



Kinross Newsletter

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Founding editor,
Mrs Nan Walker, MBE

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DEADLINE

for the May Issue

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Contributions For Inclusion In The Newsletter

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

Email: editor@kinrossnewsletter.org
(all emails will be acknowledged)

Post or hand in to:

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Commercial Advertising in the Newsletter

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Display Adverts

Rates shown include VAT

	<i>Eighth page</i>	<i>Quarter page</i>	<i>Half page</i>
Black & White	£14.70	n/a	n/a
Colour (internal)	£19.00	£45.60	£91.20

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

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

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

- **Your name, address, telephone number and, optionally, email address.**
- **The wording of your advert.**
- **A note of the number of insertions required.**
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Send all this to the Advertising Manager by the normal monthly *Newsletter* deadline (see top of left-hand column for date).

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Editor's Page

Cover photo: Keith Simpson Cover Design: Lee Scammacca of Cree8

Letter From The Editor

AS WE'VE LEARNED FROM the pandemic, world events can change lives in the drop of a hat. The current events unfolding in Ukraine have saddened and shocked us all. The people of Kinross have risen to the challenge to help wherever they can with fundraising, donations, window displays of solidarity and prayers (see p8), and Ukraine and its people have been very much in the thoughts of us all. Bob Pass has found his own unique way of helping the Ukrainian cause (see his letter on the facing page and the accompanying piece on p8).

On a happier note, we have been enjoying some glorious spring sunshine over the last few days, although unbelievable as it may seem at the moment, snow is forecast in the coming days. I was lucky enough to spot a short-eared owl hunting from the viewpoint just past Kirkgate Park – or rather, lucky enough to meet Keith Simpson there who showed me his amazing photographs which is how we got this month's amazing cover image. (See his other photo on p89). Nature really can lift our spirits even in the darkest of days.

Easter is on the way and Kinross has plenty to offer for all ages over the coming weeks. The diary (see p104) is finally returning to its pre-pandemic state with plenty of events to look forward to in your local area and clubs to get involved with.

It is with regret that we say goodbye to two local Councillors this month: Callum Purves and Mike Barnacle have served their communities with dedication and integrity and will be sorely missed.

Councillor Barnacle in particular has been in office for an amazing 25 years and we owe him a debt of gratitude for the work he has done to transform our public services.

Very few of us can say we completely agree on politics but we can all agree that both these public servants have dedicated their efforts to improving the lot of their constituents and we are all appreciative of their hard work.

We wish them well.

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.

Note to Readers: Advertising

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

Abbreviations

PKC: Perth & Kinross Council
CC: Community Council

CLr: Councillor
CCllr: Community Councillor

About The Kinross Newsletter

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

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

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

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

Letters

Blue Poppies For Ukraine

WE ARE ALL TOUCHED by the unfolding tragedy of the war in Ukraine.

I have some Himalayan poppy plants (Meconopsis) that I have grown from seed (planted 2021) that I would like to sell and donate all proceeds to the Disaster Emergency Committee Ukraine appeal.

These beautiful plants normally retail at between £4.50 and £8; and I suggest a minimum donation of £2/plant* (if you want to give more, I will be delighted, it will all go to the appeal).

I will give full cultural instructions - the golden rules are a gritty, high organic matter, well drained soil, plenty of watering, some feeding and a partially shaded position.

Attached a 'photo, they are very close to the blue of the Ukrainian flag.

Please contact me for details.

Bob Pass, Kinross

**See p8 for details of Bob's generous offer.*



Thanks

Dr Marie Weir

THE WEIR FAMILY IS hugely grateful for the wonderful help we have had from many people and organisations making it possible for Mum to stay at home with comfort and visitors to the end of her life.

We were especially blessed to have the amazing 'A' Team who adapted their care and support to perfection during the last 15 years. Without Jen Beveridge's planning and the ability of the team members and additional support from hairdresser, podiatrists, and district nurses we could not have managed.

The special help from Helen at Loch End Farm shop particularly during lockdown, was a treat. Each one grew to be Mum's friend. Friends were central to Mum's daily life with chat and weekly uplifts making all the difference to us all.

We would like to thank neighbours and Kinross Parish Church too for their ongoing support. Our funeral was expertly managed by Stewart Funeral Directors with kindness and patience and we thank them and The Green Hotel for ensuring that this day was special for everyone.

The most important part of our day was the crematorium and church services and Rev Alan Reid caught and shared Mum's personality and activities perfectly. The AV team live streaming also made it possible for many friends who could not come to Kinross and so have provided a record for us too.

We chose the Macular Society as our charity for donations so a big thank you to you all for raising £522.60 to which the family will add in due course. You all continue to be amazing – thank you.



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SPACE FOR A NEW VISITOR ATTRACTION!

THE NEWSLETTER WAS EXCITED to receive, early in March, news about progress of the sale of the 'golf ball' at Balado and the possibility of a new family-oriented aerospace-themed visitor attraction for Kinross in the pipeline!



The AEROSPACE Kinross (ASK) website describes the attraction as a 'uniquely themed Aviation, Astronomy and Space Flight Science Centre based in the

heart of Scotland' which will form an 'Aviation Centre of Excellence'.

We look forward to finding out more. Aero Space Kinross released the following statement to ASSET investors and members:



'Aero Space Kinross are very pleased to announce agreement with the current owners (R W Ferguson & Company) to Heads of Terms for the purchase of the former MOD Balado Bridge Satellite Communications Station at Kinross. Subject to planning approval and confirmation of funding, the existing buildings and satellite dish (in the iconic 'golf ball' on the site) will be repurposed for the creation of a family oriented aerospace themed visitor attraction.'



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"I would highly recommend Barry, he replaced all my windows and doors and I was extremely happy with the service and the aftercare."

Mrs Ruby Petrie,
Glenfield Court,
Cowdenbeath

"Barry does all my odd jobs about the house. He's polite, tidy and never lets me down."

Mrs Lesley Naismith,
Cromar Drive,
Dulloch, Dunfermline

"I had a full house of windows fitted when I was renovating my home. Barry is a hard worker and delivered a great service - on time and on budget."

Mrs Lorraine McMillan,
Morar Road,
Crossford



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.



COUNCILLORS BID FAREWELL

TWO WELL-KNOWN local councillors, Mike Barnacle and Callum Purves, will not be standing for re-election in the May elections. Councillor Barnacle has served for 23 years since he was first elected in May 1999 and Councillor Purves has been a local councillor since 2017.

Involved in many successful community initiatives, both Mike and Callum have served the people of Kinross-shire with great dedication and integrity and we owe them many thanks for all their hard work over the years.

Councillor Barnacle said the time had come for him to stand down and said 'It has been a huge privilege to represent the people of Kinross-shire over this period.' Read his closing column on p21. Callum's column is on p20.

Callum Purves said 'Mike has been a dedicated and hard-working councillor serving the people of Kinross-shire for over two decades. Everyone will know someone that he has helped over his time in office and he has a great record of success in fighting for a more accountable planning system, improving mitigation on the A977, and enhancing local community transport among many other achievements.

'Mike has also been a fierce defender of Kinross-shire's local identity. Without his tireless campaigning over many years, we would not have been able to secure the devolution of powers to Kinross-shire. Mike has always fought for more decisions to be taken locally by the people who understand our area best and I hope that the area committee will become a permanent feature for many years to come.

'I am sure everyone in Kinross-shire will wish Mike well in his well deserved retirement.'

Councillor Willie Robertson said 'Mike Barnacle and myself have been friends for a long time and have worked together politically since before I was elected. In fact he was my agent when I was first elected back in 1995. I think we share very similar views on many things such as community politics and the importance of our environment both locally and nationally. We are both long standing St Johnstone supporters. Mike is very much a 'community' politician especially in his beloved Fossoway. One of his amazing skills is that he can



Councillors Callum Purves (left) and Mike Barnacle (right)

find letters he has written years and years ago and produce them at will and quote from them!

I have thoroughly enjoyed my years working with him and look forward to continuing that in his retirement. Everyone who knows Mike, will I am sure, agree with me when I say that he will never really retire but will continue to take an active interest in his community and will contribute to it for many years to come.

I was also sorry to hear that Callum was not intending to stand at the May elections. I have enjoyed working with him and although we are poles apart politically this hasn't prevented us collaborating on addressing local issues. Politics in local government can be more of a hindrance than a help and I think we both understand that. I have found Callum to be both conscientious and hard-working. He has always been prepared to carry more than his share of our work as councillors. I wish him well in the future.'

Richard Watters said 'Callum and Mike have different party political views from me but we have shared a willingness to work across the political divide to ensure that the communities we serve have always been put first. I wish Mike an enjoyable retirement and I wish Callum all the best in his future personal endeavours.'

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KINROSS SHOWS UKRAINE SUPPORT



KINROSS-SHIRE RESIDENTS HAVE TURNED out in force to help ease the terrible plight of the people of Ukraine. Essential items like warm clothing, toiletries, batteries, phone chargers and much more, intended for those who have had to flee their homes, have been gathered at various collection points so that they can be sent by lorry to where they are most needed.

Great generosity has been shown via collections and fundraising activities, while Kinross shops have demonstrated their own support through their displays, as seen here in the picture of Baillies' balloon window (*below left*).

Other photos show just one collection made by Portmoak cubs through donations left at Portmoak Hall. Many other collection points, such as

Loch Leven Library, became designated drop-off zones for people to hand goods in.

This year's Lenten Cross at St Paul's church (below) is being decorated with ribbons showing Kinrossians' support, and is rapidly becoming festooned with the blue and yellow of the Ukrainian flag. You are encouraged to add your own ribbons whenever possible.



BLUE POPPIES FOR UKRAINE!

DALQUEICH FARMHOUSE B&B owner Bob Pass has grown his own contribution to helping Ukrainian refugees.

He has grown a clutch of Himalayan poppies that he wishes to sell, donating all proceeds to the Disaster Emergency Committee Ukraine appeal.

As the photo shows, these flowers are a beautiful shade of blue, very close to that of the Ukrainian flag – hence the sale and proceeds going to alleviate the plight of those unlucky enough to have suffered through this terrible conflict.

Normally retailing from £4.50 - £8, Bob is looking for a minimum donation of £2 per plant – although anything more is obviously welcome. All monies will be given to the appeal.

Full instructions for cultivating the plants will be given – he says they like a gritty, high organic matter, well drained soil, plenty of watering, some feeding and a partially shaded position.

Contact Bob Pass at: Dalqueich Farmhouse, Kinross, KY13 0RG, or by email at: dalqueich.farmhouse@gmail.com





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MENTORS NEEDED!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO support someone on their journey to gaining new skills and experience, becoming more self-confident and achieving their goals? If the answer is yes, ProjectScotland would love to hear from you.

They work with people (predominantly young people) who are struggling to overcome challenges such as social isolation, mental health issues, low confidence and uncertainty about their futures. They provide support and the chance to complete a voluntary placement with a local charity. This can enhance confidence and give that individual the opportunity to build on their skills and potentially move on to a job, further education or training.

WHY MENTORING?

Mentoring is at the heart of what we do and we offer everyone we support the opportunity to be matched with a volunteer mentor.

We are searching for people in Perth and Kinross who are able to offer one hour of their time per week for a minimum



of 6 months to help transform the life of someone else.

As a volunteer mentor, you could support your mentee with whatever is important to them. This could be goal setting, identifying interests and strengths, confidence building, helping to establish a routine, social connections or just someone to talk to and check in with. The support you can offer is invaluable and can be life changing for you both!

A PVG is required; we can arrange this free of charge.

If you are interested please email mentoringps@volunteeringmatters.org.uk. Kate, pictured above, said 'ProjectScotland mentor Lauren, helped me gain confidence, practice interviews questions and learn new skills to help get a job'.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

- We provide training, ongoing support, access to lots of resources and a wonderful community of mentors across the country
- You are matched to one person and meet them once a week for an hour
- Meetings are ideally face to face, however many have been virtual

over the past two years.

- Matches can last from 3-12 months depending upon the relationship and the needs of the mentee

WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?

- Help transform a life
- Develop communication and interpersonal skills

- Gain transferable skills and experience volunteering with disadvantaged people
- Participate in support and training
- Meet people, connect and have fun!
- Learn about yourself and gain a sense of achievement
- Learn more about your community and the challenges that people face

HAPPY Easter

Why not enjoy a picnic from our Deli while you are rolling your eggs this Easter? Or pop along for a lovely walk then enjoy a tasty treat from The Larder Café

LOCH LEVENS LARDER

www.Lochlevenslarder.com
01592 841000



PLANT A TREE FOR THE JUBILEE!



The Queen's Green Canopy will create a network of individual trees, avenues, copses and whole woodlands in honour of the Queen's service and the legacy she has built.

This will create a green legacy of its own, with every tree planted bringing benefits for people, wildlife and climate, now and for the future.

KINROSS GETS INVOLVED

Kinross-shire residents from various groups have been out recently planting their own trees.

The Rotary Club planted trees at Rachel House in March, in partnership with CHAS and Kinross Primary School.

President George Lawrie was recently out planting trees with volunteers to create an avenue in the golf course at Kinross.

Local parents commented, 'My kids loved planting their trees after school – thank you!' and 'Thank you very much for your help. A great event to be part of.'

To celebrate The Queen's Jubilee, Kinross Parish Church in partnership with Kinross Estate also took part in The Queen's Green Canopy Tree planting project, to create Kinross's own 'Jubilee Avenue' at the Market Park.

This great family event meant families and members of the local community could get involved by planting a sapling which, over the years, all can watch grow into a strong tree.

WHAT'S THE IDEA?

THE QUEEN'S GREEN CANOPY (QGC) is a tree-planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. Everyone across the UK is being invited to plant trees from October 2021, when the tree planting season began, through to the end of the Jubilee year in 2022.

UNFROGETTABLE!

PAUL KIRKBY took these wonderful froggy photographs at Vane Farm and shared them with us.

We hope they make you smile as much they did us!



Life Stories

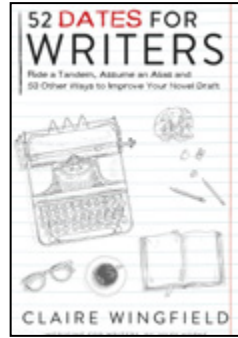
DURING LOCKDOWN, A FRIEND asked Claire Wingfield if she would work with her dad to compile his life stories. Her task was to talk to the client and tease out the themes, historical context and action in the stories he told her.

They started on Zoom. Ever anxious at losing material, she typed as they talked and afterwards listened to the recording, adding anything she'd missed. Neil liked to be prepared for the discussions, so she used the first meeting to get an idea of the themes to cover and then sent a related task before each call. She looked for ways to include Neil's children and grandchildren. She was aiming for a collection of stories from Neil's life rather than a definitive 'life story'. The book is set up so he and his family can order copies at any point, and he may even add stories in the future.

Neil described himself being 'as far away from bring a 'writer' as it's possible to be! By the end of the project, the part of himself that had achieved technical innovation in his engineering business was much in evidence, and he brought great creativity and enthusiasm to the task.

If Neil's story has inspired you to try some life writing, why not find a little space to begin thinking about what the key ingredients of your life stories could be.

For support or inspiration, Claire's book *52 Dates for Writers* is full of exercises based on her work as an editor and writing mentor. On Wednesday 25 May, Claire is holding a workshop on Writing Your Life Stories in Milnathort Town Hall, 6pm-8pm. Email contact@clairewingfield.co.uk to book your place.



Kinross Sarah Makes *Masterchef!*



KINROSSIAN SARAH RANKIN IS a 2022 Masterchef contestant! The new series of the renowned cookery competition began on Tuesday 29 March on BBC1 at 9pm.

'Yes', said marketing consultant Sarah, 'I am appearing in series 18. I can't say anything about it really until the series is finished but I'm very excited. It was a fantastic experience – I learned so much and met some fabulous people.'

Good luck, Sarah – we are all rooting for you!

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MOVE GREENER NEED YOU!

KMGO IS A SMALL, volunteer-run charitable organisation aiming to reduce the environmental impact of cars, promote health and well-being and to create local economic activity.

Their vision is a mixed fleet of electric vehicles operating throughout Kinross-shire. This will include shared cars, minibuses, vans, eBikes (plus variants for those who are differently abled) and commercial eCargo bikes for businesses and organisations. They want to see new and safer cycling, wheeling and walking routes and activities. Ultimately, they aim for an income-generating but not-for-profit operation – employing and training local people of all ages and abilities and using the services of local businesses – to generate local economic activity.

With the support of the Community Council, PKC and others, *Kinross-shire Move Greener* have delivered and continue to operate a successful car share scheme in Kinross and have now secured funds from the Energy Saving Trust to run a bike share pilot.

Whilst their car share scheme is run in conjunction with a commercial partner their next project, bike share, will require more people to make it happen.

KMGO are looking for volunteers* from across the community to help them take this project forward. They are still thrashing out the pilot project operating model but, starting in spring of this year, they will need volunteers to:

- **Issue bikes and receive/recover them back to base**
- **Train as bike mechanics and maintain the bikes**
- **Train as cycle leaders and then lead group rides**
- **Do the back room stuff, such as monitor bookings**



• **Bring creativity and help shape where we go next**

They are also looking for premises where they can store, maintain and charge the eBikes.

If you are interested in the project, please do get in touch. A couple of hours a week/month of your time, sharing ideas and contacts, putting them in touch with someone who could provide premises etc – all offers will be gratefully received.

Please text Alan Thomson on 07512 264082 or email him at alanthomson@btinternet.com

(*Whilst KMGO only seek volunteers at present, the operation is intended to become self-funding and they are hoping they will be in a position to offer paid work. Those who volunteer to start will, of course, be given preference when the time comes).



Spring Forward With *GrowBiz*

HAVE YOU ATTENDED A *GrowBiz* event yet? Each month they host a variety of events aimed at supporting small rural business owners and the self-employed. They are currently held online and are free to attend.

Many of the events take the form of learning sessions — interactive presentations where you can develop the skills you

better manage your projected income and expenditure, and Advanced Instagram on 12 April, for confident users of this social media platform to explore available new features. Other *GrowBiz* events, such as the popular XChange evenings, are designed as networking opportunities and include the chance to hear from inspirational speakers

need for running your business in a confidential and informal environment. This month these sessions will include Cashflow Management on 6 April, designed to help you

and be motivated by the stories and experiences of business owners like you.

If you'd like to speak to an advisor in a confidential one-to-one setting, then the regular Thursday lunchtime drop-ins allow you to book a 25-min online appointment for an instant answer to your questions, or you can contact them at connect@growbiz.co.uk to arrange a more suitable time.

Support available from *GrowBiz* also includes a free online directory at www.reds.scot, an award-winning mentoring programme, SEED young entrepreneur development, a social enterprise group, and peer support meetings. Find out more at www.growbiz.co.uk.

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FARMERS PLOUGH ON FOR CHARITY AT LOCHEND

CROWDS WHO BRAVED RAW February weather conditions to attend the annual Vintage Tractor and Horse Ploughing Match at Lochend Farm were rewarded with a splendid display.

All the furrows were arrow straight and the rich dark soil was a fantastic contrast for the bright colours of the vintage tractors and implements. It was so nice to have a look back in time, everything going at a slower pace with people getting there just the same.

The day was declared a show stopper by Ploughing Convenor, Dave Veitch. Dave told the *Newsletter*, 'Today has been a massive success with loads of local entries, as well as one travelling all the way from the Kintyre Peninsula.' He continued, 'It's so nice to see so many local folk here. We have had a well supported fundraiser for Marie Curie and the smiles on everyones faces say it all'.

Thanks go to Michael and Martin Silvera and Lochend Farm shop for hosting the event and to the many local businesses who donated such generous prizes.



HAVE YOUR SAY IN MAY!

ON THURSDAY 5 MAY people in Perth & Kinross will go to the polls to decide who represents them on their local council.

In order to vote in May, residents must be on the electoral register. With the deadline to register to vote fast approaching, The Electoral Registration Officer is urging people who are not registered at their current address to make sure they are registered in time.

If you live in Scotland and will be 16 or over on 5 May, you can register to vote in these elections. The deadline to register to vote is midnight on Monday 18 April. It takes just five minutes to register online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote.

This year, residents in Perth & Kinross will be voting to elect councillors, who will represent their local area, and make decisions in areas such as education, social care and housing.

Mr Alastair Kirkwood, Perth & Kinross Council's Electoral Registration Officer said:

'Time is running out to make sure you can take part in these elections. They are an important opportunity to make your voice heard and have a say on who represents you on issues that directly affect day-to-day life here in Angus and Perth & Kinross. If you're not registered by 18 April, you won't be able to vote.'

Andy O'Neill, Head of the Electoral Commission in Scotland, agreed, saying:

'You can't have your say in these elections unless you are reg-



istered to vote. Registering is easy and only takes five minutes. If you have recently turned 16 or moved home, it is particularly important to make sure you are correctly registered to vote. If you were registered to vote in the last election and your details have not changed, you don't need to take any action. If you were registered to vote in the last election and your details have not changed, you don't need to take any action. If in doubt, you can check with your electoral registration office by calling The Electoral Registration Officer on 01738 630303.

People can choose to vote in a number of ways – in person, by post or by appointing someone they trust to vote in their place, known as a proxy vote.

The deadline to apply for a postal vote is 5pm on 19 April, and for a proxy vote the deadline is 5pm on 26 April.

For information on elections in your area, how to register to vote, or how to apply to vote by post or by proxy, visit www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voter. This page will continue to be updated ahead of the polls.

Loch Leven Half Marathon
#TeamKYTHE
Saturday 14th May

Could you take on this exciting challenge and help raise important funds for Kinross-shire Youth Enterprise (KYTHE)?

We are currently looking for runners and would love you to be part of our team!

KYTHE works to transform young lives in the local area through its universal youth services. By joining Team KYTHE you'll be raising funds to enhance the experiences and opportunities for everyone using the service.

So if you are ready to grab your trainers and enjoy some scenic views then please get in touch by emailing: fundraising@kythe.org.uk

Join #TeamKYTHE:

Loch Leven 1/2 Marathon 14 May

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So if you are ready to grab your trainers and enjoy some scenic views then please get in touch by emailing fundraising@kythe.org.uk





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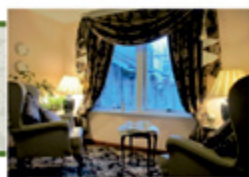
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WILMA TAKES TO THE SKIES!



ON SATURDAY 9 APRIL Wilma Carragher will be taking to the skies and sky diving to raise awareness and (hopefully) Funds for SSVP St James conference, Kinross.

The Society of St Vincent de Paul is

an international organisation of Catholic lay people, women and men, who practise Christianity by helping those in need on a person-to-person basis. The society undertakes any form of help that alleviates

suffering or deprivation, and promotes human dignity in all respects. It reaches out and serves those in need, regardless of creed, ethnic or social background, health, gender or political opinion.

Through challenging times, and with the very generous financial help from our supporters, our conference,

consisting of 12 members, has been able to help a significant number of people throughout Kinross-shire and beyond! We have worked with a number of other agencies and groups in order to provide financial help, household necessities and personal help and encouragement to others. We are very much aware that requests for assistance of all kinds are in the process of increasing dramatically.

The money raised by the sky dive will be a crucial part of our ability to cope with these future challenges.

If you want to sponsor Wilma, go to her JustGiving page at www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/wilma-carragher

Community Litter Pick



THE FIRST COMMUNITY LITTER Pick of 2022 will be on Saturday 2 April as part of a UK-wide 'Spring Clean Up'. Equipment may be picked up at Kinross Parish Church, 10 Station Road, Kinross, between 9.30am and 10.30am and filled bags should be returned to the access lane there by 3pm.

The litter pick, which has become a community event with teams in Milnathort and Crook of Devon as well as Kinross, is organised by the Eco-team of Kinross Parish Church. One of the organisers, Gill Boardman, says: 'Our April litter pick is part of the Spring Clean Up promoted by Keep Scotland Beautiful and similar organisations throughout the UK at this time. Come along and join with thousands of others across the country helping to improve their local community. With the reduction in Covid restrictions we hope to be able to meet each other at the end, at 3pm in the garden of Kinross Parish Church, to have tea, coffee and biscuits.'



Volunteers can turn up on the day or contact Gill in advance at office@kinrossparishchurch.org or tel: 01577 862570. If you are on your own you will be matched up with other volunteers.

Councillor Callum Purves

AS MANY OF YOU know, the next set of elections to Perth & Kinross Council are being held on Thursday 5 May. By the time you read this, nominations will have closed.



After much thought, I have taken the decision not to stand in these elections. While I have greatly enjoyed my five years as one of your local elected representatives, I feel that now is the right time in my career to explore other opportunities that may take me away from the local area. I do not feel that this would be compatible with the role of a local councillor, and therefore it would not be right to put myself forward again for election in those circumstances. Kinross-shire needs representatives that are able to dedicate the time to the role as I hope you will feel that I have done over the past five years.

I believe we have managed to make significant progress over the past five years. In my view, our biggest achievement has been the devolution of significant powers down to Kinross-shire as part of the pilot local committee. This is something that my colleague, Councillor Barnacle, has been campaigning on for over two decades and I was pleased to be able to help secure the scheme. For too long, the Council has felt remote and often the decisions taken up in Perth do not sit well locally. While it is not a panacea, we have already seen from the first meeting that longstanding problems can be resolved when decisions are taken only by Kinross-shire councillors and not representatives from across Perth & Kinross.

We have also made many improvements in road safety, which is often one of the major issues that is raised with me. I have secured additional funding over the years for schemes to lower speed limits and install more vehicle-activated signs. In Kinross-shire, we have received more than our fair share of this funding and many towns and villages that have requested speed mitigation measures have seen them installed. There are still some communities that have waited patiently for speed reductions, and I hope that, through the local committee, these can be delivered soon.

Another major issue has been planning. The planning system can often seem distant from our communities. Big developments in Kinross-shire that were approved despite overwhelming local opposition are a good example of this. I remain fully supportive of the principle of a community right of appeal that would level the playing field between local communities and big developers. It is not right that Persimmon were able to get a second shot at approval for phase 2 of the Lathro development by going over councillors' heads to the Scottish Government. While I cannot take full credit for it, I am pleased that my party has now adopted a national position of opposition to such decisions.

I am also pleased by a number of the budget decisions that I played a part in. The Community Investment Fund that provides support to local groups who might otherwise struggle to get funding has been a great success. It has supported many causes right across Kinross-shire such as village halls, other local facilities, and initiatives to tackle inequalities. The grants and schemes we established for local enterprises have also helped our local businesses thrive and grow. Moreover, I pushed for further funding to expand course choice in our schools and, while this is an area where there is still much work to do, I hope that this is a step in the right direction.

I have also enjoyed being part of the board responsible for health and social care locally. There have been significant improvements in reducing delayed discharges and making more services available in the community and in people's homes. There are also areas that still require significant improvement, particularly in the provision of mental health services.

I am still of the view that NHS Tayside has not properly grasped the seriousness of the independent review of these services by Dr David Strang. There is an urgent need to improve trust and respect between the service users, carers, staff, and the NHS itself. Recent attempts to conduct an options appraisal (if you can call it that) of inpatient mental health facilities by only considering a single option suggest a slipping back to the old ways of working. I do hope that I am proved wrong.

On the theme of needing to change, I think there are many things that could be improved to make councils work better. These are not political points, but more reflections on the problems with the way local government is set up. People quite rightly expect the representatives they elect to be able to take decisions and to make things happen. Too often, however, this is not the case. This is primarily because the way councils operate gives far too much power to unelected officials.

The first thing I was told when I was elected is that councillors set the 'strategic direction' while officials are responsible for operational matters and 'never the twain shall meet'. While on the face of it, this does not sound too objectionable, this has proved my biggest challenge in my five years.

Rather than being a helpful distinction to make, it is often used to prevent councillors implementing what local people want or trying to hold officials to account for their actions. Sometimes councillors are even threatened with complaints should they try to get too involved. This means that councillors are often held accountable for things over which they have no control.

Unless and until this changes, councillors simply cannot fully deliver on the wishes of their constituents. This will require a change at Scottish Government level and given the recent programme of centralisation, I am not optimistic of progress on this any time soon.

More generally, the Council needs to be more agile and willing to try new things and adopt new ideas. Too often things are done a certain way simply because they have always been done that way. There are many more efficiencies that could be made to be reinvested into improving core public services or indeed to limit the need to increase our council tax each year. I brought forward a budget that showed it was possible to freeze the council tax for three years while investing a further £10 million extra on delivering community priorities without affecting front-line services. It can be done. It is more a question of whether or not there is a willingness to do so.

The Council also needs to get better at engaging with the public rather than simply seeing consultation as a tick-box exercise. Local people have the knowledge and expertise about what is right for their local area. Officials need to accept that they do not have a monopoly on wisdom. The Council should listen to local people more.

On a more positive note, we are very lucky that in Kinross-shire, there has been a long tradition of all local councillors working together on matters of common concern. While we may disagree on some political issues, I have greatly enjoyed working with my colleagues Mike, Willie, and Richard over the past five years. I would like to think that this spirit of co-operation will continue no matter which candidates you decide to elect in May.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those local residents, community councils and voluntary organisations that I have worked with over the past five years. We are very fortunate to have such a strong sense of community spirit and resilience in Kinross-shire. Without the efforts of local people and volunteers, particularly through the recent pandemic, the lives of so many in our community would have been much more difficult.

I hope that one day in the future, I might be able to represent you and Kinross-shire again in some capacity. That would, of course, only be should you wish me to do so.

Councillor Callum Purves

Councillor Mike Barnacle



I WILL NOT BE STANDING for re-election in May '22 after 23 years unbroken service on PKC since first elected in May 1999, including various Convenorships on the Development Control & Environment Committees.

It has been a huge privilege to represent the people of Kinross-shire over this period. It seems an opportune time to reflect upon some of the issues I have tried to address, working with community organisations, government and in particular, former Independent Councillor Cuthbert and present Councillors Purves and Robertson.

