



Kinross Newsletter

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Mrs Nan Walker, MBE

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DEADLINE

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Contributions For Inclusion In The Newsletter

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

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(all emails will be acknowledged)

Post or hand in to:

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	<i>Eighth page</i>	<i>Quarter page</i>	<i>Half page</i>
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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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Editor's Page

Cover photo: Lee Scammacca **Cover Design:** Lee Scammacca of Cree8

Letter From The Editor

It's hard to believe the first month of 2022 is already behind us, and at the time of writing we haven't been treated to Kinross-shire in the snow... yet. The snowdrops are already pushing their way up and the nights are markedly lighter with every day that passes since we passed the shortest day, so it won't be long until spring is here, even if the snow is yet to come.

There is progress with buses and with banking to report on. A new bus service (see p8) from Kinross to Tillicultry replaces at least some of the route that was cancelled with the withdrawal of the X53, and the Bank of Scotland have started a trial of a community banker service in the Millbridge hall (see p19) on a Friday, which is a step in the right direction. If you value either service, please make sure to use it as both will be monitored and if not well-used are likely to be scrapped again.

If you take a walk along Swansacre you will see that the Provost's Lamp now has a new sign (see p16).

Thanks to the dedication of Kinross Community Council, this historic local landmark has been restored for future generations to enjoy and appreciate.

It would be lovely to say that Covid-19 is a long distant memory from 2020/21 but some restrictions are still in place as we enter 2022 and we must be patient for a while longer.

While everyone undoubtedly wants things to go back to how they used to be – the sooner the better – it's worth remembering that although talk about our rights and freedoms is commonplace, we must also remember our obligations and responsibilities to other people.

Whatever our feelings are about masks, self-isolation and vaccinations, we have to remember that they are for the benefit of everyone.

Look after yourselves and each other.

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

Look After Your Locals!

THE RSPB AT VANE FARM has had major work done to the building and carpark. When the car park was partly open, people were back to walking from there to the hides; walking and cycling sections of the Loch Leven circular route; walking up through the woods and other woodlands trails for kids; using it as the base to walk Benarty – being the only paved access to the hill from the west side. On the return, refreshments were there at the wooden cabin and finally at the newly renovated café. A good end to the outing. Now, unless you are an RSPB member the car park is not free. £3 for the pleasure when you take your mother out for a coffee even if the views are lovely from the café. Free for 15 minutes if just popping into the shop. This really is encouraging people to come! This seems so like Perth Council who think attracting shoppers and income is by putting in car park charges (let alone raising them) and higher business rates, when St Catherine's retail park is free, and so is Glenrothes – Kirkcaldy is suffering the same fate too.

The RSPB is supported by donations and membership, and understandably needs income, but car parking charges are not the way in this area. The access to Benarty is the one thing you can't get from somewhere else around the loch. Access to the same part of the loch circular track is free half a mile away at Findatie, with a cafe. Loch Leven Larder offers everything except a hill; Kirkgate and Sandport likewise with cafes in town; birds aplenty from Burleigh Sands.

There is a steel tube you can pass, without noticing it, between the car park and café that takes donations. I love those machines where you roll a coin in and it goes round in ever decreasing circles before disappearing into the black hole of the centre; something interesting, easily seen and novel could guilt-trip coins from those who don't use the café. Also, how many people know the cost of an Americano in their favourite Kinross café or indeed in the RSPB café itself? Unless the price is exorbitant or the quality poor, few will notice. Give quality and good service and the price matters little to most, so adding a few pence to a drink and/or cake will bring in revenue all the time. Don't shoot yourself in the foot. It's locals who keep you going in the lean off season times. Don't mess with them.

Closer to home, in over three decades of parking in Sand's car park, I have always found a space, no matter what time of day. Purely by chance, just after Christmas I noticed a machine tucked away behind the cars nearest the shop. My guess at its use was not confirmed by anything on the machine as



David Henry

ISABEL HENRY, FAMILY, FRIENDS and members of Milnathort in Bloom gathered together this autumn to plant two rowan trees in memory of David Henry. David was one of the founders and a stalwart of Milnathort in Bloom, whose efforts in both planting and fund raising helped the group achieve as much as it did. He will be missed but not forgotten.

Graeme Stewart, Milnathort in Bloom

there wasn't anything obvious. It was confirmed by a notice alongside that at the entrance welcoming you to Green's convenience shop – car parking charges. Why? We have parking on the streets (albeit time limited in some areas), parking in Mill Street and at Millbridge Hall. Why are they charging? It can't be to move people through quickly because most people parking are not there for long anyway and there's always a space; did they do long days of research to find out how many people stayed over half an hour? I doubt it. It can only be to get money from customers to pay for upgrading the shop and car-park, though it looks as if the charging is being done by an outside agency. So much for community spirit and buy local. During the first lockdown it was very noticeable the increase use of local shops and in particular the Coop – you queued to pay, which I haven't really done since. Hypothetically, you would in the past, park, then queue at the chemist, queue for the PO, buy some produce then go for a coffee at one of the cafes on the High street. Not now you can't without paying for parking over 30 minutes. You can forget going for a wash and perm and buy your groceries on the way back – I understand that one person who took longer at the dentist than expected, bought goods in Green's got a £60 fine for the pleasure – how many others? The impression I have been given is that there are fewer cars parked there now and thus less of a footfall for all the shops. The same applies here as the RSPB; if you mess with your base, you screw yourself in the long run.

Why must business try and mug folk for money? If you want increased business, you give good friendly service, you listen to customers and stock what customers want, not just what you think they want. And they will come back and support you when times are lean and difficult – or during a pandemic.

I'm sure many would welcome feedback from the RSPB and Green's.

Julian Foster, Wester Balgedie

Parking Fury

Drivers beware! Do you know that the free parking time at Greens car-park in the centre of Kinross is now limited to a mere 30 minutes?

I didn't until I got a letter demanding £100 for parking there for 41 minutes in the first week of January. It's hardly less

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Letters

painful that the charge is reduced to £60 for paying within 14 days of issue, which I have done.

Yes, I have since discovered the signs indicating the parking charges but they are neither prominent enough or different enough from the previous signs to warrant attention from a casual parker. There are, for instance, no prominent signs showing, 'New Parking Charges' or similar. Of course the fine is a deterrent but £100 or £60 for 11 minutes can only be described as wanton greed.

Greens are undoubtedly within their legal rights to give control of their car park to UKPC but it's anything but good customer relations. Greens had a big splash in the Newsletter when they took over from the Co-op, extolling various improvements, but they have neglected to publicise the punitive parking rates for many potential customers, rates which are in excess of parking charges in Perth city centre!

Queue for the post office at the back of Greens then queue again at the chemist across the road and you'll probably have to pay the charges. You won't even be able to take a few minutes to visit a couple of the attractive shops in Kinross centre. The inevitable consequence of this is that drivers will park cars on the streets in and around the town centre to the detriment of traffic flow and road safety.

Many of us will remember when this car park was free before paying was introduced with a reasonably free allowance. However, do those responsible really need to squeeze as much money as out of their property as they can get away with?

I for one will no longer use Greens unless the car-park rates and excess charges are reduced to a sensible level and in a short time Greens will have lost more than the £60 I have paid in my fine.

I urge others to do the same and make sure they get in and out of the car-park in 29 minutes and 50 seconds at the latest.

Bill Cooper, Kinross

Congratulations!



Colin & Gloria Wilson of Hatchbank are delighted to announce the marriage of their son Paul to Muge Saglam on 16 December 2021 at the British Embassy in Muscat, Oman.

Covid restrictions meant we could not be there but thanks to today's technology

we were able to watch the whole ceremony on Instagram.

When conditions allow we look forward to welcoming them to Kinross and introducing Muge to family and friends.

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Thanks



Light Up Kinross

WE WISH TO APOLOGISE for the late cancellation of our switch on ceremony. This was due to 2 factors: the very severe weather, and that due to weather conditions the police could not attend, so in the interest of everyone's safety we decided to cancel.

The lights were switched on that night as the Tayside Contract team were already in Kinross and we thank them for their efforts in such conditions. We hope you all enjoyed this year's display with new lights between Kirkland's Hotel and the Green Hotel.

We thank the following traders for their financial assistance: Andersons LLP, Andrew Baillie, Avant-Garde, The Complete Look, C R Smith, Mister Chan, Douglas Miller, Doghouse, Koronkas, Morgan's, S M Bayne, Stewart Funeral Directors, The Stamp Shop, Todd & Duncan, and of course, contributions from members of the public.

We really do appreciate your continued support.

Thank you to the Kilted Tree Company for the Tree, Bob Purves (Hattrick Bruce) for free storage of the lights, PKC and Tayside Contracts for their work. Thanks to Reminisce for use of their premises.

Many thanks to all who have supported us. Apologies if we have missed anybody! We are all now looking forward to the 2022 display.

Light Up Kinross Committee

Poppy Appeal 2021

WE PROMISED IN THE last *Newsletter* to give a quick update on what the 2021 poppy appeal made last November. The Kinross area tins, over 25 of them, took an amazing £983.51, plus a wonderful £242 from Kinross Primary School and £443.50 from Kinross High School.

The Milnathort and Portmoak area took a fantastic £1177.10, from 16 collecting boxes and tins. This includes a

terrific £231.50 raised by Milnathort and Portmoak schools.

The poppy appeal just giving page – Kinross area- took a fabulous £267, which will be topped up with gift aid. We did have QR codes on tins, and text donations and we await those numbers nationally.

Thanks to the helpful, hard working Sainsbury's staff, Kinross, for taking the poppy boxes /tins, displaying the merchandise stand, and for letting us do several can collection shifts in store again. The Sainsbury's total was a superb £1009. So, in this area, overall, we are at well over £4000 – fabulous.

Renewed thanks to you all – outlets, schools and generous public.

*Andy Middlemiss & Christine Robertson
Scottish Poppy Appeal*

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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.



Lathro Meadows Residents 'Let Down Time After Time' By Persimmon Homes

DESPITE AN ONGOING CAMPAIGN by residents at the Lathro Meadows development and several interventions by local MP John Nicolson and local Kinross Councillors on their behalf, housebuilding company Persimmon Homes continues to receive significant criticism from residents that their homes are still not fit-for-purpose.

In the week of 11 January 2022, more than a dozen residents at the development have contacted the MP to voice their concerns regarding ongoing issues and delays to their resolutions. In a letter written by Persimmon Homes boss James MacKay, which was sent to John Nicolson MP last year, Persimmon took 'full responsibility for the problems on the development' and recognised they had caused 'significant inconvenience and disruption'. James MacKay went on to write that 'the issues encountered on the development are caused by the workmanship during the installation of the sewer network.'

Persimmon Homes agreed to a programme of works to remedy the problems which include digging up parts of the road on the development and anticipated that works on the development would be complete by the end of February 2022.

In the past 18 months, local MP John Nicolson has held virtual surgeries with constituents on the Lathro Meadows development to discuss their issues and subsequently put the complaints directly to Persimmon Homes. Persimmon Homes had initially blamed residents for the drainage problems. But follow-



ing talks with John Nicolson MP, James MacKay apologised saying: 'We would like to clarify that our customers are not responsible for the drainage issues, and apologise.'

Commenting on these recent complaints, Mr Nicolson said:

'Persimmon Homes has let the Lathro Meadows residents down time after time.

'My constituents bought these houses in good faith, but have since discovered multiple faults. Many of a serious nature. Residents have had water running into their houses: one was even told they shouldn't expect their house to be watertight. Some residents' gardens have remained waterlogged.

'All residents I've spoken to have experienced problems with the roads on the estate. Clearly, the drainage and sewerage system built for the development is inadequate. The company, having initially blamed residents for the problems, accepted full responsibility.

'Residents are now experiencing the misery and chaos of a sub-contractor digging up their roads and laying a whole new drainage and sewerage system at what appears to be a snail's pace.

'I urge Persimmon Homes to resolve this issue speedily, to repair the damage to residents' property, and to provide compensation for the inconvenience and distress caused to so many.'

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FREE BUSES FOR U-22s



FROM 31 JANUARY, nearly a million 5-21 year olds living in Scotland will be eligible for free bus travel.

To qualify, young people must apply for a new or replacement National Entitlement or Young Scot card. Children under 5 travel free, so don't need a card. A parent or guardian must apply on behalf of 5-15 year olds and provide approval for free bus travel and, if you are aged 16-21, you must apply for a new NEC yourself at getyournec.scot. Those who can't apply online should get in touch with the local council.

Jim Fairlie MSP said, 'Young people in Kinross-shire – as they are right across the world – are rightly challenging their politicians to take bold actions to create a sustainable future for them and free bus travel is an example of what can be done to rise to this challenge.'

The new pass will help young people connect with the communities around them and access education, training or work. Around a third of the population are already entitled to free bus travel through schemes for older and disabled people.

Transport minister Graeme Dey said: 'The pandemic means that we are encouraging people to stay at home as much as possible. But there are many essential reasons for children and young people to travel by bus and I am keen that they benefit from this scheme at the earliest opportunity.'

The Scottish Government says the full marketing launch of the scheme – which is set to benefit nearly a million young people – will take place at a later date given current public health guidance to reduce contact and mixing.

Dey added: 'Public health must always come first. The approach we are taking will enable children, young people and families who will potentially benefit most from free bus travel to access it from the end of January. It will also ensure that when we are able to fully publicise the scheme, we can help bus services recover from the impacts of the pandemic and encourage children and young people to travel sustainably.'

The *Newsletter* took a quick straw poll amongst Kinross teens to try and ascertain the popularity of the initiative.

Caroline, 17, said 'I think free bus travel is going to allow us to all live again, especially following lockdown in such a small place like Kinross. In the run up to moving to university I think it also lifts a big burden around financial anxieties when coming back home to visit family.'

Emily, also 17, thought that 'free buses are an excellent idea because it means more people will be able to get buses instead of driving which will help the environment'.

Isla, 18, was equally positive. 'I'm really looking forward to

having free buses because it means I will be able to travel,' she said. 'Lots of my friends are going to uni in September and this will make it so much easier to keep in touch and visit them without the barrier of an expensive ticket.'

NEW 202 TILlicOUNTRY SERVICE

FOLLOWING THE REMOVAL OF the X53 service, which provided public transport from Kinross to Stirling, a new bus operator, Bay Travel, has picked up part of the route.



Councillor Richard Watters, Perth councillor Andrew Parrott and the new 202 bus service

Funding has been secured until the end of March for an off peak daytime bus service from Monday to Saturday. It operates between Kinross and Tillicoultry stopping at Crook of Devon, Rumbling Bridge, Yetts O' Muckhart, Pool of Muckhart, and Dollar.

Service 202 is operated by Bay Travel and is a fully wheelchair accessible vehicle. Connections for other routes to and from Stirling can be found at Tillicoultry.

The timetable has been agreed up until 31 March 2022. Usage and passenger feedback will be monitored with regards to establishing what timetable would be appropriate the end of March 2022 and in line with available funding. Cllr Mike Barnacle urged locals to 'use it or lose it.'

The timetable is on the Council's website.

Kinrossians Receive Their BEMS



L to R Cllr Dennis Melloy, Provost of Perth and Kinross; Andy Middlemiss BEM; Nan Cook BEM and Stephen Leckie, HM Lord Lieutenant, Perth and Kinross

AT AN INVESTITURE CEREMONY friends, family and fellow volunteers in Perth on 27 November 2021, with attendance, Nan Cook and Andy Middlemiss were presented with their BEMs by the Lord Lieutenant, Mr Stephen Leckie, on behalf of HM The Queen.

In this part of Scotland, Nan Cook is very well known for her unstinting work and inspirational leadership in running the wonderful Kinross Day Centre. The centre, in more ordinary times, provides a welcoming, safe and homely atmosphere. It has been open for over 40 years. During the worst part of the pandemic lockdown, Nan and her team brought joy, hope, contact and happiness to many people in Kinross shire. For that, and all her previous service to the senior community, she was recognised by Her Majesty with the award of the British Empire Medal.

Nan said: 'This is an amazing honour — and I accept it for my wonderful team of volunteers, and dedicate it to all the users of the Day Centre.'

Andy is Chairman of the local branch of SSAFA, The Armed Forces Charity, which helps servicemen and their families in need, and is a Vice President of the Forces Children Scotland Trust. Andy said:

'I am honoured to be recognised by the remarkable lady, who I have worked for since I was 18 — HM The Queen — for doing something close to my heart, all my life. That is the care for, and support, of my fellow members of HM Forces, and crucially their families. I am but one part of a great group of SSAFA volunteers — this is theirs as much as mine.'

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MSP Expresses ‘Delight’ At £400k Investment In Green Kinross Firm

MSP LIZ SMITH HAS expressed her delight at the UK Government investing almost £400,000 in a Kinross ‘green’ firm. She was reacting to the announcement made in December that more than £116 million in new Government funding will boost green innovation across the UK as efforts to help businesses reduce their carbon emissions continue.

This government funding will support companies across the UK to put cutting-edge technology in operation, which will stimulate further investment from the private sector, and help develop UK expertise in this area.

Commenting, Liz Smith MSP said: ‘This is great news for Kinross. The investment will see the projects receiving this money play a key part in the UK’s green industrial revolution, putting British business at the forefront of green innovation – helping to generate green jobs and kickstart millions of pounds of private sector investment.



‘LIND Limited in Kinross will receive £385,595 to develop new heating technology using low carbon energy storage, which is fantastic news.

‘The money provided to the companies will help develop new technologies that increase energy efficiency in homes and buildings, reduce carbon emissions, boost the UK’s energy security and provide cleaner ways to generate power and heat.’

UK Energy and Climate Change Minister Greg Hands added: ‘From Edinburgh to Aberdeen and Orkney to Kinross – the UK government is helping Scottish businesses turn their green ideas into reality, for projects that will save energy, slash utility bills and tackle pollution.

‘Supporting green innovation will be vital as we drive forward the UK’s green industrial revolution – helping us reach net zero, while also bringing new jobs and investment to Scotland and across the UK’.

The investment comes from the Energy Entrepreneurs Fund (EEF), which is a programme funded through the BEIS £1 billion Net Zero Innovation Portfolio.

The EEF supplies innovation grants for small to medium sized enterprises and start-up companies to back the development and demonstration of disruptive technologies whilst also supporting the UK Government’s decarbonisation targets.



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IT'S A HUNDRED FROM JOAN!

JOAN MACFARLANE STARTED GIVING blood in the 1980s, following her father's example. In the 1960s in Glasgow when you donated a pint of blood you were rewarded with a pint of beer! Although this is no longer the case, Joan is always delighted to enjoy a cup of tea and a Tunnock's Teacake after donating her pint of blood at Loch Leven Campus.

Having now donated 100 pints of blood she has received a commemorative badge from the NHS and will receive a certificate and quaich from the Lord Provost when she attends a commemorative ceremony in Dundee later this year.

Her daughter Ruth told the *Newsletter*, 'Our entire family are very proud of Mum. This is an outstanding achievement from her over many years. Donating a pint of your blood takes less than 10 minutes and as a society we should be grateful to everyone giving their time and blood to help others. Blood has a short shelf life and can't be stockpiled by hospitals. A continuous supply of donors across Scotland is essential to save lives.

Almost everyone over the age of 17 can give blood up until 70 years of age. If in good health you can continue beyond 70 years of age. Mum is just approaching her 75th birthday and fully intends to reach her next milestone of 150 pints!

We are sharing Mum's achievement to celebrate all blood donors out there and hopefully to encourage a few more people to get involved. This is a simple action with a big impact! Well done to our Mum and all the donors.'

To find out how you can donate, visit scotblood.co.uk.



ARE YOU LIVING IN A SHARED BUILDING?

ARRANGING REPAIRS to shared buildings can be frustrating as progress can often be slow or stop altogether. Lack of communication between owners, financial difficulties, and identifying problems are only a few of the difficulties owners may face during this process, during which time further deterioration of buildings can occur. This has been identified by Perth and Kinross Council as a common problem faced by shared property owners and a new service has been implemented to assist in overcoming these problems.

The Missing Shares Service is available for all property owners who are facing difficulty in arranging common repairs to roofing, stairwells, external walls and other issues of shared responsibility. The service can provide advice, assistance in identifying or contacting unresponsive owners, and where necessary, an application can be made for Perth and Kinross Council to pay the share of repair costs where an owner cannot be located or are unwilling or unable to pay their share. More information can be found on the Shared Housing Repairs page of the PKC website, or contact the Missing Shares Service directly at MissingShares@pkc.gov.uk.

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GLIDING – THE SKY’S THE LIMIT!

PAULINE GALLAGHER TOOK UP gliding in 2004 and here at the Scottish Gliding Centre, we are delighted that after an absence of nearly 7 years is back with us!

As for many, life gets in the way and gliding like so many other things can take a back seat. But we are thrilled to have her back at the club and in the air again.

Pauline took her first flight at the age of 16 with the Air Cadets and came to us about 10 years later. She has flown with our instructors and with the Walking On Air charity, who enable those with disabilities to take part in gliding.

‘With cerebral palsy, taking in part in some sports can be difficult but the WOA and Scottish Gliding Centre have been great in helping me to get into gliding, and not allow the limitations of my disability to hold me back.’

Pauline was hooked after that first experience and credits the great training and support she has had from the Scottish Gliding Centre’s Chris Robinson, Kate Byrne and Ron Smith as giving her the confidence and skills she needs to continue her passion.

‘The training I have had with SGC instructors has been great. They are all so experienced and inspire me to challenge myself. I am loving being back at Portmoak. It has such a great sense of community which is a big draw. I’m planning to take some leave from work over the next few weeks and do some day courses, so am looking forward to being back here a bit more often.’

Her goal is to go solo but she isn’t stopping at gliding, ‘I also take part in powered flight from Prestwick, where I have already taken solo flights and I loved that experience. I’m hop-




Pauline Gallagher about to reach for the sky!

ing that with the right training under my belt, I’ll be able to do the same in a glider.’

The centre is delighted that more women are trying out gliding and that those who have experienced it before are coming back to this fantastic sport.

The Scottish Gliding Centre is committed to making the sport of gliding accessible to all and we thank Pauline for sharing her story and look forward to seeing her in the sky around Portmoak again soon!



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NAME CHANGE FOR LOCHVIEW FINANCIAL

FOLLOWING APPROVAL FROM THE regulator, Lochview Financial Planning in Kinross has completed its merger with Kieran Fowley Wealth Management. The merged business will be branded Kieran Fowley Wealth Management.

The business is a partnership between renowned local solicitor, Eric Williamson, and experienced financial adviser, Kieran Fowley. Eric, who owns the historic legal practice J&G Wilson, has been a mainstay of the Kinross legal and business community for over 20 years. Kieran is an experienced adviser and entrepreneur, who brings a wealth of business and financial expertise to the partnership.

The business is based in the same building as J&G Wilson, and specialises in advising individuals and businesses on investments, pensions, tax planning and protection. Initial consultations are complimentary and are offered in person, by phone or video call. Call 01577 861265.



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CALLING ALL CREATIVES!

