



Kinross Newsletter

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Founding editor,
Mrs Nan Walker, MBE

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DEADLINE

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Contributions

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

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

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

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Colour (internal)	£19.00	£45.60	£91.20

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Editor's Page

Cover Photo: Lapwings in flight by Paul Kirkby Design: Lee Scammacca

Letter From The Editor

ONE OF THE DRAWBACKS of being a monthly magazine is that we sometimes struggle to show you what has recently happened in Kinross-shire.

It therefore brings me great pleasure to be able to report on The Better Place to Live Fair, which, at the time of writing took place only yesterday at Loch Leven Community Campus. Inside this issue you will find a spread of some of our favourite photos from the event. There will be more to come next month!

It was a great day for all involved, with community groups and local organisations out in force to celebrate all that is great about living in Kinross and to connect with others. I was delighted to speak to so many people about the *Newsletter* and to hear your thoughts.

About The Kinross Newsletter

The *Kinross Newsletter* has been informing and supporting the community for over 45 years. It began as a way of letting residents know what Kinross Community Council was saying and doing, but soon expanded to be so much more.

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

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

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

Cllr: Councillor
CCllr: Community Councillor

It's a very rewarding job creating the *Newsletter* every month and lovely for the team to hear from the people who read it. We hope you had a great day if you attended and learnt something new about what goes on in Kinross-shire!

There is lots to read about this month. The winners of the Green Living Fund tell us about what their awards mean to them, and we celebrate with the Kinross-shire Repair Cafe who will have their official opening on Saturday 20 April at the Kinross Church Centre.

I'm looking forward to the return of the Farmers' Market on Saturday 27 April and we have a list of all the upcoming dates of the markets for the rest of this year to put in your diary. If you are new to Kinross, you are in for a treat. There are some amazing stalls and it is well worth a visit.

There is going to be an open meeting at the the campus on the evening of Monday 15 April about the proposed windfarms for Kinross-shire, providing an opportunity for public debate.

As always, there is a lot going on and you can see a comprehensive list of events on our diary page (p96). There are also quite a few road closures to take note of if you live in Kinross or Milnathort.

I should take this opportunity to say a massive congratulations to the winners of the annual Light Up Kinross Quiz, which took place in the Masonic Hall. The winning team was the Lomond Muses, captained by Yours Truly – although that might be disputed by the other team members. (*It is – Chris*) I'd like to send my sincere condolences to all the other teams. They say it's the taking part that counts! :-)

Hannah Phillips, Editor



MATTER

Because you do.....!

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WIND FARMS

IN A LETTER TO the *Kinross Newsletter*, Trudy Duffy asks those opposed to wind energy what is a credible alternative (*Climate Crisis and Wind Farms*, March 2024). While clearly well-intentioned, her comments suggest that she does not appreciate the reality of wind farms – they are an intermittent energy source, and as such do not lessen our requirement for other methods of electricity generation. The UK has roughly 30,000MW of wind energy; for significant time periods, this costly infrastructure generates little or no electricity – when the wind fails to blow. Thus, regardless of the number of wind turbines we deploy, the UK must have sufficient dependable generation facilities to meet its peak demand for electricity on windless days.

Dependable means a mix of either coal, gas or nuclear, of which the latter is low carbon. Crucially, it is possible for the generation facilities needed to back-up wind farms to supply all of our electricity with a low carbon footprint and without the use of any wind power at all – i.e. through high penetration of nuclear power. This would not only reduce the cost of electricity to the consumer, it would also remove the need for a massive increase in the number of pylons and transmission lines dictated by widely dispersed wind farms. It is therefore unfortunate that many environmental groups have opposed civilian nuclear power, contrary to all scientific evidence. This concern is perhaps best expressed by one of the UK's leading environmental commentators George Monbiot writing in the *Guardian**, who has described those opposed to nuclear power as 'causing more harm to the planet's living systems than climate change deniers have ever achieved'.

Mrs Duffy also highlights the urgency of the climate crisis, yet may not appreciate that atmospheric carbon-dioxide has a half-

life measured in centuries, and if we were to magically halt anthropogenic carbon emissions today, global temperatures would not be significantly reduced for hundreds of years. Moreover our attempts at climate mitigation are unilateral. Perth and Kinross emits roughly 1.2 million tonnes of carbon dioxide annually, yet China produces this amount in little over 30 minutes, and its emissions are accelerating, with two coal-fired power stations opening each week.

Against this background, no existing technology is capable of mitigating climate change in a meaningful time-frame, and we face a stark choice – either develop a novel technology which of necessity would involve removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere at scale – or else adapt to a changing planet. It is perhaps too easy – and, indeed, emotionally manipulative – to invoke our children's future as justification for deploying renewable energy, yet our descendants will not thank us for squandering vast sums of money on failed attempts to mitigate the earth's climate.

The reality is that research is needed to solve the major issues facing those who come after us – research not only into climate mitigation, but also into diseases such as heart disease and cancer – the latter two actually representing a far greater danger to our children than the weather. So, I would suggest that the gargantuan sums spent on wind energy would be far better spent on research both to create a better environment and to improve the welfare of future generations.

Name and Address supplied

*Monbiot G. *We Need to Talk About Sellafield and a Nuclear Solution that Ticks all our Boxes*. *Guardian*, December 2011.

YOUR LOCAL HALL NEEDS YOU

Volunteer Opportunities Available!

NEW TO KINROSS? Recently retired? Want to give back to the community? Want to support the groups that your children are involved in but would rather do so in an administrative manner?

The Millbridge Hall, in Kinross, is run by a group of volunteers, who make sure the hall is well maintained, and is available for hire by a range of groups, and individuals from our community. These groups range from Guides and Brownies, Kinross Scout Group, yoga and pilates classes, carpet bowling, and many more.

We are now looking for two volunteers to join the team and take up the following roles:

- **Booking Secretary** - an essential role in managing hall reservations, liaising with the caretaker and treasurer. Your contribution will directly impact the accessibility and use of this community space.
- **Treasurer** - responsible for monthly invoicing to the various groups, payment of bills and budgeting for the halls, working with the management committee, to ensure ongoing sustainability.

Do you have a few hours a week that you can spare to perform one of these roles, and make a valuable contribution to our community? If so, or even if you would just like a chat to understand more about these roles, please contact us either by Direct Message through Facebook Messenger, or by email to invoicing@millbridgehall.org

We are also holding an open evening on **Wednesday 10 April** at 7pm when you can visit the halls, see the spaces available (dependent on hall usage that evening), find out more about the Millbridge Hall's history, its place in the Kinross community and its aims for the future. We look forward to welcoming you.

Millbridge Hall Committee

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SILENCE

I WAS INTERESTED to read Mr Nicolson's latest column in the *Newsletter*. I agree with him that silence is tacit acceptance of Israel's action. I found it curious, however, that there is no mention of how this disaster started.

On 7 October 2023 Palestinian Hamas and others invaded Israel. More than 1000 were killed and over 250 people were taken hostage.

Clearly Mr Nicholson in good conscience feels he can stay silent on this. And, as he says, silence is tacit acceptance. He makes no mention of the hostages in his call for a ceasefire.

John Embrey, Dollar

BLISTER PACKS

IT FEELS SO good to be sending away my first box (all 110 litres!) of medical blister packs for recycling. Even more heart warming that so many people are not quite ready to let them be consigned to landfill. They are kept in Britain and sent to Refactory in Hull, a centre that specialises in difficult to recycle items, which they are because of their composite nature. As Lucy from Refactory says 'We have a recycling line that shreds, then pulverises the blister packs into a fine material and then the material goes through an electrostatic separator which separates the aluminium foil and the plastic. The aluminium foil is bulked up then sent to a metal reprocessor to spelt back into ingots'. So quite an involved process, which is expensive. It costs about £1 per litre (ie about the volume of two chinese take away containers). So as you are leaving your blister packs a wee donation towards their recycling would be very gratefully received. Thank you!

Moirra Hookham, The Kind Pantry



KINROSS POOL

IN A RECENT edition of the *Kinross Newsletter* you feature an article titled *PKC Leisure Cuts: Is Kinross Pool Also Under Threat?*

The article refers to a report that went before Full Council on January 22 discussing a review of our leisure assets. The report that went before Elected Members does not mention the possibility that Kinross Swimming Pool will be shut, however does request a business case should be prepared for upgrading the facilities.

The report was publicly available a week before the committee meeting took place.

We believe that the headline on your article is misleading and the omission that we have requested a business case for upgrading the facilities will cause confusion and concern among the residents of Kinross. We request that a clarification is published in the next edition of your newsletter to offer assurance that we do not intend to close Kinross Swimming Pool.

Stephen Crawford, Strategic Lead – Property Services, PKC

CARNBO AGM

WE ARE HOPING for a better turnout than last year, which was very disheartening for the committee. Please come along and support your local community asset, owned and run by the Carnbo and District Community. If anyone would be interested in joining the committee please get in touch.

Carnbo Hall is available for private hire. Contract: carnbohall@gmail.com

Carnbo AGM

Wed 22 May at 7.30pm

Complimentary cheese and wine!

Thanks



CARNBO & DISTRICT COMMUNITY HALL COMMITTEE would like to thank everyone for their positive feedback and supported in helping to make our Hall Talks and Carnbo Coffee and Chat Warm Welcome Spaces events a great success.

A big thank you to all the speakers: **Sheila Marshall, Ella Hayes, Irene McFarlane, Vicky Turnbull**, and to **Kevin Heneghan** who finished the season off with a photographic journey of Kinross-shire; showing us how some places have changed immensely, whereas others have stayed much the same. We have received great feedback on how interesting and informative all the talks have been.

It was fantastic to see such a great turn out for our last Carnbo Coffee and Chat of the season. Thank you to Tracey Ramsay, PKC Community Learning and Development Worker, for joining us and seeing how the Warm Spaces funding is being used across our community to provide a safe warm space for people of all ages to come together.

Carnbo Hall Committee

Congratulations!

JOE AND JANICE MCCORMACK

WE WERE VERY fortunate to celebrate our Golden Wedding anniversary on 9 March with a nice family gathering in the Kirklands Hotel.

As residents of Kinross since 1980 I would like to share our good news in our *Newsletter* and also thank those involved for making it a really special event.



Our special thanks go to my daughter Angela McCormack and her partner for organising the event, and also Shona and her staff at the Kirklands for the excellent service during our time there.

I would also like to thank all our family who were there to make the evening very special. We would also wish to thank all our friends for the lovely gifts and cards.

Joe and Janice McCormack

WHAT A NIGHT!

Folkie Awards 2024, Glenfarg Folk Club

OUR FOLK singer/songwriter contest was a great success last night, with 22 performers entertaining a fab crowd, who joined in the songs whenever they could!

The *Folkie Award For Best Song* was won by Catriona Scott (pictured), while the two *WEE FOLKIES For A Great Song* were won by Martin Jones and Roy Henderson and George Mackie.

A huge 'well done' to everyone who took part and came along to support. We will announce the *2025 Folkie Awards* details in September.





Womenswear
Menswear
Homewares



Gifts
Jewellery
Baby things



Cards

We hold regular fashion shows and evening classes to make things!



Check out Tartan Kipper Lifestyle on Facebook or Tartankipperlife on Instagram for upcoming events



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PKC APPROVE CONTROVERSIAL WHINSTONE QUARRY PLANS



PKC PLANNING HAVE GIVEN the green light to local company Devonshaw Leisure Ltd to develop a holiday park at the former Whinstone Quarry between Powmill and Blairingone. The plans had received eight objections including one from Fossoway and District Community Council (FDCC).

The new site will have 114 two and three-bedroomed lodges and 10 glamping pods with a reception building, parking and 10 serviced Aires for overnight motorhome stays.

Nicola Marchant, chair of FDCC, said 'Initially we had a made a series of neutral comments on the application, expecting that the developer could accommodate them, enhancing the biodiversity and contributing towards active travel for visitors and local residents. However, we are disappointed with their response to PKC and are now lodging an objection.'

The committee's convener, SNP Cllr Ian Massie, moved the application for approval. He said it would 'clean up a site which has been used for antisocial behaviour, wild camping and fly-tipping, bringing in tourism and jobs which will contribute to the local economy.'

Fossoway resident Carolyn Pleass told the committee she had 'many concerns', highlighting safety as a main concern alongside transport, environmental impact and sewage. She described the quarried area as 'extremely dangerous, due to high vertical cliffs which appear to be unstable in areas, and the deep quarry ponds'.

One of the two lochans at the site is around 18 metres deep. The council officers's report of handling describes it as 'surrounded by near vertical quarry sides'.

Mrs Pleass said: 'The quarry is not a safe holiday or family destination.' She added: 'The developer has included no fencing or safety measures in the planning application, and the planners have not included any conditions relating to safety or risk assessments.'

'In my view if the council grants planning permission for this proposed development, the council will be morally – if not legally – responsible for any accidents, loss of life or harm caused.'

Devonshaw Leisure Ltd director Keith Davidson's admiration for the site is well-documented, saying 'It's the best site I've ever come across in my whole

career looking at somewhere for leisure. It's absolutely gorgeous; like a piece of Utopia'.

Defending the concerns about safety, he said: 'What happens when you go to the sea and you have cliff-faces?'

'Yes, we would have to maintain the area, look after it and obviously try and maintain health and safety with fencing and various other methods but we're not really a nanny state.'

Kinross-shire Cllr Richard Watters asked if a condition for a traffic island on the A977 could be incorporated into the planning consent, and that was agreed.

Cllr Dave Cuthbert said 'The council's planning and placemaking committee meeting last week explored all these issues in some depth and the developers and planning officers gave assurances on all of





them, promising fencing beside the lochan where it was at its deepest, a dedicated independent bio-diversity officer coming to the site weekly, and a mini-bus for residents and staff.

'I spoke to the Chair of Fossoway Community Council after the meeting and asked that they contact the developers with a view to tying down the details of how these things were going to be delivered.

'Hopefully, the developers will embrace the opportunity of working with the local Community.'

Cllr Neil Freshwater said, 'Increased tourism facilities for the area are to be welcomed in terms of the rural economy. However, given the scale of the development, I do share the concerns of residents regarding issues like transport and possible loss of habitats, such as to red squirrels.

'I note in the planning consent, a number of conditions to mitigate this, and so it is important that these are adhered to by the developer'.

He told the *Newsletter*, 'Our ideal future vision for the project is for a fantastic leisure development incorporating the topography and water features for both privacy and enjoyment of the Scottish elements throughout the year. Furthermore, depending on how the visitor numbers develop, we see the opportunity for the site to become a potential wedding venue with associated restaurant and bar facilities that could also accommodate such attractions as a farm and coffee shop, especially when you consider that the site is within 90 minutes of 90% of the population of Scotland. Should the aforementioned come to fruition then certainly in excess of 53 jobs could be created.'

Questions have also been raised about the suitability of the local infrastructure to maintain a site that, at full capacity, could increase the local population by up to 20%.

Nicola Marchant said: 'The development plan seems to be geared towards rural holidays but such a holiday would not be ideal on this site. There are very few pathways for pedestrians as the surrounding landowners will not allow paths to be constructed on their land, forcing all walking and cycling traffic on to the busy A977.

'It would also be great for hikers and cyclists if there was a way to link up to paths to Dollar or even Stirling, but that doesn't seem feasible at present.'

She also raised concern about transport links for the site, saying 'it was not accessible by dependable public transport'.

While bus links in the area are notoriously poor, it remains to be seen if the developers will work on improving them. They have suggested placing new bus stops by the site entrance. However, concerns have already been raised about the dangers of people crossing the 'hazardous' A977 to reach these new stops. Carolyn Pleass believes the site to be 'inherently dangerous. The suggested location of the proposed bus stops is lethal.'

When the issue was put to him, Devonport's Keith Davidson told the *Newsletter*: 'We are not yet in discussion with any existing transport providers,

but would be very happy to support the local Community Council in their efforts to secure improved transport links for both our future guests and indeed the local community.'

The safety concerns regarding the A977 do all revolve around buses, however. It is a road with notoriously fast traffic and many heavy goods vehicles. The development has plans for two parking spaces per pod – the idea of two hundred or so cars trying to enter or leave the site on a bank holiday weekend is that one no-one relishes. Carolyn Pleass: 'The proposed entrance is on a very fast stretch of the road and, although the applicant states there will be no significant queuing to turn into the site, even a small queue given the topography of the road will be dangerous.'

Whilst accepting PKC's decision, Nicola Marchant is particularly disappointed by their seeming dismissal of local concerns regarding the need for an active travel plan to enable visitors to access local amenities without using their cars. 'It would be great', she said, 'if they took more notice of those people who had local knowledge to help accommodate local residents' concerns and facilitate a solution with the developer. The offer from the developer to engage with the CC on community transport is welcomed and we look forward to engaging with them.'

There is no doubt that the quarry site has suffered from the effects of neglect and vandalism over the years and needs to be cleaned up. There is also little doubt that it has the potential to become a successful recreational facility in the way proposed – but much work needs to be done. If the concerns around safety and transport raised by local residents can be resolved then the Whinstone Quarry development could become a worthwhile addition to the locality.



SALON 62 KINROSS

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DAVIES PARK ONE STEP CLOSER TO BEING SAVED

KINROSS OPEN SPACES Action Group (KOSAG) have completed the formal application to buy the land under Davies Park. When this community asset transfer is complete it will protect the park for all time from developer interest in putting a road through it.



Community asset transfer is a process set out in law that enables communities to seek to buy publicly owned assets. KOSAG, a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation, grew out of the *NO Road in the Park* campaign that has fought for over a decade to defend the park.

The plan is for the Council to continue to maintain the park. This would not be unusual – PKC maintain many parks that they do not own.

The application includes Lochburn Park, the grassed area near Gallowhill Road at the top of the railway path. This neglected open space was added following the Council's request that the charity should also identify a future project. KOSAG plans to consult on a better use for the land when the purchase is complete.

The charity will be negotiating with the Council over the coming months on details such as the price, the ongoing maintenance of the park, and future purchases of equipment. Tentative enquiries have been made with charity

funders to help provide, for example, a pump track.

This application will not hinder the Council's improvement plans for the park which are scheduled to begin later in spring this year.

GOT YOUR VOTER ID YET?

ALL INDICATIONS ARE THAT there will be a general election soon. Whereas voting used to be a simple matter of going to your polling station, card in hand, being given a ballot paper and placing your X against your preferred candidate's name, the law has now changed.

Anyone eligible to vote must now show a form of voter ID that carries a recognisable picture of themselves. There is a clearly-defined list of acceptable forms of ID, including (but not limited to) a driving licence, passport or concessionary bus pass. (See below for a more detailed list.)

Documents such as your passport and drivers' licence don't even have to be cur-

rently valid, just so long as the photo is still a recognisable likeness of yourself.

If you don't have any of the acceptable forms of photo ID you can still apply for a Voter Authority Certificate, which can be used in the same way as photo ID at the polling station. Apply online at

<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voting-and-elections/voter-id/apply-ing-a-voter-authority-certificate>

Those who plan to use a postal vote must do so via:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote#content>

If you can't apply online, contact the Elec-

toral Registration Office in Perth to receive the appropriate form.

The crucial factor, of course, is that however you plan to vote, you must do it. So make sure you're ready in time for the next election. Don't get caught out!



ACCEPTED FORMS OF PHOTO ID

You can use any of the following accepted forms of photo ID when voting at a polling place. You will only need to show one form of photo ID. It needs to be the original version and not a photocopy.

UK Passport, including those issued by British Overseas Territories, an EEA state or a Commonwealth country (including an Irish Passport Card)

UK Driving licence, Channel Islands, Isle of Man, or an EEA state

A Blue Badge

Scottish National Entitlement Card for concessionary travel (including a 60+, disabled or under 22s bus pass)

Older Person's Bus Pass funded by the UK Government

Disabled Person's Bus Pass funded by the UK Government

Oyster 60+ Card funded by the UK Government

Freedom Pass

60 and Over Welsh Concessionary Travel Card

Disabled Person's Welsh Concessionary Travel Card

Senior SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland

Registered Blind SmartPass or Blind Person's SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland

War Disablement SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland

60+ SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland

Half Fare SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland

Proof of age

Identity card bearing the Proof of Age Standards Scheme hologram (a PASS card), for example a Young Scot card

Biometric immigration document

Ministry of Defence Form 90 (Defence Identity Card)

National identity card issued by an EEA state

Electoral Identity Card issued in Northern Ireland

Voter Authority Certificate

Anonymous Elector's Document

ARTS @ ST PAUL'S IS BACK



KINROSS-SHIRE'S NEWEST focal point for arts and crafts, Arts @ St Paul's, has announced its expanded programme for 2024, with twice the number of exhibitions and an expanded roster of artists and makers on show.

Launched last year as a pilot project, Arts @ St Paul's was conceived as a way to provide a showcase for artists and makers from Kinross-shire and beyond, and to breathe new life into the hall at St Paul's Church on the Muirs which had been under-used since the pandemic.

The initiative not only tapped into a hunger for regular exhibitions but also served as a platform for local and visiting artists to connect with appreciative audiences. A series of seven exhibitions took place from September to December last year, launched in spectacular fashion by a visit from HM King Charles III. Now, in 2024, the momentum continues with 14 weekend shows scheduled to kick off on 27 and 28 April.



Arts @ St Paul's committee members get together to plan the next series of events: L-R Pauline McGee, Gillian Skene, Jo Middlemiss, Kathryn Kirkwood and Anne Taylor. Photo: Andy Middlemiss.

we were rewarded with visitor numbers beyond our wildest dreams. The artists and makers who exhibited were also delighted with the response they had with many of them benefiting from direct sales, increased enquiries, and special commissions.

'We are now doubling the number of exhibitions that we will stage this year, and we have widened the pool of artists and makers who will participate. There is such a wide variety and depth of talent around, that the community of Kinross-shire can be sure to see something different and eye-catching each time they visit.'

The organising committee at Arts @ St Paul's are currently reviewing all the applications to exhibit and will announce the roster of artists and makers selected to participate in April.

A diverse and captivating lineup for the year ahead is already assured, promising a year brimming with creativity and inspiration.

Arts @ St Paul's will be holding exhibitions on the weekends shown opposite, each day from 10am – 4pm.

More information can be found on the Arts @ St Paul's website at www.artsatstpauls.com.

Arts @ St Paul's chair Anne Taylor

said: 'We were really thrilled with the positive feedback from artists and visitors alike when we ran as a pilot project last year. We wanted to see if there was an appetite among the local community for regular exhibitions of artistic talent and

SAVE THE DATES!

April 27 & 28	Sept 7 & 8, 21 & 22
May 11 & 12, 25 & 26	Oct 19 & 20, 26 & 27
June 8 & 9, 22 & 23	Nov 9 & 10, 16 & 17 23 & 24
August 24 & 25	Dec 7 & 8

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GREEN LIVING FUND AWARD WINNERS



PKC Cllr Grant Laing with representatives from some of the winning Green Living Fund projects. Gosia Stanton and Pauline Cobbold (Kinross-shire Climate Cafe), Neil Bingham (Milnathort CC), Rhiannon (Glenfarg Village Hall Trustees) and Douglas Fraser (Glenfarg Community Transport Group).

FORTY-ONE COMMUNITY PROJECTS set up to tackle the cost-of-living crisis and climate change have been awarded grants from PKC's Green Living Fund after a public vote.

More than 5000 votes were cast by over 2000 people. A total of £226,505.65 was available with the total funding pot split between seven areas. PKC leader Cllr Grant Laing announced the winners.

He said: 'The Green Living Fund will support a fantastic array of projects. I am sure these projects – big and small – will make a real difference to the lives of people in communities across Perth and Kinross. I'd like to thank everyone who submitted proposals and all those who voted.'

Cllr Richard Watters said: 'We understand the pressure the Cost of Living crisis is putting people under and so it is great to see the ideas community groups put forward.'

'Support from the Green Living Fund will not only help address this but also help to tackle climate change and make Perth and Kinross a greener, more sustainable place to live.'

In Kinross-shire, the following were granted awards:

- **Glenfarg Community Transport Group - Glenfarg Connectivity** £3,000
- **Men's Shed insulation and Heating** £5,000
- **Milnathort and Orwell CC - Milnathort Core Paths** £1,456
- **Greener Glenfarg Group** £ 250
- **Freewheelers Glenfarg - Batteries for our Community e-bikes - Glenfarg Freewheelers** £1,570
- **Kinross-shire Repair Cafe*** £1,495
- **Broke not Broken: Reducing Food Poverty and Food Miles across Kinross-shire** £8,162
- **A Greener Glenfarg Community Centre** £2,930

Kevin Heneghan of Milnathort CC told the *Newsletter*, 'First of all, Milnathort Core Paths Group would like to thank everyone who voted for us – your votes made this happen.'

'Receiving this money from the Green Living Fund is very much appreciated. It enables us to now store all our equipment safely, securely and in a convenient location. This in turn means we can maintain the Core Paths more efficiently, keeping them in good order for everyone to enjoy.'

Glenfarg Community Transport Group said, 'we are grateful to succeed in our recent application to the Green Living Fund and

thank everyone who voted for us.' We will be using the funds to help us with the extension of the 55 service bus from Kinross to Perth which now runs hourly, six days per week.

The Men's Shed were equally delighted and said, 'We would like to thank the local community for their support in helping us receive £5000 of grant funding towards an upgrade of our current central heating system and to insulate our roof space. We are grateful to everyone that voted for us, thank you!'

A Broke not Broken representative said, 'We were very grateful to be awarded money to support those experiencing poverty and financial hardship across Kinross-shire in a faster and more environmentally friendly manner. We look forward to trialling this new approach with these funds, as we continue to review our work to make sure we are able to support those in crisis but also consider the environmental impact of our work and how we can work in a more sustainable manner. Thank you to everyone who voted for us.'

**Kinross-shire Repair Cafe received funding from the second round of Kinross-shire CIF, meaning they only required £1,495 from the Green Living Fund to deliver their project.*

HIGH STREET SEWING

Clothing and Curtain alterations and repairs

(1-2 week turnaround)

Available hours:

Monday 0900-1230 & 1330-1700

Tuesday 0900-1230

Thursday 0900-1230 & 1330-1700

Friday 0900-1230

Saturday 0900-1230

Location - behind Loch Leven Laundry and Baillies

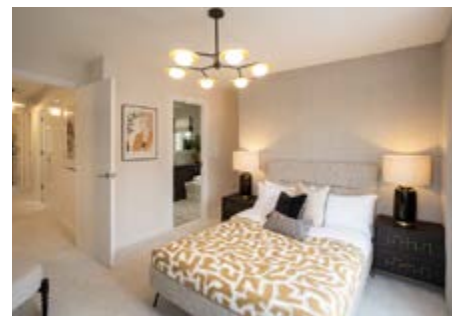
LINETTE MANN – 07732 902419



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KINROSS TRIUMPHS AT 100TH PERFORM IN PERTH

KINROSS-SHIRE WAS WELL-REPRESENTED at Perform in Perth in March – the 100th Perthshire Musical (Competition) Festival. Kinross-shire winners (those announced at the time of going to press) are:

Scots Fiddle Solo, under 16:	FINLAY RUTHERFORD	Viola Solo (Level 2):	DANNY HODGE
Bagpipes (Jig), 15 – 17:	LENNOX MUNRO	Cello Solo (Level 4):	CATHERINE CLARKE
Choirs, Church:	KINROSS PARISH CHURCH	Trumpet etc. (level 2):	MARTHA REID
Piano Recital (Intermediate):	ALEXANDER MCGUIRE	Trumpet etc. (level 3):	MAX RUTHERFORD
String Solo (Grade 5):	EMMA HALL	Snare Drum Solo (Level 4):	RORY ABEL
String Recital (Intermediate):	MARTHA HARVEY	Xylophone Solo (Level 5):	ZOË NEAVE
String Recital (Open):	MUNRO STRACHAN	Drum Kit Solo (Advanced):	RORY ABEL
Violin Solo (Level 2):	ELOISE CAMERON	Duo Class for two instruments:	MUNRO STRACHAN & FINLAY RUTHERFORD
Violin Solo (Level 3):	ALEXANDER BAIJAL	String Orchestra, Schools (Advanced):	KINROSS HIGH SCHOOL
Violin Solo (Level 4):	ELISHA CHEN	Burns Poems (aged 18 and over):	IRENE MCFARLANE
Violin Solo (Advanced):	FINLAY RUTHERFORD		



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CHOIR of Kinross Parish Church of Scotland which won the Church Choir class at Perform in Perth in March at the first time of competing. The choir won the Crawford Chalice, which dates back to 1911, and achieved 91% and an Honours Certificate. Special congratulations to Isobel, the conductor, and Margaret, the choir's accompanist.

The choir was supported on the night at Perth Concert Hall not just by members of the congregation but by folk from the wider Kinross community as the Kinross High School's Orchestra and String Orchestra were competing in other classes on the same evening. A big Kinross cheer went up when the choir's winning result was announced!



Pupils from Kinross High School (l); Irene McFarlane(r) Photos: Andrew Mitchell

KIPPER ON THE CATWALK!

PERTSHIRE WOMEN'S AID is to receive a significant cash boost, thanks to a group of fashion-conscious local ladies.

More than 50 women attended a fashion show at Tartan



Charlotte pictured in her shop at 125 High Street, which has proved to be a welcome addition to Kinross.

Kipper Lifestyle in Kinross High Street on 29 February, raising a total of £600.

Ticket sales and donations made almost £500, with a further £90 raised by auctioning a pre-loved, pure silk Max Mara dress, which originally carried a £1000 price tag. Tartan Kipper Lifestyle owner Charlotte Giacomazzi rounded the total up to £600.

The money will help fund the Perth-based charity's vital work in supporting victims of domestic violence and their children.

Charlotte said: 'This was my first-ever fashion show and I am delighted that it was such a success. I'd like to thank everyone who came along, as well as the local ladies who modelled the outfits and our wonderful compere, Emma Dalley.

'Perthshire Women's Aid provides a crucial lifeline for women subjected to domestic abuse, and I'm pleased we could do something to help.'

