credit to the local area for showcasing Kinross-shire as the very best that Scotland has to offer. I wish them every success at the final and in the future.

In my Parliamentary motion I also credited Hunters for their use of a PKC local apprentice scheme to help youths into work after the pandemic and their past efforts to support youngsters towards gaining qualifications in the Scottish Craft Butchers SVQ scheme. I am pleased that my colleagues have recognised their meaningful efforts.

Jim Fairlie, MSP

**THE KINROSS NEWSLETTER
ALL PROFITS GO TO LOCAL GOOD CAUSES**

John Nicolson, MP



I WENT TO A LOCAL playgroup recently. It was full of toddlers from Ukraine, their mothers chatting while keeping a watchful eye on them. They looked happy, but I detected a certain vigilance – more than the usual parental watchfulness. How could it be otherwise given what they’d endured?

‘So how are you finding Scotland?’ I asked. ‘Are people being welcoming? Are you and the children managing to settle in?’

‘The children are completely at home now’ one mother told me ‘and they’ve already got Scottish accents.’

‘People are so lovely in Scotland’ another mother said. ‘They quite often ask me if I need land to grow potatoes. I think they assume that’s what we do in Ukraine. But I’m a doctor in Kiev. I’ve never planted a potato in my life.’

I suppose it’s the thought that counts.

The Ukrainians join a significant number of Syrian families who fled the bombing horrors there, and now live in my constituency. I’ve often wondered why people in Scotland seem to be so warm towards folk who come to seek sanctuary on our shores. Why do so many immigrants say they find a ready welcome here? I wonder if it is because we are a land of emigrants? Generation after generation of Scots have had to leave home. Most, in recent years were economic migrants – to England, to the rest of the European Union, and to Commonwealth countries. I was one of them. I left for London in my twenties to pursue work in journalism.

But of course emigration took much darker forms in our country’s history in the 18th and 19th centuries. The Clearances saw huge swathes of our country brutally emptied of people who were forced on to boats, never to see their homeland again. Piles of stones scattered throughout Highland glens to this day bear testament to the cruelty of landlords who preferred sheep to people.

I didn’t know until recently how many Scots ended up in Argentina. But I’ve become friends with the Argentine Ambassador. Javier Figueroa is a clever and charming man. And Argentina has recently been enjoying a fascination with all things Scottish because of Alexis MacAllister, their star football World Cup player. Ambassador Figueroa has fallen in love with Scotland. He reminded me that the now famous MacAllister family were only one of thousands of Scottish families who found a new home and language in his country during the nineteenth century. And we brought something in return – football when Alexander Watson Hutton taught it to Buenos Aires schoolboys. I think it’s fair to say they’ve become almost as good at the game now as us.

These days Argentina has the largest number of Scottish descendants of any country outside the English speaking world, with their own traditions including schools, churches and Scottish country dancing clubs. They’ve assimilated. But they’re still proud of who they are and where they came from. And doesn’t that create the perfect mix?

John Nicolson, MP



Politicians

**Councillor
Richard Watters**



**Flood Defence for
Kinross and Milnathort**

WITHIN THE NEXT FEW months, both Kinross and Milnathort are due to have important community consultations on relevant Flood Defence schemes. The schemes for both communities are included in the Forth Estuary Local Flood Risk Management Plan and will help make both communities more resilient to River and Surface Water flooding. Both schemes were delayed largely by the Covid Pandemic.

The Milnathort Surface Water Flood Scheme and Surface Water Management Plan takes account of the 2016 Scottish Water sewer improvement work and has the potential to reduce strain on the combined Sewerage and Surface Water sewers in the town.

The Kinross Flood Defence Scheme is needed to protect 129 homes and 55 businesses from potential flooding from the South Queich, Gelly Burn, and Clash Burn to the south of Kinross.

A Surface Water Management Plan for Kinross is currently scheduled between 2024 -2026, this is due to be preceded by Scottish Water completing a Sewerage Flood Risk assessment between 2023 – 2025.

With the impact of Climate Change on changes in rainfall, these projects have the potential to help us build more resilient communities as well as to help us protect our local environment—especially Loch Leven.

Replacement Fence

HAVING BEEN IN DISCUSSIONS with council officers regarding the unsightly broken fence between Stirling Road and Marshall Place in Milnathort, I was delighted to be informed that replacement fencing will be erected in the near future.

Planning Applications

THERE ARE A NUMBER of important planning applications due within Kinross-shire, such as an application for Aldi in Milnathort, for housing next to Davies Park in Kinross, for a development at the old Car Auction site in Kinross, and possibly for two windfarms in the Ochils near Carnbo.

I am often asked for my opinion on these applications. However, due to the quasi-judicial nature of these applications and in my roles as a member of the Planning Committee, the Local Review Body, and Full Council, if I were to pre-judge or comment on an application that is due to come before any of the above committees, that would create a conflict and would require me to declare an interest in the application and remove myself from debating on it or voting on it.

My behaviour in respect to planning applications is covered

under section 7 of the councillors code of conduct – ‘taking decisions on quasi judicial or regulatory applications’ with the need for me to ‘ensure there is a proper and fair hearing of the application and must avoid the impression of bias in the whole decision making process’.

Occasionally, due to my involvement with a specific constituency issue I have chosen to remove myself from the decision-making process. However, I aim to remain within the guidelines set out in the Councillors Code of Conduct That enables me to carry out my commitments as a Councillor on the Planning Committee and the Local Review Board.

If you have any questions about this process, please contact me at RWatters@PKC.gov.uk

Councillor Richard Watters


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.

Full details, including how to apply via our online application link, can be found at:
www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/kinross-shire-fund



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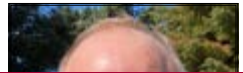


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They may also use names of genuine bank employees or Police, which they have found from previous alerts about these types of frauds.

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

On Friday 10 February at 10:10pm, RSPB Nature Centre at Loch Leven, Kinross was broken into and a number of high value Telescopes were stolen from within (CR/17592/23)

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.

Rogue Traders – Who Should I Call...

...if I feel threatened, unsafe, or suspicious of a caller?

- Contact the police immediately on 999

...if I see something suspicious in my area, or want more advice about bogus callers?

- Contact the police on 101.
- Try and take a note of vehicle details or registration numbers, and descriptions of anyone suspicious.

- **...if I want to contact the police anonymously?**
- Contact the independent charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. You can also visit their website at www.crimestoppers-uk.org

...to find out more about home safety services?

- When circumstances allow, contact your local council for more information. Depending on your circumstances, you may qualify for a free security alarm.

Police Scotland – Local Community

Telephone 101 for non-emergencies

Community officer for Kinross-shire: **PC Ben Samson.**

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

Community Sergeant (Kinross-shire): **Sgt Mark Craig.**

Community Inspector for Perth South (Strathearn, Strathallan, Almond & Earn, Kinross-shire): **PI Craig Stephen.**

PC Spalding is also on Police Scotland Twitter and can be followed on twitter.com/policescotland or [@Kinross](https://twitter.com/Kinross).

Ways of Following the Police

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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

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AGRICULTURE AND LOCH LEVEN

Following last month's article on sewage treatment, Dr Brian D'Arcy now looks at the effects of agriculture on Loch Leven. Brian has worked with agricultural and environmental scientists and advisors for several decades, addressing nutrients in rivers and lochs associated with agriculture. He was Chair of the International Water Association Task Group on Land Use and Water Quality from 2017-2022. When it comes to Loch Leven we are being advised to 'listen to the science'. Further Reading is given at the end of this article.

How The Loch Leven Catchment Became An Exemplar For Managing Diffuse Pollution From Agriculture

'It's agriculture' – that seems to be the message coming from the people now advising our local councillors, as reported in the *Newsletter* over recent months. It is a surprising viewpoint, given the decades of innovation and achievement by the agricultural sector in the Loch Leven catchment, especially since the 1990s. The other aspect which is surprising, is the implication that a single source is 'the one'. From the outset, a catchment management approach has been that each and every sector must strive to manage inputs, according to recognised national notions of best practice. That's not just good scientific sense for catchment management, it is fair and even handed. For the farming community, from the 1990s onwards, it led to many actions going well beyond any regulatory requirements.

In 1985 an intensive sampling survey to produce a quantitative idea of the phosphorus (P) inputs to Loch Leven was undertaken by a partnership effort between the Nature Conservancy Council (NCC; later SNH, now rebranded as Nature Scot), responsible for the Loch Leven National Nature Reserve (and all others), and the Forth River Purification Board (absorbed in the new Scottish Environment Protection Agency, SEPA in 1996).

That valuable joint endeavour gave us information on the relative importance of each of the measured inputs to the loch. As well as highlighting the Todd and Duncan textile mill as a priority for dialogue and action (successfully concluded by 1987), it highlighted river borne (diffuse) multiple sources too. The detailed data collected in 1985 (published in 1987) allowed comparisons, for that very wet year, between the different watercourses and identified the Pow/Greens Burn as the tributary with the highest phosphorus per hectare (P/ha) load to the loch. A small sub-catchment, mainly arable, it was an obvious target for focused action (e.g. buffer strips and nutrient budgeting).

Ten years later, in a dry year (1995), a subsequent survey found that the highest P input per hectare was no longer the Green/Pow Burn but was the South Queich. Livestock farming was more characteristic of that catchment, so nutrient and slurry management advice there was backed up by livestock exclusion fencing (especially on the Gelly Burn tributary). That decade and the following one (1985-2005) was a period of innovation and activity, establishing new practices and demonstrably effective ways to reduce inputs from agriculture. The public outcry following the algal blooms in July 1992 was a great help in bringing together people in the catchment, including farmers, with a real spirit of everyone must do what they can.

Managing Diffuse Pollution And Reading The Landscape

Diffuse pollution can usefully be described as contamination of land or air, washed or blown by weather into rivers, lochs and the sea, or seeping down into groundwater. The concept explains why in heavy rain a diffuse pollution impacted river is often worse than in dry weather. The land use determines the type of contamination risks. The landscape presents the pathways for runoff and the scope for interventions. 'Reading the landscape' for diffuse pollution management gradually became the basis for assessing pollution risks from agriculture. That fresh mindset was encouraged by a joint venture in 1994 between FRPB (later taken up by SEPA), SAC and FWAG (the now defunct Farming

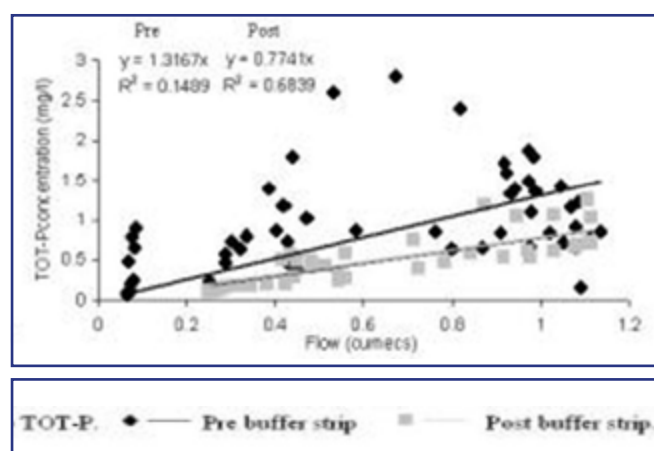
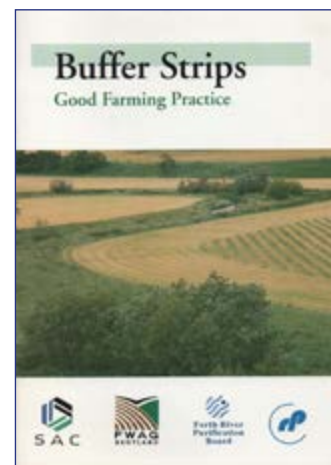


Figure 1. Buffer strips guide and measured effectiveness at reducing total P losses to the Greens/Pow Burn, Loch Leven (SEPA data published by S Greig in D'Arcy et al 2006).

and Wildlife Advisory Group): the *Buffer Strips Initiative*. The buffer zones aimed to move the farming back from the edge of the watercourses and, in our initial sub-catchment, to stabilise slopes on arable land.

It was not a one-size-fits-all approach. On the Greens/Pow Burn 7.3ha of buffer zones were established, varying from 3m in flatter reaches to 30m on the broad steeper slopes. 'Hotspots' (across the loch catchment) required bespoke solutions and included moving a farm gate up-slope

along a boundary line, rather than being at the lowest point; shifting winter feeders to a high spot in a field, remote from where runoff could enter a drain or burn. Often relatively simple interventions, and the farmers knew best where to make them. A good example was where runoff from a rough grass hill pasture in wet weather flushed out a hollow where sheep would enrich the ground with a lot of droppings; the farmer modified the pathway for the runoff to by-pass the sheep holding area and thereafter drain clean water into the head of the burn. At another hotspot, a sediment trap was excavated to capture eroded soil, which is periodically excavated and returned to the top of the field (see over for Fig.2).



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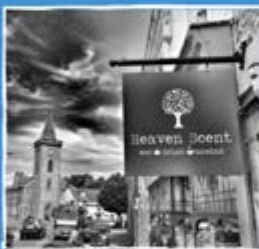
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Figure 2. Left: c.10t of soil from a silt trap ready to be returned to the field. Right: Greens Burn in wet weather below the buffer zone protected reaches (photo Wendy Fenton).

The non-landscape interventions were equally important. Part of the loch catchment is a Nitrate Vulnerable Zone. Figure three shows that the concentration in the burn in that area was halved (1994-2008). Because it is highly soluble, it is more difficult to reduce nitrate by landscape means than P, the latter being associated with particulate matter amenable to filtration and soil stabilisation. The data in figure 3 is a measure of the success of nutrient budgeting by farmers in the catchment (which would also have included reduced P application in many situations).

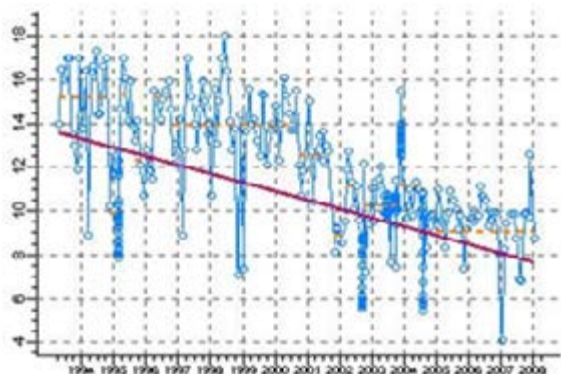


Figure 3. Decline in nitrate concentrations in the Greens Burn (1994-2008), SEPA data in D’Arcy et al 2006.

Success And What Has Changed Since Then?

By 2008 (Dudley *et al* 2012) an amazing degree of recovery was clear: rooted plants were growing on the loch bed at a depth of 4.3m! The agricultural practices at that time were clearly compatible with the restored water quality. So, if 'it's agriculture' what has changed? Facts are needed:

- Informal indications from farmers are that the current SEPA survey has not found much evidence of poor practice so far.
- A quantitative assessment of the landscape measures across the catchment, using modern satellite and/or drone mapping data, comparing that with information from the late 1990s is proposed for a student project at SRUC, but we'll need farmers' permission to access the 1990s historic landscapes data.

- Any changes in quantities of fertiliser applications? Improvements in technology now allow much finer targeting of fertiliser applications, reducing quantities. The current price increases also make excessive use seem unlikely.
- Any changes in proportion of land growing root crops? Or increases in livestock numbers? A proper review of land use and water quality would allow for a more scientific evaluation of the contribution of agriculture, compared with the earlier good quality decades.

In conclusion, a big thank you to Loch Leven farmers for helping in the restoration of the loch all those years ago and putting Loch Leven at the forefront of restoration studies internationally. Now let's have a proper, thorough examination of the current situation, as outlined above.

*Dr Brian D’Arcy
Chair, International Water Association Task Group on
Land Use and Water Quality, 2017-2022*

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 Defew LH (2008) *The influence of high-flow events on phosphorus delivery to Loch Leven, Scotland. PhD Thesis, University of Edinburgh: 275pp.*
 Dudley B, Gunn IDM, Carvalho L, Proctor I, O’Hare MT, Murphy KJ and Milligan (2012) *Changes in aquatic macrophyte communities in Loch Leven: evidence of recovery from eutrophication?* Hydrobiologia, 681:49-57

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Kinross-shire Cricket Club 1920-2000

IN LAST MONTH'S *NEWSLETTER* we reviewed the early years from 1853 up to the start of the First World War. No records exist as to the impact the war had on player numbers but an article in the *Dundee Courier* of 19 October 1921 indicates that club finances were good with £89 in the bank and a very healthy membership. The article also lists the office bearers as; Hon. presidents, Sir Basil I. G. Montgomery. Bart., ex-Provost Anderson, Mr J Gardiner, M P., and Mr J. J. Moubray, Lord-Lieutenant of the county: hon. Vice-presidents, Provost W. J. Montgomery, Mr J. B. Black, Tillywhally, and Major Simpson, Mawcarse; president, Oswald; vice-president, Mr D. M. Hutchison; captain, G. Telfer; vice-captain, Councillor T. H. Mitchell; secretary and treasurer. Mr R. Telfer, Lochburn Terrace, Kinross. It seems the club was in good order and in a strong position for the foreseeable future. Match reports and scorecards for the period saw the club play teams from of Edinburgh, Kirkcaldy, Cowdenbeath, Dunfermline, Dollar, Perth and Scone.

In 1930, local schoolboy, Alistair Dowell made his first team debut at the age of 10 years old. It is not unusual for sons to play alongside fathers and Alistair continued playing for the club until the outbreak of the second World War in 1939. Work and family commitments meant Alistair moved away from Kinross in the mid-1940s but he continued to play cricket and was selected for Scotland between 1951 and 1955. It is recognised that Alistair was the first Kinross-shire CC teenager to go on to play for Scotland. He was not the last as we will see in the 2000s. The club welcomed Alistair back in 2008 as an official guest at a match against Bute County.

During the 1930s another significant father and son partnership played for the club. Robert and Andrew Downie made regular appearances for the club until the start of the war. Robert is listed as a club committee member in the official records from 1937. Sadly, Andrew's cricket career was all too brief as he was killed in action in 1942 when he was just 21. The images below were very kindly donated to the club by Robert Downie's daughter, Mrs Margaret Able, who still lives in Kinross. The Downie Quach was also donated by Mrs Able



in honour of her father and brother and is one of the annual awards presented by the club to the junior member who made an impact as they progressed into the senior teams.

By 1933 the club was firmly established at 'The Beeches' a park located where the current Montgomery Golf Course Club house is situated. On 24 July 1933 the club house was totally destroyed by a fire. The Kinross July Fair was taking place in the adjacent field and although the fire brigade was on hand the entire building and all its contents were destroyed. The local community came together and raised the money to build a new building which was officially opened on 25 May 1934 by club president Mr D Hutchison.

The second world War had a significant impact on the club as a considerable number of its members were killed in action. As a result the club was unable to continue in its regular form and the decision was taken to wind up the clubs affairs with the ground and pavilion being put up for sale in November 1945.

While the formal club was in abeyance, it appears that friendly fixtures were arranged on an ad-hoc basis through the 1950s and 60s.

The 1970s saw the first resurgence of the club and by the early 1980s the club shared its home with the local rugby club at the King George V playing fields. When high-level floodlights were installed at the KGV fields in 1991 the cricket club was again moved to another location at the Myre Park. As this is a public park it was decided by the local council to install an artificial wicket between the existing football pitches. During the 1990s the club continued to play regular friendly fixtures under the guidance of John Stewart, Richard Oldham, Ken Reilly and Julian Foster. The club also undertook several cricket tours and a picture of the Somerset County Ground at Taunton hangs in the club pavilion as a souvenir of one trip.

As the club moved into the early 2000s the 150th Anniversary loomed and a decision was taken which would have a significant impact on the future. In next month's *Newsletter* we will look at the past 20 years which saw the club reach new levels of success and recognition.

Fossway Memories



Crook of Devon Hall opening (1911)

IF YOU DRIVE INTO Crook of Devon from Kinross you will notice The Village Hall, previously called The Crook of Devon Institute, on your left. The community used to use the Fossway school for the odd concert and an occasional lecture, but the village were not happy and their discontent became so great, they took steps to get an Institute built in the village. Apparently, the adults didn't like sitting on small chairs in the school!

They raised a good sum of money, but they were rather ambitious, so that the money raised was only about half sufficient to meet their scheme. Mr Moubray of Naemoor Estate generously donated the balance, and the result was the erection of the Institute with housing for a good library, a fairly large hall for concerts, lectures, and recreation with committee rooms. The village library had opened in 1890 and was originally in the school. By 1906 it had moved to the Institute and had over 1200 books people could borrow. In 1914 they were still handing out books!

The Institute was opened in 1911 by Miss Moubray of Naemoor Estate, and in 1914 it was handed over to Red Cross as a convalescent hospital for injured soldiers & sailors in the war.

Directly opposite the Crook of Devon Hall is a house called 'Clentry'. Mr Drummond who was the village policeman. He retired early due to injuries he received during the First World War and built the house. He named the house after Clentry Burn in Kelty which is where his wife came from. Behind the house they had a run where they kept 400 chickens. The house became the village shop and villagers remember buying eggs wrapped in paper, long before egg cartons. You could also buy four sweets for a farthing – those were the days! Lots of the children would visit the shop after school while waiting for the bus for home. The building is now a private house.

Behind 'Clentry' was the Crook of Devon Railway which opened



Crook of Devon railway



1914 Red Cross take over Crook of Devon Institute as a hospital

in 1863 and closed in 1964. The field where the tractor is working is now replaced with houses aptly named Drummond Park. Prior to this it was allegedly also used as a putting green for tourists.

Thanks to Gavin Drummond for sharing his memories of family life in Crook of Devon. If anyone has any old photos of Fossway that they would be happy to share, please get in touch with di@farmerdawes.co.uk

Jim Paterson of Gallowhill, making hay in 1964. This area is now called Drummond Park. To the right of the photo you can see the village Hall with Clentry House in front of it. Photos: Gavin Drummond



A COMPLAINT-FREE WORLD

Winning Ways

by Jo Middlemiss

WHAT WOULD THE WORLD be like if people stopped complaining? Think about it for a moment. What would there be to talk about, if there wasn't whingeing, whining, gossiping and moaning? Over the holidays, a friend gave me a book called *A Complaint Free World* by Will Bowen. He was suddenly confronted by how much he complained about almost everything, all the time, when he was reading about how to bring abundance into his life. This book made the point, that what you put your attention on is what comes into your life. In other words, think about and speak about what you would like in your life, rather than what you don't want.

Complaining is nearly always about what you don't want; bad weather, lack of employment, love, money, good friends and so on, and so on. In a small town in America, it was decided by a group of people that they would simply stop mentioning all the things that they were not happy about. If someone had a headache, they didn't mention it, if a bus didn't turn up, or someone was late, or a husband forgot a birthday, or a child broke a cup, or if it was raining, or if they had a really, really juicy bit of gossip, they just didn't mention it.