IT HAS BEEN A difficult couple of years for Scotland's independent businesses and the owner of 'Causeway Cattery' Rhonda Dick knows that only too well. The business was unsupported throughout the pandemic so Rhonda knew that she had to start thinking about how she was going to generate additional income to keep her head above water. Thankfully the cattery is still operating unlike plenty of others who sadly could not weather the storm, but 2022 is going to be testing so a backup plan was required.

Rhonda knew she wanted to run a business that would incorporate her passion; taking old pieces of furniture and turning



them into something beautiful. But how she could turn this passion into a viable business was a different matter. She knew she wanted to open a shop but where....?

Around the middle of 2021 Rhonda had her light-bulb moment – a whole section of her stables had lain redundant since closing her riding school 12 years ago. She decided she would convert this

section into a fabulous shop housing everything anyone could ever want or need to upcycle a piece of furniture! This would be an absolute labour of love, the space was floor to ceiling with furniture, tools, farm equipment and was devoid of light. As someone not shy of hard work Rhonda got out her drawing board and has grafted tirelessly to create a fabulous space for 'Causeway Creations' which is the name of Scotlandwell's newest shop!

She said, 'This move has been a massive project but the end result is extremely satisfying, the space is perfect for displaying the furniture pieces I have for sale plus it gives me

ample space for all the stock I have. I just hope that people enjoy coming to the shop and go away with a pot of paint, or paint-



brush or perhaps a stencil that they can use to bring an old piece of furniture to life. I want Causeway Creations to be THE place for the area for people to come who are looking for a specific colour or brand of paint, a place you can come for a wander and a coffee, a place to discuss projects you are working on but most importantly a place you can come and actually see the products and furniture in person as well as online'.

There are big plans for how the business will move forward. Workshops, events and classes will be held in the shop over the coming months so please follow Causeway Creations on Facebook and Instagram to keep up to date!

The shop is open 9-5 Monday to Saturday. What will YOU find in Causeway Creations?

*CAUSEWAY CREATIONS,
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LOCH LEVEN WALKATHON 2022

PUT YOUR BEST FOOT forward and help people do more than survive!

Spring into action and join Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland at the Loch Leven Walkathon on Sunday 27 March.

This year's Loch Leven Walkathon takes place on Mother's Day, making a great day out so grab your family and friends and enjoy the Loch Leven Heritage trail while raising vital funds for

people in Scotland affected chest, heart and stroke conditions in Scotland.

You can walk a 7k, 12k or 13 mile route all starting and finishing at Loch Leven's Larder. All walks are signposted and are suitable for all ages and abilities and take in fantastic views along well maintained, traffic-free footpaths, perfect for buggies and four legged friends!

Steph Wilks, Community, Events &

Corporate Fundraiser at Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland said:

'The Loch Leven Walkathon takes place in the most beautiful setting and the good news is it's accessible for all. Bring the kids, bring the buggy, bring the dog, bring your friends, everyone is welcome!

'This walk has always attracted such a variety of people, from those wanting to simply enjoy a great walk, to people in recovery who are setting themselves a personal challenge or perhaps others who are taking part in memory of a loved one. This year it takes place over Mother's Day which makes it extra special. We're really excited about this year's walk as we've had to postpone this event for the last two years due to the pandemic.

'By signing up you are helping us to raise money so that we can support people when they get home from hospital. You will be ensuring that people get the right support when they need it most, making sure that they can do more than just survive.'

Sign up today and help us to make sure there is no life half-lived in Scotland. Visit www.chss.org.uk/lochleven.



Composer's Tribute To Islay



A NEW ORCHESTRAL WORK by composer Helen MacKinnon and performed by the RSNO, has opened a new album of contemporary orchestral music, released this week.

The Rinns of Islay presents a musical journey around the island, which was home to Helen's grandparents. Inspired by

stories of Islay in her youth – spent in Kinross - Helen began the work during her studies at The University of Glasgow and returned to complete it 15 years later.

The 20-minute piece for symphony orchestra was recorded last spring in Glasgow Royal Concert Hall. Helen explained, 'It was a privilege to record with Scotland's national orchestra. The musicians and conductor, David Watkin, breathed glorious life into the work.'

'The work centres around The Rinns – a beautiful peninsula overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. The piece offers a visual, almost cinematic listening experience, with atmospheres and landmarks inspiring the imagination'.

The work features on a new album *Legends and Light Vol. 2*. Helen is delighted with feedback: 'I'm thrilled with audiences' responses to the music. Listeners have tuned in from across the UK, the USA and as far afield as New Zealand, keeping Scotland on the international map for new music.'

For further details visit www.helenmackinnon.co.uk

PROVOST'S LAMP

WHEN THE PROVOST'S LAMP was removed from its original spot outside the McBain's house (by PKC who were the custodians) it was to be repaired and placed in Perth Museum. Kinross Community Council decided to erect it in the centre of Kinross instead. With the help of councillors, they met with PKC street lighting and agreed a site adjacent to the fountain with an agreement that KCC would bear all costs.

An application for funding to the Arthur & Margaret Thomson trust was successful. Sadly, the original site was not possible due to ground conditions. The project was put on hold due to the pandemic. KCC and PKC then decided to place the lamp at corner of Swansacre and the High Street. The grant covered the cost of an information sign and this was designed and supplied by the Sign Company Kirkcaldy and has now been put up.

The research and text for the sign was supplied by Professor David Munro at Kinross Museum. It has a comprehensive history of the significance of the lamp. Have a look next time you are passing!





NICE TO MEAT YOU!

A BRAND NEW BUTCHERY and delicatessen opened in Milnathort in November 2021. Named after local 4th generation butcher David Winton the shop sells an extensive range of traditional butchery products alongside a wide range of local and international products.

David is one of three partners in the business along with Alastair Forbes and Graeme Duncan.



Master butcher David is extremely well known locally and brings the butchery experience to Wintons with over 38 years as a butcher in the local area.

Alastair is a retail expert with over 40 years experience in food retailing and is also an extremely keen cook who has worked with leading food retailers and producers including the world famous Harrods.

Graeme lives locally in Tillyrie and is a passionate foodie who brings years of experience of running his own companies to the business.

Wintons has had a great reaction from residents of the Milnathort and Kinross area

since opening and has exciting plans to extend the wide range of ready meals, kebabs and pies they already sell. In particular the steak pies which pay homage to the recipe of local butchery legend Billy Bridges have been a roaring success and have been in such high demand that placing an order in advance is the only sure fire way to get your hands on one! In addition the business will offer an online shop, home delivery, fine wines and beers in the near future. There is also a You Tube channel planned called 'The Butcher and The Cook' in which Davie and Al will explain the dark arts of butchery and provide recipe inspiration for different cuts of meat.

The team is supported by Abbie, who is

Davie's daughter and also his apprentice Butcher and will become the fifth generation of the Winton family to become a butcher. Also in the team is Joyce, who is David's sister-in-law and provides a warm welcome to customers visiting the shop.

David said 'We are very proud of what we've created and what we've achieved so far. We are really keen to try and meet everyone's needs and provide inspiration for your food adventures as well as a really great shopping experience. Please don't hesitate to pop in and give us a try and we'll be more than happy to help you and discuss your needs and seek out any product you require no matter how challenging that is!'





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BANKING HUB TRIAL FOR BOS

KINROSS CONTINUES TO SUFFER from the lack of any bank branches, despite the best efforts of our local politicians, councillors and community councillors. Thanks to their efforts the Bank of Scotland, for one, have agreed to bring their Community Banker Service to the Millbridge Hall in Kinross Town Centre for a trial, which will last until the beginning of April. If the trial is successful it may be able to continue the service long-term.



It is hoped that other banks will follow suit so that we can have a community hub in the centre of Kinross. This would enable all our currently absent banks to offer in-person banking facilities for local people without them having to use our poor public transport, in its current inadequate state, to travel to other towns several miles away in order to use a traditional banking service.

The Bank of Scotland say that their community bankers 'bring expert support to the heart of your local community'. Their 'friendly customer service assistants have dedicated office space in a local venue for you to discuss your needs in private. There is no need to arrange an appointment. Simply visit during opening hours to get help with your everyday banking needs, including:

- **Account enquiries**
- **Staying safe online**
- **Financial education and support**
- **Bank of Scotland business account enquiries**

The service is open each week on Fridays between 10am and 3.30pm. The trial runs from now until 1 April, following which an assessment will be made about its future.

Callum Purves urges locals, 'if uptake is poor, we may lose this banking service so, if you are a Bank of Scotland customer, please make use of it. It is vital that we demonstrate that there is a continued need for such services locally.' See his column on p23 for more details.

GrowBiz — Moving Forward

2021 MAY HAVE BEEN a difficult year, but GrowBiz is pleased to have supported more than 1400 rural enterprises since the pandemic began. Here are some of the services they've offered, and what you can benefit from in 2022:


Events: In 2021 Growbiz held 240 free and interactive on-line learning, networking and peer support events.

REDS: Started as a response to Covid hardships, *Rural Enterprise Directory Scotland* now has over 200 free business listings. See www.reds.scot if you'd like to join.

SEED: 2021 saw the launch of SEED (*Self-Employment and Entrepreneurial Development*) a funding and support programme for young entrepreneurs and the self-employed in Perth and Kinross. Find out more at www.growbiz.co.uk/seed

Mentoring: GrowBiz's business mentoring programme continued to expand in 2021. The programme is currently open to new mentees, so if you'd like a mentor who has 'been there and done that' visit www.growbiz.co.uk/free-mentoring-service.

For all Growbiz info, visit www.growbiz.co.uk



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Church News

New Community Choir For St Paul's

ST PAUL'S HAVE a new, exciting venture planned – the founding of a Community Choir. Rector David Mackenzie Mills wants as many people there as possible:



Hello there!

In the section about events taking place during February at St Paul's church, you'll see mention of a new venture – a Community Choir. We'd love to open up our church hall for folk to gather late afternoons on Thursdays during February (5-6pm).

We're trialling this so that anyone from the area can get the chance early on to learn a new song that's been specially written. It's for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Commonwealth Beacons event that's taking place in June. The Community Choir could officially become part of a worldwide network of groups who would perform it in June.

Anyone of any age and ability is welcome to turn up, have some fun and give it a go!

Once we get that song under our belts, perhaps we could choose something else to get our teeth into as well!

Wishing you a safe and healthy month ahead,

David Mackenzie Mills





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Councillor Callum Purves



Bank of Scotland Community Service

It is still shocking that somewhere the size of Kinross-shire now has not a single local bank branch. Given the continued need for local businesses and residents to have access to cash and the poor public transport links locally, this remains a significant problem.

For some time, I have been working with the Bank of Scotland alongside Nicola Marchant of Fossoway Community Council and Liz Smith MSP to look at ways of providing community banking services following the closure of their branch.

They have recently confirmed that they are undertaking a trial Community Banker Service in the Millbridge Hall in Kinross. This will allow local customers to make personal and business account enquiries, get help with on-line banking, and access financial education and support.

The service is open each week on Fridays between 10 am and

3.30pm. The trial runs from now until 1st April, following which an assessment will be made about its long-term future.

If uptake is poor, we may lose this banking service also so, if you are a Bank of Scotland customer, please make use of this service during the trial. It is vital that we demonstrate that there is a continued need for such services locally.

Kinross-shire Local Committee

By the time you are reading this, the first meeting of the Council's Kinross-shire Local Committee will have taken place. The aim of the committee is to have more decisions about Kinross-shire taken by Kinross-shire representatives and not by councillors in other parts of Perth & Kinross.

The first meeting is due to debate a range of issues, including road safety and speed limits, the shared space on Kinross High Street, the former Blairingone Primary School building, and how to manage the Ochil and Lomond Hills.

Meetings take place every eight weeks are streamed on-line through a link accessed on the Council's website and available to view after the meeting on the Council's YouTube channel. The papers are also made available on-line at www.pkc.gov.uk/committee.

Councillor Callum Purves

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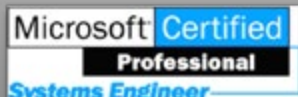


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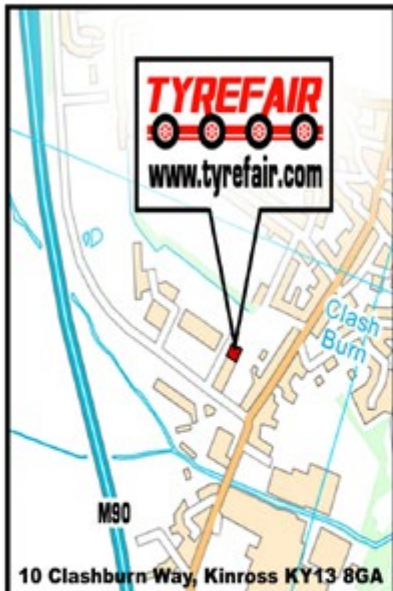
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**John Nicolson,
MP**



THE NEW YEAR IS a time we all think about families and tradition. My social media stream is full of people posting pictures of well-scrubbed houses ‘Grandma insisted on a clean broom for Ne’er Day’ and family recipes ‘I don’t bake much but this has been in the family for generations.’

When my Great-Grand-Uncle James died a while back, I inherited a suitcase of family pictures from 1860s tintypes to vibrantly coloured 1960s Rothesay holiday snaps.

Uncle James died, childless, in his 90s, and I’m now the custodian of his off-duty photos from the First World War trenches, larking around with friends. He’d been badly wounded but played down his injuries in letters written home to his mum. With no jobs to be had in post-war Scotstoun, he escaped Glasgow tenement life for New York tenement life, working as an elevator attendant by day and playing jazz piano by night. He’d a 1920s radio show ‘Jimmy Stewart, the Scotch Lad’ and sent money home to help his widowed mum.

My grandpa features heavily too. He also fought in the Great War but succumbed to German bombs in the Clydebank Blitz. His handsome features stare out from baby to proud young father. There’s one especially poignant image from 1940, standing with his beautiful twelve-year-old son Eric. Within a year, both would

be dead. Grandpa at the hands of the Germans; Eric lost to leukaemia. My grandma’s grief was, by all accounts, heart-rending to watch and hear. I still have the griddle that her next-door neighbour made during his shipyard lunch hour in an attempt to lure her from her mourning bed.

Going back a few generations, my grandpa’s grandma Sarah Stant’s fearsome features brook no challenge. My mum had spun some yarns about her when I was growing up. She owned a Manhattan brownstone apparently, carried her own feather mattress when she visited Scotstoun, and had coins sewn into her petticoats. The truth was much less glamorous. She emigrated with her husband and infant son in the nineteenth century, settling into a Brooklyn rooming house with other Scots and Scandinavians. Her blacksmith husband appears to have grown weary of New York life and left to join the Australian gold rush. She followed, trying to find him, and visited Glasgow en route. Her feather mattress wasn’t a sign of wealth but penury. She probably slept aboard the ship, guarding her few coins in her clothing. I’m not sure she ever found her husband in Australia, but she lived to a great age in Brooklyn, and her elder son, my great grandfather, became a seafarer. I have his ocean-going passport.

We stand on the shoulders of giants. So many Scottish families have stories like mine with brave near ancestors forced to leave loved ones to seek work abroad. Small wonder we are so accepting of those who, today, seek sanctuary on our shores.

John Nicolson, MP

**Jim Fairlie,
MSP**



I AM A GREAT believer in encouraging self-employment and entrepreneurial development, so I am very happy to be able to give a bit of publicity to a scheme designed to support young people aged between 18 and 25, living in Perth & Kinross who have an idea for a business and need a bit of a hand in getting it set up.

SEED - Self-Employment and Entrepreneurial Development – comes under the GrowBiz umbrella, supporting enterprise in rural Scotland. They can provide grant funding of up to £1000, one to one support from their business support team, online learning, mentoring and networking opportunities.

If you are a young person with a business idea but wondering how to get started, get in touch with them and see what help they can give you. The website is easy to find at growbiz.co.uk/seed.

Something that will be an enormous help to all young people comes into play this month thanks to the Scottish Government with free bus travel being made available to everyone aged under 22.

All that any young person has to do to access this fantastic opportunity is apply for a new or replacement National Entitlement or Young Scot card.

Applications for the scheme have been open since the 10th of January but with the free travel now available I wanted to make people aware that they need to upgrade their card to be able to benefit from this opportunity.

Children under 5 years old do not need a card as they already travel for free on commercial bus services, a parent or guardian must apply on behalf of 5–15 year olds and provide approval for them to travel for free by bus and, if you are aged 16-21, you must apply for a new NEC yourself. You can apply online at getyournec.scot.

If you cannot apply online, there are many other ways to apply, just get in touch with the local council, indeed many schools are coordinating applications on behalf of their pupils and may

already have contacted parents or guardians and pupils directly if this arrangement is in place.

Once the card is sorted you will just need to present your card to the driver whenever you hop on the bus.

Young people in Kinross-shire – as they are right across the world - are rightly challenging their politicians to take bold actions to create a sustainable future for them and free bus travel is an example of what can be done to rise to this challenge.

Making bus travel free for under 22’s is not only important for helping tackle the climate emergency but it will take pressure off young people’s finances and improve their access to education, leisure, and work.

Whilst we continue to live through the pandemic, we all recognise that essential travel must be prioritised so I want to specifically encourage those children and young people with essential journeys to make to apply now.

The SNP Scottish Government is once again making an investment in our young people’s future, supporting them to have the best possible start in life and creating the fairer, greener Scotland that we want to build.

Jim Fairlie, MSP

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Councillor Richard Watters



I WOULD LIKE TO wish all readers of the Newsletter a Happy New Year. This year may be challenging, but we also have opportunities for progress on dealing with Climate Change.

Rural Bus Services

Before Christmas, the Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan was presented to the council. This is a dynamic plan that clearly highlights the challenges we face in meeting our Net Zero commitments by 2045. The report is currently available on the Council website: www.pkc.gov.uk/climatechange

One of the Climate Change challenges—and opportunities—is Rural Bus Service.

First Bus announced the termination of the old x53 bus service running from Kinross to Stirling — mainly due to the lack of bus drivers. Stagecoach echoed that story when they announced the reduction of service on the 56 route.

The consequence of these decisions would be unthinkable for two reasons:

1. The impact on our communities that now have reduced bus services and, even worse, the impact of no bus service at all for west Kinross-shire.
2. The impact on the requirement to meet our Climate Change commitments by giving positive greener transport options for local people.

In response to this potential, I met with Bay Travel last November along with a community member from the Kinross-shire Community Transport Group. Bay Travel were interested in taking over the route but were concerned about the financial viability of the route. Having got both the council and Bay Travel



... talking about finding a solution, I am relieved to see some level of service provision through the 202 service.

Unfortunately, there are limitations on the availability of buses because the service needs to fit around the provider's school transport runs. The new service runs Monday to Saturday starting at 8:40 am at Kinross Park and Ride and finishing at the same location at 2:38pm. While this service is limited, it is a considerable improvement on no service. Since the Scottish Government's funding will only cover the service up till the end of March, there is much to do to persuade Bay Travel to continue and enhance the 202 service.

I have spoken with Councillor Barnacle asking him, as Chair of the Kinross-shire Community Transport Group, to request a meeting between Council Officers and the Elected Councillors to look at how we can promote the route and find ways to enhance the timetable so that the route is viable.

In February, the Scottish Government will begin providing free travel for people 21 years old and under. I hope this increase in passengers will increase the demand for rural buses and in turn help

address the climate change issues facing us. This does depend on there being buses serving our rural communities in the first place.

If you qualify for free bus travel (or know someone who does) and don't have your entitlement card yet, you can apply here – www.getyournec.scot.

I was disappointed to see the state of the cycle lockers at Kinross Park and Ride and I raised this with council officers last year. The officers have replied to say they are arranging for an assessment from a local blacksmith to see if these can be repaired. If this is not possible, they will look to fund replacement lockers from existing active travel budgets.

This will encourage more people to ride a bike to catch a bus—doubling their contribution to meeting our Net Zero commitments.

Councillor Richard Watters

Liz Smith, MSP



I WOULD LIKE TO wish everyone a happy new year and hope that 2022 is rather better than 2020 and 2021. Despite the rapid transmissibility of Omicron and the increasing pressures on the health services, there are, at last, a few signs of optimism which we can cling on to as we read the daily bulletins. It does appear that Omicron is much less threatening to life and less prolonged for those who are hospitalised. It also appears that some parts of the economy are showing better resilience than was expected although there are other sectors which are still suffering grim projections, most especially hospitality and entertainment venues, including theatres and cinemas. And at last, the First Minister has moved to bring Scotland more in line with the rest of the UK in terms of quarantine and travel regulations.

As residents will be very aware, Kinross has been the victim of some recent public transport reductions, notably the X53 and X56 buses. I contacted both First Buses and Stagecoach seeking clarification for their decisions and have offered them my full support in returning the services. Additionally, I have started a petition to return the X56 to its more frequent operation, which can be found on my social media accounts and website.

Unfortunately, the X53 service was withdrawn entirely, isolating communities in Kinross-shire from Stirling. However, I am pleased that Bay Travel are now operating the temporary 202 service until the end of March which will link much of the Clackmannanshire Hillfoots with Kinross until the route's future can be fully decided.

The X56, Perth to Edinburgh, service was cut by half to just one coach every two hours. This service is essential for access to healthcare for the elderly, and is very popular among students, passing through Kinross and Milnathort.

These decisions by the bus service providers are particularly ill-timed considering the recent conclusion of COP26 in Glasgow last year which has encouraged us all to cut down on our carbon footprints. Access to greener transport options are vital if we are to meet our ambitious targets for cutting carbon emissions and these decisions feel like a backwards step which will leave commuters little option but to get back behind the wheel of private cars. Not to mention, Kinross is completely dependent on regular bus travel considering its unviable distance to the railway network.

I sincerely hope that these services can be returned to their full operation in 2022. With the population of Kinross set to increase markedly over the next few years, it is clear that demand for public transport options is only going to be on the rise. If you have any views on transport provision in Kinross-shire, please submit them to me by email on Elizabeth.Smith.msp@parliament.scot.

Liz Smith, MSP

Councillor Willie Robertson



LOCH LEVEN: I attended a meeting of the Loch Leven Catchment Management Committee on 10 January involving Nature Scotland, SEPA, Scottish Water, P&K Council, Linda May of the Centre from the Centre for Hydrology and Ecology and others. This committee has been reformed to address the growing incidences of algal blooms on the loch.

We were told that the algal blooms including toxic algal blooms were becoming more common. The reason given was that the rising water temperatures in the loch and the continuing high levels of phosphorous (P) in Loch Leven from agriculture and sewage treatment plants.

Incredibly there was no one at the meeting from Scottish Water waste water services! I thought this was very surprising given that the discharges from the Scottish Water waste water treatment plants are thought to be major contributors of phosphorous into the loch.

The representative from SEPA said that the Scottish Water WWTPs were working well within their licence. In response to questions from me she said that there were systems in place to prevent raw sewage entering the loch in periods of heavy rain. SEPA said they didn't know how many times raw sewage is put straight into the loch during periods of heavy rain when the WWTPs get overwhelmed, but said that new screens have been installed to remove 'larger solids' from the sewage bypassing the treatment plants before it enters the loch.