Meanwhile, buoyed by the success of her debut fashion show, Charlotte is busy planning her second, which will be held on **Thursday 25 April**.

'I have taken delivery of some fabulous spring and summer wear and more will be coming in soon,' she said.

'We'll also be raising money for charity by way of a raffle, and I'd welcome suggestions as to which good cause to support.'

The Arthur and Margaret Thompson Trust

IT WAS IN 1973 that Arthur Thompson, the successful owner of Kinross' Bridgend Hotel and the Royal Hotel in Milnathort, set up his charitable trust with an initial donation of £500. A later bequest of shares in Arthur Bell further increased the trust's assets, as did subsequent investment over the next 51 years.

The purpose of the trust, as stated in the trust deed, includes, '...to use, apply and expend the income...for charitable purposes

connected with the town and burgh of Kinross and its immediate neighbourhood..'

Specifically, the trustees will consider applications strictly from Kinross and Milnathort.

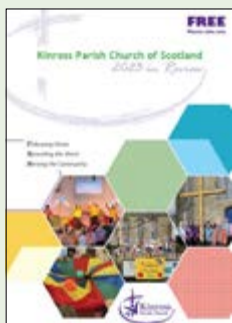
In its history, the trust has made grants to many institutions and societies, where the trustees could see a benefit to the wider society within its area of operation. Examples abound. Recipients have included the churches in both Orwell and Kinross parishes, the Milnathort Scout and Guide hall,

the Kinross Colts, the Day Centre in Kinross, the Kinross Rugby Club, Milnathort in Bloom, Broke Not Broken and the Men's Shed. These are a very few examples of recent grants.

Grants are made, as laid down in the trust deed, entirely at the discretion of the trustees.

Lindsay's Solicitors of Perth (01738 637311) are retained to do the trust's administration and answer relevant enquiries.

2023 IN REVIEW



KINROSS PARISH CHURCH of Scotland last month published '2023 in Review', in place of its usual magazine. The full-colour booklet summarises the congregation's spiritual and community work over the past year, complementing the extensive activities of fellow congregations in Kinross-shire. Session Clerk, Jaffrey Weir, says: 'I hope that everything we do in this active, vibrant fellowship is aimed at fulfilling our mission of Following Christ, Spreading the Word, Serving the Community. In this brief report it is not possible to include every aspect of church life, but I hope it paints a picture of our worship, mission and outreach.'

The report has been delivered to the congregation to show them what has been achieved with their support, but it is also intended for the wider community. Please pick up a free copy at the church, Church Centre, Library and various cafes in the town. Rev Alan Reid says: 'It gives a flavour of the variety and fullness of our life as a congregation. There is a place for everyone to participate.'

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GUILD CONCERT

THE GUILD OF KINROSS Parish Church are holding a concert in the church on Station Road in aid of Guild funds, on **Friday 26 April** at 7.30pm. The Earn Singers and Friends will perform a wide range of music, ranging from Rodgers & Hammerstein to folk. Light refreshments will be served in the interval.

Tickets are £10. They are available from Guild members, by email from the Church Office, or simply pay on the night.

MEETING ROOM for HIRE St PAUL'S CHURCH, Muirs, Kinross

MEETING ROOM Comfortable, modern, bright, warm, carpeted with flexible table and seating arrangement and Wi-Fi.

KITCHEN AREA Sink unit, fridge, kettle, and microwave.

ENTRANCE HALL Two accessible WCs and baby changing facility.

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE Wheelchairs available if required.

GARDEN AREA gives additional and adjacent outdoor space.

Accommodation is highly suitable for meetings, family gatherings and celebrations, receptions, exhibitions, small group activities, classes or clubs.

HIRE RATE £10 per hour or part hour on weekdays. Reasonable weekly and weekend hire may also be negotiated.

Enquiries to Peter Croft - Tel: 01383-223004

JUNE DEADLINE FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS

LAUNCHED IN MAY 2021, our Community Heritage Grant Fund has been established to support community projects that conserve or enhance the historic environment within Perth and Kinross. We recognise how difficult it can be for community groups to access funding for heritage projects. To date, we have committed over £70,000 towards local heritage initiatives and, with a further £70,000 available in the fund, we hope to support many more projects over the coming years.

The Trust will consider financial support to projects which fall into either of the following categories:

- *Conservation of historic buildings or monuments in P&K that have established and generally unhindered public access.*
- *Community based recording, research and interpretation of the historic environment in Perth & Kinross.*

PKHT are inviting applications for grants of up to £5,000. Al-

though larger sums may be considered in exceptional circumstances, a minimum award has not been set. Applications will be considered quarterly until the fund is expended. Deadlines for the receipt of applications are: 1 March, 1 June, 1 September and 1 December.

Potential applicants are asked to check their eligibility before applying and to note that the fund is intended to support projects developed by community-based organisations or are for community benefit. Applications for domestic or commercial properties are unlikely to be eligible.

The Trust hopes to support a variety of small heritage projects over the whole of Perth and Kinross and invites potential applicants to contact PKHT to discuss their project as early as possible in its development. An application form, guidelines and conditions can be found on the Trust website www.pkht.org.uk/communityheritagegrants.

BIG DIVERSION FOR MUIRS

PKC ROADS NETWORK MANAGEMENT have advised that tree felling works on 14 April will result in a closure of part of the Muirs.

All vehicles will be temporarily prohibited from driving, parking or loading on the Muirs between Broom Road and the Springfield Road junction (a distance of around 218m). Pedestrian and emergency vehicular access to premises will be maintained.

Those needing to drive the closed 218m stretch of road face a rather long alternative route via Milnathort, taking the A91 towards Carnbo, then turning onto the B918 to reach the A977 before crossing the M90 and returning to the town centre via Station Road, as shown here. Or in reverse, if travelling from south of Springfield Road. *(Or just stay at home until it's all over – Ed.)*



SHARE YOUR VIEWS ON THE ACTIVE TRAVEL MASTERPLAN!

Perth and Kinross Council is seeking people's views on active travel (walking, wheeling and cycling) across Kinross-shire

Perth and Kinross Council has appointed Arup to prepare an Active Travel Masterplan for Kinross-shire. The aim of the Masterplan is to identify and prioritise interventions that will promote and encourage short everyday journeys to be made actively. It will also consider placemaking improvements to create more inviting, sustainable, and attractive places for both residents and visitors.

Arup would like to hear from the Kinross-shire community to understand what would help to make your everyday journeys more active. People are encouraged to



take part in an online survey, which provides an opportunity to provide feedback on current travel and the key issues, opportunities and types of improvements people would like to see across Kinross-shire. A link and QR Code to access the survey can be found below.

Don't miss out on the opportunity to contribute and earn your chance to win one of two £50 gift vouchers for Loch Leven's Larder. Winners will be selected at random

on closing of the survey on the Monday 15th April 2024.


If you or someone you know would like support to complete this survey, or would like a paper copy to complete, please contact the Kinross-shire Active Travel Masterplan team at Jamie.Smith@arup.com or phone 0131 319 3043.



GOOD NEWS FOR A CHANGE

A SERIES FROM MARK'S GOSPEL

LOCH LEVEN CHURCH APRIL/JUNE 2024 Charity No: SC049050

7 th April	Arthur Jones, South Beach Baptist Church			info@lochlevenchurch.com www.lochlevenchurch.com find us on facebook: We Love Loch Leven
14 th April	Graeme Gunn, LLC			
21 st April	Stephen Jones, LLC	Mark 1:1-11		The identity parade: How Jesus reveals Himself to us as God's King
28 th April	Robin Kent, LLC			Communion Sunday
5 th May	Bruce Lockhart, Missions Development Manager, SU Scotland	Mark 2:1-12		The loving warning: How Jesus diagnoses us with a heart problem
12 th May	Richard Gibb, LLC	Mark 15:16-39		The rescue mission: How Jesus saves us from our sin
19 th May	Steve Osmond, Evangelist, SOLAS & Ruth McCaig, Wycliffe Bible Translators	Mark 16:1-8		The fresh start: How Jesus brings us new life in Him
26 th May	Andy Hunter, FIEC			Communion Sunday
2 nd June	Allan McKinnon, Principal, Tilsley Bible College	Mark 10:13-27		The free gift: How Jesus does for us what we cannot do for ourselves
9 th June	Gavin Matthews, Assistant Director, SOLAS	Mark 8:22-9:7		The costly commitment: How Jesus expects us to find following Him difficult
16 th June	Roy Osborne, SU Regional Worker, Perth, Kinross & Fife	Mark 4:1-20		The different soils: How Jesus challenges us to respond to His words
23 rd June	Stephanie Staples Rostad, Musician from Nashville, US			Summer concert at Loch Leven's Larder
30 th June	Testimonies			Communion Sunday

Join us in the Loch Leven Community Campus every Sunday morning from 10:30 a.m.

THE MARRIAGE COURSE

7 sessions to strengthen your relationship



Venue: The Green Hotel
 Dates: Every Monday from 22nd April to 3rd June
 Time: 6:30 pm
 Cost: £20 per couple, each session (dinner included)



Loch Leven
Church

Charity No: SC049050

Childcare available for nursery/primary-aged children in the Green Hotel.
 For youth, the Loch Leven Church Youth Group will meet in the Kythe hub during the sessions.

To sign up, please email graeme@lochlevenchurch.com

www.lochlevenchurch.com

www.facebook.com/LochLevenChurch

info@lochlevenchurch.com

NOMINATION FOR BARRY IN NATIONAL YOUTH AWARDS

KYTHER IS DELIGHTED to announce that its Head of Youth Work, Barry Dougall, has been selected as a finalist for the 'Inspirational Leadership' Award at the prestigious National Youth Work Scotland Awards.

The Awards celebrate excellence in youth work and shine a light on Scotland's youth work heroes. Barry joined Kinross-shire Youth Enterprise (KYTHE) in 2017 and has been instrumental in seeing the charity grow to support over 400 young people in Kinross and surrounding areas.

The KYTHE team is delighted that Barry's contribution to supporting Kinross-shire youth has been recognised in this way. Gillian Lindsay, Youth Worker said, 'We're all so proud of Barry! There could not be a more deserving nominee. It's not just the many young people's lives Barry has inspired over the years; it's the staff and volunteers, too! His fun-loving leadership characteristics and the vision with which he operates are both a joy and a delight to support and collaborate with.'

Barry's contribution was pivotal in setting up the KYTHE Youth Hub in Kinross. Barry has recently overseen the launch of a new 'pop up' youth work service to areas such as Fossoway, Glenfarg and Oudenarde, supporting young people in rural areas.

In addition to growing the KYTHE offering, he continues to leave a lifelong impression on the young people he works with, with one young person saying: "Barry was just there for me, always. No matter what it was that I was going through there was someone who cared and someone who would listen to me."

Barry told the *Newsletter*, 'I feel honoured and humbled by this nomination



and recognition by Youth Link Scotland to becoming a finalist in the Inspirational Leaders Award.

'In the last 7 years in KYTHE, I have enjoyed fantastic support from our growing team, including staff, an inspiring board of management and trustees and of course our volunteers.

'Their commitment and dedication is reflected in my success as a leader, as we have worked shoulder to shoulder, we have seen great things happen in our ability to support the physical, emotional,

social and spiritual needs of the young people of Kinross-shire, Almond & Earn, through Dynamic Christian Youth Work.

STAGECOACH ANNOUNCE FARES INCREASE

STAGECOACH HAVE announced an increase in fares of 6%, including multi-journey tickets, from 31 March 2024.

This will be a bitter pill to swallow for those who rely on buses and who will be adversely affected by the recently-announced reduction in services across Perth & Kinross.

In a press release, Stagecoach said, 'Fares pay for day-to-day running of services, continued investment in new net zero buses and other customer improvements... Changes reflect rising costs of running bus services, which have increased by up to 40%.

Douglas Robertson, Managing Director for Stagecoach East Scotland said: 'Stagecoach has consistently delivered some of the lowest ticket prices in the country and we are committed to continuing to keep fares as low as possible.

'We are doing everything possible to absorb these cost increases.'

For more information visit Stagecoachbus.com.

PUBLIC WINDFARM MEETING AT CAMPUS

A PUBLIC MEETING TO discuss some of the issues surrounding windfarm proposals will be held at Kinross High School Campus on Monday 15 April at 7-9pm. There will be speakers from both sides of the debate. Those confirmed so far include Murdo Fraser: Conservative MSP, Helen McDade: Reform Party, and previously policy officer at the John Muir Trust, Luke Graham, prospective Conservative candidate for P&K and Andrew Montford: Director, Net Zero Watch.

Mike Barnacle told the *Newsletter*, 'With

proposals being put forward for three more windfarms in the Ochils, there will be many people who feel that the cumulative impact – on energy bills, on wildlife, and in particular on the Kinross-shire landscape – will soon be unsustainable. Others may feel that this is all a price worth paying.'

The meeting will be chaired by Mike Barnacle, former Councillor for Kinross-shire (1999-2022), member of APRS (Rural Scotland) Council, John Muir Trust, Kinross-shire Civic Trust and RSPB. He said, 'I look forward to seeing you all there.'

BUYOUT PLAN FOR CHURCH CAR PARK



KINNESSWOOD DEVELOPMENT TRUST has now submitted an application to register for a Community Right to Buy to the Scottish Government.

They say, 'It may be some time till we have any news on progress; we have not been given a timescale for the Government's consideration of the application. The outcome of the application, and the timing of when the Church of Scotland decides to put the Portmoak property on the market will determine the next steps, and we will discuss these as a wider community at that stage.'

'We will circulate any updates as soon as we have them.'

'In the meantime, we'd like to thank everyone in the Portmoak community who has given their support so far.'

You can contact or become a member of the Kinnesswood Development Trust at <https://kinnesswood.org/> (those living in the wider community, outwith the KDT postcode areas, can join as an Associate Member).

If you'd like more information about the Community Right to Buy process have a look at: www.gov.scot/policies/land-reform/community-right-to-buy/.

TRAFFIC NOTICES

TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF DRIVING, PARKING AND LOADING

B996 HIGH STREET/ SWANSACRE KINROSS

In order to permit SSEN works on the above section of road a temporary traffic regulation order will be prepared. It is to be effective from **9 April 2024** for a period of one day.

SCHOOL WYND – BOWTON ROAD – ROSS STREET – MONTGOMERY STREET.

BACK LOAN / WESTER LOAN / VICTORIA AVENUE / OLD PERTH ROAD – MILNATHORT

In order to permit BT cabling works on the above section of road a temporary traffic regulation order will be prepared. It is to be effective from **22 April 2024** for a period of three days.

These works will be done in phases.

The alternative route for vehicles is via –

WESTER LOAN – A911 NEW ROAD – VICTORIA AVENUE.

Pedestrian and emergency vehicular access to premises will be maintained.

ROCKS Mortgage & Financial Services

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Email - frank@rocksonline.co.uk

- Wide range of products from High Street Lenders and specialist mortgage products not available direct
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Frank Rocks t/a Rocks Mortgage and Financial Service is an Appointed Representative of HL Partnership Limited which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Your home may be repossessed if you do not keep up repayments on your mortgage.

Free mortgage consultation however a fee will apply (typically £250) on completion of mortgage.

IT'S A FIX! REPAIR CAFE HITS KINROSS

IN OCTOBER 2009 Martine Postma, a Dutch journalist, opened the first repair café in Amsterdam. Since then, pop-up repair events have been starting to appear all around the world. Currently there are over 3000 established repair cafés in many countries; the first Scottish one opened in Glasgow in 2017.

This month Kinross is starting a local repair cafe, with the launch at Kinross Church Centre on Saturday 20 April between 11am and 3pm. Jim Fairlie (MSP and Government Minister for Agriculture and Connectivity) has kindly offered to open the first ever Kinross-shire Repair Cafe.

Organisers said, 'We would like to thank the Community Investment Fund and all community members who voted for us to obtain the Green Living Fund. Those two awards will help us to organise and deliver four repair cafes in 2024.'



What Is A Repair Café?

It is a free community event, where people bring everyday items to get them repaired under supervision of experienced volunteer repairers. The idea is that participants will learn repair skills by taking part in or watching a repair process. Also, the repairs that will be facilitated are not complex – the repair café will not take business away from local professional repairers. By facilitating repairs like sewing a button on or fixing a bike puncture a repair cafe will help the professionals to concentrate on more complex repairs. But it is important to know that repair cafes provide a free service, hence the repairs may not conform to professional standards. Instead, they offer a social way of learning DIY skills to promote reducing waste and saving money.

What To Expect?

Participants will register for their item to be repaired and sign a waiver form. The item will be assessed by a repair volunteer to see whether it is repairable. Not every item can be repaired due to design restrictions or complexity. Although volunteers will try their best, there is a chance that they may not be able to help.

The services will be provided on a first-come first-served basis, so if it is busy you might need to wait. If you bring more than one item and it is busy, they will only service one item at a time. Although you may have to wait, to keep you entertained there will be refreshments and a swap shop. If you would like to use the swap shop, please bring a good quality, clean item to exchange. If you don't have anything to donate, you can still use the swap shop and leave a donation.

At the first repair cafe volunteers will help with textiles, hand darning, simple IT solutions (software), small electronic items (radios, CD players), jewellery (basic repairs), bikes (basic fixes like punctures) and small household items that you can carry (e.g. wood.).

What Does It Cost?

The Repair Cafe is free, but if you require a new part it will need to be paid for. Although there is no charge for the repair, donations will be collected to put towards the running costs of future cafes.

The repair cafe's motto? 'Throw it away? No way!' They hope to see you soon.

NETBALL GIRLS LITTER-PICK LOCH



KINROSS U17 NETBALL TEAM will be playing their last matches together over the next few months. Many of the players have been with the club since it was first formed and a few have joined along the way.

Fundraising for an away match against Orkney, before the final whistle the team have come up with a variety of fundraising ideas. They decided to do something good for the community and the environment. The idea of a sponsored litter pick was born with the additional challenge of making it around the loch.

The thought was four hours would be sufficient however, the squad of six quickly realised the volume of litter was so vast and the weight of rubbish so great it was a bigger task than originally thought.

Ellie Hearnden, Ava Scott, Chloe Baillie, Millie Ambrose, Gillian Stockdale and Bea Hearnden.

Undeterred the team kept going, the litter was particularly bad around Burleigh Sands and Loch Levens Larder with takeaway drinks cups going some distance, along with runner gel packs and an unthinkable amount of full dog poo bags.

With good spirit and humour the team completed the circuit and their good deed. Any support to the ongoing fundraising would be appreciated.

IT'S A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE!



WHAT A DAY!

COMMUNITY GROUPS, CLUBS and charities all came together to showcase their organisations to the public at the Campus and show why Kinross really is a better place to live. Many thanks to all the organisers and especially to Pauline Watson, who did such a marvellous job of bringing everyone together.

The event was opened by Kinross-shire Radio and TV presenter, Gordon Smart. More to follow in next month's edition of the *Newsletter*.





2024 FARMERS' MARKET DATES

THE KINROSS FARMERS' MARKETS begin again this month, with the first market on Saturday 27 April from 10am-2pm on Kinross High Street.

As always, shoppers will be able to buy high quality, fresh food from local producers and artisan traders offering a wide variety of products.

Organisers KLEO have lined up a variety of markets on the High Street this year, as well as and a few bigger markets at the Market Park (the grassy space opposite the Green Hotel).

The 2024 market dates are:

- 27 April** 10am to 2pm (High Street)
- 25 May** Spring Market 10am to 3pm (Market Park)
- 22 June** 10am to 2pm (High Street)
- 24 August** Summer Market 10am to 3pm (Market Park)
- 28 September** 10am to 2pm (High Street)
- 26 October** 10am to 2pm (High Street)
- 23 November** Festive (Winter) Market 10am to 3pm (Market Park)

See more information in the KLEO section on our clubs pages on p70 and contact info@kleo.org.uk.



LOCH LEVEN BEER WIN!

In December 2023 Loch Leven Brewery were absolutely delighted when two of their beers, King Slayer and Outlaw King were awarded medals. King Slayer took Gold in its category and best in Scotland at the SIBA regional beer awards.

Fast forward to March 2024 and King Slayer joined its fellow gold medal winners at the national (UK) finals at SIBA Beer X in Liverpool. This time around they were awarded Silver! The SIBA Independent Beer Awards represent the very best beer from the UK's independent brewers and are judged by fellow brewers and industry experts. A spokesperson said, 'We are extremely proud to add Kinross to the craft beer map of Scotland.'



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£££ PLEASE BRING CASH ON THE DAY £££

ROARING SUCCESS FOR PRISON ART SHOW

INSIDE OUT – THE EXHIBITION brought to Kinross by SSAFA Perth And Kinross and supported by Arts @ St-Pauls has been acclaimed as a great success.

This was an exciting new venture, working with veterans inside HMP Perth and the prison at Castle Huntly. The exhibition showed a range of artwork created in detention and, since this would be the first time it would be seen in the community, the title **INSIDE OUT** was deemed appropriate.

The exhibition proved extremely popular, with a constant stream of visitors on both days. SSAFA Branch Chairman Andy Middlemiss told the *News-letter*, 'We sold 38 paintings out of 56 – which is fabulous – and raised £865 for SSAFA. It was beyond our dreams and expectations to be honest.

'The artists inside were thanked and kept informed by the governor as to how it had gone and which of their works had sold. They had all agreed SSAFA should be the beneficiary, for which we are very grateful. We had a veteran prisoner from HMP Castle Huntly visit on both days on day release. Families visited the exhibition too and we all enjoyed chatting to them.

We could not be more thrilled to have helped lay this on with the prison authorities, who have been so helpful and co-operative. A big thank you to the veterans in the prisons for painting so much talented work.'

The exhibition of this work had several purposes and aims:

- It put on public view the veterans' artwork
- It allowed some families to view their relatives' works
- It allowed members of the public to view the artwork and purchase it at very modest prices.
- Proceeds will enable SSAFA to continue its work with veterans and Forces families, where need is to be found



L-R Angela Watson, SSAFA Branch Secretary; Susie Hamilton, Holyrood Veterans Commissioner; Andy Middlemiss, SSAFA Branch Chairman; Adam Bickerstaff, Prison Officer and Veterans In Custody Support Officer, HMP Perth

Andy said, 'We can't thank Arts @ St Paul's enough for their help, advice, encouragement and professional opinions on what should hang where!

Veterans' Commissioner – Susie Hamilton – kindly visited on Sunday, as did the SSAFA Convenor of Volunteers Scotland, Walter Gallagher – and many, many friends, local councillors and veterans locally.

'All in all', said Andy Middlemiss, 'it was a great success. SSAFA thank you the public for coming, veteran prisoners, and all SPS staff for their enthusiastic help and support.'



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Pensions Guidance

Lindsay Ross Ballantyne

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With a good pension (private and/or employer) you can now take some of your pension at age 55, even if you're not retired.

I am now retired from the financial industry and feel that there is an overwhelming need to explain pensions to people of all ages in clear and simple terms. I'm not selling anything other than my expertise. After a consultation with me you will be able to:

- Engage with your employer about your pension
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SARAH RANKIN COOKS



THE FOLLOWING RECIPE is a delicious one which is really easy – *and* it's from my new cookbook!

Kith is published on 18 April this year and I am so thrilled to be able to share it with you. It contains over 100 recipes that celebrate Scottish, seasonal ingredients and cooking

for those you love.

I'm really looking forward to launching Kith at a signing event on 16 May at Loch Leven's Larder, where I spent a lot of time writing the recipes and stories in it, so it feels really special to be unveiling it to the world at Channel Farm.

You can buy tickets to the

event via the Larder website. On the night, I'll be hosting a cooking demo featuring a dish from Kith, chatting with Emma from the larder about the journey that led to creating it, and signing copies of my book too.

I am so looking forward to seeing you all there.

WITCH SOLE & MUSSELS IN ROSÉ WINE

You Will Need

(Serves 4)

600g fresh mussels

1 garlic clove, minced

1 shallot, minced

olive oil

1 bay leaf

150ml rosé wine

a couple of cubes of butter

handful of chopped parsley

4 fillets of witch sole or any other sole available

sea salt



WITCH IS AN affordable fish from the sole family, just as good as Dover or lemon but a fraction of the price. This is a delicate fish that needs little in the way of intervention to make it sing. The fillets are often very thin, so cook them quickly to ensure you don't take them too far. Sometimes, only about 30 seconds per side is needed. Overcooked sole is dry and has the texture of cotton wool, so err on the side of less cooking rather than more.

Mussels are plentiful, cheap, sustainable and a great source of protein and omega 3. They are also high in selenium, which boosts immunity and balances thyroid function. They are farmed sustainably so have no negative environmental impacts

either. They take a little bit of prep, but nothing too taxing. Rinse them in cold running water and discard any that don't snap closed when tapped gently on the kitchen counter. Pull off the beard (the fronds that help them attach to the rope or rock). The beard should be pulled directly downwards toward the hinge of the shell to remove it. You should cook your mussels soon after doing this, as the beard removal will kill them.

Mussels also need very little cooking time, so this is a great after-work dish that can be on the table in less than 15 minutes.

Method

Clean and de-beard your mussels. Cook

the garlic and shallot in olive oil in a wide, deep pan until softened. Add the bay leaf and wine and cook on a high heat for 3 minutes. Add the mussels and cover. Cook for 3 minutes. Take out the mussels, remove them from the shells and set aside. Whisk a cube of butter and some chopped parsley into the reserved cooking liquor, add the mussel meat and set aside. Season the fish and fry in a non-stick pan with the rest of the butter and a little oil to prevent burning. Cook for 90 seconds maximum on each side. Pour the sauce and mussels into a bowl and add a fish fillet. Season with flaked sea salt and enjoy with crusty bread or some buttered green beans. Top with lemon zest. Delicious and simple.



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6

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Sat

13

Morning Dog Coffee



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13

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20

Nakey Bakey



Sat

27

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NO FENCE-SITTING HERE!

STROLLERS ALONG JUNCTION ROAD will be aware of the Church View wetland which is enclosed by a simple wooden fence. The fence is not locked. It might be thought it is for the safety of people. But whilst that is a concern for toddlers and other very young children who might be briefly unsupervised and wander down the road by all the traffic and then go into a pond, that is not the only consideration. Kinross is on the shores of a large loch, it has a river flowing through the town and another just to the north separating Kinross from Milnathort. There are two beautiful golf courses in Kinross which have ponds too. There is ample need for learning about water safety in our area, and a general acceptance that our landscape is better for open, easy access to riverside and loch, ponds and burns.

So, why the fence? The fence is an enduring feature for several additional important reasons: The feature is primarily designed and managed to provide the final treatment stage for the runoff from Junction Road and the commercial premises draining to it. The swales serving each property and the roads clean up close to source, and the wetlands 'polish' it, aiming to produce river quality drainage; that's what our rivers and streams need for the landscapes they drain.

"the wetlands... aim to produce river quality; that's what our rivers need from the landscapes they drain."

If there is proper clean-up of rainwater runoff by the commercial premises, (using soil and vegetation systems which break down traces of oil for example), then the final treatment stage wetlands can support a lot of wildlife. A boundary fence has a positive effect on the wildlife inside it, providing freedom from disturbance by dogs, or by bored children looking for embankments to race up and down on bikes. We need to have different spaces for those different interests.

The two new ponds in the designated South Kinross Flood Area nearby are also fenced, for the same reason. The permanent fences

Nature is in our hands – if we want to sustain a biodiverse environment. Frogspawn (left) and toadlet (right)



there were part of the habitat creation work overseen for the Kinross-shire Civic Trust by Daniele Muir, of Celtica Wildflowers (described in the article in the March issue of the Newsletter). Previously, in surveying a series of ponds in the Ochils, Daniele noted that there were more great crested newts (and the smaller smooth newt) in fenced than in unfenced ponds there. Those observations are supported by academic research. Prof. Kirsten Parris, the Australian ecologist



*Fenced Church view wetland in early autumn, clearly showing the boundary fence; a small wildlife haven on the edge of town. Maintenance work, cutting back and removing *Typha latifolia* to recreate areas of open water, was reported in last month's issue of the Newsletter, by Andrew Flinn.*



The second new pond in March 2024; the clay in the base is very soft and wet; definitely don't walk in it! Planting scheduled for late April or May (depending on growth of plug plants at Celtica Wildflowers).

and author of the excellent *Ecology of Urban Environments*¹ cites a controlled study from Sydney involving 90 sites and found that sites with dog walking had 35% fewer bird species and 41% fewer individual birds than in control sites. Other studies (e.g. in Madrid and in the UK) also showed adverse impacts of walkers on the diversity and abundance of birds and even more so from walkers with dogs. It was encouraging in summer last year, when Kristen visited the Kinross Raingardens Trail, to see how positive she was about our efforts here.

As the wetland edge flowers grow (e.g. marsh marigolds and lady's smock) and come into bloom in April, we hope frogs and newts, maybe toads too, should have spawned and tadpoles will be struggling for survival in the micro-jungle world of the ponds. If we can minimise disturbance during the nesting season especially, there should be birds nesting there too. On your next walk along the Raingardens Trail if you are lucky enough to see snipe – the small wader which flights suddenly and zig-zags away at speed low over marshes and other wetland areas, it may well be one that has nested at the local wetlands.

Brian D'Arcy

¹ Parris KM (2016) *Ecology of Urban Environments*, Wiley Blackwell, Chichester UK.

ROTARY YOUNG WRITERS

WINNER!