They set themselves a challenge to see if they could. It is a researched fact that it takes 21 days for a new habit to set in. So their challenge was to see if they could go for 21 days without complaining. They wore a purple band on their wrists, and every time they complained, or gossiped, they had to switch the band to the other wrist, and go back to day one.

Initially, it was incredibly hard, but after a few days the complaining, and the gossip, started to diminish, and strangely enough base levels of happiness went up! It took

most of them between four and seven months to get to 21 complaint free days.

My suggestion in this article is that we could start it here in Kinross. Why not? We don't need purple bands, just an elastic band on your wrist, and every time you complain or gossip about anything, switch the band. We don't even need to talk about it, just do it, and see what happens to the atmosphere around you. For a while, there might not be much to talk about, but that will just show you how much pleasure you get from gossiping about other people. Here is the good bit, you can still gossip, but it has to be only good things. Also it's free to complain in your head, it only counts if you actually speak your complaint. What you will notice, though, is that the less you speak it, the more the thoughts will start to shrivel up, and you will search for positive things to say.

This year has started with quite a bit of doom and gloom in the papers, and the constant news bulletins hitting us with bad news. Well, just so I don't have to switch my band, I am not going to complain about them, they have a job to do, and nothing in our lives can be as bad as life in Ukraine.

Rats – I am back to day one. I whined about the weather this morning. However, I'm still very happy to be trying. It's a challenge that is more fun than a diet, and it saves me from attracting what I don't want in my life. Why not give it a try? It's free and it's fun, and it will make you happy.

www.acomplaintfreeworld.org

Jo Middlemiss MBE

Jo is away in Ethiopia in March, working at her little clinic, South of Addis. Many thanks to everyone who contributed knickers, socks and money to her appeal.

News From The Health Centre



OVARIAN CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

EACH YEAR 7400 WOMEN 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 life-saving research and provides support to women with ovarian cancer. Their awareness campaign this month 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:

- *Persistent bloating - not bloating that comes and goes*
- *Feeling full quickly and/or loss of appetite*
- *Pelvic or abdominal pain (that's your tummy and below)*

- *Urinary symptoms (needing to wee more urgently or more often than usual).*

Occasionally there can be other symptoms:

- *Changes in bowel habit (e.g. diarrhoea or constipation)*
- *Extreme fatigue (feeling very tired)*
- *Unexplained weight loss*
- *Any bleeding after the menopause should always be investigated by a GP*

If you have any of these symptoms more than twelve times a month (and they are not normal for you) please telephone 01577 862112 and make an appointment with your GP to discuss further. Further information is available at www.targetovariancancer.org.uk

For more regular updates from the practice, please visit our Facebook pages: www.facebook.com/orwellmedicalpractice www.facebook.com/stserfsmedicalpractice

Kinross Hub March Calendar



The sessions are drop-in but if you prefer an appointment time, please phone the number detailed for the agency you wish to connect with, or contact:
Shona 07896 280843 shona.fowler@nhs.scot Declan 07557 488902 declanjones@pkc.gov.uk

Wed	Thu	Fri
<p>1st 10am to 12pm drop-in for HomeStart Breast Buddies group 01738 638847</p> <p>2pm - 4pm PKC Social Work for signposting and support. 01577 867300</p>	<p>2nd 10am to 12.30pm Welfare Rights will offer support and advice for accessing benefits and ensuring income maximisation</p>	<p>3rd 11am to 2pm Employability4All 1:1 Support for employability from school leaver to age 67 Individual or whole family service offered, focused on alleviating poverty. 07743557637</p>
<p>8th 10am to 12pm drop-in for HomeStart Breast Buddies group 01738 638847</p> <p>1.30pm – 3.30pm Helen from CATH will support with form filling – PIP, Universal Credit etc 07739 858987</p>	<p>9th 10am to 12.30pm Broke not Broken Danielle will be here to offer advice, connecting to support and also for foodbank referrals. 07518 913107</p> <p>1.30pm – 3.30pm PKC Employment Support Team Job advice and help those who have learning disability, acquired brain injury, mental health issues or autistic spectrum diagnosis 07442 934454</p>	<p>10th 10am to 12.30pm Declan Jones, Social Prescriber - Community Connecting/Signposting 07557 488902</p>
<p>15th 10am to 12pm drop-in for HomeStart Breast Buddies group 01738 638847</p> <p>1pm – 3pm Support Choices will be here to offer independent information and advice about getting social care and support 01350 729130</p>	<p>16th 10am to 12.30pm Mel from Perth and Kinross Domestic Abuse Service with Advice for women over 16 experiencing or having experienced Domestic Abuse.</p> <p>1pm – 3pm Declan Jones, Social Prescriber - Community Connecting/Signposting 07557 488902</p>	<p>17th 10am to 12.30pm Karen from PKC Skills & Employment offers support & advice re CVs, Job search, support after redundancy etc. 07867 351268</p>
<p>22nd 10am to 12pm drop-in for HomeStart Breast Buddies group 01738 638847</p> <p>1.30pm – 3.30pm Helen from CATH will support with form filling – PIP, Universal Credit etc 07739 858987</p>	<p>23rd 10am to 12.30pm Broke not Broken Danielle will be there to offer advice, connecting to support and also for foodbank referrals. 07518 913107</p> <p>2pm -4pm Louise from PKC Housing Team for</p>	<p>24th 11am to 1pm Social Security Scotland offering advice on their benefits – Carers Allowance Supplement, Child Disability Payment, Funeral Support Payment, Best Start Grants etc.</p>

LOCAL ADVICE HUB

THE ADVICE HUB IS a partnership between Kinross-shire charity Broke not Broken, P&K Health and Social Care Partnership and Loch Leven HC. It provides a much-needed local drop-in facility to support people with community connections, signposting to benefits services, foodbank support, mental health agencies and community organisations.

If you are experiencing financial difficulty during this time or feel you need support/advice please call Shona Fowler on 07896 280843 to have a chat or email shona.fowler@nhs.scot

If you wish to connect with Broke not Broken directly Danielle is in the advice hub on Thursday mornings or can be contacted on 07518 913107 or email admin@brokennotbroken.org

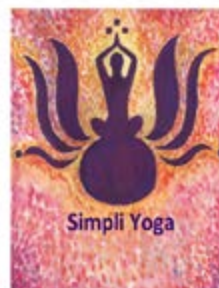
Declan Jones, the social prescriber, will connect you with local community groups, supportive exercise sessions, walking groups, green/nature prescribing activities, volunteering, learning opportunities or help you link with another agency. Declan can be contacted on 07557 488902 or declanjones@pkc.gov.uk

These are just examples so please contact us if there is anything else you need or want to discuss with us. We're always available for a friendly, informal chat.

THE KINROSS NEWSLETTER

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ARTEFACTS & CURIOS

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.

Milnathort and Orwell Community Council

News from the January Meeting

Present At The Meeting held on 12 January 2023 were M Thomson (chairman); N Bingham, A Macrae, K Heneghan, P Britton, A Wanless, Cllrs W Robertson, Cllr R Watters and 5 members of the public.

Apologies were received from A Ward, Cllrs N Freshwater and D Cuthbert.

Police Report

Traffic Statistics

Community officers are aware of regular areas where there are complaints about speeding in and around Milnathort. These are all on our speeding matrix and we will continue to make efforts to carry out speed checks across the area during our patrols.

Traffic units from Perth have also been carrying out regular speed checks in the area and have issued tickets over the last month for speeding and various other road traffic offences.

From 8 December 2022 there have been 24 calls to Police from the Milnathort area and 3 crimes recorded on Police systems.

Parking outside Milnathort Primary School(MPS)

Cllr Robertson has received complaints about parking outside MPS, the police had spoken with the school but although it has been busy of late, no one has been parking illegally. He suggested that the school look at the Safer Routes to School initiative and it was also mentioned that some schools in PKC have implemented an exclusion zone which can be looked at but may have an impact on surrounding areas and roads.

Matters Arising

Windfarm Application.

A windfarm application has been submitted for the Brunt Hill area, see link to the pre-application: www.energyconsents.scot/ApplicationDetails.aspx?cr=ECU00004654

There is very little information available other than what is at the above link, as more information becomes available, we will schedule to discuss and share at forthcoming MOCC meetings.

Loch Level Pollution

Cllr Robertson raised a motion with PKC which was passed unanimously, the leader of the council will write to the Environment Minister to ask that they do whatever is necessary to help identify and stop/control what is adding to the increased pollution of the loch and impact the loch's water quality. Cllr Robertson was not happy with a previous response where it was mentioned that there was no issue and actions had already been implemented on land management and the sewage discharge into the loch. SEPA are not taking records but were asked to give a report on what is going on.

Cllr Watters mentioned that Scottish Water have budget to add telemetry to monitor waste discharge. Adding that Linda May was at the last Climate Café and has over 47 years of collecting data on the Loch. Malcolm (CC) mentioned that he would ask Linda about attending a future MOCC meeting.

Q. Are other community councils discussing this issue?

A. Yes, a number of other community councils are discussing this.

Previous Actions

Damaged Wall At Burleigh

Kevin (CC) previously wrote to the landowner about what can be done to repair the wall, however has not heard back.

Lathro Footbridge/New Path In Need Of Repair/Damaged Gate
Cllr Watters previously contacted Persimmon but has not heard anything back, so will contact them again with an update

Wester Loan signage

Cllr Freshwater contact PKC and they have added the request to improve the signage at Wester Loan junction with North Street/Manse Road to the open list of outstanding road improvement requests.

Dog Bin, Auld Mart Trainline Footpath

Cllr Freshwater to raise with PKC

Damaged Fencing At Auld Mart

Cllr Freshwater to raise with PKC

Correspondence

Better Place to Live Fair in Loch Leven Campus, Sat 25 March

Scottish Fire Rescue Service are offering the chance for groups/organisations to arrange for an officer to come along to have a chat about fire safety in the home.

Roads

Temporary Prohibition Of Parking And Loading - A922

South Street/The Fairways – Milnathort

A922 South Street, Milnathort from its junction with Church Street (312027, 704656) to its junction with Auld Mart Road (311751, 704091), a distance of 629.72 metres or thereby.

The Fairways, Milnathort from its junction with the A922 South Street, Milnathort (311856, 704338) for its entire length, a distance of 72.05 metres or thereby.

On 24 January 2023 for a period of one day to allow Scottish Water to repair ironworks.


Core Paths

Kevin Heneghan gave the following update :

Jobs for the next few months include filling in depressions in the Core Paths that can form large muddy puddles. The location of these have been noted and infill has been ordered and will be deployed over the winter/spring months.

Another job for the winter is erecting new Core Path way markers and replacing old or missing ones.

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Community Council News

There are a few areas where bushes and branches need to be cut back and these will also be tackled over the coming months.

Comments and Questions

An audience member asked about the meeting on the BCA planning application for a retail park. Cllr Robertson responded that there is no application at present and Cllr Watters commented that the expectation is that the planning application will include a road to the loch as was previously agreed. The planning application timings are most likely to be governed by when the flood defence improvements are planned/implemented.

It was also asked whether MOCC were invited to the meeting. MOCC were not invited, as this was an application in the Kinross Community Council area.

It was commented on that Cllr Cuthbert asked about whether there was any impact on housing. An audience member asked the Cllrs why they don't ask this for previous planning application, specifically the Aldi planning application. Cllr Robertson responded that questions of those sorts have been asked in the past, but not normally at a public meeting.

Councillors' Reports

Cllr Robertson: mentioned Glenfarg Oil Buying Syndicate. Glenfarg locals that pool resources so they can purchase oil for their houses at a reduced rate, and whether this was worth looking at something we need to look at setting up for local residents.

Potholes are not great in our area, however Fife is worse, if you do see any please contact Cllr Robertson to raise with PKC.

Cllr Watters: all but one application to the Community Investment Fund has been approved and the interim report on the Kinross-shire Local Area Committee has been shared with the Cllrs, although it is the interim, the feedback is positive with some areas for improvement highlighted. The consultant leading the report has been speaking with Community Councils for input. MOCC are yet to be contacted. It is important to keep this committee going as it will only increase the benefit to the community in the long run. Cllr Cuthbert is the convener and Cllr Watters is the Vice-Convener.

MOCC Chair

After a number of years of being the MOCC Chair, Malcolm Thompson has decided to stand down, all the MOCC members would like to thank Malcolm for his tireless work in the role as MOCC chair. Malcolm will continue as a member of the community council. Neil Bingham has kindly volunteered to take on the role of chair which was agreed by all members of the MOCC.

Neil thanks Malcolm for all his hard work and looks forward to serving as the new chair and will start to reach out to other Community Councils and organisations.

The next meeting of Milnathort and Orwell Community Council will be held at 7.30pm on Thurs 9 March 2023 in Milnathort Town Hall.

Fossway Community Council

News from the January Meeting

<https://www.fossway.org/community-council/>

Present At The Meeting on 3 January 2023 were Cllrs T Duffy, N Marchant, S Bruce-Jones and F Hansraj-Jackson; Assoc. Cllrs A Cheape; Cllr R Watters; 9 MoP.

Apologies: Cllrs G Pye and Assoc. Cllr C Farquar; Cllrs D Cuthbert, N Freshwater and W Robertson.

Police Report

The police sent apologies for not being able to attend the meeting in person and sent a list of local incidents of note from the previous 4 weeks. The police report has no crimes of note since the last FDCC meeting on 6 December 2022.

Community officers are aware of regular areas where there are

complaints about speeding in and around Fossway and have added these areas to their speeding matrix as well as continuing to carry out speed checks across the area during patrols.

Since 6 December 2022, there have been 12 calls to the police from the Fossway area.

Matters Arising

Road Safety in FDCC Area

(Including A977 Mitigation and Carnbo)

PKC provided the FDCC with a list of outstanding work in Kinross-shire; following discussion at the FDCC meeting in November 2022, the FDCC have proposed a matrix to categorise the work and used this to prioritise the list provided. The prioritised list was made available at the meeting for Cllrs and MoP, who were asked to email any comments to the FDCC.

PKC provided an update as follows:

The lowering of the speed limit at Carnbo, from 40mph to 30mph, was identified as a community priority at the Ward meeting with the Kinross-shire Councillors. PKC reported on 9 Dec that they are working on the creation of this Traffic Regulation Order (TRO). It is anticipated that this will come into effect from April 2023.

The FDCC and residents of Carnbo reiterated that despite this being due for completion in March 2022, it had still not been carried out and should therefore be a priority.

There are also three outstanding projects from the A977 Mitigation Measures programme in the vicinity of Crook of Devon/Drum.

The two priority projects (as agreed with the PKC Cllrs and FDCC) were the signalisation of the School Road junction and the realignment of the A977/B9097 junction. The traffic signals were reported to be installed at School Road, (FDCC note: this has not yet been done) and there is still work to be done to complete the footway links. The junction realignment project still has to be designed and costed. To date, PKC have not had the staff resources to progress either of these schemes as resources have been directed to other priorities of work. It is hoped that these can be delivered in the next financial year. Upon completion of these two projects, and provided funding was still available, the third project was to be undertaken; this involves the signalisation of the Drum crossroads, the removal of the Puffin crossing (as a pedestrian phase would be incorporated within the traffic signals) and a reduction of the speed limit from 40mph to 30mph.

FDCC and MoP note: concern has been raised about the loss of the existing pedestrian crossing as there is no footpath on any section of the roads at the crossroads so adding pedestrian lights to crossroads will make it less safe for children crossing to get to school – this was one of the main purposes in putting in the pedestrian crossing in the first place.



MoP and FDCC are of the opinion that these projects need their priorities to be reassessed, so urgent projects can be completed without waiting for others to be completed first.

FDCC have compared the update from PKC with the minutes from Kinross-shire Area Committee and the prioritisation matrix (which has been discussed in previous FDCC meetings) to identify dates for completion of projects and priorities.

FDCC are due to meet with CPKC representatives later in January to discuss progress and appropriate prioritisation for all these issues and will report back at the next FDCC meeting.

Speeding And Transport Issues

The Speedwatch project is progressing, albeit very slowly. The local sergeant has informed the FDCC that CClr Duffy has to visually confirm that the photograph is of a particular person, and then the sergeant or the community police officer have to sign off that they know CClr Duffy. The police apologised for this extra bureaucracy.

In March 2023 the FDCC will find out if we have been awarded a grant for the Speedwatch equipment.

Safer Cycle Route Between Crook Of Devon And Kinross

There is a call for the setting up of a paths group in Fossoway and there is money, help and equipment for loan available.

This would be a group that keeps paths open to the public by cutting back vegetation and generally improving accessibility of our walkways. The cycle path from Aldie Road to Drum and the 'Walk Around Lovely Crook' both have overgrown vegetation and would be good candidates for such a group.

Recently a member of the public approached us with ideas and questions for bus transport; she purported to be interested in cycle routes. We have invited her to follow that up.

FDCC are looking for volunteers to take the lead on this (contact Cllr Robertson for details)

Brunt Hill Wind Farm

On 14 November 2022, Epower Limited on behalf of Brunt Hill Ltd (the Applicant) submitted a request for a scoping opinion from the Scottish Ministers for the proposed section 36 application for the Brunt Hill Wind Farm. The proposed development is for 26 wind turbines with an estimated blade to tip height of 220 metres and associated infrastructure, located approximately 4.5km north-west of Kinross in the planning authority area of Perth and Kinross Council, in line with regulation 12 of The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017.

The documents are available at: www.energyconsents.scot/ApplicationDetails.aspx?cr=ECU00004654

The FDCC has been given the opportunity to respond to questions posed by Brunt Hill Ltd on the scoping document for Brunt Hill Wind Farm (Oct 2022) by 9 Jan 2023. In the past we have objected against all and any turbine planning application on the grounds that the cumulative effect of turbines is never taken into the equation.

FDCC have drafted a response to this scoping proposal; a version of this was shared and discussed at the meeting, and comments from MoP present were included in the response. Once this summary response has been submitted, it will be shared on the FDCC Facebook page and on noticeboards.

Proposal For New Woodland

RTS Forestry have a scoping proposal for new woodland at Barnhill. The 32.5-hectare site will be mostly diverse conifers with some native broadleaf species. The FDCC is broadly in agreement with this proposal

Drum Flooding

Cllr Bruce-Jones reported that after the most recent heavy storms there was significant flooding on local roads (A977 and B9097) and all surrounding fields.

Drum residents have been cleaning their own ditches and machines have been spotted sucking up sewage from some

sites, but the roads aren't draining well and hold too much surface water.

After these storms no properties were affected this time and whilst ditches and burns are all extremely high, they appeared to be coping. There have also been reports from residents in Drum around issues with sewage.

FDCC will contact residents who have reported this and contact SEPA and Scottish Water around mitigations.

Crook and Drum Growing Together

The community orchard is progressing well, and lots of work has been carried out to plant native plants to make the site a haven for pollinators. The next stage of planting trees will be done in March.

Consultations

There are two consultations for the public to comment on:

Scottish Government: Small Landholdings Modernisation: <https://consult.gov.scot/agriculture-and-rural-economy/small-landholdings-modernisation/> **Closes 14 January 2023**

Your Police 2022-2023: <https://consult.scotland.police.uk/strategy-insight-and-innovation/your-police-2022-2023/> **Closes 31 March 2023**

New Business

Fossoway Memories is a Facebook page for members of the community (or former members) to share their memories of Fossoway past and present. Thanks to Colin and Di Dawes (Hilton of Aldie) for this initiative. A link to this can be found on the FDCC's Facebook page.

Community Council Business

Appointing Associate Members Of The Fdccc

Angus Cheape (with a special focus on the Kinross-shire Committee Fund) and Carol Farquar (with a special focus on Crook Moss travellers site) were appointed as associate members of the FDCC.

Meetings Attended

Cllr Marchant attended the engagement meeting with PKC CEO Thomas Glen and his Snr Officers in Kinross. FDCC were disappointed to see that they were the only community council present alongside other community organisations e.g. KYTHE, Broke Not Broken and other charities.

The focus of the discussion was on transport infrastructure, building sustainable communities, engagement with communities and communication. The PKC team will discuss these topics further. There was also a discussion on the evaluation and operation of the Kinross-shire Committee; in particular how this worked with respect to the Local Area Partnership and the Kinross-shire and Glenfarg Stronger Communities. There was a view that boundaries and responsibilities were unclear and that for the Kinross-shire Committee to continue and to be more successful a stronger framework was required.

A decision on the future of the Committee will be made by the end of the financial year. It was evident that PKC Officers would find it challenging to support all of the committees/partnerships.

Councillors' Reports

Cllr Richard Watters reported that PKC are seeing a significant deficit on the budget over the next 3 years which will have a substantial impact on the services which are delivered. PKC officers are working hard to minimise the impact of this budget deficit.

Planning Applications

The FDCC were not notified of the submission of any new planning applications.

Community Council News

Planning Decisions

22/01791/FLL Renewal of permission 19/01568/FLL (alterations to garage) Larch House, Carnbo, Kinross. Application approved, FDCC had made no comment.

22/01577/FLL Siting of 2 storage containers, Land 50 Metres South West Of Cairnwell, Drum. Application was refused, FDCC had made no comment.

Planning Appeals

21/02133/AML Erection of 10 dwelling houses, 6 garages and associated works (approval of matters specified in conditions of 18/01855/IPL) Land 70 metres west of Innerdownie, Crook of Devon. PKC have advised that they will forward all representations to the DPEA. CC has already objected to the planning application and has chosen not to add any further comments.

Development of LDP3

Cllrs Duffy and Marchant have started engaging with PKC around development of LDP3, and further engagement with the community will commence in spring 2023, starting with the community development trust. This is to ensure that there is engagement with local residents to establish what the local communities need (engagement will be carried out with the primary school, Crook Moss travellers site etc)

LDP3 is due for submission in 2026.

AOCB

The FDCC were approached about the A823 to Muckhart road with the complaint that it was overgrown and the vegetation encroached on the road. Cllr Duffy recently saw that there has been some work done.

News from the February Meeting

Present: Cllrs S Bruce-Jones, T Duffy, N Marchant and G Pye; Cllrs D Cuthbert, N Freshwater, W Robertson and R Watters; 35 members of the public (MoP).

Apologies: Cllr F Hansraj-Jackson; Assoc. Cllrs C Farquar and A Cheape.

Major Announcement

The Blairingone War Memorial has finally been moved to its new location at the back of the Church yard, after a tireless campaign since 2002 by ex-Cllr Mike Barnacle. All present expressed their congratulations!

Police Report

The police sent apologies for not being able to attend the meeting in person and sent a list of local incidents of note from the previous four weeks: A housebreaking at Gartwhinzean Farm, and a driver charged for failing to stop after an accident. Roads Policing Officers recently held a day of action around Loch Leven resulting in 21 vehicles being stopped.

Cllr Cheape reported that an incident of sheep worrying was attended by the Police and swiftly handled.