I have to say that I was both depressed and alarmed at the laid back attitude the statutory organisations tasked with protecting Loch Leven seem to have. We surely need to set much tighter limits on the amount of P that is permitted to be discharged into the loch before the next Local Development Plan (LDP) is agreed.

I asked for a further meeting of the group to be called this autumn. This meeting would discuss the next LDP and its likely impact on Loch Leven. Hopefully a representative of Scottish Water waste water services will be present this time and we can come up with an agreement to reduce the total amount of phosphorous entering the loch.

Loch Leven is our most important asset and we have to protect it. We can't allow a situation where toxic blue green algae makes entering the water for people and animals dangerous for the majority of the year.

REAL TIME BUS INFO: I am a great fan of the Stagecoach Bus phone app. It allows you to track your bus in real time and is a great tool. I think that Citylink should have a similar app for people to use and I have contacted them about this. They now have a page on their website that allows you to track your Citylink bus – coachtracker.citylink.co.uk. They are carrying out further work to make it really user friendly.

FLY TIPPING: A new mobile camera that will be used to tackle fly-tipping is now in operation. The camera can be deployed in mobile locations where fly-tipping is an issue. Footage is recorded and can be streamed to mobile devices or laptops. Anyone caught fly-tipping can face anything from a Fixed Penalty of £200 to a fine of £40,000.

This year Perth & Kinross Council has been working with Dundee City and Angus Councils on an information campaign advising residents to ensure anyone they pay to take waste away is registered with SEPA in a bid to prevent fly-tipping.

POT HOLES: This is the worst time of years for potholes and the Council are struggling to repair them in a timely fashion. However the potholes on the A911 east of Milnathort and the main road between Kinross and Milnathort have now been filled. If you spot a pothole please let me know and I will try and get it filled asap.

LATHRO FARM: Spare a thought for the residents of the Persimmon Homes estate at Lathro Farm. The drainage system installed when the houses were build contained serious defects.

This has led to all the sewage pipes needing to be completely replaced. This has resulted in not to just the streets being dug up but also the paths and gardens of the houses, so you can imagine the mess. The works are due to go on into March.

Councillor Willie Robertson

Councillor Mike Barnacle



Notes from the Meeting of the Kinross-shire Community Transport Group held on 9 December 2021

Attendees

Cllr Barnacle PKC, Cllr Watters PKC, Margaret Roy PKC, Michael Haigh, Fossoway CC John Fallon Local Resident Rumbling Bridge, Phillip Lord Muckhart CC, David Collier Kinross CC, David Aird Kinross-shire Volunteer Group

Apologies

Cllr Purves PKC, Cllr Robertson PKC, Carol Farquhar Fossoway CC, Douglas Fraser Glenfarg CC, Margaret Ponton Glenfarg CC, Malcolm McFarlane KMGO, Sarah Brown, Kinross High School

Welcome and Apologies

Cllr Barnacle opened the meeting and noted apologies.

Minutes Of Last Meeting On 28 October 2021

Minutes accepted with MR noting the following corrections: Phillip Lord does not have connections at Stirling university but was noting that one of the initial requirements of Service X53 was to provide public transport for students to Stirling University. Also in terms of the paper MR is to prepare for senior management in terms of seeking funding for a community minibus, it should be to cover the whole of Kinross-shire and not just West-Kinross-shire. The minutes had been published in the *Kinross Newsletter* and will continue to be provided to the editor of the *Kinross Newsletter* for future publications.

Matters Arising From Last Meeting

Cllr Barnacle advised group that Paul Appleby of Cleish and Blairadam CC has now left this group and noted that no representative from Milnathort CC has attended the last few meetings of this group.

Cllr Barnacle provided the transport survey link to Douglas Fraser of Glenfarg CC as requested.

MR advised that the results of the Kinross High School pupil survey had been received and collated. However, due to the low response, Sarah Brown had agreed to re-issue the survey once the free U22s bus pass was launched as this may encourage a greater response. MR will liaise with SB to this end.

Further to Douglas Fraser request to tweak timetable of Service 55 so that it could provide a connection from Cuthill Towers to meet the 1030 ex Glenfarg to Perth departure, however, on speaking to the operator it was established that this would not be possible as it would alter journey times that current passengers use and depend on. MR noted that a connection in Milnathort was possible from Service 55 to connect with Service X56 to Perth.

Cllr Robertson confirmed that a joint letter had been submitted to John Nicolson MP from all Kinross-shire Ward Cllrs in terms of their concerns in relation to rural transport provision.

Update on Kinross-shire Volunteer Community Transport Group
David Aird advised the group that KVG are continuing to operate all health related journeys for their whole area. Recently the group has completed a significant number of trips to convey people to receive their COVID19 Booster injection. However, they are not operating any social runs at this time.

DA confirmed that KVG supports the community transport proposal for Kinross-shire and that he and MR met to discuss this. DA suggested a further meeting in the new year with MR and including Nan Cook from the Kinross Day Centre. MR will arrange this meeting.

News

MR suggested that a network design of a fixed timetable registered bus service operating the core route for Kinross-shire and a Community Bus to serve locations in the deeper rural areas of Kinross-shire.

DA agreed that such a design would not compete with the work of KVG but complement it.

Response to Service X53 Cancellation

Philip Lord read out an email to the group from Muckhart Community Council in terms of their meeting concerning the withdrawal of Service X53 and the concerns raised. First had advised that they were only suspending the service due to lack of drivers. MR advised that First had submitted a full service cancellation to the Traffic Commissioner with no note that this was a temporary suspension of the service.

MR advised the group that she was progressing securing funding and an operator to undertake a public transport service to mitigate the cancellation of Service X53 and was striving to have this in place for Monday, 10 January 2022, which was the first date that service X53 would not operate. MR added that she had met with colleagues from Clacks/Stirling PTU to discuss this proposal as she was aware the impact that the cancellation would particularly have on Muckhart and Pool of Muckhart residents.

Phillip Lord requested that new bus service operate as far as Tillicoultry as connections to Stirling buses could be made there. Cllr Barnacle noted importance of bus being wheelchair accessible due to known wheelchair user that currently accesses Service X53.

John Fallon asked if the X53 passenger usage figures that MR had received from First could be shared with the group. MR advised that she would need to seek First's permission in this regard and so would ask them.

MR confirmed that she would keep Cllr Barnacle and the other ward Cllrs up to date on the progress on the new bus service for 10 January as aware that group would not be able to meet again before 10 January.

AOCB and Date of Next Meeting :

There was no AOCB, The next meeting to be advised in due course.

POST MEETING NOTE:

Funding was secured from 10 January – 31 March 2022, for an off peak daytime Monday – Saturday service to operate between Kinross – Crook of Devon- Rumbling Bridge – Pool of Muckhart – Dollar and Tillicoultry as from 10 January 2022. This will be named Service 202 and be operated by Bay Travel with a fully wheelchair accessible vehicle. Connections for onward travel to/from Stirling will be possible at Tillcoultry bus stance.

The timetable has been agreed up until 31 March 2022 thus far. The usage and passenger feedback will be monitored with regards to establishing what timetable would be appropriate beyond 31 March 2022 and in line with available funding.

The timetable is on the Council's website and social media

platforms. A press release was also issued in December regarding this matter. The roadside information boards will be replaced on Monday 10 January.

Letter sent to the Boundary Commission for Scotland on 18 January 2022

Dear Commissioners

2023 Review of UK Parliamentary Constituencies

I write as the elected member of Perth & Kinross Council (PKC) for the Kinross-shire Ward, as regards the above.

I have represented Kinross-shire since 1999 and I am standing down next spring after 23 years service in local government. I have just recently realised one of my original campaign pledges from my first term of office and managed to persuade the PKC Administration to approve a devolved committee of the Council for the Kinross-shire Ward.

It is therefore deeply concerning that your proposals seek to split Kinross-shire between two constituencies to be shared with Fife Council rather than other parts of PKC. I am completely against your proposal and ask you to reconsider it. I believe such proposals stem from an instruction to try and harmonise the number of voters in each constituency, when clearly our country has not developed in a way to accommodate that. Such proposals bear no relationship to community identity or geography and it is little wonder that the general public hold politics in such low regard as a result.

Kinross-shire has never been included in a parliamentary constituency with parts of Fife since we started sending MPs to Westminster in 1707. Glenfarg, part of Kinross-shire Ward, has also never before been split off from the rest of Perthshire in a parliamentary constituency. I believe strongly that Kinross-shire, as an historic county in its own right up to 1975, should be contained within a single parliamentary constituency and not be split up between two different seats. Kinross-shire shares a Council with Perthshire and it makes significant sense for it to be included in a single constituency with other parts of Perth and Kinross. Our shire is a strong, cohesive community that works together on issues of common interest across the Council ward (hence the support for the area committee), so splitting the ward between two seats would inevitably lead to poorer community representation.

Including different parts (east and west) of our shire within constituencies dominated by Dunfermline or Glenrothes will mean our concerns are marginalised, since the issues faced by our predominantly rural community such as broadband, farming and tourism are very different to those of urban areas like Dunfermline or Glenrothes.

I therefore implore you to seriously reconsider your proposals and come forward with a revision that enables Kinross-shire Ward as a whole to be represented under one parliamentary constituency.

I remain, yours sincerely

Cllr Michael Barnacle
Member for Kinross-shire Ward

cc: Councillor Callum Purves
Councillor William Robertson
Councillor Richard Watters

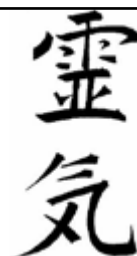
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New Technology for 999 and 101 Services

POLICE SCOTLAND IS INTRODUCING a new digital contact platform that will protect and strengthen its critical 999 and non-emergency 101 services for the future.

The new digital technology replaces current analogue telephony infrastructure, and brings greater resilience to 999 and 101 services, essential to enable the public to contact the police.

It is also a significant milestone in Police Scotland's commitment to make contact with the police more accessible, relevant and responsive to the needs of the public.

Assistant Chief Constable John Hawkins said: 'This significant investment in new technology for our service will further protect and strengthen our emergency 999 and non-emergency 101 services for the public.

'We have taken action to support our 999 and 101 services who performed well over the festive period against a backdrop of high demand and significant absence. We continue to provide a good service and prioritise 999 calls which are answered in under 10 seconds on average.

'The new digital system will provide greater resilience for these critical service, making it easy, convenient and safe to contact the police.

'Proposals to introduce additional contact methods will be subject to consultation and engagement with our communities and I would emphasise that face-to-face and telephone contact through 999 and 101 will always be available. We know that being visible and making personal contact is important to our communities.

'Please continue to phone 999 for emergencies, or use 101 or Contact Us on the Police Scotland website for non-emergency enquiries.'

The new digital technology will also provide better quality data to support workforce planning for Police Scotland's national service centres during periods of peak demand, and it will ensure 999 and 101 services continue to operate when analogue services are switched off in 2025.

It is a major investment in Police Scotland's contact network, and for the 999 and 101 service, with an initial capital spend of £1.2m and ongoing revenue costs of £20.7m over the duration of the seven year contract.

Andrew Hendry, Chief Digital Information Officer, said: 'The public need will always be at the heart of any new service design and we aim to provide modern and easy-to-use options for people who need to contact their police service.

'This enabling technology is part of our wider digital transformation and will form a foundation across Police Scotland that other parts of the organisation will utilise and build upon.'

We'll always take your report seriously.

- Tell a police officer or member of security or retail staff
- Call 101 (police non-emergency number)
- In an emergency, always call 999

Updates

A 46 year old man was arrested for drink driving after a single-vehicle road traffic collision on the B9097 near Cleish on Wednesday 12 January.

Recent Incidents

Between 8:45am and 12:45pm, Wednesday 12 January, a property was broken into at Broom Road, Kinross and a quantity of jewellery stolen. (CR/1165/22) A further property was broken into in Muirs, Kinross between 11am and 12pm on Thursday 12 January. Again jewellery was taken along with some medication. (CR/1359/22)

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 Ashley Mitchinson and **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)

Ways of Following the Police:

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/PoliceScotland

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Community Watch

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PIC-COLLAGE

Kenya Emergency – 1952-1960

THE KENYA EMERGENCY or ‘Mau Mau Revolt’ – some called it – was one of the British Army’s post war bloodiest conflicts- but is another one largely forgotten about . Although the rising was defeated, it remains a significant step towards the independence of Kenya.

In 1952, elements of the Kenyan Kikuyu tribe, known as the Mau Mau, began a guerrilla campaign against Europeans and fellow Africans. Although it contained many elements of anti-colonialism, the rising was primarily about land ownership, and who was to rule Kenya once the British withdrew. Many Kikuyu had lost land to white settlers during the previous decades.

Crook of Devon resident Mike Hughes served as young soldier with the Black Watch in the campaign, and has very vivid memories –see below.

Although the Mau Mau murdered a number of white settlers, the vast majority of their victims were fellow Africans. By the end of the emergency, 32 European civilians had died at the hands of the Mau Mau, but so had over 1,800 Africans. Mau Mau guerrillas may have totalled 25,000, but they had few modern weapons. Some were armed with homemade guns, swords, spears and bows and arrows. Even so, it took over four years to defeat them.

A State of Emergency was declared in October 1952 after the Mau Mau murdered a loyal Kikuyu chief. Despite this, it took some time for an effective response to be formulated. The Kenyan police were few in number and unused to operating in the tribal areas. At the same time, the British military garrison in Kenya only consisted



Mau Mau leaders, 1954

of three battalions of the King’s African Rifles. It was a worrying and dangerous time for all, especially the settlers who ran farms in the very remote, rural areas.

Erskine In Command

In June 1953, Lieutenant-General Sir George Erskine was appointed Commander-in-Chief, with powers over all security forces in Kenya. The garrison was also reinforced by three more battalions of the King’s African Rifles and a brigade of British infantry. A second brigade was added as the campaign progressed. But the military command in Kenya did not immediately learn from the lessons of Malaya.

guard farms and isolated settlements. They also took part in ineffective sweeps through the jungle, while the Royal Air Force (RAF) dropped bombs with little effect. This was largely the result of a lack of intelligence about the Mau Mau’s activities.

To fix this, Erskine integrated police and military intelligence organisations under a single head, while the authorities began to deprive the Mau Mau of support by addressing some of the Kikuyu’s grievances. Providing medical treatment was one way of winning ‘hearts and minds’ and gaining useful intelligence.

Many Kikuyu had been intimidated into supporting the Mau Mau. When offered government protection and agrarian reform, they were prepared to inform on the Mau Mau and even fight against

At first, the troops were used in small numbers to

Caption Mau Mau weapons and rallying bugle



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them. A local Kikuyu Home Guard was formed, which eventually totalled 25,000 men. This freed up the security forces for offensive operations. Unfortunately, many members of the Home Guard used violence as a means of controlling the population.

In April 1954, the authorities launched Operation Anvil, a massive cordon and search operation in Nairobi. It destroyed Mau Mau strength in the capital, and netted over 16,000 suspects. The information they provided allowed military units to take the offensive against the Mau Mau in a much more effective manner.

Many Mau Mau suspects were placed in detention camps where conditions were poor. Disease was rife and food in short supply.

Government efforts were concentrated against the gangs in the forests around Mount Kenya and the Aberdares. These were designated 'Prohibited Areas', where the security forces operated a shoot-on-sight policy.

'One night we found a track that was being used for supplies by the bandits... so we laid a quick ambush and lay there all night. As dawn was breaking we heard footsteps. I was alongside Jim my mate, who was on the Bren gun. They came along with huge, heavy loaves of bread on



their heads, and heavily armed. We waited and then 'Clunk', the Bren gun jammed, and they were away – never saw them again. They'd legged it!

Meanwhile, the concentration of the rural population into defended villages forced Mau Mau gangs out of hiding in order to get supplies. By April 1955, the back of the rebellion had been broken. And by the end of the year, Mau Mau strength had been reduced to about 2,000.

To defeat the remaining hardcore guerrillas the authorities employed 'pseudo-gangs', of-

ten consisting of surrendered Mau Mau whose local knowledge proved invaluable. The rebellion was largely over by the end of 1956, but the Emergency remained in force for another four years as the remaining gang members were hunted down.

Local Crook resident Mike Hughes remembers his time in Kenya.

'I was 18 and living in St Andrews. I did my National Service straight from school. So I found myself in the Black Watch, and spent 18 months fighting in the Mau Mau campaign, up country from Nairobi, in the forests. Our main tasks were to patrol the forests to stop food reaching the gangs of Mau Mau insurgents, from the Aberdares up to Meru. But for real, our biggest enemy were the soaking forests, bamboo and the altitude. We used to be out on patrol for spells of 10 days – resupplied by aircraft drops. There were some bonuses – including amazing opportunities to travel

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Kinross boy Mike Hughes (right)

to Uganda, Tanzania and Zanzibar during leaves. It was an extraordinary experience for a young teenager!

Altogether, around 600 members of the security forces and nearly 2000 civilians were killed during the Emergency, the vast majority of them African. Over 10,000 Mau Mau died. The rising had been defeated, but it had taken 10,000 British and African soldiers, 20,000 police and 25,000 Kikuyu Home Guard to do it.

The revolt boosted the campaign for Kenyan independence, which was finally granted in 1963. Independent Kenya's first Prime Minister, Jomo Kenyatta, was one of those arrested during the Emergency for his alleged Mau Mau links, even though he was a moderate.

For anyone wanting to know more, *Mau Mau Rebellion*, by nick Van Der Bijl, is a very good read.

Andy Middlemiss BEM DL

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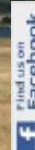
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Health & Wellbeing

News from the Health Centre



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 <p>February 2022</p> <p><i>All the sessions detailed are usually drop-in but in the current COVID circumstances please phone the number detailed the agency you wish to connect with or contact -</i></p> <p><i>Shona 07896 280843 shona.fowler@nhs.scot or Declan 07557 488902 declanjones@pkc.gov.uk</i></p>	3	4	5 AM HomeStart Breast Buddies group If you need more info call - 01738 638847	6 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 – 3.30pm Telephone only - 07925 596 232 Fiona Matthews, Alzheimer Scotland - info & support about living with dementia	7 10am to 12.30pm Declan Jones, Social Prescriber - Community Connecting/Signposting 07557 488902 Shona Fowler, NHS Project Worker 07896 280843
	10 PM Lighthouse Offering drop-in crisis support for mental health 0800 121 4820	11	12 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	13 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 Citizen's Advice Bureau offering advice and information. 0808 196 9440	14 10am to 12.30pm Declan Jones, Social Prescriber - Community Connecting/Signposting 07557 488902 Shona Fowler, NHS Project Worker 07896 280843
	17 PM Lighthouse Offering drop-in crisis support for mental health 0800 121 4820	18	19 AM HomeStart Breast Buddies group If you need more info call - 01738 638847	20 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 Lyndsay 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	21 10am to 12.30pm Karen from PKC Skills & Employment offers support & advice re CVs, Job search, support after redundancy etc. 07867 351268
	24 PM - Lighthouse Offering drop-in crisis support for mental health 0800 121 4820	25	26 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	27 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 552231	28 11am to 1pm Social Security Scotland offering advice on their benefits – carers allowance, best start grants etc. 0800 182 2222

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New Start For The New Year – Shhhh!

Winning Ways by Jo Middlemiss

AS YOU START YOUR journey into 2022, have you checked that you have every thing you need? I know that New Year's Resolutions can be a bit of a bore and old hat, especially after the first week, and the resolutions are beginning to slip. BUT..... I have a simple acronym to help you get in shape, both physically and mentally. It's NEW START – very easy to remember, and very easy to put into practice.

N- nutrition. Are you eating well? If not, you'll be suffering chemical imbalance that will be affecting your energy levels and your moods.

E- exercise. Are you getting enough, if any? You were not created to be sedentary. You don't have to do anything expensive. Walking even a mile a day will dramatically improve your health.

W- water. Are you drinking enough, if any? (6-8 glasses a day). Sounds a lot I know, but your kidneys will soon get used to the extra input, and thank you. Coke and beer don't count! Your immune system depends on impurities and toxins being flushed out, and this can't happen without enough water.

S- sunlight. Light triggers the two hormones responsible for preventing the blues – the 'feel good' serotonin, and the "sleep well" melatonin. That's why some people tend to get depressed during the shorter days of winter. The sun doesn't have to be shining, just get out into the light.

T- temperance. Is another word for BALANCE. Only you know when enough is enough.

A- air Are you getting enough air into your lungs? Most people breathe shallow breaths, only filling the upper part of

their lungs. You will notice that your body sometimes takes what seems like an involuntary deep breath. This is because it needs it. Practice taking 3 really deep breaths, at least 3 times a day. Inhale deeply all the way down to your abdomen for a count of 5. Hold it for a count of 5, and exhale slowly for a count of 10. Your body will cry out in gratitude, and your energy levels will rise.

R- rest and relaxation. Are you getting enough sleep? Sleep is the time when your body rests completely, and builds up its resources. Your mind also needs to rest, so you need to prepare for sleep in a calm way. If you have difficulty sleeping, try eating your last meal a little earlier, have a long relaxing bath before you go to bed, and ditch the TV last thing at night.

T- trust in what you believe in. For me this is absolutely vital and the link to my spirit.

SHHHH – My final tip for the New Year is to practice having a little silence in your life. One of the difficulties of getting in touch with our spiritual selves is that the world is incredibly noisy. It's as if we are afraid to listen to the sounds of our own thoughts. We snap on the TV or radio whenever we can. People have earphones in, on trains and buses. Don't be afraid of silence. Make a decision to seek silence for at least 5 minutes a day. Just sit in a silent place, a church or a quiet bench. Just listen to your heart. It will talk to you if you let it. When you live in your heart magic happens.

A Very Happy and Positive New Year to all of you.

Jo Middlemiss



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Community Council News

The Community Council News is based on draft minutes of local CC meetings. Full draft minutes are posted on local websites and notice boards. Please note, the Community Council News is not a verbatim reproduction of CC minutes. Where there are two months' worth of reports, there will be a considerable amount of editing.

Kinross Community Council News from the November meeting

Present At The Meeting held on 26 November 2021 were Cllr D Colliar, Cllr L McKay, Cllr H Phillips, Cllr B Freeman, Cllr T Stewart, 4 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllr W Robertson, Mrs Caron Aird

Matters Arising

Common Good Fund: This will be sorted next month

High Street: Wall at Rowlands has been repaired to a high standard.

Kinross Partnership AGM: BF to attend.

Local Area Committee: 9 December. 3 points agreed in the short term for CC to take.

- High street review
- Pot holes
- VAS signs

Planning

21/01886/FLL Land 110 metres south east of Beaufield, Balado. Erection of 3 dwelling houses and associated works (revised design – change of house types plots 1, 2 and 3)

21/01852/FLL 4 Morlich Place.

Decided Applications

Extension to dwelling house, 17 Mavisbank, refused.