JOURNEY OF A LIFELINE

We gathered our bags and fled into the night,
Crashes and bangs giving everyone a fright,
Stumbling and tripping in the cold dark street,
Refugees together, grouped like a fleet,

Crossing the border, no food, no drink,
Border patrols everywhere, you can't even blink,
Trying to walk fast but our pace is slowing,
But whatever happens we must keep on going,

Finally there, after many days and nights,
Light reflects off the water shining many bright lights,
Pull on a life jacket if you are lucky,
The bottom of the boat, dirty and mucky,

Yelling and shouting, screams and cries,
Still in the boat when it hits sunrise,
Motor splutters but land is in sight,
Into the water, sun burning bright,

Legs splash and kick desperate to get to that shore,
We must keep on fighting, no matter how sore,
Roll onto the land, lie there for a bit,
We'll wait until streetlights start to be lit,

Taken away to a place filled with tents,
Happiness gone leaving us with big dents,
Sleep in the cold, fill cartons at shared taps,
Try zipping up tents till there are no gaps,

Here there are no proper beds,
No shampoo to wash your heads,
You can't eat real food or go to a real school,
Who would come here, must be some kind of fool,

Send a VISA away, wait for a reply,
Then finally you get to wave your goodbye,
Travel in a car till you're far, far away,
Should arrive at a haven, a safe house any day,

You get to sleep in a proper bed,
Use shampoo to wash your head,
Eat real food and go to school,
Because you left that place, that place for a fool,

You rebuilt your life, away from war,
There's no longer danger at your front door,
You rebuilt your home, your family, your friends,
Now you have a future, one with no dead ends

by Emily

THE WINNERS

WELL DONE TO ALL who entered this year's competition. The judges enjoyed reading the entries on this year's theme, 'Rebuilding'. There was an excellent range of approaches to this topic.

Here are the Young Writer Awards winner and runner up entries, and winners' photographs. Emily was the winner of the Intermediate Category and Lucy runner up. Innes won the Junior category and James was runner up.



RUNNER-UP

Andrew lives in a quiet street, in a small village surrounded by trees. In his back garden there are loads of trees, on one of them there is a really old bird box, which he can see perfectly from his bedroom window.

The bird box is up high in the treetops, Andrew thinks it's up that high to keep the cats away. Its faintly painted red, with a splodge of green on the side, it looks like a tiny house with a tiny hole at the front.

Every spring Andrew sees the same family of robins use the bird box. Andrew calls the mum and dad Mr and Mrs Robinson.

They build their nest in the bird box, he sees them carrying heaps of twigs, hay and fluff in and out the tiny hole, they do this for weeks and weeks. It feels like they never stop work until Mrs Robinson is ready to lay her eggs.

Andrew likes to help the birds by putting out food, they especially like peanuts and oats.

Andrew loves watching them through spring and summer until the eggs hatch and the baby birds learn to fly. It always takes them a couple of days to be brave enough to fly.

When they are big enough, the babies fly away and leave the nest, Andrew always feels a little bit sad when the babies leave.

The nest stays empty for the rest of the year, until Mr and Mrs Robinson come back next spring and start to rebuild their tiny little home and have lots more baby birds.

by James

WINNER! (Junior)

What the word rebuilding actually means. It means that you could rebuild a new house, a business, something that has been damaged or destroyed.

My dad always wanted to be a lorry driver, but he never thought he would have his own transport business. When he was 10 years old, he dreamt of being an artic lorry driver, he thought about driving up and down the country and even abroad. When he left school, he was too young to get his licence, so he served his time doing an apprenticeship in welding. When he finished that he was 21 years old, and he was able to sit his HGV and get his licence.

His first job driving was for A & R Finnie, in St Andrews delivering all sorts including, tatties, and paper from the mill at Leslie. He also worked for A & J Nelson, drove timber out the forests, and delivered it up and down the country.



Innes, winner of Junior category

But when he was 30 years old, he decided to try his luck at running his own business, he called it Cunningham Transport LTD, and his first lorry was a Volvo Globetrotter 44 ton artic, and also bought a flat trailer.

His main deliveries were transporting pipes out of Kilsyth all over Britain, he was away from home a lot, and missed his family, but being his own boss was worth it. But unfortunately, when the lorry was one payment away from being owned by him, there was a terrible accident one morning. Another lorry badly crashed into the front of his lorry when he was sleeping inside it, and the Volvo was written off, causing my dad a lot of heart break, a lot of money, and a lot of missed work.

So, this is when my dad had to rebuild his business, he had to go back to being an employee and take any work he could get, to build up his funds again to buy another truck for Cunningham Transport. He worked more hours and more days to try to keep his business going. It was a very stressful time for my dad.

But luckily with all his hard work, it all worked out in the end. Now after 20 years my dad is on his 5th truck, a brand-new Scania, he owns a curtainsider trailer, and a flatbed trailer, and Cunningham Transport is busier than ever.

He has had some amazing jobs too, driving to France to deliver exhibitions, delivering trusses to some of our Scottish Islands, some trips I even get to go with him and stay in the truck overnight, that is a lot of fun. He will never forget how lucky he is to still be living his dream as he always wanted, since he was 10 years old, especially after the struggle of rebuilding his business. His story has helped me to believe in myself, and if you put your mind to it and think positive, anything is possible.

I am immensely proud of my dad, and proud to be part of Cunningham Transport too.

by Innes

RUNNER-UP (Junior)

Mr Nolen was about to go on stage, he could hear the roaring crowd waiting for him to walk on to the stage. He started to walk on stage the crowd got louder and louder every step he took. He took a big look at his crowd and began to sing. He had a beautiful voice. This was his childhood dream, to walk on stage and sing for an audience that appreciated his voice, his talent! Singing was his world. He began to sing louder and louder as he was about to finish his song. His voice was about to hit the highest note he had ever sung the audience started to cheer him on even louder than before he couldn't even hear his voice.

"Oooooohhhhh" he sang. The audience started stamping their feet and clapping their hands then everybody went silent. They could all feel the building shaking, little bits of the roof started falling off it started shaking even more than before. Everybody started screaming and kept trying to push people out of the way. What is happening thought Mr Nolen, my whole lifelong dream has started to fall apart in front of my eyes. But then a big piece of plaster fell so close to him that it snapped him out of his thoughts and he started running. By then almost the whole crowd had evacuated out of the building, and the building was falling apart like dominoes. Two weeks after the tragic incident Mr Nolen sat on the ground with his eyes closed "What did I do to deserve this," he said to himself this was his lifelong dream, to sing but now his home town theatre was in crum-

bles. He had lost all hope but the his brain clicked "I have an idea" he said "I HAVE AN IDEA" he shouted he hopped about in glee. He decided that he wanted to rebuild the theatre and even though he didn't really have any friends to help him he had all of his fans. "This was his only choice he just had to hope that his fans would help him, he might even find himself a girlfriend!" he thought. He called all the newspapers he knew about so he could ask for help, soon it would be on all the newspapers around town. But first he needed the supplies.

So many people replying saying they could help builders, veterinarians, shop owners and many more. He quickly went and bought all the supplies needed and they all got to work. Day and night they were all working as hard as ever, some people had breaks now and then to get food for them and everybody else but everybody still carried on the hard work. Everybody was getting tired and angry but nobody gave up because they were so close. They were on to the decorating now, painting and placing the seats. One more paint dip and they would be finished everybody went silent as the last brick was covered with a smooth slick paint. everybody took a step back to take it all in "IT'S FINISHED!" one person shouted and some people were laughing with tears covering their faces. Mr Nolen sang a song to celebrate and then everybody cheered because they had finished.

by Lucy



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FASHION TO DYE FOR

IN LAST MONTH'S *Newsletter* I wrote an article about how our demand for cheap, fast fashion is bad for the environment. As it turns out, it is not a good story for our health either.

On 27 February 2024, the *Guardian* printed an article about research in the US on human placentas. In all 62 placentas that were analysed, scientists found microplastics.

Microplastics have also been discovered in human breast milk and blood. Other research focuses on what microplastics do to the human body and that brings more bad news. There may be a link with many health conditions that have seen a steep rise in the last decades, such as inflammatory bowel disease and decreasing sperm counts. More research will be needed to determine how dangerous microplastics in our bodies are.

Last month I mentioned that wearing and washing polyester clothing is an important source of these microplastics. However, there are other ways in which the clothes we wear can do harm. And it is not really a new phenomenon either.

In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries the colour green was hugely fashionable. It was a difficult colour to produce and even more difficult to keep bright in the sun light and through cleaning. The Swedish chemist Carl Sheele developed a dye that kept the green bright and deep. The secret: arsenic. It was a great success, and fashionable ladies clad themselves in these toxic garments. The results were catastrophic: sores and ulcers would appear on their body; hair would fall out and in extreme cases internal organs would shut down. The (mostly) women who worked with the fabrics such as seamstresses and laundry maids were even worse affected. The toxic effects of arsenic were well known even then. In 1862 the British Medical Journal quipped: "(she) carries in her skirts poison enough to slay the whole of the admirers she may meet with in half a dozen ball-rooms." This fashion fad was certainly 'to die for'.



Have we learned from this? Not enough, I would say. We know that chemical substances can penetrate the skin and get into the bloodstream; such as in the case of arsenic green. Towards the end of 2010 flight attendants at Alaska Airways (later at other airlines too) began to report a slew of health problems: rashes, sores, vomiting, hair loss and migraines. The problems, according to the flight attendants, began after they were issued with new uniforms. The new uniforms were made of wrinkle-resistant polyester. Oil-based textiles (polyester, acrylic, nylon) don't hold on to dye as well as natural fabrics and have to be dyed with 'disperse' dyes. Disperse dyes, combined with the chemicals used to make the uniforms stain-and wrinkle repellent may well leech into the bloodstream. These uniforms are worn for long hours on end; it may be that all these chemicals combined create a toxic reaction.

Again, more research is needed. But in the meantime, I will not knit baby clothes with acrylic yarns. Give me wool anytime!

Trudy Duffy

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WHEN THINGS GO WRONG

ON THE 27 APRIL 1944, a terrible tragedy unfolded just off Slapton Sands on the coast of Devon. 946 American servicemen died during Exercise Tiger, the rehearsals for the D-Day landing, to take place on Utah Beach in Normandy, France.

The area around Slapton Sands was selected for these exercises, because it bore a great resemblance to parts of the French coast, the location chosen for the largest invasion by sea of the war.

The River Dart filled up with landing craft and ships for the operation.

Under cover of darkness, 9 German E-boats (fast attack craft) had managed to slip in amongst them in Lyme Bay. The rehearsal's slow moving LSTs (landing ship tanks) were no match for them. Because of widespread confusion among the British escorts that night, the E-boats were able to get close enough to the Tiger convoy - codenamed T-4 - to launch their torpedoes. Warnings had been issued about the Germans' presence, but no preventative action taken. The result was an unmitigated disaster. The heavily-laden, slow-moving tank landing ships were easy targets for the torpedo boats, which first attacked the unprotected rear of the convoy.

A series of tragic decisions - including the absence of a British Navy destroyer, which was supposed to be escorting them, but had been ordered into Plymouth for repairs, and an error in radio frequencies - led to three of the tank landing craft being hit by German torpedoes.

One LST was seriously crippled. Another burst into flames, trapping many of the victims below deck. A third sank immediately, sending hundreds of U.S. 4th Division soldiers to their deaths. As bodies washed ashore along England's South Coast in the days after, the official death count rose to 749



US Troops coming ashore at Slapton Sands during Exercise Tiger. (Credit: NARA)

Lack of training on the use of life vests, heavy packs, and the cold water contributed to the disaster: many men drowned or died of hypothermia, before they could be rescued.

Despite this, the rest of the exercise continued at Slapton beach, but with disastrous results. The practice assault included a live-firing exercise, and many more soldiers were tragically killed by 'friendly fire' from the supporting naval bombardment. It was all hushed up.

The higher authorities declared that secrecy about the Slapton Sands disaster was crucial. If it became common knowledge, it would have an irreparable impact on morale and alert the Germans to Op Overlord. Yet despite the gag order imposed on many survivors, rumours spread fast. Some were so shocked by the scale of the botch-up, that they began to seriously question their roles in the invasion, just a few weeks away.

It is well known that training accidents,

and travel incidents involving planes, boats and big equipment, like tanks and armoured vehicles, in the armed forces are almost inevitable. Training for war is a risky business, but this was a major disaster, and one that really should have been preventable. Daring and bold action by the German navy proved costly.

In today's Forces, sadly, training will always lead to some accidents – ex Servicemen can all recall incidents in their careers. One of mine amongst several....: one of my Corporals, newly married too, was tragically killed on an exercise we were doing with the local Forces, in Portugal, when his Ferret scout car overturned on a very narrow, wooden bridge, with no walls, on the dry, dusty, parched training area- RIP Cpl McEvoy.

We are getting close to D Day 80 now – 6 June 1944 and my next two articles will tell you what happened on those five beaches.

Andy Middlemiss





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LOCAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Millbridge Hall

Booking Secretary: an essential role in managing hall reservations, liaising with the caretaker and treasurer. Your contribution will directly impact the accessibility and use of this community space.

Treasurer: responsible for monthly invoicing to the various groups, payment of bills and budgeting for the halls, working with the management committee, to ensure ongoing sustainability. Email invoicing@millbridgehall.org

CATCH Loch Leven

Raising our profile with the community is becoming a top priority for us. If you have relevant skills and experience in social media communication and are looking for a worthwhile outlet for your energies we would love to hear from you at info@catch-lochleven.org.

The Potager Garden

A small community garden in Bowton Road Kinross. Contact Amanda James on 07963 476803, or amandajames1577@gmail.com.

Broke not Broken

Broke not Broken is a voluntary organisation working for the prevention and relief of poverty. Contact admin@brokennotbroken.org.

Greyhound Rescue Fife

Greyhound Rescue Fife at Balfree Country Centre, Gairneybank, Kinross, needs volunteers to clean the kennels and walk and feed the greyhounds. 01592 890583. www.greyhoundrescuefife.com.

KLEO

(Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation): If you enjoy local events on your doorstep, like the monthly Kinross Farmers' market and the winter festival events (concerts, comedy and the festive street market), please join the KLEO team! Contact Bouwien Bennet at info@kleo.org.uk or call 01577 863107.

RSPB Scotland Loch Leven

RSPB Scotland Loch Leven: We need volunteer fundraisers to help with pin badge boxes and bucket collections. Please get in touch on communityfundraisingscotland@rspb.org.uk.

Kinross (Marshall) Museum

The Museum Trust is looking for volunteers. If you would like to know more 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. Contact Pamela Hunter on 01577 862419.

Light Up Kinross

Light Up Kinross is a small local charity with responsibility for Kinross Christmas lights. Please contact davidcolliar@tiscali.co.uk.

Common Grounds

A Charity Cafe staffed by volunteers on Tuesday and Saturday mornings from 10am-12.30pm in the Guide Hall, Church Street, Milnathort. Contact: Gaylor Hopkins 01337 860535 or Elaine Matthew 01592 840266.

Seamab

Seamab is a residential school that cares for some of the most vulnerable children in Scotland. For more information contact Melloney Flinn at mflinn@seamab.org.uk or call 01577 840307.

SSAFA

The Armed Forces charity is always on the look out for new volunteers in a variety of roles: client case working (free training is provided), admin office roles, fundraising or PR/media work. Contact the Branch Secretary 07594 650900.

Kinross-shire Day Centre

We are looking for volunteers to serve meals and help with day trips and activities, such as bingo and singing, for a lively bunch of over-aged teenagers (over 65s). Pop in and speak to Nan or telephone 01577 863869.

Milnathort Town Hall Committee

We are looking for volunteers. 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. Visit www.aberlour.org.uk/volunteer.

SPARKS

SPARKs allows adults of all ages who have support needs or disabilities to meet together with their carers. For more information 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 has a wide range of adult volunteering opportunities available. Contact us at dofekinrossshire@gmail.com.

Interested in Guiding?

Volunteer with Girl Guiding and help make a difference to the lives of girls. If you would like to volunteer call Alison on 07764 750212.

Friends of CHAS Kinross

Do you enjoy meeting people? Making a difference? Planning fun and creative events? Then please think about Friends of CHAS – Kinross. Contact community fundraiser Lyndsay Stobie at: lyndsastobie@chas.org.uk or 07557 370746.

Kinross-shire Volunteer Group & Rural Outreach Scheme

Could you become a volunteer driver for Kinross-shire Volunteer Group & Rural Outreach Scheme? We deliver a vital service to help the elderly and disabled attend appointments. Please contact the Administrator 01577-840196 or email administrator@kvgrs.org.uk.

Guide Dogs Kinross

We would love new volunteers to join our fundraising group. Email she61@hotmail.co.uk.

1st Kinross Cubs

1st Kinross Cubs is a part of the 1st Kinross Scout Group and offers the young children of Kinross-shire the opportunity to gain new skills and experiences under the guidance of the Scout Association. Contact Daryl kinrossbeavers@hotmail.co.uk.

Kinross in Bloom

Volunteer group which provides and maintains floral displays to enhance the environment in Kinross. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact susan.mitchell50@gmail.com.

ORGANISATIONS: To add an appeal, email the Editor. Please let us know if you no longer need your appeal to be listed.

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Councillor Dave Cuthbert



Apology

Firstly, an apology for not putting anything into the *Newsletter* last month.

I spent most of January and February along with the other three Independent Councillors doing a deep dive into the Council's finances to try to minimise the impact of the cuts the Council would have to make to their budget.

Council Budget

The budget review this year proved to be one of the most complicated I have ever seen, as the Council had to cut roughly £30.5m a year from its expenditure over the next three years.

The Council's total expenditure in the coming year will be roughly £462.7m, so the cut of £30.5m does not on the face of things sound onerous. However, within the £462.7m of spending are several budgets which cannot be touched by the Council.

These can be summarised as Health and Social Care (20%), Teachers (18%), Unitary Charge (5%), Benefits (5%), Rates/Energy/Maintenance (4%), Loan Charges (2%), Pupil Transport (2%).

So, in effect, 56% or roughly £259m cannot be touched.

This meant that the £30.5m had to be taken from £203.6m of expenditure, which represents cuts of almost 15% in services. Ouch!

Within the proposals from officers there were several suggested savings which I felt were unacceptable. So, for example, there was a proposal to put the price of school meals up by 70% in one year. Likewise, there were three proposals to cut winter maintenance (gritting and clearing of roads and pavements) and there was a proposal to cut £4.359m annually from the education budget and the information provided indicated that this would primarily affect pupils with additional support needs.

Throughout January and February, I and my fellow Independent Councillors carried out numerous budget review group meetings with officers and in the end, we came up with a balanced budget which spread out the increases in school meal prices, rejected the saving in additional support needs and rejected the winter maintenance cuts, along with numerous others which we felt were unacceptable.

To do this, we proposed 22 new savings, which gave us some headroom to put forward some new areas of expenditure, which we felt were needed.

In total we put forward 29 new spending proposals. I will pick out three of these.

Firstly, we proposed a budget of £50,000 to carry out a feasibility study with the aim of identifying a potential route to bring a railway line to Kinross. After all, Alloa and Leven have seen rail improvements, so why not Kinross-shire?

Secondly, we put in a budget of £24,000 to reduce the income targets for campuses. The aim of this being to allow campuses to reduce the cost of hire to local groups, so that the Council's campuses could be used in the way they were intended. Currently, it costs £300 a night to hire the assembly hall for weekday evenings and £700 for a weekend evening. This makes putting on events in the campus a risky business, as the cost must be charged back in the ticket price.

Thirdly, we put in a proposal to spend £50,000 on adapting campuses to allow more use by the community.

The budget meeting is a complicated business, requiring a full day of speeches, meetings, and debates. Some of our proposals were accepted in part or in full, some were not.

The interesting thing is that many of our proposals appear in officer budgets in future years after they have been looked at and considered by Council officers.

A copy of the Independent Budget proposal can be found on my Facebook page.

More Planning Matters

I mentioned some of the issues relating to planning in my February piece. However, I think it is of sufficient importance to mention it again here.

Councillor Richard Watters and I sit on the Council's Planning and Placemaking Committee. We do this as we believe it is important that Kinross-shire is represented on the Committee. It is a thankless, very time-consuming task which can often put us at odds with either the developer or with constituents.

At the last Planning and Placemaking Committee there were three Kinross-shire applications. Two of these were very controversial with numerous objections from our constituents. Each of these took over an hour of the Committees time with deputations from objectors and developers, outlining their cases. On this occasion, both applications got permission.

The outcomes of these two decisions will have disappointed some of our constituents, so I want to briefly explain how the process works.

In essence, as I have said in the past, planning law is weighted in favour of the developer and should the Committee decide to reject an application, it can be appealed to the Government's planning and environmental appeals division or DPEA. They appoint a reporter to look at the case and rule on the decision. The basis of their decision is heavily weighted on the reports submitted by officers and statutory consultees (as they are the professionals). When officers tell the committee that policy X, Y, or Z is satisfied, committee members have been advised to take their advice.

This can be hugely frustrating. For example, I asked whether the Devonshaw Quarry application near Powmill satisfied policy 13d of the National Planning Framework. This states: 'Development proposals for significant travel generating uses will not be supported in locations which would increase reliance on the private car, taking into account the specific characteristics of the area.'

The answer to this question was that the application did satisfy this policy, as putting in bus stops and providing a path to Powmill satisfied it.

Likewise, the biodiversity question was explored in depth and officers indicated that NPF policies 3 and 4 were satisfied.

During the meeting, the developers made several promises. I have spoken to the Chairs of both Glenfarg Community Council and Fossoyay Community Council and encouraged them to follow up on these promises.

I did not put forward a motion to refuse, as to do so would have resulted in permission being granted anyway. Big sigh.

Councillor Dave Cuthbert





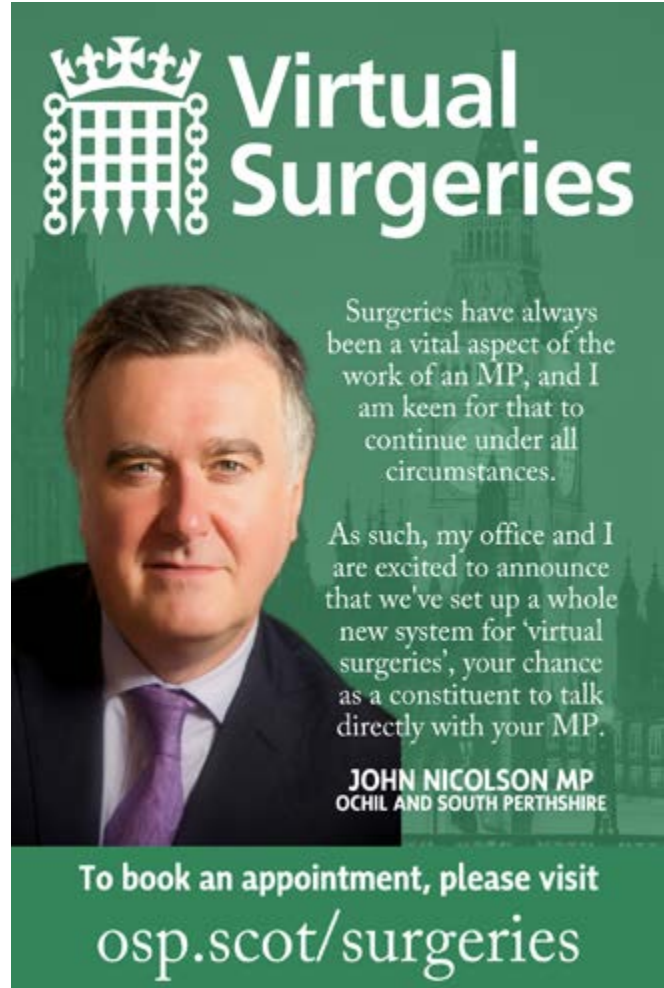
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Councillor Neil Freshwater



Veterans Art Exhibition

Well done to SSAFA, the Armed Forces Charity for hosting a very successful charity art exhibition as part of Art @ St Paul's in Kinross. The event is an initiative between the Scottish Prison Service and SSAFA which works with veteran inmates at HMPs Perth and Castle Huntly, to encourage art as therapy. I had a great chat with representatives from the Scottish Prison Service, SSAFA volunteers and veterans about the role that the art initiative plays as a really important aspect of rehabilitation. There was a really successful attendance throughout the weekend as well as some great artwork done by the veterans, which proved very popular with visitors, and many being sold. I was fortunate enough to be able to buy some of the paintings as well which will be soon be on our wall at home.



Speeding In Kinross

Road safety remains one of the major issues that residents raise. One particular issue has been about traffic heading into the Muirs from Milnathort. There was meant to have been some road safety improvements done by now, so I have followed up with the road safety team to see if I can get an update. On the subject of road safety, I can confirm that the Gairneybank south bound vehicle activated sign (VAS) is now finally installed (and working!).

Public Transport And Council Budget

Annual budget meetings at Council can be difficult in the current economic climate, as elected members are required to make decisions in relation to what services to prioritise and what might need to be cut.

The budget meeting this year came in the shadow of a decision by Stagecoach to drastically cut services in Carse of Gowrie between

THE KINROSS NEWSLETTER

All profits returned to the community

Dundee and Perth. As such, there was much debate about the need to supporting public transport.

Speaking against proposed budget cuts to some vital bus services in Perth & Kinross, I was pleased to highlight some of the excellent services provided by Glenfarg Community Transport on the one hand, and the vital service the Ember provides in connecting people of Kinross-shire to Dundee and Edinburgh.

My main message that public investment in public transport must come with assurances that buses operate where and when they are needed. On that note, there remains ongoing concerns over 202 service and discussions are underway to see how it might be improved.

Councillor Neil Freshwater

Councillor Willie Robertson



Active Travel Plan

Kinross-shire was missed out by Arup when they produced a draft Active Travel Plan for TACTRAN at the end of last year. TACTRAN stands for the Tayside and Central Scotland Transport Partnership and is made up of Angus, Dundee, Perth & Kinross and Stirling-shire councils. It has been agreed that this omission of Kinross-shire should be put right, and Arup are now going to consult on what strategic active travel routes should be added covering Kinross-shire (see News, p15)

My initial thoughts would be to establish the following strategic active travel routes;

- Create a multi-use link from Kinross down the B996 to the Fife boundary at Kelty.
- Complete a multi-use route from Kinross to Dollar – using the Devon Valley line where possible.
- Create a safe route from Glenfarg to join the cycleway currently being constructed at the Baigle straight – using the tunnels and track of the railway line through Glenfarg.
- Create a multi-use link from the LLHT to link Levenmouth at Scotlandwell to Leslie following the Leven Cut.

We also need a safe way for cyclists and pedestrians to navigate the roundabout at the Kinross junction on the M90.

I would welcome your thoughts on these suggestions.

Roadside Litter

Some of our road verges are in a real mess because of litter, especially the B996 south of Kinross. Although stretched the Council's waste services are planning to get this road litter picked asap. Once they get the B996 finished they plan to litter pick the A91 west of Milnathort. It is really sad that some people have so little regard for our county that they would throw litter from their cars instead of disposing of it responsibly.

Road Drains

At this time of year many road drains get blocked by leaves and debris. If you see a drain like this please take a minute to clear the grating if you can. If you see a blocked drain please let me know and I will try and get it cleaned out.

Councillor Willie Robertson

MINDFUL MONDAYS RELAXATION CLASSES

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Church St, Milnathort

Mondays 7pm to 8pm
Williamson Hall,
Kirk Wynd, Abernethy

vincent.johnston@btinternet.com
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Politicians

Councillor Richard Watters



IT WAS ENCOURAGING to see all the excellent applications for funding from the Green Living Fund at the award ceremony in the Councils Civic Hall recently. There was over £225,000 of funding available for community organisations throughout the whole of Perth and Kinross.

For Kinross-shire and Glenfarg there were seven quality applications applying for their share of the £23,863 of funding available for the area, unfortunately not all the applications received an award, due to the funding requests outstripping the available funding.

I would like to congratulate all the successful bids included Glenfarg Connectivity, Men's Shed insulation and Heating, Milnathort Core Paths, Greener Glenfarg Group, Glenfarg Freewheelers, Kinross-shire Repair Cafe, Broke not Broken: Reducing Food Poverty and Food Miles across Kinross-shire and A Greener Glenfarg Community Centre.

These projects – big and small – will make a real difference to the lives of people in communities across the area and help with the pressure the Cost of Living crisis is putting people under, it is great to see the ideas community groups put forward. Support from the Green Living Fund will not only help address this but also help to tackle climate crisis and make Perth and Kinross a greener, more sustainable place to live.

The Kinross-shire Committees project to create a Kinross-shire and Glenfarg Active Travel masterplan is progressing apace. Arup,



the external consultants appointed to complete the work, have already completed the initial stages of the project and, at the time of writing, are starting to engage with the project stakeholders, including Community Councils and other relevant organisations in the area. Arup has also created an online community-wide survey to help them understand what can be done to allow us to travel more actively. I would encourage individuals to participate and help inform future actions; details of the survey can be found on page 15 of this Newsletter.

Regarding the concerns raised with council officers about safety issues surrounding the bridge over the North Queich

adjacent to the new Lathro Meadows housing development, I am pleased to inform you that Persimmon has indeed fulfilled the commitment to constructing a suitable bridge next to the existing structure. Recent developments have unveiled the new bridge structure, which is positioned on the abutments. Although there are pending tasks regarding the bridge approaches, the overall progress is undeniably a positive step forward and signifies a significant milestone in enhancing the functionality and safety of the area, aligning with the overarching goal of enhancing connectivity within the country park.

Councillor Richard Watters

Jim Fairlie, MSP



I WAS PLEASED to attend The Better Place to Live Fair in Kinross last month. The fair was opened by radio and TV presenter Gordon Smart, who is a Kinross boy himself. The community response in the run up to the fair was extremely encouraging and I hope that all those who attended had a fantastic day out and got a lot from the event. One of my favourite things about being a local representative is getting out and about to these community events, and believe me, there are many of them across Perthshire South and Kinross-shire. Before we know it, it will be time to dust off the boots for the many agricultural shows, Highland games and gala days up and down the local area – I better not wish the summer away too quickly!

Later this month I am honoured to be opening the Kinross Repair Café, which is a new venture from the Kinross-shire Climate Café. A repair café is a meeting place where folk can come along and learn how to mend items that may otherwise end up in landfill – all whilst enjoying a cup of tea or coffee. For the first repair café there will be volunteers on hand who have expertise in repairing items in the following categories: textile and wool, jewellery, chairs, small wooden objects, bikes and electronics. If your item cannot be mended by a volunteer present on the day, the Kinross Repair Café team will refer your item on to a local professional who will attempt to repair. Not only will this fantastic initiative possibly revive an old forgotten item, but it shares new skills and prevents items ending up in landfill. Please do come along to the Church Centre, High Street, Kinross at 11am on Saturday 20 April. You will be more than welcome, whether you have an item needing repaired or not.