Matters Arising

Road Safety in FDCC Area

(Including A977 Mitigation and Carnbo)

Cllrs Duffy, Bruce-Jones and Marchant together with all four local Cllrs attended a meeting on 13 January with PKC's Officers to discuss the outstanding issues. The Officers stressed the extreme budgetary and staffing constraints they are working under. Currently the focus is working on the review of all the temporary TROs that were put in place during Covid and then they will start to process all the 40 to 30mph TROs. As part of this process the Carnbo change will be actioned. Allowing for the length of the various approvals required, it's hoped that the Carnbo signage would be in place by June or July, but more probably by autumn. PKC Officer Daryl McKeown committed to keeping the CC updated on progress.

The Carnbo Traffic survey has been ordered and the CC members reiterated the need to do this during Dollar term time.

Cllr Duffy reminded the meeting of the need for volunteers to join the Speedwatch programme.

Of the original budget for A977 mitigation of £600k, only £190k remains, which will not be enough to complete all the originally planned measures. The signalisation of the School Road junction in Crook of Devon is planned to take place in either the Summer or October school holidays. The work is estimated to cost £150k and hence will use up the majority of the remaining budget. The CC members proposed that the Drum A977 traffic signals would be the next priority with the realignment of the A977/B9097 junction being reconsidered later.

Cllr Robertson commended the CC Members and his colleagues for progressing these issues. He added that Road Safety is a massive issue for PKC and although there is budget, there is a shortage of resource with a recruitment ban in place.

Cut-Out Cops

The CC has identified a supplier approved by the Police and will act as a common route for purchase to minimise shipping costs. Community groups need to raise the funding (£85 each) and identify people responsible for putting the signs out and in at night – they need to be strengthened and locked to a solid object! The Police recommend changing the location at frequent intervals. Contact the CC via the usual email address to place orders – see the CC's FB page for details.

Community Speedwatch

Volunteers are needed! Teams of three people are required to operate the equipment.

Brunt Hill Wind Farm

Details of this were included in the recent *Kinross Newsletter* – a consultation will be held in due course.

Galileo – Craighead Wind Farm

Members of the project team attended this meeting to give an overview of the project, which is currently at the scoping phase, with the report due to be submitted this month. Note that although this site is adjacent to the Brunt Hill project discussed last month, the two projects are not connected. As this scheme is intended to generate over 50MW, in the same way as the Brunt Hill scheme, it falls outside the normal planning process, but will be governed by a 'Section 36' application which is decided directly by the Scottish Government, intended to be submitted in 2024. Cllr Cuthbert explained that PKC's Planning Committee are statutory consultees to these applications and will submit their opinion to the application, consequently Cllrs Cuthbert and Watters will not be able to make any public comments to avoid invalidating their membership of the Committee.

Galileo is an Italian company formed in 2020 but the Edinburgh office is staffed by people with longer experience of projects in this area. The Project Manager explained that following a hiatus in onshore wind development, there was now UK and Scottish governmental pressure to dramatically expand wind generation to stabilise the availability of power and move towards net zero. All the 'easy' sites had already been developed and it was now necessary to consider sites at higher altitudes and with larger turbines (in excess of 200 metres high) in order to catch enough wind to make the site economic. Further, with only European suppliers of turbines currently operating, there is no availability of smaller turbines anyway. This site would have about 12 turbines of this size.

The company proposes to make an annual community grant of £5000 per MW of installed equipment, anticipated to be £360,000 per annum for each year of the windfarm's lifetime, and to offer opportunities for community investment in the scheme and hence to share in the profits. The 10km radius area surrounding the site covers several Community Council areas so it would be necessary to identify how any grants were

distributed. There will also be a Construction Fund to address impacts of the construction process. The presenters stressed the company's desire to work with the community.

Questions were then taken from the floor: How will effect on Loch Leven be mitigated? Nature Scotland and SEPA will review. Are individual properties compensated? Not the norm in Scotland. Previously the Friends of the Ochils have successfully defeated wind farm developments as an area of great landscape value? Pressures from government and energy crisis may be considered more significant. Why is this project right next to another one? That's the way it works – companies strike deals with landowners of potential sites – there's no overall planning; Scottish Government will decide which ones go ahead. How will the hill be accessed during construction? From the east of Carnbo.

If there are any further questions from the Community they can be submitted to the CC's email address and answers will be provided in next month's meeting.

Fossoway Area Transport

Kinross-shire Transport Forum has not met recently so no update. Cllr Cuthbert highlighted the Glenfarg Community Bus, which they are keen to develop. Stagecoach are interested in supporting Community Buses as a way of feeding passengers to their hubs.

Consultations

Your Police 2022-2023: <https://consult.scotland.police.uk/strategy-insight-and-innovation/your-police-2022-2023/> **Closes 31 March 2023.** The CC will respond, but individuals should comment too. The consensus is that the police are resource-constrained but do what they can well.

Draft Energy Strategy and Just Transition Plan: <https://consult.gov.scot/energy-and-climate-change-directorate/energy-strategy-and-just-transition-plan/> The Scottish Government's vision for Scotland's energy system to 2045 and a route map of ambitions and actions to transform the way Scotland generates, transports and uses energy. **Closes 4 April 2023.**

New Business

Local Place Plans

Cllrs Marchant and Duffy have attended meetings with PKC in relation to LDP3 and will partner with the Community Development Trust and PKC to develop Local Place Plans. PKC is keen to lead on engagement with youth, elderly and travellers, with the CC supporting. The CC will lead on the development of Local Place Plans.

Community Council Business

Meetings attended

Road Safety Officers as described above; **Cllrs Duffy and Marchant** attended a meeting on 25 January with PKC Officers about Engagement with Children.

Councillors' Reports

Cllr Robertson reported a complaint about long-term parking outside the shop in Crook of Devon. PKC Officers had suggested that the CC had been against restricting this in the past, but no one present could remember that. There seems to be some confusion about the route and location of stops of the 202 Bus Service.

Cllr Watters reported that PKC are seeing a £20m deficit on the budget with no obvious way to clear it. The Scottish Government has given PKC permission to refinance and change accounting methods to help.

Cllr Cuthbert noted the intention that the next Kinross-shire Local Committee would be hybrid, i.e. part physical presence and part online.

Planning Matters

For period 04/01/2023 – 07/02/2023

DPEA Appeal 21/02133/AML, PPA-340-2151 <https://www.dpea.scotland.gov.uk/CaseDetails.aspx?ID=122826>

Cllrs Duffy and Marchant participated in the Scottish Reporter site visit on 16 Jan 2023, in order that the reporter could acquaint himself with the site and local area; The CC expects to hear the outcome of the appeal in mid-February 2023.

Planning Applications

Note that the first three applications had comment dates before this meeting, so were discussed online beforehand.

22/01976/FLL Formation of access track (in retrospect) at Land 360 metres south west of Craigton House, Rumbling Bridge. The CC objected on grounds that conditions associated with the prior application (**22/00541/FLL**) had not been met. However the PKC Planners informed the CC that this was not a material objection.

22/02064/FLL Erection of two dwelling houses at Land 15 metres north west of Ivy Cottage, Gartwhinzean, Road Powmill. The CC Objected as contrary to Policy 1B – Placemaking.

22/02090/FLL Change of use, alterations and extension to agricultural building to mixed classes 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 10, formation of parking area and associated works at Solsgirth Home Farm, Solsgirth, Dollar. The CC made a supportive comment.

22/02232/FLL Erection of two dwelling houses and associated works at Land 50 metres south-west of Barnhill Farm, Powmill. No CC Comment.

AOCB

A MoP raised the issue that drainage on the A977 was a problem with large puddles appearing,

The next meeting of Fossoway and District Community Council will be held on Tuesday 7 March 2023 in Powmill Moubray Hall.



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Portmoak Community Council News from the December meeting

Present At The Meeting: held on 13 December were Cllrs D Cuthbert, Cllrs A Miller (Chair), D Morris (Vice-Chair) and 6 members of the public.

Apologies: S McGregor (Secretary) and apologies on behalf of other Cllrs via Cllr Cuthbert

Post Meeting Note: It appears that there were some people who had issues accessing the Zoom link for the CC Meeting. PCC apologise to anyone who had problems and weren't able to attend. The Chair and Secretary had attempted to ensure there were no issues and had tested the account and access prior to the meeting. Everything appeared to be in order in advance. PCC will try to ensure a similar situation doesn't arise again.

Post Meeting Apologies for access problems were received from Cllr W Robertson, Cllr A Davidson (Treasurer) and Cllr D Paterson.

Matters Arising

Kinross-shire Local Committee (KLC) update

The Chair advised that he had been unable to attend the recent KLC meeting but that the Vice Chair had stood in. The Vice Chair advised that he was again unable to participate in the meeting proceedings due to technical issues. The most significant item arising was that PKC Roads Department had advised that with over 900 road traffic and safety projects to deal with, only the top three projects from each CC area would be prioritised. The Chair advised that despite previous PKC agreement, the minutes did not appear to have been circulated.

Road Safety Action Update

The Chair opened the minute item by advising further contact had been made to PCC from the residents of Bowhouse, who were concerned that no action appeared to be forthcoming in respect of the temporary traffic speed restriction order to 40mph (Scotlandwell to Bowhouse) which was ratified and agreed at the inaugural KLC meeting. Several Bowhouse residents had joined the meeting and Cllr Cuthbert confirmed he had received the email from the Chair to all Cllrs regarding the item. The Chair expressed disappointment that despite numerous requests for programme updates from PKC Roads, no updates had been received and that it should be a comparatively simple exercise to erect standard speed reduction signage. There similarly did not appear to be any progress on the A911 Route Action Plan, also agreed at the inaugural KLC. The Chair voiced that the limited devolved powers to KLC was one of the petitioned successful outcomes of the Committee, but that perception was increasing, questioning whether the KLC had any actual powers. The Chair apologised that the prioritisation of the PKC requested Road Safety items had not yet been subject to PCC agreement however, as the neither the Bowhouse TTRO or the Wester Balgedie VAS appeared on the list, further clarification was required in respect of the requested prioritisation. Cllr D Cuthbert advised that the reason that the latter two projects may not appear on the listing is that they are already scheduled for action. The Cllr also stated his disappointment at the current status, however the issue was not funding but resourcing. This had been a frequent discussion between the Cllrs and had been escalated to the Chief & Deputy Executive at PKC and a suggestion had been made that the works should be 'outsourced'. Cllr Cuthbert agreed to pursue the outstanding road safety issues with Head of Roads to try to obtain programme update for report at the next CC meeting.

Scotlandwell to Portmoak Church Path: The Chair advised PCC were still awaiting response from PKC Officers Daryl McEown

and Dave Stubbs regarding an 'agreement in principle' in respect of the path route and fundamental feasibility of the speed mitigated crossing points as detailed in conjunction with the proposal. The Chair confirmed he had received a land ownership plan for the upper route section and was trying to obtain details for the lower section. The Chair confirmed that the path was one of the three priority projects agreed by PCC members and asked if the Cllrs could pursue the relevant personnel for a response.

Play Facilities At Scotlandwell Green

The Chair was unaware of any communication in respect of the play facilities and hoped upgrade would still happen within this financial year.

Phosphate Addition To Drinking Water Within Loch Leven Catchment Area:

There was substantive discussion in respect of this item. Cllr D Cuthbert confirmed that a PKC-led meeting had taken place at which both senior members of Scottish Water and SEPA were in attendance. This was to discuss the specific problem of increased phosphate load and pollution of Loch Leven. It was acknowledged that a number of primary contributory sources were of consideration (development wastewater, agriculture, drinking water, overwintering wildfowl). The Vice Chair expressed surprise that the Local CCs had not been invited to the meeting, which had been requested on a number of occasions. While previous studies suggested the principal pollutant contribution was from boundary agricultural practice, recent studies note a direct relationship between increasing development and documented pollutant load. The Chair noted that infrastructure improvements of the principal wastewater treatment plants has not taken place despite massively increased development, particularly in Milnathort and Kinross. Current SEPA policy permits the discharge of untreated sewage effluent to watercourses and Loch Leven during storm overflow events. It is clear that the current service infrastructure is at capacity, and significant changes to Planning gain/approval status are required to control discharges. Cllr Cuthbert advised that Scottish Water phosphate addition at source as pre-dosing to mitigate potential effects of lead pipework and lead uptake to domestic supplies, was national applied policy. The Chair advised that it seemed an absurdly heavy-handed measure given the likely instance of lead pipes in local communities and was extremely prejudicial to private treatment plants and schemes which are experiencing problems meeting SEPA discharge targets, such as those previously minuted at Wester Balgedie. The Vice Chair suggested that voluntary changes to farming practice concerning set-aside at boundaries adjacent to Loch Leven may be required to assist run-off and wind-blow control. The Chair suggested that a fundamental examination of planning permission and supplementary treatment plant upgrades is necessary to attempt to control pollutant load. It was advised that PCC had been contacted by Milnathort CC with a view to potentially for the Loch Leven Action Group to discuss the specific associated issue. It was suggested however that this was, and should be the remit of the KLC in precisely addressing issues of local importance.

Police Reports

The police liaison officer had sent a report to the Secretary. The only item of relevance to Portmoak was an incident of fire raising at a public bin in Kinnesswood, necessitating attendance by Fire Services. Two male youths were seen leaving the scene.

Planning

New Applications

22/01958/FLL Installation of solar panels: Craigard Main Street Scotlandwell. Last date for public comments: Fri 23 Dec 2022

PCC: No Comment or representation

22/01829/FLL Extension to building to provide staff showers and toilet facilities and formation of access ramp, Loch Leven's Larder, Wester Balgedie, Kinross. Last date for public comments: Tue 13 Dec 2022 *PCC: No comment*

22/01723/FLL Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse, alterations to wall to form vehicular access/parking area and associated works Briarbank, The Cobbles, Kinnesswood Kinross. Note: Last date for public comments is past, but PCC have been granted an extension to represent the community following the PCC meeting on 13/12/22. PCC had been contacted by a number of local Kinnesswood residents regarding the application. The lodged plans did not appear to be in keeping with the surrounding properties on the Cobbles or the restrictions placed within the Conservation Area. It was also felt that the proposals would over-develop the site with property heights, development footprint and proposed access all cited as concerns.

Existing Applications

(a) 22/01191/FLL Erection of 16 dwellinghouses (3 with detached garages, one with detached garage/ancillary accommodation), formation of 6 plots for affordable dwellinghouses, formation of SUDS pond, landscaping and associated works, open for comment. Land 100 Metres South East Of Cragton Villa Rost Gardens, Scotlandwell. There was no further update on the status of this application.

Planning Decisions

Progress with Developments

Westfield Community Liaison Committee: No update was received in respect of the Liaison Committee. The Vice Chair did however comment that he believed community projects and individual organisations within Portmoak could possibly apply and benefit from the 'Wind Energy Project' funding which permitted individual applications for up to £2000. Additional details would be sought and provided in due course.

Westfield Paths Feasibility Study: Monday 14/11/22 in-person meeting. The Chair and Vice Chair attended this meeting. A detailed feasibility report (Commissioned by Hargreaves) was presented which presented a Paths 'deliverability' schedule for a number of priority routes connecting the communities. An Action Group had subsequently been formed with single representatives from each Community Council area, with a view to driving and coordinating collective funding applications and to prioritise the most deliverable routes. The Vice Chair agreed to act in this capacity on behalf of PCC

Paths Group Update

Cllr D Morris advised there had been limited activity over the past month due to the weather.

Treasurer CC Accounts

The Treasurer had been unable to join the meeting. It was agreed by the Cllrs and CCllrs present that the accounts could be added as a post meeting notification. These were subsequently advised as:

MBW account. Balance: £1523.00. No transactions in last few weeks. CC Account Balance £299.51.

Councillors' Reports

Cllr D Cuthbert reported on a number of items of consideration in Kinross-shire:

It was advised that PKC currently estimate a 'budget black hole' of £30 million. Cllr Cuthbert suggested there would be inevitable cuts to public services as a result.

A presentation had been made to PKC from a prospective developer of the British Auction Car Site at the south end of Kinross. The proposal included for the potential for 3 retail outlets, including Marks & Spencer, B&M and LIDL and a fast-food drive-through-style outlet. The proposals also sought to generate a direct access to the pier and improvement to

the flood defences on the southern aspect of Kinross. It was suggested that central Government funding was available in terms of the flood defence upgrades.

Housing Allocation & LDP: Cllr Cuthbert advised that there had already been significantly more housing allocation and development in Kinross/Milnathort than that programmed in the LDP. Indeed, the number of houses was several years ahead of the allocation programme. While this does not specifically impact on PCC area, for the reasons cited earlier in the agenda concerning pollution of Loch Leven and demand on servicing infrastructure, it is deemed of local significance. Current projection forecasts suggests that completion of the currently approved development schemes will place Kinross High School at 117% of capacity. This does not include other schemes currently in pre-application or planning consideration. Cllr Cuthbert also highlighted potential issues with the capacity of the doctors' surgery and the possible requirement within the immediate area for a small hospital to accommodate the local demand.

The Chair thanked Cllr Cuthbert for his report and noted the relevance of the projects to both PCC and the wider Kinross-shire Community. Given the oversubscription of the LDP locally and the issues which are consistently being raised regarding lack of infrastructure improvements in line with the development, increased developer responsibilities should be applied to all applications, and should include Scottish Water and SEPA.

Matters Notified To The Secretary

Tayside Contracts Community Fund: Open for Applications from 9 January 2023.

See: <https://www.taysidecontracts.co.uk/news/communityfund>. Link to online application portal provided.



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AOB

The Chair provided advance apologies for the normally scheduled January meeting. Following discussions with the Vice Chair and Cllr, it was agreed that the January meeting would be cancelled. The first meeting of 2023 would therefore be on 14 February 2023.

The Chair wished all of Cllrs, Cllrs and members of the public attending, a very Happy Christmas and wished to extend good wishes to all members of the Community.

The next meeting of Portmoak Community Council will be at 7.30pm Tuesday, 14 March 2023. Agreed as Online meeting.

Kinross Community Council News from the January Meeting

Present At The Meeting held on 24 January were Cllrs L McKay, (Chair), W Freeman, H Phillips, E Leslie, M Wilson and C Collins, Cllrs D Cuthbert, N Freshwater, W Robertson and R Watters, one member of the public and Mrs C Aird (clerk).

Apologies: Cllr T Stewart and PC B Samson.

Police Report

PC B Samson was unable to attend the meeting but had forwarded a report which provided an update on incidents in the area since the November meeting.

24/11/2022: No MOT/Insurance (High Street, Kinross) reported to the Procurator Fiscal

29/11/2022 – 30/11/2022: Theft by housebreaking (Gallowhill Rd, Kinross) Subject to live investigation.

20/01/2023: Theft from a handbag (Sainburys, Kinross) Subject to live investigation

Cllr Freeman advised that the community officers were aware of the areas where there are complaints about speeding in and around Kinross. While these have all been added to the speeding matrix, the community officers will continue to make efforts to carry out speed checks across the area during our patrols.

Traffic units from Perth have also been carrying out regular speed checks in the area and have issued tickets over the last month for speeding and various other road traffic offences, while Officers from the Roads Policing Department recently engaged in a day of action in January 2023 around Loch Leven. Enforcement was carried out in areas including Kinross, Milnathort, Portmoak, Scotlandwell, Crook of Devon and Gairneybank. In total, 21 vehicles were stopped and issued with warnings for the following offences:

- 4 for speeding
- 2 for light defects
- 1 number plate offence

In addition, one driver was reported for having no insurance and the vehicle owner was charged with causing and permitting the offence.

Since the last meeting, there have been 184 calls to police from the Kinross area with 36 crimes recorded on police systems.

The Kinross Community Policing Team have been carrying out regular patrols in Burnbank Meadows, Gallowhill Road, Springfield Road, Argyll Road and the area of The Green Hotel in Kinross as a result of complaints being made about youths involved in anti-social behaviour and causing a public nuisance. On several occasions, youths have been identified and dealt with accordingly by officers. Regular patrols of these areas will continue.

The CC thanked Police Scotland for their informative update.

Matters Arising

Hayfield Community Wildlife Garden

Cllr Phillips advised that there was funding available from a restoration fund from PKC, but this required to be matched. It was therefore up to those in the group/school to decide what they wished to do with the garden before funding could be sought. Cllr Phillips will continue to research funding opportunities meantime.

Cllr Leslie suggested asking the school PTA, Boy's Brigade, Brownies and Guides if they would like to get involved with Cllr Collins suggesting approaching the Rotary Club for funding.

Road Safety Issues

While the list had been forwarded to members, Cllr McKay agreed to resend this with a request for comments as a matter of urgency.

Springfield Road

Cllr Robertson had advised that he had not yet received a response and will chase this up again if nothing had been received by the end of the week.

Kinross Town Centre

Cllr Cuthbert advised that a walkaround the town centre had taken place and that suggestions for improvements, along with the results of the 2022 survey would be circulated as soon as possible. He requested that if there was anything that the CC wished to add to the list, then this would be the opportunity to do so. CC members were concerned with the amount of traffic manoeuvring through the town centre and asked for this to be directed away. Traffic monitoring and speed restrictions were also suggested.

Cllr Cuthbert confirmed that PKC had agreed to a give way junction at Burns Begg Street.

Cllr Robertson commented that there was a lack of parking in the town centre, with Millbridge car park always being full, and cars parked all day. He suggested the creation of a short-term car park.

Another concern was the bollards and while they were not the best, it was noted that residents at the new flats are now spraying areas for bollards to be placed.

Members were advised that the people involved with the purchase of the BCA site would be attending the next meeting.

Designated Bathing Site – Loch Leven

Cllr Freeman advised that an email had been received from the office of Mark Ruskell – the Scottish Green MSP for Kinross-shire who has recently called on the Scottish Government to consider designating Loch Leven as a designated bathing water sites in order to trigger action on water quality. Cllr Leslie commented that she felt that there would be definite interest in this but that people should not be encouraged to swim in the loch at the present time.

It was agreed that the CC would invite Mr Ruskell to a future meeting to discuss the matter further, with Cllr Phillips writing to Mr Ruskell, enclosing a copy of the letter recently sent to SEPA.

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Group Membership

The following appointments were agreed:

Community Campus Management Group – Cllr Leslie to attend meeting on 23 February.

Kinross-shire Local Committee – Cllr Phillips to attend meeting on 16 February

Partnership – Cllr Freeman to confirm date of March meeting

Remembrance Parade – Cllrs Mckay, Freeman and Wilson

Light up Kinross – Cllr C Collins to join group

It was also confirmed that Cllrs Freeman and Leslie would arrange to meet with David Colliar regarding treasury arrangements.

Planning

New Applications

22/02118/FLL Installation of replacement windows at 20 Swansacre, Kinross.

22/02143/FLL Change of use of dwellinghouse to form short term let accommodation unit (in retrospect) at 22 Curate Wynd, Kinross.

22/02228/FLL Alterations to building and associated works at 54-56 High Street, Kinross.

22/02181/FLL Erection of an office/workshop building, formation of car park and associated works at Plot 5, Junction Road, Kinross West, Kinross.