There have been a number of successful initiatives I have been involved in worthy of mention, viz:

Environmentally, lobbying for the new wastewater treatment plant in DRUM, installing local recycling points (CROOK, KINNESSWOOD & POWMILL), creating Waulkmill Park, CROOK and improving play areas (CROOK, KINNESSWOOD, KIRKGATE & POWMILL), as Environment Convenor moving Community Greenspace back within PKC control from a failed privatisation. Footpaths include the Core Path Plan, footpath/cycle route between CROOK & MIDDLE BALADO for TURFHILLS, old railway path south of Waulkmill in CROOK and path along river between Crook and Rumbling Bridge Gorge, path between Naemoor Road & River Devon in CROOK, DUNCRIEVIE to Wallace Park, GLENFARG and Lochleven Heritage Trail with links thereto. Identity of Kinross-shire has been re-inforced through border signage that needs enhancing, challenging various proposals from the Boundary Commission to interfere with Kinross-shire status at government electoral level, which is ongoing, improved settlement signage at places like BLAIRFORGE, DRUM, LOCHRAN & MAWCARSE but principally the establishment of the 'pilot' Kinross-shire Area Committee that I hope will become a permanent fixture of PKC's Committee Structure (future elected members for this ward should be committed to that). A successful Landscape designation as AGLV's for the Cleish Hills & River Devon Gorge was won at a public inquiry prior to a local plan but subsequently these areas were not granted Local Landscape designation in our current plan following a flawed consultancy exercise, a wrong that must be rectified in LDP3. Planning successes of note were opposition to Mellock Hill Windfarm, opposition to development expansion west of the M90 at Kinross, opposing major Naemoor Road housing developments in CROOK, relocation of Orange Phone mast in Kinross to Turfhills; School relocations and upgrades include primaries at Fossoway & Portmoak (including one-way systems), GLENFARG (including 'pilot' pedestrian & cycle zone), KINROSS and the new Secondary LOCH LEVEN CAMPUS. Transport improvements include successful road adoption schemes in Station Road, CROOK & KINNESSWOOD, speed control measures (i.e. Build-outs & VAS) throughout the shire to reinforce new 20 – 50 mph limits, including walking & cycling friendly routes, such as the Dryside Road at GLENLOMOND, KINROSS WEST link road & HGV bans on Vicar's Bridge Road in BLAIRINGONE & in DRUM main street, not forgetting pedestrian crossings on the A977.

Notable failures I have to record viz – The loss of all community facilities in BLAIRINGONE (the Fossoway Community Development Trust that I am trying to establish may be a vehicle to gauge whether there is an appetite to lease the redundant school buildings). Planning failures include the loss of GLENFARG HOTEL & LOMOND COUNTRY INN to development proposals, the integration/creation of dialogue between the settlement at CROOK MOSS and the local community, and the growth of the Greenacres site way beyond planning limits set by PKC, the lack of a Master Plan for Kinross & Milnathort and the erosion of the green agricultural land between these burghs through over-

development, failure to restrict the number of windfarms in the Ochil Hills (PKC's landscape consultant advised one and we now have three as a result of Scottish Government overturning PKC refusals). Transport failures include no progress on restoring a rail link from Kinross to Fife Circle or improved integration of bus timetables on services accessing the Kinross Park & Ride.

Finally, there are a significant number of works in progress matters, which there always will be, that I wish to highlight and which members elected in May 2022 should be encouraged to progress, viz:

The Community in Blairingone will note the long-running saga of the re-location of the war memorial from the former church to the cemetery with part-funding secured. ENVIRONMENTALLY, a 'Keep Kinross-shire Tidy campaign' with the help of 'Bloom Groups' is a proposed Area Committee agenda item, a Ditch Management Scheme for DRUM to address flooding needs progressing, we need more policy protection for Lochleven & Trees. On FOOTPATHS an Area Committee agenda item is to progress a proposed safe route to school between Scotlandwell & Kinnesswood, the embryonic Development Trust could be project leader for the replacement footbridge required at Rumbling Bridge Gorge and to lobby PKC for gorge improvements for locals & visitors, also establishing a footpath link between Gairney Bank & Kinross. On LANDSCAPE protection we should try and progress through the Council, an Ochil Hills Regional Park and an extension of the Lomond Hills Regional Park to Lochleven. CLEISH PRIMARY SCHOOL upgrade needs finalisation. On TRANSPORT we have a Kinross-shire Community Transport Group seeking to boost community transport provision given the recent reductions in private bus operator services, the Kinross High Street Regeneration Scheme is the subject of further consultation on improvements required, a Road Adoption Scheme for Drummond Park, CROOK now has all residents in agreement to part fund with PKC the proposal, an HGV ban for Back Crook Road in Fossoway is on the Area Committee's agenda, the Route Action Plans for the A911 & B9097 need progressing further after blind summit signage & flood prevention measures for the latter have been undertaken and concluding with the agreed capital provision for A977 mitigation measures that require to be completed from funding secured.

Apologies for the length of this reflection but it serves to illustrate to those that follow as elected members the commitment required to try and address the aspirations of folk in Kinross-shire, a place I have grown to love since moving here from the Borders in 1980.

Kindest of regards,

Councillor Mike Barnacle

A letter sent in February to Douglas Ross MP & Michael Gove MP

Dear Douglas and Michael

ADDRESSING UK'S UNWRITTEN CONSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

I have thought long and hard before drafting this letter regarding the above but feel now is an opportune moment as we hopefully emerge frae the Covid Pandemic and approach the local authority elections this Spring in Scotland and elsewhere (elections I personally will not be contesting after 23 years unbroken service representing the Kinross-shire Ward of Perth & Kinross Council (PKC), firstly as a Liberal Democrat, then as an Independent and latterly as a Scottish Conservative & Unionist Councillor after the latter group agreed to support my original Manifesto commitment in 1999 to set up a devolved area committee of PKC for Kinross-shire).

I am not an enthusiast for Referendums, regarding them as 'a blunt tool' to assess opinion and if there have to be some in connection with our constitutional arrangements, then there should be thresholds to mandate change, not simple majorities. I also feel that all people born in the UK or residing here for a certain number

of years should be able to vote in any referendum that changes the current U.K. Having said that, I campaigned in the 2014 referendum for Scotland to remain within the UK (Kinross-shire Ward had one of the strongest votes for the union in the country) and in the EU referendum since for Britain to leave the EU. Subsequent events have not changed my position on both issues!

One of the strongest lessons from the COVID pandemic is that it should have been controlled on a UK wide basis with full involvement of the 4 UK 'nations' in a joint committee to produce common and easily understood guidance for the population since viruses don't respect borders; as an island nation we singularly failed to do that!

I believe it is imperative that we wrestle the constitutional agenda away frae the SNP since the UK's arrangements are not just about Scotland. Their leaders constantly refer to having a democratic mandate for another referendum in 2023, whilst ignoring the clear democratic wish of voters in Scotland in 2014 that they wish to remain part of the UK, in a vote both sides accepted was a 'once in a generation vote'. I would also question why the Scottish civil service can be used by a devolved administration to make the case for separation using public funds?

The Priority for all tiers of Government in the UK at the moment is to concentrate on managing our way out of this COVID Pandemic, dealing with the health issues that have multiplied because of it and rebuilding our economy and society. We should, however, acknowledge that there is work to be done on our constitutional arrangements and I believe the time is right to invite other parties to take part in such a debate and examine options going forward through a constitutional convention committee. They may reject such an approach, but the offer should be made 'in good faith' and I would criticise Labour and the Liberal Democrats for refusing to work with the Scottish Conservatives post the last referendum; they have let supporters of the Union down!

This is a personal letter and not an official Council communication.

I am a 'Federalist' when it comes to debate about the future of the UK; but this 'option' is currently not on the table; it must be! In fact, I would like to see the Scottish Conservatives adopt this as a policy aim for the forthcoming elections aforementioned. We should learn from history because the failure of Gladstone's Home Rule Bill for Ireland in the early twentieth century resulted in the partition of that country rather than delivering what most Irishmen at the time would have been happy with. The resultant border remains the source of current problems in delivering a workable 'Brexit' negotiation with the EU. Northern Ireland should not be treated differently to the rest of the UK as regards arrangements with the EU. I think there is now a strong case to embrace a federal government structure for Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales with full control of all domestic policy and the tax required to deliver it. Any devolution within the Celtic nations should remain their sole responsibility. There should be mechanisms to ensure no hindrances to trade across borders within the UK. Such Federal

Governments' powers would exclude common defence and relations with the commonwealth (should have been a trading bloc after 2nd World War), European and other foreign countries; cross-border infrastructure/transport projects (a shared responsibility if jointly funded), currency and financial services, immigration and border control and finally, importantly, the monarchy!

However, Federal Governments should be 'consulted' on such excluded reserved matters. There is, however, a strong need to examine the adequacy of scrutiny of federal government operations and review the possible requirement of second chambers here.

Alongside this Federal structure, in order to properly deliver on a 'levelling-up agenda' with proper representation, we should examine the creation of 'powerful' Regional Assemblies for England, preferably based on former counties and tribal areas that people continue to identify with i.e. Anglia, Cornwall, Cumbria, Lancastria, London (Greater), Mercia (East & West), Northumbria, Wessex, Yorkshire (East, North, South & West). The House of Commons should monitor the operations of these Regional Assemblies in England and cover all nondevolved reserved matters.

Finally, we should address the long-standing issue of reform of the House of Lords, which should be reduced in size significantly with less party nominations, less hereditary membership and more representation from people of experience in business and public life. It should continue to act as the revising chamber for England and on non-devolved reserved matters. I am yet to be convinced of the need for elected second revising/scrutiny chambers which solely would mirror the outcome of elections to the principal chambers in the Commons and Federal Governments; their main function being scrutiny based on the experience of members.

Apologies for the length of this letter but I hope you may find my suggestions helpful in taking the UK forward to a more democratic and prosperous future of co-operation for all its people.

Yours sincerely
Cllr Michael Barnacle

Scottish Conservative and Unionist Councillor for Kinross-shire
CC Murdo Fraser MSP, Liz Smith MSP, Cllr Callum Purves,
Cllr Caroline Shiers, Cllr Alasdair Bailey, Cllr Willie Robertson
Councillor Mike Barnacle

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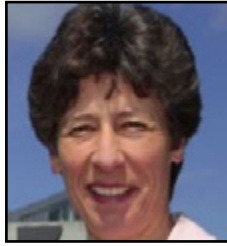


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Liz Smith, MSP

SO MUCH HAS CHANGED in the world since my last contribution in the *Kinross Newsletter*. The unspeakable crimes which are being inflicted by Putin on innocent Ukrainians are on our media screens not just day by day but hour by hour. It is scarcely believable that this is happening in the twenty-first century and on such a scale that threatens the world order that has been in place since the end of the Cold War. We feel helpless too which raises so many other questions about the alliances of the Western world and what action we need to take to defend our precious democracies.



As we have all watched with horror the events in Ukraine, it has been humbling to see the response of communities across Perth and Kinross. So many people quickly mobilised to gather together funds and items for those who have left their homes and now find themselves displaced with very few belongings. Perth and Kinross has strong and valued links with Eastern Europe. The Polish communities have taken a lead in gathering items and I would encourage anyone who can to donate to this humanitarian effort. I am sure that many people in Perth and Kinross will be keen to do their bit for Ukraine by offering a room to refugees through the UK Government's Homes for Ukraine scheme.

While the impact of the conflict on living costs for families – particularly at the fuel pump – has received extensive media coverage, the immediate peril facing our farmers has been covered to a far lesser extent. Just like the rest of the population, farmers are feeling the pinch of the increasing price of fuel which they require to power the wide variety of agricultural vehicles.

For farmers in rural communities like Kinross-shire, the war has also brought many additional challenges. It has been reported that farmers will be unlikely to be able to buy fertiliser for the spring planting season with supplies having dried up as a result of Russia (producer of a fifth of the world's supply) ending exports of urea to the UK. Prices had risen to over £1000 per tonne for fertiliser, however stock now remains unavailable to purchase at all for the foreseeable future. Unless farmers have already obtained the fertiliser, they will be unable to grow food which will hamper UK food production and lead to the inflation of prices for consumers. Indeed, if we choose to do nothing to support farmers through this crisis, it will inevitably lead to implications for us all in the near future.

So what can we do to support local farmers in Kinross-shire and the wider Perth and Kinross area in their time of crisis? It is paramount that we buy local produce while it is still available which will ensure farmers have enough income to purchase fertiliser when it again becomes available. I am aware that Tayside Contracts recently organised a 'meet the producer' event with the aim of encouraging the greater use of local food produce in school meals. I warmly support any moves such as this which seek to make use of the food we can produce here in Perth and Kinross.

Supporting the agricultural sector through this crisis is essential for mitigating the increase in food prices which could be upon us soon, and every individual can help this situation by buying local. I will seek to raise these issues on behalf of farmers in the Scottish Parliament.

Liz Smith, MSP

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

Jim Fairlie, MSP

'Life is what happens while you're busy making other plans.'

It was John Lennon who said that, and I am sure there is no one who does not now understand the simplicity and power of that statement.

What were we all planning to do on 31 December 2019, when the WHO was informed of a cluster of cases of pneumonia of unknown cause that were detected in Wuhan city? I doubt whether any but a few had planned at that time for the unfolding of events that we all have been lucky enough to live through.

I say 'lucky enough to live through' because, as we know, so many others have not been so lucky. Losing someone is, in itself, painfully hard to bear. However, the pain of losing someone was compounded by the need to isolate – not to be able to be with a loved one at the end or to do that most human of things: to mourn a loss collectively, to grieve together, to share memories, to laugh, to cry, to hug and to help each other through those painful and difficult days.

All those things were taken away from us by a virus that we could not see, hear or smell. Not knowing where our enemy was, or what it looked like, was part of what was most terrifying.

We have also lost the big-ticket occasions. No one turns 18 twice or is born twice, and our way of celebrating the big life events has been curtailed massively. Businesses and livelihoods have been lost and, quite simply, people have had to reassess where their life is going. Many are still trying to work that out.

However, we are here, and looking like we are able to start living something far more like normal lives. And that is thanks, in large part, to the amazing efforts of those people who worked across our vital sectors and to those ingenious folk who developed the vaccinations that have slowly but surely started to give us back our freedoms. We are all due them an enormous debt of gratitude.

We are, however, still going to encounter new variants of the virus and the danger that they pose will have to be monitored closely, so that we can react with the efficiency and pace that are needed.

I pay tribute to the ordinary, everyday people of the country for their forbearance and fortitude in accepting those restrictions on their lives, rolling up their sleeves and getting those vaccines into their arms.

That collective spirit of working as one for the greater good of us all is in large part why we can now have a positive outlook for our future.

The Scottish Government's leadership through the pandemic, its integrity of messaging and its honesty stand comparison to those of any other country in the world.

The Scottish Government's approach continues to be measured and appropriate, and shows a clear route towards resuming life that is as close as possible to levels before the pandemic. But, if the experience of Covid has taught us anything, it is that we need to be able to respond quickly and nimbly to whatever threats may face us in the future.

Jim Fairlie, MSP

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Councillor Richard Watters



ONE MONTH AGO — in late February — Perth and Kinross Council held a meeting to set the budget for the coming year. Each party/group of councillors presented a budget, with the Conservative budget being voted through due to their superior numbers.

If you want to see all the detail for each of the parties/groups budgets in the council, these can be found here:

<https://perth-and-kinross.cmis.uk.com/perth-and-kinross/Committees.aspx>

Once at the website above, select Committees – Perth and Kinross – then select the meeting on 23 February 2022.

One major difference between the SNP budget and the other two main budgets is the choice of how to use the remaining money from the £52 million that the Scottish Government provided to Perth and Kinross Council to help during the pandemic. The remaining Covid reserve is £9.5 million. It is important to note that this Covid reserve is separate from the normal reserves held by the Council to deal with any emergencies.

In these unprecedented times we are witnessing a cost-of-living crisis — mainly due to the huge rise in heating and fuel prices, but also due to increasing food prices — that are hitting our communities just as the Covid Recovery was beginning, the SNP group proposed a Covid Recovery budget that utilises £7.9 million of the remaining £9.5 million.

In comparison, the Conservative budget used only £1 million of this money. And the Lib Dems budget did not use any of it, tucking it away, supposedly for a rainy day. For many people in Kinross-shire, this is already a rainy day. And it follows many other rainy days over the past two years. The people of Kinross-shire and throughout the whole of the council area need help now.

The SNP budget would use these Covid funds to help the communities we serve and would show our commitment to a ‘Green Recovery’.

The SNP budget would mean extra welfare-rights capacity to support the most vulnerable in our communities, extra resources to deal with fly tipping, more investment in Grit Bins and our roads infrastructure, and proper funding for our Local Action Partnership—as well as investment in other areas.

Loch Leven NNR

If you are planning to go out on the loch on a kayak, paddleboard, canoe or any other watercraft, please read the signage out on the reserve.

Keep away from all of the islands and keep 200 metres from the shoreline – this will help to protect the nesting ducks that call Loch Leven NNR their home.

A reminder that there are no sailboats or motorised crafts permitted on the loch.

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A key part of our Covid Recovery should be that it is a Green Recovery, so our SNP budget set aside over a million pounds to invest in new green technologies, including –

- £250K pounds to support trials using innovative green-heating solutions for houses.
- £300K to support feasibility grants for local community-led renewable-energy developments, like the successful Rumbling Bridge Community Hydro Society scheme near the Crook of Devon.
- £100K to fund feasibility proposals to set up private grid systems, aimed at locally produced green energy that provides efficient, low-cost clean energy.
- £200K towards feasibility studies to support the possibilities around the circular economy.
- £200K to help attract new clean-technology manufacturing to PKC, implementing SMART manufacturing.

As part of delivering this, the SNP budget commits to providing additional staff capacity to add to and complement the excellent staff resources we already have and to ensure a fair and just transition to Net Zero.

In addition, the SNP budget would set aside significant sums of money to address community resilience — especially in dealing with the impacts of climate change — as well as extra money to invest in free parking for electric vehicles and community car share schemes. The SNP budget would set up a strategic review of how public transport is delivered throughout the Council Area and would invest in local bus services that work for our communities by providing proper timetables.

If the SNP gets the majority at the council elections on 5 May, then we will bring ‘Our Budget’ before Council as soon as possible, to ensure we can invest in a Green recovery, building a innovative and ambitious council.

Councillor Richard Watters

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John Nicolson, MP



MY GRANDMA USED TO tell me about the bomb shelters. Across Scotstoun, she said, the terrifying wailing could be heard, a moaning warning amplified up the closes and through the tenement back-courts. It penetrated their top floor room and kitchen as the children grabbed their pre-packed satchels full of homework. She, in turn, grabbed the children.

My Grandpa was seldom there. He worked nights at his shipyard in Clydebank, riding the darkened tram down Dumbarton Road until, one bright moonlit night, German bombers struck. The two days of devastating bombing became known as the 'Clydeside Blitz'. Like so many other men, he never returned home and there was no funeral. The men's pay packets found amidst the rubble were divided equally between the widows.

The bereaved family had to cope as best they could. But the underground bomb shelters held fresh terror offering, as the families now knew, no defence from a direct hit. And black outwalks to and from school through Kelvingrove Park were bleak.

I was born in the 1960s when my Grandma's grief still seemed acute. But her generation's memories of unimaginable grief at the destruction wrought across our continent convinced us that we'd never again see war visited upon Europe on such a scale again. The Cold War which held nations captive on the wrong side of the Iron Curtain offered a grim stability.

When the Wall fell, I was a young reporter on 'Newsnight'. I visited the darkened streets of East Berlin, exploring the majestic architecture of Mitte, its buildings still pockmarked by bullets and shrapnel. Hope was in the air. Some called the period 'the end of history'. Old nations claimed their seats at the United Nations. We promised, collectively, to renounce war and respect existing borders. Dictatorships held free elections, and in some cases elected dictators. George Bush looked Putin in the eye, got a sense of soul he said, and found him trustworthy. It was an assessment the people of Grozny, Syria, Crimea, and now the rest of Ukraine would not share.

I've been thinking a lot about my Grandma as I watch the carnage in Ukraine. As I write, Vladimir Putin has bombed a theatre sheltering 1000 people with 'children' written outside in large Cyrillic letters to deter attack. War crimes are being committed by the invaders daily. Old people are being stretchered out of their apartments, blinking and dazed. Maternity wards have come under attack, and Germany is rearming in response. Retired generals are speaking on the radio about Kyiv being encircled in a mediaeval style siege.

My Grandma died four decades ago. In the intervening years, our societies have advanced technologically beyond recognition. But, in the heart of Europe, another war criminal is pounding a civilian population in the hope of crushing their collective spirit into submission. He will fail. But how dismal it is that we bear witness not to the end of history, but the endless recycling of a centuries-old story.

John Nicolson, MP

Councillor Willie Robertson



Kinross-shire Local Committee: The next meeting of the Kinross-shire Local Committee has been set to meet virtually on 21 April at 4pm. If you would like to join the meeting please let me know and I will send you the contact details.

Embankment Mill Street: The Council have replanted the embankment on the north side of Mill Street. This embankment has been a problem for some time and had become very unsightly, overgrown with weeds, brambles and self-seeded trees. It has been a huge task to clear the ground and replant it. The work should greatly improve the appearance of this important part of central Kinross.



Bus Stop, South Street: There is a growing problem with delivery vehicles and cars parking both in the entrance to Church Street and at the South Street bus stop opposite. This makes it very difficult for buses to stop to pick up passengers and is also causes traffic hold ups. I have written to the Council to see what action can be taken to alleviate the problem. It will likely need better road marking and parking enforcement.

Ride Across Britain: The event is a multi-day cycle ride (not a competitive race) and is made up of nine stages starting at Land's End and finishing at John O'Groats. There will be up to 900 riders on the event each day and each stage starts in the early morning and finishes in the early evening. There will be 2 pit stops on each day with food, water and sports nutrition at each. The riders will be set-off from the start of each stage in small groups to minimise the impact on the road network. Simple route signage will be erected the day before the event and removed the day of the event behind the final rider. The riders are due to pass through Kinross-shire on Friday 16 September, cycling from Hopetoun House, Edinburgh to Strathdon in Aberdeenshire, a distance of 112 miles. The route through Kinross-shire is Keltybridge – Gairneybridge – Kinross High Street – Milnathort – Middleton Farm – Glenfarg – Perth via the Wicks o' Baigle road.
My legs felt really tired just typing this!

Councillor Willie Robertson

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Bogus Callers

I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS opportunity to remind people to take precautions whilst dealing with unsolicited callers.

Bogus callers try to get into your home or obtain personal details by pretending to be someone they're not, including council staff, charity collectors, meter readers and police officers. In reality, they are criminals trying to steal money and valuables.

How can I protect myself from doorstep crime?

- Be on guard if someone turns up unexpectedly.
- Keep front and back doors locked.
- Use the door viewer or nearby window when answering the door.
- Fit a door chain or bar – use it and keep it on when talking to callers at the door.
- If you're not sure, don't answer the door.
- Don't feel embarrassed – genuine callers expect you to be careful.
- Only let callers in if they have an appointment and you have confirmed they are genuine.
- Always ask for identification badges of anyone you answer the door to, but don't rely on them. Identity cards can be faked – phone the company to verify their identity.
- Some companies offer a password system. Ask your utility providers if this can be used and if you have a password with a company make sure the caller uses it.
- Never let people try to persuade you to let them into your home even if they are asking for help – they may not be genuine. If someone is persistent, ask them to call at another time and arrange for a friend or family member to be with you.
- Never agree to pay for goods or give money to strangers who arrive at your door.
- Don't keep large amounts of money in your home.
- Remember, it's your home. There's no reason why anyone should ever enter your home against your wishes.
- If you're not sure, don't answer the door.

What action should I take if someone visits me and I think they're a doorstep criminal?

- Keep the caller out of your house, ask them to leave and call the police immediately by dialing 101.
- You might also want to try to alert a family member or attract a neighbour's attention but you should always contact the police first by dialing 101. The police would much rather attend a false alarm than have someone fall victim to a doorstep criminal.
- If the person refuses to leave your door, or you feel threatened or scared - Call 999 and ask for the police.
- Note down their description and the description of any vehicle they're using, including make, model, colour and registration number.

Recent Incidents

Between Sunday 13 and Tuesday 15 March, a red Suzuki Quadbike was stolen from Heatherleys Farm, Glenfarg. (CR/7635/22)

Between Sunday 13 February and Wednesday 2 March, a silver Volkswagen Golf was vandalised in Dalwhamie Street, Kinross. (CR/6617/22)

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 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 officers for Kinross-shire:

PC Martin Gemmell.

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)

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Community Watch

Receive email alerts about criminal incidents in your area, crime prevention advice, flood alerts and much more by signing up to Perth and Kinross Community Watch.

The range of information received can be tailored individually; each person signing up can choose which partner agencies they would like to receive messages from. Visit this website for more details: www.pkcommunitywatch.co.uk

Crime Stoppers 0800 555 111

This is a free phone number (unless you are using a mobile phone), which any member of the public can contact at any time if you have information relating to a criminal activity of any sort.

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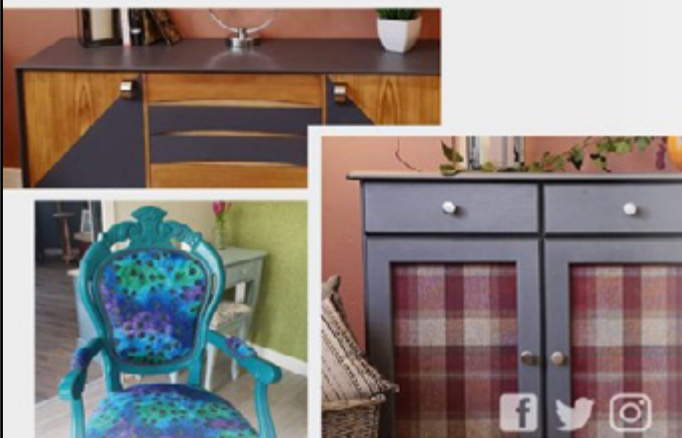
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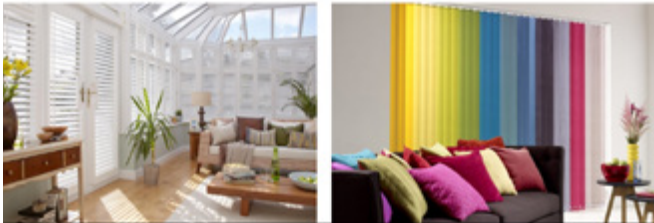
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TRANSFORMING THE PARK & RIDE

AFTER A COUPLE OF years of proposals and dialogue, at last in March work began to transform the muddy grass centre strips in the Kinross Park and Ride car park. The community driven project, led by Kinross-shire Civic Trust, was funded by a grant from the Scottish Government's Nature Restoration Fund, administered for Kinross-shire by Perth and Kinross Council. Our contractor was Thomson Landscapes, who stripped away the overgrown turf, which had bulked up so much over the decades since it was laid, that rainfall draining off the car park puddled in the carpark spaces, rather than enter the soakaway beneath the grass. The level of the soil beneath the turf was lowered and regraded to allow scope for growth in the new wildflower turf which has now been sown there. A volume of free space ('freeboard') for exceptional cloudbursts, (very intensive rainstorms), to linger as they take time to soak away, has also been created on top of the new vegetation.

Two new raingarden features have thus been established. On the larger of the two main available grass areas, most of the turf had to be removed and a seedbed was created. Strips of conventional turf were re-laid along the edges to stabilise the bare soil there in case of heavy rain which might have washed much of it into the centre, displacing any seeds carefully sown by our volunteers. Strips were also laid to divide the area into manageable spaces for sowing seeds in the seedbeds created by the contractor. The strips were laid in diagonals, forming a chevron effect, and allowing the volunteers to work the beds without compacting them too much. As the plants grow, it will become a more integrated vegetation than if there were simple direct lines across it.

A central barrier fence has been provided to remind drivers not to try and drive across the features.

The excellent volunteers were members of the Kinross-shire



Civic Trust, Kinross in Bloom, and a couple of friends who also joined in enthusiastically. The seeds were an urban wildflower meadow mix, supplied by Scottish native plants specialist Scotia Seeds. That seed mix was developed by ecologists at Edinburgh University and includes species selected to provide

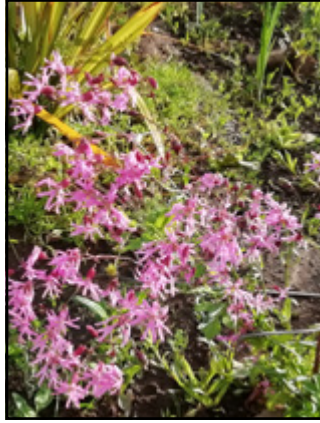
some plants in bloom over a prolonged spring to autumn flowering season. Whilst the primary design aspiration of the Edinburgh ecologists was to have a long period providing nectar for pollinators, it also means flow-



ers should be in bloom somewhere from March to September. Blooms will include poppies, ox-eye daisies, vetches and cowslips; 21 wildflower species; a grass meadow mix. We also included some patches of seeds from Scotia Seeds 'Get nectar rich quick' seed mix. They were purchased for the long narrow mud strip, before we knew about the council's alternative plan



Features



Lady's Smock (l) and Ragged Robin (r)

to create a rock feature. It's a 100% wildflower mix, so should provide more visual diversity to the raingarden.

To provide more interest during the weeks required for seeds to germinate and seedlings to grow, we also planted some plug plants. These included flowers such as meadow cranesbill and ox-eye daisy, as well as some red campion, red clover and devil's bit scabious.

Although the features are raingardens, (vegetation designed to accept rainfall running off the surrounding surfaces), the areas will dry quickly in a prolonged dry summer, so wetland plants will struggle to survive. In ten small 'dust-bin-lid size' places (where large concrete blocks – footings from former fences – had to be excavated, creating deeper

Kinross-shire Civic Trust hon project manager Andrew Flinn, with the team from Thomson landscapes.