The above event, and the subsequent events held throughout 2024 are possible due to Kinross Repair Café being announced as the winners of Perth and Kinross Council's Green Living Fund. Together with the fund received from The PKC Community Investment Fund, this will help the group to run four repair cafes in 2024. I know that the team were very pleased with the support the local community gave the project.

As we come into the warmer months, I will be working very closely with Councillor Richard Watters and keeping an eye on water quality on Loch Leven. I am very well aware of the previous problems with high levels of phosphates in the water creating blue-green algae bloom, which can be harmful to humans and wildlife. Last year, a number of stakeholders worked closely together to monitor the situation and to try to find remedial solutions. I will be following this work very closely and will be on hand to provide any support I can.

In the meantime, if you need to contact me, please email Jim.Fairlie.MSP@Parliament.Scot or call 01738 620540.

Jim Fairlie, MSP

Liz Smith, MSP



I WAS DELIGHTED to recently lodge a motion in the Scottish Parliament to commend the work of The Kinross-shire Volunteer Group and Rural Outreach Scheme (KVG&ROS). For readers unaware of Parliamentary procedure, MSPs can submit a motion to raise awareness of an issue or recognise a group, business or individual. The motions generally receive cross-party support from members across the Chamber who wish to praise the work of these organisations. There are certainly few groups more worthy than KVG&ROS for this official acknowledgement in the nation's parliament.

As readers will know, KVG&ROS has provided 40 years of service to the people of Kinross-shire and were recently the recipients of Age Scotland's Services to Older People award. The group provides transport services for residents in Kinross-shire and takes them to their essential engagements including hospital/dentistry appointments, groceries, and haircuts. Last year, the group completed 2,900 volunteer hours and over 5,000 miles to assist their over 300 clients. But equally important to the transport service is the human aspect, and regular users of the service frequently comment on the friendliness of the drivers.

Kinross-shire has unfortunately been the victim of some savage cuts to bus services over recent years and many of the rural villages across the county are more isolated than ever. This service is therefore essential for elderly residents who would otherwise have no alternative mode of travel. The local community cannot thank the volunteers enough for their selfless dedication to providing this lifeline service and it is a prime example of community spirit and what can be achieved when we work together.

Liz Smith, MSP

John Nicolson, MP



They Came In Doves...

It was, they said, a beautiful night. The moon was full, its luminous presence dominating the clear night sky. They came in droves, exploiting the clear night flying conditions. Crossing the Irish Sea, the Clyde shimmered beneath them, silver in the moonlight.

That night the carefully observed blackout was redundant, and the war weary citizens of the Clydeside could do nothing to hide their fine old tenements as wave after wave of German pilots – determined to cripple the Scottish wartime shipbuilding industry – dropped their deadly cargo on the defenceless people below.

As I write this in March of 2024, eighty three years ago today the Clydeside Blitz was underway. My Grandfather, John George Stant went to work as usual. He left his wife Jenny and their three young children in the top floor tenement room and kitchen where they lived, on the Dumbarton Road in Scotstoun. Ahead of him loomed a night shift at Yarrow's, a twenty-minute tram ride away.

As the air raid sirens wailed along the Clyde some hours later, my Mum – then aged fifteen – joined her younger twin siblings and my Grandma in the underground air raid shelter across the road. They didn't know so at the time, but three miles west, John and his workmates ran a doomed sprint towards the shipyard shelter where a few moments later they were to die, victims of a Luftwaffe direct hit.

My Grandma sat up all night waiting for her husband to come home. And, of course, he never did. Nor was there a body to bury. John George Stant, like so many veterans, had dodged German

bullets in Flanders only to die at the hands of German bombers over the Clyde. By the time they'd finished 1200 Clydesiders lay dead and 1100 were seriously injured.

By a curious twist of fate, I'm writing this from my study in the home then owned by Miss Sandeman of the famous port wine company. That night she was almost certainly hiding in the private Anderson Shelter she'd built in the garden. If she was frightened she'd good cause to be as the German aircraft lightened their load by discarding excess bombs randomly as they flew east across Scotland towards the North Sea and home. Ms Sandeman was lucky. Some of her neighbours were hit. But she lived to celebrate her 100th birthday.

John George Stant's immediate family are long gone. His wee boy Eric was to die from leukaemia a year later. My Mum, throughout her own long life, was blessed (or cursed) by a vivid recollection of the night her father died. She joined me at Westminster for a commemoration ceremony to mark the Blitz 75th anniversary, although she couldn't face a return to Clydebank as she said the memories remained too painful.

My Mum often said how remarkable it was that war in Northern Europe now seems inconceivable. And when the Brexit results came through, she despaired that generations who'd never known war should so take Europe's peace dividend for granted.

John Nicolson, MP

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KEEP SAFE

SINCE 2014, POLICE SCOTLAND has been working in partnership with award winning community charity, I Am Me Scotland.

This has been to establish a network of Keep Safe places across Scotland. The initiative works with businesses and community buildings. These range from cafes, shops and libraries to football stadiums, museums or local authority premises.

Keep Safe was designed with disabled people. They highlighted that sometimes they may feel lost, scared or vulnerable when out in the community. However, it can be used by anyone as we can all feel vulnerable at any time. All prospective Keep Safe places must complete a criteria form which is checked and approved by Police Scotland. Staff then receive Keep Safe Awareness training and display the Keep Safe sticker in their window.

Anyone who needs assistance can enter a Keep Safe place and the staff within can offer help. They may only need a safe space to wait for a short period before continuing with their day. They may need help contacting a family member or emergency services.

Despite the intended use of Keep Safe places, many people now say they give them the confidence to participate in community life.

People may use a Keep Safe shop or a Keep Safe café and never need to ask for help. However, they report feeling safe knowing staff can provide support, if needed.

Keep Safe cards are available for anyone to use. They can be particularly useful for people living with dementia, people who have hidden disabilities, or specific communication requirements, such as being non-verbal, or being deaf and using lip reading or sign language.

The cards carry information about the holder's health conditions, communication requirements and emergency contact details. All Keep Safe places can be mapped out on the 'Keep Safe Scotland' App. This free app allows people to find their nearest Keep Safe place and plan journeys in advance, highlighting Keep Safe places en-route.

RECENT INCIDENTS

A white Vauxhall Corsa Van was stolen from Milnathort between 25/02/24 and 29/02/24 (CR/0074587/24)

Rogue Traders – Who Should I Call?

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

- Contact the police immediately on 999

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

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

....if I want to contact the police anonymously?

- Contact the independent charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. You can also visit their website at www.crimestoppers-uk.org

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

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

Police Scotland – Local Community

Telephone 101 for non-emergencies

Community officer for Kinross-shire: **PI Lesley Macdonald.**

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.**

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

Ways of Following the Police

Twitter: [@KinrossPc](https://twitter.com/KinrossPc) or twitter.com/policescotland

Facebook: www.facebook.com/PoliceScotland

Website: www.scotland.police.uk

Community Watch

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

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

Crime Stoppers 0800 555 111

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

It is, if you wish, confidential and you cannot be contacted if you choose to remain anonymous.

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HOME AGAIN FROM ETHIOPIA

WINNING WAYS

by Jo Middlemiss

THE ONE THING THAT always surprises me when I come home from Ethiopia is the overwhelming feeling of homesicknesses that I get. What is that about? I have a great life here. I know that I was planted here, and they were planted there. Even though our lives are connected in the most marvellous and surprising ways, homesickness feels wrong, and yet it's the only word that seems to describe my feeling. Fortunately, I come to my senses after a few days, see my situation in its true perspective, and get on with life here, and my real responsibilities in Scotland for the Buccama Health Centre in Ethiopia. But I do miss them all and our simple, yet complicated month in Ethiopia.

The words below which I wrote whilst still in Buccama might help explain my feelings. To remind you all, this is a long 7-hour drive south of Addis Ababa – the capital – in a remote part of the country:

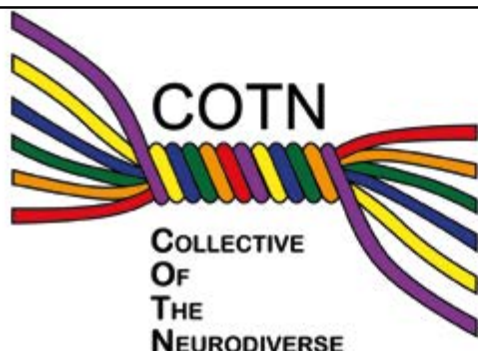
'The Health Centre has been a quieter place this week as the rush of visitors has stopped. Its leader – the inspirational Sister Haimanot – says they can go for months and months without any visitors, and suddenly last week, there were two lots of Italians and one group of Capuchin priests. All had to be fed, watered and guided round the Health Centre. Still, all the work goes on. It is an interesting thing to be part of, as we too are visitors but we feel defensive of our hosts, because big groups feel a bit invasive. On the other hand, they bring things and sometimes donations. This time, Sister hopes that a new generator will be the result of the Italian visit.

Meanwhile the finishing touches are going on in the new maternity wing. The work rate is fantastic. When the money is provided, all the finishing things get done: Lighting, electrics, plumbing, plus endless, endless scrubbing of the ceramic tiles.

The midwives are now working on the careful transfer of all

the existing maternity equipment across to the new unit. It is hard to describe the difference between the old and the new set ups, and the delight of the midwives in their new premises. No doubt, for the brave mothers the experience is still well named in the word "labour", but their surroundings will be infinitely more pleasant.

Last evening, I was present at yet another birth, and was overawed at the skill and care of the midwives, the stoicism of the mother, and the first anxious moments until the little one let out his first cry. That same night a mother came in



A space to offer personal experience and learn new ways of sharing stories of living as neurodiverse people in a majority neurotypical world.

Mondays 7pm – 8.30pm
Family Room, Orwell Church, Milnathort

To find out more, please contact
 David Mackenzie Mills or Margaret West
 (COTNCommittee@gmail.com)

Kinross Hub April Calendar



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

Wed 3	10am–12noon 1.30pm–3.30pm	Drop-in for HomeStart Breast Buddies group 01738 638847 CATH will support with form filling – PIP, Universal Credit, Blue Badge etc 07955 333163
Thu 4	10am–12.30pm 1pm–3pm	Broke not Broken - to offer advice, connections to support and also for foodbank referrals. 07518 913107 Mindspace - Info on supporting mental wellbeing. 07928 859628 or 01738 631657
Fri 5	10am–12noon	VOICEABILITY for free advocacy regarding benefits access and supporting people to be heard. 07918 560891 CANCELLED
Wed 10	10am–12noon 2pm -4pm	Drop-in for HomeStart Breast Buddies group 01738 638847 PKC Social Work for signposting and support. 01577 867300
Thu 11	1pm–3.30pm	PKC Employment Support Team Job advice and help for those who have learning disability, acquired brain injury, mental health issues, autistic spectrum, sensory loss and physical disabilities. 07788 389659
Fri 12	10am–12.30pm	Community Listening Service , an opportunity to talk, particularly during stressful events at home or work, or after bereavement or loss. 01382 423116 or 07967 771941 tay.listening@nhs.scot
Wed 17	10am–12noon 1.30pm–3.30pm	Drop-in for HomeStart Breast Buddies group 01738 638847 CATH help with form filling – PIP, UC etc 07955 333163 / 07339 858987
Thu 18	2pm-4pm	Camille Vickers, Social Prescriber - Community Connecting/ Signposting 07775 701836
Fri 19	10am–12.30pm	PKC Skills & Employment - support & advice re CVs, Job search, support after redundancy etc. 07867 351268
Wed 24	10am–12noon 1pm–3pm	Drop-in for HomeStart Breast Buddies group 01738 63884 Support Choices will be here to offer independent information and advice about getting social care and support 01350 729130
Thu 25	10am–12.30pm 2pm–4pm	Broke not Broken - to offer advice, connections to support and also for foodbank referrals. 07518 913107 PKC Housing Team for housing advice and signposting to their service. 07917 552231

LOCAL ADVICE HUB

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

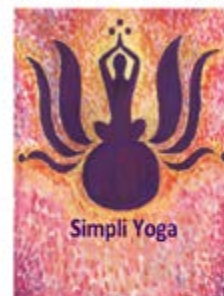
If you are experiencing financial difficulty during this time or feel you need support/advice please call Shona Fowler on 07896 280843 to have a chat or email shona.fowler@nhs.scot

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

The Social Prescriber will connect you with local community groups, supportive exercise sessions, walking groups, green/nature prescribing activities, volunteering, learning opportunities or help you link with another agency. They can be contacted via southsocprescribers@pkc.gov.uk

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

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with a delayed miscarriage, and so we were met with the paradox of great sadness and great joy, all in one tiny space.

We are now in full swing for the next set of visitors who are the representatives of our major donor. They will open the new building and a great celebration is being prepared. All the Podoconiosis patients will be fed, and the building will be blessed

by our local priest. However the first baby to be born there, will be born today. Babies don't wait for opening ceremonies!

The visitors arrived. John and Marion Pennie. They were thrilled and overwhelmed with the progress that has been made in the Health Centre. We can hardly believe it ourselves.

They were allowed to catch their breath for an hour or so, before they toured the new set up of the Podoconiosis and Maternity Units. A wonderful space had been cleared and these two units face each other, resplendent in their blue and cream colours. They look beautiful and are performing their intended function to great effect.

The Podoconiosis patients get the respect they deserve by washing their feet in clean fresh water, and getting the correct treatment for their ailing feet and legs.

The prolapse mothers are getting the treatment and respite that they need before their surgical procedure in the American Christian Hospital (Thank you Dr Mark Karnes and his team).

And the new mothers are getting a splendid service while they give birth to their precious babies. Now the mothers can rest comfortably, before and after giving birth, and they can have a warm shower which was previously not possible.

The opening ceremony was grand. Preparation was meticulous. There were speeches. There were blessings. There was food and there was dancing. Happiness and joy all round.



Leaving Buccama is the hardest thing we do all year. The long tortuous drive back to Addis Ababa –the Ethiopia capital. The re entry into the material world and the saying goodbye to dear, dear friends for another year.

The work goes on to keep this fabulous place going.'

Challenges? UKR war, internal civil war knock ons from the North in Tigray province, GAZA, Red Sea Houthis – all these global conflicts have an impact on us – supplies more difficult and much, much more expensive. Political tensions in country make it a country, typical of much of Africa....unstable. We pay the salaries of all the clinic staff – and they understandably need more- so anything anyone can do to help us will be immeasurably well received.

Sincere thanks to all our Kinross and district friends and supporters, who are so supportive and interested. If you feel inclined to help us too, you can contact us at www.ethiopamedicalproject.com

JO MIDDLEMISS MBE

CALLING COUPLES IN LOVE!

LAST MONTH YOU MAY have read my article about living funerals. Handfasting ceremonies take place a little, or a lot, earlier on the timeline of life's journey. They are ceremonies which celebrate a couple's love for each other.

Have you attended a wedding over the last few years and witnessed the bride and groom undertaking a handfasting, or hand tying, as part of the ceremony? If so, you'll have witnessed ribbons or cords being laid over the couple's joined hands and then tied, often in an infinity knot.

Handfasting is a very old Celtic tradition and is thought to be where the saying 'tying the knot' comes from. Handfasting, or hand tying as it is often now known, has experienced a resurgence in popularity recently as a symbolic element in wedding and vow renewal ceremonies.

Historically, however, handfasting was originally a formal betrothal or engagement ritual, a promise to marry, symbolising a couple's commitment to one another. Elaine says 'A handfasting ceremony is a wonderful, romantic, and unique way to celebrate an engagement today'.

HANDFASTING CEREMONIES

A handfasting ceremony will symbolise the bonding of two lives, symbolise the newly engaged couple moving into their future together as one. It will create lasting memories and capture the moment in time for eternity.

The ceremony can be simple (and easy to arrange) and is always tailored uniquely for each couple and is always all

about their love for each other and their commitment to each other. It could be an intimate ceremony, just the couple, Elaine, and a photographer to capture the special moment. Or a grand affair.

The location might be a favourite place, maybe overlooking Loch Leven, or in a back garden or front room. The ribbons might symbolise something about the couple or be a family tartan. The ribbons could be embroidered with the date of the ceremony. It's up to the couple. Think of the photographs. A unique Instagram opportunity!

If you're looking for the perfect engagement gift for a recently engaged couple, why not consider the gift of a handfasting ceremony? Vouchers are available. Contact me to find out more.

www.celebrantceremoniesbyelaine.co.uk

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ARTEFACTS & CURIOS

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.

Fossoway Community Council News from the March Meeting

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

Present at the meeting on 5 March were Cllrs S Bruce-Jones, A Carter, T Lamb, N Marchant; Assoc Cllr C Farquhar; Cllrs D Cuthbert, W Robertson and eight members of the public (MoP).

Apologies: Cllrs A Cheape and G Pye; Cllrs N Freshwater and R Watters.

Community Police report:

On Friday 1 March PC Samson dropped off pop-up PC Kirsty to Fossoway Primary School to assist pupils as part of their ongoing local Road Safety awareness campaign.

Cllr Carter reported that he had observed a police car going through Powmill at above the speed limit.

Matters Arising

Windfarms

The CC welcomed Jason and Alex from Galileo and Craighead Wind Farm who gave an update on progress towards their future planning submission to PKC. Details of the proposed development are on their website: <https://craigheadwindfarm.co.uk/>

If approved start date for construction will be dictated by when a connection date is agreed with National Grid. It is likely that electricity generated will be connected at Westfield, Lochgelly and how this 15-mile connection will be made is completely within remit of SSE.

The CC have agreed to engage with Planning Aid Scotland who offer free advice on planning matters to ensure we are fully cognisant of how to respond to the application, once it is submitted to PKC, which is anticipated to be at the end of April or early May. We and other CCs will be consulted and will have 28 days to respond. The CC will continue to engage with other CCs regarding potential Community Benefit.

Fossoway Community Development Trust (FCDT)

The Trust met on 20 February and heard about progress on the Community Asset Transfer of the Blairingone School and Community Action Plan. A website with logo is currently being designed and a newsletter and questionnaire on future use of Blairingone School will be delivered to all households shortly. The Trust is hosting public engagement events on 19 March in Moubray Hall, 20 March in Carnbo Hall and 26 March in Crook of Devon Hall all from 7-9pm. The purpose is to raise awareness of the Trust and hopefully to increase membership before the CAP and LPP process is started.

Community transport is being progressed by Cllr Lamb and Mike Barnacle. They are currently in discussions with Glenfarg Community Transport to run a community bus for Fossoway District, using the PKC community bus based at Loch Leven Campus. We are currently looking for volunteer drivers. Glenfarg is prepared to fund drivers obtaining their D1 licence. If anyone is interested please email info@fossowaytrust.com

Road Safety in FDCC area including A977 mitigation measures:

Carnbo: The previous closure of the A91 at the bridge has now ended. There will be a future closure of the A91 for road repairs. The CC will continue to push for the extension of the 40mph limit east of Carnbo to the Village Hall and for a footpath to the west of the village.

Drum Crossroads: Feedback from residents is that they are pleased with the traffic lights, but they are awaiting changes to signage and extension of the 30mph limit to the east of Crook of Devon. PKC are reviewing the outcomes. Road survey strips have been in place recently to measure actual speeds and we will ask to see the results.

A MoP had emailed to complain about speeding on the back Crook of Devon road. Another MoP said that there is still excessive speeding in the Crook of Devon area and they found it challenging to cross the road. MoP raised concern regarding the closeness of the two sets of lights in Drum. This is being monitored by PKC and we understand that there is still some signage to be changed.

Speedwatch: No update while awaiting Police Scotland taking on the administration working with the secretary of Milnathort CC.

Review of A977 Mitigation: The only remaining project is the proposed realignment of the B9097 junction. We have previously received representation from the community that this is no longer a preferred option. MoP and Cllrs proposed a number of additions to our list of further action along A977, in particular in Powmill.

Road Improvement Projects in Kinross-shire: The CC has updated its list of priorities for Fossoway, including corrections to location of Carnbo projects, and addition of proposals for Rumbling Bridge and Aldie Road.

Fossoway area transport – 202 bus service: It appears that the Stagecoach has returned to using older buses which cannot meet the times on the timetable. They have also changed the route in Dollar which has added time to the route. Consequently the service has once again deteriorated. Discussions are ongoing with PKC to improve the service. Associate Cllr Farquhar reported that a MoP had written regarding their frustration at the lack of reliability of the 202 service.

Cllr Cuthbert requested that we once again write our complaints to PKC Margaret Roy. Cllr Lamb has agreed to do so by email.

The Stagecoach bus service from Kinross is being reduced making travel to Ninewells virtually impossible.

A survey about experience of rural transport is open and we encourage everyone to respond. A link to the survey is on the CC Facebook page.

Yellow Grit Bins: Unfortunately, our requests for new grit bins on Aldie and Craigend roads have been refused although PKC have advised that they will ask Tayside Contractors to drop a

JAMES A. SCOTT
SLATERS & PLASTERERS



Telephone
07734 906241



Grate Building, Tiling etc.

Community Council News

pile of grit at these locations. PKC roads department do not have the resources to fill the grit bins.

Crook Moss Travellers Site: Tracey Ramsay is now the community liaison with the Travellers and has reached out to Cllr Farquhar to discuss engagement with them. Cllr Farquhar will meet with Tracey. A MoP reported that emergency services were at the site again today and there have been several incidents of fires at the site.

Red Diesel and Snow Clearance: PKC have advised that this is an issue for HMRC and that farmers should check directly with HMRC.

Proposals for a Heat in Buildings Bill: Consultation

The CC's response will focus on the feasibility and cost effectiveness of moving all domestic households to clean heat sources before 2045. We are in general supportive of households being required to meet minimum energy efficiency standards by 2033, however, we think that this list could be - 270 mm loft insulation; draught-proofing; heating controls and 80 mm hot water cylinder insulation. BUT cavity wall insulation and suspended floor insulation should only be required if they are cost effective and reasonably feasible without major disruption to the property.

We oppose the proposal to require house buyers being made to convert to clean energy within a fixed time period following purchase of a house and also oppose enforcement of all of the proposals.

Climate change – draft Scottish National Adaptation Plan 3

We are all living with climate change. Coastal erosion, storms, flooding, wildfires and drought are putting increasing pressure on our everyday lives. These impacts change a lot depending on where you live. An island community in the Outer Hebrides will experience climate change differently to a community on the banks of the Clyde in Glasgow.

Local and lived experience is fundamental to shaping an effective response to climate change and its impacts. Your views will help ensure the final Adaptation Plan in Autumn 2024 is reflective of your priorities. The consultation closes 24 April 2024 – Cllr Carter will prepare a draft response.

<https://consult.gov.scot/energy-and-climate-change-directorate/scottish-climate-adaptation-plan/>

Community Council Business – meetings attended

Cllr Lamb attended meeting with Glenfarg Community Transport on 1 March and Rural Transport Future Scotland on 5 March. Cllr Bruce-Jones attended Kinross-shire Committee on 15 February and Kinross-shire Community Investment Fund Panel on 21 February.

Councillors' Reports

Cllr Cuthbert reported that the Kinross-shire Committee have agreed to carry out an active travel plan for Kinross shire. Current monies will be spent on footpaths. PKC have agreed a budget with no increase in council tax.

Cllr Robertson reported that TRACKS have been offered a Rennie Mackintosh bridge for the River Devon replacement bridge but the siting of this is challenging.

Planning Matters

23/00491/FLM Devonshaw Quarry Holiday Lodges

We have been informed that this planning application will be discussed at the Planning and Placemaking Committee on 13 March. PKC Officers have produced a report and they are proposing that the application be approved. The CC, who objected to the application, had been asked if we want to make an additional representation at the meeting. We agreed that we should and Cllr Marchant will give the presentation.

Planning Decisions

23/02082/FLL Erection of a dwellinghouse and associated works at land 30 metres north west of County Fabrics, The

Water Mill, Crook of Devon. The application was approved, the CC had made no comment.

23/00808/FLL Erection of office/storage building, formation of vehicular access, car parking, landscaping, and associated works at Land 110 metres south east of 3 Birkfield Park, Rumbling Bridge. The application was approved the CC had made no comment.

Correspondence

We have received a letter from the Lord Lieutenant's Office requesting nominations for attendance at the Kings Garden Party. Cllr Bruce-Jones proposed two individuals from our community which we endorsed.

The next meeting of Fossoway and District Community Council will be on Tuesday 2 April at 7.30pm in Moubray Village Hall, Powmill. All welcome.

Milnathort and Orwell Community Council News from the March Meeting

Present at the meeting held on 14 March were N Bingham, A Wanless, K Heneghan, A Macrae, Cllrs D Cuthbert, R Watters and L Watson (MPS)

Apologies Cllr W Robertson, Cllr N Freshwater, PC Ben Samson M Thomson, P Britton, 6 MoPs.

Police matters

From 8 February 2024 there have been 24 calls to police from the Milnathort area and 6 crimes recorded on police systems.

Crimes Of Note

25/02/2024 – 29/02/2024 Theft of motor vehicle by unknown means, (Thistle Hotel), subject to live investigation
PC Samson attended at Milnathort Primary School on Friday 8 March 2024 for a road and bike safety input. Some of the pupils were also shown the speed detection equipment and offered the chance to use this.

Actions From Previous Meeting

Gate/bridge/fence gate to Fleming Court – The procurement for the replacement gate at the South Street entrance is still ongoing, however PKC will not progress until the path etc are adopted by PKC from the developer, Persimmon. The replacement bridge is now progressing at a good pace, and the bridge has now been placed on the foundations.
Broken dog bin at Tillywally Woods has been fixed.

Correspondences

Voter Information

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don't have an accepted form of photo ID, you can apply for a free voter ID document known as a Voter Authority Certificate. This applies to UK Parliament by-elections and recall petitions and will apply to UK Parliament general elections from October 2023.

You do not need to show photo ID to vote at Scottish Parliament and council elections.

Visit electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID, call 0800 328 0280, or scan the QR code to find out which forms of photo ID will be accepted and how to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate, if you need one.

Postal and Proxy Vote is changing

You can apply online, and you'll need to prove your identity. As a proxy, there are now limits to how many people you can vote on behalf of.

You have to renew your application every 3 years.

These changes apply to UK Parliament general elections, by-elections and recall petitions. They do not apply to Scottish Parliament and Council Elections in Scotland.

Find out more at electoralcommission.org.uk/waystovote

Milnathort Primary School Update – provided by Laura Watson

PC Samson for visiting the school with the speed detection equipment and PC Kirsty, meeting with pupils and showing them how to use the equipment.

It is the second year of 'Trout in the classroom' where the pupils have been supported by Loch Leven reserve. The trout are now at a size that they can be released to the Loch.

I attended the 'Cluster Marketplace' at the High School, this event helps to publicise partner agencies, that help support parents and carers. It was well attended and allow parents and carers to see and speak to all available agencies for support on a variety of subjects. We work well with our neighbouring primaries and the high school.

The Parent Council are recruiting. We need more members, so please get in touch with the school if you are able to spend some time to support the pupils and school.

Also in exciting news, Laura is now Mrs Zamboni, many congratulations from the Community Council on this fantastic news!

Core Paths Update

Waymarking- Waymarking Paths MTHT/131 (Hattonburn) & MTHT/133 (Pacehill). The recent foul weather has put this on hold, but we'll organise the waymarking of these and other core paths in the coming weeks.

We'll be planting wildflower seeds and saplings when we receive them from PKC Community Greenspace.

We've been successful in our application to the Green Living Fund to pay for safe storage of the flail and the other

equipment we use. Thank you to everyone who voted for us and of course to the Fund itself.

We anticipate being active again as the growing season gets underway over the next few months.

Planning Applications

24/00266/FLL Installation of roof mounted solar PV array at Home Cottage, Wester Balgedie.

24/00177/FLL Change of use of vacant land to storage site, siting of 34 container units and erection of a fence and gates at land 30 metres north west of Webster Building Supplies, Stirling Road, Milnathort, approved

24/00063/FLL Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse 4 Croft Wynd, Milnathort, approved

Presentation on Kinross-shire Repair Café

Gosia from Repair Café gave an overview of the purpose of the café, and that it is part of the Climate Café who hold meetings on the first Tuesday of each month at the library in Loch Leven Campus. In the most recent meeting, they had an Energy Advisor attend, who gave a presentation on heat pumps, also some Climate Café volunteers organised a litter-pick on the south side of Kinross.

The Repair Café is a new venture, to help solve the huge worldwide waste problem. The Scottish Government have an ongoing initiative to reduce landfill waste by 70% by 2025. For PKC we have reduced this by 58% so far, so hopefully with the introduction of the grey bins and activities like the Repair Café we will be able to achieve that target.

Repair Cafés started in the Netherlands in 2009, the first Café in Scotland was in Glasgow in 2017. There are over 3000 cafes across the world.

Kinross-shire Repair Café will run four events in 2023, open to anyone to attend, the first event in Kinross Church Centre 20 April, the second will be in Milnathort, and the date is to be determined.

Bring along your broken items, however the café does not want to take business away from local professional repairers. The aim is to do repairs that can be done in a short time and at home, and hopefully enable to people to do some repairs themselves. At the café the volunteers will be either retired professionals or skilled volunteers.

There may be demonstrations e.g. bike maintenance.

Repairs are free of charge, but any parts used will have to be paid for and the repair café is looking for donations to help with sustainability.

A registration and liability waiver form will need to be signed on each visit and there will be a swap shop and a pop-up café.

There are 12 volunteers covering textiles, jewellery, laptops, small items like chairs, electric or electronic items and basic bike repairs.



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Local Resilience Plan

Father David Mills asked about whether there was any resilience plan in place to deal with communications within the community in the case of a large scale event that disrupts radio, TV and phone networks.