100 High Street, installation of replacement windows, approved

CC Representatives

Tom Stewart: reported a hole in the road 7/8 inches deep at Cleish Road, before Gellybank.

David Colliar: Provost's Lamp update: 420 mm x 560mm, £320 & VAT. To ensure text readable at actual size. CC members to agree design. Possibility of ceremony to be arranged to unveil it. Could family be contacted to ask?

Bill Freeman: Boundaries Commission – please comment and appeal by 8 December.

Thanks from Andy Middlemiss re Poppy Appeal was received.

Lynne Mackay: Complaints re scaffolding on High St – both sides of pavement blocked.

Queen's Canopy: Where should trees go? Discussion ensued and included locations such as Boathouse car park, perimeter of town, marshland between McBain Place and the Muirs or Davis Park up to Gallowhill road.

Comments from the Floor

Brian D'Arcy talked to the CC about his Raingardens Proposal for the Park and Ride. Met with Kinross in Bloom to discuss placement of some planters there. Also discussed connecting habitat by using Scots Pines or other native deciduous trees (see above) to form a barrier at industrial estate and create vital wildlife corridor linking to heritage trail. Need to find out who owns the land – Bear Scotland? Civic Trust would appreciate comments from the CC.

A MoP raised a concern about Loch Leven Health Centre being unable to cope with demand. Very difficult to get an appointment with St Serfs – why aren't they using AskMyGP like Orwell practice, which seems to be more efficient? The CC agreed to send a note of concern.

A MoP raised a concern about a marked increase in planes flying over gardens at a low level, noise and disruption to

privacy. They were advised to contact local councillors re flight path concerns and legislation relating to the low level aircraft.

An MoP raised concern about drainage having moved in to a Springfield home in July. SUDS pond. Investigation by a plumber found large concrete blocks in a pipe that shouldn't be there. The MoP was advised to email local councillors.

Licensing Applications

Unorthodox Roasters – license to sell alcohol daytime hours. No objections from the CC.

AOB

Funding available for CC members to do related courses (First Aid, etc)

Plaque on old high school to mention Kinross Olympians – homeowners would need to agree – Persimmon Fund?

Memorial flags: Flag poles at side to protect corners. Flags used to be on county buildings. Permission would be required from PKC to reinstate flags.

There was no December meeting. The next meeting of Kinross Community Council will be on 22 February 2022 at 7.30pm.

Portmoak Community Council News from the December Meeting

Present At The Meeting held on 14 December were Cllrs C Purves, W Robertson and R Watters; Cllrs: A Miller (Chair), D Morris (Vice-Chair), A Davidson (Treasurer), S McGregor (Secretary), and 1 member of the public.

Apologies: Cllr M Barnacle; Cllrs S Forde and D Patterson.

Matters Arising

Kinross-shire Committee

The Chair had received feedback from the CC members on initial thoughts on priorities for the Kinross Committee (KC) and had communicated these back to C Purves. It is likely the Committee will convene for first meeting around the 19/20 Jan 22. There will be issues of commonality to be agreed across all PKC CCs e.g. Loch Leven water quality, Public Transport, Roads, Core Paths. KC expects to meet every 8 weeks. Recommendation is that issues discussed at KC, are then taken back to each CC and representation made at next KC meeting. Kinross Committee will have policy to address issues that are locale specific within Kinross-shire i.e. do not apply universally across PKC. Cllr C Purves has drafted 5 themes to present to committee as a starting point for discussions: roads and road maintenance; forward planning on local place plans opposition to sites being developed in principle; footpaths and connections between settlements; climate change and environmental initiatives; public/community transport working with local authority and other voluntary groups and private companies. Items and actions will be linked to budgets.

Road Safety Action Update in Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell

Speed Trial information had been received and circulated within PCC. The Chair outlined the results which showed that pre-20mph speed limit the 85th percentile speed was under 33mph, during the reduced trial speed limit 85% percentile was only reduced to 32mph, indicating only marginal compliance with the 20mph reduced speed limit. From this it appears the 20mph speed limit does very little for the villages. The conclusion would be that physical mitigation is necessary to reduce the speed of vehicles. Cllr D Morris agreed with The

Community Council News

Chair's analysis of report and suggested the necessity for PKC to complete the A911 route plan asap. W Robertson agreed that the only way to really slow traffic is to put in physical measures. Cllr C Purves agreed this was a fair summation of the report, but indicated that there was limited staff resource at PKC to do this at present. Fife Council's analysis of speed trials suggested that the main benefit was that residents reported feeling safer with 20mph limits. PCC asked Cllrs what measures are available for physical mitigation. Cllrs reported that roads team have a backlog and with many requested items outstanding. PKC are currently unable to carry out requests, due to a shortage of contractors. Cllr W Robertson was pessimistic about responsiveness and has written to the Convener of the Services on the issue. Cllr R Watters agreed that it is hard to get a response even within the three-week response window. There was agreement that speed mitigation speed bumps shouldn't be placed next to houses to avoid road noise. The Chair hoped that the KC with devolved powers should be able to resolve delays locally. C Purves noted that budgets would not be set until Feb/Mar 2022. The Cllrs highlighted the issues at PKC with staffing and budget allocation and asked that PCC be understanding about the difficulties in the path of achieving the things they want to do. These served to highlight the importance of the KC to push items forward with a strong and united voice.

Glenlomond sewage, and Water Supply to Glenlomond and Wester Balgedie: Cllr A Davidson reported that there had been no water outages recently. Sewage works are still being maintained by a group of residents which is not sustainable. The Residents' Association had approached another local company for quotes to get repairs done at a reasonable cost these had not yet been supplied. Cllr R Watters had contacted Jim Fairlie as actioned at Nov 21 PCC meeting but had not received a response.

Portmoak Primary parking issues: no substantial update, subject to delayed works due to PKC difficulties.

Issue of local Affordable Housing: update from Cllrs: Cllr Mike Barnacle action from PCC Nov 21 meeting was to write to Chief Executive. Cllr C Purves was able to confirm M Barnacle had written and this letter had been published in the Kinross Newsletter.

Proposed changes to constituency boundaries: Internal communication within CC and representation had been sent and confirmation received back.

New Matters Arising

Item 1: Co-option of Graham Smith: At the Oct 21 AGM Graham Smith had not been co-opted onto PCC. The CC agreed he would be co-opted again to the PCC.

Reports

Community Speedwatch Programme: The Secretary had posted an update to local social media to update interested members of the community as actioned in last meeting. Cllr W Robertson asked the CC to identify areas of concern for risk assessment by the police. Cllr D Morris raised the concern that local people might be asked to Speedwatch in other areas away from their own, and Cllr W Robertson agreed to raise this issue for clarification with Police Liaison Officer A Mitchinson.

Planning

New Applications

21/01777/FLL: Applerigg Leslie Road Scotlandwell Kinross. Alterations to dwellinghouse. No Comment

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.

Planning Decisions

Progress with Developments: Westfield Community Liaison Committee. Cllr K Donaldson had some information from the last liaison meeting.

Paths Group update: Paths Group had provided an update. The group would break from weekly maintenance work for the winter so minimal activity over the past month. The group will use the break to reflect on priorities, and welcomed feedback from PCC and local people to help shape our work programme for 2022. Over the past year efforts have focused on the following: Maintaining local Core Paths including Michael Bruce Way (not including the sections that fall within remit of Portmoak Woodland Group); Dryside Road Path from Easter Balgedie to Springfield Farm; Maintaining the informal path network within Stephens Field; Installation of the 'Portmoak Paths Network' information board at the car park in Kinnesswood and identifying other improvements in terms of signage.

A number of projects have already been identified by PCC and these have not progressed including: Path connecting Heritage Trail to Lochend Farm Shop (already included in the Portmoak Paths Network Information Board as advised by George Lawrie); Off road path linking Scotlandwell and Kinnesswood (safe walking/cycling route to school); Off road path linking Easter Balgedie and Kinnesswood (safe walking/cycling route to school – behind the hedge); Design work completed for a Portmoak Paths Network leaflet but the PCC application for PKC funding was unsuccessful. The Portmoak Paths Group budget sits within the PCC budget and is currently in excess of £1000.

Cllr W Robertson commented on the path from Findatie to LLHT which had been washed away by bad weather. The path had been restored by local landowner, with costs shared between the landowner, Nature Scotland and PKC. A local landowner had complained again about problems walkers' dogs worrying sheep and had taken action to lock gates. New self closing gate needed – PKC D Stubbs was to meet with the landowner in the next week. Cllr D Morris suggested that PKC should place more emphasis of urgency on requests from a CC as these indicate representation, not a single individual complaint. PKC required multiple complaints before taking action Cllr W Robertson again cited issues with overwork causing delays. The Cllrs asked that issues with paths be additionally raised to them for escalation within PKC.

Cllr D Morris raised issue of Core Path between Orwell and Arlary (ancient coffin route) which was routinely ploughed and planted over, plus locked gate at Arlary end. Cllr W Robertson agreed to escalate this issue.

Treasurer CC Accounts:

General PCC Account:	£ 700.00
MB Acc:	£1,522.82
Grant received from PKC:	£ 200.03

Credit Union: require copy of constitution. Identification documents. Formal minute that the CC agrees the intention to open a Credit Union account.

Councillors' Reports

W Robertson has reported the bad pot holes along A911. Residents are requested to be careful and try to avoid these if travelling by car or bicycle.

Matters Notified to the Secretary:

Community Investment Fund: a second round of funding available in Jan 2022: Cut-off is the 18/02/22. Secretary to review the applications in Portmoak area. The Portmoak Village hall were likely to put in an application to augment their recent successful Crowdfunding initiative. Interested local groups can view more information at www.pkc.gov.uk/cif. There is £12,395 available for Kinross-shire groups.

Development of PKC LDP3: The Chair invited comment from the Cllrs. Cllr W Robertson talked briefly about Local Place plans. There was no guidance from ScotGov on these as yet, so the scope and purpose was still ambiguous. Cllr Robertson encouraged Portmoak to submit one when the guidance was published. Cllr R Watters suggested that any group could identify as a community and send in a place plan.

Perth and Kinross Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund: PKAVS Third Sector Interface (TSI) and Perth and Kinross Health and Social Care Partnership (PKHSCP) have launched the Perth and Kinross Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund. Administered by the TSI, on behalf of the Scottish Government, this fund recognises the significance of early intervention and preventative mental health and wellbeing support that is anchored in local communities. £412,861.80 has been allocated to promote and support the conditions for good mental health and wellbeing across Perth and Kinross by March 31 2022. More details on this are available via the following link: www.pkavs.org.uk/CMHWF

News from the January Meeting

Present At The Meeting held on 11 January were Cllr C Purves, W Robertson, and R Watters; Cllr A Miller, A Davidson, D Morris, K Donaldson, S McGregor, D Paterson; and 3 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllr G Smith, S Forde

Matters Arising

Kinross-shire Committee: Cllr C Purves spoke on the topic. The first Committee meeting is scheduled for 20/01/22. Papers will be released into public domain this week in advance of meeting. There are various items on the agenda, some relevant to all of Kinross-shire, and others Portmoak specific, these include discussions about:

A911 speed limit: particularly the speed limit from Scotlandwell to the boundary with Fife, including additional information from PKC and Police and other official sources. The paper covers the issue of the Route Action Plan, proposed to be developed in this financial year from Apr 2022. The A911 is currently third in priority for completion, with actions likely to commence in 2024-25. Once papers are made available C Purves will pass these onto the local community in order to make a deputation if they wish.

Creation of Regional Parks: the KC agenda includes a discussion about Regional parks, seeking to confirm if there is agreement within the KC to extend the Lomond Hills Park to include Loch Leven. The creation of Regional Parks is a topic that seems to be a priority within ScotGov. It is positive to raise awareness of this at an early stage.

20mph limit in Kinnesswood: outlining data and evidence of the effectiveness of 20mph speed limits, to assess whether CCs consider the 20mph limits are effective or if other physical mitigation or VAS signs are more popular.

The Chair thanked C Purves for the outline and is looking forward to the first meeting. Road safety seems to have come up high on the agenda for KC. The Chair expressed concerned about time lines, and the necessity of ensuring that progress of local issues was not side-lined or slowed by the 2 month frequency of the KC meeting. Local CCs may still need to be picked up by CCs on a more frequent monthly basis in order to fully explore the issues. Cllr W Robertson agreed with this concern about an area committee, and keeping focussed on priority issues. C Purves commented that as a local committee KC should carry more weight than perhaps a local CC may have, but the CC can help to engage with the local community to assess opinion. The KC as a new concept may not as yet be a perfect format, but the hope is that it is a more effective

forum; there will be a 1yr review of the KC to assess progress. Cllr D Morris raised the issue of pollution of Loch Leven, an item which was common to all Kinross-shire CCs and had been raised by Cllr Robertson at the Dec 21 in addition to the 5 themes outlined by Cllr Purves. Cllr Morris requested the issue of Loch Leven could this be added to the agenda? C Purves agreed this could be discussed at the first meeting.

Road Safety Action Update in Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell: The Chair had previously requested the 20mph trial data for Scotlandwell but had not yet received it; Cllr C Purves had emailed Daryl McEown in late Dec but had not yet had a reply. The Chair felt it was necessary to have a holistic view in light of other areas requesting speed mitigation, as the Kinnesswood data appeared to show evidence that other measures were also necessary and speed limit reductions were not a panacea. Cllr D Morris raised the issue of the footpath between Scotlandwell and Portmoak Village Hall, and wished to remind the Cllrs that there was a strong commitment at last election to move this project forward, suggesting that there should be an onsite meeting in Feb/Mar22 to discuss the footpath progress before the next elections in May 22. Cllr W Robertson agreed the Cllrs' commitment to support the creation of the footpath. Both W Robertson and C Purves had discussed the item with TRACKS, but a route for the footpath had not yet been clearly identified. Once a route is decided Cllr W Robertson will commit to obtaining funding for the project. Cllrs are trying to find a solution but there are few options and these are quite tricky. The Chair commented that physical speed mitigation or possibly priority road systems may create space whilst also slowing traffic as an incidental bonus. In previous years D Morris had met with George Lawrie and had been able to identify a possible route on the East side. He proposed another onsite meeting to identify and decide the ideal route. The Chair and Cllr W Robertson agreed this plan was the best way to progress. Cllr R Watters commented that active travel routes were the projects that were attracting funding and it would be possibly to apply to both Sustrans and ScotGov for funding.

Cllr K Donaldson raised concerns regarding the damaged surface of the B 9097 and C50, and the likelihood of additional heavy traffic causing further erosion. Cllr W Robertson offered to raise this with the correct PKC team for response.

Glenlmond sewage, and Water Supply to Glenlmond and Wester Balgedie: A Davidson provided an update. The Glenlmond Residents had not yet heard from Jim Fairlie MSP, which was a disappointment. The Residents team who currently volunteer to manage the sewage plant are increasingly not able to take the responsibility due to health and the physical nature of the work. If no one was able to step forward to manage the sewage plant it had potential to become a public health issue. The current volunteer situation is not a sustainable option. The CC understand the issues the Glenlmond residents are facing and agreed it was a difficult situation where Scottish Water were not taking responsibility as quickly as they should. The Chair asked the Cllrs to outline what pressures could be brought to bear on Scottish Water? Also should any additional development be discouraged on the site of the old hospital. Cllr R Watters had reviewed a survey from Scottish Water recently and had raised the item of Glenlmond with them. He offered to write a letter to Scottish Water to bring additional pressure. R Watters had raised the item twice to Jim Fairlie with no response. The CC expressed disappointment with this.

Cllr D Morris asked Cllr R Watters to engage with relevant ministers to apply appropriate pressure to Scottish Water. Cllr W Robertson commented that he had previously tried to engage with both Scottish Water and Roseanna Cunningham on the sewage issue, but he believed no-one would make SW

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do anything except the Scottish Government. Cllr D Morris requested one action point for Cllr R Watters to raise the issue direct to the relevant ScotGov Minister with copy to Jim Fairlie. R Watters agreed to do this.

Portmoak Primary parking issues: D Morris requested that this item be removed from agenda for the meantime as other items required focus at present. The Chair agreed.

New Matters

The Secretary had received a query from a member of the public requesting clarification of the definition of affordable housing. Cllr R Watters provided information on the scope of Affordable Housing which included smaller sized housing, shared ownership, but also housing plots, affordable rents and Social Housing. Dependant on planning committee, there is a hierarchical need for each site assessed and decided whether a commutable sum is therefore payable. R Watters thinks the policy is clear. Rural sites continue to prove more difficult, as affordable housing tends to be in more built up areas. The Chair and Cllr D Morris agreed the policy is clear and needs to be applied. On a previous action point the Cllrs had agreed to write to the Chief Executive of PKC and M Barnacle had written a letter and this had been published in the Newsletter.

Reports:

Police Reports: the Police liaison team were unable to attend the meeting.

Community Speed watch program: The CC had received a response from the police who had confirmed that it was possible for locals to be involved in SpeedWatch actions in their own area.

Cllr D Morris had been surprised that a local incident had not been listed in the Weekly Commander's Bulletin. The Secretary had noticed in the past that specific local incidents were not always listed in the Commander's Bulletin, and had queried this with the Police. A response had been received that the Commander's Bulletin was not intended to be a comprehensive list of all Crime in the area, but rather a summation along lines of current Police campaigns or issues that local communities should be aware of for their safety or benefit. Cllr D Morris felt the summary nature of the Bulletin should be made prominent to readers.

Planning

New Applications: no new applications, since Dec 21 meeting.

Gairneybank caravan: K Donaldson expressed concern that a caravan had been put on a property at Gairneybank. The Secretary thought the property of concern could potentially be in an adjacent CC Area.

Old Farmhouse at Wester Balgedie: members of PCC had heard concerns raised by local people that the Wester Balgedie Farmhouse and land appears to have been bought and work to clear some of the old buildings had commenced while planning permission had not yet been sought. Locals had expressed concern about the work that had commenced within this sensitive Conservation Area.

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.

The Chair asked the Cllrs if it was possible to approach PKC Planning for information about why the application had been withdrawn.

Planning Decisions

Progress With Developments: Westfield Community Liaison Committee: K Donaldson had attended the liaison committee meeting in Feb 22. Last meeting intimated work would start in Jan 22. Original building design impact had changed and

another company has submitted new plans. Proposing to dig the silo hole which will require a large quantity of concrete, and a possible corresponding increase in large size cement trucks travelling to and from site.

Paths Group update: On behalf of the Paths Group, PCC would like to remind members of the Community that the Paths Group would like people to feedback their views on priorities with regard to path clearing and any other type of maintenance work that may need to be done locally.

Orwell Mawcarse Core Path: Further to the Dec 21 PCC meeting, Cllr W Robertson had tried to walk the Core Path in question which is MTHT/127, A911 west of Orwell to Cycle route east of Arlary. Cllr D Morris highlighted that the landowner continued to plough over the path and the route was no longer clear. Cllr W Robertson agreed that the path was not visible.

Glenlomond Core Path: PTMK/115 Glenlomond to Glenvale. Cllr D Morris understood the landowner was proposing to put in a stile which was inappropriate given the nature of the Core Paths.

Westfield Paths: Hargreaves had released some information for review regarding the path network proposals. Cllr D Morris agreed to contact Hargreaves to discuss how to make this information publicly available.

Treasurer CC Accounts

General Account: £ 700.00

Michael Bruce Way Account: £1,523.00

Documents for the Credit Union account had been obtained per Dec 21 meeting so the application could be progressed.


Ward Councillors' Reports: Cllrs W Robertson and R Watters had attended a meeting on Loch Leven Pollution and the Loch Leven catchment. No rep from Scottish Water had attended the meeting who had knowledge to address issues and concerns around Waste Water treatment. SEPA were similarly under-represented at the meeting. Cllr R Watters outlined his concerns about the pollution going into Loch Leven and identified diffuse pollution from flooding run-off as an additional concern which had been clearly seen in a recent photo from Bishop Hill showing the soil deltas flowing into the Loch from local rivers. Cllr D Morris commented that the Loch pollution issue had been going since the 1990s. A whole review of the agricultural land use needed to be done, and R Watters said this had been discussed.

Matters Notified To The Secretary:


A Public Consultation is taking place on local guidelines for gambling applications and activities. If you would like to comment, please see: <https://consult.pkc.gov.uk/corporate-democratic-services/draft-statement-of-principles-for-gambling/>

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<https://www.pkc.gov.uk/article/4918/Community-Transport-Fund-2021-2022> Application close 4pm Fri 11/02/22

Scottish Civic Trust My Place Awards are open for nominations. Please see <https://myplacescotland.org.uk/about-my-place-awards/> for more information. The deadline to submit entries is 11:59pm, 13 February 2022 (please note that this has been extended from the original deadline of 6 February)

Perth and Kinross Local Housing Strategy for 2022-27 <https://consult.pkc.gov.uk/communities/local-housing-strategy-for-2022-27/>

The next meeting of Portmoak Community Council will be held on Tuesday 8 February at 7.30pm

Fossoway and District Community Council

News from the December Meeting

Present At The Meeting: on 7 December were Councillors S Bruce-Jones, A Cheape, T Duffy, C Farquhar, N Marchant, G Mudie and G Pye; Cllrs M Barnacle, C Purves and R Watters; One Member of the public.

Apologies: PC Ashley Mitchinson.

Matters Arising

Access to Cash in Kinross-shire: Cllr Purves reported that the Bank has made a site visit to Millbridge Hall to decide if it was suitable for a facility similar to a Banking Hub

Community Development Trust: Cllr Barnacle reported that there was a public meeting on the 24 November. It was suggested at the meeting that a list of projects should be created which might attract more interest in taking part. Cllr Barnacle will approach the Kinross shire Fund for seed funding. It was agreed that it was important for the Trust to gain charitable status in order to raise funds.

Fossoway Area Transport/DRT: A meeting of the Transport Group will be held on 9 December.

A977 Mitigation Measures: Cllr Purves had made an application to request speed measuring lines to the west of Crook of Devon and east of Drum, but this has not been done yet – Cllr Purves explained that this work is done in batches so may be slightly delayed until the next batch is ready.

Crook Moss Travellers Site: Councillor Farquhar has been in touch with one of the previous occupants who has now permanently left the site after a long history of violence and damage against him and his family. Cllr Barnacle had a virtual meeting with the planners where he emphasised the importance of enforcing the conditions.

Speeding in Carnbo: Cllr Purves said that he hadn't received any response to the proposal to extend the 40mph buffers further out of the village.

Flooding in Drum: Cllr Barnacle has asked PKC for a ditch management programme, but has not received any response as yet. Councillor Bruce Jones is organising a public meeting of Drum residents to hear views on how flooding (and speeding) should be handled.

Community Speedwatch: Cllr Robertson has put a notice in *The Newsletter* and a number of people have made contact. The Police have requested locations to be considered and the CC should be able to generate those. Councillor Mudie will canvass parents at the School.

Blairingone War Memorial: Cllr Barnacle has been contacted by PKC's Estates department who wish to get their own estimate for the work before it takes place.