Testing: water dropped across the car park does run across and down into the raingardens

hollows) we have done a bit of bog-garden creation, lining the small excavations with pond-liner off-cuts, to slow the rate of infiltration at those places. That has allowed us to add some wet meadow plants such as spring flowering lady's smock, (also known as cuckoo flower) and marsh marigold; summer flowering ragged robin; and late summer blooming purple loosestrife.



Wildflower turf in situ (central raingarden).

In the other raingarden feature, a native wildflower turf has been used in the centre of the car park to try and get soil stabilisation and meadow growth more quickly and securely. We aim to compare both raingardens as they develop over the coming months and years.

Once the seeds, plug plants and turf had all been sown, planted and laid respectively, we tested the drainage performance by dropping the excess water we had for the plants, on the new car park surface. Happily, it ran gently across and down into the drainage features – soon to become much better known as the Kinross Park and Ride raingardens!

We are most grateful to our volunteers, especially our project manager Andrew Flinn, without whom this work could not have been done, and to the helpful staff of Perth and Kinross Council.

BJ D'Arcy

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SPRING HAS SPRUNG!

Magnus Thompson P5

The Prime Of Spring Time

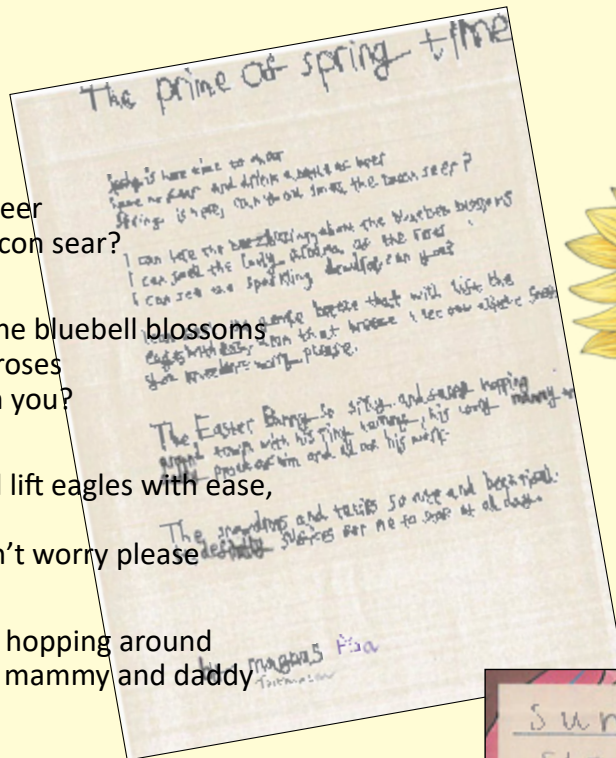
Spring is here time to cheer
 Have no fear and drink a bottle of beer
 Spring is here, can you smell the bacon sear?

I can hear the bees buzzing about the bluebell blossoms
 I can smell the lovely aroma of the roses
 I can see the sparkling dewdrop can you?

I can feel the gentle breeze that will lift eagles with ease,
 upon that
 breeze I let out a sneeze, you needn't worry please

The Easter Bunny so silly and sunny hopping around
 town with his tiny tammy his lovely mammy and daddy
 proud of him and all his work

The snowdrops and tulips look so nice and beautiful
 It's definitely suffices for me to stare at all day

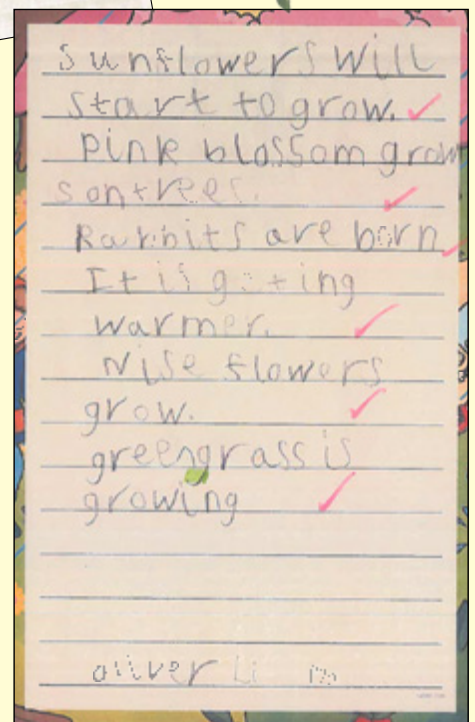
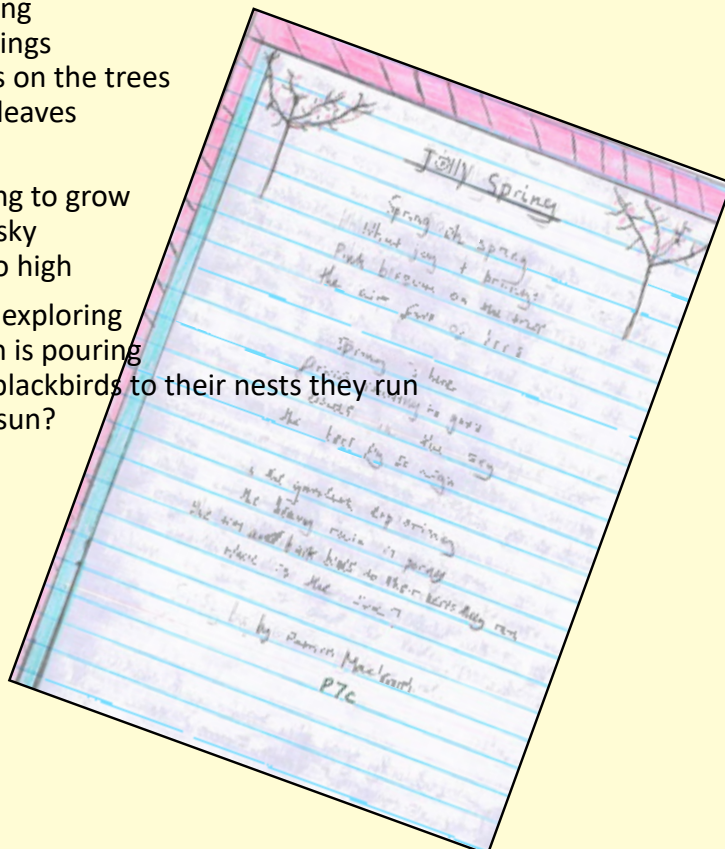


Patrick Macleod P7C

Spring oh spring
 What joy it brings
 Pink blossoms on the trees
 the air full of leaves

Spring is here
 flowers starting to grow
 clouds in the sky
 the bees fly so high

in the garden exploring
 the heavy rain is pouring
 blue tits and blackbirds to their nests they run
 Where is the sun?



Oliver Li P2A

Sunflowers will start to grow
 pink blossom grows on trees
 rabbits are born
 It is getting warmer
 Nice flowers grow
 Green grass is growing

The children of Kinross Primary School have been writing poems about Spring and what it means to them. We've included a selection of our favourite winners — we wish we had space to print them all! Well done to all those who wrote a poem. We have really enjoyed reading them.

Aila Wilson (p5b)

Spring

The cuteness of the lambs
The freshness of the air
The stinging of the bees
That says spring to me

The leaping of the frogs
The whispering of the leaves
The tingling of the breeze
That says spring to me

The hug of the warmth
The tickle of the breeze
The buzzing of the wasps
That says spring to me

Brodie Huntzinger P4

Spring Time

In the spring time you will see
all of nature's
big and beautiful buzzing bees

In the spring you'll maybe see
Whatabout birdies when their
rustling in all of the leaves
on the nearby tree

In the spring time you will hear
new born lambs
bleating happily

In the spring time you will hear
the sounds of nature in
your ear

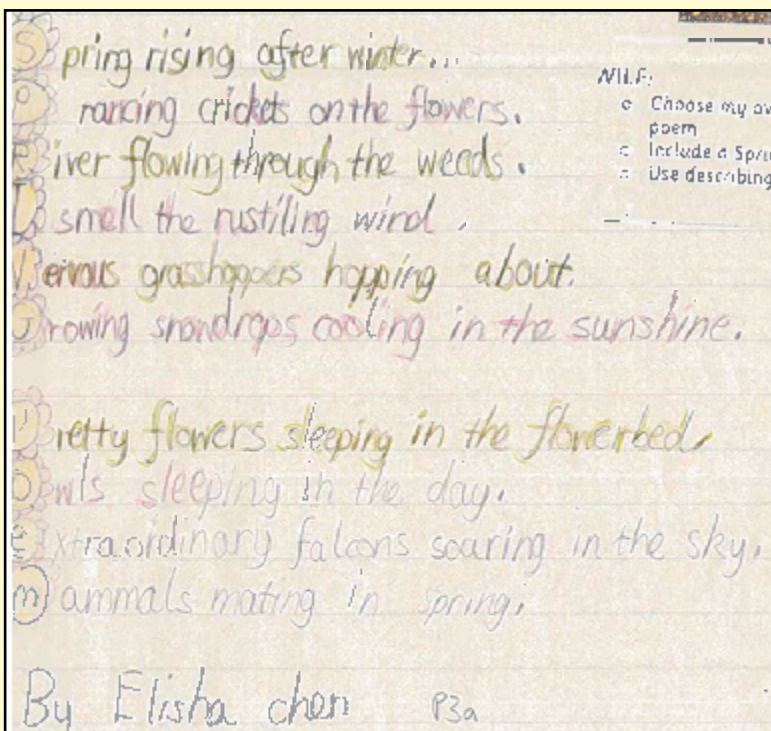
In the spring time you will
touch
sticky sweet smelling mud
but it feels just like fudge

In the spring time you will
smell
things like turtles
in their shells

In the spring time you will taste
wild berries but not toothpaste

In the spring time you will taste
just your lunch while watching
a race!

In the spring time you will read
this poem
which is full of spring things
from my knowing



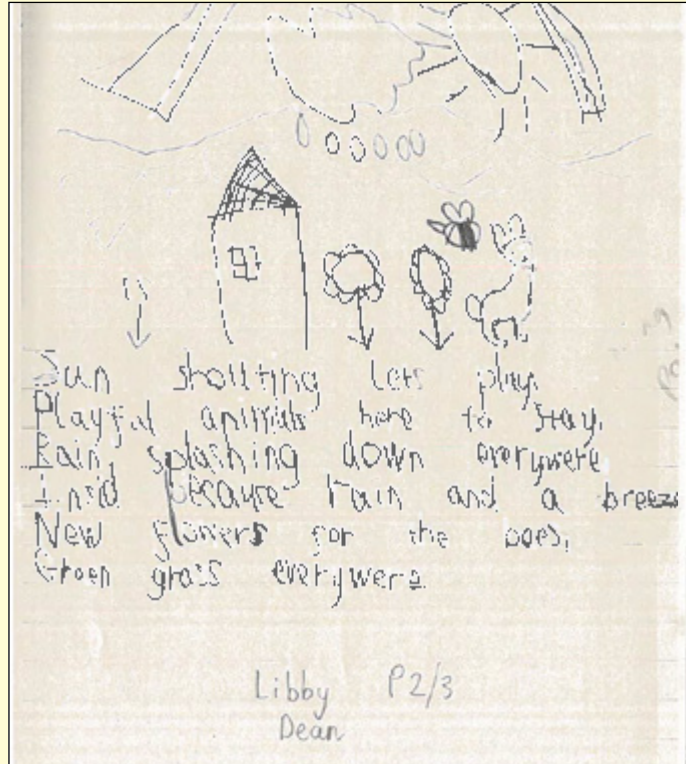
Elisha Chen P3A

Spring rising after winter
Prancing crickets on the flowers
River flowing through the weeds
I smell the rustling wind
Nervous grasshoppers hopping about
Growing snowdrops cooling in the sunshine
Pretty flowers sleeping in the flowerbed
Owls sleeping in the day
Extraordinary falcons soaring in the sky
Mammals mating in the spring

Features

Libby Dean P2/3

Sun shouting let's play
Playful animals here to stay
Rain splashing down everywhere
Inside because rain and a breeze
New flowers for the bees
Green grass everywhere



Orlagh Smith

Spring Is Finally Here

The prettiness of the daffodils
The whiteness of the new born lambs
The softness of the fluffy clours
That feels like spring to me

The excitement of Easter
The smell of the melting chocolate
The loudness of eating eggs
That feels like spring to me

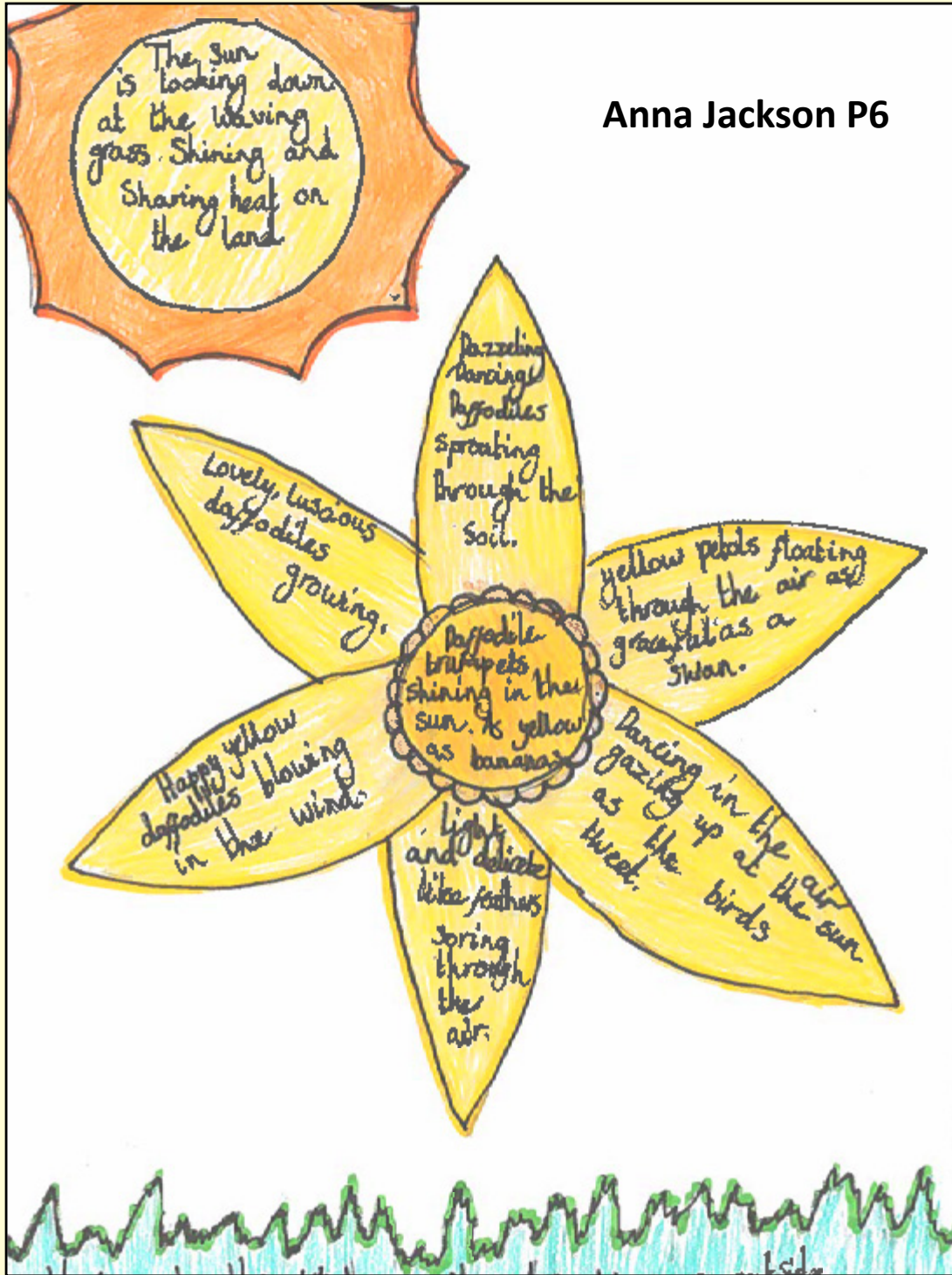
The sky is as blue as the ocean
The lambs hopping around the field
The bloom of the bluebells begin
That feels like spring to me

The small of the beautiful blossoms
The leaves swishing in the wind
The trees howling in the draught
Spring is finally here

Freya Letton P2

Spring is beautiful and sunny
Piglets are born in the sun
Rainbows come out they look good
Insects come out to see the snowdrops
Now its time to play and see sis
Growing grass and its glowing





Anna Jackson P6

Phoebe Jarvis

Spring

Winter birds leave
 Summer travellers they are
 Daffodils bloom like mini
 suns, Now come long
 Days and dawn calls

Where is the dark
 Nights and deep
 snows of winter gone?
 The housemartins nest
 The pigeons call
 Red sunsets flood

the loch's waters
 Like a river on fire

The sun's warm light
 during the cold of
 another winter passed
 Into bloom come fields
 Bluebells and buttercups
 White snowdrops poke
 Their green stems
 through the snow

Daisies and tulips
 Decorate pots
 Oaks and beeches
 grow new leaves

Fruit trees blossom
 And pollen fills the air
 Flocks of swallows soar
 Black specks against a
 red sky

Rotary Young Writer 2022

Talented Young Writers from across Kinross-shire have been busy creating stories on the theme of 'Environment' in this year's Rotary competition. Congratulations to everyone who took part – we loved reading your stories! And it is so heartening to see the concern and responsibility for the environment which was demonstrated by our young citizens. We are delighted to share the winning entries with *Newsletter* readers.

George Lawrie

Best Poem, Juniors

Recycle Michael

My name is Michael and I must confess
That when I put out the rubbish, I do
make a mess.

I chuck out stuff and put it in the bin
And never even try to recycle a pin!

The old food from the kitchen goes
straight in the rubbish
The peelings and leaves from carrots and cabbage.
The bins get all smelly and I don't compost the food
But I should eat all my jelly and be really good.

But it's been in there so long, it's started to smell
And that's not the best way. I can tell!
Everything I use, I've been putting the waste
So, I must change my ways – in haste!

From now on, I'll become really, really GREEN!
And recycle my tins and compost my beans
I'll separate my bottles and reuse my plastic
Gather cardboard and paper and do something drastic.

I'll reduce and reuse all the unbroken glass
And use the bottle bank. I'll be the best in class!
Everyone will see me and be inspired to recycle.
And I'll be a superhero: Recycle Michael!

Michael Scott, Arngask Primary School



Best Prose, Juniors

My Diary

AS I AWOKE, I heard screaming and wailing in the darkness. The water was rising higher and higher, engulfing my bed. A pair of hands gripped my waist and lifted me out of the shadows, that was the last thing I remembered and the last time I gazed into my parents petrified, moonlit eyes. They vanished into the abyss of the polluted waters. Our village was gone, my parents were gone and all that was left were the polluted waters from the flood.

The noise and bumps of the road woke me as I realised, I was alone, but not alone. Other people had managed to escape the devastation as we travelled away from my homeland to somewhere new, somewhere I had never dreamt of. There was kindness in the people who were trying to save us, they offered water and warm blankets to snuggle in, but this was different from snuggling into my mother's loving arms. The truck we were in stopped abruptly in the darkness. Spotlights shone in my eye blinding me like sharp daggers, however, a kind voice that I didn't understand beckoned me forward. As she approached, I understood where we were. I had read about it in books at schools, people who come and help when all is lost. She has letters on her jacket, U.N, they were here to help but they will never replace my mums' warm cuddles.



I managed some sleep, but it was so hard with all the noise and lights and the UN checking on us. I wasn't the only child there, there were others younger than me. Some were hurt, some were crying so hard that I could see into their souls that they had witnessed something terrible.

As I awoke in my mind, I called out for my mum but she was not there, I then understood that my life would never be the same ever again. There were lots of people gathered around a small TV in the corner of the freezing cold room. It was showing images of the devastation that ran through my village. The reporter explained the flood had been caused by climate change and that the sea levels had risen so much they caused the dam in the valley to collapse, horses of brown water galloped down towards our village and that was it.

I realised that this was the consequence of actions of people in rich countries who only care about themselves because they never see the destruction. I have been a protester since I was 6 years old, now they will listen to our cries! I was offered food which gave me strength to ask the UN lady if she could find the reporter who had seen my village, or what was left of it. Maybe if I could talk to them and they could put a face to what climate change is doing to poor countries like mine it may help. I've lost everything, this is now my mission.

Isabelle Gallier, Fossoway Primary School

Poem, Highly Commended, Juniors

Environment

Our world is dying slowly
Under the seas there is a lot of creatures
Re-use more rubbish.

We have a wonderful world
Our world is beautiful
Nature is all around us
Don't chop down so many trees
Earth is AMAZING without rubbish
Remember NOT TO LITTER!
Frozen lands are melting
Under the sea there is more rubbish than fish!
Lovely animals roam free...
We have to respect the planet
Open space to play in
Respect animals!
Look after Earth!
Don't kill wild animals!

Freya Nicholl, Milnathort Primary School

Prose Runner Up, Juniors

What Are We Doing?

Lola

I WOKE UP TO the smell of diesel burning around my home. The air was filled with ear splitting crashes and bangs. My home was usually filled with beautiful humming, buzzing and chirping sounds but not today.

The animals and birds in the rainforest were going crazy. There was confusion in the air and everyone was panicking. I peered through the dense tree canopy to see big black and yellow fire breathing machines ripping and tearing their way through my beautiful rainforest home. I clung onto my mother's dense black fur feeling petrified. We started to leap and swing through the trees but suddenly a deafening crack rang through the forest. My mother froze and together we went tumbling through the trees and landed on the forest floor.

My mother lay lifeless on the ground. I shrieked in terror as I realised that her heart was no longer beating inside her chest as it usually did. But they were still coming, those big ugly machines so I sprang desperately from my loving mother's empty grip. I didn't want to leave her, but I knew that was what she would have wanted. I was terrified for what may happen next. She was my mother and I had nobody else.

Reluctantly I left her and leapt into the forest. I was all alone fending for myself. I had to look for a new home now.

Effects of Deforestation

Lola was a baby monkey whose mother was shot as their rainforest home was cleared to make way for farmland. Lola was lucky and was rescued by an animal sanctuary but Lola wasn't the only one who was harmed by the rainforest clearance. The loss of trees and other vegetation can cause climate change, desertification, soil erosion, fewer crops, flooding, increased green house gases in the atmosphere and a host of problems for native populations.

We are the monsters who put Lola through that. We must look after our planet and all of our wildlife otherwise we face losing everything.

It is our responsibility to ensure that the future of the planet and wildlife is bright.

Erin Galbraith, Fossoway Primary School



Left to right Chloe Harley, Isabelle Gallier, Erin Galbraith

Best Poem, Intermediate

Earth Eaters

I never thought the day would come
When people, not just some
Would visualise the monsters we've become.

Our greedy little minds
Wanted everything we could find.
And now that I've come to terms with it
I'll list the things that we do to it, our Earth.
They're all true.

Chopping trees for firewood, no more homes for woodland troops.
Gas and petrol flying free, turning the world to a dark, stormy sea.
Plastic bottles, bags and more roams our house
Killing the little ounces of sea life left.

H2O and methane
Sending multiple train carriages filled to the top with gas
Swallowing the earth

Our greed is so enormous
Its cloud so big, I think I'll need a compass
To guide us home

Our homes are perfect, eco-friendly too
Sunny weather outside
Freezing in the Arctic
Glaciers intact, packed deep with snow and ice,
Recycling is now natural

I think I kind of like it here,
Deep inside my thoughts.
I see a healthy Earth with many Earth-Endures.

But eyes open I see only Earth-eaters fillin' up the place
Killing all life's joy
We're destroying the delicate circle of life...
Power is NOT a toy.

Be careful when the world is at your feet
The system is hard to beat
To change the world, you need to be smart,
You've got to power through.

In generations to come, your family will be the one to suffer
And we will be to blame
Now it's boring, maybe even lame,
But don't you think it's worth it,
When your family's OK?

Sofia McHardy, Kinross Primary School



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Winner, Prose, Intermediate

Virtually Around the World

DAY ONE

TODAY I AM GOING on a virtual trip around the world, to see how animals are surviving due to climate change, first stop Australia to see how the koalas are doing. UK to Australia in about 30 seconds.

Here we are in Australia. I am devastated to see massive bush fires surrounding me. Bush fires are happening increasingly more frequently because of how global warming is making the world hotter and hotter. The incredibly sad thing is there are only less than 100,000 koalas left in the world and in the wild are around 43,000! That is it for now, see you on day two!

DAY TWO

Another day another place to go. Today we are going to a colder place, the North Pole! This time we are going to learn about more animals and the climate.

Teleporting...

We are here! I looked around and all the ice was melting. The Arctic is warming 3 times as fast as the global average, which mean the water is rising and land is flooding! Now every one's favourite, the polar bears! The loss of the sea ice

also threatens the bears main pray, seals, which needs the ice to raise their young. There are only between 22,000 and 31,000 of the cute beasts. It feels like it is getting colder even here! Gotta go to bed, see you tomorrow.

DAY THREE

Goodbye polar bears, hello new place! I wonder where we are going today. Why don't we find out and see!

Plop!

Here we are! Hmmm, we're in the middle of the ocean, let's look on the map to see where we are. Oh! We are on the coast of Florida. Let's look under the water. I am so disappointed to see so much plastic everywhere. The fish are swimming through it and birds think its food. If they think that they will choke on it! Polluting the earth with plastic just sends greenhouse gasses up into the air, and that makes the world hotter by trapping the heat of the sun inside. This is bad!

We need to stop this and get our lives together! Start recycling plastic and don't just throw it in the sea! The world is deteriorating, and we need to help! There's no planet B!

Grace Harley, Fossoway Primary School

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS *by Joyce*

GENERALLY SPEAKING, many of us are not afraid to complain if we feel that we have been kept waiting too long or if we have received bad service somewhere. We feel confident and speak up, often achieving a discounted bill or an apology. Only the other day I was standing in the supermarket and heard a lady complaining because she had been wrongly charged for an item. The shop assistant duly investigated and refunded the money and the wronged individual went on with her day. It is easy to challenge when you have the correct information and know that you have been wronged.

However, it is not so easy to stand up for yourself or ensure that you are properly represented when you are out of your depth or experiencing difficulties you have not encountered before. In the current climate of rising costs and zero hours contracts, people can quickly find themselves out of their depth and unsure where to turn. I regularly advise clients who have encountered unexpected circumstances; job loss, illness and bereavement are common themes. It is not uncommon for mental illness to hit and render a previously 'capable' professional unable to function. It can happen to any of us. No job means no income and, even for those with savings, money quickly runs out.

A well-known housing and homelessness charity once stated that



most people are three pay-days away from homelessness. A terrifying prospect but an accurate one. What would you do if the unthinkable happened?

Most people do not know that mortgage lenders have a duty (more formally known as 'pre-action protocol') to borrowers to work with them before taking legal action for unpaid mortgages. There are also numerous legal protections for those living in private and local authority tenancies. It all depends on the type of let you have and remember that the landlord cannot simply throw you out on the street. If they have not followed the correct legal procedure and obtained a valid eviction order, removing you from the tenancy could constitute a criminal offence.

Even if the worst happens and you have to move, have you considered all the options? As well as options which most people have heard of, such as

sheltered housing, there are other schemes such as amenity housing as well as the existence of legal duties on local authorities to house people in certain circumstances. If you have an illness or disability, you may be able to apply for priority points and if you have problems with antisocial behaviour, you may be able to apply for social needs points for example. Although the word 'homelessness' is scary, that does not mean that you have to be roofless; if you are living with a friend, 'sofa-surfing' or are suffering domestic abuse (including financial coercion and control), you may be eligible for help.

When people think of lawyers, they tend to think of making wills, getting a divorce or buying a house. However, social welfare lawyers are there to help with problems like those described in this article. To make people aware of their legal rights and to help them protect their position. Whatever your problem or dilemma, and however big it seems, get advice as soon as possible. In most cases, the law is there to protect you and it is often a case of knowing your rights and how to invoke them.

Joyce Horsman is Principal Solicitor at Dundee Law Centre (www.dundee-law.org). She lives in Kinross-shire and is the Assistant Editor of the Newsletter.

News from the Health Centre



Bowel Screening

Bowel cancer is a major public health problem in Scotland. The Scottish Bowel Screening Programme invites men and women aged between 50 and 74 to take part in screening every two years. Bowel screening aims to find cancer at an early stage when treatment is likely to be more effective. Bowel screening is the only screening programme where the test is completed at home.

Key Facts

- Scotland has a higher rate of bowel cancer than most other countries in the Western world.
- Bowel cancer is the third most common cancer in Scotland. Around 4,000 people in Scotland get bowel cancer every year.
- From age 50 onwards the risk of bowel cancer is higher.
- Men are more likely to have a positive screening result.
- Early diagnosis is key: 9 out of 10 people survive bowel cancer if it's found early.
- You are 14 times more likely to survive bowel cancer if it is found early

The simpler bowel screening test is likely to overcome a process barrier for those who found the gFOBT test difficult or unhygienic to complete.

NHS inform has all the bowel screening information for the public. This includes information in audio format, British Sign Language format and video format.

www.nhsinform.scot/bowelscreening


Easter Closing

Over the Easter period, Loch Leven Heath Centre will be closed on the following dates:

Friday 15 April 2022 and Monday 18 April 2022

Out of Hours evening and weekend cover is provided by NHS24 and the Fife Primary Care Emergency Service. They will also be providing emergency cover on the above dates and can be contacted on 111. All calls are recorded – please contact them only when a medical emergency occurs which cannot wait until we re-open. Thank you.

We would ask all patients to make sure that they have sufficient medication to last over the Easter period.