Councillors' Reports

Cllr W Robertson

Vehicle Activated Signs: A member of the public raised the issue of VAS in Kinross, specifically Gallowhill Road, stating that having spoken to a member of PKC they had been advised that there would be no VAS in Gallowhill Road for several years but that two would be implemented in The Muirs and on the road from Milnathort. Cllr Mckay advised that pre-pandemic it had been agreed that there would be eight VAS in the town, of which one would be sited in Gallowhill Road. There was a long discussion on this topic and Cllr Robertson suggested that one of the proposed VAS be moved from Broom Road to Gallowhill Road. Cllr Cuthbert is to email Blair Watt at PKC with his suggestion.

Cllr Watters advised that it had been a condition of the planning process that Persimmon Homes would fit traffic lights at the School, and this should have been triggered when residents moved into homes in Phase II.

Heritage Trail

Cllr Robertson advised that work to upgrade and repair the Loch Leven Heritage Trail will take place from 1 February to 30 April 2023. During this time sections of the path will be closed between Kirkgate Park and Pow Burn (below Loch Leven's Larder) with diversions being put in place when necessary.

It was noted that the TPO in respect of Sunny Park woods has now been progressed, and any objections should be submitted. Volunteers are required to join the Paths Group with Cllr Phillips advising that an article had been placed in the next edition of the *Newsletter*. Anyone interested should contact Cllr Robertson direct.

Cllr R Watters that a new campaign had been launched in order to reduce the impact caused by cars idling. It was noted that PKC follow the four Es approach – engage, explain, encourage and enforce – when reminding drivers they need to switch off their engines. While idling will be permitted in certain circumstance, e.g., defrosting a windscreen, the new campaign will see parking wardens asking drivers to switch off their engines if not moving and explain why it is harmful to leave it running.

Cllr D Cuthbert advised that he was now Convenor of the KLC and he would be looking to make the group more community friendly during his tenure.

Correspondence

Cllr Freeman advised that an email had been received from the Dog's Trust advising that their fostering scheme (where unwanted dogs are placed into temporary homes with foster carers, until a new forever home is found) is now active in Perth and Kinross. Anyone interested in fostering a dog can contact Megan Wilkinson, Home from Home Coordinator Dundee direct (Megan.Wilkinson@dogstrust.org.uk)

The Cost of Living Fund is open to disperse remaining funds to groups. If a group/organisation would benefit from additional funding for the provision of warm spaces/food/warm home packs, applications can be made via this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/TM96KVfVaL>

The next meeting of Kinross Community Council will be held on 28 February 2023 at 7.30pm in the Masonic Hall. All are welcome to attend.

TRAFFIC NOTICE

TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF DRIVING, PARKING & LOADING BREWERY LANE - KINROSS

In order to permit Scottish Water Ironworks a temporary traffic regulation order will be prepared. It is to be effective from **27 March 2023 for a period of one day**. The order will temporarily suspend driving, parking and loading on (both sides) of Brewery Lane, Kinross from its junction with School Wynd (311851, 702146) for its entire length, a distance of 68.4 metres or thereby. Pedestrian & emergency vehicular access to premises will be maintained.



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Mrs Lorraine McMillan,
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A bit about me...

Originally from Cowdenbeath, I spent the last 10 years living in Dunfermline. I moved to Gallowhill Road, Kinross in August 2016, with my wife Jacqueline and our two year old son, Calum. I'm a time-served joiner with 17 years' experience.



Kinross & Ochil Walking Group

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www.ramblers.org.uk/kinross-ochil

Fresh air, exercise, good company and wonderful views. We offer all this and visits to some of the spectacular scenery and lesser known places that surround us. We are a friendly and relaxed group and, if you'd like to try a walk with us, you will be made very welcome.

Tuesday Short Walks

Unless otherwise stated, these walks are usually about two hours long and a fairly gentle four miles. We often follow the walk with a visit to a cafe, farm shop or pub for refreshments, but this is entirely optional.

Tuesday 14 March, Devilla Forest, Kincardine

A delightful walk on paths and tracks through the mainly Scots pine forest.

Tuesday 28 March, St Ninian's and Loch Fitty

Walk round Loch Fitty then heading towards the tyre sculptures at the top of a man-made hill to take in the views. Mainly good gravel paths with a gradual climb to the top.

For further details of where to meet us for Tuesday walks, or for general enquiries, please contact Susan Tester on 01786 834535.

Weekend Longer Walks

Weekend walks are a degree more challenging and of varied longer lengths. We advise bringing along a packed lunch and flask or drink. We also recommend that you have appropriate outdoor clothing and footwear.

Sunday 5 March, Craig A Barns near Dunkeld, 7 miles

A varied walk on tracks and paths (some narrow along hillside), through forest and on open ground. Amongst the gradual ascents and descents there will be fine views of crags, the River Tay and hills to the north.

Saturday 18 March, Pitmedden forest from Abernethy, 8 miles

Starting in Abernethy's Main Street, this is a well signed walk through Pitmedden forest on good tracks and paths.

For further details of where to meet us for weekend walks or for general enquiries, please contact Ken Staples on 07810 180283.

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Kinross in Bloom

Our first meeting of the year took place last month and we welcomed two new volunteers to our group. During February and March we have been keeping an eye on the planters; keeping them free of chickweed and dead-heading the pansies.

Our next meeting will take place on Wednesday 1 March at 7pm and anyone can attend. If you would like to help in any way (formally or informally) please contact *susan.mitchell50@gmail.com*.

Rotary Club of Kinross and District



International Action

While there are welcome signs of spring all around us, the news of the earthquake in Turkey and Syria is a reminder that nature can be devastating. The Rotary Club of Kinross and District is glad to have been able to take immediate, purposeful action.

ShelterBox is an international project partner of Rotary clubs around the world. By collaborating and combining resources, we are able to support communities in desperate need of shelter after disaster.



Our club regularly uses some of our funds raised to purchase a ShelterBox. These are stored in readiness to be deployed in immediate response to urgent need.

A ShelterBox typically contains: a family tent; mosquito nets, high thermal quilted blanket; tarpaulin and essential tools; inflatable solar lights; cooking pots, utensils, plates, cutlery; water purification tablets.

It is a practical solution and is delivered swiftly where it is needed to relieve trauma and provide vulnerable victims with the essential equipment for immediate shelter.

We have bought another ShelterBox to ensure that there are plentiful stocks to be deployed for this and other disasters.



If you have made a donation to any of our fundraising activities, thank you for your part in this. If you would like to make a personal donation or find out more, go to <https://shelterbox.org/>

Kinross In Bloom 200 Club

January Draw

No 39 Margaret Lyon
 No 80 Cath Watson
 No 62 David Shearer Payne
 No 14 Cathie Cochrane

February Draw

No 73 Fiona Tod
 No 52 George Milburn;
 No 6 Paul Baughan
 No 11 Edna and Andrew Burnett

Opportunities For Young People In Our Community

Young people in Kinross-shire who will be aged 16-17 in July 2023 are invited to join the Rotary Youth Leadership Award camps this summer. See the article on p17.

Recent Meetings

Rotary meetings are about fun and fellowship alongside our fundraising and support of communities, both local and international.

In the week beginning 16 January, members visited a number of Rotary clubs around the area. It was a good opportunity to meet other Rotarians and exchange ideas and good practice.

We held an informal Burns Supper on 23 January where members of the club displayed their talents! Thanks to staff at the Kirklands Hotel for an excellent meal.

On 6 February we welcomed Andrew Flinn as a new member of the club. Andrew has been involved with Rotary clubs elsewhere and we are delighted that he has joined us after moving to the area.

Join Us

Are you inspired by what you have read here about our work? Would you like to get involved? Are you a person who likes people? Would you like to be part of a sociable, energetic group who have fun, make a difference in our community and take action in supporting the international community?

You would be made most welcome if you wish to join us. We meet on the first and third Mondays of each month at 6.30pm the Kirklands Hotel and on the third Tuesday of each month for a breakfast meeting at the Kirklands at 7.30am. Contact us by email at secretary.kdrc@gmail.com for further details.

Kinross and District Inner Wheel



www.innerwheel.co.uk

At our February meeting, the members enjoyed a talk and demonstration from Gillian Skene on jewellery making and paper sculpture. She uses semi-precious stones and freshwater pearls: who knew there were so many sorts and colours of pearls? She also 'knits' with silver and gold wire. It was fascinating to see her creations.

The March meeting will be a talk on recent medical research from Dr Calum Sutherland, at the usual time of 2.30pm in the Kirklands Hotel on 13 March.

For any enquiries about Inner Wheel, please contact Jenny MacLeod by email at jennymac101@icloud.com.



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Winner Sofia Coutts (front left), runners up Jessica Flynn and Leo Day with Mrs Winter, Mrs Brown and school captains Lewis Seath and Maia Clark.

Kinross High School

Parents' Evening

In January and February we held our first in-person parents' evenings since 2020. It was fantastic to see the school thriving again as families got a chance to connect with staff face-to-face.

VSE

We received a very positive report following a visit from Perth and Kinross Council staff in December. They concluded that:

- *The school is positive and welcoming*
- *There are positive relationships across the school and within lessons*
- *Young people enjoy inclusive lessons which are purposeful and calm*
- *There is a clear understanding of the school's values*
- *Our staff are committed and hardworking, striving to ensure everyone is included*
- *There is shared information which supports pupils with barriers to learning*



- *The recent improvement work around learning and teaching is having positive results*
- *The school merit system is being used well to celebrate and recognise achievements*

The team observed lessons, shadowed pupils, observed social spaces and extracurricular clubs. They held questionnaires and focus groups for staff and pupils. They also met a representative from the Parent Council.

Following the review, we are continuing to work on our learning and teaching. We are also committed to make improvements to pupil attendance. We are improving pupil profiles and developing the role of our Pupil Support Assistants. A huge well done to all at Kinross High School!

Scots' Verse Competition

Well done to all of the pupils who took part in the Scots' Verse Competition on last Monday! Twelve S1 pupils recited poems and were judged by Mrs Brown, Mrs Winter and our school captains.

The overall winner was Sofia Coutts with 'A Dug, A Dug'. Runners up were Leo Day – 'Address to a Haggis' and Jessica Flynn – an extract from 'Tam O' Shanter'. Music was provided by our senior pupils. The pipers were Lennox Munro and Nicholas Glimm. The two S6 pupils who presented the event were Mia Carmichael and Holly Ferguson.

World Book Day 2 March 2023

The Literacy Leaders next project is to organise our Big Book Swap. This will take place from Monday 6 March – Thursday 9 March. We are encouraging pupils and staff to donate books that are no longer wanted.

As part of this initiative, we have partnered with Better World Books, a socially minded business that sells second-hand books and channels profits into projects around the world that support global literacy.

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Better World Books will collect all books that are left following our Big Book Swap and these will then fund literacy initiatives around the world.

On Wednesday 15 March two quiz teams from S1 and S2 will be taking part in the Perth and Kinross Interschool Book Quiz at Perth High School.

Chocolate

A small group of S2 pupils won a visit to Perth College to spend the day making chocolate. They were very successful and had a great day! Thank you to Perth College and Mrs Cairney for the day and to Mr Urquhart and Mrs Wishart for driving the minibus.

Trips

We've been delighted to be able to welcome back school trips again this year. School trips provide an important opportunity for young people to extend and apply their learning. They contribute to a positive school ethos, develop and maintain relationships as well as build resilience in our pupils.

In February, a group of S3 pupils went to see a performance of JB Priestley's famous play *An Inspector Calls* at the Festival Theatre in Edinburgh. The pupils were gripped right from the start and loved the symbolic set used. It was great to hear them discussing the play on the bus home – an enjoyable evening was had by all. Later this year, our S3 pupils will have a range of opportunities for a residential experience including Alton Towers, Disneyland Paris, and a London Trip.

Pathways Event

Our annual Pathways Events were very well attended this year. Both took place online and were recorded. As ever, our school website contains a wealth of information to support pathways and course choice decisions. It is a really exciting time of the year for those young people considering their next steps in or beyond school and we want to thank staff, partners and parents for their support in the process.

Performing Arts Faculty

Thank you to everyone who came along to support the

When sending your club item to the Newsletter, please put the name of your club in the email subject line

Christmas Concert. We hope that you enjoyed the event. Baccalaureate students, Sean Michael and Laura Schofield presented the Winter Showcase of pupil talent on Friday 27 January 2023. This was postponed due to weather in December. Thanks to all who came along to support them.

It's been a busy few weeks! A group of pupils performed at Rachel House and Ashley House before Christmas. They hope to do this more regularly in the future. Lennox Munro, one of our S4 pipers, took part in the opening concert of Celtic Connections in Glasgow Concert Hall in January.

A group of senior pupils attended a live screening of 'The Crucible' by the National Theatre at Perth Playhouse on 26 January 2023. Finally, a group of pupils will be taking part in the Scottish Schools Pipe Band Championships on 14 March 2023 with our new Bagpipe Teacher, Mr Frame.

We are currently rehearsing for our school show Beauty and the Beast which will be performed from 13-15 June 2023 in the school Assembly Hall.

Better Place to Live Fair

We are delighted to welcome the Better Place to Live Fair back to Loch Leven Community Campus on Saturday 25 March from 10am-2pm. There will be tours of the school and a Go With The Flow stall. The Fair will be opened by past pupil Eilidh Doyle. We look forward to seeing you all!

Dates For Your Diary:

Spring Concert	29 March 2023
Beauty and the Beast	13-15 June 2023

Winter Showcase Performers





Our featured photograph this month is called 'Peony Petals' by John Davie.

Kinross Camera Club

kinrosscameraclub.org.uk/wp/
www.facebook.com/KinrossCClub

We begin March with an evening of photography presentations by members Dick Crighton and Francis Principe-Gillespie. It is always good to hear from our home grown members and we look forward to an entertaining meeting in the church hall.

Our league three competition will be held on 9 March and we welcome judge Brian Cathie to critique and score our images in this final league of the season.

On 16 March photographer Chris Upton will present his talk 'Essential Composition' via a zoom presentation. Chris is based in Nottingham and is a travel, landscape and social documentary photographer. Chris aims to inspire us all with his images to encourage us to think more about our composition techniques. He is an associate of the RPS and a brand ambassador for Fuji.

Our annual joint meeting with the Scottish Wildlife Trust will be held in the church hall later this month. We are delighted to announce that the speaker this year will be Moira Gardiner who will present her wildlife photography from her recent travels. We have been very fortunate to have enjoyed an evening of Moira's wildlife photography in 2021 when she shared her images from Costa Rica and Ecuador. We are very much looking forward to her new presentation.

Towards the end of the month we have our second evening of presentations by club members. Janet Lowe and John Davie will present slideshows of their images and we will hear about their photographic journeys. We very much look forward to another meeting in the church hall where we can catch up over tea and biscuits.

The club is delighted to announce two exciting events on the horizon. Firstly, Kinross Camera Club will have a stand at



the Better Place to Live Fair on Saturday 25 March at Loch Leven Community Campus.

Secondly, our club is to hold an exhibition of members work in the Loch Leven Community Campus Library from Saturday 1 April to Saturday 15 April. Please look out for our posters and flyers. Come along and find out more about our small, friendly camera club.

If you enjoy photography and would like to give our club a try or, if you would like to learn more about our activities and events please contact us by email at secretary@kinrosscameraclub.org.uk. All abilities are very welcome and you do not need a fancy camera and lots of gear. You are very welcome to join us for an evening and see if it's for you.

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www.kinrossgospelhall.info

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The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble: and He knoweth them that trust in Him
(Nahum Chapter 1 verse 7)

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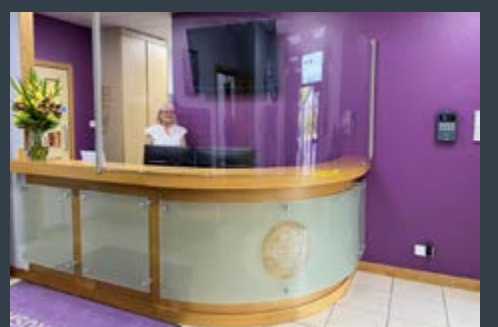
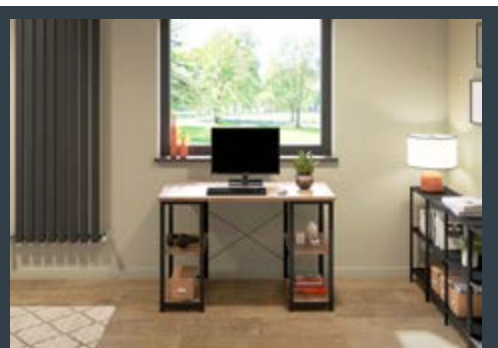
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Kacophony Orchestra

Kinross-shire Events Organisation

www.kleo.org.uk



Kinross Farmers' Markets

The first market of the year will take place on Saturday 22 April at 10am-2pm on the High Street of Kinross. The market dates will be on the fourth Saturday of every month from April to October (apart from the July market, as there is no market that month) with the dates as follows: 22 April, 27 May, 24 June, 26 August*, 23 September and 28 October from 10am-2pm. High Street will be closed on market days from the entrance at Burns Begg Street to the entrance at Montgomery Street.

**As before the August market will be a bigger market and will take place at the market park.*

Kacophony Orchestra

This is 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 as we are a very friendly and informal bunch. Sessions take place on Wednesday evenings from 7pm to 9pm at Loch Leven Community Campus. The fee is £5 per session.

Leven Voices

This is a fun, informal drop-in singing group which you can join anytime. No music reading or singing experience is necessary. Sessions take place on Tuesday evenings from 7-9pm at Kinross Parish Church with Horsecross Arts Tutor Amy Lord. The fee is £4 per session.

For more information about KLEO events visit our website or contact us by email at info@kleo.org.uk

Kinross Garden Group



We had an extremely entertaining and informative talk in February from Jim Jermyn (now retired from Branklyn Garden) on 'The Dolomites and Eastern Europe—a gardener's paradise'. It made you want to book that afternoon and rush off to see such fantastic scenery and plants, never mind the food!

Our next meeting is on 9 March at 2pm in the Parish Church, Kinross, when Gavin MacNaughton from MacPlants will talk about 'Meconopsis and autumn flowering gentians', which their company has bred so successfully.

Summer visit schedules will be available again.

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.

Climate Action Through Community Heating (CATCH-Lochleven)

Our scheme to use Loch Leven as a source of heat for a district heating system is still progressing. We have begun an application for Scottish Government funding from their CARES (Community and Renewable Energy Scheme) project. This should give us access to a district heating expert for a pre-feasibility study.

This could be underway in as little as a month from now and will give us a pointer toward the next steps needed. We are hopeful of meetings with local land-owners in the near future, and are engaged with councillors, Kinross-shire Partnership, Probus and the Community Council.



Kinrosswood in Bloom

We had our first monthly meeting of 2023 on Thursday 2 February. It was a chance to plan work parties and share information with each other. We are starting up work parties in March and, if anyone would like to help in any way, dates and times can be found on the notice board at the picture garden next to the bus shelter.

We have been working with Elspeth Bruce of PKC to find funding to renew the wooden seating which is no longer in good condition. We are putting together quotes and applying to the lottery for funding.

A dog poo bag holder has been installed by us at the bus shelter. We are looking for a more substantial one, possibly to put up at the park.

Artwork for the festival is progressing at the school. Volunteers can now work with the children in the classroom again. Crafts include weaving, felting, zentangle and pen and watercolour. The Primary 6 class are painting pictures of wildflowers which will be made into a school information board. This will be part of their John Muir Award this year. The other classes thought this was a good theme for the artwork so it will be a very colourful display at the festival this year.

We are hoping to have our own information board installed at Gamekeepers, choosing to illustrate wildflowers which are common in the area. Thanks must go to Patsy for doing research about the wildflowers around Portmoak and to Gillian for painting them. There will also be a banner of a wildlife meadow hanging in the rose garden. Thank you Mary for doing this. In the meantime if any villagers can crochet, sew, knit or make flowers in any other craft we will be attaching them to the meadow.

We are commissioning a couple of new figures for the village this year. More will be revealed in June.

One of our most regular fundraisers is the bonus ball. A few



numbers have become available so, if you are interested in taking part, contact Carol or Gordon Vance.

We have been officially invited to take part in Britain in Bloom this year. This is an exciting opportunity. The other groups representing Scotland are Aberdeen, East Haven Together and Bonnie Blantyre. Groups are chosen for winning their category in the Beautiful Scotland Awards. We will be meeting up with the other groups shortly and getting to know them, get some top tips and advice, and hear from those who've been in the finals before. We are proud to be part of the 'Team Scotland' family in the run up to the award ceremony later in the year.

Kinross Centre

Hi everyone. Well, what is the weather doing? It is sunny one day then torrential rain the next!

As always, our service users continue to be entertained with a full range of activities which are very well attended. They also enjoy a wonderful freshly cooked three course meal prepared daily on the premises.

We would like to say a great big thank you to everyone who made our Burns lunch so enjoyable. On 24 January, Swansacre nursery came to sing Scottish songs to us which was extremely entertaining. On Burns' day we welcomed Richard Scott on the bagpipes, who also performed a very animated 'address to the haggis'. This was followed by a traditional Burns lunch, a Scottish quiz and children from Rosebank nursery sang Scottish songs and we had a story read by Louise. Everyone was truly wonderful and we all had a fantastic day.

The coffee bar has been very busy recently and, as well as our regulars, it has been nice to see visitors to the area coming in and enjoying the service.

Once again a massive thank you goes to all the hard-working staff, volunteers and committee at Kinross Centre; we don't know where we would be without you all!

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

Richard Scott with his pipes, with Wendy McLaughlin (left) and Heather Ross



Kinross-shire Civic Trust

www.kinross-shirecivictrust.org

Email: KinrossshireCivicTrustSecy@gmail.com



Programme

The Trust will have a stall at the Better Place to Live Fair on Saturday 25 March at the community campus. Do stop by to find out more about our activities and tell us about any planning and environment matters that concern you.

Our AGM is provisionally planned for Wednesday 26 April; venue and further details to be announced.

We are also planning a summer visit to a place of architectural interest and the return of our annual dinner.

Raingardens Update

February is a busy month with restoration work at three wetlands along the Kinross raingardens trail at the end of the month. Volunteers are welcome for some planting in March, and we also hope to put some interpretative signs up in March.

We've had good discussion with the High School Geography department for a modest project to try some raingarden work there too, and at the museum/library on the campus to give the Raingardens Community Award a home.

Scottish Ministers' EIA Decision – Miller Homes

After several postponements, in February the Scottish Government issued its decision as to whether Miller Homes need to carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for their proposed development north west of Davies Park. This followed a request by the developer's agent, who disagreed with Perth & Kinross Council's opinion that an EIA was necessary.

The Scottish Ministers decided that the 160-dwelling development 'would not be likely to have a significant effect on the environment and therefore an EIA will not be required', overriding the opinion of PKC.

The Trust is disappointed at this decision by Scottish Ministers. An EIA would have provided a more thorough understanding of the potential environmental effects prior to considering a planning application.

The Trust remains concerned at the deteriorating quality of the water in Loch Leven, a Special Protection Area. We believe there is a correlation between the state of the loch, which receives waste water treatment plant discharges, and the increase in house-building in recent years.