Would it be a good idea to build a resilience network, to help with communication in times of need, mainly for those that are housebound. How do we look at the solution now when we don't need it, so that it's in place for when we do need it. Looking after the community, so that I'm OK, if my neighbour is OK.

The CC does not have anything in place to deal with this and the present Cllrs were aware that PKC has a lot of resilience plans in place to cover lots of different scenarios but were not aware of any to cover this situation.

Kevin raised that the emergency services already have a lot of resilience plans in place possibility to cover this and anything that the CC might want to do, would have to be aligned to those plans and ensure it added to the plan and not conflicted.

Cllr Watters raised that PKC are looking at how to coordinate the local resilience plans too and may be in touch to understand what is in place at a local level.

As a first step into looking at whether this is a gap for the community, Allan will reach out to all other Kinross-shire CC's to understand what plans they might already have in place that we can learn from.

Speedwatch

Now we have the Speed Detection Equipment, we are trying to schedule a training session soon with Police Scotland. We are still looking for volunteers, please get in touch via: speedwatch.ks@gmail.com

Councillors' Reports

Cllr Cuthbert – Budget time at the council, hardest decisions that he has ever known due to PKC having to make savings of £13.5 million each year. 56% of PKC budget is ringfenced and cannot be touched i.e. education. However, the council and administration have got it right, there will be a tough couple of months, and we will start to see the changes soon as they start to get implemented e.g. brown bins will go up from next year, however there will be no increase in the council tax. The Scottish Government are allocating more funds to PKC to offset the council tax freeze.

Cllr Watters – PKC officers have assessed the electricity usage based on heating during some of the coldest days early in the year by comparing the new riverside primary school built to passivhaus standards in Perth to the Kinross primary school as they are similar in size and Kinross is a more modern build so is comparable for heating usage.

The Kinross Primary used 21kw of energy whereas the Riverside primary used 6kw of energy on the same day and same duration. This is a great example of how spending more on these designs will save more money in the long term as they are more efficient and reduce heat loss.

The Active paths group have created their master plan on improvements and will be starting their community engagement, likely to be in the form of five online meetings for different groups and communities across Kinross-shire.

AOB

New Community Council Full Member

Kevin Heneghan has been co-opted as a full member of the Community Council. Welcome aboard Kevin!

Memorial Gardens

MOCC and Soho Green have purchased some replacement trees for the Memorial Garden. Due to the bad weather, a few of the trees were blown over and removed.

There will be a tree planting event on Tuesday 26 March at 10am with 4 pupils from Milnathort Primary School as well as some pupils from the High School, along with CCs and Cllrs.

Casino Night

At the Town Hall on 27 April, this will be a James Bond themed evening, tickets are £15 each, email for details on how to purchase. Unlike the successful Race Night from last year, this is planned as a social night and not as a fundraising event.

The next meeting of Milnathort Community Council will be at 7.30pm on Thursday 11 April 2024, 7.30pm at Milnathort Town Hall.

Kinross Community Council News from the February Meeting

Present at the meeting held on 27 February were Cllrs L McKay, W Freeman, E Leslie, B West, C Willsher, S Wells, P Chan and K Spain (along with her assistance dog, Zola), Cllrs D Cuthbert and N Freshwater, one MoP, and minute taker Mrs C Aird.

Apologies Cllrs M Wilson, T Stewart, Cllr W Robertson and R Watters, PC B Samson.

Police Scotland

A 22-year-old man was charged and remanded for committing several housebreakings in Kinross areas during October 2023.

Crimes of note (since last meeting 28/11/2023)

Dangerous driving, A977 nearby Kinross Services 1 x charged and reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

Theft by shoplifting – over £6,500.00 worth from Sainsburys, Kinross. Three persons identified and reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

Vandalism at Montgomery Street, Kinross. MO – removal of DVLA clamp via an angle grinder. 1 was charged and reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

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Matters Arising

Cllr D Cuthbert advised that he had circulated the list of road safety works to Cllr L Mckay and it was agreed that this required to be updated and prioritised. It was agreed that zig zags at the entrance to the school should be considered a priority, as school staff had been receiving abuse. It was noted that the VAS in Gallowhill Road were still not activated and Cllr Cuthbert confirmed that the supply was waiting to be reconnected.

Cllr P Chan advised that he had not reported the issue with the surface and the requirement for it to be levelled but would log on the PKC portal. He also raised an issue with Wilson Court and while he was unsure as to whether this could be repaired again, as it had previously been patched.

Cllr B West felt the work undertaken by Tayside Contracts to repair issues in the town was of a substandard level and are therefore having to be completed numerous times because of this. Cllr Watters commented that PKC were aware of the issues and were constantly discussing how to improve this, with Cllr Cuthbert reporting that PKC were looking at trialling a machine which fixed potholes. A report will be given at a future meeting.

Cllr L Mckay advised that she had not contacted PKC about CCTV cameras but did confirm that the signs were now up in Mill Street car park. She also advised that she invited a resident to a future meeting to discuss bike storage facilities in the car park but had had no response yet. In response to a question about time restrictions (72 hrs) parking in the High Street, Cllr Mckay confirmed that they had not always in place.

In response to a question from Cllr S Wells regarding optimisation of the parking space available at Millbridge Hall, where she felt it would be possible to get another 7-8 spaces down the middle, Cllr Cuthbert advised that he had asked PKC about space optimisation, and that he would ask again.

Sub-Committee Membership

Cllr Mckay confirmed she had circulated a list of groups/committees/meetings which required KCC representation. The following was agreed:

Light Up Kinross: W Freeman, B West
 Remembrance Parade W Freeman, L Mckay, B West, S Wells, P Chan, E Leslie

Glenfarg Community Transport K Spain

KCCNL Board: All Cllrs can be members. Meeting to be arranged ASAP. KNL meeting to be held on same date. Application form to be reviewed.

Kinross-shire (Wind Farms) C Willsher

Community Action Plan W Freeman

(Funding application submitted but no further contact)

Development Trusts Cllr D Cuthbert to raise at PKC.

No Trust in place for Kinross and should be considered.

Possibly a sub-committee to the Planning Committee

Kinross-shire Fund W Freeman, L Mckay

Kinross-shire Partnership: P Chan

KLEO Cllr D Cuthbert to continue to feedback

Kinross-shire Committee L Mckay, W Freeman

LLCC Management Group E Leslie (Meeting 21 March)

Kinross-shire Transport Forum P Chan (tbc)

PKC Planning Forum C Willsher

Community Investment Fund L Mckay, W Freeman

Kinross-shire Action Partnership L Mckay, K Spain

Planning Sub-Committee C Willsher, W Freeman, P Chan, S Wells, L Mckay, E Leslie

Parks L Mckay, E Leslie, K Spain

Social Events E Leslie

Kinross Town Centre

Cllr R Watters reported a number of concerns and complaints raised with him around the works being undertaken by Virgin Media Works and Diona Construction including poor communication and poor workmanship.

Cllr P Chan raised an issue with lighting which had recently been erected at Greens for the Amazon lockers as he was unaware that a planning application had been received for this. Cllr D Cuthbert advised him to check the PKC portal to ascertain whether a planning application, or a building warrant, had been applied for.

Cllr S Wells enquired as to whether the parking enforcements had been followed up for the shared space/parking on pavements in the High Street and Cllr Cuthbert confirmed he had asked PKC to investigate this.

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Planning Matters

Planning Applications Received

24/00140/FLL Change of use from flat to short-term let accommodation unit at 3 Bowton Road, Kinross.

23/01926/FLL Alterations and extensions to dwellinghouse and associated works at 24 Burnbank Meadows, Kinross.

Planning Applications Determined

23/01811/FLL Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse and formation of patio at Cottar Fauld, High Street, Kinross, approved.

23/01765/FLL Erection of dwellinghouse at land 80 metres southwest of Gellybank Farm, Kinross, refused.

Councillors' Reports

Cllr Cuthbert advised a meeting to discuss the PKC budget was arranged for Wednesday.

In response to a question from Cllr Wells regarding bin straps, Cllr Cuthbert advised that more were on order and were due to be delivered imminently.

Cllr R Watters advised that the Climate Change Committee at PKC had recently agreed to refuse lorries moving from diesel fuel to HVO (vegetable oil) for a 3-month pilot. It is hoped that this will reduce the carbon footprint and if successful, the scheme will be rolled out to other HGVs in the fleet.

Reports from KCC Councillors

Cllr Willsher enquired about the old cars on High Street/Clashburn Way and wondered if there was a particular reason for this. Cllr Watters advised the meeting that was an issue with the owner and as such, they were on private land so unfortunately nothing could be done about this.

Cllr West raised an issue with the give way signs from the loch to the High Street and felt that these needed to be

moved. Cllr Watters advised that he had raised the issue with PKC previously but the request to move the signs had been refused.

Regarding the BCA site, it was noted that the flooding information had been processed and published in time to receive funding. Cllr Cuthbert advised that there would be a survey undertaken for South Kinross and if there were no obligations, this would go through, but this would depend on the PKC budget meeting the following day. Cllr Cuthbert also stated that this flooding work was moving forward due to Cllr Watters' diligence.

Cllr Mckay agreed to contact the site owners to get an update on the plans.

Cllr Chan enquired as to the best time to raise an issue re the flow of traffic beside the Church. Cllr Watters advised that there was a need to push PKC to come back with options for a change in priorities, with the possibility of a debate for changing to a one-way system. Cllr Mckay stated that a lot of businesses would leave the town if this happened but Cllr Chan thought this may be better for parking etc.

Cllr Freeman advised that an action travel plan survey would be issued shortly.

Correspondence

Cllr Freeman enquired as to whether anyone had received notification of the King's Garden Party this year. It was confirmed that no correspondence had been received and Cllr Freeman agreed to contact the Lord Lieutenant to discuss further.

An email had been received inviting KCC to apply for an official portrait of HM King Charles III and it was agreed that Cllr Mckay would complete the necessary paperwork.

Members were advised that a book celebrating the centenary of Kinross would be published in 2024.

AOCB

Cllr Freeman advised that a quiz night had been arranged for 22 March in the Masonic Hall in aid of Light Up Kinross. Anyone interested in being part of a team should contact him direct.

It was suggested that KCC have a stall at the forthcoming Better Place to Live Fayre.

The next meeting of Kinross Community Council will be held on Tuesday 23 April 2024 at 7.30pm.



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Blairadam and Cleish Community Council

The next Cleish & Blairadam Community Council Meeting will be held on Monday 22 April, at 7.30pm in the Tabernacle Hall in Keltlybridge. Please note the change of venue as we are now restarting the practice of holding the CC meetings in alternating locations to better serve the community.

Portmoak Community Council

PCC regrettably advised cancellation of the March meeting scheduled for evening of Tuesday 12 March. The next Portmoak CC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 9 April, 7.30 - 9pm.

Glenfarg Community Council News from the March meeting

Present at the meeting on 4 March were Cllrs Christie, Pilmer, Murray, Ponton, Macleod, Smart, Cllrs Robertson, Watters and eight MoP.

Apologies: Cllr Fraser, Cllrs Cuthbert and N Freshwater, Police Scotland PC Samson

Police Report

Since 8 January:20 calls and four crimes reported.
24/01/2024 05/02/2024 Vandalism (Balvaird Castle) MO – smash and break windows, subject to live investigation
On Thursday 1 February 2024, PC Samson and PS Craig attended at the Glenfarg coffee morning. This was the second visit and a good opportunity for engagement with local members of the community.

Overgrown path and verges.

Cllr Pilmer reported that he had inspected the area of concern in relation to a footpath from Copperfields to Callford Brae and that a written statement was passed on to Cllr Robertson who has passed the matter on to the relevant PKC department for remedial activity to be carried out. Cllr Pilmer added that Cllr Freshwater confirmed by email that the PKC Roads department are to continue to cut verges in relation to road junctions. This matter was raised due intended rewilding activities.

Kinross-shire Committee Meeting.

Cllr Ponton reported that she had attended the meeting on behalf of the GCC Chair and that the following topics were raised:
Greenspace activities will depend on Budget funding for the plans. Still to be ratified.

An Occupational Therapist role for rural areas (rather than centrally based) to meet the community's needs was discussed. This was met with approval and that it is likely that a post would be advertised locally in due time. Perhaps through the GCC Newsletter and other media routes.

Road Safety Officer activities. This PKC RSO role was discussed

and that the present incumbent (retiring) and lack of others could lead to matters of business impairment for signage, vehicle speed monitors and limits due to the lack of manpower. PKC Cllr Robertson explained that the role is an overwhelming responsibility and that the workload has increased. It is known that this department does need to increase its manpower to cope with the ever-increasing workload to tackle the PKC area. Funding of £15.3m (Scot Gove funding for 80%) has been set aside for South Kinross-shire development as reported by PKC Cllr Watters. Further discussion points related to Strategic Travel commitments for local areas, Cross Council Border transport route agreements e.g. cycle and walking paths/routes all good making good sense to encourage the use of public and personal (bicycle) transport.

Sustainability Group – Fossoway. A local questionnaire has taken place to engage the community on its ambitions and a report has been/will be provided in due time. The topic of a Community Investment funding programme was mentioned although this could be directed to worthwhile projects in their area.

Scottish Water Glenfarg Water Treatment Works (WTW) upgrade Liaison Group meeting.

Cllr Christie gave a report on a meeting that took place in January. The GCC believes that the PKC planning committee decision is pending and that we should be notified of an outcome mid to late March 2024.

Introduction

The liaison group was formed to allow the cc to regularly meet with the management of the SW major project team and receive updates on the progress of the project and to raise awareness of concerns being expressed by the community.

The prefabricated plantroom delivery related to the 'air curtain' project is expected to arrive in mid-March 24. The

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delivery route will be from Milnathort and as such will not pass through Glenfarg village. The WTW WhatsApp page will be used to provide updates.

Road improvement work may commence in April which will include reinforcing road edges, upgrading layby is and pruning of overhanging vegetation.

Property's close to the intended route from Ladeside to the site will have condition surveys carried out by independent surveyors prior to the work starting. These will be used as a basis for any claims for damage caused by the heavy goods vehicles passing.

SW are looking at possible solar operated road signs that will warn of any HGV approaching.

SW will be employing a biodiversity specialist to offer independent advice and reporting in respect of the wildlife and vegetation surrounding the work. Bat boxes to be erected prior to demolition of some smaller buildings.

SW advised that they will review the site gatehouse location in relation to the properties next to the WTW. The planning application is expected to go to the planning committee in March 2024.

A member of the public stated that there had been a number of additional planning document amendments to the originals that were part of the initial Planning Application. A discussion took place concerning the process for amendments e.g. construction and the impact that would take place on the environment and the village. It was suggested that because of this planning application going to the Planning Committee for a decision in mid-March, that members of the public could attend the meeting by invitation/online if applied for. It was suggested further that a deferral could be asked for in relation to the public being allowed/given the opportunity to

read the amendments and make further comment(s) before a committee approval. It was suggested further that the GCC could write to the committee/attend the meeting.

Cllr Pilmer mentioned that the Cllr Fraser Chair had attended a local Kinross-shire meeting to do with Community Funding.

Flooding Issues

Cllr Christie reported that some work carried out revealed that at least 20% drainage efficiency was being achieved in the Greenbank area and that more favourable drier weather would be required for PKC to carry out the required remedial work. This is an ongoing matter and a further report will be made available in due time although further work is now a necessity. Cllr Pilmer reported on Sandbags being delivered by the Bridge of Earn based Rapid Response Team and are now stored at the entrance gate to the Schoolhouse, Greenbank Road. It was discussed further that more sandbags would be an asset too therefore, could we acquire more?

Village Inn Update

Two members of the public gave an update on the latest news about this topic. The new architect has drawn up plans for an extension to the rear of the schoolhouse part of the building as a new complex. This complex would encompass dining/bar/café facilities as well as outdoor seating and be part of existing Hall structure. This was met with approval by the those in attendance, applauded by Cllrs and it is hoped that a new vision can now take place formally with the public being invited for comments. A cost for the complex was not available on the evening other than a commitment to seek a 'ball park figure' and the requirement to source funding for the building etc thereafter. Another update will be forthcoming at the next GCC business meeting. It was noted that the whole 'project' will be passed over to another team in due time.

Glenfarg Transport Group

Cllr Smart reported that the GTG is continuing to going from strength to strength and recently had a public usage of circa 800 passenger journeys in a week amounting to a 700% increase in passenger movements. Drivers – two permanents with volunteers backing up its buses. The public social partnership with PKC and others is a worthy route to ensure that public transport is available timeously. Funding is always prevalent and sources are being sought continuously. It was suggested that the scheme could be introduced towards the Fossoway Community as a next vision. PKC Cllr Robertson stated that this example of a CTG could be of use in the Carse of Gowrie area.

Planning

23/02043/FFL Alteration and extension to dwellinghouse and formation of raised patio at Ochil Cottage, Main Street, Glenfarg, awaiting decision

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23/01838/FLL Replacement extension to dwellinghouse and formation of balcony, 2 Candy Farm Cottage Glenfarg, refused
 24/00245/FLL Part change of use of agricultural building to provide horse stables and welfare facilities (in retrospect) at land 400m south of Brampton House, awaiting decision
 24/00144/FLL Extension to dwellinghouse and formation of raised terrace at New Fargie House, Newfargie, Glenfarg, Perth, awaiting decision

23/00826/FLL Erection of garage and dwellinghouse on land 25m west of Duncruevie House, Duncruevie, Glenfarg, approved

Finance Report

Cllr Murray reported the Treasurer's Report 04/03/24.

Account Movement 8 Jan – 4 Mar 2024:

Treasurer Account 08/01/24:

Balance	£575.35
Money In:	£0
Money Out:	£0

Newsletter Account 08/01/24:

Balance	£5142.38
Money In:	£1703.83
Money Out:	£ 235.20

Advertising revenue for the village newsletter. It is hoped that more advertisers will come forward because advertising assists with the financial upkeep of the village's newsletter.

A discussion took place regarding the funding of the Christmas lights and that it is an expenditure that is becoming costly year on year. Need to find out how other communities fund their lights.

A request for a microgrant regarding the purchase of a mobile phone was put on hold pending further information. It was agreed that rather than a phone being bought, could one not be sourced from a donation benefactor because we

as a community understand upgrade phones often replace phones that are left redundant – but in perfect working order? Secretary was asked to advise the applicant.

AOCB

Cllr Smart thanked a Mr Ponton for clearing a blockage in a burn in relation to the flooding of a footpath adjacent to Copperfields.

A member of the public raised the query of Gazebos and that one required replacing for community activities. Cllr Pilmer pointed out that the GCC had a number stored in a local farm building and that one/more could be made available as a replacement.

A member of the public raised a point of safety concerning Glenfarg Hotel looking unsafe on its frontage. The apparent factors are: broken windows and the subsequent/possible access in to a building that could be dangerous.

Binn Transport vehicles appear to be on the increase in numbers travelling through the village. Secretary to write to Binn.

Large storage container on Village Hall site for Scouts approved by Village Hall Trustees as confirmed by the Village Hall Chairman who was in attendance.

Duncruevie road problem with a support wall degrading into a private garden and the pavement degrading.

Wester & Easter Deuglie residents concerned about the public road surface condition deteriorating from Hayfield Road up hill for many metres – perhaps water related.

The next meeting of Glenfarg Community Council will be on Monday 6 May in Glenfarg Village Hall.

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 Email: lidia.dye@visionpk.org.uk



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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. ”



Our featured photograph this month is this very impressive image called 'Out of the Blue' by Paul Kirkby. It was taken from a small sandy beach near the old pier at Kirkgate Park.

Kinross Camera Club

www.kinrosscameraclub.wordpress.com

Find us on Facebook

On the first Thursday in April we hold our 'Four-On-A-Board' competition in the Kinross Church Centre where members are asked to enter four related photographs on any theme. The images are projected onto a screen as a collage and members of the audience are invited to vote for their favourite. The themes are always wide and varied and make for a very entertaining and enjoyable evening.

On 11 April we will be holding our final competition of the season, 'The Annual', when we will be welcoming our judge Nicola Shepherd from St Andrews to assess our images and give us feedback to help us improve on our work and, of course, award those all-important first places.

Our final meeting of the season will be held in the hall and we are delighted to welcome local and well known Scottish nature writer Keith Broomfield. A graduate in zoology from the University of Aberdeen, Keith has had an interest in wildlife spanning from his earliest years and also a great passion for the outdoors. He is based in Strathdevon and will talk to us about our local wildlife around the beautiful hills, woods, rivers and lochs which we have on our doorstep. Definitely one for the diary.

To bring our season to a close and to present all those hard fought for trophies our annual prize giving Ddinner will be held on Saturday 27 April at Milnathort Golf Club. Members and their partners are invited to enjoy a tasty dinner and celebrate the end of another fantastic season in style.

Kinross-shire Climate Café

In March we had a guest from Blairgowrie; Nathan Jamieson, Energy Advisor representing The Heat Project (www.theheatproject.org).

Mr Jamieson presented a very informative talk on heat pumps explaining the principal differences between three different types in terms of fitting requirements, economics and energy performance. He also showed a step-by-step method to assess if a house is suitable for a heat pump installation (or what can be done to make it suitable) and how to access the Scottish



Government grant. If you are planning to install a heat pump in your house and would like non-obligatory advice, contact Nathan Jamieson by email at nathan@theheatproject.org.

At our next meeting on Tuesday 2 April at 7pm in Loch Leven Library we will welcome a local environmental writer, who recently published her novel 'The Two-headed Whale', which relates her travel to Antarctica. Sandy will present a talk on the paperboats movement with some mention of other climate action campaigning/protests. Paperboats is a collective of writers, artists and activists who have come together to campaign for urgent and committed action to tackle the rapidly accelerating climate and ecological crisis. They promote gentle activism based on their hopes for the future. The session will include an introduction to activism and paperboat making. If you would like to make your paperboat, please bring along an old magazine that you would be happy to use.

Our great thanks to all the Loch Leven Library staff who support our group by hosting the events. All talks are free but donations to Culture Perth and Kinross charity are very welcome.

For more information, contact Gosia Stanton by email at climatecafe@kleo.org.uk.

Kinross Centre

We have had another unpredictable month of weather. Surely it can only get better!

We have had another busy month in the centre with all our service users enjoying our regular activities; indoor curling, exercise classes, relaxation classes, weekly church service, art group and bingo to name a few. Every day we have a range of activities that can be enjoyed by all our service users.

This month we have had a trip to Birnie Loch near Auchtermuchty which is a firm favourite of ours. We had a lovely cup of tea and a biscuit while watching the amazing wildlife.

At the time of writing, we are looking forward to celebrating Easter with a fun filled bingo session on 29 March.

In April, along with the regular activities, we are having a concert with our great friend Linton Osborne. He is a fabulous entertainer and our feet will be sore from dancing. We are sure to have an amazing time.

Also our ever popular barge trips and trishaws start up again this month. We are really looking forward to them both. March definitely put a spring in our step!

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

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

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www.ramblers.org.uk/kinross-ochil

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

Tuesday Short Walks

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

Tuesday 9 April, Burleigh Circular, full walk 4 miles

From Burleigh sands we head out towards Burleigh Castle and return to our starting point via the community woodland (about 2.5 miles). There is then an optional extension, passing by lavender fields, to the burial ground at old Orwell Church, where several interesting gravestones can be found.

Tuesday 23 April, Quarrymill, A Date with Destiny, 4 miles

An easy circular walk through parkland and quiet residential streets. For further details of where to meet us for Tuesday walks, or for general enquiries, please contact Susan Tester on 01786 834535.

Weekend Longer Walks

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

Saturday 13 April, Tillicoultry Circular, 6 miles

Starting from Tillicoultry, this is a circular walk in the Devon Valley through woods and farmland. It could be muddy in places so suitable footwear is recommended.

Sunday 28 April, Collessie & Lindores Walk, 8 miles

From Collessie village centre this is a walk of mixed terrain, with paths along Collessie Den to the head of Lindores Loch, returning via Cornhill.

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

Kinross & District Town Twinning Association

The spirit of twinning is alive and well with a busy Better Place to Live fair giving us the opportunity to promote our long established twinning link with Gacé in Normandy.

Our celebratory visit to mark 50 years is due to take place in early August and plans are being firmed to further the auld alliance between our two countries. A balance of time spent with host families and planned tourist visits to local places of interest will be supplemented with a ceilidh, barbecue and an official meal where



the standard gift exchange will take place between the two twinning organisations. The final travel arrangements are not to hand yet, but the visit is expected to be on 3-10 August.

Former twinning families who have any photographs of previous visits, either in Kinross or Gacé, should contact our secretary with a view to getting copies for a 50th birthday display of our history.

More updated programme details will be available over the next month and anyone interested in participating in the 50th celebrations should contact our secretary David Munro on 01577 862126 for further details.

School links between Kinross High School and Jean Moulin School in Gacé have been re-established with a view to resuming the popular school exchange visits over the next two sessions.



Milnathort Bridge Club

With Easter over and summer approaching, members come to the end of another successful winter bridge session and the start of summer bridge.

The last session of winter bridge will take place on Monday 29 April. A special thank you to Orwell Bowling Club for the use of their premises and, in particular, to Sandra Fullerton who looks after us so diligently each week.

On Monday 6 May we move to Orwell Church Hall at the usual time of 6.30pm for a prompt 6.45pm start of play.

Over the summer period we usually lose some partnerships due to holidays and sporting activities. As in past years, we welcome visitors from the Hillfoot clubs in Clackmannanshire. Therefore, numbers attending each evening are expected to remain constant. It is still essential that members inform the Secretary of their intention to play on a weekly basis to facilitate setting up of the hall and the computer system.

North/South

26 February

Sandy Greenhill/Nicol Tomney

4 March

Willie Young/Jane Smith

11 March

Willie Young/Jane Smith

18 March

Catriona Marshall/Betty Wilson Colin Wilson/Jane Smith

If you need a partner any evening, or for further information on playing bridge with us, contact Gloria Wilson on 07961795812 or by email at Gairneyview@gmail.com.

East/West

Jim Marshall/Beryl Harley

Sandy Scholes/Jean Bennett

Elizabeth Harley/Margo Campbell



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Kinross and District Art Club

www.kadac.co.uk



March was a productive month for us once again and painting sessions were well attended. Last minute preparations for the Better Place to Live Fair were taking place in the background whilst, generally, members were beginning to plan and create artworks to exhibit at the Annual Exhibition later in the year.

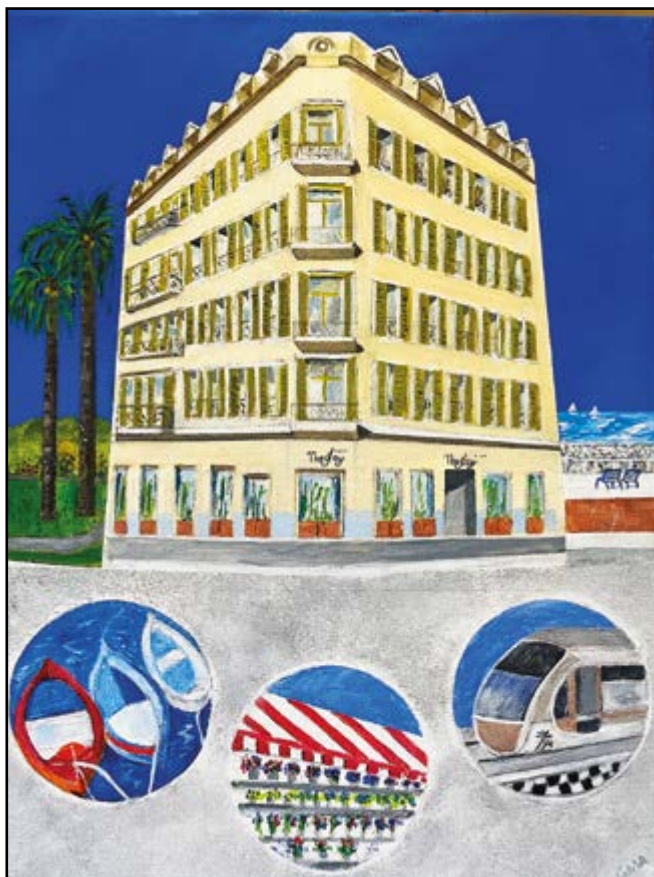
Members are now looking forward to welcoming Kinross-shire artist, Richard Ibbotson, to KADAC on Friday 12 April. He will demonstrate acrylic painting in his style. Examples of his work can be found online at www.ricart.co.uk.

Early spring was an exciting time for one of our members. A casual conversation in a hotel in Nice turned out to be a fascinating project for our secretary Glenys Andrews. During a short stay last December, she was seeking out places of interest as subjects for future paintings. When hotel staff discovered this, they asked if she would do a painting of their hotel. This conversation was overheard by the hotel group's area manager who happened to be visiting that day. He too asked if they could have a painting done and added that if she were to do this, the hotel would follow up by putting on an exhibition of her work.

This was a challenge too good to miss, so some two months later Glenys made a return trip to the hotel in Nice with the completed painting and a delighted manager and staff have put it up on the wall of their reception area along with her profile and reference to being secretary of KADAC. Glenys says, 'It was a real challenge to paint. The hotel has 48 windows, 48 balconies.....and the painting needed to have a purpose. The finished work shows the building's position, near to the sea front (The Promenade des Anglais) and overlooking the garden of the Palais Mediterranée. Set below the main image is a set of three circles showing locations of interest for tourists staying at the hotel'.

So now the challenge for Glenys is to create enough paintings of that part of the world to make for an interesting exhibition. Watch

Glenys' painting of the hotel in Nice



Staff at the hotel admiring Glenys' painting

this space! Members are delighted for Glenys and wish her all the best with her exhibition in Nice.