 <p>While these sessions are usually drop-in, currently you must either phone the number for the agency you wish to connect with or contact: Shona 07896 280843 shona.fowler@nhs.scot Declan 07557 488902 declanjones@pkc.gov.uk</p>		<p>1 10am to 12.30pm Declan Jones, Social Prescriber - Community Connecting/Signposting 07557 488902</p>		
<p>4 CLOSED</p>	<p>5 AM - booked</p>	<p>6 1.30pm – 3.30pm Helen or Lana from CATH will support with form filling – PIP, Universal Credit etc 07739 858987</p>	<p>7 10am to 12.30pm Declan Jones, Social Prescriber - Community Connecting/Signposting 07557 488902</p>	<p>8 10am to 12.30pm Declan Jones, Social Prescriber - Community Connecting/Signposting 07557 488902</p>
<p>11 PM Lighthouse Offering drop-in crisis support for mental health 0800 121 4820</p>	<p>12 AM - booked</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 10am to 12.30pm Broke not Broken Danielle will be there to offer advice, connecting to support and also for foodbank referrals. 07518 913107 2pm – 4pm Appointment only Citizen's Advice Bureau offering advice and information. 01738 450581</p>	<p>15 CLOSED</p>
<p>18 CLOSED</p>	<p>19 AM - booked</p>	<p>20 AM HomeStart Breast Buddies group If you need more info call - 01738 638847 1.30pm – 3.30pm Helen or Lana from CATH will support with form filling – PIP, Universal Credit etc 07739 858987</p>	<p>21 10am to 12.30pm Broke not Broken Danielle will be there to offer advice, connecting to support and also for foodbank referrals. 07518 913107 1.30pm to 3.30pm Lynne from Tayside Hearing Voices will offer information and support for anyone experiencing symptoms of psychosis, unusual beliefs or paranoia, also signposting to their service for carers and resilience. 07394 418429</p>	<p>22 11am to 1pm Social Security Scotland offering advice on their benefits – Carers Allowance Supplement, Child Disability Payment, Funeral Support Payment, Best Start Grants etc. 0800 182 2222</p>
<p>25 AM - booked PM - Lighthouse Offering drop-in crisis support for mental health 0800 121 4820</p>	<p>26 AM - booked</p>	<p>27 AM HomeStart Breast Buddies group If you need more info call - 01738 638847 2pm - 4pm PKC Social Work for signposting and support. 01577 867300</p>	<p>28 10am to 12.30pm Broke not Broken Danielle will be there to offer advice, connecting to support and also for foodbank referrals. 07518 913107 2pm - 4pm Louise from PKC Housing Team for housing advice and signposting to their service. 07917 55231</p>	<p>29 10am to 12.30pm Declan Jones, Social Prescriber - Community Connecting/Signposting 07557 488902</p>

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EMOTIONS: What Are They Good For?

Winning Ways

by Jo Middlemiss

IN MY WORK, I FIND that people generally think that emotions are a nuisance. Being emotional is weak and hysterical. Being unemotional is regarded as cold, critical and unloving. It sounds like a lose/lose situation. The truth is that as human beings we are all emotional, whether we show it or not. Some peoples' emotions are close to the surface, and others bury theirs deeply, where they think they can do no damage. Sadly they are mistaken. Emotions are never buried dead. They are always buried alive, and will eventually surface. This explains sudden bursts of temper or tears. Emotions are triggered by thoughts, and are signposts to help you learn, from what ever is happening to you. We tend to be very unproductive, if we are trapped by our emotions. The best thing to do with emotions is to acknowledge and accept them, as something helpful.

With some practise, you can clock your emotions, and become aware of what they are telling you. Take anger. The simple question is, 'What is this really about' or 'What is under this feeling'? The chances are that the answer is disappointment in someone, or something. Under disappointment is probably hurt or sadness. And it's probably really about something completely unrelated to the present incident.

Accept all your feelings, learn what you need to learn, and then let them go: bottling them up just keeps them hanging around, waiting to attach themselves to another situation, completely unrelated. Just as you can choose your attitude, so too you can choose how you are going to react. I am always alert when I hear people saying: 'So and so made me angry':

Not true. So and so behaved in a particular and possibly cruel, or inappropriate way, but you chose to be angry/sad/happy/disappointed.

If we always give other people power over our thoughts and emotions, we'll always at the beck and call of their behaviour. That is disempowering. You need your power for your own life. Don't give it away to people or situations that don't have your best interests at heart.

You can also be in charge of keeping the emotion, or letting it go. Keep it, if it helps. Allow it to slip away if it doesn't. Keep asking yourself positive questions. 'How do I want to feel in this situation?' "What would be a helpful reaction in this situation?'

Feeling Boosters:

- Ask yourself 'What am I feeling? How do I feel about this?'
- Relax and feel your feelings, they'll flow and go. If you are feeling a very strong emotion, then do something physical. Walk it out, pound a pillow, or go for a hard cycle.
- Be curious and not critical of others' behaviour. Try not to blame. It does you more harm than the other person.
- When a lot of negative feelings are in your mind, have a collection of happy memories, which you like to revisit.
- Make friends with your feelings. They are helpful, but not in charge of you.
- You often hear talk of Emotional Intelligence. Some people have it naturally, but we can all learn it by being aware of our own emotions, and being curious but not critical of others.

Jo Middlemiss

Social Groups In For People With A Visual Impairment



With the support of Kinross Day Centre Vision PK plans to have the first group meeting for the Kinross area in The Garden room at the Day Centre.

Anyone who lives in the area who has a visual impairment is welcome to come along. The group activities will be decided by the participants, we hope groups will develop activities where people can share interests, skills and experience.

We participants will be encouraged to take ownership of the group with the help of volunteers.

Our first date is **3 May, 10am – 12noon**

The Garden Room, Kinross Day Centre,
64 High Street, Kinross KY13 8AJ

For more information on participation or volunteering please contact Lidia Dye on 07900 707542 or email lidia.dye@visionpk.org.uk.

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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.

Kinross Community Council News from the February meeting

Present at the meeting held on 22 February were Cllrs L McKay, (Chair), Cllr D Colliar, Cllr W Freeman, Cllr T Stewart Cllrs C Purves, W Robertson and R Watters, Mrs Caron Aird minute-taker and 2 members of the public

Apologies had been received from Cllr M Barnacle, Cllr H Phillips, Cllr M Wood and Police Scotland.

Police Report

Police Scotland had submitted their apologies for the meeting, but a report had been received and had been circulated to members. It was noted that there had been several break-ins in the area recently, along with speeding offences.

Matters Arising

Parking At Co-op

Cllr Phillips had written to the owners regarding the car park. The parking conditions had been amended.

Proposed Sale of Private Parking Area to Owner of Myre Cottage, Smith Street, Kinross

It was noted that at the last meeting, KCC had decided to object to the proposed sale of the piece of land next to Myre Cottage, however it was now felt that the CC should not oppose this and Cllr Phillips was requested not to send the letter of objection, as per the minutes of the previous meeting.

Kinross Town Centre

Members noted that the survey in respect of the High Street had been issued, and the deadline for responses extended. Cllr McKay advised that she and Cllr Phillips had spent time in the High Street recently speaking to residents to get their opinions, and there had been positive feedback. However, it was noted that the local businesses were concerned about the potential for another set of works in the area and had commented that they may not survive if this was to go ahead.

Surplus Funding – Provost's Lamp

Cllr D Colliar advised that there was £1432 remaining from the funding provided by the Arthur and Margaret Thomson Trust, and that normal procedure would be to return these funds to the Trust. It was suggested that some single seats be purchased to put at the base of the lamp, and it was agreed that KCC would write to the Trust to advise them of this. It was also noted that approval from PKC would be required before anything was purchased.

Planning Matters

Applications Received

21/02225/FLL Formation of hard standing area, erection of storage shed, gates, alterations to fencing and associated works at King George V Playing Field, Muirs, Kinross

Members were reminded that a similar application was made a few years ago and the CC wrote a letter of objection to PKC. It was agreed that since this was a similar application (keeping the trees in place), another letter of objection should be written advising CC's concerns that this was the same application but in a different format.

21/02230/FLL erection of an agricultural building, formation of access track and associated works at land southwest of Levenorrach, Balado

22/00074/FLL erection of 3 dwelling houses (change of house type for plots 4 0 to 6) at land 110 metres southeast of Beaufield, Balado)

22/00235/FLL extension to car park, reinstatement of window and alterations to boundary treatment at Bank of Scotland, 2 High Street, Kinross

22/00236/FLL alterations at Bank of Scotland, 2 High Street, Kinross

22/00083/SCRN extension to sand and gravel extraction area at Balado Quarry, Balado

Members were unaware of the code used for this application and Cllr R Watters was requested to investigate this. Cllr Watters advised that this was an application made to PKC to determine whether an environmental impact assessment was required. Once a decision has been made, the application is closed.

Applications Determined

21/01976/FLL extension to dwelling house at 3 Green Road, Kinross, approved

21/01852/FLL extension to dwelling house at 4 Morlich Place, Kinross, approved

21/01990/LBC alterations to former Bank of Scotland, 2 High Street, Kinross, withdrawn

21/01992/FLL extension to car park, reinstatement of window and alterations to boundary treatment at former Bank of Scotland, 2 High Street, Kinross, withdrawn

21/02013/LAW erection of an office and fence (proposed) at 47 Green Park, Kinross, refused. Members noted that this office and fence had already been erected and were unaware of the repercussions of PKC's decision to refuse the application.

21/02027/FLL erection of 2 dwelling houses and garages (revised design) at land 20 metres southwest of 16 Curate Wynd, Kinross, approved

21/02134/FLL installation of solar panels at 1 Talla Park, Kinross, approved

21/02203/FLL extension to dwelling house at 108 Argyll Road, Kinross, approved

22/00083/SCRN extension to sand and gravel extraction area at Balado Quarry, Balado, closed

22/00009/LAW installation of replacement conservatory roof (proposed) approved

Reports From PKC Councillors

Cllr Robertson advised that PKC were meeting the following day to discuss the budget for 2022/23 with several savings were requiring to be made. It was noted that road safety issues concerns to be the biggest concern raised and while money had been allocated last year, this had been unspent due to several reasons including the inability to recruit staff and the allocation of short-term contracts.

Cllr Robertson also advised that a joint letter had been sent regarding the water quality in Loch Leven. There is a meeting next week where this matter will be discussed, and it was noted that there needed to be more information made available in respect of the impact on the resident's health before PKC approved any more housing applications. **Cllr Watters** advised that following a feasibility study, the issue appeared to be in relation to the phosphates coming of the land surrounding the loch and if the water is higher than 17°C, then this also causes an issue.

Community Council News

There is due to be a litter pick on the main road (southbound) until the fishtail and it is hoped that an improvement will be seen shortly.

Cllr Purves thanked everyone for their efforts in respect of the survey of the High Street and advised that initial feedback had been positive.

He advised that there was now WiFi in the town centre and urged members to use it and advise him of any efforts.

Cllr Purves, in response to a question from a member of the public, agreed to investigate the issue surrounding the use of the Loch Leven Community Campus outwith school hours as it was felt the Campus was being run as a school as opposed to a community use facility. The member of the public highlighted a number of concerns including the campus being closed due to a lack of staff.

Members noted that the PKC meetings had not been held over the last couple of years and if they had been, the CC had not been invited. It was agreed that Cllr Purves would investigate these matters and report back to a future meeting.

Cllr Watters advised that there would be some traffic disruption at Lathro shortly as Persimmon Homes start to join up the sewers.

The renewal of the planning application for the toilets at the Pier requires to be completed and members agreed that this should be renewed.

Reports From CC Representatives

Cllr Colliar

Signage at Bowton Road

Cllr Colliar confirmed that Cllr Robertson and himself had visited the area to review the signage and agreed that this was inadequate. Cllr Robertson is to raise the issue with PKC Roads Department and ask for additional signage to be arranged.

Cllr L McKay

Partnership/Website

Cllr McKay advised that she had spoken with Dave West and

agreed for herself and Cllr Phillips to meet with him for a final meeting in respect of the website. Cllr Colliar reported that the CC had decided at the previous meeting to withdraw from this venture but Cllr McKay felt that there should be a final meeting to discuss the matter one final time. She commented that there was funding available until 1 March 2022 to complete the work but Cllr Colliar advised that this money belonged to the Community Initiative Fund. Cllr McKay would provide an update at the next meeting. Cllr McKay advised that clearance had been received for PKC to manage/adopt the outdoor gym area for the next 10 years. Positive feedback had been received on the facility. Cllr McKay raised the issue of a lack of notification from PKC in respect of road closures.

Correspondence

Census 2022

An email had been received advising of several vacancies for enumerators for the Census. It was agreed that the information would be shared on the website and Facebook page.

Scottish Water Repairs

It was noted that there would be a prohibition of parking/loading in the High Street for a period in April to allow Scottish Water to carry out repairs.

AOCB

Kirklands Hotel

A member of the public, while welcoming the development at Kirklands, enquired as to whether the cones outside the area were official. Cllr Robertson agreed to investigate this matter.

Path at Lathro Lane/Dalwhinnie

A member of the public raised the issue of continual flooding at the power station in the area. It was agreed that the member of the public would forward photographs of the area in question to Cllr Robertson, and he would raise the issue with PKC and report back.

The next meeting of Kinross Community Council will be on 26 April 2022 at 7.30pm.

Milnathort And Orwell Community Council

News from the March Meeting

Present at the meeting held on 10 March were M Thomson (chairman); N Bingham, A Macrae, P Britton (treasurer); K Heneghan (associate member); B Brian, L Rougvie (minute secretary), Cllr W Robertson and two members of the public.

Apologies were received from A Ward, F Books and Cllr C Purves.

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Police Matters:

Neill Bingham reported on the following:

Naloxone: All police officers now carry Naloxone overdose spray as part of their kit, following a successful pilot scheme carried out last year. So far, the emergency treatment (which counters the effects of opioid overdose) has been used on 62 occasions.

Sheep worrying: Dog owners are reminded to keep their pets fully under control during the lambing season. Owners face prosecution if their dogs worry or chase sheep, and the dog could be destroyed.

Matters Arising

Kevin Heneghan advised that the ginkgo biloba tree that had been gifted to a resident of Church Street was to be planted on Milnathort Golf Course and the CC would provide a plaque.

Correspondence:

PKC is currently carrying out a public consultation as to the most suitable locations for free period products. The consultation closes on March 25.

In response to a query made by the CC on behalf of a resident, PKC confirmed that Ba'Hill was not a suitable location for a recycling bin for foil containers. It was not economically viable to site such facilities anywhere other than recycling centres.

PKC has announced new funding to help with repairs to communal buildings through its Missing Shares Service. An application pack is available by emailing MissingShares@pkc.gov.uk.

There are still vacancies for enumerators to help deliver the 2022 Census. Visit www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk for more information.

A consultation has been launched on a proposed bill by Murdo Fraser MSP to tackle the scourge of fly-tipping. The consultation closes on 23 May and further information can be found at parliament.scot.

Core Paths Group

Kevin Heneghan reported on the following:

There had been an excellent turnout of volunteers for two recent projects to fill in the depressions on the path alongside the golf course. More than two tonnes of material was required, and a similar amount will be needed for the stretch beyond the bridge.

Funding may be available from Greenspace to improve the woodland and field edge path north east of Kinross Community Woodland that is currently extremely muddy. Alistair McLeod of Greenspace is to help the group with its application.

The group had conducted research into the type of benches that would be most suitable for the village and had concluded that recycled plastic uprights and wooden seats were the most cost-effective and practical option. Kevin will explore sponsorship opportunities.

Planning Matters:

Applications Decided

21/02145/FLL Formation of footpath (in part retrospect) on land 180 metres north east of Hattonburn Farm. Approved.

21/02241/FLL Alterations and extension to form ancillary accommodation at The Barns, Dalqueich. Approved.

21/02223/FLL Erection of a house and garage on land 80 metres south west of Athronhall Farm. Approved.

22/00041/FLL Erection of a house on land 25 metres north of 94 South Street. Refused.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee

During a discussion about ways of marking the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, the following ideas were put forward:

A gathering in Donaldson Park to which villagers could bring their own gazebos. No alcohol would be permitted.

Providing Milnathort Primary schoolchildren with mementos of the occasion. Cllr Robertson will find out what funding is available.

A beacon that would be sited permanently at an appropriate location in the village. Neill Bingham will take this forward.

Upgrading a core path to a high standard and naming it 'The Platinum Jubilee Walk'. Cllr Robertson said that TRACKS could offer help and advice if necessary. Schoolchildren could be asked to plant trees as part of the UK-wide Queen's Green Canopy initiative. Kevin Heneghan will provide suggestions for suitable routes.

Councillors' Reports

Cllr Robertson advised that he had met with representatives from SEPA, Scottish Water, PKC's planning department and NatureScot regarding the amount of phosphorus in Loch Leven. It had been a positive meeting and the agencies had agreed to look at ways in which the levels could be reduced.

AOCB

New pavement: Malcolm Thomson expressed his appreciation to PKC for installing a new pavement on Stirling Road at its junction with Church Street.

Social media: Bobby Brian, a P5 pupil at Kinross High School, is to set up Instagram and Twitter accounts on behalf of the CC in order to extend its reach to younger members of the community.

Unsafe parking: Bobby Brian raised the issue of congestion near Heaven Scent in South Street, caused by cars parking at the bus stop. This causes problems for passengers, particularly those with disabilities. It was noted that there is a parking restriction at that location and that causing an obstruction is an offence. Similar concerns were expressed about cars parking on the zig-zag lines next to the Zebra crossing in South Street, which can affect motorists' visibility. There has been an increased presence of traffic wardens in the village and this was to be welcomed, as were the changes to the Highway Code, which give pedestrians priority at all times.

The next meeting of Milnathort and Orwell Community Council will be held at 7pm on Thursday, 14 April, 2022. Following discussion, it was agreed that before the meeting a 'dummy run' would be carried out to see whether it was possible for participants to also join via Zoom.

Fossway and District Community Council

News from the February Meeting

Present at the meeting held on 1 March were Cllrs S Bruce-Jones, T Duffy, F Hansraj-Jackson, N Marchant, G Mudie and G Pye; Ass. Cllrs Farquar; Cllr C Purves.

Apologies: Cllr Angus Cheape; Cllrs M Barnacle, W Robertson and R Watters; PC A Mitchinson.

Matters Arising

Community Development Trust: Cllrs Duffy and Marchant had a meeting with Cllr Barnacle and reported that the CC was not supportive of joining with Muckhart to form a joint CDT. Next step is to seek funds to do a community mail shot to determine interest in forming a CDT.

Fossway Area Transport/DRT: Awaiting evaluation of 202 bus service. It is believed that the service has been regularly used. Hopefully it will continue beyond the trial. There is still only one person driving for the DRT.

A977 Mitigation Measures: Cllr Purves has made an application to request speed measuring lines to the west of Crook of Devon and east of Drum, and this has been supported. Cllr Mudie has had input from Drum residents raising safety concern due to drivers going through red lights. Cllr Mudie will use a survey to gather views on desired mitigation actions. One idea has been the addition of flashing warning lights. Cllr Duffy will speak to PC Craig regarding regulations for a red-light camera for the traffic lights.

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Crook Moss Travellers Site: Cllr Cheape reported (by email in his absence) that the Travellers Site is covered in litter including bottles, plastic and tin cans etc. Cllr Farquhar reported that a recent resident of the site has agreed that the site is covered with litter and dumping. It does appear that in recent days an attempt has been made to clean part of the site.

Speeding in Carnbo: MoP reported a recent incident of possible speeding resulting in a near miss. Storm Arwen has knocked out the solar panel linked to the speed camera. Cllr Purves agreed to report this to PKC. Cllr Duffy asked MoP if anyone in Carnbo is interested in joining the speedwatch group. Cllr Purves will raise speeding issues at next Kinross-shire committee meeting.

Community Speedwatch: Cllr Mudie is taking the lead on this and will organise primary school children to write letters about their worries of speeding which could be included in notifications to speeding motorists. Volunteers will have a basic police check. Funds need to be raised to purchase equipment. Training will be given to volunteers.

Devonshaw Whinstone Quarry: Cllr Marchant toured the Devonshaw Quarry with developers on 15 February. The PAN has been submitted and a virtual event to open the consultation on 3 March can be accessed via www.devonshaw-leisure-park-consultation.com. A MoP raised concern for potential impact on the SSSI site.

Rumbling Bridge Gorge Bridge: We are still awaiting quotes for the otter and tree surveys.

Crook & Drum Growing Together: Agreement to start a community apple orchard on land close to the Church.

Hedges from Rumbling Bridge to Muckhart: Cllr Duffy emailed Muckhart regarding the hedges requiring cutting but there has been no response.

New Business:

Coulhill Forest Near Dunning: An application has been made which contains proposals for 641.21 hectares of afforestation, 13.95 hectares of forest road and 4.65 hectares of forest quarries. Public access provision will be enhanced through the establishment of a new car park and new forest.

Comments by 24 March – Cllr Marchant will provide a supportive comment regarding enhanced public access.

NP4 Consultation: The Scottish Government are encouraging communities to respond to the NP4 consultation which closes on 31 March. Cllr Marchant will develop and submit the CC response. Cllr Purves reported that PKC has started to consider LDP3. Local place plans can be produced by local communities.

Queen's Jubilee: The CC has received several emails from organisations regarding plans, applications for road closures must be made to PKC. Cllr Purves reported that PKC are considering a funding pot for events.

Community Ditches: MoP reported several ditches are blocked leading to flooding on local roads. Cllr Marchant agreed to email Cllr Robertson.

Asbestos: Cllr Hansraj-Jackson queried regulations re demolition of building with possible asbestos. All concerns should be raised with PKC Environmental Officer.

Community Council Business:

Minutes Secretary: The search for a volunteer continues, but with no candidates. In the interim the CC members will continue to undertake the task in rotation.

P&K Councillors' Reports:

C Purves: Met with OneBank who are still awaiting more information from the treasury before any proposals can be developed. PKC agreed 2.5% council tax increase. Additional money for Kinross-shire committee, speeding mitigations road repairs. Local elections in May. Cllrs Barnacle and Purves are not standing for elections.

Planning:

Note that the first application below was discussed by email as the comment due date was before this meeting.

New Applications:

22/00105/IPL Erection of dwelling house at Land 50 metres west of Hallhill Farm, Carnbo. No CC Comment.

22/00205/FLL Alterations and extension to dwelling house at Quarrylea, 10 Gartwhinzean Loan, Powmill, Dollar FK14 7LU. No CC Comment.

22/00191/FLL Change of use of stable to form ancillary accommodation unit at The Knowe, Rumbling Bridge, Kinross, KY13 OPT. No CC Comment.

Appeals:

21/00001/FLL S42 application to delete condition 6 (access upgrade) of permission 20/01319/FLL at Land 180 metres south west of Powmill Cottage, Rumbling Bridge. At 14 September LRB meeting the application was deferred pending a view from the legal team.

21/00947/FLL Four Glamping pods at Coup Farm, Powmill. The December LRB upheld the appeal.

Decided Applications

21/020309/FLL Erection of three agricultural buildings and stables, formation of access track and associated works at Land 360 metres south west of Craigton House, Rumbling Bridge. The application was refused as contrary to the Development Plan, the CC had made a neutral comment.

21/01467/FLL Erection of replacement school, formation of multi-use games area, external play areas, vehicular accesses, parking areas, landscaping and associated works at Seamab School, Rumbling Bridge, Kinross KY13 OPT. The application was accepted, the CC had made a neutral comment.

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Community Council News

Enforcement Issues

20/00809/FLL Craigton Farm Lane – Cllr Marchant has asked David Rennie for an update.

20/00972/FLL Erection of two dwelling houses and garages at Land 100 metres south west of Easter Muirhead Blairingone (enforcement ref: 21/00236/PLACON) - The agent has been in contact with Transport Planning regarding the widening of the road. Cllr Pye has asked David Rennie for an update.

Correspondence: Should anyone wish to see any items please contact the CC by email and a copy can be provided.

AOCB

Quiz night for fund raising for this year's Fossoway Gathering will be held on 23 April.

The next meeting of Fossoway and District Community Council will be held on Tuesday 5 April 2022 7.30pm, in Crook of Devon Village Hall

Portmoak Community Council News from the March Meeting

Present at the meeting held on 8 March were Cllrs C Purves, W Robertson, and R Watters; CCllrs D Morris (Vice-Chair), A Davidson (Treasurer), SMcGregor (Secretary), K Donaldson, S Forde, D Paterson; and 5 Members of Public.

Apologies: CCllrs A Miller, G Smith, and D Paterson

Comments and Approval of previous Minutes from meeting on 8 February 2022:

S McGregor: date inaccuracy to correct for approval of previous month's minutes should be 'Jan 11 2022'.

D Morris: correction regarding the Bowhouse Bus Laybys, minutes state 'RTK original developers were to install a bus layby on the West bound side of the A911', this should East bound side.

S Forde: Proposed. **A Davidson:** Seconded

Matters Arising

Kinross-shire Committee (KC) – update: Cllr C Purves spoke, there was no substantial update. At the Feb PCC meeting Cllr M Barnacle had indicated an additional KC meeting should take place to discuss and set priorities but this had not yet been scheduled.

Road Safety Action Update: A911 Route Action Plan: a paper had been sent to Committee for consideration in 2022-23. Cllrs and Cllrs agreed it would be best practise to have a full consultation with residents to have all measures agreed at the beginning of the process. There was a discussion about the types of speed restriction measures that could be used, given that 20mph speed limits appeared to have limited effect, and there was support for physical constraints to be introduced in all of the communities along the A911, and/or one-way priorities which seem to work well in other small villages.

There was agreement to look at all mitigation measures and to approach a route action plan with an open mind as to the solutions.

Glenlomond sewage, and Water Supply to Glenlomond and Wester Balgedie: The village committee had submitted a FOI request to ScotGov to confirm how many other, similar sewage works had been taken over. ScotGov had pushed back on this request, suggesting the information would be supplied by Scottish Water. A subsequent FOI had now been made to Scottish Water with the same request. There was an expectation of reply before the end of March.

Glenlomond tree felling and clearing at entrance to village: Cllr A Davidson provided an update on the vegetation clearance work that had been going on at the entrance to the Glenlomond village site. More clearing has been completed since the PCC Feb meeting. The existing owner who had demolished the nursing home has a buyer for the site. A company has been onsite doing due diligence onsite to establish services. There was particular concern about a small part of the site on Dryside Road, at the entrance to the village, which until recently was growing with rhododendrons and trees, but has now been completely cleared. Villagers were concerned about destruction of wildlife habitat and general pleasant appearance of the village landscape. PKC had been notified and had advised the clearing did not necessarily contravene planning rules. There was suggestion that potentially a wildlife crime may have been committed due to time of year and destruction of nesting sites. Residents were concerned that digging equipment may have exposed services or pipes. The digging equipment has now been removed. Cllr D Morris commented on the possibility for a village Development Trust to purchase the land under part 5 of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2016.

Scotlandwell to Portmoak Church Path: at time of meeting PCC had still to arrange the on-site meeting. The PCC and Cllrs discussed the importance of identifying the best route, and the development of a feasibility study. There was agreement that the 'best route' has not yet been identified and that in principle the project should be Scotlandwell led. Concern was expressed that Scotlandwell was poorly served in terms of safe connections to local facilities shops and school. There was general agreement that the project should be taken to the KC.

Wester Balgedie Farm development – correspondence to PCC from Developer: no formal planning permission has been sought at time of PCC meeting. Demolition of unsafe barns has taken place. There was concern from residents that some demolition of outhouses had taken place and some small trees cut down and photographs had been sent to PCC. The Developer had communicated with PCC in reference to a promised pre-planning meeting to present the development



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plans to local residents but this was now likely to be delayed towards the end of March. The developer did not believe any demolition or tree removal had occurred.

Additional Item Core Paths: Cllr D Morris raised the item apropos of discussion in the Feb 22 PCC meeting, picking up on three items: 1. Establishment of MTHT/127 Core path from Arlary to the Orwell Standing Stones: Cllr Morris had visited the site and there is a thin strip of grass approximately along the line of the Core Path from Arlary to the A911 crossing to the MTHT/126 but it is unclear if it is intended to be the Core Path, and the gate at the Arlary end is still locked. Dave Stubbs at PKC has written to the farmer but had not received a response. Issue to be escalated. Cllr W Robertson will wait till mid-March and follow up again with D Stubbs.

Core Path PTMK/115 Glenlomond to Glenvale path: lambing season is about to commence. D Stubbs of PKC had suggested to close the path, but Cllr D Morris had highlighted that it is not easily possible to close a Core Path. The Core Path will remain open. D Morris had suggested that PKC should make it clear to anyone walking the Core Path between Glen Vale and Glenlomond (PTMK/115) that dogs should be on a lead through its whole length, throughout the year, partly because of lambing but also because of levels of public use. He also suggested that the 'dogs on lead' signs should be on every gate along the route to reinforce this message. PCC agreed with this approach and noted that a dogs on lead policy would help members of the public to remind dog owners of this requirement and to point out that simply saying that dogs had to be 'under close control' was not adequate in this situation.

New Matters

Portmoak Church Glebe lease to Woodland Trust: Church of Scotland lease of the East side Glebe field (on hill side of the A911) to the Woodland Trust would come to an end in June 22. PCC had been approached to establish if there were any objections to the suggestion that the site be offered to the Woodland Trust to purchase. On the question of a land transfer of the Glebe to be sold to the Woodland Trust, the PCC and attendees at meeting were in favour of the sale. Update on Lomond Inn site developments: work has started on one of the house sites. An old stone wall at the North end of the site should be rebuilt according to the planning requirements. PCC had made objections to the most recent planning application 21/0050/FLL and Cllr D Morris had spoken to this representation at the meeting of the PKC Planning Committee. In reviewing all the planning applications affecting the Lomond Inn site over the last ten years, covering both the demolition process and the decision to build large houses on the site, Cllr Morris noted that none of the many representations made by PCC on this matter had any effect on the planning process. Planning officers repeatedly ignored

everything said to them by both PCC and individual residents. Furthermore when the main planning application went before the planning committee approval was granted despite the opposition of the two PCC ward councillors on the committee. The other two ward councillors not on the committee were also opposed to the planning application. This crucial decision to approve a controversial proposal for development at the heart of Kinnesswood, in the Conservation Area, was therefore taken by Ward Councillors from elsewhere in Perth and Kinross, without any local knowledge of the Kinnesswood requirements. Cllr SMcGregor indicated that she had also followed this planning process over many years and agreed that the decision at the Planning Committee Meeting appeared to be taken by Councillors with no connection to the area and with a total disregard of the representations made by PCC and local people. Cllr W Robertson commented that historically representation had been listened to by the Planning Committee, but he felt this was no longer the case, and if the Planning Officers had recommended planning approval then the approval was nearly always granted by the committee. C Purves agreed with the point that W Robertson had made. Cllr Morris said there was a long standing problem with the planning committee in PKC which covered far too large an area. By contrast the much smaller area covered by Fife Council had three area committees. It was noted that an attempt was made to devolve planning services as part of the new KC arrangements, but this had failed.