Aldie Road Vegetation: Cllr Purves has also been contacted by other locations about salt bins and work is scheduled to provide salt either to the bins, or in heaps at suitable places.

Kinross-shire Area Committee (previously known as the Kinross Forum): Councillor Bruce-Jones will be the CC's named (non-voting) representative, with Councillor Cheape as first reserve. Councillor Duffy will circulate requests for short and long term goals for the agenda to be discussed by members of the CC by email in time for the pre-meeting.

Seamab School New Build (21/01467/FLL): Whilst Seamab is a residential school the children's accommodation is on the Lendrick Muir estate. The Seamab building is therefore only used during the 38 week school term, Monday to Friday by the children. Although the current building is only 30 years old it is not suitable for its current use. The CC regrets that the existing building is to be demolished but understands that it is a commercial decision.

There is a major water pipe running through the site and the architects have worked with Scottish Water to ensure that there is no building within 10m of this pipe. However, it was acknowledged by the architects that there are likely to be additional utility pipes and cables traversing the site and these must be identified and safeguarded to avoid disruption to the local community. We have requested that PKC add this as a condition of approval.

Lastly the unadopted road from the busy A977 to the school leading further on to other properties is in a poor state of repair. Although the developers assured us that it would be resurfaced, we would request that the developers consider PKC adoption of the road in partnership with other residents. Cllr Barnacle has had some informal discussions with the principal about the possibility of constructing an alternative access for construction traffic.

Devonshaw Whinstone Quarry: Councillor Marchant reported that the site now appears to be split between two owners, one who owns the site for the houses, and one for the remainder, including the quarry, for a recreational development. There is

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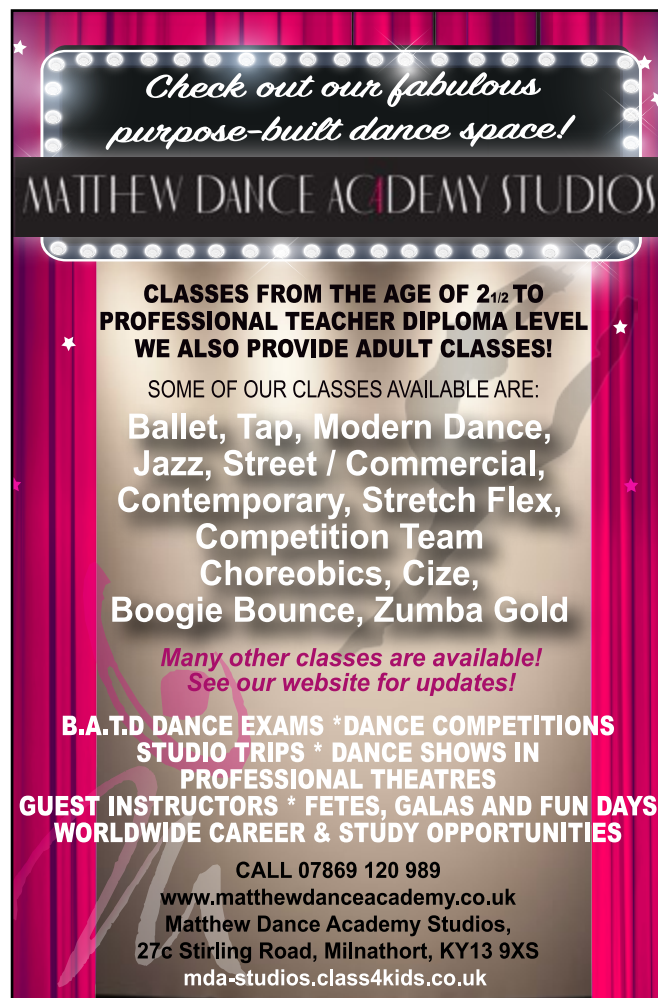


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Community Council News

a plan for a public consultation for the latter in the New Year.

Rumbling Bridge Gorge Bridge: Cllr Robertson reported that the Flood Assessment is with the consultants, and other required studies, including wildlife are in preparation, prior to the planning application submission.

New Business

Possible Adoption of Spur of U241 Road, Drum: A resident of the road which fronts Kilchattan, Garh, Drum Cottage, Firs of Viewfield and a new house, asked if it could be adopted by the Council. There is some doubt about whether it is already owned by the Council as it has street lighting. Cllr Barnacle will ask Andy Brown of PKC whether it is currently adopted or not. If not, then frontagers will need to contribute 60% of the cost. There is also concern about some trees alongside the road – Cllr Barnacle will ask Community Greenspace if they own the trees. Cllr Robertson added that if the road has ever been owned by any of the preceding councils, even before the creation of Perth and Kinross, then it will have to be adopted by PKC.

Rashie Hill and North Hill Forest: Cllr Marchant reported that the CC has received notice from Highland Forestry Limited that they are in the process of renewing the Long Term Forest Plan (LTFP) for Rashie Hill and North Hill (to the West of Stronachie Rd), a predominantly commercial conifer plantation in Perthshire. Cllr Marchant has read the proposal and reviewed the map and believes that they are proactively managing the commercial forest and have committed to maintain the paths which I know are well trodden by local walkers. Cllr Marchant recommended sending a comment to that effect which was agreed by the meeting.

Community Council Business

Minutes Secretary: The search for a volunteer continues, but with no candidates. In the interim the CC members will undertake the task in rotation, with Cllr Cheape volunteering to take the January meeting.

CC Annual Grant: Has been received.

P&K Councillors' Reports

Mike Barnacle: Cllr Barnacle has spoken to waste services who have circulated 'Stick to Six' leaflets to householders. He has sent a submission to the Boundary Commission and a letter to PKC's CEO about the lack of affordable housing. The Drummond Park adoption is ready to take place; residents now need to make a final commitment to the finance with work to take place in March. Cllr Barnacle is meeting with Community Greenspace on the 10th where the Crook of Devon skate park will be discussed.

Richard Watters: Noted that the application to reinstate the Lord Provost of Perth as part of the Queen's Jubilee celebrations was discussed at a recent Council Meeting.

Planning

New Applications

21/02039/FLL Erection of three agricultural buildings and a stable, formation of access track and associated works at Land 360 metres south west of Craigton House, Rumbling Bridge. Neutral CC Comment to seek assurance that this application will take into consideration the outcome of the Appeal against application **21/00001/FLL**.

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 the 14 September LRB meeting the application was deferred – it was not on the agenda for the October, November or December meetings.

Decided Applications

21/01446/IPL Erection of a dwelling house (in principle) at land 30 metres north east of Corner Cottage, Powmill. The application was approved, the CC did not comment.

21/01146/FLL Erection of a dwelling house and garage with home office at land 30 metres east of Vine House, Solsgirth. The application was approved; the CC had made a neutral comment requesting that conditions from the previous planning approval were carried forward. The conditions were included in the approval.

21/01590/FLL Erection of a dwelling house at land 40 metres south of Craighead Bungalow, Drum. The application was approved, the CC did not comment.

21/01720/FLL Erection of a dwelling house (revised design) (plot 6) at former Steading Pitfar, Powmill. The application was approved, the CC did not comment.

20/01860/FLL Erection of a dwelling house at land 50 metres south west of Greenparks, Church Road, Crook of Devon. The application was approved, the CC had objected on the grounds of a lack of a SUDS plan and concern regarding known flooding issue. Condition requiring temporary (during construction) and permanent SUDS schemes was incorporated in the approval.

Enforcement Issues

20/00809/FLL Craigton Farm Lane – Notices to obtain site owners have been issued with the expectation that an Enforcement Notice will be issued shortly, but the caravans are still present on site.

AOCB

A MoP asked the CC to contact Muckhart CC to ask them if they can make an application to their Council to get vegetation cut back on the Rumbling Bridge to Yetts main road.

News from the January Meeting

Present At The Meeting: on 4 January 2022 were Cllrs S Bruce-Jones, A Cheape, T Duffy, C Farquhar, N Marchant, G Mudie and G Pye; Cllrs R Watters and W Robertson.

Apologies: Cllr Faiza Hansraj; Cllrs C Purves and M Barnacle; PC Ashley Mitchinson.

Police report: Cllr Bruce-Jones reported on a serious incident at the Crook Moss travellers' site on Wednesday 29 December involving attendance by the police, three fire appliances and an ambulance.

Matters Arising

Access to Cash in Kinross-shire: Further hub locations have been announced, including one in Carnoustie. Despite indicating our interest, Kinross-shire was not included. Liz Smith's office has written to the Access to Cash team to ask how these locations were chosen and why we were not informed. Not further update yet on the Bank of Scotland community banking pilot.

Community Development Trust: Cllr Duffy will update at the February meeting.

Fossway Area Transport/DRT: Cllr Watters advised that Bay Travel would be replacing the First Bus service between Tillicoultry and Kinross providing five daily return journeys. Cllr Bruce-Jones added that the proposed timetable was inadequate for the purposes of the regular school run. Cllr Watters emphasised the need for viability and sustained public support.

A977 Mitigation Measures: Cllr Robertson reported on the long delayed realignment at the junction with the B9097 opposite Fossway Garage now due to commence in the spring. As an aside Cllr Duffy commented on incomplete works to the footpath alongside the A977 at the Crook of Devon hall crucial to the safety of children walking to school.

Flooding in Drum: Cllr Barnacle had asked PKC for a ditch management programme and a response was awaited pending re-opening of P&K offices. Meantime Cllr Bruce Jones is organising a public meeting of Drum residents and canvassing opinion to produce a prioritised list of issues.

Community Speedwatch: Cllr Duffy reported that volunteers for more areas were being sought ahead of police vetting (low level check) and there had been informal consultation on procedures with Portmoak.

Blairingone War Memorial: Cllr Barnacle had been contacted by PKC's Estates department and an estimate of the cost involved in the work was still awaited.

Kinross-shire Area Committee (previously known as the Kinross Forum): Cllr Bruce-Jones reported that a Teams Meeting had been arranged for Thursday 20 January and this would be live streamed enabling public participation.

Seamab School New Build (21/01467/FLL): Cllr Marchant commented on a proposal to adopt the access road (in private ownership) and provide adequate turning space in the car park for emergency services. Meanwhile neighbouring proprietors maintained expressions of concern generally.

Devonshaw Whinstone Quarry: Cllr Marchant was in touch with the applicant who will contact the CC once a PAN date has been agreed.

Rumbling Bridge Gorge Bridge: The Flood Risk Assessment has been completed by the consultants, and their report received. As a result the line of the bridge is now proposed to follow the line of the previous bridge but at a higher level, meaning it will now be 9m longer than previously planned. TRACKS are obtaining estimates for the Tree, Bat and Otter surveys required by PKC prior to the planning application submission. It will also be necessary to obtain a licence from SEPA. Cllr Duffy would progress matters assisted by Cllr Cheape.

Possible Adoption of Spur of U241 Road, Drum: Cllr Barnacle was going to ask Andy Brown of PKC whether it is currently adopted or not, and ask Community Greenspace if they own the trees.

Community Council Business

Minutes Secretary: The search for a volunteer continues, but with no candidates. Cllr Bruce-Jones volunteered to take a minute of the meeting scheduled for Tuesday 1 February.

P&K Councillors' Reports

Richard Watters: Advised that the Climate Action Plan was underway and a report would be posted on the P&K website. This entire exercise was a considerable challenge but of fundamental importance.

Willie Robertson: Reported that PKC had been looking at the draft budget for 2022/23 and commented that the drive towards net zero in the coming years would be very expensive.

Callum Purves: (Written report) **Speed monitoring:** no further update.

Carnbo Speed Limits: we will seek to progress these changes through the local committee.

Grit bins: roads maintenance have advised that they do not believe Aldie Road is a suitable location for a grit bin and would not usually put one on such roads. They will continue to dump grit as they have done previously when it is thought to be needed. They are looking for a grit bin for Back Crook Road, but have to move one from another location.

Planning

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 the 14th September LRB meeting the application was deferred. Still awaiting decision.

LRB-2021-38 Planning Application 21/00947/FLL – Siting of 4 holiday accommodation units, formation of parking area, landscaping and associated works, land 70 metres south east of Coup Steps, Powmill.

Decision: Review upheld unanimously; The CC had made a neutral comment.

Planning Applications

21/01997/FLL Extension to dwelling house at Merryhills, Rumbling Bridge, Kinross KY13 OPX. No CC comment

21/02078/FLL Alterations and extension to dwelling house, erection of garage, formation of vehicular access and decking at Rosewood, Naemoor Road, Crook of Devon, Kinross KY13 OUH. No CC Comment

Planning Decisions

21/01162/FLL Formation of outdoor riding arena at Appleburn, Vicar's Bridge Road, Blairingone, Dollar FK14 7LR. The Application was approved; The CC had not commented

Enforcement Notices

Cllr Marchant will contact PKC seeking an update on progress against enforcement notices prior to our next meeting.

AOCB

Notice Boards: Concern was expressed at the poor condition of a number of the notice boards and repairs would be put in hand.

M90: Cllr Bruce-Jones drew attention to the great benefit that would arise from an improvement to the junction of the M90 with the A91 at Milnathort. Cllr Robertson responded that whilst this would do much to ease traffic congestion in Kinross such a project was unlikely to become a priority in the foreseeable future given the proximity of the north and south junction at Kinross and funding problems (absence in the immediate future of essential Developer Contributions).

The next meeting of Fossoway Community Council will be held on Tuesday 1 February 2022 at 7.30pm

In light of current Government advice, this meeting will be virtual via Zoom. Any members of the public wishing to attend, email the CC for a link.

ALTERED IMAGES

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Club & Community Group News

Portmoak Film Society

We ended the year with the multi award winning 'Nomadland' which went down a treat with our audience.

We take this opportunity to thank you for returning to our regular film nights since September 2021 and to wish you all a very happy and healthy New Year.

We kicked off in January 2022 with the Daniel Craig thriller 'Knives Out' and, on Saturday 12 February, we show the Chinese/American film 'The Farewell'. Released in 2019 and directed by the Beijing-born American Lulu Wang, it's the story of a Chinese American family whose grandma is diagnosed with terminal cancer and how they deal with it differently across the cultural divide. It stars the brilliant Awkwafina of 'Crazy Rich Asians' and 'Nora of Queens' fame, who won the Golden Globe Award for Best Actress for her role as the conflicted granddaughter.

We have made the venue as safe as possible, and all guests are asked to wear masks throughout the evening, following Scottish Government guidance for the use of community halls. The seating is well spaced and hot drinks and refreshments will be served after the film, but please keep your distance! Use your membership card to get in (£40) or pay £6 on the door. Doors open at 7pm and films start promptly at 7.30pm. For further information, contact Felicity Garvie on 01592 840825.

Volunteer Opportunity

We are looking for a projectionist to run the films and set up the AV equipment on the night. Please see the Situations Vacant section on p93.

Kinross Garden Group

Our January festive lunch was, unfortunately, postponed due to the ongoing Covid-19 situation. However, we did manage to get a speaker, Richard Baines, from the Logan Botanic Garden in the Mull of Galloway. We had the talk on Zoom so Richard had no travelling to do! The talk was superb and the photographs made one wish one was there! I am sure we could all see why it is called Scotland's most exotic garden. Go if you can!

Our next meeting is on Thursday 10 February, hopefully, in the Kinross Parish Church on Station Road, Kinross at 2pm. Kate White from Bannockburn House (and previously of the Japanese Garden at Cowden), will talk about 'The restoration of Bannockburn House and garden'. Should there be a problem, members will be informed by email, letter or telephone.

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

Kinross and District Art Club

www.kadac.co.uk

After a busy end to 2021, the start date of Kinross and District Art Club's 55th year was postponed to late January, due to Scottish Government Covid-19 advice. However, by then



members were 'super keen' to get back to painting and enjoying the camaraderie of the club again.

Twenty-five members were thrilled to enjoy the our annual Christmas lunch on the Wednesday 8 December 2021 at The Kirklands Hotel. Everyone enjoyed the festive fun and the delicious meal. Big thanks to Tracy for being a wonderful Mrs Claus and for the chocolate treats.

On 30 November 2021, the we held our AGM in Millbridge Hall. Gillian Ross, chair, welcomed 27 members to the meeting. Reports were presented by the chair, Glenys Andrews (secretary) and Pauline Connolly (treasurer). Before standing down as chair, Gillian thanked Office Bearers, the committee, and all members for their valued support over her four years as president of KADAC. Glenys thanked the Gillian for keeping the club 'alive' over the lockdown period and presented her with flowers. New office bearers were then elected as follows: Dallas Key, chair/president; Irene Douglas, vice-chair; Glenys Andrews, general secretary; Gillian Ross, treasurer/membership secretary. There are now 11 committee members including the four office bearers.

Members are delighted to introduce their new chairperson, Dallas Key. After retiring in 2015, Dallas embarked on a photography course to further her hobby and interest



Dallas Key



Irene Douglas

of photography. She embraced it with enthusiasm and graduated in 2018 with an HND in Photography. Dallas is also a member of Kinross Camera Club and was president of the club for several years. Looking for another creative activity, and hearing a lot of good press about KADAC, Dallas joined the Art Club in 2019.

Reflecting on joining KADAC, Dallas recounts, 'Although I hadn't painted since school, I found that I loved it and, although not claiming to be a professional artist, I have managed to produce some work that I'm really happy with. I find painting to be very relaxing and everyone is so friendly; I really enjoy being part of the club. I am looking forward, with the club's help and support, to improving my painting techniques over the coming years and to playing my part by taking on the role of president of such a vibrant and much respected club.'

Members wish Dallas and Irene well in their new roles in the Art Club.

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.



Black Rock Cottage by Karen Davies

Kinross Camera Club

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

Find us on Facebook

We begin the first Thursday in February with another popular evening of members pictures. All our members are encouraged to have a look through the photos they have taken over the last couple of months and choose two of their best shots to submit. We then all enjoy a slideshow of these images and many of our more experienced members kindly offer positive advice and tips on how the image can be improved. This is always a popular evening and many of the images seen go on to be entered in club competitions.

On 9 February Kinross Camera Club takes part in the annual 3-way competition with St Andrews Photographic Society and Cupar Camera Club. This is an enjoyable evening where each club submits 15 projected digital images for an external judge to critique and score. It is a friendly competition which gives us a chance to see the work of other local clubs. There is great sportsmanship of course but each club always has its eye on that trophy!

On the second Thursday, photographer Andy S Hayes ARPS EFIAP/g DPAGB PPSA from Laurencekirk will be joining us via a Zoom meeting. Andy will share a powerpoint presentation of his images of aircraft and collections of photographs taken at airshows. This will be a popular evening as we have a number of members who have an interest in this subject.

Our annual '4 On A Board' competition takes place on the



17 February. Four related photographs on any theme are mounted on a board. This is a fun and entertaining evening where the images submitted are judged by members.

At our final meeting in February, we will welcome photographer Erica Oram to present her Zoom talk called 'Seeing Opportunity'. This talk is about making the most of limited time for photography by seeing opportunity and by being a little creative both in camera and through editing. Many of us live busy lives and struggle to find time for our photography. Erica will give us ideas and advice on how to get the best of our photography when limited for time.

If you would like to give our club a try, please drop an email to secretary@kinrosscameraclub.org.uk for further details.

Common Grounds

www.spanglefish.com/
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We raised a total sum of £887.68 from a successful craft fair at the end of November. The

Christmas raffle raised the excellent sum of £170 and our secretary, Linda Freeman, won the main prize of a hamper.

We are open every Tuesday and Saturday from 10am–12.30pm and look forward to seeing old and new friends for coffee, teas and home baking this coming year.

Please contact either Gaylor Hoskins on 07976 553502 or Elaine Matthew on 01592 840266 outside opening hours for any queries.



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Kinnesswood in Bloom

Happy New Year to all our friends in Kinnesswood and elsewhere. We hope you all enjoyed the tree and decorations on main street. We start the year with good news about progress with a number of projects. In the last few months we have been able to get the base for the school gardening shed built. The shed was then quickly put up. It has been a long time coming but will be much appreciated by Kinnesswood in Bloom and the children of Portmoak Primary School. Shelving was purchased as part of the Climate Action Fund so it will soon be fitted out for the young gardeners.

We now have funding to buy battery powered equipment; a mower, strimmer, blower, hedge trimmer and battery. It will be good to move forward with being more sustainable. We are also buying a watering cart for use in the school grounds as there is no water source there except for the water barrel.

We will be hosting a day climate festival in May to show everyone the school grounds project and all that has been achieved there. Hopefully by then there will be an opportunity for the children themselves to showcase their work but, if there are still restrictions, we will make sure there are pictures and words to tell their story.

We have been emptying the recycling unit in the bus shelter for a number of years now. We are still happy to accept batteries which are taken to local supermarkets and stamps which are now passed on to the RNIB. We are willing to hold on to glasses in the hope that glass recycling starts up again soon, however, the ink cartridges are a problem as there are so many different types and not so many apply to the envelopes available. We have decided to replace that box with the blister packs from pills which can be taken to some pharmacies.

The theme for Scotland this year is 'Year of Stories 2022' and there are a wealth of stories in the area to tell in our village displays. Planning for that will start soon with the crafters of the village will be getting out their needles and thread. Fiona and Margaret are already busy crocheting bees for the climate festival in May.

Our next big project is the Michael Bruce cottage and garden. David Munro has already secured a substantial amount of funding so let's hope it moves on soon.

Thank you to all who have provided funding for us and the school in the last year; the Kinross Fund, the Community Investment Fund and the Community Climate Asset Fund, Beautiful Scotland funding, the Gala Committee for the shed, Frances for the potting table and Callum Purves for his support with our funding.



Recipe



Supplied by Kinnesswood in Bloom

Sausage and Bean Casserole

Here's a hearty dish for winter days. You can replace pork sausages with veggie, use something other than chorizo sausages, different beans or use up any other vegetables you have left over to add to this dish. It will be delicious and warming.

Ingredients

- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 1 onion, finely chopped
- 2 medium sticks celery, finely chopped
- 1 pepper, finely chopped
- 400g chorizo sausages
- 400g pork sausages
- 3 cloves garlic or adjust to taste
- 2 tsp sweet paprika
- ½ teaspoon ground cumin
- 1 tbsp dried thyme
- 125ml white wine
- 2 x 400g tins chopped tomatoes
- 2 sprigs fresh thyme
- 1 stock cube
- 1 x 400g tin aduki beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 bunch chives, snipped

Method

Heat 2 tbsp olive oil in a large heavy based pan. Add onion and cook gently for 5 minutes. Add the celery, pepper and cook for a further 5 minutes.

Add the sausages and fry for 5 minutes. Stir in the garlic cloves, paprika, cumin and thyme and cook for a further 1-2 minutes. Pour in the white wine, add the tins of tomatoes and thyme and bring to a simmer. Crumble in the stock cube.

Cook for 40 minutes, stir in the aduki beans and cook for a further 5 minutes. Remove the thyme sprigs, season with black pepper and stir in chives if used.