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

Fairtrade in Kinross-shire



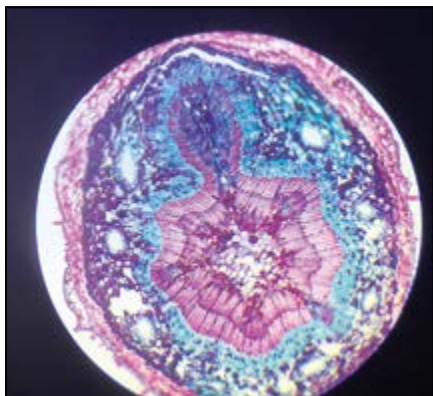
Please come to our stall at the Farmers' Markets in Kinross which start on 27 April. We have a wide selection of goods which support farmers and producers in the Global South. With the effects of climate change that they are dealing with they need our support more than ever. We can often feel helpless when we consider the world situation, but we can use our spending power to ensure that at least some of the goods we buy have been ethically sourced. If a product has the Fairtrade mark you know that it has been verified as having been grown using sustainable farming methods, without child labour and the producer has been paid a fair price. The community will also have received the Fairtrade premium which can be used to support education, provide clean water or whatever other benefit the community choose to use the money for. #Choose the World You Want.



THE KINROSS NEWSLETTER

ALL PROFITS GO TO LOCAL GOOD CAUSES

Clubs & Community Groups



Above (l-r): The winners of the KHS Science Week photograph competition are Adam for his picture of a pine cell, Maisie for her picture of ice crystals, and Joshua for his detailed picture of a hydrangea flower. Right: Charlotte

Kinross High School



Cook-along

Thanks to all the parents and carers who came along for our air fryer cook-along session. The next session is on Friday 24 May. Pupils are invited to make suggestions for what recipe will be used next.

Scottish Schools Cross Country Championships

Well done Lily, Lucy, Abigail and Munro! They took part in the Scottish Schools Cross Country Championships at Hopetoun House. There were about 1000 pupils from all over Scotland who participated in this event. Well done to them for taking part.

World Book Day

We held a World Book Day quiz in the library. There were about 60 pupils who took part. To continue our celebrations for World Book Day, Mrs Tanik's S3 class celebrated International Women's Day on Friday 8 March.

Scholastic were celebrating reading with a new programme of virtual events and we joined Young Adult authors Laura Wood, author of *A Season for Scandal*, and Polly Crosby, author of *This Tale Is Forbidden*, for a discussion about feminist YA and how feminist themes influenced their books.

From an all-female detective agency in the nineteenth century to dystopian fairy tales, this was a fascinating insight into how the authors' novels were shaped. Our young people also had the opportunity to ask the author questions and to hear more about the writing process.

Kinross Rotary Club Young Writer (see p28/29)

Emily Stobie, 11.1, has been chosen as this year's winner of the Kinross Rotary Club Young Writer competition (Intermediate category). Emily's entry was a poem entitled 'Journey of a Lifeline' and will now go forward to the district heat of the competition.

UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge

Eighteen of our S4 pupils recently took part in this prestigious competition. It takes the form of a 60-minute multiple choice challenge which encourages mathematical reasoning and precision of thought. Of those who took part, nine achieved a bronze certificate, two achieved a silver certificate and two achieved gold with Hayden Cameron achieving the best in school and invited to compete in the follow up round named The Pink Kangaroo. He takes part in this competition on 21 March.

Perform in Perth

The Perthshire Music Festival Perform in Perth saw pupils take part in competitive classes in ranging from vocal and instrumental solos to full scale bands and orchestras. Our musicians have been very busy competing in a range of classes at the 100th Perform in Perth festival. Full results can be found on the Perform in Perth website.



Science Week

Science Week 2024 at Kinross High School was a hugely exciting event with activities going on each day. These events included many speakers in science classes highlighting STEM careers – the highlight being a senior member of staff from the British Antarctic survey beaming in live from Antarctica to speak to our senior biologists. We also had trips, had special events in Science Club, Science Busking in the Street, special assemblies, a STEM Photographic competition and TSG paper aeroplane competition. The majority of this was organised by our S5 Science Ambassadors who are completing their Young STEM Leader qualification.

The winners of the photograph competition are pictured above. The winners of the aeroplane competition were Mrs Price's class who managed to get an average distance of over 10m and Mr Baird's class who produced the most consistent design.

Crook and Drum Growing Together



We are lucky to have received 10 donated trees with golden fruits from the Tree Council Golden Orchards project, to celebrate 50 years since 'Plant a Tree in '73'. We have some apples, crab apples, plums, and golden fruited hawthorn, which will all in time have spring flowers for pollinators, and autumn fruit for residents and local birds. We are planting these in the wildflower area at the corner of West Crook Way, and some on the Green area on the main road, with some other wildlife friendly plants from PKC.



We have also ordered an interpretation board for our other community orchard area behind the graveyard, and plan to hold an official opening for these areas around the end of April. We would like to include a seed/plant swap and teas as a village celebration, and details will be advertised locally.

In the meantime, we will be enjoying the daffodils around Crook and Drum and have ordered flowering plants for our tubs for the summer.

If anyone would like to comment or help us in any way, please get in touch. Thank-you to residents who have given us positive feedback on our Facebook posts and the Fossoway Forum.

Contact Amanda James on 0793 476803 or by email at amandajames1577@gmail.com.

German Conversation Group

We meet up every fortnight in a Kinross café for an hour of really informal German chat. We are currently a group of three, one native German speaker and a couple of relative beginners. We'd love to have more people join us and all levels are welcome! If you want to give it a try, please contact Bill or Diane on 07779 745562.

Common Grounds

www.spanglefish.com/commongroundscharitycafe



March started well with a very successful Project Lunch. Our speaker Margaret McLaren gave an excellent talk with slides on behalf of the Good Shepherd Network. This charity supports the Bapty School in Kabyle, Uganda and also provides funds for a medical centre on Lake Bunyoni. Donations are still needed to fund medical equipment, transport, etc, but to be able to see and hear where our money goes meant a great deal to everyone present.

A wonderful total of £450 was collected in donations on the day itself.

Easter is early this year and we hope to hold an Easter celebration coffee morning with lots of Easter themed cakes and plenty of chocolate!

We continue to welcome old and new friends on Tuesday and Saturday mornings and only ask for a small donation. We look forward to meeting more new friends in the future.

Kinross Squirrels

The squirrels had a ball in mid-February as we had a games evening. They had a great time taking part in a variety of games including catch the dragon's tail and twister as well as playing with Lego and designing and colouring pictures.

Congratulations to Violet who was at the end of the meeting awarded the Chief Scout's Acorn Award which is the highest award in the Squirrel section. Bravo!

The following week the squirrels made their own comfy spaces to help them chat. We talked about things in our community that we could help improve and what actions we could take to help. One group even drew pictures of how they might do this. Some great ideas with the top themes covering donations to help Broke not Broken & CHAS, smiling more to help cheer people up and litter picking to clear streets to help animals getting stuck in it. Great work Squirrels.

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At the start of March the squirrels had a birthday party to mark one year since Squirrels started in Kinross. The squirrels started the evening playing the Squirrels Tail game and then had a go at pinning the tail on the Squirrel. The squirrels then settled down to watch a PowerPoint presentation looking back at some of the activities we have done over the last year. It was then time for food including some delicious birthday cake! We were also delighted to welcome back some of our former squirrels who have now moved onto Beavers to help us celebrate our first birthday.

The Squirrels were getting creative on 8 March as they made Mother's Day cards. They were also learning about international women's day and listened to a story about mums.

Are you interested in helping at Squirrels? Volunteering gives you career-boosting skills, improves your wellbeing, and helps you make connections with friends, family and your local community. If you are interested in helping with the section, then please email us at kinrosssquirrels@outlook.com for more information.

Kinross Beavers

On 16 February, the beavers had a night full of games and what a great night we all had! Activities included playing dodgeball (always a firm favourite), indoor hockey (yes, another favourite) and a new one to the fold, twister. What a laugh we had with that. The beavers also got creative with Lego.

The following week had more of a camping theme as the beavers learned how to pitch a tent, how to tie various knots and also got to burn off some energy with lots of games.

On 1 March the beavers met at Kinross Parish Church instead of Millbridge hall. The focus of this evening was on the faith badge with lots of related activities. We would like to say a special thanks to Rev Alan Reid for the use of the church and all his help. The beavers had a great time.

On 8 March the beavers had a great night getting their hands dirty making pancakes and learning about different food groups. They also learned what is required for a balanced diet.

At the end of the meeting Richard and Angela (right) were both presented with the Chief Scout's commendation for good service by our District Commissioner. Congratulations to Richard and Angela!

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



Kinross Cubs

With the schools on half term break in mid-February it was games night at Cubs as the cubs took part in a variety of games including crab football, spoons, hockey and dominoes. The cubs also attempted the custard cream challenge, as working in teams they had to build the highest custard cream tower on a team members forehead. A great time was had by all.

At the end of the meeting we were delighted to invest our new cubs this term into the Pack. Congratulations to Logan, Parker, Luke, Thomas, Maeve, Harry and Struan who were invested into the Pack. Bravo!

The following week the cubs were working on their Athletics badge. The cubs learned about the best clothes to wear for athletics, how to be safe and also a warm up routine. They then took part in a variety of activities including throwing bean bags into a bucket, with the distance to the bucket increasing after each attempt. Other activities included standing jump, shuttle runs, bean and spoon race and relay races before then learning about the importance for a cool down as well.

We again had more investitures at the end of the meeting as we



Richard and Angela with their certificates



invested our final new starts this term into the Pack. Congratulations to Noah and Tom who were invested into the Pack. Bravo!

The cubs joined up with cubs from Aberfeldy, Dunning, Crieff, Strathardle and Pitlochry to have a sleepover at Dynamic Earth in Edinburgh on the 23rd February. There were 100 cubs in attendance and they enjoyed a variety of activities including a tour of the Dynamic Earth Galleries, watched a film in the inflatable Showdome and did the Quake, Rattle and Roll workshop. After a snack it was then time to settle down for bed, although we are not sure how much sleep some of the cubs got! A big thank to Robert, Michelle, Mark, Charlie and Finn for their support with the sleepover.

At the end of February, the cubs were working on their Pioneer badge. They were learning how to make structures from basic materials and worked together to build some impressive indoor pioneering gadgets.

It was all about communication at Cubs the following week as the cubs worked on their Communicator badge. It was a busy evening as they took part in a variety of activities including following their partner's instructions to recreate their work of art without peeking and practicing making a 999 call. They also spent time talking to each other about different topics including hobbies, animals and food. The Cubs also learned about British Sign Language and were making posters to tell a story which included topics such as a new activity badge for cubs, a hero rescuing a scout and how a scout leader won an award. We then finished the evening learning some French to play an adapted version of Captain's coming.

Congratulations to Assistant Cub Scout Leader Sophie who was presented with The Chief Scout's 5 Year Length of Service Award at the end of the meeting by our District Commissioner. Bravo!

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

KYTHE

KYTHE Composes, Easter activities and much more!

The young people of Kinross-shire have always found enjoyment in the KYTHE youth bands, and now, there's something new; 'KYTHE Composes'. This initiative invites young people aged 11-16 to explore the art of songwriting, regardless of musical experience. It is a chance to put pen to paper and express themselves through music.

But that's not all; KYTHE is also introducing art workshops with a twist. Professional artists are coming to work with the young people, initially with portraiture, providing an opportunity to learn and create under expert guidance.

These projects are not just about developing artistic skills; they're about self-expression and personal growth. Through songwriting,

crafting, and painting, young people are getting the chance to learn new skills, explore their creativity, build communication skills, increase perseverance, work together and, above all, have fun!

As a charity we are reliant on donations and grants, so we are grateful to The Albert Hunt Trust, The Peartree Trust, The Mary Janet King Fund and Creative Scotland for supporting these projects.

As always school holidays are a busy time and this Easter is no exception. For the most up-to-date information on activities, trips and sign-up details, check our website and social media.

Kinross Guide Dogs

A sleepy puppy reclines and dreams of chasing his tail perhaps. Guide dog puppies are just the same as pet puppies and enjoy life to the full. Our local donated puppy is almost 11 months old and we still wait to hear if she will make it to become a breeding guide dog Mum. We have crossed paws that she will!

Guide dogs have a new fundraising event called 'make every cuppa

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count'. If you would like to support us by running a coffee morning or afternoon tea in aid of guide dogs we would love to hear from you. Hopefully our stall at The Better Place to Live Fair will have encouraged a lot of Kinross-shire residents to volunteer to help raise much needed funds.

Do you know about our 'Name a Puppy' fundraising? There are several different levels and amounts; from the lower level to donate a name, to fully supporting a puppy through to qualifying as a guide dog.

Businesses can nominate a 'charity of the year' and raise money over a 12-month period.

Around 1 in 5 of us will have serious sight issues in our lifetime and guide dogs give these people the chance of independent living. Please continue to support us.

We can accept foreign money, paper and coins which can all be placed in the collection dogs around Kinross-shire. When you return from your holidays, we would be very grateful for any leftover cash.

Welcome to our new co-ordinator, Evelyn. We hope she will be the start of a new team to push us forward with more events in the near future.

Contact Sheila Marshall by email at She61@hotmail.co.uk.

Kinross Radio Model Flying Club (KRMFC)

www.krmfc.com

The club held its AGM last month. It was well attended with the existing committee members re-elected for another year. The club secretary mentioned events planned for

Neil Grayson with his glider



this year and proposed that the club hold open days in May and August. The club also has aspirations to have flying competitions like combat, spot landing and limbo competitions but planning for these is still in the very early stages. The club is also on the lookout for further people to train new flyers and some members volunteered to help with that.

With the weather starting to improve, most members are starting to regularly visit the flying field and also attend other events run by other local flying clubs. Many of the members went to the Balbedie Aeromodelling Club Bring and Buy sale which was held in Portmoak Hall in February. The early shoppers were definitely rewarded for their timekeeping with a lot of bargains quickly being snapped up! Kevin Scott attended the Scottish FPV (drone) racing event at Glenrothes modelling club and was quietly impressed with the tech in the transmitters being used.

Back at the field itself, there has been lots of helicopter flying and a good combination of both trainers and more performance orientated planes flying, largely all successfully with almost all contact with the ground being planned!

The club secretary Neil Grayson has been modifying his rookie glider to convert it from being fuel powered to electric powered (he is doing his bit for global warming!) and has had great success with it. The initial flights however were short lived (the attached images were taken two minutes apart and that includes walking time!) However, as Douglas Adams once said, 'Flying is learning how to throw yourself at the ground and miss'.

In addition to the flying however, a number of members are continuing to build or modify planes for flying later in the year. In particular, there is a lot of interest in adding floats to planes so that they can take part in the waterplane event that is planned for Loch Leven on the weekend of 24-25 August.

As mentioned in last months article, the club is hosting the Scottish Regional UK Rocketry Challenge (www.ukroc.com) at the flying field on Tuesday 23 April.

The best way to see what we are up to is on our Facebook page [@kinrossradiomodelflyingclub](https://www.facebook.com/kinrossradiomodelflyingclub). If you are interested in joining the club please use the contact form on the club website.

Kinross-shire Civic Trust

Helping protect, conserve and provide a better built and natural environment

www.kinross-shirecivictrust.org

[Facebook.com/KinCivicTrust](https://www.facebook.com/KinCivicTrust)

Email: KinrossshireCivicTrustSecy@gmail.com



Annual General Meeting

The Trust's AGM will take place on Wednesday 24 April at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room, St Paul's Episcopal Church, Muirs, Kinross. There will be reports on the Trust's activities and projects over the past year. Refreshments will be served.

Members will receive emails about the AGM. If you are not a member but are interested in attending, please send an email to our secretary (see header) or phone (01577) 863714.

Raingardens challenge

Representatives of the Civic Trust and Kinross in Bloom met together in March to discuss potential additional planting at the Kinross park & ride and Junction Road flood plains.

The groups will be looking for volunteers to help with planting on Wednesday 10 April. If you would like to help, please get in touch with either group.

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



Proud volunteers after constructing the new picnic bench.

Potager Garden

We have started our Monday morning volunteer sessions again in March, and anyone is welcome to join us for some fresh air, a bit of gardening, a cuppa and a chat or garden advice. We are there from about 10.30 to 12.30.

We have recently bought two new benches made from recycled plastic, so needing no maintenance, and the volunteers did well

working out where to put all the parts of two different designs to build them up. One of the benches has a space for a wheelchair or other seat.

At the time of writing we are preparing some plants for selling at the Better Place to Live Fair, and a seed planting activity there with the Allotments group. Plant sales have started again at the shop in Crook of Devon.

We are planning some educational hands-on gardening sessions in the summer term for pupils from the Eco group at Kinross Primary, and the Leven class from the High School. The primary pupils will grow some flower and vegetable plants to sell at their school fair in June.

We are planning to open the garden with others locally on 29 June, fundraising for Marie Curie. Further details of the gardens, tickets and so on will be publicised nearer the time.

We would like to thank the Monarch deer farm in Crook of Devon for a generous donation of mushroom compost to boost the fertility of our vegetable beds.

Wishing everyone an enjoyable and productive growing season, hoping for some April showers, but not all the time!

Follow us on our Facebook group, or contact Amanda James for more information on 07963 476803 or by email at amandajames1577@gmail.com.

Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation

www.kleo.org.uk



Kinross Farmers' Markets

The markets will resume in April, with the first market on Saturday 27 April from 10am-2pm taking place on Kinross High Street. Visitors will be able to buy high quality, fresh food from local producers and artisan traders offering a wide variety of products.

While in the town centre why not also shop at the High Street's established businesses and meet friends in our vibrant community atmosphere? On market days, High Street will be closed from the entrance at Burns Begg Street to the entrance at Montgomery Street.

This year there will be a variety of markets on the High Street and a few bigger markets at the Market Park (opposite the Green Hotel).

The High Street market dates are 27 April, 22 June, 28 September and 26 October, running from 10am to 2pm.

The bigger markets are the Spring Market on 25 May, the Summer Market on 24 August and the Winter Festive Market on 23 November. These markets take place at the Market Park from 10am to 3pm.

If you like to book a stall space at the bigger markets, please send



an email to info@kleo.org.uk. All the farmers' market stalls are fully booked but there is still space for bringing your own gazebo stall. We can provide a trestle table if needed. The fee for a stall space is £40 or £20 for community groups and charities.

Help Needed/Funding Available

KLEO is looking for community groups or local sports clubs who can help out at one of our markets setting up/dismantling the market stalls and who can deliver the market equipment with the KLEO trailer to the market site on Kinross High Street. We can pay a local group £200 for their assistance at each of our markets. Last year we had a different group helping out each time and that worked out very well.

We need a local group(s) who can provide 7 to 8 helpers for any of the dates above from 7.30-9am (setting up stalls) and the breakdown of the equipment after the market from 2-3pm. The group should provide a driver (with a clean driving licence) and a car with tow bar to tow the KLEO trailer with market equipment from Fruix Farm to the market site on Kinross High Street (and back after the event).

If you interested in this opportunity, please contact Bouwien Bennet by e-mail at bouwien@kleo.org.uk.

Acoustic Open Mic

This is an evening for anyone who would like to play a couple of songs in a live situation. Every third Wednesday of the month from 7.30-9pm in the lounge of the Green Hotel. Text Nigel on 07758559187.

Kacophony Orchestra

This is an orchestra for adults who like to play their instruments in a group with conductor Dougie Flower. All abilities are welcome, but it is handy if you read music. Please do not worry if you haven't played for a while as we are a very friendly and informal bunch. Sessions take place on Wednesday evenings from 7.15pm to 9.15pm at Loch Leven Community Campus. Sessions start again from 17 April onwards. The fee is £5 per session.

Leven Voices

This is a fun, informal drop-in singing group which you can join anytime. No music reading or singing experience is necessary.

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Sessions are on Tuesday evenings with Horsecross Arts tutor Emma Neck and run from 7.30pm-9.30pm at Kinross Parish Church. Sessions start again from 16 April onwards. The fee is £4 per session.



Barbara Dickson Comes To Kinross!

29 November 2024, 8pm, Loch Leven Community Campus

In this special acoustic performance Barbara Dickson and her pianist Nick Holland explore her catalogue of songs at an intimate level. The pair let the words and melodies take 'centre stage' as they perform a wonderful range of material drawing on Barbara's folk roots, contemporary greats, and some other classic hits.

Emerging from the Scottish folk scene of the late 1960s Barbara had enjoyed mainstream chart success with hits including 'Answer Me', 'Another Suitcase in Another Hall',

'Caravan' and the million-selling number one single, 'I Know Him So Well'. As Scotland's best-selling female album artist she has earned 6 platinum, 11 gold and 7 silver albums and cemented her status as one of the UK's best-loved performers. Her stage career has included the roles of the original Mrs Johnstone in Willy Russell's long-running musical, 'Blood Brothers' and as Viv Nicholson in 'Spend Spend Spend', both of which have won her an Olivier award for 'Best Actress'. Barbara was awarded an O.B.E. by Her Majesty the Queen in the 2002 New Year's Honours for her services to music and drama and she continues to record and to play to sold-out audiences.

Support: Anthony Toner

Already well established in his native Northern Ireland as one of the region's finest singer songwriters and guitarists, Belfast-based Anthony Toner is attracting a growing following in Scotland, England and Wales. Much of that appeal has been built on his stellar appearances as special guest of folk legend Barbara Dickson on her acoustic tours over the last ten years – but also on the sheer quality of his material. Find out more at www.anthonytoner.net For tickets (£25) go to TicketWeb.

Daniel Martinez Flamenco Company

8 November 8pm Loch Leven Community Campus

The award-winning Daniel Martinez Flamenco Company comes to the Kinross-shire Winter Festival with a spellbinding flamenco show full of emotion, passion and grit. The show is based on a traditional flamenco 'tablaó' and will take the audience on a journey to the heart of Andalucia in the South of Spain.

If you're looking to enjoy authentic flamenco from the heart, look no further than Daniel Martinez and his spectacular troupe.

For more information about KLEO events see www.kleo.org.uk or e-mail info@kleo.org.uk

The Rotary Club of Kinross and District

www.ribi.org

We've had a quiet time recently, mostly dedicated to planning future events.

At our breakfast meeting in February, David Munro joined us and spoke about his involvement with volleyball in the community and beyond. From a small start, responding to involvement as a teacher, David has applied his legendary energy and commitment to the sport. As well as developing volleyball in Kinross since 1980 and encouraging local talent, he has made a huge contribution further afield, becoming chair of Scottish Volleyball. He rightly pointed out that 'the country would fall apart if not for volunteers', also that there needs to be better support for sport at grass roots level, not just for elite sportspeople. David is undoubtedly a great example of one who supports our community and makes a real difference.



Young Writer

Well done to all who entered this year's competition. The judges enjoyed reading the entries on this year's theme, 'Rebuilding'. There was an excellent range of approaches to this topic. Winner in the junior section is Innes with James as runner up (both Milnathort Primary School). Winner in the Intermediate section is Emily (Kinross High School) and runner up is Lucy (Milnathort Primary School). Innes' and Emily's pieces have been entered in the Rotary District 1010 heat and we wish them well!

We are delighted to be able to showcase their work. Very well done!

You may have seen us out and about in March; perhaps at the Primary Schools Quiz, or maybe you met some of us at the Better Place to Live Fair. If you are interested in finding out more or coming to a meeting, contact secretary.kdrc@gmail.com for further details.

Loch Leven Library

www.culturepk.org.uk

Tel: 01577 867205.

Email lochlevenlibrary@culturepk.org.uk.



Opening Times

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

* Reduced service with volunteers. Please make sure you have your library card with you if you wish to take out books.

Come along and join our fun storytime and storytelling sessions with your child every Tuesday at 4–4.30pm. These drop-in sessions are for pre-school and early primary aged children and there is no need to book.

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

IT support sessions

Are you struggling to make sense of the digital world? Would you like to learn more about your tablet, phone, laptop or any digital device? The sessions are monthly and anyone interested in attending a session can book a time slot by phoning the library.

Code Club Drop-in Session, Tuesday 9 April, 2-4pm

Try your hand at coding with Scratch. Our drop-in session is designed to help children learn the basics of computer programming using Scratch, including creating simple computer games and animations. No need to book, just come along and have fun. Suitable for ages 8-12.

Loch Leven Community Library Code Club, starting Thursday 25 April 2024, 4-5pm

Come along and join in with Scratch coding. Our sessions are designed to help children learn the basics of computer programming using Scratch, including creating simple computer games and animations. The club will run weekly from 25 April to 6 June. To book a place please call the library on 01577 867 154. Parents are welcome to stay but not required. For ages 9–13. Places are limited so please book early to avoid disappointment.

Knit, Crochet and Natter and Board Game Group

Come along to our free Thursday morning (10am-12pm) get-together with your needles and pins for a morning of crochet and knitting, a chat and a hot drink. Or come along on a Thursday afternoon (2.30–4.30pm), to try your hand at one of the ever-popular board games including Scrabble, chess, and snakes and ladders. No prizes, no pressure, just fun and a warm drink

Boy's Brigade and Girls Association

Members of all three sections (Anchors, Juniors and Company) continue to carry out badge work on Friday evenings in a range of challenge activities and indoor sports.



The Junior section indoor football team won the recent Battalion trophy at the competition at Strathallan School.

The Company section entered two teams in the popular Battalion evening hike competition which was held at Kinnoull Church Hall. Teams faced a number of physical and mental challenges along an outdoor course which took an hour and a half to complete. The Kinross B team just missed out on winning the trophy finishing a mere three points behind the winning team from the Kinnoull Company.

Next up are the Battalion chess and drill competitions which will take place over the next month.

Kinross-shire Reminiscence Group

We meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 1.30pm in the garden room at Kinross Centre. We enjoy chatting and reminiscing about Kinross town and the history of both its growth and its residents, current and past.

Since our inception we have undertaken a few projects. Last year we researched and created posters on the history of a number of local shops and these were on display in the High Street, followed by an exhibition in Milnathort Town Hall. We also looked into the history of local hotels and pubs.

We look at old photos of the town and people and relate stories of our own connections with Kinross. We are a friendly bunch and would welcome some new members. There is no charge except a payment of £1 for refreshments. Our next meeting is on Wednesday 3 April at 1.30 pm in the Kinross Centre. Please consider joining us.

Portmoak Film Society

We have finally moved onto Facebook, so please do check us out for news and views of films past and upcoming, and share with your friends.

The March showing of Icelandic film 'Lamb' attracted a good audience with several new guests, all of whom rated it good or excellent. It gained a well-deserved 'Best Original Film' at Cannes in 2021 and we will surely never look at sheep in the same way again!



For our final film of the season on Saturday 13 April, we are showing the 2021 musical 'Tick, tick...boom!' starring Andrew Garfield as Jonathan Larson, the composer of long-running Broadway smash hit 'Rent'. It is based on his own all-too-short life as a superbly talented, struggling artiste negotiating life's pitfalls and looking for the big breakthrough.

We traditionally hold our AGM on this date. This is a very brief affair, and an opportunity for anyone to have their say on what we do. Doors will open at 7pm at Portmoak Village Hall, Scotlandwell and entry costs £6 on the door. There will be a raffle and refreshments will be served after the film. To check listings, find us on Facebook!

Kinross-shire u3a

u3asites.org.uk/Kinross/home



U3A is open to semi-retired and retired people and the joining fee is £10. We meet at Kinross Parish Church on the first Tuesday of each month. In May we hold our Annual General Meeting and each month from September to April we offer a talk from an invited speaker to our membership. We currently offer a number of varied groups such as book club, wine group, poetry, scrabble, genealogy, famous Scots and so on. If you are interested come along to a couple of talks, get to know us and get a taste of what U3A is all about. We would love to meet you.

On Tuesday 2 April there will be a presentation from Martin Collins on the topic 'My life is crime'. Doors open shortly after 2pm and the presentation starts at 2.30pm. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be served afterwards.

Our AGM will be held on Tuesday 7 May, followed by a quiz.

If you are interested in joining U3A, information is available on our website. You can also find us on Facebook or contact us by email at mbs21@btinternet.com. New members are always welcome. Come along and try one of our monthly meetings.

Kinrosswood in Bloom



We have collected some freebies from PKC Community Greenspace this month. The items offered were all useful additions to our group. Thank-you Community Greenspace. They will be put into use very soon.

Our work parties resumed in March. The first was at Benarty View on a very cold day but the work party at Raymond's garden was better weather and much busier. It was a chance to catch up with each other and clear leaves, cut back vegetation and generally tidy up.

There have been many art and craft sessions at the school with the children using their skills to make birds of many different crafts. Our themes this year from Beautiful Scotland are 'cakes' and 'celebrations'. We have chosen to celebrate birds. The children's art exhibition at the festival last year was a hard one to beat but we have been doing our best. Meanwhile the crafting ladies have been making knitted and crochet cakes. Some of them look good enough to eat. Mary has been turning a quilt of Castle Island into a background for some local birds. It will be informative and stunning.

Some seeds and tatties have been bought for the school growing project and we will be very busy after Easter with the class groups. We wish Mrs Gordon all the best for her move to Burntisland and am sure she will be keeping an eye on what we are doing. We hope she will find some keen gardeners in her new school. It has been a pleasure working with her over the years.

The Michael Bruce Garden has received funding from the Kinross newsletter, Take a Pride in Perthshire and the Michael Bruce



Trust. This has been a good start to fundraising and more funding from external funders can now be applied for. Final plans are being progressed and we are developing probable costs. We hope to have more to report next month.

The next meeting will be at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday 4 April in the Well Country Inn.

Kinross-shire Conversations

As you may remember we held our first 'conversation' on 1 December last year, hosting the award winning broadcaster, journalist, author, cyclist and land reform campaigner Lesley Riddoch at Loch Leven Community Campus. Our intention was to follow up this first successful conversation every couple of months with new topics across Kinross-shire. However, due to life and work getting in the way we have not been able to confirm any dates, topics and venues before now.

We can now share a few of the topics we will be covering over the next few months. We have been working diligently to confirm some speakers and venues. We hope to publish the details of these soon. In the meantime here are the topics we hope to cover:

1. What does 'Net Zero' mean?
2. Can Scotland be Nuclear weapon free?
3. What is a 'wellbeing economy'?

You can find us on Facebook and Twitter @KSconvos. You can contact us by email at kinrossshireconversations@gmail.com to be added to the mailing list so that we can keep you up to date on upcoming events. Please let us know if you have any suggestions for speakers or topics.