Planning

Existing Applications

21/00997/FLL Erection of 22 dwellinghouses, 3 garages and a garage with ancillary accommodation, formation of SUDS pond, landscaping and associated works (LDP site H54) Land 100 Metres South East Of Cragton Villa Rost Gardens Scotlandwell.

No further updates, or planning applications have been submitted at time of meeting. R Watters flagged the National Planning Framework coming forward which had a specific focus on how to deal with planning applications for land that had peat. Retain item on Agenda for future meetings.

Planning Decisions

Progress with Developments: Westfield Community Liaison Committee: Cllr K Donaldson had attended Feb 22. Since beginning of month work has commenced on approach roads. There are machines now working on site itself. D Morris asked about vehicles using the wrong route: Cllr K Donaldson thought most of the heavy vehicles were using the B9097. There was a high level of traffic.

Paths Group update: PKC Ranger Alistair Macleod and 4 members completed some essential repairs on the hill section

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Community Council News

of the MBW. Culverts and ditches have been cleared to improve the drainage. Gorse encroaching onto the path was cut back. The Paths Group extend their thanks to Alistair for all his help and providing the Paths Group with a good supply of tools and equipment using the PKC fund to support local paths groups. Volunteers for the Paths Group would be welcomed. Anyone wanting to help please contact Anne on 07547 457046.

Treasurer CC Accounts:

No movement on the accounts since Feb 22. Docs lodged for the Credit Union Account

Councillors' Reports

R Watters: Community Investment Fund: date to be defined for meeting to allocate final £16k.

W Robertson: update on Lochend to Heritage trail path: TRACKS applied for money from PKC, with the other half to come from ScotGov, but the latter application was turned down. This initial decision was challenged and unexpectedly overturned, so all the money is in place and work will start in the next financial year, in Summer 2022.

C Purves: gave a brief overview on budget, including: 2.5% likely increase on Council Tax. Reinstatement of posts for Road Safety Officers. Capital funding for road repairs has been put in place. Funds made available for business improvements. Additional sum for local KC to use at their discretion. Cllr C Purves does not intend to contest the next election, so in effect the PCC Mar 22 meeting would be the last that Cllr C Purves would attend. The PCC members expressed thanks to C Purves and to Cllr Barnacle, who was also standing down, for their considerable efforts in assisting and supporting PCC actions over the years.

Matters Notified To The Secretary:

Road closures in Kinnesswood: Gamekeepers Road 01/04/22, and Whitecraigs on 04/04/22: Roads to be closed for parking and loading.

School meals at Portmoak Primary: Cllr S Forde had raised concerns to the members of PCC about changes to school meal provision within PKC but had adjourned early from meeting and was unable to voice her concerns. The Secretary had contacted Head Teacher of Portmoak Primary on the item and had received a thorough response that seemed to allay concerns and gave reassurance that the Head Teacher was monitoring the situation on an ongoing basis.

AOB

Portmoak Hustings for forthcoming PKC Elections: Cllr D Morris raised suggestion of organising these: basically a forum whereby candidates present their proposals to the public. To discuss at the next PCC meeting.

Diamond Jubilee Events: C Purves advised £70k has been allocated to Perth and other funds to larger Towns for Jubilee events.

The next meeting of Portmoak Community Council will be held at 7.30pm Tuesday, 12 April 2022 (online)

Cleish and Blairadam Community Council

News from the February Meeting

Present at the meeting held on 7 February were Cllr F. Principe-Gillespie, Cllr F. Whalley, Cllr C. MacLaren, Cllr N. Robertson, Cllr J. Leishman, Co-Opt Cllr S. Gordon, Cllr C. Purves, Cllr W. Rennie, Cllr R. Watters and 2 MoP.

Apologies: Margaret Taylor

Matters Arising

The council was contacted via the Cllrs regarding drainage at Boreland but no progress has been made. This to be reviewed

in two weeks to see if progress made.

Drains at Keltybridge are re-filling due to spoil from the building site and compacting. There is significant flooding due to this Broadband update and proposal for Maryburgh / Blairforge The Maryburgh project is now going live and fibre is being installed.

The Keltybridge Community Fibre Partnership is still ongoing and hoping to cover more of the outlying properties. Cleish and Blairadam is currently at 86% enabled or planned install. With thanks to Andrew Mitchell for the update.

It was noted from the floor that fibre is not provided with a backup battery so VOIP emergency calls could be an issue, though Openreach are not disabling the copper connections just yet.

Drainage Updates

No further updates other than from Tillhill who will be harvesting ahead of their schedule due to storm damage. This is on Cleish Hills and they have been excellent at communicating their harvesting and have undertaken to maintain the current drainage system and are willing to show the community what their plans are for replanning. The most risky areas will be harvested last to minimise potential flooding. Tillhill are also happy to have a meeting on-site to discuss the harvesting and any potential amendments. They have said they wish to minimise any potential flooding risk and engage with the community. This excellent and much appreciated. If any member of the community is interested in attending a meeting then please contact the CC so we can arrange a single group meeting to cover all aspects of the current harvesting. Contact Borelandcabcc@gmail.com

Financial Update

In Margaret's absence no further update available other than previous balance of £354.52.

Planning Report

Two applications approved for layout changes to Blairadam House.

One refusal that has been referred to the review board, one of the parcels of land sold from Blairfordel farm for a house.

Pending Applications:

Erection of Dwelling House, part retrospective land north of Winchester

Erection garden building Burnside House, Benarty Road

Equestrian proposal Benarty Road, lots of comments

Extension to dwelling house 1 Blairfordel steading has an application for Lawful Use

Renewal of permission at Nivingston for buildings and workshop

Erection of dwelling house at Hollow Cottage, has had in principle approval, this is the detailed application

Erection of a fence at Rowantree Cottage in retrospect 1.8m, was 1.2m both of which technically contravened planning with regard to the properties on the roadside.

Planning Correspondence from Perth and Kinross

Legislation going through Parliament regarding Local Place Plans. This could be of significant benefit to communities, though exactly how it will be implemented is as yet to be completely defined. This will be added to LDPs (Local Development Plans) the next version of which has just started to be worked on over the next five years. This will allow communities to comment on what they would like to have happen in their areas, though how binding and what influence it will have is as yet to be seen. It is also believed that once templates are available then the process may become more streamlined and low cost. The changes in the LDP will incorporate more of the currently supplementary

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information so it is hoped that Local Place Plans will have a guiding influence.

Updates

It was reported from the floor that there may be an amended planning application for the plot by Hillcrest to reduce the number of approved houses from four to two.

Lots of dumping has been taking place in some of the fields by Blairforge and Cllr Watters confirmed that the Council is looking into this and SEPA is likely to be involved due to burning of waste.

Village Update – Blairadam

The Bench and planters have been moved and subject to approval from the owner they may go on the triangle at Maryburgh. The seat will be moved elsewhere in the village. Thanks to the council for picking up litter from the B996. The Council has now managed to get enough people to work on this as Covid restrictions have eased. The Layby off the B996 by junction five will be cleaned and fence repaired as it is subject to regular fly-tipping. The private water supply at Keltlybridge (believed to be the third largest in Scotland) is working hard to resolve the issues with lead in the supply and has now mapped where the pipes are and are taking steps to resolve this situation.

Village Update – Cleish

Cleish Primary is no longer facing closure and is going to progress to the next phases and should have about £3million spent on it to bring it up to specifications.

Cllr Purves explained that whilst it is good that after the 6-7 years the decision has finally been made, the appropriate consultation with the community was lacking and somewhat last minute.

The roll will be dropping from three classes to two unfortunately and capacity will be capped at 50. The two classrooms will be external and the existing building will be used for dining,

administration and toilets.

Cllr Watters also pointed out that the initial papers duration of 4 years was far too long and has now been reduced to two years. It was also felt that the new building should be net zero carbon standard and that was unfortunately not confirmed, but it may also be that the council are looking at increasing the footprint of the school. Cllr Robertson pointed out that overall despite the issues this is an excellent result for Cleish and Blairadam and something to celebrate.

This is most definitely a positive result in the long term and secures the future of the school whilst providing a huge upgrade to the facilities it will have on offer.

Preparations to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee are under way in Cleish and flyers have been delivered and registration is required. Please consult your letterbox and see the dedicated email address on the flyer for further details.

AOCB

Can we generate more interest in the CC meeting. Perhaps we can appeal to persons who have previously been interested. This will be looked into and perhaps an emailing list. Please register interest to receive a notice as to when the next CC meeting will take place by contacting Chaircabcc@gmail.com. The CC will be posting more information on the Kinross-shire area committee and the exciting developments in this trial of more local input of what happens. Speed controls and similar measures are able to be implemented that have real support from local residents. The key areas covered by the committee include the following Infrastructure and Economic Development, Roads, Environment, Communities.

The next meeting of Cleish and Blairadam Community Council will be on Monday 4 April. This will be a trial hybrid meeting both in person, open to the public and using Zoom and will take place at the Cleish Village Hall due to the WiFi available.

Club & Community Group News

Kinross Garden Group



We had a fascinating talk in March from Michael Almond, who transported us to Asia Minor (Turkey to most people) and showed us brilliant pictures of amazing ruins and wonderful flowers! We all came away having felt we had been on a busy holiday; for an hour!

Our next meeting is on 14 April at 2pm in the Parish Church, Kinross, when Dr Greg Kenicer from the RBGE will talk about 'Ecology in the Garden'. Summer visit schedules will be available again and we will give an update about numbers on this as well.

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

Kinross and District Art Club



www.kadac.co.uk

March turned out to be a busy month for the club. Over and above the regular painting sessions, members participated in a variety of other opportunities.

During the first week of March, many members attended an information session at 'Maker_Space' based at the Loch Leven Campus library. Scott Russell from Culture Perth and Kinross enthused members by demonstrating the 3D printer and by explaining digital art opportunities. A big thank you to Scott for his time and his interesting insight into a whole new artistic world.

On Wednesday 9 March, Dallas Key, KADAC chair, accompanied by Community artist, June McEwen and five other KADAC members, visited the Men's' Shed in Kinross to meet with their chair, David Conner. Initial discussions took place regarding a large mural which is being planned for one of the internal walls. This is an exciting venture bringing together two local community groups. We look forward to reporting more about it in the future.

On Tuesday 15 March, our professional adviser, Tom Sutton-Smith, led a successful workshop event in Millbridge Hall. Twenty members attended this challenging but very enjoyable activity. Given a black and white portrait photo, members had to paint the portrait in colour, being mindful of tones and shadows. Tom showed examples, gave suggestions on how to tackle the challenge and supported members in the activity. Tom has organised the next event for Friday 8 April; a demonstration by an artist. Further information will be sent out to members.

March was also an incredibly sad month for members as they learned that John Tydeman, long time member, had passed away. John was an active and valued member of our club in every way and, although in his nineties, his youthful outlook to life motivated everyone. His outstanding contribution to the club was his passion for painting 'en plein air'. He had contacts all round the area and used his charm and status as a well-known local artist to gain access to some very grand venues to hold painting sessions. In addition to arranging the venues he used his teaching skills to hold sessions at the club



KADAC member, Jim Miller taking a closer look at the 3D Printer with Scott Russell

in advance of these outings which briefed the artists on how to make the most of the event, whatever the weather. John's expertise and warm and welcoming approach to everyone made him an invaluable member of the club. He will be greatly missed.

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

Kinross Camera Club

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

Find us on Facebook

At the final meeting in March, members were treated to an evening with award winning landscape photographer Ashely Franklin with his amazing presentation 'Under Tuscan Skies'. The images of D'Orcia are absolutely stunning; 'Images of dawn mists, lush rolling hills where wildflowers bloom and Cypress trees stand sentinel'. Ashley also showed us the historic, scenic hill-top towns of the region as well as photos from the Mille Miglia classic car rally which is held each May.

At the beginning of April, we look forward to our popular evening featuring members pictures. There have been lots of opportunities for catching images of the onset of spring and we can have a chat about where we have been and what we have been snapping with our cameras. Our final competition of the season ('The Annual') will take place on 14 April. We look forward to welcoming judge David Sadler ARPS, DPAGB, EFIAP/s, BPE3*, LBIPP, an exceptional photographer from Dundee, to assess our images and give us feedback to help us improve on our work.

For our final presentation of this season, we welcome commercial and street photographer Ross Grieve AMPA to join us for a Zoom meeting to present his incredible street





Picture of the month. 'Hair Chopper' by Richard Dibley

images. Street photography is a genre which is popular with many of our members and we look forward to being inspired by Ross and his wonderful, thought provoking images.

To bring the season to a close and to award all of those hard-earned trophies, we look forward to our annual dinner. This gives an opportunity for members and their partners to get together to enjoy a tasty three course dinner and celebrate the end of a fantastic season.

We always welcome new members and would love to see you at one of our club meetings. If you would like to join Kinross Camera Club or find out more about what we do, please contact us by email at secretary@kinrosscameraclub.org.uk.

Circle Dancing

Circle dancing is moving forward as the Covid-19 restrictions are gradually being lifted. We are now joining hands for some of our dances which is so lovely after two years of keeping our distance from each other. This gives dancers a completely different experience. Hand sanitiser is readily available for dancers to use at any time throughout the session.

As well as acknowledging special days and seasons, our thoughts have been centered on Ukraine and we have included some dances from that area recently. The centre piece has the Ukrainian colours of blue and yellow, with a candle for hope and peace.

We continue to hold classes each Tuesday and Wednesday in the Dance Studio in Kinross. If you would like to know

more about circle dancing, please get in touch by email at lynn244@btinternet.com. I would be delighted to answer any questions you might have.

Common Grounds

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The Common Grounds café continues to welcome regular customers, but we are always gratified when someone new pops in. If you have recently moved to the area or find you have more time and would like to make new friends, please join us on a Tuesday and/or Saturday morning between 10am and 12.30pm. Coffee, tea, cake and chat are on offer and payment is by way of a donation. All proceeds are distributed on a regular basis to charities chosen by the volunteers. Fresh faces and new ideas are always most welcome.

A slide presentation of Old Milnathort, held on 18 March, was very successful. Everyone enjoyed it and a lot of memories and interesting stories were generated. Thank you to Kevin Heneghan for all his time and effort, to the audience for supporting it, and to our volunteers for their baking contributions and making it another wonderful event. A total of £225 was raised.

Our March project is Haiti Help (SCO 42062). This charity was formed and continues to be supported by three nurses who, having volunteered to go to Haiti's La Gonave Island to help immunise children, were shocked by the level of need. By 2013 they had raised enough money to move the children's home with 80 orphans to brand new, purpose built, accommodation. The charity continues to support The



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Wesleyan Hospital (the only island medical facility, funded by USA Wesleyan Foundation); The OKIPE Children's Village which houses up to 80 children and provides education for 200 more; and ASHOG, a self-help island group for which Haiti Help fund a teacher, offers financial help to two families, contributes to the 'Elderly/Disabled Food Programme', and helps finance the care of four orphaned children.

Common Grounds contacts outside opening hours are Elaine Mathew (Co-convenor) on 01592 840266 or Gaylor Hoskins (Co-convenor) by email at gaylorhoskins@hotmail.co.uk.

Kinnesswood in Bloom

We are pleased to be working with Paula again on outdoor projects at the school. Over the three weeks until the end of term all the senior classes will have had an opportunity to take forward their outdoor tasks and be ready for a busy term of growing after the Easter holidays. The Primary 6 class planted 135 hedging plants with the help of four Kinnesswood in Bloom volunteers. This is part of their John Muir Award and also the Queen's Canopy. It is great to be able to work with the children again in the outdoor environment.



The shed is now fitted with lights powered by a solar panel and is being used by the school and Kinnesswood in Bloom. The polytunnel will be finished internally by the end of the Easter holidays, ready for sowing and planting. It was not ready last year so everyone is looking forward to seeing what it can produce. The watering cart has arrived so that will help. We are grateful to Kinross Young Farmers who delivered bags of dung which will be used in the village and the vegetable beds. They charged a very reasonable price and raised considerable funds for Maggie's Centre in Dundee so well done.

The recycling in the bus shelter is going well and many bags of blister packs are being kept out of landfill. Thank you Ishbel for keeping an eye on this so the box does not overflow. The stamps which have been collected in the last couple of months have gone to the charity 'Support Dogs'.

We started our programme of work parties at Gamekeepers, both Raymond's Garden and the Cart area. Anyone who wants to help is welcome to come along on a Saturday morning at



Recipe



Supplied by Kinnesswood in Bloom

We all need a chocolate boost after the long winter. Here is a baked cheesecake which will go down well at Easter.

Easter Cheesecake

Ingredients

For the topping:-

200g chopped milk chocolate

300g full fat soft cheese

150g caster sugar

2 large eggs

150g sour cream

4 tbsp cocoa powder plus some for dusting

chocolate shavings

20g maltesers, broken up

40g small chocolate eggs

For the base:-

250g digestive or other plain biscuits

100g melted butter

1 tbsp cocoa powder

Method

Heat the oven to 180°C. Butter a 23cm tin and line with baking parchment. Bash the biscuits in a plastic bag with a rolling pin to make a fine crumb then stir in melted butter and cocoa powder. Press the mixture into the base, bake for 10 minutes, then leave to cool.

Melt the chocolate in a heatproof bowl over simmering water. Beat the soft cheese and sugar with an electric whip until combined, then beat in eggs, sour cream, cocoa and melted chocolate. Pour the filling over the base and bake for 35-40 minutes until filling is just set. Turn the oven off and leave to cool. Chill for at least 2 hours. Top with chocolate shavings, maltesers and eggs. Dust with cocoa powder.

10am. We would be delighted to see new members.

We had our first meeting for a long time at the Well Country Inn at the end of March. It is great to be able to meet folk face to face again and plan for this year.

The crafters of the village have been busy making bees and honeycombs to go round the village. There might even be a corgi or two appearing. The talented crafters have been dressing the little figures to reflect the theme of 'stories'. Expect to see Mary Queen of Scots, Michael Bruce, a monk from St Serfs, Alexander Buchan, Eve Muirhead and a Bronze Age lady as well as a couple of gardeners and golfers. All will be revealed at the end of May. The pupils of Portmoak will write about these characters.

The new bulbs planted in the autumn are now starting to show and the village is becoming a colourful place again.

Kinross High School



Period Products

Due to the success of 'Go With The Flow' with pupils and staff, we have now partnered with Loch Leven Community Library. You can now find a range of free sustainable period products and information packs in the library, behind the staff desk, including how to start the conversation about periods with your young person. You can also order from a larger range of products, including period pants, by scanning the QR code on the poster.

We hope to see you at the Kinross Farmers' market where you can choose your free period products at our pick in mix station and pupils will be talking about the different sustainable products available to you.

Apprenticeship Week

In the last issue you may have seen information about what our DYW Coordinator was planning for apprenticeship week. Over 30 pupils were engaged in at least one of the four different sessions on offer. These sessions included insights into careers in agriculture, sport and fitness, construction, and electrical engineering. We hope to do something similar to celebrate Apprenticeship Week next year.

In the coming months we hope to partner with some local employers to offer around 15 pupils work experience for a couple of days during our Meaningful May programme. If you are a local organisation and want to get involved, please email KHSDYW@pkc.gov.uk. Any assistance is very much appreciated.

In the meantime, why not brush up on your skills by checking out the animal husbandry skill-based session on the KHS DYW twitter page (@DYW_Khs) from Murray Stephen (North Region Chairman and Farmer).

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Week

STEM week in Kinross High school took place from the 7-11 March. These subjects empower students to use their creativity whilst developing their critical thinking skills when solving problems. When used in education, STEM uses an interdisciplinary learning approach where academic concepts are coupled with real-world problems to help contextualise the subjects discussed.

In employment, STEM underlies the foundations of a range of different sectors, making up 18% of all occupations in the UK. A STEM career requires professionals to solve problems, develop new ideas and conduct research. These professionals can work in a variety of settings – including an office, laboratory, research facility, classroom or out in the field.

STEM careers have come to light recently following the

pandemic and the rapid research carried out in the discovery of Covid-19, different variants and the production of vaccines.

Kinross High School encourages pupils to participate in STEM subjects providing pupils with confidence, skills and knowledge for application in later life and employment.

In school, we celebrate the range of subjects by hosting and organising several STEM-related events and activities over the week. These events range from science busking to whole school photography and plant growing competitions.

The aim was to spark other pupils' interest in different areas of STEM, whilst also testing their problem-solving skills when participating in different activities. We also aim to promote the continual growth of STEM in the world of employment.

Kinross Guides

There are places available at Kinross Guides. We currently meet on Monday evenings in Millbridge Hall, Kinross, from 7.30-9pm. Each week we work on a variety of activities and challenges. To date this year, we have made natural face masks, lemonade and teas. Creating bouncy balls was another favourite. Come along and try us out.

Kinross Beavers

As the beavers came back down to earth following the superb presentation from Aerospace Kinross at the beginning of February, we turned our focus to our camping at home weekend. At Millbridge Hall the beavers learned how to light and stay safe around fire and also got to roast marshmallows. What a treat! On the Saturday evening, they stayed in their camps and dens at home. Photos of these showed just how fantastic they were.

Over the following weeks we learnt about problem solving, global issues and then, as we entered March, we focused on the safety badge. Given how much we had to work on, we split the learning over two weeks. The beavers learned about the Green Cross code, stranger danger, the Water Safety code and how to identify dangers around the house and what to do about them.

As if that was not enough, on Sunday 13 March we walked up Bishop Hill. We could not have chosen a better day; spring was certainly in the air and, at the top, we were greeted with amazing views across Perthshire, Fife and beyond. Every beaver should be proud of themselves for this achievement and the commitment and effort they showed. Well done to all.

There have also been lots of celebrations over past weeks. Firstly, Rory, Thomas, Leo, Tommy and Gregor were all invested into the colony. We then appointed two new lodge leaders in Charlie and Alexander with Lochlan and Archie being appointed as assistant lodge leaders. That was not all, as Finlay was appointed as a senior lodge leader. Well done to all the



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boys. Bravo! Last, but certainly not least, big congratulations to assistant beaver scout leader Calum who was invested into the colony.

Are you interested in volunteering with scouting? It 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 on kinrossbeavers@hotmail.co.uk for more information.

Kinross Cubs

In the middle of February the cubs were learning about money for our newest activity badge, money skills. They completed various challenges learning about needs and wants, designed a new coin, learned how to recognise and protect themselves from online scams, discussed the influence of adverts and created a list of food for camping for a weekend which involved sticking to a budget. A big well done to all the cubs who resisted eating their marshmallow as part of the needs and wants task and ended up getting a second marshmallow as a reward.

The following week the cubs turned their attention to the road safety badge. The cubs had a great time learning about the Green Cross Code, road signs, crossings and also made posters to promote being a safe passenger in a car. Also, this term the cubs were getting creative as they decorated pancakes for Pancake Tuesday and, in addition to this, they have been working on their personal safety badge.

In March the cubs had a fantastic evening taking part in a night hike. The route went along part of the Loch Leven Heritage trail from Findatie to Vane Farm before heading up Vane Hill to the viewpoint. The cubs had a great time and they were treated to views across the loch of Kinross and the surrounding villages all lit up.

We have also been busy this term with some special presentations. Congratulations to Murray, Harris, Innes and Samuel who were invested into the pack. We have also appointed new sixers in Andrew, Ewan and Aaron, whilst Ben,

Callum and Ailah have been appointed as seconders. Finally, congratulations to assistant cub scout leader Michelle who was invested into the Pack. Well done everyone! Bravo!

We currently have some spaces for young people aged between 8 and 10 years old. If your child would like to join us then please send an email to the address below for more information. If you would like to get involved with 1 Kinross Cubs and see how far your young one can grow, then please email kinrosscubs@hotmail.com for more details.



Boys Brigade and Girls Association



Things are getting busier with a number of activities and competitions coming up over the next few weeks. All sections have been learning about the Bible story of Joseph. Anchors have had a number of topical craft nights as well as fun ball skills challenges. Juniors too have enjoyed craft activities as well as preparing for the battalion figure marching and singing competition.

Juniors and company sections have been practising their chess for the forthcoming battalion competition to be held in Scone. Company section teams took part in the recent midnight hike which was hosted by the Kinross company. One of our teams finished as runners up just three points behind the winning team from 1st Scone company.

Company section members are also preparing for the battalion drill competition and scripture search. Our summer camp for company section members has been finalised and we are returning to Kenmore on the shores of Loch Tay for an adventure week in mid-July. As well as hill walking, mountain biking and canoeing it is hoped that we will be able to savour the white-water rafting experience once again.

There are still a few vacancies available in both Junior and Company Sections. All sections meet in the Church Centre on Friday evenings.

Anchors (P1 - P3) from 6pm till 7.15pm, Juniors (P4 - P6) from 7 till 9 and Company (P7 till age 18) from 7pm till 9.30pm.

Lomond Antique & Collectors Club

On Wednesday 9 March our first meeting for exactly two years took place and we were delighted to welcome Dr David Munro as our guest speaker. David introduced us to the world of deltiology (the collection of postcards) with a talk called, 'Kinross in Picture Postcards'.

Our well attended gathering at the Elizabeth Wilkie Hall of Fossoway Church were guided through the history of this now fading communication medium from the introduction of plain cards in the 1840s though to the introduction of picture cards in the 1870s and then picture postcards in the 1890s.

With a focus on works depicting Kinross, Milnathort and the surrounding villages we were told about the 'pioneers' of this art form beginning with George Washington Wilson who, at the peak of his enterprise, had sold 500,000 picture postcards. An archive of his works at Aberdeen University holds over 38,000 examples, several hundred of which are of our local area. It was fascinating to look at images of Kinross as it was at the beginning of the twentieth



Anchor Section in a ball skills relay race

century with traffic free streets and some buildings still recognisable today. Equally poignant were the messages written on the cards. For one pre-decimal penny a card and a stamp could reach out to family and friends, often arriving within a day of despatch. James Valentine from Dundee produced and sold postcards from 1896 through to the 1960s as did Raphael and Ernestine Tuck, publishers to the King and Queen.

Photographer Andrew Gardiner used his art work of local scenes prior to 1939 to make postcards, often in colour or aquatint, with a selection entitled the 'Orwell Series'; images of the sanatorium at Milnathort, the Tillyrie auxiliary hospital (used for recuperating patients from the first war) and a picture of boats loaded with fishermen waiting to be rowed out from the pier to try their luck on Loch Leven. With aerial photography still in its infancy the towers of churches and public buildings began to be used to provide panoramic views and these works were popular on cards showing Kinross with Loch Leven in the distance.

Other significant contributors included J Nicoll Small who, in 1908, had a studio in Edinburgh and David Brown and Son who, in 1917, had a printing office in Kinross.

For the collector, examples of early postcards can command increasing prices. For the historian, it is a window into social history.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 13 April at 2.30pm. Our speaker will be Mr Tom Bryson on the topic of 'Sakura-Blossoms in Japan'.

Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation



www.kleo.org.uk

This year is, of course, the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and KLEO are organising a community family event to celebrate this milestone on Saturday 4 June at the Market Park (opposite Green Hotel) from 1pm to 8pm. This will be a fun event for the whole family with children's activities in the afternoon (from 1pm to 4pm) organised by Swansacre Playgroup, KYTHE and Saints in the Community. There will also be performances by local dance groups Dance Connect and Matthew Dance Academy and KYTHE youth bands.

Enjoy some outdoor ceilidh dancing with Orwell Ceilidh Band



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Kinross In Bloom 200 Club

March Draw

1st	No 80	Cath Watson
2nd	No 69	Eileen Sparling
3rd	No 58	Jamie Montgomery
4th	No 40	Stephanie McLellan

Mclean on Tuesday 19 April and this block runs until Tuesday 21 June, 7pm at Kinross Parish Church. The fee is £4 a session.

Kinross 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 do not worry if you haven't played for a while, we are a very friendly and informal bunch. Sessions take place on Wednesday evenings from 7-9pm in Kinross Parish Church. The fee is £5 a session.

For more information about Leven Voices or the Kacophony Orchestra please contact Bouwien Bennet on 01577 863107 or by email at bouwien@kleo.org.uk

For more information about KLEO events visit our website.

Kinross in Bloom



As I write this in the middle of March, we are still waiting for spring to spring! Whilst we have had some sunny days, the air is still cold and our pansies and daffodils are not at their best yet!

Meanwhile we have been trimming the small fir trees which are in the middle of some of our planters and continuing to remove the dreaded chickweed.

Looking forward, we are hoping to finish the work we had planned before lockdown. We are a few steps closer to getting Mungie's statue at Swansacre cleaned and the inscription highlighted. Our thanks to the kind person who cut down the trees around the statue, making it more visible.

Another project we are hoping to finish is the replacement of one of the picnic benches at Kirkgate Park which has been burned. We also intend to add a disabled access picnic bench at the park.

In April we will have had 2500 plug plants delivered for our summer displays. We have ordered plants which will have a Jubilee theme. This is the start of our busy period as all the plug plants have to be planted on and looked after until they are ready to be planted into the planters and hanging baskets.

As part of the celebration for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, we will be working with Broke not Broken in planting 15 sapling trees. If you have any suggestions on where to plant them around the town, please contact us by email (see address below).