The Scottish Ministers' reasoning checklist said that Scottish Water must ensure that the discharge from the proposed development would "not cause combined sewage overflows to overflow more regularly" yet, according to reports from local councillors of a meeting held with Scottish Water and others in December, Scottish Water do not keep full records of such overflows.

Loch Leven Library

www.culturepk.org.uk

Opening Times

Monday	10am-1pm*
Tuesday	10am-7pm
Wednesday	10am-6pm
Thursday	10am-7pm
Friday	10am-6pm
Saturday	10am-1pm & 1-3pm*
Sunday	Closed

*Reduced service with volunteers. Please make sure you have



your library card with you if you wish to take out books.

You can contact us by phone on 01577 867205 or by email at lochlevenlibrary@culturepk.org.uk. Alternatively, find us on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram @CPKLibraries.

Loch Leven Library is a warm space with comfortable seating, interesting books, free online newspapers and magazines and art materials. We also have free warm packs for both adults and children.

Come along and join our **fun storytime sessions** with your child on Friday mornings. Sessions run weekly, every Friday at 11.30am-12noon. These drop-in sessions are for pre-school-age children and there is no need to book.

Bookbug sessions are held Wednesday afternoon at 2-2.30pm and Saturday morning at 10-10.30am. They offer fun, friendly sessions of songs, rhymes, and stories. These sessions are suitable for babies, toddlers, and pre-school children to enjoy with their parents and carers. To book, contact the library.

Our friendly **Friday Book Group** will meet on Friday 24 March at 10.30am.

The next **Café Book Club** will be on Saturday 18 March between 1.30-2.30pm (after library opening hours). Anyone is welcome to attend, but please phone the library to let the staff know if you intend to join them.

Kinross Climate Café meets at 7pm on Tuesday 7 March. Do zero-waste products work? Moira Hookham and Kara from Sansaar will answer our questions on a range of sustainable products available locally.

Digital skills training on Thursday 9 March with afternoon sessions. Please phone to book your slot.

Kinross Camera Club will be holding an exhibition of members photographs. The exhibition will be hosted in the library between 1-15 April.

Perth and Kinross Museums & Galleries

The galleries at Perth Art Gallery are currently closed while they receive a refresh, but the doors to the building are open and looking forward to welcoming you. The messy museum in the Marshall gallery is open, as well as our shop, coffee bar and toilets, from 10am-4pm, Friday to Monday.

Why not come along to one of our lunchtime lectures given by curatorial staff and learn about the treasures and stories in the collections and the work that goes on behind the scenes?

3 March	Modern Scots
10 March	The East India Company and Perth Museum
17 March	Power to the People!
23 March	Tales from the Natural History Collections
30 March	Care of large water vessels

Friends of Loch Leven Library

We will have a stall at the Better Place to Live event on 25 March. Do come along and meet the volunteers who will be happy to tell you about some of the many services the library has to offer.



Fairtrade in Kinross-shire

Fairtrade fortnight is 27 February-12 March and we are asked to support the farmers and workers who grow our food. We are having a coffee morning in the Church Centre on **Saturday 4 March** at 10-12pm. Please come along and enjoy some Fairtrade tea, coffee and goodies. It will be great to see you there.



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Farewell Euan, Simon and Joe!



Well done Finlay and Finn!

Kinross Cubs

For our second meeting of the year the cubs were working on the chef badge as they learnt about different food groups, the importance of hygiene and they also got creative in the kitchen making fruit kebabs and sandwiches.

For Burns night on 25 January all the cubs were working hard on their Scottish thistle badge. A massive thank you to Annie from Broke Not Broken who came along to speak to the cubs about what the organisation does for the local community. Also, on the same evening, the cubs were learning about Scottish poetry and took part in a mini-Highland Games.

As we moved into February the cubs completed their emergency aid level 2 badge and they had a fun evening learning about first aid. They learnt about the recovery position, how to put on a bandage, how to apply a dressing and they also got to try the CPR Annie dolls.

Congratulations to Finlay and Finn who were presented with a special recognition award for working hard and being kind and helpful last term. Bravo! We have also said goodbye to Simon, Joe and Euan who have all moved on to Scouts this term. Good luck for the next stage of your scouting journey.

Volunteering can make a huge difference to young people's lives, as well as your own. From having something to look forward to every week to learning in the great outdoors, being a volunteer is good for you; supporting your own confidence and skills, health and happiness and community. If you would like to get involved with 1st Kinross Cubs, then please email kinrosscubs@hotmail.com for more details.

Kinross Beavers

As we progressed our meetings in January, our Young Leaders did a fantastic job running a number of sessions for the beavers on disability awareness. These included completing an obstacle course whilst blindfolded through to learning sign language. The beavers also learnt about cerebral palsy and the challenges that condition brings.

Two days after Burns night, it was all things Scottish on Friday 27 January. On this evening the lodge learnt about Scots language and words. We looked at a map of Scotland and answered questions plus made up a coat of arms for our clans. The beavers all did fantastically well.

At the beginning of February the lodge turned their attention to the digital citizen badge. They learnt about creating secure passwords using three words, a number and special character. They also learnt about what information was safe

to divulge online and to whom. It was a really informative night where they all did so well. They also played loads of games too.

We were delighted to present a special recognition award to Noah for working hard and being kind and helpful last term. Bravo! We also said goodbye to Noah (below) as he moves on to cubs. Good luck for the next stage of your scouting journey.

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, but you will also learn some brilliant skills transferable to the workplace and further education.

Please contact us by email at kinrossbeavers@hotmail.co.uk for more information.





Angela Walter and her Bumblebee painting



Kinross and District Art Club

www.kadac.co.uk



As the *Newsletter* prints, members are planning their input to the Better Place to Live Fair in the Loch Leven Campus on Saturday 25 March from 10am-2pm. There will be a display of the work of some of the club members, a slideshow of our activities and an information desk where attendees at the event can find out more about the club. In the meantime, here is a profile of one of our members, Angela Walter.

'It's over 12 years since I joined KADAC, following my quest to develop my skills in art, begun at school where I loved art and had actually kept a couple of pieces I had done some years before. Living in Kinross, first I sought out an art teacher and then tried to join KADAC, but had to go on a waiting list (the membership was set at 20 in those days!)

It was a very thoughtful gift from my husband Andy one Christmas that helped me fulfill my wish to create art and to explore different mediums. This was a box of artists' goodies – an easel, paints, brushes, pastels, art paper, etc. It was all there, but where to start? That's when I joined KADAC which, by this time, had many more members and a forward-looking, energetic committee which I joined, first as minute secretary and later as treasurer.

In KADAC I found all the elements of support that a budding artist could wish for; a well-stocked library of books and DVDs, regular demonstrations, the advice and support of a professional artist plus fellow artists whose brains I could pick in a friendly, supportive atmosphere. Although I dabble across various mediums, (watercolour, acrylics, oils) my passion is pastels with my favourite subject being cats (big and small!).

Perhaps the most exciting event that happened on my artistic journey was a painting I did of a bumble bee. First, my boss said he liked it, then my relatives in New York, so I ended up having to get prints made of it! Perhaps even more exciting, though, was my first sale; a painting of fuchsias exhibited at the annual KADAC exhibition and advertised in the catalogue for £10. I was on cloud nine!

KADAC is a thriving club and welcomes new members throughout the year. I can heartily recommend it for all the support and encouragement I have received over the years!' If you want to find out more about the club, check out our website or drop by the Millbridge Hall any Tuesday or Friday afternoon from 2-4pm.

Milnathort Bridge Club



We were delighted to welcome Elma McCullough, the first of Willie Young's bridge students in attendance, last month. It is a big step from bridge classes to a club competition situation so we trust that she was not too overawed. After all, enjoyment is the prime objective of Milnathort Bridge Club.

On the competitive side, we are very pleased and must congratulate Bob Robertson and Alison Houston who added to their CV recently by improving their SBU (Scottish Bridge Union) ranking. Under the SBU, master points are gained for wins and placings, depending on the numbers attending through the weekly competitions and members are graded accordingly. This allows players of similar ranking to compete with each other online and within club situations. Bob is now in the '4 Star Master' category while Alison is now a 'Club Master.'

An advertisement for Pilates with Tim Clarke. The background shows a person's hands on a blue mat. The text reads: 'Pilates with Tim Clarke For great core strength, balance & flexibility MDA Dance & Fitness Studio Milnathort Tel: 07973 321971 or mail@tselarke.co.uk'.

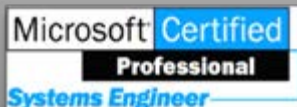


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Clubs & Community Groups

A date for all bridge players to put in their diary, whether club players or otherwise, is Friday 7 April. The Inner Wheel are planning to run a charity bridge afternoon on that date, similar to that which they ran so successfully, annually, until Covid-19 raised its head. This event was always very well received attracting players from well outside the area. It guarantees a good afternoon of entertainment with lunch and afternoon tea included. For further information please contact Liz Pottie on 07768 244699.

RESULTS

North/South	East/West
23 January Jim Marshall/Beryl Harley	Kathryn and Peter Edgerton
30 January Willie Young/Jane Smith	Jim Marshall/Beryl Harley
6 February Liz Pottie/Colin Wilson	Gary Taylor/Dietlef Lorenz
13 February Janet Laird/Geoff Bilton	Alison Houston/Morag Ridings.

For further information on MBC activities please contact secretary Gloria Wilson on 01577 862553 or mobile 07961 795815.

Common Grounds

www.spanglefish.com/
commongroundscharitycafe

January proved to be a popular month for our coffee mornings with a number of new faces which was great to see. This has meant we have been able to send a good sum of money to our charity of the month, African Promise.

This is a small charity working to improve the quality of primary school education in rural areas of Kenya. A total of 6000 children have benefited since starting in 2008 and there are now eight schools in South East Kenya. Water supply is now provided as well as textbooks, furniture and at least one good meal a day. Money is also funding teachers' salaries and the upgrade of the fabric of the school to create a safe and conducive learning environment.

A project Lunch is due to take place on Tuesday 21 March at 12 noon. A speaker from The Nora Docherty Foundation will give a talk and slide-show. This is a Scottish charity which started in 2007 by building a primary school in rural central Malawi. It is supported exclusively by Margaret Cummings, her husband and family and is named after her mother, Nora. There were 750 pupils, eight teachers with eight classrooms. Now there are 25 teachers, 2500 pupils, plus a nursery for 100 children, alongside an antenatal and pre-5 clinic on the campus.

KYTHE

The Christmas break now seems a long time ago, as the KYTHE team are back to usual weekly activities for the benefit of the young people of Kinross-shire. Details of weekly activities, ad hoc events and mobile KYTHE visits can be found on our website and social media.

We were delighted when apprentice youth worker Abbie, and young volunteer Jack, were asked to be part of the Gannochy Trust's Youth Panel Fund. This group will meet quarterly and, along with 10 other young people aged 14-21 years, will assess applications for youth activities, youth voice and youth health and wellbeing from charities in the Perth and Kinross area. This is a great opportunity for Abbie and Jack and it also acknowledges the work that KYTHE are delivering

as Abbie and Jack see first-hand the positive impact that working with young people can bring.

Now that the New Year has passed and we come into spring having established new routines, if you find you have a few hours to spare and would like to help at KYTHE, either with youth work or in a support capacity, please get in touch. Although we cannot share many of the young people's stories due to confidentiality, as a volunteer myself I can vouch that it is inspiring to hear of the changes to many young lives that the work of KYTHE brings. Please contact us by email at office@kythe.org.uk if you are interested in finding out more.

Crook and Drum Growing Together



We have now finished planting our community orchard area (pictured opposite) behind the new graveyard, with support from the PKC nature restoration fund. There are 18 fruit trees, mixed apples, and some pears and plums, with wildflowers and spring bulbs to help pollinating insects and other wildlife. Please do not let your dog foul this area.

We are now looking forward to daffodils and other bulbs flowering in planters and areas around Crook of Devon and Drum. At our AGM in February, we will be thinking about colourful planting for the summer months.

On Sunday 12 March, we are planning a spring coffee and plant event in Crook of Devon Village Hall, from 2-3.30pm. As well as refreshments, there will be a seed swap, some plants for sale, free wildflower seeds, and planting activities for children. Do come along for a chat and a cuppa.

You can follow our activities on our Facebook page, the Fossoy Forum page, and new members are always welcome to join us.

Please contact Amanda with any comments or suggestions by email at amandajames1577@gmail.com or 07963 476803.

Kinross Potager Garden

The garden has been resting over the winter, with potted perennial plants staying cosy in the wooden cold frames, although a few in the greenhouse succumbed to the hard frost before Christmas. The volunteers keep in touch through our WhatsApp group, and we have met for a coffee and catch up a few times.

In December I held an enjoyable Christmas wreath workshop in Gateside Village Hall. Thanks to all who attended and helped.

We have recently pollarded some willow trees and done other winter pruning. We will hopefully start our Monday morning volunteer sessions around the beginning of March, weather permitting. Plant sales available then, or by arrangement.

We will have a stall at the Better Place to Live Fair on 25 March, with some plants and spring bulbs for sale, and a free planting activity for children. We hope to meet you then for a chat with our volunteers, and to hear more about our activities.

For further information contact Amanda James on by email at amandajames1577@gmail.com or 07963 476803.

The foundation hosts its own scholarship for secondary education and supports its students at a boarding school. In 2019 an ambulance was purchased and given to the community to provide transport for pregnant mothers to hospital instead of having to endure a four hour walk!

If you are looking for a coffee and chat, you are most welcome to come along on any Tuesday or Saturday morning.





Community Orchard in Crook of Devon

Kinross-shire U3A

u3asites.org.uk/Kinross/home

We are open to semi-retired and retired people and the joining fee is £15. We currently have 12 varied groups who enjoy activities such as a book club, military history, poetry, scrabble, genealogy, famous Scots and so on. We also meet at Kinross Parish Church on the first Tuesday of each month. In May we hold our Annual General Meeting but each month from September to April we offer a talk to our membership from an invited speaker. If you are interested you are welcome to come along to a couple of our talks, get to know us and get a taste of what u3a is all about. We would love to meet you.

On 7 March members from a local group called 'Kinwriters' (who meet regularly and write in a variety of styles and formats) will be entertaining us with their creative works of short stories, poems and prose. Doors to the Parish Church open at 2.15pm and the presentation is at 2.30pm. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be served afterwards.

Our first coffee gathering was held in January at the Kirklands Hotel and was enjoyed by members. This will be a monthly occurrence on the third Friday of each month from 10–11.30am when members can catch up over a coffee and chat.

If you are interested in joining the u3a information is available on our website (search under Kinross-shire u3a) or you can contact us by email at mbs21@btinternet.com.

New members are always welcome. As well as trying out one of our presentations, we will be present at the Better Place to Live Fair at Loch Leven Community Campus on 25 March so please come and talk to us then!

Kinross-shire Climate Café

On 7 February we welcomed Ana de Miguel, PKC Waste Minimisation Officer who came back to our group (her first visit was back in



September 2021) to talk to us about kerbside recycling and upcoming changes in PKC recycling strategy.

As before Ana's talk was very interesting and well-illustrated, highlighting important aspects of recycling at the local council level. It was interesting to learn that there are a few high street recycling bins coming to the centre of Perth.

Another new development to the current blue-bin content is the inclusion of plastic containers that 'hold their shape' as opposed to soft plastics (the latter can be recycled at Sainsburys). Also, coloured wrapping paper (without foil or glitter) can be now added to the blue bin.

The upcoming changes will include:

(1) Deposit Return Scheme: deposit of 20p will be added for every drink container (plastic, can or glass bottle) excluding milk. The deposit will be claimed back on return of the empty container to the seller.

(2) Every household will receive a new bin (probably grey) in addition to the blue bin. So plastics/metals will be separated from paper/card. This is to reduce recycling costs.

More information about kerbside recycling is available at www.facebook.com/kleo.org.uk/

Next month we are meeting for our usual catch-up to learn more about zero-waste products available on the High Street. It will be an open meeting to share experience of zero-waste products and some samples will be available to try. The meeting will take place as usual on the first Tuesday night of the month (7 March) at 7pm in Loch Leven Library.

There are also two special events in March: cinema outing to Glenfarg Climate Cafe on 10 March (Friday) to see 'Woman at War' and Spring Clean litter pick (date tbc).

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to KLEO for their continuing support and Loch Leven Library staff for hosting our meetings.

The Climate café meets on the first Tuesday of the month in Loch Leven Library at 7pm. All welcome. If you are interested contact Gosia Stanton – climatecafe@kleo.org.uk

Broke Not Broken

By the time this is published we will have had our ninth AGM; the first in person for a couple of years!



The start of 2023 has been busy in lots of ways. In January we supported 653 people with 235 food and voucher deliveries. 311 of those people were children. We continue to try to add as much nutritional value to each parcel as funds allow, adding in fresh fruit, vegetables and dairy, as well as cleaning products, period products and toiletries.

Our Women's group have had several sessions including a games night and a Galentine's event; both were so much fun. It's a great way to unwind, get some solidarity and support in a friendly way and have a bit of a laugh when times are feeling pretty tough. The group is open to anyone to attend. Our next events are on 8 March and 22 March at 7pm at the Community Campus.

The second part of our winter warmers were distributed to 110 households thanks to our amazing volunteers. Vegetable packs plus butcher's vouchers and heated blankets were distributed across Kinross-shire. Some of this was funded by the PKC Cost of Living fund.

As spring approaches our allotment garden will begin to bear fruit (and veg) and if anyone is interested in helping to manage it I know Susan would happily welcome a green hand or two.

Over the past few weeks we have been recipients of some amazing funding. This included £10,000 from the local CIF



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Susan Mitchell, Anna Jelley, (ASDA), Joanne Kitson and Fiona Smith

funding towards winter projects for 2023 as well as £5250 funding from Corra and National Lottery towards vouchers to go direct to families and households affected by the cost of living crisis.

We have also received £500 from ASDA and had a visit from Anna Jelley the Community Champion from the Perth store, our closest store. It was great to show her what we do.

£500 also came from WLGore, and again we welcomed Val to see what we do with the funds they donate.

We received £250 from Rotary as part of the Santa Sleigh event and £871.63 from our bag pack through Sainsburys. Many thanks to the wider community for contributing to these donations. These unrestricted funds will go into buying in food and vouchers to distribute to our community.

If you are interested in volunteering please contact us by email at volunteer@brokennotbroken.org.

You can also visit our new website for details of how to donate food or money and how to volunteer. If you need support, you can self-refer. Through this process you can self-refer for 4-6 weeks and, after that, we will partner you with a referral agent going forward to ensure you get additional financial support where possible.

You can contact us direct by email on admin@brokennotbroken.org or 07518 913107. Please bear in mind that we are volunteers and will get back to you as soon as we can!

Boys Brigade and Girls Association



It was a successful January for the youngsters at Kinross BB as three Perth Battalion trophies were lifted by the company.

First up was the mini-volleyball competition held at Strathallan school with the company section team finishing as silver medallists and the junior section team winning gold and lifting the Battalion Cup.

Next up was the Battalion swimming gala at Perth Leisure pool and again it was the junior section who came away with two trophies; the Ritchie Memorial Shield for the team with the most points overall and the Brown Cup for winning the four by one length relay competition.



Winning swim team with the Ritchie Memorial Shield outside Perth Leisure pool



ValRough from WLGore donated £500

In February the Battalion 5-a-side football competition took place at Strathallan school. Both sections also participated in the BB international competitions for junior and company sections. The results of these challenge competitions are sent off to headquarters and the overall results will be announced in April. Both junior and company competitions are judged over a range of physical, mental and skill activities.

Other trophies still to be decided are the badminton, chess, drill and scripture search competitions which will be held over the next couple of months.

Clubs & Community Groups

Portmoak Community Woodland Group

www.portmoakcw.org.uk



We were delighted to welcome back a fantastic team of staff and volunteers from NatureScot in January, to help with the ongoing work of pulling birch saplings out of Portmoak Moss.

It's really tough work so we were especially pleased that, after doing it for a day last year, they were prepared to return for another onslaught. Altogether, there were five volunteers and two members of staff from NatureScot and five members of the Portmoak Community Woodland Group.

It's amazing how much work you can get done with a dozen folk – and how much fun it is.

By the end of the session we had crossed from one side of the bog to the other and cleared trees from 800 square metres of ground, as well as partially clearing another 200 square metres.

If you're walking the circular path round the Moss look out for the big heap of brash which was created, on the northern side of the main peat dome.

The aim, as always, was to take away the young trees, which draw too much water from the raised peat bog, and to provide a better habitat for sphagnum moss, which eventually rots down and creates more peat – as it has been doing for thousands of years on this spot.

Simon Ritchie, Nature Reserve Officer from NatureScot's Loch Leven Nature Reserve, said: 'We do a little lowland heath restoration, which requires pulling out young trees, but nothing on this scale.'

He was full of praise for the task force: 'We have a hardy, dedicated bunch of volunteers who help us with a lot of habitat management on the reserve and it's great to spread our resources onto other local community projects.'

PCWG can only agree and thank them wholeheartedly for the tremendous effort they put in. We hope it won't be too long before we see them again.

Meanwhile, if you're up on the hill, in Kilmagad Wood, you should be able to spot more work carried out by PCWG in the community orchard. We'll be pruning the apple trees and planting half a dozen new ones, in a special compound,

provided by Woodland Trust Scotland. This is designed to keep the deer out – as they're thought to be less likely to jump into a small space.

Fingers crossed for the success of the trees and for another good crop in the orchard this summer.

Meetings, as ever, in the Well Inn, Scotlandwell, at 7.30pm every third Tuesday of the month.

Lomond Antique and Collectors Club



The club met on Wednesday 15 February for a talk entitled, 'Hopetoun House through 20 Objects,' presented by Mr Ian Low. Mr Low, for many years the Head Guide at Hopetoun, presented us with a pictorial guide of the grounds and house pointing out just 20 of the most interesting or intriguing artefacts and features.

We began at the Robert Rowand Anderson designed Main Gate which featured curved quadrant walls with Tuscan columns, crowning vases and a wrought iron over panel bearing the family crest. The gardens had a pair of non symmetrical Egyptian Sphinx sculptures (made of lead) denoting wisdom, one of which guarded the end of the famous William Adam Ha Ha (sunken wall or fence) at the east lawn.

Inside the house we saw a maquette of a sculpture of John Hope – the 7th Earl of Melbourne (later 1st Marquis of Linlithgow). Set on horseback the full sculpture is now in Australia. An elaborate Italian table with a Florentine Petra Jura top with the base made in Bologna showed Mermaids wrapped around the legs, each with two tails.

The Garden room featured a Dutch bracket clock from the early eighteenth century showing the day, month and phases of the moon and featuring a display of moving musicians that played one of a series of six different tunes on the hour. In the Library, once home to over two thousand books, an Italian/Tuscan Dictionary dated 1623 is the second edition of a work displaying the written Tuscan language for the first time in history.