Broke not Broken

We have been glad to see some lighter nights and a few days of sunshine here at Broke Not Broken, with spring on its way. Our volunteers have been as busy as ever and they are the beating heart of the work we do; volunteering is a core value of our charity and, with 12 projects running throughout the year, our work would grind to a halt pretty quickly without them!

Our volunteers are aged 16 and over and come from all walks of life, but they are unanimous in one thing; supporting their community and those within it to make it a better place for everyone. They do it all with kindness, a laugh and a smile, giving people dignity and support.

Our volunteers help with collections and delivery of food; they work in the Beacon to sort through donations and put together food parcels; they do energy top ups; help to facilitate our toddler group, women's group and Tuesday trips; grow fruit and vegetables in our garden; run stalls, as well as our dedicated trustees who help to advise and guide the charity.

This is certainly not an exhaustive list and, when asked what they enjoy about volunteering for Broke Not Broken, one response summed it up perfectly:

'I would say that it always feels like you are part of one big team of lovely people who give up some of their spare time to help others. All the volunteering jobs are really varied and you never quite know what will happen or what you will have to roll your sleeves up and do!'

Another said: 'Volunteering with BnB is very rewarding. Our clients are so grateful for the services we provide and it is great to feel part of a team doing our wee bit to help others'.

We are currently looking for a few more volunteers, particularly for collections and deliveries on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. If you are interested in volunteering with us, please get in touch by email at volunteer@brokenotbroken.org.

We want to say a huge thank you to all our volunteers for the dedication they bring to their role and amazing work they do, and to our generous community and local businesses for their support.

Kinross in Bloom

Dave Dickson and Susan Mitchell recently met up with Gordon Graham who was recently appointed Initiatives Officer with PKC. They discussed potential changes for Bloom groups to consider around sustainability in relation to climate change, enhancing contact with local communities and being more environmentally aware.

Kinross in Bloom have already done some work on sustainability planting, in addition to planning this season's floral displays at key points in the townscape. Contact has been made with a pupil group in Kinross High School. Support is also being offered to pupils working with the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and a link is being built with a local sheltered housing complex.

The yearly activities will get underway in earnest with the delivery of plug plants early in April. These will be nurtured in the polytunnel until they are ready to be planted out in tubs and baskets early in the summer.

A meeting was also held with representatives of Kinross Civic Trust who are working on the Rain Gardens Project at the bus interchange. This was an opportunity to share ideas and plans. It is hoped that a further meeting can be arranged in late summer with the intention of inviting members from other groups working towards a greener and more sustainable Kinross.

The next open meeting is in the Church Centre on Wednesday 3 April at 7pm. The meetings are informal and are an opportunity for potential volunteers to come along and find out more about our activities.

Kinross Garden Group



We had a great talk in March from David Rankin of Kevock Garden Plants, who told us all about how the nursery started on its gold medal winning ways at Chelsea and many other shows. What enthusiasm and energy he had! He and his wife Stella also brought some brilliant plants to sell. They were bought by the enthusiastic members!

Our next meeting is on Thursday 11 April at 2pm in the Parish Church, Kinross, when Dr Stan da Prato (a favourite speaker) will talk about 'Scotland's Showiest Alpines'.

You should have submitted your summer garden visit choices to Caroline by the end of March and we will give an update on numbers at the meeting.

Membership fees are £20 for the year and £5 for visitors at the moment. If you are new to Kinross-shire and interested in meeting fellow garden enthusiasts, you will be made very welcome. Doors will be open from 1.30pm.

For more details contact Caroline Anderson on 01577 864589

Kinross-shire Historical Society

The meeting on 18 March started with the Annual General Meeting. The reports were all very satisfactory but the meeting marked the retirement of Anne Milburn as Treasurer for the last 13 years. A presentation was made to her by Dr David Munro. The other committee members were re-elected en bloc.

The short AGM was followed by a wonderful illustrated talk by Willie Shand. This time it was 'The NE 250' and matched the very high standards of all his previous talks.

The tour started at the Spittal of Glenshee and worked its way up to the Moray coastline, then round the coast to Peterhead and Aberdeen and followed the Dee back to Ballater.

On the journey, the members learned about many things including castles, churches, bridges, coastal rock formations, lochs, family feuds, ghosts and fairies, the royal presence at Braemar, fishing villages, lighthouses, railway lines.

Anne Milburn gave the vote of thanks. She said that everything was superb, so good that it was hard to match plaudits to the standard of the talk, the photography, the music and the humour.

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Inner Wheel Club of Kinross and District

www.innerwheel.co.uk

There was an excellent turn out for the March meeting featuring speaker Professor Calum Sutherland. He gave us an illustrated talk on Dementia Research and filled in many blanks in our understanding of this condition.

We are just finalising the arrangements for the bridge day which takes place early this month. Inner Wheel does the catering for this event which is always well supported. Bridge players come from near and far

to take part and all proceeds go to charity. If anyone would like further information regarding any aspect of Inner Wheel please contact Tricia Lucas by email at triciacciw@btinternet.com.

Portmoak Community Woodland Group

www.portmoakcw.org.uk



What's turning into a 'focus on food,' in the woodlands, continues as we prepare for Easter.

We have munched our way through several events in the past month and now we're preparing for Easter fun on Saturday 30 March when, from 3.30pm in Kilmagad Wood, we'll be having lots of fun, including egg races and a best decorated egg competition. There'll be prizes for the best painted egg in the under 6 years and over 6 years categories and if you're quick off the mark, reading this, you've time to join us.

The community orchard, in Kilmagad Wood, is looking spick and span, after Portmoak Community Woodland Group carried out its spring pruning at the beginning of March. It was hard work which required homemade fig flapjacks to get us through.

Also at the beginning of March we went on a rare field trip, this time to Bankhead Moss, in Fife to see how other folk are restoring and maintaining their peat bog. The Scottish Wildlife Trust, who own it, are trying an innovative technique to retain water - bunds which hold impressive pools and encourage the building block of peat - rare sphagnum mosses - to grow.

We were very grateful to the Trust's volunteers for giving us a

guided tour which ended up, naturally, in the Village Cafe in Ceres - an excellent place for a soup and sandwiches lunch.

Like us, at Portmoak Moss, Bankhead has a problem with regenerating birch saplings and we returned to the task of pulling it out later in the month when a good crowd of volunteers from the Scottish Environment Protection Agency joined us. There were 10 of them, 1 volunteer from NatureScot and 6 of us. And, you've probably guessed it, hot crumbles to keep our spirits up!

Our monthly meetings, open to all, continue at 7.30pm every third Tuesday of the month in the Well Country Inn, Scotlandwell.

Scotlandwell in Bloom

Plant and Bake Sale



We will be hosting a plant and bake sale on Saturday 4 May at the Well Country Inn, Scotlandwell, from 10.30am-12.30pm

There will be a selection of flowers and plants on sale, plus locally produced jams and chutneys and a selection of home baking. There will also be a tombola stall and craft table.

Tea, coffee and cake will also be available and it is a great opportunity to have a catch up with friends and neighbours. We look forward to welcoming to you on 4 May.

Portmoak Hall 100 Club

February Draw

1st	131	David Kennedy	Scotlandwell
2nd	62	Nancy Shepherd	Scotlandwell
3rd	48	Lesley Bottom	Kinnesswood



Powmill SWI

At the February meeting Tricia welcomed members and guests and introduced Jane McGee, our speaker for the evening. Jane is the commercial director at Gleneagles Hotel and also looks after the Townhouse in Edinburgh. She gave us an insight into the history of the hotel over the last 100 years as this is the centenary. She showed lots of photos of the hotel and how it has changed and evolved from its use during war time to present day. It is not only a hotel but has numerous outdoor activities for adults such as famous golf courses, equestrian facilities, off roading and so on. Gillian gave a well- deserved vote of thanks.

Competitions

Decorated Golfball

1st Mary Wilson, 2nd Sharon Buchanan, 3rd Janice Young.

Mocktail

1st Mary Wilson, 2nd Donna McBain, 3rd Anne McKay.

Bloom(s) In A Bottle

Mary Wilson.

Carnbo SWI

President Heather Dennis welcomed members and three guests to the March meeting then introduced Deborah Morgan from Caulders Garden Centre. Deborah gave a demonstration on cutting back and re-potting orchids and gave lots of handy tips. Dorothy Fyfe gave a vote of thanks.

Competitions

Flower of the Month

1st Elizabeth Campbell 2nd Linda Band

Paper-craft wreath

1st Mhairi Lavender

The next meeting is in Carnbo Hall on 15 April at 7.15pm. All Welcome. Speaker is Ms Kairyn Beatson, dog trainer.

Cleish SWI

President Helen Buchanan welcomed 29 members to Cleish Village Hall for our March meeting which was a talk by Karen and Tracy from Cloverlea Apiaries, 'The Friendly Bee Company'. The ladies entertained us with a very interesting and enlightening talk on their journey to becoming beekeepers and all things honey from hive to jar. Not only do they produce delicious honey but they also make candles, soap and creams which they brought along for us to sample, see and buy.

A vote of thanks was given by Vice President Anne Douglas. Our next meeting is on Monday 8 April in Cleish Village Hall at 7.30pm when we are having a talk from Kelty and District Loving Hands. All welcome.



Powmill competition entries

Competitions

Favourite Bee Article

1st Alison Morris, 2nd Faye Gibb, 3rd Sandra Webster.

Bee Limerick

1st Marion Laird, 2nd Carol Herd, 3rd Agnes Thomson.

Flower of the Month

1st Marion Laird, 2nd Carol Herd, 3rd Anne Doig.

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Sports News

Kinross Hockey

Kinrosshockey.org



Kobras In Action At Dundee

A number of juniors (aka Kobras) have been representing Kinross at the monthly tournaments being held at DISC in Dundee. These are friendly tournaments with no outright winners declared or trophies awarded although the coach has admitted that, watching some of the youngsters play, they appear to adopt quite a competitive spirit.

The age groups under 10-14 are all played with mixed teams. Occasionally the under 14 teams can be single sex. At these age groups the game is not played over a full length pitch and is not 11-a-side.

The whole event could not go ahead without volunteers to umpire the games, assistance of coaches to organise the squads, drivers to get them there, and finally parents for their support in mucking in with anything else that might need doing (we've all been there!). The whole focus is on having fun. Thank you to Azets.co.uk for their financial support.

It is great from a hockey sporting aspect to see the DISC facility being used so regularly. It is apparent that all councils are struggling with their budgetary constraints and hockey pitches (amongst many other facilities) throughout Scotland are under threat. We have already seen the astroturf facility in Glenrothes replaced by 3G (third generation) surface which is not suitable for hockey.

We are very fortunate that Kinross has its own facility within the KGV playing fields at the Muirs. It is only by ensuring its continued development and improvement that we can hope to retain it for future generations.



Kobras having fun

Kinross Road Runners

<https://kinrossroadrunners.weebly.com>



How true is the saying 'ne'er cast a clout 'til May is out'. Milder days in February have been followed by cold easterly winds in March so, unless you are really hardy, running vests and shorts remain firmly at the bottom of the drawer for a little longer. Whatever the weather, Kinross Road Runners have been out in force.

In mid-February Gill Lopez was down in Peebles for the Glentress trail half marathon where the route took in some of the mountain bike trails. It was a very challenging run and Gill managed to upgrade on her November 2023 run by 7 minutes, finishing in 2:56.10.

At the National Cross Country Championships at Falkirk in the grounds of Callendar Park, KRR had full team representation in the Senior Men's and Women's races; a great turnout for the club. Considering the amount of rain that had fallen in the week leading up to the event, the course was surprisingly dry with just a few patches of mud.

Leading the women home over the 10k, 3 lap course, was Caroline Jones, followed in [NB:- should this say 'second place'?] by Christine Myerscough (3rd FV60), Brigid Wallen, Gill Lopez, Ann Malcolm and Wendy Turnbull.

Over the same course, the men were led home by Matt Newton, Alex Reily, Murray Speight, Allan Kemp, Zhivko Zhelyazkov, Tony Wallen, Michael Atkinson and Gavin Orr.

We also had 2 Scottish Athletics officials from the club helping with time-keeping, Hannah Lopez and Catherine McAdams. Special thanks to our supporters, young and old, who cheered on the runners throughout the afternoon.

Away from the nationals, Linsey Nielson took part in the fourth race of the Foxtrail winter running series, completing the half marathon in 2:10.46 while Ben Ross was third overall at the Bertha Park 10k trail race in a time of 42.20.

A quartet of KRR ladies took on the Badass trail race at Balbirnie Park with Wendy Grieve leading them home in 46.24 (3rd FV50) followed in by Wendy Turnbull, having run at the nationals the day before, Linda MacEachen and Sarah Eaton.

At the Monikie Duathlon, run/bike/run, Andy Bruce did the running legs of 2 x 4.4km and, along with his team mate from Kinross cycle club, took 1st place in the relay team. Congratulations!

The 4k Bishop Hill race is a long standing and popular early season classic. It is described by the organisers as 'a short but tough route of a mix of path and hill terrain that packs a lot in and has one of the most 'fun' descents in the racing calendar'. 5 KRR donned the yellow and blue with Murray Speight finishing

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ninth overall in 22.35, ably supported by Michael Atkinson, Frazer Munro, Alison Robertson and Anne Macintyre.

The road race season is officially declared open with the running of the Inverness half marathon. A hotspot for those looking to test their winter training fitness for the season ahead, David Scott put in a sterling performance finishing in 1:18.13, just 7 seconds outside of his lifetime half marathon PB set at Inverness 5 years ago. Well done David!

Frazer Munro was at the Gartmorn 6 mile trail race around Gartmorn Dam, finishing in 47.30 while Alex Reily completed the John Muir 50km in 4:57.32. KRR were also represented at the World Indoor Athletics Championships in Glasgow as two of our members, Ann Malcolm and Gill Lopez were on volunteer duties; a wonderful experience for them both.

Don't forget that the Loch Leven half marathon is taking place on Sunday 12 May at 9am. Places are still available so, if you want a spring challenge, go to www.entrycentral.com and enter the race. The route and road closures are shown below. The clocks going forward means lighter evenings so, if you are interested in joining, visit our website and get in touch or speak to one of us at Loch Leven park run on Saturday mornings.

Kinross Golf Club

www.kinrossgolfclub.co.uk 2 Beeches Park, KY13 8EU
Tel: 01577 862237



Upcoming Social Events

Friday 10 May - Ladies Night

We have the fabulous Rita Riot from 7 pm till 9 pm with her fantastic Drag show and brilliant Bingo

From 9pm till 12pm we have the fantastic Marilyn Childs Duncan with her Hanky Panky show. Lots of fun and games and a fantastic vocalist. Tickets will be available for Ladies Night from 10 March

Ladies Section

Following the Club's Season opening on 30 March, with the Captain v Vice Captain Match, our Ladies will open their Season with the ever popular 9-hole Bring and Win on Saturday 6 April. This is always well attended and a chance to catch up

with everyone and meet new lady members. Tea/Coffee and a scone will be available after your game, courtesy of the Ladies Committee. Presentation of the Ann McCrorie Winter 9 hole Round Robin Trophy will also be made.

A full Fixture List this season, to include our two Opens, Senior Greensomes on Thursday 11 July, and Ladies Stableford Open on Saturday 7 September. Both are now available to book online through Howdidido.

Our away day this year will be to Balbirnie G.C. on Monday 24 June and promises, as always, to be a memorable day out. Checkout further details and cost listed on the noticeboard in the Ladies Locker Room.

Club Opening Day of Season

Saturday 30 March: Captain vs Vice Captain match, opening of the 2024 season.

After the golf event has concluded, the lovely Carrie will be back to host a Karaoke event from 3pm till 8pm.

Junior Section.

The first meeting is on Tuesday 23 April at 4pm, and every Tuesday thereafter, with the exception of the school summer holidays, when we shall move the tee time forward to 2pm.

Kinross Volleyball

With this season's Perth & Kinross volleyball season now complete it has been mixed fortunes for the three competing teams.

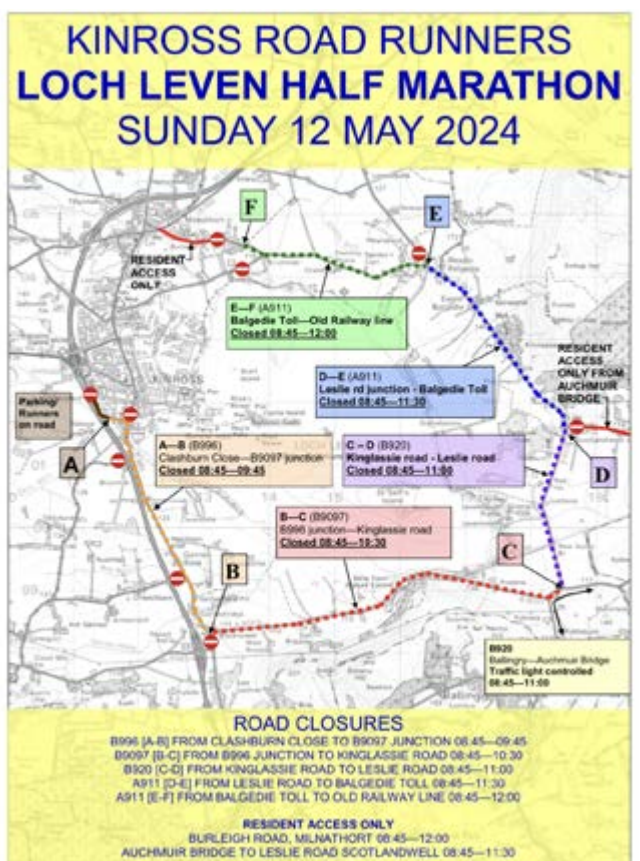
In the premier league, the men's team finished in 7th place with the fast tracking of four junior players, supported by senior adult players proving to be beneficial in easing the youngsters into a more competitive environment.

In the recreational league the men's team finished as league runners up and the Kinross High School team finished in 11th place.

The Kinross club is now mainly a junior development club attracting youngsters from the local area, Fife and Clackmannanshire. Thanks to the Active Schools initiative, club coaches run Wednesday lunchtime 'pop up to play' sessions and after school coaching sessions. Both High School boys and girls teams are competing in Scottish Volleyball's Cup competition.

After the school Easter break there will be the opportunity for primary 7 pupils from all Kinross-shire primary schools to attend Wednesday after school transition coaching sessions.

Recreational league runners up Kinross team]





Our indoor Monday evening coaching sessions have now drawn to a close and our free summer outdoor 'pop up and play' sessions will resume on Sunday early evenings from 6-7.30pm. As the summer evening light lengthens these sessions, we will phase in later timings which will be more suitable for everyone attending.

The outdoor sessions will be helpful in preparing our junior players for an Active Schools outdoor volleyball festival on Perth's North Inch on Friday 23 May.

Both adult and junior teams are looking forward to competing in the Scottish Open Volleyball Tournament which will be held over the weekend of 24-25 May with over 100 teams again expected to compete in the UK's largest volleyball tournament.

Kinross Rugby Club

Kinross U13/ U14s Boys completed their Caledonia Red Challenge series yesterday at Bannockburn Rfc.




Two games played against Glenrothes and Bannockburn, both tough games, however our players have really enjoyed these mini festivals. An average of over 200 minutes played, which is good going considering there were games cancelled!

Over the last couple of months, they have participated in roughly 12 festivals, visiting clubs like Montrose, Glenrothes, Hillfoots and Falkirk. All to which has given them great game playing time but more importantly the chance to bond as a team.

Well done to our players and thanks to all parents.

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Orwell Bowling Club

The Opening of the Green will take place on Saturday 13 April at 1.30pm for 2pm start. All members and potential members please come along. Let us hope we have a good turnout and pleasant weather. The opening game is in aid of the Blind Bowlers so please bring a raffle prize; raffles are much appreciated during the season as well.

Members who are entering the competitions must have their fees paid by Tuesday 30 April. The full membership is £100 but for one year only new members can join for half price for their first year. There is also a family membership available so anyone who is interested in bowling please come along. We also offer free coaching. Or why not pay us a visit at the weekend around 7.30pm to see the clubhouse and facilities?

Our office bearers elected at the AGM in November are President, Tom Reid; Vice President, Graeme Duncan; Secretary, Sandra Fullerton; Treasurer, Jim Whittet. The position of match secretary was not filled at the AGM so if any member is interested, please contact one of our officials.

For more information about the club and bowling, please check out our website or Facebook page. You can also contact the club secretary on 07790026589 or one of our officials or club members.

Kinross Tennis Club

Email: kinrosstenniscoaching@gmail.com

Facebook @[kinrosstennisclub](https://www.facebook.com/kinrosstennisclub) or @[siobhanmacleodtennis](https://www.facebook.com/siobhanmacleodtennis)

The lengthening days and arrival of spring brings the hope of nicer weather and more tennis for everyone to enjoy in Kinross. Well done to the hardy souls who managed to play through the winter! It has been great to see the sport continuing whenever the weather permitted.

Membership 2024-2025

With spring comes the new tennis year and memberships are now available for 2024, effective from 1st April. Please visit the website for more information on how to re-join for this year - <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/KinrossTennisClub/Membership/Join>. All membership fees remain the same as last year, so hopefully we will continue to enjoy having you all as members! Please contact us at kinrosstennis@gmail.com if you have any questions about membership.

New Chairman

As well as hoping to see some new faces at the tennis club, we also have a new president and chairman, Chris Bamford. Chris has been a member at the club for 6 years and has spent the last 3 years on the committee and co-ordinating the men's team. He looks forward to meeting everyone in his new role over the coming weeks.



OPEN DAY!

Saturday 13th April 10am - 2pm

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Open Day

A great time to meet everyone over a cuppa and cake is at our open day, Saturday 13 April 2024. If you are new to the area or the sport, don't worry. You don't need to be a member to come along to the open day it is for all ages and abilities. There will be friendly matches happening on court and refreshments/socialising happening in the clubhouse. We will be having a club clean-up day the Saturday before so if you have a spare half hour please do join us from 10am onwards on Saturday 6th April.

Coaching

The league matches are starting soon and our juniors and adults are getting in lots of practise at coaching.

After our Easter camp (3-5 April) we'll be starting our Summer block of coaching and new players are always welcome. Classes run on a Saturday and Tuesday for the juniors and Sunday evenings for the adults. There will be an adult beginners class this term - perfect for those picking up a racket for the first time or for those looking to get back into tennis after a long break.

Junior matches are played on a Saturday afternoons. We have matches for all ages so if you have a player keen to compete, please get in touch. For any information on coaching or junior matches contact our coach Siobhan: 07443 223408. Email: kinrosstenniscoaching@gmail.com

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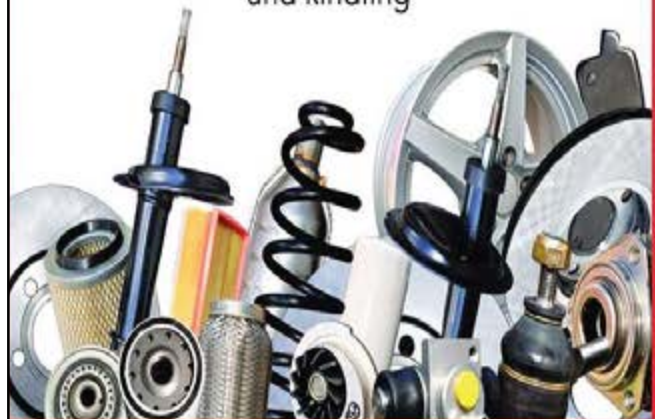


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NatureScot Loch Leven NNR

AFTER WHAT HAS FELT like a very long winter, spring is finally arriving at Loch Leven. With this we will be seeing the arrival of migrant birds returning to the UK to breed, more plants flowering and with this more insects. Coinciding with this are changes to our water access guidance. The wildfowl on the loch will start nesting, and they prefer the loch side and islands, as these are safer from both predation and human disturbance. The new guidance, which is in place from 1 April will ask the public when on the water to keep a distance from the loch shore and do not land on the islands, and to only launch from Burleigh Sands or Kirkgate Park or the pier. This is to minimise disturbance of nesting birds and birds with broods of young.

Migrant birds returning to breed will include the likes of chiffchaffs, spotted flycatchers, blackcaps, and sedge warblers. The dawn chorus of bird song will become quite spectacular, with birds singing to each other, as well as calling and defending breeding territories. We are also very lucky at Loch Leven that we are visited by ospreys, arriving back in the UK after wintering across Africa. There will also be many of our winter residents getting ready to breed like tits and thrushes. As well as ducks, there are some passerines that nest on the ground, such as meadow pipits and skylarks, so we ask the public and people with dogs to be responsible whenever walking off the footpath, as it is easy to come across a birds nest by accident.

We found our first frogspawn in March, which means in April tadpoles will have started hatching! We with more plants in flower we have started seeing more bees around, especially on gorse bushes. We have yet to see our first butterflies of the year,



but come April there should be more on the wing, comma butterflies often being the first of the year. With the increasing temperatures, and hopefully less rain, we will be getting our moth trap out and will hopefully start to catch and identify species on the reserve.

Our volunteers have been busy as usual this past month. There has been lots of tree planting, nest box building, and we had a special guest in to do hedge laying near Mary's gate. At the end of March we are also saying goodbye to seasonal reserve officer Julie, who has worked at Loch Leven for three years. She has been an invaluable member of the team here and we wish her all the best on her next venture at Tentsmuir NNR.

Over the Easter holidays we will be putting on events at the reserve, and an Easter egg trail will be set up. To keep updated with whats going on the reserve have a look at our social media (Facebook, Instagram and Wordpress blog - @LochLevenNNR), and feel free to get in touch with any of your own as well.

*Sally Reay
Loch Leven Nature Reserve Officer*

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Weather



Recent Weather Reports From Kinross

February 2024

Total Rainfall	108.7mm/4.34in	
Heaviest Fall	14.6mm/0.58in	(1 Feb)
Total Sunshine	91.7hrs	
Sunniest Day	7.9hrs	(26 Feb)
Max Temp Average	8.08°C	
Highest Temp	12.30°C	(18 Feb)
Min Temp Average	-2.07°C	
Lowest Temp	-10.40°C	(7 Feb)



HERE AT RSPB LOCH LEVEN, we know that time spent in nature can have significant benefits for an individual's health and well-being, so we have been working hard to ensure that access to these opportunities at the reserve is as inclusive as possible. We are so proud to have had our hard work recognised when we became the regional winner of the Inclusive Tourism Award at the 2023 Scottish Thistle Awards in December. But the work does not stop there.

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into a spacious welcome area and open plan shop on the ground floor of the visitor centre. An access ramp brings you to the café on the first floor, and the layout throughout the building is designed to allow for ease of access to all facilities. Across the courtyard, we have a spacious Changing Places toilet, accessible toilet, two family toilets and individual gender neutral and gendered cubicles. The enclosed cubicles include hand basins to increase comfort for those who have need for private hand-washing facilities. The car park has several Blue Badge parking spaces, two of which are at the EV charging points. Live wildlife cameras allow visitors to watch the wildlife on a screen the visitor centre, and we even have live Red Squirrel cam on YouTube, so everyone can enjoy some wildlife magic from the comfort of their own home!

Our friendly staff are here to ensure that everyone feels welcomed and supported when they visit. We have new reserve maps coming soon which will include details such as gradients and where resting places are to help provide visitors with more information about their journey around the reserve.

Our raised accessible pond means that everyone has the opportunity to get stuck in with our pond dipping kits which are just £3 to hire for the whole day. Additionally, we are launching sensory backpacks for adults and children in time for the Easter holidays which will be free to use. These will contain resources including ear defenders, sunglasses, plush toys, colouring pencils, fidget toys and a timer. We are also now offering a more in-depth pre-arrival information, in addition to our Accessibility Statement, to assist those with additional support needs to plan their visit in advance. For a copy of this, please contact the team at lochleven@rspb.org.uk.

For more regular updates and information, please follow us on Facebook [@RSPBTaysideFife](https://www.facebook.com/RSPBTaysideFife) and on our brand-new Instagram page [@rspblochleven](https://www.instagram.com/rspblochleven).



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Freya Playford

Farming

New Life On The Farm

It's great to see the length of the daylight hours stretch out each day although Mother Nature is reluctant to shake free from the pattern of stormy wet and windy weather which has prevailed throughout the winter months.

It certainly hasn't been a cold winter (so far) with the exception of a couple of brief frosty interludes, but it has been relentlessly wet. There was a glimmer of hope a week or two ago when it looked like the weather was starting to improve and puddles were drying out, prompting a flurry of activity in some of the drier fields in *Newsletter* country. Sadly, some more heavy rain has stalled work in all but the driest fields and there are still plenty areas where the ducks can swim away happily.

New life has been bursting onto the scene here at Backward Farm recently. We have had some cows calving, although not quite as quickly as I would have expected but the calves are arriving steadily and they are quickly up on their feet and running about.

The shed where the cows are kept over the winter is very open, which is good for ensuring that there is plenty of fresh air for the cattle which minimises the risk of respiratory infections like pneumonia causing problems. However, the downside is that the wind tends to blow the rain (or snow) right through the shed which wets everything so we have to use more straw to try to keep the bedding clean and dry, and we do seem to have used a lot of straw this winter.

The batch of ewes due to lamb first have been brought in to their shed and are lambing away steadily. That building gives a bit more shelter from the wind but still ensures plenty of airflow to help keep them healthy.

The ewes have had access to specially formulated supplementary feed tubs for a wee while now and it would be true to say that they are fairly tucking in to them. The tubs are designed to supply the heavily pregnant ewes with the right balance of vitamins, minerals, protein and energy as lambing approaches, so that the ewe and her lambs are in the best health possible. They are like big nutritious lollipops for sheep.

The pigs have also been multiplying in recent weeks and while they mostly farrow outside in their arks in the fields, a couple of the sows were brought in to a shed to help give them a bit more



protection from the elements and give the piglets the best possible start. It's great watching a tribe of piglets running en masse, as they expand their territory and explore their paddocks.