Our next meeting will be at 7pm on Wednesday 13 April. Anyone can attend and we would love to see you!

If you would like to help in any way (formally or informally) please contact susan.mitchell50@gmail.com. If you can drive, we are looking for people who can drive the buggy and water the hanging baskets and planters. This needs to be done a few times from June to September.

CREATE SOME FUN BUNTING FOR THE EVENT!

If you or your community group would like to make some bunting to add some colour to this picnic event please bring it to the Market Park on the morning of 4 June and some KLEO volunteers will hang it up between trees, stalls and marquees.

(4pm), followed by Dirt Road–Blues party and sing along with ABBA Gold Tribute band at 7pm!

Other acts/bands will be confirmed nearer the time. For more info and a full programme, visit www.kleo.org.uk. You can bring a picnic but there will be hot food stalls and a market area too.

Kinross Farmers' Markets



The markets will start again in April, with the first one on Saturday 23 April from 10am-2pm on the High Street of Kinross. The following market dates will be on every fourth Saturday of the month from April to October (apart from the July market, there will not be a market that month). The dates are as follows: 23 April, 28 May, 25 June, 27 August*, 24 September and 22 October from 10am-2pm. On market days the High Street will be closed from the entrance at Burns Begg Street to the entrance at Montgomery Street.

*The August market will be a bigger market and will take place at the Market Park.

Community Choir Leven Voices

Leven Voices is a fun, informal drop-in singing group which you can join anytime. No music reading or singing experience is necessary, just come along, sing and enjoy! After the Easter holidays we start again with Horsecross Arts tutor David



Portmoak's Winning Quiz Team. L to R Cody, Jo Middlemiss, 'quizmistress', Eilidh (reserves), Willow, Cameron, George Lawrie, Club President, Luka, Liam

Kinross & District Rotary Club

www.ribi.org

Rotarians are often asked, 'What do you do at Rotary?' The answer that all Rotarians around the world would give is, 'Rotary is a global network of 1.4 million neighbours, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.'

So, what have we been doing at the Rotary Club of Kinross and District over the last month?

Across The Globe

Rotary International is responding to and supporting the horrific and ongoing humanitarian crisis in Ukraine. Our club has contributed £1200 to the Rotary Foundation fund which is 'Rotary's own and only charity delivering our vision of a better world'. It is in contact with other emergency response organisations including Red Cross and the United Nations to ensure that efforts are complementary and co-ordinated.

We have also bought a Shelterbox (www.shelterbox.org), which will provide shelter, essential items and technical assistance to help some of the world's most vulnerable people recover and rebuild their homes after disaster. Items like tents, tarpaulins, tools, blankets, mosquito nets, cooking sets and water filters help to meet the most urgent needs, in Ukraine or elsewhere as needed. It is thanks to donations from the community during our fundraising events (such as Santa's Sleigh and our tabletop sale) that we are able to make these contributions. Thank you for helping us to help others.

In Our Community

We have encouraged our young people's creativity by completing the club heat of the Rotary Young Writer Competition. Well done to all the participants; we have some talented children in our community! For details of our winners and the chance to read their creations on the theme of 'Environment', see pp38-40.

On 9 March we also staged the first Primary Schools Quiz since 2019. The venue was Kinross Parish Church and children from all Kinross-shire primary schools took part. In a nail-biting finish, Portmoak Primary School were



the victors, with Fossaway Primary close runners up. Congratulations to all the children who took part, and good luck to the Portmoak team of Liam, Cameron, Willow and Luka in the next round!

The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) is a unique tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. People from across the United Kingdom are invited to 'Plant a Tree for the Jubilee'.

Our Rotary Club will be planting trees at Rachel House on Tuesday 29 March, in a partnership with CHAS and Kinross Primary School. We will show photos and tell you more in the next edition of the *Newsletter*.

Ourselves

At our meetings, we enjoy the fellowship of club members and hear a variety of interesting speakers. We learn and have our awareness raised by a variety of speakers. On 21 February we were addressed on Zoom by Philip Munro, Community Outreach Officer for the South of Scotland Golden Eagle Project. This project aims, over a period of five years, to increase numbers and prevent loss of these magnificent birds, through a series of translocations to a confidential location in the Southern Uplands, before being released into the Moffat Hills.

We enjoy fun and fellowship. At last, we were able to meet up in person on 7 March and we celebrated with a social event and dinner at the Kirklands Hotel. Vice President Jo Middlemiss

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interviewed secretary Brian Timms in our own version of 'Desert Island Discs'. Brian chose several favourite pieces of music and explained why these are particularly meaningful to him.

We engage with businesses in the area. On 15 March Clare Wade of Cat Lighting addressed a breakfast meeting. She told us how her fascination with lighting originated with a personal restoration project and grew into a business (www.catlighting.co.uk) offering lighting advice and design. She inspired us with her demonstrations of the transformative effects that can be achieved by thoughtful and creative design.

We provide opportunities for you to give your time to help others in various ways and according to the time you can give.

Meetings take place on Monday evenings (except the third Monday of each month) at 6.15 for 6.30pm at the Kirklands Hotel.

If you cannot make it on Monday evenings but are interested in being involved, we have a breakfast meeting on the third Tuesday of every month at the Kirklands Hotel at 7.30-8.30am.

Perhaps you may be interested in becoming an Associate Member. This option provides all the benefits of becoming a Rotarian, but without the full commitment.

Please contact us by email at secretary.kdrc@gmail.com for further details. Enquiries, visitors and new members are made very welcome.

Anyone wishing to attend any of our meetings should contact secretary.kdrc@gmail.com

Kinross Centre

We were busy last month with lots of activities. The main one was a trip to the Japanese Garden at Cowden near Dollar. A huge thank you to Nicola and Megan for making us feel so welcome and giving us an amazing afternoon.

In our programme of events, you will see that our ever-popular barge trips, supported by the Seagull Trust, have

started up again. The first one is due to take place on Monday 4 April and we are all looking forward to a very relaxing afternoon, just watching the world go by. The wildlife and scenery are just beautiful.

Things are moving in the right direction; we have changed the way in which we set up the tables and have removed most of the screens which is a massive step for us. However, if at any time we feel the need to reinstate the screens, we will. Masks are still being used.

We are also preparing for the Queens Platinum Jubilee starting on the Monday 30 May and finishing on Thursday 2 June. It will be four days of celebrating in a Royal fashion; events will include Royal Quiz, Royal Bingo, Royal Games and A Right Royal Concert.

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

Milnathort & Kinross Bridge Clubs



The Scottish Bridge Union (SBU) has recently become a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Under this new regime the SBU has taken a number of proactive steps to enhance their website and, more importantly, further promote the game of bridge and popularise it, particularly with young people.

As such, they produce a very informative and interesting online monthly magazine. This contains a mix of news, comments, stories, quizzes, forthcoming events and the results of various competitions.

It is well worth a read, especially this month as it features a write up on how Milnathort Bridge Club kept their club alive

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Company Review

Andrew Clark ★★★★★
Excellent service. If in future I have any more problems (being a Senior Citizen) with my computer I would certainly use the company again. His advice was invaluable.

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The new bench above Kilmagad Wood



during Covid-19. Be sure not to miss it; you will enjoy all the different articles and, if you have an interesting experience at the bridge table, or if you have a question you would like an answer to, the SBU will be very pleased to hear from you.

Meanwhile, at home both Milnathort and Kinross Clubs continue their weekly games attracting up to six tables on a regular basis.

Milnathort Results

- *Winners for North/South, East/West*
- *28 February, Sandy Greenhill/Nicol Tomney, Elizabeth Harley/Jessie Mitchell*
- *7 March, Jim Marshall/Marion Forbes, Sandy Greenhill/Nicol Tomney.*
- *14 March, Catriona Marshall/Betty Wilson, Morag Riding/Alison Houston.*
- *21 March, 1st North / South - Jim Marshall & Beryl Harley 1st East / West - Liz Pottie & Jessie Mitchell*

New members and visiting guests are most welcome to join the play.

For further information on Milnathort Club or Kinross Club contact either Gloria Wilson on 01577 862553 or Catriona Marshall on 01577 864482 respectively.

Portmoak Community Woodland Group

www.portmoakcw.org.uk



There's a new and powerful incentive for climbing the hill above Kilmagad Wood; namely a lovely bench to sit on, installed by the Woodland Trust Scotland. Simply take the main path up towards the Bishop, from either of the entrances near Portmoak kirk car park, turning up the hill to the east before heading west to where the viewpoint indicator was installed some years ago by Portmoak Community Woodland Group. The new bench gives you the panoramic view captured by the viewpoint board, which on

a clear day shows you the Bass Rock in one direction and the Wallace Monument in the other. You'll probably have to stand up to see it but, comfortable as the new bench is, you can't sit there all day!

After taking in the view you can retrace your steps or carry on westwards, until a gully path returns you to the Michael Bruce Way and Kinnesswood or climb to the top of the hills.

If you look carefully at the viewpoint board itself you will notice that it needs another refurbishment. Don't worry, PCWG are on the case and we waiting for some settled weather before carrying out the necessary repairs.

From the new bench you can see Portmoak Moss and get a good idea of how much birch clearing has been going on in the middle of the bog. That has been down to members of the group and visiting squads of other volunteers. We're very pleased that Lothians Conservation Volunteers and a specialist team, the Bog Squad, will be joining us in early April to have another go at removing the birch saplings. The more we get rid of, the better the chances of a successful bog restoration, as we need to stop trees from growing on the peat and drying it out.

If this sounds like too much work and not enough play, fear not; we are beginning to put together some fun events for the rest of the year, from a dawn chorus walk to a fungal foray. PCWG have never been accused of not knowing how to enjoy ourselves and we hope you will join us for our events as well as making the best possible use of our two community woodlands in the months ahead.

Guide Dogs Kinross

www.guidedogs.org.uk

As spring is springing, we are starting to feel like doing a lot more. My first speaking engagement was with Milnathort guides. They seemed to enjoy hearing about what the charity does for visually impaired people and what a guide dog actually does. We enjoyed a couple of activities including



'guess what's for dinner' in unlabelled tins and 'count the coins' wearing a blindfold. It was nice to be invited and thanks go to the guides for having us. Of course, our ambassador dog Molly and volunteer support person Heather were the stars of the show and many thanks go to them as well.

We received a very kind donation of 'foreign money' from a lovely local lady. The money was left over from holidays and we will have the currency converted through business contacts. Many thanks Joanne.

We are still looking for a volunteer co-ordinator to help run our small, but perfectly formed, fundraising group. Please get in touch by email at she61@hotmail.co.uk. The coffee is on me!

I recently attended a celebration service in memory of John

Tydemann. The retirement collection was to be split between guide dogs and RNLI. John was always a lovely supporter of guide dogs and enriched the lives of all who knew him. Many thanks to his family for their generosity.

As usual, I am very happy to chat to anyone interested in learning more about guide dogs. If you would like to host a talk to a group or business, my diary is open for bookings. Please contact She61@hotmail.co.uk.

Sheila Marshall, Guide Dog Volunteer, Kinross Support Group.

Loch Leven Community Library

www.culturepk.org.uk



Soutar Festival of Words

This year the festival is back, and bigger than ever! Events will run from 22-24 April and is a response to Scotland's Year of Stories, where we as a nation celebrate stories inspired by, written, or created in Scotland.

Join Culture Perth and Kinross for a three-day celebration of readings, performances and conversations with writers, poets and storytellers from Scotland and across the globe.

This year the festival will be a blended programme of digital events and live performances from venues and outdoor locations across Perth and Kinross, including Innerpefferay Library, the Birks Cinema in Aberfeldy, Strathearn Arts Space Crieff and libraries and museums run by Culture Perth and Kinross directly.

Kathleen Jamie, the Scots Makar, leads a lineup featuring, The Witches of Scotland, Alistair Heather, Ashley Douglas, Len Pennie, Graeme Armstrong, Hamish Macdonald, Gerda Stevenson, Linda Cracknell, Jim Mackintosh, Caro Ramsay, Joe Donnelly, and more.

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Full details of the Soutar Festival of Words programme and tickets can be found on the Culture Perth and Kinross website at www.culturepk.org.uk/soutar2022.

Storytime Sessions

Storytime sessions are back at Loch Leven Community Library! Come along and join our fun storytelling session with your child on a Friday morning. Sessions will run weekly, every Friday from 11.30am–12pm. These drop-in sessions are for pre-school age children and there is no need to book. For any queries, please get in touch with Loch Leven Community Library.

Bookbug

These sessions are held at Loch Leven Community Library every Wednesday morning from 10-10.30am and Saturday morning from 10.30-11am. 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 a spot at any session, please contact Loch Leven Community Library.

Support for Carers

A PKVAS drop-in service will be available in the library from 10am-12noon on Wednesday 6 April and Wednesday 4 May for unpaid carers. PKAVS support over 1,400 carers of any age in Perth & Kinross, who look after family, partners or friends, improving the quality of life for many in the local area. Pop in to find out more.

IT Help Sessions

These are run by our Digital Volunteer. Do you need help using the internet? Do you have a new tablet or smartphone

or want to get set up with eBooks? Or are you having trouble with emails?

If you are struggling with technology, we can offer half-hourly one to one sessions. Please phone the library on 01577 867205 for more information and to book a slot.

Blast Off Easter holiday activities

After taking the kids to visit Perth Museum's Blast Off playscape and Space Fact and Fiction, drop into Loch Leven Community Library, where we continue the space theme with challenging and fun activities for children throughout the Easter holidays.

Café Books

This will take place on 30 April at 1.30-2.30pm in Loch Leven Community Library (please note that this takes place out with regular library opening times). We will be re-launching our 'Café Book Club'. These are monthly, informal get-togethers over a coffee to chat about our favourite books and pick up some recommendations on what to read next. This is an opportunity to meet with other book lovers and share your passion for books. Please contact the library in the first instance if you intend to come along.

Digital Maker_Space

Did you know we have a digital Maker_Space at Loch Leven Community Library? You can have free access to the latest cutting-edge technology and the entire Adobe Creative Cloud. Our space offers a creative working zone for everyone, including community groups, creatives, small businesses, and individuals. Please contact us if you would like more information.

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Club & Community Group News

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Wednesday	10am-6pm
Thursday	10am-7pm
Friday	10am-6pm
Saturday	10am-1pm
Sunday	Closed

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Glenfarg Folk Club

Glenfarg Folk Club

www.glenfargfolkclub.com



Well, they say that a week is a long time in politics; it seems that this applies to folk clubs too! In the last few months we have experienced many changes. The club has another new venue! We now meet every Monday in the Gateside Memorial Hall at 7.30 for 8pm and everyone is welcome. It is a great wee hall and we hope to remain there. Covid-19 has receded somewhat and, although it is still playing havoc with bookings, we are all very much enjoying being together again for live music. We were looking forward to welcoming Tommy Sands back to the club on 28 March but he had to cancel and we are having a sing-around instead.

On 4 April we have Bob Fox in concert. Bob sings both traditional and contemporary songs, particularly from North East England and mining communities. We very much enjoy his music so we ask him back to the club time and again.

For many years the club has had an annual folk feast over a weekend in April. For the last two years this has been virtual but now we are able to have a live event, albeit a shorter version, arranged at the last minute. The event has been given the tongue in cheek title of 'Movable Feast' to reflect recent disruption. Details of the events are below and all will be held at Gateside Hall.

On Friday 8 April we have an evening concert, the Gaitherin, with performances from guests Jack Law, and duo Allan Hunt and Ger Connolly. There will also be floorspots from Glenfarg FC's finest.

On Saturday 9 April, we have a sing-around in the morning. In the afternoon we have our traditional Original Song Competition with the proceeds going to this year's charity Ukraine. Entrants will be judged on a self-penned amusing song to entertain the audience on the theme for 2022, 'Travel'. We will also have some floorspots if time allows.

In the evening we have our grand finale concert when we welcome Dave Gibb, Rallion and Christine Bovill. Dave sings both traditional songs and his own hilarious compositions. Rallion is a rollicking traditional band of musicians and singers and Christine has a voice of velvet (you may have seen her Piaf show in Edinburgh) and is always great listening. What a line up!

On the 11 and 18 April, we have singarounds. These are evenings of music, song and banter to participate in or

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listen to, and our April programme concludes with Hannah Rarity on 25 April. Hannah has a wonderful voice and she can sing every genre of song beautifully, so it will be a great night.

Please come and join us for all these events. They will be good fun we will enjoy having your company and seeing new faces. For further information find us on Facebook (Glenfarg Folk Club and Glenfarg Folk Feast), or visit our website, where you can also book for the feast, or check any late changes.

Kinross-shire Civic Trust

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www.kinross-shirecivictrust.org

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Annual General Meeting

The Trust's Executive Committee met in person in March for the first time in two years. Noting the continuing presence of Covid-19, it was decided to take a cautious approach and again hold this year's AGM by email and electronic survey, as we did in 2020 and 2021. This will take place in May. It is hoped that we may be able to have an in-person event of some sort later in the year.

Kinross Park & Ride Raingardens Update

The work to transform the run-down Park & Ride is described in a separate feature on p31; please note that we are aware that there is still some tidying up to be done there.

Soil and gravel heaps have been left so they can be used to fill a set of large planters which we plan to buy to embed in the new rock-fill strip created in the narrowest centre strip there. That should be done during April, if funding can be secured. We'll also organise some tidying up around the edges of the car park too.

There are also some issues to be resolved with the white lines demarcating the parking places (too close to the edge of the raingardens, risking intrusion by vehicles); and we requested that the narrowest final pairs of spaces be designated for bikes. Bike spaces are shorter in terms of risks of vehicle impacts on planters or rock features, allowing us to complete the aesthetic ambitions for that strip. This has been requested in writing and in person some weeks prior to the work.

We must stress that the council staff have been very positive about the work overall; it may take many months to get approval for such tweaks to white lines.

Kinross-shire Civic Trust would like to thank everyone involved in renewing the Park & Ride and introducing raingardens there. Special thanks to Brian D'Arcy and Andrew Flinn for their vision, management, and considerable time spent bringing this project to fruition.

Portmoak Hall 100 Club

February Draw

1st	No 81	David Munro	Kinnesswood
2nd	No 88	Enid Brown	Scotlandwell
3rd	No 67	Clare Abbott Smith	Scotlandwell



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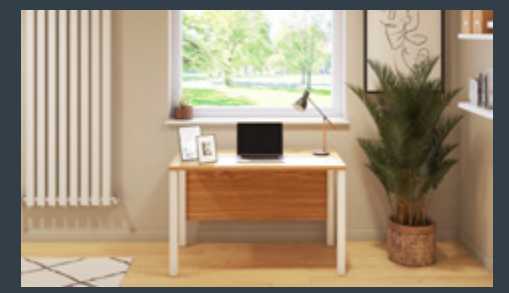
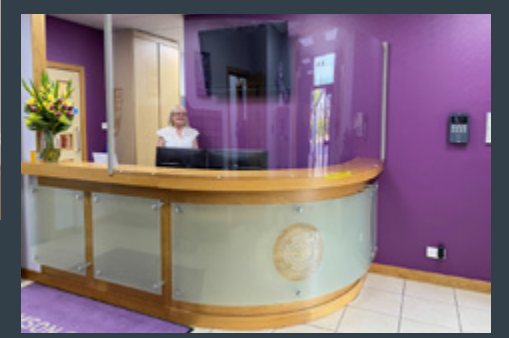
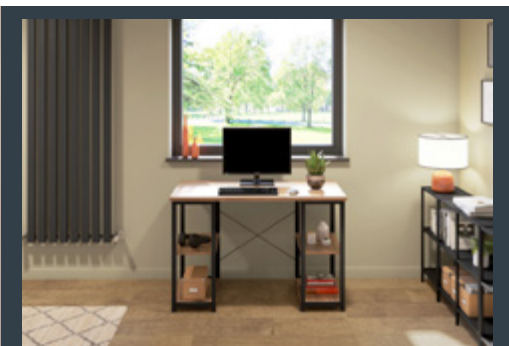
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Tuesday Short Walks

All Tuesday walks are about two hours long and a fairly gentle four miles. We often follow the walk with an (optional) visit to a cafe or pub for refreshments.

Tuesday 29 March, Daffodil walk at Riverside Park, Glenrothes

A combination of some of the 10 short walks available in the park to provide a 4 mile walk. We start in Daffodil Avenue where we hope to see the Marie Curie 'Field of Hope' in bloom.

Tuesday 12 April, Balgownie Forest

A walk through the forest on good paths in an old mining area. A short incline at the start leads to a viewpoint.

Tuesday 26 April, The "Walnut Whip"

From Blairadam to St Ninian's with a gradual climb to view the tyre sculptures and other interesting features at the top of the artificial hill; a landscape originally designed by renowned architect Charles Jencks.

For further details of where to meet us for Tuesday walks, or for general enquiries, please contact Edna Burnett on 01577 862977

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 and also that you have appropriate outdoor clothing and footwear.

Sunday 3 April 2022, Glen Sherup Horseshoe, 9 miles

A circular walk following tracks and paths taking in the summits of Innerdownie, Whitewisp, Tarmangie and finally Ben Shee.

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Saturday 16 April, Kinnoull Hill, Perth, 5 miles, ascent 222m /728ft
 From South Inch car park the walk takes you across the railway bridge, followed by some road walking before making a steep climb up Kinnoull Hill. The walk is mostly on good paths but likely to be muddy in places so boots and walking poles advised. There are lovely views from the peak.

Sunday 1 May: Muckhart and Crook of Devon, 9 miles
 This walk uses a mixture of small private roads and paths between the villages of Pool of Muckhart and Crook of Devon. For further details of where to meet us for weekend walks, or for general enquiries, please contact Sandra Wilkinson on 01577 865472.

Kinross Photography Meet Up Group

Kinross Photography Meetup Group
www.meetup.com/kinross-photography-meetup-group/

About Us

This is a new group for those interested in photography at any level and with any type of camera SLR, bridge or smartphone. Anyone in and around Perth and Kinross-shire and nearby communities with an interest in photography is welcome.

The aims are to enjoy photography in a relaxed, friendly group; learn more about photography by sharing what we know; to socialise with like-minded people.

This is an informal photography group, with the idea of like-minded people coming together to take pictures. You do not have to be an expert or even familiar with the topic; we all want to try new things and help each other. The meetup belongs to the members and active participation will be encouraged. There are now 56 members and there is an established core group who attend each event.

We have held six events since the group's inception on the 16 January 2022 including light trails, park life Pittencrieff, South Queensferry, Edinburgh Botanical Gardens and Balvaird Castle.

The ambition is to schedule a weekly event depending on the weather. It can be evening, through the day, weekends or through the week. Everybody is friendly and we all help each other. We also enjoy coffee and chat after the event and members images can be uploaded to the meetup site.

About Meetup Groups

Meetup events are real-life gatherings where members and organisers get together to connect, discuss, and practise activities related to their shared interests. When you find Kinross Meetup Photography Group on the app or website, it is easy to join. You can then connect with other members in the group, keep up-to-date with what is going on and attend events on and offline. To join the group, visit the website above, login and select our group. New members are very welcome.



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Portmoak Film Society



Our March film, Ken Loach's no-holds-barred depiction of the pressures of the inhumane gig economy on family life, 'Sorry we missed you' was given a 73% 'good' or 'excellent' rating on our audience satisfaction gauge.

And now for something completely different!

The final offering of this season at Portmoak is 'The personal History of David Copperfield', writer/director Armando Iannucci's light-hearted and very enjoyable 2019 film. A departure from his political satires of 'In the Loop' and 'Death of Stalin', it takes us through imagined stages of the life of Dickens' eponymous hero, brilliantly played by Dev Patel and supported by a cast of top actors such as Ben Whishaw, Tilda Swinton and Hugh Laurie. The film will be shown on Saturday 9 April in Portmoak Community Hall at 7.30pm. Use your membership card to get in or pay £6 on the door.

As this is our last film of the season, it will traditionally be preceded at 7.15pm by a short Annual General Meeting, the purpose of which is to provide accountability for our activities during the past season and ensure that it can continue into the next one. Please arrive for 7pm and consider whether you might be able to volunteer for a role on the Film Committee which helps to keep the Society running through September to April each year. For further information, contact PFS Chair Felicity Garvie on 01592 840825.

We have made the venue as safe as possible, and (subject to Scottish Government review) all guests are asked to wear masks throughout the evening, following guidance for the use of community halls. The seating is well spaced and hot drinks and refreshments will be served after the film.

Fairtrade in Kinross-shire



Please help us to continue to support the many farmers and producers all over the world who have also been affected by Covid-19, by continuing to support Traidcraft and Just Trading Scotland.

We are delighted to be able to have a stall at the Farmers Market, organised by KLEO. Please come along and buy rice and curry sauces, or biscuits and chocolate! Whatever you buy from us you know that the farmer has been paid a fair price.

We also would encourage you to think of giving a selection of Fairtrade goodies as a gift, at any time of the year. It can be a packet of tea and some biscuits, or rice, curry sauce and coconut milk! Please contact us through Kinross Parish Church Office if you would like to purchase some Traidcraft goods, or go online and purchase directly from www.traidcraftshop.co.uk.

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Carnbo SWI

President Heather Dennis welcomed everyone to the March meeting. She then welcomed the speaker Ana de Miguel from Perth & Kinross Council who gave a most interesting and informative talk on recycling and waste management.

Competitions

Flower of the month: **Molly White**
 Recycled item: **Anne Petherick**

Next meeting 18 April at 7.15pm in Carnbo Hall. There will be a talk from The Chest Heart and Stroke Association. The competitions will be Flower of the Month and an Easter Bonnet. All welcome.

Cleish SWI

President Agnes Thomson welcomed 24 members and two visitors to our March meeting. After business Agnes handed over to Jane McGee who introduced and interviewed Simon Attridge, executive chef at Gleneagles. Simon gave us a most interesting talk on his life as a chef. His career began in London working in many top hotels and he also has experience in Dubai and other foreign countries. Simon gave us an insight into his work at Gleneagles and how all the different restaurants operate. He also told us that Gleneagles use local and Scottish produce. Anne Doig thanked Simon for his most interesting talk.

Competitions

Flower Of The Month: **Elinor Craig**
 Empire Biscuits: **Lynn Hewitt**
 Favourite Coaster: **Janette Craig**

Glenfarg SWI

The guest speaker at the February meeting was Mrs Evelyn Scobie who presented an interesting and informative slideshow to accompany her talk about the many daily walks she had taken in and around Abernethy during the 2020 and 2021 Covid-19 lockdowns. Evelyn was very knowledgeable about her local area as well as many species of plants and wildlife. It was fascinating to note the exceptional vibrancy of wildflower and plant colours, due to the lack of normal levels of traffic air pollution, particularly during 2020. The vote of thanks was proposed by Mrs Andzia Scott.

Competitions

Fun-Themed Photograph: **Linda Martin**
 Three Brandy Snaps: **Linda Martin**
 Pot Plant: **Alison Harrison**

If you are interested in attending a meeting, or considering membership, Glenfarg SWI meets between September and May, on the second Thursday of each month at 2pm.

The guest speaker for our March meeting was Leigh Robertson of Leigh's Glass Shed, based in Tayport. Some years ago, Leigh studied how to make stained glass and progressed to making panels and hanging leaded and copper foil items to sell, along with beautiful, unique items of jewellery and ornaments. Her popularity grew and she now sells her wares at craft fairs in Fife and Perthshire. It was very interesting to learn about the techniques in designing, working with and firing glass in a kiln. The vote of thanks was given by Alison Harrison.

Competitions

Bowl Of Bulbs: **Alison Harrison**
 Three Jammy Dodgers: **Alison Harrison**
 Glass Item: **Alison Harrison**

The Catherine Fairweather Quaich, presented annually in memory of a much missed late member, was awarded to Alison Harrison for best peg bag (sewn). See the photo opposite.



Milnathort SWI

We met on Thursday 17 March when Jean Paterson, President, warmly welcomed 16 members, to what we hope is the start of being able to meet regularly. After the usual business and various federation reminders, we were entertained by a game of beetle. Then Jessica Munro, Grace Drysdale and Claudia Pleass all received prizes for winner, booby and best drawings. It was a fun and relaxing evening.

Competitions:

Flower Of The Month **Denise Stephenson**
 Easter Card **Denise Stephenson**
 Three Easter Cupcakes **Aileen Hunter**

The raffle was drawn, thanks given to Jennifer for refreshments, Jean wished us all a safe journey home and hoped to see everyone at our next meeting on 21 April when we hope to have a speaker. New members and visitors are welcome. Our meetings are held in the Town Hall on the third Thursday of each month.

Powmill SWI

On Wednesday 16 February our members met for a games night organised by our own member Anne. A wonderful night was had by all that attended. It certainly got us all thinking! Thank you Anne for organising.

Competitions

3 heart shaped biscuits **Isabel Mechan**
 Valentine poem **Maz Thorn**

Our meeting in March was a talk about the Carnegie Dunfermline trust. Gillian gave us a very interesting talk regarding the trust. It was thoroughly enjoyed by all. It's always interesting hearing what our members do in their day job! Thanks Gillian for an excellent talk.

Competitions

Three Chocolate Brownies **Kim Bowman**
 Article On Theme Of Weaving **Debbie Carter**

Games night winners – Powmill February 2022



DOG OF THE MONTH



Max

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Sports News



Kinross Road Runners

<https://kinrossroadrunners.weebly.com>



As we move into spring, our thoughts turn to hopes of better weather, more daylight hours, and even more opportunities to get out our running shoes and go for a run.

If you think it is time to try a new challenge, then the next race organised by the club is the Loch Leven Half Marathon on 14 May. The race starts on Clashburn Road, near the end of the High Street, and finishes at Kinross High School Campus, after a scenic tour around Loch Leven. You can enter online by visiting www.entrycentral.com/LLHM2022 and we hope to see you there. It is a great event!

Following on from that, we have the Milnathort Dash on 23 June. The dash is a five mile race and offers the chance to try for the coveted King or Queen of the hill at the start. To find out more about the Dash, visit our website.