Kinross High School



During term three our senior pupils in S4-S6 began in earnest the preparation for their SQA qualifications. In March, our young people will have assignments to complete for many of their subjects which will count towards a course award in August. We look forward to seeing what they will achieve and wish them well with their preparation.

A group of S1-S3 pupils will be travelling to Willowgate Activity Centre in Perth in the coming weeks to participate in outdoor team building exercises like paddle boarding, raft building and archery. This is an exciting opportunity for our junior pupils who have not managed to experience a school excursion yet at KHS, due to previous Covid-19 restrictions.

Looking back on last term, we'd like to take the opportunity to share some of the achievements of our young people.

In October 2021, S1 pupil Annabel took part in the Scottish



Stephen, Murray and Adam with KHS donations



Annabel with her trophies

Schools Canoe Slalom Championships. Annabel not only won the single person Canoe Slalom for her age group, but she also won the two-person Canoe Slalom with her partner Josephine. This made her the Scottish Schools Canoe Slalom Champion in both events for her age category. How amazing!

Having only started the sport through taster sessions, after the first lockdown in the summer of 2020, she has been supported and encouraged by her amazing local club Strathallan Canoe Club. She has gone from strength to strength with this club, building her confidence and learning new skills.

Kinross High School not only have pupils who achieve in sports, our pupils also look to support the local community. Recently some of our students have been partnering with Alastair MacLeod the Greenspace Ranger to work on making the path at Sunnypark (adjacent to the school) wider and more accessible. To do this they have been cutting back trees at either side, to let both light in and help people to be able to use the full width of the path. The next steps are to fill in the puddles with stones and to lay some grit to help stabilise the path. This work is part of the pupils' John Muir Award which encourages young people to take part in outdoor activities. We look forward to sharing the development of this project with you in future editions of the *Newsletter*.

S1 pupils got into the festive spirit whilst focusing on their health and wellbeing at the KHS Reindeer Run. Throughout the month of December our young people built up their fitness to compete to find out who could run, jog or walk 5K the fastest.

Also taking place in December, S6 pupils Stephen, Murray and Adam organised an initiative to collect donations for Broke Not Broken, the local foodbank. In the space of a couple of weeks our young people and staff collected over a whopping half a ton of donations! These items were used by Broke Not Broken to create Christmas hampers for those in need.

Kinross Beavers

We concluded the winter programme with lots of fun, learning and creativity. In line with 'Light-up Kinross' we had great fun creating window displays, which were all completed for the big event. The following week the beavers learnt about money. They took part in various challenges learning about needs and wants as well as different forms of money through the ages.

At the beginning of December, we also got back to the theatre to see Cinderella; 'oh no we didn't, oh yes we did!'. It was a great show at Perth Theatre and everyone loved it.

On 10 December, the beavers made bird feeders from apples, raisins and seeds. They also drew pictures of birds and discussed why different birds have varying adaptations.



On the last night of term, we held an amazing party night with lots of Christmas jumpers and festive hats on display. We also played lots of party games!

There were also many badges and awards issued. Congratulations to Murray, Caiden, Carys, Hanna, James, Finlay, Will and Alexander who were appointed as lodge leaders and assistant lodge leaders over the course of the term. Congratulations are also due to Finlay and Murray who were both presented with their Chief Scout's Bronze Award. This is the top award a beaver can achieve.

In addition, the beavers who took part in the Remembrance Parade in November were presented with a certificate of participation.

We said goodbye to Atholl, Struan and Harris who have moved on to cubs. Good luck with the next stage of your scouting journey. We also welcomed and invested lots of new starts into the colony; Cathal, Noah, Struan, Cameron, Harris and Hamish.

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

As we entered the second half of the winter term, we were delighted to welcome the firefighters from Kinross Fire Station. They very kindly came to talk to the cubs about fire safety and what their job involves.

During the last weekend in November we took part in The Queen's Green Canopy; a unique tree-planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. The cubs were joined by Alex Cairncross, Her Majesty's Deputy Lieutenant for Perth and Kinross, to plant 60 saplings at the Lathro Meadows Nature Walk between the housing estate and Milnathort. Everyone (including parents) worked extremely hard planting the trees such as Silver Birch, Rowan and Wild Cherry to honour Her Majesty's 70 years of service to the nation.

At our first meeting in December, the cubs worked on their acting skills for the entertainer badge and got into the Christmas spirit by making baubles. We had a great evening on 8 December



Club & Community Group News

hearing about all the different collections the cubs have been putting together for their collector badge. The cubs then completed their fire safety badge for our penultimate meeting of the term before finishing off with a Christmas party.



There have been many badges and awards presented to the cubs this term. We were delighted to appoint some new sixers and seconders and congratulations go to Euan, Tom, Andrew, Ruaridh, Aaron and Fraser.

We were also delighted to welcome some new faces to cubs as Harris, Atholl and Struan were invested into the Pack. Finally, congratulations to Finlay, Callum and Andrew who were presented with a certificate for having 100% attendance at cubs last term.

If you would like to get involved with 1st Kinross Cubs and see how far your young one can grow, then please email kinrosscubs@hotmail.com for more details.

Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation

www.kleo.org.uk



Kinross Farmers Markets

The markets will start again in April, with the first market 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 exact dates are 23 April, 28 May, 25 June, 27 Aug*, 24 Sept and 22 Oct. On market days the High Street will be closed from the entrance at Burns Begg Street to the entrance at Montgomery Street.

**Like last year, in August the market will be bigger and will take place at the market park.*

Kinross Kacophony Orchestra

After a longer winter break than expected we hope that the rehearsals of the Kacophony Orchestra can start again in February. Please keep an eye on our website for the latest updates. The orchestra is 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 7pm to 8pm in Milnathort Town Hall. Contact Bouwien Bennet on 01577 863107 or bouwien@kleo.org.uk for more information.

Boys Brigade and Girls Association

Congratulations to our latest Queen's Badge award recipient, Rebekah Roe. Covid-19 restrictions posed added problems for both award workers and the organisation. Thankfully, a logical restructuring of how this, the top award in the Boys' Brigade,



could be achieved meant that many hours of volunteering over a two-year period would be finally recognised.

Two online training courses replaced the normal weekend residential courses at Carronvale, Scotland's BB headquarters. Two other seniors are currently working towards their Queen's Badges, having achieved their President's Badges last session. Both youngsters will be tackling online courses this January as the initial part of their Queen's Badge journey.

All sections were fortunate to enjoy a Christmas party at the Church Centre prior to the Christmas break. Anchors and juniors enjoyed traditional party games whilst company members enjoyed a movie night. Post-Christmas, all sections are back in action and each group is working towards their badge awards.

Battalion activities continue to be curtailed due to Bell's Sports Centre not accepting the regular monthly Tuesday evening sports competitions, indicating that they are only accepting 'weekly bookings'. The fact that all school bookings by external agencies are also not permitted at the moment means that the normal sports competitions cannot take place.

Despite indoor sport competitions being put on hold at the moment, other competitions including chess, drill, scripture search and midnight hikes should be able to continue as normal and the midnight hike is scheduled to be hosted by the Kinross Company at the end of March.

Summer camp plans to join with Kinross & District Town Twinning Association's visit to Gacé are currently on hold due to certain travel restrictions and guidance from BB headquarters. Staff and BB members are hoping that, whatever happens, they will manage to hold a summer camp, either abroad or at home, for the first time in two years.

Fairtrade in Kinross-shire

The theme this year is 'Climate, Fairtrade and You'. If you are concerned about climate change, there are many individual choices which make a difference. For example, every time you choose to buy an item with the Fairtrade mark, you are also taking positive action to combat climate change. This is because farmers with the Fairtrade Mark accreditation use sustainable farming methods, which do less harm to the environment. Also these farmers are already struggling with the effects of climate change on their crops so the fairer price they receive for their goods help them to continue to grow the goods such as coffee, tea, bananas and cocoa that we so enjoy.



FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT
21 FEBRUARY - 6 MARCH





Kinross & Ochil Walking Group

(Affiliated to Ramblers Scotland)

www.ramblers.org.uk/kinross-ochil

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

Tuesday Short Walks

Tuesday walks are usually about two hours long and a maximum of four miles. Where possible, we follow the walk with a visit to a cafe, farmshop or pub for refreshments, but this is entirely optional.

Tuesday 1 February, Auchtermuchty Common circular

A longish but gentle road-walk uphill, then across field tracks and paths following a burn to the common with good views across to Lomond hills.

Tuesday 15 February, Limekilns and Charlestown

Two conservation villages, fascinating industrial heritage, a grand country estate, a village green and a short stretch of the Fife Coastal Path.

Tuesday 1 March, South Queensferry circular

A pleasant walk in South Queensferry taking in views of the three bridges, Dalmeny House and Barnbogle Castle.

Tuesday 15 March, Crook of Devon and Drum circular

From Crook of Devon Village Hall to the River Devon which we cross twice. Then along a farm track leading east to the village of Drum. Return through Penney's Community Wood.

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 four mile walk. We start in Daffodil Avenue where we hope to see the Marie Curie 'Field of Hope' in bloom.

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

Weekend Walks

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

Sunday 6 February, Walk in South Queensferry, 8.5 miles

Starting from opposite the Hawes Inn, a short road walk

leads onto a good path through wooded sections. There are great views of the sea and three bridges and the walk passes Dalmeny House and Barnbogle Castle. Follow the shoreline and walk along parts of the beach before heading back to the start.

Saturday 19 February, Kinnoull Hill, Perth, 5 miles

From South Inch car park the walk crosses the railway bridge. A stretch of road walking leads to the steep climb up Kinnoull Hill. The walk is mostly on good paths but is likely to be muddy in places, so boots and walking poles are advised. Lovely views from the peak (ascent 222m /728ft).

Sunday 6 March, Beecraigs Country Park (near Linlithgow), Witchcraig and Cockleroy Hills, 6 miles

A walk on good paths through the country park, ascending to the top of Witchcraig, then through woodland to enjoy the views from the top of Cockleroy.

Saturday 19 March, Gartmore Dam Circular, 7 miles

Circular walk from Muircot Farm Shop, descending to Gartmorn Dam. Circuit of the Dam on good paths and tracks before returning to Muircot. Lunch/coffee available in farm shop from around 1.30pm at end of walk.

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.

For further details of where to meet us for weekend walks, or for general enquiries, please contact Sandra Wilkinson on 01577 865472.

Circle Dancing

Happy New Year! I am delighted to let you all know that circle dancing is in full swing again after the Christmas break. This is an ideal time to chase away the winter blues, have an hour of dancing, as well as meeting old friends and making new ones too. You can be certain of a warm welcome.

Classes take place in the dance studio every Tuesday and Wednesday morning from 10-11am. No previous experience is required and every dance is walked through first.

If you are interested please get in touch with Lynne on 07931398098 or by email at lynne244@btinternet.com. I will be very happy to answer all your questions and explain the safety measures that have been put in place to adhere to the latest government rulings.

Kinross & District Rotary Club

www.ribi.org



Santa's Sleigh Visits

Thanks to everyone who turned out to see Santa as he made his way round Kinross-shire in December. It was heart-warming to see so many happy faces greeting us on our rounds and an amazing £2,682 was raised from cash and JustGiving donations. We hope that next year, restrictions will all be lifted and Santa will be able to stop and spend a little more time with you all.

Kinross Centre Christmas Lunches

Rotarians were pleased to join Nan and her staff at the Centre in December, to assist with serving Christmas lunch and to run a raffle. We hope that everyone enjoyed themselves, we did!

Young Writer Competition

Do you love writing? Why not enter Rotary's Young Writer competition? There's not long now before the deadline!

This year you are asked to write creatively on the theme 'Environment'.

- up to 550 words for prose entries.
- up to a maximum of 40 lines for poetry entries.
- all entries to be legible, written or typed.
- no pictures or drawings to be part of the entry.

The three age groups are (age at 31 August 2021):

- Junior 7 to 10 years old
- Intermediate 11 to 13 years old
- Senior 14 to 17 years old

Please send entries, with your full name and date of birth by 9 February 2022 by email to secretary.kdrc@gmail.com. There are prizes for winners in all categories. The 1st prize winner in each category will go forward to the Rotary District 1010 competition, and hopefully to the national competition too! We received some brilliant pieces last year and we're looking forward to reading your entries!

Club Meetings

At a Zoom meeting on 29 November, Jimmy Smith told us about his enterprise, 'The Kilted Christmas Tree Co.'. Jimmy explained the year's work involved in farming the 200,000 Christmas trees on their Kinross-shire sites. Originally set up in 2006 in Herefordshire, the first trees were planted locally at Cavelstone in 2010, then at Netherton in 2011. They have since expanded and diversified, becoming the largest supplier of Christmas wreaths in Europe. It is always interesting to hear from local businesses about their work.

Club members enjoyed a Christmas party on 14 December. It was held on Zoom to ensure inclusion of all members and with our customary variety of entertainment. On 10 January we held a social members' evening and we were delighted to welcome Catherine Smith as a new member.

In the present wave of the pandemic, it has been decided that meetings will be online during February. You are very welcome to join us on 7 and 21 February on Zoom. Contact us by email at secretary.kdrc@gmail.com for further details.

Kinross Centre

Hi everyone. We hope you all had a nice Christmas and New Year. It was not quite what we all expected but it was better than last year.

We had two wonderful Christmas lunch days with great food and entertainment. Restrictions were in place but that

did not stop us all from laughing and having a great time. Kinross Rotary club were with us every step of the way, helping us serve lunch and doing a Christmas raffle and, as always, the fantastic staff, volunteers and committee made it very special.

As most people will know, Campbell Watson passed away on 26 November 2021. Campbell was chairman of our committee and a really good friend to us all. During lockdown Campbell and his good friend George helped to deliver meals at lunch time to our users who had to stay at home. It was a very difficult time for them, but the two boys always made them laugh and they always had a story to tell. Campbell also said he would entertain us at Christmas and, although he wasn't here on our second Christmas lunch on 16 December, his family and friends came down and we all had a right good sing-a-long. Campbell will be missed by us all.

Our activities are still going on and include indoor curling, exercise classes and art group. All of these have become very popular. We also have dominoes, scrabble, quizzes and other activities on a daily basis. We are very grateful for the support from all our volunteers who help with all our activities, including lunch deliveries.

Please continue to stay safe.

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

Kinross-shire U3A

u3asites.org.uk/Kinross/home



Kinross-shire u3a is a self-help organisation for people no longer in full-time employment. Members organise their interests and activities on a monthly cycle mostly during the day. There is virtually no end to the interests and activities members pursue. It is a case of like-minded people getting together to follow whatever it is that interests them within the fellowship and support of the u3a network. A number of groups already exist such as a book club, famous Scots study group, military history and RummiKub. In addition there are monthly open meetings in Kinross Parish Church at 2.30pm on the first Tuesday of the month with an invited speaker. All welcome. Masks, social distancing and a pre-attendance LTF test are required at the present time. A full list of speakers and groups can be found on our website. There is also a contact form for enquiries online.

Kinross-shire U3A is part of 1000 strong u3a network throughout Scotland and the rest of the UK. In addition to local meetings there is an extensive range of online groups and talks in a dedicated Scottish online network and also one covering the whole of the UK. For more information and links visit the website.

Portmoak Community Woodland Group

www.portmoakcw.org.uk



These past winter months have been 'all about a bog.' Birch pulling in November was followed by removing spruce (aka Christmas trees) in, you guessed it, December, as the long process of peat restoration continues.

The really encouraging thing is that, having been one of the earliest peat restoration projects to be funded by the Scottish Government's Peatland Action programme, back in 2012, we

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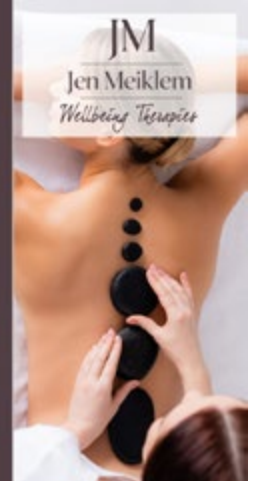
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now find ourselves in good company, with similar schemes underway across Scotland.

Peatland restoration is constantly in the news because of all the research showing that it's a good way of combating climate change. The Scottish committee on Climate Change says that every £1 spent on peatland restoration brings £4 of social benefit through reduced carbon emissions, improved water quality and flood mitigation.

Water is held in the peat and the wetter the bog, the better it is for mosses. Anyone who has walked round Portmoak Moss

recently will know that it's heading in the right direction; it's been soaking wet! We can keep it from drying out by continually removing young trees and giving the lovely sphagnum moss, the main building block of peat, a chance to thrive.

There have been some impressive puddles, though, and we've asked Woodland Trust Scotland, who own the site, to add some extra sub-base where deep ones have been forming on the western section of the path.

Speaking of the weather, we were very lucky to get a dry day for the Christmas tree event. A record number of people turned out; 165! Many family groups came along, to argue about which trees they wanted. We are grateful for the generous donations, for trees and home-baking, and the money will go towards equipment, events and projects. Feedback was good with comments like, 'It was a brilliant experience, a story to tell and a great opportunity to learn more about the conservation efforts made' and 'Our tree is perfectly imperfect!'. As well as trees and baking there were some beautiful Portmoak calendars for sale, created by woodland group member, Michael McGinnes, and featuring a great variety of local wildlife.

It would have been nice to finish by saying that our monthly open meetings are back in the Well Inn but continuing Covid-19 worries mean that, at the time of writing, we're still communicating by Zoom.

On a positive note, if you want to find out more about the community woodlands and our work, we are very pleased to have a brand new website which features lots of pictures and information. The address is the same as before and we hope you'll like the bright new format.



Milnathort & Kinross Bridge Clubs



Following two very successful face to face bridge sessions at the end of last year, it is now very disappointing to be unable able to continue with normal play.

At the end of November, Milnathort Bridge Club held a trial face to face meeting putting various health and safety procedures in place to protect our members and try to keep

Club & Community Group News

them as safe as possible. All ran very smoothly and we were able to hold our Christmas event before being restricted once again by further measures.

Winners of the trial run in November were North/South pair Jessie Mitchell and Liz Pottie; winners of East/West pair were Colin and Gloria Wilson. At the Christmas event North/South pair Willie Young and Jane Smith topped the board while East/West pair was won by a new partnership, playing together for the first time, Janet Laird and Geoff Bilton.

Fortunately we continue to play the online league and 'host a table at home'. Round five of the league finished in early January with Jan Hill & David Poole as winners and Willie Young and Jane Smith in the runners up spot.

'Host a table at home' is still being organised by our secretary Gloria and is open to players from Milnathort and Kinross Clubs. This certainly is a very pleasant way to spend a couple of hours on a dismal wet day. The club would be very pleased to have members participate in either activity. If you are interested in taking part, please contact Jim Marshall on 01577 864482 for the online league and Gloria Wilson on 01577 862553 for 'host a table at home'.

At the time of writing both clubs are thinking positively and we hope to hold face to face meetings by February. New members and visiting guests are most welcome to join the play. For any less experienced bridge players or anyone wishing to learn we have a number of members who would be very happy to help them with their game. 'Host a table at home' is a perfect opportunity for novice players to gain more experience playing with others so why not come and try it?

To make arrangements contact either Gloria Wilson on 01577 862553 or Catriona Marshall on 01577 864482.

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Email: KinrossshireCivicTrustSecy@gmail.com

Planning Matters

We were disappointed to see works being carried out to Listed Buildings in Kinross late last year without the necessary Listed Building Consent.

If you see development being carried out that you think requires planning permission, you can check the site address on the PKC planning website to see if there is planning consent in place. If not, you can report the matter to PKC



Planning Enforcement by filling in an online form, emailing PlanningEnforcement@pkc.gov.uk or phoning 01738 475300 (This applies to all development, not just Listed Buildings).

Water Quality of Loch Leven

The quality of the water in Loch Leven is getting poorer. The Trust is concerned to learn that limits on phosphorus discharges were allowed to be relaxed in the 2000s following the successful measures taken in the 1990s to deal with the serious algal bloom problem. Our colleagues Brian D'Arcy and Andrew Flinn have written a paper on this subject (more next month).

Programme

We hope to have a programme of events this year, depending on the situation regarding the pandemic.

Loch Leven Community Library

www.culturepk.org.uk



Online Bookshop

Culture Perth and Kinross now have their own online bookshop with access to thousands of titles! We are now online at <https://uk.bookshop.org/shop/culturepk>, and visitors to the website can browse and order their books for home delivery. All books purchased via this website help raise much-needed funds for Culture Perth and Kinross. By supporting us, you will help to ensure that the best possible range of books and resources are available in our libraries for the many people who use our services across the region.

Bookbug

These sessions are held in Loch Leven Community Library every Saturday morning from 9.15–9.45am and every Wednesday afternoon from 2–2.30pm. Bookbug sessions are free, fun, and friendly sessions of songs, rhymes and stories for babies, toddlers, and pre-school children to enjoy with their parents and carers. As spaces are limited at the moment, please book ahead by emailing lochlevenlibrary@culturepk.org.uk or call on 01577 867205.

Digital services, Technology and Recycling

Did you know we have a digital Maker_Space at Loch Leven Community Library? There's free access to a fantastic selection of creative technology, including a 3D printer and Adobe Creative Cloud. We have free public access to computers, Wi-Fi, printing, photocopying, and scanning available for use.

Online library services are available via the library website (www.culturepk.org.uk/libraries) or by downloading the library app: browse the library catalogue, online joining, requesting and renewing items.

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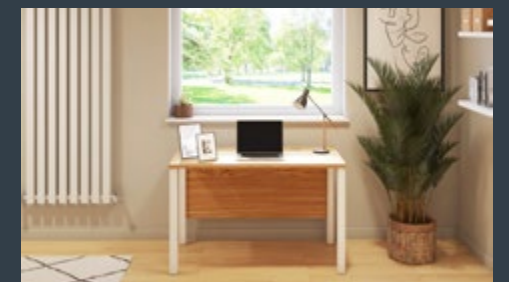
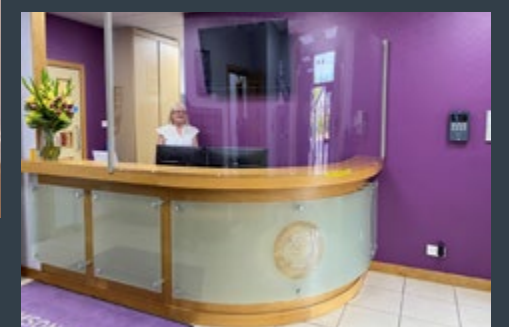
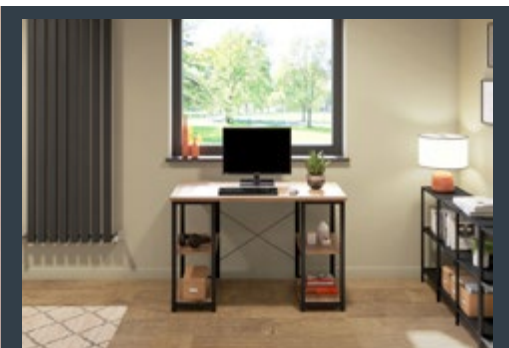
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A selection of e-resources is also available from the library website (www.culturepk.org.uk/libraries): e-books, e-audio books, e-magazines, e-news, and e-reference resources (Britannica, SCRAN, Theory Test PRO and Ancestry).