The ground has certainly been nice and soft to allow the pigs to keep rooting away over the winter, but hopefully it will dry up a bit in the next few weeks.

There is a bit of grass growth just now, so hopefully it won't come in too cold and frosty, stunting the growth just as it is needed, but we will just have to wait and see what happens. Hopefully there won't be snow for Easter.

John

Loch Leven Castle

Castle Island, Kinross

Tel 07836 313769



LOCATED ON AN ISLAND in beautiful Loch Leven, this is one of Scotland's oldest castles, probably built in the early 1300s.

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

The property is reached by boat, operated by Historic Scotland and departing from the fishery pier (Pier Road, KY13 8UF).

Due to limited capacity, it is recommended that all visits are booked online at www.historicenvironment.scot/lochleven-castle.

OPENING TIMES

1 April – 30 Sept: Daily, 10am – 5.30pm (last outward sailing 4.15pm)

1 to 31 Oct: Daily, 10am – 4.30pm (last outward sailing 3.30pm)

PRICES

Adult (16-64yrs)	£10
Concession (65yrs+ and unemployed)	£8
Child (7-15yrs)	£6
Family (1 adult, 2 children)	£20
Family (2 adults, 2 children)	£29
Family (2 adults, 3 children)	£34

Historic Scotland members travel free.

The Pier: Hannah Phillips



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	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55
Kinross P&R	Not sat								
Kirkland's Hotel	0745	0845	0845	Every Hour	1445	1545	1645	1800	
Campus, HC	0753	0853	0853	>>>>>	1453	1553	1653	1808	
Minnathort, Church St	0755	0855	0855		1455	1555	1655	1810	
Glenfarg, Greenbank Road	0805	0905	0905		1505	1605	1705	1820	
Bridge of Earn, Side Street	-----	0918	0918		1518	1618	-----	-----	
Perth, Canal St	-----	0928	0928		1528	1628	-----	-----	
Perth, Bus Station (dep)	-----	0940	0940		1540	1640	-----	-----	
Perth, Mill Street	(not	-----	0945		1545	1645	-----	-----	
Bridge of Earn, Side Street	Sat)	-----	0955		1555	-----	-----	-----	
Glenfarg, Greenbank Road	0710	0810	0910	1010	1610	1705	1710		
Minnathort, Church St	0720	0820	0920	1020	1620	-----	1720		
Campus, HC	0722	0822	0922	1022	1622	-----	1722		
Kinross P&R	0730	0830	0930	1030	1630	-----	1730		



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Kinross-shire Centre

Scottish Charity SC004968

64 High Street
Kinross
KY13 8AJ

Weekly Programme For April

Monday	Hearing Aid Clinic (1 Apr ONLY)	10am-12pm
	Exercise Class	11.30am
	Games: Indoor curling, quizzes, Scrabble, dominoes	1.30pm
	'Stride for Life' Walking Group	2.00pm
Tuesday	Vision PK (9 & 16 Apr ONLY)	10-11.45am
	Exercise Class	11.30am
	Singing Group (9 Apr ONLY)	1.30pm
	Games: Indoor curling, quizzes, Scrabble, dominoes	1.30pm
Wednesday	Church Service	11.15am
	Chiropody (17 Apr ONLY)	12-2pm
	Reminiscence Group Garden Room (3 Apr ONLY)	1.30pm
	Craft Group (3 & 17 Apr ONLY)	1.30pm
	Concert with Linton Osborne (10 Apr ONLY)	1.30-3pm
	Football Memories ALL WELCOME (??? Apr ONLY)	1.30pm
	Games: Indoor curling, quizzes, Scrabble, dominoes	1.30pm
Thursday	Chiropody Service (25 Apr ONLY)	10am-1pm
	Interactive Games	11.30am
	Games: Indoor curling, quizzes, Scrabble	1.15pm
	Art Group	1.30pm
	Exercise Class with Kenny from Live Active	2.00pm
Friday	Barge Trip (5 Apr ONLY)	10am
	Exercise Group	11.30am
	Bingo	1.30pm
	Life Story Books	1.30pm
	Board Games	1.30pm



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

All Activities Subject To Change. Activities May Be Added.

KINROSS CENTRE

64 HIGH STREET KINROSS KY13 8AJ

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Kinross Parish Church Church of Scotland

(Charity no SC012555)

Following Christ

Spreading the Word / Serving the Community

10 Station Road, Kinross KY13 8TG

Website: www.kinrossparishchurch.org

Facebook: Kinross Parish Church of Scotland

YouTube: Kinross Parish Worship

Instagram: kpcscotland

E-mail: office@kinrossparishchurch.org

Office Tel: (01577) 862570

The Church Office is open 10am-12noon, Mon & Fri.

Otherwise operating remotely. Leave phone message or email.

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

Ordained Local Minister: Rev Margaret Michie

Session Clerk: Jaffrey Weir

Contact the Church Office for our weekly email of events and Zoom details. Events below are in the church unless otherwise indicated:

Regular Services and Events

Sundays

9.15am Choir Practice

10.30am: Morning Service, gathering song about 10.25.
For young people: Junior Church (age 4 -11) meets in the Upper Room from 10.30 then joins in at the end of the service. Within the church there is a corner for parents with babies and toddlers.

Refreshments and Fairtrade Stall after most services.

Sunday morning services are also available online: live on YouTube and Facebook. Thereafter on YouTube, Facebook and the church website. Listen by phone on 01577 528270, or request a CD.

6pm: Sunday Evening Prayer, on Zoom

6pm: Crossfire, church centre. Age P7 upwards.

Mondays

10-12pm: Church Office open to visitors.

2-4pm: Bridge and Board Games Afternoon

7.30pm: Dungeons and Dragons for adults
certain Mondays – see diary below

8.00pm: House Group – Bible study and fellowship

Tuesdays

10-11.30am: Stepping Stones for babies, toddlers and carers.

2.30pm: House Group

Wednesdays

11.15am Midweek Service, at the church centre.

1.30pm: Craft Group

7.45pm: Men's House Group

8.00pm: Women's House Group

Thursdays

10.30am: House Group

11-12pm: Table Talk – chat on Zoom.

Fridays

10-12pm: Church Office open to visitors.

No Youth Dungeons and Dragons this month

Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association,
(Church Centre during term time)

6 - 7.15pm Anchor Section (P1-P3)

7 - 9pm Junior Section (P4-P6)

7 - 9.30pm Company Section (P7-S3)

7 - 9.30pm Senior Section (S4-S6)



OTHER SERVICES AND EVENTS

March

Sun 31 EASTER SUNDAY

7.30am: United Lochside Service at Kirkgate Park

10.30am Easter Morning Service

April

Mon 1 8am: Guided Silent Meditation

Tue 2 7pm: Guild at Church Centre

Sun 7 10.30am: Morning Worship, followed by
11.45am: informal Communion

Sun 14 2.30pm: Let's Sing – All welcome, but particularly those
living with dementia.

Mon 15 7.30pm: Adult Dungeons and Dragons (also 29th April)

Tue 16 7pm: Guild at Church Centre

Thurs 18 9pm: Evening service of Compline

Sat 20 11am: All Friends Together for adults with learning disabilities

Sun 21 2.15pm: Church Family Walk. Meet at church lane

Fri 26 7.30pm: Guild Concert by the Earn Singers.
For Guild funds. Tickets £10

FAMILY WEEK

Registration opens 26 April for Family Week, 29 July – 2 August

Cleish Parish Church

Church of Scotland

(Charity No: SC003168)

Interim Moderator and Locum Minister:

Rev Beverley Stevenson OLM

Tel: 07584 902508

Email: BStevenson@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk: Christine Maclure

Email: maclure19@gmail.com Tel: 07704 884584

Updates and changes to the dates below can be found on our
church website : www.cleishandfossowaychurches.org.uk

We look forward to welcoming you to worship with us in Cleish Church,
located in the village of Cleish, KY13 0LR.

APRIL 2024

7 Apr 11.15am Morning Worship. Fairtrade Stall.

14 Apr 11.15am Morning Worship

21 Apr 11.15am Morning Worship

28 Apr 11.15am Morning Worship followed by
Congregational Lunch in the Village Hall.

Refreshments are served in the Young Room every Sunday after worship

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

11 May 1pm-3pm Cleish Fete and Classic Car Show



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

Interim Moderator: Rev Beverley Stevenson

Telephone: 07584 902508

Email: BStevenson@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk: Anne McKay Telephone: 07766 418016

Email: annemckay90@gmail.com

Our church is a very warm and welcoming place situated
in the Crook of Devon, a small village about 6 miles from
Kinross. Come and join us – we would love to meet you. All
are welcome at any of our meetings and services.

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



THE KINROSS NEWSLETTER

All profits go to local good causes

MARCH

31 Mar: EASTER SUNDAY
9.45am Family Worship

Joint service with Cleish at **Cleish Parish Church**.
Come along and join in the Easter celebrations.
Craft activities, easter egg rolling and
egg hunts for children of all ages!
Refreshments will be available after the service.

APRIL

7 Apr: 9.45am Sunday Morning Worship

Refreshments and the Fairtrade Stall will be available after the service

14 Apr: 9.45am Sunday Morning Worship

Refreshments will be available after the service

21 Apr: 9.45am Sunday Morning Worship

Refreshments will be available after the service

**28 Apr: 9.45am Sunday Morning Worship
inc Stated Annual Meeting**

Refreshments will be available after the service

REFRESH THURSDAY

Thursdays, 2-4pm in the Church Hall

*Join us for a friendly blether with delicious home baking,
tea and coffee. All are welcome.*

FILM NIGHT

Fri 5 Apr 7.30pm in the Church Hall: **Living** (12)

Mr Williams, played by Bill Nighy, is a veteran civil servant. After a shattering health diagnosis, it dawns on him that he has not been living his life to the full. He is encouraged in his search to find fulfilment by two younger colleagues before it is too late! **Living** is a heart-rending reminder to value what it is to live.

Donations of £5 appreciated, including tea/coffee and biscuits.

*Please join us for the film, some refreshments
and a blether. All are welcome*

FOSSOWAY CHURCH CHOIR

Our church choir meets every Sunday morning before morning worship and our wonderful organists run through the hymns that we will be singing during worship. There is no need to read music as the organist helps us to learn what we need to know. We also meet from time to time to practice for special projects e.g. Easter, Christmas. We are a friendly group of people and would love to welcome new members with open arms.

FOSSOWAY BABIES AND TODDLERS

The group meets every **Friday 9.30-11.30am**, in Fossoway Church Hall. Join us for snacks, play and blether.

FOSSOWAY HOUSE GROUP

Our House Group usually meets every **Thursday evening at 7.30pm**.
For more details please contact Debbie Hill 01577 842268.

CROOK YOUTH CLUB

New Term-Time Weekly Drop In: Every Thursday 6-8pm

Monthly: 2nd Sun of each month - Sunday 14 April 7-8:30pm

Come along – it's a space to be, play games, pool table, football table, snacks and good chats!

For all young people aged 11-19yrs old.

Completely Free!

MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP

Our next meeting will be on **Saturday 16 Mar at 8.30am** in the church hall with a talk from Dan Gunn, an ex-prison governor, entitled **Prisoners, Prisons And The Public**.

Full cooked breakfast provided!

Further information available from Alan Harper (07762 709316)

*All are welcome at any of our meetings and services.
If you would like any more information please contact
our Session Clerk, Anne McKay, on 07766 418016.*

Email: annemckay90@gmail.com

HALL BOOKINGS

If you wish to book our hall or meeting rooms,
please contact **Mrs E Black 01259 742046**

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Churches

Orwell and Portmoak Parish Church

Church of Scotland (Charity number SC015523)

Interim Moderator – Rev Alan Reid

Telephone 01577 862952 Email: areid@churchofscotland.org.uk

Locum – Rev Dr Robert Calvert

Sunday Worship, and Junior Church: All children welcome.

10am Portmoak Church; 11.30am Orwell Church

Joint family services with the Praise Band will be held at 10:30am in Orwell Church, on the first Sunday of each month.

Messy Church will meet on Saturday 27 April from 4-6pm at Orwell Church with all the usual crafts, fun, and food.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MARCH

31 Mar Easter Services in both churches at the normal times

APRIL

4 Apr Ashley House Service at 2pm.

7 Apr Joint family service in Orwell Church at 10:30am
No morning service at Portmoak Church

19 Apr Tea and a Bletcher in Orwell, 2-3:30pm

26 Apr Oasis Ladies Group Portmoak New Room 10:15am-12pm.
Speaker – Wilma Carragher.

The Church Office and Shop is open 10-12pm, Mon-Fri.

Office email: orwellandportmoakchurch@gmail.com

Website: orwellportmoakchurch.org.uk



Loch Leven Church

(Charity No: SC049050)

info@lochlevenchurch.com



Loch Leven Church meets at Loch Leven Community Campus, at 10.30am each Sunday.

Our sermon series from April to June is *Good News for a Change* from Mark's Gospel and we'll be hosting the following services in April:

7 Apr: Arthur Jones, South Beach Baptist Church

14 Apr: Graeme Gunn, LLC

21 Apr: Mark 1:1-11 The Identity Parade: How Jesus Reveals Himself To Us As God's King (Stephen Jones, LLC)

28 Apr: Communion Sunday (Robin Kent, LLC)

Everyone, of all ages, is very welcome to join any of these. To know more about us, please visit our Facebook page 'We Love Loch Leven', our website www.lochlevenchurch.com, or email us at info@lochlevenchurch.com

Kinross Gospel Hall

8 Montgomery Street, Kinross

www.kinrossgospelhall.info

Tel 07818 050785



Gospel Meeting Sundays 4pm.

Toddlers' Group Thurs 9.30-11am;

Explorers (Primary School) Thurs 6-7pm.

We look forward to seeing old friends and welcoming new ones. All welcome.

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Obituary

HARLEY

Ann Harley, former Advertising Manager for the *Kinross Newsletter*, died on 2 March 2024.

Ann joined the *Newsletter* in spring 2005 and looked after the adverts for almost ten years, working very diligently in the role. She had a strong sense of the importance of the *Newsletter* to the community and was a valued member of the team.

Ann is survived by her daughter, Lee Scammacca.

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

Fr David and the congregation at St Paul's look forward to welcoming to you to our Episcopal worship services and other outreach and social activities. We recognise how scary it can be to cross the threshold into an unfamiliar place, so you're assured of a friendly smile and any help you need for you and your family to feel comfortable.

Our Sunday and Wednesday morning services begin at 10am, unless otherwise advertised. We usually hold Eucharists (worship with Communion, sung with hymns on Sundays). Our church bell rings from 9.45am.

We will provide regular updates on the website concerning our schedule of worship. Please do refer to it regularly.

Although we don't insist that people wear face coverings, you are very welcome to do so if that helps you feel safer in public spaces.

Our services are also broadcast from the church building as livestreams via Zoom (please email us to be sent weekly links). The Liturgy outline can be followed on the website via the seasonal e-booklets, the weekly pewsheet and the occasional extra supplementary.

MARCH

Sun 31 EASTER DAY

7.30am *Kinross Churches Together* Lochside service, Kirkgate Pier

10am Family Sung Eucharist for Easter

APRIL

Wed 3 No Midweek Communion

Sun 7 (Easter 2)

10am: Sung Eucharist

Wed 10

10am: Midweek Holy Communion

Sun 14 (Easter 3)

10am: Sung Eucharist

Wed 17

10am: Midweek Holy Communion

Sun 21 (Easter 4)

10am: Sung Eucharist

Wed 24

10am: Midweek Holy Communion

Sun 28 (Easter 5)

10am: Sung Eucharist



Acknowledgements

SCOTT

THE FAMILY OF the late **June Scott** would like to thank all friends and neighbours for their kind expressions of sympathy following their recent loss.

Thanks, are also given to those who sent beautiful cards, letters and flowers which were a reminder that we were not alone in our grief and raised our spirits.

Special thanks to the Rev. Alan Reid for his uplifting and fitting tribute to June and to Stewart Funeral Directors in Kinross for their kind care and attention which made a difficult day bearable.

Thank you to all who paid their last respects to June at Kinross Parish Church and Arngask Cemetery and donated the sum of £220 to the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association.

THOMSON

ANNE, JANE, ISLA, Catriona and Calum would like to thank all family, friends and neighbours for the cards, flowers and kind messages of sympathy received following the sad loss of their Dad and Grandad, **Campbell Thomson**.

Thanks also to Stewart Funeral Directors and the Rev Alan Reid for the comforting funeral service at Perth Crematorium. Thanks also to all who attended the funeral to pay their respects and to those who donated so generously. Over £600 was collected and presented to Kinross Day Centre as a thank you for the tremendous care and support given to both Campbell and Ena over the past few years.



Campbell, originally from Edinburgh, moved to the Kinross area more than 60 years ago and was well known for many years as the local AA patrolman. He will be greatly missed by many.



An **EVENING** with the
EARN SINGERS & FRIENDS
Friday 26 April 2024 at 7.30pm
Kinross Parish Church

Light refreshments at the interval

Proceeds to Kinross Parish Church Guild Funds



Tickets £10 - available in advance from
Guild Members or contact the Church Office
01577 862570 or office@kinrossparishchurch.org

Kinross Parish Church of Scotland
Registered Charity No. SC 012555



The Stephen Lyon Organisation
(Charity ID SC050446)
Charity Race Night

Horse Racing | Auction | Raffle
Food and Bar

Saturday 4th May 2024 | 6.30pm - late
at Kinross Ice Rink
Green Rd, Kinross KY13 8TU

£15 per ticket (includes Welcome drink and food)
Follow the QR code to book your tickets, sponsor a race and/or horse and food order
For further information please contact hgow333@gmail.com



NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

In very rare circumstances it may be necessary to change a deadline at short notice. Check the *Newsletter* Facebook Page for the latest information.

Issue	Deadline	Publication Date
May	Friday 12 April	Saturday 27 April
June	Friday 17 May	Saturday 1 June

P & K SCHOOL TERM DATES 2024

SPRING HOLIDAY: Fri 29 March - Fri 12 April

IN-SERVICE DAY: Mon 15 April

TERM STARTS: Tues 16 April

MAY DAY HOLIDAY: Mon 6 May

100th BIRTHDAY AND DIAMOND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Do you know a Perth & Kinross resident who is celebrating their **100th or 105th+ birthday**?
Do you know a Perth & Kinross couple celebrating their **60th, 65th or 70th wedding anniversary**?

PKC can arrange delivery of flowers or for a local councillor to present a basket of flowers to the person or couple on their special day.

Tel: 01738 475051 Email: CivicServices@pkc.gov.uk

Volunteer Tutors

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- Volunteer at a time and location that suits your schedule. This can even be online!
- Access high quality training and ongoing support.

No prior tutoring experience is necessary – just a willingness to learn, grow, and support others.

Sign up today to become a volunteer tutor and help shape the future of our community, one young person at a time.

Interested?

Register on the VTO Website VTOScotland.org/register or contact them for more info admin@VTOScotland.org 0141 946 6498

MOBILE LIBRARY 10, 24 April

(Fortnightly, Wednesdays)

Kinnesswood (Opposite Shop)	09.30 – 10:00
Portmoak Hall	10:05 – 10:20
Scotlandwell (Leslie Road)	10:25 – 10:50
Levenmouth Farm	11:00 – 11:20
Hatchbank Rd (Gairneybank, Kinross)	11:40 – 12:00
Powmill (Mill Gardens)	13:20 – 13:40
Crook of Devon (Village Inn)	13:45 – 14:45
Carnbo (Pitcairnie Lane)	15:00 – 15:30
Whyte Court (Kinross)	15:45 – 16:15

Contact us by phone on 01577 867205
or by email at lochlevenlibrary@culturepk.org.uk.

GRANTS FOR GOOD CAUSES

Kinross Community Council
Newsletter Limited (KCCNL),
Charity No. SC040913



All profits from the *Kinross Newsletter* are transferred to a charitable company, KCCNL, and given away to local good causes. Groups and individuals are invited to apply to KCCNL for grant funding. Decisions on grants are made at two meetings per year. The deadlines for grant applications are:

31 March and 30 September

More information is available on the kinrosscommunitycouncil.com website. Applications may be downloaded at www.kinrosscommunitycouncil.com/contact-us

Scotlandwell in Bloom

Plant and Bake Sale

We will be hosting a plant and bake sale on Saturday 4 May at the Well Country Inn, Scotlandwell, from 10.30am-12.30pm

There will be a selection of flowers and plants on sale, plus locally produced jams and chutneys and a selection of home baking. There will also be a tombola stall and craft table.

Tea, coffee and cake will also be available and it is a great opportunity to have a catch up with friends and neighbours. We look forward to welcoming to you on 4 May.



KINROSS GARDEN GROUP 2023/24 Season

Thursday 11 April at 2pm
Kinross Parish Church

Dr Stan da Prato
SCOTLAND'S SHOWIEST ALPINES

All welcome to join us

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

CEILIDH

PORTMOAK VILLAGE HALL

SAT 11 MAY 2024

7.30 – 11.30PM

Dancing to the Orwell Ceilidh Band
Wine & Beer Bar (Cash Only, Please!)

Tickets: £14 (Children £6)
including a light buffet supper

TICKETS

Kinnesswood Village Shop (Brian)
John Nicol (01592 840573) Kinnesswood
Joan Smith (01592 840561) Scotlandwell



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

**MOBILE POST VAN AT
BUCHAN AVENUE,
KINNESSWOOD**

**MONDAYS 13.45 till 14.45
WEDNESDAYS 12.45 till 13.45**

Homes For Cats Wanted

Fife Cat Shelter, a Scottish Registered Charity, is always looking for homes for rescued cats.

Cats can be visited, by appointment, at Causeway Cattery, Scotlandwell.

Contact Rhona on 01383 830286.



**KINROSS DELIVERY OFFICE
ROYAL MAIL**

87 High St, Kinross KY13 8AR

MONDAY	8-10am
TUESDAY	8-10am
WEDNESDAY	8-10am
THURSDAY	8-10am
FRIDAY	8-10am
SATURDAY	8am-12pm
SUNDAY	CLOSED

Baby & Toddler Groups

Monday

Milnathort Babies and Toddlers
Orwell Church Hall 9.30 -11am

Tuesday

Portmoak Babies and Toddlers
Portmoak Church Hall
9.45-11.30am

Stepping Stones

Kinross Parish Church 10-11.30am

Wednesday

Breast Buddies
Health Centre 10-12pm

Glenfarg Babies and Toddlers
Village Hall 9.30am

Muckhart Babies and Toddlers
Church Hall 9.30-11am

Thursday

Montgomery Toddlers
Kinross Gospel Hall 9.30 -11am

Friday

Portmoak Babies and Toddlers
Portmoak Church Hall 9.45-11.30am

Fossoway Babies and Toddlers
Crook of Devon Church Hall
9.30-11.30am

*Please let us know
if you have any
info to add to this list.*



EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

Medical

Loch Leven Health Centre	01577 862112
Loch Leven Health Centre Out of Hours	01577 865252
NHS 24	111
Perth Royal Infirmary main switchboard	01382 660111
Perth Royal Infirmary (Admissions and Enquiries Desk)	01738 473734
Ninewells Hospital, Dundee	01382 660111
Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy	01592 643355
Queen Margaret Hospital, Dunfermline	01383 623623
Rowlands Pharmacy, Kinross	01577 862422
Davidson's Chemist, Milnathort	01577 862219

Police, non-emergency 101

Police, Fire, Ambulance & Coastguard Emergencies 999

Gas (worried about gas safety) 0800 111 999

Water (loss of supply, foul water emergency) 0845 600 8855

Floods SEPA Floodline recorded messages 0345 988 1188

Perth & Kinross Council (PKC)

Customer Service Centre (Mon- Fri, 8am-6pm) 01738 475000

Reporting non-emergency Road and Lighting faults (CLARENCE) 0800 232323

PKC Out of Hours emergency numbers

Adult care services	0345 301 11 20
Anti-social behaviour helpline (voicemail)	01738 476173
Child protection	01738 476768
Council housing emergency repairs	01738 476000
Dangerous buildings	01738 476476
Environmental Health	01738 476476
Flooding	01738 476476
Homelessness	0800 917 0708
Mental health services	0345 301 11 20
Roads (e.g. reporting blockage)	01738 476476

Traveline Scotland 0871 200 22 33

Loch Leven Community Campus 01577 867200

Kinross High School 01577 867100

Community Councils

Kinross: Chair: Lynne McKay, 01577 531076
Email: kinrosscommunitycouncil@gmail.com

Milnathort & Orwell: Chair: Neill Bingham
Email: communitycouncilmilnathort@gmail.com

Portmoak: Email: portmoakcommunitycouncil@pkc.gov.uk

Fossoway & District: Chair: Nicola Marchant
Email: fossoway.cc@gmail.com

Cleish & Blairadam: Email: cleishandblairadamcc@gmail.com

Kinross Community Councillors

Bill Freeman	64 Muirs	01577 865045
Lynne McKay	5 Springfield Road	01577 531076
Tom Stewart		
Michael Wilson	16 Acremoar Drive, Kinross	01577 861181
Emma Leslie		
Chris Willsher		
Sharon Wells		
Brian West		

Have a look at our website www.kinrosscommunitycouncil.com

Portmoak Community Councillors

Andy Miller	Chair	E: Chair@portmoak.org
Dave Morris	Vice-Chair	
Ann Davidson	Treasurer	
Sue McGregor	Secretary	E: secretary@portmoak.org
Dave Patterson	Member	
Kenneth Donaldson	Associated Member	

Have a look at our website www.portmoak.org

Perth and Kinross Councillors Kinross-shire Ward

Clr DAVE CUTHBERT (*Independent*)
Tel: 01738 475110
Email: dcuthbert@pkc.gov.uk
Address: 85 Bowton Road, Kinross, KY13 8EG

Clr NEIL FRESHWATER (*Scottish Conservative & Unionist*)
Tel (office): 01738 475108
Email: nfreshwater@pkc.gov.uk
www.facebook.com/neil4kinrossshire

Clr WILLIE ROBERTSON (*Scottish Liberal Democrats*)
Mobile: 07909 884042
Email: wbrobertson@pkc.gov.uk

Clr RICHARD WATTERS (*SNP*)
Mobile: 07557 812513
Email: rwatters@pkc.gov.uk

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)
Email: claire.baker.msp@parliament.scot

Murdo Fraser MSP (Conservative)
Email: murdo.fraser.msp@parliament.scot

Roz McCall MSP (Conservative)
Email: roz.McCall.msp@parliament.scot

Alex Rowley MSP (Labour)
Email: alex.rowley.msp@parliament.scot

Mark Ruskell MSP (Green)
Email: mark.ruskell.msp@parliament.scot

Liz Smith MSP (Conservative)
Email: elizabeth.smith.msp@parliament.scot

Alexander Stewart MSP (Conservative)
Email: alexander.stewart.msp@parliament.scot

KINROSS RECYCLING CENTRE

Bridgend Industrial Estate

Monday, Thursday and Friday 9am-4pm
(last entry 3.45pm)

Saturday & Sunday 9am - 4pm
(last entry 3.45pm)

THE RECYCLING CENTRE WILL ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING MATERIALS

Bicycles	Engine Oil	Rigid Plastic Packaging
Books	Fluorescent, LED & Long Life Light Bulbs	Rubble
Bras	Fridges & Freezers	Scrap Metal
Bulky Goods	Garden Waste	Soil
Car Batteries	Stone	Telephone Directories
Cardboard	Glass	Textiles (Clothes & Shoes)
Cartons and Paper containers with metal ends	Household Batteries	Timber
Cooking Oil	Large Domestic Appliances	Car Tyres (maximum two per day, strictly household only)
Electrical & Electronic Equipment (WEEE - remove & recycle batteries separately)	Non-Recyclable Waste (General Waste)	
	Paper	

Free compost available (subject to availability).
A maximum of 2 x 25kg bags per day

Diary

April

Tues	2	Fossoway and District Community Council meets
Tues	2	U3A talk, Kinross Parish Church 2pm
Tues	2	Kinross Climate Cafe meets, see club entry for details
Tues	9	Portmoak Community Council meets
Tues	9	Code Club Drop in, library
Wed	10	Millbridge Hall Open Evening 7pm
Thurs	11	Milnathort and Orwell Community Council meets
Thurs	11	Garden Group meets 2pm
Fri	12	Newsletter Deadline for May Issue
Sat/Sun	13/28	Kinross & Ochil Walking Group - see club entry for walk details
Sat	13	Portmoak Film Society shows 'Tick, tick...boom!'
Sun	14	Muir's Road Closure
Sat	20	Repair Cafe Opens, Kinross Church Centre 11-3
Tues	23	UK Youth Rocketry Challenge Regional - KRMFC
Tues	23	Kinross Community Council meets
Wed	24	Kinross-shire Civic Trust AGM
Thurs	25	Code Club meets library 4-5pm
Thurs	25	Tartan Kipper Fashion Show
Fri	26	Guild of Kinross Parish Church Concert 7.30pm
Sat	27	Casino Night, Milnathort Town Hall
Sat	27	Farmers' market 10-2 High Street

May

Sat	4	Plant and Bake Sale, Well Country Inn, Scotlandwell 10.30-12.30
Mon	6	Glenfarg Community Council meets
Sun	12	Loch Leven Half Marathon

The Kinross Newsletter

is available from:

Greens of Kinross	High Street, Kinross	Buchan's Garage	Main Street, Kinnesswood
Baillies	High Street, Kinross	Kinnesswood Shop	Main Street, Kinnesswood
Sainsburys	Station Road, Kinross	Fossoway Store	Crook of Devon
Giacopazzis	Lathro, Kinross	Fossoway Garage	Crook of Devon
Keystore More	Green Road, Kinross	Mona's Coffee Shop	Muckhart
Giacopazzis	New Road, Milnathort	Powmill Stores	Powmill
Stewart & Smart	Stirling Road, Milnathort	Loch Leven's Larder	Near Wester Balgedie
Heaven Scent	South Street, Milnathort	Glenfarg Village Shop	Glenfarg