Our photos this month show both the club's sporty side and also the social side. Right is of a group of club members after finishing the Callander 10k, with great smiles and medals all round. Above is a photo of the annual awards night that was held at Loch Leven's Larder, showing some well-dressed club members having a small sherry or two.

Lots of races are now taking place. Over the last month, KRR members have taken part in several events including the Foxtrail winter series 10k night race, Forfar Multi Terrain Half Marathon, Falkirk 33 Mile Ultra, National Cross Country Championships, Bishop Hill Race, Valleyfield Snowdrop 5K trail race, and Edinburgh Duathlon. It has been a nice mix of distances this month.

As always, parkrun is drawing in the crowds and travelling is still the theme with visits to Aberdeen, Plean, Torvean, Aviemore, Faskally Forest, Arbroath, Stirling, Ayr, Fort William, Camperdown, Linwood, Forfar Loch, and Peebles. Even typing out the list is tiring!

Training sessions were hampered by the storms. We had to cancel sessions two weeks in a row due to high winds, and



runners saw the Devils Burden race cancelled twice due to the bad weather. However, it is better to be safe than sorry in the hills. We still managed to fit in the much loved two mile time trial and a diagonal sprints session.

Just a reminder that the club training sessions fit all abilities and involve a variety of running activities. Interval sessions improve running speed, trail runs build up strength and stamina, and slower chatty runs are good for socialising.

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Sports News

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, visit our website and get in touch. Most importantly, however you run, enjoy it and stay safe.

Kinross Volleyball

The local volleyball club now operates four teams which compete in the Perth District volleyball league, two teams in the premier league and two teams in the recreational league.

The Perth District league only resumed in February and, with a Covid-19 curtailed season, both cup and league competitions have been run over a two month period. In the premier league cup competition, the Kinross Scotrange lost out at the semi-final stage to Team Fife who eventually won the competition. The Kinross Cosmos side just failed to reach the knockout stage of the competition.

In the recreational league cup competition both young sides failed to reach the knockout stage but are improving week on week.

The league competitions should be completed by the final Sunday in March with Kinross Scotrange hoping to field a strong side in an attempt to win back the premier league title.

The club will continue to meet on Monday evenings in the large campus games hall (8-9.45pm) through April and early May before moving outdoors over the summer season.

The club has two teams entered in the Scottish Open Volleyball tournament taking place over the last weekend of May on Perth's North Inch. The club also hopes to enter two teams in the annual De Haan Tournament in Belgium over the middle weekend of August.

Congratulations to local players Mark Cathro, Jack McKelvey and Connor Boyle who travelled to Northumbria for a training weekend with the Scotland men's squad in preparation for the small countries division men's competition taking place in the Faroe Islands in mid-May. All three are hoping to be in the final squad.

Further congratulations are due to local volleyball youngsters Finn Thompson and Ben McLachlan who will be playing for City of Edinburgh in the under 18 boys' cup final.



Even more congratulations to local lads Mitchell Brown, Mark Cathro and Connor Boyle who helped the City of Edinburgh



men's team to this season's Scottish cup final.

Pictured are the two local recreational league teams: Kinross High School in blue (above) and Kinross Cosmos in black (below left).





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Kinross Tennis Club

www.kinrosstennisclub.org.uk

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/KinrossTennisClub>

It has been a busy month for Kinross Tennis Club. Despite some very cold weather and snow, it has been lovely to see so many members out on court enjoying social play and lessons.

Open Day

The committee are delighted to welcome back our club open day which will be held on Sunday 3 April, 10am-2pm. All are very welcome! There will be refreshments and free use of the courts with a dedicated kids court. Equipment and games are supplied by our coach Siobhan.

Membership for 2022/23

Great news, our membership fees are remaining half price! New memberships are available to all existing and new members from 1 April. All purchases can be made directly through our website.

Membership gives players access to our free online court booking system as well as the opportunity to play at our social sessions.



Social and Competitive Play

All junior and adult members are welcome to play at our social sessions which run as follows: Wednesday from 7pm, Thursday from 1pm, Friday from 3pm (Juniors) and Sunday from 10am. Depending on numbers we play (mixed) doubles or singles, and tennis partners are swapped throughout the sessions. All abilities are welcome; it is social tennis so nothing too serious.

Tennis Tayside summer leagues will be up and running by the end of April. If anyone is interested in playing please get in by email at touchkinrosstennis@gmail.com.

Easter Tennis Camps – New Players Welcome

We will be running a three day Easter camp this year from Monday 11 to Wednesday 13 April and new players are very welcome! These are sessions for all levels and ages and all sessions will be delivered by qualified LTA accredited coaches. All equipment is provided and there will be prizes for all participants. The session times are as follows:-

9.30-10.15am, red ball beginners/Improvers (4-7 years) introducing the basics of the game on the mini courts with fun games with a little bit of friendly competition.

10.15-11am, orange/green ball beginners/improvers (7-12 years) introducing the basics of the game over the bigger court through fun games with a little bit of friendly competition.

11am-12.30pm, orange/green ball match play (7-12 years). Warm up games for 30 minutes followed by an hour of fun competitive match play.

12.30pm-2pm, yellow ball match play (12+ years). 30 mins of warm up hitting followed by an hour of fun competitive match play.



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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 Sunday 17 April, 1.30pm for 2pm start. All members and potential members please come along. Let's hope we have a healthy turnout and good weather and we can have a full season of bowling this year. Our 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 Saturday 30 April. Full membership is £85 but, for one year only, new members can join for half price for their first year. There is also a family membership available so anyone who is interested in bowling please come along. We also offer free coaching.

If anyone would like more information about the club and bowling, please check out our website or our Facebook page. Alternatively, contact our club secretary on 07790026589, one of our officials or a club member. Our office bearers elected at the AGM are President, Jim Whittet; Vice President, Tom Reid; Secretary, Sandra Fullerton; Match Secretary, Maz Thorn.

Kinross Badminton Club

The club has been operating again since Covid-19 restrictions allowed. We still adhere to Scottish Government guidance on wearing face coverings and using sanitiser, which is readily available at Loch Leven Community Campus. We also accept contactless card payments to mitigate the risk of spreading Covid-19 and to make things easier as well.

Club sessions take place on Tuesday nights at 8-9.45pm. There is a good level of attendance and we are starting to attract new members from the area. We offer a free first night for new members so, if you are a badminton player, do come along one evening to try out the club. Please do not hesitate to get in touch via Facebook and check out our page for any news and updates.

The club has a block booking of the badminton courts to the end of April. This will continue until summer if there is sufficient demand from members.

We have also reached out to other clubs around the Perth and Kinross area and hope to organise friendly matches and work with them and encourage further uptake of the sport.



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Kinross Rugby Club

1XV

Our senior squad completed its league fixtures with a convincing 64-5 win over Panmure at the KGV on Saturday 5 March. A game of flowing rugby and tremendous tackle defence from Kinross that befitted the beautiful, if windy, day. This win saw the end of our most successful seasons for a decade. In total, 9 wins, 6 losses and a draw see Kinross sitting at the top of the Tennant's Caledonia Midlands League 2, at least for a week or two. Our season-end position is more likely to be third as those below us continue to have games, previously postponed due to Covid which should take them above us. Nonetheless, it has been a great season and testament to the commitment and skill of our players, coaches and backroom staff. It is particularly fitting to have such success in our 40th Anniversary year.

2XV History

For the first time in 15 years Kinross put out a 2XV. This mixture of new young talent, mixed with a sprinkling of ancient relics from the past managed a spirited, if disjointed, game against Dunfermline 3XV, under the lights, on Friday 18 March. Playing in the oldies' grey, this was a close and physical game. Both sides were evenly matched and both attacked and defended with vigour. A breakaway try by Lewis Cox, from an interception, was the difference and saw Kinross 2XV the eventual winners 12-7. We are looking forward to more 2XV games as our player pool expands. Well done to captain (Baldie) Jonny for getting this game together.

U13 and U14s Male

Another great month for our two high school age grade male sides. There has been great game play and huge commitment through training sessions to ensure all are enjoying their rugby. We have also paired up with Glenrothes on occasion to ensure full 15-a-side games have been completed. Real spirit of rugby going on here. A massive thank you to the coaches who have progressed from our minis section with our young people. That continuity is really paying off. More games to come so more opportunity to get involved.

U16 Ladies

Our high-school age grade ladies squad is also continuing to progress. Again, pairing with other clubs to ensure our young people get quality game time has ensured that all continue to enjoy their sport. This then carries over into the commitment in training. This year the section progressed to full contact but, if you have not tried rugby before and want to, fear not! We encourage gradual introduction to the game




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£6 per session
EFF member discounts



and all its facets. The aim is fun for all so why not give it a try?

Minis

Another incredibly successful season for our primary age grade kids. Boys and girls have committed to training on Saturday mornings with real zeal. Seeing their smiling faces, albeit muddy ones, beaming when they train or in the game play at the numerous festivals of rugby they have participated in, brings joy to the heart. There are still more festivals and games to go, and our minis will be competing through to May.

Tartan Touch

Looking ahead, the club will be hosting Tartan Touch every Friday evening at 6.30pm from Friday 6 May to Friday 1 July. This is an opportunity for all ages, abilities and genders to play some fun, simple rugby with no contact. We will be running different pitches so those competitive types can play safely away from the young and not so young. We can even do dads and lads vs mums and daughters or any other combination if we have families looking to take part together. Fun is the name of the game. If you are interested drop in on the day or, for more details, contact Murray or Martin at Kinross Rugby Club. You can find us on Facebook.

Kinross Junior Curling Club

Season Roundup 2021/22

After a challenging couple of years, with the 2019/20 season ending abruptly, and the 2020/21 season peppered with disruption and many restrictions, we were delighted to get back on the ice in September 2021, albeit with some restrictions still in place.

It was wonderful to have so many of our young curlers return; notwithstanding they had all outgrown their club hoodies! Big thanks to Blue Crags in Strathmiglo for replenishing our stock.

With many of our 'senior juniors' leaving us, we now have a much younger group which is wonderful to see. There are youngsters in the ages ranging from 8 up to 16, with upwards

of 20 participants regularly attending our Sunday night club sessions. Club sessions run from 5.45pm to approximately 7.30pm on Sundays at the ice rink, with those sessions being a mixture of coaching, training and games. In between that, we also hold our club competitions including our Pairs Competition, Fossoway Cup and Jubilee Cup.

We have always had a team representing the club in the KCT (Kinross Curling Trust) league. Prior to lockdown we were in league 1, but with the departure of our seniors, we took the decision to move down to league 3 with several of our younger and less experienced members now representing the club, playing against the 'grown ups'. The results have not always gone our way, but very well done to all of our young curlers who have played and represented the club so well. We have had so many positive comments about how well they have conducted themselves and

what a credit they are to the club and the sport in general which is fantastic.

Our under-14 team of Finlay Rutherford, Holly Clemie, Cameron Lindsay and Clare Cassells have had a great run in the Asham under-14 slam winning the first leg in Forfar back in October, coming in runners up in the High Road at Aberdeen in November and Low Road winners in Perth in February. They also represented the club in the Asham under-17 slam in Lockerbie. Very well done to all of you.

We also had an entry in the Forfar Junior Club Challenge which is a newly resurrected competition between Forfar, Aberdeen, Perth/Dundee and Kinross. Each team is made up of different age groups making it an interesting mix and a really good way for younger curlers to get experience of competitions. Well done to Finlay Rutherford, Calum Stewart, Libby Kinninmonth and Clare Cassells on a great performance. It is hoped to make this format similar to the under-12s quadrangle with a leg being played at each ice rink and an overall winner being crowned. Watch this space.

The Scottish Curling Skills Award Challenge was played in Stranraer in December with three of our members participating. Well done to Elliot Cullerton, Connor Boyd and Clare Cassells.

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Sports News

Our under-12s have been in action in the Quadrangle competition run between Edinburgh, Stirling, Perth and Kinross. Kinross came out overall winners, so well done to everyone who participated in the competition across all four legs.

The under-12s were also in action in Stirling competing for the Mhairi McAughtrie Trophy. This competition attracts teams from all over Scotland and team Kinross came second this year. Very well done to Clare Cassells, Douglas Brown, Isla Clemie and Rowan Burgess on your success. Possibly the most exciting part of the day was being presented with silver medals by none other than olympic silver medallist Hammy McMillan.

Speaking of olympic silver medallists, we were very honoured to have a Q&A with Team Mouat (via Zoom) before their departure to Beijing and the olympics which was really exciting and inspiring.

We also had a team competing in the Scottish Schools Championships hosted by Curl Aberdeen in March. Up against some serious competition, our team made it to the semi-final where they were unfortunately beaten by Stewarton Academy from Kilmarnock who actually went on to win the competition by quite some margin. Well done to Team Kinross High School on a great effort. It is very sad that we are at the end of the season. It has been eventful and loads of fun and we are delighted to have had so many new members join us this year.

Our AGM and prizegiving takes place just days after the deadline to submit this report for inclusion in the Newsletter so we don't have any photos to add however, the winners of our club competitions are as follows:

Fossoway Cup: Winners, Calum Stewart, Libby Kinninmonth, Rhys Stewart, Rachel Eadie; Runners up, Holly Clemie, Connor Boyd, Louise Niven, Romy McCleary.

Jubilee Cup: Winners, Calum Stewart, Connor Boyd, Romy McCleary, Katie Lindsay; Runners up, Cameron Lindsay, Libby Kinninmonth, Rory Stevenson, Douglas Brown.

Pairs: Winners, Finlay Rutherford, Rachel Eadie; Runners up, Libby Kinninmonth, Romy McCleary.

Most improved curler: Connor Boyd.

We would like to thank everyone at Kinross Curling for all their hard work this year providing excellent facilities. Have a great summer break and we will see you all in September. If you would like more information about the club, please get in touch by email at kinrossjuniors@gmail.com.

Kinross Otters

Kinross Otters were left inspired and energised by an exciting visit from Olympian Ross Murdoch recently.

Murdoch delivered coaching sessions to swimmers across all four squads in the club as part of the prize for Otters being



named Scottish Swimming's Club of the Year back in 2019.

Due to Covid, the visit has been delayed but it was a case of better late than never as Murdoch got into the water with the youngsters to give an insight into the levels of a top athlete.

Murdoch has represented Great Britain at the Olympics, World Championships and European Championships and flown the flag for Scotland at the Commonwealth Games. The breaststroke specialist won gold and bronze at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow in 2014 and silver at the games four years later and has a gold, silver and bronze from the Worlds and has won two golds, three silvers and a bronze at the Europeans.

Otters chairman Nigel Martin said: 'What a fantastic way to celebrate the Otters winning Scottish Swimming's Club of the Year in 2019 and great recognition of the hard work by the club's volunteers and coaches.'

'Ross is a true ambassador for swimming, his energy and passion for the sport is so infectious. He gave swimmers from across our four squads a true insight into what it takes to compete at the highest level and represent Scotland and Great Britain on the world stage.'

'It was such a privilege to be in the room and watch our swimmers' eyes burn so bright with inspiration – a perfect prize from Scottish Swimming.'

'As our club begins its 50th anniversary Ross's visit was just a stupendous way to celebrate its history and inspire the latest generation of Otters.'

As well as seeing what it takes in the pool, the swimmers were able to pick the brains of Murdoch following a chat poolside (see photo) – and many autographs were signed.

Ahead of the session with Murdoch, the youngsters proved they are well and truly back in the swing of competitive swimming by claiming four club records during the Midland District Championships – and that's probably a club record in itself!

During the February meet, Struan Bennet set a new 1500m freestyle record with 16:17.44 and Emily Cumming posted a new 100 backstroke record of 01:09.59. That was followed in March by Charlotte Chadwick setting a new 200m backstroke record of 02:34.30, beating a 2009 time, and Stuart Pritchard set a new 50m backstroke time of 00:30.50, beating a 2013 record.

In addition Struan was awarded the title of Best Male for the whole championships. Well done to all who competed, and also at the Perth Pentaqua, hosted by Perth City Swim Club, where the standout performance may well have been from Jessica Sloan, who set a consideration time for the forthcoming Scottish National Age Group Championships by knocking more than four seconds off her personal best.

Finally, the club is holding an open assessment on Sunday, 24 April, for anyone interested in joining. Swimmers must have completed SS3 or above and slots will be allocated by emailing coaches@kinrossotters.co.uk by Sunday, 17 April.



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GOSPEL HALL

8 Montgomery Street, Kinross

We are pleased that we have been able to resume the Sunday Gospel meeting at 4.00pm to which all will be made welcome, but are hesitant to restart the Friends and Neighbours teas at the moment.

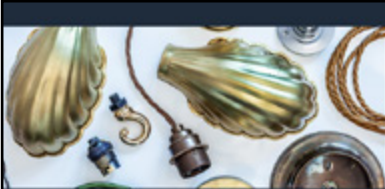
Visit our website for regular updates on our activities and helpful blogs

www.kinrossgospelhall.info

The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble: and He knoweth them that trust in Him

(Nahum Chapter 1 verse 7)

Enquiries: 01577 840329 ; 0781 805 0785



01577 864870



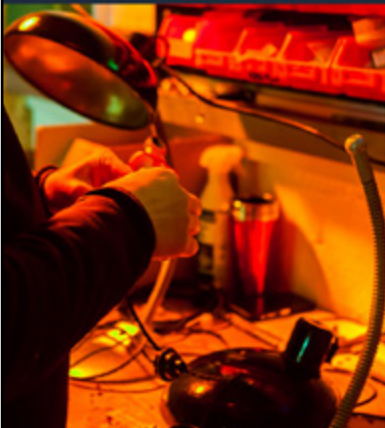
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Weekly Programme For April 2022

Monday	Exercise Class	11.30am
	Games – with safety measures	
	Indoor curling, quizzes, Scrabble	1.30pm
	'Stride for Life' Walking Group	2.00pm
	Barge Trip - including packed lunch (4 Apr ONLY)	10-4pm
Tuesday	Carers Cafe (12 Apr ONLY)	10-12pm
	Exercise Group	11.30am
	Games (with safety measures) Indoor curling, quizzes, Scrabble	1.30pm
Wednesday	Church Service (Only for our own service users)	11.15am
	Games – with safety measures	
	Indoor curling, quizzes, Scrabble	1.30pm
	Tai Chi	1.30pm
Thursday	Interactive Games	11.30am
	Games – with safety measures	
	Indoor curling, quizzes, Scrabble	1.15pm
	Art Group	1.30pm
	Exercise Class	2.00pm
Friday	Exercise Group	11.30am
	Bingo – with safety measures	1.30pm
	Games – with safety measures	



Film shows • Cards
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Trips • Daily Papers

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Local Volunteer Opportunities

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 Balfree Country Centre, Gairneybank, Kinross, needs volunteers to clean the kennels and walk and feed the greyhounds. Can you help? Phone 01592 890583. Visit our website at www.greyhoundrescuefife.com

Kinross in Bloom: Volunteer group that provides and maintains floral displays to enhance the environment of Kinross. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Susan Mitchell at: susan.mitchell50@gmail.com

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.

Guide Dogs Kinross

Support group. We are always looking for new volunteers. Contact Sheila at She61@hotmail.co.uk.

RSPB Scotland Loch Leven

RSPB Scotland Loch Leven: We need volunteer fundraisers to help support the wonderful world of nature on our doorstep. Pin badges, bucket collections, events and sponsored walks – if you'd like to join our team, please contact Lyndsay Stobie at: Lyndsay.Stobie@rspb.org.uk or call 01577 862355.

Kinross (Marshall) Museum

The Museum Trust is looking for volunteers to help care for Kinross-shire's heritage collections and man the Museum Study Room in the Loch Leven Community Campus on Thursdays and Saturdays. If you would like to know more, drop by or contact the Museum on 01577 867153 or email: information@kinrossmuseum.org.uk

Swansacre Playgroup

A long established charity playgroup for children aged 2-5 years, we need volunteers to help support us with play sessions. For more information, please email swansacre@gmail.com

Kinross Heart Start

Campaign to secure funds for public access defibrillators in Kinross. Contact Pamela Hunter to find out how you can volunteer on 01577 862419.

Light Up Kinross

Light Up Kinross is a small local charity with responsibility for Kinross Christmas lights and decorations. We require additional volunteers to assist with fundraising and administration of the lights. If you are interested, please contact David Colliar, email davidcolliar@tiscali.co.uk or Bill Freeman, email billywhizkid78@gmail.com or contact our Facebook page.

Common Grounds

Charity café staffed by volunteers on Tuesdays, Wednesday, Fridays and Saturdays in Guide Hall, Church Street, Milnathort. Open to public 10am-12.30pm. Opportunity to serve in café or bake for the café. Also opportunity to gain recognised hours towards Duke of Edinburgh Awards and Saltire Awards for young people 16 years and over. Funds raised are used to support charities mainly in Africa. Contact: Convener Elspeth Caldwell on 01577 863350 or Secretary Linda Freeman on 01577 865045 for more information.

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 when back on stream, 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.

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, a main aim being to give education to schoolchildren about plants, gardening and the environment. If you would like more information about our volunteering opportunities, please

contact the Convenor, Amanda James, on 01577 840809, or amandajames1577@gmail.com

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. Kinross need a Guide Helper, Brownie leader and helper. Portmoak need a brownie helper and Milnathort are looking for a Rangers leader. 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: lyndsaystobie@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 from myself 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

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 Learning Officer Sarah Cooper on 07729 105 725 or email sarah.cooper1@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

Fossoway is located within Perth & Kinross and includes the settlements of Blairingone, Powmill, Crook of Devon & Drum, Rumbling Bridge and Carnbo. The Fossoway and District Community Council is a group of volunteers, elected by the Community who work together for the benefit of the Community. We meet with members of the public on the first Tuesday of every month from 7.30pm to 9pm and discuss issues that affect the community which can range from planning applications to local crime to concerns about community facilities. Our meetings rotate around public buildings in our villages.

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.

- The Fossoway District is also in the process of establishing a community development trust. Presently we are looking for community engagement opportunities to seek members of the trust and again the individual could support these events and help raise our profile with the younger generation.

- Ideally the candidate would be confident using Microsoft Office and social media tools.

- Training and mentorship will be provided

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>

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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Whooo Let The Owls Out?

SPRING IS IN THE AIR! April is a month to spot ospreys flying to their breeding sites, maybe even stopping off over the loch to catch a fish. The first Swallows arrive in mid-April – a sure sign that summer is on the way. Butterflies can be seen basking in the spring sunshine – look out for green-veined white, comma and small tortoiseshell.

Some of our nesting ducks will be on eggs, and by the end of the month we will start to see our first young ducklings on the loch. Usually, the first broods we see are mallard. The eggs were incubated for 28 days and then hatched over 24 hours. The ducklings stay in the nest for around 10 hours then head out to the water. Straight away, the ducklings know how to feed but what matters is finding out what is edible! This is an important time for the young ducklings as they learn what to eat and how to survive under the watchful eye of their mother. After around 50 days the ducks will fledge and become independent.

The Islands are where ducks are nesting, the shoreline is where the young ducklings tend to feed and shelter. If you are planning to go out on the loch on a kayak, paddleboard, canoe or any other watercraft, please read our signage out on the reserve. Keep away from all of the Islands and keep 200 metres from the shoreline – this will help to protect the nesting ducks that call Loch Leven NNR their home. A reminder that there are no sailboats or motorised crafts permitted on the loch.

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Short eared owl by Keith Simpson

In other avian news – the dawn chorus is really loud at the moment. Summer visitors such as willow warbler, sedge warbler, blackcap and whitethroat have joined the usual blackbird, robin, song thrush, dunnock, goldcrest etc. It is worth an early morning stroll on a warm spring morning.

Speaking of the Dawn Chorus, we will be running a Dawn Chorus walk on Saturday 7 May. The event will start at 6am from Findatie Car Park and will run until 8am. The walk will involve a gentle walk, strolling on the trail through the woods listening to the wonder of birdsong. Booking is essential as numbers will be limited – to book a place please email LOCHLEVEN_NNR@nature.scot.

April is also the month we will be launching our Brass Rubbing Trail. We are looking to launch the trail over the Easter weekend. We will have brass rubbing posts circumnavigating the reserve in which you can bring crayons and create rubbings of the wildlife of Loch Leven. Leaflets for the trail will be made available online from our website. Look out for more information on this on our Facebook, Instagram or get in touch via our email above.

Latest wildlife highlights from the reserve include; drake smew, chiffchaff, green woodpecker, short-eared owls and tree bumblebee.

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. Spring migrant updates will feature heavily on our social media at the moment!

Cheers!

*Simon Ritchie,
Loch Leven National Nature Reserve Officer*

They're Coming Home

AS SPRING ROLLS IN we have seen an excellent influx of breeding birds at RSPB Loch Leven. Flocks of lapwing, shelduck, gadwall, and oystercatcher have been spotted on the wetlands. Out on the loch great crested grebe have been seen displaying their elaborate courtship shows. These birds court by rising out of the water and shaking their heads, just like something out of a Rita Hayworth movie! They also dip their heads to one another, mimicking little bows. Over the next few months, we hope to see some chicks appearing. Very young grebes often ride on their parents backs – a lovely sight to see! Lots more of the passerines have been singing now too, with skylarks displaying above the wetland trail and lots of woodland birds to listen out for. The lovely sound of a great spotted woodpecker drumming on the trees has been heard too. Many of the wintering birds will be departing soon, however there are still lots of wigeon, teal and goldeneye on the loch. Numbers of whooper swan have fallen this last month, indicating they have started their long journey back to Iceland for the summer. Likewise, the latest goose counts resulted in 1400 pink footed geese left around the loch, however it is possible numbers could increase over the next few weeks as birds from further south pass through.



Photo- Alex Gilfillan

With the nesting season just around the corner the reserve team have been hard at work repairing the islands in front of the Waterson and Carden hides for the black headed gull colony. It is important this work is done now so there is minimal disturbance for the birds when they start to breed. The reserve team have also recently put in some new sluices to allow for greater control of water levels on the Wetlands.

Our wonderful volunteer team have been fantastic as always and have been working on improving the Little Vane woodland for wildlife with the addition of shrubbier tree species, nest boxes, wildflower patches and seed planting. They've

also improved the area in front of the visitor centre through more wildflower planting. In addition to this they have been helping to maintain parts of the reserve such as fences, foot-paths and steps up the hill.

We have some exciting events happening this month too with our **Big Wild Easter Trail running 2-17 April**. Pick up your map from the visitor centre, follow the trail to build your own nest! A good nest might just find an egg in it.. No need to book, just drop in! £2 per sheet on the day or avoid the queues and book via our website (50p booking fee), simply show your e-receipt to a member of staff.

Awake in the Wild Saturday 26 March 10-11am: Awaken your body, mind and senses in the beautiful surrounds of Loch Leven with a mindful movement and meditation session. Offered by local yoga teacher, Orla Beaton, the monthly sessions will include gentle yoga and Qigong, seated and walking meditation, and poetry to help us de-stress, connect and find balance. We will meet at the picnic area. Please bring a yoga mat, blanket/shawl and small cushion and wear warm comfortable clothing with light shoes/trainers. Booking essential via events.rspb.org.uk/lochleven. £8 members, £10 non-members.

Rachel Gooday

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Farming

Ewe Little Beauties...

THE SIGNS ARE THAT spring is on its way. There are buds of life appearing on the trees, there is more daylight than darkness in each day and by the time you are reading this the clocks will have moved forward to summertime – although this can often coincide with the final snarls of winter blasting down our semmits. There have been flashes of the restless symptoms of ‘spring fever’ among the cattle as the recent sunny days have them gazing over the gates of their winter accommodation, anxious to get stuck in to the fresh green shoots of spring grass, but they will have to be patient for a few weeks yet as I suspect they would be bitterly disappointed if they were to be set free just now.

The ewes are due to start lambing officially from 10 April although we have about 20 which had access to the tups sooner than the rest so we have a few lambs already. We had the same start date last year and it seemed to work quite well for us so we thought we would go for the same again. Last year, the official start date greeted us with a crisp covering of snow which fortunately didn't last so we will just have to wait and see what happens this year. The ewes pregnancy scanned quite a pleasing percentage this year (by our standards, at least) but it is how many lambs end up running around the fields that really counts and we don't have too many ewes scanned expecting triplets, which is quite pleasing.

Pregnancy scanning is one of the most worthwhile tasks we carry out in my opinion, as it helps with the management of the ewes in the run up to and during lambing. We can separate the ewes into groups according to whether they are expecting one, two or three lambs and we target feed accordingly, since a ewe expecting triplets needs a lot more feed than one only expecting a single lamb. It is also a great help for fostering an extra lamb from a ewe who wouldn't be able to rear it herself on to a ewe who could easily cope with another lamb to rear, as we can have likely candidates separated off in preparation for doing this job.



I think the pigs are enjoying the slightly drier conditions of late (although I must admit I haven't actually asked them) as they will be able to bask in the warming spring sunshine on some drier ground. Although their traditional breeding means that they are pretty hardy creatures and they seem to enjoy rooting (and roaming) about in all weather including snow, some slightly drier conditions makes the daily task of feeding them much easier.

Hopefully we will soon be able to get on with some spring fieldwork as conditions improve as there is dung to spread on the fields which are to be planted in cereal crops which will then need ploughed before cultivating and drilling. We have some ploughing to do for a neighbour as well as fertiliser to spread (very carefully, given the price) and preparing the fields to be used for growing silage and hay. There is certainly plenty to be doing to keep us out of mischief for the next few weeks.