Don't forget, Loch Leven Community Library accept used stamps and batteries for recycling.

Loch Leven Community Library Opening Hours

Monday:	Closed
Tuesday:	10am – 7pm
Wednesday:	10am – 6pm
Thursday:	10am – 7pm
Friday:	10am – 6pm
Saturday:	10am – 1pm
Sunday:	Closed

Contact: 01577 867205 / lochlevenlibrary@culturepk.org.uk

Inner Wheel

www.innerwheel.co.uk

Our members were greatly saddened in December by the loss of Mary Morgan, a founder member and first secretary of the Kinross branch (1982). For many years she served at local and district levels, as secretary, treasurer and ultimately as district chair. Her hard work and commitment to the aims of Inner Wheel will be sorely missed.

The club had a most enjoyable lunch at a local cafe to mark Inner Wheel Day on 10 January. A total of 15 members got together for a chat and catch up. As we are still meeting by Zoom, it was a pleasure for us

to talk freely and exchange news. The club also marked the day with contributions to Broke not Broken.

Our meeting next month will be on 14 February, and we are looking forward to a talk on Water Aid. This charity works to provide clean water for those who need it. *For any enquiries about the club, please contact Jenny Macleod by email at jennymac101@icloud.com.*

Kinross-shire Climate Café

On 4 January, the Climate Cafe had its first meeting of 2022 with a session on mindfulness. The session, titled 'Cultivating Happiness in Difficult Times' was given by the fabulous Orla Beaton.

Orla spoke of how mindfulness can be a useful tool with coping with stress and anxiety, for example, and is particularly relevant in the present time. She explained how meditative techniques such as sitting quietly, being aware of one's breathing, sounds and touch, and through regular daily practice, is of great benefit to our wellbeing. It sounds so simple and yet it is a discipline, a practice that needs nurtured day-by-day throughout our lives. Mindfulness is also a practice of becoming more conscious of our world in daily life, whether feeling our feet while walking through the park or practicing deep listening while a friend shares their news. Dedicated, consistent practice eventually can bring about changes in our actions and reactions and bring more compassion into our communications and ways of being.

Over the next year Orla is planning to run a number of courses. If interested, check out her website www.yoga-by-nature.com/mindfulness

In the coming months the Kinross-shire Climate Cafe have a number of interesting program of talks and workshops planned. These include an upcycling bag sewing workshop, growing vegetables and fruit, to link in with a visit to Kinross Potager Garden. Watch this space!

We will also be supporting the tree planting at Kinross Market Place organised by the Kinross Church Eco Group. The event is part of the Queen's Jubilee Fund and is supported by Woodland Trust. Planting trees is one of the most effective ways to limit climate change and this is a great way of how the community can come together to help tackle the problem. Dates and times to be confirmed but is likely to take place in the next couple of months. If you are interested in getting involved please contact Jim Smith at Kinross Church or KCC via the email below.

Our next meeting is Monday 7 February, 7pm in Milnathort Town Hall. The theme this month is green transport. Malcolm McFarlane from Kinross-shire Move Greener Organisation will talk about the local car share scheme and the electric bike launch planned for later in the year. For more info about KMGO visit their website www.movegreener.org/

Kirsteen Ross from Cycle Without Age charity will also talk about the work of the charity in Kinross and of the benefits of cycling. <https://cyclingwithoutage.org/>

Everyone is welcome at Kinross-shire Climate Cafe, if interested contact Gosia on climatecafe@kleo.org.uk.

Kinross Primary Parent Council

The KPPC had their AGM via video call in mid January and thank all parents & staff who attended.

This has been another challenging year for parents, pupils and staff and all are hopeful that more events that enrich the lives of the pupils at KPS will be able to take place this year.

Our wonderful Secretary Julie McNay stepped down at the end of her term and we wish her all the best and thank her so much for her tireless work for KPS. The role has been taken on by Emma Harper Bulgin and we're delighted to welcome Emma to the KPPC family!

Despite the difficulties, KPPC has managed to raise some funds with events that followed covid rules such as an Easter Trail, Halloween Spooky Garden and sales of KPS branded hoodies.

The Arts & Culture committee managed to provide a range of digital activities and events for pupils across the school from nursery right up to P7 with online author visits, a pantomime, live music and arts and crafts workshops. Their hope is that many more of these will be able to take place inside the school buildings and grounds as restrictions ease further.

See-Saw, a digital learning experience for parents and carers where they can get images and video content of their child reaching their learning goals, taking part in school activities has been rolled out this year to great positivity from parents, teachers and pupils and has been a great way to engage with remote learning when access to the school has been limited.

Every parent or carer with a child at Kinross Primary is a member of the Parent Council and is welcome to come along to any of our meetings and get involved any way they'd like. We are so lucky to have such a supportive and dynamic community who really help to enrich the learning experiences of the pupils at KPS and we'd encourage any of them to come along to a meeting – we're hoping to do a mix of online and in-person meetings when the school is open to visitors again – and see what we do and how you can help.

We're looking forward to a brighter 2022.



DOG OF THE MONTH

Sandy

Could YOU give Sandy a home?

SANDY HAS A LOVELY personality. He is a gentle, friendly lad who tries to keep his kennel clean and is not destructive in it. He is a pleasure to walk and will make a fantastic pet for someone.

Adopting a greyhound

GREYHOUNDS ARE NOT SUITABLE for homes with children under five years old, or for homes with cats or other small animals. They should not be left alone regularly for periods over five hours. Greyhounds should NEVER be let off the lead in a public place.

If you require any more advice, call us for a chat:

Celia Fernie: 01577 850393 or 07826 244765

Greyhound Rescue Fife

CELIA AND JIMMY FERNIE set up Greyhound Rescue Fife in 2005 in response to the sheer number of unwanted greyhounds reaching the end of their racing careers in the area. Their sanctuary is capable of kennelling nearly 50 dogs. The dogs are usually vaccinated, wormed, treated for fleas and often neutered.



The kennels are at Baltree Country Centre, Gairneybank, Kinross, KY13 0LF. However, before coming to Baltree please contact us to arrange a suitable time to call.

You may be wondering why, if greyhounds are so wonderful, there is such a problem finding homes for them. The answer is quite simply down to the huge number of dogs involved. There is no way that homes can be found for the 30,000 plus dogs that are surplus to requirements each year.

SWI



Cleish SWI

DECEMBER

President Agnes Thomson welcomed 24 members to our December Meeting.

After business Agnes introduced our guest speaker for the evening Mary Mitchell from Blairingone SWI. Mary gave a very interesting talk and demonstration on Stained Glass. Members were given materials to make their own Stained glass Christmas tree and SWI Logo.

A vote of thanks was given by Lizzie Glennie.

Flower of the month

1st Marion Laird

2nd Judith MacLaren

3rd Elinor Craig

Christmas Scarf

1st Margo Moran

2nd Marion Laird

3rd Alison Morris

JANUARY

President Agnes Thomson welcomed 22 members and 2 visitors to our January Zoom Meeting. Heather McDougall introduced Raymond Pratt, our past CEO of the SWI. Raymond gave us a very interesting insight into his varied career with

the Police Service and after his retirement he took up the position of CEO of the SWI. He was the first male to take on this appointment.

Lizzie Glennie thanked Raymond for giving us such an interesting talk on some of his incredible experiences and his SWI memoirs.

Competitions - Limerick

1st Marion Laird

2nd Agnes Thomson

3rd Dorothy Morris

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Sports News

Kinross Road Runners

<https://kinrossroadrunners.weebly.com>



It has been a busy couple of months and we have lots to report. Our runners have attended a long list of races, including the Glentress half marathon, the Wooler trail half marathon, the Benidorm half marathon (lucky runners), the East District XC championships, the Valencia marathon (more lucky runners) and the Santa Dash half marathon

In the final part of the Parkrun championship, as well as our normal local Parkruns, runners attended races in Edinburgh, Aviemore, Harrogate, Dunbar, Alness, Tollcross, Livingston, Oriam, Inverness, Peebles, York, Stornoway, Thurso, Girvan Prom and Camperdown. Well done to you all for supporting this great organisation at so many different venues. One of our pictures shows a couple of club runners at the Loch Leven Parkrun on 1 January; a great way to start the new year!

We also had the club handicap in December. In this race, the slowest runners start out first and the fastest last, based on their club times, therefore giving everyone a fair chance to win. The winner was Alison Houston and it was a great show from the ladies of the club winning the first five places. Finally, we have to mention Marcothon, which is where you have to run on every day in December (yes even Christmas Day!). The rules are simple; run every day for a minimum of 25 mins or 3 miles, whichever comes first (25 mins for some of us!). It was a hard challenge but also great fun and it was fantastic to see so many club members taking part this year. Participants were glad to see 31 December when it finally came! Training sessions included 8 x 500m intervals, the final 2 mile time trial of the year, hill reps, diagonals, and 250m intervals. Informal runs also continued each week for chatty runs around the lit streets of Kinross and Milnathort.

We would like to take the opportunity to wish all our members and any runners out there a great 2022. We hope you have all set your new goals for this year.

KRR member at Parkrun on 1 Jan 2022



Alison Houston triumphantly crossing the finish line

Just a reminder that club training sessions fit all abilities and involve a variety of running activities as you can see from the list of this month's sessions. [NB:- is the list referred to elsewhere?] Interval sessions improve running speed, trail runs build up strength and stamina, and slower chatty runs are good for socialising.

The club welcomes all abilities and whether you are new to running or experienced, just looking for new routes to try out or to meet new faces, there is something for everyone. If you fancy getting involved or trying out a run with the club, visit our website and get in touch. Most importantly, however you run, enjoy it!

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Kinross Volleyball

We held our annual Christmas fun night on the last Monday evening before Christmas at the Campus Games Hall. Members picked cards from a pack to locate their two other team mates and proceeded to play 3 v 3 matches over badminton court sized play areas. Short 10-minute games took place throughout the evening with teams changing (depending on which cards were selected) every 10 minutes. At the end of the session points were tallied and the junior winners were Alex Pritchard and Jessica Stewart

The new restrictions from mid-December meant that, when training resumed in January, only junior members were permitted to be in attendance, with adult members being restricted from play due to the sport being designated as

a contact sport. This meant the Sunday afternoon pop-up and play sessions also had to be postponed until further notice.

The knock-on effect of these restrictions also meant that the planned resumption of the Perth District Volleyball League had also to be postponed until such time as both adults and juniors can meet together for competition.

It is hoped that a volleyball coaching course, scheduled to take place in Ayrshire at the end of January, will continue

Junior winners Alex and Jessica with club mascot "Chris-Moose"





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Sports News

with one of the Kinross club members adding to the existing coaching staff.

Club coach, Dave Munro, has been very busy over the past six weeks. He has been questioning Live Active Leisure and Perth & Kinross Councillors about the lack of transparency and scrutiny over the planned 'repurposing' of the coaching hall at Bell's Sports Centre into a 100-station gym with work scheduled to start in April, thus denying all other sports access to this purpose-built facility. A petition to 'save the coaching hall' has been started and has achieved over 2,000 signatures within 10 days. The petition includes loads of supportive comments, questioning the validity of the decision-making processes involved in this matter.

The club is working in partnership with Active Schools and Scottish Volleyball with a primary schools' initiative. This initiative will target local primary schools with introductory three, one-hour sessions, where pupils will be introduced to the fun that volleyball can bring. The sessions will run on Mondays and Tuesdays after school at Kinross, Milnathort, Fossoway, Portmoak and Arngask schools between January and March, with a view to continuing as a transition project in the summer term at Kinross High School. We hope to bring the children involved together for further coaching, culminating in a competitive festival.

The Kinross Club is hoping to enter multiple teams in this year's Scottish Open Volleyball Tournament which should take place on 28-29 May at Perth's North Inch, after a two year, Covid-induced absence. The competition usually attracts over 100 teams from around the UK and Europe. Our juniors, in particular, are looking forward to participating in this national competition.



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Weekly Programme For February 2022

Monday	Exercise Class	11.30am
	Games – with safety measures	1.30pm
	Indoor curling, quizzes, Scrabble	2.00pm
	'Stride for Life' Walking Group	
Tuesday	Carers Cafe (8 Feb ONLY)	10-12pm
	Exercise Group	11.30am
	Games (with safety measures)	
	Indoor curling, quizzes, Scrabble	1.30pm
Wednesday	Church Service	11.15am
	(Only for our own service users)	
	Games – with safety measures	1.30pm
	Indoor curling, quizzes, Scrabble	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	
	Dominoes, Scrabble etc	1.30pm



Film shows • Cards
Dominoes • Art Class
Exercises • Chiropody
Trips • Daily Papers

All Activities Subject To Change

COFFEE BAR OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC from 8.30am - 3.30pm
Older Adults Lunches Daily

Public Holidays:

We will be closed Fri 24, Mon 27th & Tue 28th Dec
And again the following week Fri 31st Dec, Mon 3rd & Tues 4th Jan



May we take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
We would also like to thank all our service users, Committee, volunteers and the whole community of
Kinross and surrounding areas, for your continued support of Kinross Centre.

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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: lyndsastobie@chas.org.uk or 07557 370746.

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.mitchell150@gmail.com

Fossoway and District Community Council

Ideal for a Modern Studies/ Social Studies student?

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 <http://www.fossoway.org/dcc:about>

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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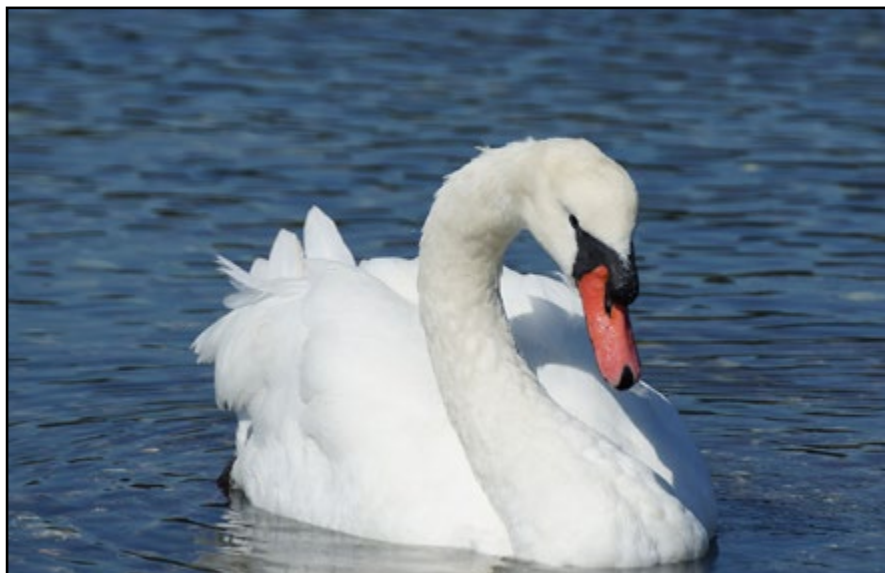
Swan Wars

FEBRUARY, THE LAST MONTH of winter and a sign that spring is just around the corner! Sometimes February can feel a bit 'spring-like'; the first time you feel the warmth of the sun is normally felt in February. Our wildlife also knows that spring is approaching; look out for the first wildflowers of the year; Lesser Celandine (*Ficaria verna*) and Primrose (*Primula vulgaris*) can be spotted along ditches and streams. When walking around woodlands, look out for Wood Anemone (*Anemone nemorosa*). The bird song also stars in February – listen out for the 'teacher-teacher' calls of great tit.

On the loch, much of our wildfowl will be starting to pair up. Look out for the ongoing 'Swan Wars'. Mute swans will be pairing up, feeding together and establishing a territory. Occasionally, territory wars can flare up between two pairs. Usually the males (cobs) will battle it out with some flaps of the wings, v-shaped posture marching and a bit of chasing each other – it can also be resolved without contact through each bird circling around each other in a non-aggressive manner – quite a sight!

Our ducks will be displaying, look out for the 'head-bop' of the mallards or the bizarre display of the goldeneye. The drakes (males) do a bonkers display and extend their necks and flick their heads onto their back – the poor female must wonder what he is up to (but it is a tried and tested successful method!).

Hérons will be very close to nesting – we usually have a good number of pairs on Castle Island and the small island in front of it called Alice's Bower. Unfortunately, the cold snap in early February last year meant that we had a really



poor heron breeding season. Hopefully this year they will bounce back!

Hérons nest in colonies at the tops of trees and in the past we have seen up to 30 pairs using the Loch. The safety of the islands is where they choose to nest and we monitor them throughout the season as part of the long running 'Heronries Survey'. Herons have been studied in the UK since 1928 through the British Trust for Ornithology and this is the longest running single species survey in the world! These birds are truly amazing to watch. Next time you are out at the Kirkgate viewpoint in late Feb/early March look out for herons carrying nesting material and pair bonding on the tops of the trees on Castle Island.

Latest wildlife highlights around the reserve include; an unusual wintering green sandpiper, 15 pin-

tail, 450 pochard, 4 little egret, kingfisher at the Burleigh Hide and plenty of roe deer!

Spring is just around the corner; it won't be long until we are spotting the first butterfly of the year or the first sand martin flying over the loch! Until then, we will take each day as it comes and enjoy what wildlife delights February has to offer.

Keep an eye on the blog (Loch Leven WordPress), Loch Leven NNR Facebook page and the Loch Leven NNR Instagram for regular updates.

Cheers!

Simon Ritchie
Nature Reserve Officer

Discover Loch Leven Website

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Lapwing Return

WINTER HAS WELL AND truly arrived at RSPB Loch Leven with lots of icy patches appearing around the reserve. The wildlife highlights for the month have been wintering wildfowl and waders with a regular group of whooper swan on the flood alongside a few hundred teal, goldeneye, mallard, tufted duck and wigeon. A flock of around a hundred curlew have been spotted moving about the loch with their haunting calls. Daily sightings of hunting kestrel have been spotted over the wetland, as well as the occasional sighting of hen harrier and short eared owl at dusk. There are lots of birds in the woodland with some good sightings of treecreeper and bullfinch around the visitor centre. Flocks of linnet and goldfinch have been seen in the fields, and fieldfare can be spotted along the Heritage Trail in the trees and hedges. The red squirrels are still active and making the most of the food on offer from the visitor centre. Further along at the east viewpoint there have been some great views of red breasted merganser, and a large group of goosander on the loch. Numbers of pink footed geese have subsided in recent weeks due to the cold weather, which has caused many of them to head further south into England.

Out on the reserve the team have been strimming back vegetation in preparation for the rapidly approaching breeding season with the lapwing arriving back in mid-March. They prefer wet areas with



Photo: Darren Dixon

some rush tussocks to build their nests in. The team have also been flooding and drying out areas of the wetland to benefit wintering wildfowl. The wetter areas will provide lots of wet and soft mud for breeding waders to forage for food, including their fledged chicks.

Want to get involved with conservation work at the reserve? We have two exciting voluntary opportunities for you to get involved in. We are looking for a full-time lapwing intern to assist from late March until early July. This role will involve the monitoring of lapwing nests and their chicks, carrying out predator watches,

and assisting with surveys across our three reserves – Loch Leven, Loch of Kinnordy, and the Tay Reedbeds.

Starting from mid-February the reserve will also be hosting monthly work parties to carry out practical tasks across the reserve, including habitat management and reserve maintenance. For more information on these opportu-

nities, please email lochleven@rspb.org.uk.

The remaining part of the refurbishment project from 2021 that is still to be delivered is the installation of the electric vehicle (EV) charging points. The delays have been caused by supply issues and absences due to Covid within SSE, who need to install a power supply. We are hopeful that the EV points will be up and running by the end of March.

We have an exciting new Treasure Trail running this February half term, come and join us for some family themed fun! Follow your treasure map around the beautiful woodland and see how many answers you can find hiding about the wood. The trail runs between 12 and 20 February. Drop in anytime between 10am–4pm, no booking required, £2 per sheet.

The cafe is currently closed on Mondays and Tuesdays until further notice due to staff shortages. We are recruiting for an assistant catering manager and catering assistants to increase our capacity which will get us back open seven days a week, so that everyone who visits can enjoy a break in the cafe with a coffee or some lunch. For more information and updates please keep an eye on our socials on Facebook at [@RSPBTaysideFife](https://www.facebook.com/RSPBTaysideFife) and Twitter [@RSPBLochLeven](https://twitter.com/RSPBLochLeven).

Rachel Gooday

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Farming

Donald's the Daddy

It's always a source of great wonder to me how after just a few weeks after the shortest day, you can start to see quite clearly our daily quota of daylight starting to increase. It was also interesting how, with the change of the calendar the weather changed from the murky dampness of the Christmas period to something a bit fresher - very welcome.

We are now firmly entrenched in the winter routine here at backward farm with all the cattle inside – even the wee Dexter cattle are safely under cover. They spent the summer in our furthest fields from the steading so they had a good mile to run back and run they did, even Loki the short legged bull who had done very well from his summer (and winter) grazing and is carrying plenty of flesh. Hopefully he has also done what a breeding bull is supposed to do, and we will shortly have a few calves.

They certainly can be described as small cattle with a big attitude. The sheep will be getting pregnancy scanned in early February so we will find out how successful their breeding season has been. They had a good wedge of grass in front of them going into the autumn and it has



kept them going well although a couple of batches are starting to run a bit low on their supply, so they might need some silage put out to them to keep them satisfied in a week or so.

The scanning will let us know what our potential lamb numbers might be for the season ahead and we will be able to target feeding appropriately to ewes according to the number of lambs they are expecting. Hopefully we will have a similar (well, maybe slightly better) scanning percentage to last year which had been our best for a year or two. We didn't have too many ewes expecting triplets which helps take some pressure off the lambing workload but we will just have to wait and see what nature decides to give us and work with it.

The pigs have been enjoying the sticky, mucky conditions of late and they are doing a great job of turning over the land in their paddocks, which should be in good order for re-seeding back into grass next season, once they have been moved to their summer paddocks. There was great excitement back in November when Ian's pedigree Saddleback sow farrowed her litter of piglets. She had a good sized litter and a lot of them have really nice 'saddle' markings which is what you hope for but can never predict. Hopefully, stud boar Donald (above) has been doing his job and there will be some more piglets born before too long to other sows in the herd but again, we will just have to wait and see.

For the coming season, probably the biggest challenge facing most (if not all) farmers will be dealing with eye watering rates of inflation of costs of inputs, in particular fertilisers which are going to be in short supply and have roughly tripled in price. For fruit and vegetable farmers, sourcing a supply of skilled labour for harvesting and processing fresh produce will be, once again a huge challenge further burdened by inflationary cost pressures. I would like to wish everyone in 'Newsletter' country a happier, more sociable year than the two we have just waved goodbye to.