In the State bedroom a grand four-poster bed by Scottish furniture maker James Cullen and carved by Samuel Norman thought to have been obtained by the family following the cancellation of an order by an initial purchaser. The staircase



displayed a classical mural and decorated ceiling and a Trompe l'oeil depiction of a cupboard on which the doors appear almost in 3D. Next we saw a picture of two leopards in fine silk embroidery thought to be Japanese and purchased from Liberty of London. A work of exceptional quality.

A bedroom was home to engraved plates depicting the management of horses in fine detail including actions to be employed when horses were involved in wartime action. The Library featured a screen made up of botanical prints by Dr Robert Thornton each, unusually, showing background images of the environment where they would be found.

The yellow drawing room was graced by a large work thought to be by the 'Old Master' Peter Paul Rubens and also contained a Turkish clock by French Makers 'Roy et Fils.' This interesting piece with cloisonné enamel had two dials, one with Roman and the other Turkish script numbers. The clock, wound by a single mechanism, was placed in front of a mirror so that both faces were visible.

Two beautiful bow fronted commodes by James Cullen featured in the Drawing Room, unusual in that the items were side opening and fitted with drawers.

A pure white marble fireplace by William Adam (father of Robert Adam) is adorned with two sculptured figures each facing outwards, but angled away from the front of the wall and the Dining Room has items of early Meissen white, hard paste porcelain decorated with flowers, cherubs and even a cockroach.

The final item on our tour was the Craighall Eagle taken back to Hopetoun House from Ceres in Fife when a house there was demolished.

Ian Low offered us much more than a 'shopping list' of antiquities, his talk was liberally sprinkled with facts, anecdotes and displayed the huge breadth of his passion for the subject.

LACC next meet on Wednesday 15 March for a talk entitled 'Edinburgh - The Walled City' by Mr Graeme Cruickshank.

We would welcome any interested new members. If interested, please contact us by email at crwalsh@btinternet.com

Probus Club

The club welcomed Ken Blacklock who gave us a fascinating talk about the Paddle Steamer *Waverley*, the world's last sea going paddle steamer.

Built in 1946 as a replacement for the original *Waverley*, which was sunk during the Second World War at Dunkirk, Ken gave us an insight into his lifelong involvement with this old lady of the sea, and especially the trials and tribulations of keeping a ship like the *Waverley* seaworthy. The beating heart of any ship is her boilers and the *Waverley* has had to undergo many repairs and boiler replacements over the years.

Each of these episodes has brought many challenges, financial, engineering, and staffing, and more than once the *Waverley* looked doomed as costs rose and owners forced to make difficult choices.

One example was in 1973 when the then owners Caledonian MacBrayne decided to remove her from active service and have her become a static restaurant and museum. Thankfully within a year a new organisation was formed 'Waverley Steam Navigation Company' and she was bought for £1. There followed some major repairs and she set sail again in May 1975.

Ken offered us an insight into the dedicated work carried out over the years by a volunteer workforce who every winter

spend hours and hours maintaining the ship and getting her ready for the sailing season.

But there comes a time when a ship like the *Waverley* begins to show her age, and hard decisions have to be made. By the mid 1990s continually escalating maintenance costs and new marine safety requirements were threatening the ship's long term future, and it was decided that she needed a complete rebuild. After an intense period of fundraising the work was carried out in two stages over the winters of 1999-2000 and 2002-2003, with the main contractor being George Prior Engineering of Great Yarmouth.

Twenty years on and the Old Lady is still sailing, summer trips down the Clyde, another boiler refit in 2020, coping with the challenges of Covid, but especially, bringing a smile to everyone who sails on her.

Ken has clearly spent a lifetime working on, caring for and promoting the importance of maintaining this fragile treasure we call the '*Waverley*'. Many thanks.

The vote of thanks was given by Jim Thomson.

Guide Dogs

On 3 January, we were out of the traps early. Volunteer Heather and I brought along the wonderful Ambassador Dog Molly to the first Guide dog talk of the year at The Kinross Parish Church for The University of the third age, U3A.



Clubs & Community Groups

There was a very good turnout for a public holiday and some great questions and chat. Molly, of course, was the star. The U3A very kindly gave a donation to Guide Dogs. Many thanks to them for that and for being an engaged audience.

I am available for speaking engagements to groups, from nursery age, school and youth groups to the slightly more mature. The talks can be tailored to your wishes and a degree of interaction can enhance learning and can be fun. The aim is to increase your understanding of the challenges people with visual impairment face and what the Guide Dogs Charity can do to help. It's not all about fluffy puppies.

As a volunteer I am happy to chat about most opportunities to spread the word about this vital charity. There are around 8000 people in the waiting for a guide dog and many children who need support to learn to cope with sight loss.

This month we will be at The Better place to live Fair in the campus, on 25 March. Please come and see us to find out more.

We are also on the look out for new places to rehome our lifesize collection dogs that you see in supermarkets and cafes etc. Or indeed counter-top collection boxes. Do you know of a shop or business that has a large staff or customers who may have change to throw in a collection dog?

As I have asked previously, when you return from foreign holidays with the money and nowhere to spend it, you can donate it to us. We can get cash for old coins and notes too. Stop them taking up space in a drawer and we can make them work for good again.

Stay well and keep your chins up. As usual, if you are interested in a talk or becoming a volunteer please contact Sheila Marshall at She61@hotmail.co.uk.

Milnathort SWI



President Jean Paterson welcomed members to our January meeting. We remembered, with affection, two of our members who had sadly passed away in December; May Paterson and Janet Probert.

After business and events reminders, Jean introduced Mary Sneddon from Kelty and District Loving Hands. Mary gave a very interesting and informative talk on the work they carry out to support numerous charities with sewn and knitted items.

Members donated knitted hats from the competition (results below), along with other knitted items, to Loving Hands. Jean thanked Mary for coming to our meeting, we then had refreshments. At our next meeting on 16 March, in the town hall, at 2pm. we will welcome Gillian Skeene with her jewellery. Visitors welcome.

COMPETITIONS

Woollen Hat: Francis Shepherd
Flower Of The Month: Grace Drysdale



Portmoak Hall 100 Club

January Draw

1st	No 88	Enid Brown, Scotlandwell
2nd	No 95	Richard Hughes, Scotlandwell
3rd	No 42	Jenny Sword, Kinnesswood

Powmill SWI

In January our members enjoyed our annual burns supper. The haggis was addressed by president Tricia Greer. We then enjoyed a quiz and games. Our member Janie Buchanan was crowned the champion haggis hurler!

In February we enjoyed a very interesting talk and tasting by Neil on wines. Most enjoyable!

JANUARY COMPETITIONS

January Oatcakes: Mary Wilson
A Scottish Photo: Tricia Greer,
Green Fingers: Tricia Greer.

FEBRUARY COMPETITIONS

Green Fingers: Mary Wilson
Bottle Holder: Mary Wilson
Jam: Tricia Greer

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Wednesday 22 March Quiz Night
Wednesday 19 April Talk by Rootin' and Roamin'

We meet on the third Wednesday of each month in Moubray Hall, Powmill at 7.30pm.

Glenfarg SWI

President Linda Martin welcomed John Noble and Brian Fraser to our February meeting, from Blood Bikes Scotland, a voluntary organisation and independent charity. Members were astounded to learn that in 2022, the Borders region alone handled 8000 calls to carry blood (or specimen/tissue samples) from hospital to hospital or laboratory and in addition, patient notes, patient belongings and medication between hospitals or to the patient's home. Other examples included larger items like heart monitors, zimmer frames and parts for ventilators and smaller items such as teddy bears, scales and dietary feeds. This represents an annual saving to the NHS of £260,000 but just as important is the saving in time. Across the Scottish regions, there are 179 volunteers and the monthly cost to maintain the motorcycles, tyres, insurance and fuel is around £5000.

A touching example of the importance of speed was that while an operation was being carried out at a hospital in Leeds, a sample was sent by Blood Bike to a laboratory in Dundee, the result analysed and fed back immediately to the surgeon, who could then complete the operation.

Members were thrilled to be invited to sit on the



Linda Martin, Club President



Left to right: Andzia Scott, Lesley Muiriston, Margaret Scott, Vivienne Hebblethwaite, Linda Martin

polished blood bikes. They are electric vehicles, with a range of 100+ miles and ideal for short journeys. There are 16 bikes, for the Lothians, Fife, Forth Valley, Tayside, Aberdeen, Inverness, so UK coverage is from John O'Groats to Land's End. The bikes have tracking GPS, satellite navigation and cameras for safety. The other, unseen, side of the service is the controllers, who work from home, taking calls from the NHS Flow Centre and there is also IT support. They operate on a three rings system and volunteers choose their shifts each week, committing to at least one shift per month.

If you are interested in volunteering, donating or simply

finding out more about Blood Bikes Scotland, please email johnnoble@bloodbikesscotland.co.uk

COMPETITIONS

- An Article In Beadwork:** Linda Martin
- Animal Biscuits:** Linda Martin
- Flower Of The Month:** Lillias Johnston

If you would like to join or visit as a guest, Glenfarg SWI meetings start promptly at 2pm on the second Thursday of each month between September and May, in Glenfarg Village Hall. Please bring your own cup. Visitors £4.

Blood Bikes volunteer riders John Noble and Brian Fraser with members of Glenfarg SWI



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Kinross Volleyball

This season's premier league competition has now completed with the Kinross men's team finishing in fifth place out of six. This season has been a developmental season for both teams with many youngsters being 'blooded' from the start of the season and making good progress too.

The men's team had three 15–16 year old boys playing all season and they have all shown a positive commitment to improving their match play in the Monday evening coaching sessions. The same men's team has also competed in the recreational league which has also been used to develop the young lads. Their results here have been more encouraging with the team lying in second position behind the league leaders Nae Fear.

The Kinross High School team of girls has also been progressing in the recreational league although player availability has been an issue. This means that the same team has not played together in consecutive match day fixtures all season.

Kinross High School pupil numbers continue to grow in both the Wednesday lunchtime 'pop in and play' sessions and the after-school coaching sessions.

Club coaching sessions continue at the campus on Monday evenings until the end of March from 8–9.45pm before moving outdoors again on Sunday afternoons from April to August. The indoor sessions are cheap at £3 per night and new members are always welcome. No special kit is needed, just a t-shirt and shorts or trackies and trainers. To encourage more participants, the outdoor Sunday sessions will be free once again.

They will also be used to prepare teams for the Scottish Open Volleyball tournament on Perth's North Inch over the last weekend of May and the De Haan tournament in Belgium in August.

Orwell Bowling Club

Bowling Green Avenue, Milnathort, KY13 9YN

01577 863739 orwellbowlingclub.weebly.com

Find us on Facebook

The opening of the green will take place on Saturday 15 April at 1.30pm for 2pm start. Please come along, pay your fees and catch up with all the members you haven't seen during the winter. Everyone is welcome and the opening game is in aid of the Blind Bowlers so please bring a raffle prize. Raffles are much appreciated during the season as well.

Members who are entering competitions are reminded that their fees must be paid by Sunday 30 April. The price of full membership is £90 but new members are welcome and can join for half price for their first year. There is also a family membership available and we offer free coaching. So, anyone who is interested in bowling, please come along.

If you would like more information about the club and bowling, please check out our website or Facebook page. You can also contact our club secretary on 07790026589 or one of our officials or club members. Our office bearers elected at the last AGM are President, Tom Reid; Vice President, Graeme Duncan; Secretary, Sandra Fullerton; Treasurer, Jim Whittet.

Kinross Road Runners

<https://kinrossroadrunners.weebly.com>

Great fun was had at the awards dinner last month, and the picture below shows all of our wonderful members and their prizes. Well done to all and thanks to Loch Leven's Larder for hosting the event.



Our main focus this month as a club is starting to organise the Loch Leven Half Marathon which will take place on Sunday 14 May. For the first time, this will be a closed road race, and will be a fantastic event for all to take part in.

Not only do you have the great views that normally are there for the race, but also the closed roads will make this run even more special this year. There are still some places, but hurry as they are going fast. To register for the race go to www.entrycentral.com/event/121912. There is a medal for all who take part and commemorative t-shirts are available to purchase.

It takes a lot of work to organise and host a big event like the Loch Leven Half Marathon, and a big shout out goes to all our members who will support the event doing water stations and marshalling amongst many other tasks. Our second picture is of the route of this iconic race around the

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1st to 15th APRIL 2023

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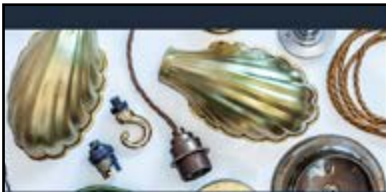


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loch. More details to follow on the race, but remember if you want to run, go to entry central and register.

Just a reminder as always that the club training sessions fit all abilities and involve a variety of running activities as you can see from the list of this month's sessions. Interval sessions improve running speed, trail runs build up strength and stamina, and slower chatty runs are good for socialising.

The club welcomes all abilities and whether you are new to running or experienced, just looking for new routes to try out or to meet new faces, there is something for everyone. If you fancy getting involved or trying out a run with the club, just go to the website and get in touch. However you run, enjoy it and stay safe.



Front Row: Rachel Eadie, Clare Cassells, Holly Clemie
Back Row: Connor Boyd, Cameron Lindsey, Calum Stewart, Finlay Rutherford, Elliot Cullerton



Finlay Rutherford, Rory Stevenson, Finlay McGregor and Douglas Brown

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**Afternoon Tea; Seed Swap;
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Plants; Raffle;
Garden-shed De-stash (swap of clean and
usable garden tools, no plastic pots).**

Organised by
Crook and Drum Growing Together
crook.drum.growing@gmail.com
facebook.com/Crook-and-Drum-Growing-Together



Kinross Junior Curling Club

What a great start we have had to 2023! On the first weekend in January we took two teams to the Junior Club Challenge in Dumfries.

We were competing in Division 2 and played some great games on the Saturday with both teams winning all their games.

The Sunday saw a few tough games with mixed results. Everyone was delighted to discover that we had finished top of Division 2 and as a result have been promoted to Division 1.

Also in January Team Rutherford were the overall Asham Under 14s Slam champions 2022-2023.

Three of the team are part of Kinross Junior Curling Club and we would like to pass on our congratulations to the team.

Local Volunteer Opportunities

The Potager Garden

The Potager garden is a small community garden in Bowton Road Kinross, KY13 8EQ. It is a registered charity run by volunteers, aiming to teach children and others about plants and the environment, and to be a welcoming and supportive place for volunteers to enjoy gardening in a friendly social group. We meet on a Monday morning, and anyone with different abilities or experience is welcome.

For more information please contact Amanda James on 07963 476803, or amandajames1577@gmail.com

Broke not Broken

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 admin@brokennotbroken.org to help.

Greyhound Rescue Fife

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

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

RSPB Scotland Loch Leven: We need volunteer fundraisers to help support the wonderful world of nature on our doorstep through pin badge boxes and bucket collections. If you'd like to join our team please get in touch on communityfundraisingscotland@rspb.org.uk.

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

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

A Charity Cafe staffed by volunteers on Tuesday and Saturday mornings from 10am-12.30pm in the Guide Hall, Church Street, Milnathort.

Opportunity to serve or bake for the cafe always welcome. Also opportunity to gain recognised hours towards Duke of Edinburgh

Awards and Saltire Awards for young people 16 years or over. Funds raised are used to support charities mainly in Africa.

Contact: Gaylor Hopkins 01337 860535 or Elaine Matthew 01592 840266.

Seamab

Seamab is a residential school that cares for some of the most vulnerable children in Scotland. We are looking for volunteers to help us place and manage collecting cans. Volunteering for Seamab makes a huge difference to the lives of the children and is a great way to meet people and develop new skills. For more information contact Melloney Flinn at mflinn@seamab.org.uk or call 01577 840307.

SSAFA

The Armed Forces charity is always on the look out for new volunteers in a variety of roles: client case working (free training is provided), admin office roles, fundraising or PR/media work. Contact the Branch Secretary 07594 650900.

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.

Milnathort Town Hall Committee

Can you spare a couple of hours a month? We are looking for volunteers to join us. For more information please contact us at milnathorttownhall1@gmail.com.

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 Perth and Kinross we would love to hear from you. To find out more, visit www.aberlour.org.uk/volunteer, or contact Shonagh (Volunteer Coordinator) on 07864 625069/shonagh.ferguson@aberlour.org.uk.

SPARKS

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 and wellbeing. 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.

Scotland's Gardens

Do you love gardens? Might you be interested in meeting local garden owners, helping to support local gardens that currently open for charity, plus those that are considering it? If so, and you would like to know more, please ring Lizzie on 01577 862900.

Duke of Edinburgh

The Kinross-shire Duke of Edinburgh Open Group was established over 13 years ago as wholly parent run group. Everyone is a volunteer and we are licensed to run the Duke of Edinburgh's Award programme for young people in the area via Perth and Kinross Council.

We have a wide range of adult volunteering opportunities available, be that help with admin and fundraising to those who want to lead expeditions out in the hills. There is something for every parent or adult here.

We also welcome back those participants who have completed their awards, are over 18 and wish to give back to the Group. We can arrange all necessary training and also support adult volunteers financially to complete any relevant qualifications that they may require.

Contact us at dofekinrossshire@gmail.com or visit www.dofe.org/run/volunteer for more information.

Interested in Guiding?

Girl Guide Troops In Milnathort, Kinross & Portmoak Need Helpers. Volunteer with Girl Guiding and help make a difference to the lives of girls. Be an inspiration for girls and young women and help them realise their full potential and share some unforgettable moments along the way. Register on line at go.girlguiding.org.uk and I will get back to you. If you would like to volunteer and would like a little more information, please just give me a buzz. Call Alison on 07764 750212

Friends of CHAS Kinross

Friends of CHAS Kinross, a local volunteer fundraising group, came together in 2020 to help raise funds for Children's Hospices Across Scotland. Their first fundraising initiative (an online raffle) was a resounding success, raising an amazing £2,500. Led by local entrepreneur Beth Gibson, the group are now looking for new members to help them plan their next fundraiser.

Do you enjoy meeting people? Making a difference? Planning fun and creative events? Then please think about Friends of CHAS – Kinross. They'd love for you to join them.

If you'd like to learn more about the group or are interested in joining, please contact community fundraiser Lyndsay Stobie at: lyndsastobie@chas.org.uk or 07557 370746.

Kinross-shire Volunteer Group and Rural Outreach Scheme

Could you spare a few hours and become a volunteer driver for Kinross-shire Volunteer Group & Rural Outreach Scheme?

KVG/ROS has been operating for over 40 years and delivers a vital service to help the elderly and disabled attend Hospital/Health Centre/Dentist appointments. We are looking for additional drivers to ensure we can meet the demand for this very popular service. If you are interested contact David Aird on 01577 830370 or email: d.aird@outlook.com

Guide Dogs Kinross

We are looking for a volunteer coordinator to take over to help run our small, but perfectly formed fundraising group. Please get in touch.

Also looking for fundraising volunteers to help man our stalls at market or other events. Give an hour or more. You will be made very welcome.

Email she61@hotmail.co.uk

1st Kinross Cubs

1st Kinross Cubs is a part of the 1st Kinross Scout Group and offers the young children of Kinross-shire the opportunity to gain new skills and experiences under the guidance of the Scout Association. Every year the Scout Association help over 450,000 young people in the UK enjoy new adventures; to experience the outdoors, interact with others, gain confidence and have the opportunity to reach their full potential. It's not just young people who can get in on the action. Working alongside our youth members are thousands of adult volunteers, with a huge variety of roles and opportunities available. Why not strengthen your CV while making a real impact on the lives of young people? How much time you give is up to you, and you don't need any previous experience. We currently have several volunteering roles available with the cub section, and whatever you choose, we'll make sure you're properly trained and supported. If you are interested and would like more information about our volunteering opportunities, then please contact Daryl on 01577830346 or email kinrossbeavers@hotmail.co.uk

Kinross in Bloom

Volunteer group which provides and maintains floral displays to enhance the environment in Kinross. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact susan.mitchell50@gmail.com

RSPB Scotland Loch Leven

Volunteer with the Education Team at RSPB Scotland's Loch Leven nature reserve! Become a Schools on Reserves Leader and help us inspire children through outdoor learning.

Share in the excitement as a volunteer and help deliver our education programme to visiting schools, where activities range from hands-on exploration of meadows, woods and ponds to playing environmental games. This opportunity is flexible and allows you to start in a more supporting role if you wish.

Work with a friendly team of staff and volunteers, learn new skills and gain valuable experience in outdoor education.

For more information, contact the Learning Officer on 01577 862355 or email lochleven@rspb.org.uk

Apply here: <https://volunteer.rspb.org.uk/opportunities/26507-schools-on-reserves-leader-loch-leven-2022-03-01>

Fossoway and District Community Council

We have a volunteering opportunity for a young person ideally in the higher years to join us as an associate community council member for the period of 1 year.

The individual would be asked to attend our monthly evening meetings to act as minute taker. They would have an opportunity to see how a community council operates and meet a diverse group of people.

We are also seeking the individuals help in considering new opportunities for us to enhance our engagement with the community especially through the use of social media. This could be in the form of a project led by the individual with outcomes reported to the Community Council. The project could be used as part of their exam submission for subjects such as Business Management or contribute to volunteering for a Duke of Edinburgh award. If you are interested please send us an email – fossoway.cc@gmail.com stating why this would be of interest to you. You can find out more by looking at www.fossoway.org/dcc/about

CHAS

CHAS are looking for volunteers in our Housekeeping, Complementary Therapy and Garden teams at Rachel House, Kinross.

For further information please email volunteering@chas.org.uk

To apply online please visit our website <https://www.chas.org.uk>

AeroSpace Kinross

We are looking for someone to assist with an important aspect of our work that underpins much of the STEM outreach undertaken by Aero Space Kinross.

You would be working with the designated safeguarding officer to review our safeguarding policy, to ensure that it is fit for purpose as we move to the next phase of our development, including the commencement of our second *Build A Plane* project. The work will entail:

- A review of our safeguarding policy and arrangements
- The creation of an updated policy and monitoring procedure that will support the organisation's intended expansion.
- The construction of a training and routine refresher regime for staff and volunteers

If you would like to join our team and if this is an area of our work you feel you could contribute to, please email me on karen@aerospacekinross.com with brief details of the way in which your skills and experience could assist us in moving this important project forward.

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.



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 The Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining

The Wood Technology Society
 A Division of the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining

NatureScot Loch Leven NNR



WE HAVE MADE IT through winter, folks! We are now into meteorological spring! Although March weather can be a bit of a gamble, will we see a mild start to spring? Or a 2018 beast from the east March... time will tell. The wildlife are all geared up for spring. Look out for ducks pairing up and displaying, mute swan holding territory and the mighty grey heron which can be on eggs in late February!