John

Weather

Recent Weather Reports From Kinross

February 2022

Total Rainfall **160.8mm/6.43in**
 Heaviest Fall **17.2ml/0.75in (13 Feb)**

Total Sunshine **107.7 hrs**
 Sunniest Day **9.7 hrs (27 Feb)**

Max Temp Average **7.28c**
 Highest Temp **11.0c (1 Feb)**

Min Temp Average **-0.92c**
 Lowest Temp **-6.9c (10 Feb)**

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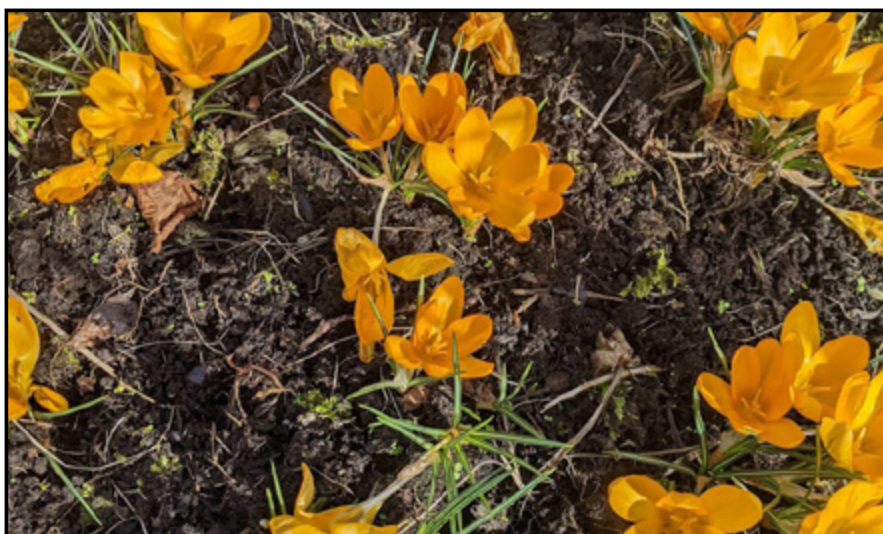
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IT LOOKS LIKE SPRING has finally sprung – the crocuses are past their best and the daffodils and tulips are really coming into their own. This really is my favourite time of the year, everything's starting to wake up... unfortunately, even the weeds.

I sowed all my seeds under cover around the middle of March, I could have waited two or three weeks but I'm an impatient sort of person. Rest assured, you still have plenty of time to sow your annual seeds for this year and get a bumper crop of flowers.

Most of the seeds have germinated and it'll soon be time to prick them out and pot them on. (I usually sow into mini propagators (you can get quite cheaply on EBay) and place them either on a heat pad or in an electric propagator to germinate).

When the seedlings have two pairs of leaves on them, I usually loosen up the roots with the handle of a spoon by inserting into the edge of the tray and lifting the seedlings slightly – this makes them easier to remove. Lift the seedlings carefully by the leaves and pot them on into either trays of compost, or I

use 15-cell inserts as they're then able to grow on until planting out in early June.

In Begonia news, I unwrapped my overwintered Begonias in mid-March and most of them are starting to show signs of life, I'm always amazed at how a seemingly dead corm, when introduced to moisture and heat, can sprout into life. When it gets a bit warmer, probably about mid-April, I'll put them into individual pots and grow on in the greenhouse.

Overwintered Fuchsias that I kept in the greenhouse are also doing well. I was a bit apprehensive as I hadn't watered them at all over the winter – but I only lost one! This is a valuable bit of learning for me – I usually give them a bit of water every couple of weeks over the winter

and lose about a third of the plants – so the answer is not to water at all, who knew?

The plan for the next few weeks I think is to get the garden ready for summer. This will include pulling out all the annuals that I didn't get round to doing last autumn – too cold and wet, that's my excuse and I'm sticking to it. I'll lift and divide some plants such as Hostas and perennial Geraniums and find homes for them elsewhere, this is the perfect time of year for doing this. I need to tidy up the strawberry bed which will involve cutting back all the dead foliage, weeding and chucking loads of manure round about the plants. Next year I will put in some new plants, strawberries are only productive for two or three years so need replacing regularly.

And then it'll be on to pricking out seedlings, weeding, clearing out pots, cleaning the patio and generally swearing about everything that needs to be done... who'd be a gardener, eh?

That's me for this month folks... things to do and all that! Have fun, take care and don't forget to sit back and survey your handiwork every once in a while.

Teresa Stirling

Gardens to Visit



Cambo Spring Plant & Garden Market, Kingsbarns, St Andrews, Fife KY16 8QD
Sunday 10 April 11am -3pm

Look out for the new Your guide to Scottish Gardens...open for charity 2022 priced at £7.50.

This will be on sale soon locally or if you can't find it, contact gillboard@btinternet.com for a copy.

The charity supports the opening of gardens, mostly private, to the public.

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Images of Kinross-shire

Photographs can be downloaded free of charge from the www.kinross.cc

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Office Tel: (01577) 862570

The Church Office is operating remotely. Leave a phone message or email.

Minister: Rev Alan D. Reid MA, BD

Tel: (01577) 862952

Ordained Local Minister: Rev Margaret Michie

Session Clerk: Jaffrey Weir

KEEPING IN TOUCH: contact the Church Office to receive our weekly email of events.

CHANGES: All events are now in the church, apart from House Groups or where otherwise indicated. Check the church website, or weekly email.

Regular Services and Events:

Sundays

9.15am Choir Practice

10.30am: **Morning Service**, gathering song about 10.25. The theme in April is 'Praying the Psalms'. Children's and Young People's groups meet during the service. Refreshments and Traidcraft stall after the service.

Sunday morning services are also available live on the church website, YouTube and Facebook, and on Zoom*. Thereafter available to view on YouTube, Facebook and the church's website; from around 1pm, listen by phone on 01577 528270; or request a CD from the church office.

6pm: **Sunday Evening Prayer**, on Zoom*

Mondays

8pm: **House Group** – Bible study and fellowship

Tuesdays

1.45pm: **House Group**

Wednesdays

1.30pm: **Craft Group**

7.45pm: **Men's House Group**

8.00pm: **Women's House Group**

Thursdays

11-12pm **Table Talk** – Chat and coffee on Zoom*

Fridays

Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association in the church centre.

Anchors 6pm; Juniors 7pm;

Company and Seniors 7pm

Other Services and Events: (Those underlined are jointly organised by Kinross-shire Churches for Easter)

April

Sat 2 Community Litter Pick. Equipment available at the church 9.30 – 10.30am, return bags by 3pm. Afterwards, meet for coffees at 3pm in church garden. Eco-Congregation event.

Sun 3 **10.30am: Morning Service**, followed by informal Communion.



Mon 4 **8am: Silent Meditation**

Sun 10 **Palm Sunday**

10.30am Service – 'Deliver Us From Evil', Psalm 13
2.30pm. Let's Sing. For those living with dementia.

Thur 14 **Maundy Thursday**

7.30pm **Communion Service** at Portmoak Parish Church

Fri 15 **Good Friday**

10.30am–12pm **Good Friday Experience** – for children and families. Activities, crafts and stories
Lunchtime: The Passion Story read at High St/Station Rd corner

2pm: The Last Hour at the Cross – reflections at St. Paul's Church

7.30pm: Good Friday Service at Kinross Parish Church

Sat 16 All Friends Together (part of Prospects Across Scotland for people with learning disabilities).
11am on Zoom

Sun 17 **Easter Sunday**

7.30am: Lochside Service at Kirkgate Park

10.30am: Easter Service – 'Kingdom, Power and Glory', Ps. 118.

6.30pm: Songs of Praise at Fossoway Parish Church

Thu 21 **9pm: Evening service of Compline** in the church

Fri 23 **7.30pm MAF Quiz Night.** Hosted by Andy Martin, community manager for Mission Aviation Fellowship.

Fossoway, St Serf's & Devonside Church

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www.cleishandfossowaychurches.org.uk

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Email: estenhouse@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk: Mrs Janet Harper Telephone: (01577) 840225

Email: aclassicsoul@aol.com



April 2022

Updates and changes to the dates below can be found on our church website: <https://cleishandfossowaychurches.org.uk>

Sunday, 3 Apr

9.45am: Morning Worship.

Refreshments and the Fairtrade Stall will be available after the service

12.30pm: Joint Cleish and Fossoway Churches morning worship by 'Zoom'

Sunday, 10 Apr

9.45am: Palm Sunday Morning Worship.

Sunday, 17 Apr

9.45am: Easter Sunday Morning Worship.

6.30pm: Easter Sunday Songs of Praise.

Sunday, 24 Apr

9.45am: Morning Worship

Refresh Thursday

We are open again on Thursdays 2 - 4pm

Church Information

in the Church Hall.

Join us for a friendly blether with delicious home baking, tea and coffee, all are welcome

Film Evening

Our next film is: *Six Minutes to Midnight* A WW II spy drama set in a finishing school for the daughters of the Nazi elite located in England.

Fri 1 April, 7.30pm – 9.30pm in the Church Hall

Please join us for the film, a cuppa and a blether and even some popcorn, all are welcome

Fossoway Crafts

Monday evenings from 6.30pm in the Church Hall. Bring your own craft and join us.

Fossoway House Group

Our House Group continues to meet by WhatsApp on a Thursday evening.

The material that we are looking at through video and study is also sent out by email. If you would like to join the WhatsApp Group or receive the material by email please contact Lis.

Fossoway Babies and Toddlers

Every Friday (apart from 15 Apr) 9.30 – 11.30am, Fossoway Church Hall. Snacks, play and blether.

Quilting Group

Every Wed from 6 to 27 Apr.

If you would like any more information or to join with us for any of the Zoom services, please contact the Rev Lis Stenhouse 01577 842128.

Cleish Parish Church

Church of Scotland

(Charity No: SC003168)

Minister: Rev Lis Stenhouse BD (Hons)

Tel: 01577 842128

Email: estenhouse@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk: Neil Maclure

Email: neil.maclure19@gmail.com Tel: 01577 864826

Please visit our website: www.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 once again in Cleish Church.

Updates and changes to the dates below can be found on our church website <https://cleishandfossowaychurches.org.uk>

April 2022

Sunday, 3 Apr

11.15am: Morning Worship,

12.30pm: Joint Cleish and Fossoway Churches Morning Worship by Zoom

Sunday, 10 Apr

11.15am: Palm Sunday Morning Worship.

Sunday, 17 Apr

11.15am: Easter Sunday Morning Worship.

Sunday, 24 Apr

11.15am: Morning Worship.

Cleish Fete and Classic Car Show

Saturday, 14 May from 1.00 – 3.30pm

If you would like any more information or to join with us for any of the Zoom services, please contact the Rev Lis Stenhouse (01577 84212) who will be happy to send you the link.

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/

Saturday Vigil Mass – 7.00p.m.

Sunday Mass – 9.00a.m.

Catechism Class (during term-time) on Monday after school till 4.30p.m.

Tuesday 5.45-6.45pm Holy Hour (with Holy Rosary and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament), followed by Holy Mass at 7pm.

Wednesday 10am Holy Mass

Friday 10am Holy Mass

Holy Rosary or Seasonal Devotions: Wednesday and Friday 9.15-9.45am

Confessions: After the Saturday Vigil Mass and after weekday Masses and on request.

Holy Week and Easter:

Good Friday Stations of the Cross & Veneration of the Cross at 7.00p.m. in St. James'

Office of Readings & Morning Prayer for Holy Saturday at 10.00a.m. in St. James'

*Easter Vigil at 9.00p.m. in St. James'

*Easter Sunday Mass at 9.00a.m. in St. James'

For the full parish timetable see the newsletter section on the parish website: www.catholickinross.com

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

****The church building is open for services in person. Our Sunday morning services begin at 10am, unless otherwise advertised. (Our church bell rings from 9.45am.) We will provide regular updates on our website. Please do refer to it regularly. Although government guidelines removed the need for social distancing, we maintain a 1m distancing policy in the church building and face coverings are worn. We also operate a track & trace system for those who would like to attend in person. We look forward to seeing you!****

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.

Please be assured of our prayers and intercessions, especially if Covid-19 has directly affected you and your family. As always, you are most welcome to contact the Rector by phone or email if there is anything that our community can offer, a listening ear or practical help.

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 April

Sun 3 Apr PASSIONTIDE BEGINS

10am Sung Eucharist *Celebrant and Preacher: The Rector*

Wed 6

10am Midweek Meditative Holy Communion
8pm Online Lent study group – ‘Living Stones, Living Hope’ (USPG)
 5. Dalit Theology (download a free study guide from www.uspg.org.uk/resources/study-courses1714)
9.00pm ‘Zoom’ Compline

Thurs 7 10am Diocesan Chrism Mass (St Ninian’s Cathedral)

HOLY WEEK

Sunday 10 Apr: (PALM SUNDAY)

10am Sung Eucharist with Blessing of the Palms, Procession around the church building and dramatic reading of the Passion according to St Luke

Wednesday 13 Apr

10am Midweek Meditative Holy Communion
9pm Compline

MAUNDY THURSDAY 14 Apr

7.30pm Sung Eucharist, Stripping of the Altar and the Watch

GOOD FRIDAY 15 Apr:

2pm The Last Hour

EASTER SUNDAY 17 APR

10am Festive Whole Church Eucharist for families and individuals of all ages

NB – The Rector will be on Sabbatical from Easter Monday until the Autumn. Whilst he is away, in the first instance, please contact Malcolm Strang Steel (07970 744102; steel@greenheadfarm.co.uk) for matters relating to St Paul’s.

Sunday 24 Apr: (Easter 2)

10am Sung Eucharist

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 Robert Calvert

Sunday Worship, and Junior Church:

10am Portmoak Church

11.30am Orwell Church

All children welcome.

Services will have all current Covid safety procedures in place, including the wearing of masks.

Please note that joint services will be held on the first Sunday of each month in alternate churches at 10:30am.

3 Apr Joint family service in Orwell Church at 10:30am

No morning service at Portmoak Church

14 Apr Maundy Thursday Communion Service at Portmoak Church at 7:30pm

1 May Joint family service in Portmoak Church at 10:30am

No morning service at Orwell Church

Please check the church website or Facebook page for further information on all services in case things change.

Church Office

At the time of writing, the Church Office and Shop is still closed due to current Covid regulations, but it is hoped that we will soon be able to open again from 10am to 12pm, from Monday to Friday.



Acknowledgements

FORD: Anne, Colin and Carol would like to thank all family, friends and neighbours for their support, flowers and cards following Jack’s death and to all who attended the funeral. Special thanks to Garry Ward, Murray Royal and Ward 5 Ninewells for all their care. Thanks to Denis Madden for the lovely service and Stewart Funeral Directors for all their help. The sum of £701 was donated to the Garry Ward.

Office email: orwellandportmoakchurch@gmail.com

Website: orwellportmoakchurch.org.uk

Kinross Gospel Hall

8 Montgomery Street, Kinross

www.kinrossgospelhall.info

contact 0781 805 0785

At Last! We’re delighted to announce that we are able to recommence Gospel meetings. These will take place **every Sunday at 4pm** for approximately 40 minutes.

We look forward to welcoming old friends and new and especially welcome everyone who is able to join us. **We will, of course, follow all the current Covid-19 guidelines.**

Sadly, we do not think it appropriate at this point to restart Friends and Neighbours, but we continue to monitor the situation.

Loch Leven Church

(Charity No: SC049050)

Loch Leven Church meets at Loch Leven Community Campus, at 10:30am

each Sunday. Our sermon series in April is called ‘The Hope of Easter’ and we’ll be hosting the following services

3 Apr: The Hope of Easter – LLC Youth

10 Apr: The Hope of Easter – Graeme Gunn (LLC)

17 Apr: The Hope of Easter – Richard Gibb (LLC)

24 Apr: Guest service & communion – Alistair Purs (Dumfries Baptist Church)

Everyone, of all ages, is very welcome and there are separate activities for children during the service. **To find out more about us, please visit our Facebook page *We Love Loch Leven*, our website www.lochlevenchurch.com, or email us at info@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.

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



THE Fresh Fish PLACE

www.thefreshfishplace.co.uk

**Fresh Fish daily from Peterhead
OVER 60 CHOICES**

FRESH, SHELLFISH, FROZEN RANGE and MARINADE

Follow us on Facebook page for Great Reviews



**Photos of Customer Dishes
And Delicious Recipes**



01577 208761 167 High St, Kinross KY13 8DA

**Open Tues. – Fri. 9am – 4:30pm Sat. 9am – 3 pm
Closed Sunday and Monday**



Bayne's Morning Roll

Unique in taste and freshly baked
every day by our skilled craft bakers

Always baked and sold the same day!

Visit our shop at

101 High Street, Kinross

www.baynesthefamilybakers.co.uk



Notices

MUSIC IN DOLLAR

Music In Dollar will hold their next concert on Saturday 9 April at 7.30pm at the Gibson Hall, Dollar Academy, Dollar. This concert features the wonderful pianist Clare Hammond who will play a very varied programme including a Beethoven Sonata and Brahms 'Six Pieces – Opus 118'. Gramophone Magazine thought she was 'a pianist of extraordinary gifts' – so come along and hear her! (Clare appears by arrangement with Rayfield Allied).



Tickets cost £10 either on line or at the door, £7 for members and free to under 18s and those in full time education. Further information from the Concert Secretary on 01577 864589 or the Society website www.musicindollar.org.uk.

SPARKs Kinross
Local Community Group

Are you an adult physical or learning disability?
Would you like to meet new people in the Kinross-shire area?
Come join us for a cuppa and chat.

We meet on a weekly basis
@ Kinross Men's Shed, Swansacre, Kinross
on Thursday's 1300–1500

We have various optional activities:

- Weekly Quiz
- Board Games
- Arts & Crafts
- Occasional Guest Speaker
- Boccia
- Trips out to Museums, Ten-Pin Bowling, Picnics

The group is mainly self led, with support from fantastic volunteers, NHS & PKC community workers.



Light Up Kinross Family Disney Quiz

Kinross Rugby Club

Friday 22 April 2022 at 6.30pm.

Family Table Of Four £10, Extra Person £2.50

To book contact Margaret Scott mbs21@btinternet.com or Bill Freeman billywhiz3freeman@virgin.com

Mindspace Recovery College

Mindspace Recovery College runs free courses covering all aspects of mental health, co-delivered by people with lived experience, and are open to all.



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.



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



Grants and Funding Websites

www.pkgrantsdirect.com

www.foundationscotland.org.uk

MOBILE LIBRARY 13,27 April (Fortnightly, Wednesdays)

Kinnesswood (Opposite Shop)	09.30 – 10:00	Powmill (Mill Gardens)	13:20 – 13:40
Portmoak Hall	10:05 – 10:20	Crook of Devon (Village Inn)	13:45 – 14:45
Scotlandwell (Leslie Road)	10:25 – 10:50	Carnbo (Pitcairnie Lane)	15:00 – 15:30
Levenmouth Farm	11:00 – 11:20	Whyte Court (Kinross)	15:45 – 16:15
Hatchbank Road (Gairneybank, Kinross)	11:40 – 12:00		

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

Perth & Kinross School Term Dates 2022

Term ends: Friday 1 April 2022

Spring holiday: Monday 4 April 2022 - Monday 18 April 2022

Summer term 2022

Term starts: Tuesday 19 April 2022

Jubilee holiday: Thursday 2 June 2022

Jubilee holiday: Friday 3 June 2022

Term ends: Thursday 30 June 2022

Bring Back Milnathort Gala

We are looking to bring back the Milnathort Gala next year, but we need the local community's support and knowledge to make it happen.

Before we can develop the event, assistance is needed by filling the roles listed below;

- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Sport convenor
- Parade officer
- Park officer

Help is also needed from local businesses or individuals who have experience/knowledge of gala events.

Please email

bringbackMilnathortgala@gmail.com if you are interested in any of the above roles or have any ideas to make the gala unforgettable.

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

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

More deadlines for the months ahead can be found on our website.

In very rare circumstances it may be necessary to change a deadline at short notice. Check the *Newsletter* website for latest information: www.kinrossnewsletter.org

Issue	Deadline	Publication Date
May	Friday 15 April	Saturday 30 April
June	Friday 20 May	Saturday 4 May

100th Birthday and Diamond Wedding Anniversaries

Do you know a Perth & Kinross resident who is celebrating their **100th or 105th+ birthday**?

Do you know a Perth & Kinross couple celebrating their **60th, 65th or 70th wedding anniversary**?

PKC can arrange delivery of flowers or for a local councillor to present a basket of flowers to the person or couple on their special day.

Tel: 01738 475051 Email: CivicServices@pkc.gov.uk

Local Correspondent

for Perthshire Advertiser and Fife Herald newspapers

Linda Freeman

Tel 01577 865045.

Email: linda.freeman_64@btinternet.com

Situations Vacant

Bar/Catering Staff and Cook

- Milnathort Golf Club are looking for both part time and full time staff to join our existing friendly team, prior to the commencement of the new golf season in April. We are looking to fill the following positions:-
- Bar/lounge staff, must be over 18 years of age.
- Cook, 25 hours, mostly weekend working, seven month contract April to October.
- We are looking for people who have a flexible attitude and who can demonstrate excellent customer service. Bar duties are varied and include welcoming members and visitors to the clubhouse, preparing, cooking, and serving bar snacks, waiting tables, serving at the bar and some simple golf related administration tasks.
- The cook position will work in conjunction with our existing cook (over different shift patterns) to determine menus, specials evening and such like. The successful cook candidates will have completed food hygiene training and have cooking experience in a retail food/hospitality industry. Some bar experience would be preferred but is not essential as all necessary training will be given.
- We are a seven-day business requiring weekend working alongside some late evening finishes. Wages will be agreed dependent on experience. Please send CV by email to Milnathort.gc@btconnect.com or contact 01577 864069 between 9am and 1.30pm.

Save the Date

Charity Farm Open Day



SUNDAY JUNE 19th 2022
11AM TO 3PM

Farm Walk, Animals, Shearing, Spinning, Free Activities including Milking a Cow and making Flour. Enjoy lunch at the farm

Hilton of Aldie
Fossoway
KY13 0QJ

Follow Farmer Dawes on Facebook for news & Tree competition to take A baby's & Goats for a walk

di@farmerdawes.co.uk

For Sale

Items for Sale

The *Newsletter* publishes items for sale listed on the *kinross.cc* website. If interested in purchasing an item, we suggest **checking the website for current availability** (www.kinross.cc then 'Local Adverts' then 'Classified Adverts'). If interested in selling an item, please list it on www.kinross.cc and it will automatically be published in the next available *Newsletter*, subject to space.

DeLonghi Nescafé Dolce Gusto Coffee Machine **£20**
White, excellent condition, just over a year old.

Probike Charisma 26 inch wheels **£50**
Good condition. Has a spare inner tube.

Dell C1660w Laser Printer **£50**
A4 colour laser printer in very good condition. Includes black, cyan and magenta ink cartridges.
Seller Details for above 3 items:

Jane Morrison **07859 403911**

Tent **£300**
Robens 300 Cabin tent with Robens Shadecatcher extension. Excellent condition

Seller Details:
Christine Cargill **07564943424**
cargill292@btinternet.com

22 inch Dell Monitor **£40 ono**

Used as an external monitor with a laptop at Kinross-shire Volunteer Group & Rural Outreach Scheme

Seller Details:
Pauline Watson **07877840347**
pauline@thegreyhouse.co.uk

Hayter Harrier 48 Lawnmower **£50**

Petrol machine in good working order

Seller Details:
Ian Hay **07901 737679**

Satellite dish **Donation to CHAS**

Complete kit. Dimensions 66 x 61 cm. TRIAX brand.

Seller Details:
Jock Keith kelsokeith@btopenworld.com

ST PAUL'S CHURCH NEEDS A MUSICIAN.

If you can play the organ, piano, or guitar, we at St Paul's Episcopal Church, would love to hear from you and to meet you.

We need someone to play simple familiar hymns for our 10am. Sunday Morning Service.

Remuneration available.

Contact :Jo Middlemiss 01577 862041

Annual General Meeting

Light Up Kinross (Christmas Light Display)

to be held in Millbridge Hall, Kinross, on Thursday, 28 April, 2022 at 7.30 pm

All welcome.

**MOBILE POST VAN AT
BUCHAN AVENUE,
KINNESSWOOD**

**MONDAYS 13.45 till 14.45
WEDNESDAYS 12.45 till 13.45**

**KINROSS DELIVERY OFFICE
ROYAL MAIL
87 High St, Kinross KY13 8AR
OPENING TIMES**

MONDAY	8-10am
TUESDAY	8-10am
WEDNESDAY	8-10am
THURSDAY	8-10am and 4-7pm
FRIDAY	8-10am
SATURDAY	8am-12pm
SUNDAY	CLOSED

Kinross Garden Group

2021/22 Season
Thursday 14 April 2pm
Kinross Parish Church.
Dr Greg Kenicer
'Ecology in the garden'
All welcome to join us.

Kinross Recycling Centre

Bridgend Industrial Estate

Opening Times:

Mon - Fri 9am - 7pm
Sat - Sun 9am - 5pm

Bras, bicycles, cans (inc aerosols, biscuit tins, aluminium foil), car and household batteries, cardboard, cooking oil, electricals (WEEE), engine oil, fluorescent tubes, long life light bulbs, food and drinks cartons (Tetra packs), fridges, freezers, garden waste, glass, large domestic appliances, paper, plastic (rigid plastic packaging), rubble stone and soil, scrap metal, telephone directories, textiles (clothes and shoes), timber, tyres (maximum two per visit, strictly householders only) and non-recyclable (general) waste. Bikes and bike parts will be recycled.

Compost can be collected from the Recycling Centre, subject to availability. Maximum of 2 x 25kg bags per visitor.

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

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 (*42* telephone and leave a voicemail)	01738 476173*42*
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

David Colliar	10 Rannoch Place	01577 864037
Bill Freeman	64 Muirs	01577 865045
Lynne McKay (Chair)	5 Springfield Road	01577 531076
Thomas Stewart	Gellybank Farm	01577 864603
Malcolm McFarlane		07599 621583
Hannah Phillips		07591 228884
Malcolm Wood	The Woodlands, Hatchbank	

Portmoak Community Councillors

S McGregor	(Secretary)	
A Davidson	(Treasurer)	
Susan Forde		01592 840128
Dave Morris		01592 840500

Have a look at our website: www.portmoak.org

Perth and Kinross Councillors Kinross-shire Ward

- Cllr MIKE BARNACLE** (*Scottish Conservative & Unionist*)
Tel/Fax (home): 01577 840516.
Email: michaelabarnacle@gmail.com
Website: mikebarnacle.co.uk
Moorend, Waulkmill Road, Crook of Devon, Kinross, KY13 0UZ
- Cllr CALLUM PURVES** (*Scottish Conservative & Unionist*)
Tel (office): 01738 475092. Mobile: 07557 812570.
Email: cpurves@pkc.gov.uk
7 Boreland Steading, Cleish, Kinross-shire, KY13 0LT
- Cllr WILLIE ROBERTSON** (*Scottish Liberal Democrats*)
Mobile: 07909 884042
- Cllr RICHARD WATTERS** (*SNP*)
Mobile: 07557 812513.
Email: rwatters@pkc.gov.uk
Applegarth, Sunnypark, Kinross, KY13 8BX

John Nicolson MP

Member of Parliament for Ochil and South Perthshire

Telephone: 020 7219 3000
Email: john.nicolson.mp@parliament.uk
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/mrjohnnicolson>
Facebook: <https://facebook.com/JohnNicolsonSNP>
Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/johnnicolsonmp>

Member of the Scottish Parliament for Perthshire South & Kinross-shire

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

Mobile Library Service

Mobile Library services have now resumed. See panel on p102 for details. For more information, see: www.culturepk.org.uk/libraries and click on 'Services in the Community'

Perth Samaritans

Need to talk? We'll listen.

Contact us by

phone: 01738 626666 or 08457 909090
email: jo@samaritans.org

Visit us at 3 King's Place, Perth, PH2 8AA

Mondays	1630 – 2130	Thursdays	1630 – 1900
Wednesdays	0830 – 1100	Fridays	1000 – 1630
and	1930 – 2130	Sundays	0800 – 2130

No pressure, no names, no judgment.
We're here for you, anytime.

Enquire

Are you looking for information about your child's rights to support in school? If so, contact Enquire, the national advice and information service for additional support for learning.

Enquire offer: a confidential telephone helpline and online enquiry service, practical guides, fact sheets and newsletters, helpful materials for children and young people with additional support needs.

For more information contact: Tel 0345 123 2303

Website: www.enquire.org.uk

Enquire is funded by the Scottish Government and managed by Children in Scotland.

Diary

April

Sat	2	Community Litter Pick	20
Sat	2-17	Big Wild Easter Trail, RSPB	90
Sun	3	Kinross and Ochil Walking Group meet	70
Mon	4	P&K Schools Spring holiday	100
Mon	4	Cleish and Blairadam CC meets	52
Tues	5	Fossoway and District CC meets	50
Sat	9	Portmoak Film Society 'The personal History of David Copperfield'	72
Sun	10	Cambo Spring Plant and Garden Market	93
Tues	12	Portmoak CC meets	52
Thurs	14	Kinross Garden Group meets, Kinross Parish Church	54
Thurs	14	Milnathort and Orwell CC meets	47
Friday	15	Good Friday (various church services)	
Sat	16	Kinross and Ochil Walking Group meet	70
Sun	17	Lochside Service at Kirkgate Park 7am	
Sun	17	Songs of praise at Fossoway Parish Church 6.30pm	
Mon	18	Easter Monday	
Tues	19	P&K Schools Summer Term starts	100
Tues	19	Deadline to apply for a postal vote	16
Fri	22	Light Up Kinross Family Disney Quiz	99
Fri	22	Quiz Night at Kinross Parish Church 7.30pm	
Sat	23	Farmers' Market, High Street	61
Tues	26	Deadline to apply for a proxy vote	16
Tues	26	Kinross CC meets	46

May

Sun	1	Kinross and Ochil Walking Group meet	70
Tues	3	Vision PK Group Meeting, Day Centre	43
Thurs	5	Voting Day	16
Sat	7	Dawn Chorus Walk, Loch Leven NNR	89
Sat	14	Loch Leven Half Marathon	77
Sat	14	Cleish Fete and Classic Car Show	
Sat	28	Farmers' Market, High Street	61

June

Sat	4	Queen's Jubilee Event, Market Park	
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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