John

Weather



Recent Weather Reports From Kinross

November 2021

Total Rainfall	50.9mm/2.03in
Heaviest Fall	7.8ml/0.47in (4 Nov)
Total Sunshine	82.6 hrs
Sunniest Day	7.6 hrs (4 Nov)
Max Temp Average	9.90c
Highest Temp	13.8c (13 Nov)
Min Temp Average	-0.52c
Lowest Temp	-6.6c (27 Nov)

December 2021

Total Rainfall	102mm/4.08in
Heaviest Fall	20.6ml/0.8in (1 Dec)
Total Sunshine	26 hrs
Sunniest Day	4.8 hrs (5 Dec)
Max Temp Average	6.10c
Highest Temp	12.0c (12 Dec)
Min Temp Average	-1.01c
Lowest Temp	-7.4c (5 Dec)



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Kinross-shire Churches Together



Kinross Parish Church

Church of Scotland (Charity no SC012555)

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10 Station Road, Kinross KY13 8TG

Website: www.kinrossparishchurch.org

Facebook: Kinross Parish Church of Scotland

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Instagram: [kpscotland](https://www.instagram.com/kpscotland)

E-mail: office@kinrossparishchurch.org

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 be included in our weekly email of events.

CHANGES: The arrangements below for church services and other meetings are those in position in January. Check the church website, or subscribe to our weekly email, for any changes as Covid guidance changes.

Regular Services and Events:

(a number of these have moved back online)

Sundays

10.30am: Morning Service in the church. Our services in February are on the theme of Discipleship through a study of the 1st. Letter of John. Music and a gathering song about 10.25. **NHS Test and Protect details taken.** The main door is kept open. Seats are spaced so you can choose a single seat, a pair or a group, or sit in the balcony. **Masks have still to be worn. You are encouraged to take a lateral flow test before attending.**

Sunday morning services are also available as a live stream 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 and press 1; or request a CD or copy of the sermon from the church office.

NEW:

12 noon: Youth Alpha. At the Kythe Hub.
Contact Kythe for details

6pm: Sunday Evening Prayer, on Zoom*

Mondays

8pm: House Group – Bible study and fellowship, on Zoom*

Tuesdays

1.45pm: House Group on Zoom*

Wednesdays

1.30pm: Craft Group on Zoom*.

7.45pm: Men's House Group on Zoom*.

8.00pm: Women's House Group on Zoom*.

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:

February

Sun 6 10.30am: Morning Service will be followed by an informal Communion around 11.45 (in person or live stream)

Mon 7 8am: Silent Meditation in the church.

Tue 8 7.15pm: Guild on Zoom* - 'Home for Good', Guild Project

Sun 13 Let's Sing, for those living with dementia, is cancelled this month because of Covid but we will keep in touch with people by phone.

Thu 17 9pm: Evening service of Compline in the church

Sat 19 All Friends Together (part of Prospects Across Scotland for people with learning disabilities). On Zoom*

*For Gatherings on Zoom: see weekly email or contact the Church Office for link details.

Fossoway, St Serf's & Devonside Church

Church of Scotland

(Charity number SC013157)

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

www.cleishandfossowaychurches.org.uk

Minister: Rev Lis Stenhouse Telephone: (01577) 842128

Email: estenhouse@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk: Mrs Janet Harper Telephone: (01577) 840225

Email: aclassicsoul@aol.com



February 2022

Updates and changes to the dates below can be found on our church website: <https://cleishandfossowaychurches.org.uk>

Sunday, 6 Feb

9.45am: Morning Worship.

12.30pm: Joint Cleish and Fossoway Churches morning worship by 'Zoom'

Sunday, 13 Feb

9.45am: Morning Worship.

Sunday, 20 Feb

9.45am: Morning Worship.

Sunday, 27 Feb

9.45am: Celebration of Holy Communion at Fossoway Church.

12.30pm: Celebration of Holy Communion by 'Zoom' (joint with Cleish Church)

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

Please check their Facebook page for details

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.

Death Notices

HARLEY – Peacefully at home surrounded by family on Saturday 20 November 2021 Helena (Lena) Harley nee Scott aged 77 of Milnathort. Dearly loved wife of the late Dave. Beloved mother of Pauline and Heather, mother-in-law of John. Much loved granny of Amelia. Dear sister of David, James, Karen and Kevin. Dearest sister-in-law, aunt, cousin and friend.

MCNAUGHTON – Jennifer Sharon Mcnaughton passed away on 25 November 2021 in her native home, Scotland. After a long and courageous battle with cancer she finally succumbed peacefully to a brain aneurysm. Jennifer emigrated to Canada in 1980 at the age of 10 with her family and gained many friends in that time. She attended Kinross Primary School and was a member of the Brownies. Her heart was always in Scotland and she yearned to return so in 2019 she immigrated back to Scotland. It was her final wish and the last journey she would enjoy. She will be missed by her family Cherry and Archie (Mum and Dad) Mcnaughton and brother Archie Jr. Her Aunt Margaret, Uncle Paul and cousin Nathan as well as her many friends. RIP Jennifer. Your pain is over.

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>

February 2022

Sunday, 6 Feb

11.15am: Morning Worship,

12.30pm: Joint Cleish and Fossoway Churches Morning Worship by Zoom

Sunday, 13 Feb

11.15am: Morning Worship.

Sunday, 20 Feb

11.15am: Morning Worship.

Sunday, 27 Feb

11.15am: Morning Worship.

12.30pm: Celebration of Holy Communion by 'Zoom' (joint with Fossoway Church)

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/

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

St Paul's is inclusive, friendly and welcoming to all age groups (whether regular churchgoers or if you're simply inquisitive about who we are and what we do.)

****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 February

Wednesday 2 Feb

10am Midweek Meditative Holy Communion

Thursday 3 Feb

5pm-6pm Community choir for all ages! –learning the Platinum Jubilee Beacons song (Meeting Room)

Sunday 6 Feb: (Epiphany 5)

10am Sung Eucharist

Wednesday 9 Feb

10am Midweek Meditative Holy Communion

Thursday 10 Feb

5pm-6pm Community choir for all ages! –learning the Platinum Jubilee Beacons song (Meeting Room)

Sunday 13 Feb: (Epiphany 6)

10am Sung Eucharist

Wednesday 16 Feb:

10am Midweek Meditative Holy Communion

Thursday 17 Feb

5pm-6pm Community choir for all ages! –learning the Platinum Jubilee Beacons song (Meeting Room)

Sunday 20 Feb: (Epiphany 7)

10am Sung Eucharist

Wednesday 23 Feb:

10am Midweek Meditative Holy Communion.

Thursday 24 Feb:

5pm-6pm Community choir for all ages! –learning the Platinum Jubilee Beacons song (Meeting Room)

Sunday 20 Feb: (Sunday Before Lent)

10am Sung Eucharist



Obituary

Mary Morgan

Mary Morgan sadly passed away on 11 December 2021 at home. Mary will be remembered locally for the number of years she worked for the Royal Bank of Scotland in Kinross prior to her promotion to be Manager of Perth High Street branch.

Mary was a well known figure in the community and one of the founding members of Kinross and District Inner Wheel. Her numerous roles included Club President, District President and she served on the National Executive for Great Britain and Ireland. Passionate about curling as a player, she was Secretary of Loch Leven Provenance for many

years. She will also be remembered for being Secretary for Kinross Agricultural Society (Kinross Show), a role she enjoyed immensely for over a decade. Another local charity she actively supported through the role of Treasurer was Friends Of The Museum and her most recent responsibility was Treasurer of Cleish Parish Church.

Over the years, Mary's hard work and professionalism was reflected in everything she did and few people will have had such an influence on their local community and she will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

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.

Date for your diary

6 Feb Rededication Service in Orwell Church at 10:30am conducted by Very Rev Dr Angus Morrison

No morning service at Portmoak Church

Please check the church website or Facebook page for further information on all services in case things change.

At the time of writing, the Church Office and Shop is once again 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.

Office email: orwellandportmoakchurch@gmail.com

Website: orwellportmoakchurch.org.uk

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.



Kinross Gospel Hall

8 Montgomery Street, Kinross

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.

www.kinrossgospelhall.info

contact **0781 805 0785**

Loch Leven Church

(Charity No: SC049050)

The location is still to be confirmed, so please check our Facebook page (details below).

Our sermon series from January to March is called 'Faith in Action' from the book of James, and we'll be hosting the following services in February:

6 Feb: When Faith Is Alive (2:14-26)
Diane McWilliam (Cinnamon Network)

13 Feb: When Speech Is Tamed (3:1-12)
Graeme Gunn (LLC)

20 Feb: When Wisdom Is Fruitful (3:13-4:10)
Norman Liddle (Scottish Bible Society)

27 Feb: Guest Service & Communion –
Martin Hodson (Baptist Union of Scotland)

Everyone, of all ages, is very welcome. **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**



EMERGENCY CONTACTS

are in our Notices section

Obituary

Campbell Colin Watson

Campbell Colin Watson, 74, of Kinross died peacefully at home on Friday 26 of November after a short illness.

Born in 1947 in London, Campbell was sent from a young age to board at Drumtochty Castle Preparatory School and later Fettes College in Edinburgh; an experience which perhaps instilled in him the independence, self-assurance, and consummate ease in social situations which defined him as a person.

Campbell completed his education at St Andrews University (at the Dundee campus), graduating in law in 1972. After a spell in the Caribbean working in investment banking, where



he met his wife of 37 years, Pauline, he returned to Scotland to work as a solicitor and later a partner at Andersons LLP in Kinross (formerly JL Anderson & Co). He was instrumental in building Andersons into the thriving business it is today, and continued working there until his illness.

An active and popular member of the community, Campbell was involved for many years in the Rotary Club, the Community Council, and the Kinross Centre, where he was the chairman for 16 years and a regular volunteer. He was also a well-known figure at Kinross Golf Club: a member for over 30 years, he assisted the club with legal matters whenever he could. Recently he was involved in bringing parkrun to Kinross, something which brought him great satisfaction. As well as volunteering regularly, he often ran it himself, a smile on his face, with his children and grandchildren in tow.

A man of wide and varied interests, Campbell was blessed with family and a legion of close friends with whom to share those interests; skiing, golfing, diving, and making music to mention just a few. He was particularly proud of his status as a Munro 'compleatist' which he achieved in 1998, and he deeply valued the time he spent in the bothies and hills with

family and friends in the pursuit of that goal. He continued to enjoy spending time in the outdoors right up until the end. It would be difficult to name a sport Campbell didn't have an interest in, but it was football which he loved the most. A Dundee fan in his youth and a long-suffering follower of the Scottish national team, he was old enough to remember good times for both; Dundee winning the league in 1962 and bunking off school in 1963 to see Scotland beat England 2-1 at Wembley. His greatest love however was Liverpool FC and, as a season ticket holder, he regularly travelled to Anfield to see them play. He was proud to have witnessed first-hand 'The Miracle of Istanbul' in 2005 and even a life-threatening hernia wasn't enough to prevent him attending Liverpool's most recent Champions League victory in Madrid in 2019.

A deep interest in people and place meant that Campbell travelled widely during his life. From his travels around South America after university, to his life in the Caribbean; from his diving expeditions in the Pacific, to following Liverpool, Scotland and the British Lions abroad; he managed to see much of the world. If pressed, however, he would name Assynt as his favourite place on earth. And on a cold, wet winter's-day, Campbell was most happy at home in Kinross in front of a roaring fire and the football.

He is survived by his children Ian, Stuart and Verity, his grandchildren Barney and Lucille Watson, and Sam, Isla and Alex Thwaites and his brother, George.

Acknowledgements

WEBSTER: Sandra and the family of the late John Webster wish to thank all relatives, friends for the lovely flowers and cards received. Grateful thanks to the Rev Alan Reid for his comforting service and to John Stoddart & Sons for their caring guidance with funeral arrangements, and to the staff at the Pitbauchlie House Hotel. The sum of £830 was donated to CHAS.

HARLEY: The family of the late Helena (Lena) Harley would like to thank all family, friends and neighbours for all the support, cards and flowers received following Lena's death and to all who attended the funeral and gave so generously at the church collection. A total of £600 was raised and has been donated to Marie Curie. Special thanks to the Marie Curie nurses, palliative care team and district nurses in Fife for the excellent care and attention. Thanks also to Rev. Alan Reid for the comforting service and Stewart Funeral Directors for all of their help during this difficult time. Grateful thanks to the Rev Alan Reid for his comforting service and to John Stoddart & Sons for their caring guidance with funeral arrangements, and to the staff at the Pitbauchlie House Hotel. The sum of £830 was donated to CHAS.

REEKIE: Mrs Jean Reekie, Milnathort, would like to thank all relatives and friends who attended the services for Tom held in December at Kinross Parish Church and at Perth Crematorium. The sum of £245 was collected for Vision PK. Thanks too to relatives, friends and neighbours who supported her throughout Tom's illness and his times in hospital and to all who sent flowers, cards and sympathy at his passing.

Notices

LET'S SING!

THIS INFORMAL SINGING GROUP is primarily for people with dementia who enjoy singing and are accompanied by their carer(s), but anyone who likes singing is welcome.

We meet on the second Sunday of every month from 3pm – 4pm in Kinross Parish Church. Our next meetings will be:

Sunday 13 & 27 February 2022: Please come and join us!

Face masks should be worn.

For more details please contact:

Brenda Frier bj.frier@gmail.com 07771 985265
Isobel Watt issiewatt@yahoo.co.uk 07961919967



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.



MUSIC IN DOLLAR

MUSIC IN DOLLAR WILL hold their next concert on Sunday 27 February at 3pm at the Gibson Hall, Dollar Academy, Dollar. The Roxburgh Quartet are the quartet in residence at the Lauriston Hall, Edinburgh, and they play a wide repertoire of music for string quartet. The Courier said they played "Inspired music played with complete control" www.roxburghquartet.com. This concert is supported by Cafe des Fleurs, Dollar. Then, just a heads-up about the 6 March concert, which features two fantastic young musicians – the Tunnell Trust winners, cellist Yoanna Prodanova and pianist Mihai Ritivoiu, who will play a selection of works from Chopin, Schubert, Debussy and Dohnanyi.

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.

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 2, 16 February (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

In-Service day: Wednesday 16 February 2022

Occasional holidays: Thursday 17 February and Friday 18 February 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

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
March	Friday 11 February	Saturday 26 February 2022
April	Friday 18 March	Saturday 26 March 2022

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.



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



Give a Greyhound a Home
www.greyhoundrescuefife.com

Forever homes needed for rescued greyhounds.
Greyhounds are very gentle creatures that require very little walking!

Please call or email for details

Tel: 01577 850393 (evenings)

07826 244765 (daytime)

Email: femiejimmyf@aol.com



Local Correspondent

for Perthshire Advertiser and Fife Herald newspapers

Linda Freeman

Tel 01577 865045.

Email: linda.freeman_64@btinternet.com

Funding

KVG/BOS is supported by Perth and Kinross Council but there is always a shortfall. Our Management Committee are continuously fund raising, and coupled with the donations we receive from local organisations, service users and individuals, we are able to provide the funds to cover our expenses and running costs. We are so grateful to everyone who supports us and allows KVG/BOS to deliver this vital community service.

Our continuous service to the community is only possible due to the core funding received from:-

- Perth and Kinross Community Care
- Perth and Kinross Community Transport Fund
- and the generous donations from
- Kinross Community Council Newsletter
- Local churches, community groups and organisations
- Legacies and Bequests



BRIDGING THE GAP

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS



BRIDGING THE GAP VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

AREA COVERED



For further information either as a client or a potential volunteer, please contact us
Tel 01577 840 196

Or email
administrator@kvgandros.org.uk

www.kvgandros.org.uk



Registered charity HC 015649

April 2021

To book a driver and for more details of the charges that apply
Contact us on

01577 840196

Or email
administrator@kvgandros.org.uk

**Kinross-shire Volunteer Group
and Rural Outreach Scheme**

Registered charity SC68816 Volunteer Friendly Award Holder



Lifelong support for our Forces and their families

WHO ARE WE? We are the national charity, which for nearly 140 years has been helping serving and ex-service men and women, Regular and Reservist, and their families, in need. Eligibility is based on only one day's paid service.

WHERE ARE WE? There are 91 branches all over the UK, of which 22 are in Scotland. They all operate with a network of trained volunteers in the local area, to look into cases with understanding and sensitivity. Many of the volunteers are ex-Services themselves.

The Perth and Kinross Branch has an office in Queen's Barracks, Perth – courtesy of 7th Battalion, the Royal Regiment of Scotland. Our Branch Patron is the Provost of Perth and Kinross who, with his council staff, are wonderful supporters.

WHAT DO WE DO? We take immediate action whenever there is hardship and need. Our help and advice is totally confidential, and we help all ages. We work closely with other agencies, and service charities, and help can vary hugely...

We may help a war widow manage her bills; an ex Serviceman with a mobility challenge; assist a Service family with a special needs child, or a returned veteran from Iraq or Afghanistan conflicts.

Last year we helped 50,000+ cases in UK. www.ssafa.org.uk

HELP, ADVICE, FRIENDSHIP Please don't hesitate to get in touch: SSAFA, Perth & Kinross Branch Queen's Barracks, 131 Dunkeld Road, PERTH PH1 5BT Tel: 07594 650900 (with answerphone) or Email: Perth.Branch@ssafa.org.uk

PATRON – HM THE QUEEN Reg Charity –SCO 38056

Situations Vacant

Projectionist/Technical Assistant, Portmoak Film Society

We are looking for a young person to take on this role from now until April 2022. We are a local film club which has provided a popular service to the communities of Portmoak, Kinross and Milnathort since 2006.

The role involves setting up, running, and breaking down the audiovisual equipment at Portmoak Community Hall in Scotlandwell on the second Saturday of each month before, during and after the films which start at 7.30pm. We can provide training and initial supervision and will pay any travel expenses involved in carrying out the role. Applicants should be absolutely reliable, tech-savvy and have an enthusiasm for film. This is a voluntary role which we will honour at the end of the season with a positive reference for your CV.

Contact Felicity Garvie, PFS Chair, on 01592 840825 or by email at f.sgarvie@talk21.com if you are interested.

For Sale

The Newsletter publishes items for sale listed on the [kinross.cc](http://www.kinross.cc) website. If interested in purchasing an item, we suggest checking the website for current availability (www.kinross.cc then 'Local Adverts' then 'Classified Adverts'). If interested in selling an item, please list it on www.kinross.cc and it will automatically be published in the next available *Newsletter*, subject to space.

KVGRS Volunteers Required



Could you spare a few hours a week 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

For more information contact David Aird on 01577 830370 or email: d.aird@outlook.com



Community Investment Fund 2021/22 2nd Round

Community Investment Fund Open for Applications

Perth & Kinross Council's Community Investment Fund (CIF) is open to new applications. Community groups can apply for funding for projects that tackle local inequalities and improve quality of life. The deadline for the fund is 18 February 2022 at 5.00 pm.

Information on how to apply can be found on the Council's website at www.pkc.gov.uk/cif

For support with an application to the Community Investment Fund
Contact us by email CIF@pkc.gov.uk
or call **0345 30 111 00**

This table below sets out what funding is available in each of the multi-member Wards. Whilst there is no minimum or maximum amount that you can apply for, you should bear these amounts in mind. In the two previous years of CIF the average funding award was around £4,000.

Ward	Total 2021/22	Ward	Total 2021/22
Ward 1: Carse of Gowrie	£20,475	Ward 8: Kinross-shire	£12,395
Ward 2: Strathmore	£49,863	Ward 10: Perth City South	
Ward 4: Highland	£5,126	Ward 11: Perth City North	£72,835
Ward 5: Strathtay	£28,318	Ward 12: Perth City Centre	
Ward 7: Strathallan	£4,616	Total	£193,628

(2/2/22) Community Investment Fund - Perth & Kinross Council 2021/22 www.pkc.gov.uk/cif

KINROSS CARERS DROP IN

Tuesday 8th February 2022

This drop in centre is for all "UNPAID CARERS"
PKC & PKAVS Carer support workers available for advice and support

The safety of our communities remains a priority and we will comply with current COVID-19 guidelines.

Drop in for information, advice and signposting, peer support and a cuppa.

KINROSS CENTRE (Garden Room)
High Street Kinross
2nd TUESDAY EACH MONTH
10:00 – 12:00



Contact Gail Boath
Tel. 07760 363 800
Or PKAVS
01738 567076



**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 10 February 2pm
Kinross Parish Church.
Kate White: The Restoration of Bannockburn
House and Garden'
All welcome to join us.

Kinross Recycling Centre

Bridgend Industrial Estate

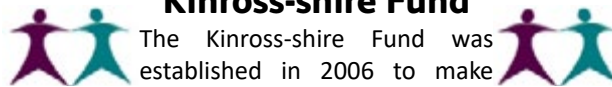
Opening Times:

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** Chair: Craig Williams, 07885 722125
- & Orwell:** Email: craig@stovestuff.scot
Email: communitycouncilmilnathort@gmail.com
- Portmoak:** Email: portmoakcommunitycouncil@pkc.gov.uk
- Fossoway** Chair: Trudy Duffy-Wigman, 01577 840669
- & District:** Email: fossoway.cc@gmail.com
- Cleish** Sec: Patty Fraser, 01577 850253
- & Blairadam:** 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

- ClIr 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
- ClIr 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
- ClIr WILLIE ROBERTSON** (*Scottish Liberal Democrats*)
Mobile: 07909 884042
- ClIr 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.

Grace of Snow

There is such beauty
In the way that the grass
Gracefully accepts the snow
And the snow gracefully accepts
The soft landing place of
The grass
They are entirely at ease
With each others presence

Outside the world
Of weather warnings and
Closed bridges
There is a grace right here
Right now each flake
Whirling and dancing
Each blade
Gracefully welcoming
Like an old friend
The miraculous arrival of snow

2021 Orla Beaton

Step Off The Path

You never know what might find you
Thrush, robin and chaffinch peck closer
Soft, mossy footsteps sink deeper
A red acrobat darts and hides
Two buzzards soar in vast, open skies
A powerful breeze rumbles then dies
Fellow walkers marvel and smile

Step off the path
You never know what might find you
Space
Perspective
Freedom
Senses awakened
Delight spirited
The unexpected paradise of here

2021 Orla Beaton

Diary

February

Tue	1	Fossoway CC Meets	51
Thurs	3	Community Choir, St Paul's Church	19
Sun	6	Kinross and Ochil Walking Group Weekend Walk	59
Mon	7	Climate Cafe Meets, Milnathort Town Hall	69
Tue	8	Portmoak CC Meets	48
Thurs	10	Garden Group meets	52
Sat	12-20	RSPB Treasure Trail	82
Sat	12	Portmoak Film Society show "The Farewell"	52
Sat	19	Kinross and Ochil Walking Group Weekend Walk	59
Tue	22	Kinross CC Meets	43

March

Sun	6	Kinross and Ochil Walking Group Weekend Walk	59
Sat	19	Kinross and Ochil Walking Group Weekend Walk	59
Sun	27	Loch Leven Walkathon	17