A fantastic early spring milestone, is the song of the skylark. This beautiful song is one of the greatest and is certainly one of my favourites. It is a very intense, and chaotic song with lots of whistles, chirrups and rolling notes. Often you hear the song as the bird ascends, beating their wings extremely fast (12 times per second) until they are tiny spec in the sky and you can just make out the faint, chaotic song. Just wonderful! Skylark are ground nesters and often nest in field margins, often farmers can leave 'skylark plots' which are areas of grassland that aren't cultivated in the middle of the field. Look out for these birds around agricultural areas.

I often see my first butterflies in March. Usually this is a scraggly small tortoiseshell or peacock that has spent the winter hibernating. March is a good time to spot more uncommon butterflies, like the comma. It's a great time to hunt for early butterflies as there aren't many flowers for them to feed on. Look out for lesser celendine, daffodils, hazel flowers and winter aconites in flower in March!

We will start to see our first summer arrivals in March too! Late March can be good for the first osprey arriving. They have spent the winter in West Africa and start their migration to Europe in March. If we are lucky, we can also spot the first hirundines to arrive to the UK (sand martin and swallows). Sand martin are normally the first seen. Last year I saw my first sand martin of the year on 23 March. They also migrate from West Africa and spend the breeding season in Europe.

Look out for tree bumblebee if the weather is mild. These recent colonisers to UK soils are now a frequent sight in Scotland, even though they were only first recorded in 2013. They are easily distinguished by their orange thorax and white tail.

Latest wildlife highlights from the reserve include; drake smew, brambling, 10 greater scaup, nuthatches, wintering green sandpiper, 10 shelduck and a short-eared owl.

Do keep on the lookout for the first butterflies on the wing, first osprey fishing, first sand martin or swallow soaring and do let us know your wildlife sightings!

As always, keep an eye on the blog (Loch Leven WordPress), Loch Leven NNR Facebook page and the Loch Leven NNR Instagram for getting in touch and for regular updates.

Enjoy and embrace the start of spring, brighter days are ahead!

*Simon Ritchie
Nature Reserve Officer.*

Weather



Recent Weather Reports From Kinross

January 2023

Total Rainfall	115.8mm/4.63in	
Heaviest Fall	18.2mm/0.72in	(3 Jan)
Total Sunshine	60.9 hrs	
Sunniest Day	6.5 hrs	(30 Jan)
Min Temp Average	-2.5°C	
Lowest Temp	-9.2°C	(15 Jan)
Max Temp Average	6.38°C	
Highest Temp	11.2°C	(10 Jan)

Spring On The Wing



Fieldfare by Tony, Flickr

AS WE BEGIN THE transition out of winter, it's amazing to see and hear so many signs of spring starting to appear. With delicate snowdrops sprouting up along the pathway and the sound of many birds singing as they warm up their voices in preparation for the breeding season. We have been hearing the chirpy sound of skylarks out of the reserves, as well as a lot of different tits, wren, song thrush and goldcrest in the woodland. In terms of sightings, we have been seeing a good number of wigeon and teal in the pools and there have been a few pintails about too. A couple of egrets have also been showing well in front of the hides which has definitely been worth a watch. Other highlights this month include a large flock of curlew, fieldfare and yellowhammer along the Heritage Trail and some sightings of a short-eared owl and hen harrier were seen slightly earlier in the year. Out on the reserve our warden team have been carrying out work to try and get ready for the fast-approaching breeding season. They have spent time topping some rush to ensure the nest-

ing habitat for lapwing is in good condition, repairing our predator fence, brush cutting, sowing wildflower seeds in the meadow, controlling gorse along the loch shore and creating some temporary pools for wintering ducks and waders to utilise. Although it seems busy now, this is just the start of what is to come to make sure our lovely lapwings are happy.

In the world of events, we are looking forward to our second Optics Weekend on Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 March, 10am-4pm. Why not pop along and speak to our experts about what binoculars and telescopes would work best for you and see if you can spot any 'Nature Wows' this year?

For daily adventures, why not come along and see what you can discover in our ponds by hiring a pond dipping kit for just £3? Or why not go on an exploration with our explorer backpacks for only £3 and see what birds and beasties you can find on our spotter sheets?

Did you know that we also offer adventures for schools with our Schools on Reserves programmes? From discover-

ing pond and land minibeast, to learning all about the adaptations of our brilliant birds and how to use our senses to work out which season we are in – our hands-on, curriculum linked adventures are perfect for early and primary years! We also offer a range of National 3/4/5, Higher and Advanced Higher programmes for secondary school too to give them an opportunity to learn how we use studies and monitoring in our work. For more information, check out www.rspb.org.uk/fun-and-learning/for-teachers/school-trips/loch-leven/.

Looking to join the team and be involved as a volunteer? We are also currently looking for a Schools on Reserve Leader to help out with our school sessions and a Creative Volunteer to help us create some amazing interpretation. For more information about these roles, check out www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/volunteering-fundraising/volunteer/.

To find out what else is happening on the reserve, follow us on Facebook at @RSPBLochLeven.

Freya Playford & Darran Dixon

Farming

IT'S A SOURCE OF pride to me that I can shine the spotlight on others when writing this farming column so I'm delighted to give Dora Smith of Holton Farm, Milnathort the focus for this month.

Dora met me for a cup of tea to chat about all things farming and tell me of her new role as President of Kinross-shire Agricultural Society (KAS), which runs Kinross Show. Before we'd even got the tea poured we were comparing notes on lambing tips and how to catch and coup a ewe safely, now that we're not as fleet of foot. We both studied agriculture at college, albeit a while ago, and agreed lambing is a favourite time.

After over 20 years as a receptionist for the local vets which fitted round bringing up her children, Jennifer, Gregor and Bruce, Dora then started up on her own, offering her diverse set of skills to support farms and estates. 'Many rural businesses only need extra assistance during the seasonal peaks, so I set up Scotsmiths Rural to help them at these busy times', she says. 'During winter, I'm up in the Ochils at least two or three days a week, always with my springer spaniel, Craig, (aka Princess!) or Paddy lab we work as part of a team helping local gamekeepers. During the rest of the year, I'm usually outside or helping out at a local kennels, so I get plenty of fresh air and time spent with dogs,' she adds.

It's no surprise Dora has such an affinity with the countryside when you hear her tales of growing up on a hill farm on the Cleish Hills. 'My Dad came from Northumberland to Scotland to Shieldbank at Saline to help his uncles at lambing time in 1934 and never left, later taking on their hill farm at Outh in his own right, his priorities being good husbandry, traditional livestock farming, herding and good dogs. Everything was out wintered, the Blackface ewes were bred pure and we crossed our small herd of Galloway cows with a Whitebred Shorthorn to produce hardy, growthy Blue Grey calves, it was a traditional hill farm and was a great place for my brother and I to grow up.' She continues, 'Dad trained a lot of sheep dogs, competing regularly at trials such as Glendevon and Kinross, so my early years were spent with collies and their pups, and as I grew so did my responsibilities. I'd often be sent out on a pony to check the ewes, I'd always make sure we climbed right to the top of the park hill, from there I could see the whole of Kinross-shire, a wonderful view and it always seemed to be a bit sunnier looking across to Loch Leven.'

It was joining Kinross Junior Agricultural Club that led to



Dora. Photo by Tricia Greer

Dora's initial involvement with KAS when she was invited to join the show committee in 1987 as the young farmers' representative. 'Being tasked to come up with the main ring entertainment we devised games to round off the day in front of Kinross House.' Since then she tells me she has joined her husband, Dan, helping out in the sheep sections, firstly with the Texel breed, covering for then President, Willie Stevenson, followed by a stint overseeing the Shetland section. In 2006, the Arts and Crafts Marquee was launched, a few years later, Dora moved to co-ordinate the traders and enjoyed her time in this area. With her good friend, Lynn Ballantyne, the duo introduced a gun dog scurry, this is an exciting dash for a canvas dummy, the winner being the dog with the fastest retrieve, it was popular with all breeds and showcased an often unseen part of rural life.

Dora's experience spans all aspects of farming and the countryside and she concludes our chat by explaining this is how she hopes to shape Kinross Show.

"I love to see the community of Kinross-shire coming together at Kinross Show, the lives and livelihoods of our area are intertwined and that's why its so important we can all share a fabulous day out."

Kinross Show will take place on Sat 12 August at RSPB Loch Leven. More information can be found at kinross-show.co.uk

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Gardening

Spring Greetings!

WELL, THAT'S ANOTHER WINTER almost over. This time last year I wrote this first column of the year while it was snowing – it's a bright crisp morning here, just what you want for late winter/early spring.

I'm already underway with the sowing of some seeds for this year. I know it's early, but some plants take longer than others to mature and grow in our fairly short summers. So far I have chilis, snapdragons, brachycombe and carnations – first time growing carnations, so wish me luck!. All of the seed packets say to sow from January to March, so I figured February was a safe bet.

After the problems I had with germination of seeds last year, I decided to invest in a bag of seed compost this year. It seems to be working well but I have a question. I usually tell when trays need watering by the weight of the tray, but seed compost seems to have sand in it so it's heavier. So... how do I tell when they need watering? It's a dilemma, I may have to re-sow a couple of things due to over watering but hey, we're constantly learning, right?

Some of you may remember I also had problems with my baskets last year and vowed to get some decent compost this year. Luckily, I had a birthday in January and requested 10 bags of Miracle Gro compost. I have high hopes, but we'll see how it goes.

This year I've decided to go for plug plants for my baskets and pots. I got in early enough to get some good deals and they should start arriving the second half of March. They'll just need potting up into the greenhouse, watered and fed and planted out at the beginning of June.



Snapdragons by Maia C, Flickr

I also have lots of seeds for the taller flower bed plants. This year I've gone for phacelia, dill (the flowers are gorgeous in vases), sunflowers, nicotiana, rudbeckia, briza grass, corncockle, cornflowers and cerinthe. If successful, these will also be used for cut flowers too. As usual, Hig-gledy Seeds are the source of cut flower seeds... it's one guy and his dog who live on a narrowboat, what's not to like?

I've also decided this year to completely dig out one of the borders in my front garden... the existing plants have weeds growing through them and it's just a bit of a mess. I love the tubs that Milnathort in Bloom have at the Cross that have grass-

es and lavender in them so I have decided this is the way to go. Both plants are in the greenhouse ready for me

to get my backside in gear and start digging – I'll keep you updated. I'll also need to empty a couple of tubs of lily bulbs as I noticed they were a bit overcrowded last year. No, I didn't label them for easy identification but I 'think' I remember which ones they were!

So, the next few weeks will be a mixture of clearing out dead stuff from last year, sowing seeds (probably mid-March) and digging. Happy days! Have fun whatever you're doing – and welcome to the new growing year!

Teresa Stirling

Angela McCormack Civil Celebrant



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The Sky Above Us



THANKS TO READER CAT SCOTT for sending us this photo of colourful Nacreous clouds above Kinross. According to the MET office, 'Nacreous clouds

form in the lower stratosphere over polar regions when the sun is just below the horizon. The ice particles that form nacreous clouds are much smaller than

those that form more common clouds. These smaller particles scatter light in a different way, which is what creates the distinctive luminescent appearance.'

Snowmoon *taken by Alan Ruiz at Kirkgate Park.*



ALAN TOLD THE NEWSLETTER, 'My camera is a Fuji xt30 with 70-300mm zoom lens at 300mm with a 1.4x tele-converter so 420mm focal length.

'The Moon is tracked with the *Move Shoot Move* star tracker to keep it in the centre of the frame. Once aligned with the North Star (Polaris) using a laser a total of 250 24Mp images are taken using 1/60s shutter speed and an aperture of f13. This gives about 11Gb of data.

'The individual images are then rated using a software package called PIPP to pick the best and clearest images and filter out any poor images. The best images as decided by PIPP are then stacked together in a software package called AutoStakkert. This aligns all of the images before taking the best pixels of each and combining them into one large image.

'That image is then taken into Adobe Photoshop for post processing editing to highlight the colours, enhance the details and contrast etc. The final image is a clear and detailed photo which shows the moons surface and also the minerals on the surface of the moon show up as different colours.

Kinross-shire Centre

Scottish Charity SC004968

64 High Street
Kinross
KY13 8AJ

Weekly Programme For March 2023

Monday	Hearing Aid Drop-In Clinic (6 Mar ONLY)	10am-12pm
	Exercise Class	11.30am
	Games: Indoor curling, quizzes, Scrabble, dominoes	1.30pm
	'Stride for Life' Walking Group	2.00pm
Tuesday	Carers' Cafe (14 Mar ONLY)	10am-12pm
	P&K Visions (7 & 21 Mar ONLY)	10-11.45am
	Exercise Class	11.30am
	Musical Bingo (14 Mar ONLY)	1.30pm
	Games: quizzes, Scrabble, dominoes	1.30pm
Wednesday	Church Service	11.15am
	Reminiscence Group Garden Room (1 Mar ONLY)	
	Games: quizzes, Scrabble, dominoes	1.30pm
	Craft Group (TBC)	1.30pm
Thursday	Interactive Games	11.30am
	Games: Indoor curling, quizzes, Scrabble	1.15pm
	Art Group	1.30pm
	Exercise Class with Kenny from Live Active	2.00pm
Friday	Football Memories (TBC)	11am-12.00pm
	Exercise Group	11.30am
	Bingo	1.30pm
	Games: dominoes, Scrabble etc	1.30pm



1.30pm

Film shows • Cards
Dominoes • Art Class
Exercises • Chiropody
Trips • Daily Papers

All activities subject to change.

KINROSS CENTRE

64 HIGH STREET KINROSS KY13 8AJ

TEL/FAX: 01577 863869; Email: kinrossdaycentre@outlook.com

COFFEE BAR OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC from 8.30am - 3.30pm

Dominoes; Exercises; Lunches Daily

ANDY BAIRD LOGS
LOCALLY SOURCED AND FULLY TRACEABLE
HARDWOOD & SOFTWOOD LOGS
TEL: 07802 914 976 (TEXT IS BEST)
www.andybairdlogs.co.uk
email: info@andybairdlogs.co.uk

J&D Funeral Directors
We care for your loved ones
7 South St, Milnathort, KY13 9XA
Personal 24 hour service.
01577 208070
jdfuneraldirectors@gmail.com
www.jdfuneraldirectors.co.uk

Kinross-shire Churches Together



Kinross Parish Church

Church of Scotland (Charity no SC012555)

*Following Christ | Spreading the Word |
Serving the Community*

10 Station Road, Kinross KY13 8TG

Website: www.kinrossparishchurch.org

Facebook: Kinross Parish Church of Scotland

YouTube: Kinross Parish Worship

Instagram: kpcscotland

E-mail: office@kinrossparishchurch.org

Office Tel: (01577) 862570

The Church Office is open 10am – 12noon, Monday and Friday. Otherwise operating remotely. Leave a phone message or email.

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

Assistant Minister: Rev Austin Wicks

Ordained Local Minister: Rev Margaret Michie

Session Clerk: Jaffrey Weir

Contact the Church Office for our weekly email of events and Zoom details.

All events below are in the church unless otherwise indicated:

Regular Services and Events:

Sundays

9.15am Choir Practice.

10.30am: Morning Service, gathering song about 10.25. **Arrangements for young people**, which are intended to be flexible: children can meet at the Church Centre from 10.15, teens start at the service and then can leave for the Church Centre. All return for the end of the service. Children and teens can stay for the service if that suits best. Within the church there is a corner for parents with babies and toddlers or they can use the Upper Room and follow the service from there.

Refreshments and Fairtrade stall after the service most weeks.

Sunday morning services are also available live on YouTube and Facebook. Thereafter available to view on YouTube, Facebook and the church's website. Listen by phone on 01577 528270, or request a CD from the church office.

6pm: Sunday Evening Prayer, on Zoom

6pm: Crossfire at the church centre. Age P7 upwards.

Monday

2-4pm: Cosy Space, now 2-4pm: Church open as a warm community space. Pop in for a cuppa, chat and board games.

8pm: House Group – Bible study and fellowship

Tuesdays

10-11.30am: Stepping Stones for babies, toddlers and carers (now every Tuesday)

2.30pm: House Group

Wednesdays

11.15am Midweek Service, at the church centre.

1.30pm: Craft Group

7.45pm: Men's House Group

8.00pm: Women's House Group

Thursdays

10.30am: House Group

11-12noon Table Talk – Chat and coffee on Zoom

Fridays

2-4pm: Cosy Space, now 2-4pm: Church open as a community warm space. Pop in for a cuppa, chat and board games.

6pm +: Boys Brigade & Girls Association in the church centre.



OTHER SERVICES AND EVENTS:

February

Sun 26 2.30-4.30pm: Ceilidh at Milnathort Town Hall. All-age informal ceilidh. **Tickets: £2 adults, £1 children/concessions**

March

Fri 3 World Day of Prayer:

2.00pm Kinross Church Centre

7.00pm Kinross Parish Church

Sat 4 10-12 noon: Fairtrade Coffee Morning at Church Centre. Part of Fairtrade Fortnight (27 Feb - 12 Mar)

Sun 5 10.30am: Morning Service inc **Quarterly Communion**. No refreshments or Fairtrade stall after the service

Mon 6 8.00am: Silent Meditation

Sun 12 2.30-4pm: Let's Sing: All welcome but aimed in particular at those living with dementia. Tea and a sing-song.

Tues 14 7pm: Guild, at Church Centre.

Thu 16 9pm: Evening service of **Compline**

Sat 18 11.00am: All Friends Together
For adults with learning disabilities.

Sun 26 10.30am: Morning Service inc **Annual Stated Meeting**
2.00pm: Church Family Walk at Pillars of Hercules, Falkland

Tues 28 7pm: Guild, at Church Centre.

Fossoway, St Serf's & Devonside Church

Church of Scotland

(Charity number SC013157)

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

www.cleishandfossowaychurches.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 6 miles from Kinross. Come and join us, we would love to meet you.

Updates and changes to the dates below can be found on our church website <https://cleishandfossowaychurches.org.uk>



March 2023

5 March

9.45am Sunday Morning Worship
Refreshments and the Fairtrade Stall
will be available after the service

12 March

9.45am Sunday Morning Worship

19 March

9.45am Sunday Morning Worship

26 March

9.45am Sunday Morning Worship
including Stated Annual meeting

Refresh Thursday

Every Thursday 2-4pm in the Church Hall
Join us for a friendly blether with delicious home baking,
tea and coffee, all are welcome

Board Game Group

The group will be meeting on
Wed 15th March 6.30-7.30pm

Dungeons and Dragons Group

Starting on **9th March** this group will be meeting
every Thursday evening 6.30-9.30pm

Church Information

Film Night

Fri 3 Mar 7.30pm in the Church Hall

Elvis

The life of American music icon Elvis Presley, from his childhood to becoming a rock'n'roll and movie star in the 1950s

Please join us for the film, some refreshments and a blether, all are welcome

Fossoway Babies and Toddlers

The group meets every Friday 9.30-11.30am, in Fossoway Church Hall. Join us for snacks, play and blether.

Fossoway Creative Crafts Group

Meets on Monday evenings from 6.30pm in the Church Hall. Please bring your own craft and join us.

Fossoway House Group

Our House Group is now meeting every Thurs evening at 7.30pm. For more details please contact Debbie Hill 01577 842268.

Fossoway Youth Group

This group is for those aged 11-19. Please join us on Sunday 12 Mar, 7-8.30pm.

Men's Breakfast Group

Our next meeting will be on 18 Mar at 8.30am. Come and join us for a full cooked breakfast, followed by a video on the theme of *Approaching Easter* and a discussion.

All are welcome at any of our meetings and services. If you would like any more information please contact the Rev Lis Stenhouse 01577 842128.

Hall Bookings

If you wish to book our hall or meeting rooms please contact Mrs E Black 01259 742046

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

Updates and changes to the dates below can be found on our church website : www.cleishandfossowaychurches.org.uk

We are very pleased to announce that our church building is open and we look forward to welcoming you to worship with us in Cleish Church.

March 2023

Sunday 5 Mar

11.15am: Morning Worship. Traidcraft Stall.

Sunday, 12 Mar

11.15am: Morning Worship

Sunday, 19 Mar

11.15am: Morning Worship

Sunday, 26 Mar

11.15am: Morning Worship followed by Stated Annual Meeting.

Please note: Refreshments are served in the Young Room every Sunday after worship



Orwell and Portmoak

Parish Church

Church of Scotland

(Charity number SC015523)

Interim Moderator – Rev Alan Reid

Telephone 01577 862952

Email: areid@churchofscotland.org.uk

Locum – Rev Dr Robert Calvert

Sunday Worship, and Junior Church: All children welcome.



10.00am Portmoak Church

11.30am Orwell Church

Please note that from now on, all joint family services with the Praise Band will be held on the first Sunday of each month, except for January, in Orwell Church at 10:30am.

Messy Church will meet on **Sat 25 Feb** from 4-6pm at Orwell Church with all the usual crafts, fun, and food.

Dates For Your Diary

2 Mar Ashley House Service at 2pm

5 Mar Joint Family Service in Orwell Church at 10:30am
No morning service at Portmoak Church.

6 Mar Knitwitz meets from 2-3.30pm in Orwell Hall

12 Mar Communion Services in both churches at the usual times

17 Mar Tea and a Blether in Orwell Hall from 1.30-3.30pm

20 Mar Knitwitz meets from 2-3.30pm in Orwell Hall

31 Mar Oasis Ladies Group meets in Portmoak New Room from 10.15-12 noon

Anyone needing a warm space is welcome at any of the above events on church premises, or in the Church Office during opening hours from Tuesday to Friday, completely free of charge.

The Church Office and Shop is open from 10am-12pm, from Monday to Friday.

Office email: orwellandportmoakchurch@gmail.com

Website: orwellportmoakchurch.org.uk

St Paul's Scottish Episcopal Church

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Communion)

Muir, Kinross, KY13 8AY

Fr David Mackenzie Mills, Rector.

Tel: 01577 863795

Email: frdavidkinross@gmail.com

You can also find us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/stpaulsepiscopalchurchkinross

Our Sunday morning services begin at 10am, unless otherwise advertised. These are usually Sung Eucharists (worship with Communion). Our church bell rings from 9.45am.

We will provide regular updates on the website concerning our schedule of worship. Please do refer to it regularly.

Although we don't insist that people wear face coverings, you are very welcome to do so if that helps you feel safer in public spaces. We look forward to seeing you!

Our Meeting Room is available for hire. Please see the separate advertisement for more details.

Our services are also broadcast from the church building as livestreams via Zoom and Facebook Live. Thereafter, recordings of these services can be viewed on our Facebook page. The Liturgy outline can be followed on the website via the seasonal Sung Eucharist e-booklets and the weekly pewsheets.

Please be assured of our prayers and intercessions.

May the road rise up to meet you.

May the wind be always at your back.

May the sun shine warm upon your face;

the rains fall soft upon your fields and, until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

Events and Services in March

Sunday 5 (2nd Sunday in Lent)

10am: Penitential Sung Eucharist

Wednesday 8

10am: Midweek Meditative Holy Communion

8pm: Compline (on 'Zoom'). (Please contact the Rector for the Meeting ID and password.)



Acknowledgements

WARDROPE (nee Hunter)

The family of the late **Margaret Helen Wardrope**, (nee Hunter) would like to thank those who paid their respects at Kinross Parish Church, and the committal at Perth Crematorium where the collection of £500 raised has been donated to Alzheimer Scotland.

Thank you also to Rev Alan Reid and Stewart Funeral Directors for their support and professionalism.

DRYSDALE (nee Hamilton)

Formerly Hatchbank, Balado, Cleish and latterly Kinnesswood.

John, Robert, James, Anne and the rest of the family would like to thank everyone for the kind expressions of sympathy cards, flowers and Facebook messages following the death of our very much loved mum **Sheila**.

Special thanks to Ward 4 and Cornhill Macmillan Centre Perth Royal Infirmary and to Dr Dalgety, CCATS Nurses and District Nurses at Loch Leven Health Centre.

Thanks also to Stewart Funeral Directors Ltd Kinross, Elinor Craig Cleish for the beautiful flowers, The Rev Robert Calvert for his kind and uplifting words, The Green Hotel for the delicious food and to all who paid their last respects at Perth Crematorium. We raised the generous sum of £816.70 for Cornhill Macmillan Centre, Perth.

Sunday 12 3rd Sunday in Lent

10am: Penitential Sung Eucharist

Wednesday 15

10am Midweek Meditative Holy Communion

8pm: Compline (on 'Zoom'). *(Please contact the Rector for the Meeting ID and password.)*

Sunday 19 3rd Sunday in Lent (Refreshment Sunday)

10am: Sung Eucharist with distribution of flowers

Wednesday 22

10am Midweek Meditative Holy Communion

8pm: Compline (on 'Zoom'). *(Please contact the Rector for the Meeting ID and password.)*

Sunday 26 The Beginning of Passiontide

10am Penitential Sung Eucharist with 'In Conversation' with Julie Ramsay (The One Stop Shop in Perth for Adult Autism Support)

Wednesday 29

10am Midweek Meditative Holy Communion

8pm: Compline (on 'Zoom'). *(Please contact the Rector for the Meeting ID and password.)*

Events and Services in April

Sunday 2 PALM SUNDAY

10am: Liturgy of Palms (Gather in the Meeting Room)
Liturgy of the Passion (with dramatised reading of the Passion according to Matthew.)

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/

For the full parish timetable see the newsletter section on the parish website: www.catholickinross.com

Obituary

BILLY SNEDDON, aged 82, formerly of Green park Kinross, passed away peacefully on Saturday 28 January at his home in Kelty. His funeral was on Wednesday 15 February, 3.45pm at Kirkcaldy crematorium.

Billy was born on 13 June 1941, third child of John and Cecelia Sneddon of 27 Alexander Drive, Kinross, where he grew up with his brothers John, Robert & Alan and his sister Catherine. After a few years in the RAF in Cyprus he came back to Kinross and in 1962 married Amelia Purdue (Emma). They are together now, at peace.

He is survived by his sister Catherine, his 3 children, Hazel, Ian and William, his six grandchildren, Amber, Charlotte, Jason, Cammy, Christie and Jordan and his great grandson Rory.

Best known for his gardening skills, he won the Best Kept Garden in Kinross several times for his parents' garden in Alexander Drive. He will be sadly missed by all his family.



Loch Leven Church

(Charity No: SC049050)

info@lochlevenchurch.com



Loch Leven Church meets at Loch Leven

Community Campus, at 10:30am each Sunday.

Our sermon series from January to March is 'Putting Jesus in His Place' from Colossians and we'll be hosting the following services in March:

5 Mar: Proclaimers of Jesus (Colossians 4:2-18)
Gavin Matthews (Solas)

12 Mar: Vision Sunday/AGM

19 Mar: Guest Speaker – Andrea Wigglesworth (Vital Connexions)

26 Mar: Communion Sunday – Marc Heath (LLC)

Everyone, of all ages, is very welcome. To know more about us, please visit our Facebook page 'We Love Loch Leven', or our website www.lochlevenchurch.com.

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.

Kinross Gospel Hall

8 Montgomery Street, Kinross

www.kinrossgospelhall.info Tel 07818 050785

Gospel Meeting Sundays 4pm. **Friends & Neighbours Teas** 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month. **Toddlers' Group** Thurs 9.30-11am; **Explorers** (Primary School) 6-7pm (both groups term time only). We look forward to seeing old friends and welcoming new ones. Everyone welcome.

COFFEE & CHAT GROUPS

Group	Location	Who Is It For?	What?	Day	Time	Contact
Tea And A Blether	Portmoak/ Orwell Church	Anyone	Cuppa and a chat	Third Fri of month	1.30-3.30pm	Cath Stewart
SPARKs	Men's Shed	Adults with a disability	Activities/ blether /cuppa	Thurs	1-3pm	John Garden
Café Refresh	Fossoway Parish Church, Crook of Devon	Anyone	Tea/ coffee/ baking and chat	Thurs	2-4pm	Janet Harper
Potager Garden	(winter) The Kirklands	Anyone with an interest in gardening	Coffee meeting	First Mon in month	10.30am- 12.30pm	Amanda James <i>amandajames1577@gmail.com</i>
Fossoway Creative Crafters	Fossoway Parish Church, Crook of Devon	Anyone, bring along some craft work	Chat and a cuppa	Mon	6.30-8.30pm	
Local Bloom Group/Allotment Committee						Amanda James (as above)
Collective Of The Neurodiverse (COTN)	Portmoak/ Orwell Church	Those who are Neurodiverse	Socialise and find mutual empowerment, cuppa and 'eats'	Mon	7-8:30pm	David Mackenzie Mills <i>cotncommittee@gmail.com</i>
Kinross Centre	Kinross Centre, High Street	Geared towards the retired community	Daily lunches and activities for senior citizens	Mon-Fri	daytime	Nan Cook 01577 863869 <i>kinrossdaycentre@outlook.com</i>
Kinross & District Men's Shed	15 Swansacre	Open to mem- bers and visitors	Promote skill sharing, informal learning, social inclu- sion and well-being	Mon, Wed, Sat	10am-1pm	<i>kdms.secretary@outlook.com</i>
Social Group For People With Visual Impairment	Kinross Centre	Anyone with a visual impairment and their carers	Refreshments and a chat, occasional visitors working in the community	Tuesdays	10am-	Lidia Dye 07900 707542 <i>lidia.dye@ visionpk.org.uk</i>

Enquire: Are you looking for information about your child's rights to support in school?

Contact **Enquire**, the national advice and information service for additional support for learning.

Enquire offer a confidential telephone helpline and online enquiry service, and much more. For more information go to www.enquire.org.uk

LET'S SING

Our next meeting is 12 March. Our April meeting is on Sunday 16 April (not Sunday 9 April).

Usual time 2.30pm to 4pm in Kinross Parish Church.

Please come along to an afternoon of singing and a cuppa. Everyone is welcome including anyone who has dementia and their carers.



LOCAL CHEMIST INFORMATION

Rowlands Pharmacy, Kinross

Mon – Fri 9am-6pm
Saturday 9am-5pm
Tel 01577 862422



Davidson's Chemist, Milnathort

Mon – Fri: 9am-6pm (Open lunchtime)
Saturday: 9am-12.30pm
Tel: 01577 862219

Sundays: Nearest open pharmacy: Asda, Dunfermline



Light Up Kinross Quiz Night

Over 14s only

Masonic Hall, Kinross
(With Bar)

Friday 24 March 2023

Tables Of 4 Admission £20
(£5 A Head)

Doors Open At 7pm

Quiz To Start At 7.30pm

*For more information or to book a
table email Mbs21@Btinternet.com*



Better Place to Live Fair

Kinross is a **thriving** community!

Join us at the **Better Place to Live Fair** for a great day celebrating all that makes this a wonderful place to live.

25th MARCH 2023
10 - 2 FREE ENTRY
Get involved!

local clubs
activities
live music
stalls

BETTER PLACE TO LIVE FAIR
Saturday 25th March 2023
10am-2pm
Loch Leven
Community Campus
Muirs
Kinross

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 Garden Group

2022/23 Season

Thursday 9 March at 2pm

Kinross Parish Church

Gavin MacNaughton from MacPlants
'Meconopsis and autumn flowering
gentians'

All welcome to join us.



Providing a safe environment over warm drinks and 'eats' for those who identify as neurodiverse to socialize and find mutual empowerment.

Providing an environment that is as inclusive, comfortable and welcoming as possible to those with differing needs, including those who are non-verbal (including dimmed lighting and a craft table.)

A space to offer personal experience and learn new ways of sharing stories of living as neurodiverse people in a majority neurotypical world.

Mondays 7pm – 8.30pm
Family Room, Orwell Church, Milnathort

*To find out more, please contact
David Mackenzie Mills or Margaret West
(COTNCommittee@gmail.com)*

MOBILE LIBRARY 1, 15 March

(Fortnightly, Wednesdays)

Kinnesswood (Opposite Shop)	09.30 – 10:00
Portmoak Hall	10:05 – 10:20
Scotlandwell (Leslie Road)	10:25 – 10:50
Levenmouth Farm	11:00 – 11:20
Hatchbank Rd (Gairneybank, Kinross)	11:40 – 12:00
Powmill (Mill Gardens)	13:20 – 13:40
Crook of Devon (Village Inn)	13:45 – 14:45
Carnbo (Pitcairnie Lane)	15:00 – 15:30
Whyte Court (Kinross)	15:45 – 16:15

Contact us by phone on 01577 867205
or by email at lochlevenlibrary@culturepk.org.uk.

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

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

In very rare circumstances it may be necessary to change a deadline at short notice. Check the *Newsletter* Facebook Page for the latest information.

Issue	Deadline	Publication Date
April	Friday 17 March	Saturday 1 April
May	Friday 14 April	Saturday 29 April

BANK OF SCOTLAND MOBILE BANKING

Service operates fortnightly on a
Tuesday 10am to 1pm

7, 21 March 2023

At the Green Hotel, 2 Muirs, Kinross

www.bankofscotland.co.uk/contactus/mobile-branch/perth.html#kinross

Perth & Kinross School Term Dates

Term ends: Friday 31 March
Spring Holiday: Monday 3 April - Friday 14 April

Perth Citizens Advice Bureau

Perth CAB can help you. Our advice is free, confidential, impartial and independent.

Advice line: **01738 450580**

Appointment line: **01738 450581**

Clients can access advice in the following ways:

- **By calling us** on 01738 450580 between 10am and 3pm any weekday. If the query is quick for us to deal with, we will do so and if it requires more time or research then we will arrange for an adviser to get back to them either via e-mail or with a telephone appointment.
- **Webchat** from our Perth CAB website www.perthcab.org.uk/ this is available from 10am each weekday, currently until 1pm but we hope to expand these hours soon
- **Via e-mail** to advice@perthcab.org.uk

Debt and Money Advice Service

Perth CAB has a team of specialist debt advisers. Advice is free, confidential, impartial and independent. To talk to a specialist debt adviser call 01738 450590 or email David Ogston (Senior Debt Adviser) using the following email address: David.Ogston@Perthcab.casonline.org.uk



MUSIC IN DOLLAR



We will have our next concert on the afternoon of Sunday, 19 March 2023 at 2.45pm in the Gibson Hall, Dollar Academy, FK14 7DU.

Our entertainment will be provided by the 'The All Sorts' who are an all-singing, all-female acapella singing group, drawn from Scottish Opera performers who simply wanted 'an excuse to hang out more'. Hailing from the UK and North America, they range from opera to Motown and lieder to Disney, combining classic barbershop and classical arrangements. They began their closely harmonising adventure in late 2017 <https://www.theallsorts.com>.

Tickets are £12 – pay on the door or on the website www.musicindollar.org.uk. Anyone in full-time education goes free.

Situations Vacant

Complete Look

Part-Time/Holiday Cover Receptionist

Our team is expanding! We are looking for a receptionist to join our friendly team at The Complete Look.

We are the longest established beauty salon in Kinross and look after thousands of happy clients every year. Our reception team are the face of The Complete Look and we are looking for a friendly, outgoing, caring and enthusiastic person to join us.

You should be computer literate (experience with an online booking system would be an advantage but not essential as full training will be provided) and be willing to work a range of day, evening and Saturday morning shifts. Duties will include welcoming clients, cleaning and setting up treatment rooms, stock management, payments, product and voucher sales and other general duties as required.

Initially, hours will include Wednesday but other days may be added as required and additional hours will be available to cover staff holidays.

Salary will be based on skills and experience. Please contact thecompletelook@btconnect.com with your CV and a covering letter explaining why you would be perfect for our team.

Loch Leven Community Campus

Campus Management Assistant

24 hours per week

Closing date: 26 February 2023

Loch Leven Community Campus is a hub for public services in Kinross and the surrounding area. As a Campus Management Assistant, you will provide business support services for campus activities, process bookings and support the work of Kinross High School.

This is a fast paced and varied role but is rewarding as your work supports the young people who attend the school and our campus users.

You should have experience of delivering excellent customer service, data management, the use of Microsoft office and have the ability to problem solve. Training will be provided.

The campus operates until 10pm weekdays and from 8am to 5pm on weekends and this role requires flexibility to cover the full range of opening hours.

The successful candidates will be team players who can also work using their own initiative. You should have a positive 'can-do' attitude, with great organisational skills and have the ability to prioritise your workload.

Previous experience of working in an office environment is preferred.

If you would like any more information regarding these vacancies, please contact Lynne Prentice, Business Manager on 01577 867100.

Apply online at www.myjobscotland.gov.uk

PERTH TOASTMASTERS

is a local non-profit community organisation. If you are interested in practising, developing, and growing your public speaking ability in a safe and structured environment, then please visit

www.perthtoastmasters.org

Items for Sale

Portable gas heater £50

Only used a few times to test. Complete with butane regulator and a 15kg calor butane cylinder which is almost full.

Camping stove £25

Used condition in working order. Complete with regulator and a Camping Gaz 2.75kg cylinder (907-type) (empty).

Electric 2kW convector heater (two identical) each £10

Switchable heat settings 750W, 1.25kW and 2kW and thermostat. Two years old and rarely used.

Dumbbells £20

Two bars with with metal weights. 1.25kg x 6 and 0.5kg x 6.

Ikea single bed Free to uplift

Wood effect frame with slats. Requires assembly.

Seller details for above 5 items:

John Brady 01577 842296 jb100b@btinternet.com

STEPPING STONES

Now meeting **WEEKLY** in Kinross Parish Church 10-11.30am.



Stepping Stones is for parents, carers, babies and toddlers.

ALL WELCOME



Guardians of our Rivers needs you!

Do you have a couple of hours a month to help your local river?

Become a certified citizen scientist, join a local group and help:

- Protect the water quality of your river.
- Learn about the importance of monitoring invertebrate life in the water and how this can reveal the health of your river.
- Provide an early warning for any pollution events.

Buglife are providing **free training and support** through our new Scottish Hub!

Contact: Rebecca.lewis@buglife.org.uk to find out about joining a group near you.



www.buglife.org.uk @BuglifeScotland

Buglife - The Invertebrate Conservation Trust is a company limited by guarantee, Registered in England at Allia Future Business Centre, London Road, Peterborough PE2 8AN

PE1 2SN Registered charity no. 1092293, Scottish charity no. SC040004, Company no. 4132695

**MOBILE POST VAN AT
BUCHAN AVENUE,
KINNESSWOOD**

**MONDAYS 13.45 till 14.45
WEDNESDAYS 12.45 till 13.45**

Homes For Cats Wanted

Fife Cat Shelter, a Scottish Registered Charity, is always looking for homes for rescued cats.

Cats can be visited, by appointment, at Causeway Cattery, Scotlandwell.

Contact Rhona on 01383 830286.



**KINROSS DELIVERY OFFICE
ROYAL MAIL**

**87 High St, Kinross KY13 8AR
PLEASE NOTE HOLIDAY OPENING TIMES
MAY BE DIFFERENT**

MONDAY	8-10am
TUESDAY	8-10am
WEDNESDAY	8-10am
THURSDAY	8-10am and 4-7pm
FRIDAY	8-10am
SATURDAY	8am-12pm
SUNDAY	CLOSED

Baby & Toddler Groups

Monday

Milnathort Babies and Toddlers
Orwell Church Hall 9.30 -11am

Tuesday

Portmoak Babies and Toddlers
Portmoak Church Hall
9.45-11.30am

Stepping Stones

Kinross Parish Church 10-11.30am

Wednesday

Breast Buddies
Health Centre 10-12pm

Glenfarg Babies and Toddlers
Village Hall 9.30am

Muckhart Babies and Toddlers
Church Hall 9.30-11am

Thursday

Montgomery Toddlers
Kinross Gospel Hall 9.30 -11am

Friday

Loch Leven Babies and Toddlers
Masonic Hall, Kinross 9.30-11.30am

Portmoak Babies and Toddlers
Portmoak Church Hall 9.45-11.30am

Fossoway Babies and Toddlers

Crook of Devon
Church Hall
9.30-11.30am

*Please let us know
if you have any
info to add to this list.*



EMERGENCY CONTACT 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, Ambulance & Coastguard Emergencies 999

Gas (worried about gas safety) 0800 111 999

Water (loss of supply, foul water emergency) 0845 600 8855

Floods SEPA Floodline recorded messages 0345 988 1188

Perth & Kinross Council (PKC)

Customer Service Centre (Mon- Fri, 8am-6pm) 01738 475000

Reporting non-emergency Road and Lighting faults (CLARENCE) 0800 232323

PKC Out of Hours emergency numbers

Adult care services	0345 301 11 20
Anti-social behaviour helpline	01738 476173*42*
(*42* telephone and leave a voicemail)	
Child protection	01738 476768
Council housing emergency repairs	01738 476000
Dangerous buildings	01738 476476
Environmental Health	01738 476476
Flooding	01738 476476
Homelessness	0800 917 0708
Mental health services	0345 301 11 20
Roads (e.g. reporting blockage)	01738 476476

Traveline Scotland 0871 200 22 33

Loch Leven Community Campus 01577 867200

Kinross High School 01577 867100

Community Councils

- Kinross:** Chair: Lynne McKay, 01577 531076
Email: kinrosscommunitycouncil@gmail.com
- Milnathort & Orwell:** Chair: Malcolm Thomson, 07980 885175
Email: communitycouncilmilnathort@gmail.com
- Portmoak:** 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

Bill Freeman	64 Muirs	01577 865045
Lynne McKay (Chair)	5 Springfield Road	01577 531076
Hannah Phillips		07591 228884
Malcolm Wood	The Woodlands, Hatchbank	
Tom Stewart		
Michael Wilson	16 Acremoar Drive, Kinross	01577 861181
Emma Leslie		
Chris Collins		07970 998206

Have a look at our website www.kinrosscommunitycouncil.com

Portmoak Community Councillors

Andy Miller	Chair	E: Chair@portmoak.org
Dave Morris	Vice-Chair	
Ann Davidson	Treasurer	
Sue McGregor	Secretary	E: secretary@portmoak.org
Dave Patterson	Member	
Kenneth Donaldson	Associated Member	

Have a look at our website www.portmoak.org

Perth and Kinross Councillors Kinross-shire Ward

- Clr DAVE CUTHBERT** (*Independent*)
Tel: 07468 756234
Email: dcuthbert@pkc.gov.uk
Address: 85 Bowton Road, Kinross, KY13 8EG
- Clr NEIL FRESHWATER** (*Scottish Conservative & Unionist*)
Tel (office): 01738 475108
Email: nfreshwater@pkc.gov.uk
www.facebook.com/neil4kinrossshire
- Clr WILLIE ROBERTSON** (*Scottish Liberal Democrats*)
Mobile: 07909 884042
Email: wrobertson@pkc.gov.uk
- Clr RICHARD WATTERS** (*SNP*)
Mobile: 07557 812513
Email: rwatters@pkc.gov.uk
Address: 2 High Street, Perth

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

Jim Fairlie, MSP

Constituency office: 63 Glasgow Road, Perth, PH2 0PE
Telephone: 01738 620540

Email: Jim.Fairlie.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

KINROSS RECYCLING CENTRE

Bridgend Industrial Estate

Monday to Friday 9am-7pm
(last entry 6.45pm - all vehicles must be off site by 7pm)
Saturday & Sunday 9am - 5pm
(last entry 4.45pm - all vehicles must be off site by 17.00)

THE RECYCLING CENTRE WILL ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING MATERIALS

Bicycles	separately)	Rigid Plastic
Books	Engine Oil	Packaging
Bras	Fluorescent, LED	Rubble
Bulky Goods	& Long Life Light	Scrap Metal
Cans	Bulbs	Soil
Car Batteries	Fridges & Freezers	Stone
Cardboard	Garden Waste	Telephone
Cartons and Paper	Glass	Directories
containers with	Household	Textiles
metal ends	Batteries	(Clothes & Shoes)
Cooking Oil	Large Domestic	Timber
Electrical &	Appliances	Car Tyres
Electronic	Non-Recyclable	(maximum two
Equipment	Waste	per day, strictly
(WEEE - remove &	(General Waste)	household only)
recycle batteries	Paper	

Free compost available (subject to availability).

A maximum of 2 x 25kg bags per day

Diary

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Sun	5	Kinross and Ochil Walking Group meets	57
Tues	7	Fossoway CC meets	51
Tues	7	Climate Cafe meets, library	75
Wed	8&25	Women's Group	77
Thurs	9	Milnathort CC meets	48
Thurs	9	Garden Group meets, Kinross Parish Church	67, 99
Sun	12	Let'S Sing! Kinross Parish Church	85
Sun	12	Spring Coffee Morning, Crook of Devon Church Hall	74
Mon	13	Inner Wheel meets	79
Tues	14	Portmoak CC meets	54
Wed	15	Lomond Antique and Collectors Club talk	79
Sat	18	Kinross and Ochil Walking Group meets	57
Fri	24	Light Up Kinross Quiz Night	99
Sat	25	Better Place to Live Fair	10
Tues	28	Kinross CC meets	55
Wed	29	KHS Spring Concert	63
Fri	31	Perth and Kinross School Term ends	100
April			
Thurs	1-15	Camera Club Exhibition, Campus	64
Fri	7	Good Friday	
Sun	9	Easter Sunday	
Fri	14	Spring holiday ends PKC schools	100
Sun	16	Let'S Sing! Kinross Parish Church	85
Sat	22	Kinross Farmers' Market	67

The Kinross Community Council Newsletter

is available from:

Greens of Kinross	High Street, Kinross	Buchan's Garage	Main Street, Kinnesswood
Baillies	High Street, Kinross	Shop	Main Street, Kinnesswood
Sainsburys	Station Road, Kinross	Fossoway Store	Crook of Devon
Giacopazzis	Lathro, Kinross	Fossoway Garage	Crook of Devon
Keystore More	Green Road, Kinross	Mona's Coffee Shop	Muckhart
Giacopazzis	New Road, Milnathort	Powmill Stores	Powmill
Stewart & Smart	Stirling Road, Milnathort	Loch Leven's Larder	Near Wester Balgedie
Heaven Scent	South Street, Milnathort	Glenfarg Village Shop	Glenfarg